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Fire Chief Addresses GLBT Commission & Community About Assault On Gay Man

TUCSON (ON) - Tucson's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) Commission met Tuesday, July 17, to discuss the situation involving a Tucson fire fighter, convicted of attacking a Gay man at a restaurant.

GLBT Commission members felt the sentence the firefighter received from the judge, was not severe enough, and questioned the actions of Dan Newburn, who assumed the post of Chief two weeks ago, criticizing him for not issuing a statement about the incident. The Fire Chief told commissioners he's conducting an internal investigation.

He also told them he does not condone behavior like Opela's. But he says he has to follow protocol and the letter of the law when it comes to disciplining fire fighters. He also says even though this incident happened when Opela was off duty, it won't soften the blow if the hammer drops.

"There are significant legal matters that surround this whole matter," Newburn said, "Even though it happened off duty, that really doesn't matter. We have a code of conduct. We have a sacred trust with the community. So I want to clarify that. This is not a matter of on duty conduct or off duty conduct. This is an issue of conduct and an issue of behavior."

Newburn asked to speak to the GLBT Commission after learning about the controversy Opela stirred up. Addressing the Commission and those present in the audience, Newburn said he hadn't heard of the incident until Monday night, July 9.

In June, Pima County prosecutors filed an allegation of a hate-motivated offense against Franchot Opela, who assaulted Fabian Padilla on Feb. 9, 2000, outside the Risky Business bar, 6866 E. Sunrise Drive, because of Opela's "perception of the victim's sexual orientation," Deputy County Attorney Jeff Jacobson said.

Padilla testified that Opela called him a "faggot" as he walked outside to smoke a cigarette. The two started arguing and then traded blows. Although two other men became involved in the fracas, witnesses testified it ended with Padilla flat on the ground as Opela beat on him with both fists. Opela and several of his friends at the bar then drove away, leaving Padilla bleeding at the scene.

Justice of the Peace Susan Bacal found Opela guilty of misdemeanor assault. Bacal sentenced him to 12 months of unsupervised probation, 40 hours of community service and eight hours of anger counseling. She also ordered him to attend "sensitivity training" before the year's end. Opela was also ordered to stay away from Padilla; he must pay a $1,500 fine if he does not complete the rest of the sentence.

"I don't think it was fair," Padilla said in an interview. "I don't think there is anything I want to say right now."

County Attorney Jacobson said he thought the sentence should have been more severe.

"Firefighters have a special relationship of trust in the community to protect people with passion but without prejudice. That's what they do, and they're supposed to do it indiscriminately," Jacobson said.

Since the incident took place outside Tucson City limits, Kathleen Mayer, representing and speaking for the Pima County Attorney's office, who prosecuted the case, said the initial case was reviewed to see if it could be tried as a felony, but circumstances of the case warranted it being tried as a misdemeanor. When asked what circumstances would have made the case a felony, for which the state's hate crimes law could have been implemented, Mayer said the fact no weapon was used and the resulting injuries to Fabian Padilla made the case a misdemeanor.

At the GLBT Commission meeting, more than 30 people turned out to hear what Chief Newburn had to say. Many also expressed concerns, including one which threatens the delicate balance of trust between the fire department and the people it serves.

They asked the Chief if fire fighters might ignore an injured person, just because the person is Gay. Chief Newburn says that won't happen. "This incident bothers me and I'll tell you why. Because, in a sense, I feel stereotyped, and I know that's exactly the struggle that a lot of people have felt. But we have one individual out of 571 that engaged in incredibly improper behavior. It was one of violence and it was directed at a Gay man. There's no excuse for that. I can't make an excuse for that. But please don't, please don't for a minute suggest that's representative of the men and women of the Tucson Fire Department."

Chief Newburn says Franchot Opela is currently not on the regular roster but hasn't been suspended, because he's training as a paramedic and is still receiving a salary for his job. Opela was hired by the Tucson Fire Department on Aug. 6, 1999, and is paid $35,436 per year.

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Broad Irregularities In Florida Balloting Found

NEW YORK, NY - The New York Times on Sunday, July 15, published the results of its six month investigation into the counting of overseas ballots in Florida in the disputed 2000 presidential election and concluded that the ballots were judged by vastly different standards depending on where they were counted.

The Times, in an editorial published Monday, July 16, says the Democrats were "outhustled and outmaneuvered" in the tallying for this small but all-important batch of ballots, the only votes that could legally be received and counted after Election Day.

The Republicans, says the newspaper, tailored their legal arguments to suit the different political leanings of various counties to maintain George W. Bush's razor-thin lead in votes recognized as valid by Florida Secretary of State Katherine Harris.

The Times found 680 questionable votes among the 2,409 overseas ballots that were counted as legal after Election Day — ballots without postmarks, for example, or ballots without witness signatures. Had the state laws been strictly enforced, all of these ballots would have been thrown out.

One expert told The Times that if the flawed ballots had not been accepted, Bush's margin of victory would have dropped from 537 votes to 245 votes, not quite enough to tip the state to Al Gore.

The study found that Republican counties were much more likely to count flawed overseas ballots than Democratic counties — a difference The Times attributed "to the relentless, aggressive" efforts of Bush's advisers in Florida.

When it became clear the overseas ballots could prove decisive to the outcome, teams of Bush lawyers were sent to all of Florida's 67 canvassing boards intent on securing liberal rules for Republican counties and challenging ballots in counties that looked to be leaning for Gore.

The Times noted that nothing the Democrats did went right. The Democrats retreated from a position that called for strict adherence to election rules in the counting of overseas ballots – partly in response to grandstanding Republican charges they were "disenfranchising" the votes of military-servicemen and women.

When Senator Joseph Lieberman asserted on television that election officials should give military ballots the "benefit of the doubt," the Democratic strategy collapsed. The Times called an open – if by definition, illegal – count of all overseas ballots a responsible gesture, but said standards should have been applied to all absentee ballots from abroad, not just those in Republican-dominated counties.

The most important lesson of the investigation, concluded the Times, concerned the uneven application of Florida's ballot laws, which underscores the need for applying uniform standards, both in Florida and the rest of the country.

Report Says Bush Did Attend Salvation Army Meetings

WASHINGTON, DC - The Washington Post reports that contrary to several administration statements, George W. Bush was present at key meetings with top officials from the Salvation Army last May discussing plans to boost support for his "faith-based" initiative while White House officials reviewed a plan to exempt federally funded religious charities from local and state Gay rights laws.

Tom Jones, a Salvation Army official, told The Post Bush was at the meeting, but he said a discussion about the regulatory exemption "wasn't discussed at that meeting." The session was attended by eight Salvation Army officials, including National Commander John Busby, as well as Bush and John J. DiIulio Jr., head of the White House Office of Faith-based and Community Initiatives.

The White House initially said no high-level officials were involved in the Salvation Army discussions. Following several reports in the Washington Post, presidential spokespersons conceded that senior Bush adviser Karl Rove contacted the Office of Management and Budget about the regulation in mid- to late May.

The early May meeting between Bush and the top Salvation Army officials was "in connection with faith-based initiatives," the Salvation Army said at the time. They discussed the initiative, but when asked whether they discussed the issue of employment nondiscrimination laws, Jones replied, "I don't believe it came up."

Shortly after the meeting, Bush signed a proclamation declaring the following week National Salvation Army Week. Within weeks, the White House stirred controversy by declining official support for a Gay Pride Month proclamation, regularly issued in June by former President Clinton.

According to The Post, the meeting came a week after the Salvation Army issued an internal report stating that it had a "firm commitment" from the White

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UPDATE

Vogt Memorial Service Saturday, July 21

TUCSON - Glen Vogt's memorial service will be this coming Saturday, July 21, 10:00 a.m., at St. Francis in the Foothills, 4625 E. River Road (NW corner of River and Swan).

Glen would want all his friends to be comfortable, please dress casual.

After the service, there will be a wake at IBT's, 616 N. Fourth Avenue. No host bar and plenty of eatables.

An Evening Of Dancing Switches To Executive Inn

TUCSON - Are you a little Country and a little Rock and Roll then come out for evening of dancing to today's hot country and the best classic rock and pop hits, July 21, 8:00 p.m.

The site has been switched to the Best Western Executive Inn, 333 West Drachman (on the curve), at 8:00 p.m. Parking and entrance also available behind the building. Full service available, door prizes, air conditioning. $10 per person at the door.

This is a Gay/Gay friendly event and you must be 21 or older. A special low, room rate is offered. It's another "Something Special" event.

'Scouting For All' Rally August 22

TUCSON - A coalition of community groups and individuals will rally, Rally will be at the International Arts Center, 516 N. Fifth Avenue, Wednesday, August 22, 7:00 p.m., to protest and seek an end to the Boy Scouts' policy of anti-Gay discrimination.

Tucson's protest will one of many rallies held during the week and sponsored by the national "Scouting For All" group, www.scoutingforall.org.

The rally will open and close with a color guard led by University of Arizona Pride Alliance former boy scouts. If you don't know what a color guard is, you weren't a boy scout, and come find out anyway.

For more information, contact Nancy Robinett, at: Nancy.Robinett@az-bar.org or (520) 670-9500

MSN Sports Teams Forming

TUCSON - There will be an Men's Social Network (MSN) Team Sports organizational meeting on Saturday, July 21 at 9:00 a.m. The group is looking to organize teams in Softball, Volleyball and Rugby. Anyone interested in Rugby and is interested in forming a team please call. MSN has the beginnings of both softball and volleyball teams. If you would like to play or know of someone who would like to play, call Bill at 297-3569.

Gerry Curl, one of MSN's founders, said, "We want to stress the fact that the activities are open to all ages and abilities. We're looking for players, coaches, and support staff, including sponsors. Men who have a desire to learn to play, but have no experience are also [illegible] 297-3569 if you are interested.

