

Wingspan Celebrates 11th Anniversary



TUCSON - Caught at the Open House at Tucson's Gay and Lesbian Community Center, Wingspan, celebrating its 11th anniversary are (l to r) John Potter, President of the Wingspan Board of Directors, Kerry Lobel, Executive Director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), and recipient of the 1999 Godat Award, Jean Baker. See story below.

By Mark R. Kerr

TUCSON (ON) — A full day of activities marked the 11th anniversary of Wingspan, Tucson's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) Community Center.

The celebration, which took place Saturday, September 18, began with an open house. More than 100 people attended to see the new center, which had its beginnings in an office on Court Street. Those present had the chance to meet Kerry Lobel, the executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) and the keynote speaker for the benefit dinner held later Saturday.

A cocktail party at the Arizona Historical Society was next on the schedule, with more than 60 people present, also meeting Lobel and nationally known out comedians, Bob Smith and Elvira Kurt, who performed later at the dinner.

The Second Annual Benefit Dinner followed. More than 400 attended the event at the University Marriott. According to organizers, they had to turn away more than 30 requests for tickets the day of event, due to a lack of space in the banquet room. Even with the turn-aways, this year's event had a 60% increase over the inaugural event, which drew 250.

In addition to Tucson's GLBT community, many elected officials were present to mark the community center's eleventh anniversary, including:

Openly Gay Congressman Jim Kolbe, Tucson Mayor George Miller, Tucson Councilmember Fred Ronstadt, Pima County Supervisors Raul Grijalva and Sharon Bronson, State Representatives

Ramon Valadez, Debra Norris, Steve Huffman, Kathleen Dunbar, Herschella Horton and openly Gay state Representative Ken Clevvront, from Phoenix. State Senators Elaine Richardson, George Cunningham and Ruth Solomon.

Other governmental officials attended the dinner as well, some of whom present were: Tucson Police Chief, Richard Miranda, Tucson City Attorney, Tom Berning, Tucson City Manager, Luis Guiterrez, Tucson Police Auditor, Lilana Perez, Deputy Pima County Attorney, Mary Judge Ryan, the acting director of Pima County Health Systems, Karen Fields, Sylvia Campoy, the Director of Tucson's Equal Employment Office and Tucson Human Relations Commissioner, Clair Schuren.

Several candidates were present for the event as well. Both major party nominees for Tucson Mayor, Bob Walkup (R) and Molly McKasson (D) attended, as well as Tucson Ward 2 Council candidate, Carol West (D), was there as well. Even with the election a year away, Toni Hellon, current aide to Pima County Supervisor Mike Boyd (R), and recently an announced candidate for the soon-to-be vacated State Senate seat from District 12, helped to mark Wingspan's anniversary.

According to several recent national polls, Gays and Lesbians make up 5% of the voting electorate, but that wasn't the focus, Tucson's GLBT community center was.

Proceeds from the dinner will go to the center, which offers a variety of free programs, including domestic violence intervention, youth support groups, HIV

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Courting The Gay & Lesbian Vote

By John Nichols

LOS ANGELES, CA — When Vice President Al Gore showed up for a June meeting with young people at the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Community Center, he was confronted by a skeptical Javier Garcia.

"I want to know exactly why you're here," said Garcia, twenty, challenging Gore with unusual bluntness.

Taken aback, Gore responded in classic political jargon. "I'm here to learn and to pay honor to the place," he said and praised the center for "helping to change attitudes and abolish some irrational discrimination that is all too common."

In spite of Gore's game effort, Garcia said he was "suspicious" that the visit might have something to do with the Vice President's desire to get an early start on the 2000 Presidential campaign.

Garcia, a polite young man who presented the Vice President with a book of poems by "homeless" Gay and Lesbian youths, had reason for his skepticism. After all, Gore's challenger for the Democratic Presidential nomination, former U.S. Senator Bill Bradley, Democrat of New Jersey, had appeared at the Center just one week earlier. Even as the Vice President offered his platitudes, his aides were dueling with Bradley's over which campaign had been the first to come up with the idea of making a Gay Pride Month visit to the Los Angeles center.

As Campaign 2000 gears up, electioneering and fund raising events targeted at the Gay and Lesbian community are headlining campaign schedules. In May, Gore met in Washington, D.C., with forty-five prominent Lesbian and Gay community activists, including executives and board members of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, AIDS Action, the Human Rights Campaign, the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, the National Black Lesbian and Gay Task Force, and the National Latina/Latino Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Organization.

Gore then whirled through a schedule of events set up to coincide with Gay Pride Month activities in San Francisco and Los Angeles. But when he got there, he found that Bradley had already covered much of the turf.

Gore has gone so far as to request a "Gay reading list" from State Representative Carole Migden, Democrat of California. Meanwhile, Bradley aides have begun setting up one-on-one conversations with prominent Gay and Lesbian officials around the country—including U.S. Representative Tammy Baldwin, Democrat of Wisconsin, and veteran activist and Democratic fundraiser David Mixner—so the candidate can "get a feel for the community."

Despite their outreach, however, neither Gore nor Bradley has been willing to take the courageous positions that could inspire genuine enthusiasm among Lesbian and Gay voters. True, both Gore and Bradley have endorsed the Employment Non-Discrimination Act and national hate-crimes legislation. But, so far, their campaigns have shied away from the bold stances—support for Gay marriage, for federal domestic partnership protections, and for a dramatic redirection of health care and research funding priorities to reflect the concerns of Gay men and Lesbians. It is these stances that might win the confidences of young people like Garcia, who listened intently to Gore's rap at the Los Angeles center, but still ended up asking, "What can you say to make us believe you will help the Gay community?"

That question gets to the heart of the issue. But it doesn't always get a satis-

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OUToberFEST '99 'Reflections of Pride and Progress'

Here's a chance to be a part of Tucson's biggest and last Gay Pride celebration of the millennium! The Tucson/Lesbian Gay Alliance (TLGA) is recruiting volunteers to help put on OUToberFEST '99 on Saturday, October 16, in Reid Park. Volunteers are needed to check ID, sell beer tickets, gate check, and in other areas. If you would like to sign up, or just want more information, call the OUTline at (520) 622-3200 and leave your name and number. The TLGA Volunteer Coordinator will return your call.

Don't be the last one on your block to get your outfit lined up for the picnic—you can find the full like of OUToberFEST '99 merchandise at Desert Pride and Antigone Books. This year's logo, designed by Edie Granillo, looks fabulous on our polo and denim shirts (new item!). Stop by one of these fine stores and check 'em out! Caps, T-shirts and tanks are also available.

If you are a non-profit vendor at OUToberFEST '99, you may be eligible to participate in TLGA's "Volunteers for Dollars" program. You can earn up to \$20 in rebates by supplying volunteers for two hours. Call the OUTline at (520) 622-3200 if you would like more information about his popular program.

A record crowd is expected at OUToberFEST '99, and someone has to pick up what gets left behind. A sanitation crew is needed to keep the picnic grounds tidy during the picnic and do a complete cleanup afterwards. If you, or your business, are interested in placing a bid, call the OUTline at (520) 622-3200 and a TLGA Board member will call you back with the details.

UPDATE

Position Available At THAN

TUCSON — The Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (THAN), a coalition of faith communities committed to a compassionate response to HIV/AIDS, is seeking a part-time program assistant responsible for overseeing and coordinating HIV/AIDS awareness and education programs.

This person will work closely with and report to the Executive Director and will serve as the staff person to the Education Committee to ensure an effective and comprehensive education program, including:

Developing materials and conducting HIV awareness/prevention programs for congregations of all faiths; Planning and overseeing volunteer orientation and training sessions; producing and maintaining of the CareTeam training manual; coordinating continuing education programs for current volunteers; planning and producing HIV awareness programs for Tucson clergy, plus conducting ongoing congregational outreach, with a strong, multi-cultural focus; and, creating a training program for individuals who will be actively participating in the THAN speaker's bureau.

The ideal candidate will have a background in program planning/administration and in education/curriculum planning. Excellent communication and organizational skills, as well as a sensitivity to interfaith and multi-cultural issues, an ability to interact with a diversity of lay persons and clergy from all backgrounds, and public speaking skills are necessary. The candidate should also have a substantial knowledge of HIV and related issues. Bilingual person (English/Spanish) and HIV+ persons are encourage to apply. Twenty hours per week. \$8/hour. AA/EOE.

Call the THAN office, (520) 299-6647, to have a complete job description mailed or faxed to you. To apply, submit resume and list of three references to THAN, 4625 East River Road, Tucson, Arizona 85718.

TLGA In Full Production For OUToberFEST

TUCSON — Only four weeks away until OUToberFEST '99, "Reflections of Pride and Progress" and TLGA has a full day of entertainment waiting just for you.

Headlining entertainment this is CeCe Peniston, international disco diva, sponsored by IBT's, performing at 2:00 P.M. In addition to CeCe, is an impressive lineup of entertainers including Sistah Blue from Atlanta, and back by popular demand, Angela Motter, brought to you by Full

Spectrum Travel. Lori Davison and the Intruders, brought to you by Stone-wall/Eagle, Comedian Mark Davis, also brought to you by IBT's. Also on the bill is Desert Voices, Reveille Gay Men's Chorus and Arizona finest drag performances.

For your dancing pleasure the HINRG dance tent in once again sponsored by IBT's and StoneWall/Eagle.

Beer is still \$2 and remember to bring your ID, it's the law.

Admittance is free, so bring your friends and family to OUToberFEST '99, Saturday, October 16, Southwest corner of Reid Park, 10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. and help celebrate Tucson's Gay Pride Festival.

HIV Updates At SAAF

TUCSON — The Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) hosts an HIV Update at noon on the third Wednesday of each month.

On October 20, the guest speakers will be Becca Howard, "Using the Mind to Strengthen Immunity," and Maryann Tully, "The Healing Powers of Eastern Medicine."

For more information about the HIV Updates, call Art Siverson, (520) 628-7223. SAAF is located at 375 South Euclid Avenue, two blocks south of Broadway.

Improvements To St. Francis G/L Support

TUCSON — The Thursday night Gay/Lesbian Support Group sponsored by the Reconciling Committee at St. Francis in the Foothills United Methodist Church is now the Rainbow Community Support Group.

The name Rainbow Community was chosen in order to be more inclusive. They have also strengthened this 12-year-old group by revising the community brochure and facilitator guidelines. While there is a social component to this group, the primary purpose is for people to have a safe and support place to share personal situations/life happenings.

The group meets every Thursday, 7:30 P.M. to 9:00 P.M., in Room 43 at St. Francis in the Foothills, 4625 East River Road. (NW corner of Swan and River). If you would like to attend, but have some questions about the group, contact Davey, (520) 886-1208. There will be a short orientation/training overview for new facilitators Tuesday, October 5. If interested in becoming a facilitator, please call Susan at the church office (520) 299-9063.



IN MEMORIAM



LOUIS ROBERT MARTINEZ

Louis Robert Martinez, 28, went to be with our Lord on September 18, 1999. Survived by his loving parents, Armando and Angelina Martinez; brother Robert (Francine); grandmother, Josefina M. Martinez, Trisha Koblinsky, a very special friend since kindergarden and care giver; many other relatives and friends also survive.

Mass will be held Saturday, September 25, 9:00 A.M. at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 215 S. Craycroft.

We all love and miss you.

Position Open At SAAF

TUCSON — The Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) is seeking an individual for the following position:

Gay Men's Health Project Coordinator: Experienced prevention specialist sought to coordinate an HIV prevention and health promotion project for Gay and Bisexual men in Southern Arizona. Applicants should be familiar with Gay bar culture and prevention program implementation. Salary range: \$23-27K; excellent benefits.

To apply, pick up job description and applications instructions, Monday through Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., at 375 South Euclid or call (520) 628-7223 to have them faxed to you. Open until filled. AA/EOE

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Electronic Observer on the World Wide Web
: <http://bonzo.com/observer>
E-Mail: watcher@azstarnet.com

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Guests

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of Revelle Gay Men's Chorus & TakeV

Ms. Mimi

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Girls II Men

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Danielle

currently of "Rags" at Borderlands Theatre

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Marsha Stevens In MCC Concert Sept. 25-26

TUCSON — Hymn writer, evangelist and soloist Marsha Stevens will be concert at Water of Life MCC, Saturday, September 25, 7:00 P.M.

