

Pride Notes:

Clinton Sends Congratulatory Letter To Pride Committee; Philly Celebration Walks In Pre-Stonewall Footsteps

NEW YORK, NY (NP) -- Clinton prides himself in diversity message. . . Philly celebration walks in pre-Stonewall footsteps. . .

Clinton Pride Message: President Bill Clinton sent a letter of congratulations to the International Association of Gay and Lesbian Pride Coordinators in time for this past weekend's pride celebrations.

He wrote, "As Americans we can be proud of our diversity. Striving together, people of different ethnicities, backgrounds, races, beliefs and sexual orientation have contributed to the success of our nation, reflecting the profound truth that this rich diversity is one of our greatest strengths. But we must face the reality that sometimes our differences divide us; sometimes the voices of hatred and prejudice drown out the harmony in our national life. Events like the Pride Celebration help us to recognize anew that working in a spirit of community is not a hope but a necessity, and that our individual dreams can only be realized by our shared efforts. We stand to lose when any person is denied or forced out of a job because of sexual orientation. I commend each of you for your dedication to working for an America that celebrates our diversity, builds on our strengths and fulfills our fundamental values of mutual respect and compassion. . . Best wishes for a wonderful celebration."

Philadelphia PrideFest: Well before the Stonewall Uprising, Gays and Lesbians demonstrated for their civil rights in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania outside historic Independence Hall on Independence Day each year from 1965 - 1969.

This past week's distant offspring of those demonstrations, the five-day, sixth annual PrideFest Philadelphia, was a sprawling affair with dozens of events, including art displays and performances, workshops and seminars, the annual Race for the Cure run, and yes, parties, including an eight-hour street fair.

Organizers believed participation would total some 35,000. The PrideFest's annual Tom Stoddard National Role Model Award (named for the late leader of Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund) was given to Phil Donahue for his TV talk-show's pioneering work in educating the nation about sexual minorities.

One key event was billed as the First National Workplace Symposium, sponsored jointly by the Human Rights Campaign and the Out for Business group of the University of Pennsylvania's famed Wharton School of Business, which brought representatives of major corporations together with Gay and Lesbian workplace organizations to discuss legal, organizational and interpersonal issues.

Challenge Mounted To Anti-Gay Immigration Law

WASHINGTON, DC (NYT) -- The American Civil Liberties Union and Gay civil rights advocates have promised to take legal action to stop federal immigration and health officials from barring self-declared homosexuals from entering the United States.

Calling the policy "disturbing and illegal" the coalition of rights groups demanded the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the Department of Health and Human Services reverse its policy of turning back men and women who declare themselves to be Gay.

In a letter to Dr. Louis Sullivan, the secretary of health and human services, the rights groups said if the rule is not reversed, they will defend in court one or more of those detained by U.S. immigration in a legal test of the policy.

Gay groups declared that some people coming to the Sixth International Conference on AIDS in San Francisco would declare themselves Gay upon entry into U.S. Customs. The conference begins

June 20.

Under U.S. law, anyone with a "psychopathic personality, or a sexual deviation or a mental disorder" can be barred from entry to the U.S. The Supreme Court ruled in 1967 that homosexuals can be barred as sexual deviates.

Immigration officials do not normally ask people arriving in the U.S. about their sexual orientation. But immigration officials said that when people declare themselves to be Gay or Lesbian, immigration officials feel obliged to follow the law and take steps to determine if they should be barred from the country. The procedure withstood a court challenge in 1983.

"The law on this was enacted in a time when homosexuality was regarded as an illness," Urvashi Vaid, spokeswoman for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, said. "We now understand that it is not a medical condition, not an illness, not a criminal condition. A travel restriction serves absolutely no purpose," she said.

Millennium March Plans Move Forward

WASHINGTON, DC -- An April 30, 2000, date has been set for the controversial "Millennium March on Washington for Equal Rights," the fourth national Gay and Lesbian civil rights march planned for the U.S. capital since 1979.

The announcement, issued jointly by the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) and the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC), also voiced full support for the "Equality Begins at Home" actions on all 50 state capitals set for 1999.

"The Equality Begins at Home" actions enjoy the full and enthusiastic support of the organizers of the Millennium March," said Elizabeth Birch, executive director of the HRC. "It's imperative that we focus our energies as a movement at both the state and federal level. These two events will complement each other as together we build the momentum to achieve equality in the next century."

Soon after the HRC and the UFMCC announced in February they would sponsor a Millennium March, they were engulfed in a wave of protest from other national Gay and Lesbian civil rights organizations.

Leaders of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, the National Black Lesbian and Gay Leadership Forum and the L.A. Gay and Lesbian Community Center issued an open letter calling into question the cost, timing, and desirability of staging a march on Washington in 2000.

The organizations criticized the HRC and the UFMCC for rushing the march announcement before the community had a chance to meet and properly consider the march's goals. Some even called into question the wisdom of a Washington march at all, noting that plans for a 50 state capital initiative had been in circulation for months.

While the announcement does not signal an end to the ongoing process of compromise and community discussion, it does indicate that major differences among the nation's leading Gay and Lesbian advocacy groups have been resolved.

"I remain hopeful the 'Equality Begins at Home' actions and the Millennium March will help build our grassroots movement at the state, local and national level," said Dianne Hard-Garcia, executive director of the Lesbian Gay Rights Lobby of Texas and co-chair of the Federation of Statewide Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Organizations. "I believe that working together these actions can strengthen the state and federal organizations that fight daily to end discrimination."

Jubi Hendley, executive director of the National Black Lesbian and Gay Lead-

ership Forum, echoed these sentiments. "I am glad to see both of these events moving towards a more collaborative process," she said. "This is a positive sign of progress."

Why There Is No HIV Vaccine

NEW YORK, NY (RHIS) -- Two experts in AIDS research say the peculiar qualities of the HIV virus greatly increase the difficulties involved in discovering an effective AIDS vaccine.

"There will be no 'quick fix' to the HIV vaccine problem; none should be expected," conclude Dr. Dennis Burton of the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, California, and Dr. John Moore of the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center at Rockefeller University in New York City. Their essay on the continuing search for a vaccine appears in the current issue of the journal *Nature Medicine*.

The public may wonder why the search for effective immunization against AIDS has proven so arduous, especially when effective vaccines for other viruses such as influenza are readily available.

The experts explain that HIV's secret weapon lies in what they call the "stealth" properties of its protein coating, which allows it to bind to human immune cells.

Vaccines often work by introducing deactivated viruses or pieces of viral outer envelope into the bloodstream. Once there, they are recognized as an invader by human immune cells, specific antibodies against the viral proteins are produced, and the proteins are destroyed. From then on, whenever a live form of the virus invades, the immune system is already primed to deal with a known enemy.

But Burton and Moore explain that, so far, scientists have discovered "it is extremely difficult to present the (HIV) envelope glycoproteins in a way that stimulates a significant antibody response or (immunological) memory."

Furthermore, even when strains of HIV have been attacked and destroyed by various methods, unaffected strains can lurk in areas of the body inaccessible to vaccine activity. Later activation of these hidden viral strains begins the process of HIV replication. New strains of HIV form, which are then impervious to the "formula" of the previously administered vaccine, setting the stage for progression to AIDS.

Still, the experts note that some avenues of research, including those focusing on unexpected immune responses in certain human populations, show real promise. For example, they point out that some level of immunological resistance has been

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY

UPDATE

TKO 'Spring Fling' Run May 23 - 25

TUCSON — The Tucson Knight Owls (TKO) cordially invites the community to their annual Spring Fling Run, May 22-25.

TKO's Spring Fling XVIII will be an in-town run with special non-bar activities and games for your enjoyment.

Registration and check-in will be at TKO's home bar, The Graduate, May 22, 7:00 P.M. The run fee is \$35. For more information, call Tommy 623-4733 or Ben, 297-1909.

ACP Volunteer Party

PHOENIX — A volunteer party for ACP volunteers at the Pride Parade/Festival '98 will be held Sunday, May 24.

The event will take place at the Papago Park - North Cholla Area, 2:00 - 5:00 P.M.

For more information, call (602) 279-1771.

Wingspan/Domestic Violence Project Grand Opening May 28

TUCSON — Wingspan's Domestic Violence Project outreach and services for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender communities has opened a central office!

The office grand opening will take place, Thursday, May 28, 4:00 - 7:00 P.M., at Wingspan, 300 East Sixth Street.

For more information, call (520) 624-0348.

People Of Faith And Compassion Needed

TUCSON — People like you are needed to be a friend and support to a person in our community who is living with HIV/AIDS.

The Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN) needs volunteers with a compassionate heart and the ability to spend a few hours a week providing companionship and helping with shopping, transportation, emotional support, and other simple yet vital acts of support. (Additional volunteer needs exist as well).

Training is provided, and volunteers work together in groups as one Care-Team, providing support to each other. Help be part of this response of outreach and compassion.

A volunteer orientation session will be held, 7:00 - 8:30 P.M., Thursday, May 14. After attending an orientation, a one-day training session is offered. The training session will be held Saturday, May 16, 8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M. There is a \$15 registration fee for the training session (to cover the cost of materials and lunch).

To register, or for more information, call (520) 299-6647.

Tucson L/G Film Festival Seeks Entries

TUCSON — The Film Selection Committee for the 1998 Wingspan/Tucson Fourth Annual Lesbian & Gay Film Festival is putting out a national call for submissions/entries to be screened and selected for the celluloid celebration, October 23-26.

Beside the full length features, the committee would like to extent it programs and hopes to attract independent film makers of documentaries, short, animations, and experimental in all formats that deal with the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered lifestyles.

Deadline for film/video submissions is July 15, with a notification date of August 15. There is a \$5 dollar entry fee. All submissions must be in a 1/2 inch VHS format. Submissions forms can be found: website - members.aol.com/tlgtf98, email - tlgtf98@aol.com or by writing: Wingspan Film Fest '98, 300 East Sixth Street, Tucson, AZ 85705-8426 with a self-addressed/stamped envelope.

Live Theater Comes To MCC

TUCSON — Resurrection 2000, a musical drama by Judy Niccum and Shelby Buckner will make its Tucson debut at Water of Life MCC, Sunday, May 10, 4:00 P.M.

The play is a re-telling of the events of the last days of Jesus of Nazareth as recorded in the Bible, but in a twentieth century North American context. It is being presented by the members and friends

of Gentle Shepherd MCC of Phoenix.

Niccum and Buckner, both from the Phoenix area, not only wrote Resurrection 2000, but have produced and directed it also. During its Phoenix debut, the audience was moved by this compelling drama and uplifted by the familiar music woven into the production.

Resurrection 2000 will have just one performance in Tucson, Sunday, May 10, 4:00 P.M. at Water of Life MCC, 3269 North Mountain Avenue. All seats are free and a collection will be taken.