G/L Hiring Issue May Make Churches Shun Bush Funds

TUCSON - Several local congregations say they'll bow out of President Bush's faith-based initiative if it means compromising religious doctrine by opening up hiring to homosexuals.

The issue promises to get divisive since the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender community, both locally and nationally, says it will continue to pressure the Bush administration until it includes language in the initiative that explicitly bars discrimination against homosexuals., the Arizona Daily Star reported.

Atheists are also mobilizing to oppose the plan, which would allow churches, synagogues, mosques and other faith organizations to compete for billions of taxpayer dollars that the government pays out for social services.

"It's an extremely important issue when we are talking about using our taxpayer money, and it could potentially be used in a discriminatory manner. It's unfair," said Kent Burbank, executive director of Wingspan, Tucson's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender community center.

Although Bush this week backed out of a proposal from the Salvation Army that would have included language in the initiative exempting religious groups from anti-discrimination laws, Gay rights activists say it wasn't enough.

The faith-based initiative legislation pending in Congress says religious groups that get government money to run secular programs may consider religion in their hiring decisions. And for many in the religious community, homosexuality is a sin.

"We must maintain our religious values. Our religion comes first," said Imam Omar Shahin of the Islamic Center of Tucson, 901 E. First St. "Hiring a homosexual would affect our kids. It is not in our religion."

Shahin said as long as the money does not come with strings attached, he would be interested in applying for federal dollars to help fund the local Islamic center's school and possibly other social programs.

Some critics have argued that allowing religious groups to deliver tax-funded social-welfare services improperly entangles church and state. Food stamps could be doled out by Wiccans. A welfare-to-work program could occur while the Koran is prominently displayed.

The 1964 Civil Rights Act allows religious organizations such as schools and churches an exemption to discriminate based on religious preference. Burbank and other Gay activists say discriminatory hiring is fine within the private context of a church but not when it involves public funds.

Religious leaders who otherwise favor Bush's plan, however, say it cannot infringe on their doctrine.

"If they put control on it, most organizations won't go with it. We don't want our values controlled by secular government," said Pastor Roger Barrier of the 8,000-member Casas Adobes Baptist Church, 10801 N. La Cholla Blvd.

"Most faith-based organizations want to have freedom and not be controlled in speech or values. As Bush works through this he's got to come up with a system that gives autonomy for religious groups to be who they are."

While Casas Adobes welcomes homosexuals to worship at the church, Barrier said it would not hire a homosexual because a Gay and Lesbian lifestyle is against the church's teachings.

Pastor Rick Drost of First Evangelical Free Church, 4700 N. Swan Ave., said his religion's values would be violated if the church hired a homosexual, even to run a secular program.

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The Observer

Inclusion In Health Agenda Promising Step For GLBT Americans

NEW YORK, NY (GHC) - Though it's only a first step toward recognizing our unique needs, Gay and Lesbian Americans are hailing their new inclusion in the national blueprint for good health.

What blueprint, you ask?

The health agenda, called Healthy People 2010, is the third in a series of U.S. documents begun in the 1970s. Each established 10-year national goals for preventing illness and disability and increasing Americans access to health services.

The newest version acknowledges for the first time that care for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Americans involves more than AIDS treatment and prevention.

The document points out that sexual orientation may account for disparities in finding a doctor, taking advantage of health services, and receiving appropriate care.

The federal government included sexual orientation as a factor in 29 out of more than 400 health objectives. Those involve access to care, educational and community programs, HIV, immunization and infectious disease, injury and violence prevention, sexually transmitted disease, and substance abuse.

However, in most cases, the Gay-Lesbian-Bisexual-Transgender community was listed in data tables under the heading "Data Not Collected," which means the government isn't tracking how those people are doing, said Gwenn A. Baldwin, executive director of the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Center.

"It's like somebody inviting you to a wedding, but there's no seat, no table, and no food for you," Baldwin said. "I feel great about the invitation, but the promise of actually attending isn't there."

She said Gay advocates' hopes for further federal recognition lie in a 500-page companion document released a couple of months ago.

That report, compiled by the Gay & Lesbian Medical Association, or GLMA, with $50,000 from the Department of Health and Human Services, attempts to pinpoint the unique health needs of millions of Americans long overlooked by federal health surveys and programs.

What they now need, she said, is data that demonstrate to federal health officials where their needs aren't being met, which can be done only by including sexual orientation questions in federal health surveys.

Such questions would prove that sexuality is getting in the way of care and that Gay and Lesbian individuals have unique health concerns. Without them, it also becomes difficult to obtain funding to address inequities and to measure progress in meeting Healthy People 2010's targets, said Judy Bradford, a Virginia Commonwealth University researcher who had a major role in compiling the companion document.

Smaller health studies have shown several areas in which Gays Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender people have unmet needs, but there have been no large-scale studies.

For example:

GLBT teens have been found five to six times more likely than non-Gay teens to attempt suicide, and they're less likely to get information about sexually transmitted diseases and AIDS.

GLBT adults are disproportionately affected by mental health and drug problems.

Lesbians often forgo routine gynecological care because of fear of discrimination.

GLBT members of minority communities often don't get the primary care they need.

Families headed by two men or two women, which are turning up in Census 2000, rarely have the spousal benefits extended to non-Gay families and thus often rely on separate health plans.

One obstacle to obtaining good data stems from ongoing debates within the Gay and Lesbian community and academic circles on how best to ask about sexual orientation. Some people may not identify themselves as Gay or Bisexual, yet when asked about their sexual practices may acknowledge having sexual relations with a same-sex partner.

The solution may require asking about sexual behavior or sexual attraction, not merely about orientation.

For instance, Bradford said, when the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey asked about sexual orientation beginning in 1998, it succeeded in identifying same-sex sexual behavior among white and black adults. It failed to identify that activity among Latinos. The question was pulled from the survey in 2000, and Bradford expects it to be redesigned.

Already, some states are trying to compile such data.

The California Health Interview Survey, a report card measuring the health of Californians every two years, last summer posed its first sexual orientation question. And the state of Massachusetts recently became the first to add sexual identity questions to youth risk behavior surveys, Bradford said.

Given how difficult it has been to get attention at the federal level, Gay and Lesbian advocates are reframing some of their requests for federal help and turning their attention to state and local arenas.

"'Do you want to fund a Lesbian health project?' is probably not going to get as far as 'I've got a substance abuse program that is going to reach a population that is six times more impacted by substance abuse than the average population,'" Baldwin says.

Advocates are also reaching into underserved racial communities.

"It's necessary today to recognize the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender community is not monochromatic," Baldwin said.

website: ibts.net

IBT's

IBT's Sunday Party Line-up July 15th

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/16 oz Beerbust for the Tucson Aces Softball Team
(take home a doctor.....your mother would be proud!!)

10 pm - Miss Gay Arizona America Post-Pageant Party

Saturday, July 21st
8:30 pm
Special Miss Gay Arizona America Pre-Pageant Show
Featuring: Lucinda Holliday, Phaedra, Miss Gay Arizona 2001, Charity Case, Miss Gay America 2001, and Maya Montana, Miss Gay America 1999

Wednesday, July 25th, 9:00 pm
"Puttin on the Lips" Lipsinc Contest
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sign up by calling Lucinda at 327-1576

Live Jazz On The Patio
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on the patio at IBT's

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Saturday, July 28th.....
5th Annual Grey Eagle Arm Wrestling Benefit for TIHAN 4 pm

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ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS

HBO's black comedy Six Feet Under, the creation of Gay writer Alan Ball (American Beauty), will begin its second season in March 2002. The show made its debut last month, making it ineligible for this year's Emmy nominations. However, with HBO's announcement that it will delay the fourth season of its popular show The Sopranos until June, thus putting it outside the window of eligibility for the 2002 awards, the chances that Six Feet Under will garner a fair share of nominations are improved considerably. ...

MetroNewYork.com reports that the name of Carrie Bradshaw's love interest in recent episodes of Sex and the City, Aidan Shaw, is an apparent homage to Gay porn star Aidan Shaw. The real Aidan Shaw, who already has a perfectly good boyfriend, claims that he is still loving the attention. "I get a lot of E-mails from fans about it," he claims from his home in London. ...

The August issue of Interview magazine features Lesbian singer Melissa Etheridge in the hot seat being grilled by longtime friend Brad Pitt. Being a straight man, Pitt apparently felt the need to check and see if Etheridge misses that which men provide. Etheridge responds, "How can I miss something that was never there?" Not content, Pitt pushes, "Never?" "Never ever," maintains the singer. "Ever ever?" continues Pitt. Seeing this might take all day, Etheridge finally just says, "No. The technical answer is no, never did that." She does, however, cop to having said when the subject arose before, "OK, there was this one graphic artist when I was 21, but that was just a phase." ...

Another Lesbian tease from Geri Halliwell ... Former Ginger Spice Geri Halliwell, who has been getting rather a reputation lately with her offhand comments about all things Lesbian as well as her girl-on-girl rub-a-thon during a live concert last week, is reported in The [London] Sun as admitting that she'd like to bite Jennifer Lopez on the butt. "Jennifer has got a voluptuous bottom," Halliwell observed, "something to bite, definitely." ...

On the occasion of legendary film star Marlene Dietrich's centenary, Kino International is rereleasing the 1929 German classic The Blue Angel (Der Blaue Engel), in the United States. The film will open on July 13 at the Film Forum in New York, after which it will open in major markets across the country through the fall of this year. For the occasion, new 35-millimeter prints have been struck, restoring the expressionistic direction and cinematography which is so often lost in the inferior prints usually screened. The Blue Angel became Dietrich's signature role even though she had already appeared in 18 movies. As the cabaret singer Lola, Dietrich shocked filmgoers of the time by appearing in men's clothing and, at one point, kissing another woman in an offhand fashion. About the performance, critic Pauline Kael wrote, "her smoldering voice and sadistic indifference suggest sex without romance, love, or sentiment."