Marsha will also be singing at both Sunday services on September 26. Stevens is a well-known and popular in Tucson with her concerts. She is the composer of "For Those Tears I Died," a standard of Christian hymnals since 1972. The Gay Music Guide has rated her last two releases as among the top 20 albums of 1995 and 1996. Considered shocking by some and comforting by others, among the deeply personal songs she performs are "The Body of Christ has AIDS," and "Love is the Only Law."

Water of Life MCC is located at 3269 N. Mountain Avenue. For more information, call the church office, (520) 292-9151.



Marsha Stevens

'Turnabout' For TIHAN Sept. 25

TUCSON — The time has really come! This Saturday, September 25, is the third annual Turnabout for TIHAN fund raiser at the Stonewall/Eagle. Turnabout, one of Tucson's grandest shows of the year, is also one of the biggest fund raisers in support of the Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network.

For those benefit, the management and staff of Stonewall/Eagle "turnabout," they put on a dress, wing, makeup and perform a hilarious show. All the money raised from pledges, tips and raffles goes to support HIV/AIDS education and direct services through TIHAN.

"TIHAN is a great organization, and Turnabout is our way of saying 'thank you' and being part of a community-wide response," stated David Zinke, manager of the Stonewall/Eagle. "We all have a great time, and guarantee that you will, too!"

There is no cover charge for concert seating for the show, but guaranteed reserved seats are \$5 (in advance). The doors open on Saturday at 6:00 P.M., with the complimentary hors d'oeuvres at 6:30 P.M., and showtime at 8:00 P.M., at the Stonewall/Eagle, 2921 North First Avenue.

"Turnabout is a great show, and it stems from the great spirit of our community," said Scott Blades, TIHAN's Executive Director. In the Spirit of the Stonewall rebellion, these bar employees take time out once a year, put on their finest dresses and perform for an important cause — TIHAN's HIV education programs and services in support of people living with HIV/AIDS. We greatly appreciate their support, and all their hard work."

Last year, Stonewall/Eagle employees raised over \$3,500 — mainly through pledges from friends and customers. This year, their goal is to raise \$5,000! Saturday's show promises to build upon past successes, with several new twists:

For the first time, the show will be televised throughout the club (and outside on the patio) by closed circuit TV.

Also, there will be a raffle drawing with many prizes, including a CD Stereo System (courtesy of Circuit City) and selection of Gay CD's (from Borders), a one night stay at the Super 8/Comfort Suites Motel, and a variety of gift certificates for dinner, hair care, entertainment and more! Raffle tickets are available now, and sell for \$1 each, or six for \$5.

Also new this year is the "Penny Pig" Guessing Game. Bring in your pennies from home — each cent collected goes

to TIHAN. Then, on September at midnight, they will seal the Penny Pig and start selling entry forms so you can guess how many pennies are in the "Penny Pig" container. The person who comes closest to the actual number, without going over, wins the Grand Prize: Dinner for two at a fabulous local restaurant, movie passes for two, and an overnight stay at the Best Western Jacuzzi Inn Suites Hotel. Buy your three guesses for \$1.

For all these fund raising events, you need not be present to win, but you won't get to see your favorite bar's staff in drag, and of course you won't have nearly as much fun!

For more information about this comedy/entertainment show, call the Stonewall/Eagle at (520) 624-8805 or TIHAN, (520) 299-6647.

Cabaret Night Fundraiser Sept. 24

TUCSON — On Friday, September 24, there will be a "Cabaret Night" fund raiser for the 1999 Tucson Lesbian and Gay Film Festival at STARS Piano Lounge, starting at 8:00 P.M.

The evening will be hosted by the effervescent Lucinda Holliday. Entertainment guests include: Greg Stickroth of Revelle Gay Men's Chorus and Take V, pianist extraordinaire Mini Armstrong, Drag Kings - Girls II Men, Danielle - currently starring in "Rags" at Borderlands Theatre and many surprise guests.

There will be speciality cocktails and hors d'oeuvres served. There will also be a raffle for some fabulous prizes, such as get-a-ways to Alpine Lodge on Mt. Lemmon, collections of Lisa Oley CD's, silver jewelry by artist Darryl Edwards, G/L themed videos from Culture Q Connection, computer equipment, framed art work, Festival Producer Passes and much more.

Raffle tickets are \$1 and can be bought from Festival Committee Members and from Brian at STARS. There is no entrance fee, but donations will cheerfully be taken at the door.



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Look for the AIDSWALK '99 Program in the Oct. 14 issue of the



'HOMOVision' Tucson Annual Gay and Lesbian Film Festival To Run Oct. 16 - 24

TUCSON — Tucson's annual Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, which runs October 16-24, will feature two critically acclaimed films on its bill.

On Friday, October 22, 7:00 P.M., "Better Than Chocolate" will be run at the Loft Cinema, 3233 East Speedway.

You've read all the press and we got it. A terrifically entertaining/romantic comedy by award winning director Anne Wheeler, that tackles the age-old theme of love with exuberance and gusto. The story centers on two women who fall hopelessly in lust with each other allowing us to witness the love that evolves. A weaving of all the passages we go through as we find and define our sexual selves. The mother who doesn't have a clue, the brother who seeks his own identity, the boss frustrated with love, and a bundle of eclectic friends that fill out the plot. Note the rich soundtrack with music from established artists such as Sarah McLachlan and Ani DiFranco. BTC is a rollicking story that takes you far, far away to a land filled with color,

music, sex, love and romance.

The next day, Saturday, October 23, at 8:00 P.M., "Edge of Seventeen" will be shown at the International Arts Center, 516 North Fifth Avenue.

Culture Club, Eurythmics, the Go-Go's, yep we had the beat. We had the hair products, glitter, and make-up too. The invention of "lair mousse"-what a concept. This film takes us back to the summer of 1984 which is about as 80's as the 80's ever got. We get involved with Eric Hunter from Sandusky, Ohio as he heads to the Edge of Seventeen. His first attraction to another boy, the confusion, the guilt, and the exhilaration of self discovery and all that goes with it. This charming, sensitive and hysterical "right of passage" film work is one we all can identify with no matter what gender or generation we come from. A very strong cast, headed by Lea DeLaria as the "fag hag" of all "fag hags". You'll laugh - you'll cry - you'll add more mousse.

For more information, please call (520) 624-1779.



Christina Cox and Karyn Dwyer star in "Better Than Chocolate", part of the Tucson Lesbian and Gay Film Festival at the Loft Cinema, Friday, October 23rd at 7:00 p.m. One Night Only!

"ONE OF THE BEST GAY COMEDIES in many a moon!"

-Bob Graham, San Francisco Chronicle



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HOMOVision 99 presents Eric (Chris Stafford) and Angie (Lea DeLaria) in the romantic coming-of-age tale "Edge Of Seventeen", Saturday, October 23rd at the International Arts Center.

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As previously reported, the Army is investigating state Rep. Steve May, R-Phoenix, (a Lieutenant in the Army Reserves) over testimony delivered before the House Government Reform Committee, in February, over HB 2524, a bill to prohibit the extension of benefits to the unmarried domestic partner's of government employees.

The Army contends the testimony given by May violates the "don't ask, don't tell" policy on Gays and Lesbians serving in the military. When May delivered his remarks, after the hate-filled and homophobic testimony of state Rep. Karen Johnson, R-Mesa, he was on inactive status, a civilian. He was called to active duty in April during the Kosovo crisis. Does the policy apply in this case? We'll know in three months, when the Army reviews the findings from the investigation of the "anonymous complaint."

While the Army reviews, some other movement on the developing story to report on. The letter sent to President Clinton, as first reported, by Representatives Tom Campbell, R-CA, and Barney Frank, D-MA, is picking up support with, as of press time, more than 70 members of both houses of Congress signed on. Their letter urges President Clinton to instruct the Department of Defense to drop their investigation of state Rep. Steve May.

What about the Arizona delegation?

When reached for comment by this reporter, Rep. Ed Pastor, D-CD 2, stated he was signing on to the letter.

Rep. Jim Kolbe, R-CD 5, also stated that he had signed on to the letter as well. He added that, "Everyone agrees the policy of 'Don't ask; don't tell' is a total failure - on both sides of the argument. It has not kept Gays out of the military and it hasn't reduced the amount of harassment or

POLITICS 1999
by Mark R. Kerr

"This Just In. . . Almost!"

abuse of the policy that is so flawed continues to be the 'law of the land.' It needs to be abolished, and I will say so if and when asked."

So what about the nation's commander and chief?

Sources at the White House said President Clinton has seen the letter and turned it over to Defense Secretary William Cohen, to review May's case. . . .

The Arizona Human Rights Fund, the Victory Fund and the Log Cabin Republicans are holding a fund raiser for Steve May, Wednesday, September 29, at 6625 McDonald Drive in Paradise Valley. The suggested donation range is \$50 to \$256. For more information and directions, please call the Arizona Human Rights Fund, (602) 650-0900.

If you are not able to attend, send a contribution to Steve May's campaign. Make checks (up to \$256) out to "May 2000." Send those checks to May 2000, 2303 N. 44th St., PMB 14-393, Phoenix, AZ 85008-9927. . . .

A great deal was made this past summer about the moderation of views of the Republican presidential wannabees, pertaining to Gays and Lesbians. Many Gay and Lesbian activists stated their pleasure over the perceived change. Editorials in national newspapers proclaimed a new beginning for the party of Lincoln

Now in the autumn, and only just more than a year from the actual national election, are the candidates for the Republican presidential nod, holding up or are

their true colors showing?

When asked recently, by an anti-Gay activist and newspaper publisher, about his views on a number of Gay rights issues, Texas Gov. George W. Bush, the front-runner for the GOP nod, said that he believes marriage is "between a man and woman and therefore does not believe in Gay marriages." Bush said that he is also opposed to adoption by Gay couples because he "believes children ought to be adopted in families with a man and a woman who are married."

The Governor went on to say that he believes the New Jersey Supreme Court "was wrong" when it struck down the Boy Scouts' ban on Gays and Lesbians in the organization. According to Bush, "the Boy Scouts is a private organization and they should be able to set their own standards."

Another wannabee, the former head of the American Red Cross, Elizabeth Dole, said in a recent interview that she is opposed to Gay couples' adopting children. Also in the interview, Dole expressed opposition to abortion, except in cases of rape, incest and danger to the mother's life. She also stated her support for displaying the Ten Commandments in public places, including schools.

With recent surveys showing self-identified Gays and Lesbians representing 5% of the national voting electorate, you would think the leading GOP presidential candidates would "get the picture."

What about the Democratic contenders? Have they learned or is it just the usual pandering?

Former Democrat New Jersey Senator Bill Bradley, rising in recent polls for the Democratic presidential nomination, stated in an interview that he would eliminate the "don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue" measure governing Gays and Lesbians serving in the military and would allow Gays and Lesbians to serve openly.

In the interview, Bradley affirmed that sexual orientation should be given the same protections from discrimination under the 1964 Civil Rights Act. "That would clearly indicate that discrimination against Gays is in the same category as discrimination against other protected groups."

The former New York Knick also spoke out against the anti-Gay marriage measure on the California ballot, set to be voted on in March 2000, known as the Knight Initiative. "While I'm against Gay marriage, if I was voter in California, I would not support the Knight initiative because I think it's divisive and because I don't think a referendum is the place for this kind of an initiative."

Bradley's interview forced Vice President Al Gore, the front-runner for the Democratic nomination, to take a position on the Knight Initiative. In an interview, Gore said he would "have to study the proposal." After Bradley's statements, Gore now stated that he now opposes it.

That's okay, but what about Bradley's vote, as a Senator, in support of the Defense of Marriage Act? For that matter what about Gore's continued support of "don't ask, don't tell?" . . .

The homophobic Rev. Fred Phelps of the Westboro Baptist Church, located in Topeka, Kansas, who gets more mileage from press releases than making actual appearances, stated in another press release that he will make an appearance in Phoenix, to burn an Arizona flag on the steps of

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY

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T HOROSCOPES

BY C. LICHTENSTEIN

Feisty Mercury ambles into graceful Libra this week, changing our minds like the wind and encouraging us to focus on new obsessions. Feeling particularly mouthy, comrade? Check your sign to see where you can shoot from the lip or where it's best to keep your mouth shut.