For more information on this event, call the church office, (520) 292-9151.

Share Bears Report For April

April Contributions	\$412.29
Balance (March)	\$166.87
Total Available	\$579.16

How the money was spent:

Phone bills	\$215.93
Electric bills	\$120.40
Special needs	\$ 55.00
Food	\$ 50.00

Total Spent \$441.33

Seven people served

Balance carried forward \$137.83

Thank you for your continued support!

TGSA Looking For Softball Players

TUCSON — The Tucson Greater Softball Association (TGSA) is still looking for players, both men and women.

The time is now to make your commitment! The season is scheduled to start on May 17, pending final parks and rec approval and field availability.

TGSA has reserved Ourey Park field #2 for the next two Saturdays, May 9 and 16, noon - 2:00 P.M. So you can come on out and brush up on your skills.

Ability is not as important as your commitment to play. For more information, look for flyers at local businesses or contact Jim T., (520) 930-4060 (voice or digital pager) or Robert S., (520) 296-2738.



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Gay Author To Appear At Antigone Books

by Scott North

TUCSON — Chances are, you haven't heard of Michael Thomas Ford. Despite publishing more than twenty-five books, the 29-year-old writer has kept a fairly low profile, preferring to stay at home and write instead of stepping into the public eye.

But that's all changing with the release of Ford's latest book, "Alec Baldwin Doesn't Love Me & Other Trials From My Queer Life (Alyson Publications). A collection of humorous essays on a wide variety of subjects ranging from pop culture to Ford's own childhood in a strict Baptist family, the book is earning unanimous praise from readers as one of the funniest books of the year, and bringing Ford comparisons to writers such as David Seidman and Fran Lebowitz.



Author Michael Thomas Ford

"It's fantastic to see the response to the book," says Ford, who is doing a cross-country reading tour. "Most of my books are written for young people, and you don't often hear from those readers unless their teachers force them to write to you. This is something new for me, and it's wonderful to hear from people that my work makes them laugh."

It's Ford's books for young people that first got him noticed. With titles including "The Voices of AIDS," "The World Out There: Becoming Part of the Lesbian and Gay Community," and "Outspoken: Role Models from the Lesbian and Gay Community," he has long been recognized as one of the leading voices in young adult nonfiction, earning several American Library Association Best Books for Young Adults honors, a Lambda Literary Award nomination, and a Firecracker Alternative Book Award nomination.

While "Alec Baldwin Doesn't Love Me . . ." is a departure from the young adult world, Ford's own childhood forms the basis for many of the most hilarious and poignant essays in the book. In particular, his pieces about packing for the Second Coming of Christ, learning to ward off

Satan in Sunday School, and trying to save the souls of his non-Baptist neighbors provide some of the biggest laughs.

"People really like the pieces about my childhood," says Ford. "It's still a little strange for me. You grow up thinking that everyone else's life is just like your own. I assumed everyone went to Sunday School and worried about the end of the world, like I did. But then you find yourself telling someone about something that happened to you when you were a kid, and you realize that your life

was just, well, kind of weird."

Telling these stories is what led Ford to write his book. After a newspaper editor heard him talking about the time he was convinced that the host of the television show "Romper Room" could hear him through the TV and was conspiring with Captain Kangaroo to get him, she encouraged him to start writing a column. He took her up on the offer, and the result was "My Queer Life," Ford's syndicated monthly humor column, which runs in papers across the country.

"Once I started writing the column, I started getting mail from people who liked the stories," said Ford. "Even if their lives were totally different from mine, people related to what I was saying. So after a while I started pulling all my stories together, and the result was the book."

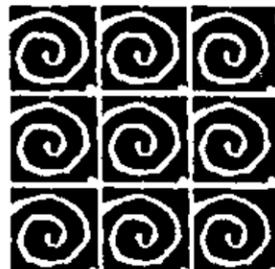
In addition to his unusual childhood, Ford also looks to his life as a Gay man for inspiration. And what he finds is both riotously funny and also thought-provoking. When he talks about what the possible existence of a "Gay gene" could mean for our community, his vision of remedial classes for Lesbian and Gay kids is hysterical, but it's also a comment on what many Gay kids face. Congressional hearings on Gay marriage is much funnier than anything on CNN, or even on Saturday Night Live, but with the laughs come some serious moments.

"I think it's very useful to talk about serious issues with humor," says Ford. "There's a lot we deal with every day that's depressing and difficult to face, and it's easy to get swallowed up in that. But if you can wrap it in something funny, and help people see the absurdity of most of the things we worry about, then it helps us all put a perspective on our lives."

Ford takes aim at a lot of different targets in his book, from online sex to why he hates shopping, the time a photographer friend tricked him into modeling with female strippers to his theory on how board games shape modern society. But whether he's talking about the perverse seductive powers of Martha Stewart, remembering how he once insulted the woman whose life inspired the beloved film, "The Sound of Music" (he asked Maria von Trapp why she wasn't dead yet), or rhapsodizing on the beauty of Alec Baldwin's chest, Ford's take on life is decidedly cynical, but always a sense of hope.

"I think the best humor is a little bit cranky," he says. "When I was a kid, Eeyore the donkey was always my favorite character in the Winnie the Pooh books, because he was pointing out the bad things around him. But he did it with a dry sense of humor, and it was clear that as much as he complained, he really got a kick out of being alive in such a strange world. I guess I'm sort of the Eeyore of the Gay community."

Michael Thomas Ford will be reading from his new book at Antigone Books, 411 North Fourth Avenue, Friday, May 22, 7:00 P.M.



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POLITICS 1998

by Mark R. Kerr

"Politics: The Art Of The Improbable!"

This just in! God has endorsed Satan! National conservative radio-talk show and TV host, James Dobson (a.k.a. "God") endorsed (and this reporter emphasizes) former Congressman, "B-1" Bob Dornan, R-John Wayneville, in his quixotic quest to get his seat back from that "cheating, Latina Democrat," Rep. Loretta Sanchez.

God, whose radio and TV audience allegedly numbers in the twenty-millions, is the head of Focus on the Family, a Colorado-based group which spawned the Family Research Council and Colorado's Anti-Gay Amendment 2. Breeder!

"I rarely do political endorsements, but I am making an exception to personally endorse the honorable Bob Dornan because I believe in this man," God said. "I wish we had a dozen like him in Congress." We have more than a dozen Gods! They're called Satan's Minions, err Republican members of Congress! Praises be!

Wouldn't it be nice to have an "open homosexual" representing us in Congress? It's 1998. Election time is here and there are four open Lesbians waging competitive, yes competitive campaigns for seats in the U.S. House of Representatives.

"We do have a good chance now to make some history," said Mindy Daniels, executive director of the National Lesbian Political Action Committee, in an interview. In the same interview, she added that two of the four Lesbian Congressional Candidates are from states that have had Gay members in their delegation - Wisconsin and Massachusetts.

What would make history is that if one of the four gets elected, it would be the first time an openly Gay or Lesbian candidate was initially elected. The four previous members of the House announced their sexuality while in office.

The four candidates running this year are: Retired Army Col. Margarethe Cammermeyer, challenging incumbent, Rep. Jack Metcalf, R-WA. Wisconsin State Rep. Tammy Baldwin, who is running for an open seat (vacated by Republican Scott Klug) and according to observers, has one of the best shots at winning.

Another of the four candidates who has a good chance is San Diego City Council member, Christine Kehoe. "I run as who I am," she said in a recent interview about her campaign. Kehoe's running well, raising more than \$125,000 than the Republican incumbent, Rep. Brian Bilbray (as of quarter ending, March 31).

Former Massachusetts State Rep. Susan Tracy, is running for the open seat of retiring Rep. Joseph Kennedy II, D-MA. Tracy is one of ten-or-so Democrats vying for the seat. She hopes the public is ready to make history again, as this was the seat that paved the way for JFK to be the first Catholic president.

As I reiterate, wouldn't it be nice to have an "open homosexual" representing us in Congress?

The conservative "Salmon" will not be running this year! Jane gets some quality "peaceful" time. Rep. Matt Salmon, R-CD 1, had been making rumblings that he would challenge Gov. Jane Hull for the nod of the elephants, because she supported health care for poor kids (KidsCare). How Oliver Twist!

A pissing contest ensued between Salmon and State GOP Chair Mike Hellon - naughty words, accusations and a flurry of press releases. This past Monday, at-a-kissy face photo-op, Salmon announced he was not going to run... this time. Salmon stated he would run for Governor in 2002. Yippie-skippie!

Did Jane get his blessing? Of course not. Salmon said Hull "would be a far better governor than Paul Johnson." Warm feelings there... not! Hellon said his te-ta-te with Salmon was blown out of proportion by people with different agendas. Oh sure, by whom?! Hellon didn't elaborate. There's a shocker!

Paul Johnson must really be happy at this moment! Trailing in the polls by more than a two-to-one margin and now this!

The Never-Ending Story XXVI - the Inquisition rolls on! The "hilarity" in the "Evil City of the North" continues to roll on (day 115 of a 100-day session) and over us... so to speak before that right is taken away as well!

As the bitchfest over cutting the vehicle license tax delays the Inquisition even further, bills of concern make their way to conference committees and eventually "Jane's Desk." Goodie!

SB 1037 - "the good Samaritan Act," would force the Arizona Department of Health Services to release confidential medical information (with HIV the only defined disease) to people who fear they were exposed to a communicable disease at an accident scene, is before a conference committee.

The committee consists: Sens. Tom Patterson, R-Phoenix (the sponsor), Randall Gnat, R-Phoenix and, Elaine Richardson, D-Tucson. Reps. Sue Gerard, R-Phoenix, Barbara Left, R-Phoenix and, Herschella Horton, D-Tucson. Some hope in this make-up.

SB 1261 - the proposal (also by Sen. Tommy) that would make being tested for the HIV virus in Arizona hazardous to your health is before a Simple Conference Committee.

A "Simple Conference Committee" consists of three members: Sens. Tom Patterson, R-Phoenix, David Petersen, R-Mesa and, Guz Arzberger, D-Bisbee. Fairness, we don't need no stinking fairness!

SB 1162 - the legislation dealing with "cleavage regulation," "engorged orifices" and "stiffies," is before a conference committee as well. Guess it will cost too much to change the license plates and remove the slogan "The Grand Canyon State"; a no-no if the bill gets the yes-yes and becomes law-law!

A small victory of sorts for
CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY

IN FLIGHT . . .

WINGSPAN

by Rich Muszynski

**AIDS Candlelight Memorial:
A Conversation with Chairperson Mark Schaye**

For the fifth year in a row, Wingspan is hosting Tucson's observance of the International AIDS Candlelight Memorial and Mobilization. I spoke with the chairman of the event and board member at Wingspan, Mark Schaye, about the memorial, and the impact of AIDS on local and global communities.