Emmy Nominees Include Gay Actors, Themes

HOLLYWOOD, CA (NP) - Gay individuals, icons and content figure prominently in the nominations for the 53rd Annual Primetime Emmy Awards announced.

NBC's "Will and Grace," featuring two Gay characters, received 12 nominations, including best comedy series. Other "Will and Grace" nominations went to Sean Hayes (Jack McFarland) for best supporting actor, Eric McCormack (Will Truman) for outstanding lead actor, Debra Messing (Grace Adler) for lead actress and Megan Mullally (Karen Walker) for best supporting actress.

The competition for Sean Hayes, who won last year, includes Robert Downey, Jr. for "Ally McBeal" and David Hyde Pierce for "Frasier."

Twelve nominations also went to the ABC miniseries "Life with Judy Garland: Me and My Shadows," including one to Judy Davis, who played the title role, for best lead actress in a miniseries or movie, and another to Victor Garber (Sid Luft) for outstanding supporting actor. The production is nominated for best miniseries, as is "Armistead Maupin's Further Tales of the City," Showtime's continuation of the openly Gay author's story of San Francisco life.

Competing with Davis for best lead actress is Holly Hunter for her portrayal of Billie Jean King in ABC's "When Billie Beat Bobby."

NBC's "West Wing," which frequently features plotlines supportive of the GLBT community, was nominated for best dramatic series – one of 18 total nominations for the show. Among the other "West Wing" nominations are nods to Allison Janney (C.J. Cregg) and Stockard Channing (Dr. Abigail Bartlet) for best supporting actress in a drama series; Bradley Whitford (Josh Lyman), John Spencer (Leo McGarry) and Richard Schiff (Toby Ziegler) for supporting actor; and Martin Sheen (President Josiah Bartlet) and Rob Lowe (Sam Seaborn) for lead actor.

"Friends," another NBC series popular with GLBT audiences, received five nominations, including one for GLBT-ally Susan Sarandon's guest appearance.

Among six nominations garnered by Fox's "Barbra Streisand: Timeless" was one for the singer for outstanding individual performance. Also nominated in that category was Ellen DeGeneres for her HBO stand-up special "The Beginning." DeGeneres is slated to host the Sept. 16 awards ceremony, to be televised on CBS.

Showtime's "Queer as Folk," the U.S. version of the groundbreaking British Gay-themed series, failed to garner any nominations, despite its popularity with Gay audiences.

Fire Chief Addresses

Continued from page One

The Chief also says he's investigating a second fire fighter who was with Opela at the bar that night.

The GLBT Commission voted on several recommendations, including having the Tucson Mayor and Council lobby the Arizona Legislature to amend the state's hate crimes law to include misdemeanor offenses, also recommending the Tucson Fire Department appoint a liaison to the GLBT Commision, and ask Chief Newburn to issue a memo to his staff, condemning Opela's actions, and advising them they'll soon be getting some sensitivity training.

POLITICS 2001

by Mark R. Kerr

'H.R. 7'

As the Washington Post reported, the Bush Administration was embarrassed into disavowing its deal with the Salvation Army to wipe out state and local protections for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered people but the article may give some people the false impression that this issue has been resolved, for which it hasn't. H.R. 7, the Community Solutions Act of 2001, of which the Administration is a major coauthor and strong supporter, accomplishes exactly the same purpose. Indeed, a careful reading of the statement by the White House ending the effort with the Salvation Army to put forward anti-Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered regulations acknowledges that these regulations would be unnecessary if the pending legislation passes. H.R. 7 has 44 co-sponsors, including openly Gay U.S. Representative, Jim Kolbe, R-Arizona.

H.R. 7, which was reported by the House Judiciary Committee Republican majority on June 28 over unanimous Democratic opposition, contains several provisions which empower religious organizations receiving funds under the bill to ignore any state or local laws protecting Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered people against discrimination both in employment and in the receipt of services. During the mark-up of H.R. 7, Committee Chairman James Sensenbrenner (R-WI) was asked specifically on whether this bill would preempt state and local anti-discrimination laws, and he responded that it would.

Indeed, the Republican bill includes several provisions, which give the right of religious groups receiving federal funds to employ others and distribute federal benefits strictly according to their own religious principles. Recognizing that in some cases, this would allow discrimination on various grounds that have been made illegal, the bill then cites four federal laws preventing discrimination based on race, age, national origin, and disability, and requires recipients of funds under the faith-based initiative to abide by them. With regard to gender, the bill requires only that religious organizations abide by Title IX of the federal education act, requiring equality in education, but not in any other area. The bill also bans denial of access based on religion with regard to the beneficiaries of the programs. But it explicitly authorizes religious discrimination in the employment of people administering the programs, even though the programs covered by this bill are entirely secular in purpose.

By vigorously affirming the right of various religions to autonomy in the way they spend federal funds and listing only a few anti-discrimination laws that will be exceptions to that principle, the bill allows religious organizations to provide a variety of secular services in a manner that expressly discriminates against Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered people both in employment and in the receipt of services.

During the Committee consideration of the measure, an amendment was offered an amendment by openly G/L Reps. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) and Barney Frank, (D-MA) to add applicable state and local anti-discrimination laws to the list of federal anti-discrimination laws that must be respected in the administration of these funds. The amendment was defeated on a party line vote. All of the Republicans present voted against it, while all the Democrats present voted for it.

The amendment in no way sought to change the exemption that religious organizations have from anti-discrimination laws with regard to people employed directly in religious activity. Rather, because the Republican-backed bill would allow religious institutions receiving federal funds for purely secular activities to ignore state and local anti-discrimination policies, the amendment sought to require that where public funds are being dispensed for entirely secular purposes, state and local anti-discrimination policies should be respected.

Rep. Frank commented about the vote, "The rejection of our amendment by the Judiciary Committee Republicans is a serious assault on the rights of state and local governments to set their own anti-discrimination policies, as well as on the rights of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered people to receive equal opportunities for employment and service with the tax monies they have paid."

The Massachusetts Member of Congress said, "it was encouraging that the administration felt the need to back away from its effort to make a deal with the Salvation Army to propose a regulation to authorize this sort of anti-Gay discrimination. But the administration was able to drop that proposal at no cost to its anti-Gay agenda because the legislation that the Judiciary Committee voted out does exactly the same thing."

H.R. 7 annuls existing protections against discrimination for Lesbians and Gay men under state and local law. The bill allows religious organizations administering Federal programs to discriminate against employees and beneficiaries on the basis of their sexual orientation (and on other bases), even where such discrimination is barred by existing state or local law.

Because H.R. 7 thus pre-empts all local and state anti-discrimination laws, the drafters of H.R. 7 specifically enumerated four express exemptions where discrimination would remain illegal: Title VI (race, national origin, color); Title IX (gender in educational programs), disability and age. Section 1994(f). In addition, H.R. 7 bans religious discrimination against beneficiaries but expressly allows religious discrimination against employees.

All other anti-discrimination laws are nullified by H.R. 7, including laws prohibiting discrimination against employees and beneficiaries on the basis of sexual orientation, gender (outside of educational programs), and other categories protected by state or local law (e.g., discrimination on the basis of marital status or pregnancy).

The debate at the Judiciary Committee mark-up on June 28, between Mr. Frank and Chairman Sensenbrenner (the author of these sections in the revised version of H.R. 7 reported out of Committee) shows the GOP intention:

Mr. FRANK. Some states have decided to go beyond what the Federal Government has done in preventing discrimination, and I would ask, because it's not clear to me, is this preemptive of state employment discrimination laws other than those which might track the Federal one? . . . By specifying the Federal anti-discrimination laws that apply, does this mean that state anti-discrimination laws which cover subjects not covered

CONTINUED ON PAGE ELEVEN

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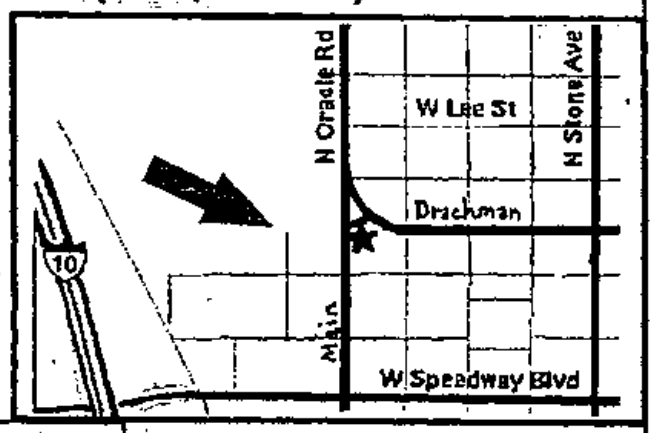

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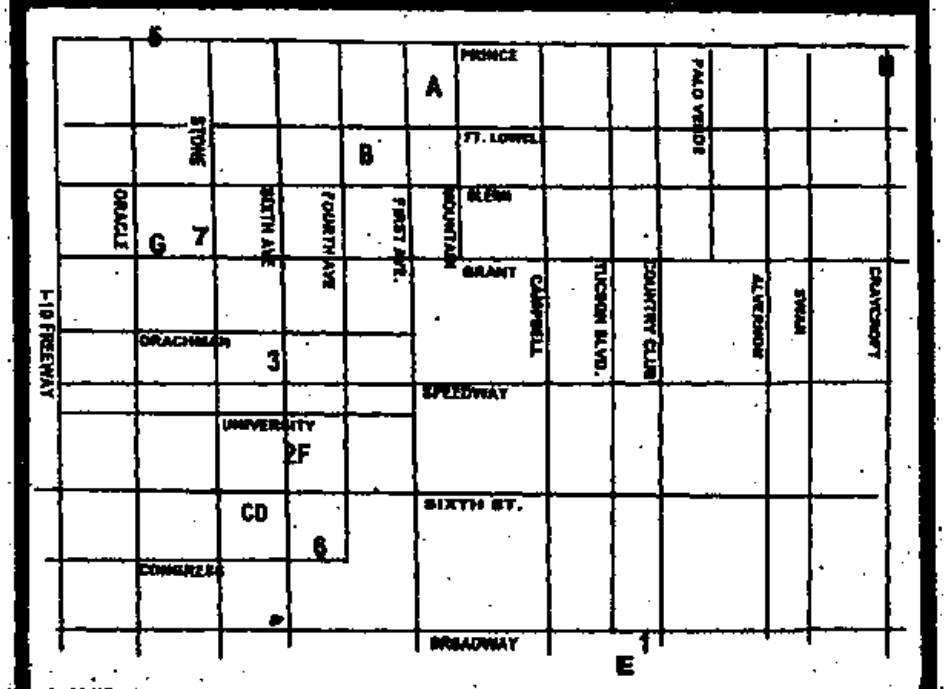

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HOROSCOPES

BY C. LICHTENSTEIN

Jovial Jupiter makes its move into Cancer this week for a two year stint of fun, foolishness and general mayhem. We do everything in a big way, thanks to Jupiter's over-the-top expansiveness. Prepare for the avalanche compadres!

