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THE WEEKLY OBSERVER | JUNE 6, 2001 | ISSUE 881

Pentagon's Recruiting Shortfalls Seen As Self-Inflicted

Newly Released Gay Discharge Figures Underscore Civilian-Military Gap

SANTA BARBARA, CA- Military analysts this week said that the Pentagon's practice of firing Gay and Lesbian soldiers may exacerbate the growing divisions between military and civilian life, and may contribute to difficulties the military faced recently in appealing to the American public. The remarks, made to researchers at the Center for the Study of Sexual Minorities in the Military at the University of California, Santa Barbara, came in response to the Pentagon's announcement today that 1,231 soldiers were fired in fiscal year 2000 for being Gay, Lesbian or bisexual. This is the highest number of Gay discharges since 1987.

Elizabeth Kier, a professor of Political Science at the University of Washington, and author of an influential article on Gays in the military in the journal International Security, says that "don't ask, don't tell" reflects certain gaps between the views of military brass and civilian opinion leaders. "The persistence of an anti-Gay bias in the U.S. military," she says, "has the potential to erode the American public's confidence in the military." According to the latest Gallup polls, 70 percent of the public says that Gays should be allowed to serve in the military.

Peter Feaver, a professor of Political Science at Duke University and Director of the Triangle Institute for Security Studies, which researches civilian-military relations, says that despite a grassroots respect for the military, the Gay ban seems to be hurting the military's image in the eyes of essential gatekeepers of recruitment. "While a majority of officers oppose Gays serving openly, a majority of the general public supports it," he says, "and there you have a wide opinion gap." It is one instance, he explains, of the growing divide between the military and American society.

Experts say that the Gay ban may be hurting recruitment efforts because many high schools refuse to cooperate with the military as long as the Pentagon continues to fire Gay and Lesbian service members. According to Alan Dowd, former Associate Editor of The American Legion Magazine, high schools denied military recruiters access to their campuses on 19~228 separate occasions in 1999 (the last year for which figures were available), in part as an effort to "challenge the pentagon's policy on homosexuals in the military". A professional staff member of the House Armed Services Committee, which recently conducted a nationwide review on school recruitment efforts, confirmed that each service of the military maintains its own list of roughly two to three thousand schools that limit or prohibit access to recruiters on campus. When high schools refuse to cooperate with the armed forces, the consequences for recruiting can be serious. The study by the House Armed Services Committee concluded that the refusal of schools and universities to give recruiters contact information and opportunities to meet with students was lithe single biggest obstacle to carrying out their recruiting mission." This year, the Air Force is short by about 1,200 pilots, the Navy is short by about 12,000 sailors, and the Army has lowered traditional standards of admission to attract high school dropouts.

These self-imposed wounds are distressing, say critics, because they come at a time when the Pentagon has pumped ever-larger sums into attracting soldiers. In 1999, the Air Force increased its advertising spending from $12 million to over $56 million and will feature Air Force Thunderbirds this month on Frosted Flakes cereal boxes in a continuing effort to attract recruits. The Navy has doubled its recruitment staff and intensified its local television advertising, hiring Spike Lee to direct a glossy new campaign. The Navy met its recruitment goals in 1999 only after agreeing to double the number of high school dropouts it would accept. And the Army is spending $150 million on its "Army-oflone" television and internet campaign.

Other observers have criticized the military for endorsing stly recruitment tactics while driving out well-trained and perfectly competent Gay troops. "Even though the Pentagon was denied recruitment opportunities over 19,000 times, commanders continue to fire capable and experienced soldiers simply because they are Gay,' said Aaron Belkin, Director of the Center for the Study of Sexual Minorities in the Military, a research center at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Belkin said that after Britain lifted its Gay ban in January, 2000, the British Ministry of Defense found that the more inclusive policy positively affected access to recruiting fairs. Indeed, a British Defense Ministry report said that 11some areas that had previously closed to the Forces, such as Student Union 'Fresher's Fairs,' are now allowing access to the Services because of what is seen to be a more enlightened approach."

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HIV Rate Up Among Young Gay Men

ATLANTA, GA - Young Gay and Bisexual men, especially in the black community, are becoming infected with HIV at rates like these groups had when the AIDS epidemic peaked in the mid-1980s, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said.

In a study released to mark the 20th anniversary of the discovery of AIDS, U.S. health experts said that the virus might be poised to make a strong comeback, particularly among Gay and Bisexual males between the ages of 23 and 29, Reuters Health reported.

The CDC said insufficiently targeted health education programs, growing complacency in the wake of successful drug therapies and the continuing stigma attached to AIDS patients could be responsible for the alarming rise in infection by HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

The Atlanta-based federal agency followed a group of 2,942 young Bisexual and Gay males in six U.S. cities from 1998 to 2000 and found that every year an additional 4.4 percent tested HIV positive. The rate of new infection for blacks in the group was 14.7 percent, almost six times the 2.5 percent rate for white members of the group.

"These are explosive HIV incidence rates," said Dr. Linda Valleroy, the CDC epidemiologist who led the study.

Sample not representative? The CDC admitted that its small sample might not be representative of all Gay men, but it described the study's findings as a "critical" public health matter.

CDC researchers noted that the new HIV infection rates it found among young Gay and Bisexual black males were comparable to rates recorded in parts of Africa, considered the continent hardest hit by AIDS.

One-third of all U.S. black Gay and Bisexual males under the age of 30 are HIV positive, according to the CDC.

"With the exception of Botswana, if you are black, Gay and under the age of 30 in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Detroit or any urban area, you are more likely to be HIV positive than if you live in the hardest-hit areas in sub-Saharan Africa," said Phill Wilson, executive director of the African-American AIDS Policy and Training Institute.

The CDC, which hopes to cut the annual rate of new HIV infections in half within five years, said there was an urgent need to expand HIV prevention programs to young Gay males and others at high risk.

Studies Show Dangers Faced By GLBT Teens

WASHINGTON, DC - As many as 2-million GLBT youth in the United States are not getting the education they should because of the high level of abuse and harassment they are subjected to in their schools, says a respected international human rights monitoring organization.

The report, " Hatred in the Hallways: Violence and Discrimination Against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Students in U.S. Schools," released today by Human Rights Watch, is the result of two years of interviews with 140 youth and 130 teachers, administrators, counselors and parents in seven states.

"The U.S. school system gets a failing grade when it comes to providing a safe place for Gay students to get an education," said Michael Bochenek, counsel to the Children's Rights Division of HRW and one of the report's authors. "Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender kids face a greater risk of bullying than any other students in American high schools. That has to stop."

According to the study, school officials often refuse to document reports of harassment against Gay youth and refuse to condemn the perpetrators. Some officials blame GLBT students for being abused, saying they provoke attacks by flaunting their identity or by not being "normal," the report adds.

Too many Gay youth spend so much energy at school plotting how to avoid verbal and physical attacks that they "have little energy left to learn," the study said. Some GLBT youth who can't cope with this pressure drop out of school altogether, others attempt suicide.

HRW's attention to this issue, said Gay Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) spokesman Jim Anderson, is particularly significant to the GLBT community. "Folks who haven't heard of GLSEN will have heard of the Human Rights Watch," he said. "There is a history of governmental bodies taking action when [HRW] reports are released." Recent reports from the organization after investigations into male prison rape and the treat-

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UPDATE

Community's Chance To Meet The Commission

TUCSON - Meet the Commission! The City of Tucson Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender (GLBT) Commission will be holding a community forum on June 28, 2001 at the Wingspan Community Center, 300 E. 6th Street. The forum will start at 7:00 p.m. and there will be a reception following.

All members of Tucson's community are encouraged to attend! Come and meet the commissioners, find out what the commission plans to do in the coming year, and voice your opinion about important concerns or issues you think the commission should be addressing.

The GLBT Commission was created by recommendation of a special mayoral task force in response to the brutal murder of Matthew Shepard in Laramie, Wyoming. The commission was created to ensure that the needs and concerns of Tucson's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender communities were being heard and represented.

Since its inception, the commission has accomplished a wide range of goals, including having the city's anti-discrimination ordinance changed to include sexual orientation and gender identity as well as recommending to mayor and council to cease all city funding to any organization that discriminates. The commission has created and begun distributing standards of practice to social service agencies to improve the care, treatment, and resources to Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender individuals. The commission has also created standards of practice for education and has begun distribution to local schools and educational facilities.

The commission wants your input! Please come and share your ideas! This event is free and open to the public. Find out about opportunities for you to be more involved!

If you are unable to attend the forum, you can always stop by the monthly meeting. The commission meets every third Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. in the Equal Opportunity Conference Room, 100 N. Stone.

TLGA Bowl-A-Thon

TUCSON - The Tucson Lesbian/Gay Alliance (TLGA) will be holding a bowl-a-thon, Sunday, June 24, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., at Lucky Strike Bowl, 4015 E. Speedway.

Proceeds from this event will go to help TLGA produce and fund OUTober-FEST, Gay West, and Pride Week events.

To donate, participate, or for more information, call the TLGA OUTline, (520) 622-3200.

An Evening Out With Michelangelo Signorile

TUCSON - In recognition of National Gay & Lesbian Book Month, the Tucson-Pima Public Library will host "An Evening Out with Michelangelo Signorile," June 21, 7:00 p.m. at the Main Library, 101 N. Stone Avenue. The author will share his views about Gay life in America. The program will be followed by a reception.

Signorile is the author of several books, including Queer in America: Sex, the Media, and the Closets of Power; Outing Yourself: How to Come Out as Lesbian or Gay to Your Family, Friends, and Coworkers; and Life Outside—The Signorile Report on Gay Men: Sex, Drugs, Muscles, and the Passages of Life. Signorile is also a noted columnist with The Advocate, OUT Magazine and Gay.com.

"An Evening Out with Michelangelo Signorile" is co-sponsored by the Friends of the Tucson-Pima Public Library, Tucson Gay/Lesbian Alliance, Wingspan, and Gay Men's Health Project/A collaborative effort of SAAF, Pima County Health Department and Wingspan. For more information, call the Tucson-Pima Public Library, (520) 791-4391.

Desert Voices Concert June 15

TUCSON - Desert Voices, under the direction of Artistic Director Keith A. Koster, present their annual Gay pride concert, "Now & Then" taking a look back at America's best music of the 20th century, June 15, 8:00 p.m., at the PCC Proscenium Theatre, 2202 W. Anklam Road.

The performance will feature all of Desert Voices' favorite groups, including the women's barbershop quartet Alegria, the tight harmony men's quartet, Four Brothers, and Women With Voices, Desert Voices' female ensemble, and Una Voz, the chorus' premiere mixed ensemble, will be featured in several favorites. The chorus will share the music of Broadway favorites Oklahoma and West Side Story. In celebration of Gay pride, the concert will feature several audience favorites of Lesbian and Gay significance.

Concert tickets are $10/$12 in advance, $15 at the door can be purchased through the chorus hotline, (520) 791-9662. Tickets are also available at Antigone Books, Tucson Trunk, Rainbow Planet Coffeehouse, Hear's Music and Zip's University. The concert will be ASL interpreted.

Gay Days Prove Too Wholesome For Right!

ORLANDO, FL - Despite their best efforts, a pair of self-described "Christian guerrillas," intent on capturing video footage of Gay men behaving badly at the annual Gay Days celebration at Disney World in Orlando, came away empty handed, the Orlando Sentinel reports.

The "mission," Martin Mawyer and Phillip Vaught of the Christian Action Network told the newspaper, was to capture overtly sexual displays that would so embarrass Disney officials, the park would be compelled to prohibit the event.

"You don't spend all year long infiltrating the minds of Americans around the country with commercials of little kids coming down to Walt Disney World to enjoy the rides and not warn them this is not what they're going to see during Gay Days," said Mawyer.

During a similar Gay Days visit two years ago, Mawyer and Vaught videotaped men dancing together at Disney's Pleasure Island in a sexually provocative manner. The tape was circulated to select members of Congress and shown by CAN exhibitors at the Republican National Convention last summer.

Walt Disney World is not an official sponsor of Gay Days and plays no part in organizing the event. The annual celebration for Gay men and Lesbians, their friends and their families, has grown from decidedly humble beginnings to become one of the largest annual Gay events in the southern United States.

Gay Days founder Doug Swallow said he was perplexed at why Mawyer and Vaught would bother documenting Gay Days, a weekend dedicated to theme park rides and harmless fun. "I really just want to know why they're so intent on doing this that they would go to extremes to ruin someone else's vacation," he said.

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Informing the Community
The Observer

Jumping Off The Republican Ship Proves What Goes Around, Comes Around

By Jody Renaldo

With the recent abandonment of the republican ship by Sen. James Jeffords of Vermont, the conservative republican ship is scrambling to keep afloat, but is sinking ALA the Titanic. Will Mississippi Senator Trent Lott (R) go down with the ship?

I've had the pleasure of leading the long overdue equality movement in Mississippi. This has brought me into the paths, offices, and homes of many people throughout our state. The one thing I keep hearing over and over is that finally, Senator Anti Gay, err, Senator Lott is no longer in control.