RM: Tell the readers about the International AIDS Candlelight Memorial.

MS: It's an international event that happens all over the world on the same day every May. It's to remember people who died of AIDS and to support people that are living with AIDS. Here in Tucson it will be at Armory Park on Sunday evening, May 17, 7:30 P.M.

RM: What typically happens at the memorial?

MS: Typically there are some speeches and some performances, such as songs and poetry along the theme, and there is an interfaith service with as many different faiths as we can have represented.

RM: Has the church community been responsible?

MS: Oh, absolutely. The Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN) organizes that part of the memorial, and they have a lot of member congregations that are involved and they help with donations of candles for us.

RM: What other organizations

are involved in the memorial?

MS: The event has been in Tucson for five years and this will be Wingspan's fifth year sponsoring the event, and the 15th year for the international event. In the past few years TIHAN has been involved, as well as Desert Voices, and this year, we're still waiting to hear from other organizations. TLGA has supported us by holding a barbecue to raise money for us. TIHAN, Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF), AIDS Prevention Collaboration (APC), which is an affiliation of SAAF, Wingspan, the Pima County Health Department and the Men's Social Network are involved as this point. We're hoping PFLAG, Desert Voices and Reveille Gay Men's Chorus will be able to participate as well.

RM: This year's theme is "Rekindle the flame, renew the fight for a global end to AIDS." What has been the global impact of AIDS?

MS: Unfortunately the impact has grown all over the world. I know that the figures of those who have died, those who are currently HIV+, and those who have full-blown AIDS are staggering. Not everyone is as lucky to have the kind of health services Africa is devastating, with widespread HIV prevalence and with poor health services. HIV has become more widespread where it hadn't been before like in Asia and South America.

RM: What would you say has been the local impact of AIDS?

MS: A lot of loss for a lot of people, especially in the Gay and Lesbian community, which is a close knit community for a city this size. A lot of people have lost friends and loved ones to AIDS, and a lot of people who have moved here from other places have lost people. I think the greater community has to wake up to the realization that AIDS is everyone's problem and not just a Gay problem, or a drug addict's problem. AIDS affects people in all because people from all parts of the community are involved.

RM: What's your sense of how well the local medical community is responding to AIDS?

MS: I think we're pretty lucky here with some of the doctors we have and the services that are available. It seems that there's always been doctors who have been affiliated with most of the hospitals who are knowledgeable about AIDS.

RM: Why is it important for Wingspan, as a Gay and Lesbian community center, to be involved in this memorial?

MS: It's important for all parts of the community to be involved, and in a way, it's unfortunate that a Gay and Lesbian community center is organizing the event. It should be the great community as a whole doing it, and I am trying to get more of the community involved in it. But certainly, the toll has been greatest in our community.

RM: You said before that there has been a lot of losses that the Gay and

Lesbian community has experienced because of AIDS. What kind of losses have they been?

MS: The losses of friends, loved ones and people close to you, and a lot of them at a young age when people aren't used to having that kind of loss in their life. So there is all that personal loss, and the community has lost leaders.

RM: So people who had been and could have been contributing to society have been taken from us by this disease.

MS: As an example, one great local loss has been Jerome Beillard, who founded PACT for Life. He took a leadership role and made important changes in this community.

RM: So we also mourn the continued contributions these people could have made had they not died so young.

MS: And the other side to that, which sounds odd to say, is that we learn a lot through loss, and AIDS has been a great teacher. The only way you can grow is if you change, and any change involves losses of some type. So AIDS has been a teacher for many people. I know it has been for me.

RM: What kind of lessons has the loss taught you or the Gay community?

MS: To cherish what I have, to cherish the friendships that are here with me, and to cherish the time I have. The

CONTINUED ON PAGE SIXTEEN

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South Carolina Pride Overcoming Obstacles

MYRTLE BEACH, SC — Owing to scathing comments from Myrtle Beach's mayor and strong-arm tactics by one of the city's largest land developers, organizers of the 9th Annual South Carolina Gay & Lesbian Pride March and Festival said it was the largest Gay and Lesbian event in Carolina's history.

The Festival had been threatened repeatedly by Myrtle Beach Mayor Mark McBride and by the powerful land developer Burroughs & Chapin since the festival's planned staging in Myrtle Beach was announced last year.

S.C. Gay rights supporters decided to hold the 1998 march in Myrtle Beach after McBride issued a series of inflammatory comments regarding the proposed move of a Gay bar into the downtown-Ocean Boulevard area. The planned festival and march again made headlines when Burroughs & Chapin launched an unsuccessful attempt to halt plans for the march and festival by leaning on local tenants and sponsors to pull their support for the event.

Earlier this month, Burroughs & Chapin announced it had dropped the word "pride" from its slogan to better reflect the developer's "family values." The use of the word "pride" by the group organizing the festival was one reason for the change, Burroughs & Chapin President and Chief Executive Officer Doug Wendel said.

Tony Snell, co-chair of the SC Gay and Lesbian Pride Movement, said the decision to remove pride from the company slogan was "another example of the company's bigotry." Snell cited deeds from the 1920s and 1940s, which forbade the conveyance of land owned by Myrtle Beach Farms, which is now Burroughs & Chapin, to black or non-Caucasian groups or people, as evidence of the company's long-history of bigotry.

"They are treating us just like they have treated other minorities in the past," Snell said. A decision by the company not to allow the Village People to hold a concert outdoors on its property during festival weekend and the pressure it has applied to tenants on its property to forego festival participation or sponsorship of any kind is further proof of the company's poisonous animosity, said Snell.

Burroughs & Chapin denies it has actively discouraged festival participation but issued a statement that seemed to defend its right to do so. "Our company abides by the laws governing fair and equal treatment of all individuals. However, as a private company, we have not, nor do we intend to be forced or intimidated into supporting organized activities that we

believe endanger the historic values of our nation and the cornerstone truths on which they are based."

Locals confirm Burroughs & Chapin have been harassing small business tenants on their property wishing to show their support for the Gay Pride festival. Merchants have been informed that they will suffer serious repercussions if Gay pride stickers or other supportive symbols are placed in store windows or anywhere on Burroughs & Chapin property.

Hard Rock Cafe, one of the largest retailers in the 'Celebrity Square' retail complex has reportedly been informed by Burroughs & Chapin that owing to Hard Rock's sponsorship of a musical program, they can no longer count on support from the land developer for a number of jointly-sponsored events planned for later in the year.

Not All Search Engines Are Equal For G/L Web Surfers

BOSTON, MA — It's a growing challenge for Internet users: How do you find the websites you want? Hundreds of search engines, which allow a user to locate websites about a particular topic, claim to help.

But a recent test shows that several leading search engines do a poor job for many Gay and Lesbian users.

"All search engines turn up a certain amount of junk and spam in response to your inquiry," according to Gay travel writer Sasha Alyson, "but the problem is compounded for Gay users. Much of what's on the web is porn, and once you type the word 'Gay' or 'Lesbian' to help define your search, you open the door to thousands of unwanted sites."

In his monthly Gay travel column, "Venturing Out," Alyson reports that he tested the most popular search engines in finding Gay travel topics. Each was rated by how many sites it found that were relevant to a user's query, and also by how effectively they filtered out irrelevant listings. Two of the best-known engines, Excite and Webcrawler, performed so poorly that Alyson calls them "virtually useless."

Top scores went to InfoSeek (www.infoseek.com) and Search (www.search.com).



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ARIES

MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

Proud Rams pack a pistol when Venus enters their own sign. You exude charm and you're not above cashing in a few social chips during this lucky streak. Venus certainly provides the personality plus you need to make things happen. Therefore, dear, Queer friend, don't waste this delightful transit on selfish and petty pursuits. Elect you leader of the pride pack.

TAURUS

APRIL 21 - MAY 21

Gay Bulls are not the most present of people but now your intuition is strong and grandly beneficent. Venus in Aries lends a certain verve and panache to all your actions. Use it advantageously cousin; there is much to be done and not a great deal of time to do it. Grand causes call for grand designs. Pull out the blueprints and plan a palace.

GEMINI

MAY 22 - JUNE 21

Charming Venus enters forceful Aries and helps you gather the pride forces for a real movement Out. Forward march friends! Take your camaraderie to the limit, even if the limit is how many pints you can hoist at the neighborhood bar. Proud Twins are naturally festive and friendly. Now you are social director extra ordinaire. Plan a fin de siècle extravaganza.

CANCER

JUNE 22 - JULY 21

Pink Crabs can slyly sip the power away from snarling corporate sharks when lovely Venus waltzes into domineering Aries. Think of this transiting energy as a velvet glove wrapped around an iron fist. Fall back on charm when you are sorely tempted to scream. The secret is, of course, to avoid emotional rainstorms that can turn your successful act into ruinous rust.

LEO

JULY 24 - AUGUST 23

Want to escape? Let relaxing Venus in independent Aries provides you with an appealing alternative to the day-to-day drudgery. Take a vacation if you have the time and the dough. If you're a little short

HOROSCOPES
BY C. LICHTENSTEIN

on either ingredient, use this delightful transit to expand and enliven your immediate world. Spicy food and/or spicy company can do wonders for your Outlook.

VIRGO

AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23

Mighty Aphrodite charges into pioneering Aries and provides a spark or five in your sex life. Lucky Queer Virgins can sample the best of all worlds during this delightful transit if they open themselves up to all that life has to offer. Randy Venus provides a joi de vivre so go all Out and vivre. Dive into the deep and if you are daring enough, be sure to pack a bathing cap.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23

Harmony rules when warm and cuddly Venus enters confident Aries. Proud Libras can count on the strong support of partners for whatever crazy things they may decide to do now. Hey, you fell pretty lucky. However, do not tempt the fates with outrageously destructive behavior. There are some things even delightful Venus cannot forgive.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 23

Venus in Outer-directed Aries enables you to plow ahead on the job with fabulous results. As appealing as ruler of the water cooler may sound, I advise you to put this lovely energy into where it will have the most long-lasting effect; on your fitness and diet. It's easier to play the field when your uniform fits properly.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 24 - DECEMBER 23

Gay Archers can have a grand Guy time when playful Venus glides into pioneering Aries. Expect a little happy zeta in your cerebellum that sends you Gay muse into overdrive. Create, create, create. Other manifestations include party-hearty tunes, vivacious company and perhaps even a fleeting romance. It seems that life continues to be interesting. Lucky thing...

