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Napolitano To Be Honored At AHRF Tucson Event March 19

By Mark R. Kerr

TUCSON (ON) - Arizona Attorney General Janet Napolitano has been selected as this year's honoree at the annual Arizona Human Rights Fund (AHRF) Tucson event, Tuesday, March 19, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Tucson Botanical Gardens, 2150 N. Alvernon.

Organizers of the event said Napolitano is being honored for her commitment to Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) issues and support for equality for all Arizonans as Attorney General.

"Janet is honored to get the award and has fought for all Arizonans and will continue to do so," said Kris Mayes, Communications Director for Napolitano's gubernatorial campaign. "She is looking forward to being there for the event."

During her term, some of Napolitano's accomplishments include introducing a state employment nondiscrimination rights measure, sponsoring legislation to expand the state's civil rights law to cover "sexual orientation," and assisting in the effort to get Arizona's 100-year-old, archaic blue-laws, dealing with cohabitation and sodomy off the books.

Giving an award to an elected official for their efforts is only part of the program for the statewide GLBT rights organization annual event in the Old Pueblo.

Dilia Loe, AHRF's Executive Director said the organization looks forward to interacting with Tucson's GLBT populace, who according to Loe, have accomplished a lot in the effort in the fight for equality, for which she cited the work of the City's GLBT Commission and one of their numerous successes, getting the city's human relation's ordinance language updated and expanded to cover "gender identity," making Tucson one of the first governmental bodies in the nation to do so.

Loe said that this event, which drew 175 GLBT Tucsonans, plus local elected officials, gives AHRF "a wonderful opportunity to hear from Tucsonans on issues of concern to them."

In addition to the interaction, discussion and the award's presentation, officials from AHRF will talk about what the group does, and their successes, helping to get passage of legislation, repealing 100 year-old, archaic blue-laws, dealing with sodomy and cohabitation, paving the way for same-sex couples who are eligible, to take certain income tax deductions which

had eluded them due to the archaic law's being on the books.

It is through this event, that AHRF's Tucson chapter has expanded its membership lists, and is the intention of AHRF's Tucson Board, which offers the following membership levels:

Student - \$15; Voter - \$25; Committee - \$50; Legislative - \$100; Governor - \$300; Cabinet - \$600; President - \$1200. According to organizers, memberships above \$100 can be considered couple members and will include the partner's name.

For more information about this event, call (520) 990-5161 or (602) 650-0900. If you are interested in joining but can't attend the event, make checks payable to "AHRF" and send them to AHRF, P.O. Box 3512, Tucson, AZ 85722.

Court Blocks Lesbian Adoption

LINCOLN, NE (WS) - The Nebraska supreme court blocked a Lesbian's attempt to adopt her partner's child, dodging the question of whether Gay and Lesbian couples have the right to adopt children in Nebraska.

The court ruled in the case of a Lincoln Lesbian who wants her lover to be able to adopt her 3-year-old son. The two women were joined in a commitment ceremony in 1995. Such ceremonies are not recognized as marriages in Nebraska. Voters last year approved a measure to keep same-sex unions from being legally recognized.

The boy, named Luke in court papers, was born in 1997. His mother became pregnant through artificial insemination. The boy has lived with his mother and her lover since birth. The boy's mother also has custody of another son, a 9-year-old, from a previous marriage.

In the ruling the court said that the boy's mother has not relinquished her parental rights, thus making the boy ineligible for adoption by anyone except the mother's legal spouse. "We conclude that with the exception of the stepparent adoption, the parent or parents possessing existing parental rights must relinquish the child" before an adoption can take place, the unsigned opinion said.

In a strongly worded dissent, Judge John Gerrard said the "dispositive issue in this case is whether Nebraska law

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GL Survivors Not Assured Federal Sept. 11 Funds

WASHINGTON, DC - Gay and Lesbian families impacted by the September 11 terrorist attacks are not being guaranteed fair treatment according to the final draft of the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund, say rights advocates.

Concerns were expressed in early November that Attorney General John Ashcroft's Justice Department would use a restrictive definition of spouse and make compensation available to married family members only.

