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THE WEEKLY OBSERVER | MARCH 24, 1999 | ISSUE 766

Medical Marijuana Report Released

WASHINGTON, DC (RHIS) — The medical value of marijuana has been overlooked and its abuse potential exaggerated, according to an Institute of Medicine (IOM) panel, which recommended that studies of the medical uses of marijuana be undertaken as soon as possible.

The panel's report concludes that the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana — THC -- and related compounds called cannabinoids, have many important biological effects, including roles in pain control and in the treatment of wasting associated with AIDS.

Asked in January 1997 to look into the issue by the White House's Office of National Drug Control Policy, the IOM panel assessed clinical trials, heard from advocates and experts, and made visits to marijuana "Buyer's Clubs."

Published data shows that cannabinoids have therapeutic value for pain relief, control of nausea and vomiting, and appetite stimulation, said the panel. But it advised against medical use of the substance, except in the terminally ill, and even then, under restricted conditions. Marijuana is generally not as effective as other drugs, said the IOM, but it may be a good last resort for some patients.

"Marijuana has potential as medicine, but it is undermined by the fact that patients must inhale harmful smoke," said Stanley Watson, co-principal investigator of the IOM study. "Until researchers develop a safe and effective delivery system, caregivers must consider the health problems that can result from smoking when deciding whether to recommend marijuana to patients," added Watson, who is a researcher at the University of Michigan.

The panel urged trials to find a new, rapid-onset delivery mechanisms so that the dangers of smoking could be avoided.

There is no evidence that legal use of marijuana as a medical substance will lead to widespread abuse either in patients or in the population at-large, said the Institute. Dependence among marijuana users is relatively rare, said the panel, adding that abuse potential would be highest among those predisposed to substance abuse.

The panel also found no conclusive evidence that marijuana is a "gateway" drug that leads to use of "harder" drugs. Most drug users begin with alcohol and nicotine, and it is unlikely that medical users — who are likely to be older — will progress to using other illicit drugs.

Interestingly, the panel found no evidence to support smoking marijuana as a treatment for glaucoma. When smoked, the drug does reduce intraocular pressure. But, "the effect is too short-lived, requires too high doses, and there are too many side effects to recommend lifelong use in the treatment of glaucoma," said the report.

The study was funded by the Office of the National Drug Control Policy, Executive Office of the President. The Institute of Medicine is a private, non-profit organization that provides health policy advice to the federal government.

Louisiana Sodomy Law Struck Down

NEW ORLEANS, LA (NP) — A Louisiana trial judge declared the state sodomy law unconstitutional; the ruling came as the result of a civil lawsuit filed in 1994 by a group of Gay and Lesbian plaintiffs.

The judge also placed a permanent ban on enforcement of the "crimes against nature" statute except in relation to prostitution. Should the state decide to appeal, the Louisiana Supreme Court will take up the matter.

Already pending there is a criminal case in which the state's 4th Circuit Court of Appeals unanimously struck down the law on February 9, but because five years ago the state's high court declined to hear another criminal case involving the law, the current civil case provides an important additional challenge. Louisiana is one of fifteen states criminalizing oral and anal sex acts between consenting adults in private; its 1805 statute, which applies to both heterosexual and homosexual acts, provides for up to five years' imprisonment.

New Orleans Civil District Court Judge Carolyn Gill-Jefferson wrote, "The state has presented no evidence, much less the required compelling state interest, to justify its intrusion on plaintiffs' constitutionally protected right of privacy" under the state constitution. She rejected the state's arguments that the law was important for encouraging procreation and promoting marriage. The state had also argued that sexual orientation is a choice.

Another argument presented by the state was that the plaintiffs had no standing to challenge the law because most had never been arrested under it -- a legal strategy which had previously aborted a challenge to a similar law in Texas.

However, the plaintiffs' citation of numerous arrests which had been made in private settings proved to Gill-Jefferson that "they are under immediate threat of prosecution under the targeted statutes." She wrote, "The plaintiffs, as Lesbians and Gay men who engage in conduct prohibited under [the law], are under the clear wording of the statute unindicted felons. As such, their concerns and fears as to the loss of their jobs and careers if arrested and convicted . . . are not merely subjective fears but actual consequences that will ensue."

No Vaccine For At Least 10 Years Says U.N. AIDS CHief

BRUSSELS, Belgium (RHIS) — A vaccine against the HIV virus will not be available for at least another decade, the head of the United Nations agency responsible for combating AIDS said.

"If we are realistic, we will not have a vaccine for at least 10 more years," said Peter Piot, Belgian executive director of UNAIDS and assistant U.N. secretary-general.

"So prevention remains the only option," he told the Belgian parliamentary committee for foreign affairs.

Piot said 35 million people were infected with the HIV virus and there were 16,000 new cases every day, mostly young people.

"Every minute five youngsters between 15 and 24 are infected with HIV," said Piot, adding that AIDS caused 2.5 million deaths in 1998 and was now killing more people than malaria.

"There's still far too little attention given to AIDS," Piot said.

UNAIDS was stepping up the fight against AIDS in Africa this year and was negotiating with governments, donors and non-governmental organizations, he said. He declined to give details but noted the political will existed to make a special effort.

"It's very clear that if we carry on with business as usual, an even bigger catastrophe is waiting to happen in Africa," Piot said after the meeting, which preceded the signature of a long-term cooperation agreement between Belgium and UNAIDS.

Piot said between a quarter and a third of the adult population in countries like Zimbabwe, Swaziland, Botswana, Namibia and South Africa were carrying the HIV virus.

"In Africa alone there are about nine million orphans whose parents have died of AIDS," he said.

AIDS had caused life expectancy in the hardest hit African states to fall back to levels last seen in the 1960s.

And it was devastating their economies by decimating the working population, he said, adding that gross domestic product was declining in several African states.

"It is causing real devastation among the middle class," said Piot. In addition, armies in many African nations had a infection rate of between 50 and 70 percent. "(AIDS) and war are Africa's biggest catastrophes. AIDS is much bigger than any other health problem or natural disaster including drought," he said.

Piot said a major problem was that many political leaders failed to admit there was an AIDS problem.

But Piot said he refused to be pessimistic about the fight against AIDS. "There are countries like Uganda and Senegal which have succeeded in sharply reducing the number of new infections with limited means," he said.

UNAIDS had managed to get the disease on some political agendas and was making progress in raising awareness about AIDS among political leaders like South Africa's Nelson Mandela and Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee.

Success also depended on changing attitudes among the general population, as was happening in Thailand and Brazil.

"It is possible to fight AIDS," he said.

First Shepard Murder Trial To Begin

LARAMIE, WY — The state of Wyoming opens its case, Wednesday, March 24, against Russell Arthur Henderson, the first of two high school dropouts charged with first-degree murder, kidnapping and aggravated robbery in the October 1998 murder of Matthew Shepard. Henderson could be sentenced to die by injection if convicted.

The trial of the second man, Aaron James McKinney, is scheduled for next August.

Henderson's girlfriend, Chasity Vera Pasley, has pleaded guilty to helping cover up the crime and is awaiting sentencing. McKinney's girlfriend, Kristen LeAnn Price, will go on trial in May on accessory charges.

Police believe Henderson and McKinney, low on cash, met Shepard in a downtown Laramie bar, convinced him they were Gay, offered him a ride and then beat him to steal $20 for cigarettes and gas. Authorities were told by the suspects that Shepard's sexual orientation made him an easy target.

The savagery of the Shepard murder drew outraged national attention. Candlelight vigils were held across the country; one in New York that drew 5,000 people turned violent in the face of police efforts to disperse it, resulting in scores of minor injuries and more than 120 arrests.

Shepard's murder deeply shocked the citizens of Laramie, just as it did most everyone in the country, and the opening of the trial is stirring deep emotions. "People

CONTINUED ON PAGE SIXTEEN

UPDATE

CityPlayers Theatre To Present U.S. Premiere of Caravaggio

TUCSON — Based on a play by Irish Playwright Frank McGuinness, is a new adaptation by CITYPLAYERS' artistic director, John Gunn, about one of the Italian Baroque period's most innovative artists, Michelangelo Merisi De Caravaggio.

Set in Rome on May 29, 1606, the day Caravaggio killed a man in a brawl, the play focuses on the artist/hero and his relationship with the common street people that were his friends and models, and his twisted patron, a high ranking Cardinal in the Catholic church. "Caravaggio" is a powerful and raw adult drama about an agonized, self-destructive, sexual anarchist - a passionate, violent young man who captured the world around him through his paintings with a "divine" vision.

Opening for previews Friday, April 2, 8:00 P.M., at the CITYPLAYERS Playhouse, 439 N. Sixth Avenue. Previews will continue on Saturday, April 3, 8:00 P.M.

The regular run will begin Sunday, April 4, 7:30 P.M. Performance times are 8:00 P.M., Friday and Saturday, 2:30 P.M. on Sunday, and 7:30 P.M. on Monday. The run will go through April 26. Tickets are $14 with student and senior discounts on Sunday and Monday.

Seating is limited to 40 seats per performance. Advance tickets may be purchased at Keuken Dutch Restaurants, Little Bohemia, Emerald City Grille or by calling (520) 571-1300 for reservations and information.

SAAF Share Bears February Report

TUCSON — The following is the financial report for the Share Bears program, run by the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF), for February:

February Contributions:	$ 125.76
Previous Balance	$1,050.72
Total Available	$1,176.48

How Money Was Granted

Telephone Assistance	$ 46.50
Housing Assistance	$290.22
Utility Assistance	$ 14.48
Personal Needs	$ 35.00
TOTAL SPENT	$386.20

Three Clients Served

Carried Forward $790.28

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Lenten Retreat For L/G Catholics

TUCSON — A Lenten "mini-retreat" for Gay and Lesbian Catholics will be offered Saturday, March 27, of Palm Sunday weekend and will be directed by Sr. Dawn Annette Mills and Sr. Valerie Stark of the Benedictine Monastery.

The them is "Emptiness and Fullness: The Paschal Experience." It will take place in Madonna Hall, at SS. Peter & Paul Parish, 1:00 to 5:30 P.M., concluding with a Mass. This retreat will enable participants to prepare for and enter more fully into the experience of Holy Week and Easter. Suggested donation is $7 per person.

To register for this retreat, please contact (or leave a message for) Fr. Don Fiedler, (520) 327-6015, that you will be attending the March 27 Lenten retreat.

'AIDS: An Ageless Story' Presentation April 14

TUCSON — AIDS Activist Jane Fowler, a 63-year-old woman with HIV, will be in Tucson to share her experience and prevention message Wednesday, April 14, 2:00 to 3:30 P.M., at St. Mary's Hospital Century Room, 1601 W. St. Mary's Road.

Eight years ago, Jane Fowler found out she had the Human Immunodeficiency Virus. She was 55 years old, divorced after a long-term marriage, and shocked to find out that dating in the mid-1980's had put her at such risk.

After four years of sharing her diagnosis with only the closest friends and family, including her adult son, Jane began telling her story publicly. Her message speaks to the indiscriminate nature of HIV. "Look at this face," she says, "this old, wrinkled face. This is another face of HIV. It's not who you are. It's what you do and what you don't do."

Jane Fowler, a long-time resident of Kansas City, now speaks at conferences across the country. She is co-chair of the National Association of HIV Over Fifty and active in over a dozen organizations, including Missouri AIDS Council, Women's AIDS Network, and the National Association of People with AIDS.

Jane's presentation on April 14 is free and open to the public. Her message is of particular interest to people over 50, and professionals who work with these populations.

Jane's appearance in Tucson is sponsored by the Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN), the Pima Council on Aging, and the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF). In addition to this presentation, Jane will speak at a conference for clergy on April 15.

For more information, call Deborah Correa at SAAF, (520) 322-6226 ext. 258; or the TIHAN office, (520) 299-6647.