ARIES
MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

If life feels a bit warmer and cozier send a s.w.a.k. love note to generous Jupiter which transits Cancer for the next two years. Proud Rambos are content to feather their nest with assorted, fun activities. The definition of fun is, well, open to definition. How does building on an addition sound? Or maybe buying a completely new bedroom set? I'll settle for the gala basheroo.

TAURUS
APRIL 21 - MAY 21

Jupiter enters Cancer this week and seems to amplify any proud bullish discourse for the next couple of years. Of course it can also mean that Jupiter will turn your best discourse into bull... So whatever bon mots you are planning to plant, expect them to take on a zesty life of their own. So let's try to sound brilliant, urbane and knowledgeable, okay? Oh fuggetaboutit!

GEMINI
MAY 22 - JUNE 21

Jupiter in Cancer nicely highlights your money and gives you imaginative ways of spending great gobs of it. If you spend on investments, you may find that the next two years can be rather profitable. But those pink Twins who lack fiscal restraint will find that their debits quickly outweigh their assets. Better get off your assets and learn a thing or five about the bottom line.

CANCER
JUNE 22 - JULY 23

Jupiter moves into your own sign and generates all sorts of festive opportunities for even the shyest pink Crabs. This is the time to launch new projects and meet new people. You are charisma incarnate with a gravitational pull to rival the earth. But remember that Jupiter expands just about everything - so stay away from those sweets, my proud sweet!

LEO
JULY 24 - AUGUST 23

Gay Lions don't seem to have a care in the world for the next two years as Jupiter in Cancer handle all their assorted backroom bubbemeisers. You triumph as hidden enemies are vanquished with ease. Nothing is hidden from you which means that all closeted cubs are outed. Good thing too, comrade - Jupiter can't stand deception and neither should you.

VIRGO
AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23

If you are planning to be a wallflower, you might as well forget it, queer Virgo. Jupiter jumps into Cancer and tosses you smack into the center of the social pool for the next two years. Learn to love the invitations and attention; the folks that you meet now may just wind up to be lifelong compadres. Seek out the movers and shakers to move and shake you. Pack the breath mints.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23

The struggle for professional success is finally won. Generous Jupiter swings into Cancer and shoots your personal corporate star into the next pinstriped galaxy. But when can too much be too much? When you lose sight of what is truly important to you in this life. Go for the gold, Gay Libra, but remember where the wealth is really buried. Yes - it's in the stock options!

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22

Don't plan on hanging around familiar surroundings when Jupiter travels into Cancer. The emphasis will be on new horizons, fascinating places, interesting people and exotic cuisines that you cannot get from your local take-out. Learn a few new things. Proud Scorps should make good use of this expansive energy to plant their flag in virgin territory. No names please!

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22

Who is this love deity? Can it be the Gay Archer who suddenly exudes such an enticing musky allure? Blame the flame on insatiable Jupiter who expands...ahem... everything over the next two years. Make use of this hot time, pal; Sagittarians are not known for their steamy sexuality. Before you know it, the wind will be out of your sails and you'll be drydock once again. Pity.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20

Do you play well with others, pink Cap? The true test of your abilities come into the fore when Jupiter jumps into Cancer. The next two years test your ability to pair off with the proper stranger. If you are currently in a relationship, use this time to strengthen the bonds. If the bonds bind, it is also a good time to seek new entanglements. Just how much into bondage are you?

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19

If you feel like the rat backed into a dark corner of a maze, welcome your strategic surge of mental agility with Jupiter in Cancer. Aqueerians make the most of this workable energy by either applying themselves on the job or pursuing a new, healthier, stress reducing course of action. Jupiter enables you to leap before you look but take my advice; always check the net for holes.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

The next two years will be one long jolly partyfest for all those Guppies who really know how to have a good Gay time. (And that's about all of them...) Jupiter's expansiveness encourages you to overindulge. For those more settled types, use the Jupiter in Cancer transit to tap into your more creative side. Take an art class, write poetry or take to the stage. Just avoid limericks...

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This space isn't big but it caught your

EYE!

. . . and you could have bought it very reasonably. Check this space as well as our Web Site. Over 125,000 people visited it in June. *It pays to advertise!!*

ETTERSLETTERSLETTERSLETTERSLE TTERSLETTERSLETTERSLETTERSLET

TO THE EDITOR:

It is a fact that I have my faults and God knows that I have been a terrible person at times on this Earth but it is still my humble opinion that we are wrong to throw people in jail for smoking weed.

I will mention that I think smoking marijuana is wrong but people should quit when they are ready and no person should be thrown in jail for smoking weed. We legalize cigarettes in America and people have to do no jail time for smoking.

To me smoking cigarettes is wrong and I think people should quit when they are ready and no person should serve jail time for smoking cigarettes.

If I get elected president of America by some weird Earth shattering way, I will parole at once all persons who are in jail because they got caught with marijuana.

All my respect,
Kevin Michael Ferguson
Sacramento, CA

DEAR OBSERVER AND MEMBERS OF THE GLBT COMMUNITY:

I would like to convey our thanks to the promoter, participants, performers, and all those attending the Miss Gay Cosmopolitan America 2002 pageant last week, which was designated to benefit the services provided by the Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN). As of press time, over $138 has been turned in from the pageant.

It was an exciting contest, with some spectacular entertainment, and our congratulations go out to all the contestants, and most especially to the newly-crowned Miss Gay Cosmopolitan America 2002 Bunny FuFu.

I also want to express my gratitude to Phaedra, the outgoing Miss Gay Cosmopolitan America and the reigning Miss Gay Arizona. Your final performance of the night, which you dedicated in honor and in memory of those with HIV/AIDS, was awesome, and TIHAN is honored to receive the gifts of your tips from that moving tribute.

To Kenneth Blake of Paragon Productions, thank you for choosing TIHAN as the charity to receive funds from the show. And on a personal note, I want to thank you Kenneth for presenting me with the "Humanitarian of the Year" Award. Although I hate being singled out like that (especially when all I do is organize and support all the volunteers who really do the good work!), it really was a moment I will treasure, because it came from you.

On behalf of all of us at TIHAN, thanks to all who participated in this pageant for your continuing support of people living with HIV/AIDS.

With gratitude,
Scott Blades
Executive Director, Tucson
Interfaith HIV/AIDS
Network (TIHAN)
Tucson, AZ

SAAF UPDATE

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION

By Anne Maley

We often use this space to acknowledge and thank the many community volunteers who do so much to ensure that people affected by HIV/AIDS have the services they need. Over 1000 hours each month of documented volunteer effort, and countless undocumented hours, are generously donated to SAAF and the people we serve. The magnitude of this service is even more apparent with the death of one of our long-term and tireless volunteers-Glen Vogt.

I first met Glen in the early 1990s when I worked with Shanti, and he continued his service right up until his death last month. Glen was most dedicated to meeting the basic needs of people living with HIV/AIDS. Food, clothing, household necessities-these are the things that Glen recognized meant so much to a person's well-being. He shopped for and collected these items from a vast network of contacts, sometimes trading items to get the needed item on our wish list. No request was beyond his ability to track down.

Glen's baking was legendary. During the holidays, he and partner Robert Miller baked hundreds of dozens of cookies for SAAF's clients, packed in tins he collected throughout the year. He brought home-made baked goods every Wednesday for the volunteers of Walk-in-Wednesday and often had a plate of goodies for staff, too. He began a program to purchase meat for clients because that was something difficult for the Food Pantry to afford. He secured full turkey dinners for dozens of clients for Thanksgiving.

The donations of used goods he collected ranged from refrigerators to romance novels. He established a donations table at SAAF where clients could help themselves to whatever they needed when they visited the office. Over the years, he outfitted many clients' homes with an assortment of household goods and furniture, often helping clients move into their new apartments.

During these many years of giving, Glen refused recognition and remained anonymous. And SAAF was not the only recipient of his generosity, nor was AIDS his only cause. Glen is well-known at TIHAN and with homeless organizations as well.

With Glen's passing, we honor this devoted community member and his surviving partner Robert, who gave so much so that people living with HIV/AIDS could be comfortable and nourished. Glen's good work continues through networks of volunteers and donors. We express our appreciation for all who complete this circle of giving. May your days be many and blessed.