Of course this whole Jeffords thing has a home flavor for us in Mississippi what with Lott being one of our unfortunate products and because it upsets the one thing near and dear to homophobic right-wing Christians in our state. Their good ole boy is no longer running things over there in Washington.

Now then, back in June of 1998, Lott made one of the most controversial statements ever made towards the Gay community.

Lott made his remarks while taping an interview for "The Armstrong Williams Show" on the America's Voice television network.

During their interview, Williams asked Lott whether he considers homosexuality a sin and Lott replied, "Yeah, it is."

Lott added: "You should still love that person. You should not try to mistreat them or treat them as outcasts. You should try to show them a way to deal with that problem, just like alcohol ... or sex addiction ... or kleptomaniacs."

"There are all kinds of problems, addictions, difficulties, experiences of things that are wrong, but you should try to work with that person to learn to control that problem," he said.

The remarks thrust Lott into a controversy that engulfed the scientific, Gay and conservative communities: Whether homosexuals have chosen their sexual orientation or whether it is biologically predetermined.

Many in the science community say homosexuality is predetermined by biology. Some conservatives and other groups believe homosexuality is a chosen lifestyle and have searched for a "cure" for being Gay.

Also in June of 1998, on CNN's "Late Edition" show, Lott said for the first time that he opposed James Hormel's nomination as ambassador to Luxembourg, viewing him as an aggressive advocate of the Gay lifestyle. Hormel is an openly Gay San Francisco philanthropist and Democratic Party donor whom President Clinton nominated in 1997 to be ambassador to Luxembourg. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee approved the nomination in November, but it had been stalled for a long time after. As majority leader, Lott largely controls the Senate's agenda, including bringing nominations to the Senate for debate and vote.

Majority leader? Not anymore. Replace majority with minority because that is where the Senate republicans, including Lott, in Washington DC now stand, as a minority. When Jeffords jumped the republican ship, that left 50 democrats, 49 republicans, and 1 independent, Jeffords. Simple math tells us who is in control.

Now Lott is being blamed for not doing enough to keep Jeffords on the republican ship. I would have to say even if I wasn't Gay, I can't blame Jeffords. The vale of inclusion that George W. Bush has covered this country with, must have a small peep hole in it because a few thinking people can see right through it. Jeffords is tired of hiding behind the vale.

I never thought I would say this about Lott, but we shouldn't blame him for Jeffords leaving. We should thank him for it. Because of his and others, and I won't call any names but his initials is George W. Bush, lies and smoke blowing, Jeffords decided to think for himself. Thank you Trent! Thank you George!

No longer the majority leader, one would think that this is a perfect opportunity for Lott to end his status as a career politician and homophobe, go back to Pascagoula, Mississippi and do some fishing. Maybe he could become a board member for Mississippi Gay Lobby? He was a cheerleader at the University of Mississippi, maybe they need a new coach?

Now another maybe. Since the republicans are no longer in control of our freedoms and the law of the land, maybe the door to real inclusion will open up and acceptance of all people regardless of their sexual orientation, can begin and Gay people can start receiving the respect and equality we all deserve.

There is a new ship about to set sail. The SS Democrat. Bon Voyage!

[Jody Renaldo is the executive director of Mississippi Gay Lobby.]

Best-selling author.
Gonzo journalist.
Gay-left extremist.
Gay-right neo-conservative.
Michelangelo Signorile.

Best-selling author. Gonzo journalist. Gay-left extremist. Gay-right neo-conservative. These are but a few of the phrases that have been used to label Michelangelo Signorile. Which are true? Decide for yourself, as this free-thinking writer shares his views.

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'The Producers' Win Record Number Of Tony Awards

NEW YORK, NY - The Producers, the new Mel Brooks musical smashed a record by winning 12 American Theatre Wing Tony Awards, more than any other production in the history of the awards. The Producers surpassed the previous record of 10 Tonys set by Hello, Dolly! in 1964.

Before the evening was an hour old, The Producers got off to a blazing start by winning eight of the first ten awards in quick succession. Tonys went to Mel Brooks (Best Score), Mel Brooks and Thomas Meehan (Best Book), Susan Stroman (Best Choreography and Best Direction), Doug Besterman (Best Orchestrations), Peter Kaczorowski (Best Lighting Design), William Ivey Long (Best Scenic Design), and Robin Wagner (Best Scenic Design).

The remaining Tonys in the PBS portion of the broadcast went to Daniel Sullivan (Best Director of a Play) for Proof and the Victory Gardens Theatre in Chicago (Regional Theatre Tony Award).

The Producers' sweep continued in the CBS portion of the program with Cady Huffman (Best Featured Actress in a Musical) and Gary Beach (Best Featured Actor in a Musical) both scoring wins. Nathan Lane beat out other nominees, including cast-mate Matthew Broderick, as Best Actor in a Musical. The final award of the evening, Best Musical, also went to The Producers.

Amongst the shower of awards for The Producers, the Tony Award for Best Play went to Proof by David Auburn, which won a total of three awards. In addition to the directing award, Proof scored another win when the Tony for Best Actress in a Play went to Mary-Louise Parker.

Best Revival of a Musical went to 42nd Street, whose Christine Ebersole also won as Best Actress in a Musical. Robert Sean Leonard won a Tony for his featured performance in The Invention of Love, and Richard Easton won for his leading performance in the same play. The Tony for Best Featured Actress in a Play went to King Hedley II's Viola Davis, and One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest was selected as Best Revival of a Play. Blast! received the Tony for Special Theatrical Event, an award which had been previously announced.

While Hello, Dolly! was the former record-holder for the most Tony wins, it is not the only production to have received ten Tonys. Another Broadway mega-hit, A Chorus Line, received nine Tonys in 1976, shortly after it opened. The production later received a tenth award, a special gold Tony in 1984, in honor of becoming the longest-running production in Broadway history -- a benchmark which has since been surpassed by Cats.

Exon Mobil Rejects G/L Oriented Proposals

DALLAS, TX - Shareholders of the Exxon Mobil Corporation voted down a raft of proposals including a restoration of same-sex DP benefits and a resumption of non-discrimination protections for Gay and Lesbian employees jettisoned when the Exxon and Mobil merged.

Company chairman Lee Raymond complained the protracted debate, especially over rights for Gay employees, was nothing but a repeat of previous meetings. "It's a rehash of what we've heard for the past three years," Raymond said at one point, defending his decision to impose a strict two-minute limit on most speakers.

Despite the rejection of environmental reforms and protections for Gay employees, activists said they have enough support from shareholders to continue to press their claims and will bring the very same proposals to next year's annual meeting.

The opposition to the environmental proposals was overwhelming. A renewable energy proposal, a measure linking executive pay to social, environmental and fiscal performance and a demand that an environmental impact study be conducted before any drilling is conducted in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge were defeated by solid 9 to 1 margins.

A proposal that would have restored same-sex partner benefits and an explicit non-discrimination policy against Gays, policies abandoned by Mobil when Exxon acquired it in 1999, fared only slightly better. That proposal won the support of 13 percent of the company's shareholders.

"We'll be back next year if management does not change its mind," said Shelly Alpern with socially conscious investment group Trillium Asset Management of Boston, which backed the nondiscrimination policy sponsored by the New York City Employees' Retirement System.

Raymond said that Exxon Mobil's discrimination policy was inclusive of all groups regardless of group characteristic. He declined comment on the abandonment of DP benefits, however.

In December of 1999 when the newly merged Exxon Mobil Corp. rescinded domestic partner benefits and Mobil's policy banning anti-Gay bias, the Human Rights Campaign issued a statement saying the policy roll backs earned the new company the ignoble distinction of becoming the first major American company ever to roll back a nondiscrimination policy and only the second to end domestic partner benefits.

"The new company clearly does not believe in equal pay for equal work because that's what these benefits are," said the HRC's Kim Mills. "This move is bad for business, it's bad for employee morale and it demonstrates that Exxon Mobil's human resources policies are mired in the past."

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Twentieth Anniversary Of The AIDS Crisis

By Anne Maley

June 5 marks 20 years since the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) first identified a new disease killing Gay men in the U.S. The illness was later named AIDS-Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome-and was found to be caused by HIV, the Human Immunodeficiency Virus. Worldwide, the AIDS epidemic has already claimed the lives of more than 21 million people, more than 400,000 of those in the US. Currently in the US, over 800,000 individuals are living with HIV/AIDS.

Here in Pima County, more than 2,600 people are reported to be infected with HIV. An additional 3,000 to 4,000 individuals are estimated to be living with HIV but are not reported.

We have been fortunate in the last five years to have witnessed remarkable medical advances in treating people living with HIV/AIDS. Although new medications continue to be developed, three facts remain - there is still no cure for AIDS; people are living longer with AIDS, therefore increasing the demand for services; and the rate of new HIV infections remains constant. Each of these realities requires our attention.

The difference the aggressive anti-retroviral treatments have created is astounding. Many people living with HIV/-AIDS have been able to regain or maintain a high quality of life. But the drugs are not a cure. Drug resistance requires constant adjustment to newer medications. Side effects are at best painful and inconvenient, and at worst cause other life-threatening conditions. Treatment regimens are intense and difficult for even the most vigilant to follow. Drug treatments are also not available or appropriate for every person living with HIV/AIDS. People who lack access to health care also lack access to the medications to treat their illness.

Recent reports of an increase in local deaths from AIDS have forced us to acknowledge the complexities of this disease and the limitations of drug treatment. Most of the people who are dying are not on the aggressive drug treatments, or have not been on them long enough to have experienced the benefits. So many of the people who are dying from AIDS have not had access to quality medical care, or they have compromised health because of substance abuse, or their mental illness has made following a drug regimen impossible.

Too many of the people dying from AIDS today are finding out they are HIV positive too late in the disease process. They are learning of their HIV status when they are admitted to the hospital for a serious illness resulting from AIDS. Because so many people at risk do not think of themselves as such, they are not getting tested. Or they don't want to know. And, unfortunately, too few doctors recognize the connection between some chronic conditions and HIV that they are not suggesting testing to their patients, a situation that happens particularly often with women.

AIDS is affecting more members of our community. The Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) sees an increasing number of people living with HIV/-AIDS each year. The majority of people living with HIV/AIDS in Pima County are Gay men. At the same time, the numbers who are heterosexual women, people of color, intravenous drug users and their partners, and people with low incomes are increasing. The number of HIV-positive Gay men who are also people of color or IV drug users is also increasing.

At SAAF, 18% of our HIV-positive clients are women; 40% are people of color; more than half are under 40 years old. Fully 60% of people living with HIV/-AIDS who come to SAAF for services have annual incomes less than $9,450 (30% of the city's median income). The average income of SAAF's clients is $9,178.

One of the most discouraging statistics is the continual number of new HIV infections. We know how this disease is transmitted. And at this point, prevention is the only cure. It is in part because of the good results with current medications that some individuals are more likely to risk infection with HIV. And with so many people infected who do not know their HIV status, even more people are unknowingly engaging in behavior that puts their own or others' health at risk.

While the AIDS epidemic affects people of every community, Gay men are still at highest risk in southern Arizona. And Gay men of color are particularly at risk. Recent reports from the CDC suggest that, nationwide, 30% of young African-American Gay men are HIV positive, and 15% of young Latino Gay men are HIV positive. That's more than double the rate for young white Gay men. Stopping the spread of HIV demands that we maintain a strong prevention presence in Gay male communities, including Gay men of color.

After twenty years of being at the forefront of this disease in the US, some older Gay men are experiencing "prevention burnout" and may be less committed to maintaining safer sex practices indefinitely. Younger Gay men have often not personally felt the impact of AIDS. Studies in some urban areas indicate Gay men are using condoms less than they did several years ago, while condom use among Gay men today is still much more consistent than condom use among heterosexual men. Maintaining healthy behaviors consistently is truly a challenge that is exacerbated by homophobia and, for men of color, by social/economic factors such as higher rates of poverty and less access to prevention services and quality health care.

There are actions we as members of the community can take. One is to learn our HIV status, through free, anonymous HIV testing at a number of sites in Tucson. Another is to embrace with compassion our neighbors living with HIV/AIDS. Stigma is still a significant factor keeping people from finding out their status or from getting treatment. We can educate ourselves about HIV/AIDS and understand what the risks really are. We also must encourage prevention messages in every community and at every opportunity. We must commit as a community to reducing the number of HIV infections.

In short, we must continue to talk about AIDS-in our families, in our faith communities, in our schools, with our health care providers, in our social networks, with our elected officials.

