

Priests With AIDS Pose Challenge To Catholics

KANSAS CITY, MO (WS) - Hundreds of Roman Catholic priests across the United States have died of AIDS-related illnesses, and hundreds more are living with HIV.

Though the actual number of AIDS deaths is unknown, the newspaper cites estimates from medical experts, priests and its own analysis of health statistics which shows that priests are dying of AIDS at a rate at least four times that of the general U.S. population.

The hidden AIDS epidemic in the priesthood goes to the heart of Catholic church doctrine which forbids same-sex sexual relations and the opposes the use of modern contraceptives.

In a survey, most priests said the church failed to offer early and effective sex education that might have prevented their infection. Two-thirds said sexuality either was not addressed at all or was not discussed adequately in the seminary. Nearly 75 percent said the church needed to address these issues.

"Sexuality still needs to be talked about and dealt with," said the Rev. Dennis Rausch, a priest with AIDS who runs an AIDS ministry program for Catholic Charities in the Archdiocese of Miami. "I've been trying to get into the seminary here for the last several years to do an awareness course for the guys, so when they come out, they at least have some knowledge."

Many priests and behavioral experts outside the church argue the institution's adherence to 12th-century doctrines about the virtues of celibacy and its teachings on homosexuality have contributed to the spread of AIDS within the clergy. Moreover, by treating homosexual acts as an abomination and the breaking of celi-

bacy vows as shameful, the church has scared priests into silence, some say.

"I think this speaks to a failure on the part of the church," said Auxiliary Bishop Thomas Gumbleton of the Archdiocese of Detroit. "Gay priests and heterosexual priests didn't know how to handle their sexuality, their sexual drive. And so they would handle it in ways that were not healthy."

"How to be celibate and to be Gay at the same time, and how to be celibate and heterosexual at the same time, that's what we were never really taught how to do. And that was a major failing."

Bishop Raymond J. Boland of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph said the AIDS deaths show that priests are human. "Much as we would regret it, it shows that human nature is human nature," Boland said. "And all of us are heirs to all of the misfortunes that can be foisted upon the human race."

"There are some very strong social implications behind this," said Robert Goss, a former Jesuit priest and current chairman of the Department of Religious Studies at Webster University in St. Louis. Gays are in the priesthood, he said that not all of them are celibate. "Both of those issues are explosive issues that superiors and bishops don't want to deal with publicly."

The hidden epidemic in the priesthood mirrors the early days of the AIDS epidemic, say many. "The tragedy is many of them have been so duplicitous and so closeted," a member of the National Catholic AIDS Network said of priests with HIV. "They didn't realize what they were doing, not only to themselves, but to other individuals, because of the exponential transmission rate."

Cohen Defends 'Don't Ask' Policy As 'Appropriate'

WASHINGTON, DC - At a news conference in Washington, Secretary of Defense William Cohen defended the U.S. Military's current "don't ask, don't tell" policy governing Gay service in the military despite British reforms giving full equality to Gay servicemembers.

British Defense Secretary Geoff Hoon, who appeared at Cohen's side during the question and answer, said last week's resignation of a high-ranking British officer would not change his military's new rule under which Gay men and women can openly serve.

"That will not affect the policy of the government," Hoon told reporters. "The service chiefs have made it very clear that we are fully committed to making the policy work."

At the urging of a European Court, Britain lifted its ban on Gays in the military on January 12 and instituted a uniform code of conduct that applies to all servicemen and women, regardless of their sexual orientation.

Despite Democratic criticism of the military's handling of the Gay issue and calls that the U.S. institute a similar "conduct-based" approach, Cohen defended the fairness of the policy.

"We believe that the approach we have taken is balanced and appropriate," Cohen said, stressing that he would soon issue broad new training orders for the U.S. military to make sure that Gays are not harassed. "We believe that this policy has

CONTINUED ON PAGE SEVENTEEN

Southwest Airlines Adds Protections For G/L Employees

DALLAS, TX (GFN) - Southwest Airlines Co. (NYSE: LUV) amended its anti-harassment and anti-discrimination policies to include sexual orientation as a protected class.

The Dallas-based airline also amended its equal employment opportunity statement to include explicit employment protections for Gay workers, according to a letter sent to employees by Herb Kellaher, the airline's chairman, president and chief executive officer.

The policy change, which Kellaher had long resisted, apparently was prompted by a dispute between unions representing the airline's pilots and flight attendants.

Several of Southwest's Gay flight attendants were outraged by a letter published last month in the newsletter of the Southwest Airlines Pilots' Association, or Swapa. The letter objected to ongoing discussions at the airline regarding whether to institute domestic-partner benefits for unmarried employees, including Gays.

The letter, by Southwest pilot Gary S. Ward, objected to benefits for couples who are "shacking up" and claimed that "the homosexual community alone is a high-risk group medically." Ward also wrote that if Southwest adopted the policy, it would be "a stab in the back of the American family."

Some Southwest flight attendants said the letter was a sign of longstanding anti-Gay attitudes among the airline's pilots.

In a statement, the executive board of Transport Workers Union, Local 556, which represents Southwest flight attendants, said the letter "shows the engrained homophobia at Southwest Airlines... an absolute question of safety on the aircraft is presented by the Pilot's actions."

The local union filed a grievance with the airline and said in a memorandum to members, "Your union's resolve is firm in providing a professional, safe working environment, free from harassment and intimidation."

According to Southwest spokesper-

son Ginger Hardage, the policy change grew out of negotiations between the two unions and airline executives.

As a result of the change, the Transport Workers Union is believed to have withdrawn its grievance. But the union local's office was closed on Thursday due to icy weather which gripped North Texas, and union officials were unavailable for confirmation. A telephone message left at the union's emergency message center wasn't immediately returned.

Since it was established in 1971, the airline has emphasized friendly service and an informal atmosphere. Employees are encouraged to call Kellaher by his first name.

Southwest began as a small, up-start airline, with three planes serving three Texas cities. Over nearly 30 years of expansion, the airline is now the 5th largest in the nation, carrying 52 million passengers annually to 55 U.S. destinations.

In its early days, it employed only women as flight attendants. The attendants were known for the skimpy outfits, and the airline used the slogan, "We move our tails for you."

In the early '80s, prodded by a lawsuit, Southwest began hiring male flight attendants.

But some Gay male attendants said they experience frequent verbal harassment and discrimination from the airline's pilots.

"It is a known fact that the pilots don't like male flight attendants," said flight attendant Marty Nelson of San Francisco.

Nelson told gfn.com that many pilots won't speak to male flight attendants, and some won't let men serve cabin crews.

"There are pilots who will say, 'Don't serve me. Have the female come and do it,'" Nelson said.

Another Gay flight attendant, who didn't wish to be named, told gfn.com, "I

CONTINUED ON PAGE SIXTEEN

FREE VALENTINES IN THE FEBRUARY 16TH ISSUE OF THE OBSERVER.

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UPDATE

Cartoonist Joins Observer Staff



Cartoonist Charles Stern

TUCSON - The Observer is happy to announce that a very talented cartoonist has joined it's list of contributors. Tucsonan Charles Stern will present his clever and humorous and thought provoking cartoons on these pages beginning with this issue. His initial 'strip' is called "Drag Strip".

A word processor supervisor by day, Charles enjoys the Tucson nightlife and sometimes runs the spotlight at IBT's shows. Hence the inside look at the drag scene in this week's cartoon.

"I enjoy an array of comic art, such as the retired 'Calvin and Hobbes' and 'Crazy Cat'. I also enjoy comic performance and regularly visit Laffs Comedy Club. I especially enjoy the the drag performances in Tucson," he says.

Stern's cartoons are not only directed at drag however. His cartoons will run the gamut through fun drawings of common experiences, and good humor of the Gay community locally as well as nationally.

Check out his initial effort on page sixteen of this issue. You'll be glad you did and we feel sure that you will be looking forward to what the future weeks will bring. Welcome aboard Charles.

GMHP Forum Announced

TUCSON - Gay Men's Health Project is sponsoring a forum for the next six weeks: "Finding True Love In A Man Eat Man World" to be held at the Coffee Xchange on the NW corner of Grant and Campbell in a private meeting room

The first session will take place Thursday, February 10th from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Just bring your two cents worth because GMHP is picking up the tab.

The forum is based on a book by the same name. Find answers to subjects such as how to jump into the dating pool and not bellyflop; How to build healthy relationships from the ground up; and how about the rewards of ending a date with a 'good night' and not a 'good morning'.

Watch for future forum dates. For more info call SAAF at 628-7223 ext. 232.

National Freedom To Marry Day Feb. 12

TUCSON - Queer Voice is sponsoring 'National Freedom To Marry Day' today at 4:00 p.m. at the Main Library, 101 N. Stone Ave. (Downstairs). There will be talks from politicians and activists, a performance by Desert Voices Chorus, a commitment ceremony and reception. Queer Voice is a collaborative program of local agencies including SAAF and Wingspan.

TIHAN Training Session For Volunteers

TUCSON - The Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN) announces its next training for volunteers, including:

CareTeam: providing social/practical support to HIV+ persons. Poz Cafe: assisting with a monthly lunch and social program for persons living with HIV/AIDS. Office Support: assisting in the TIHAN office, answering phones, and helping with other duties. Speakers Bureau: sharing TIHAN's message through the community and help plan trainings and presentations. Fund Raising Events Team: help plan and conduct fund raising events to support TIHAN.

TIHAN's volunteers work together, get lots support and feel good about being part of the solution. Call the TIHAN office to schedule an orientation at your convenience, then attend the training sessions on Feb. 9, 16 and 23. A \$15 training fee covers the costs for materials and food. For more information, call the TIHAN office, (520) 299-6647.