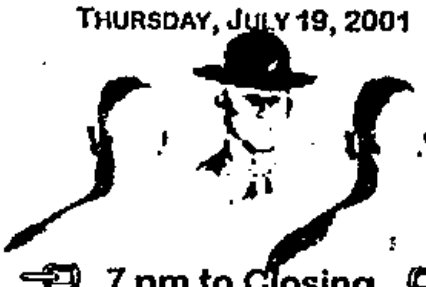
Safe Sex

Is Bringing Men Together

VENTURE - N

LEATHER & UNIFORM NITE

THURSDAY, JULY 19, 2001



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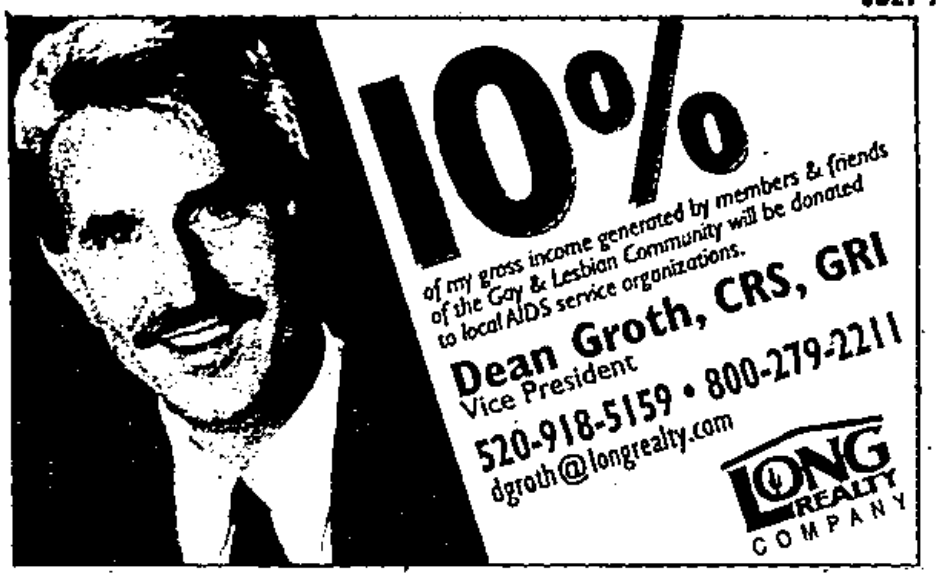

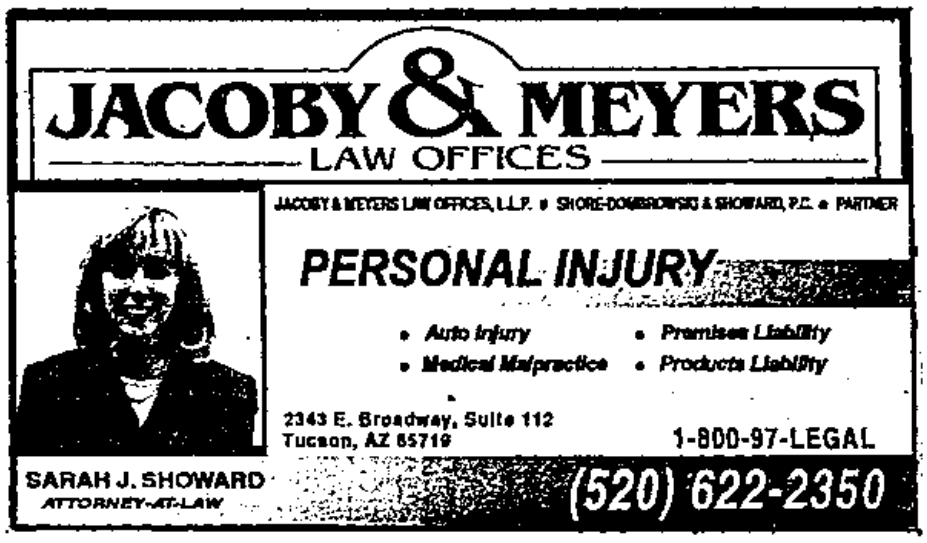

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COMMENTARY

'Hey George: Don't Tread On Us!'

By Lorri L. Jean

Question: When is local control no longer local control?

Answer: When it's the Bush Administration and the anti-Gay conservatives in Congress who are calling the shots.

The debate over Bush's proposed faith-based initiatives took an alarming turn earlier this month when the Washington Post revealed a secret deal between the Bush Administration and the Salvation Army. Under the deal, the Bush Administration would issue a federal order - called OMB Circular No. A-102, in Beltway-speak - that would allow service-providing religious groups receiving federal dollars to ignore state and local sexual orientation nondiscrimination laws.

These religious groups run soup kitchens, manage homeless shelters, offer substance abuse treatment, arrange child care, provide job training and carry out many other invaluable functions for those who fall below the safety net. If, as Bush and others have proposed, they are to receive tax dollars, it is important that they not be allowed to discriminate on the basis of religious belief or sexual orientation, both in terms of whom they hire and whom they serve.

An embarrassed White House last week announced that it would no longer pursue the federal order. But unfortunately, the debate swirled around "what did the White House say and when did it say it?" instead of what should have been the central focus: why government-funded religious programs pose a threat to the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender communities, or any groups who have views that differ from those of religious service providers.

After the White House's so-called reversal, many were left with the impression that our communities will not face discrimination if the faith-based initiatives become law. Many are unaware that a bill strongly endorsed by Bush includes language that is identical to the bigoted back-room deal originally struck between the White House and the Salvation Army.

The bill, which is sponsored by Rep. J.C. Watts and could come to the House floor for a vote this week, would allow any religious organization receiving federal funds to ignore state and local laws banning discrimination against GLBT people. Twelve states have civil rights laws, along with more than 230 towns, cities, counties, school districts, library boards and other types of local governments. Altogether, about one-third of all Americans live in a municipality or a state with such a law -- this bill would gut decades of hard-won gains by state and local GLBT activists and our allies.

What's particularly infuriating about this proposal is not just that Congress and the White House are willing to discriminate against GLBT people, but they want to use our tax dollars to do it! We are being asked to fund our own oppression!

Fortunately, there is a remedy in sight. Rep. Barney Frank has agreed to offer an amendment to the Watts bill, also known as H.R. 7, that would prevent the circumvention of local civil rights laws by religious groups using government dollars. The amendment was offered by Frank and Rep. Tammy Baldwin in committee, but was defeated in a party-line vote. Frank has announced that he will submit this amendment for consideration when the bill is brought up on the House floor.

If some of the Republican moderates who represent jurisdictions with nondiscrimination laws can be convinced that these laws should not be ignored by Congress, Frank's amendment will pass. But these representatives need to hear from the GLBT communities. And they need to hear from us now!

It is ironic that a party that preaches "local control" and "states' rights" is trying desperately to deny people at the state and local level the right to self-govern. And it's doubly ironic that a former governor of Texas who campaigned on a states' rights platform would go along with this.

But the good news is we don't have to let it happen. This is a battle we can win - not by what we do in Washington but by what you do in your local community. Call your representative in Congress today.

[Lorri L. Jean is the executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.]

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Dear Dr. X:

I love to bottom but it tends to hurt. I heard that doing poppers makes you relax but I don't want to do drugs to have sex. Any suggestions?

Signed,
Sore Butt

Dear Sore Butt:

You are not the only person to struggle with this. I want you to think about this from a few different perspectives. First is patience. Is the other person giving you time to relax? Are they stimulating you with a massage of the rectal area and some finger insertion? Do you really want to be penetrated? If your answers are yes then it shouldn't take long for you to get comfortable with the right lubricant and condoms. Sometimes the position is everything and remember we are all shaped differently inside and out.

Try to start out with you on top so you can control the rate of insertion. Another possibility is an anal relaxation ointment or crème. I can't mention the exact name but these products are available at sex shops that carry lubricants and condoms. They are reported to be very helpful. My continued reminder is to make sure the product is condom compatible meaning it is not oil based which could bust the condom. Good luck and remember to be extra safe when engaging in any anal activity.

Dear Dr. X:

I love to eat butt (rimming) and also get my butt eaten. I have heard lots of different info about HIV and Hepatitis risk. Can you please clarify this for me?

Signed,
Salad Tosser

Dear ST:

HIV is not your problem. The risk of getting HIV from analingus or rimming is close to nothing. (I'll never be quoted saying the risk is zero or someone will prove me wrong.) You have many other risks with rimming. Start by being clean and make sure the other person is also (try taking a shower together, or using baby wipes). Next try saran wrap or a condom cut open flat to act as a barrier or dam. While rimming you can be exposed to any and all of the following:

Bacterial bowel infections like giardia. HPV (human papilloma virus or rectal warts). Hepatitis B and C (B is preventable with a series of vaccinations, both are very serious and difficult to treat. C is chronic and both can be fatal). NGU (nongonococcal urethritis) symptoms are similar to gonorrhea.

And if I tell you any more you'll never have sex again! I know all this sounds grim but don't panic. Rimming is a wonderful sensual act that can also be really risky. If you are going to rim be clean and try the use of an oral dam. Some people do something I call near rimming which is an act where you get close but don't come into direct oral contact with the anus or rectal opening (clean still being the operative idea). Good luck and know that our friends at the HIV/STD clinics through Pima County Health Department can answer specific questions over the phone (520) 791-7676, or in person and brochures are also available at SAAF.

[Have a question for Dr. X? Contact him at GMHPoutreach@SAAF.Org or www.gmhp.org or SAAF, 375 S. Euclid, Tucson, AZ 85719, Attn: Dr. X.]

womanline.com presents ...Ask Jenn

Dear Jenn:

My mother loved my ex girlfriend so much that she's being a total jerk to my new girlfriend. I'm sorry, but I wasn't about to spend my life with someone just because mom liked her, you know? Should I tell my mom all the reasons I broke up with her precious pet? Including that she cheated on me constantly?

Bitter

Dear Bitter:

Boy, I bet it's frustrating hearing about what a fabulous catch your ex was when all along she was a two-timing tramp! I bet there you've had to bite your lip to stop from blurting out the truth to her, no matter where you were or who was in the room! And your poor new girlfriend - probably all she wants is for your mom to like and accept her, and instead she's being treated as though she's the other woman! Holy contradiction, Batman!