ARIES

MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

Mercury's movement into diplomatic Libra opens up the lines of communications with partners. Got a problem Gay Rambo? Before you decide to butt heads and make demands, try to use this easy planetary transit to oil the wheels of accord and not skid the relationship. Negotiate, dear queer Aries, and don't dominate. (Unless, of course, partners prefer it that way)

TAURUS

APRIL 21 - MAY 21

If you've been examining yourself sideways in the mirror lately, chalk it up to perceptive Mercury in image conscious Libra. Proud Bulls have a way of piling on the pounds with their good food and fine wines. Concentrate on revamping your diet and exercise. The possibilities are endless even though swimsuit season appears to be waning. Perhaps Key West is the key?

GEMINI

MAY 22 - JUNE 21

Queer Twins usually enjoy the occasional mind game and now you can play to your heart's content. Mercury in Libra inspires creative thinking to solve old intractable problems. Tickle your Gay muse and see where it takes you. Get your grey matter thinking in rainbow colors. Don't waste this fabulousness on slothful practical jokes, cousin; Use it for practical purposes.

CANCER

JUNE 22 - JULY 23

It's so easy for pink Crabs to hide in their shells and avoid frank discussions with homophobic relatives, but now is not the time to take the easy route, compadre. Demand respect; Mercury in Libra pours on the diplomacy, clear thinking and drive. What excuse is there to remain closeted from family? If they don't like it, that's just tough. Live your proud life. You gotta be you.

LEO

JULY 24 - AUGUST 23

If you are ready to let out a roar or five, thank sociable Mercury in Libra which directs your petty tantrums to more productive outlets. Proud Leos are not shy about expressing their opinions and at least now you get a couple of important folks to even listen to your whines. Hint: Allow the lines of communication to function in two directions. Seek feedback as well as give it.

VIRGO

AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23

Queer Virgins have a way of keeping a beady little eye on their finances when Mercury enters Libra. This is not a bad thing. In fact, this can be especially profitable for those with a particular interest or goal. (like retirement?) Talk to a financial advisor or do your own homework. Gather all relevant facts and read the fine print. It's never too late to become the next Gay Paul Getty.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23

Mercury in your own sign gives your thoughts and words powerful impact. Couple that good fortune with the ability to maneuver easily through any social circle and your mission is obviously clear; It is time to get the great Gay word Out and about! You've been elected our community spokesperson (or is it mouthpiece?) and there isn't anyone more appropriate or deserving.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22

Perceptive pink Scorps intensify their intuitive powers when contemplative Mercury traverses optimistic Libra. Gaze deeply into your crystal ball and see what the future can bring. If you don't like what you see, try to appease the goddesses by generously volunteering for one of our great Gay causes (are there any others?). It's never too late to pile on the good karma or spread it around.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22

Amiable Archers feel an affirming surge when zesty Mercury ambles into sociable Libra. You ache to join a club or become a member of a new, interesting group. Thankfully, your ability to plan the perfect social event will help you open doors of opportunity everywhere. This is marvelous as long as you don't open the door to the Pat Buchanan for President headquarters.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20

Grab for the professional gold when clever Mercury crosses into easy going, diplomatic Libra. Strategic Gay Caps make their corporate presence known in a non-threatening way; Be the iron fist in a velvet glove. Someone in authority is listening and looking out for you. Who knows? You may just receive the key to the corporate washroom and it won't be to scrub the floors, Cinderella.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19

Aqueerians successfully plan an extraordinary vacation when Mercury enters Libra. You're hankering to expand your global Outreach. Use this astute time to tend to the nitty gritty details and all should go well. If money is tight, picture yourself embarking on explorations closer to home like an evening chock-a-block with exotic tidbits - food, music and folks. See what develops.

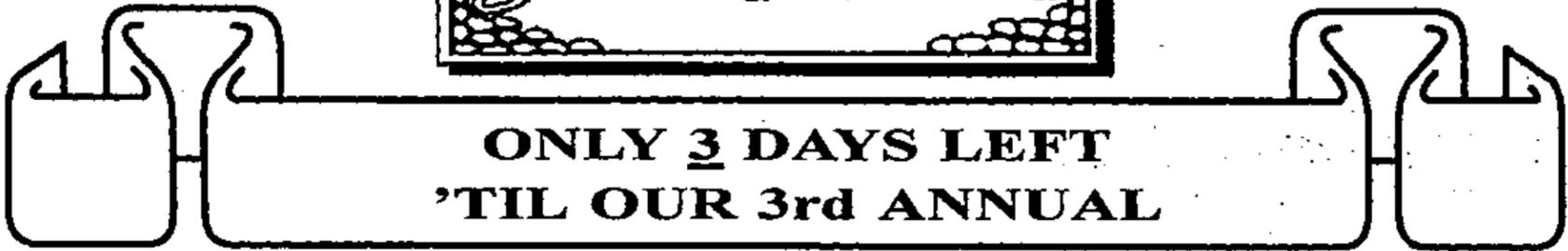
PISCES

FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

Zesty Mercury in sociable Libra pokes the smoldering embers of your passion into a raging fire. Steaming rainbow Fish can use this lucky turn of events to plan their line of attack on any intended target. Libra is a rather acrobatic placement and your thoughts are only limited by your, ahem, creativity. What's this I hear about a jar of borscht, a feather bon and a soft boiled egg??

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, P.O.B. 1726, Old Chelsea Station, NY, 10011.





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Vote For Me For Tucson Mayor!

Greetings registered voters, it is an honor to write this advertisement, disguised as a press release, convinces you that I am the most logical choice to serve as your voice in our government. I sincerely hope that by seeing my name attached to this article, you will blindly vote for me, regardless of my lack of any real leadership ability. If you are not registered to vote in this election, or refuse to participating in the voting process, stop reading this immediately! Your opinions don't concern me, and I could care less about your support, since it won't get me elected anyway.

This article is intended to reach the handful of people, who have enough spare time to actually participate in the electoral process. In all honesty, I have enough to worry about with confusing the voters who are paying attention, without wasting my valuable time recruiting the uninterested.

I know that my announcement to run, this late in the game, may appear as a last minute decision, but this opportunity only recently came to my attention. It has become obvious that there are no candidates who stand apart from the others. So instead of flipping a coin to decide which candidate you want to screw you over, elect me! At least that way you know what to expect. I really do believe, considering my opposition, I am truly the best candidate for the position.

As a professional drag queen, I have the most experience, in creating a believable illusion. I can be anything that you want me to be. You can depend on me to change according to your wants at any given moment. I can even give you options to choose from, regardless of what you may want.

I was asked if I was a Republican or a Democrat, my response is, what do you

want me to be. I consider myself to be a candidate for the people. I can be a liberal Republican or a conservative Democrat. It all depends on what you want me to be. I promise to be exactly what you want me to be... at least for as long as I'm talking to you.

I also have experience with set design and special effects. I promise to make our city look a lot better. It may not actually be better, but at least it will appear to be better. "A little powder, a little paint, make it look like what it ain't."

I was asked by the media, "How do you stand on CAP water?" My response, "The same way I stand on every other type of water, I just put one foot in front of the other. Walking on water is easy, once you realize that you are more important than all the insignificant people who voted you into office.

As far as Tucson's impending water crisis, my position on CAP water is simple. Why not blend CAP water with a well aged bourbon? I've always felt that water should never be consumed by itself. Water is a mixer, and of course ice cubes are extremely important to making the perfect cocktail. Drink water by itself is a complete waste of resources.

Considering that our ground water could be put to use in so many more important ways, like mining operations, agriculture and, just a suggestion, filling a man made lake for recreational purposes. "Move to the desert for it's natural beauty,

and immediately start making changes." That's my motto. After all, what's the use in moving to a desert if you can't change the natural landscape to fit your needs.

My official position on the endangered pygmy owl is quite simple. Darwin's theory of evolution works! If a particular species is unable to exist in an area that we find unusable, then I say, let nature take its course. Like my father used to say, "s**t or get off the pot!" If you can't evolve enough to survive when the going gets tough, asta la vista baby. Survival of the fittest. You want to make it this world, evolve! Why should we stop our progress just because you can't move somewhere else?

Another one of the questions that was asked was: Would I appoint someone to a position, who was qualified to perform the job, that was also an openly Gay, Lesbian or Transgendered person? My response is, of course I would. Or at least I would say I would. Lets fact it, saying no would be political suicide. A person's personal lifestyle should have absolutely no affect on their ability to perform a job... as long as they keep their personal life to themselves. But please, don't expect any special treatment simply because you choose to live a deviant lifestyle. What you do in the privacy of your own home is your business, just don't force your immoral behavior on everyone else. Don't talk about you "significant other," and please refrain from displaying affection in front of others who might feel uncomfortable about it. And above all, regardless of what we (as your government) might say about our position

on domestic partners benefits, please remember, just because we say we are in support of it, doesn't mean that we are actually willing to make it happen.

After all, we do have our re-elections to think about.

So in closing, I think I've figured out how this whole political game works. I'll say exactly what you want to hear from me, depending, of course on who I'm talking to. I'll stand up for what I know is right, until I'm opposed of course. If I come up against something that is too controversial, I'll avoid my positions until I can figure out which side is the most beneficial to my re-election. And above all, I promise to not make waves in our city council. In other words, I promise to keep business as usual.

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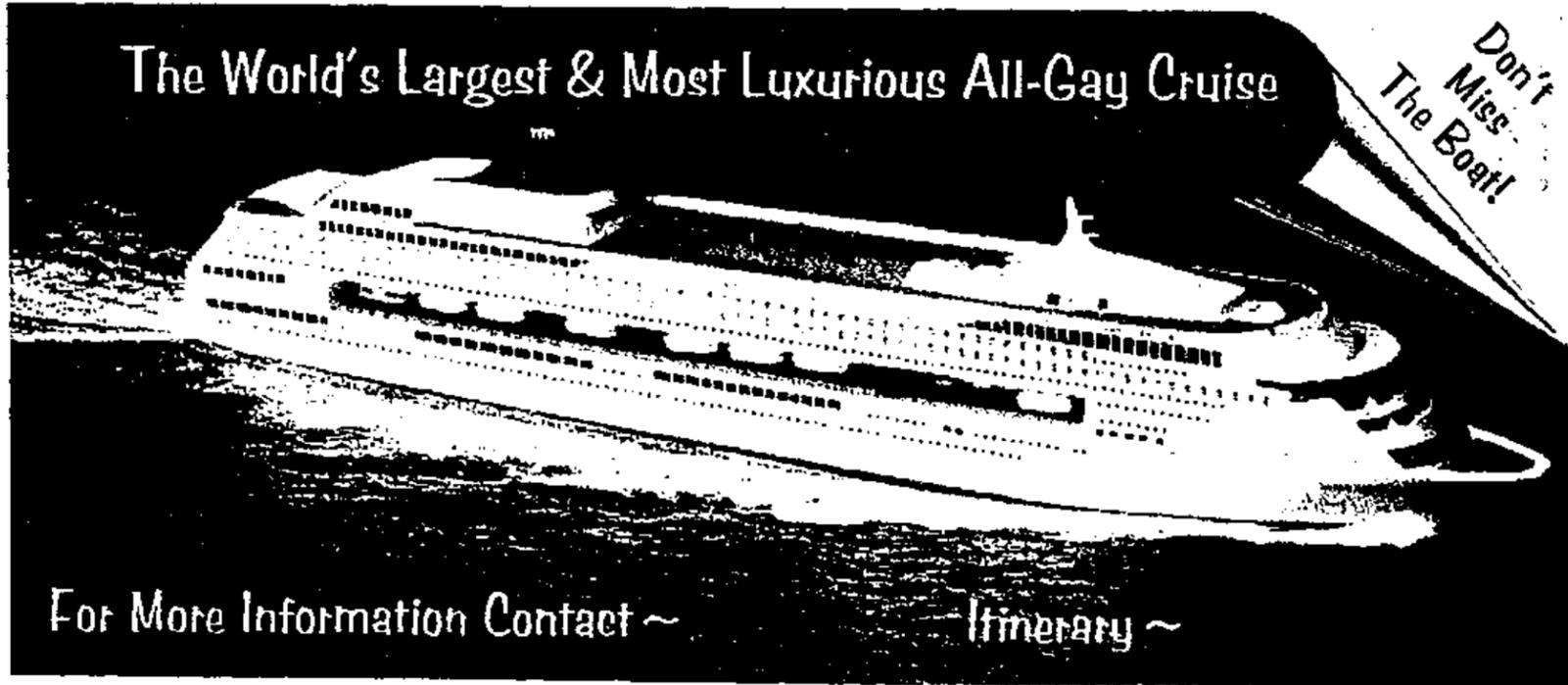
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2/3	Puerto Plata	10am	5pm
2/4	At Sea		
2/5	Private Island	11am	6pm
2/6	Miami	7am	—

Itinerary is preliminary and subject to change.

