Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

Observer

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Deora Le Blanc Crowned Miss Gay Tucson America 2002

TUCSON - It looks like it hadn't quite sunk in yet, but Deora Le Blanc had just been announced as Miss Gay Tucson America 2001-02 and was being crowned in the above photo. The pageant took place last Sunday, April 29 at the Inn Suites Hotel. The audience gave its approval with a standing ovation following Deora's dynamic talent presentation along with back up dancers 'Tin Man, Cowardly Lion and the Scarecrow'. Congratulations Deora and also to Runner-Up Faith Michaels. Both will enter the Miss Gay Arizona Pageant July 21st. And congratulations to Bunny FuFu the retiring Miss Gay Tucson 2000-01. More photos on page Fourteen.

Communications Workers Union Cuts Ties To Boy Scouts

WASHINGTON, DC (NP) - The Boy Scouts' continued discrimination against Gays has led to the loss of yet another backer -- and this time, it's one of America's largest labor unions.

One of the largest labor unions in the country is severing its ties with the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) because of that organization's exclusion of Gay people, and is urging its members to follow suit.

The Executive Board of the Communication Workers of America (CWA) voted this month to end the union's long-standing supportive relationship with the BSA "until such time as its leaders reverse their policy of excluding Gays from membership or volunteer activities in scouting."

In the past, the union has frequently featured a Scout honor guard in the opening of their national conventions and has supported its members' volunteerism with the Scouts.

The resolution notes the positive experience the BSA has provided to youth over the years, but calls the BSA policy "an appalling step backward at a time when other American institutions -- churches, corporations, school systems, even the

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Jell-O Wrestling Benefit For SAAF This Sunday, May 6

TUCSON - The Fourteenth Annual Reno Gannon Memorial Jell-O Wrestling Extravaganza returns Sunday, May 6, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m., at Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Road.

Proceeds from this event will go to the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF), to help provide services for people living with and affected by HIV and AIDS. There will be a $3 cover at the door, SAAF clients will be admitted free with an advance ticket. Clients need to call SAAF at (520) 628-7223 to pick up or have ticket mailed. Seating is limited to the first 800 people, so come early for the best seating.

The Mistresses of Ceremonies, Auctioneers and Fund Raisers extraordinaire are once again, Gilda Fatale and the "Queen of Comedy," Lucinda Holliday. Gilda and Lucinda will be auctioning of many wonderful items, including: two tickets to the Opening Night performance of Elton John & Tim Rice's "AIDA"; two tickets to the opening night of "Cirque" (both donated by UA Presents); A Bisbee weekend get-away for two, including bed and breakfast and hot tubbing; Tufted, claw-footed window bench, matching pillow donated by Glenn and Claudio, plus art sculptures, dinners and more.

The event features community members who have raised pledges to go head to head to slip and slide in a pit full of Jell-O. While the Jell-O wrestling draws the crowd, the largest fund raising component of the event is a live auction and raffle. Many items donated from local community merchants will be raffled or auctioned off.

One dollar raffle tickets are available for a plethora of prize, including a San Francisco get-away for two, including flight, two-night stay, $200 in Traveler's Checks and brunch. Tickets are available at IBT's, Woody's and SAAF.

Bush Drive To Reshape Federal Judiciary Begins

WASHINGTON, DC - The Senate Judiciary Committee is meeting to discuss the rules for confirming George W. Bush's lower court judicial nominations. In May, the White House is expected to present its first slate of nominees, kick-starting what promises to be one of the most highly charged and contentious political battles in Washington since the start of the new administration.

During Clinton's tenure, the Republican-led Congress was so successful in blocking nominations through inaction that, by the time Clinton left office, the Senate had failed to act on some 44 judicial nominees put forward by the administration. Many were appellate court nominees who had been waiting on confirmation for many years.

Some 36 slots had no nominees put forward at all as the process became more and more bogged down. Combined with vacancies resulting from retirement and death, there are now some 100 vacant federal judgeships waiting to be filled -- nearly one-eighth of the federal judiciary.

In 1997, Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, when asked if Senate Republicans were deliberately slowing down the confirmation process, grinned and said "Sounds like a good idea to me..." Federal judges, he declared, were "the top of the list" of the most unpopular people in the country. "When I go home, nobody says, 'Please give us some more federal judges.'"

But as Nina Totenberg reported recently on National Public Radio, the shoe is now on the other foot, and the White House is moving very quickly to fill judicial slots, some of which have been vacant since 1996. And fill them, almost entirely, with staunch conservatives.

Why are federal judgeships important to the Gay community? Evan Wolfson, formerly of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund told the DataLounge Monday, "over the next several months and years many civil rights claims will come before judges at every level of the federal judiciary. It's essential that those judges be committed to equality at every level for every American citizen."

Senate inaction on Clinton's judicial nominations was no accident. Then Senator and now Attorney General John Ashcroft reasoned it was better to stall -- in some cases for years -- rather than engage in a bruising ideological confrontation most conservatives figured they would lose. The tactic worked -- has now come back to haunt them.

The Democrats are angry and not just liberal Democrats, either. Democrats of every ideological stripe, hailing from every region in the country are primed for a fight they don't intend to lose.

Sen John Edwards of North Carolina told NPR, "We haven't had a hearing on getting a judge on the United

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWELVE

UPDATE

Felice Picano Book Signing May 4

Felice Picano

TUCSON - Felice Picano will be reading from and signing copies of his latest work, Onyx, Friday, May 4, 7:00 p.m. at Antigone Bookstore, 411 N. Fourth Avenue.

Onyx is a multifaceted exploration of inner lives, motivation, love, and the sometimes hollow center beneath a polished surface.

For more information, call Antigone Books, (520) 792-3715.

Massage Therapists Needed At SAAF

TUCSON - The Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation is in need of Massage Therapists and Bodyworkers to volunteer at two bodywork clinics for people living with HIV/AIDS.

At the clinics, SAAF provides a private clean office environment for you to work in. SAAF supplies the tables, linens, lotions and music for you to conduct your massage. SAAF also provides staffed volunteers who set up all the appointments for the clinics and run the reception area.

If you are interested in helping out or need additional information about our clinics, please call the coordinator, Curt Beall, (520) 877-9161.

Arizonan Elected To National Stonewall Board Of Directors

PHOENIX - Lee Bolin, a long-time Democratic Party activist, has been elected to the board of directors of the National Stonewall Democrats, the country's largest partisan Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender political organization.

The 39-year-old Tempe resident was elected to one of 24 regional seats from across the country. Including six at-large seats and one advisory seat, the entire board consists of 31 members.

Bolin has held a number of key positions in the Arizona Democratic Party, and he has helped elect many pro-Gay candidates for public office in Arizona. Bolin was also an early member of the Arizona Democratic Party's Gay and Lesbian Caucus, which evolved into the Arizona Stonewall Democrats.

Gay Man Named To Head ACLU

NEW YORK, NY (WS) - Anthony Romero, a 35-year-old Gay Latino, has been named executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union, the national civil rights organization.

Romero will replace Ira Glasser, who is stepping down after 23 years at the organization. "It's the thrill of my life," Romero said. "The ACLU is the nation's premier civil rights-civil liberties organization in the nation. It's the only one that defends the whole range of civil rights and civil liberties for all Americans."

Romero is a graduate of Princeton University and Stanford Law School. He is currently the director of human rights and international cooperation at the Ford Foundation. Romero turned the human rights program at the foundation into the nation's largest, with $90 million in grants being made last year.

"It's just such a wonderful embodiment of the future of civil liberties and the future of this country to have someone who is so young and who represents the future of America, who is bilingual and Gay," Nadine Strossen, president of the ACLU, said. Romero lives in the Chelsea section of Manhattan with his partner.

'Many Voices United... For Life' Is Focus Of Tucson AIDS Service

TUCSON - "Many Voices United...for Life" is the theme of the Sixth Annual Tucson AIDS Candlelight Service that is planned for 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., Saturday, May 12, at the Georges Demeester Performance Center in Tucson's Reid Park.

Sponsored by a group of community and health organizations including Wingspan, Tucson's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender community center, the service will provide information about the disease and renew the event organizers' message that AIDS – which emerged in the early 1980s – has not gone away and remains a threat to all segments of society.

"This is not a pocketed issue that is affecting just a particular group of people," said Quinton Jenkins, the Candlelight Service chair. "It's affecting everyone. I want people attending the event to take away real knowledge about the current status of the virus."

To help do that, event organizers are trying to put a human face on the issue by asking community members to visit four area agencies to write messages about how HIV/AIDS has affected their lives or those of a friend, relative or loved one. The messages will then be included on a Community HIV/AIDS Canvas that will be displayed at the service.

Written messages may be submitted by May 9 by visiting: Wingspan, 300 E. Sixth St., (520) 624-1779, The Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation, 375 S. Euclid Ave., (520) 628-7223, COPE Behavioral Services/Health Promotions, 101 S. Stone Ave., (520) 798-1772.

Information about how to write your message at Queer Voice, a support organization for GLBT youth, is available by calling (520) 620-6245. In addition to the memorial canvas, the event will take on an education and ecumenical theme by including appearances by:

Representatives of the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation, Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network, COPE Behavioral Services/Health Promotions, the Intertribal Health Care Center and Queer Voice, DesertVoices, an adult GLBT chorus, The Rev. Joyce Cook of Water of Life Metropolitan Community Church, - Byron Brooks, a person living with AIDS and Mr. Gay Pride 2000 – 2001. The event also will feature performances by singer Lauren Eberhart; Mr. Kenneth Blake, as Celine Dion; Kurt Anthon with the Ensemble - Tribe like Bizarre and pianist Ken Thames!

For information, contact committee chair Quinton Jenkins, (520) 795-1381.

SAAF
SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION
is looking for a FEW GOOD .... VOLUNTEERS for our Share Bears Program
A great opportunity to meet people while making a difference!
100% of the funds raised by Share Bears volunteers will be used to provide emergency assistance to clients of SAAF
For more information, call Kathie or Melissa at 628-7223.

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Queer Voice Youth Center Opens

TUCSON - Gay and Lesbian youths in Tucson now have a place to call their own, the Arizona Daily Star reported. It's an art gallery, art studio, TV room and place to go for homework help.

But don't expect to see any signs identifying the QueerVoice Lounge Youth Center. Tucson's first community center for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered teens and young adults is unmarked and has an unpublished address.

"We want to protect young people from potential harassment. They need to have a safe space. It's an absolute must," said Mike Pollack, 21, program coordinator of the new drop-in lounge. It's in the Downtown North Fourth Avenue area and aimed at people 23 and younger.

He said that despite improved visibility, many homosexual youths continue to suffer from social isolation, depression and homophobia. "I know of at least five kids who are either homeless or on the verge of being homeless because of their sexual orientation," he said.

The center is not solely intended as a place to hang out. It will sponsor safe-sex education, HIV testing, dances, art displays and poetry "slams," or open-microphone poetry competitions. On Friday the center sponsored a queer prom.

Pollack, whose salary is funded by the county, is using Gay-straight alliances at local high schools as a starting point for advertising the drop-in center.

Wingspan, which is Tucson's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered community center, is also referring teens to the new lounge.

"We don't want just anyone to be able to walk in," said Ruben Grace, 23, an outreach specialist at the center. "Some of our youths don't want to be automatically labeled as queer when they go in."

Pollack expects about 100 people per week, including heterosexual youths, will use the center.

On its opening day, about eight youths were at the lounge, eating pizza and talking to Pollack.

"I used to go to Wingspan a lot, but it's more centered on adults, and I'd get bored," said Ben Healy, 15, a Gay sophomore at Tucson High School who has been "out" since he was in middle school.

"I still think they should open up a Gay club for kids. But this place is great for giving us somewhere to hang out and relax. And my straight friends can come in here, too," said Healy, who attended Friday's prom in drag.

"I think I like the idea of an unpublished address, though I'd worry about kids passing by who may not know about us. On the other hand, it keeps the anonymity of closeted people."

Kent Burbank, executive director of Wingspan, said kids are coming out as young as 14 and 15, mainly because of increased awareness and acceptance in society. But it doesn't mean life is easy for them.

"There are some Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered youths who are still struggling to accept who they are, and they do have trouble coming to Wingspan where we have a sign and big rainbows outside the door. Unfortunately there is still a stigma in our society," he said.

Members of the QueerVoice youth support group, a 6-year-old program of the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation, Wingspan and the Pima County Health Department, suggested the lounge. It became possible as a result of a grant from the Arizona Department of Health Services and is now a collaborative project of the three agencies that sponsor the QueerVoice support group.

The lounge officially opened April 19, operating with regular hours of 2:00 to 8:00 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday.

The QueerVoice youth group activities have now transferred to the lounge, including Friday's third annual QueerVoice prom, as well as the Mr. and Miss Gay Teen Tucson Pageant, Drag 101 classes and an annual Queer Youth Leadership Retreat.

The new lounge is already decorated with artwork by teens promoting diversity and pride. Empowerment is the main goal of the gathering place, and so is safer-sex education, Pollack said.

"The lounge is a means to HIV prevention. Gay youths are still at high risk," he said.

Toni Haywood, 17, a junior who is president of Desert View High School's Spectrum Alliance, said Gay-straight alliances and the lounge have different purposes. The alliances advocate visibility and education against hate.

Six Tucson-area high schools have such clubs this semester: Tucson, Amphitheater, Canyon del Oro, Desert View, University and Catalina Foothills.

Haywood, who is Bisexual, plans to use the QueerVoice lounge for socializing. She attended Friday's prom.

"Some people just don't understand, and I think a lot of kids don't get the support they need," Haywood said.

"The kids have a good forum here at school where they can talk. But at the lounge they can be a little more informal and free to discuss issues that they don't feel comfortable talking about at school," said Martin Brown, co-sponsor of Desert View's Spectrum.

"I would say that kids are freer than they used to be, but they still have to be guarded about who they come out to and who they say things to, those sorts of issues. There is some antagonism."

Marc Paley, 23, a massage therapist and student, was part of the original QueerVoice group. When he was a student at Canyon del Oro High School there was no Gay-straight alliance, and Tucson had no social outlets for homosexual youths, he said.

"I lived in the land of adults. But adults don't operate on the same social and emotional level as teen-agers," Paley said. "I'm getting connected now to more people my own age than ever before."

Paley attended this weekend's QueerVoice prom.

"I feel like I'm recapturing experiences I didn't have when I was younger," he said.