It sounds like you'd have preferred to make the transition from your cheatin' ex-gal-pal to your new main squeeze as problem-free as possible. After all, it is your business if you end one relationship and enter into another, isn't it? The problem is that mothers are often unlikely to respect such boundaries. And it's not necessarily because they're terrible people, either! They honestly believe they know what's best for us - after all, that is their job, isn't it? Chances are, the fact that she only knew the good side of your ex-girlfriend is skewing her ability to see that moving on was the best thing you could have done, and is poisoning her against your new lover.

Plan a mother-daughter day. Spend time doing something you both enjoy and arrange to go out for a lovely meal at the end of the day, your treat. When you're full of great food and have a killer glass of wine in front of you, start really talking. Tell her how much you appreciate her desirefor you to have the best possible lover in your life. Let her know that you suspect she's been missing your ex and give her a chance to talk about how she feels about your break-up. We don't always realize how the decisions we make affect others in our lives, even when they're completely ours to make. Validate how she feels so she knows you understand and care that your break-up has hurt her. Then, ever so gently, tell her you've got some things to say about your ex that might be a shock. That you didn't tell her about the cheating because you knew she liked your ex and you didn't want to get into the details if you didn't have to. And, that the problem is that it seems as though she can't let go of the past and welcome your new lover into the family - but that you really need her to try and do just that.

I suspect all that needs to happen is for the two of you to clear the air about this and you'll find that it'll soon be smooth sailing all the way!

Take care,
Jenn

G/L Hiring Issue May Make Churches Shun Bush Funds

CONTINUED FROM PAGE TWO

"We need to be free to hire without EEOC," the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, said Pastor Jimmy D. Munns of First Assembly of God Church, 1749 E. Broadway.

Similarly, Randy Musgrove, senior administrative pastor for the 1,000-member Grace Chapel, 6180 E. Pima St., said religious freedom is more important than government directives.

"We won't do anything that violates our faith or theology," said Musgrove, whose Foursquare denomination disapproves of homosexuality. "Obviously we report to a higher authority than government."

But the Rev. John Fife of Southside Presbyterian Church, 317 W. 23rd St, said congregations that want an exemption from anti-discrimination laws in hiring should look elsewhere for funding.

"They cannot have it both ways," he said. "If you take federal money you cannot discriminate in hiring."

Burbank of Wingspan agreed.

"Absolutely these organizations should be held to a certain standard. At a minimum they should sign something that says they will not discriminate by race, gender or sexual orientation," he said. "Our community has to stay on top of this issue because if we don't something will get passed and they will discriminate."

Stephen Lee, general counsel for the Arizona Civil Liberties Union, said exempting religious groups from non-discrimination laws under the plan could bring challenges from more than just Gay and Lesbian groups.

"It could well be that a faith-based Christian charity would refuse to hire a Muslim," Lee said. "I personally don't think the ACLU has taken a position on it, but it's my view a Christian organization should not have to hire Muslims. Yet once they become an agent of the state they have to - it changes."

Some faith-based groups are still weighing the plan.

"We really haven't made a decision on whether we'd participate. I think there would be some very different opinions within our church. It's not a simple issue," said the Rev. Susan Mullins of St. Francis in the Foothills United Methodist Church, 4625 E. River Road.

"I am cautious about advocating for it because of the problems that are very public this week. A million things could go wrong in terms of mixing government funding with the church's autonomy."

Mullins, whose congregation is about one-third homosexual, is concerned Bush's plan as it stands could give churches license to discriminate.

Other local religious groups, including the Baha'i and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, have already decided against participating.

But for proponents, Bush's plan will allow faith-based organizations to administer social programs in a more cost-effective way than government. Several congregations are already performing valuable community services like camps for kids and aid to the homeless that religious leaders say would be enhanced with federal funds.

"If proselytizing occurs it would be incidental. Some folks would get touched, but it's not the goal," Barrier said. "The goal of the program is to get money as efficiently as possible in the hands of the needy. And we exist to help the hurting."

The Arts

" Don Juan In Hell" will be held over through July 22. The Live Theatre Workshop's version of George Bernard Shaw's play will run Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are $12.00 with discounts for students, seniors and military personnel.

The famous third act dream sequence from Shaw's "Man and Superman' written in 1903 is a stunning example of his conversational dialogue. This one-act enjoyed a remarkable run on Broadway in 1951 starring Charles Boyer, Charles Laughton, Sir Cedric Hardwick and Agnes Moorehead. The one-act on Broadway and in other venues is produced as a dramatic reading.

The Live Theatre production will hold with tradition in reading the piece, creating a lively incarnation of Shaw's controversial view of Hell and the persons therein. A perfect pyre of inellectually fiery theatre to take Tucsonans on a virtual summer vacation from our own heat blasted landscape. The Live Theatre is located at 5317 E. Speedway. Telephone 327-4242.

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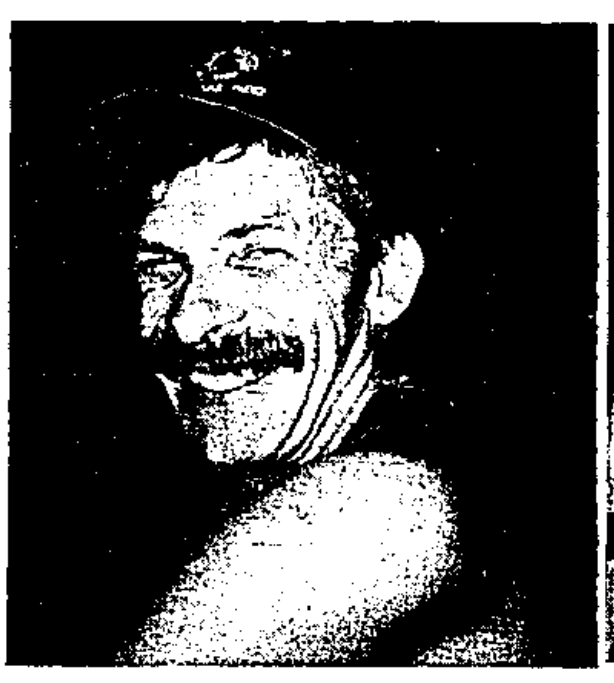

A View From The Rock

A Commentary From Cornerstone Fellowship

I wonder how many of you are regular readers of this weekly article. The next thing I wonder, of course, is why? Are any of our readers today, like I and everyone else at one time or another, feeling a vague emptiness, a need to search for something or someone without a name they could grab onto? If you happen to be one, or even the only one, of such people you can be assured you do not stand along. I have stood in your shoes, felt what you have felt, and cried when you can't help but cry. Yes, there is an answer. I know because I found it. Each of us at Cornerstone who writes these articles has met your criteria and found the answer, and just as the disciple Paul revealed to the men of Athens so very long ago, "What you worship as something unknown I am going to proclaim to you." Acts 17:23. Paul told those dedicated idol worshipers of Jesus Christ, and men believed. I tell you personally, thousands of years later, the name is still and always will be Jesus Christ.

Christ is more to you and I than an empty word. A word can't change things, Christ does. Every week, one of our articles is published because we are dedicated to sharing with you the life raft that saved us from drowning in empty substitutes, such as drinking, casual sex, and drugs for that inner hunger. What happens after the high or the substitutes wears off? It's consequences? They are not too pretty. They have a way of shredding morale and self respect and self esteem.. Things like youth, beauty, money, being asked to the right parties, keeping the smile pasted on right, well it's harder and harder to hang onto as a buffer against loneliness, isolation and sometimes despair.

For me to say that to my brothers and sisters requires an enormous expenditure from me of "tough love," and I'm not good at using that method to offer you my free life raft, bearing the name of Jesus Christ, the son of God and the savior of the whole world. I can only do this, and probably only this one time, because you mean so much to me, and I know how you feel! I know just as Christ changed my life from emptiness to fullness and joy, he is waiting right now to do the very same thing for each and every one of you. Not only is his gift of himself to you free, but he also gives to you a freedom you have never in your wildest dreams imagined. Freedom in Christ is freedom indeed!

I am a Christian, and I know beyond a shadow of a doubt that loves me just as I am, warts and all, unconditionally and everlastingly, that my sins are forgiven, my eternal life has begun, and nothing and no one can ever change one word I have just written. All of this is waiting for you also. Our worship services are at 10:30 a.m., and 6:00 p.m. Sundays. Come and know the truth and proof for yourself, we want to share with you the pathway to real life found. Jesus, who towers above all earthly substitutes. "He came to give you life, and that you might have it more abundantly." John 10:10. See you Sunday!

[The views expressed in this column are those of the writer, and not necessarily reflect the views of the management and staff of The Observer.]

Politics

Continued from Page Five

under the Federal law, would be preempted in effect, and the religious organizations would not have to apply–follow them?

Chairman SENSENBRENNER . . . Federal law applies where Federal funds go, and state law does not apply. . . .

Mr. FRANK. So it would preempt state laws or allow them to–

Chairman SENSENBRENNER. It would allow them to ignore state laws when Federal–only Federal funds are used, but would not allow them to ignore state laws when state funds are used.

Mr. FRANK. What if there was a mix of Federal funds and private funds?

Chairman SENSENBRENNER. Then they could ignore state laws.

Annulling state and local sexual-orientation anti-discrimination laws was clearly intended by the bill's sponsors. At the mark-up, the Committee rejected on a party-line vote an amendment offered by Reps. Franks and Baldwin, to prohibit discrimination against beneficiaries "on any basis prohibited under applicable Federal, State, or local law." Debate made clear the Republican determination that religious organizations delivering Federal benefits must be allowed to refuse to hire individuals and deny them benefits on the basis of their sexual orientation, even where such discrimination is expressly prohibited by state and local laws.

The Frank-Baldwin amendment only sought to retain current anti-discrimination laws and protect them from preemption under H.R. 7. It did not seek to extend currently existing anti-discrimination protections. H.R. 7 as reported would compel states and localities to allow sexual-orientation discrimination in a religious organization's administering of Federal programs even where the citizens of that state and locality expressly voted to prohibit such discrimination.