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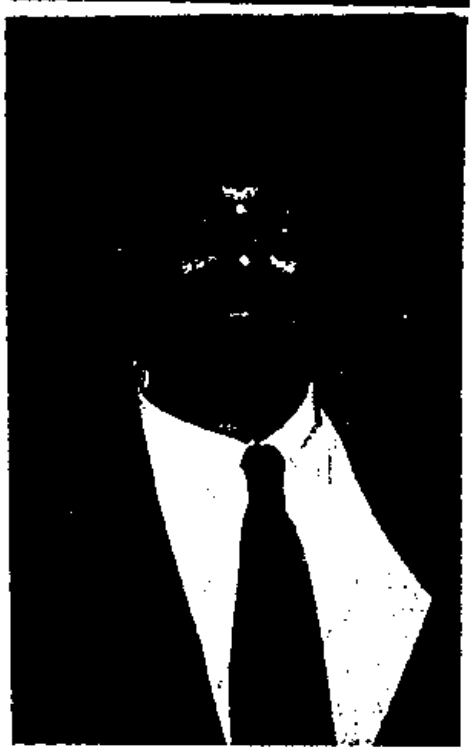

Daniel "Moose" Pagel
March 19, 1958 - March 21, 1999

[Reprinted from the Arizona Daily Star]
By Jane Erikson

TUCSON — Daniel "Moose" Pagel, a former bartender who won nearly $937,000 from a slot machine last year then found ways to spend it on friends, died Sunday, March 21, of complications from AIDS. He was 41.

Pagel won $936,922 playing a slot machine at Desert Diamond Casino in January 1998. It was the biggest jackpot ever paid out there.

Pagel, then living on disability checks, said the next day he planned to buy a house and a dream vacation to Australia.

But when he got the first of 20 annual checks for $36,000, he spent it on others, particularly a young friend with a potentially fatal illness, Woody Duffy, and Woody's mother, Beth Tullis.

Pagel was always taking Woody to McDonald's, to the mall or to the movies, Tullis said last night.

Last year, Woody became one of 10 children with his rare metabolic disorder chosen to undergo experimental treatments through UCLA.

Woody is still undergoing the treatments, which require weekly trips to Los Angeles. Pagel went along sometimes; other times, he helped Tullis with travel expenses.

"I think Moose taught Woody how to love and how to care and share," Tullis said. "Moose never did anything for Moose. He got pleasure in life out of doing things for others, and that was before he won his money."

Pagel's mother, Mary Jane Pagel, said that her son gave away most of his first $36,000 installment "and didn't live long enough to spend the second. . . . He was a good friend to a lot of people."

Pagel, a Catalina High School graduate, is survived also by his father, Robert Pagel, and brothers Richard, William and John, all of Tucson; and a sister, Kathleen Blevins, of Alta Loma, Calif.

A memorial service is scheduled for 3:00 P.M. Friday, March 26, at Valley Funeral Home, 2545 N. Tucson Blvd.

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Bravo For Reveille's 'Viva La Diva II' Concert

TUCSON - Soprano Elena Todd, mezzo-soprano Korby Myrick, The Reveille Men's Chorus and the Grand Canyon Men's Choral from Phoenix at the "Viva La Diva II" concert held last Saturday, March 20 at Pima Community College Center for the Arts. See story below.

By Mark R. Kerr

TUCSON (ON) — In the eyes of many, opera is just where large women go around wearing cast-iron bras and horns, belting out Teutonic-esque tunes, while big men struggle to stay in their tiny costumes and wigs, sweating like horses. The Reveille Gay Men's Chorus (RGMC), during their recent production of "Viva La Diva II," tried to show that opera is more than that, and succeeded.

RGMC, performing with the Grand Canyon Men's Chorale of Phoenix went after the perceptions about opera with the opening number, "Good Thing He Can't Read My Mind." A wonderful parody of a date's feelings about going to the opera, with their beloved.

"The Huntsmen's Chorus" from Der Freischutz and the Aria from Edgar followed, with the audience transfixed on both choruses as they performed these two operatic numbers.

Soprano Elena Todd joined the choruses for the aria, "Mein Herr, Marquis," from Johann Strauss' Die Fledermaus. Todd was the featured soprano at RGMC's "Prayer's for Bobby" concert and showed why she is one of the finest singers in Arizona.

Wagner's Tannauser was next, with the "Pilgrims Chorus" and "Elizabeth's Prayer," performed by mezzo-soprano. Korby Myrick. Myrick has performed with the Arizona Opera and many other national and international opera companies.

To end the first act was "Sincere," from Music Man by Meredith Wilson. "Rataplan (Soldier's Chorus)" and "Tonio's Entrance" wowed the audience, especially the performances of Elena Todd, Greg Stickroth and Dan O'Brien.

After the intermission, RGMC's a Capella group, Take V, opened the second act with the fun-filled parodies of "One Fine Day," "Blue Bayou," and "Fun, Fun, Fun." The large crowd at Pima Community College's Art Proscenium Theatre loved the songs with the "twist" in the lyrics.

Songs from Sailor's Chorus and Lakme followed, with applause and bravos, for the performances of these songs by Neil Millican, Elena Todd and Korby Myrick.

Korby Myrick stole the show with her performance of "Habanera" from Georges Bizet's, "Carmen." Myrick, in a beautiful grey gown, chewed up the scenery and some members of the chorus in a bravura performance that got one of the loudest ovations of the night.

The Grand Canyon Men's Chorale followed "Carmen" with three songs from Gilbert and Sullivan's the Mikado, with a modern twist.

Myrick may have stolen the show with her "Carmen," but tenor Greg Stickroth stole the hearts of the audience with his performance of the aria, "Nessun dorma," from Turandot by Giacomo Puccini. Thunderous applause and bravos followed his rendition of Puccini's song.

Two more songs from Wilson's opera, Music Man followed Stickroth's aria.

Elena Todd was then joined by baritone, Bruce Cameron, who sang "I've Been Looking for The Perfect Man," from March Song by Victor Herbert, which the audience loving the unintended double entendres from Herbert's song.

Tenor Barry Dodge, decked out in Lane Bryant Couture, joined Korby Myrick on stage and sang "Nobody Makes a Pass at Me," from Pins and Needles by Harold Rome, to the audience's merriment.

Victor Herbert's "The Enchantress" ended the evening's program. Elena Todd, Korby Myrick and the two choruses performed "I Want to be a Prima Donna."

CONTINUED ON PAGE SIXTEEN.

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Wingspan's Domestic Violence Project Presents 'Outing The Violence' May 6

TUCSON — Wingspan Domestic Violence Project will be holding a one day conference; "Outing the Violence," May 6, aimed at first response service providers, agencies, friends and family of domestic violence victims.

Patrick Letellier, co-author of "Men Who Beat the Men Who Love Them," will deliver the keynote address. This conference will provide education and information to attendees that will help to dispel myths about same gender domestic violence and bring this issue out of the closet. Workshops for conference attendees include: opposing homophobia; same gender domestic violence and the law; pressures on survivors; screening and; safety planning.

Domestic violence has long been one of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) communities most nasty and dangerous secret, often referred to as "the second closet." Experts estimate that one in four GLBT relationships involves abuse or violence, making it as common as violence in heterosexual relationships.

While victims of same-sex domestic violence experience many of the same difficulties as heterosexual victims - severe injury, economic insecurity, fear of retaliations, and stalking - the situation is complicated by societal discrimination regarding homosexuality. Many victims cannot even turn to their own families, who may reject them because of sexual orientation.

The Wingspan Domestic Violence Project provides outreach and services to the GLBT communities in Tucson. Services include crisis intervention, support groups for men and women, counseling and referral, and a hotel/motel shelter program.

For more information or to receive a brochure, please call (520) 624-0348.

Hate Crimes Bill Sees New Life In New Mexico, But Killed In Indiana

SANTA FE, NM (NP) — New Mexico's Republican Governor Gary Johnson already vetoed a hate crimes bill this month, but state Senate Democrats gave the issue new life by tacking the same language onto a cherished Republican measure against gang violence.

Despite the howls of the Republican minority, the Democrats pushed through by 24 - 14 the amendment to allow harsher sentences for bias crimes, including those motivated by homophobia.

Even with the rider, the bill to add two years to felony sentences for gang-related crimes was passed by 37 - 2, and will next be considered by the state House.

Meanwhile, a rally at the Indiana Statehouse protested the state House's defeat of bill to allow harsher sentences for bias crimes, including those motivated by homophobia.

The vote was 44 - 49; just 51 votes in favor would have sent HB 1183 on to the Senate. In the past, similar legislation made it through the House but was defeated in the Senate, but this time 10 House Democrats joined 39 Republicans in killing the bill.

At least two of those conservative Democrats admitted it was the sexual orientation language which was the barrier, in that it seemed to grant Gays and Lesbians status as a *minority*; that interpretation is widely believed to have been the stumbling block for others as well. A few Republicans also crossed over to support the bill.

The measure would also have applied to crimes committed because of a perpetrator's bias based on color, creed, disability, national origin, race, or religion. Five other hate crimes measures filed in the Senate never made it to the floor, and the issue is considered dead for this session.

Arsonist Arrested In Gay Bar Fires

FORT LAUDERDALE, FL (WS) — As police waited in hiding, a man rode to the door of an yet to be opened Gay nightclub in Fort Lauderdale, smashed the doors open with a sledgehammer and tossed in two containers of gasoline.

Weapons drawn, the officers announced themselves and arrested Humberto Alvarado before he could set what would have been the third fire at The Pier Restaurant in a week, said authorities.

Alvarado had a lighter in his waistband and two more containers of gasoline were found on the ground by his bike. He was taken to the Fort Lauderdale Police Department and charged with arson of an occupied dwelling and possession of a fire bomb, Detective James M. Wright said in a statement.

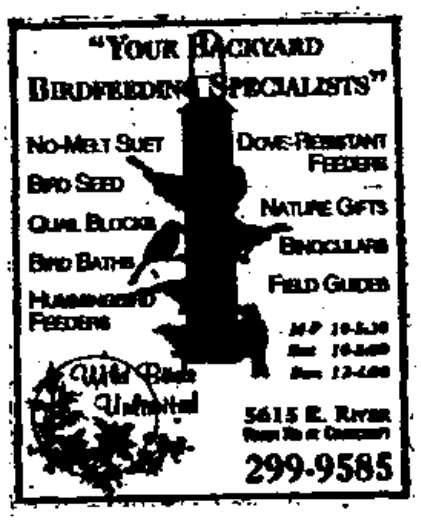
One of the owners, Dennis Doheny, was inside with two workers making final preparations when Alvarado was arrested, prompting the first-degree felony charge involving an occupied dwelling.

Officers said Alvarado was cooperating with the detectives who arrested him, but police said there was as yet no physical evidence to tie him to the other two fires. Wright said they were pursuing the possibility that the fires were hate crimes.

"In the eight years I've been in South Florida operating high-profile and Gay-friendly businesses, this is the first time I've ever been exposed to anything like this," Doheny said. He insisted the previous acts of arson would not derail his opening night plans.

The second fire had burned the front doors of the club. "We're sure it's an arson," Detective Wright said. "Wood doors don't just burst into flames on their own."

After the second fire, detectives decided to set up a 24-hour watch on the club.