14th Annual Reno Gannon Memorial

SEATING IS LIMITED TO FIRST 800 PEOPLE- COME EARLY FOR BEST SEATING

NO ONE UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE ADMITTED

Mistresses of Ceremonies
Lucinda Holliday and Gilda Fatale!

Sunday, May 6th
4pm to 7pm

Woody's
3710 N Oracle

SOME OF THE ITEMS TO BE AUCTIONED AT JELL-O

- 2 tickets to the Opening Night performance of Elton John & Tim Rice's "AIDA";
- 2 tickets to the Opening Night of "CIRQUE" (both donated by UA Presents);
- Bisbee Weekend-Get-Away-for-Two including bed and breakfast and hot tubbing;
- Tufted, claw-footed window bench, matching pillows donated by Glenn & Claudio

plus ART - SCULPTURES, DINNERS - AND MORE!

RAFFLE DRAWING

will be held for a SAN FRANCISCO-GET-AWAY-FOR-TWO including flight, two-night stay, $200 in Traveler's Checks and brunch! $1.00 tickets available at IBT's, Woody's and SAAF.

For more information or wrestler packets, call 628-7223

$3.00 cover at the door
(SAAF clients admitted free with advance ticket, Call SAAF to pick up or have ticket mailed)

PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE
SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION

EDITORIAL

The Time For Action Is Now!

Since the early 1990's, legislative attempts to repeal Arizona's 100-year-old, seldom enforced archaic laws, dealing with sodomy, cohabitation and "lewd and lascivious acts," have been ongoing but unsuccessful, thanks to conservative state legislators who've blocked the numerous proposals, either through parliamentary procedures or underhanded tactics.

During this current session of the Arizona Legislature, with a new influx of moderate, first-term lawmakers, things have changed and for the first time, a bill repealing Arizona's archaic laws is headed for the governor's desk.

HB 2016, sponsored by openly Gay state Representative Steve May, R-Paradise Valley, is the measure that would strike these discriminatory laws off the books, and also allow same-sex couples to be able to take deductions on their income tax forms, for which they currently cannot, due to laws prohibiting non-familial cohabitation being on the books.

Arizona's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender community, as well as the straight community, are at a historic crossroads with this unprecedented situation. As citizens, taxpayers, and most importantly, voters, people have the opportunity to make a positive, historic change for the Grand Canyon State, by voicing support for HB 2016.

Francie Noyes, Governor Jane Hull's spokesperson stated that Hull's office has received many calls and E-mails in opposition to May's bill, and very few in support of repealing these archaic laws.

This historic opportunity must not be lost due to apathy! All Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered and straight Arizonans must voice their support of HB 2016 and urge Governor Hull to sign the bill into law.

HB 2016 doesn't offer "special rights" or promote "unnatural acts" as the radical right in the state Legislature would have you believe. These laws on the books, seldom-enforced by the police but used to discriminate against segments of society would be stricken.

Contact the governor's office at (602) 542-4331 or outside the Phoenix area, (800) 253-0883. If you can't get through on these numbers, in Southern Arizona, you can call Hull's Tucson office, (520) 628-6580. When you call, leave a message urging Hull to sign HB 2016. In addition, you may E-mail her at azgov@az.gov, and in the E-mail put "please sign HB 2016" in the subject line.

HB 2270, the Arizona Employment Non Discrimination Act still needs to pass the House, which will vote on the bill Thursday, May 3. Please contact both of your district's representatives and ask them to "please vote for 2270, the employment nondiscrimination bill." You can find the contact information for your representatives at: http://www.azleg.state.az.us/members/45leg/house.htm. You can also contact your representatives by calling (800) 352-8404, and ask for that representative's office.

France Recalls Homosexual Victims Of Nazis

PARIS, France (NP) - The Gay victims of the Nazis are finally being remembered in France alongside others who perished during World War II.

A few days after the French government's first public recognition of the persecution of homosexuals during World War II, GLBT organizations in Paris participated for the first time in official ceremonies in remembrance of the Jews and other victims of the Nazis deported from France to Germany during the war.

France's National Day of Remembrance has traditionally focused on the Jewish and political victims of Nazi persecution, and on the collaborationist French government's culpability in deporting Jews and political prisoners to Germany (most of whom were then placed in concentration camps) during the Nazi occupation of the northern half of the country. For years GLBT groups have lobbied to include remembrance of the Nazi persecution of homosexuals, only to be rebuffed -- sometimes with police barricades -- by the organizers of the various memorial ceremonies held in cities throughout France.

This year, GLBT organizations were officially invited to participate in the ceremony held in Paris on Sunday at the Memorial to the Deportation, a monument behind Notre Dame Cathedral usually regarded as a memorial to the Jewish deportees and to the Holocaust.

The official ceremony remembered all those deported to Germany during the war and made no mention of specific groups, but after this main section, members of the GLBT groups -- wearing pink triangles on their lapels -- placed a wreath of flowers in memory of the deportation of homosexuals.

A delegate from the national veterans association was present at the wreath laying, along with city officials, several Gay politicians and Pierre Seel, the last known surviving Frenchman deported to Germany for homosexuality.

"Many people stopped to look at our wreath," one of the participants told Gay.com France. "They were intrigued, and some of them asked questions."

Jospin's comment last week, in which he said, "No one should be left out of this act of memory. It is important that our country directly recognizes the persecution perpetrated during the Occupation against certain minorities -- Spanish refugees, gypsies, or homosexuals," was followed by an official order to include Gays in future remembrance ceremonies, and by a promise to form a commission of historians to study the persecution of homosexuals in France during the war, the newspaper Liberation reported.

Gay groups also participated in memorial ceremonies held in Lille, Lyon and Le Mans. In Montpellier, Gay activists were blocked by the police from laying a wreath until Mayor Georges Freche intervened. Freche calmed the organizers of the official ceremony and convinced them to let the Gay group through. Freche offered to discuss creating an official day of remembrance for homosexual deportees. The Montpellier activists laid their wreath, held a moment of silence in memory of the homosexual victims of Nazi persecution and then, together, sang the "Marseillaise."

CONTINUED ON PAGE THIRTEEN

NOBODY'S BIZNESS

Cinco de Mayo Weekend Bash

Saturday, May 5th and Sunday, May 6th

Party Inside and Outside!

Latin Music

8pm-Close

2900 East Broadway Blvd • Tucson

San Francisco Supervisors OK Staff Sex-Changes Benefit

SAN FRANCISCO, CA - With backers calling the decision a question of moral leadership, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors cast aside criticisms of political correctness and offered sex-change benefits for city workers.

The measure passed 9 to 2 – the minimum vote required – making San Francisco the only government employer in the nation to pay for such benefits as part of its health-coverage plan.

"It is landmark legislation," said Supervisor Mark Leno, chief sponsor of the proposal.

Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano said the initiative is akin to the hard-fought rights granted in the past to the Gay and Lesbian community and people with AIDS.

"This is a matter of conscience. It is not a political decision, it is a moral decision," he said.

It also was a much tougher decision for the board than anyone anticipated when Leno introduced the measure in February.

Supervisor Gerardo Sandoval, who held the key vote needed for passage of the measure, ducked out of the meeting and into his office down the hall when the board began its debate at City Hall. The sergeant-at-arms was sent to track him down.

He rejoined his colleagues after about half an hour. Then he was lobbied hard by Leno and other supporters before casting a vote in favor of the benefits, without comment. After the meeting, Sandoval wouldn't talk about his disappearance – nor his vote – other than to say he had phone calls to make.

The votes against the measure were cast by Supervisors Tony Hall and Leland Yee, who represent two of the city's most conservative districts, on the west side.

Claire Skiffington, a Transsexual and an administrator with the city's Department of Public Health who has fought for the benefits for more than five years, rejoiced politically and personally in the outcome. Politically, it meant another milestone for a community skirting the edge of societal acceptance; personally, the government she works for made a statement that her needs matter.

"In my heart, it was like, damn, things do come through," said Skiffington, 55, who began her transition from male to female seven years ago.

The sex-change benefits, which will include hormone treatment, psychotherapy and surgical procedures, require a medical diagnosis for a condition known as gender dysphoria in which the patient feels discomfort with his or her birth gender.

Hall, the most outspoken supervisor against the sex-change benefits, said the issue was fairness. The benefits, he said, target a select group of individuals at a time when many other needs are not addressed.

For example, he said there is no specialized treatment in the benefits package for anorexia or bulimia or for workers whose children have learning disabilities. And, he noted, there are limits on prosthetic limbs and cardiac reconstructive surgery.

"I will not discriminate in favor of one group over another," Hall said.

Countered Supervisor Matt Gonzalez: "The whole idea of having a health-benefits package and enumerating the things that will get covered is, by definition, discriminatory. You have decided not to include other things."

"I think that equality and fairness actually compel us to add this to our package."

The provision for sex changes was just one component of an expanded benefits package the supervisors approved. Among the new initiatives are acupuncture, hearing aids, infertility treatment and Viagra for impotence.

Yet the sex-change plan generated the most controversy, prompting national news stories, talk-show debates and an avalanche of constituent mail, emails and phone calls to the supervisors, most of them against the idea.

An actuary for the city's Health Service System said the new benefits might cost $1.75 million for the first year, based on calculations that 35 people would take advantage of the program. Leno and other backers speculate the number will probably be considerably less, perhaps no more than three or four. There are about a dozen known Transsexuals working for the city.

"This is not like losing one's hair," Leno said. "It is not like displeasure with the size or configuration of your nose . . . This is a profound life consideration."

The benefits will cap at $50,000 for each recipient.

Premiums will increase up to $1.70 per active and retired employee to pay for the sex-change coverage. However, because of prior labor agreements, the city helps pays those premiums – that will add an estimated $683,000 to the city's labor costs.

An employee must be in the city's health system for at least a year to take advantage of the benefits.

As the board's vote was tallied, more than a dozen Transgender activists in the audience jumped to their feet and erupted in cheers.

"What this [legislation] does is show the nation that at least in San Francisco, Transgenders are just the same as everybody else," said Theresa Sparks, a male-to-female Transsexual who serves on the city's Human Rights Commission. "It is an important step."

Play Safe!

website: ibts.net

Jello Sunday Party Line-up, May 6th
11am - 6 pm- Jeff's Bloody Mary/Recovery Bar
4:30 pm - 7:30 pm - Karaoke on the patio with Billy Dee
5:30 pm - 8 pm - Benefit Bar-B-Que/Beerbust for SAAF (Jello Wrestling)
8:30 til close- Post-Jello Party $1.50 jello shots with hot dance

IBTs

Wednesday, May 9th, 9:00 pm, "The Girlie Show"
hosted by Lucinda Holliday, starring: Phaedra, Faith Michaels, Tabitha

Saturday, May 5th, Cinco do Mayo Specials all day
$2 coronas or cuervo shots

Thursday, May 3rd, 9:00 pm it's the First 2001 Wet Shorts Contest
$100 First Place Prize
plus it's
Underwear Nite
happy hour prices for those in their briefs

FAREWELL TO SHAUNDRIANA

HI, my name is Dr. James Shorten. Most of you know me as "Shaundriana". It is with deep regret that due to my busy work schedule, I will be unable to perform as "Shaundriana" at any future dates. I want to take this time to thank you all from the bottom of my heart for all that you have done for me and have donated monies to my performances over the past five or six years. I want you all to know that any money that I received was given to needy causes such as SAAF, The Mucopoly-saccharidosis Foundation, The Food Pantry and other needy causes. I truly enjoyed performing for all of you, and I am so grateful to have you all as friends.

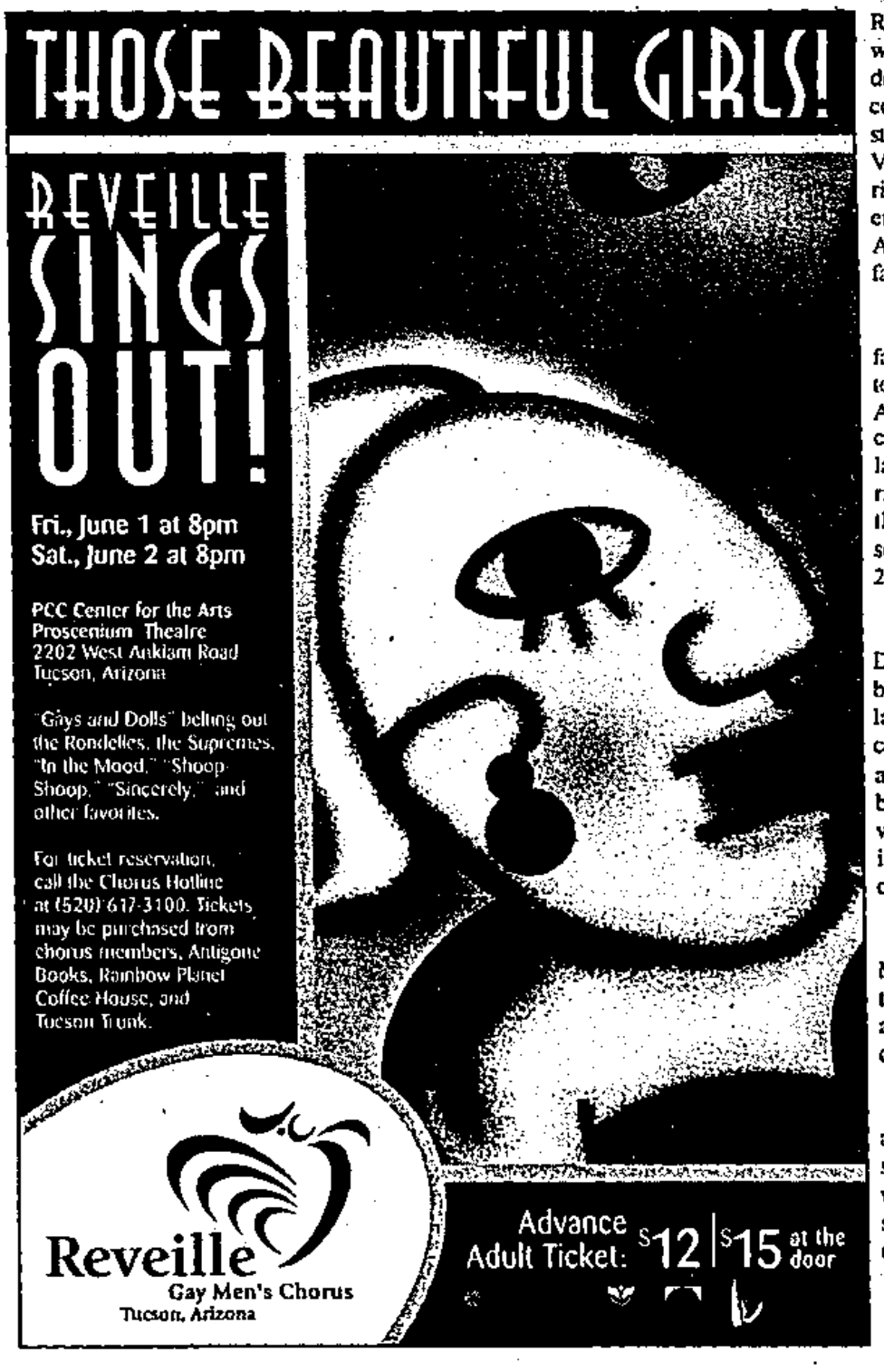
I also want to thank "Mr. Kenneth Blake" for teaching me the art of make-up, "Helena Bubbles" for giving me my first opportunity to perform, "Lucinda Holliday" for all her love and help through the years and al my drag sisters for their love and friendship. I wish you and yours a continued rewarding life and that God will bless you in every breath that you take. As Ms. Dolly Parton says in her song, "I will always love you".