Rights groups urged that other criteria be given careful consideration and pointed to the actions taken by New York Governor George Pataki. On October 11, Pataki ordered the state of New York to include factors that identified and included Gay and Lesbian partners and families in compensation funds administered by the state.

Organizations like the Pride Agenda and the Human Rights Campaign have since been pressing since for the adoption of written rules stipulating how the Justice Department planned to handle Gay survivor claims on the federal level. Rights groups warned that without such guidelines Gay families would be unfairly denied assistance.

Kenneth Feinberg, who is overseeing management of the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund, is on record as wanting to "abide by existing law" in processing such claims, though he offered

assurances that partners listed in-victim wills and named as beneficiaries could file and would likely receive some federal compensation.

This gave hope to many that the funds would be handled in a non-discriminatory manner. But with no mention of Gay families appearing in the final document, community groups now express concern that Feinberg may seek cover behind the letter of the law and do little for undocumented Gay families.

These concerns have been heightened by Feinberg's appearance on NBC's "Meet the Press." Asked by host Tim Russert what assistance same-sex spouses could expect, Feinberg was evasive.

"I cannot get into a position in this program...[to] start second-guessing what the state of New York or the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or the state of Virginia or New Jersey... treat same-sex partners, domestic live-ins, etc. I simply say this: What does your state law say about who is eligible? If your state law makes you eligible, I will honor state law."

Chad Johnson of the National Stonewall Democrats said the final document was a disappointment and showed why civil rights laws are so important. "The final rules cruelly place Gay families in an unresolved state," he said. "These final rules highlight the need for state and federal laws that treat Gay and straight Americans equally."

Calif. Primary Yields Gay Victors

SACRAMENTO, CA - In the California primary, two Gay men and one Gay woman faced off for a state Assembly seat presently held by Lesbian Carole Migden, who is moving to the Board of Equalization due to term limits, reported the Gay.com/Planet-Out.com network.

Perhaps "only in San Francisco" is going too far, but there are very few places in the country where such a race could occur.

Supervisor Mark Leno claimed victory, edging out Harry Britt by 850 votes with a number of absentee ballots yet to count. According to the San Francisco Chronicle, Britt, a former supervisor who had left the political stage in 1992 after failing in a run for Congress in 1988. Two other candidates, including Lesbian Hollie Thier, were trailing.

Leno's nomination assures him the election in the heavily Democratic 13th District.

The contest between Leno and

Britt forced the GLBT community to choose between the progressive idealist Britt, and the hard-working Leno, who, among other accomplishments, led the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to pass Transgender benefits for city workers, including sex-reassignment surgery, last summer.

Britt, who has spent the last decade as a college teacher, won the backing of his old friend, Carole Migden, despite the fact that Leno and Migden worked closely on community issues.

And although Britt was a friend to the legendary Harvey Milk, it was Leno who evoked the martyred hero who was shot dead in his City Hall office (where he was the first Gay man to serve on the Board of Supervisors). "It was a dream of Harvey Milk," Leno told his supporters, "that one day a Gay man would serve in the state Assembly. We're going to Sacramento!"

According to the Chronicle, Leno will become one of the first two Gay male

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UPDATE

Stonewall Democrats Meeting March 18

TUCSON - In 2001, a number of individuals came together to form a Pima County chapter of Arizona Stonewall Democrats, with an aim toward becoming an independent organization for Tucson/Southern Arizona.

Over the past couple of months, a core committee has been busily working on formalizing bylaws and the organizational structure necessary for an independent group. We are pleased to announce that Southern Arizona Stonewall Democrats is now an officially registered 501(c)4 organization. We have also affiliated with National Stonewall Democrats. Our focus will be on action for local candidates and issues of interest to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender community, with an eye on national issues of interest.

Monday, March 18, at 7:00 p.m., will be the first meeting of our own Southern Arizona Stonewall Democrats! The meeting will be held at Pima County Democratic Party Headquarters, 2617 E. Broadway (between Tucson Blvd. and Country Club, north side of the street). All registered Democrats, as well as supporters, are invited to attend.

There will be a presentation/introduction of the new organizational structure and discussion of the vision and goals for our immediate future. For additional information, please call Jesse George at (520) 743-4320, or Maurice Grossman at (520) 323-2293.