Position Open At SAAF

TUCSON - The Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation is seeking a qualified individual for the following position:

Health Advocate (.75 FTE) - to investigate and communicate health trends and resources for people with HIV/AIDS, provide advocacy, and facilitate advisory groups. HIV+ or directly affected highly desirable. Requires education/experience in public health, HIV/AIDS issues, group facilitation. Up to \$18,000/year, excellent benefits.

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

Benefit Concert For SAAF Feb. 25

TUCSON - Whisper, Muse!, a professional vocal quintet based in Tucson, will present a concert titled "Caprice, Whimsy & Romance" on Friday, February 25, 7:30 P.M., at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, located at 545 South Fifth Avenue in historic Armory Park. Proceeds from the concert will benefit Support Services of the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation.

In a romantic, candlelight setting, the ensemble will perform light classics and jazzy tunes that focus on the whimsical and amorous. Works performed on the concert will range from Renaissance to contemporary. Traditional part-songs will be presented, as well as a number of a cappella jazz arrangements of popular songs. The concert will take place in the parish hall of St. Andrew's Church. Light refreshments will be provided.

Whisper, Muse! was founded two years ago by Wayne Glass, who continues to sing with and direct the group. The mission of the ensemble is to bring a fresh, and often unusual, approach to the performance of part-song literature, both current and historical. The group has received high critical praise for its vocal blend, as well as for innovative programming. The quintet is comprised of Karen Hogle and Christina Jarvis, sopranos; Kay Wiley, mezzo-soprano; Wayne "Sandy" Glass, tenor and artistic director, and Michael Culloton, baritone.

Ticket prices are \$20 for general admission or \$14 for seniors, and may be purchased at SAAF (375 S. Euclid Ave.), Antigone Books (411 N. 4th Ave.) and Desert Pride (300 E. 6th St.). Advance ticket purchase is recommended, as there will be limited seating to this concert. For information, call Whisper, Muse! at (520) 791-7453, or SAAF at (520) 628-7223.



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IN MEMORIAM



"Rudi" with the cast of his last Teddy Bear Raffle Show

Rudolph "Rudi" Riesgo passed away on Thursday, January 27, after a long battle with cancer.

He is survived by three sisters and a brother locally and another sister in northern California as well as countless friends and fans in Tucson's Gay community.

A native Tucsonan, Rudi will be most remember for his dedicated selflessness and generosity as the founder and coordination of an annual drive to collect toys, clothing and food for the Arizona Children's Home. This drive evolved into his annual Teddy Bear Raffle, which over the years raised many thousands of dollars for "Rudi Kids" who served by the now Arizona Children's Association.

Always careful to give credit where credit is due, his efforts were always

donated on behalf of Tucson's Gay community.

His 28 year record of service will continue this coming Christmas with the First Annual Uncle Rudi's Memorial Teddy Bear Raffle.

A memorial mass for Rudi will be held Thursday, Feb. 3 at St. Augustine's Cathedral on South Stone at 6:30 P.M.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory should be made to the Arizona Children's Association, 2700 S. 8th Ave., Tucson, AZ 85713.

"We who knew him and loved him will miss him greatly and remember him always. Go with God Rudi." - Your friends forever, Louis Casteneda, Jimmy Dawson and Dave Zinke

CDC Study Links Transmission Of HIV To Oral Sex

SAN FRANCISCO, CA - The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have released a study at a meeting of AIDS researchers which purports to show that nearly 8 percent of men recently infected with HIV were infected through oral sex, a sexual activity largely considered to be safe.

The CDC's Dr. Beth Dillion and colleagues at the University of California San Francisco surveyed 102 gay and bisexual men recently infected with HIV in the Bay Area and found oral sex was the only risky behavior that eight of the men had engaged in.

"It's certainly sobering news," Dr. Ronald Valdiserri, deputy director of the CDC's HIV prevention center, said in an interview. "We've known... that there was a risk of HIV transmission through oral sex. Of course scientists indicated that they thought it was a much smaller risk compared to anal or vaginal sex."

Citing other reports, Valdiserri said, "I think some investigators have actually shown that gay men might be substituting oral sex for anal sex in an attempt to curb transmission." But if a behavior carries a low risk, he cautioned, done often

enough, it adds up to a high risk. "Low risk does not mean no risk," he said.

Valdiserri said he believes "this is perhaps the most definitive study to date on oral sex transmission among gay men" and said that nearly two decades into the epidemic "no one should really be surprised that HIV, which infects 40,000 Americans a year, could be passed through oral sex."

"There is nothing mysterious about the way the virus has been transmitted in these instances," he said. "The virus is present in semen and it also present in pre ejaculate."

Having a cut or sore inside the mouth greatly increases the chances of transmission, and many people can have tiny abrasions of the mouth or gums without being aware of them. "It doesn't have to be a gaping sore or ulcer," Valdiserri said.

The CDC stood by its study, noting that researchers did not count a man as having been infected through oral sex if he said he had engaged in any other risk behaviors. "Because of these stringent requirements, 7.8 percent may be an underestimate of transmission through oral sex in this group," the CDC said in a statement.

FREE Valentines in the February 16th issue of the Observer. Get them in by Feb. 13th. Limit four to a person. Leave your Valentine messages at any of Tucson's Gay bars, or at Antigone Books, Rainbow Planet Coffee House or S.A.A.F., or send directly to the Observer at any of the addresses on Page two. Join the fun. Hundreds do every year!

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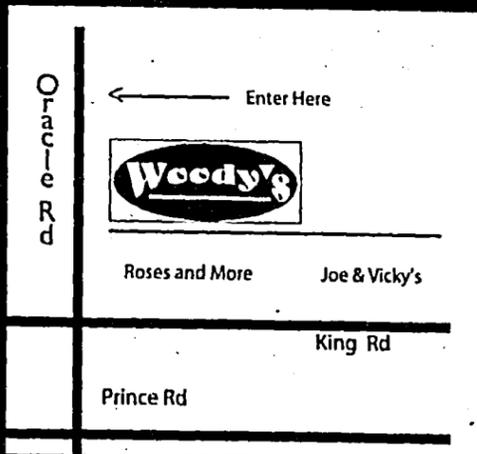
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WASHINGTON, DC (NP) - One use of the "G" word and renewed calls for passage of federal hate crimes and job protection bills were included in the 2nd State of the Union speech in history to address LesBiGay issues.

Perhaps the snowy white blizzard in Washington was an apt metaphor for Bill Clinton's valedictory State of the Union address in the House Chambers January 27. He proposed a flurry of new initiatives and spending measures, most of which will likely melt away by the spring, but if he is able to pass even a few of them, his will go down as one of the most successful presidencies in history.

Last year's State of the Union Address was the first in which Lesbians and Gay men were specifically mentioned. This year Clinton only used the "G" word one time when he noted, "We have seen ... a young man murdered in Wyoming simply because he was Gay," though unlike last year, he never mentioned Matthew Shepard (or the similarly referenced African-American hate murder victim James Byrd, Jr.) by name. He went on to add, "We must pass the Hate Crimes Prevention Act and the Employment Non-Discrimination Act. And we should reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act."

The Hate Crimes Prevention Act (HCPA), which the president first proposed in 1997, would add "sexual orientation" and several other categories as the basis for bias crimes punished under federal law. The debate was energized considerably by the notorious Shepard bashing murder, with the death of the young University of Wyoming student being denounced on the floor of the Congress and renewed lobbying efforts in 1998. Most recently HCPA's language was attached to a major appropriations bill, only to be deleted by a House-Senate conference committee. Although the President vetoed the appropri-

tions bill for a number of reasons and included HCPA in his veto message, the hate crimes measure still did not survive final budget negotiations and the Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Campaign (HRC) declared it dead in November 1999. At that time HRC executive director Elizabeth Birch expressed the organization's disappointment that "the Clinton administration did not follow through and fulfill their pledge to make hate crimes legislation a top priority," adding that, "The actions of the administration fell woefully short of their rhetoric."

The State of the Union address also renewed the call for passage of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), as did last year's ENDA, which would prohibit workplace discrimination based on sexual orientation, is the only Gay and Lesbian civil rights legislation ever to make it to the floor of either house. It fell one vote short of passage in the Senate in 1996 when it was considered at the same time as the so-called Defense of Marriage Act (to allow states not to recognize same-gender marriages another state might someday perform and to bar domestic partner benefits for the spouses of Gay and Lesbian federal employees), which was overwhelmingly approved and signed into law by Clinton in an infamous low-profile late-night action.

This year's "defense" of matrimony was a call for a reduction in the so-called "marriage penalty," though the president made no mention of current efforts in Vermont to broaden the definition of marriage to include committed Lesbian and Gay couples. Janet Parshall, of the conservative Family Research Council, in a response released even before the address was given, stated "Waiting for Clinton's so-called marriage tax relief would be like waiting for food in a Russian bread line."

Clinton's Swan Song

Clinton made two brief mentions of AIDS, when he noted, "Last year in Africa, AIDS killed ten times as many people as war did." He went on to propose an additional investment of \$150 million and a tax credit to "speed the development of vaccines for diseases like malaria, TB and AIDS." [Ed. note: The Clinton administration has been criticized for trade policies that have prevented African nations from developing low-cost alternatives to expensive American AIDS drugs.]