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 24 - JANUARY 20

Stoke the house fires when happy Venus

enters Aries. The planets almost mandate that you entertain more at home. Gay Goats can come to grips with family issues at this time as both sides want to kiss and make up. Decide what you expect from these relationships and go for the gold. Do not compromise on your happiness for the sake of accord, that would make Venus very sad.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19

Good thing that Venus in Aries helps you communicate more effectively now that you need it. Aquarians are all mouth now, lucky thing, so use this delightful planetary spirit to state your convictions proudly and unequivocally. Carry the rainbow banner and stake your claims for equality. You will be amazed at what you can accomplish now.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

Gay Fish may come into a little money when lovely Venus enters unflappable Aries. You'll earn it and spend it now but I suggest that you stow something away for the inevitable rainy day. Although Venus (and Pisces for that matter) aren't known for shouldering financial responsibility well, prove the skeptics wrong and invest your best. Become J.P. Morgan of the pink set.

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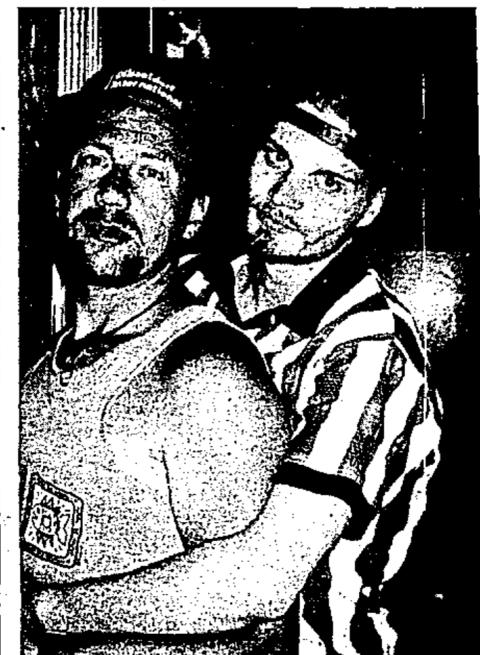
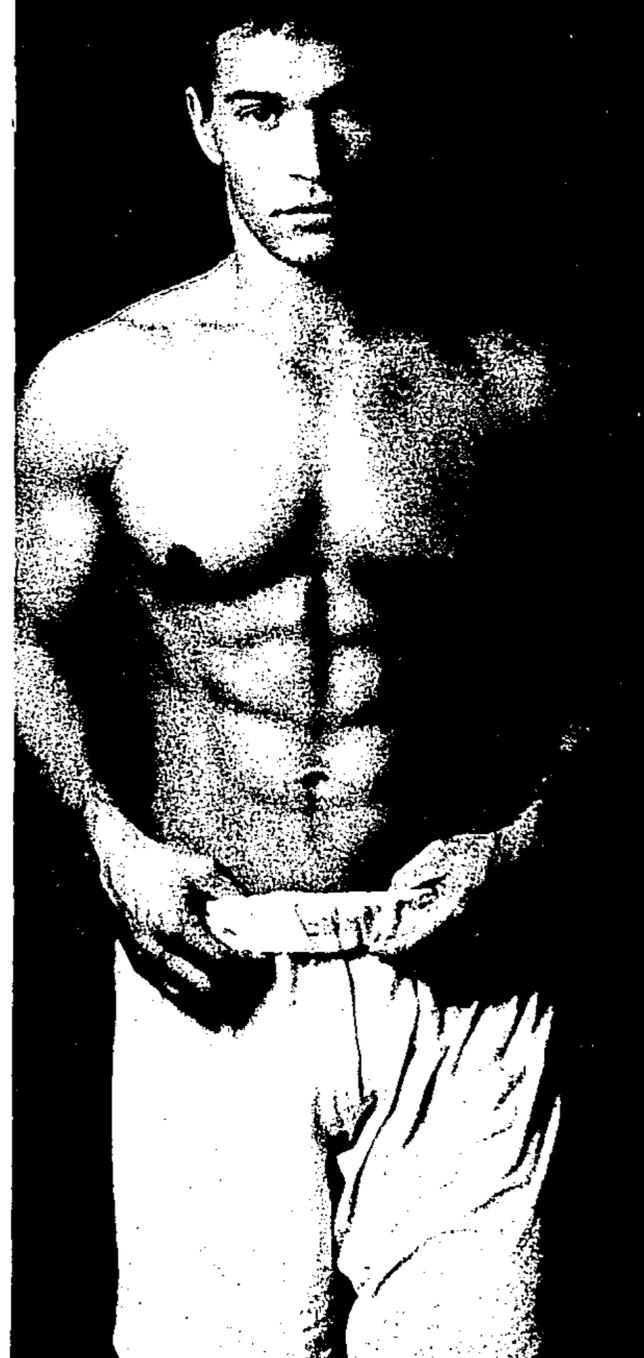


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Venturing Out

by Sasha Alyson

Would you like to go hiking with other Gay men and Lesbians? The following information should be helpful: Gay sex photos, free naked men, xxx pictures, nude males, Gay sex, Jeff Stryker, erotica stories, under briefs.

had no luck tracking down Gay cruises, for example, on Yahoo. It also has a smaller database, and missed many relevant listings. Those humans go home at night, while computers keep on analyzing.

What, you didn't find that helpful? Actually, neither did I. Yet that was the "description" of the #1 site that came up on a popular search engine, when I asked it to find websites that included the concepts "Gay" and "hike."

Excite (10%; www.excite.com) and Webcrawler (4%; www.webcrawler.com) got rock-bottom scores. These turkeys share the same database, but apply different search algorithms, and so yield slightly different results. But "garbage in, garbage out," as they say in the computer business, and both these search engines provide virtually useless at producing relevant listings. (It was Excite, by the way, that came up with the odd response to my search for the "Gay hike" query. The porn site that got #1 listing includes the phrase, "If you are offended by the Gay lifestyle, homosexuality, images of naked men, Gay sex, or any type of sexual talk, take a hike. Leave now." None of the higher-ranked search engines made the error of believing that this site was about hiking.)

Experienced web surfers are accustomed to this. The problem is compounded for Gay and Lesbian users, however. That's because much of what's on the web is porn-for-pay, and those porn sites work overtime to pump up their ratings with the various search engines. One you type the word Gay or Lesbian to help define your search, you open the door to these hordes.

Two major search engines were not rated:

Fortunately, some search engines prove smarter than others at detecting which sites are most relevant to your inquiry. After too many frustrating hours of watching search results download, only to find a list of spam, I undertook to test them.

GoTo (www.goto.com) is undergoing a major overhaul. Commercial sites can now pay to get a top listing; GoTo claims this will help increase relevancy. They could well be right; it's worth trying them out in a few months.

I took eight queries, word combinations such as "Gay hotel Paris," "Gay hike," "Lesbian vacation" and "Gay cruise ship," then called up the major search engines, and looked at the first ten results provided by each engine to each of my queries. If you think I must have been beguiled by the end of all this, you're right.

Northern Light (www.nlsrch.com) is heavily oriented towards news and text. It's not the place to look for Gay vacation ideas, but for current events, it's the place to start.

I scored the results by asking, of each site listed, "How relevant is this likely to be for the typical user who types in the same query?"

My conclusion: No one search engine will find everything you want. Get in the habit of using any two or three, from the top six. If you've been relying on Excite or Webcrawler, and could never understand why other people found the web so useful and you didn't, well, now you understand.

In response to the query, "Gay cruise ship," a listing for RSVP Travel received a top score. The site of a Gay travel agency, that sells cruises also got points, but not as many. Porn, spam, and irrelevant sites lost points. So did the home page of Mark, who is Gay and writes of a memorable night on a cruise ship. Good for you, Mark, but that page doesn't belong in the top ten listings.

And the winners are:

InfoSeek (87%; www.infoseek.com) and Search (96%; www.search.com) came out on top, a surprise to me, as I had barely heard of either one. They share a database, but InfoSeek consolidates all pages from the same site into a single listing, yielding a more concise list. Both did an excellent job at filtering out spam, and getting most of the best sites.

Alta Vista (89%; www.altavista.digital.com) was strong all-round, but especially with hotel listings.

HotBot (84%; www.hotbot.com) found more right-on-target sites than any other engine, but was weaker at filtering out the porn and spam.

Lycos (78%; www.lycos.com) was generally strong, but weak at finding hotel information.

Yahoo (72%; www.yahoo.com) actually hires human beings to look at each site before it gets listed. (The others use software that records frequency of word use, and attempts to determine content from these statistics.) Consequently, for most topics, Yahoo produced fewer junk sites than anyone else. Yet occasionally, your subject just doesn't fit into their scheme: I

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Wingspan Has New Art Curator

TUCSON—Ronda Stone is the new Curator of the Art Wall at Wingspan, 300 East Sixth Street.

Stone has a BFA degree and a strong background in art. Ronda is a fine art photographer and has shown her work across the United States. She has published a photography/poetry book called *The Bones Remember*, which you can find it at *The Bookmark*, under Women's Studies.

While living in Colorado, Ronda was the Executive Director of the *Illustrated Light Gallery*. She helped lead 45 members with darkroom instruction, road trips and critiques of member's works. Ronda has created a 50-piece exhibit of the GLBT community called "A Walk Through Diversity." It has shown several times in Colorado, Portland University and the University of Wyoming.

In October, Stone will be calling for entries for the Art Wall at Wingspan. The juried exhibit at Wingspan will have a direct connection to *OUToberFEST* and will have a theme to help celebrate our pride and our community. Along with working with Wingspan as Art Curator, Ronda is starting *Equipose Gallery, Inc.* She will be calling for entries for a juried show in September entitled, "A Portrait of Tucson and Pima County."

Please call Ronda, (520) 722-4239 if you would like to talk about art, hang work at Wingspan or if you have questions about the *Equipose Gallery*. She would like to see the work of many artists in Tucson. Please feel free to send slides, resume and/or artist statement to: Ronda Stone, *Equipose Gallery, POB 26445, Tucson, AZ 85726.*

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HOME ON THE RANGE / AGRA TUCSON

by Scott Weidamoyer

Wow what a week! AGRA has more royalty. A big congratulations to AGRA-Tucson's very own Dance and Entertainment Director, Randy Thompson (aka Victoria DuPuis), who walked away with a fabulous piece of jewelry and the title of Miss Gay Tucson-America 1998. You go Randy, we are really proud of you! And wish you all the luck in your reign this year. And, the best of luck in the Miss Gay Arizona pageant in June.

Congratulations also to Tommy R. for winning the State election for Vice President. We look forward to Tommy's support for Tucson in his new State position.

Thanks go out to Frank and Dave of IBT's. AGRA raised \$85 on the burger-bust this past Sunday. Frank and Dave renewed their Champion Membership for IBT's and the Graduate. Thanks for your support.

I would like to extend a "Get Well Soon" to one of AGRA's members, Mr. Art

Lewis. Apparently Art took a fall this week and did a little number on himself. Honey, I know that scars are a turn-on for some, but giving them to yourself is not the way to get a date! Just kidding, get better fast.

One last note, AGRA will be participating at *Jell-O Wrestling* by cooking and selling burgers during the event. Anyone interested in volunteering to flip some patties can contact me via pager, 516-9003.

I hope you are working on your ideas 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.]