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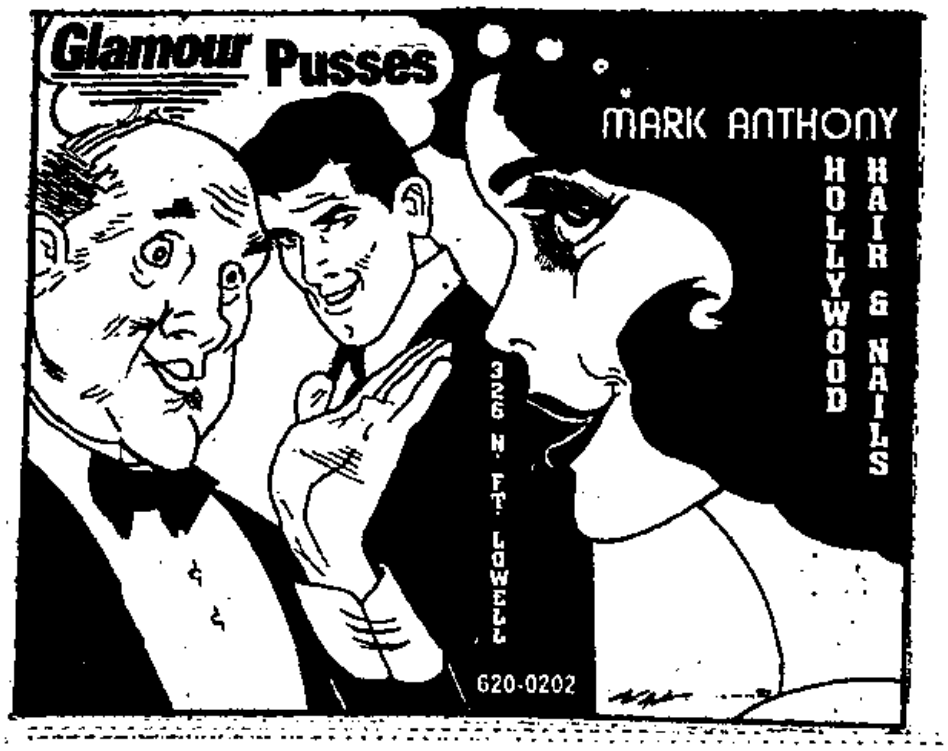

HOROSCOPES

BY C. LICHTENSTEIN

Both the Sun and Venus change signs this week heralding in new mental and amorous targets for our relentless quests. Sun in robust Aries adds a dash of oomph to voluptuous Venus in sensuous Taurus. What else can I say but hang on kids and enjoy the ride.

ARIES
MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

Sun in Aries has you all hot and heavy to meet and greet for your birthday. Thank goodness Venus in delightful Taurus brings in the bucks and takes a bit of the pressure off your credit card "business" (ho, ho) expense bill. Tax season is less taxing than you might expect, especially if you attract a particularly well endowed admirer.

TAURUS
APRIL 21 - MAY 21

Proud Bulls overcome any hidden enemies when the glorious Sun enters no holds barred Aries. Venus in Taurus turns up the spotlight and makes any grand entrance even grander. Why not combine the two energies and explore new avenues to success and affirmation? Do what you can to advance the community's goals and gather a little glory for yourself along the way.

GEMINI
MAY 22 - JUNE 21

Pink Twins can't help but turn their energy into platonic activities when the feisty Sun enters feisty Aries. Meanwhile, Venus in Taurus blasts a wave of good vibes on your most hidden secrets. Surround yourself with good Gay compadres and take heart dear, queer Gemini; nothing that you hide can possibly hurt or embarrass you. It's the act of hiding that's hurting.

CANCER
JUNE 22 - JULY 23

Join the great group effort when delightful Venus sweeps into Taurus. Forget your frets and frowns; it's time to be agreeable and supportive. Adding fuel to the friendly fire is the Sun in powerful Aries which energizes your corporate drive. If you're fortunate enough to combine these two planetary forces you'll earn enough of a bonus to treat all your pals to a blast of a time.

LEO
JULY 24 - AUGUST 23

Lusty pink Lions yearn to explore the world when the Sun travels through pioneering Aries. Go global, pal, even if it only means through the Internet. Venus in Taurus cuts you a wide swath in career matters. You're quite the charmer, so go for the gold professional ring while it dangles tantalizingly in front of you. Tell the chat room all about it when you succeed.

VIRGO
AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23

You can either touch yourself or get in touch with yourself with Sun in feisty Aries. Gay Virgins are tempted to dwell on deep, intensely personal issues, but don't get caught up in it. Turn your attention to Venus which expands your world view and tempts you with international travel and exotic company. Why not search for that perfect dreamboat in some faraway port?

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23

Pay more attention to partners when the Sun enters feisty Aries. Queer Libras can use this time to strengthen current relationships or seek new ones. The opportunity is there if you take the chance. Sexy Venus in sensuous Taurus becomes a shining light in your dark, neglected tunnel. Let Venus turn on the sexual strob and make you one very happy camper. Heck, you deserve it!

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22

Sun in Aries gives queer Scorps the mental acuity they need to plan out the most detailed tasks and job assignments. But all work and no play makes Scorp a dull sign. Add Venus in zesty Taurus to the mix and you can entice partners or potentials into one glorious cocktail. Stir or shake and spice to taste. Enjoy in moderation or enlist a designated driver.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22

If you ever had a mind for fun and frolic, it must have involved Sun in zesty Aries. Your ability and stamina are boundless. Play hard dear, queer Archer and show the world how . . . inventive . . . you can be when you are inspired. Venus in Taurus gives you ample energy at work and the best results that exercise and a very personal trainer can provide. Think swimsuit season....

CONTINUED ON PAGE SIXTEEN

AS I SEE IT..... BY CLARK

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EDITOR:

I have several observations in response to the "blatant sex rampant in Tucson parks" article in the March 10 Observer:

1) If the sexual activity in the park is so blatant that people are deprived of use of the park, then the activity can easily be curtailed by having the uniformed police add the park as a place to visit in their daily patrol. Marked police cars stopping at cruising sites several times a day should be effective in curtailing sex in readily observable places.

Undercover arrests, as far as Gay targets are concerned, have historically been a cover for anti Gay activity and there is no reason to believe that this is different.

2) Gays have traditionally been at the forefront in "normalizing" sex as a healthy biological, sociological, and psychological activity. How does a person like Colette A. Barajas, whose view of sex seems to fit in well with America's "sex is dirty" mentality become a board member and a spokesperson for a Gay organization?

3) Although the literature on "tea room sex" is sparse, it is not non-existent, except to David Hensley. As an amateur psychologist he appears to have diagnosed the lack of self esteem of the park sex participants. I had no idea that where you have sex or how you have sex is related to self esteem. His belief that people who have "quickies" suffer from low self esteem does not stand up to logic nor to investigation.

Martin Pomp
Phoenix

EDITOR:

First, I apologize for my tardiness in submitting this. Many groups in the community supported SAAF's 1998 Holiday Project and I would like to acknowledge some of them publicly:

Robert, Bert, Ernie and the Desert Leathermen once again donated "pet stockings" and packages of personal items. The Desert Leathermen put a considerable amount of time, money and effort into fund raising and shopping for the components and assembling both types of packages. These gifts are an important and long-standing part of the project. Thank you!

Many thanks to Jason Bliven, Ray Gregg, Dale Hayes, and the members of the Tucson Knight Owls (TKO). The TKO donated nine holiday dinners to people living with HIV/AIDS. The dinners were delivered shortly before Christmas. Thanks to the TKO, the festivities were brighter and food budgets stretched further.

I would also like to thank Dave, Frank, and the staff and patrons of IBT's. Not only did they donate a new microwave, but they hosted a show and auction which raised over $250. That money was used to purchase gift certificates to grocery and superstores. Thank you for all your support!

Our "friends" at TIHAN, who sponsored 25 children who are living with and/or are affected by HIV/AIDS. They provided several items from each child's wish list. Thanks so much for making a huge different in these children's holiday!

Thank you Shaundriana, for donating a dozen holiday dinners again at Thanksgiving. We appreciated your ongoing support, as do the individuals and families who were able to celebrate the holiday.

Many thanks to Glen, Robert and their benefactors and friends for their year-round generosity.

I also would like to thank Drew Michaels, Cathy Rivers, Rob Cook and the staff and very generous listeners of radio station KZPT, 104.1/The Point. The station did an extensive donations drive for the Project which substantially increased the number of people we were able to serve.

Thanks to: Jozef Biedermann at EuroVue for the generous donation of Christmas ornaments and the Squirrel and Emery at Metropolis Salon for the numerous salon gift certificates. I would also like to thank some of our other donors: Diana Thompson and others at PFLAG; Johnna Reeves and Casa Gloriosa; Ernie, Jorge and Salud es Poder; Desert Voices; Buzz at Arizona First; Cliff Romero; Anthony Diaz; Jim Beatty; Dena Rajon; John Reyes and Elaine Weyand.

I also would like to acknowledge some terrific volunteers: Guillermo Bernal; Michelle Brown; Peter Deale; George Gates; Pat Johnston; Mike Marsh; Roberto Moreno; Terri Nangeroni; Lefteris Papanikolaou; Clinton Skidmore; and Rex and Garth.

Because of these and other donors and volunteers, the '98 Holiday Project was even more successful that 1997's. Between mid-November and Christmas, 311 people living with HIV/AIDS and their family members received holiday dinners, extra food boxes, baked goods, packages of personal items, gifts, and/or gift certificates. The community's generosity allowed us to provide: baked goods for 132 households, 350 personal item packages, 37 holiday dinners, over $3,500 in gift certificates, over $1,700 in cash and approximately 500 gift items. Packaging and delivering these tokens of holiday cheer required 77 dedicated volunteers working over 625 hours.

Without you, the Holiday Project could not have happened. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Shelby Flint
SAAF Support Services

DEAR BOB AND GARY:

It's great to be back in the Old Pueblo where the folks are more my speed. Anyway, my reason for writing is to commend one Lucinda Holiday.

Lucinda hosted the shows at IBT's this past weekend and I for one have to giver her a big hooray!. I have had the pleasure of seeing all kinds of Drag Shows in the biggest of metropolises and can honestly say that Lucinda can compete with the best of them. Lucinda adds comedy, music and an all-star cast to what has to be a premiere show in any venue. For what we donate 1 dollar for most people back East are shelling out 10 or 20. If the entire town were to see the out and out talent that is showcased, maybe a Drag Show wouldn't be such a hidden mystery. Comedy clubs would kill for such talent, and should.

In short, thank you to Lucinda and the entire cast that put on the amazing shows at IBT's. Many a straight fan I have mustered by bringing them to see the best of the best.

Sincerely Jerry Diaz
Man About Town

CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHT

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Tournaments
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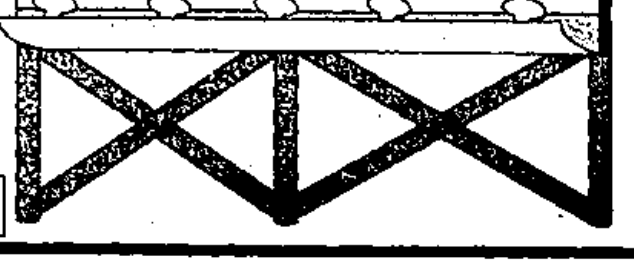
"Stonewall CABARET"
Sunday March 28th 10 p.m.
"Goddess"
STARRING:
Mr. Kenneth Blake
(Miss Gay Arizona America 1998)
Adrienne Alexander
Miss. Kristin
"Experience The Fantasy"

COMING ATTRACTIONS
April 1 April Fools Day Latina Travesti Show
April 3 Miss Jody's Bunny Benefit
April 4 Tammy Caprice's Bunny Revue
April 7 Old Time Rock 'N Roll
April 11 Desert La Cage
April 18 Live Band Lori Davidson & The Intruders



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CONTINUED FROM PAGE SEVEN

DEAR VETERANS AND FRIENDS:

I am inviting you to participate in a history making effort to honor past, present and future servicemembers whose sacrifices have earned our freedom. From the time our country was founded, Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered people have served quietly and with distinction. Myth has it that we are unfit to serve, or our service would be cut short by misconduct, or that we could not be counted on. Truth tells us otherwise. Lesbian, Transgendered, Bisexual and Gay people have always answered the call, and we always will.

In a country that takes great pride in equality and recognition of those who have served to protect the freedom of ALL people, we have stumbled across an oversight. The Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans of America (GLBVA) has discovered that there are no monuments or memorials in the National Cemetery system that pay tribute to veterans who are Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual or Transgendered. Nor is there any monument or memorial for veterans from any Bisexual, Transgendered, Lesbian or Gay friendly organization. We propose to remedy this situation.

The Phoenix Chapter of the GLBVA is leading an effort to place a memorial in the National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona in Phoenix. We have contacted the Cemetery Director and she has assured us that the Cemetery will accept our donation of a Memorial. We have the design requirements that all Memorials must meet and will design our donation accordingly.