Other than very broad constituencies, such as the elderly, children, and the poor, no one group received the president's nod for special attention. Smaller constituencies, such as Latinos, Asians, Jews, Native Americans, Lesbians and Gay men may be disappointed by the lack of specifics, though Clinton called on the country to "do more than tolerate diversity - we must honor it and celebrate it." Clinton did say that no American should be subjected to discrimination in finding a home, getting a job, going to school or securing a loan, and went on to propose the largest investment ever to enforce civil rights laws.

Like a winter smorgasboard, the address seemed to promise something for everyone. Taking the wind out of the Republican's sails, the president called for about \$350 million in tax cuts, as well as a wide range of initiatives for education, health and Social Security. As expected, the address was long on congratulation and short on criticism. His displeasure with Congress was balanced with praise for the bipartisan successes of the past year. Clinton benefits from the longest peace time expansion of the nation's economy in history, and while he may justifiably take credit for some of that economic well being, others may argue that he was simply in the right place at the right time.

Curiously absent in the House Chambers were the Supreme Court Justices, who sent their regrets earlier in the week, causing speculation as to whether their absence was a sign of protest or an acknowledgement of the copious snow fall on the nation's capital (or perhaps they just wanted to stay home to see the current episode of "I Want to Be a Millionaire" which was broadcast at the same time as the president's address in many parts of the country). In any case, it was the outgoing president's opportunity to bask in the mellow light of history, and take credit for a wide range of legislative accomplishments and social changes that occurred during his administration.

The president appeared poised and confident; the press drubbing he received a year ago now a distant memory. Clinton's legendary - though not always treasured - speaking ability was put to good use, but clearly, his appeal was more to the history books than to the ambitious legislative program he proposed for his final year in office.

The light note of the evening came when, in a slip of the tongue, Clinton credited Vice President Al Gore with helping to make America's cities "more liberal" - he meant to say, "more livable."



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What Do Vermonters Think?

MONTPELIER, VT (NP) - The state legislature's first public hearing on equal marriage rights draws a spectrum of opinion, and a new poll finds a broad indifferent middle.

Vermont's first snowstorm of the season dumped anywhere from a few inches to a foot around the state, canceling the buses hired to bring Roman Catholics to a vigil and perhaps halving the number of people who made it to Montpelier, but the State House was still filled to overflowing on January 25 by an estimated 1,500 citizens seizing their first chance to tell state legislators their reactions to the December 20 state Supreme Court ruling ordering lawmakers to extend all the benefits of marriage to same-gender couples. Only 106 Vermonters won the random drawing to make two-minute statements to members of the state House and Senate Judiciary Committees and the assembled crowd, and perhaps half the people in the building had no way to really hear the testimony, but the lawmakers have promised one or more additional public hearings. Other Vermonters' opinions were reflected in a major survey published the same day.

Legislators and reporters alike were impressed by the civility of the crowd, who despite deeply divided opinions not only remained polite, but seemed to listen attentively to all the speakers through four hours of testimony. Senate Judiciary Committee Chair Richard Sears told the Associated Press that, "I am so impressed and proud as a Vermonter of the civility on a very emotional issue. I think if the Legislature can debate it the way the public has, we can come to a resolution satisfactory to a majority of Vermonters."

Although Bishop of Burlington Kenneth Angell had officially cancelled the vigil he'd called for in a pastoral letter read from pulpits January 23, some 200 people massed on the State House steps for a "prayer rally" to reserve marriage exclusively for heterosexual couples. Full-page advertisements in some Vermont newspapers had also called opponents of same-gender marriages to rally, one referring to the "pro-homosexual leadership at the State House." One man who had traveled from neighboring New Hampshire displayed a sign taller than himself proclaiming, "God's Law, Not Man's Law." Among those who spoke for this group from nearby upstate New York was Randall Terry, head of Operation Rescue, the long-time national anti-abortion group which in the last few years has become more active in demonstrating against Gay and Lesbian civil rights.

Volunteers offered stickers and ribbons as people arrived at the State House. Circular pink stickers read, "I Support Freedom to Marry"; white oval stickers read, "Don't Mock Marriage"; other stickers read, "Pro-Traditional Marriage," and white ribbons signified the same message. At least one attendee had no problem wearing stickers from both sides of the issue. Despite these public identifiers, individuals had no problem sitting, standing or talking with those who differed with them.

House Judiciary Committee Chair Thomas Little, R-Shelburne, advised the crowd that the lawmakers wanted to hear their recommendations as to which of the options offered by the court they should legislate: extending the marriage law to include Gay and Lesbian couples, or establishing a separate legal registered partnership relationship for them. But just as with respondents in a poll performed the previous week, many speakers went outside those lines. Those who testified were fairly

evenly divided, although one observer reported a small majority supporting same-gender marriages.

Many of the opponents of same-gender marriage cited religious and moral objections. Two who gave testimony were quoted by reporters. Ruth Goodrich of Cabot, a proud 9th-generation Vermonter, said, "Vermont is known for cheese, maple syrup, scenic beauty and traditional values. Is this [Gay and Lesbian marriage] really what we want Vermont to be famous for?"

Ann Chamberlain of Groton said, "God made Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve. ... Do not let the judiciary branch tell you what laws to pass."

Three people who gave testimony in support of legal Gay and Lesbian marriages were quoted by reporters. Responding to opponents' religious concerns, former state Senator Scudder Parker of Montpelier said, "I say let the religious debate be just that -- a healthy religious debate ... within congregations, within families. Changing the law in Vermont won't stop that debate [but it will] correct the current situation of discrimination."

Former Roman Catholic priest Thomas Luce of Barre said, "Whatever you wish to call the set of physical and emotional characteristics of homosexuality, I have them. I live with them and I will live with them tomorrow and I am 61 years old," and although he has chosen not to live with a male partner himself, "I stand in unity with my Gay and Lesbian brothers and sisters as they demand the right to marry."

Sandi Coe of Manchester Center, a Lesbian in a committed relationship of 33 years, arguing against any referendum on the issue, said, "This is not about my neighbors' or my governor's comfort zone," a reference to Governor Howard Dean saying soon after the court's ruling that he was uncomfortable with Gay and Lesbian marriages. "The Supreme Court said I am entitled to [the rights, benefits and protections of marriage]. It did not say I should have these rights only if my neighbors are comfortable."

One Gay man did speak to domestic partnerships. Jonathan Radigan said that although he would ask his partner to marry him, "I doubt I will ask him to be my domestic partner. It sounds like someone who cleans the house."

And then there was an openly Gay man from Williston (whose name was not reported) who pleaded with lawmakers that, "Whatever you do, don't let it tear the state apart. It's not worth it to me. It's not worth it to my partner. We'll still love each other."

One Associated Press reporter found in the crowd a Lesbian who legally registered her partnership in her native Norway three years ago. Surprised to see so many opponents to legal recognition of same-gender couples, she told the reporter, "This isn't to deny them anything. It's not like I'm here to take anything from them."

Lawmakers had no particular illusions that public testimony was going to offer a scientific sampling of Vermont opinion, hoping instead for a wide diversity of views from all over the state, but on the day of the hearing results were made public of a survey commissioned jointly by the "Rutland Herald," the "Barre-Montpelier Times Argus" and Burlington CBS affiliate WCAX Channel 3 News. It was the first

CONTINUED ON PAGE THIRTEEN

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"All This and Karen Johnson Too!"

Gays and Lesbians from across the state will be converging on Phoenix, to the State Legislature, Wednesday, February 16, for the second annual Equality Begins at Home (EBAH).

This year's event is a local affair, coordinated by the Arizona Human Rights Fund, the state's Gay and Lesbian rights group. Last year, EBAH was a coordinated national political campaign, in all 50 states and Puerto Rico by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF).

Tracy Conaty of NGLTF said in an interview that EBAH was "a new era for the movement, focusing on state organizing and legislatures." "Legislatures are the centers of gravity and security for equal status for GLBT people. What happened at the national level doesn't directly affect GLBT people as much as the state legislatures have," she added.

The goals of this year's event are the same as last year's, participants will:

Show the legislators that Gays and Lesbians are "regular folk who vote and pay taxes."

Lobby their elected officials to repeal the state's archaic "blue laws."

Urge lawmakers to defeat this year's proposal to restrict the extension of medical benefits to the domestic partners of government employees.

Petitions from AHRF will also be presented asking lawmakers to do the above mentioned.

After the day's events, a reception for participants and lawmakers will take place.

Even with the convergence, the wading through a sea of lobbyists and that tacky, blue carpeting in the State House of Representatives, there are still some legislative questions to be resolved.

Will state Senator David Petersen, R-Mesa, gets his way, resulting in medical benefits for the domestic partners of government employees being a thing of the past? SB 1438 would allow cities and towns to provide health, life, accident and disability insurance to it employees, spouses of employees and legal dependents of employees.

In Petersen's bill, "provision of insurance coverage to persons other than employees and spouses and legal depend-

ents of employees shall be authorized only on a majority vote of the governing body of the city or town." With the flurry of legislation being considered, the bill could be amended to require a vote by the people. State Representative Karen Johnson, R-Mesa, tried to do last year, with her two bills aimed at dismantling the City of Tucson and the Pima County Board of Supervisors decisions to extend medical benefits to the domestic partners of their employees. Both bills were defeated.

Under the Arizona constitution, cities and towns that have a charter can enact ordinances and laws. Tucson has a charter, and the courts ruled that the Pima County Board of Supervisors where within their legal authority to extend benefits to the domestic partners of their employees.

"Local communities chose to do the right thing extending benefits," state Representative Ramon Valadez, D-Tucson, said. "They should be allowed to do so."

Petersen's bill would also prohibit the "Department of Administration (state government) from providing benefits to persons other than the officers and employees and their spouses and their legal dependents."