Cornerstone Fellowship

2982 N. Geronimo
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Sunday School - 9:00 am
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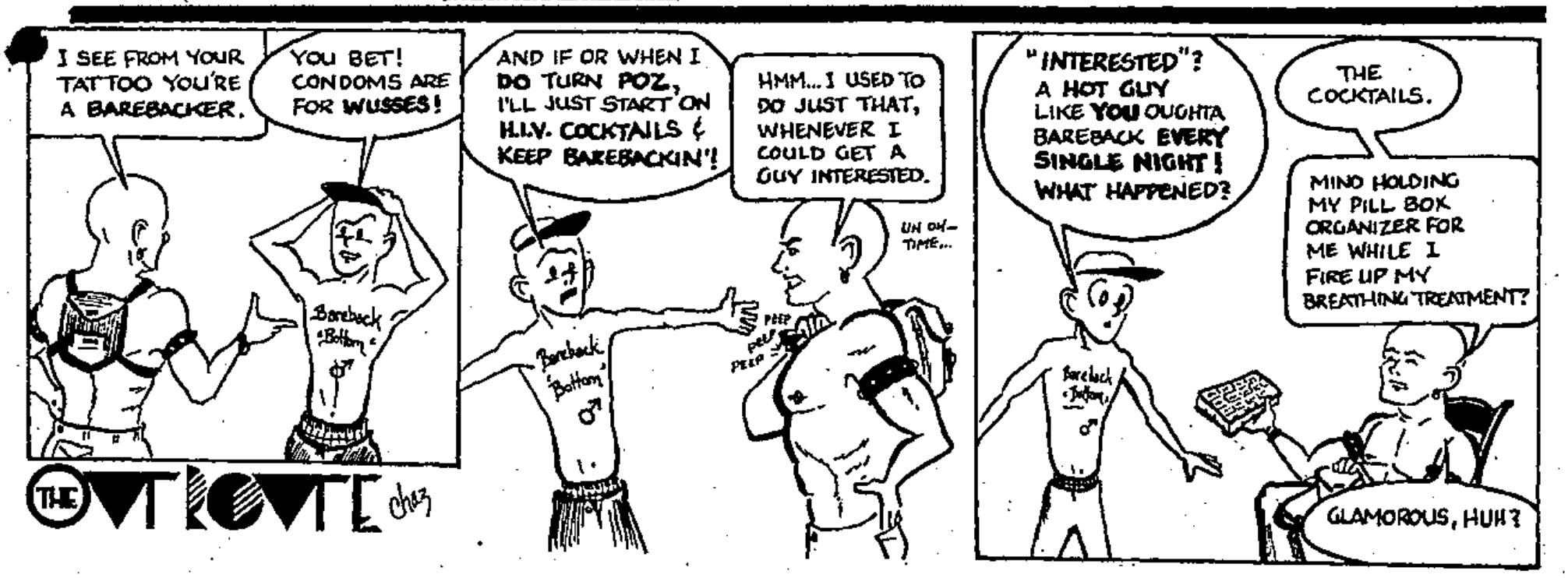

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SPORTS LINE

Sydney May Not Be Host To Gay Games 2002

SYDNEY, Australia - A memo leaked from the Federation of Gay Games suggests that there could be a "total forfeiture" of the 2002 Gay Games by Sydney or that the federation may transfer the Games to another city.

Since being pegged for the site of the 2002 event, Sydney has struggled to secure sponsorship--a principle sponsor has yet to be named--and has failed to get financial support from the state government. The memo, which was leaked to Los Angeles-based Outsports.com, states: "The serious nature of the present circumstances, with regard to Sydney 2002 Ltd. and the Gay Games, cannot be overestimated."

However, federation copresident Bill Wassmer told Outsports.com that the memo is outdated, having originally gone out two weeks ago, and that "things have changed" since it was sent. Geoffrey Williams, chief executive of Sydney 2002, "It's fair to say we're pretty unhappy with [the memo]. But it was more a feeling by [the federation] about the past situation."

Press Ignores Wimbledon Homophobia

LONDON, UK - Wimbledon men's champion Goran Ivanisevic has called a line judge at Wimbledon a "faggot."

During a press conference after his five-set victory against Patrick Rafter he told reporters, "Then I hit another second serve, huge. And that ball was on the line, was not even close. And that guy, he looks like a faggot little bit, you know. This hair all over him. He call it. I couldn't believe he did it."

The comment, which drew scattered laughter from the reporters in attendance, has received minimal coverage in the press. Only ESPN and the Los Angeles Times have covered the Ivanisevic incident in any depth. The official Wimbledon Web site carries a transcript of the interview, but the site's "streaming media" video of the interview has been edited to remove the offending comment, as well as a comment in which Ivanisevic called a female line judge an "ugly, ugly lady."

The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) has expressed outrage over the lack of coverage the sports media gave the remarks, 365Gay.com reported.

"GLAAD is concerned that an athlete can casually drop a word like 'faggot' in a high-profile media interview and not only is there very little media coverage of his comment, but several reporters in the room can be heard laughing at it," said GLAAD spokesman Scott Seomin.

"If Ivanisevic had used the 'N-word' to refer to a linesman, I doubt that press reaction would have been this muted. I hope the media do not have a double-standard when responding to or reporting on public expressions of bigotry," he said.

This is not the first time Ivanisevic has used such language.

At the Masters Series in Indian Wells, Calif., earlier this year, a reporter asked Ivanisevic if breaking a racket is mostly in the wrist. Ivanisevic responded: "Hey, sometimes I watch the TV, and then I see the guys when they throw the rackets. They throw it like a faggot, you know. They throw it not to throw it."

Salvation Army Meetings

Continued from page One

House to move on a regulation that would exempt government-funded religious charities from state and local laws Gay anti-bias laws.

The charity's report connected the administration's help on the regulation to the Salvation Army's commitment of up to $1 million in lobbying fees directed at boosting Congressional support for Bush's "faith-based" initiative, which seeks to broaden federal funding of religious charities.

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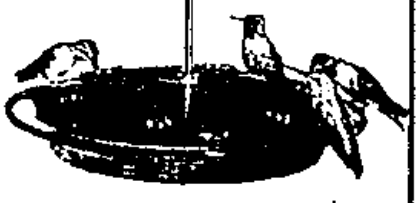
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Non-Bar Calendar

Groups / Clubs / Organizations

THURSDAY, JULY 19

Poz Cafe Monthly Luncheon- providing a delicious lunch, along with friendship, games and social activities. Open to all HIV+ adults and one adult guest (partner, family, friend or volunteer respecting confidentiality/privacy concerns). Doors open at 11:30 - complimentary lunch is served at Noon - and games, crafts and social time until 2:30. Located at St. Francis in the Foothills United Methodist Church, a Gay-friendly church at the corner of River and Swan. RESERVATIONS REQUESTED. To reserve your space or request transportation, call the TIHAN office at 299-6647 by Monday, July 16.

AIDS 101 and Volunteer Orientation at Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) 375 S. Euclid from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Free. Call 628-7223 to register.

FRIDAY, JULY 20

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 50-75 really nice guys. The pool is also open. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-9565.

SATURDAY, JULY 21

Q-West Wireless Cellular invites you to a carwash to benefit Salud Es Poder (Latino Men's Health Project) 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at 5048 N. Oracle Road (Oracle and River Roads, behind Denny's). $3.00 donation. Check out the cell phone 1¢ special. Refreshments and munchies while you wait. Call 628-7223 ext 248 for more info.

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 9:00 a.m. Bill hosts another organizational meeting for the sports teams. Bill is looking to start up gay softball/volleyball/rugby. For more information, please contact Bill at 297-3569.

#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): 5:00 p.m. Jack hosts a free class in making stained glass wind chimes. You'll be given the material you need and all the instructions to help you take home your very own work of art. The class is limited to 14 students so early calls are advised. For more information, please contact Jack at 745-8844.

Are you a little Country and a little Rock 'N Roll then come out for an evening of dancing to taday's hot couantry and the best classic rock and pop hits. NOTICE: The site has been changed to the Best Western Executive Inn, 333 W. Drachman (on the curve) at 6:00 p.m. Parking and entrance also available behind the bitsing. Full service bar available. Door Prizes, Air Conditioning. $10.00 per person at the door. This is a Gay/Gay Friendly event. Must be 21 or older. You can get a special Low, Low room rate if you want to stay overnight! This is another 'Something Special' event.

SUNDAY, JULY 22

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:30 a.m. Join Jim for a morning of birding in cool Madera Canyon. One goal is to spot the elusive Trogon. Please call Jim at 629-0766 for more details.

Miss Gay Arizona America Pageant 2002 takes place at 7:00 p.m. at the Innsuites Hotel, 475 N. Granada. General admission $15 in advance, $20 at the door. Tickets are available from Larry Moore (aka Lucinda Holliday) 327-1576 or at Unique on Central in Phoenix at 4700 N. Central. (602)279-9691.

MONDAY, JULY 23

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join us as we get out our monthly 10-page newsletter. It simple, and you get a chance to meet new guys as we assemble the newsletter. The work goes quickly, and is usually done with 45 minutes. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-9565.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 8:00 p.m. Join us for the classic comedy "Some Like It Hot", which was recently named by the American Film Institute as the funniest comedy ever made. Come see if you agree. For reservations and directions, please call Les at 690-9565.

TUESDAY, JULY 24

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 Terry at 577-3545.

SATURDAY, JULY 28

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 8:00 a.m. Bill will be hosting a recreational softball/volleyball/rugby practice. For more information, please call Bill at 297-3569.

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

BAR CALENDAR

OF UPCOMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18

IBT'S - 9:00 P.M. "The Girlie Show" hosted by Lucinda Holliday and featuring Mr. Kenneth Blake, Janee Starr and Adrienne Alexander.