This is where you can help. This will be the first Memorial in the national cemetery system that is for and by Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered veterans. We want the help of the entire community in the design and financing of this Memorial. We are asking individuals, organizations, veterans, politicians, and everyone else to share their ideas and suggestions with us. Your input will be crucial in erecting a monument on behalf of the entire community! One that not only honors the sacrifices of veterans, but also instills pride in those who contributed.

The first meeting of the Veterans Memorial Committee will be at the Community Center Sunday March 28. The Center is located at 24 West Camelback Road and the meeting will begin promptly at 5:00 P.M. We will be discussing the design guidelines from the National Cemetery and the options available to make this "our" Memorial. Please try to attend if you are in the Phoenix area.

The first fund raiser for the Veterans Memorial will be April 16th at the Old Spaghetti Factory, 1418 N. Central Ave., in Phoenix. The Banquet/Reception will include guest speakers Miriam Ben Shalom, (a GLBVA founder and first president, and Arizona Central Pride's 1999 Grand Marshall), and Edward Clayton, (the current GLBVA president). We are asking a donation of $15 per person which includes dinner.. All proceeds from the dinner will be applied to the Veterans Memorial Fund. As a 501(c)3 organization your donations may also be tax deductible. To purchase tickets, or to make a contribution, make your check payable to the Veterans Memorial Fund and mail it c/o PGLBVA, 2039 W. Northview Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85021.

I hope that you will become a part of this effort. I know that your suggestions and contributions will be deeply appreciated.

Respectfully,
Wally Straughn
President,
Phoenix Chapter GLBVA

SPORTS

Desert Coyotes Bowling League

Standings - Fourth Quarter

	Won	Lost	PCT
Eat At Ed's	4.0	0.0	1.000
Three Way	4.0	0.0	1.000
It's In Da Hole	4.0	0.0	1.000
Cocktails for 17	3.0	1.0	.750
FourKneeCatorz	3.0	1.0	.750
Just Throw It	3.0	1.0	.750
Looney Toones	3.0	1.0	.750
Tres Amigos	3.0	1.0	.750
Erratica III	3.0	1.0	.750
Damn It II	1.0	3.0	.250
Two	1.0	3.0	.250
Poppin Fresh	1.0	3.0	.250
Helen	1.0	3.0	.250
Pretty Balls	1.0	3.0	.250
Low Ballers	1.0	3.0	.250
Miracles Happen	0.0	4.0	.000
Curious George	0.0	4.0	.000

First Quarter Champions - Looney Toones. Second Quarter Champions - FourKnee-Catorz. Third Quarter Champions - Tres Amigos.

High Average - Heather H., 162; Just Throw It, 511; Ken M., 197.

High Series Scratch - Just Throw It, 1755; Ken M., 728; Fran K., 563.

High Game Scratch - Fran K., 223; Jeff T., 277; Just Throw It, 641.

High Series Handicap - Ken M., 743; Fran K., 689; Just Throw It/Four-Knee-Catorz, 2019.

High Game Handicap - Kevin D., 288; Fran K., 269; Miracles Happen, 752.

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*That's an ORDER!

POLITICS 1999

by Mark R. Kerr

"Celene Dion Looked Like She Had Just Done A Virginia Slims Ad!"

Diamonds flowed as did the ball gowns. Helmet hair was in, big hair wasn't. Joan Rivers bitched to no ones surprise. Roberto Benigni showed a new route for winners as Steven Spielberg did for losers, even the unexpected. Whoopi whooped it up, despite the appalling lack of energy in Dorothy's pavilion.

Our Super Bowl has passed for another year, the last of this century. Oscar loved "Shakespeare in . . ." and the technical aspects of "Saving Private Ryan." "Gods and Monsters" received one Oscar, for screenplay adaptation and most importantly, the audience received a long, overdone production with half-assed controversies, to the tune of four hours and two minutes!

On the subject of way too long, overdone and half-assed, the Arizona Legislature waddled through another week, just like "Howard the Duck."

This past week, one piece of legislation sailed through a committee, while two others face an uncertain future, much to the glee of many.

HB 2088, which long term health care insurance could be purchased if approved, received unanimous approval by the Senate Finance Committee this past week. The bill now goes to the Senate Rules Committee.

HB 2496, which would have forced mandatory HIV testing or the release of HIV medical information of any victim in an accident, in which a "significant exposure" of blood to a "third party" (primarily a public safety employee), was held up by the Senate Finance Subcommittee.

Is HB 2496 dead or will it see another legislative day to wreck your life?

Over Arizona's medical association and hospital association's "dead bodies!"

According to capitol sources, the state medical association (ARMA), and the state hospital association (AHRA), got into "pissing" contest with the state's fire fighters' unions over an amendment, agreed to by the fire fighters and AIDS activists, dealing with blood tests. Thus the remake of the 1938 "Munich Pact" has gone up in smoke, resulting in the hold on the bill.

Another proposal facing a very uncertain future is HB 2524.

The bill, sponsored by state Representative Karen "Gay Bowel Disease" Johnson, R-Mesa, would forbid the extension of benefits to the domestic partners of state government, university and community college employees. HB 2524 would also require voter approval by county, town, municipal or any other political subdivision of the state to extend benefits. Johnson's measure still sits before the House Committee of the Whole (COW), awaiting to be heard.

It may not happen though, due to a major deadline, Friday, March 26, facing the homophobic legislation.

No more bills can be heard in a committee by that date, and HB 2524 still faces COW, House Third Reading, and three more committees in the state Senate. If a bill is to be heard after March 26, it must get the approval by the leadership in the respective committee

What can Miss "Family Rights Forever" do? Not much. A strike everything amendment can only be applied to bills that are in a committee, and with the deadline passing this week . . . the clock is about ready to strike midnight and turn Karen into a pumpkin for this session. So is Johnson's proposal just like Nathan Lane's television career, "No more, no more!"

Still, on the subject of Johnson, during last week's meeting of the House Republican Caucus, Majority Leader Lori Daniels went over details about the proposed state budget. Many legislators raised questions about the final footnotes and budgetary directives, and requesting to see all the footnotes, which Daniels said will be distributed to all members.

Several members had wanted to see the footnotes, especially Johnson's and state Representative Barbara Blewster's footnote, dealing with foster parents and cutting off funding.

After Daniel's statement, Johnson, Arizona divorce attorneys' favorite client, huffed, "There goes my footnote," like it was a secret. A worst-kept one for sure!

From secrets to lies . . . the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) Budget. When the Legislature allegedly catches up on pending bills before each chamber, they will break to take up the budget.

As previously reported, both Appropriation committees voted to accept the Joint Legislative Budget Committee's recommendation of $1-million for ADAP. Will there be a check in the mail, and if so, for how much?

If Governor Jane Hull gets her way, it will be $1.7 million. Word from the governor's office this past week reaffirmed previous statements that she is sticking by the proposal she made in her executive budget. . . .

From the "Evil City to the North" to Baja Arizona. The Tucson chapter of the Arizona Human Rights Fund (AHRF) doubled their membership after the successful event held at the Tucson Botanical Gardens this past week, according to Amelia Craig Cramer.

Still on the subject of Arizona's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT), rights group. On Wednesday, March 24, Arizona's Equality Begins at Home (EBAH) takes place in the State Capitol, with GLBT Arizonans converging to show the Legislature that "we are here, queer and pay taxes and deserve equal rights!" More next week. . . .

So it goes for now kids!

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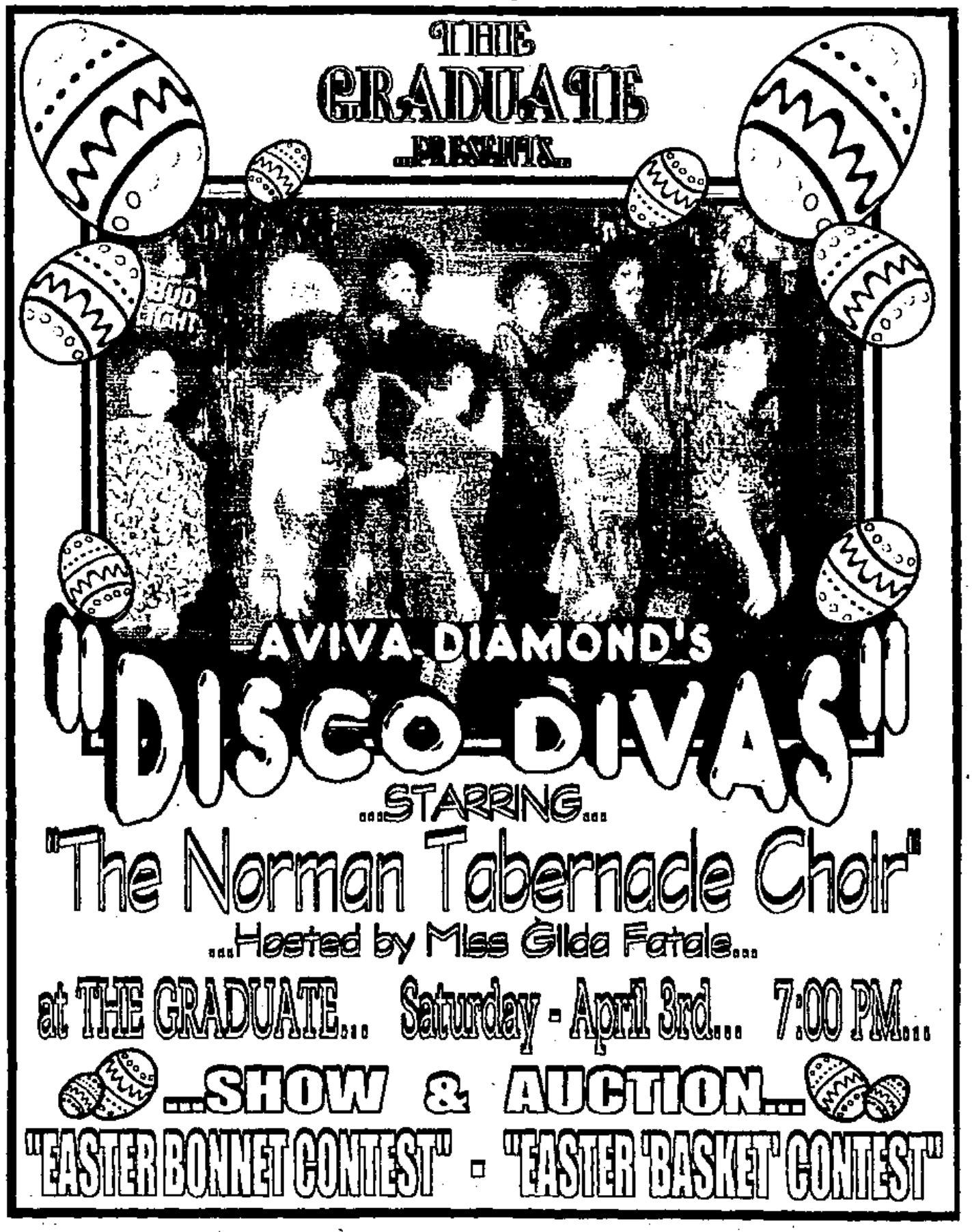

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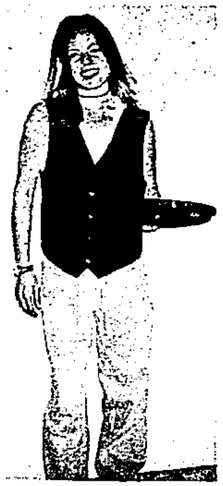

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SATURDAY
BEER BUST TO BENEFIT PET WATCH, 3 - 7 PM.
DART TOURNAMENT, ABOUT 9 PM.
SUNDAY
BEER BUST, 3 - 7 PM.
BOSS BURGERS AND DART TOURNAMENT, 5 PM.
MONDAY
BLUE MONDAYS: SKYY VODKA SPECIALS.
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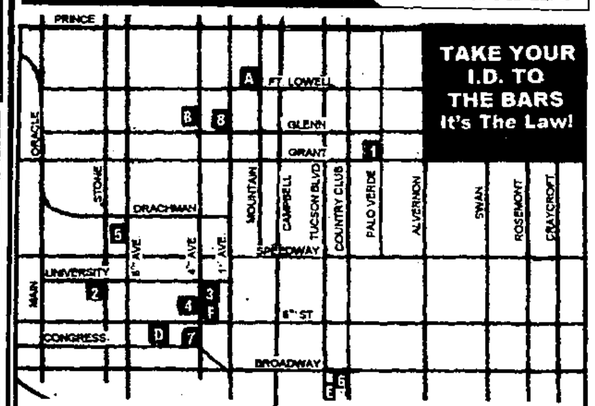