For those who are interested, I can be reached on a web page that belongs to Mr. David de Alb at www.ctaz.com/~pryner/. Mr. David de Alba, also known as "Heri, the hair stylist of the stars", is a singer/impressionist and performs as Judy Garland, Liza Minelli and his own character, Boy-Chic. David sings in his/her own voice in English, Spanish and French and performed for many years at the famed San Francisco Finocchio's. (Finocchios closed its doors for the last time on November 27, 1999, after 63 years of performances).

David has been a wonderful friend who was born in Cuba and came to the United States as a young man. He has been featured on many TV shows, magazines and newspapers. On his web-site he has many interviews with celebrities of past and present. If you have time, please visit his web page and look for me, "Shaundriana", or any other celebrity.

God Bless you all. Hugs and kisses.

Shaundriana



POLITICS 2001

by Mark R. Kerr

AZ Enda, Archaic Laws Repeal Both Advance

Two proposals, one repealing Arizona's archaic sex laws dealing with sodomy and non-familial cohabitation and another, protecting Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered public sector (government) employees from discrimination on the job made significant progress in the Arizona Legislature.

HB 2270, the Arizona Employment Non Discrimination Act (ENDA) was taken up by the Senate Committee of the Whole (COW), Friday, April 27. Sponsored by state Senator Elaine Richardson, D-Tucson, Arizona ENDA would prohibit discrimination in employment in the public sector based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

During COW, Richardson had to battle conservative legislators, who argued that "sexual orientation" should not be in the workplace, but only the bedroom, and that HB 2270 would lead to many court cases because the bill would make the terms "sex" and "gender" interchangable.

Richardson countered that the bill would not change the definition of "sex" and "gender" but conform the use to of the terms to federal definitions. Conservatives, led by state Senator Dean Martin, R-Phoenix, tried to draw the debate out, because a supporter of HB 2270 would have to leave to undergo medical tests, supporters, led by Richardson, had the debate ended and were victorious, by a 14-13 vote.

On Tuesday, April 24, the Senate Rules Committee approved HB 2016, which would repeal Arizona's archaic sex laws dealing with sodomy and non-familial cohabitation. Sponsored by openly Gay state Representative Steve May, R-Paradise Valley, HB 2016 would also allow unmarried couples to tax deductions for dependents, which were prohibited because of Arizona's archaic sex laws prohibiting non-familial cohabitation.

Invoking conflicting claims of fairness and morality, the Senate Committee of the Whole voted 17-11, Thursday, April 26 to approve HB 2016. The vote came over the strong objections of some lawmakers who called it an attack on marriage, insisting there was no need to strip the statutes from the law books, despite seldom being enforced. Backers of HB 2016 contend the laws serve no purpose.

State Senator Mary Hartley, D-Phoenix, said there is no way they could be strictly enforced, noting that one of the laws, prohibiting "lewd and lascivious conduct," has been interpreted by the courts as any sex act not designed to produce a baby. Using that explanation, she said, any woman over child-bearing age who has sex is a criminal, as is anyone who uses birth control.

State Senator Rusty Bowers, R-Mesa, said "I stand in favor of marriage, the real kind of marriage between a man and a woman which, if they are so blessed, can bring a child into the world."

Lawmakers defeated a floor amendment by State Senator David Petersen, R-Mesa, requiring anyone infected with the HIV virus to inform prospective sexual partners, in writing, of their chance of contracting AIDS.

HB 2016 was approved by the Arizona Senate, during Third Reading of bills on Monday, April 30, by a 18-11 vote.

"Lawmakers have finally recognized the inappropriateness of the government regulating behavior between consenting adults," said Kathie Gummerie, co-chair of the Arizona Human Rights Fund, the statewide GLBT rights group.

HB 2016 now goes to the governor's desk to await action, what action to be taken is unclear, according to Hull's spokesperson, Francie Noyes.

Noyes said the governor has received more calls about this bill than any other issue in this session, but added Hull is not committing to what she'll do.

"The governor keeps her own counsel on these things, and she hasn't told anybody yet what she plans to do," Noyes said. Governor Jane Hull has five working days to consider action on HB 2016. She could veto the bill, sign it, or let it become law without her signature.

Arizona's Senate also approved HB 2270, Monday, April 30, the Arizona Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), by a 16-13 vote.

Kathie Gummerie said "GLBT Arizonans should be thrilled that the Senate has recognized all government employees should have equal rights and hopes the Arizona House will follow suit."

HB 2270 now goes back to the Arizona House, for a final concur/refuse vote on Thursday, May 3, because the original bill was amended to become Arizona ENDA in the Senate. If approved, HB 2270 would then go to the governor's desk as well to await action.

DESERT COYOTES LEAGUE STANDINGS

	PW	PL
The Breeders	49.0	14.0
Sluts-R-Us	44.5	18.5
Gay Divorcees	42.0	21.0
Team Ate	41.0	22.0
The Hoochies	39.5	23.5
Tres Amigos	38.0	25.0
Slutopoly	35.0	28.0
Judy's Truck Stop	34.0	29.0
Gutter Snipes	32.0	31.0
Mamas Family	31.0	32.0
Position Is Everything	29.0	34.0
Oompah Loompahs	28.0	35.0
Rebellious!	23.0	40.0
All That & Then Some	23.0	40.0
Wicked Witches	22.0	41.0
Erratica 5	22.0	41.0
The Nut Sack	16.0	47.0

SEASON ACHIEVEMENTS

High Average: Erick J./Keith D., 214; JoAnn S., 179; The Breeders, 549.

High Series Scratch: Keith D., 768; JoAnn S., 667; The Breeders, 1835.

High Game Scratch: Keith D./Jeff T., 300; JoAnn S., 265; Rebellious!, 670.

High Series Handicap: Jack S., 781; Kristen S., 753; Rebellious!, 2027.

High Game Handicap: Keith D./Jeff T., 300; Kristen S., 293; Slutopoly, 741.

GLAAD Honors 'Queer As Folk'

LOS ANGELES, CA (NP) - "Billy Elliot," The Los Angeles Times and "Queer as Folk" were among the honorees at GLAAD's annual Los Angeles awards dinner for Gay-positive media.

At the second of its four annual awards dinners, the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) recognized "Will & Grace," "Queer As Folk," k.d. lang and the Los Angeles Times for their contributions to the GLBT community.

The 12th annual GLAAD Media Awards, which were handed out April 28 in Los Angeles, honor individuals and projects in media and entertainment for "fair, accurate and inclusive representations of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community and the issues that affect their lives."

Paris Barclay, a director, producer and writer who has worked on "The West Wing" and "ER," received the Steven F. Kolzak award, which honors a Lesbian or Gay member of the entertainment or media community for his or her work toward eliminating homophobia.

Among the guests and presenters were Ellen DeGeneres, Megan Mullally, Sean Hayes, Margaret Cho, Leeza Gibbons, Bruce Villanch, Deborah (formerly Debbie) Gibson and Dean Cain.

Awards were handed out in New York on April 17. Additional awards will be presented in Washington, D.C., on May 12 and in San Francisco on June 9.

Following is a complete list of the awards: Outstanding Film – Wide Release: "Billy Elliot." Outstanding Film – Limited Release: "The Broken Hearts Club." Outstanding Comedy Series: "Will & Grace." Outstanding Drama Series: "Queer As Folk." Outstanding Individual Episode: "The Whole Truth" – "Ed." Outstanding Newspaper Overall Coverage: Los Angeles Times. Outstanding Music Album: "Invincible Summer," k.d. lang. Outstanding Los Angeles Theater: "Southern Baptist Sissies." Stephen F. Kolzak Award: Paris Barclay.

Vermont Marks Civil Union Anniversary

MONTPELIER, VT (NP) - Dozens of the couples who have registered their unions with the state of Vermont came together to reflect on the large -- and small -- ways in which their lives have changed in the past year.

Nearly 200 people gathered at the Vermont Statehouse to celebrate the first anniversary of the signing of that state's civil unions law recognizing same-sex couples.

Exactly one year ago, Vermont Gov. Howard Dean quietly signed the landmark law that gives Gay and Lesbian couples most of the rights, benefits and responsibilities of married couples, but the crowd on the steps of the building where the law was written was anything but silent.

As about 75 of the 427 Vermont couples who have civil unions posed for a group photo, they burst into several choruses of "You are My Sunshine." Photographer Jordan Silverman asked the crowd to "look straight ahead," to which the spontaneous -- and unison -- answer from his subjects was "We can't look straight!"

Laughter, cheers and tears were pervasive as several of the leaders in the battle to pass the historic law addressed the crowd. Senate President Pro Tempore Peter Shumlin told the crowd that efforts from the Republican-controlled House to repeal the civil union law were a waste of time because the Senate would support no such action. "Send us all the bills to undo civil unions that you want," he said, referring to the House, "but don't bait a minority group that is as much a part of our family as any other."

Steve Swayne and Mike Bachman moved to Vermont from California only two months before the state's Supreme Court released its decision in Baker v. Vermont requiring the legislature to find a way to provide the rights, responsibilities and benefits of marriage to same-sex couples who sought them. "We knew nothing about the case," Bachman said.

In October of last year, on their 9th anniversary as a couple, the two men stood before a crowd of 160 people near a pond at their new home in Woodstock and heard the all-important words, "By the power vested in me by the State of Vermont ... ."

Those words never fail to shake Rep. Bill Lippert, one of the authors of the civil union law and an openly Gay man. "Each time I hear that phrase, I know what it is we did and why we did it." He left much of last night's crowd in tears with an emotional speech that he ended by telling them, "There is nothing we have now that we have not deserved forever."

Swayne said he realized the impact of their civil union recently when he had to take Bachman to a hospital emergency room across the nearby New Hampshire border. Even though they weren't in Vermont, Swayne said the emergency room clerk was delighted to inform them that "civil union" was one of the choices on the form she was completing about them and they were "her first." For Swayne and Bachman, it was a comforting reminder of their new legal status.

Will Vermont Civil Unions Be Recognized In Other States?

ATLANTA, GA (NP) - The first test of the portability of Vermont's landmark civil union law may come in the form of a Georgia woman seeking visitation with her children.

A Georgia woman is in court seeking to have the state recognize the civil union she and her partner got in Vermont.

Susan Freer's ex-husband, Darian Burns, has custody of their three sons, but Freer was allowed regular visits with the boys until last August – one month after Freer and her partner, Debra Jean Freer, made the trip to Vermont to have a civil union ceremony. In September, Burns filed contempt charges against his ex-wife saying she had violated the terms of their 1998 visitation agreement.

The agreement, according to a Cox News Service report, prohibits visitation or residence "by the children with either party during any time where such party cohabits with or has overnight stays with any adult to whom party is not married or to whom

CONTINUED ON PAGE NINE

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Texas Hate Crimes Measure Still Struggling

AUSTIN, Texas - They are the kind of topics that can make people squirm under the best of conditions: race, homosexuality, religion and brutal crimes.

But in the frenzied final weeks of the Texas Legislature and in the shadow of George W. Bush's legacy as governor, lawmakers are again wrestling with a hate-crimes bill named for Jasper dragging victim James Byrd Jr.

Despite a strong vote of approval in the Texas House and a poll last month that shows two-thirds of Texans want tougher sentences for hate crimes, the bill is stalled in the Texas Senate, where a similar measure died two years ago.

The sponsor, Sen. Rodney Ellis, D-Houston, said he is one vote short of getting it to the floor. But that one vote may be hard to come by, despite soul-searching by senators and heavy behind-the- scenes lobbying.

"More so than maybe any vote in my 12 years here, it is a vote on personal conscience," Acting Lt. Gov. Bill Ratliff said. "I think a lot of members are struggling on what is the right vote."

The bill would create tougher penalties for crimes motivated by hatred based on race, religion, color, disability, sexual orientation, national origin or ancestry.

But as in 1999, the main stumbling block is the mention of sexual orientation, according to many lawmakers, including Ellis.

Two years ago, the House passed a nearly identical hate-crimes bill. It died in the GOP-dominated Senate when Bush, then on the eve of his presidential campaign, made it clear that he opposed it and said he didn't want to include Gay and Lesbian citizens among protected groups.

Opponents, mostly conservative Republicans, say that the current bill is unneeded because all crimes are hate crimes and the bill unfairly singles out certain groups for protection.

"We shouldn't be elevating groups to specially protected status and say some are more special than others," said state Sen. Jeff Wentworth, R-San Antonio.

Backers say that is just an excuse and point to criminal laws that protect special groups, such as children, battered women, the elderly and law-enforcement personnel. But this is a bill where such policy points may not matter, some say.

"The issue is more emotion than politics," said Tony Proffitt, who worked the Senate for years as aide to the late Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock.

Both sides agree that the issue is close and that a handful of senators could decide the outcome. Lobbying is intentionally low-key, with both sides fearful of inflaming the other.

"There are a lot of conversations going on in halls and committee rooms," said Ratliff, a Republican who voted for hate-crimes bills in 1993 and 1995 but said that he is taking no position this time so he can act as "an arbitrator" if needed.