A View From The Rock

A Commentary From Cornerstone Fellowship

One of the more intriguing advertisements I've seen lately involves a credit card.

Plastered on a billboard, high above the street, this card brags, "Complete peace of mind in a little piece of plastic." What an idea! And certainly one that everyone living in these troubled times is interested in! Just think! With one of these cards a person would have no more worries like, "am I going to make it to the gas stations before the car runs out of gas?" There wouldn't need to be concern about how to pay the rent, even though you could no longer work. You wouldn't have to worry about being rejected by your parents if you told them you were Gay. There would be no anxiety about living in this violent society, wondering if you were going to be the next victim of a drive-by shooting. And of course, there would be no more nagging apprehension about what will happen to you when you die! In fact, if this credit card lived up to its billing, if it truly gave complete peace of mind, I'm sure that everyone who heard about it would be rushing to obtain one at any cost.

Unfortunately, this card promises far more than it can possibly deliver. There is no human invention that can guarantee complete peace of mind.

However, I do know the source of complete, absolute peace. Jesus told his disciples the night before he was betrayed, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. (John 14:27 NIV)

Jesus was very clear about the kind of peace he was giving. He said it was his peace, not the world's peace. His peace is not the absence of troubles but rather knowing that he is with you in the troubles and will take you through them. Having Jesus' peace is no guarantee that you will never run out of gas or have money worries. But in spite of the outward circumstances, a person who has Jesus' peace has a quite confidence that because Jesus is in control all things will work out all right in the end.

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**LETTERSLETTERSLETTERSLETTERSLETTERSLETTERSLETTE
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Continued from Page Four
available or unwilling to comment.

The Concerned Women for America's press release contains overstatements about the results of our March 23 meeting with them and other family groups. Just so we are clear:

American has not agreed to sever relations with any Gay and Lesbian philanthropic organization; nor will American cease marketing to the Gay and Lesbian community.

It is true that American has stopped sponsoring individual circuit parties, but we made that decision in 1997 - long before American met with the family organizations - because of the controversial nature of the parties. Instead, our resources are being redirected to the AIDS organizations themselves.

Please take this opportunity to set the record straight and in the future, please feel free to call us before you publish what others allege as our position.

Sincerely,
Andrea Rader
Corporate Communications
Manager - American Airlines
Dallas, Texas

[Editor Note: The Observer and online Observer get news items and stories from wire services and news agencies. The American Airlines story came from a news agency, not from the Concerned Women for America press release as Ms. Rader inferred in her letter.

Publications rely on wire services and news agencies for stories consisting of reliable information. Apparently this was not the case with the news agency which provided this item for The Observer.

The Observer will not use this news service for any future stories.]

TO THE EDITOR:
As most of you know, the "Miss Gay Tucson American Pageant" has come and gone. And the results are in, with the lovely talents of Miss Victoria DuPuis crowned as well as deserved. Her first alternate was myself, Miss Regina Reed.

Most would say there's only one winner. However, I disagree. A year ago I returned to entertaining after moving here from Illinois three years ago. Over the past year I have learned so much, but mostly I have made many friends and earned many supporters.

To begin with the group I call "The Miracle Workers" (Lani, Dom, Kirk, David, Becky, Daniel, Larry, Shaundriana and Kreg). These people responded to my request wholeheartedly with full dedication. You guys are the greatest and I love you all! Electra, what can I say? You took an idea and beat it into something fun for us all and entertaining for everyone. I owe you so much you'll never know. To Alex, thank you for putting up with it.

To my sponsors, The Neon Moon, Stonewall/Eagle, The Arizona Ballroom Co., Cloud 9 Limousine, and Hours, thank you for your support and I wish you all the best. Oh yes! How could I leave out the "Dolly" lady, Shaundriana? Not only were you there for talent, you

were also there by my side as a sponsor. You're a special person. Thank you with love.

A special thanks to Larry Moor and Holliday's Headliner's for the opportunity to compete and all your assistance. To Kenneth Blake, you would have been a tough act to follow. I thank you and wish you the best of luck in the future.

Let's see, who else is left? Oh yes!
My husband Kreg. I am because of you. I love you and thank you. Also, Miss Victoria DuPuis, our new reigning Miss Gay Tucson America. I am proud to serve as your first alternate. I wish you only the best for the year to come. However, if the crown should become too heavy, I do have strong shoulders. Good luck.

Sincerely,
Regina Reed

TO THE COMMUNITY:
Many of us have been wondering about the fate of David Lawhorn after the unfortunate incident in San Antonio, Texas. David was accused and convicted of murder. He is now serving his time in a Texas prison.

David is in great need of support from friends and those who care. He realizes that what has happened to him was probably meant to be in order to find a new way of life through prayer and forgiveness.

David just wants and needs to know he is remembered and has friends in Tucson.

Please write him. It will help a lot, and you will feel good about your support and help.

"We cannot do a good thing too soon because we do not know how soon it will be too late." Address: David Lawhorn #777802, Eastham P.O. Box 16, Lovelady, Texas, 75851.

Richard Mainz

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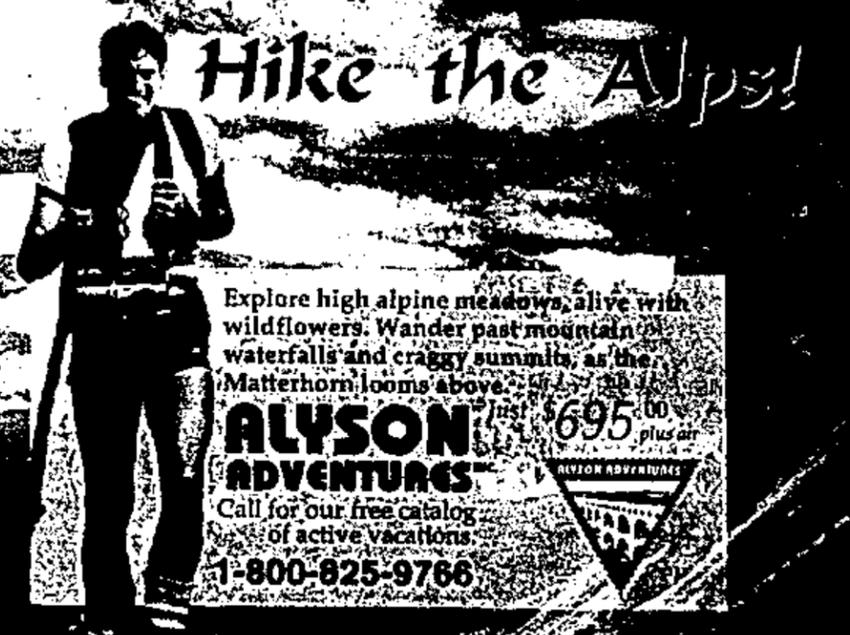


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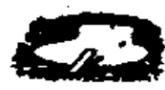
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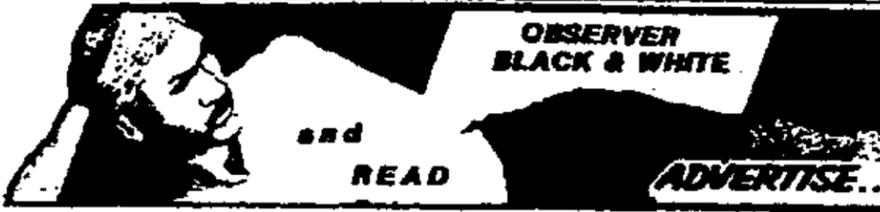
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Wingspan

Continued from Page Seven

loss has made that all very real and shown me the value of that. For the community, the big lesson has been prevention and education. People just have to learn to not be in a position to contract the virus.

RM: So as a community, has this loss taught us to value ourselves, our health, and our bodies in ways that we may not have done before?

MS: Absolutely. And another big lesson has been in caring for one another. As a whole, the Gay community has responded very well in the kind of action we've gotten the government to take and in the care we've given on our own to each other.

RM: You've been organizing this event for four years now. This event has a lot of importance to you and has been one of your main missions at Wingspan.

MS: The international event began around the time when I first started doing AIDS support work, brought about by the death of a close friend in 1983. In the spring of 1983 was the first of these memorial events, and it really had an emotional impact on me. The person who organized it did it for his best friend who was dying at the time. I was in L.A. at the time, so it was the L.A. observance, and there was a march as part of the event. His friend led the march in a wheelchair, so he was very frail at that time, and I was very moved by the event and that this person honored this friend in that way. And years later I connected again with the person who organized the event because he was one of the co-founders of Shanti in

Los Angeles and I worked very closely with him. In my own way I'm following in his footsteps by doing the local Tucson observance.

RM: What kind of support do HIV+ people need?

MS: Mostly to be treated like the people that they are, to be loved rather than feared. To be helped rather than pitied, and they need help in a lot of different areas, such as financial advice, legal advice, insurance advice about how to get the benefits that they need. There are a large, and I'm afraid growing number, of double and triple diagnoses that includes not only HIV but either or both mental illness and substance abuse. These people need a lot of support, and the mental illness and drug use makes the person's situation more difficult. And AIDS itself can have a lot of mental effects on the person through the direct physical action of the virus and through the emotional difficulties that come along with AIDS. Support is available through the organizations taking part in the memorial.

RM: What support do care givers need?