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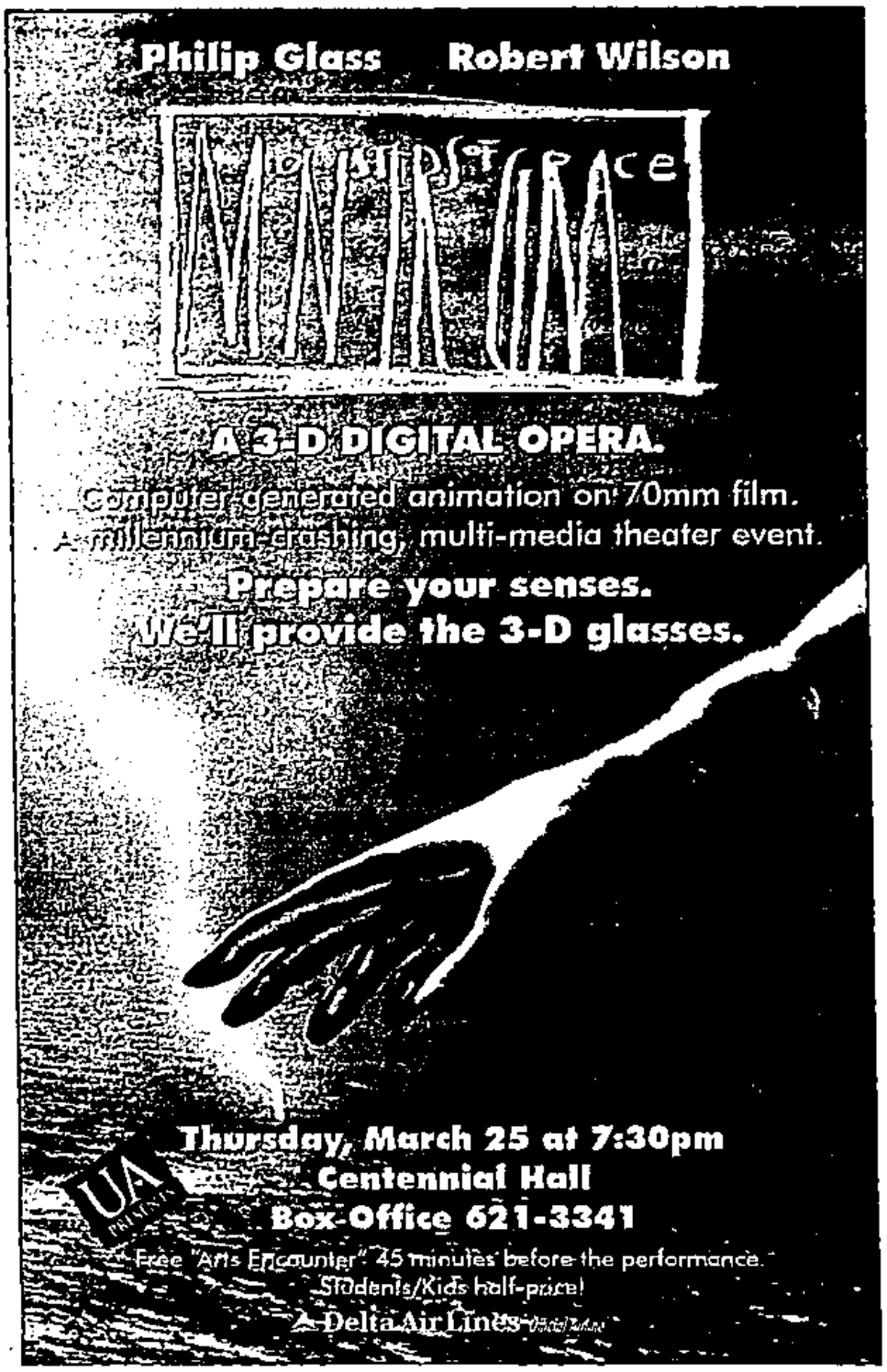

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Boys Will Be Adventurous At Venture-N's Hides Of March

A View From The Rock

A Commentary From Cornerstone Fellowship

What makes the difference between a good basketball player and a great basketball player? Both kinds of players know the rules. They both may have the physical equipment to play the game: height, "wing-span," quick hands and feet. They may even have the same mental toughness. But there is something which great players do which separates them from the so-so. In Sunday's paper, one of the key players for the Providence College Friars, whose free throw average is 89.1 percent, said this about how he was able to have such a great percentage: "You can take somebody off the street, and if they can make one, they can make 100 in a row when you think about it. It's always the same distance, the same ball. It's muscle memory. If you do it day in and day out, you can make those. I know it's boring as hell, but I set up a toss back net under the basket and sometimes I shoot about 300 free throws in about 45 minutes." This player's willingness to take the time to practice, practice, and practice is what has made him a great free thrower. And you can be sure that not only is he satisfied with his performance, his teammates, and more importantly, his coaches are also pleased with how he performs at the free throw line.

What makes the difference between a mediocre Christian and a truly outstanding one? Both kinds of Christians have the same rule book, the Bible. Both have the promise of sins forgiven and a glorious eternity in Heaven. Both are given the Holy Spirit when they accept Christ, so they have the same power available to them. Why is it then, that some Christians glow with the joy of serving Christ, which draws others to him, while others seem almost ashamed to admit they belong to him?

I believe that the answer is the same for mediocre Christians as it is for mediocre basketball players. To shine as a Christian, just like shining as a basketball player, a person has to practice. It's easy to see what kind of things have to be practiced to make someone a great basketball player, but what do we have to practice to lift us above the average in our Christian life?

Paul tells the Philippians believers that they must, ". . . continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose." (2:-12,13) From other Scripture we know that our works do not purchase our salvation, so Paul must be talking about what he expects believers to do after they are saved, and that becomes obvious as we continue to read his letter. "Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe." (2:14, 15) Paul is telling us that we must work, work, and work (practice, practice, and practice) so that we can "shine like stars in the universe."

This admonition of Paul's not to complain or argue is just one of many commands given to believers throughout the Bible. In order for each of us to become better than average Christians we must work on them all. Of course, the first step in working on them is knowing them, just like a basketball player must first know the moved needed to play well before he can practice them. And the way to know the rules of the Christian life is to read our guidebook, the Bible.

If you desire to please your Christian coach, the Lord Jesus, take some time this week to practice your Christianity!

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Desert Vision

by Rev. Louis F. Kavar, PhD

It Makes Me Nervous

She's a bright articulate woman in her early forties. Following her divorce, her husband gained custody of their children. A few years ago, she moved to Tucson to start a new life working in the high tech industry. Now living with her partner, she is working through many past hurts and trying to understand the role spirituality has in her life.

As we talked, she told me about her recovery from early childhood sexual abuse. She realized that the abusive pattern she learned in childhood was repeated with her husband. Now, she understands how difficult it is for her to trust anyone else in a relationship.

Her story is not unusual. Actually, it's more common than any of us want to think. Her experience is not only common among women. Many Gay men could tell very similar stories about their past.

The process of integrating a sense of wholeness and well-being when childhood was shattered by sexual, physical, or emotional abuse is challenging for anyone. Our early childhood experiences teach us how to relate to other people, both for good and for ill. That's why survivors find themselves repeating the patterns of abuse over again in other relationships. Yet, the human spirit is resilient. Well-being can be restored. While I don't believe we are ever "as good as new" because we can not change the past, we can re-establish a sense of wholeness and balance in our lives. Learning how to trust others and doing so wisely is an important part of that process.

As significant as the work this woman had completed was for her healing, she told me again and again something that a spiritual teacher taught her. That's what made me nervous. The woman explained that she knew the reason she could develop a spiritual life was because of the sexual abuse she suffered. The spiritual teacher convinced her that it was the abuse that opened her to spirituality and for that she should be thankful.

While I am very clear in my own beliefs, I have learned to be very respectful of the beliefs of others. There are times when beliefs imposed on others are very dangerous to their well-being. When I speak with other people and it appears that some of their beliefs may be dangerous to their well-being, I do what I can to empower them to explore beliefs which may be healthier for them.

It is very important that survivors of early childhood trauma understand that nothing they did caused the abuse and that they are in no way responsible for it. Sexual, physical, and emotional abuse are wrong. Perpetrators often have a history of abuse in their own life. That doesn't make abuse less wrong. It simply demonstrates that the evil of child abuse passes from generation to generation. Are people bad or evil? No. But abusive actions and be-

CONTINUED ON PAGE FIFTEEN

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Columna Abierta by Dr. Eleazar Garcia

¿Qué tal?...Un poco cansado de tanto viaje, pero con el mismo animo al escribir esta Columna Abierta, deseandole lo mejor de lo mejor y no esta por demás recordarle que si esta listo para salir de vacaciones durante la semana de pascua, hay que incluir condones en "el equipo de pesca" y recordarle el uso del conductor asignado... y que disfrute!.

Estuvimos por Hermosillo, y por la antigua capital de Sonora, Ures, donde saludamos a viejos amigos y camaradas; para continuar con los trabajos sobre salud reproductiva en los pueblos del Rio Sonora; que de verdad los colegas del CIAD le estan poniendo muchas ganas para que todo salga como se ha planeado... El foro sobre Consulta comunitaria no se contó con numerosa asistencia pero los que se presentaron de verdad que tienen mucho interes en la salud de la olvidada "Atenas" como algunas personas llaman a Ures...Y a la vez se pudo constatar las diferencias políticas que han dividido a los habitantes...(Que todo sea por mejorar).

En Agua Prieta se llevó a cabo la Segunda Feria de la Primavera y la Salud el pasado fin de semana con buenos resultados y sobre todo que la Secretaría de Salud de esa ciudad fronteriza bajo la dirección del Dr. Marco A. Gámez ha continuado con los programas de promoción y prevención a la salud en aquella ciudad de los APSON Boys...

la nota sobre salud, que tengo para esta ocación... Un estudio ha confirmado la vieja creencia de que comer tomate ayuda a reducir el riesgo de ciertos tipos de cáncer. El estudio retrospectivo, publicado en el Journal of the National Cancer Institute, halló datos suficientes para concluir que las personas que consumen grandes cantidades de tomates y productos derivados tienen menor riesgo de contraer cáncer. El equipo analizó 72 estudios previos que habían examinado el vínculo entre el consumo de tomate y derivados del producto como salsa para espaguetis y ketchup. Algunos estudios analizaron también los niveles entre sangre de licopene, un compuesto que se halla principalmente en los tomates y protege las células de oxidantes asociados con el cáncer. En total, 57 de los 72 estudios asociaron el consumo de tomate con una reducción del riesgo de cáncer, manifestó el Dr. Edward Giovanucci, de la Harvard Medical School. El investigador afirmó que en 35 estudios la asociación era significativa estadísticamente. Los datos asocian el consumo de tomate en la reducción de riesgo en cánceres de la glándula prostática, el pulmón y el estómago. Asi como una menor incidencia de cáncer de mama y cervical.

Dentro de las actividades para la prevención del SIDA, entre otras; CODAC Behavioral Health Services, bajo la responsabilidad de Steve Trujillo y Alianza Comunitaria del Sur de Arizona (CPSA) se esta trabajando en la planificacion de la conferencia binacional "Inovaciones del VIH a lo largo de la Frontera" para los dias 12 y 13 de agosto, 1999 en el Westward Look Resort de Tucson, para mas informacion o formas de registro dirijase al (520) 327-4505 ext. 192 con el mencionado Sr. Steve Trujillo.

Por hoy es todo, hasta la proxima semana D.M.