Other officials, including GOP Attorney General John Cornyn, who backed the 1999 hate-crimes bill, say that they are intentionally avoiding positions on the bill this time. "I have found that a dangerous practice," Cornyn said.

But there is plenty of lobbying by groups as varied as the Lesbian Gay Rights Lobby of Texas and the Christian Coalition.

"A contingent in the Republican Party does not think there should be a hate-crime law. There is pressure to stick to the party line," said state Rep. Dawnna Dukes, D-Austin. "I truly believe there are many in the Senate who would like to vote for it if there wasn't external pressure."

Republican Gov. Rick Perry has publicly avoided the issue and when asked his position last week said simply: "We will take a look at it." But Perry expressed concerns about a planned vote on the bill a week ago, when two senators were absent, which apparently scuttled the action.

"I think the governor has got his foot on this and as long as the governor does, it isn't going anywhere," said Rep. Harold Dutton, D- Houston.

Senators who are still on the fence, such as Sen. Steve Ogden, R- Bryan, also are pushing other issues. Ogden, who surprised many by voting for the bill in committee, now says that his support is contingent on linking the hate-crimes bill to a bill banning same-sex marriages and dropping a provision allowing lawsuits on hate crimes.

"I would like to vote for the bill, but there are some compromises I need," Ogden said. Such shifting positions keep the outcome in doubt though many are optimistic that the hate-crimes bill will pass.

"I am really hopeful at this point," said Diane Hardy-Garcia, executive director of the Lesbian Gay Rights Lobby of Texas. "I think public opinion has changed."

Ellis also is optimistic and said, "It is unlikely this week. It could happen next week. I only need one vote."

Will Vermont Civil Unions Be Recognized In Other States?

Continued from Page Seven

party is not related."

Freer's attorney, Adrian Lanser, told Cox News, "Susan and Debra made a lifetime commitment, and it meets the standard of marriage." Freer argues that being unable to marry legally, the couple has taken all the steps available to them to create an equivalent arrangement.

Vermont distinguishes between marriage and civil unions, making it clear in statute that they are similar, but separate legal statuses. Stephen Scarborough, of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, told Cox News, "The legal effect is that the same rights and responsibilities given to same-sex couples have to be the same as those given to heterosexual couples. Within the state of Vermont, the rights and responsibilities are very much equivalent to marriage."

Whether that equivalence should be honored by Georgia under the constitution's "full faith and credit" doctrine is a question for the Georgia Court of Appeals to answer. The court has agreed to consider the case and will probably hear oral arguments this fall.

Meanwhile, Susan Freer hasn't spoken to her three sons since December. "I want to have my family like everyone else," she told Cox News.

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All information must be received no later than 6/8.

HOROSCOPES

BY C. LICHTENSTEIN

ARIES
MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

If you are planning that great escape this May, be sure to check your reservations and itinerary at least twice. Plans have a way of getting sidetracked and what you thought you'd get at the end of the rainbow is not what the travel agent promised. Pack your optimism and expect some grand and surprising elements that will certainly make your life more... ahem... interesting.

TAURUS
APRIL 21 - MAY 21

Be careful of what you wish in a lover, Gay Bull. Sex will have a way of getting out of control this May when energetic Mars runs amok with Pluto, Uranus and Neptune. Stow the whips and chains and be a bit discerning. How would you like that wet dream to show up at your office the next day dressed only in a g string and a prayer. Hmm May I?

GEMINI
MAY 22 - JUNE 21

If your witty repartee with partners is a little "strained", chalk it up to the retrograde gang. These wilde orbs cast a fog between the two of you. If you're searching for a special someone, check out the merchandise carefully before you buy. All May you will have no idea of what size you need and what style looks best. How tight and garish do you want it, hot pink Twin??

CANCER
JUNE 22 - JULY 23

Proud Crabs feel like rats on a treadmill this month as work responsibilities become almost overwhelming. To make matters even worse, you won't accomplish as much as you would like or as much as you would expect considering the effort. Maybe it's time to break Out and take a well deserved vacation. Enjoy the vistas and don't leave a forwarding phone number.

LEO
JULY 24 - AUGUST 23

Fun was never so much trouble. The retro planets have a way of ruining the best of parties with misdeeds and miscommunications. Queer Lions can better enjoy a day at work or a stint at the gym where at least you feel appreciated and at ease. It's better than spending too much money and effort on questionable pastimes that, for now, tip you into the abyss.

VIRGO
AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23

If you thought about escaping to your safe cocoon at home, think again Gay Virgin. Retro Mars stirs up a hornets nest in any home-related issues. If you are thinking of taking down walls, stop and talk to a contractor. If you are angling for new groundbreaking discussions with family, prepare for WWIII. Well, sometimes you have to detonate a few bombs to get noticed....

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23

Pink Libras will more than likely let the proverbial cat out of the bag when planets turn the screws on communications. Mars practically broadcasts your darkest secrets and you'll be doing double duty to fix what these marauding orbs have scratched. On the bright side, certain secrets hold you back from true happiness. Cats and people are often happiest out of the bag.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22

Queer Scorps are shaked, rattled and rolled financially when a gang of retrograde planets pick your pockets. Avoid any undue risks, especially when it comes to investing. It would be a shame to blow your wad on a fog, a dream and a prayer, although it will be very tempting. Save your pennies and spend to the hilt in Pride Month.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22

Don't be surprised if the planets serve you a hot steaming portion of Gay Archer au jus. Mars is stirring up your public persona and the folks that you meet and greet could be very good (or very bad) for you. Choose your mentors wisely, my friend, think before you act and communicate very carefully and diplomatically this May. Oy! Look who I'm talking to!

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20

Proud Caps are fairly tight lipped but May brings a veritable planetary liberation with you as Che Guevera. There is an especially powerful force working behind the scenes which could transform and overturn all that you hide and avoid in life. I recommend a good cleaning of the pipes where secrets and closets are concerned. Don't let it shake your self confidence, cousin.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19

Aqueerians are out and about in far reaching, global ways. If you believe that your career is stalled because of recent problems, at least the retro gang of planets dispels you of such silly notions. These are opportunities, pal. The main thing is not to listen to the advice of friends. What is right for others may not be right for you. Go with your inner voice and grab the gold.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

If Guppies are keen to climb that corporate ladder, it is best not to take any drastic risks this month. The gang of retrograde planets will have a way of screwing up your best laid professional plans by detonating a neutron bomb where a Molotov cocktail (as in a drink!) may suffice. Whine to yourself in the quiet of your room if you must, but don't let the sharks smell your panic.

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PERSPECTIVE

Why Should A 39-Year-Old Gay Man Care If Joey Ramone Died?

By Alan Nyitray

When I heard that Joey Ramone died a few Sundays ago, I cried. It surprised me. If I had been asked to name 50 people influential in my life, I never would have thought of Joey Ramone. But when I opened the paper (online) early Monday morning and saw the news, I was shaken.

One hour later as I was driving my car down Broadway to work. All the windows were down and I was blasting "Do You Remember Rock 'n' Roll Radio?" And I found myself crying.

Joey Ramone sang for the Ramones, one of the seminal punk bands of the seventies. With songs like "Cretin Hop," "Teenage Lobotomy," "Sheena is a Punk Rocker," "Judy is a Punk" and "We're a Happy Family," it was clear whose side the Ramones were on. Dee Dee Ramone screaming "1*2*3*4!!", before every song was a call to take arms against the status quo. The lyrics Joey Ramone sang said that being different was not only okay, it was cool!

Joey Ramone was puny. He was the opposite of Van Halen's buff and blonde David Lee Roth. While Joey had stringy hair, Roth had Breck Shampoo hair. Joey hid behind red sunglasses and Roth flaunted his California tan. On stage, Joey clung to the microphone like it was his lifeline while Roth performed college cheerleader flips. Joey was the antihero. Roth was the hero. Where I grew up, "anti" anything - other than anticommunist - was probably one step away from antichrist.

Joey was a sissy and his band was a souped-up Camaro that kicked ass and left no one wondering what they were saying: we're losers in the game you designed, so we're gonna play our own game. It was a queer sneer.

I learned these things in a lonely corner of a lonely state. As far as I know, the Ramones never played my hometown Lawton, Oklahoma and they never played Stillwater where I went to college. During the late 1970s, Joey Ramone and a homosexual were two of the least likely humans to be featured on radio or TV in Lawton (except for Don the local weatherman). National TV, let alone local Oklahoma stations, rarely broached the topic of homosexuality and local radio was stuck in first gear with Journey, Gordon Lightfoot, and Van Halen.

And then a friend played "Blitzkrieg Bop" for me. It made me dance. And that began an awakening. It started me on a journey that resulted in my embracing a punk ethic that said being different is important AND cool. It wasn't until I bought that line of thinking could I ever imagine calling myself Gay.

The Ramones' albums led me to a slew of new music with bands that raised my consciousness first around global politics and then around personal politics. The Ramones led me to The Clash, the Sex Pistols, and Gang of Four. It may be hard to believe, but the homo connection of Gang of Four's, "I Love A Man in a Uniform" didn't register with me. That's how clueless I was about sexual politics. In 1983, the year before my Gay awakening, "I Love a Man in a Uniform" was a song that disparaged the military and macho attitudes, and little more.

But over time my non-personal political views grew to encompass my own experience with life and the politics turned more personal. When I first acknowledged to myself I was Gay, I had no idea this private recognition had its roots in the Ramones. It took Joey's recent death to help me reflect on the connections.

The Ramones catalyzed some of my other sensibilities (including a "less is more" ethic), but it was their ability to wag a finger at the sacrosanct that helped me jump start the coming out process.

It's too bad some of the influences in my life don't become apparent until the influence is dead. Maybe that's why I cried when I heard that Joey had died.

[Alan Nyitray can be reached at alannyitray@home.com.]

THE BOOK REPORT

Reviewed by Gina Macaluso

[The Last Blue Plate Special by Abigail Padgett, Mysterious Press, 2001.]

Abigail Padgett, the author of The Last Blue Plate Special has done it again! Social psychologist Blue McCarron, who lives in a half-built abandoned motel in the middle of the desert outside of San Diego with her Doberman, Bronte, knows that when two prominent women politicians die of cerebral hemorrhages within days of each other, it is a statistical impossibility. Now two more women have been threatened, and Blue is called upon to help solve the mystery.

Partnered in every way with clinical psychiatrist Roxie Bouchie, the two are hired by the San Diego Police Department to find out what is going on with a religious zealot/serial killer who calls him/herself, "The Sword of Heaven." The only common factor that Blue can find between all the women is a connection to a prestigious La Jolla plastic surgeon's office. When Blue decides to take her life into her own hands to flush out the killer before any more prominent women are killed, the "Sword of Heaven" begins to track her.

This is a brilliant mystery, with a multitude of suspects, twists and turns, identity crises, colorful characters and blue willow plates! The summer heat begins in May, so start your summer reading early and enjoy The Last Blue Plate Special.

Call the Library's InfoLine at (520) 791-4010 to reserve a copy, or reserve it yourself with TPPL's online catalog at www.tppl.org.

Sunday, May 6th
4:00 pm
The 14th Annual
Reno Gannon
Jello
Wrestling
Benefit
for the
Southern
Arizona
Aids
Foundation
$3 door
cover/donation
goes to SAAF

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Fundraiser
during
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Smoking on patio only
Must be 21 or older
This is a gay/gay-friendly event

Bush Drive To Reshape Federal Judiciary Begins

Continued from Page One

States Court of Appeals for the 4th circuit in eight years. "North Carolina, he said, which is the largest state in the fourth circuit has no representation on the federal bench at all.

Sen. Edwards related how the Democrats put forward the nomination of a moderate, middle of the road, highly respected, African-American judge who wasn't even granted the courtesy of a hearing. "It's just an outrage that somebody that well qualified couldn't even get a hearing," he said. "We're not now just going to flip it and have the president and others just push through people who they think represent their view. There has to be balance."

Sen. Carl Levin of Michigan sponsored the nominations of two women for the U.S. Court of Appeals 6th Circuit only to have consideration blocked by Michigan's then-Republican Senator, Spencer Abraham. Again, these women were highly respected by their peers and amply qualified to serve on the federal bench.

"At the time that that was done, I told my (Republican) friends on the Judiciary Committee that they were setting a pattern," said Sen. Levin. "Now the president has a choice. He can either renominate these two women to two of the four open positions on the Court of Appeals to the 6th circuit," or Levin told NPR, he will "see to it" that no Republican nominees get their hearings either.

Democrats in the 1970s and 1980s eased the rules on judicial appointments, making it harder for single Senators to block nominations without just cause. When the Republicans retook control of the Senate in 1994, however, the new Judiciary Chairman, Republican Orrin Hatch of Utah, wrote to President Clinton laying out the new rules of the game. No nomination would proceed, even to a hearing, without the approval of both Senators from the nominee's home state.

With Bush in the White House, Hatch now suggests that rule be relaxed and that the agreement of only one home-state Senator may be required, erasing the threat of a Democratic veto. "If it's just one Senator [opposing], then it's the option of the [judiciary] committee to do whatever it wants to," he told NPR.

Vermont's Sen. Patrick Leahey took issue with that interpretation. (NPR implied his first response to Hatch's quote was unfit for broadcast.) "The Republicans had the rule during the tenure of a Democratic president that either Senator was to agree (on the judicial nomination). "We'll maintain that same rule with a Republican president in office," he said.

Bush has already signaled his willingness to buck tradition in the area of federal judgeships, ending a half-century tradition of drawing his list of nominees from the American Bar Association, which screens potential nominees for their professional qualifications. This comes as no surprise to those who see the broad design of Bush's intent to reshape the federal judiciary in a sharply conservative cast.

Bush's point man on this effort is the president's counsel, Alberto Gonzales. Gonzales has drafted a team of conservative lawyers and a staff drawn almost entirely from Supreme Court law clerks who worked for justices Scalia and Thomas, or for former independent counsel Ken Starr. Gonzales says if the Democrats want to fight, Bush will oblige them with one.