Courting The Gay & Lesbian Vote

Continued from Page One

factory response. While Presidential candidates are going out of their way to solicit support from Lesbians and Gays in the run-up to the 2000 election, their enthusiasm for votes and campaign contributions is not always matched by a willingness to do right by the targeted voters. As a result, some activists simply turn off to politics, while others struggle to discern subtle distinctions between candidates who speak in the same stilted—some would even say coded—political language. Elizabeth Birch, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest Gay and Lesbian political group, describes Gore's relationship with the community as "solid and deep" while she says Bradley "is not a stand-out" when it comes to advocacy for Lesbian and Gay rights. Yet, neither the Vice President nor his only serious rival for the Democratic nomination can claim to have adopted some positions that are clearly within the mainstream of current Lesbian and Gay rights advocacy.

As an example, both men supported the 1996 federal Defense of Marriage Act, designed by the Christian right to bar Lesbians and Gays from marrying and to stir up anti-Gay sentiment at the state and national levels. When asked during their June tours of California about an upcoming state vote on an anti-Gay marriage ballot proposal, both candidates shied away from the issue. Gore produced nothing more than a pledge to study the California initiative before taking a stand.

National Gay and Lesbian Task Force political director Rebecca Isaacs calls Gore's position "incredibly unhelpful and disappointing." Similarly, when Gore proposed in May to direct more federal dollars to "faith-based" groups, Lesbian and Gay activists joined People for the American Way and the Interfaith Alliance in raising serious concerns about whether taxpayer dollars would end up funding religious organizations that promote anti-Gay messages.

Despite lingering frustrations, however, the 2000 Presidential campaign is fundamentally different from its predecessors. Never before have candidates competed so openly or so vigorously for the votes of America's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered community. Even if they are not ready to take bold stands, Gore and Bradley are both pursuing major efforts to recruit support, seeding their campaign staffs with Lesbians and Gay men, sitting for extended interviews with Lesbian and Gay publications, and tailoring schedules and positions to appeal to an electorate that in some key primaries could contribute 10 percent or more of the vote. The two Democratic candidates have pledged to recruit historic numbers of Gay and Lesbian delegates to the 2000 Democratic National Convention.

"The days when the Gay and Lesbian community had to court candidates—when we had to hope that they would pose for pictures with us or circulate a position paper that didn't say very much—are over," says Urvasi Vaid, director of the New York-based Policy Institute of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. "They're coming to us now. From the perspective of just a few years ago, it's extraordinary to be able to say that we have major contenders who are going out of their way to reach our community. We're not begging the Presidential candidates and their campaigns for recognition; they're begging Gays and Lesbians for votes and for money."

That was obvious in July, when Tipper Gore was the featured speaker at the

first-ever Washington fund raising event organized by a Presidential campaign specifically to raise money from the Lesbian and Gay community. "All people, regardless of sexual orientation, should be able to be a part of a loving relationship in a family without fear of recrimination or discrimination," she told a crowd that contributed \$150,000 to her husband's campaign. Before the event ended, she was promising that her husband, as President, would "fight for your dreams. He will fight for our dreams."

The pursuit of the Gay and Lesbian vote does not stop with the Democrats. While the most conservative GOP contenders—former Vice President Dan Quayle, commentator Pat Buchanan, and Christian right activist Gary Bauer—continue to spout anti-Gay rhetoric, the campaigns of Republican front runners George W. Bush, Elizabeth Dole, and John McCain have cautiously reached out to GOP-linked Gay and Lesbian organizations.

The Log Cabin Republicans, the party's largest Gay and Lesbian grouping, may have gone a bit overboard when—following an oblique reference by the Texas governor to his willingness to appoint qualified people—they sent out an April press release headlined: Bush Takes Big Step in Favor of Gay Rights. But there is no denying that Bush has, at most turns, refused the harsh anti-Gay positioning demanded by the religious right. He has even been quoted as personally pledging to Washington, D.C., Gay Republican activist Carl Schmid, "I will always treat [Lesbians and Gays] with respect, and that is what you deserve."

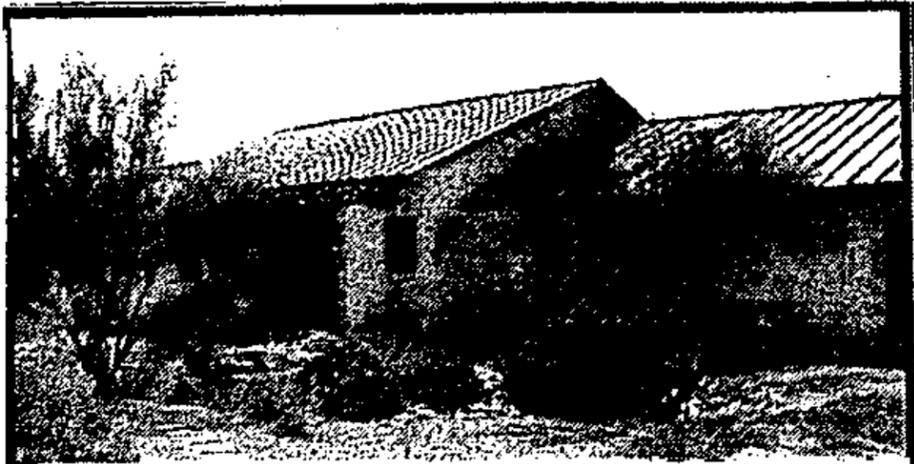
To the consternation of the Christian Coalition, Dole and McCain (who rank second and third in most polls) have also been preaching the big-tent rhetoric that almost disappeared from the GOP lexicon following the 1994 Gingrich revolution. "They may not be saying a lot of what we want to hear, but they're trying to put some distance between themselves and the radical right," explains Vaid. "A willingness to, at the least, say that you won't discriminate against Gays and Lesbians has become a litmus test for candidates who want to establish their moderate credentials—which is important for Republicans who want to compete in November."

The rationale for this broadened appeal to Gays and Lesbians is understandable. Exit polls following the 1998 Congressional elections indicated that 5 percent of voters identified as Gay or Lesbian. In some key states, the numbers were significantly higher. And that, argues Mixner, is only the beginning. "The 'Gay vote' goes a lot further than the Gay and Lesbian community," he explains. "When one of us comes out of the closet, we bring three or four votes with us. When I came out, my parents, my relatives, my friends suddenly became a lot more aware of the need to vote for candidates who support Gay and Lesbian rights. If I say to someone who loves me, 'Look, you can't vote for this candidate because he would deny me basic rights or he would use his office to encourage violence against me,' they get it."

Mixner's view is supported by Democratic polling that suggests one in seven of the votes Bill Clinton collected in his 1992 Presidential run came from people who voted for him because of indications that he would support Lesbian and Gay rights initiatives.

But can Republicans really be serious when they make subtle appeals for

CONTINUED ON PAGE NINETEEN



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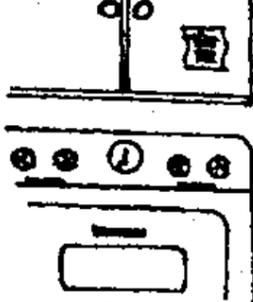
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Wingspan Celebrates 11th Anniversary

Continued from Page One

testing and giving other community groups a place to meet. Funds raised will also help the center sponsor, the annual AIDS candlelight memorial and the Tucson Gay and Lesbian Film Festival.

In his speech, Tucson Mayor George Miller told the audience that they had a lot to be proud of with all that has been accomplished, especially the recently formed City of Tucson GLBT commission, but the community must continue the work to ensure their rights. He said the city was one of the first in the nation to have a GLBT commission as a formal part of government. Miller said he was confident that the community will make sure the commission will continue to "grow and gain strength."

The presentation of 1999 Godat award followed Miller's address. It was initiated last year to honor a person who has made a long-lasting commitment to improving the quality of life for all Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender residents of Tucson. This year's honoree was Jean Baker, a longtime Tucson psychologist, author and social activist.

Baker was honored for founding Wingspan's support group for Gay and Lesbian teens, after her two sons revealed they were Gay and one of them also revealed they had AIDS and died from the dreaded disease. She also does outreach to schools, speaking 10 to 12 times a year, to raise awareness about homophobia and its effect on families, making sure an opportunity doesn't go by to educate kids.

In addition to her commitment to

**Phoenix Body Positive To
Provide HIV Services,
Support Programs To
Casa Grande**

PHOENIX — Phoenix Body Positive (PBP) has organized a pilot program to provide weekly HIV services in Casa Grande, which begin on September 15.

The combination of HIV education classes, support groups, one-on-one counseling and nutritional education will be the first program of its kind in Pinal County.

In Casa Grande, the services and programs designed to assist men, women and children, infected and affected by HIV will take place at SunLife Family Health Care, 865 N. Arizona Road.

"There is a tremendous gap in HIV services in Pinal County," said PBP Program Manager Michelle Barker. "Compounding the problem is the transportation issue. Now, we will be able to provide assistance in their own community."

A PBP staff member will travel to Casa Grande each week, and a registered dietician also will be on hand for nutritional counseling. As part of the program, qualifying individuals will receive up to \$30 a month in free vitamin and herb supplements. Eligibility will be based on income.

Interested individuals can scheduled appointments by call (800) 831-3809.



youth, Baker current sits on the Mayor's GLBT Task Force and is a member of the Wingspan Board of Directors.

Receiving the award, after a standing ovation, Baker stated that "she was quite overwhelmed and that it is an amazing honor that she never expected." She added that she "hoped that she would live to see sexual minorities have the same rights as all citizens and to live to see homophobia deemed an unacceptable prejudice."

Kerry Lobel, the executive director of NGLTF gave the keynote address. Lobel stated that she was pleased to be in Tucson, especially with the unprecedented accomplishments for the GLBT community, including the most recent, the City of Tucson GLBT Commission. "Cities across the state and nation could follow Tucson's lead," she added.

Lobel went on to state that there are many challenging opportunities ahead for the GLBT community, many of which will be accomplished at the local and state levels of government, with that the nation will be transformed.

She stated that she was very proud of Wingspan, one of her five favorite GLBT community centers in the nation, the Arizona Human Rights Fund, the statewide Gay and Lesbians political action group, and Tucson for the work they have done and accomplished.

Tucson's GLBT community was proud too, and showed it that day

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185 South Main Avenue
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Desert Vision

The Rhythm Of The Morning

Another day begins. Having gotten my morning fill of coffee, I stopped at a monastery chapel for a time of meditation. Nourished by the peaceful stillness of meditation, I continue my morning ritual: a half-hour's walk in the park.

Now that school is back in session, the park has returned to its familiar tranquility. Over the summer months, there was an activities program for kids in the park. Each morning, the young people gathered for things like softball and soccer. With school back in session, it's just me and a couple of dogs who make sure that their owners are properly exercised.

It's not quite 8:00 A.M. as the last of the sprinklers turn off, leaving the grass moist and fresh. As I walk several laps around the park, my steps form a pace that continue to balance and settle me. This morning time is invigorating for me.

Yes, this time in the morning is important to me. The rhythm of prayer and exercise helps attune me to the spirit of life within and around me. The balance of both activities fosters within me an awareness of the rich wholeness that forms the magical fabric of life.