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Desert Vision

Continued from Page Thirteen

havior may well be viewed as bad or evil.

The wonder of the human spirit is that even in the midst of very bad circumstances, we still have the ability to grow and be more than our limited circumstances seem to allow. In terms of spiritual growth, even in the midst of great pain we are able to find goodness, truth, and beauty in life. But spiritual development does not require that one experience horrible suffering in life. Childhood sexual abuse is not a requirement to be open to the spiritual dimension of life. Believing that sexual abuse was a necessary condition for spiritual growth, a person is never able to get past the abuse. Such a belief results in a person holding onto the abuse and remaining crippled for the sake of their spiritual development. That is reinforcing the abuse and not facilitating healing.

Survivors of childhood sexual abuse often find that spiritual development is a vital part of their recovery and so they take it very seriously. That's a very important distinction. Having survived serious abuse, one may develop the capacity to be more empathetic toward others. But that's a result of the healing.

Yes, I get very nervous when ill-trained spiritual teachers or religious leaders perpetuate cycles of abuse by convincing their devotees that the horrible experiences of life are to be thankfully embraced for their own good. It's unfortunate that little can be done to stop such teachers and preachers. However, concerned friends and loved ones can offer positive support and suggest that those working toward healing from abuse use sound judgment and common sense.

[The Rev. Louis F. Kavar, Ph.D., is a counselor and spiritual director in private practice in Tucson. He can be contacted at 290-1591 or by e-mail at LouKavar@aol.com]

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CityPlayers To Hold Open Auditions April 4 & 11

TUCSON — The CITYPLAYERS Theatre Company will be holding open auditions, April 4 & 11 at 11:00 A.M., for their next production, "The Bacchae," a new contemporary adaptation of the Greek tragedy by Euripides, and "Laughing Wild," the hysterically funny two person comedy by Christopher Durang.

Roles are available in "Bacchae" for the ensemble chorus of young performers and palace guards, and in "Laughing Wild," for the cast of two, strong mature actresses and a younger male. Each have a one-act monologue and share the third.

This version of "The Bacchae" is a very barbaric, bloody and ritualistic telling of the Euripides classic containing mature themes and some nudity. It will be designed and directed by artistic director, John R. Gunn.

"Laughing Wild" also contains mature themes and language. It will be directed by Vasna B. Chan.

Both auditions will be held in the CITYPLAYERS performance space, 439 North Sixth Avenue. Prepared monologues are suggested but not necessary. Cold readings from the scripts will be required of all performers.

For more information, please call (520) 571-1300.

Murder Trial

Continued from Page One

did step back and take a look at the community overall and take a look at themselves," said Dan Furphy of the Laramie City council.

The savagery and senselessness of Shepard's murder forced residents, Furphy said, "to step back and decide who we really are. In some ways it has made us a stronger community," he said, adding, "We are not a bad community."

Since Shepard's death, two of his close friends have moved away, said John Little, president of United Gays and Lesbians of Wyoming. "I think a lot of folks are scared because this has happened, and there's nothing to stop it from happening again," he said.

'Viva La Diva II'

Continued from Page Four

Many of those attending the concert were probably under the perception that opera was just only large men and women belting out Teutonic-esque tunes while struggling with their costumes and perspiration. Reveille showed that not to be in "Viva La Diva II."

Horoscopes

Continued from Page Six

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20

Thoughts turn homeward. What can you do to make your private quarters more enjoyable and comfortable? The Sun in active Aries may suggest physical changes (like redecorating) or emotional changes (like switching or dropping roommates or reconciling nasty family issues). All in all though, Venus in Taurus has a much better idea: Why not simply throw a party??

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19

It's time for Aqueerians to take pen to paper and fire off an inflammatory letter to the editor. Sun in Aries brings political issues to the fore and you're elected Gay spokesperson of the week. Venus in Taurus makes you so comfortable around your house that you decide to enhance your surroundings. That, of course, takes cash. Why not plan now and shop later?

PISCES
FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

Although pink Fish are not the most practical of folks, Sun in directioned Aries sets some thoughts flying in the direction of money and general financial well being. Expressive Venus in Taurus even adds a little sugar to your speech and you can charm just about anyone. I bet you can even get Jerry Falwell and Tinky Winky to . . . ahem . . . develop a more meaningful relationship.

For entertainment purposes only. For best results, read both your Sun sign and Ascendant. For a free calculation of your ascendant, send birth date, time, place, name of this publication and SASE to: Lichtenstein, POB 1726, NYC 10011-1726

GO IN GOOD HEALTH...

BY REV. ANDREW BROOKS

This time, I thought I would address the subject of making peace with your spirituality. What do I mean by that? Well, most of us were raised "nominally Christian," meaning our parents, for the most part, believed in God, even though they did not (most likely) go to church every week. They had these pre-set ideas in their minds about God, about right and wrong, and what they should pass on to their children as a value system. Of course, some of us, myself included, were raised by parents (or grandparents in my case) who were either strict Christian or Jewish or some other orthodox faith.

Many Gays and Lesbians, particularly Hispanics, were raised in the Catholic faith. Then we came to realize that we were Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual. That can be difficult and emotionally painful in a religious system where guilt, fear, and the concept of sin are mingled with the condemnation of homosexuality.

Many people still believe that being Gay is sinful or wrong, and some Gays internalize that homophobia. Religious guilt can be powerful and destructive. We sometimes think that "God is mad at us." There is the concept among many Christians that you can pray for God to "cure" Gay people. My own grandmother thought I should "pray to God to normalize my sexual desires." It took her a long time to accept my Gay lifestyle. She thought I should not discuss it with others in the family, that my cousin might decide he was tired of women and should try sex with men instead!

They still think Gay is contagious somehow. How silly for those of us who know better. We are survivors of a lot of crap in our lives. Many of us had to deal with parents, friends, family, and sometimes even a Church that definitely did not make us feel welcome as Gays. We were told that being Gay was bad, wrong, sinful, even evil, and that we were going to go to hell if we did not repent and change our evil ways.

This kind of thinking is harsh, destructive, and based in fear and ignorance. We need to realize that we do not have to believe those lies, and that we can and do have the power to heal those wounds. Some of us were abused by parents who justified their harsh discipline with the Bible, saying that "Children should obey their parents." Or the ever-favorite "Spare the rod, spoil the child" mentality.

That is easily carried to extremes. If you were abused as a child, you may still carry anger. I have met a lot of Gays who are still mad at the Church, and to this day carry anger at those within the Christian religion who preached homophobia, intolerance, and hatred. Yes, sadly, the majority of the Christian religion still holds anti Gay views. It is only among some progressive congregations that Gays are "married" in the church, and that Gay priests, Lesbian ministers, and the like are accepted.

In fact, though some progressive churches and synagogues are beginning to welcome Gays in a "reconciling" congregation, welcoming and loving Gays and Lesbians and Bi's as part of the family of God, there are still so many Churches where homophobia is firmly entrenched. So for the Gay Christian, they have the choice of either leaving the Church forever or moving to a denomination where Gays are welcome.

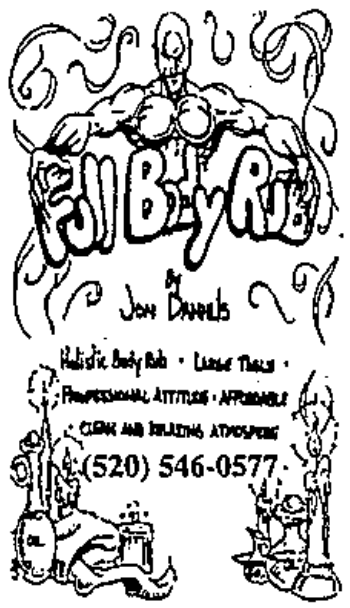
This is not to downplay such Gay-oriented churches such as Metropolitan Community Churches, and the Gay-friendly churches like St Francis in the Foothills, a rather progressive New Age Methodist church. They are lovely churches, and meet the needs of many local Gays, who find their services meaningful.

However, for many Gay, Bi, and Lesbian people, the mainstream church is where they were raised, and there some remain. It can be hard, since most Churches are nominally anti-gay, and the Fundamentalist Churches, extremely so. Some still attend Church, keeping silent about being gay. They cannot come out in their Church, for fear of excommunication or "disfellowship" polite terms for being thrown out. That can cause a lot of anger and frustration. However, rather than blaming God for the ignorance of His followers, we can learn to forgive them and pray for them.

Happily, there are other religious paths such as New Age spirituality, Paganism, Buddhism, and many others where Gays are more accepted. We can find a spiritual path that meets our spiritual and emotional needs, and that makes us feel loved and accepted as gays. We can make peace with our spirituality, and find that we can honor God (Goddess), the Divine, in our own personal way. Connecting with the Divine is a basic human instinct, and we can find ways to fulfill that need that truly make us happy.

To remain tethered to a childhood faith where we are still rejected, condemned, and ostracized is, to me, a waste of time, and self-defeating. Move into the Light, and find a place where you are welcomed, loved, and accepted just the way you are. What have you got to lose?

As always, till next time, Go in Good Health.



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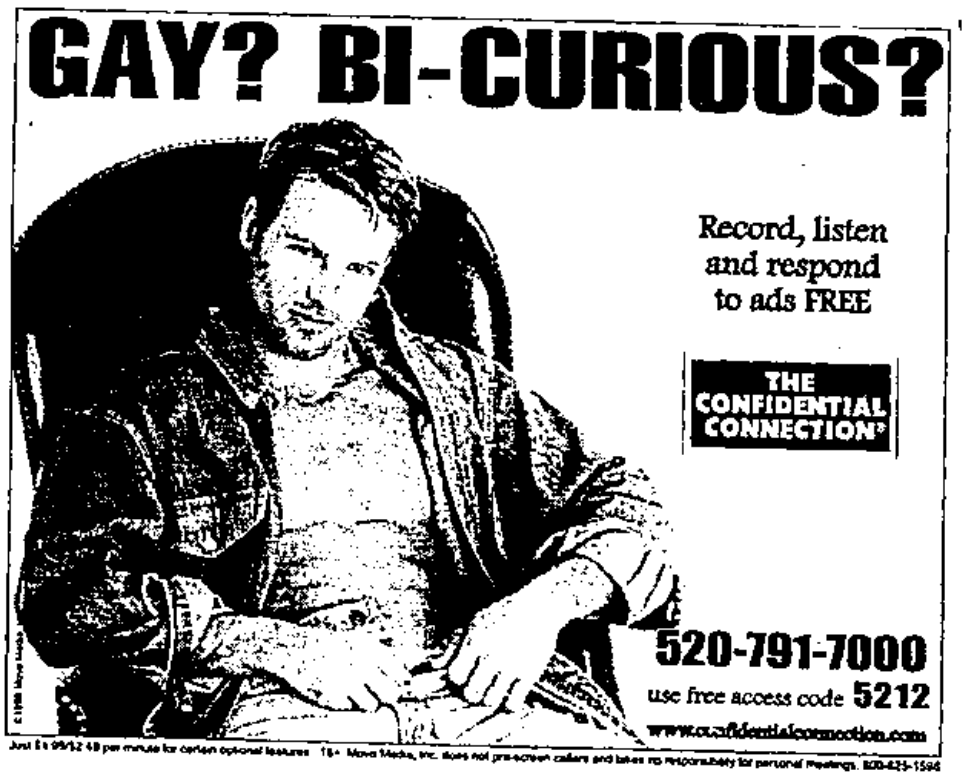

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Non-Bar Calendar

Groups / Clubs / Organizations

THURSDAY, MARCH 25

Tucson Prime Timers Luncheon at "Elle" restaurant, 3046 E. Broadway (at Country Club). Call 584-0280 for more information.

FRIDAY, MARCH 26

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). TBA. There's a weekend camping trip to Organ Pipe National Monument. Hikes and road trips around the Monument are planned. For details and reservations, please call Patrick at 615-1887. If you can't make it on Friday, please feel free to join us on Saturday.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). TBA. There's a weekend camping trip to Organ Pipe National Monument. Hikes and road trips around the Monument are planned. For details and reservations, please call Patrick at 615-1887.