SB 1438 has been assigned to two committees: Financial Institutions and Retirement and Government and Environmental Stewardship. SB 1438 has been put on the schedule of the Government and Environmental Stewardship committee, who will consider the bill Monday, Feb. 7.

SB 1471, which would repeal the state's archaic "blue laws," was finally second read, but assigned to two committees, Family Services and Judiciary, in an effort by the conservative Republican Senate leadership to kill the bill.

Double assignment is one way to kill an unwanted measure. The other is time. The deadline to hear Senate bills before a Senate committee is next week. So the clock is ticking.

Over in the House, the clock has struck "midnight," and the future of two bills dealing with HIV/AIDS are in doubt.

HB 2106, the bipartisan effort to provide funding for an HIV pilot education program didn't get a hearing before either the Health or Appropriations Committees. The fate of this measure is uncertain.

HB 2665 would allow teachers and educators to discuss the AIDS virus, without limitations on what they can say was also assigned to two House committees: Federal Mandates & State's Rights and Education. Neither committee held hearings on this bill.

It was also the same fate for HCM 2001, which would have had the Arizona Legislature go on record supporting the retention of state Representative Steve May, R-Phoenix, in the Army Reserve. HCM 2001 would have sent an official request to the President, Congress and the Secretary of Defense to keep May in the Army Reserve. ...

For more information about the Feb. 16 event; call the Arizona Human Rights Fund, (602) 650-0900. ...

So it goes for now kids!

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Call SAAF at 628.7223 ext.232 or email gmhp@saaf.org for more info.

Gay Men's Health Project 

Gay Men's Health Project is a collaborative effort of Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF), Pima County Health Dept., and Wingspan

FREE Valentines in the February 16th issue of the Observer. Get them in by Feb. 13th. Limit four to a person. Leave your Valentine messages at any of Tucson's Gay bars, or at Antigone Books, Rainbow Planet Coffee House or S.A.A.F., or send directly to the Observer at any of the addresses on Page two. Join the fun. Hundreds do every year!

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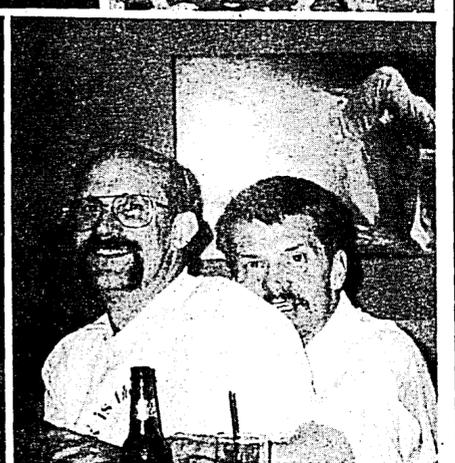
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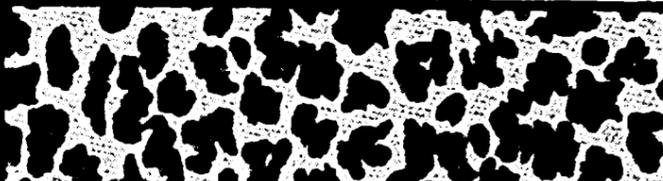
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HOROSCOPES

BY C. LICHTENSTEIN

Feeling a bit farklempt this February? You are not alone, cousin; A solar eclipse in Aquarius on the 5th sets the tone for a dizzy and emotional Valentine's month. Adding the retrograde Mercury to the mix will almost guarantee a full comedy of errors. Thankfully, Jupiter delivers a big rainbow heart on mid-month.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23
If fun gets out of hand this February, blame the frenzy on the solar eclipse on the 5th. Even optimistic Gay Libras are temporarily shaken by festive rumbles gone amok. On the bright side, creativity is unblocked and you become an artistic genius. After Valentine's Day you'll focus on your soulmate. How many bars do you have to visit before you find your tall drink?

ARIES
MARCH 21 - APRIL 20
If friends appear to be especially annoying or hurtful this February, swallow your bile and chalk it up to a fierce February planet-fest in arrogant Aquarius. Rainbow Rams risk misunderstandings and miscommunications if they overreact to perceive slights. My advice: Maintain a sense of humor, distribute many valentines and avoid those slippery banana peels. Whoops!

TAURUS
APRIL 21 - MAY 21
As a fixed sign (with Leo, Scorpio and Aquarius), queer Bulls will feel greater impact of the eclipse on February 5th. Emotions run especially high at work as long range plans quickly shift direction. On the bright side, many unresolved career issues will resolve now, more than likely for the better. Gather your gains, cut your losses and share the love with a particular valentine.

GEMINI
MAY 22 - JUNE 21
February planetary action places more emphasis on global enterprises and travel. Maybe love in faraway places? The solar eclipse in Aquarius on the 5th can close the case on any hanging legal issue, if you are lucky. Pink Twins usually feel that they have to get a consensus before they can take action. This month you'll realize that you yourself have all the answers.

CANCER
JUNE 22 - JULY 23
Gay Crabs may not know what hit 'em this February as the solar eclipse in Aquarius stirs up their volcanic passion into a hot and spicy seafood bisque. Eat while you can, cousin, but don't get indigestion. Emotions can run to the extreme and so can you. Thankfully you will always have a few good bosom buddies to bolster you up if a certain valentine gets you down.

LEO
JULY 24 - AUGUST 23
Queer Leos can act imperious, arrogant and demanding around partners. Watch who you boss around this Valentine's month when the eclipse in Aquarius cuts you and other fixed signs (Scorpio, Taurus and Aquarius) down to pint size. Some say size doesn't matter but ha! Rocky relationships can be scuttled and even strong ones shaken now. Is that what you want lover?

VIRGO
AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23
February planetary activity rocks your day to day work. Are you fed up? Bored? Ready for a change? Gay Virgins are tempted to make an emotional final decision during the February 5th eclipse. Don't make any rash moves, cousin; Jupiter insists that you temporarily escape from your travails with a valentine's vacation. Face the dragons with a clearer head after the 15th.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22
Proud Scorps are drawn into family disputes this February as the eclipse on the 5th flares emotions around relatives and at home. Issues that raised their ugly heads last August resurface so you can finally dispose of them once and for all. Comfortable it ain't, but once the field is leveled and reseeded, you will find that life is far more pleasant and affirming. And that ain't bad!

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22
February unleashes a lethal form of Sagittarian foot-in-mouth disease thanks to the eclipse on the 5th. Gay Archers must be extra careful of what they say and when they say it. Gripes that surfaced last August, find their way to your door again this valentines month. At the same time you continue to undergo great change as Pluto trolls through your sign. Oh goodie.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20
As hard as you try to hold on to your valuables, the planets seem to conspire to relieve you of your possessions. Chalk up the leakage to the February 5th solar eclipse. Queer Caps feel the emotional pull of a shift in values. Good thing too, pardner; Review and reassess in time for Valentine's Day. Can money buy happiness? Hmm. On second thought, don't answer that.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19
February is a month of change, revelation and surprise for all Aquarians. Of all the signs, you are perhaps the most affected by the eclipse on the 5th. Emotional reassessment of your life's directions that began last August are hitting you again this month. Do what you have to do to resolve these issues once and for all. A new broom sweeps clean; make it a vacuum, not a whisk.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20
Gay Fish feel like they are being led down a primrose path this February as promises vanish and guarantees are no longer guaranteed. Blame the confusion on the solar eclipse on the 5th when nothing is as it first appears. At the same time, this valentines month is an excellent time to toss out the old frights and embrace a new lavender you. You look stunning, you stunner, you.



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What Do Vermonters Think?

Continued from Page Seven

such poll to be reported since the Vermont Supreme Court's December decision, although the same groups had commissioned similar surveys in August 1998 and November 1999. Maryland-based Research 2000 made telephone contact the third week of January with 623 Vermonters (310 men and 313 women) who identified themselves as registered voters; the pollsters estimated error in their overall findings at plus or minus 4%.

Respondents were asked if they agreed or disagreed with the Vermont Supreme Court's ruling, that it is illegal discrimination to deny the benefits of marriage to same-gender couples. Given the agree/disagree choice, 52% said they disagreed and 38% said they agreed. However further questioning found that most did not feel strongly either way; 18% said they strongly disagreed and 6% said they strongly agreed with the court, but of those who did not feel strongly 34% disagreed with the court and 32% agreed.

Another question respondents were asked was whether they preferred legal marriage for Gays and Lesbians or a legal relationship by a different name with the same benefits, the options the Vermont Supreme Court offered lawmakers. Even though this was posed as an either/or question, fully 59% of respondents either rejected both choices or declared themselves undecided. Among those who answered the question as posed, 13% favored same-gender marriages and 28% favored benefits with a different label.

Respondents were also asked whether they would support or reject an amendment to the state constitution to specifically define marriage as a union between one man and one woman; a bill to this effect has been introduced in by state Senator Julius Canns, R-Caledonia County. The constitutional amendment was favored by 49%, opposed by 44% and 7% were undecided or had no opinion.

To Research 2000 president Del Ali, the main finding was that most Vermonters were fairly indifferent, but saw something to spin for both supporters and opponents of legal Gay and Lesbian marriage. He told the Vermont Press Bureau, "If I'm lobbying for same-sex marriage, I'd look at Vermont as pretty good ground for getting equal rights, civil rights," based on

seeing 41% support for either Gay and Lesbian marriage or registered partnerships. But with 49% support for a constitutional amendment and 52% disagreement with the Supreme Court ruling, he warned that, "A real homophobic organization with millions of dollars could really turn it into something ugly."