CONTINUED ON PAGE SIXTEEN

IBT's Sunday Party Line-up for June 10th

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 Tucson Aces Softball Team

8 pm the Aces Softball Team presents "The Night They Came Out!" starring:
Vanilla Thunderpussy, Anita Leigh, Buqueefa

T's - Tanks - Tattoo's Tuesday's 9 pm til close
wear your IBT's t-shirt, tank top or tattoo for $1.75 Bud/Bud Light or well drinks

Special Show Wednesday, June 13th, 9:00 pm, 'The Cotton Club Revue'
featuring Ajia Simone, Tori Steele, with Lucinda Holliday and Deora Le Blanc

IBT's

Underwear Thursday's gets Hotter and Hotter
get comfortable in your shorts and get hapy hour prices 9 pm to close

Live Jazz on the Patio Friday's 6 - 9 pm with Susan Artemis and Tracy York

Coming Events
Wednesday, June 20th, IBT's "Red Party" celebrating Pride at IBT's
Saturday, June 23rd, Gay West at Old Tucson Studios sponsored by IBT's
website: ibts.net

Woody's BT's Presents

Gay 5K West

Saturday • June 23rd
Gates open at 6pm

Celebrate Gay Pride!

Enjoy a country & western dance under the stars with country DJ Dan Ridge/Charlies Phoenix and rock with Hi-NRG Dancing mixed by DJ Tim Outland/Crowbar Phoenix-plus other surprises and all the fun, games, rides, food and excitement of Old Tucson Studios!

Entertainment includes Lucinda Holliday's "Lipstick & Lashes" variety show, Reveille Gay Men's Chorus, Patté Williams, Tejano-style music with KC's Mixx Band and Katz Meow w/Heidi Rogers.

Quinton • Jenkins

$12.00 In Advance
$14 the day of the event

Ticket Options: Contact your favorite LGBT non-profit organization for details **OR** order online at www.oldtucson.com **OR** visit these locations for ticket purchases: Antigone Books, Wingspan, David's Hair, Desert Pride, Tucson Trunk and Rainbow Planet Coffee House. **For more info, call 883-0100.**

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POLITICS 2001

by Mark R. Kerr

'What Mandate?'

The Concerned Women for America is readying a report harshly critical of what it calls the Bush administration's pursuit of a "Gay Republican agenda," charging George W. Bush has "failed to overturn a single Clinton executive order dealing with homosexuality" and has "continued the Clinton policy of issuing U.S. Department of Defense regulations to combat 'anti-Gay harassment.'"

This past week, the occupier of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue showed those women otherwise, and now, pride celebrations around the country will have to proceed without acknowledgment from the White House this year.

George W. Bush will not proclaim this June to be Gay Pride Month, breaking the custom established in 1999 by predecessor President Bill Clinton. White House spokesperson Scott McClellan said that while Bush feels all people should be treated with "dignity and respect," he "does not believe in politicizing people's sexual orientation."

"[Bush's] refusal to reach out to our community calls into question his promise to be president of all the people," David Smith of the Human Rights Campaign told reporters, adding that since he took office in January, Bush has reached out to other constituencies by signing proclamations for Black History Month, Women's History Month and Irish-American Heritage Month.

The new president's office will also take a pass on sponsoring any activities or observances marking the month, according to a memo E-mailed to administration managers last week.

"The executive office of the president will not sponsor an observance for Gay and Lesbian Pride Month," read the memo. "The executive office of the president will continue to observe, in some form or manner, the special emphasis programs that are traditionally recognized through the Affirmative Employment Program. Those programs recognize minorities and women that have been traditionally under represented in the work force."

In addition to issuing the presidential proclamations that designated Gay Pride Month in 1999 and 2000, the Clinton administration sponsored observances such as related speakers' forums.

Poor George, this didn't help "his fraudulency" with the public, with his job approval rating plunging eight percentage points over the past two months in a poll released this week. In the poll, by ABC and the Washington Post, Americans were evenly divided on whose leadership they preferred, with 40 percent choosing Bush and 42 percent choosing the Democrats. Just two months ago, Bush led by a 10-point margin. ...

Still on the subject of King George Bush II, Florida's handling of the 2000 presidential election was marked by "injustice, ineptitude and inefficiency" that disenfranchised minority voters, a draft government report to be released later this week said.

The United States Commission on Civil Rights report to be made public on Thursday, June 8, criticized top Florida officials – particularly President Bush's younger brother, Florida Governor Jeb Bush, and Secretary of State Katherine Harris for allowing such disparate treatment of voters.

The report were particularly critical of the roles played by Governor Bush and Harris. Bush was chided for a failure of leadership – for example, rejecting a $100,000 budget request for voter education. Harris was criticized for claiming that she had only a "ministerial" responsibility for elections. "While she described her role in the policies and decisions affecting the actual voting as limited, she asserted ultimate authority in determining the outcome of the vote count," the report said. ...

In this column last week, many elected officials, who helped, or supported the effort to get Arizona's archaic laws of the books, and supported the attempt to enact an Arizona Employment Non-Discrimination Act, protecting the rights of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) workers were noted but there is one group who deserves the community's thanks for their efforts, especially during this past legislative session.

The Arizona Human Rights Fund (AHRF), the statewide GLBT rights group, were the eyes, ears, and the voice of the community, when it came to the Arizona Legislature, with Mr. Bill MacDonald, Ms. Kathie Gummerie, and Mr. Ron Passarelli, lobbying legislators on the above mentioned bills, and urging them not to support measures, such as HB 2403, sponsored by state Representative Mark Anderson, R-Mesa, prohibiting cities from cutting of funding to organizations that discriminate. Also during the legislative session, AHRF Board member, Mr. Keith Susman, kept the membership informed of pending legislative action with his E-mail updates.

With the session over, AHRF is preparing for their tenth annual dinner, Saturday, June 23, for which they will be honoring: Scott Simon, host of Weekend Edition, representing National Public Radio, Tim Gill & The Gill Foundation, the Scottsdale Mayo Clinic, Kirk Baxter, State Senator Elaine Richardson, for helping to advance the cause of GLBT and HIV/AIDS rights.

Arizona's GLBT community should be honoring AHRF, by sending donations to the group to help fight the radical right. Make checks payable to "AHRF," and send them to AHRF, P.O. Box 25044, Phoenix, AZ 85002-5004.

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Pentagon Discharges Record Number In 2000 Under 'Don't Ask. Don't Tell'

WASHINGTON DC - The Pentagon discharged a record 1,231 service members under "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue, Don't Harass" during the 2000 fiscal year, according to discharge numbers released by the Pentagon.

The total Gay discharges are the highest number of discharges since 1987, seven years before the implementation of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue, Don't Harass." The numbers reflect that the Pentagon is firing 3-4 people per day for being Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual.

"Congress should repeal 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue, Don't Harass' and remove this stain from our nation's history," SLDN Executive Director C. Dixon Osburn said, "Congress should repeal 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue, Don't Harass' and remove this stain from our nation's history."

Total Army discharges of 573 represent a dramatic increase over the 271 men and women discharged in 1999. SLDN believes more than 200 of the Army's total discharges for the year 2000 were from Fort Campbell, Kentucky, the site of the 1999 murder of PFC Barry Winchell. Winchell was killed by fellow service members because of his perceived sexual orientation. "We believe these numbers reflect the anti-Gay legacy of Fort Campbell's former commanding general, Robert Clark," said SLDN Executive Director C. Dixon Osburn. "The environment perpetuated by Major General Clark simply made it an unsafe place for service members"

SLDN has also learned that the Navy's discharge numbers increased slightly in 2000, totaling 358 compared to 314 in 1999. Eighty-one, or 24%, of the Navy's total discharges were from Charleston, South Carolina where the Navy's Nuclear Power Training Unit and Command are stationed.

"The numbers from Charleston are alarming," said Osburn. "While we do not know the precise reason so many Navy personnel were discharged from that installation, we do know that service members come out for a reason. Those reasons most often include unchecked harassment, inadequate training and a failure of leadership."

The Air Force discharged 177 service members in 2000, down dramatically from 352 in 1999. Most significant were discharges from Lackland Air Force Base, which dropped from 221 in 1999 to 37 in 2000. Those numbers are in the wake of recommendations made by SLDN to Lackland leadership in 2000 to better train service members on the policy. Marine Corps discharges increased slightly, from 97 in 1999 to 104 in 2000. The Coast Guard discharged 19 service members, up from 12 in 1999.

COMMENTARY

What's Pride Got To Do With It?

By Candace Gingrich

A few months ago, I received an email from someone who wanted to know what "pride" had to do with the GLBT community. Specifically, he wanted to know why it was necessary to hold public pride celebrations. It was enough, he said, to be Gay; why did we have to put it on display? Now, I've heard this view thousands of times before from straight people, but this guy was Gay himself.

His questioning made me realize that there are probably many GLBT people who came of age in the post-Stonewall era and perhaps don't appreciate the symbolism and function of pride celebrations. Because many of us can be "invisible" as GLBT people if we choose, these events are our community's unique opportunity to display our diversity, to show the public - and each other - who we are. They are also an occasion to acknowledge our successes and plan for the work that is yet to be done. We have come a long way since the 1969 uprising at the Stonewall Inn, but not so far that we have outgrown the need to show and experience our collective pride.

As manager of the Human Rights Campaign's National Coming Out Project, I understand the power and importance of the GLBT community's visibility -- both for straight Americans and for ourselves. From a political standpoint, this visibility is crucial; there are still local and national elected officials who think they have no Gay constituents, for example. While a politician may be most affected by a lobby visit or hand-written letter, she will not be able to ignore a successful pride event in her own district. Some of them will even join us - a far cry from 30-plus years ago. Our visibility is also a powerful weapon against those who would rather we remain silent and invisible, from those who commit hate crimes to religious political extremists.

Pride celebrations also serve as a crucial entry point into the GLBT community for many newly out or questioning people. As omnipresent as we may think we are, Gay people can be hard to find if you don't know where to look. I still remember my first pride festival-it was the late '80s in Harrisburg, Pa, I marveled at how many people were there, and wondered. Where have you been all my life? I reveled in the people watching, playing Hacky-Sack and

CONTINUED ON PAGE FOURTEEN

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▼ DESERT PRIDE • JUNE 15TH-24TH
10% Off all merchandise through Pride Week. • 300 East 6th • 388-9829
▼ RAINBOW PLANET COFFEE HOUSE • JUNE 15TH-24TH
10% Off with mention of this ad. • 606 North 4th Avenue • 620-1770
▼ DAVID'S HAIR • JUNE 18TH-22ND
Tom Maza will donate $10 from every service to SAAF. • 1208 North Alvernon Way • 327-6454

FRIDAY, JUNE 15TH
▼ DESERT VOICES CONCERT: "NOW & THEN" • 8PM
Pima Community College Proscenium Theater • Tickets available at Antigone Books, Tucson Trunk, and the Chorus Hotline @ 520-791-9662.
▼ "LOUD & PROUD" YOUTH DANCE • 9PM-1AM • $12
A special night for Tucson's LGBT youth as they dance the night away to the hottest DJ mixed music. In association with Queer Voice • International Arts Center-Nations Hall • 516 North 5th Avenue

SATURDAY, JUNE 16TH
▼ PRIDE NIGHT AT QUEER VOICE LOUNGE • 7PM
314 6th Street • Call 620-6245 for more information.
▼ "LAZY DOG DAY" AT YARD DOG
Drink specials, games and food served all day. • 2440 North Stone Avenue • 624-3858

SUNDAY, JUNE 17TH
▼ "PARTNERSHIPS IN PRIDE" A BLESSING OF COUPLES
Join us as the Metropolitan Community Church and TLGA sponsor a very special blessing for LGBT couples by Rev. Joyce Cook, Pastor. And after the celebration, stay for a community BBQ Fundraiser. MCC • 3269 N. Mountain Avenue • Call 292-9151 for more information and to participate. • BBQ Fundraiser $5/plate.
▼ WOODY'S "BEACH PARTY" • 3710 North Oracle • 292-6702

MONDAY, JUNE 18TH
▼ AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ "PRIDE NIGHT" • 8:30PM

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20TH
▼ STONEWALL DAY AT KXCI 91.3 FM • LGBT Broadcasting
▼ IBT'S "THE RED PARTY" 616 North 4th Avenue • 882-3053
▼ LGBT "LEGAL ISSUES" EDUCATION SEMINAR • 6-7:30PM
International Arts Center • Rm 101 • 516 North 5th Avenue • $10 Requested Donation

THURSDAY, JUNE 21ST
▼ "LEATHER/UNIFORM PRIDE" AT VENTURE 'N • 1239 North 6th Ave.
882-8224 • $2 well drinks/domestic beer for customers wearing leather or uniforms
▼ TUCSON PIMA PUBLIC LIBRARY PRESENTS MICHELANGELO SIGNORILE • 6:30PM • MAIN LIBRARY
Lower level meeting room • 101 North Stone Avenue • Reception to follow hosted by Gay Men's Health Project • Sponsored by TLGA, Wingspan and Tucson Pima Arts Council

FRIDAY, JUNE 22ND
▼ "POETRY SLAM" AT WINGSPAN • 7-10PM • 300 E. 6th Street
▼ "PRIDE NIGHT" AT SKATE COUNTRY • 10:15PM-12:15AM
Skate Country North • 2700 North Stone Avenue • $3/person-$1.75 skate rental

SATURDAY, JUNE 23RD
Gay in the 5 West
Presented by IBT
$12.00 In Advance
$14 the day of the event
Contact your favorite LGBT non-profit organization for details OR order online at www.oldtucson.com OR visit these locations for ticket purchases: Antigone Books, Wingspan, David's Hair, Desert Pride, Tucson Trunk and Rainbow Planet Coffee House. For more info, call 883-0100.
CELEBRATE GAY PRIDE WESTERN STYLE AT OLD TUCSON STUDIOS!
GATES OPEN AT 6PM

SUNDAY, JUNE 24TH
▼ "GAY BOWL-A-THON" AT LUCKY STRIKE • 3-5PM
Luck Strike • 4015 East Speedway
▼ THE SECOND ANNUAL TUCSON GLBT PRIDE MARCH/PARADE
OUTrage!
Gather at 6 p.m. at 4th Avenue Park (1 block south of Speedway) to begin the parade by 7p.m., walking south on 4th Ave. to downtown, with a Post Pride Parade Party immediately following! • Presented by OUTrage and The Lesbian Avengers, and sponsored by Wingspan, Godat Design, TLGA, and Merryl Sloane. • E-mail TucsonParade@juno.com for more information.