Desert Voices concert "Sisters: A Tribute to Women in Music, Our True Cultural Warriors..." 8:00 p.m. at Pima Community College Proscenium Theatre. Special Guests will be the Denver Women's Chorus. Tickets $12 in advance, $15 at the door. A second concert tomorrow, 3:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 28

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). TBA Our monthly hike will be held somewhere hikeable today. For details, please call Ron at 327-1052.

2. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 5-7 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.

Desert Voices concert "Sisters: A Tribute to Women in Music, Our True Cultural Warriors..." 3:00 p.m. at Pima Community College Proscenium Theatre. Special Guests will be the Denver Women's Chorus. Tickets $12 in advance, $15 at the door.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. We offer a new event tonight: TV Dinner. We'll serve you dinner and show you a movie afterward. Tonight's menu includes BBQ and fried green tomatoes. The movie? What else-"Fried Green Tomatoes". The event is reserved for MSN members only (a reward for membership-and it's not too late to join!) For reservations, please call Les or Jerry at 690-9565.

Cornerstone Fellowship Special Easter Service 7:00 p.m,. Footwashing, Teaching and service. 2902 N. Geronimo. 622-4626

FRIDAY APRIL 2

Cornerstone Fellowship Special Good Friday Service 7:00 p.m. 2902 N. Geronimo. 622-4626.

SATURDAY, APRIL 3

Boyz 'n Girlz Nite Out sponsored by Queer Voice 5:00 p.m. Call Mike at 798-0151 for directions. Queer Voice is a Queer youth program of the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation, Wingspan and the Pima County Health Department.

Cornerstone Fellowship Special Easter Service: Seder, 6:00 p.m. Passover Meal to be served. Tickets are $5.00 per person. 2902 N. Geronimo. 622-4626. Please call to make your reservation.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us for our monthly Potluck & Social Gathering as we sit down to eat with some of the nicest gay guys in town (like you!). You're invited to come and share your favorite dish with the men such as yourself. Join us at 6801 N. Oracle (Casas Adobes Congregational Church). Please call Jerry at 690-9565 for directions and any questions you may have.

SUNDAY, APRIL 4

Cornerstone Fellowship Easter Sunday Sunrise Service 6:00 a.m. Potluck Breakfast to follow the sunrise service. Resurrection celebration 10:30 a.m.

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 5:00 p.m. Join your gay family for a traditional Easter Dinner. This annual potluck dinner is always lots of fun. The ham and turkey will be provided, and all we ask is that you bring a side dish to share with others. For directions and reservations, please call Bob at 888-2725.

2. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 5-7 p.m. The Triangle Tribe, an awareness group, meets to learn and use communication and relationship skills toward developing feelings of trust, love, acceptance and brotherhood. For reservations and directions, please call Tom at 318-1650.

TUESDAY, APRIL 6

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Bridge night. Bridge for men who want to refresh their bridge skills (or just have fun); table talk playing. For reservations and directions, please call Dan at 327-5755.

2. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Gordon offers Yoga classes to help you stretch you muscles and clear your mind. For directions and more information, please call Gordon at 321-9509.

FRIDAY, APRIL 9

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us for a Multiplex Night at the movies. In one room we'll offer another showing of "Titanic" starring Leonardo DiCaprio & Kate Winslet, and at the same time, we'll be showing "The Terminator" with Arnold Schwarzenegger and Linda Hamilton. For reservations and directions, please call Les or Jerry at 690-9565.

SATURDAY, APRIL 10

Queer Voice youth program will hold it's monthly "Cafe Chat" at Rainbo w Planet Coffee House on 4th Avenue. 5:00 p.m.

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 9:30 a.m. Join Phil as he leads a biking trip in southern Arizona. For reservations and details, please call Phil at 825-3604.

Bar Calendar

Of Upcoming Events

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24

IBT'S - Special benefit show for Kristin, candidate for Miss Gay Tucson 1999. Show features Kristin, Raven, Mr. Kenneth Blake, Phaedra, Victoria Du Puis and special guests.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Calling all March babies! Celebrate your March birthday today with a big Happy Birthday Party. Registered celebrants receive a birthday card and gift, drink discounts, chances for the monthly drawing at 5:00 p.m. Ice Cream and Cake at 3:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 28

IBT'S -Benefit Bar-B-Que and Beer Bust for Reveille Gay Men's Chorus 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. then it's karaoke on the patio with Billy Dee from 4:30 to 7:30. Then, if that isn't enough there will be a BIG Easter "Bunny" Benefit Show for Bunny FuFu, candidate for Miss Gay Tucson America. Joining Bunny will be Kristin St. James, Faith Michaels, Mr. Kenneth Blake, Victoria Du Puis, Deora Le Blanc and Special guests.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - 'Goddess' starring Mr. Kenneth Blake, Adrienne Alexander, Veronica Lake. 10:00 p.m. Experience the fantasy!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

IBT'S - 9:00 p.m. It's time for The Girlie Show starring Lucinda Holliday, Victoria Du Puis, Mr. Kenneth Blake and special guests.

THURSDAY, APRIL 1

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Latin Dance Party with DJ Eduardo from 9:00 to closing plus the always great Latina Travesti Show at 10:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 3

GRADUATE - Second Annual M.P.S. pre-Easter Show and fundraiser with Aviva Diamond's "Desert Divas" at 7:00 p.m. There'll be an auction of some very valuable items plus 3 Easter Bonnet Contests and 1 "Basket" contest. Pick up a copy of the contest guidelines at the Grad. Don't miss the special appearance by the Norman Tabernacle Choir!

STONEWALL/EAGLE - The Bunny benefit for Gay Pride starring Miss Jody, Dani Bordello & Cappucino. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Showtime 9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 4

IBT'S - Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Party all day. More details later.

STONEWALL/EAGLE -Tammy Caprice/s "Bunny Revue" starring Tammy Caprice, Alotta Whoremoans, Crystal Abrams and Sebre.

SUNDAY, APRIL 18

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Next live band "Lori Davidson & The Intruders". Watch for more details.

2. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us for a Topic of Discussion on Intimacy and sex. For reservations and directions, call Jerry or Les at 690-9565.

SUNDAY, APRIL 11

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 5-7 p.m. The Triangle Tribe, an awareness group, meets to learn and use communication and relationship skills toward developing feelings of trust, love, acceptance and brotherhood. For reservations and directions, please call Tom at 318-1650.

TUESDAY, APRIL 13

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. The Book Club will be discussing "A Simple Suburban Murder" by Mark Richard Zubro. Even if you don't read the selection, we encourage all book lovers to attend. For reservations and directions, please call Steve at 388-4849.

2. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Gordon offers Yoga classes to help you stretch you muscles and clear your mind. For directions and more information, please call Gordon at 321-9509.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us for Dinner Out as we visit the Dragon View restaurant just west of downtown. Please phone in your reservation to Bill as soon as possible so we can notify the restaurant of the number of men attending. For directions and reservations, please contact Bill at 546-7539.

FRIDAY, APRIL 16

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Our monthly Pizza Party will take be held at Les & Jerry's home. Simply bring $4.00 and join in for a fun evening of food and good conversation. Salad and dessert are also served. Vegetarian pizza offered as well. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-9565. Please note: reservations should be made by Thursday, April 15 at noon so we can order the proper number of pizzas (but we do order a couple of extra pizzas just in case this isn't read until the day of the event).

SATURDAY, APRIL 17

Desert Voices 3rd Annual "Great Stuff For A Song" Yard Sale/Fundraiser. 5643 E. 6th Street 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Call 791-9662 for donations or for more information.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join Mark on the northwest side of town for some rice bowl, some conversation, and a movie. For reservations and directions, please contact Mark at 572-0583.

SUNDAY, APRIL 18

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 2:00 p.m. Art & Jeff host a potluck dinner and movie presentation and their home in Vail. The movie will be "Lone Star", with Kris Kristofferson. For reservations and directions, please call Art or Jeff at 762-9136.

2. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 2:30 p.m. Tom hosts a showing of the opera "The Ghosts of Versailles". Sung in English, this opera is clever enough to please even the most ardent fan. For reservations and directions, please call Tom at 743-0146.

Daily Bar Calendar

Sunday

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

GRADUATE - Sunday Beer Bust and Food Bag 4-7pm. 50¢, $1.50 small pitchers. BBQ Beef Sandwich with Cheese & Potato Salad $1.50. Drink Specials do not apply during special events.

HOURS - Open 1pm. $2 Bloody Marys & $1.50 Screwdrivers til 8pm. Country music & dancing.

IBT's - Open Noon to 1 a.m. Happy Hour noon-8pm, $1.75 domestic beer and $1.50 Well. Benefit B-B-Q and Beer Bust for community organizations 4:30-7:00pm. Karaoke with Billy Dee on the patio 4:30-7:30. Hi energy dancing 9pm to close. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open Noon. Daily drink specials. Beer Bust & Happy Hour 'til 7pm. BBQ 2-6. Hot dance music. Snack Bar opens at noon.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio open 3pm. Patio Beer Bust 3-7pm 50¢ draft. 501 Dart Tournament 5pm $3 entry fee (pot matched). Rose Burgers 5-7pm Hides Leather Goods opens at 7pm.

Monday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Happy Hour Two-For-One 2-7. Free pool 2-4. $1.50 Wells 8-midnight.

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

HOURS - Closed Mondays.

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

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open Noon Daily drink specials. Happy Hour 'til 7pm. Party with Chuck in the evening. Doc's Dart Tourney 8pm in the Eagle. Free pool all day and night. Snack Bar opens at noon.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. $1.75 Well drinks and Longnecks 6am-12:30pm

Tuesday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour Two-For-One 2-7. Pool tourney 7:30pm. $3 entry, pot matched. $1 longnecks for pool players. Funky disco w/DJ Shershee & DJ Bella Fly 9-1.

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 3-6pm. $1.50 well or domestic beer. Draft Beer Nite 8-close. $2 small/$4 large pitchers, Karaoke Night 9pm.

IBT's - Open noon. Happy Hour Noon-8 pm, $1.75 domestic beer & $1.50 well. 8 pm to close $1.75 well. Wear an IBT's T-shirt get happy hour prices 8 to close, or buy an IBT's T-shirt for $5 and get a complimentary drink. Extreme Dance with DJ Michael 9pm to closing.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open Noon Daily drink specials. Happy Hour til 7pm. Eight Ball pool tourney, warm-up 6pm, play begins 7pm. Latin Dance Party w/ DJ Eduardo 9pm - 1am. Snack bar opens at noon.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. $1.75 Well drinks and longnecks 6am - 12:30pm.

Wednesday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour Two-For-One 2-7. Free Pool 2-4. $1.50 Longnecks 8-midnight. Dance music with DJ Stephanie 9pm-1am.

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

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

IBT's - Open Noon to 1am. Happy Hour Noon to 8pm, $1.75 domestic beer & $1.50 well. Mystery Night. $1.75 Bud Product Special 9 pm to close. Dance with David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open Noon Daily Drink Specials. Happy Hour til 7pm. Karaoke Nite: 9 to close w/Billy Dee in the Eagle. Stonewall opens at 9pm. Hottest dance music in town. Snack bar opens at Noon.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. $1.75 Well drinks and Longnecks 6am-12:30 pm. Cuervo Gold $2 and Cuervo 1800 $2.25 Open to close.

Thursday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7, 2for1 Free pool 2-4. Karaoke with Melissa 9pm to close. Wild country cowgirls & $2.50 Tequila Rose.