As this year's primary and general election season warms up, come be a part of our 2002 Campaign of Inclusion!

Reveille Concert March 15 - 16

TUCSON - Reveille Gay Men's Chorus premieres its first commissioned work, "Unwrapped Roads" on March 15-16, 8:00 p.m., at the Pima College Center for the Arts Proscenium Theater.

Unmapped Roads, composed by Ted Owens for Reveille, will be the featured work in Reveille's "The Sound of New Music" concert. In Unmapped Roads, Ted Owens has taken the poetry of Alberto Rios and created music at once powerful and haunting. It is the centerpiece of "The Sound of New Music" concert, which also features contemporary choral music by new and young composers.

Ted Owens is a composer and doctoral student at the UA School of Music. Alberto Rios is a much honored poet, a Tucsonan and Regents' Professor of Poetry at Arizona State University. Mr. Owens will participate in a discussion of his new work at Borders Books at Speedway and Wilmot on Saturday afternoon, March 16, before the concert. Both he and Mr. Rios will be honored at a post-concert reception after the Friday evening performance, and Mr. Owens will be present for a reception

following the Saturday concert.

Tickets are available at Desert Pride, Antigone's, Tucson Trunk, from chorus members, and through the Reveille phone line at (520) 617-3100. Credit cards are accepted. Tickets will also be sold at the door.

Information Sought In Phoenix Crimes

PHOENIX - In collaboration with the Phoenix Police Department and the AZ Hate Crimes Task Force, the Arizona Human Rights Fund, (AHRF) is seeking information on the homicide of Raymond Soos. Raymonds' body was found in the desert area near North Cave Road and East Jomax Road on Saturday, February 16, 2002, @ 7:02 am. Soos, a 24 year old Native American Gay male was last seen by his family Friday evening.

"The extensive injuries on Raymond's body are severe enough to call the question of whether this is a hate crime. The police department needs more information to solve this homicide," stated Dilia Loc, Executive Director of AHRF.

Contact the Silent Witness line (480) 948-6377. A \$1,000 cash reward has been posted for any information that will help solve this crime. Callers will remain anonymous.

More information is also sought for the homicide of Alejandro Ray Lucero, a Transgender male to female. Alejandro's body was found on March 3, 6:45 am in the alley near 18th St and Thomas Road.

In addition to these two crimes, AHRF has received information of an openly Lesbians high school student that was abducted and beaten by other students as she left her school.

"We are concerned about the increase of bias or hate crimes in the area. We caution the community to be mindful of their surroundings. AHRF staff continues to work closely with the police departments throughout the state. In addition, we are lobbying for the passage of a bill that would include misdemeanors in the established hate crimes law," states Loc.

Please contact Kirk Baxter at AHRF, (602) 650-0900, for questions or comments. More information will be posted on the AHRF website as it is reported - www.ahrf.org

Dr. Robert Minor To Conduct Workshop April 28

PRESCOTT - Dr. Robert Minor, a Religious Studies Professor at the University of Kansas, author of "Scared Straight, Why it's so Hard to Accept Gay People and Why it's so Hard to be Human," published in 2001, will be in Prescott.

Dr. Minor will be visiting Prescott

College April 26-28 to do several workshops with the faculty and student body of the college. He will stay an extra day to do 1-2 workshops for the GLBT community on Sunday, April 28 - very likely workshops on Homophobia and Coming Out. Our program, Tri-County Men's Health will be co-sponsoring the event, hopefully along with other interested organizations.

For information please E-mail robert@nazmenshealth.org.

Helms Returns To Old Anti-Gay Ground

WASHINGTON, DC - Sen. Jesse Helms issued a pointed clarification to comments he made last month before a Christian AIDS group in which he expressed regret for doing so little about the global spread of HIV and AIDS.

Helms said his comments were directed to those suffering in sub-Saharan Africa and not to domestic AIDS issues in the United States. "If it had extended to them, I would have said so," Helms said. "That conference was about AIDS in Africa."

Helms repeated his February conference pledge to direct more attention and funding to the AIDS crisis in Africa, but he said his views hadn't changed about funding priorities in the U.S.