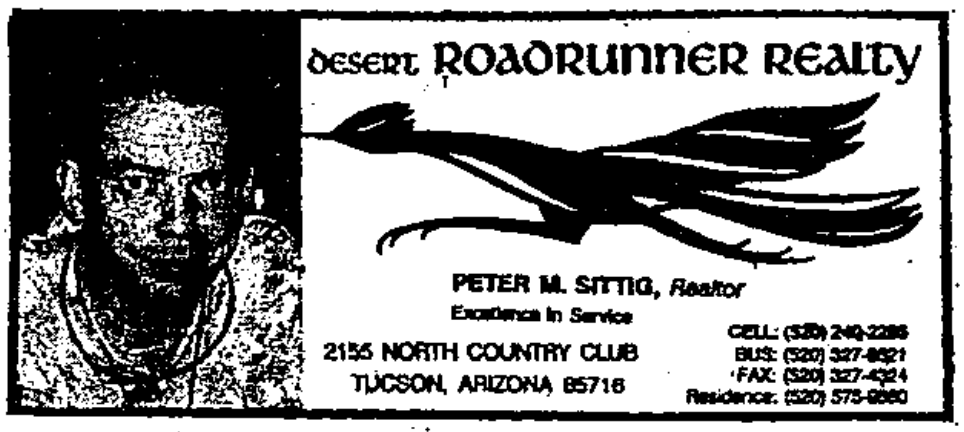
So much for the new civility in Washington.

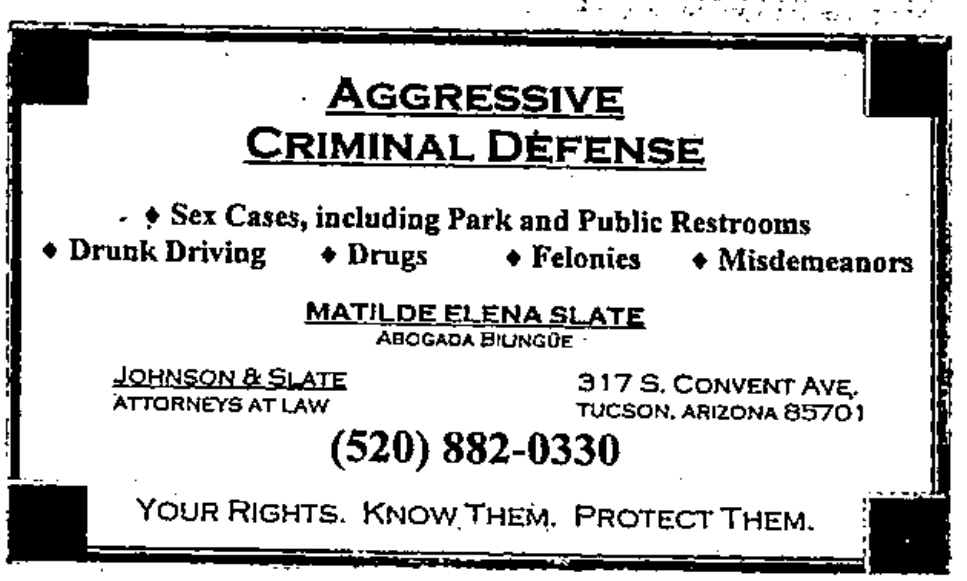
"They clearly have a choice," said New York Senator Charles Schumer, who is the ranking Democrat on the Senate Judiciary Committee. "They can work with us to get a good portion of what they want -- but they will have to consult with us and moderate their appointments. I don't expect them to pick liberal Democrats, but I also don't want there to be an unstated litmus test where every judge that comes out is of the Scalia-Thomas school.

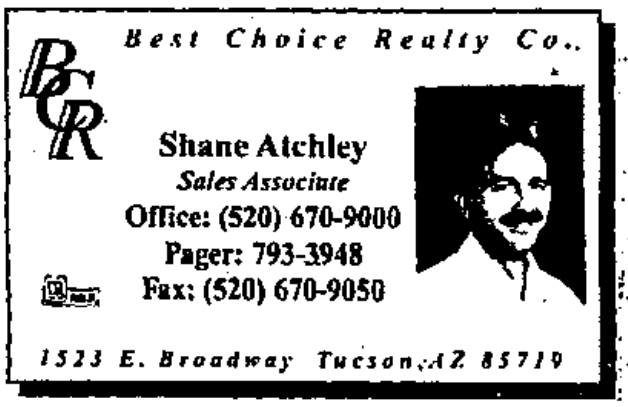
"Or they can continually try to nominate judges that meet their hard-right ideological test and try to roll us," Sen. Schumer said. "It seems right now their view is 'my way or no way.'"

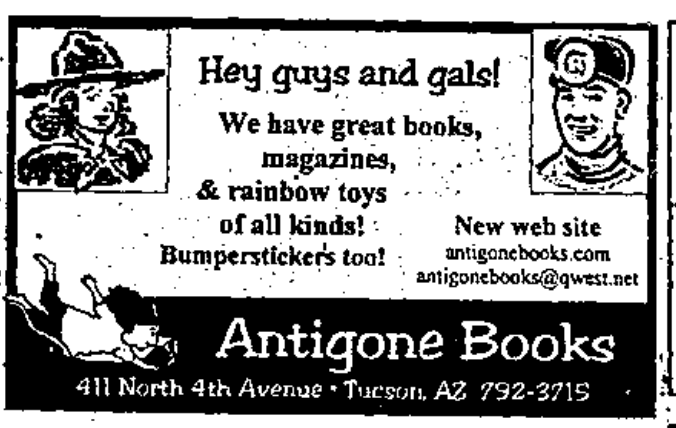
Administrations come and administrations go, laws are passed and repealed and passed again. But federal judgeships are lifetime appointments. This, say Gay and Lesbian rights advocates, is no game.

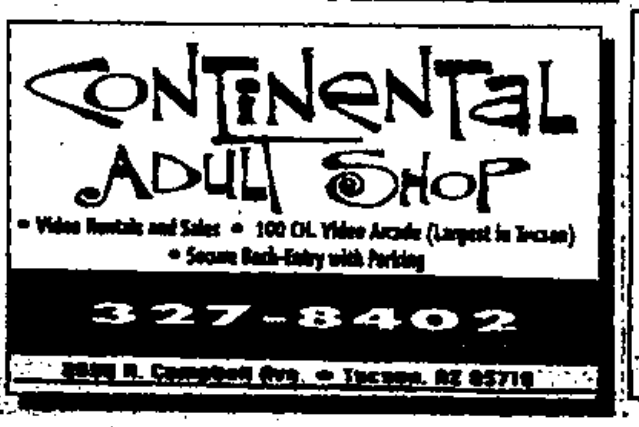
"There are reports that members of the White House staff vetting nominees to the federal bench are openly hostile to safeguarding and advancing the equal treatment of Gay Americans under the law," said Wolfson. "It's essential that members of this community be in touch with the representatives in the Senate and communicate their concerns."











UPDATE

Tucson's Pride Parade/March Seeks Funds

TUCSON - The Lesbian Avengers and OUTrage are pleased to announce the Second Annual Tucson GLBT Pride March/Parade. This year's event will be Sunday, June 24, starting at the 4th Avenue Park (just south of Speedway), 7:00 p.m.

Last year's first GLBT Pride March, "History in the Making," was an un-permitted event which necessitated a relatively short route. This year, because many in the community have expressed interest in seeing a parade (versus a march) for GLBT pride, we hope to obtain city permits for the Pride Parade, and to lengthen the route from the 4th Avenue Park to La Placita Plaza (near the Tucson Civic Center). In order to make this expansion happen, we need your help.

Approximately $5,000 must be raised to pay for all of the requirements of city permits for a Parade. In order to raise the amount needed, we are asking the community to show their support through sponsorships and vehicle entry fees. We must receive all funds by May 1 in order to finalize the city permit arrangements.

For more information, call Dace Park, (520) 271-7438.

Positions Open At SAAF

TUCSON - The Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) is looking for qualified individuals for the following positions:

Gay Men's Health Project Outreach Specialist: Energetic individual to provide outreach, recruitment, and health ed. for Gay and Bisexual men in so. AZ. Must be familiar with Gay bar culture and possess excellent communication skills. Bilingual/bicultural pref. Salary up to $22,-000, excellent benefits.

Office Manager: Dynamic self-starter to oversee office functions & policies, bldg. & equipment maint., supply inventory. Requires exp. in office & property mgmt., supervision; strong computer skills; bilingual preferred. Up to $27,000/-year, excellent benefits.

Prevention Services Administrator: Highly organized administrator sought to coordinate collaborative prevention committees, prepare contract reports and proposals, and provide administrative support to HIV prevention programs. Requires experience in contract-funded program administration, managed care, and prevention program design, and strong computer and administrative skills. Salary minimum $25,000, excellent benefits.

To apply, pick up job description and application instructions, Mon-Fri, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. , at 375 S. Euclid Ave., or call (520) 628-7223, or see www.saaf.org. Open until filled. AA/EOE

Job Openings At Wingspan

TUCSON - Wingspan is pleased to announce the following job openings:

Administrative Assistant. Full Time. Responsible for organizing and maintaining office files, purchasing and managing office supplies, data entry, donor tracking, basic bookkeeping, event scheduling and other tasks. Requires excellent organizational skills, ability to work independently, reliable transportation, extensive experience with office software (Word, Publisher, Excel, and Access) and basic knowledge of Quick Books accounting software. $18,000 plus benefits.

Volunteer Coordinator. Part Time. Responsible for recruiting, scheduling, training and supervising a large number of volunteers to assist with different programs, including the Community Center, Information and Referral, the Domestic Violence Project, etc. Flexible hours. Requires knowledge of LGBT community and resources, availability on some evenings and weekends, good organizational skills, and strong interpersonal skills. Spanish speaking preferred. $9/hour.

Development Assistant. Part Time. Responsible for grant writing, direct mail and personal solicitation campaigns, and other fund development tasks as required. Requires good organizational skills, proven writing abilities, basic computer knowledge (Word, Publisher, Excel and Access) and a desire to work independently. Preferred qualities: Some knowledge and experience in fundraising. Up to $11/hour depending on experience.

Wingspan is an equal opportunity employer. People of color strongly encouraged to apply.

No telephone calls, please. Fax or mail resume to: Wingspan, 300 E. 6th Street, Tucson, Arizona 85705. Fax: (520) 624-0364. Please don't call the center. Send or fax your resume.

Communications Workers

Continued from Page One

military - are moving in a more enlightened direction to banish discrimination against people because of their sexual orientation."

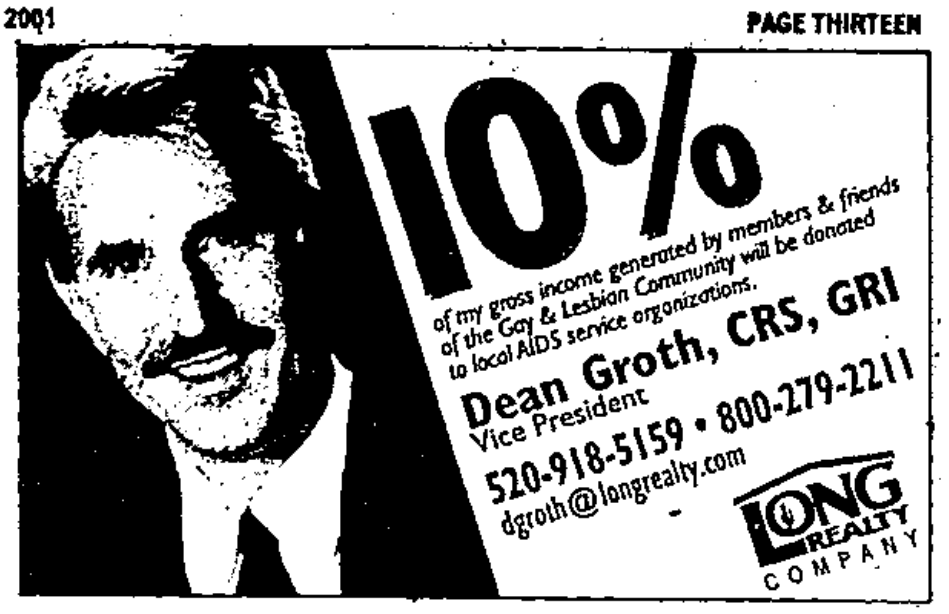
The leadership of the union of more the 780,000 members called on the BSA to change its policy on Gays. "In the meantime, CWA calls upon its local unions and members to refrain from supporting or participating in activities of the Boy Scouts," the resolution said.

The CWA is the largest communications and media union in the country, representing workers in more than 10,000 communities at employers ranging from AT&T and Lucent Technologies to NBC and the New York Times.

Homosexual Victims Of Nazis

Continued from Page Four

From 1933 to 1945, between 100,-000 and 150,000 homosexuals were arrested by the Nazis under Paragraph 175, the sodomy provision of the German penal code. As many as 15,000 were sent to concentration camps, of which only about a third survived. Because Paragraph 175 remained on the books until the 1960s, many of those Gay men who survived their wartime internment remained in prison for years afterward. In November 2000, the German government officially apologized for the persecution of homosexuals during and after the war.



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Miss Gay Tucson America Pageant 2002

Can you imagine...

A View From The Rock

A Commentary From Cornerstone Fellowship

There is something that we all want in our lives, peace. We think world peace would be great, hope for peace within our families, and most of all long for inner peace. Its amazing to think about all the many remedies and formulas presented to us that offer peace. Everything from yoga coupled with meditation to bath soaps. But I know from my own life's experiences that the only true peace comes from God.

I have also learned and am continuing to learn that there is a direct correlation between my faith in God and the amount of peace in my life. You see, peace is not dependant upon circumstances in my life but rather my belief that God can do all things.

As I get to know Jesus more fully and I read his many promises in the Bible I am forced to make a choice. I can look at my difficult situation and think that's a as good as it can get and remain anxious, frightened, angered, or I can look to him and remember (and believe) all that I know of him. I think of how he is always faithful to me, and how he wants the best for me. I remind myself that he said that true peace comes only from him and I am reminded of the many times before that I have turned to him and received peace in the midst of turmoil. God's word says that Jesus gives us a peace that "transcends all understanding." That means that I can be at peace believing that God will take care of me despite the situation which in turn allows me to be calm and at peace when perhaps others around me are going wild.