Sometimes my walk gives me time to focus on specific projects I have that day. It's occasionally during these walks that I mentally outline articles like these, sort out how to best work with a client, or organize my thoughts for a class that I'm teaching. Those aren't bad things to do on my morning walk. But the real gift of my time walking occurs when I'm not using the time for planning. The real gift of walking each morning comes when I'm present to life in the park.

This morning, the ground was soft under my feet from the hard rain of last night. The air was especially sweet. Perhaps the rain brought fresh blooms to a plant I'm not familiar with. But mostly today, it's the birds and butterflies that have my attention.

Several small orangish-yellow desert butterflies flutter close to the ground. I suspect that they like this park because it's one of the few places for them to find wide-open grass. This morning they seem to dance to a silent song, making circular flights of fancy, stopping to rest occasion-

ally on taller blades of grass. If I could only be so carefree and not take life so seriously! They remind me to trust the cycle of life and nature that orders the lives of all creatures.

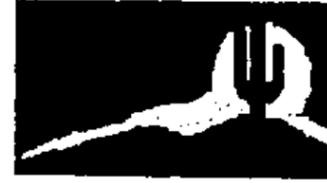
The birds seem to have extra energy this morning. They fly in small flocks, landing for a brief time in one spot, then flitting off to the next. A dog runs into their midst and they fly off for the safety of a tree. As they pick at the ground looking for food and sip water from the puddles along the walking trail, I am reminded of their basic trust in life: yes, everything that is needed has been provided. The birds of the air remind me of those simple lessons.

The best mornings in the park are when I simply allow myself to be in tune with the wonder of nature around me. There are many lessons to be learned from the simple winged and four-legged creatures who makes this place their home. Perhaps most important are the gentle reminders to slow down and stay in tune with the cycle of life. It's so easy to get caught up in the frantic pace and find one's spirit slipping away. Taking time each day for my morning ritual of meditation and walking helps to keep me balance and give me the focus I need for the day.

It's not long before my walk in the park comes to an end. It's time to get home and shower before heading to the office for an appointment. I turn down Speedway and am jarred by the rush of traffic. Yes, school is back in session. It seems as though overnight the number of cars in Tucson doubled.

As cars weave from one lane to another, with a slow car in the fast lane and a fast car trying to push ahead in the slow lane, we're all stopped a few yards ahead by a changing light. I'm glad that I'm able to take the balance of my morning time with me. I smile to myself and wonder: what would this busy morning traffic be like if more people took time each day to be focused and centered.

[Louis F. Kavar, Ph.D., is a counselor, hypnotherapist, and spiritual director in private practice in Tucson. He can be contacted at (520) 290-1591 or by e-mail at LouKavar@aol.com.]



Water of Life

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e-mail WOLMCC@aol.com <http://members.tripod.com/~WaterofLifeMCC>

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1 John 4:9-11



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AS I SEE IT..... BY CLARK

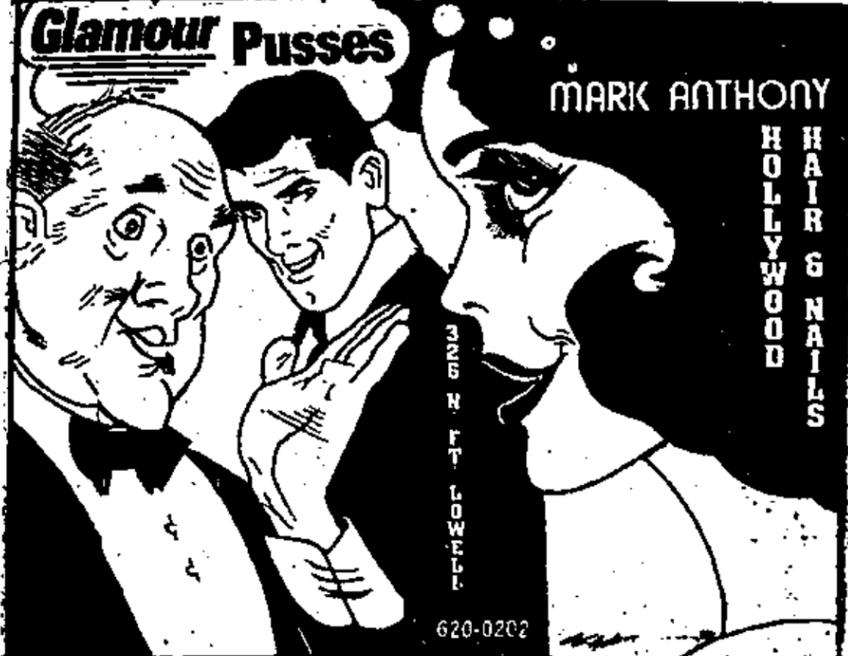


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	Won	Lost	Pct
Tres Amigos	3.0	1.0	.750
Daddy's Boys	3.0	1.0	.750
Five	3.0	1.0	.750
Helen	3.0	1.0	.750
Bear, Pig & Tongue	3.0	1.0	.750
That's Us!	2.0	2.0	.500
Pappy & Youngins	2.0	2.0	.500
3 R-RU 2	2.0	2.0	.500
Two	2.0	2.0	.500
Mary Poppers	2.0	2.0	.500
One	2.0	2.0	.500
Three Way	1.0	3.0	.250
Eight	1.0	3.0	.250
Sixteen	1.0	3.0	.250
The Eagles	1.0	3.0	.250
Gutter Snipes	1.0	3.0	.250

High Series Handicap - Heather H., 588; Keith D., 599; Tres Amigos, 1767.

High Game Handicap - Bob D., 241; Nancy L., 215; One, 641.

DESERT COYOTES LOOKING FOR MORE TO JOIN THE PACK!

TUCSON — Have you heard the howling going on at 9:00 P.M., last Wednesday, at 1010 W. Miracle Mile? It was the Desert Coyotes bowling league having a great time, starting their new season at Golden Pin Lanes.

People are having so much fun, that another team of bowlers joined Tucson's Wednesday Gay and Lesbian bowling league. The league is looking for some more bowlers to fill out the eighteenth team in the league and to fill a position on another team in the league.

SEASON ACHIEVEMENTS

High Average - Keith D., 199; Tres Amigos, 496; Heather H., 162.

High Series Scratch - Heather H., 486; Keith D., 599; Tres Amigos, 1491.

High Game Scratch - That's Us!, 512; Heather H., 173; Jeffrey T., 226.

It costs \$10 a week to bowling in the league, plus a sanction fee. Skill is not important, having a good time is the prerequisite. Averages range from 100 to 200 in the Desert Coyotes league. If interested, just show up a few minutes before the 9:00 P.M. start time on Wednesday. For more information, please call (520) 628-7834.

Entertainment Briefs...

After winning its time slot throughout the summer, the hit NBC comedy "Will & Grace" debuted its second season on Tuesday, Sept. 21. The new season picked where last season's finale left off, the hilarious season premiere finds Grace (Debra Messing) moving out of Will's (Eric McCormack) apartment; Will getting ready for a date with someone he meets at a Borders bookstore; Grace throwing a dinner party; and the irrepressible Jack (Sean Hayes) moving in with Grace's super-rich assistant Karen (Megan Mullally) and his new "wife" — Rosario, Karen's maid.

into a Gay shopfest for Fine Line Features. Fine Line has picked up... But I'm a Cheerleader, Jamie Babbit's comedy about teens who find Lesbian love when they're sent away to an "ex-Gay" rehab summer camp, and also shelled out for The Five Senses, a Canadian ensemble drama with Mary Louise Parker, directed by Jeremy Podeswa (Eclipse)...

Later this season, fans can look forward to the return of Debbie Reynolds for at least four episodes as Grace's mother, and Will finally getting to date... a lot. "You'll see Will on a slew of bad dates," series co-creator Max Mutchnick said. "I'm sure you will see a kiss at some point this season, but it won't be a big, momentous thing... We're not writing the episode so that Will can kiss someone. It's just something that will happen..."

One of many controversial scenes in the new film by James Toback (Two Girls and a Guy) has former heavyweight champ Mike Tyson nearly strangling the Gay character played by Robert Downey Jr. The attack comes in Black and White, which screened this week at the Toronto Film Festival, because Downey's character hits on Tyson, who is playing himself. "Please, please, friend, I'm on parole," Tyson says in the movie, before he begins to throttle Downey (whose character has previously been reported to be Bisexual). The film also reportedly includes scenes of multiracial three-ways and white glorification of hip-hop culture, which several newspapers have dubbed "a kind of mystical white racism to which Toback is very much prone." The movie, according to several reviews, is nothing more than "wish fulfillment on a \$5-million budget... the kind of movie that uses socially explosive subject matter as a cover for its director to indulge in soft-core fantasies." And: "Did I mention the movie ends with Brooke Shields making out with another woman in Central Park?"

As part of Britain's Millennium Dome expo, more than 30,000 people were surveyed to select 50 people and 50 things representing the best of the last 1,000 years for a "National Identity Zone" exhibit. Among the top ten people was openly Gay singer-songwriter Sir Elton John. Diana, Princess of Wales was number one, with the rest of the top ten including three other royals, actor Sean Connery, and singers Sir Paul McCartney and Sir Cliff Richards...

Anne Heche's next movie, The Third Miracle, a drama about a man believed to be a modern-day saint, is getting mediocre notices. The critics are saying Heche, playing an atheist to Ed Harris's washed-up priest, "works hard" and delivers a "convincing performance" but the film itself is "uneven." Filmmakers will get a chance to vote with their own thumbs when the movie is released December 29... On the other hand, current Gay-themed films continue to do well enough. Trick, which has rung up nearly \$2 million so far, saw its box office receipts rise 31% last week.

Outlandish Gay director John Waters, who helmed such seminal gross-out flicks as Polyester as well as the sweet comedy Hairspray, will next tackle Cecil B. DeMented, an action comedy about a movie star kidnapped by a group of film buffs. Melanie Griffith is set to play the star, Stephen Dorf will play the group's leader, Mr. DeMented, and real-life former kidnap victim Patty Hearst—who last appeared in Waters's Serial Mom—has a cameo...

The Toronto Film Festival turned

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY

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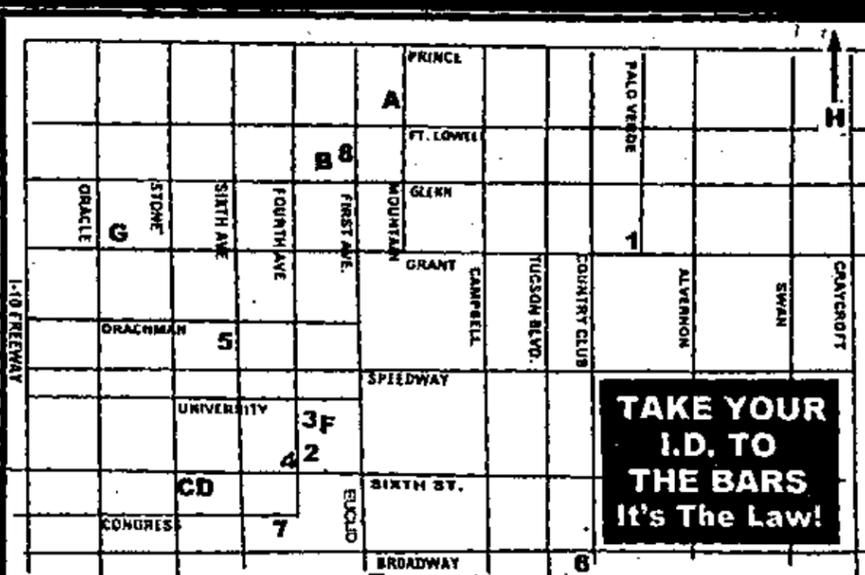
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Models
Ryan and Steve
Design
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CHECK THE BAR CALENDAR FOR DAILY SPECIALS

Non-Bar Calendar

Groups / Clubs / Organizations

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 1:30 p.m. Join Jerry as he hosts a lunch outing to Poca Cosa. For directions and reservations, please call Jerry at 298-7415.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Tucson Prime Timers Luncheon at Wildcat House, 1801 N. Stone. Call 584-0280 for details.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join Richard for a showing of Stephen Sondheim's "A Little Night Music". For reservations and directions, please call Richard at 740-1947.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

At Antigone Books, 411 N. 4th Ave., Laraine Herring, graduate of the UofA Creative Writing Program, reads from her new book of short stories "Monsoons". In this lyrical mix of poetry and prose, Herring focuses on defining moments in her characters' lives that ultimately led them to destruction or peace. A brief question and answer period will follow and refreshments will be served.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

9:30 a.m., Tucson Prime Timers Breakfast at CoCo's, 2990 N. Campbell. Call 584-0280 for details.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 6:00 a.m. Doug and Richard host a birding expedition at their home near Bisbee. They'll begin with breakfast and a patio viewing of the large number of hummingbirds that visit their feeders. You'll move on to a nearby riparian area, followed by lunch in Bisbee. For information, please call Les or Jerry at 690-9665.