"We're taking so much money away from scientists looking into heart problems and other medical defects of humanity and dumping it into research on AIDS," he said.

Helms also took a moment to slam Gay people with HIV, saying, "I don't have any idea on changing my views on that kind of activity, which is the primary cause of the doubling and redoubling of AIDS cases in the United States," Helms said.

"It seemed too good to be true, and I guess it was," Jacquelyn Clymore of the Alliance of AIDS Services in Raleigh told Newsday. "His compassion for the people in Africa is commendable. It's too bad he doesn't have the same compassion for his own people."

Former Florida Lawmakers Backtrack On G/L Adoption Ban

MIAMI, FL (WS) - Several of the former state legislators who helped pass Florida's ban on adoptions by Gay men and Lesbians nearly 25 years ago now say their decision was wrong.

Nine former members of the Florida house and senate signed a written statement that reads, "In 1977 we were among the state legislators who helped pass Florida's law prohibiting Gay people from adopting children. We now realize that we were wrong. This discriminatory law prevents children from being adopted into loving, supportive homes--and we hope it will be overturned."

"The hysteria of the times led us to do the wrong thing," said Elaine Bloom, a former member of the house from Miami who voted in favor of the ban in 1977. Bloom, who helped the American Civil Liberties Union and Equality Florida approach her former colleagues to sign the statement, recalled that Anita Bryant's antiGay crusade was at its peak just as the Gay adoption ban was being voted on by the legislature.

"Now that this law has been repu-

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Informing the Community
The Observer

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Vatican Threatens Gay Purge Of Priesthood

VATICAN CITY - Conservatives in the Roman Catholic church sought to declare war on Gay clergy, vowing to purge its ranks of Gay priests in the wake of Boston's sex abuse scandals.

Joaquin Navarro-Valls, the chief spokesman for Pope John Paul II, told The New York Times that better psychological screening and revamped training in church seminaries -- reforms offered by liberals in the church -- would do little to solve the problem. The solution, he said, is to make the church "less welcoming" of Gays.

"People with these inclinations just cannot be ordained," Navarro-Valls said of Gay people. "That does not imply a final judgment on people with homosexuality," he said, "But you cannot be in this field."

Priests who support this view tried to make clear they were not suggesting that Gays were any more likely to be pedophiles. But they said that most of the sex abuse cases, like the one in Boston, involved a Gay priest and an adolescent teen, and thus did not fit the classic definition of pedophilia.

Church scholars who study sexuality and the priesthood said any effort to bar them would lead to a dramatic reduction in the number of priests in the United States.

A. W. Richard Sipe, a former priest and psychotherapist, told the Boston Globe: "If they were to eliminate all those who were homosexually oriented, the number would be so staggering that it would be like an atomic bomb; it would do the same damage to the church's operation..."

"It would mean the resignation of at least a third of the bishops of the world," said Sipe, who has been studying the sexuality of priests for 25 years and written three books on the subject. "And it's very much against the tradition of the church; many saints had a Gay orientation, and many popes had Gay orientations. Discriminating against orientation is not going to solve the problem."

Cardinal Bernard F. Law, who has been under pressure to resign over his handling of cases in the Boston archdiocese, came to Rome six weeks ago and met with the pope privately. Until recently, Law was considered the Vatican's favorite

American cardinal, but given the scandal, that is doubtless no longer the case.

Sipe told the Globe he estimates about half of all priests are honoring their vows of celibacy. He said his studies have shown that "over twice as many priests are involved with adult women as with boys" and stressed that Gay priests don't violate their celibacy any more than straight priests do.

Numerous scholars though out the years have attempted to estimate the percentage of priests who are Gay. There is very little consensus beyond the assertion the number of Gay priests vastly exceeds the percentage of Gay men in the general population.

"At issue at the beginning of the 21st century is the growing perception, one seldom contested by those who know the priesthood well, that the priesthood is, or is becoming, a Gay profession," said the Rev. Donald Cozzens in his book "The Changing Face of the Priesthood."

Several studies have concluded that about half of priests and seminarians are Gay, Cozzens wrote. He wrote that the number of Gay priests is so high seminaries have become increasingly uncomfortable places for straight men.