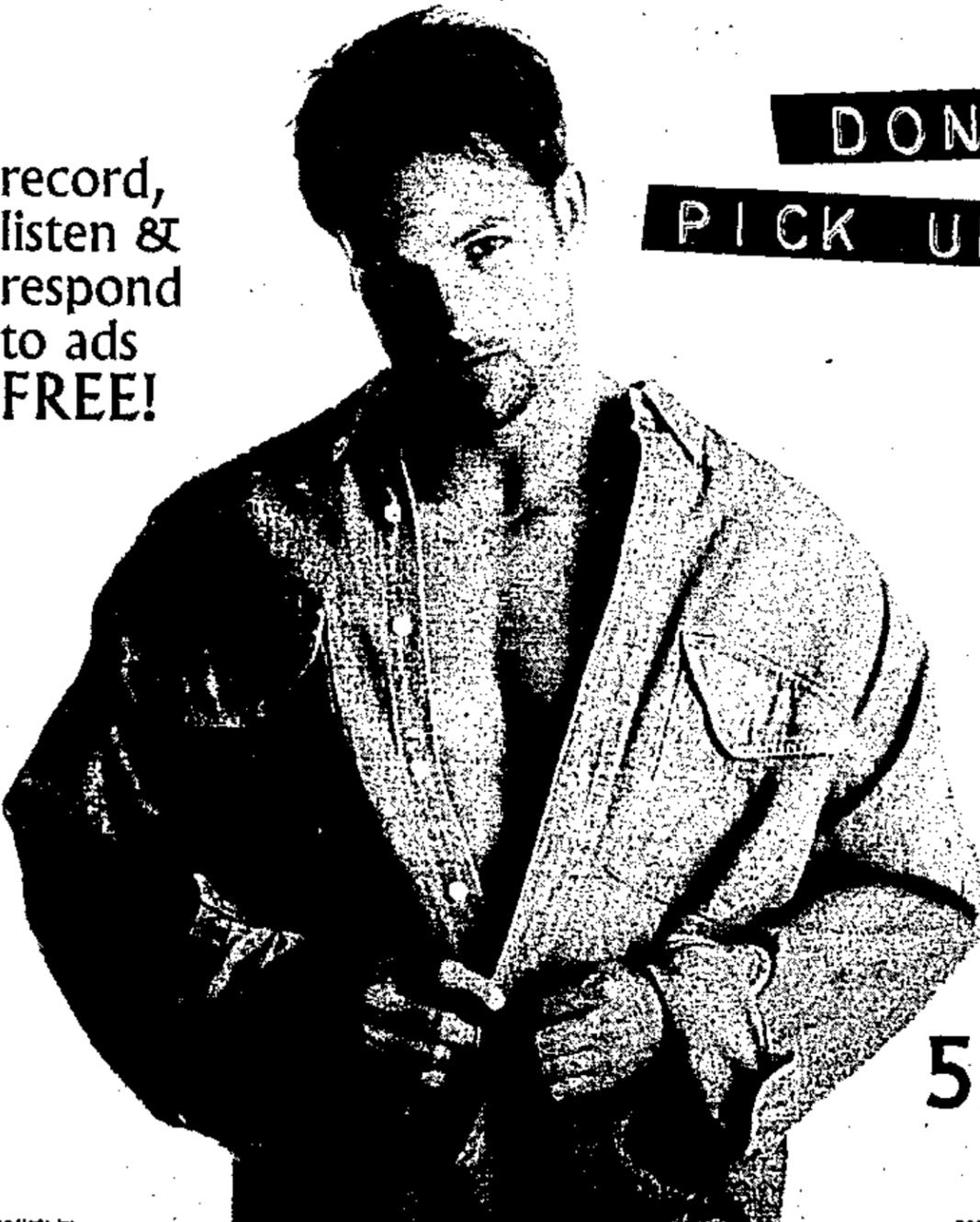
MS: It's easy to burn-out doing HIV+ work, and the burn-out is in support. More peer support is needed among care-givers, such as in support groups that SAAF and TIHAN have.

RM: What do people need to know in 1998 about HIV related issues?

MS: HIV is still here, and it's still a problem. The good news is that people are living longer and living better quality lives with HIV, but HIV is still

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Saludandoles como cada semana; y en esta ocasión para decirles que la próxima edición del Observador no habrá Columna Abierta porque estaré de vacaciones por una semana, así es que en las subsecuentes ediciones tendremos mucho de que comentar; sobre todo de la VI Caravana del Recuerdo de Granados, que será el día 15 de Mayo Día de San Isidro Labrador, patrón del mencionado pueblo que se encuentra en la rivieta del Rio Bavispe, de verdad que se les invita a que consideren esos pueblos en sus planes vacacionales, no se arrepentirán se los aseguro!!! Y desde luego nuestro amigo "el Maestro de la Fotografía"; Octavio Barcoeló ya tiene lista su exposición anual y también tendrá la inauguración oficial del "Lugar sin Límites" como les digo habrá mucho que comentar.... Y viniendo de Granados estaremos participando en la "Primera Conferencia Nacional de Promotores de Salud" en Mesa Arizona, que será presentada por nuestro centro hermano; WAHEC de Yuma, AZ, con Amanda Aguirre a la directiva y Tuly Medina en la coordinación. En esta ocasión se esperan más de 300 promotores de salud de toda la nación Norteamericana y desde luego de las ciudades del norte de México, ya se tiene la confirmación de la participación de promotoras de Chicago, Los Angeles, Ca. Benjamin Hill, Sonora, Agua Prieta, Tijuana B.C. y desde luego de las diferentes regiones del Estado de Arizona. El programa se ve muy completo, así mismo se espera la presencia de los invitados y ya les comentaremos los detalles....

que, con tanta información sobre el SIDA, la gente se sigue infectando.

Esto se debe a múltiples factores (acceso a la educación, condiciones económicas), y no como afirman algunos: por irresponsabilidad. Nada más lejos de la verdad. "Muchos de nuestros hombres y mujeres, conocen su condición de seropositivos hasta que una enfermedad oportunista les da la realidad del SIDA"; comenta Gonzalo Aburto Iniesta.

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

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Dentro de las noticias al día sobre SIDA: se formó el grupo de Hispanos a nivel nacional para entrarle al problema con más acciones, ya que las estadísticas actuales demuestran que un alto porcentaje de infectados con el VIH en los Estados Unidos son los hispanos y dentro de cinco años, si no se actúa con las medidas recomendadas, esas cifras serán duplicadas y pasarán al doble de las cantidades que se reportan en los blancos no hispanos... Así es que se les recuerda que los entrenamientos que ofrece Salud es Poder, y se está reclutando constantemente voluntarios para que trabajen como replicadores en la información y la prevención al VIH. Si necesita más información al respecto, por favor comunicarse con Ernie Pérez o con Jorge Rascoín al 322-6226...

En el último año, parte del debate público y de la discusión sobre cómo enfrentar los enormes problemas que la epidemia sigue provocando, se ha visto dominado en algunos sectores por un falso optimismo, transmitido en declaraciones de algunos líderes y activistas de la comunidad, en el sentido de que la crisis del SIDA ha terminado, debido a que ahora existen nuevos medicamentos que al parecer están mejorando en algunos casos, las condiciones de vida, de aquellos que tienen la fortuna de tener acceso a los mismos, pero que sin embargo, no se sabe si funcionarán a largo plazo. Algunos, han llegado a proponer, que las organizaciones que existen y que han sido creadas por las personas con SIDA, deben de prepararse para trabajar, ya no con personas que están luchando por su vida, sino enfocarse, a ayudarlas a vivir una enfermedad crónica manejable. Sin embargo, es necesario volver a señalar que en la comunidad latina de este país, el SIDA sigue siendo una crisis que afecta a cientos de miles de personas, así como a sus familias y a sus comunidades. Para muestra, sólo habría que señalar, que la mayoría de las personas en nuestra comunidad que tienen VIH, no lo saben. Hay quienes no entienden cómo es

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Non-Bar Calendar

Groups / Clubs / Organizations

THURSDAY, MAY 7

Gay Men's Performance Workshop, 7-9 p.m. at Wingspan. This is a free, ongoing, evolving gathering of Gay men of all ages and backgrounds, intended to find different creative ways to tell our stories, explore our creative energies, and enter the worlds of each other's lives, myths, and images in a supportive atmosphere. All queer men are welcome, and no experience is necessary! Bring your ears, brains and body and wear comfortable clothes you can move in. Call Mark at 851-3253 for more information.

Gays and Lesbians United (GLU) will meet at Cornerstone Fellowship, 2902 N. Geronimo. All Gay, Lesbian and AIDS groups are welcome. RSVP to David at 323-7943.

FRIDAY, MAY 8

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). MSN has a trip to San Carlos planned for the weekend. We'll drive down together in a van and enjoy a relaxing weekend at this beautiful Mexican resort town. For more information, please call Donn at 325-4257.

Antigone Books will present a discussion and reading of "Chasing The American Dream: Home Stretch (Cleis Press, \$14.95). This is a brand new anthology edited by Susan Fox Rogers that explores and celebrates Lesbian notions of home. The discussion will be led by Susan and contributor Linda Smukler will read from her piece. What does the concept of home mean? In this beautiful and diverse collection, each writer interprets it in her own way, from childhood homes to the homes they've created as adults, to "home" in the broader sense of where we feel most ourselves.

SATURDAY, MAY 9

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). If you couldn't get off work on Friday, consider joining us for the rest of the weekend in San Carlos. It's only a 6 hour drive away. For more information, please call Donn at 325-4257.

SUNDAY, MAY 10

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

MONDAY, MAY 11

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us for a video presentation of "The Ritz." This funny movie is about a straight man running from killers who pick a gay bath house as his hiding place. For directions and reservations, please call Les at 690-9565.

TUESDAY, MAY 12

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." This event is on the east side of town. For directions and reservations, please call Loren at 733-0072.

THURSDAY, MAY 14

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us for a night of Czech food as we visit The Green Frog. We'll have a pre-set menu to choose from, so please call in your reservation early to give the restaurant enough time to prepare. For reservations and directions, please call Bill at 546-7539.

FRIDAY, MAY 15

Antigone Books will present Janet Jakobsen, professor at the University of Arizona will read from her new book "Working Alliances and the Politics of Difference". This exploration of how alliances work (or fail to work) for particular social movements include case studies of the abolition movement, the feminist movement, the religious right and others. Importantly, Jakobsen also explores the possibilities for feminist and queer resistance to the religious right.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. "The Full Monty" will be shown. Watch as a ragtag group of men get together to try and put on a strip show. This Oscar nominated film is very funny and charming. For reservations and directions, please call Les at 690-9565.

SATURDAY, MAY 16

Rainbow Families, Tucson's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual parents network holds a rap and discussion group every third Saturday of the month. They will meet today at 4:00 p.m. at St. Francis in the foothills, Room 31 at the NW corner of River and Swan. All Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual parents, partners and family members are welcome. Call Craig at 318-9348 for more information.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). Get ready to rough it, as the guys head out for a camping trip to Lake Patagonia. We plan to stay overnight and come back home on Sunday, after a full weekend of activities and fun. For more information, please contact Dan at 622-8112.

Tucson Arts District Partnership Downtown Saturday Night from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. Live music, arts, entertainment, mainly on 4th Avenue. Check it out.

SUNDAY, MAY 17

11th Annual Rene Gannon Memorial Jail-o Wrestling and Benefit Auction 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the parking lot at the Graduate (University and Stone). Proceeds benefit the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF). Free admission. Raffle, auction, wrestling, fun. For more information or for wrestlers packets call 322-6226.

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

International AIDS Candlelight Memorial and Mobilization: A worldwide event to remember those who have died of AIDS and to support those who are living with HIV and AIDS through stories, songs and performance. The Candlelight Procession and Interfaith Service begins at 7:30 p.m. in Armory Park. For more information call 624-1778.

Bar Calendar

Of Upcoming Events

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6

IBT'S - The Love Company presents "Puttin' On The Lips" co-hosted by Miss Gay Tucson 1996, Victoria DuPuis and the former Miss Gay Tucson Felice Renard.

THURSDAY, MAY 7

STONEWALL/EAGLE - "Joshua Tree/Back Pocket Reunion Party" with Bobby & Tina Bishop from 9:00 p.m. to ?? in the Eagle.