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SPORTS LINE

SUMMER COYOTES START SEASON; POSITIONS OPEN ON A COUPLE OF TEAMS

TUCSON - The Summer Coyotes, Tucson's Gay and Lesbian bowling league started their 10-week season this past Wednesday, May 30, at Golden Pin Lanes, 1010 W. Miracle Mile.

Ten teams are participating in this year's summer fun but the league reports there are openings on a couple of teams. Teams consist of three people, bowling three games. Skill is not important, since the league is a handicap league; only having fun is the requirement.

Tucson's Summer Coyotes begin bowling at 8:00 p.m., Wednesdays, with the exception of June 27, for the pro tournament, and July 4, for Independence Day.

If interested, just show up a few minutes prior to the 8:00 p.m. start time. For more information, call (520) 323-6449.

BEER AD TO INCLUDE GAY SPORTS STAR

GOLDEN, COLORADO (GFN) - What does Olympic swimmer and Gay Games medalist Bruce Hayes have in common with Joe Montana, Willie Mays and Magic Johnson?

This month the celebrated swimmer joins a select roster of sports champions and legends participating in the "Be Original" campaign for Original Coors beer.

Over the past two years, Coors Brewing Co. has honored many American sports figures, by toasting their "originality" along with their winning records on the court, the diamond, the field, the ice and in the swimming pool.

Hayes now joins the ranks of household sports names like Yogi Berra, Hank Aaron and John Elway.

"Bruce is a natural," said Eric Ewell, manager for Gay and Lesbian sales and marketing at Coors, "and a great fit for Original Coors, too. He inspires us not only with his athletic prowess, but also as a positive role model for millions who understand that being an original also means being truly who you are."

Hayes helped set a world record and won a gold medal at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles for the 4x200 meter freestyle relay. While a student at the University of California, Los Angeles, on a swimming scholarship, he won three national titles in freestyle swimming events and helped win the NCAA championships in 1982.

Hayes also won three gold medals at the 1983 Pan American Games. According to Hayes, among his most cherished swimming honors are those he won at the Gay Games: Seven medals in 1990 and nine awarded in 1994, including seven gold ones.

"All of us, regardless of sexual orientation, have remarkable potential, if we also are open, authentic and accepted," Hayes said.

Chicago-based advertising agency FCB is responsible for the Coors "Be Original" campaign. According to Ewell, the print campaign will appear in May-June in the pages of many popular Gay publications, including Out, Advocate, Genre, and Instinct, as well as in key local markets this summer including New York, Atlanta, Las Vegas, Denver, and San Francisco.

Coors has been advertising in Gay publications since the 1980s, but the year 2000 marked its largest-ever outlay for Gay-specific ads, said Mary Cheney, then corporate relations manager for Gays and Lesbians at Coors. Cheney did not give specific figures, but according to Mike Wilke's Commercial Closet ad spending to Gays alone increased 20 percent by the end of 2000.

The push toward, and inclusion of, the Gay community, made headlines last year, when Coors rankled the Chicago Art Institute and the Visual Artists and Galleries Association for making a spoof of Grant Wood's 1930 painting, "American Gothic."

In the '70s and '80s, the beer giant struggled to overcome a boycott by Gay and Lesbian consumers, who opposed founder Adolph Coors' and his heirs' support of conservative causes and anti-Gay political candidates, like archconservative Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC). The Coors Brewing Co. argued for years that they were a separate entity from the family, and that people should not assume the company is conservative.

The strong denials led to demonstrable support of its own Gay and Lesbian employees and customers. In 1978, the company adopted its non-discrimination policy towards Lesbian and Gay employees, becoming one of the first American corporations to do so.

The company financially supports its Gay and Lesbian employee group, called LAGER, and Coors remains the only major brewing company that offers same-sex domestic partner coverage in the United States.

Outside the company, and within the Gay and Lesbian community, Coors has given sponsorship support to numerous community and AIDS-related nonprofit groups and events throughout the U.S., including pride events, sporting and athletic organizations, in addition to community centers and organizations committed to defeating HIV/AIDS and cancer that impact the community.

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DEAR OBSERVER AND COMMUNITY:

I would like to publicly acknowledge the wonderful efforts of the Tucson Knight Owls (TKO) and their fundraising efforts for people living with and affected by HIV and AIDS.

As part of their annual Memorial Day weekend "Spring Fling," TKO started a new tradition: the members produced a benefit show along with a wonderful catered Mexican dinner, and decided to devote the proceeds to TIHAN. Thanks to Merlin Cummins, President of TKO, and the members of the club, their "Hits Way Off Broadway" show at the Flamingo Hotel was a great success, raising $610 to support three programs of TIHAN. The monies raised from the show will be split evenly for 1) Poz Café lunch program, 2) Poz Social weekly drop-in event, and 3) the TIHAN Memorial Fund to assist with funeral expenses. On behalf of the many people who will receive the support of these services, I want to thank the officers and all the general membership of the Tucson Knight Owls.

The show itself was a sight to be seen! (as evidenced by some of the photos in last week's Observer!) Hilarious performances by Doc, Big Ed, Andrew, Ray, Bob P., Phil, Bob Mc, Mark B, Patrick, Rusty, Rob, Pete, Ron, Mark L, and Master of Ceremonies Crystal Abrams, along with the excellent production team of Merlin, Mark L, Louis, Lee, David Z, Candas, Allen, Doc, Bart, and the many other volunteers from TKO and from TIHAN that worked behind the scenes to pull it all off.

Many other groups and businesses supported TKO's efforts to make the event even more successful, including the Venture-N, Yard Dog Saloon, Empire Levi/Leather Club of Tucson, New Life, Sharon and the Flamingo Hotel, Robb & Co., Desert Life, and Little Mexico Restaurant/Catering.

Thanks also go to all those who purchased tickets and filled the house to capacity to enjoy dinner and the show. Once again, members of our community came forth with an idea for a fundraiser for a community non-profit group, worked hard to make it happen, and people came out and generously supported it.

On behalf of all of us at TIHAN and those we serve, thank you, TKO!

With much appreciation,
Scott Blades
Executive Director
Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network
Tucson, AZ

EDITOR:

On behalf of Tucson Knight Owls, I want to thank the Tucson community for their donations to help TIHAN during our Hits Way Off Broadway show on Sunday May 28th. We raised $610.

Special Thanks go to Crystal Abrams and Louis Castandeda for hosting our show, David Z. for providing the sound, Lee Willets for lighting, Allen Oelschlager and Ma Finley for video, and Mark Little for directing, Candas for make up, Sharon at the Flamingo Hotel, Scott Blades and the volunteers from TIHAN, Doc for the program design and layout, and Bob and Gary at the Observer.

To the performers, "Thank you" for all of your time and effort needed to put on a great show, and to the many advertisers for purchasing ads in our program.

To Gracie, a special "Thanks" for your advice and for helping me put this show together, I couldn't have done it with out you.

Merlin Cummins
President,
Tucson Knight Owls
Tucson, AZ

DEAR EDITOR:

A big thanks goes out to IBT's for allowing GMHP the opportunity of their barbecue fundraiser and for the Sunday version of the Girlie Show.

Thanks also go to those incredibly fabulous performers Faith Michaels, Janee Starr, Deora Le Blanc, Foxy and Miss Saigon for going beyond the call of duty and helping raise $260.00 for Condom Brigade.

This money will go to buy condoms and lube for distribution to Tucson's Gay bars. Again thanks to all who took the time and energy to help Condom Brigade. I couldn't do it with out you.

Bearhugs,
Scott A. Davey
GMHP Coordinator
Tucson, AZ

EDITOR:

On the occasion of the 2001 Gay and Lesbian Pride Month Celebration, the Democratic Party is proud to recognize the invaluable contributions of Gay and Lesbian Americans to our nation's history, particularly to the Democratic Party.

Despite much progress, we remain a nation divided by the realities of discrimination. It is disheartening that a nation that won its freedom on the premise of prosperity and inclusivity for all would still harvest the prejudice millions of Gay men and Lesbians experience every day throughout America. This form of discrimination is unacceptable. Celebrating Gay and Lesbian pride signifies a turning point in our nation's efforts to accept and include the diverse citizens in our society--a turning point the Democratic Party embraces.

During the 2000 election, Gays and Lesbians played a substantial role in ensuring Democratic victories across the nation, comprising over four percent of the total electorate. More than 70 percent of Gays and Lesbians voted for Al Gore and Joe Lieberman because they knew these candidates and their Party embrace and stand up for the issues most important to them. While the Bush Administration has refused to discuss and acknowledge Gays and Lesbians in this country, the Democratic Party has made them a core part of its mission. We are proud to have talented Gays and Lesbians as full-time staff members, coordinated campaign directors, fund raisers and surrogate speakers to run programs aimed at increasing voter turnout.

However, our commitment to equality goes beyond the election year. The Democratic Party continues to support passage of the Employment Non Discrimination Act (ENDA) and Hate Crime Prevention Act. We work to support strong Gay and Lesbian families. We call for equal treatment of all service members and their ability as patriotic Americans to serve their country without discrimination, persecution

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HOROSCOPES

BY C. LICHTENSTEIN

It is true that actions speak louder and prouder than words this Pride month, but watch what you say as Mercury retrogrades on the 4th. The old sod fouls up communications for the next three weeks and words take on a sordid life of their own. Thoughts and speech now carry a warning label; open at your own risk.

ARIES
MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

Retrograde Mercury encourages rainbow Rams to say the exact wrong thing at the exact wrong time. It is fine to demand your rights (goodness knows no one else will do so), but it is quite another thing to whine about petty or ridiculous things. This wilde planet will tempt you to make mountains out of molehills so just resist the temptation.

TAURUS
APRIL 21 - MAY 21

Proud Bulls are generous to the core but now, as addle minded Mercury goes retrograde, you squander your dough with a flourish and great abandon. Hello? Where did all that hard earned money go? As we say in New York, Fugetaboutit; Taureans will soon realize that not only do we not always get what we pay for, we often get far less. Moral: Count your change.

GEMINI
MAY 22 - JUNE 21

Mercury is retrograding in your own sign which means you could be your own worst enemy when it comes to first impressions, interviews and new projects. Pink Twins are advised to postpone any important meetings if possible. If the spotlight is inevitable, think twice before you say something "clever" and be sure you have all the facts before you make an assessment.

CANCER
JUNE 22 - JULY 23

Nebulous Mercury retrograde may encourage you to imagine enemies or problems that are just not there. It is probably not the best time to peer longingly into that crystal ball for answers. You are apt to let your intuition run away with your better judgement. Proud Crabs should stick to the obvious and stable, no matter how boring that may sound.

LEO
JULY 24 - AUGUST 23

You may envision yourself as the master of ceremonies, but Mercury retrograde just cancelled your contract. Proud Lions always love to command the group dynamic but the party boogies on without you during this wooly transit. Good thing too; Chit chats with pals may not promote harmony. If you can't say anything nice, brood quietly and curl up with a good book.

VIRGO
AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23

Queer Virgins have limited patience with inept arrogant twits and now with retro Mercury you are almost guaranteed to spit in the eye of superiors. Despite the initial elation, it is not a wise career move. I frankly love a good corporate revolution, but if you still have to work to pay the rent, I suggest that you zip the lip and only think nice thoughts for the next three weeks.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23

You think that you're ready for broadcast but Mercury retrograde has changed the schedule. What you say and think has global impact, but the energy is too erratic and volcanic to harness effectively. Queer Libras should avoid any legal entanglements now. Try not to enter into any contracts or negotiations. At very least, be sure to read the fine print with a microscope.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22

The path of true lust may not run smoothly for Gay Scorps on a sexual tear. Retrograde Mercury pours cold water on a hot patoot. Is it possible that, in the heat of passion, you may blurt out the wrong name? Heavens, let's hope not! Try to use the word "darling" as much as possible; They'll never realize that your mind is on someone else. Or will they?