Dynamic and inspirational Christian songwriter and soloist, Marsha Stevens live in concert at Water of Life MCC at 7:00 p.m. Marsha will also be a special guest at both worship services on Sunday, Sept. 26.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

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.

6:30 p.m. Antigone Books presents An Evening With Barbara Kingsolver to benefit Habitat for Humanity. Barbara will read from her wonderful novel "The Poisonwood Bible" to be released in paperback this month. It is a compelling exploration of religion, conscience, imperialist arrogance and the many paths to redemption. An Antigone exclusive event that supports a good cause.

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If You Didn't Vote
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Bar Calendar

Of Upcoming Events

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

IBTS - 9:00 p.m. "The Girlie Show" Puttin' On The Lips featuring Lucinda Holliday, Bunny FuFu, Miss Tori Novel. Sign up. See IBT's ad in this issue for details. Support IBT's Purple Team - buy a raffle ticket for a 25" TV. All proceeds to TLGA's OUToberFEST, Oct. 16.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - The TIHAN "Penny Pig" gets sealed at midnight. Entry forms offer three guesses for a buck. "How many pennies did we collect?" The one who comes closest without going over wins dinner for two, movie passes and a one night stay at a Jacuzzi suite! All dollars and pennies go to TIHAN - Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

IBTS - The fabulously funny and talented Rudy de la Mor is back. 8:00 p.m. Two outrageous hours of music and comedy. You don't want to miss him this time. Come early for a seat.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Noche Latina w/DJ Eduardo 9:00 to closing. Fuerza Latina 2000 Tavesti Show 10:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

STARS - "Cabaret Night". A fundraiser for the '99 Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. Raffle and entertainment hosted by Lucinda Holliday and Stars.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - "Muscles of Steel" - Male dancers. No cover. Showtime 10:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

STONEWALL/EAGLE - 3rd Annual "Turnabout For TIHAN". Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Complimentary Buffet 6:30 p.m. Claim your reserved seat until 7:45 (\$5 prepaid donation). Show starts promptly at 8:00 p.m. Reserve your seat today! Stonewall's biggest event of the year. Sponsor an employee TODAY! 624-8805.

VENTURE-N - Jungle Party! See their ad. Check it out.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

IBTS - Softball Sunday! Benefit Bar-B-Que/Beer Bust 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. for IBT's Arizona Angels Softball Team and at 9:00 p.m. a special benefit show featuring the varied talents of the team members (including Formica dinette) along with Ajiam Simone, deora Le Blanc and Bunny FuFu.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - "Goddess" Showtime 10:00 p.m. Doors open at 9:00 p.m. Reservations suggested. No cover.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

IBTS - Retro 80s Dance with Spyder Rhodes. \$1.50 small pitchers of Bud & Bud Light.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

IBTS - "The Girlie Show" hosted by Lucinda Holliday and featuring Phaedra, Mr. Kenneth Blake and Bunny FuFu.

VENTURE-N - Fun and games with the Bud Team Party.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

STARS - The first drag show at Stars. Starring Faith Michaels.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13

STONEWALL/EAGLE - "No Bad Habits" Dinner Show.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16

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

IBTS - Open Noon to 1am. Happy Hour noon-8pm, \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 Well. Benefit 8-9-Q and Beer Bust for community organizations 4:30-7pm. 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.

STARS - Open 3pm. The Magnificent Mimi on the Piano.
STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open Noon. Pool Tournament & Sirkin Burger Bust 2-6pm. Karaoke 8pm-close hosted by Billy Dee. Fabulous shows every Sunday. Call for info 624-8805. Snack Bar open til midnight

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio open 3pm. Patio Beer Bust 3-7pm 75¢ draft. 301 Dart Tournament 5pm \$3 entry fee (pot matched). Boss Burgers 5-7pm Hides Leather Goods opens at 4pm.

Monday

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

HOURS - Closed Mondays.
IBTS - Open 10am. Martini Monday all day all call martinis \$2.50. Happy Hour noon-8pm, \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 well. 9pm to closing, \$1.50 / 32oz pitchers. Karaoke Billy Dee 7:00-9:30pm. Retro 80's dance 9:30pm to closing with DJ Spyder. All drink specials not available during special events.

STARS - Open at 3:00pm. Open piano tonight.
STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 10am. Smirnoff Screws and Marys and Cooks Champagne Mimosas \$1.25. Monday nights with chuckles... Where Tucson's bartenders go to let their hair down. Free pool all day and night. Snack Bar open til midnight

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Blue Monday! \$2 Well and Longnecks 6am-12:30pm Skyy shots \$2 (w/ juice \$2.25). Dart Tourney 6pm

Tuesday

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

HOURS - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3-8pm. \$1.50 well or domestic beer. Draft Beer 8-9-close. \$2 small/\$4 large pitchers. Karaoke Night 9pm.

IBTS - Open 10am. Happy Hour Noon-8 pm, \$1.75 domestic beer & \$1.50 well. 9 pm to close \$1.75 well. Wear an IBT's T-shirt get happy hour prices 9 to close, or buy an IBT's T-shirt for \$5 and get a complimentary drink. House Hi-Nergy Dance 9pm to closing.

STARS - Open at 3pm. Open piano tonight.
STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 10am. Smirnoff Screws and Marys and Cooks Champagne Mimosas \$1.25. Snack Bar open daily til midnight. Happy Hour til 8pm. Eight Ball pool tourney, warm-up 6pm, play begins 7pm. Dance Studio professional dance lessons with Ira & Becky. This session Country & Western 7pm

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. \$2 Well drinks and longnecks 6am-12:30pm; Makers Mark \$2 shot. First Tuesday of every month TKD Spaghetti Feed

Wednesday

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

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

IBTS - Open 10am 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. All drink specials not available during special events.

STARS - Open at 3pm. Piano by the very versatile Rosemary.
STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 10am. Smirnoff Screws and Marys and Cooks Champagne Mimosas \$1.25. Snack Bar open daily til midnight. Happy Hour til 8pm. Karaoke Nite: 9 to close w/Billy Dee in the Eagle. Stonewall opens at 9pm. Hottest dance music in town.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Salea Morning! \$2 Well & Longnecks 6am-12:30pm. Cuervo Gold \$2 and Cuervo 1800 \$2.25 Open to close. Western Nite Drink specials if in Cowboy attire.

Thursday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BUSINESS - Happy Hour 2-7pm, 2for1 Free pool 2-4. Karaoke with Melissa 9pm to close. W/creamy cowgirls & \$2.50 Tequila Rose.

HOURS - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3-8pm \$1.50 well or domestic beer. 75¢ Schnapps 8pm to close. \$2 Cuervo shots and country/western dance at 9pm

IBTS - Open 10am to 1am. Happy Hour noon-8 pm \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 well. Underwear Nite. \$1.50 Well and \$1.75 Domestic Beer to those in their underwear (part check available). Hi energy dancing 9-close. All drink specials not available during special events.

STARS - Open 3pm. Piano by the very versatile Rosemary.
STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 10am. Smirnoff Screws and Marys and Cooks Champagne Mimosas \$1.25. Snack Bar open daily til midnight. Happy Hour til 8pm. Latin Dance Party w/Eduardo in the Stonewall 9pm to close. Biweekly Travesti Show 10:30pm.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am \$2 Well Drinks & Longnecks 6am-12:30pm. Patio Bar open 8pm. Day prices for men in leather 7pm to close. Pool Tournament 7pm-ish. \$3 entry. Hides Leather shop opens at 8pm

Friday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BUSINESS - 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

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

IBTS - Open 10am. Happy Hour Noon-8pm \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 well. Live Jazz on the patio with the Susan & Tracey 5:30-8:30pm. Patio Bar 9-1. Dance Party 9 to 1. All drink specials not available during special events.

STARS - Open 3pm. Piano by the magnificent Mimi.
STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 10am. Smirnoff Screws and Marys and Cooks Champagne Mimosas \$1.25. Snack Bar open daily til midnight. Happy Hour til 8pm. T.G.I.F. Free snacks 4:30-8pm The hottest dance music in town 9pm to close in the Stonewall.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. \$2 Well & Longnecks 6am-12:30pm Snacks served at 5pm. Patio Bar open 5pm. Hides Leather Store opens at 8pm.

Saturday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BUSINESS - 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.

HOURS - Open 1pm. Small Pitchers \$2 & FREE pool 2-5. Country Western Music all night.

IBTS - Open 10am to 1am. Happy Hour noon to 8pm \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 well. Patio Bar 9-1. Dance 9 to 1. All drink specials not available during special events.

STARS - Open 3pm. Piano by the incomparable Danielle
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 open til midnight

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Patio Bar open at 3pm. Patio Beer Bust with 50¢ drafts, \$1.50 pitchers. Hides Leather Store opens at 8pm. Cricket Dart Tournament 9pm

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THE GLAAD BULLETIN

GAY & LESBIAN ALLIANCE AGAINST DEFAMATION, INC.

Harper's Magazine: Matthew Shepard and Compulsory Heterosexuality. In its September 1999 issue, Harper's Magazine re-examines the Matthew Shepard murder from a provocative new angle: rather than focusing on the sexual orientation of the victim, frequent Harper's contributor JoAnn Wypijewski looks closely at the sexual orientations of the killers and the environment which may have helped shape them. Wypijewski's excellent in-depth look at the culture of "compulsory heterosexuality" defies easy categorization - it neither demonizes Shepard's killers nor venerates their victim, choosing instead to look at the history, character and culture of Wyoming and the social forces that simultaneously buckle under the weight of and reinforce institutionalized homophobia.

In language showing some disdain for the tepid concept of "tolerance," Wypijewski examines the pressure to conform to masculine heterosexual norms - a pressure she believes not only causes homophobia, but also damages heterosexual men. "Among the tolerance peddlers, it's always the 'lifestyle' of the Gay guy," she writes, "never the 'lifestyle' of the straight guy or the culture of compulsory heterosexuality." She proceeds to quote a University of Wyoming student in a discussion with a woman opposed to violence, but who was convinced that homosexuality is immoral. "The issue isn't tolerance," he said. "We don't need to learn tolerance; we need to learn love." For Wypijewski, love is not just an abstract concept - it is "life's defining line," one held firm by "all the little things of a culture, mostly unnoticed and unremarked, like the way in which the simplest show of affection is a decision about safety, like the way in which a man entwined with a woman is the stuff of everyday commerce, but a man expressing vulnerability is equivalent to a quaint notion of virginity - you save it for marriage." Ever fearful of the stigma of homosexuality, the article suggests that heterosexual men escalate their isolating culture of masculinity until homophobia consumes them.

In this outstanding, complex piece of journalism, Wypijewski has constructed a story that works on multiple thematic levels, one which compellingly suggests that the way to eradicate homophobia is to reconceive a heterosexuality now broken by fear of same-sex male emotional intimacy. Please thank Harper's for publishing this vital, remarkable feature.

Contact: Mr. Lewis H. Lapham, Editor, Harper's Magazine, 666 Broadway, New York, NY 10012, e-mail: letters@harpers.org...

New York Times' Triple Play. Historically, the world of professional sports and the LGBT community have not meshed well. In the case of Billy Bean, the conflict between his passion for baseball and his sexual orientation drove him deep into the closet. An outfielder for the Detroit Tigers, the Los Angeles Dodgers and the San Diego Padres before leaving the game in 1995, Bean's sexual orientation put him at odds with the "fiercely competitive and hyper-masculinized arena of major team sports." Bean's story, which broke earlier this year in the Miami Herald, has recently received extensive coverage by the New York Times.