Cozzens said Navarro-Valls's comments were a disappointment. "This statement is a significant spiritual setback for the many fine Catholic seminarians and priests who are Gay that I've had the privilege of working with. Their interior life must be rocked by this, and we're talking about a good number of priests and seminarians."

Author Eugene Kennedy, a former priest, echoed Cozzens' remarks. "To say that these men should be kept from the priesthood is in itself a challenge to the grace of God and an insult to them and the people they serve. The church has not only many Gay priests, but many Gay bishops, and they are some of the most wonderful priests I've known."

In the past 15 years, the Vatican has repeatedly pushed American bishops to take tougher stands against Gays and has disciplined priests and theologians who have questioned church teachings on homosexuality.

fort" with the Lesbian relationship should be irrelevant when it comes to the child's best interests.

Florida is the only state with a law barring any homosexual from adopting. Utah and Mississippi do not allow same-sex couples to adopt but have no prohibition against adoptions by Gay individuals.

Florida Adoption Ban

Continued from Page Two

diated by some of the very people who helped pass it, there should be no question that it's time to get rid of it," said Howard Simon, executive director of the ACLU of Florida. Nadine Smith, executive director of Gay rights group Equality Florida, added, "These former legislators have shown courage and leadership in stepping forward to right this wrong. Is there anyone left who can seriously defend this law?"



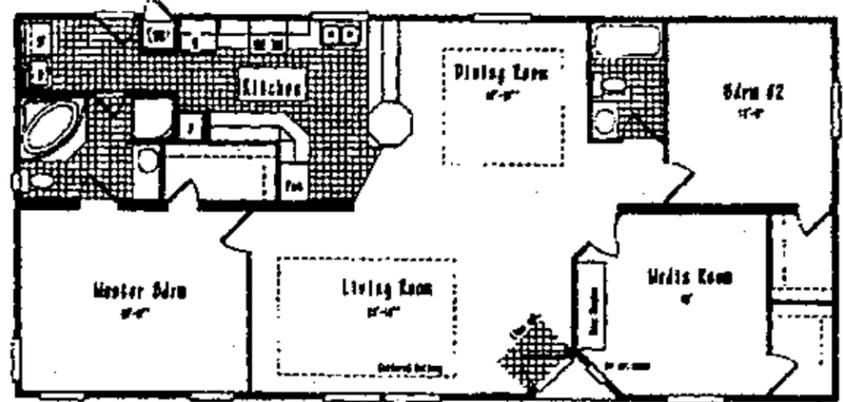
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Court Blocks

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permits a second-parent adoption when the adoptive parent is not married to the minor child's biological parent. I believe that it does," Gerrard said requiring the mother to relinquish her parental rights "appears to leave the door open" for the women to proceed with the adoption, "but only by virtue of an unwieldy and illogical process."

Deputy attorney general Steve Grasz conceded that the ruling does not necessarily say that a Gay couple could not adopt a child whose parent or parents already have relinquished parental rights. "That question was left open," he said. Amy Miller, a lawyer with the American Civil Liberties Union, agreed. She said the ACLU has not decided whether to ask the court to rehear the case. "But I can tell you that in order to provide a safe and secure life for their son, our clients are now considering whether they will move from Nebraska to a state where there is more concern for the best interests of the child," she said. Miller said the state's "discrim-

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High Incidence Of HPV In Gay Men

WASHINGTON, DC - A recent study released by the Centers of Disease Control suggests that a high percentage of Gay men may be infected with genital human papillomavirus or HPV, a sexually transmitted disease linked to cancer.

The results of the study were released at an annual conference on STD issues. CDC researchers examined the medical records of 83 Gay and Bisexual men, surveyed from 1988 to 1994. Of the men, 38 percent were infected by HPV type 16, which has been linked to half of all cervical cancer cases.

TUCSON PART OF STUDY

Another study examined 349 men, Gay and straight, who attended an STD clinic in Tucson, Arizona. Nearly 1 in 3 (32 percent) tested positive for HPV; the rate was lower among those who were sexually monogamous, used condoms or avoided anal intercourse. HPV often has no symptoms, although it may cause warts in the genital area.