FRIDAY, MAY 8

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - The Biz welcomes back Nancy and Hippie Shake. They play a rock/blues mix that always packs the house. 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. Cover.

SATURDAY, MAY 9

GRADUATE - Tucson Knight Owls (TKO) will hold their monthly Beer Bust here from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. Everyone welcome to join in!

HOURS - Fund Raising Bar-B-Que for the "Girls Nite Out" softball team from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. Help them get to the World's Series. Burgers, hot dogs and dessert!

NEON MOON - Showtime hosted by Mr. Larry Moore and starring Miss Kristin Raven, Bunny Foo, Adrienne Alexander and Miss Gay Tucson-America '96, Victoria DuPuis.

VENTURE-N - Bears Beer Bust from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. on the Patio.

SUNDAY, MAY 10

IBT'S - Adult movie star Dallas Taylor appears in a live performance beginning at 9:00 p.m. only at IBT's. From 4:30 to 7:00 p.m., the all-you-can-eat Bar-B-Que will benefit the Jail-O Wrestlers who will be here to get sponsors!

NEON MOON - Benefit show for Miss Gay Arizona contestant Miss Kristin Raven, Regina Reed, Adrienne Alexander, Mr. Kenneth Blake, Tiffany St. Thomas, Queen of Gay Pride '97 Shaundianna and Miss Gay Tucson-America '98, Victoria DuPuis.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

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

IBT'S - The Gidle Show begins at 9:00 p.m. hosted by Lucinda Holliday.

FRIDAY, MAY 15

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Prom Night here! Benefits SAAF. Gifts from Unique on Central, pictures courtesy of Deb Whalen. The prom you always wanted but never had is finally here. \$2.00 Cover goes directly to SAAF. Come early.

CLUB CONGRESS - "Prom Night" featuring The Zsa's Zsa's the performance prom band from hell! + Dmitri Sucrose! \$5.00 in advance of show, \$7.00 day of show. \$10 if you don't come in prom gear. Begins with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres in the Hotel Congress lobby. Also available the ultimate prom night package for couples: Complimentary bottle of champagne, tickets to the Prom, hotel room and breakfast for two in the Cup Cafe. Cost: \$100 Limited quantities. Get yours early..

SATURDAY, MAY 16

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

SUNDAY, MAY 17

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Fuerza Latin drag show sponsored by Latino Men's Health Project.

GRADUATE - 11th Annual Rene Gannon Memorial Jail-O Wrestling to benefit Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) in the parking lot. Free admission. Raffle, auction, wrestling, fun. For more information or for wrestlers packets, call 322-6226.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Dreamgirls Revue with Mr. Kenneth Blake, Miss Gay Tucson-America 1997 and special guests. 10:00 pm.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Hot male strippers from Los Angeles. 10:00 p.m. \$2.00 cover.

MONDAY, MAY 18

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20

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 Nonie. This new restaurant has been highly praised for its authentic New Orleans style of cooking. For reservations and directions, please call Richard at 618-7158.

THURSDAY, MAY 21

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us for our final Hitchcock Festival presentation of "The Trouble With Harry." This dark comedy stars Shirley MacLaine in her film debut as one of the townspeople who has trouble with a dead body. For reservations and directions, please call Les at 690-9565.

FRIDAY, MAY 22

Antigone Books will present Michael Thomas Ford, award winning author and syndicated humor columnist who will read from his new book "Alec Baldwin Doesn't Love Me & And Other Trials From My Queer Life" at 7:00 p.m. These autobiographical essays are hilarious and refreshing, but what also would you expect from a guy whose childhood was spent saving the souls of his playmates while planning a wardrobe for the second coming, and whose adult life is spent competing with his best girlfriend for the attentions of women while obsessing about a married actor. Sometimes irreverent, sometimes thought-provoking and always wickedly funny, "Alec Baldwin Doesn't Love Me" is a terrific look at the state of queer America.

Daily Bar Calendar

Sunday

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

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

HOURS - Open 1pm. \$2 Bloody Marys & \$1.50 Screwdrivers til 8pm. Country music & dancing with FREE country dance instruction 7pm.

IBT's - Open Noon to 1 am. Happy Hour noon-8pm, \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 Well. Benefit 8-9-0 and Beer Bust for community organizations 4:30-7:00pm. Hi energy dancing 9pm to close. All drink specials not available during special events.

NEON MOON - Open 2pm. Party with Stan. Complimentary hot dogs. STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open noon. \$1.75 pitchers 75¢ a glass. Food Buffet 3pm. Pool Tournament 2pm w/Tippinman. Karaoke Night 9-class hosted by Billy Dee. Stonewall opens at 9pm with hot dance music with DJ Rayman.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio open 3pm. Patio Beer Bust 3-7pm 50¢ draft. 301 Dart Tournament 5pm \$3 entry fee (pot matched) Bert Burgers served 5-7pm. Tuff Stuff Teal Open at 7pm.

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 Stoll 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 Rab in the evening. Doc's Dart Tourney 8pm in the Eagle. Free pool all day.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. \$1.50 Well drinks and Longnecks 6am-noon.

Tuesday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7 2for1 well and domestic long necks. 2-7 p.m. Pool Tournament 7:30 pot matched. \$1 longnecks all night for tournament players. 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-class. \$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 & Miller Lite \$1.75 Cuervo Gold \$2 after 8pm.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. \$1.50 Well drinks and longnecks 6am-noon.

Wednesday

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

GRADUATE - Open 9am. Happy Hour 4-8pm all well \$1.50; Domestic \$1.75. 8 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 9 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. Liquoration 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/Rayman

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. \$1.50 Well drinks and Longnecks 6am-noon. Cuervo Gold \$2 and Cuervo 1800 \$2.25 Open to close.

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 lines)

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 countrywestern dance at 8pm

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 (part check available). Hi energy dancing 9-class 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/Edwards at the Stonewall which opens at 8pm.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am \$1.50 Well Drinks & Longnecks 6am-noon. Patio Bar open 9pm. Fuzzies Bottles \$1.50 from 9pm-midnight. Day prices for men in leather 7pm to close. Pool Tournament 7pm-ish. \$3 entry (Pot Matched). Tuff Stuff Teal Open at 8:30

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 & \$1.50 well. ... Patio Bar 9-1. Dance Party 9 to 1 with DJ David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.

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

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Happy Hour til 8pm. Food Buffet 6pm. If YOU wear a Stonewall/Eagle T-shirt YOU get happy hour prices all night. DJ Rayman 9pm.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. \$1.50 Well drinks and Longnecks 6am-noon. Snacks served at 5pm. Patio Bar open 9pm. Tuff Stuff Teal Open at 8:30pm.

Saturday

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

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

HOURS - Open 1pm. Small Pitchers \$2 & FREE pool 2-5. Xena on the big screen with pot luck at 6pm. Country Western Music all night.

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

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

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

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Patio Bar open at 9pm. Patio Beer Bust with 50¢ draft 2-7pm. Tuff Stuff Teal Open at 8:30pm. Partnership Cricket Tournament 8:30pm \$3 entry (Pot Matched).

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE .25 PER WORD \$5.00 MINIMUM



CLASSIFIEDS



CLASSIFIED ADS MUST BE MAILED, NO PHONE ADS.

NOTICES

NOTICES

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION (SAAF), 151 S. Tucson Blvd., Suite 211 (The Standard Building). Office Hours 9am to 5pm, Monday through Friday. Direct services and emotional support for persons with and affected by HIV. Anonymous HIV testing and support groups available. Prevention education programs. 322-8226. AIDS Hotline: 326-AIDS. VOLUNTEERS WELCOME.

FRONT RUNNERS OF TUCSON meet for fun runs Tuesdays at 6 p.m. Group meets in front of the Himmel Park Library (East side), and Sundays at various sites and places. For more information call Heidi 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 575-9440 or write P.O. Box 34264, Tucson, AZ 85746-6264. All replies confidential.

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

YOUNG AND GAY?

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

The TUCSON Chapter of PRIME TIMERS INTERNATIONAL invites Gay or Bisexual men over 30 years old to join and share Prime Timers fellowship. We welcome mature men who are or wish to be involved in Gay community activities, issues and organizations. Call 847-7493 and leave your name and phone number. Monthly meetings are held on the 2nd Sunday, 4-4 p.m., at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St.

TUCSON GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

For information on human service organizations, health and mental health services, financial and government assistance, emergency services such as food and shelter, education, etc. Call information and referral 881-1784 - 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 8:30 - 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), 8:00 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 888-1208 or Brian at 882-4726 for information.

LICHEN POND CLUB for women of all ages and backgrounds of life. Hike with other women. Listings in Rhythmic Journal available at Arizona 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 9:30 p.m. at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. 824-1779.

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

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

ARIZONA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION (AGRA) TUCSON CHAPTER. Interested? Call 323-8865 or write AGRA/Tucson, P.O. Box 4884, 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 87594.

ATTENTION ALL MUDISTS - Tucson Tanners is a social 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 84-0, Certano, AZ 85652.

INNER WISDOM - Try hypnotherapy for pain relief, past life exploration and addiction release. Also available: Spiritual Counseling and Dream Interpretation. 579-9929

COCHISE COUNTY LESBIANS AND GAYS. P.O. Box 118, 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 578-8827 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)327-1626 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85735-3910, 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. Elno 541-8850 or Room 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

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

T-SQUARES Lesbian and Gay square dance club meets every Tuesday from 8:30-9:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N. Garnham (near 1st Ave. and Leguina). Open to All. Call Liz at 325-8486 or Ray at 749-5247.

LIGHTNING LIGHTING will provide lighting for AIDS and related benefits at no charge. For more info call Adrienne at 859-7296.

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

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

"AT EASE AGAIN", a men's discussion group meets at Wingspan at 7 p.m. every Tuesday. 360 E. 6th St.

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

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.

DEBERT VOICES, Tucson's Gay & Lesbian Chorus rehearses Monday evenings from 8:30 to 9:30 pm at Armory Park Senior Center, 229 S. 6th Ave. Call 781-9442.

Join the LESBIAN & GAY PUBLIC AWARENESS PROJECT. In Tucson write Awareness Project, 3461 N. Campbell Ave. #345, Tucson, AZ 85719.

AA Meeting with HIV/AIDS focus, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., MCC Church, 3289 N. Mountain. All alcoholics welcome.

MEM'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 698-9545 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 778-9978 or Bertie 318-3415.

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

ARE YOU GAY OR BISEXUAL AND UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE? The Gay Young Men's Project is now looking for volunteers for the project. We need people who want to help create a positive social change for young Gay men as well as reduce the risk for HIV infection. For more information please call 322-8226.

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, 1948 E. Lee St. at 7:30 p.m. For more information call the parish office at 327-8815 or Jane Perri at 326-8577.