In the Sept. 6 front-page story, "A Major League Player's Life of Isolation and Subterfuge," Times Sports columnist Robert Lipsyte does a thorough job of exploring the tension between Bean's love of the game and his sexual identity, tracing both

his career path and his coming out with sensitivity and insight. Two other pieces that appeared in the Times' Sports section also provided good coverage of the larger issues surrounding the Bean story. In "Former Teammates Give Their Support to Bean" (Sept. 7), baseball reporter Buster Olney interviewed several of Bean's teammates, most of whom thought highly of Bean, but echoed the notion that most heterosexual players would be uncomfortable with a Gay teammate. Lipsyte's Sept. 12 column, "Backtalk: Reflections on a Secret Life in Sports," reported on professional sports' non-acceptance of homosexuality, articulating the intense, often invisible pressure put on Lesbian and Gay athletes to keep their sexual identity concealed from everyone around them.

It is very unusual for any newspaper to tackle so comprehensively a controversial subject like homosexuality in professional sports. The Times' Billy Bean coverage and its column discussing the pressures on Lesbian and Gay sports professionals are crucial to the effort to open pro sports to more out-and-proud athletes.

Please thank the New York Times for tackling this very important issue. Contact: Mr. Arthur Ochs Sulzberger, Publisher, and Mr. Neil Amdur, Sports Editor, New York Times, 229 West 43rd St., New York, NY 10036-3913, e-mail: letters@nytimes.com.

[The GLAAD Bulletin is the activation tool for the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation.]

Gay & Lesbian Vote

Continued from Page Eleven

Lesbian and Gay votes? You bet. The notion that Lesbians and Gay men tend exclusively toward the Democratic column has been disproved by exit polling that indicates between one-quarter and one-third of self-identified Lesbian and Gay voters cast their ballots for GOP contenders. Indeed, in some instances where Republicans have been out front in their support of Lesbian and Gay rights—such as former Massachusetts Governor William Weld, Senator Jim Jeffords of Vermont, and Representative Tom Campbell of California—Lesbian and Gay voters have been credited with helping provide the GOP margin of victory.

Still, Vaid and other Lesbian and Gay activists doubt that any of the GOP's Presidential contenders will show the sort of courage that Weld did during his two terms as governor when he appointed openly Gay officials to powerful state posts, signed a sweeping Gay rights bill, and worked to protect people with AIDS against discrimination. "All the Republican Presidential candidates in 2000 are bad and degrees of worse," says Vaid. "Pat Buchanan, Gary Bauer, Steve Forbes—they don't provide a very hopeful picture. Even George W. Bush, for all his talk about 'compassionate conservatism,' has failed to support anti-hate-crimes legislation. He is the sitting governor of a state that still has sodomy laws on the books. He says Gay adoption is wrong. So I think that most of the Gay and Lesbian vote will probably end up going to the Democrats in November 2000."

So, too, will most of the campaign money. In 1992, Mixner set out to prove that Lesbians and Gays could provide substantial contributions to candidates who support their interests. "That year, we

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY ONE



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Jonny Chaos and Julya Syn Win Mr. & Miss Gay Teen Tucson Title

TUCSON - Last Friday, Sept. 17 the annual Mr. and Miss Gay Teen Tucson Pageant was held. The event was held this year at the Leo Rich Theatre at the Tucson Convention Center.

The audience was treated to a full evening of entertainment by some of Tucson's finest impersonators as well as the newly crowned Miss Gay Arizona, Barbra Seville whom up from Phoenix.

There were only four contestants entered this year, Melissa Monroe, Jonny Chaos, Julya Syn and Elaria. All four gave their best and in the end the judges declared Jonny Chaos, Mr. and Julya Syn, Miss Gay Teenager 1999.

The evening was produced by Queer voice, a program of Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation, Pima County Health Department and Wingspan. Mike Pollack is director of the project.

Arthur Padilla was awarded a plaque for his continuing efforts in the Tucson HIV/AIDS community.

MC's for the evening were Adrienne Alexander and Ajia Simone. The other entertainers included Shandriana, Bunny FuFu, Jance Starr (Miss Gay Teen 1998).

Congratulations to all for a very well organized and entertaining program.

For pictures of the event see page 22 In this issue of Observer.

Entertainment

CONTINUED FROM PAGE SIXTEEN

Another comedy, Better Than Chocolate, has taken in more than \$1 million and is hanging on among the top 40 films.

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Politics

Continued from Page Seven

the Capital building on Monday, September 27, instead of Sunday, September 26.

Does this mean he needs another day to still learn how to burn a flag, as he couldn't do at an appearance in Ottawa, Canada?...

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Courting The Gay & Lesbian Vote

Continued from Page Nineteen

raised \$3.5 million for Bill Clinton from the Gay community. I know because I handled the checks," says Mixner. "And I can tell you that, with the boom in high tech and the general rise in the economy, there will be a lot more money than ever before coming from the Gay community in 2000."

Mixner, who is backing Gore, estimates that Presidential campaign donations by Gays and Lesbians will add up to \$8 million or more over the next year and a half.

"With the way campaigns go after money these days, there is no way that Gore or Bradley is going to write off the Gay community," adds Mixner. "But it goes way beyond money. In California, in New York, in Texas, the candidates know that Gay and Lesbian voters could easily make the difference for them. And they're going after those votes aggressively."

The pursuit of Gay and Lesbian votes and money is a far cry from campaigns of even a decade ago, when homosexuality was kept pretty much in the closet. At the 1972 Democratic National Convention that nominated George McGovern, several Gay delegates were present and McGovern expressed his sympathy for their appeals for liberation. After McGovern was badly beaten, however, the party scrambled away from so-called interest groups—a catch-all classification that would eventually come to include not just Lesbians and Gays but African Americans, Latinos, and trade unionists. It was not until 1992 that a major party would support an explicitly Gay-friendly nominee. With the help of Mixner, Bob Hattoy, and other well-connected Gay activists, the 1992 Clinton campaign capitalized on the political maturation of the Lesbian and Gay community to draw early campaign money and overwhelming support from voters who feared the Republicans' virulent anti-Gay platform.

But the Clinton Administration's record on Lesbian and Gay rights has turned out to be decidedly mixed. While the President appointed Lesbians and Gay men to high posts, backed the federal Employment Non-Discrimination Act, and made comforting statements in the aftermath of hate crime attacks on Lesbians and Gays, he backed off initial promises to end all discrimination in the military and signed the Defense of Marriage Act.

In Clinton's wake, Gore is under pressure to do more than simply offer lip service. Many of his backers believe the Vice President will meet their expectations. "I think Al Gore is better on these issues than Bill Clinton," says Mixner, who has met frequently with the Vice President. "Clinton went from zero to sixty. Al Gore, I think, is prepared to take it to the next level. To some extent, he's already doing that."

In June, Gore indicated for the first time that he supports "legal protections" for domestic partnership relationships. A number of cities around the country have passed domestic partnership legislation that allows Lesbian and Gay couples to share health insurance, take advantage of inheritance laws, and in other ways enjoy the benefits that are available to married couples. These local laws have been under attack by conservatives at the federal and state levels, and Gore's stance is seen by many Lesbian and Gay activists as a significant step.

"In 1992, it was a big deal to have a candidate—Clinton—saying he would try

to do something about overt discrimination against Gays and Lesbians in the military," says Vaid. "Now, we have candidates discussing the whole range of issues, and we're seeing them begin to move in the right direction on issues like domestic partnership protections."

At times, however, movement in the right direction requires a push. For example, by concentrating on Gore's campaign, activists seem to have made some progress on the expansion of the availability of AIDS drugs in Africa. Throughout the spring and summer, activists with the AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power (ACT UP) and other groups have followed Gore on his campaign travels, challenging the Clinton Administration's support for a move by pharmaceutical firms to limit production of generic AIDS drugs in South Africa. In mid-July, the Administration—sensing a threat to Gore's appeal not merely within the Gay community but also among African Americans—gave indications that it was rethinking its policy. Activists remain wary, and the pressure on Gore continues. Yet the response by the Clinton Administration raises hopes that, as the campaign goes on, both Gore and Bradley can be pushed to take the bolder stands they so far have skirted. In particular, Mixner hopes to see them clearly state their opposition to the California anti-Gay-marriage initiative.

"That initiative is a direct attack on the rights of Gays and Lesbians," he says. "I don't think it is at all unreasonable to demand that candidates who would ask for our votes would take absolute positions in opposition to this initiative." Mixner notes that the Clinton Administration's clumsy and compromised handling of the whole Gays-in-the-military fight in 1993 resulted in a significant decline in Lesbian and Gay turnout in the 1994 elections. Those Lesbians and Gay men who did vote continued to trend in a Democratic direction, but the depressed turnout in key states was one of the factors that doomed the party's attempt to hold onto the U.S. House and Senate.

Without a strong Lesbian and Gay turnout in 2000, Mixner says, it will be difficult for the party's nominee to win in November. Yet that strong turnout will come only if the candidates display the sort of courage that inspires genuine enthusiasm. Thus, the veteran activist argues, the need to pressure the candidates to take unequivocal stands on issues such as the California initiative becomes all the more profound.

"What Gore or Bradley does on this issue and so many others will be determined, in large part, by those of us in the Lesbian and Gay community and by family and friends who support us. If we allow them to take a pass, then they'll take a pass," says Mixner. "But if we take the time to let them know that they will need to show some courage on these issues if they want to have a significant turnout of Gay and Lesbian voters—a turnout they will ultimately need to win—then I think we can get beyond symbolism to some of the serious commitments that we have a right to demand."

(John Nichols is Editorial Page Editor for The Capital Times in Madison, Wisconsin. He writes about electoral politics for The Progressive, www.progressive.org. Reprinted by permission of The Progressive.)



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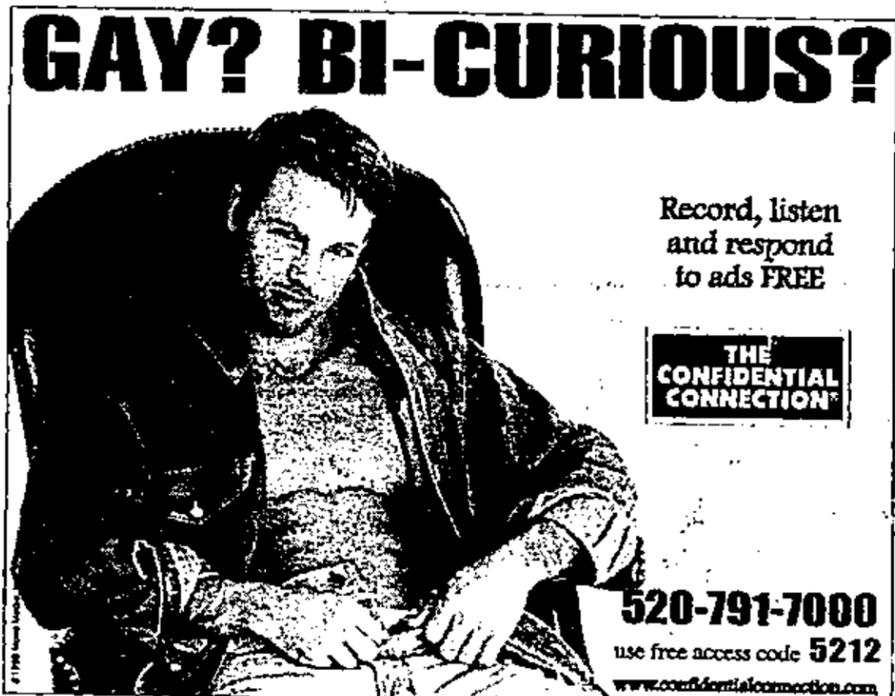
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WINGSPAN - Tucson's Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Community Center, 300 E. 6th St., offers support groups / info line / social events / library / meeting space. Volunteer Opportunities. Board meetings every 2nd Sunday (open to all), 6:00 p.m. Information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

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

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

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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 628-7223.

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

LESBIAN/GAY/BI-SEXUAL OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Saturdays noon-1pm new location Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. Contacts: 325-6678 or 327-4293.