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22

Try to avoid any discussions (read: arguments) with partners during the Mercury retrograde. Thoughts may not be on target and emotions can be misread or misinterpreted with less than inspiring results. When all is said and done with relationships, Mercury can encourage you to say one more sordid thing. Laugh and the world laughs with you. Gripe and you sleep alone.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20

Mercury leads you astray on the job if you insist on tackling a heavily detailed project that requires deft coordination. Proud Caps may tip the spinning plates and should delegate if possible. Take a break and pamper yourself by avoiding strenuous and grueling exercise. Mercury gives you a kick in the old patoot if you don't treat your body like the temple it aspires to be.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19

If you feel like a mad artist plagued by creative blockage, blame retro Mercury and give your great Gay muse a rest. Aqueerians will also find that the path of true romance may be especially cumbersome and tricky now. They're selling tickets for cheap dramatics and Mercury has reserved a front row seat for you for the performance. Fine as long as you don't get pulled onstage.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

A home is not a home until it can be completely remodeled. Well this is all well and good Guppie but don't hire the contractor and map out the plans just yet. Retro Mercury turns any simple home project into the building of the pyramids. When Mercury acts snarly like this, it is best to put off any major renovations or big moves.

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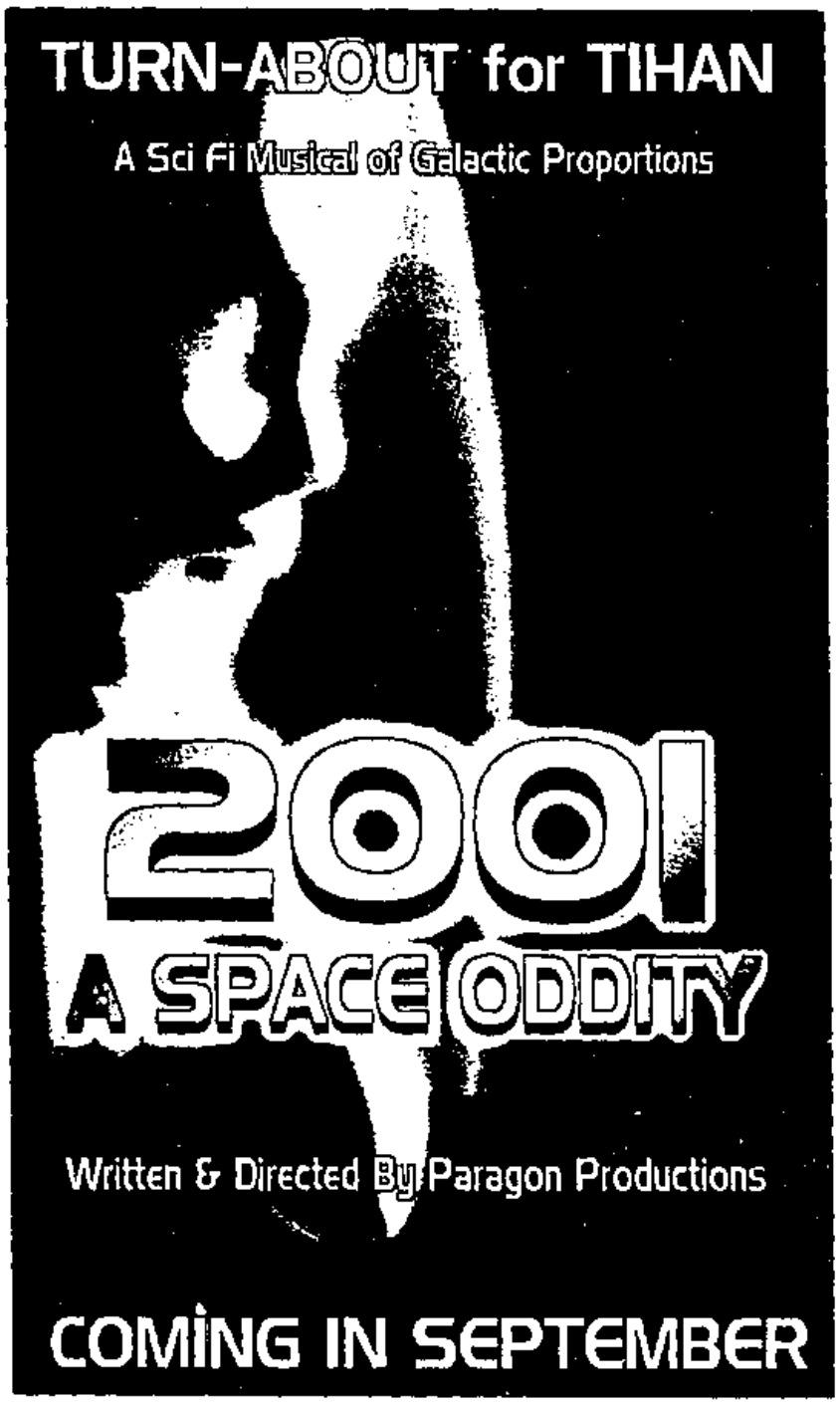

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Dear Dr. X:

I am beginning to wonder if I am a sex pig. My friends are always razzing me about getting laid so often and calling me names like "slut" and "whore." It's not my fault they don't hook up. I go out about three times a week and I hook up about two out of the three. Do you think I am over-sexed? Are my standards too low? Please advise.

Signed,
Studly Do It All Night

Dear Studly:

You have a lot of questions to answer before I could rule on that issue. Are you having sex because you want to, or because you don't know how to turn someone down? Do you enjoy these encounters? Do you want sex or intimacy? In any case, there is no magic number.

I think it is great to be very active—especially if you are being safe. Sex is a good thing. It can be fun and exciting. It can relieve stress and anxiety. Maybe you just really like men. I can't blame you. For me personally, I like to have sex two or three times a week. So, to me you are right on track. On the other hand, some guys are happy with occasional experiences, like once a month or less. Again, to each his own.

If your friends are giving you a hard time, maybe they are concerned that you are at higher risk for getting HIV from frequent encounters. You could reassure them by letting them know if you are being safe when you engage in anal sex (assuming that you are). They also might be flat out jealous! Tell them you respect their concern, but that if they are just giving you a hard time for the sake of giving you a hard time, it is affecting your self-esteem. I'm sure they don't realize that they are worrying you or hurting your feelings. Maybe if they would call you "stud" instead of "whore" it would feel different to you. Straighten this out so you don't get paranoid. I think that even if you should happen to get laid six days a week (the seventh day set aside to restock supplies) you are doing just fine, if that is what you really want to do! Keep up the good work, and play safe.

Dr. X

womanline.com
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You Want To Know? Ask Jenn & Jenn

DEAR JENN:

I've been E-mailing a woman on womanline.com for a few weeks now. I like this arrangement because I'm shy in person and find it easier to express myself through words. My problem: I want to meet her in person but am worried about coming across as a total idiot. Help!

Shy Girl

DEAR SHY GIRL:

Oh, sugar, I know how you feel! There's a huge difference between talking to someone via email and doing it in person.

I do have a few suggestions to make it easier on you, though:

Before you meet, tell her that although you may sound confident on E-mail, you're likely to be bashful in person. That way she won't misinterpret your clam-like behavior. Many shy Sheilas find that doing this makes them feel more confident.

Do something that's not completely focused on talking. Check out the latest chick flick, check out a local band or buy tickets for the theatre - then go for drinks afterward. This decreases the pressure on you to be a scintillating conversationalist. It gives you something to discuss afterward, and a chance to spend time connecting through smiles and laughter.

Raising the issue of feeling shy might be all she needs to share her own fears about meeting you! After all, you're not the only gal in the world who finds herself battling butterflies in her tummy! If that's what happens, you'll both be in the same boat, and can help each other when you're floundering! If she isn't the shy type, many outgoing types adore less gregarious gals. Many find the process of drawing strong, silent types like yourself out and connecting with them absolutely addictive! Trust me, honey, I don't know many gals who wouldn't respond well to someone as straightforward and honest about how they're feeling. After all, there's absolutely nothing wrong with being shy! It's not as though it's a personality defect or anything. Any gal who thinks it is would clearly not be right for you, no matter how good she sounds on email, so better you find out about it before you meet her, to minimize the damage! I suspect this won't happen, though - I bet the two of you will have a wonderful time together, particularly once you get started. The first date is always the hardest.

I'll be thinking of you!
Jenn

[Ask Jenn is a part of womanline.com.]

ERS - LETTERS - LETTE RS - LETTERS - LETTER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE NINE

and violence. We will continue fighting until Gays and Lesbians and all Americans are treated equally in our society.

There will come a day when the position of preeminence for the United States will not only rest on the human rights that it has championed for others across the world, but the rights and dignity she bestows upon her own citizens. The Democratic Party is deeply committed to fighting against the discrimination Gay and Lesbian Americans face. On occasion of Gay and Lesbian Pride Month, our Party salutes all Gay and Lesbian Americans and we will continue provide leadership and support in the struggle for equality among all Americans, regardless of sexual orientation.

Terry McAuliffe
Chairman, Democratic National Committee Washington, DC

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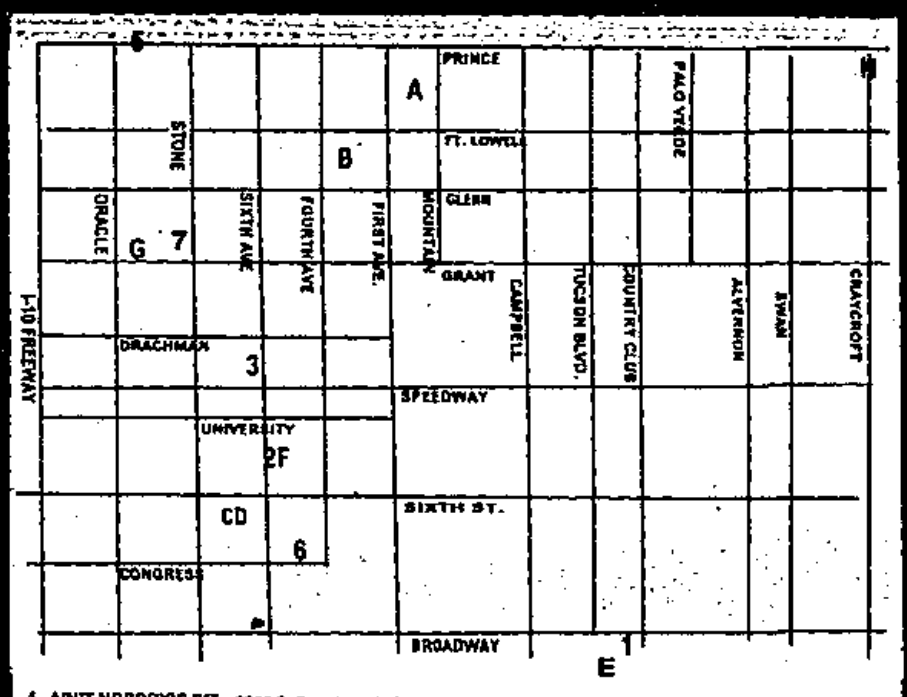

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HIV / AIDS Briefs. . . . .

A report on five cases of what would come to be known as AIDS first appeared 20 years ago Tuesday, June 5, in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's "Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report."

The bare-bones page-and-a-half write-up appeared June 5, 1981, overshadowed by reports of dengue fever among American tourists returning from the Caribbean. Although it wouldn't be isolated or named for another two years, AIDS had arrived after lurking undetected in infected humans for decades.

In the 20 years since Michael Gottlieb, MD, and his colleagues tracked those first five cases in Los Angeles, nearly 450,000 people have died of AIDS complications in the United States. Worldwide, 22 million have died. "In 1981, it's a colossal understatement to say no one would have predicted 20 years later that 34 million people around the world would be infected," Gottlieb said.

Vaccine developer VaxGen announced that its HIV vaccine candidate AIDSVAX may produce immune-system responses to a broader array of HIV strains than previously anticipated, HIVandHepatitis.com reports. According to test results presented at the Cold Spring Harbor 2001 Meeting on Retroviruses, AIDSVAX generated antibodies that bound to infected T cells, preventing HIV replication, in four of five laboratory experiments, each of which used a different strain of the virus.

Entertainment Briefs. . .

Seth Green (Buffy the Vampire Slayer, Austin Powers) will be playing the part of Michael Alig in Disco Bloodbath, the upcoming independent film about the New York club kid turned promoter turned murderer. This story of hubris in the urban subculture is being written and directed by Fenton Bailey and Randy Barbato, the team behind such films as 101 Rent Boys and The Eyes of Tammy Faye. Macaulay Culkin had previously been reported to be up for the lead role.

For the second time in two months, Tom Cruise has filed a $100 million lawsuit against someone he says is spreading rumors that he's had Gay relationships. This time around Cruise is suing Michael Davis, the publisher of Bold, a Los Angeles–based magazine. Cruise alleges that Davis sent a dozen news organizations copies of an anonymous letter about how the star had had a Gay fling, which was captured on videotape.