Peace is a wonderful thing and something we all need to strive to attain. But let me encourage you to seek peace from the true peace giver, God almighty and not through things, gimmicks, or shallow beliefs. Those "things" can all disappear and then from where will your peace come? Jesus said, "I give you peace, my peace I leave you." That is the same peace which allowed him to sleep on a boat during a violent storm, the same peace which kept him calm in the face of his accusers, and the same peace that can be yours for the asking. Increase your faith in God and your life will be filled with that ever-sought commodity, peace.

womanline.com & manline.com

You Want To Know? Ask Bruce or Jenn

DEAR BRUCE:

I've been having a long distance relationship with this guy for a little over three months now. We met when he was in town on business and had this intense weekend together -- we were virtually inseparable. We clicked right away and the sex was incredible. We speak for hours on the phone about everything and I feel that I've really gotten to know him. So much so that I've a feeling that he could be the one. I am going to visit him for a whole week soon, but I'm a bit nervous. I think I've built him up so much in my mind and I don' t want to be disappointed. What should I be expecting?

Ready to Relocate

DEAR READY TO RELOCATE:

A whole week, eh? Expect some surprises. I don't need to tell you that as much as you may feel that you've gotten to know him by talking on the phone, it is a whole different ball game when you are together in the same room. This is not to say that it won't be a pleasant experience, but you've got to be prepared to have some of your preconceived ideas of what this guy is all about turned upside down. It is way too easy to project your desires onto someone who calls in their date from a different time zone. Bonus points for you for realizing now that you may indeed be building him up in your mind.

It is an intense experience getting to know someone on their own home turf. You can expect to feel kind of displaced in unfamiliar surroundings and this may make you try twice as hard to forge a connection with him. It is especially difficult given that you had such hot time with him while he was in your city --you are going to be looking to recreate this passion a second time around. This is always difficult. I don't mean to be a wet blanket, but I do speak from experience. I have even gone so far as to make a rule about it -- whenever I go on any kind of cross-country booty call, I never stay with the person I'm going to see. This may seem a bit drastic at first, but trust me. When you've been stuck in as many strange cities in close quarters with as many freaks as I have, you will be dying for any "safe space" you can create for yourself, even if it is a broom closet at the local Journey's End. But seriously, you may want to consider making it so that you don't have to be with him around the clock. Sure, you may still end up spending all your time with him and loving it, but you will appreciate having a retreat to yourself if, for whatever reason, things aren't clicking as well as you thought they would. Having said all this, however, you should take it in the spirit it was Intended -- a friendly warning. Besides, I think it is great whenever anyone throws caution to the wind and takes a leap of faith when looking for love.

Bully for you,
Bruce

[Ask Bruce is a part of manline.com.]

TKO Spring Fling May 25

Memorial Day Weekend is fast approaching and that means TKO is gearing up for their 21st annual Spring Fling.

The Spring Fling Run will begin on Friday, May 25, 6:00 p.m., with registration at the Venture-N. Activities will begin on Saturday morning with a breakfast and a full day of activities, ending with a bathing beauty contest, following by a Steak Dinner in the evening. Sunday will have more food, including a send off brunch at the Venture-N, fun and games, ending with a dinner and show at the Flamingo Hotel, open to the public. Tickets are available, dinner and show, $10; show only, $5. Rooms for those who don't want to drink and drive are available, $39 a night, for four persons, are available for Run participants or for those attending the show.

Proceeds from the show will go to TIHAN. Join TKO and help support an organization that does a lot for the community. Tickets are available at the Venture-N, Yard Dog Saloon or members of TKO. TKO looks forward to spending a great weekend with you.

Cornerstone Fellowship

2902 N. Geronimo
Phone: 622-4626
E-mail: ChristforAll@Juno.com

Service Times:
Sunday School - 9:00 am
Morning Worship Service - 10:30 am
Wednesday Night Bible Study - 6:00 pm

"For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

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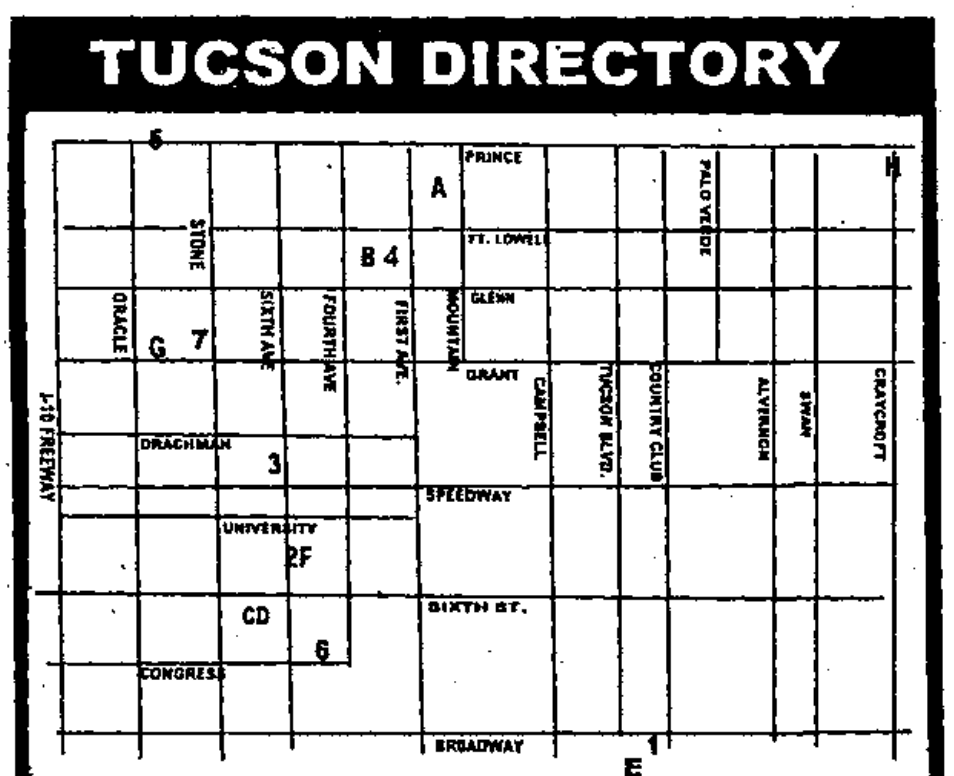

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2. IBT'S - 616 N. 4th Ave. 882-3853
3. VENTURE-N - 1238 N. 6th Ave. 882-8224
5. WOODY'S - 3710 N. Oracle Road. 292-8702
6. CLUB CONGRESS - 311 E. Congress 622-8848
7. YARD DOG, 2449 N. Stone 624-3858

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B. CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP
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C. DESERT PRIDE - Gifts, Videos, etc.
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D. WINGSPAN - 300 E. 6th St. - 624-1779
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CHECK THE BAR CALENDAR FOR DAILY SPECIALS

TAKE YOUR I.D. TO THE BARS
It's The Law!

FDA: Deceptively Upbeat AIDS Advertising Must Stop

SAN FRANCISCO, CA - Prompted by complaints from San Francisco, the Food and Drug Administration ordered drug makers to tone down their upbeat ads for AIDS medications, calling them "misleading."

FDA marketing division chief Thomas Abrams told drug makers in a letter that they must change their ads within 90 days.

New ads will have to carry information about the lethal nature of HIV infection and the dangers of transmitting the virus. The FDA found fault with images of buffed-up models that do not reflect the side effects many patients experience from the medication – including redistribution of fat from the face and arms to the belly and back.

After months of deliberation, the federal agency appears to have endorsed the views of California AIDS activists and San Francisco Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano that the depictions of healthy, robust people with AIDS in drug advertisements are sending an overly optimistic message.

"Images that are not generally representative of patients with HIV infection are misleading, because they imply greater efficacy than demonstrated by substantial evidence, or minimize the risks associated with HIV drugs," wrote Abrams, whose division regulates what drug companies can say in consumer advertisements.

Many AIDS drug advertisements, according to Abrams, "do not adequately convey that these drugs neither cure HIV infection nor reduce its transmission."

The outcry over the ads in San Francisco drew national attention to an issue that has been an irritant to people with AIDS who have complex relationships with the drugs, which simultaneously have saved their lives but make them ill with side effects and cost thousands of dollars a year.

Jeff Getty, of the organization Survive AIDS, hailed the agency's decision. "It is a major victory. It looks like this is exactly what we asked for four months ago."

Getty said that FDA officials were initially hostile to the activists' campaign but may have been persuaded by San Francisco Department of Public Health research suggesting that Gay men felt the ads were affecting decisions on whether to have unsafe sex.

"They have been using sex to sell AIDS drugs," Getty said.

The pharmaceutical industry is coming under increasing criticism for its expensive "direct-to-consumer" advertising campaigns that market prescription drugs of all kinds to the general public. Since rules were relaxed in 1997 – allowing prescription drug ads to run without the full list of side effects – industry spending on direct-to-consumer ads in the United States has grown to a rate of $2.6 billion a year, according to IMS Health, which tracks drug company marketing.

Consumer groups and health maintenance organizations alike have criticized the prescription drug advertising as incomplete and misleading, as well as for unnecessarily driving up the cost of medical care.

"This problem has been getting out of hand, with different drugs for different diseases. It took AIDS activists to finally get the FDA to step in," said Getty.

Among the AIDS drug manufacturers notified were Merck & Co. (NYSE: MRK), Pfizer Inc. (NYSE: PFE) and GlaxoSmithKline Plc (NYSE: GSK), which make a variety of drugs that inhibit the human immunodeficiency virus that causes AIDS or the various infections that exploit damage to the immune system.

Activists were particularly upset with the ad campaign of Merck for its antiviral drug Crixivan. The ads depicted healthy people with AIDS hiking on a rocky mountaintop.

"On these drugs, you don't feel like climbing a mountain," said Getty.

Merck spokeswoman Kyra Lindemann said Friday that company executives are "aware of the letter," but declined further comment. "As a rule, we don't comment on any discussions or actions taken by a regulatory agency," she said.

Daniel Dallabrida, a San Francisco consultant to both drug companies and community groups on health care issues, said there is a need for a "balanced" message on AIDS drugs. While he agreed that AIDS drug companies need to address the "treatment optimism" issue, he also said it is not a bad thing to show positive images of people with AIDS.

"There are many handsome, healthy and strong men and women who have HIV and are taking the medications," he said. "It is widely believed that hope and optimism and belief in the future are important to people with any disease."

Claiming our Civil and Spiritual Rights

****

Dr. Mel White

In 1997, the Rev. Dr. Mel White, co-founder of Soulforce, was awarded the ACLU's National Civil Liberties Award for his efforts in the struggle for justice for sexual minorities. His autobiography, "Stranger at the Gate: To Be Gay and Christian in America", tells of his journey from working with Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson to coming out as a gay man and becoming a pastor in the Metropolitan Community Church.

Dr. Mel White Will Be In Tucson

Friday, May 4, 2001

at

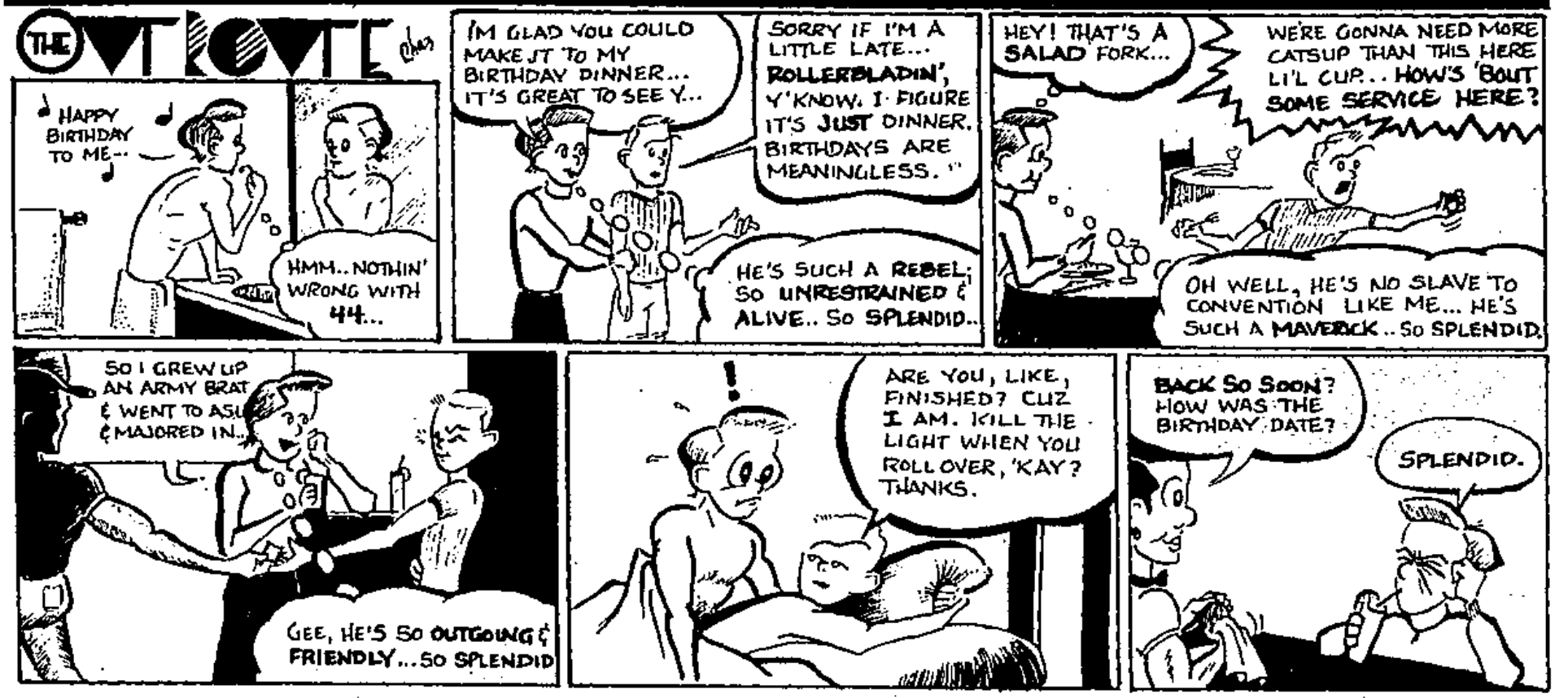
International Arts Center—7:00pm
516 N. 5th Ave, Tucson AZ

Tickets: $10 in advance, $12 at the door

Tickets available at Antigone's, Desert Pride, Men's Social Network, Rainbow Planet, St Francis in the Foothills UMC or Tucson Trunk.

Event organized by St Francis in the Foothills UMC.

For further details, contact
Tom or Joann Sturgeon, TomS619955@aol.com or 520-742-4433
Scott or Doris Morris, ScottMorr@aol.com or 520-750-0626.