House Judiciary Committee Chair Little had gotten a similar sense from his contacts with constituents, (that some people cared strongly on both sides but that there was "a vast pool of people somewhere in between." What intrigued him was the sizable "gender gap" identified in the poll. Actually most surveys on Gay and Lesbian issues find women noticeably more accepting than men, and that was the case for the Research 2000 poll as well (the margin of error is larger for these subgroups than for overall findings). The court's ruling was rejected by men 62% - 33%, with 23% disagreeing strongly and 3% agreeing strongly; women split on the question 43% - 43%. Men favored the constitutional amendment to reserve marriage for heterosexuals 54% - 39%, while women were split 47% - 45%. On the question of Gay and Lesbian marriage versus equivalent benefits under another name, 76% of men rejected both choices compared to 44% of women; of those who responded to the question, men favored benefits over marriage by 19% - 5%, while women did so by 36% - 20%.

Little told the Vermont Press Bureau that his committee would not be drafting legislation based on polls, but such data is not without influence even on Vermont's citizen-legislators. The "Wall Street Journal" said that, "Peter Shumlin, the Senate Pro Tem and a liberal Democrat ... says he knows that Gay marriage is the right thing for the Legislature to do in the long run, but adds that he 'probably wouldn't vote for it' today. 'We need to give Vermonters more time to think it out.'" Shumlin said he saw the division over same-gender marriage not between political affiliations (even in the legislature there are Republicans and Democrats on both sides); but socioeconomic differences, or in his words, "It almost totally depends on whether you had a library card as a kid." It seemed to be male blue-collar workers he found to be "just nowhere near being ready to accept Gay marriage."

Residents of Vermont's second-largest city will get a chance to weigh in on the issue of Gay marriage on Town Meeting Day.

Rutland aldermen voted unanimously to put two non-binding articles on the March ballot.

The first question asks voters whether they support or oppose same-sex marriage.

The second asks voters whether they would support or oppose a state law that would give same-sex couples the same benefits as married men and women.

Some residents aren't happy with the two articles, and want a third question to be added asking voters whether they support or oppose a constitutional amendment that would outlaw same-sex marriages.

"I think this stinks," said resident George Fitzsimmons.

Many Vermont towns are considering similar ballot measures for their town meetings. Lawmakers want to use the votes a poll of the options that are now being considered by the state Legislature.



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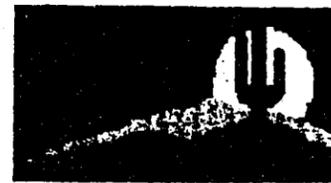
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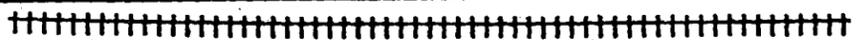
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Columna Abierta by Dr. Eleazar García

Saludandolos como siempre, con los deseos de que todo sea para bien y disculpas por no aparecer en las pasadas ediciones del Observer, parece que ya estaremos cada semana como son nuestros planes e intenciones... Asi es pues, esperamos sus comentarios, sugerencias, preguntas y demas notas que desee compartir a traves de estos espacios.

Se llevó a cabo la II Conferencia de la Fundación Fronteriza de Salud (BHF por sus siglas en Inglés) en Rio Rico Arizona, donde se presentaron numerosas actividades y proyectos que se han realizado en Arizona y Sonora, no cabe duda que la buena relación e intereses comunes han sido factores importantes para la realización de las actividades que se mencionaron durante todo el pasado viernes 28 de enero; felicidades a todas las personas que de una manera u otra hicieron posible el éxito de la Conferencia...

Tambi én se llevaron a cabo las elecciones para la nueva mesa directiva del Consejo Binacional de Salud del Condado de Cochise y el Noroeste de Sonora el pasado 26 de enero en la ciudad de Agua Prieta, Sonora ante la presencia de cerca de 70 personas donde se eligieron a: Co-presidente por Sonora Dr. Armando Torres Field y por el Condado de Cochise a la Sra. Susan Perí; Co- secretarios: Dr. Mark A. Swanson por Sonora y la Sra. Rossy Ortega por el Condado de Cochise; Co-tesoreros: Enf. Irma Ruiz G. por Sonora y Sra. Lourdes Fernández por el Condado de Cochise; los sub- comites que han participado desde el inicio del mencionado Consejo Binacional quedaron de la misma forma y se mantendrán los mismos hasta la próxima reunión que se llevará a cabo durante la tercera semana del mes de marzo, ya les daré la información al respecto... Cabe mencionar que la presencia de la Sra. Eva M. Moya presidente de la AFMES (Asociación Fronteriza Mexico/Estadounidense de Salud) le dió mayor relevancia a tal evento, ya que se mencionó el apoyo que dará la AFMES al mencionado Consejo Binacional de Salud.

En lo que respecta a: SIDA al DIA, La importancia del apoyo psicológico en el SIDA: Uno de los factores clave para impedir la progresión del SIDA por abandono o por falta de cumplimiento del tratamiento es ofrecer un apoyo psicol ógico adecuado a los enfermos infectados por el VIH. Las altas tasas de abandono o incumplimiento del tratamiento -que en algunos lugares alcanzan el 50%- pueden reducirse con una mayor atención psicológica y llevar la adherencia a la terapia hasta casi el 90% de los casos.

Las causas que llevan al abandono continúan siendo la elevada toxicidad de los tratamientos y la exhausta prescripción de fármacos cuya administración debe realizarse de forma escrupulosa para evitar rebrotes de la carga viral en sangre o el desarrollo de resistencia a los medicamentos.

La pastilla única contra el SIDA, "todavía no existe"... , menciona: Douglas Richman, director del Centro de Virología e Investigación del SIDA de la Universidad de California, en San Diego. Lo que sí está disponible son diversas combinaciones de fármacos que, encuadradas bajo el término

"terapias antirretrovirales altamente activas" (HART), permiten reducir la carga viral del VIH a niveles indetectables en sangre, lo que induce a pensar que puede quedar latente en laguna parte del organismo, en especial en el cerebro y en algunas zonas del sistema linfático, adonde los fármacos no tienen acceso. En esta situación, la enfermedad "es controlable" y equiparable a una patología crónica, con medicación de por vida. Este punto ha sido puesto en cuestión en diversos ensayos para evaluar el riesgo de una interrupción controlada del tratamiento para permitir la recuperación del sistema inmunitario, gravemente dañado por la enfermedad. Según investigaciones realizadas sobre un pequeño grupo de enfermos, presentadas en un simposio y que coinciden con las de otros centros, tras la interrupción se da un "rebote" de la carga viral y se obtienen respuestas "transitorias y moderadas" que no implican un deterioro clínico del enfermo. En todo caso, el mecanismo "parece seguro" y el rebote "controlable".

Los centros para el Control y Prevención de Enfermedades (CDC), durante el pasado otoño afirmaron el uso del examen llamado STARHS, (Serologic Testing Algorithm for Determining Recent HIV Seroconversion), el examen diferencia del ELISA, ya que con sólo una pequeña muestra de sangre se puede saber si la infección es nueva o vieja, o sea que ayuda a saber el tiempo de la infección, este examen STARHS, quizá pueda identificar cuando y de dónde la infección se levo a cabo. Actualmente, en San Francisco CA., es la unica ciudad donde se está utilizando este examen.

Ernie Pérez agradece el apoyo que se le dió a los integrantes de Fuerza Latina en su presentación en Valentina's el pasado sábado, y a la vez hace la invitación para que el ultimo sábado de cada mes les acompañe y disfrute del show asi como de musica latina en ese mismo lugar... Y la invitación para que disfrute de Noches Internacionales en el Stonewall este martes 8 de febrero desde las 8:00 p.m. Asi mismo se le hace del conocimiento de los entrenamientos que se estan ofreciendo cada martes, si necesita mas información comunicarse con Rafael Velarde o con Ernie Pérez.

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

Dr. J. Eleazar García
SEAHEC
1171 W. Target Range Rd.
Nogales, AZ 85621
(520) 287-4722, Fax 287-4349

Ernie Perez
Salud es Poder/SAAF
375 S. Euclid Ave.
Tucson, AZ 85719
(520) 628-7223, Fax 628-7222

Theresa Mendez
HIV/AIDS Education Coalition
1852 N. Mastick Way
Nogales, AZ 85621
(520) 761-2146, Fax 761-2154

Border Health Foundation
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Southwest Airlines

Continued from Page One

have constantly run into discrimination against male flight attendants since I have worked there."

A Gay Southwest pilot said he "hadn't seen anything like that."

But the pilot, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said he had heard pilots make negative comments about male attendants, "just routine homophobic things about how they wish we could get rid of these guys and hire more girls."

In response to the Transport Workers Union claims that poor relations between pilots and male flight attendants could affect the safety of flights, Southwest's Hardage pointed out that the airline's safety record was unparalleled.

"There is no tolerance for anything that will compromise safety," she said.

After Kellaher's letter to employees was mailed a second letter was issued, signed by airline officials and representatives of the two unions involved in the dispute.

The letter acknowledged that materials published in union newsletters didn't necessarily state the official position of the union, and stated that both unions believe "every Southwest employee is to be respected as a person."

The statement also said the airline and the two unions recognize that harassment and discrimination against any employee "won't be condoned or tolerated."

Southwest doesn't currently offer domestic-partner benefits, but the matter is under review at the airline, according to Hardage. A decision is expected in the next few months.

The company offers companion passes for single employees, including Gay workers.

A Gay official expressed satisfaction with Kellaher's announcement.

Daryl Herrschaft of the Human Rights Campaign said, "The forces of good have finally prevailed at Southwest."