Researchers are very interested in possible links between HPV and anal cancer in Gay men. Dr. Hunter H. Handsfield, director of the King County public health department's STD Control Program in Seattle suggested anal cancer is as common

in Gay men as cervical cancer was in women.

"It's an area of very active research," Handsfield said. "A certain amount of emotionality has arisen around it. Some advocates for Gay men's health believe that Gay men ought to be having annual Pap smears."

The common procedures known as Pap smears detect the presence of pre-cancerous cells in women and can do the same thing for men. Even so, Handsfield said more research needs to be done before anal Pap smears become a routine part of medical examinations for Gay men.

Among other related findings, the CDC reported 14 percent of Gay men who know what barebacking (condomless intercourse) is acknowledged that they engaged in it during the last two years. The study, by the CDC, defined barebacking as intentional unprotected anal sex with a man who is not a partner.

Of those, HIV-positive men were more likely (22 percent) to engage in barebacking than HIV-negative men (10 percent). The barebackers said they don't use condoms because they want better physical stimulation and a heightened emotional connection.

Egyptian Visit To U.S. Sparks Protests

WASHINGTON, DC - Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's visit to Washington was met with angry protests from human rights protesters furious over Egypt's senseless crackdown on Gay people.

Demonstrators from Amnesty International and Al-Fatiha, a Gay Arabic organization, handed out leaflets condemning Mubarak and the Egyptian government for the wrongful arrest and imprisonment of Gay Egyptians.

The protesters also condemned the Bush Administration for failing to raise human rights concerns in a meeting with Mubarak and for attaching no conditions to a recent multi-billion dollar aid package. A recent state visit Mubarak made to France was met with similar protests.

"Our President met with the Egyptian President on the very day that the State Department released a devastating report about Egypt's human rights record," said Sharon Burke of Amnesty International USA. "And yet the issue apparently never even came up."

Burke was referring to the State Department's annual Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2001. The report acknowledges the "Cairo 52" case, in which an Egyptian State Security Emergency court sentenced 23 allegedly homosexual men to prison terms ranging from one to five years.

Teen Found Guilty In Gay Murder

WICHITA, KS (WS) - A teenager has been found guilty of severely beating and helping set a fire that killed a 58-year-old man who had made sexual advances toward his friend.

A Sedgwick County jury deliberated about four hours before finding Brandon Boone, 17, guilty of first-degree murder in the death of Marcell Eads. He was also convicted of aggravated arson, aggravated robbery, and aggravated burglary.

Boone is the second person to be

"We have documented a growing pattern of arrests and sham trials in Egypt, of people suspected of homosexuality," stated Scott Long, Program Director at the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC).

"At the same time, the United States government has rewarded Egypt with a multi-billion dollar aid package," Long said. "How will our government now translate its own human rights report into action?"

In other news, Five Egyptian men were convicted Monday, March 11, of engaging in Gay sex and sentenced to three years in prison with hard labor plus three years' probation, judicial officials said. The Nile Delta Misdemeanor Court found the men, whose names have not been released, guilty of debauchery and running a house for Gay sex parties. They had pleaded guilty.

Islam prohibits homosexuality, and though it is not explicitly referred to in the Egyptian penal code, a wide range of laws covering obscenity, prostitution, and debauchery are applied to Gays in Egypt. Last year in Cairo, 52 men were tried on charges of immoral behavior and contempt of religion after police raided a Nile river boat nightclub and accused them of taking part in a Gay sex party. Twenty-three were convicted and sentenced to up to five years in prison. The rest were acquitted.

Eads's body was pulled from his burning Wichita home June 29. Although he had been badly beaten, an autopsy showed he died of smoke inhalation. A stereo and computer were missing from the home. Police said Steward and Boone had gone to Eads's home to retaliate for a sexual ad-

Boone is the second person to be convicted in Eads's death. Zachary Steward, 18, of Wichita, pleaded guilty in November to felony murder and aggravated robbery. Steward is serving a life sentence. Boone will be sentenced April 30.

New Report Outlines Risks To GLBT Families

WASHINGTON, DC - The rights and responsibilities granted to Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender families vary dramatically from state to state, county to county and often judge to judge - with no state providing equality under law, according to a new report released by the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) Foundation.