GO IN GOOD HEALTH . . .

BY REV. ANDREW BROOKS

This time, I would like to share some thoughts of mine on the importance of having a sense of humor. Humor can be an important asset in life. It can help us through the stressful periods, and to help deflate tension. There is an old saying that laughter is the best medicine, and I believe that. I personally saw a situation unfold lately, where a little sense of humor could have changed the outcome. Recently, someone I know said some things, in jest, to someone else, that they took the wrong way. Their lover got very upset because of it, and ended his friendship with the person that said the things in the first place.

That need not have happened. If the "injured party" had only taken the comments in context, instead of getting all angry about it, the situation need not have been blown out of proportion, and the friendship would not have been affected by it. Unfortunately, some people just don't have a sense of humor, and are easily offended! So, we sometimes do have to be careful and think about what we say and do around some people. Remember, even a joke or a humorous remark should not be intended to hurt anyone. Humor is to be light-hearted, and is not intended as a weapon!

Often, when I am depressed or feeling a little down, I find that watching a funny movie, or reading a comic book like Garfield or something else equally silly will lift my spirits. It has been recommended many times that people with serious health problems do things that make them laugh, such as watch a funny movie, spend time with friends, or anything else that will lift their spirits. Laughter can be very healing.

The power of laughter can be profound. It can make you feel a whole lot better, and can serve to dispel a lot of gloom and negative feelings! So, the next time you are feeling down, do something that will make you laugh. Go see a comedy movie, or read something funny, or go hang out with friends who make you laugh and take things less seriously. It will do you a world of good. It's something to think about. Goddess bless. Til next time, Go in Good Health.

[Andrew Brooks paganbear30@hotmail.com.]

British Military Funds Sex Changes

LONDON, UK (NP) - The British military is being criticized for funding soldiers' sex change treatments, liposuction and breast implants, but armed forces leaders say the procedures are allowed only when there's a "clinical need."

It was revealed over the weekend that Britain's Ministry of Defence (MoD) is paying for sex change treatments for up to five male soldiers.

Although military surgeons are not qualified to perform sex change operations, the MoD funds the hormone therapy and counseling leading up to the procedure.

"People need to live as the gender they want to be for about a year before they can have the operation – and we have provided the drugs and support," said a MoD spokeswoman said.

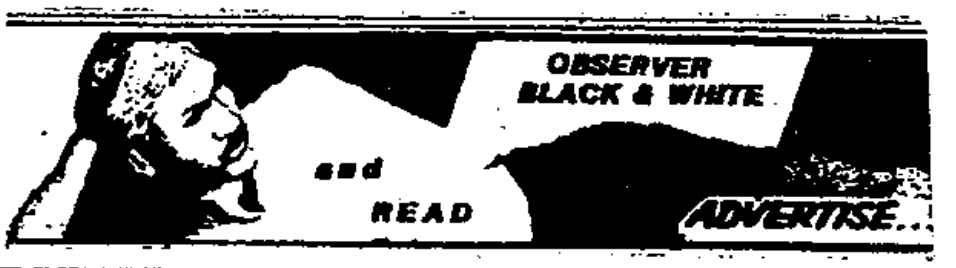
The new armed forces guidelines introduced last year allow soldiers who have undergone sex changes to continue to serve if they are deemed able. But the reality is that most are still asked to leave.

The ministry also made public that 10 service members had received liposuction and four had been given breast implants.

The revelations were controversial because Britain's defense forces are under budget pressures.

But the MoD spokeswoman said the procedures were only authorized when there was a "clinical need."

"We feel that military personnel should neither be advantaged nor disadvantaged by being in the services. So if [civilians] could get this treatment [through the national health plan], we try to make it available, too," she said.



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Non-Bar Calendar
Groups / Clubs / Organizations

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join Jorge as he hosts Dinner Out at P.F. Chang's. Seating is limited, so call early. For reservations and directions, please call Jorge at 869-7219.

Bears of the old Pueblo 7-9 p.m. Coffee Etc. on Campbell & Glenn. Coffee, food, conversation. Everyone is welcome.

THURSDAY, MAY 3

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 1:00 p.m. Join the men of MSN for a Lunch Out at On The Border. This Mexican restaurant may be part of a chain, but they have some good food nonetheless! For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-9565.

FRI-SAT-SUN, MAY 4-5-6.

Bears of the Old Pueblo Sedona Campout. This annual event sees over 50 Bears and buddies camping in the forest above scenic Oak Creek canyon. Full details on Club Web Page or infoline 790-5775.

FRIDAY, MAY 4

Dr. Mel White, co-founder of Soulforce will be at the International Arts Center, 516 N. 5th Ave. At 7:00 p.m. This event is sponsored by St. Francis In The Foothills United Methodist Church. Tickets are $10 in advance or $12 At the door. They are available at Antigone's, Desert Pride, Men's Social Network, Rainbow Planet, Tucson Trunk or at the church. You do not want to miss this dynamic speaker. For more information call 742-4433 or 750-0626.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Mel White will come to Tucson to discuss Gay spirituality and how we're affected by the separatist actions of homophobic people in the church. Tickets are $10 in advance or $12 at the door. For tickets and directions, please call Jerry at 690-9565.

7:00 p.m. Award winning author Felice Picano will red from his latest book "Onyx" at Antigone Books, 411 N. 4th Ave. The novel focuses on the life of Ray Henriques, a successful record producer in Manhattan. Ray's life is thrown dramatically out off balance when he chooses to have an affair with a married man, despite the fact that his love of ten years is grappling with his own imminent death from AIDS. Picano creates unexpected moments of revelation and loveliness even as he shows how loss can awaken dormant desires and postponed dreams. The reading will be followed by a question and answer period. Refreshments will be served.

SATURDAY, MAY 5

Tucson Prime Timers Breakfast 9:30 a.m. at The Good Egg, 7219 E. Speedway, (NE corner Kelb). Call 529-9344 for details.

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): Noon Instead of our normal Potluck in the evening, this month we'll invite you to join the men of MSN at a Picnic. It's a nice, safe setting in which to meet new men and greet old friends. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-9565.

Something Special Mobile Music Service invites you to celebrate the 5th on 4th (Avenue). Dance the night away to country, tejano and norteño from 8:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Drink specials all night. 315 N. 4th Avenue (The Hut). $10.00 Cover includes a fiesta food buffet and door prizes. Smoking on the patio only. Must be 21 or older. This is a Gay/Gay-friendly event.

SUNDAY, MAY 6

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 9:00 a.m. Jack leads a Birding Expedition along Woodland Road on the east side of town. It's a gentle trip of fairly short distance, so just about anyone can do it. You'll get the chance to see a wide variety of birds. For reservations and directions, please call Jack at 731-6230.

MONDAY, MAY 7

Tucson Prime Timers Lunch 1:00 p.m. at Hometown Buffet, 5101 N. Oracle (NW corner River). Call 529-9344 for details.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 6:30 p.m. Tom leads the Triangle Tribe - a support group with MSN which is designed to teach openness and communication. For reservations and directions, please call Tom at 318-1650.

TUESDAY, MAY 8

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Our twice-monthly Bridge Night is a good place to play a friendly game of bridge with nice guys. If you don't know how to play, this is a good place to start. For more information, please contact Perry at 321-4387.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Jorge for Dinner Out at P.F. Chang's. This relatively new restaurant is constantly busy, so the Chinese food here should be quite good. For reservations, please call Jorge at 869-7219.

FRIDAY, MAY 11

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Hearts is the game, and the night is devoted to all lovers of this vicious, but fun card game. If you don't know how to play, it's easy to learn, and we'd be glad to teach you. For reservations and directions, please call Les at 690-9565.

SATURDAY, MAY 12

6th Annual Tucson AIDS Candlelight Service from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Georges Demeester Band Shell in Reid Park at the Northeast Corner of Country Club and 22nd Street.

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 8:00 a.m. Curt leads the group on a hike through Pima Canyon Trail. It's a moderate trail, with lots of pleasant scenery. For reservations and directions, please call Curt at 722-1842.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Bill for a fun evening of Pinochle. Like all our games, we're willing to teach if you'd like to learn. It's a nice way to spend an evening-with good guys! For reservations and directions, please call Bill at 297-3569.

SUNDAY, MAY 13

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. The Tucson Pops present a concert under the stars, and the men of MSN invite you to join them as we listen to some classical/popular music on a warm, summer night. For more information, please contact T. Jay at 881-7919.

MONDAY, MAY 14

Tucson Prime Timers Lunch 1:00 p.m. at Hometown Buffet, 5101 N. Oracle (NW corner River). Call 529-9344 for details.

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 6:30 p.m. The Triangle Tribe, a support group within MSN, meets every Monday at this time to explore relationships among men and learn about oneself. For more information, please contact Thomas at 318-1650.

TUESDAY, MAY 15

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Get advice on planning for your financial future from a pro. A financial planner comes to share ideas. For reservations and directions, please call Bill at 546-7539.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16

Tucson Prime Timers Lunch 1:00 p.m. at Cafe Terra Cotta, 3500 W. Sunrise (Southside). Call 529-9344 for details.

FRIDAY, MAY 18

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join us for our monthly Pizza Night. For only $5, you get pizza, salad, side dishes, and dessert-and a chance to meet 50-70 really nice guys. The pool is also open. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-9565.

SATURDAY, MAY 19

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Get the latest on kitchen gadgetry when Jon presents "The Pampered Chef". This kitchen demonstration includes food to sample and products to check out (with no hard sell or obligation to buy anything)-and it fun, too. For reservations and directions, please call Jon at 881-5958.

BAR CALENDAR
OF UPCOMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2

IBT'S - 9:00 p.m. "Puttin' On The Lips" Lipsync Contest. $50 first place. Hosted by Lucinda Holiday and Naomi Knight. (Contestants call Lucinda at 327-1575)

THURSDAY, MAY 3

IBT'S - 9:00 p.m. It's the first Wet Shorts Contest 2001. First place wins $100. Plus its underwear nite. Happy Hour prices for those in their briefs.!

WOODY'S - "Survivor Party". The last episode. Free shrimp cocktails and $2.00 pints of Fosters on Draught.

FRIDAY, MAY 4

VENTURE-N - Cinco de Mayo celebration here for three days! Today there's a "Build-your-own Taco Bar" starting at 5:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 5

AINT NOBODY'S BIZ - Cinco de Mayo Weekend Bash. Party inside and outside! Latin music 8:00 p.m. to close.

IBT's - Cinco de Mayo specials all day. $2.00 Coronas or Cuervo Shots.

VENTURE-N - Cinco de Mayo party continues with TKO Beer Bust from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. plus they'll be serving Mexican food. Tequila 50¢ off plus $2.00 Dos Equis or Bohemia or $1.00 cactus juice shots.

SUNDAY, MAY 6

AINT NOBODY'S BIZ - Cinco de Mayo Weekend Bash continues. Party inside and outside! Latin music 8:00 .m. to close.

IBT'S - Party line-up includes Jeff's Bloody Mary Recovery Bar from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Karaoke with Billy Dee on the patio from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., Benefit Bar-B-Que / Beer Bust from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. This weeks proceeds go to SAAF (Jell-O Wrestling). Then at 8:30 p.m. until closing a Post-Jell-O Party. $1.50 Jell-O Shots.

WOODY'S - Summer's here and that means it's time again for the Reno Gannon Jell-O Wrestling festivities. The big fundraiser for the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) will take place here. $3.00 cover/donation goes to SAAF. $2.50 hamburger fundraiser for Gay Men's Health Project. Some spectacular auctions items and the raffle drawing for the trip to San Francisco for two!

VENTURE-N - Cinco de Mayo Party continues with a homemade breakfast burritos being served from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. plus there'll be Tequila 50¢ off plus $2.00 Dos Equis or Bohemia or $1.00 cactus juice shots. Ole!

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9

IBT'S - 9:00 p.m. "The Girlie Show' hosted by Lucinda Holliday and starring Phaedra, Faith Michaels and Tabitha.

Daily Bar Calendar

NOTE: Bar owners or managers are responsible for keeping this standard listing up to date. Check with the bartender to be sure the specials listed are actually available.

Sunday

AINT NOBODY'S BIZ - Beer Bust 5-10, $1.25 pitchers. Latin Music with DJ Hill 9-1. Shot specials all night.

IBT's - 9am-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.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio open noon. Patio Beer Bust 3-7pm 75¢ draft, $2 pitchers. 301 Dart Tournament 5pm $3 entry fee (pot matched). Boss Burgers 5-7pm Hides Leather Goods opens at 4pm.

WOODY'S - Open Noon. Dart tournament 3pm. Happy Hour 3-7pm. Patio Bar open 5:30-close. Pick-up Volleyball games 5-7. $2.50 sirloin burger or chicken 5:30-9:30pm. Karaoke with Billy Dee 9pm to close.

YARD DOG - Open Sundays 10am - 1am. Bloody marys or Screwdrivers $1.75 from 10am - 1pm. 50¢ off any Rum 1pm-7pm.

Monday

AINT NOBODY'S BIZ - Happy Hour Two-For-One 2-7. $1.50 Wells 8-midnight, 25¢ cups of draft 8 to closing.

IBT's - 9am-4pm, $2.00 domestic beer and well. Happy Hour $1.75 well and domestic beer 4-7pm. 7-9pm $1.50 well and domestic. Small pitchers Bud/Bud Light $1.50 from 9pm to close. DJ Raynman plays house music 9pm to close. All drink specials not available during special events.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Dart Tourney 8pm, pot matched. Patio opens 5pm

WOODY'S - Open Noon. Happy Hour 3-7pm. Karaoke w/Billy Dee 9pm to close Special drink prices 6pm to close for American Airlines - American Express - AOL employees.

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am. 50¢ off any Scotch until 7pm

Tuesday

AINT NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour Two-For-One 2-7pm. Pool tourney 7:30pm. $3 entry, pot matched. $1.50 longnecks for pool players. $2 Pitchers all nite. Country music with D/J S. 8:30 to closing.

IBT's - 9am-4pm, $2.00 domestic beer & well. Happy Hour$1.75 well & domestic beer 4-9pm. Tee's & Tattoo Nite, wear an IBT's T-shirt or IBT tattoo get happy hour prices 9 to close, or buy an IBT's T-shirt for $5 and get a complimentary drink. House Hi-Nergy Dance 9pm to closing.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Patio open 5pm.