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 3-6pm $1.50 well or domestic beer. 75¢ Schnapps 8pm to close. 32 Cuervo shots and country/western dance at 9pm

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

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open Noon Daily drink specials. Happy Hour til 7pm. Latin Dance Party w/Eduardo in the Stonewall 9pm to close. Biweekly Travesti Show 10:30pm. Snack Bar opens at Noon.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am $1.75 Well Drinks & Longnecks 6am-12:30pm Patio Bar open 5pm. Coors Bottles $1.75 from 9pm-midnight. Day prices for men in leather 7pm to close. Pool Tournament 7pm-ish. $3 entry (Pot Matched). Hides Leather shop opens at 8:30

Friday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour Two-For-One 2-7. Free pool 2-4. Free food at 5:30pm. Dance music 9-1 w/ DJ Hill. Drink specials every 1/2 hour

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

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

IBT's - Open noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm $1.75 domestic beer and $1.50 well. Live Jazz on the patio with the Dukes of York 5-8pm. Patio Bar 9-1. Dance Party 9 to 1 with DJ David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open Noon Daily drink specials. Happy Hour til 7pm. T.G.I.F. Free snacks 4:30-8pm The hottest dance music in town 9pm to close in the Stonewall. Snack Bar opens at Noon.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. $1.75 Well drinks and Longnecks 6am-12:30 Snacks served at 5pm. Patio Bar open 5pm. Hides Leather Store opens at 8:30pm.

Saturday

AIN'T NOBODYS BIZNESS - Open at 2pm. Drink specials all day. Pool Tournament 5:30pm $3 entry. Pot matched. Dance music w/DJ Hill 9-close. Drink specials every half 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. 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.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open noon. Daily drink specials. Beer Bust & Happy Hour til 7pm. Free Pool noon to 7pm. Stonewall opens 9pm. The hottest dance music in town. Snack Bar opens at noon.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Patio Bar open at 3pm. Patio Beer Bust with 50¢ draft 3-7pm. Hides Leather Store opens at 8:30pm. Partnership Cricket Tournament 8:30pm $3 entry (Pot Matched).

NOTICES

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

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

P.F.L.A.G. - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays - is a support group available to anyone who has a son, daughter or friend who is Gay. Call 575-6560 or write P.O. Box 36264, Tucson, AZ 85740-6264. All replies confidential.

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

YOUNG AND GAY?
Lesbian and Gay youths 23 and under, meet every Saturday in Tucson for sharing, support and information. Meetings are held at 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 and their admirers to join and share Prime Timers fellowship. We welcome mature men (and admirers) who wish to become involved with planned and future Prime Timers activities. Meetings luncheons and dinners are held monthly. For dates, times and information call 584-0280, leave name and phone number.

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

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

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

WINGSPAN - Tucson's Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Community Center, 300 E. 6th St., offers support groups / info line / social events / library / meeting space. Volunteer Opportunities. Board meetings every 2nd Sunday (open to all), 6:00 p.m. Information 624-1779.

SUPPORT GROUP: Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals meet weekly for open discussions in a loving, supportive atmosphere. Meetings Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:30 pm at St. Francis in the Foothills Church, Swan and River Road. Room 43. Call the church at Davey at 886-1208 or Brian at 882-4726 for information.

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

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

LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP addressing a full spectrum of issues, problems and situations. Meetings 2nd & 4th Wednesday 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. 624-1779.

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

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

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

ATTENTION ALL NUDISTS - Tucson Tanners is a nudist group open to all -- Nude activities scheduled both indoor and outdoors. Not "Gay Only", but Gays are welcome and invited to join. For further information send SASE to: Tucson Tanners, P.O. Box 64-G, Cortaro, AZ 85652.

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

GAY VOLLEYBALL ON SATURDAYS. Competitive play. Intermediate or better players only. Grass court Northwest corner Himmel Park 11 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

GRACE GROUP - CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 2nd Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the Madonna Hall at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 1436 N. Campbell across from University Hospital. For more info, Call Eddie Beirano 888-4595 or Cheri Jacobs 323-9088.

SMART (Self Management And Recovery Training) a free non-12-step self-help alternative for people working to overcome addictive and other emotional problems meets in Tucson Monday thru Thursdays at different locations. For more information about SMART, contact Brenda at 884-9020, Ext.448 or Emmett 322-6057 (swelton@ix.netcom.com)

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

NOTICES

TUCSON'S 100% CONSENSUAL, Pan-Fetish, Pan-Sexual, Informational Safe Space for the B&D, S&M, D&S and TV community. Call us at (520)617-4661, e-mail us at http://www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/Heights/5086

TUCSON'S RAINBOW RADIO is now on the air. Operating on 100.1 Mhz Stereo FM. Hours of operation 3:00 p.m. to Midnight. Join us for services to the Tucson Gay and Lesbian Community.

LOG CABIN REPUBLICANS OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA. Local chapter of the nation's largest Gay and Lesbian Republican organization. Meets the first Tuesday evening of each month. For information, call Patrick at 615-1887.

SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS. Starting this February, the Tucson Rape crisis Center will be providing free confidential group services for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender survivors of all manner of sexual assault. Interested persons please call Mirio Stone, MSW, at 327-1171 (if unavailable leave message with phone number.

AAPSP - ARIZONA ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY PROFESSIONALS - a confidential organization committed to providing support and networking for all Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual public safety professionals in Arizona. Membership open to Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters, Probation, Parole and CORRECTIONS Officers and civilians working within these agencies. Website: http://members.aol.com/AAPSP or e-mail: AAPSP@aol.com or call Dave (520)745-9059 (Tucson) or Kim (602)534-6219 (Phoenix)

GLSEN - Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network meets first Thursday of every month at 4:30pm at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th Street. 743-4200.

GAY, LESBIAN & BISEXUAL VETERANS meet at Wingspan every fourth Monday at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome. For more info call Miguel Guzman, 889-4076 or pager 446-5123.

TUCSON CATHOLIC GAY & LESBIAN FAMILY MINISTRY. Currently meeting the 4th Monday of every month at SS Peter & Paul Church, Madonna Hall 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Fr. Fiedler in attendance every meeting and willing to speak one on one. Reaching out to Parents and Families. For more info call Doc or Barbara 293-6624.

OUTLOUD! Tucson's premiere Local Lesbian and Gay Radio Show, broadcast each 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm on 91.3 FM, Community Radio KXCI. This show alternates with "This Way Out", a nationally syndicated Lesbian and Gay radio show.

THEATER / DINNER / ETC! Non-Smoking Lesbian Network meets every 3rd Saturday night of each month. If you'd like to meet women 35+ (flexible) and socialize in a smoke-free environment 888-8010 before 10:00 p.m. The group dines out and attends shows or movies. Now in their 16th year! (2nd in Tucson).

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

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

ARIZONA AIDS POLICY ALLIANCE (AZAPA) seeks to educate legislators and citizens about sound AIDS policy. For more information write AZAPA, 6523 N. 14th St., #112, Phoenix, AZ 85014 or call 602-279-4605.

GAY MORMON, EX-MORMON. New support and discussion group. For information call 529-4580

ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIPS. Individual or group support for Gay, Bisexual and Trans men who are victims/survivors in same-sex relationships. Group meets Tuesdays 7 to 8:30pm at a confidential location. For information or appointment call 218-2827. Wingspan Domestic Violence Project.

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

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

BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO -- a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, Call the Bears Hotline (520)327-1620 or write P.O. Box 41910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910, or come to our general meetings the second Friday of every month. Location listed on our hotline.

LAMBDA CAR CLUB, a social organization of Gays and Lesbians who share interest, information and fellowship involving all cars and trucks. New Southern Arizona Region now in Tucson. Call the HOTline for info at 888-5541

LESBIAN AND GAY AL-ANON - Affected by someone's drinking? Meeting every Tuesday 5:45 to 9:45 p.m. at Lambda Center, 2940 E. Thomas, Phoenix. Ellie 581-8850 or Ronn 968-2384.

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

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

T-SQUARES Lesbian and Gay square dance club meets every Tuesday from 6:30-9:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N. Geronimo (near 1st Ave. and Laguna). Open to All. Call Liz at 325-9468 or Ray at 749-5247.

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

MANE MEN: Long-haired Gay male penpal network. Photo, 3 IRC's to join. Box 231, Station B, Ottawa, CANADA, K1P5C4

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

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

DESERT VOICES, Tucson's Gay & Lesbian Chorus rehearses Monday evenings from 6:30 to 9:30pm at Armory Park Senior Center, 220 S. 6th Ave. Call 791-9682.

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

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

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

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

NOTICES

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

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

"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 at Wingspan on 4th Saturday of each month at 6:30 p.m. 748-0497.

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

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

PERSONALS

RELOCATING TO TUCSON AREA. GWM, 50,5'8", 150# smooth. Non-smoker, D/D free. Seeking Dark Skinned Top(s) for serious LTR. Write to Mr. Miller, P.O. Box 1027, Thermopolis, WY 82443-1027 767

Do you live north of Grant and west of campbell? GM, just an ordinary nice guy, ISO HM over 40, who is just an ordinary nice guy, looking for new friends. Write P.O. Box 77602, Tucson, AZ 85703-7602 770

www.gaytextlive.com - Hot live models / www.marinestuds.com - Real Marines www.gay-chat.com - Live chat / www.studmail.com - Free e-mail account www.malecards.com - Free Postcards / (800)363-7883 Talk Live with men 18+ 764

CYBER CRUISE - Meet Arizona Gay men and women as well as people all over the U.S. Gay owned. www.movo.com 765

ATTENTION - ATTENTION - ATTENTION
Si eres hombre que tiene sexo con otros hombres y quieres ayudarnos a extender y apoyar los programas para Los Latinos, llama para una entrevista extrictamente confidencial al 322-6226 y pregunta por Ernesto. 770

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. 770

HOUSING/FOR RENT

VARIOUS CENTRAL TUCSON LOCATIONS. Large 1 and 2 bedroom apartments unfurnished. Clean, private, quiet. Many extras. Mention this Observer ad for special $99 first-month-move-in special. 577-6570. 765

FOR SALE

1986 SHADOW VT-700 Jardine drag pipes, saddle bags, custom paint, new tires, etc. $2,500. No free rides. CALL 887-2519 765

WANTED

Male caregiver, personal helper needed part-time by ambulatory, recuperating man in Foothills. Dependability, helpful attitude essential. Good pay, working conditions. Private heated pool and spa. Details, Call 615-3510 767

ODD JOBS - HANDYMAN. Coolers, electrical, electrical, carpet, painting, etc. Call Victor, 887-2519. 767

SERVICES

EFFECTIVE, EXPERIENCED MASSAGE THERAPIST specializing in deep tissue Swedish and Neuromuscular Therapy (pain relief). Certified, Licensed. Flexible hours. Torrence 628-8999. 769

ATTRACTIVE MAN offers very relaxing, sensuous, one-hour massage at a very reasonable rate. Days, evenings, weekends. Michael 564-9243 765.

LET ME PAMPER YOU! With a Full Body Swedish massage in a quiet, relaxed atmosphere. $35 for a full hour. Ralph, 883-7496. 766

FULL BODY MASSAGE for men. Peaceful, private setting. Skyline/Campbell area. Discreet. Marvin 299-9651 769

MASSAGE - TREAT YOURSELF TO A SPECIAL EXPERIENCE. Sensual; and stress relieving. Professional and discreet. Full hour $35. Phone Rick at 299-1792 769

LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPIST. Let my skilled techniques and intuitive nature work out pain, relieve sore muscles and make you feel relaxed and renewed. Please call Les Elliott at 690-9565. Therapeutic non-sexual healing. 765.

HEAVEN SENT ME: Strong, yet gentle hands provide nurturing, soothing massage. Deep tissue touch is available, working always to your comfort level. Trained in Lomilomi by third generation Hawaiian, and in "world renowned" Esalen massage. Focused emotional release work available to return clients. Days and evenings. In or out. Glenn, CMT. Call 907-2551 for 75 minutes of bliss 766.

INTEGRITY IN TOUCH. Expand your body's capacity to feel. Through Chakra therapy, guided breath and full body Tantric massage, we'll explore the rich connection between body and spirit. Intuitive. Experienced. Greg Carmean, 628-2876 or knowmadict@theriver.com 765.

PROFESSIONAL DEEP RELAXATION! Enjoy quality tantric massage including breathwork with 17 years experience in a powerful therapeutic session. Experience wonderfully, gentle healing hands. Legitimate. Call Marc, LMT, 881-4582. 767

ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS
Let me keep your clothes fitting properly and in good repair. Experienced -- Economical -- Prompt. Mr. Merle Hudson, 888-7264 in Tucson. 765

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