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

TUCSON LESBIAN/GAY ALLIANCE (TLGA) meets on the second Tuesday of Wingspan, 300 E. 6th Street at 7pm. For more information call 622-3208.

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 8 weeks. 694-7063.

THAM, 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 299-8447.

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

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

ANONYMOUS HIV COUNSELING AND TESTING is available through the Pima County Health Department at sites throughout Tucson. Very Gay Friendly. For more information or to make an appointment call 781-7876.

CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 3rd Monday at St. Plus X Catholic Church, 1840 N. Camino Pio Decine in the Klee Room at 7:00 p.m. For more info call Ernie 721-2083 or Anne Marie at the Parish office 888-3873.

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, 3289 N. Mountain. Hotline: (520)326-2211

NORTHWEST CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 4th Monday at St. Otilia's Catholic Church, 7576 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 287-9682 or Sr. Joan 742-8980.

SMART (Self Management And Recovery Training) a free non-12-step self-help alternative for people working to overcome addictive and other emotional problems meets in Tucson Monday thru Thursdays at different locations. For more information about SMART, contact Brenda at 344-9920, Ext.448 or Emmott 322-8057 (evan@bz.netcom.com)

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

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

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! (1" 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 884-8541.

SCUBA DIVING CLUB. For information call digital pager 281-9602.

TRANSGENDER ISSUES: Southern Arizona Gender Alliance (SAGA) meets on first Mondays for informal discussion of transgender topics. Hosted by Debert Boyz. For information call Gery at 828-8459 or send email to: montyboyz@earthlink.net.

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP FOR ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLES. Not a dating club. Dinetel. Meetings every Monday evening. Call for more info. APEX (Arizona Peer Exchange) 842-415-1123. 24-hr multi-choice message including information, calendar and location.

EMPLOYMENT

NEW GAY RESTAURANT SEeks COOK. Apply in person 509 4th Avenue, Green Frog Restaurant. 8am - 10am or 3pm-5pm. 723

HOUSING/FOR RENT

VARIOUS CENTRAL TUCSON LOCATIONS. 1 and 2 bedroom apartments from \$325 - \$485. Clean, private, quiet. Many extras. Mention this Observer ad. 885-8822. 728

ROOMMATES

COME TO SHARE LARGE 4-BEDROOM HOUSE w/private pool, gas grill, big screen TV, and more. \$295/mo. Includes utilities. 786-7875 or 620-1770 720

WANTED: MALE HOUSEMATE FOR HOME SOUTH OF BROADWAY. On Country Club. \$300/mo. + % utilites. Call Doug at 735-2001. 719

ROOMMATE WANTED FOR 2 BEDROOM APARTMENT near Alvernon and Speedway. \$200/mo. CALL Stan Wed.-Sun. 4:00 to 9:00 p.m. 881-7500 720

REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT OR SALE Beautiful condo in prestigious Sassa Hughes area. 2 bedroom 2 bath, FP, den, family room, atrium, hardwood floors, vaulted ceilings. Call 318-4834 for more info. 729

PERSONALS

CYBER CRUISE - Meet Arizona Gay men and women as well as people all over the U.S. Gay owned. www.mvcc.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 exclusiva estrictamente confidencial al 322-6226 y pregunta por Ernesto. 723

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. 723

FOR SALE

*94 COLEMAN PIONEER POP-UP TRAILER. Sleeps 6. 2 stoves in/out. Shower, hot water, porta potty. XLNT condition. \$4650 obo. Call John at Venture-W, 882-8224. 723

SERVICES

A MAN'S MASSAGE. Sensual and stress relieving. Full body massage in a private setting. Full Hour \$35. When only the best will do, call Rick at 299-1792. 721

ATTRACTIVE YOUNG MAN offers very relaxing, sensual, one-hour massage at a very reasonable rate. Days, evenings, and weekends. Michael, 795-5462 721

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

CATERING TO YOUR EVERY NEED - Theme Parties, Gift Baskets, Specialty Cakes, Intimate Dinners, Menu Planning. We also make Red Chile and Green Corn Tamales (oh so good, yum!) Call Becka or Craig at Masterpiece Catering 622-4232. 720

ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS

Let me keep your clothes fitting properly and in good repair. Experienced - Economical - Prompt. Mr. Merle Hudson, 888-7264 in Tucson. 727



GREY POINTE APARTMENTS

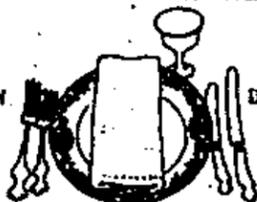
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Politics

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working Gays and Lesbians. The State Senate this past Monday approved an amendment to HB 2392, which would ban discrimination in employment based on sexual orientation. Capitol sources expect this amendment to be stripped when the bill goes to a conference committee. It was fun for the three minutes it lasted!

Yes, as of press time, Gov. Hull's proposed \$1.7 million for the beleaguered AIDS Drug Assistance Program still survives! It is still in the budget!

You can't just believe everything coming from the "Evil City of the North!" Contrary to erroneous reports from the "Center of the Universe," Pima County's Domestic Partners benefits went into effect, April 26.

According to Damien McNeal, one of the original four county employees who spearheaded the efforts to extend medical benefits, it has and it came in the nick of time. His life-partner, Richard utilized this past week. McNeal reaffirmed his pleasure with the Board's decision to finally extend the benefits and having made their lives a whole lot better especially with the threat of medical bills removed.

The case is still before the Court of Appeals, pending the scheduling of a date to hear the motions to dismiss the appeal.

So it goes for now kids!

No HIV Vaccine

Continued from Page One

discovered among "highly exposed, yet HIV-uninfected African prostitutes... these individuals may have been naturally vaccinated against HIV by a mechanism that is unknown, but obviously important to determine." Incorporating deactivated HIV virus into vaccine formulas is another promising area of research - although safety considerations make human trials involving this type of vaccine strategy an extremely controversial endeavor.

Because of the virus' complexity, Burton and Moore believe that the search for an effective HIV vaccine will be both varied and extremely costly, relying more and more on heavily-centralized public-sector direction and funding. "Some areas of vaccine development are so expensive and complex that they are beyond the financial and administrative scope of individual investigators," the two experts conclude. "It is here that central direction is most needed."

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Wingspan

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here, and it's still a problem. The good news is that people are living longer and living better quality lives with HIV, but HIV is still here and killing people at a terrible rate.

RM: Are there communities that are still not getting the message about HIV being here?

MS: There is still a lot of denial in certain ethnic communities. There are a lot of monolingual Spanish speaking people living with AIDS, and a lot of them are men who have sex with men but don't identify themselves as Gay, and it's hard to reach them with information. I think the youth community is being reached out to well by the Gay Young Men's Project, which is part of the APC.

RM: Is there anything else you want to tell us about the Memorial and Mobilization?

MS: I hope people really turn out for the event, and hope they will support it by volunteering, such as helping to set up the event, clean up the park afterwards, and distribute candles. If anyone wants to volunteer or give me input about the event, please call me at Wingspan, 624-1779.

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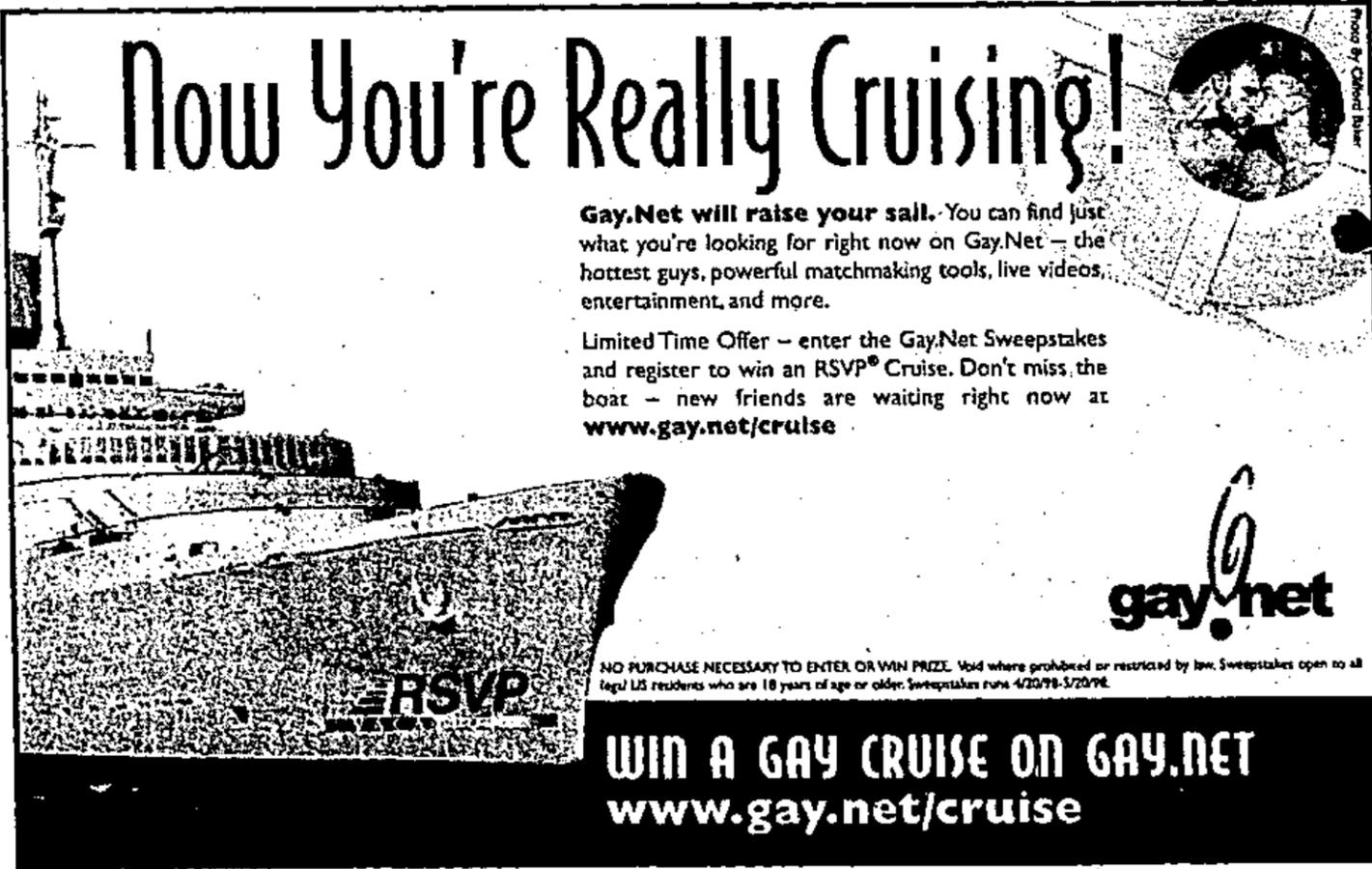
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