Take a break from traditional activities this Independence Day and tune in to the ABC soap Port Charles to catch drag legend RuPaul appearing as a TV psychic. The towering diva met the cast of the General Hospital spin-off at a Daytime Emmy function on May 18, and producers asked if she might be interested in making an appearance as Madame Alicia, inspired perhaps by the psychic RuPaul played on his VH1 show. The episode is set to tape June 7.

Anne Heche To Marry A Man!

LOS ANGELES, CA (NP) - Less than a year after her high-profile breakup with Ellen DeGeneres, actress Anne Heche is reportedly engaged to a man.

Less than a year after her high-profile breakup with Ellen DeGeneres, actress Anne Heche is reportedly engaged to a man.

Heche's manager, Lauren Lloyd, has confirmed that Heche has accepted a marriage proposal from her current boyfriend, Coleman "Coley" Laffoon, according to Reuters.

Heche reportedly met Laffoon, a cameraman, last summer while working on a documentary about DeGeneres.

Heche and Laffoon have not commented officially, and Lloyd offered no details about the planned wedding.

Lloyd confirmed the engagement in light of gossip column reports that Heche had been seen shopping for a bridal gown last week at Saks Fifth Avenue in Beverly Hills and bragging about the engagement to neighbors.

In August of last year, DeGeneres and Heche announced their breakup after three and a half years together, saying in a joint statement that their parting was "amicable." The same day that the story broke, Heche was found walking in a dazed state in a rural California town.

Since the breakup, Heche has worked on the film "John Q" and appeared on several episodes of TV's "Ally McBeal." DeGeneres will have a new sitcom on CBS this fall called "The Ellen Show" and is set to host this year's Emmy Awards.

Heche's relationship with Laffoon is not her first public coupling with a man. Before joining DeGeneres to became one half of Hollywood's highest profile Lesbian couple, Heche dated actor-comedian Steve Martin for two years.

Commentary

CONTINUED FROM PAGE SEVEN

just feeling at home. For many people, pride is the only time of the year they can don their rainbows (or HRC Equality wear!), display public affection and feel safe. Until we achieve the America that the Human Rights Campaign mission envisions – where "Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Americans can be open, honest and safe at home, at work and in the community," pride celebrations are still important.

Of all the reasons I can think of to attend pride, the most valuable to me is the feel-good factor. Working for the Human Rights Campaign, I experience daily the ups and downs of our fight for equality. When a local ordinance fails or another elected official spouts some anti-Gay rhetoric, it takes a little out of me – as it doubtless does for many in our community. Then the local pride celebration comes along, with a chance for renewal and reinvigoration, and the chance to feel open and free. We have much work to do but we can't forget to stop, remember our roots and be grateful for those who got us where we are today. Enjoy pride to its fullest, and take from it the energy to fight the good fight with a new spirit.

[Candace Gingrich is the HRC National Coming Out Project Manager.]

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A View From The Rock

A Commentary From Cornerstone Fellowship

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Our English Language however isn't as expressive as the Hebrew language in which the Old Testament of the Bible was first written. So when our English translations render the description of God as being "good" we actually loose something in the translation. In the original text this word good really means good to the extreme that good can be, and throughout every ounce of the individual. In other words God is as good as good can get. There is no one with more good within him/her. A little bit different than when we say, "The concert was good. The food was good. The paint job looks good."

So if God is so good than how does that truth affect us? I believe it affects us in that all God does for us, all that God allows to happen in our lives, even all that God causes us to do is with the best intention and best motive. God gives us what we need and so what we have is the best for us. Oh it may pale in comparison to the World's standards but if its from God then its the best. When God blesses me it is the best even if I don't realize it at the time. For example, someone prays for a particular job and God blesses them with a different one. At first it may seem God hasn't answered the person's prayer or that he didn't give the best one to the person. But in hind sight it usually is apparent why the prayed-for job wasn't in the best interest of the person. You see, God is so very good to us that he sometimes doesn't give us what we ask for.

God's goodness goes way beyond our requests too. He is always watching out for us, guiding us, providing encouragement to us and loving us. That comes not from our outstanding commitment to him or because we are such wonderful people, but rather from his goodness. God loves us not because of something in us but because of something in him.

Yes, God truly is good...and so much more. Don't hesitate to call upon him and as the Bible says,"..test and see that the Lord is good."

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John 3:16

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BY REV. ANDREW BROOKS

This week, I am continuing my A-Z herbal. I am providing this listing so those of you who wonder what herbs can do to improve your health can begin to see just how wonderful herbal remedies can be, and how much they can do to help us in our lives to regain our health. If you have any herbal questions, please feel free to e-mail me. These are western herbs. I do not yet have the resources to give you a listing of all the marvels of Chinese herbalism.

Chickweed is a popular herb, said to aid in weight loss. What is does is act as a mild diuretic for water retention (diuretics increase frequency of urination, so be aware of this when you take this herb, but it is good to remove excess water from your body) and it also reduces mucus build-up in the lungs. It is also used to treat gastrointestinal disorders and constipation. It is a good source of Vitamin C, and is said to help with inflammation and blood disorders.

Next up on my list is the herb Coltsfoot. This is an herb used for bronchial and gastric irritations, including congestion of the lungs, asthma and cough. It is also used to soothe the throat during a cough. Coltsfoot is not to be used in high doses. It is also used to induce sweating, helping to rid the body of toxins.

Cornsilk is a diuretic herb, useful when you have bladder and prostate problems. It is soothing to the bladder, and is used by people with a history of kidney stones, for it's helpful properties.

Cramp bark is an herb that is helpful for it's antispasmodic properties, it helps soothe both muscle cramps and intestinal spasms. Women can use this herb to help with PMS and cramping associated with menstruation.

Cranberry is a plant often used by herbalists, with proven healthful benefits. It is a strong diuretic and urinary antiseptic, and it help acidify the urine. Anyone with kidney trouble, should drink cranberry juice every day! It is also available in herbal liquid tinctures, and in pill form (Trader Joe's sells Cranberry tablets). As you well know, Cranberry juice is combined with many other juices, such as Cherry, Bla berry, Raspberry, Apple, and others, all of which have their healing benefits. Anyone who is diabetic should drink it is it's purest form, as it is diluted when combined with other juices. Rather than fill up on sodas, cranberry is a nice, refreshing drink that more people should get into the habit of drinking.

Damiana is an herb with a long and colorful history. According to the Male Herbal, (an excellent book by James Green) Damiana is an herb that has uses as a tonic, anti-depressant, urinary antiseptic, and as an aphrodisiac. It is good for strengthening the nervous and hormonal systems. It has been used to treat impotence, and has long been reputed as a powerful male booster herb. It is sold in male herbal formulas, often combined with other helpful herbs. In the formula I like (Virility Herbal Elixir by Gaia herbs) it is combined with Siberian Ginseng, Sarsaparilla, Saw Palmetto berries, Muira-Puama root, Wild Oats, and Hawthorn berries, all of which are good for men. (I recommend it). It boosts the male system, helping sexual functioning.

Dandelion is a wonderful herb, used to help the kidneys, and also used to help the liver. It is often combined with milk thistle, so they can work together. It is a diuretic, and it said to lower cholesterol and blood pressure. Anyone suffering kidney trouble may benefit from using this herb.

The herb Devil's Claw is used as an anti-inflammatory, and is used for arthritis and other joint inflammations. It is not to be used by diabetics! Devil's claw is also used for liver and gallbladder troubles.

Dong quai, long used in Chinese herbal medicine, is a menstrual regulator, and the Chinese say that is "regulates the hormonal balance and flow." It has long been regarded a women's tonic. It is to be used between monthly cycles for women, not during. It may help lower high blood pressure. Dong quai is to be avoided by women with a heavy flow, as it may increase it further.

More herbs next week. Til next week, Goddess bless, and Go in Good Health.

[Andrew Brooks paganbear30@hotmail.com.]

Water of Life
Metropolitan Community Church
3269 N. Mountain Ave., Tucson, AZ 85719 (Just North of Ft. Lowell Road)
(520) 292-9151
e-mail WOLMCC@aol.com http://members.tripod.com/~WaterofLifeMCC
Rev. Joyce Cook, Pastor
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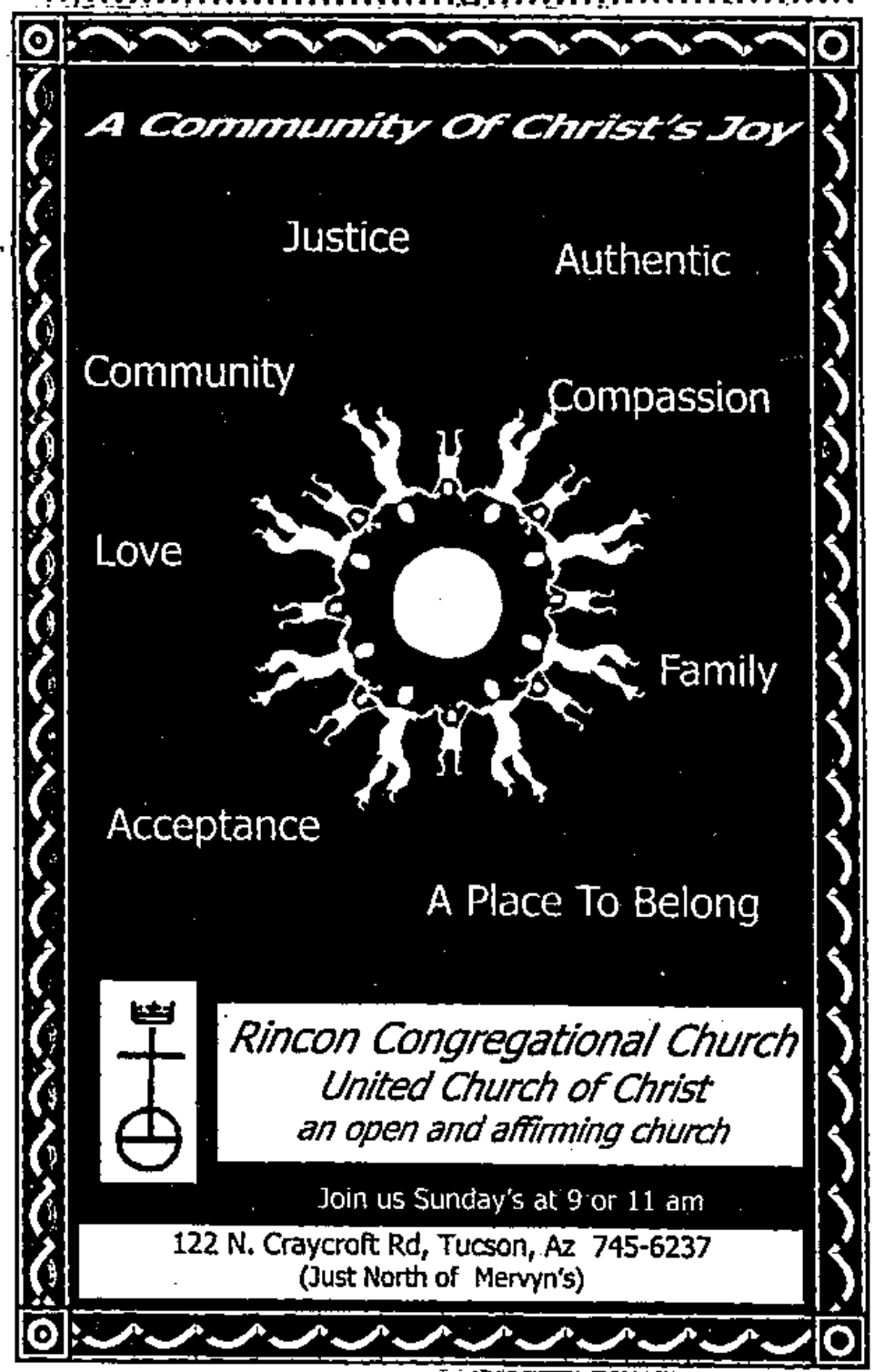