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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 Mirto 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: AAPSP.org or e-mail: AAPSP@aol.com or call Dave (520)745-9059 (Tucson) or Ken (602)334-8219 (Phoenix)

GLSEN - Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network meets first Thursday of every month at 4:30pm at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th Street. 745-4800.

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

TUCSON CATHOLIC GAY & LESBIAN FAMILY MINISTRY. Currently meeting the 4th Monday of every month at St. Peter & Paul Church, Madonna Hall 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Fr. Florin in attendance every meeting and willing to speak one on one. Reaching out to Parents and Families. For more info call Doc or Barbara 293-8624.

WOMEN'S OUT OF THE CLOSET GROUP. Welcome to women in all stages of the coming-out process. We are here to support the Lesbians, Bisexuals and straight women of all races, religions and ages. Meeting times are the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month, 1:30 - 3:30pm at Wingspan at 300 E. 6th St. 624-1779. Call Wendy Bailey at 235-1893 after 5pm for more information.

LUTHERANS CONCERNED - FORMING CHAPTER FOR GAY/LESBIAN LUTHERANS. White LC, 7014 E. Golf Links Road, FMB 212, Tucson, AZ 85730

ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIPS: Confidential individual or group support for Gay, Bisexual or Trans men who are victims/survivors of domestic violence. For more information call 624-0348 (24-hour line)

GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDERED Young Adults Support Group for people ages 20 to 30 meets for sharing, support and information. Meetings are every Saturday from 11am to 12:30pm at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. Call 624-1779.

GAY VOLLEYBALL ON SATURDAYS & TUESDAYS. Competitive Play. Intermediate and advanced players only. Grass court on Northwest corner of Himmel Park. 5:30pm - Tuesdays, 4pm on Saturdays.

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 Betano 888-4595.

SMART (Self Management And Recovery Training) is a free non-12-step self-help alternative for people working to overcome addictive and other emotional problems meets in Tucson Monday thru Thursdays at different locations. For more information about SMART, contact Brenda at 684-9920, Ext.448 or Emmet 322-6057 (eveken@ix.netcom.com)

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

OUTLOUD! Tucson's premiere Local Lesbian and Gay Radio Show, broadcast every Wednesday at 8:03 pm on 91.3 FM, Community Radio XLCI. The show "This Way Out", a nationally syndicated Lesbian and Gay radio show is aired at 5:30 pm every Wednesday.

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 688-8010 before 10:00 p.m. The group dines out and attends shows or movies. Now in their 18th year! (2nd in Tucson).

NOTICES

SOUTHERN ARIZONA GENDER ALLIANCE (SAGA). Explore gender with us on the 1st Monday (Dewert Girls) and 3rd Wednesday (Desert Boys) of every month. SAGAEmail@aol.com http://members.aol.com/tagaemail

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 602-278-4805.

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

TUCSON'S 100% CONSENSUAL, Fun-Fetch, Fun-Sexual, Informational Safe Space for the B&D, S&M, D&S and TV community. Call us at (520)817-4861, e-mail us at http://www.gaycities.com/WestHollywood/Height/5088

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.

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

CROMES SOCIAL GROUP. A Social group for Gay men who enjoy the fellowship of their peers. Call Leo at 624-8763.

T-SQUARES Lesbian and Gay square dance club meets every Tuesday from 8:30-9:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N. Gerardo (near 1st Ave. and Laguna). Open to All. Call Liz at 325-9466 or Ray at 749-8247.

LIGHTNING LIGHTNING will provide lighting for AIDS and related benefits at no charge. For more info call Adrienne at 688-7296.

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

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

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 791-9862.

Join the LESBIAN & GAY PUBLIC AWARENESS PROJECT. In Tucson write Awareness Project, 3661 N. Campbell Ave. #365, Tucson, AZ 85718.

AA Meeting with HIV/AIDS focus, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., MCC Church, 3289 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 about 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 770-9870 or Bertie 318-3415.

CARE TEAMS ARE AVAILABLE to offer support to people living with HIV/AIDS. The Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network offers trained, compassionate and committed volunteers to provide services including friendly visits, light housekeeping, assistance with meals, shopping, errands, transportation and companionship for medical appointments, and respite care for primary care givers. No judgement or proselytizing - we are here to be of service. For information call Scott at 299-6647.

PERSONALS

CYBER CRUISE - Meet Arizona Gay men and women as well as people all over the U.S. City owned. www.merz.com 795

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 exclusivamente confidencial al 322-8226 y pregunta por Ernesto. 795

If you are a Latino man who is having sex with other men and you want to help us support and expand our programs for Latinos, call for a confidential interview at 322-8226 and ask for Ernesto. 795

ROOMMATES

SHARE SECLUDED FOOTHILLS HOME. Solar pool, 2 Rm suite, furn. den, pvt. ba., cord plng. \$500/mo., mature n/mo/k, 8-5 please. 544-2829. 797

ROOM FOR RENT \$345 + 1/2 utilities. Near downtown and UofA. Washer/Dryer in home. Available Oct. 15 +/-, Non Smoking. 237-9134. 792

ROOMMATE WANTED. \$315.00 includes all utilities, phone, pool, big screen TV. SW. On bus line. Call 889-7875 or 237-5108. 794

ROOMMATE WANTED TO SHARE large 2 bedroom apartment. Speedway/Jarvis area. \$260/mo. + 1/2 utilities. 327-8372 792

HOUSING/FOR RENT

VARIOUS CENTRAL TUCSON LOCATIONS. Large 1 and 2 bedroom apartments unfurnished. Clean, private, quiet. Many extras. Special move-in prices. Call 620-6130 796

EMPLOYMENT

WANTED IMMEDIATELY BARTENDERS AND DJ. Contact in person 3455 E. Grand Road. 795

SALES & MARKETING. Part-Time Sales Assistant position for Gil Film distribution company. Excellent entry level position. Flexible daytime hours. Sales, phone & data entry. 15-40 hours per week. Contact Michael, 888-5421 or fax resume to: 690-0443. 792

SERVICES

YOUNG MAN EXPERIENCED in body and breath work. Call Scott 319-0632. 799

QUEER BODY PIERCER. New to town. Experienced with all male & female piercings. John Correa, Old Towne Tattoo, 4240 E. Speedway. Questions, appointment 321-9042 793

THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE AVAILABLE. 6 years experience in Swedish, deep tissue and Polarity. Let me work out your aches and pains. College students and HIV+ people discounts available. By appointment only. Jeff, 327-1694 792

HANDY PERSON. Local and with references. Free estimates. Give us a break. We can usually fix them. 531-7807. 792

FOOTHILLS MASSAGE. BEST IN TUCSON. New York trained. 10 years experience. New Sunrise & Craycroft. In & Out calls. Greg Söderoth, 469-0522 793

ODD JOBS - HANDYMAN. Coolers, electrical, plumbing, carpet, painting, etc. Call Victor, 887-2519. 797

LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPIST. Let my skilled techniques and intuitive nature work out pain, release sore muscles and make you feel relaxed and renewed. Please call Lex Ellett at 690-9585, Therapeutic, non-sexual healing. 792

ATTRACTIVE MAN offers very relaxing, sensual, one-hour massage at a very reasonable rate. Days, evenings, weekends. Michael 584-9243 792

INTEGRITY IN TOUCH. Expand your body's capacity to feel. Through Chakra therapy, guided breath and full body Tonic massage, we'll explore the rich connection between body and spirit. Intuitive. Experienced. Greg Carman, 628-2878 or knowmadet@theriver.com 792

LET ME PAMPER YOU! With a Full Body Swedish massage in a quiet, relaxed atmosphere. \$35 for a full hour. Ralph, 883-7496. 800

RELAXING, THERAPEUTIC, BODYWORK by Dale. Certified in Swedish Massage. Explore the mind-body connection. \$35 full hour. 546-5893. 790

FULL BODY SWEDISH MASSAGE FOR MEN A healthy invigorating total experience for men of all ages. Peaceful, private setting. Discreet. Full hour \$35. Marvin 299-9631 793

RELAX TO THE MAX! Enjoy super quality massage, including real tantric work with 18 years of skill. An experience unlike any other. Be touched with strong, gentle hands. Call Marc, LMT, 881-4582. 794

ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS

Let me keep your clothes fitting properly and in good repair. Experienced - Econormical - Framp. Mr. Merle Hudson, 888-7264 in Tucson. 794

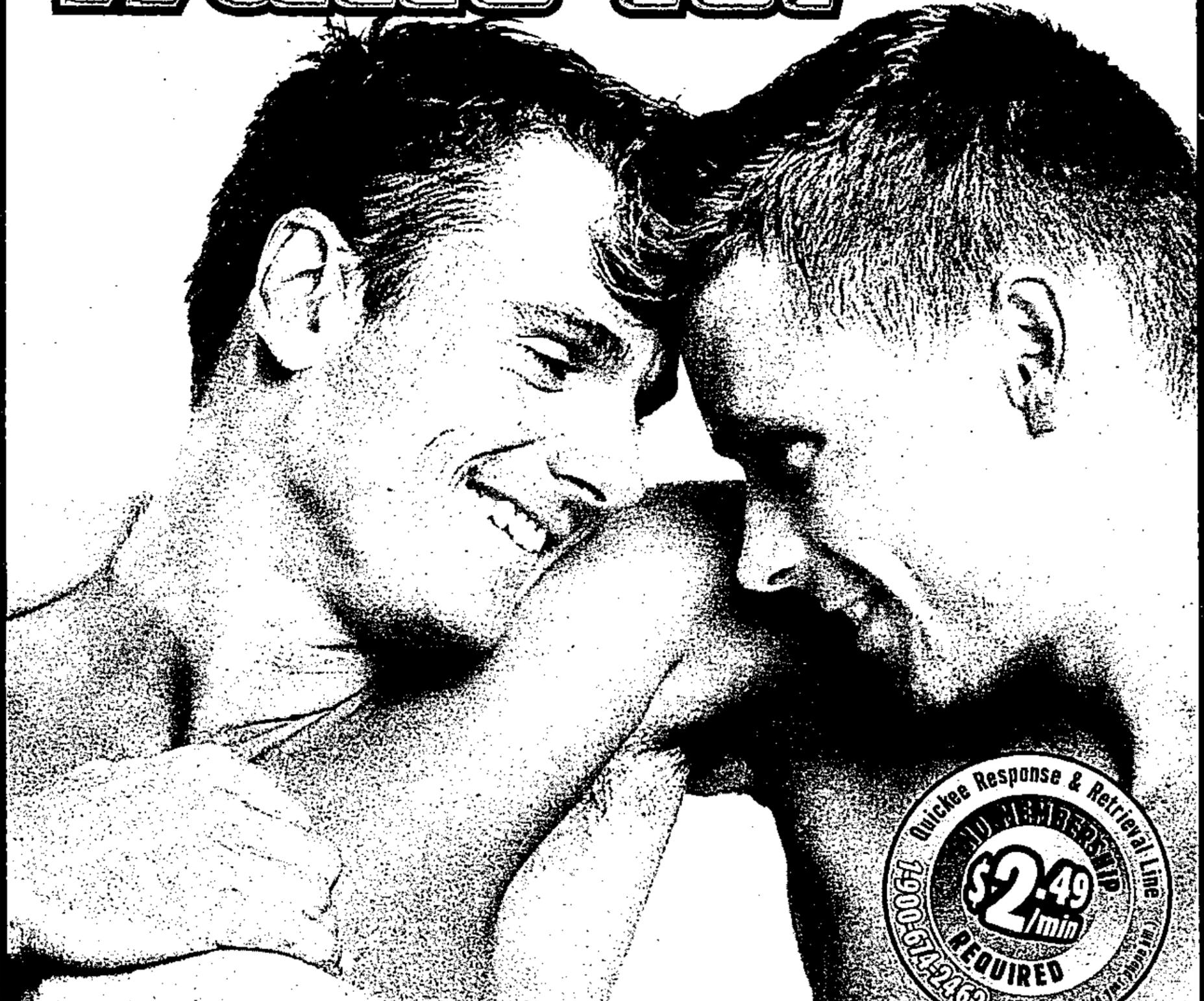
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