THURSDAY, JULY 19

VENTURE-N - Leather & Uniform Night! 7:00 p.m. to closing $2.00 Well and Domestic for men in leather or uniform. From 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. You can bring your own meat or buy it here and they will grill it and provide the side dishes.

FRIDAY, JULY 20

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Hip Hop Friday. $1.00 Puckers or $1.75 MGD or MGD Light all night long. DJ Hill from 9:00 til closing.

WOODY'S - Tucson Greater Softball Assn. Volleyball Fund Raiser Pre-Registration Party 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 21

IBT'S - Miss Gay Arizona-America pre-Pageant show, featuring Lucinda Holliday with Miss Gay Arizona 2001 Phaedra, Miss Gay America 2001 Charity Case and Maya Montana, Miss Gay America 1999! 8:30 p.m.

WOODY'S - Tucson Greater Softball Assn. Fund Raiser Volleyball Tournament 9:00 a.m. Fund Raiser Bar-B-Que 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 22

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 The Tucson Aces softball team. 10:00 p.m. Miss Gay Arizona America Post Pageant Party.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25

IBT'S - "Puttin' On The Lips" Lipsinc Contest hosted by Lucinda Holliday and Bunny FuFu. $50 first place prize. Sign up by calling Lucinda at 327-1576.

SATURDAY, JULY 28

IBT'S - 5th Annual Grey Eagle Arm Wrestling Contest. Fundraiser for TIHAN. Pick up your wrestling packets now at IBT's, Yard Dog, Woody's or Venture-N.

SUNDAY, JULY 29

IBT'S - A gala party to celebrate IBT's Anniversary. Watch for more info on this big party.

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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.

WOODY'S - Open Noon. Dart tournament 3pm. Happy Hour 3-7pm. Patio Bar open 5-close. Pick-up Volleyball games 5-?. $2.50 sirloin burger or chicken 5-9pm. 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. Kennel open daily at 5pm.

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 6pm, 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 Kennel open daily at 5pm.

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. Tea'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 Kennel open daily at 5pm.

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. Shirtless Volleyball games start 7pm. $1.50 well drinnks for shirtless players and spectators. Patio bar open 7pm-Midnight..

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am.50¢ off any Vodka until 7pm Kennel open daily at 5pm.

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.

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 Kennel open daily at 5pm.

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.

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. Kennel open daily at 5pm.

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 75¢ drafts, $1.75 pitchers from 3 to 7pm

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. Kennel open 5pm

CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE .25 PER WORD $5.00 MINIMUM

CLASSIFIED ADS MUST BE MAILED NO PHONE ADS

NOTICES

TUCSON INTERFAITH HIV/AIDS NETWORK (TIHAN), a coalition of faith communities commited 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 325-6878 or 327-4293.

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

GRACE GROUP - CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 2nd and 4th Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the Madonna Hall at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 1436 N. Campbell across from University Hospital. For more info. Call Ernie Slaight 721-2003.

SMART (Self Management And Recovery Training) a free non-12-step self-help alternative for people working to overcome addictive and other emotional problems meets in Tucson Monday thru Thursdays at different locations. For more information about SMART, contact Brenda at 884-6920, Ext.448 or Emmett 322-6057 (evelten@ix.netcom.com)

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

OUTLOUD! Tucson's premiere Local Lesbian and Gay Radio Show, broadcast every Wednesday at 6:03 pm on 91.3 FM, Community Radio KXCI. The show "This Way Out", a nationally syndicated Lesbian and Gay radio show is aired at 5:30 pm every Wednesday.

THEATER / DINNER / ETC! Non-Smoking Lesbian Network meets every 3rd Saturday night of each month. If you'd like to meet women 35+ (flexible) and socialize in a smoke-free environment 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

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

ARIZONA AIDS POLICY ALLIANCE (AZAPA) seeks to educate legislators and citizens about sound AIDS policy. For more information write AZAPA, 6523 N. 14th St., #112, Phoenix, AZ 85014 or call 602-279-4805.

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

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

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

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

TUCSON CATHOLIC GAY & LESBIAN FAMILY MINISTRY. Currently meeting the 4th Monday of every month at SS Peter & Paul Church, Madonna Hall 7:30 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. Fr. Fiedler in attendance every meeting and willing to speak one on one. Reaching out to Parents and Families. For more info call Doc or Barbara 293-6624.

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.

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.

[illegible] Website URL http://www.[illegible]arizona.org - e-mail address: algoodrum@uswest.net or.

NOTICES

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

LESBIAN AND GAY AL-ANON - Affected by someone's drinking? Meeting every Tuesday 6.45 to 9:45 p.m. at Lambda Center, 2940 E. Thomas, Phoenix. Ellie 581-8850 or Ronn 968-2384.

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

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

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.

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

GAY & LESBIAN SPIRITUALITY GROUP of St. Phillips In the Hills Episcopal Church meets first and third Mondays. Call David, 323-7942 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. #385, Tucson, AZ 85719.

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

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

SOFTBALL - For info on the Tucson Greater Softball Association T.G.S.A., please contact. Mary 770-8979 or Bertie 318-3415.

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

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

ARE YOU GAY OR BISEXUAL AND UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE? The Gay Young Men's Project is now looking for volunteers for the project. We need people who want to help create a positive social change for young Gay men as well as reduce the risk for HIV infection. For more information please call 628-7223.

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

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

COMMUNITY BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (CBA), Tucson's Gay and Lesbian business networking group holds regular meetings the third Thursday of every month. Call 615-6436 for more info.

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

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

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

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

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION (SAAF) [illegible] for persons with [illegible] HIV. Anonymous HIV testing and support groups available. Prevention education programs. 628-SAAF (7223). World wide web: http://www.saaf.org. VOLUNTEERS WELCOME.

NOTICES

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. 322-5855. 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.

LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP. Involving discussion, support and activities. Designed to support each other. Meets 1st & 3rd Saturday of each month from 9:30 to 11am. Alternate Saturdays the group meets for social activities. For info call Dorian 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 575-8660 or write P.O. Box 38264, Tucson, AZ 85740-8264. 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.

HOUSING/FOR RENT

2 BEDROOM ADOBE HOUSE with living room, dining room, kitchen and bath. Completely redecorated plus new carpeting. Has covered deck and green- house. Fenced yard. Speedway/Alvernon area. $550/mo., $100 dep. Available Aug. 1. For appointment call Bill 795-8881. 886

FOR RENT - 1 bedroom, one bath from $360 to $450. Water paid, all with tile floors. Located in historic Armory Park Neighborhood. Wrought iron security fence, off-street parking, common open area. Laundry facilities, and all with A/C, $500 deposit and refrances required. Sorry, no dogs. Call 628-8725 to see them. 887

ROOMMATES

HOUSEMATE - 2 bedroom duplex near the U and bus stops. $300/mo. Utilities paid except phone. NO DEPOSITS. First and last months rent. Non-smoker. Washer & dryer. Off the stret parking. Will cook breakfast and dinner. Let's discuss it. Available August 1st. Call Bob at 982-6956 or 903-1800. 888

FOR SALE

MUST SEE TO APPRECIATE. 1950s turquoise & yellow Dinette Table with 4 chairs; 10 piece rattan Living Room Set; Wrought iron patio dining set; Great Oak High Boy. All graciously used. Jean's Furniture. 325-9494

WANTED

WANTED FOR LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE! Must have experience and references. A client has a 5-acre residential property in the mid-Tucson area with irrigated trees and hedges, etc. (No lawns) and needs a reliable, goodwork-ethic oriented, part-time (about 6 to10 hours a week) person who will be around for awhile. Contact: Jef Matthews; Long Realty, 444-5333 Cell #; 884-5000 - Office #; or matthews@longrealty.com 888

PROFESSIONAL, COMMITTED COUPLE seeking 2/3 bedroom house with fenced back yard (a must for our two pups). Looking to relocate to Tucson mid-July early August. Please e-mail: landr001@odu.edu

SERVICES

NEW YORK TRAINED. DEEP RELAXATION MASSAGE. I'll work out your kinks. 10 years experience. Centrally located. In & Out calls. Greg Stickroth, 401-8580 890

RELAXING RUBDOWN. 1 Hour. Reasonable rate. 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. Wed.-Sun. Call Carl: 358-2167 888

CONSCIOUS CONTACT. Swedish-Style full body massage. Relaxation, stress, tension release. In-home, hotels, resorts. 7-days/evenings. Call John, LMT, 490-4962 888

TENSE? STRESSED OUT? Relax for an hour with a Full Body Rub by Frank. Private studio, off-street parking. 271-3860 days, evenings. 889

FEEL NEW QUALITY IN YOUR LIFE WITH WONDERFUL TANTRIC MASSAGE. 20 YEARS gentle healing experience integrating body & spirit for your awareness. Marc, 881-4582. 887

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. $35 888

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

A SPECIAL TOUCH. Full body massage with complete relaxation. Young and professional. In/out calls. 7 days. Joe, CMT, 617-0837 888

MASSAGE FOR MEN: Swedish full body. For one hour of professional bodywork. Call Marvin for appointment, 299-9651, $35 888

FULL BODY ORIENTAL MASSAGE. Experience the difference. By Appointment only. 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Call Danny Chong 481-0803 887

COME BACK TO BLISS. Experience a message steeped in rich tradition combining ancient, sacred and intimate healing techniques. Strong, yet gentle hands work with your complete comfort in mind. In & Out, Days & Evenings, sometimes at a moment's notice. Call Glen, CMT 907-2551 for the touch you so richly deserve. Experienced, professional, and kind ... not bad looking either! 891

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Let me keep your clothes fitting properly and in good repair. Experienced -- Economical -- Prompt. Merle Hudson, 888-7264 in Tucson. 890

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Trainer Code: [illegible]178

MISS GAY ARIZONA AMERICA 2002

7:00PM SUNDAY
JULY 22, 2001

INNSUITES HOTELS

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