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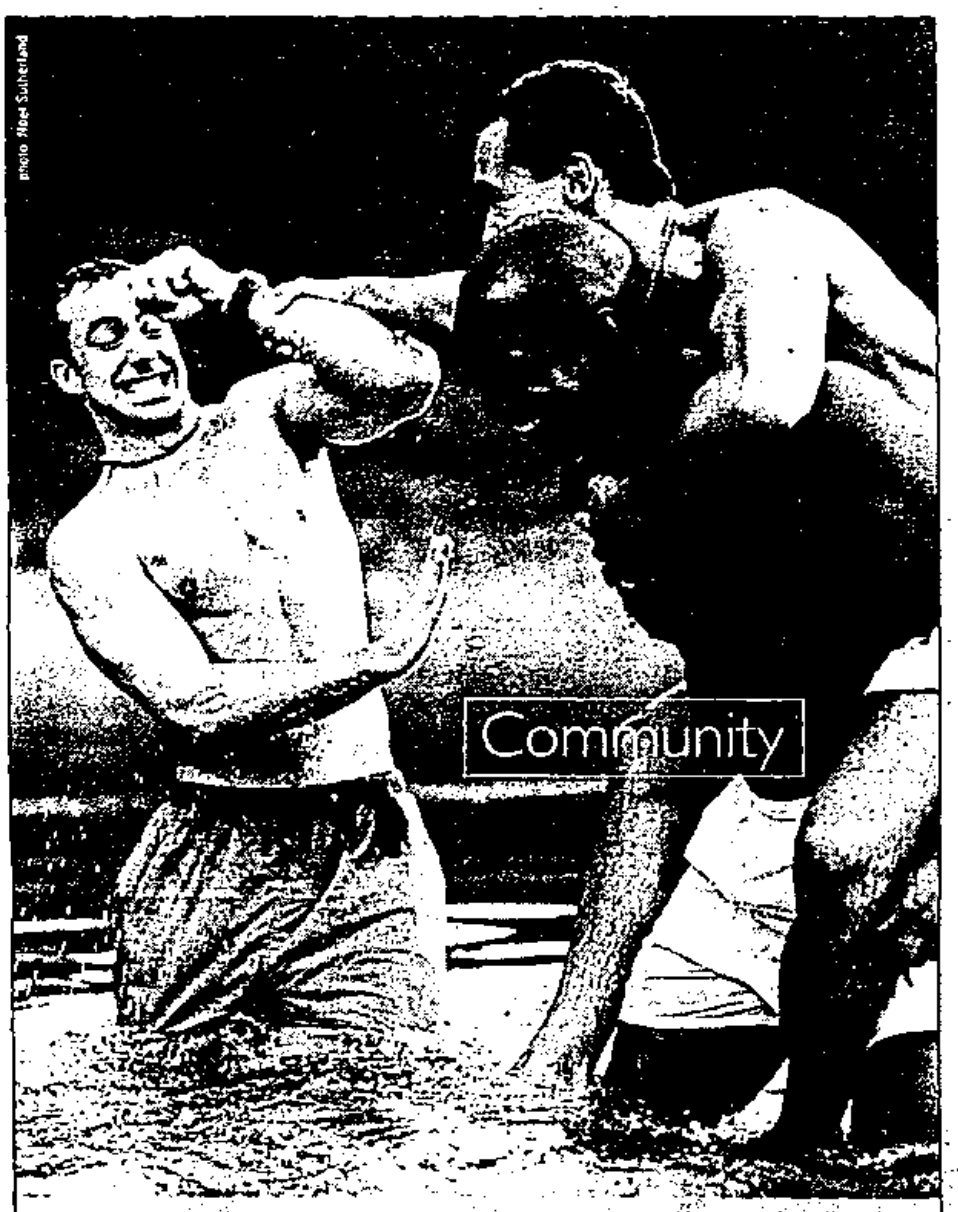

Welcome home. This is it. Where our community stays online to get news, find information, seek entertainment and reach more people, all of the time. The Gay Network. www.gay.com

GAY.COM

Studies Show Dangers

Continued from Page One

ment of juveniles in prisons led to quick introduction of legislation addressing the problems. "Legislative bodies and decision makers pay attention to them," Anderson said.

"This report makes clear that we're not talking about simple teasing," said Anderson. "This shows it negatively impacts a student's ability to learn." He believes having Human Rights Watch behind the effort will have a serious impact with policy makers. "These people have turned a blind eye for a long time," Anderson said.

A 1999 GLSEN study showed that over two thirds of Gay youths reported some form of harassment or violence, with nearly 60 percent saying they did not feel safe at school.

Anderson praised the HRW report's authors for recognizing the complexity of the country's school system. Recommendations for teachers, librarians and local school boards accompany those for state and federal legislators. He also noted several recommendations made specifically with Transgender students in mind. "Too often, they are missing from these reports," Anderson said.

Recommendations won't be enough to change things, Anderson said, without the GLBT community speaking up. "State and national legislators on down to the local school board candidates need to hear that this is an issue their constituents care about," he said.

News organizations all over the country are running stories related to the HRW report, said Anderson. Many of them feature GLBT youth who have taken a stand against the abuse they've suffered. "There are thousands of kids all over the country who are local heroes daily," he said, "But you shouldn't have to be a hero to get an education."

Pentagon Recruiting

Continued from Page One

[The Center for the Study of Sexual Minorities in the Military is an official research unit of the University of California, Santa Barbara. The Center is governed by a distinguished board of advisors including the Honorable Lawrence S. Korb of the Council on Foreign Relations, Honorable Coit Blacker of Stanford University and Professor Janet Halley of Harvard flaw School. Its mission is to promote the study of Gays, Lesbians, and other sexual minorities in the armed forces.]

TUCSON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOK REVIEW

The GMHC Complete Guide to Gay Men's Sexual, Physical and Emotional Well-Being by Daniel Wolfe (Ballantine Books, 2000).

Men Like Us is a great source book for men who want to detailed information about the nuances of living a healthy Gay life.

The book includes a wide variety of topics ranging from sexuality, to what to look for in a relationship, to how to choose a doctor or therapist.

It begins with the erotic and really dives into the full range of sex between men, in detail and with interesting informative sidebars. No need to feel a fool for not knowing what a guiche is (it's a piercing of the perineum, the area behind the scrotum). Men Like Us provides answers to questions that one might be a little embarrassed about asking, and helps to alleviate fears of ignorance concerning sexual practices.

Since it covers almost every aspect of having a life, there is something in the book for everyone. Well written in an accessible style, it is also enjoyable just to peruse.

[Reviewed by Richard DiRusso, Tucson-Pima Public Library Librarian, and co-chair, Gay and Lesbian Services Committee. You can check out this book at more at your neighborhood library; reserve it online at www.tppl.org.]

Twentieth Anniversary

Continued from Page Five

There are many resources in our community to support these efforts. We at SAAF are here to help Tucson create and sustain a healthier community. SAAF provides: 1) case management and ancillary support services for people living with HIV/AIDS and their families; 2) comprehensive prevention and education programs to reduce the rate of infection; and 3) extensive trainings and opportunities for community members to fill critical support roles. For more information, call (520) 628-7223.

Got A News Tip?
Call The
WEEKLY OBSERVER
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DON'T DRINK & DRIVE !

Book Traces Justices' Stance Toward Gays

WASHINGTON, DC - Chief Justice Earl Warren once signed an opinion in which a six-member majority of the Supreme Court referred to people "afflicted with homosexuality." His successor, Warren E. Burger, once wrote of Gays as "sex deviates." The current chief justice, William H. Rehnquist, likened a university's refusal to recognize a Gay student group to measures necessary to prevent the spread of measles.

These are just some of the jarring facts brought to the surface in an intriguing new book, the Washington Post reported, about the Supreme Court's responses to the Gay rights movement, "Courting Justice: Gay Men and Lesbians v. The Supreme Court," by veteran Washington journalists Joyce Murdoch and Deb Price (both of whom formerly worked for The Washington Post).

In Murdoch's and Price's view, the court's record on Gay issues has been mixed at best. As far back as 1958, the court upheld a Gay magazine's right to publish, a decision that paved the way for the Gay press to develop into one of the pillars of an emerging Gay community. In 1996, it resoundingly struck down a Colorado law limiting Gay rights in that state.

But cases such as Bowers v. Hardwick, the 1986 decision upholding state sodomy laws, or Boy Scouts of America v. Dale, last year's decision authorizing the Scouts to exclude Gay scoutmasters, have shown that the court is a long way from reading a full endorsement of Gay rights into the Constitution.

Most often, Murdoch and Price argue, the court has ducked the toughest issues raised by Gay litigants, nervously refusing to decide on questions ranging from job discrimination against Gay teachers to Gays in the military.

Still, the authors note that the court no longer openly discusses homosexuality in the pejorative terms it comfortably employed in the not-too-distant past. When he wrote the majority opinion in Dale, for example, Rehnquist referred to the Gay scoutmaster as "an exemplary scout."

"The court's language is changing dramatically in the last 10 to 15 years," Murdoch noted in an interview. Respectful terms "have become the norm."

Justices over the years have been influenced not only by the general zeitgeist but also by their personal contact -- or lack thereof -- with Gay friends and family members. Justice William O. Douglas took a sympathetic view of Gay rights in part because he befriended a Lesbian couple who owned a ranch near his vacation home in Washington state, the authors said. Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, invited to a "commitment ceremony" by a Lesbian former law clerk and her partner, sent a gift in honor of the occasion.

Justice Lewis F. Powell Jr., however, once remarked in chambers that he had never personally met a homosexual, even though one of his law clerks at the time was Gay -- as several others had been in previous terms, according to the book.

In Bowers, the court upheld, by a 5-4 vote, Georgia's right to prosecute a Gay man for a private sex act. Powell's vote tipped the balance against the man, a fact that Powell would agonize over for years afterward, according to Murdoch and Price.

The book's most adventuresome claim may be that Justice Frank Murphy, an appointee of President Franklin D. Roosevelt who served on the court from 1940 to 1949 after serving as mayor of Detroit and governor of Michigan, was probably a Gay man. Murphy died in 1949 at the age of 59, having dated but never married and having lived most of his adult life with another man, Edward G. Kemp, who has since died.

The authors say they encountered a letter in Murphy's papers from another man who appears to refer to an affair he had with Murphy in 1933.

Murphy's biographer, Sidney Fine, a professor emeritus of history at the University of Michigan, said he has examined the same documents and considers Murdoch's and Price's reading "a possibility, but the evidence is not conclusive."

Price says that she and Murdoch were reluctant about appearing to "out" anyone who preferred to keep his or her sexuality private -- even a long-dead justice -- but ultimately decided that such a discussion of Murphy was comparable to historical speculation about other prominent Americans such as Walt Whitman and Emily Dickinson.

"We live in a society that de-outs people, that heterosexualizes Gay lives," Price said in an interview. "That's why Gay people have no history. If there was a Gay Supreme Court justice, it's important for us all to know."

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Non-Bar Calendar
Groups / Clubs / Organizations

OFFICIAL TLGA GAY PRIDE EVENTS

Antigone Books Gay Pride Special for entire month of June! 20% off 2001 Lambda Award Winners and Lesbian/Gay staff favorites. See the display in the store, 411 N. 4th Ave.

June 15 - 24, Desert Pride offering 10% off all merchandise through Pride Week. 300 E. 6th St.

June 15 - 24 Rainbow Planet Coffee House is giving 10% off with the mention of the TLGA advertisement in the Observer.

June 18-22 Tom Maza will donate $10 from every service to SAAF. 1208 N. Alvernon.

THURSDAY, JUNE 7

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Les & Jerry for the MSN Premiere of "Further Tales of the City", the latest installment of the Armistead Maupin stories. There is limited space, so you need to call quickly to be sure you get to see it. For reservations, please call Les at 690-9565.

FRIDAY, JUNE 8

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 Arlan at 323-7414.

The new Man to Man Club for intimate social interaction for men meets tonight at 7:00 p.m.. Small fee. Please call Marc at 881-4582.

SATURDAY, JUNE 9

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 a.m. Gene and Rich lead the group on a birding expedition along the Catalina Highway. For more information, please contact Gene at 625-8109.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 10:00 a.m. Bill will be hosting a Matinee Club outing to a local theatre to see a current movie. For movie choice, theatre location and time, please call Bill at 297-3569.

#3. 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, JUNE 10

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 6:00 p.m. Join Jerry and Les for the latest installment of "Queer As Folk". We'll watch episodes #19 & 20. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-9565.

#2. 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.

#3. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 8:00 p.m. MSN will host an Open Meeting to get your input on what the group is doing now and what it might be doing in the future. For reservations and directions, please call Les at 690-9565.

MONDAY, JUNE 11

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.

THURSDAY, JUNE 14

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 1:00 p.m. Join us for a Lunch Out in Green Valley. Not only will you get some great food, you'll have an unparalleled view of the Santa Ritas. For reservations and directions, please call Harold at 648-0795, or Dan at 625-0067.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m.ish. Nick will host a Movie Out night. For the movie choice, theatre location and time, please call Nick at 624-9961.

TUCSON PRIDE WEEK JUNE 15-24

FRIDAY, JUNE 15

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.

Desert Voices concert "Now And Then" 8:00p.m. at Pima Community College Proscenium Theater. Tickets available at Antigone Books, Tucson Trunk, and the Chorus hotline 791-9662. OFFICIAL TLGA PRIDE EVENT.

'Loud and Proud' Youth Dance 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. A special night for Tucson's LGBT youth as they dance the night away to the hottest DJ mixed music. In association with Queer Voice. International Arts Center-Nations Hall, 516 N. 5th Ave. OFFICIAL TLGA PRIDE EVENT.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 10:00 a.m. Want to get in on the ground floor of a new softball team? Interested in other sports? Join Bill & Robert for a meeting about getting some teams together to play for fun. For reservations and directions, please call Bill at 297-3569.

BAR CALENDAR
OF UPCOMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6

IBT'S - 9:00 p.m. 'The Girlie Show' hosted by Lucinda Holliday with special guests.

SATURDAY, JUNE 9

VENTURE-N - Beer Bust from 3:00 to 7:00p.m. with pitchers going for $1.75 and glasses at 75¢. Hosts are the LeatherLords of Phoenix.