WOODY'S - Open Noon. Happy Hour 3-7pm. 7pm Dart Tournament with Doc. Pot matched. Trivia Party 8pm-close. Top score on NTN per game wins special prizes. Skyy's the limit $2.25.

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am.50¢ off any Tequila until 7pm

Wednesday

AINT NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-4-1 from 2-7. Dance Music with D/J S. 9pm-close. $2 Long Island and $1 Puckers all night.

IBT's - 9am to 4pm, $2.00 domestic beer & well. Happy Hour$1.75 well & domestic beer 4-7pm. $1.50 well & domestic 4-9pm All drink specials not available during special events.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Patio opens at 5pm.

WOODY'S - Open Noon. Happy Hour 3-7pm. Pick-up Volleyball games start 7pm. Hot Dogs 50¢, $1.50 small pitcher Bud & Bud Light 5-9pm. Patio bar open 7pm-Midnight.

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am.50¢ off any Vodka until 7pm

Thursday

AINT NOBODY'S BIZNESS -Karaoke w/Stephanie 9-close. $2 Kamikazees and $1 Hot Sex..

IBT's - 9am-4pm $2.00 domestic beer and well. Happy Hour$1.75 Well & domestic 4-9. $1.50 well and domestic 7-9pm. Hi energy dancing 9-close. All drink specials not available during special events.

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 plus 50¢ off all Big Ass drinks.. Top score on NTN per game wins special prizes. Volleyball Court is Open. See bartender. Patio Bar Open 7pm to midnight..

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am.50¢ off any Bourbon til 7pm

Friday

AINT NOBODYS BIZNESS - Happy Hour Two-For-One 2-7. Free food at 5:30pm. Dance music 9-1 w/ DJ Hill. Drink specials every 1/2 hour

IBT's - 9am-4pm $2.00 domestic beer and well. $1.75 well & domestic beer 4-9. Live Jazz on the patio with the Susan & Tracey 6-9pm. Patio Bar 5-1pm. Dance Party 9 to 1. All drink specials not available during special events.

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

WOODY'S - Open Noon. Happy Hour 3-7pm. Martini Party - Well Martini's $2.00 all day. Call Martinis $3 from 4pm to close. Volleyball Court is Open. Patio Bar Open 7pm - midnight.

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am.50¢ off any Gin until 7pm.

Saturday

AINT NOBODYS BIZNESS - Open at 2pm. Pool Tournament 6:30pm $3 entry. Pot matched. $2 pitchers for pool players. Dance music w/DJ Hill 9-close. Drink specials every 1/2 hour.

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

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

WOODY'S - Open Noon. Happy Hour 3-7pm. Pool Tourney 2pm. Patio Bar & Volleyball Court open 5:30 - close. Steak Fry 5-9pm Filet Mignon, vegetables, salad, potato & roll $4.50.

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am. Beer Bust 3-7pm. 75¢ glass, $2.25 pitcher. 50¢ off any Rum 1pm to 7pm.

CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE .25 PER WORD $5.00 MINIMUM

CLASSIFIED ADS MUST BE MAILED NO PHONE ADS

NOTICES

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE CLINIC provided daily by the Pima County Helath Department. Gay friendly. Confidential. Treatment and Medication too! Any questions? Call 624-8272

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.

LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP. Involving discussion, support and activities. Designed to support each other. Meets 1st & 3rd Saturday of each month from 9:30 to 11am. Alternate Saturdays the group meets for social activities. For info call Dorian Easly, facilitator, 882-7723

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 36264, Tucson, AZ 85740-6264. All replies confidential.

TUCSON GLBT AL-ANON GROUP meets Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th Street. Call 624-1779 for more information.

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 WORLDWIDE 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 529-9344, leave name and phone number.

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

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

LUTHERANS CONCERNED -- Tucson chapter for Gay/Lesbian Lutherans meets 4th Sunday, 6:30 p.m. each month at Santa Cruz Lutheran Church, 6809 S. Cardinal Ave. For information visit www.lctucson.org write: LC, 7614 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 624-0346 (24-hour line)

REVEILLE GAY MEN'S CHORUS rehearses Tuesdays 7-10pm at MCC Church, 3269 N. Mountain. Have any history/ experience singing? Join us!! Call 617-3100 for more info.

TGNatArizona: The central source for news and information for, by and about the TS, TG, and Gender-variant communities of Arizona. Website URL: http://www.tgnatarizona.org - e-mail address: aigoodrum@uswest.net or:

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

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

SUPPORT GROUP: Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals meet weekly for open discussions in a loving, supportive atmosphere. Meetings Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:30 pm at St. Francis in the Foothills Church, Swan and River Road, Room 43. For more information call the church at 299-9063 and ask for a contact person.

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

GREATER PHOENIX GAY & LESBIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (GPGLCC) P.O. BOX 2097, Phoenix, AZ 85001-2097. E-mail: webmaster@gpglcc.org or call (602)225-8444.

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

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

ATTENTION ALL NUDISTS - Tucson Tanners is a nudist group open to all -- Nude activities scheduled both indoor and outdoors. Not "Gay Only", but Gays are welcome and invited to join. For further information send SASE to: Tucson Tanners, P.O. Box 84-G, Cortaro, AZ 85652.

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

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)790-5775 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910 or visit our website at www.botop.com All are welcome to our general meetings/potlucks on the 2nd Friday of every month, 7pm at Sentinel Bldg. On the City of Tucson Resource Campus, 310 N. Commerce Park Loop on Bonita St. between St. Marys and Congress.

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

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

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

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

COMMUNITY BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (CBA), Tucson's Gay and Lesbian business networking group holds regular meetings the third Thursday of every month. Call 615-8438 for more info.

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

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

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 602-279-4805.

DESERT DUNGEON TUCSON'S 100% CONSENSUAL, Pan-Fetish, Pan-Sexual, Informational, Educational. Safe Space for the B&D, S&M, D&S and TV community. Call us at (520)325-0131, or-http://www.azds.net/dd

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)534-6219 (Phoenix)

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

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 293-6824.

SAA (Sex Addicts Anonymous) has 5 meetings a week in Tucson. People who wish to stop their compulsive sexual behavior, please call (520)570-1225 for current information.

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 581-8850 or Ronn 968-2384.

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

CRONIES SOCIAL GROUP. A Social group for Gay men who enjoy the fellowship of their peers. Call Leo at 624-6766.

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

NOTICES

GAY & LESBIAN SPIRITUALITY GROUP of St. Phillips in the Hills Episcopal Church meets first and third Mondays. Call David, 323-7043 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 791-9662.

Join the LESBIAN & GAY PUBLIC AWARENESS PROJECT, in Tucson write Awareness Project, 3861 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.

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

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 2pm 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 791-7676.

GRACE GROUP - CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 2nd and 4th 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 Emie Slaight 721-2003.

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 322-6057 (evellen@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 KXCI. 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 886-6010 before 10:00 p.m. The group dines out and attends shows or movies. Now in their 18th year! (2nd in Tucson).

SOUTHERN ARIZONA GENDER ALLIANCE (SAGA). Meetings on the 1st Monday, 7pm. Dezert Girlz (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. SAGAEmail@aol.com http://members.aol.com/sagaemail

"MEN-YOU-CUM" a J/O group meets every Saturday 6pm. $5 fee per meeting. For information call between the hours of 5 & 10p.m 908-2694. 872

PERSONALS

SINGLE, GOOD LOOKING, OUTGOING, 40S, GWM looking to meet same. Various Interests. Call 584-9243 874

HOUSING/FOR RENT

2 BEDROOM HOUSE, Saltillo tile, Hardwood floors, fireplace, cedar closet, Arizona roomwith A/C, Dishwasher, wrought iron bannisters in Living Room for those fabulous Scarlett O'Hara entrances. Nice yard. 5th and Swan area. $750/mo. + Util. 322-5497 872

SERVICES

NEW YORK TRAINED. DEEP RELAXATION MASSAGE. I'll work out your kinks. 10 years experience. Centrally located. In & Out calls. Greg Stickroth, 401-8580 872.

SERVICES

ADD SOME QUALITY TO YOUR LIFE W/WONDERFUL Tantric Massage. Gentle healing with 20 years professional experience integrating mind, body & spirit for your awareness. Marc, 881-4582. 875.

COME BACK TO BLISS. Experience a massage steeped in rich tradition combining ancient, sacred and intimate healing techniques. Strong, yet gentle hands work with your complete comfort in mind. In & Out, Days & Evenings, sometimes at a moment's notice. Call Glen, CMT 907-2551 for the touch you so richly deserve. Experienced, professional, and kind ... not bad looking either! 875.

ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS
Let me keep your clothes fitting properly and in good repair. Experienced -- Economical -- Prompt. Merle Hudson, 888-7284 in Tucson. 890

EXPERT CUSTOM LEATHER ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS - CUSTOM LEATHER CREATIONS
Expectations exceeded. Treasured Leathers, Mayah Lolla. For appointment 617-0596 at Lucky Street Studios. 877

LET ME PAMPER YOU! With a Full Body Swedish massage in a quiet, relaxed atmosphere. $35 for a full hour. Ralph, 883-7496. 885

A MAN'S FULL BODY MASSAGE: Relax with an unhurried session of skilled bodywork by Rick, 299-1782. $35 878

ATTRACTIVE MAN offers very relaxing, sensuous, one-hour massage at a very reasonable rate. Days, evenings, weekends. Michael 564-9243 879

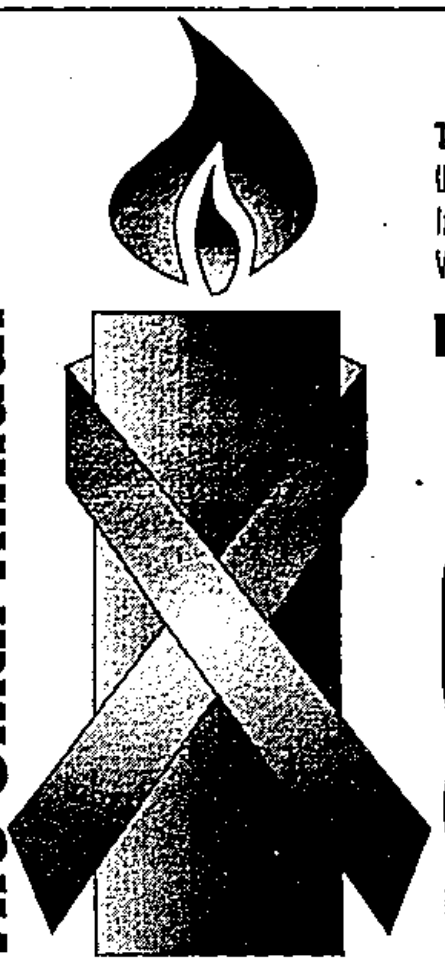
A SPECIAL TOUCH. Full body massage with complete relaxation. Young and professional. In/out calls. 7 days. Joe, CMT, 617-0837 880

MASSAGE FOR MEN: Swedish full body. For one hour of professional bodywork. Call Marvin for appointment, 299-9651. $35 878

FULL BODY ORIENTAL MASSAGE. Experience the difference. By Appointment only. 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Call Danny Chong 481-0803 879

TENSE? STRESSED OUT? Relax for an hour with a Full Body Rub by Frank. Private studio, off-street parking. 271-3660 days, evenings. 881

LAW OFFICE of
Carol L. Lohmann
Workers' Compensation
Social Security Disability
(520) 628-7700
Fax (520) 628-7711
485 South Main Avenue
Tucson, Arizona 85701



The Sixth Annual Tucson AIDS Candlelight Service is organized by Wingspan, the Intertribal Health Center, Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation, Queer Voice, Tucson Interfaith HIV and AIDS Network, COPE/Behavioral Services/Health Promotions and Water of Life Metropolitan Community Church.

The Sixth Annual Tucson AIDS Candlelight Service

"Many Voices United...for Life"

"Many Voices United...for Life" is the theme of the **Sixth Annual Tucson AIDS Candlelight Service** that is planned for 7 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, May 12th at the Georges Demeester Performance Center in Tucson's Reid Park.

Sponsored by a group of community and health organizations including **Wingspan,** Tucson's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community center, the service will provide information about the disease and renew the event organizers' message that AIDS—which emerged in the early 1980s—has not gone away and remains a threat to all segments of society.

"This is not a pocketed issue that is affecting just a particular group of people," said Quinton Jenkins, the Candlelight Service chair. "It's affecting everyone. I want people attending the event to take away real knowledge about the current status of the virus."

To help do that, event organizers are trying to put a human face on the issue by asking community members to visit four area agencies to write messages about how HIV/AIDS has affected their lives or those of a friend, relative or loved one. The messages will then be included on a Community HIV/AIDS Canvas that will be displayed at the service.

Written messages may be submitted by May 9 by visiting one of the following organizations:

Wingspan
300 East Sixth Street, 624-1779

Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF)
375 South Euclid Avenue, 628-7223

COPE Behavioral Services/Health Promotions
101 South Stone Avenue, 798-1772.

Queer Voice, a support organization for GLBT youth
Please call 620-6245 for information about how to write your message.

The event will include an education and ecumenical theme including appearances by the following individuals and organizations:

Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF)
Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network
COPE Behavioral Services/Health Promotions
Intertribal Health Care Center
Queer Voice
Desert Voices, an adult GLBT chorus
The Rev. Joyce Cook of Water of Life Metropolitan Community Church
Byron Brooks, a person living with AIDS and Mr. Gay Pride 2000 – 2001

The event also will feature performances by:

Singer Lauren Eberhart
Mr. Kenneth Blake as Celine Dion
Kurt Anthon and his Ensemble—Tribe-Like Bizarre
Pianist Ken Thames

For Information, contact committee chair Quinton Jenkins at (520) 795-1381.

Contributors:

City of Tucson

Pima County Health Dept.

Sponsors:

Co-op Food Conspiracy Co-op

Centra Realty

Woody's

TBRich Design

Bentley's

Quinton Jenkins
Event Coordination and Consultation

Presented by: Wingspan

Saturday - May 12, 2001 - 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Georges DeMeester Band Shell in Reid Park
(NE Corner of Country Club Road & 22nd Street)

To IBT's
Friends and Customers

Due to complaints from neighbors and law enforcement, we request that you please leave the area when we close, and DO NOT congregate in or around the bar.

To do so could jeopardize our license.

Thank you
IBT's Staff
and Management