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Vatican Protests Timing Of Gay/Lesbian Pride Celebration In Rome

ROME, Italy (WS) - Cardinal Angelo Sodano, the number two official in the Catholic Church hierarchy after Pope John Paul, said he hoped authorities would "re-consider" approving a Gay Pride festival in Rome during the church's Jubilee 2000 celebration.

Hundreds of thousands of Gay men and women from around the world are expected to converge on the city from June 28 to July 9 for the World Pride Roma 2000 celebration. The event coincides with the appearance of thousands of Catholic pilgrims marking two centuries since the birth of Jesus Christ.

"The authorities know that Rome is a holy city, as the Concordat says, a city apart because of the presence of the Roman Pontiff," said Sodano, who is Vatican Secretary of State. "It is a matter of a sense of proportion, of balance, and I am sure the authorities will reconsider the matter," he said.

"The civil authorities know how to deal with public order... they know the rules and know how to avoid things that can harm the sensibilities of a city such as Rome," Sodano said.

But Rome's mayor, while sensitive to Vatican objections, insisted the city was big enough to accommodate both events. "You might not go along with the Gay pride event, but it would be a mistake to ban it," Mayor Francesco Rutelli said.

Italian Conservatives have voiced strong objections to approving the Gay festival. Mario Baccini of the conservative party of ex-Christian Democrats slammed the festival as a slap in the face for the Church and called for Prime Minister Massimo D'Alema to withdraw Jubilee 2000 coordinating rights from Rome's city council.

He said cash grants given by the city were not allowed to be used for "any initiative that was not in keeping with the culture of civil respect proper for the city of Rome."

Gay festival organizers chafed at the insinuation that Gay and Lesbian participants would be anything but civil. "What do the censors of the right expect? A storming of the Vatican?" said Sergio Lo Giudice, president of the national Gay association ArciGay. "Those who know Gay Pride... know it is a peaceful and non-violent event."

SPORTS

DESERT COYOTES LEAGUE STANDINGS - THIRD QUARTER

	Won	Lost	Pct
Bear, Pig & Tongue	4.0	0.0	1.000
The Breeders	4.0	0.0	1.000
Daddy's Boys	4.0	0.0	1.000
Helen	3.0	1.0	.750
Gutter Snipes	3.0	1.0	.750
Stim, Trim & Him	3.0	1.0	.750
Erratica 4	2.0	2.0	.500
Pappy-n-the-Youngin's 2.0	2.0	2.0	.500
Mary Poppers	2.0	2.0	.500
The Eagles	2.0	2.0	.500
16 LB Balls	1.0	3.0	.250
Gruntz*	0.0	0.0	.000
3 R-RU 2*	0.0	0.0	.000
Five	0.0	4.0	.000
That's Us!	0.0	4.0	.000
Tres Amigos	0.0	4.0	.000

*Makeup match pending.

First Quarter Champions - 16 LB Balls.
Second Quarter Champions - The Breeders.

SEASON ACHIEVEMENTS

High Average - Keith D., 205; Heather H., 169; Mary Poppers, 532.

High Series Scratch - Heather H., 617; Ken M., 718; Mary Poppers, 1775.

High Game Scratch - Pappy-n-the-Youngin's, 648; Heather H., 258; Erick J., 300.

High Series Handicap - Heather H., 716; Pappy-n-the-Youngin's, 2030; Erick J., 748.

High Game Handicap - Pappy-n-the-Youngin's, 747; Heather H., 291; Erick J., 310.

Cohen Defends Policy

Continued from Page One

worked and will continue to work. We need to improve upon it as far as the harassment aspect."

Responding to alarmist reports in some British media outlets to the resignation of Brigadier Pat Lawless, Secretary Hoon said, "We've had a single resignation for personal reasons. I'm sorry that he's chosen to resign but I understand that he has strongly-held personal feelings.

"That will not affect the policy of the government because that policy, in fact, is the product of a decision of the European Court on Human Rights," Hoon added. "It was a clear decision. We are a signatory to the European Convention on Human Rights.

Hoon said the reforms were "fully consistent with the views of the chiefs of staff. They were involved in the development of a code of conduct that applies equally to heterosexual behavior as it does to homosexual behavior. In the light of that code of conduct we were able to lift our formal policy -- the ban on allowing homosexuals to serve in her majesty's forces."

Cohen said his recommendations would be released to the public soon and that they would stress the importance of preventing harassment of soldiers perceived to be Gay.

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Non-Bar Calendar

Groups / Clubs / Organizations

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 8:00 p.m. Join us for a night out at the theater as we go see the play "good" at the Temple of Music & Art Cabaret Theatre. For reservations, please call 748-0291.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us for our Topic of Discussion as we look at interpersonal skills: reaching out to others and how to respond to people who reach out to you. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-9565.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 6:30 p.m. Join us for our monthly Potluck & Social Gathering as we sit down to eat with some of the nicest Gay guys in town (like you!). This month's gathering also incorporates our Annual Auction which is a lot of fun and where great deals can be found on all sorts of items. The Potluck is held at the Casas Adobe Congregational Church at 6801 N. Oracle. Please call Jerry at 690-9565 for directions and any questions you may have.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 2:00 p.m. Philip hosts a discussion group for Gay men who have been/were married, and have children. For reservations and directions, please call Philip at 320-1124.

2. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 4:30-6:30 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.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Gay Men's Health Project is sponsoring a forum for the next six weeks "Finding True Love In A Man Eat Man World" to be held at the Coffee Xchange on the NW corner of Grant and Campbell in a private meeting room. Just bring your two cents worth because GMHP is picking up the tab. The forum is based on a book by the same name. Find answers to subjects such as how to jump into the dating pool and not bellyflop; How to build healthy relationships from the ground up; and how about the rewards of ending a date with a "good night" and not a "good morning". 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Watch for future forum dates. For more info call SAAF at 628-7223 ext. 232.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join Bill for Dinner Out as we go to the Blue Willow for some good, tasty food. Please phone in your reservation to Bill as soon as possible so we can notify the restaurant of the number of men attending. For directions and reservations, please contact Bill at 546-7539.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 8:00 p.m. MSN travels to Bisbee as they host a Gay pride week, and have a theatrical presentation of "La Cage Aux Folles". At press time, it appeared all tickets were sold out, but if you'd like to have a chance to go, please call Randy at 520/378-3195. If a ticket becomes available, he'll let you know.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Reveille Gay Men's Chorus will present a concert "Reveille - From The Heart" in Bisbee, Arizona, at Lowell Middle School Auditorium, 100 Old Douglas Road at 7:00 p.m.

Queer Voice is sponsoring 'National Freedom To Marry Day' today at 4:00 p.m. at the Main Library, 101 N. Stone Ave. (Downstairs). There will be talks from politicians and activists, a performance by Desert Voices Chorus, a commitment ceremony and reception. Queer Voice is a collaborative program of local agencies including SAAF and Wingspan.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join Bill as he hosts Pinochle Night. If you're a fan of the game, this is the place to go. If you don't know how to play, but want to learn, we'll help you out. For reservations and directions, please call Bill at 297-3569.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:30 a.m. There's a birding expedition to Madera Canyon today. For details, directions, and reservations, please call Gene at 625-8109.

2. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 4:30-6:30 p.m. The Triangle Tribe, an awareness group, meets to learn and use communication and relationship skills toward developing feelings of trust, love, acceptance and brotherhood. For reservations and directions, please call Tom at 318-1650.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Bridge night. Bridge for men who want to refresh their bridge skills (or just have fun); table talk playing. For reservations and directions, please call Perry at 321-4387.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join Jerry & Les for the MSN Premiere of "Man of the Year". This gentle mockumentary is about a Playgirl man of the year who happens to be Gay (what a shock!). For directions and reservations, please call Les or Jerry at 690-9565.

Bar Calendar

Of Upcoming Events

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

IBTS - The "Girle Show" with Lucinda Holiday, Mr Kenneth Blake and Veronica Lake.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3

IBTS - A return appearance by the hilarious Rudy De La Mor. Make your plans now and get here early for a good seat. The show will start at 8:00 p.m. No cover for this IBT exclusive!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5

VALENTINA'S - Showtime here at 9:00 p.m. Your hostess with the mostess is Crystal Abrams and will star Jade Abrams, Veronica Lake and Mr. Kenneth Blake.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6

IBTS - Benefit Bar-B-Que and Beer Bust for IBT's Arizona Angels Softball Team. 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. with Karaoke on the patio with Billy Dee from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Then at 8:00 p.m., the Bud Team will take over for fun, games and prizes. THEN at 9:00 p.m. there will be a special Fundraiser Show for Deora De Havilland, a candidate for Miss Gay Tucson. The show will feature Aja Simone, Bunny FuFu, Veronica Lake, Faith Michaels and Stella Virgin.

WOODY'S - Open Volleyball Sundays from noon until ????. Form a team or show up. The volleyball court is available 7 days a week!!!

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

VENTURE-N - Aquarius Party begins at 8:00 p.m. hosted by Mr. Venture-N Keith and Venture-N Boy Louis. 50/50 raffle, games, goodies. Celebrate with the hot Aquarius men!

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

IBTS - The Girle Show begins at 9:00 p.m. hosted by Lucinda Holiday with Aja Simone and Tiffany St. Thomas with special guests.

FRI. SAT. SUN. FEBRUARY 11-12-13

Mr. Padlock Contest in Phoenix, 998 E. Indian School. Deadline for entry is January 30. Winning contestant receives hotel and air fare to Chicago for the International Mr. Leather contest May 25-29. Call the Padlock, 1-602-266-5640 for entry details.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14

IBTS - A big Valentine's Party is planned here. Watch for details.