YARD DOG SALOON - Something new here! "Food Fest" on Saturdays from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Y'all come!

SUNDAY, JUNE 10

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - A benefit 'Drag Show' here at 9:00 p.m. to help defray the funerals expenses for Adamiyoski Chacon. The show will feature Jazmine Bovier, Shaina, Diana and special guests. $1.25 pitchers from 5:00 to 10:00 p.m. too.

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 IBT's Tucson Aces. Then, at 8:00 p.m. the Tucson Aces Softball Team presents "The Night They Came Out" starring Vanilla Thunderpussy, Anita Leigh and Buqueefa.

VENTURE-N -Bossburgers served this Sunday from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Hosts this week are The LeatherLords of Phoenix.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13

IBT'S - 'The Cotton Club Revue' at 9:00 p.m. featuring Ajia Simone, Tori Steele with Lucinda Holliday and Deora Le Blanc.

"OUT IN THE DESERT"
PRIDE WEEK IN TUCSON, JUNE 15 - 24

SATURDAY, JUNE 16

YARD DOG - OFFICIAL TLGA PRIDE EVENT: "Lazy Dog Day"here with drink specials, games and food served all day. 2449 N. Stone Ave.

SUNDAY, JUNE 17

WOODY'S - OFFICIAL TLGA PRIDE EVENT: "Beach Party" 3710 N. Oracle.

MONDAY, JUNE 18

THE BIZ - OFFICIAL TLGA PRIDE EVENT: "Pride Night" at Ain't Nobody's Biz 8:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20

IBT'S - OFFICIAL TLGA PRIDE EVENT: "The Red Party", 616 N. 4th Ave.

THURSDAY, JUNE 21

VENTURE-N - OFFICIAL TLGA PRIDE EVENT: Leather/Uniform Pride. 1239 N. 6th Ave.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23

Celebrate your pride at GAY WEST 5 which takes place at Old Tucson Studios beginning at 6:0 p.m. Enjoy a Country/Western dance under the stars withy CCW DJ Dan Ridge from Charlie's in Phoenix and rock with Hi-NRG dancing mixed by DJ Tim Outland from the Crowbar in Phoenix, plus other surprises and all the fun, games, rides, food and excitement of Old Tucson Studios. Entertainment includes Lucinda Holliday's "Lipstick & Lashes" variety show, Reveille Gay Men's Chorus, Pattè Williams, Tejano-style music with KC's Mixx Band and Katz Meow w/Heidi Rogers. Tickets $12 in advance or$14 at the gate. Available at Antigone's Wingspan, David's Hair, Desert Pride, Tucson Trunk and Rainbow Planet Coffee House. For more info call 883-0100.

Pride Night At Queer Voice Lounge 7:00 p.m. 314 E. 6th St. Call 620-6245 for more info. OFFICIAL TLGA PRIDE EVENT.

SUNDAY, JUNE 17

"Partnership In Pride" A Blessing of couples. Mcc and TLGA sponsor a very special blessing for LGBT couples by Rev,. Joyce Cook. 3269 N. Mountain. After the celebration a fundraiser BBQ for MCC. $5.00 per plate. Call 295-9151 for info and to participate. OFFICIAL TLGA PRIDE EVENT.

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 6:00 p.m. Join Harry & Joseph as they host a Father's Day BBQ and Pool Party. For reservations and directions, please call Harry or Joseph at 572-6651.

#2. 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, JUNE 18

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, JUNE 19

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 Michael at 326-3555.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20

LGBT "Legal Issues" education seminar, 6:00 TO 7:30 p.m. at International Arts Center, Room 101, 516 N. 5th Ave. $10.00 suggested donation. OFFICIAL TLGA PRIDE EVENT.

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

AIN'T 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-?. $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

AIN'T 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 8pm to close for American Airlines - American Express - AOL employees.

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

Tuesday

AIN'T 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

AIN'T 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

AIN'T 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

AIN'T NOBODY'S 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 8pm.

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

AIN'T NOBODY'S 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 11a.m. Alternate Saturdays the group meets for social activities. For info call Dorlan Easty, 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 575-8860 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, 7014 E. Golf Links Road, PMB 212, Tucson, AZ 85730.

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

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.

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

GAY OR BI-SEXUAL MEN in relationships with women. Need friends you can talk to? Weekly support group meets Wednesdays 6:30 - 8.00 pm. Licensed psychologist facilitator. Call 745-6977 in Tucson for more information. Strictly confidential.

WINGSPAN - Tucson's Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Community Center, 300 E. 6th St., offers support groups / info line / social events / library / meeting space. Volunteer Opportunities. Board meetings every 2nd 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 of 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.

NOTICES

SOFTBALL - For info on the Tucson Greater Softball Association T.G.S.A., please contact Mary 770-9979 or Bertie 316-3415.

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 615-8436 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. 694-7083.

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.azda.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 293-6624.

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 886-5541

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 955-2364.

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 Wallers, (602)371-1102

CRONIES SOCIAL GROUP. A Social group for Gay men who enjoy the fellowship of their peers. Call Leo at 624-6788.

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

NOTICES

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

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

DESERT VOICES, Tucson's Gay & Lesbian Chorus rehearses Monday evenings from 6:30 to 9:30pm at Armory Park Senior Center, 220 S. 6th Ave. Call 791-9662.

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

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

MEN'S SOCIAL NETWORK: Social organization for men of all ages. Building an extended Gay family in Tucson. Monthly social potluck gatherings the first Saturday of each month and almost weekly social activities. Call Jerry at 690-9585 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 325-9486 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 325-6076 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 791-7576.

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 Ernie Staight 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 (evelten@ix.netcom.com)

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

OUTLOUD! Tucson's premiere Local Lesbian and Gay Radio Show, broadcast every Wednesday at 8:03 pm on 91.3 FM, Community Radio 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 888-8010 before 10:00 p.m. The group dines out and attends shows or movies. Now in their 16th year! (2nd in Tucson).

SOUTHERN ARIZONA GENDER ALLIANCE (SAGA). Meetings on the 1st Monday, 7pm. Dezert 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

TUCSON GREATER SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION http://www.tgsasoftball.org

PERSONALS

SINGLE, GOOD LOOKING, OUTGOING, 40S, GWM looking to meet same. Various Interests. Call 584-9243 883

The new MAN TO MAN CLUB for intimate social interaction for men will meet on Friday, June 8 at 7pm. Small fee. Marc 881-4582 to confirm. 881

HOUSING/FOR RENT

1 BEDROOM BUNGALOW. Front and back covered porches, pool. 4416 E. Lee. 319-6077 or 326-1934. 882

FOR RENT: 3br/1ba, Home in a cozy fourplex. Double carport, laundry hook up, walled yard, covered patio, tons of storage. $850/mo., $850 deposit. Available mid-June after renovation. Plus 1br, 1ba large unit with private patio, covered parking. Screams of art deco 60's. $450/mo, $450 deposit. Both Speedway/Alvernon area. Gay owned and managed. For viewing and more information call 331-5466. 882

2 BEDROOM DUPLEX. Large living room, private backyard, washer/dryer. Mature adult/grad student. Must be quiet. Nodogs. Glenn/Country Club. $650/mo. 795-6390 881

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House mate - Two bedroom duplex near the U and bus stops. $300 per month utilities paid except phone. NO DEPOSITS. First and last month's rent. Non-smoker. Washer and dryer. Off the street parking. Will cook breakfast and dinner. Let's discuss it. AVAILABLE JUNE 1st. Call Bob at 982-6956 or 903-1800. 880

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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, 299-1792. $35 883

ATTRACTIVE MAN offers very relaxing, sensuous, one-hour massage at a very reasonable rate. Days, evenings, weekends. Michael 584-9243 887

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MASSAGE FOR MEN: Swedish full body. For one hour of professional bodywork. Call Marvin for appointment, 299-9651. $35 883

FULL BODY ORIENTAL MASSAGE. Experience the difference. By Appointment only. 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Call Danny Chong 461-0803 883

CHICAGO TRAINED - NOW TUCSON-BASED. Midwest Musk Massage. In/Out, C.J. 514-4202 881

TENSE? STRESSED OUT? Relax for an hour with a Full Body Rub by Frank. Private studio, off-street parking. 271-3680 days, evenings. 881

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Let me keep your clothes fitting properly and in good repair. Experienced -- Economical -- Prompt. Merle Hudson, 886-7264 in Tucson. 890

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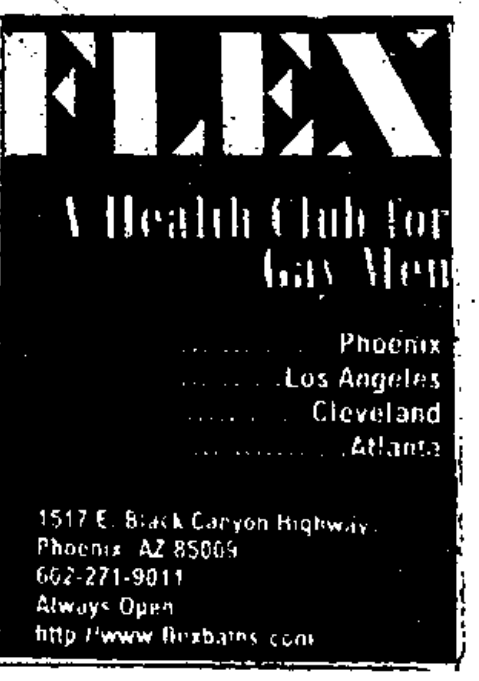

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New Poll Shows Americans More Tolerant Toward Gays & Lesbians

PRINCETON, NJ - A new Gallup poll reveals a continuation of a gradual, but to some degree steady, increase in the liberalization of American public opinion about homosexuality.

Americans still exhibit ambivalence about the overall acceptability of homosexuality in American society today, and substantial numbers of Americans continue to say that homosexual relations should be neither acceptable nor legal. But there have been changes in these attitudes over time.

Here are the key points from Gallup's most recent poll on the topic, conducted in mid-May:

Gallup has recorded a gradual increase in adherence to the belief that homosexuality is an acceptable alternative lifestyle. Agreement with this proposition has risen from 38% in 1992 to 52% today.

There has also been a shift in attitudes about the legality of homosexuality, with a majority of Americans -- 54% -- now saying that "homosexual relations between consenting adults" should be legal, compared to 43% who felt this way in 1977.

One of the more significant changes in American public opinion on Gay and Lesbian issues has been the increase in the perception that homosexuality is genetic -- something a person is born with -- as opposed to being due to other factors such as upbringing and environment. For the first time in 24 years, as many people in Gallup's most recent poll say homosexuality is genetic as say it is environmental. This represents a major shift from 1977, when environment was seen as the more prevalent factor by more than a four-to-one ratio.

In terms of specific issues, a majority of Americans remain opposed to the extension of marriage benefits to Gay and Lesbian partners joined in civil unions.

About four out of 10 Americans think that Gays and Lesbians should not be allowed to work as members of the clergy or as elementary school teachers. However, only minorities of Americans are uncomfortable with Gays and Lesbians having a number of other professions and jobs tested in the research.

Over 80% of Americans accept the idea of including homosexuals under the protection of equal opportunity provisions in the workplace.

Military Panel: Eliminate Sodomy Law

WASHINGTON, DC - A panel established by the National Institute of Military Justice says the Pentagon should eliminate the armed services' sodomy law.

A panel established by the National Institute of Military Justice says the Pentagon should eliminate the armed services' sodomy law.

The seven-member Commission on the 50th Anniversary of the Uniform Code of Military Justice released its review of the UCMJ. Among its recommendations was the repeal of the military's sodomy statute, also known as Article 125.

"Of all of the topics that appeared on the Commission's long list of possible areas for consideration, the issue of prosecuting consensual sex offenses attracted the greatest number of responses from both individuals and organizations," the commissioners' report said. "The Commission concurs with the majority of these assessments in recommending that consensual sodomy and adultery be eliminated as separate offenses in the UCMJ and the Manual for Courts-Martial."

The panel, headed by retired Federal Appeals Judge Walter T. Cox, III, found that prosecutions of the current military laws on adultery and sodomy "are treated in an arbitrary, even vindictive, manner." They suggest the adoption of "a comprehensive Criminal Sexual Conduct statute" similar to laws passed in recent years by state legislatures.

"The commission is appropriately urging Congress to step into the present and do right by our men and women in uniform. The military's sodomy law is antiquated and should be repealed," said C. Dixon Osburn, executive director of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network (SLDN).

SLDN submitted written comments to the commission supporting a repeal of Article 125. Sharra E. Greer, SLDN's legal director, testified before the commission at a public hearing earlier this year. "Article 125 is a throwback to English common law that has long since been abandoned by the militaries of the original NATO countries, including Great Britain, on whose law ours relies," said Greer.

The commission report has been forwarded to Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, who is currently overseeing a comprehensive review of Pentagon personnel policies. The chairpersons and ranking members of the Senate and House committees on armed services, as well as the Code Committee on Military Justice, will also receive copies.

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