In the year after the enactment of civil unions in Vermont, some courts and state legislators began to engage in a new dialogue on the status of these families, and a few states have passed some limited new protections and benefits, according to "The State of the Family: Laws and Legislation Affecting Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Families." The report also shows just how vulnerable Gay and Lesbian families are without the security, benefits and protections afforded by civil marriage in American society.

"Gay and Lesbian families are living on a fault line," said Elizabeth Birch, HRC's executive director. "Even the most expensive and carefully crafted safety net leaves couples, parents and children vulnerable - and will continue to do so until the law catches up with the realities of the changing family."

In 2001, at least 86 bills addressing the rights and responsibilities of GLBT families were introduced in state legislatures, the report found. Of these, 69, or 80 percent, sought to extend protections while only 17, or 20 percent, sought to limit them. State legislatures enacted nine new laws in 2001, with all but two - Missouri and Michigan - being supportive of GLBT families. The states that passed supportive

laws were: Alabama, California, Hawaii, Maine, Maryland, Texas and Rhode Island, which passed two. Courts and/or legislatures in three additional states - Arkansas, Arizona and Minnesota - overturned sodomy laws, removing unnecessary restrictions on these families.

"We applaud the fair-minded state legislators and judges who have recognized that all families deserve equal protection and call upon their colleagues nationwide to follow their lead," said Seth Kilbourn, HRC's national field director. "As the report makes clear, however, we have a long road ahead of us as we strive to achieve civil marriage for Gay and Lesbian couples and establish some level of security - piece by piece - along the way."

One of the most comprehensive reports on the laws affecting GLBT families to date, "The State of the Family" ranks states and the District of Columbia on 14 indicators, including laws covering marriage, civil unions and domestic partnership; adoption and second-parent adoption; safe schools; discrimination; hate crimes and sodomy. The report found that no state provides full equality to GLBT families. The report found the 12 places that scored the highest are the District of Columbia, Vermont, California, Connecticut, New Jersey, Minnesota, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New York, New Hampshire, Oregon, and Washington. The lowest-scoring states - each earning 7 percent or less - were: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Idaho, Mississippi, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Utah and Virginia.

"Our hope is that this report will starkly demonstrate the inequality under law that Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender families face," said Lisa Bennett, who wrote the report and runs HRC FamilyNet, the most comprehensive resource on GLBT families. "America saw after September 11th how unprotected our relationships are under law. This report also makes clear how our children are also at risk. Given that the 2000 census found Gay and Lesbian couples live in 99.3 percent of all counties in America, we believe it is time that lawmakers grant these families the same rights and responsibilities that their heterosexual neighbors take for granted."

Among the inadequacies and inconsistencies in the laws affecting GLBT families, according to the report:

No state grants couples the right to marry and the more than 1,000 benefits and protections that come with it, while 36 states have passed laws explicitly prohibiting recognition of same-sex marriage.

Courts in 10 states have discriminated against same-sex parents who wish to adopt, while courts in 20 states have granted adoptions.

Many children of same-sex couples are permitted to have only one legal parent, making them vulnerable in times of sickness, a breakup or death of one of their parents.

Heterosexual workers are permitted to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave

to care for a seriously ill partner or family member but GLBT workers are not.

Gay and Lesbian employees pay Social Security taxes, but they are denied survivor benefits when a life partner dies.

Americans are not permitted to petition for same-sex partners to immigrate, forcing many to move to one of the 15 countries with more equitable immigration laws.

At the federal level, GLBT couples in loving, committed relationships - even when they share a home and income - are denied the basic rights and benefits given to other taxpayers. They can't file jointly. If a partner dies, the survivor must pay all estate taxes. If a Gay worker takes advantage of domestic partner benefits, he or she must pay federal income taxes on the value of that insurance - unlike married couples, who pay no such taxes. Lesbian and Gay workers pay Social Security taxes all of their lives, but when their partner dies, they receive no benefits. As a result, Gay and Lesbian Americans pay more than their fair share of taxes.