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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us for our monthly Pizza Party held at Jerry & Les' home. Simply bring \$4.00 and join in for a fun evening of food and good conversation. Salad and dessert are also served. Vegetarian pizza offered as well. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry or Les at 690-9565. Please note: reservations should be made by Thursday, February 18 at noon so we can order the proper number of pizzas (but we do order a couple of extra pizzas just in case this isn't read until the day of the event).

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19

TIHAN theYucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network, will hold its 3rd annual Treasures for TIHAN Auction at St. Phillip's in the Hills Episcopal Church located at River and Campbell. The auction will feature original works by local artists, treasures donated by friends of TIHAN, gift certificates and much more. Items to be auctioned will be on display beginning at 5:30 p.m. and hors d'oeuvres will be served. The bidding begins at 7:00 p.m. Come join the fun, pick up some bargains and help raise funds for an organization that makes a difference in the lives of many people. For more info call TIHAN at 299-6647.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join Robert and Bob as they host a Singles Party. Here's an opportunity to meet new men in a safe, fun atmosphere. For reservations and directions call Robert at 408-7114, or Bob at 888-2725.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 4:30-6:30 p.m. The Triangle Tribe, an awareness group, meets to learn and use communication and relationship skills toward developing feelings of trust, love, acceptance and brotherhood. For reservations and directions, please call Tom at 318-1650.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. A night is devoted to getting out the MSN newsletters. It's a fun way to help the organization and get to know the MSN guys. Dessert and door prizes are provided. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-9565.

2. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 8:00 p.m. Join us for the MSN Premiere of "Trick", a charming 1999 movie about 2 guys trying to find a place to consummate their relationship. For reservations & directions, please call Les or Jerry at 690-9565.

Daily Bar Calendar

Sunday

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

IBT's - Open 11am-1am. Happy Hour 11-4pm. \$2.00 domestic beer and well. \$1.75 well & domestic beer 4-9pm. Benefit B-B-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.

STONEWALL - Bar open Noon. Srimoff Sundays! Make your own Bloody Marys bar. Flashback Sundays in the Dance Club. Open 8pm. Well drinks \$1 from 8-9pm. Music of the 70s and 80s with DJ Marquis. Billy Dee Karaoke in the bar 9pm to close.

VALENTINA'S - Open 11am. Happy Hour 11am to 7pm. Bloody Mary & Boiler maker specials. BBQ (\$2.50 & \$5.00) from 4-9pm. All request DJ 9pm to close.

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.

WOODY'S - Open Noon. Happy Hour 3-7pm. Volleyball Court is Open. Check in with bartender.

Monday

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

IBT's - Open 10am. Martini Monday all day all cal martinis \$2.50. Happy Hour 10am-4pm, \$2.00 domestic beer and well. \$1.75 well and domestic beer 4-9pm. 9pm to closing. \$1.50 / 32oz pitchers. Karaoke Billy Dee 7:00-9:30pm Retro 80's dance 9:30pm to closing. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL - Bar opens noon. Dance Club opens 8pm. All well drinks \$1.00 in dance club 8-9pm. Hot dance mix with DJ ob.

VALENTINA'S - Open 11am. Happy Hour til 7: BBQ (\$1.50) 4-9pm. Big screen sporting events. All request DJ 9pm to closing.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Dart 10am-6pm, pot matched. Patio opens 5pm. WOODY'S - Open Noon. Happy Hour 3-7pm. Karaoke w/Billy Dee 9pm to close. Volleyball Court is Open. See bartender.

Tuesday

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

IBT's - Open 10am. Happy Hour 10am-4pm, \$2.00 domestic beer & well. \$1.75 well & domestic beer 4-9pm. 9pm to close \$1.75 well. Wear an IBT's T-shirt get happy hour prizes 9 to close, or buy an IBT's T-shirt for \$5 and get a complimentary drink. House Hi-Nergy Dance 9pm to closing.

STONEWALL - Open Noon. Dance Club opens 8pm. DJ Eduardo is back. \$1.00 well drinks in Dance Club til 9pm.

VALENTINA'S - Open 11am. Extended Happy Hour til 9pm: BBQ (\$1.50) 4-7pm Oh So Scary-oake (Karaoke) 9pm - 12:45am.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Patio open 5pm. 1st Tuesday TKO Spaghetti Feed. WOODY'S - Open Noon. Happy Hour 3-7pm. Trivia Party 8pm-close. Top score on NTN per game wins special prizes. Skyy's the limit \$2.25

Wednesday

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

IBT's - Open 10am to 1am. Happy Hour 10am to 4pm, \$2.00 domestic beer & well. \$1.75 well & domestic beer 4-9pm. \$1.75 Bud Products 9pm to close. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL - Open Noon. Dance Club opens 8pm. DJ Rob and his hot mix. All well drinks in Dance Club \$1.00 til 9pm. Karaoke with Billy Dee 9pm til close in the bar.

VALENTINA'S - Open 11am. Happy Hour til 9pm. Pool touney 7:30pm (pot matched). Lounge Lizards Paradise: 50¢ shot sampler/bartenders choice. All request DJ 9pm.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Cuervo Gold \$2 and Cuervo 1800 \$2.25 Open to close. Patio opens at 5pm.

WOODY'S - Open Noon. Happy Hour 3-7pm. Volleyball on demand 7 days a week. See bartender.

Thursday

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

IBT's - Open 10am to 1am. Happy Hour 10am-4pm \$2.00 domestic beer and well. \$1.75 Well & domestic 4-9. Underwear Nite. \$1.50 well and \$1.75 domestic beer to those in their underwear (pant check available). Hi energy dancing 9-close. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL - Open Noon. Dance club opens at 8pm with \$1 well drinks from 8-9. Dance with DJ Marquis.

VALENTINA'S - Open 11am. Happy Hour til 7: \$1.50 Well or Domestic 9-11pm. Karaoke 9pm-12:45am.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Patio open 5pm. Day prices for men in leather 7pm to close. Pool Tournament 7pm-ish. \$3 entry. Hides Leather shop opens at 8pm.

WOODY'S - Open Noon. Happy Hour 3-7pm. Trivia Thursday 8pm-close. Top score on NTN per game wins special prizes. Volleyball Court is Open. See bartender.

Friday

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

IBT's - Open 10am. Happy Hour 10am-4pm \$2.00 domestic beer and well. \$1.75 well & domestic beer 4-9. 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.

STONEWALL - Open Noon. Dance Club open 8pm with \$1 well drinks til 9pm. Dance with DJ Marquis.

VALENTINA'S - Open 11am. Happy Hour til 7. Girl Iz will be Boyz drink specials posted above the bar. All request DJ 9pm to close.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Snacks served at 5pm. Patio open 5pm. Hides Leather Store opens 8pm.

WOODY'S - Open Noon. Happy Hour 3-7pm Martini Party - Well Martini's \$2. Cal Martinis \$3 from 4pm to close. Volleyball Court is Open. See bartender.

Saturday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Open at 2pm. Drink specials all day. Pool Tournament 5:30pm \$3 entry. Pot matched. Dance music w/DJ Hil 9-close. Drink special every half hour.

IBT's - Open 10am to 1am. Happy Hour 10am-4pm \$2.00 domestic beer and well. \$1.75 well & domestic beer 4-9pm. Patio bar 9-1. Dance 9-1. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL - Open Noon. Dance Club opens at 8pm with \$1 well drinks til 9pm. Dance with DJ Marquis.

VALENTINA'S - Open 11am. Happy Hour til 7. A variety of shows hosted by 'Crystal Abrams'. 9pm. All donations go to charity. All request DJ 10pm to close.

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.

WOODY'S - Open Noon. Happy Hour 3-7pm. Volleyball Court is Open. See bartender.

THURSDAY - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24-27

4 Day Youth Retreat sponsored by Queer Voice. The retreat is for queer youth 23 and under. It's free. All you need to bring is sleeping gear, clothes and toiletries. Topics include Coming Out; Homophobia Dating and Communication; Sex and Sexuality; Drugs and Alcohol Activism and Leadership. To sign up or for more information call Miki or Robyn at 628-7223 or 410-4512. Queer Voice is a program of SAAF, Pima County Health Department and Wingspan.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join Les & Jerry as they host Game Night. Whether it's card games or board games, you'll be able to find someone willing to have fun. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry or Les at 690-9565.

NOTICES

TUCSON INTERFAITH HIV/AIDS NETWORK (TIHAN), a coalition of faith communities committed to a compassionate response to HIV/AIDS, provides HIV education in congregational settings, volunteer CareTeams to support HIV+ persons, a referral network of HIV-sensitive clergy, and interfaith services of healing and hope. For more information call 299-6647.

LESBIAN/GAY/BI-SEXUAL OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Saturdays 1 to 2m new location Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. Contacts 325-8676 or 327-4293.

ANONYMOUS HIV COUNSELING AND TESTING is available through the Pima County Health Department at sites throughout Tucson. Very Gay Friendly. For more information or to make an appointment call 791-7876.

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) a free non-12-step self-help alternative for people working to overcome addictive and other emotional problems meets in Tucson Monday thru Thursdays at different locations. For more information about SMART, contact Brenda at 884-9920, Ext.448 or Emmett 322-8057 (evetten@ix.netcom.com)

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

OUTLOUD! Tucson's premiere Local Lesbian and Gay Radio Show, broadcast every Wednesday at 6:03 pm on 91.3 FM, Community Radio KXCL. 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 888-8010 before 10:00 p.m. The group dines out and attends shows or movies. Now in their 16th year! (2nd in Tucson).

SOUTHERN ARIZONA GENDER ALLIANCE (SAGA). Meetings on the 1st Monday, 7pm. Dezert Girtz (MTF) Meets 2nd Monday at 7pm. Dezert Boyz meets 3rd Tuesday at 7pm. of every month. All meetings take place at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. Call 624-1779 for more info. SAGAE@mail@aol.com http://members.aol.com/sagae@mail

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

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

TUCSON'S 100% CONSENSUAL, Pan-Fetish, Pan-Sexual, Informational Safe Space for the B&D, S&M, D&S and TV community. Call us at (520)817-4661, or http://www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/Heights/5086

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

SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS. Starting this February, the Tucson Rape crisis Center will be providing free confidential group services for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender survivors of all manner of sexual assault. Interested persons please call 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 Kim (602)534-8219 (Phoenix)

GLSEN - Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network meets first Thursday of every month at 4:30pm at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th Street. 743-4800.

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

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. Write LC, 7014 E. Golf Links Road, PMB 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)

REVELLE GAYMEN'S CHORUS rehearses Tuesdays 7-10pm at MCC Church, 3289 N. Mountain. Have any history/experience singing? Join us! Call 881-1369 to audition. 617-3100 for more info.

HKE & BIKE DYKES. Meets 2nd Monday at 7pm. Call 327-7239 for info.

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE .25 PER WORD \$5.00 MINIMUM



CLASSIFIEDS



CLASSIFIED ADS MUST BE MAILED, NO PHONE ADS

NOTICES

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION (SAAF), 375 S. EUCLID. Office Hours 8am to 5pm, Monday through Friday. Direct services and emotional support for persons with and affected by HIV. Anonymous HIV testing and support groups available. Prevention education programs. 628-SAAF (7223). World wide web: http://www.sAAF.org. VOLUNTEERS WELCOME.

FRONT RUNNERS OF TUCSON meet every Sunday morning and some weeknights for fun runs. For more information call Mitch at 328-3555 or e-mail mandmtuaz@worldnet.att.net

P.F.L.A.G. - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays - is a support group available to anyone who has a son, daughter or friend who is Gay. Call 575-8660 or write P.O. Box 38284, Tucson, AZ 85740-6264. All replies confidential.

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

YOUNG AND GAY?

GLBT Youth 23 and under, meet every Saturday in Tucson for sharing, support and information. Meetings are held at 300 E. 6th Street from 3 to 4:30 pm. You are not alone. For more info call Wingspan, 624-1779.

The **TUCSON Chapter of PRIME TIMERS INTERNATIONAL** invites Gay or Bisexual men and their admirers to join and share Prime Timers fellowship. We welcome mature men (and admirers) who wish to become involved with planned and future Prime Timers activities. Meetings luncheons and dinners are held monthly. For dates, times and information call 684-0280, leave name and phone number.

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

AIDS HOTLINE - 328-AIDS. Hours M-F, 9:00 am to 10:00 pm. Information, counseling, HIV-related services, Tucson.

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

WINGSPAN - Tucson's Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Community Center, 300 E. 6th St., offers support groups / info line / social events / library / meeting space. Volunteer Opportunities. Board meetings every 2nd Thursday (open to all), 8:00 p.m. Information 624-1779.

SUPPORT GROUP: Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals meet weekly for open discussions in a loving, supportive atmosphere. Meetings Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:30 pm at St. Francis in the Foothills Church, Swan and River Road. Room 43. Call the church at Davey at 888-1208 or Brian at 882-4728 for information.

LESBIAN SOCIAL DISCUSSION GROUP. Meetings 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 7 to 8:30 pm. Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. Come Chat!

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

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

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

ATTENTION ALL NUDISTS - Tucson Tanners is a nudist group open to all - Nude activities scheduled both indoor and outdoors. Not "Gay Only", but Gays are welcome and invited to join. For further information send SASE to: Tucson Tanners, P.O. Box 84-G, Cortaro, AZ 85852.

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

COCHISE COUNTY LESBIANS AND GAYS. P.O. Box 818, Bisbee, AZ 85803 / (602)432-5591. Rap Group, Youth Group, Social and Political Events.

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

SOFTBALL - For info on the Tucson Greater Softball Association T.G.S.A., please contact. Mary 770-9079 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 299-8847.

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT SPORTS TEAMS and updates on Gay Games 2002, contact TEAM ARIZONA at their website: teamarizona.org

NOTICES

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

LESBIAN AND GAY AL-ANON - Affected by someone's drinking? Meeting every Tuesday 8:45 to 9:45 p.m. at Lambda Center, 2940 E. Thomas, Phoenix. Ellie 581-6850 or Ronn 968-2384.

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

CRONIES SOCIAL GROUP. A Social group for Gay men who enjoy the fellowship of their peers. Call Leo at 624-6768.

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. Geronimo (near 1st Ave. and Laguna). Open to All. Call Liz at 325-9466 or Ray at 749-5247.

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

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 791-9682.

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

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

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

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.

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

THE MEN'S MESSAGE GROUP meets the 3rd Sunday of each month. It is a good way to meet other men of all ages, safely, and with the art of nurturing touch. There is a fee. You must sign up in advance to participate. Call Marc at 881-4582 for more information or sign up.

COMMUNITY BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (CBA), Tucson's Gay and Lesbian business networking group holds regular meetings the third Thursday of every month. Call Greg Hollman 529-7542 for more info.

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

LEARN TO BE A LISTENING FRIEND. Unique Hospital Volunteer Program teaches listening skills to Volunteers who provide a safe/compassionate environment to at-risk patients. Training every 8 weeks. 694-7063.

HOUSING/FOR RENT

RENOVATED DOWN APARTMENTS. 6 LEFT. Come reserve yours now. Studios and 1br apts. \$350 - \$525. 29 W. Kennedy or call 270-2810. Gay management. 811

FOR RENT: 1BD, 1BA. Cozy private guest house in South Tucson. \$375/mo. Water included. For more info call 331-2808 812

STUDIO APT. NEAR MOUNTAIN & FT. LOWELL. Washer/dryer, a/c, Private yard & patio. Pets OK. \$375/mo. 622-7039 811.

MOUNTAIN AND PRINCE 2br, 1ba in private, secure, quiet triplex. A/C. Washer/dryer hook-up. Dishwasher. Fenced yard. \$535/mo. 622-7039 811.

FOR RENT: 2 bedroom, 1 bath Duplex. Carpet, storage, large closets, washer & dryer and water included. \$450 per month. Gay owned and managed. Call 629-0323 for more information. 811.

VARIOUS CENTRAL TUCSON LOCATIONS. Large 1 and 2 bedroom apartments unfurnished. Clean, private, quiet. Many extras. Special move-in prices. Call 620-0130 812

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5 YEAR OLD YORKIE. Neutered, house trained, watch dog. Good home. \$150.00. 687-2519. 810

ROOMMATES

AJOLA CHOLLA: Housemate wanted to share 4BR 3BA home with two individuals, 1M & 1F. Interests are horses, computers, and sports. Must be quiet, mature and responsible. \$400/mo. 792-4726. 814

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 (800)383-7883 Talk Live With Men 18+ 813

CYBER CRUISE - Meet Arizona Gay men and women as well as people all over the U.S. Gay owned. www.movo.com 815

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 estrictamente confidencial al 628-7223, ext. 248 y pregunta por Ernesto. 813

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 628-7223 ext 248 and ask for Ernie. 813

EMPLOYMENT

Looking for live-in houseboy for male couple on NW side of Tucson. Non-Sexual. Room and board and computer will be provided. Must be neat and clean. No smoking or drugs. Contact Terry at 909-2898.

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EFFECTIVE, EXPERIENCED MASSAGE THERAPIST, specializing in deep tissue Swedish and Neuromuscular Therapy (pain relief). Certified, Licensed. Flexible hours Torrance 628-8999 815

LET ME PAMPER YOU! With a Full Body Swedish massage in a quiet, relaxed atmosphere. \$35 for a full hour. Ralph, 883-7496. 828

SACRED TOUCH, HEALING TOUCH: The healing touch of Lomilomi learned from a third generation Hawaiian master combined with the sacred touch of 'Esalen' massage can be experienced today. Be massaged, soothed, and nurtured by strong, yet gentle hands. Deep tissue touch is available, always working to your comfort level. Days and evenings, sometimes at a moment's notice. Both in and outcalls available.

Call Glen, CMT, at 907-2551 for the touch you so richly deserve. 811

MASSAGE FOR THE DISCRIMINATING MALE. Specializing in a combination therapy of Swedish, Deep tissue, and Lomi Lomi massage techniques to rejuvenate the body. 7 years experience. Certified. Jeff, (520)270-3191. 812

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LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPIST: Let my skilled techniques and intuitive nature work out pain, relieve sore muscles, and make you feel relaxed and renewed. Please call Les Elliott at 890-9565. Therapeutic, non-sexual healing. 814

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FOOTHILLS MESSAGE. BEST IN TUCSON. New York trained. 10 years experience. Near Sunrise & Craycroft. In & Out calls. Greg Stickroth, 469-0522 814

FULL BODY SWEDISH MASSAGE FOR MEN A healthy invigorating total experience for men of all ages. Peaceful, private setting, Discreet. Full hour \$35. Marvin 289-9651 811

ENJOY DEEP RELAXATION... & QUALITY aroma massage, with tantric bodywork with 19 years of experience; unlike any massage. Feel good with strong, gentle hands. Marc, 881-4582. 814

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