"People who work hard and pay their taxes shouldn't pay more than their fair share," said Winnie Stachelberg, HRC's political director. "Our tax system should be fair and treat all taxpayers equally."



SUNDAY PARTY LINE UP

10:00 am - 4:00 pm
\$1.50 BLOODY MARYS,
SCREWDRIVERS
& MIMOSAS

4:30 pm - 8:00 pm
Karaoke
With Billy Dee

New On Sundays
4:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Tea Dance
With DJ Chris

Sunday March 17th
7:30 PM Special
Benefit Show for
Katie
With Lucinda Holliday,
Aija Simone
And 13 Member Cast of
Tucson's Best Performers

Friday March 15th The Green Party

Special Guest DJ
Tim Outland

And Join Us
Sunday March 17th
St. Patricks Day

For Rodger's
Corn Beef
and Cabbage
5 - 8 PM

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POLITICS 2002
By Mark E. Day

'June 12'

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\$1.25 Draught Pitchers
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DJ Hill 8:30- Close
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Another week has come to 1700 West Washington, home of the Arizona Legislature, with the same result, the budget deficit and whether the state's long suffering workforce, should get their pay raise, which is shrinking even further as of press time. Conference committees have been named and will meet this week to try to resolve the situation and end the work stoppage of the second regular session of the 45th Arizona Legislature.

With this halt of legislative business, for more than three weeks, the threat of many bills getting derailed in the process since legislative deadlines for committee's to hear legislation are near or have passed is quickly becoming reality for this session, including the hate crimes bill (which was assigned to three House committee's to try to kill the measure by the homophobic House Speaker Jim Weters), a state employment nondiscrimination act, and the two measures setting up a statewide domestic partner's registry. These proposals would be "dead in the water" but thanks to the strike-everything amendment, they still have a chance to get through the legislative process, even during this turbulent session.

Despite the budget and the important measures that might not see the "light of day" or a committee hearing, there is a gathering storm on the horizon for the politicians, redistricting.

In 2000, Arizona voter's approved Proposition 106, a measure that set up an "Independent Redistricting Commission," a five-member panel that would draw the political boundaries for Arizona's seats in the U.S. House of Representatives and Arizona's 30 Legislative Districts, creating districts of equal population, protect minorities' voting rights, making sure the political lines respect "communities of interest" and try to make the new districts competitive.

Oh, really? Flash forward to November 9, 2001, after 42 public hearings, plus numerous Commission meetings, held across the state by the Commission where lines were drawn, complaints filed, loud words said, press conferences were held, the Independent Redistricting Commission voted to approve the Congressional and Legislative district maps. Under the federal Voting Rights Act, Arizona has to submit their maps, Congressional and Legislative, to the U.S. Justice Department for review, within 60-days of submission, to make sure the maps don't violate the Act, something the state did to minority voters until the mid-1960's, when the Voting Rights Act was approved by Congress and signed into law by then President Lyndon Johnson.

Arizona's Independent Redistricting Commission didn't submit their maps until two months later, January, 2002. Compounding the problem, the state had requested, on January 24, clearance under the Voting Rights Act, for which the Justice Department refused, stating in a February 22 letter that Arizona hadn't provided all the necessary information, with the end result being that the 60-day clock hadn't started, and adding to the strain on the watch and calendar, 90-days and counting until June 12, the last day for candidates to file petitions, is the lawsuit, as previously reported, that was filed in March by a group of Hispanic elected officials, over the new political boundaries and whether the

Commission had violated the intent of Proposition 106.

So was the intent of Proposition 106 violated? If the lines drawn for the Arizona Legislative Districts in Pima County by the Independent Redistricting Commission are an indication, the lawsuit (or another suit that may be filed by the Arizona Democratic Party) may be a successful one, according to election officials from the county to the state level, who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

In Pima County, the Commission mutilated 67 precincts (adding roads, landmarks, etc., where there aren't any), with some cases having you go from one legislative district to another by just driving down the block of a neighborhood due to the new boundaries, to Mount Lemmon, which is one precinct with only 106 registered voters and has now been split in two because of the new lines, which could cost the tax payers an additional six figures in each election year, to hire more poll workers, 350-400, renting new voting locations, printing new voting cards and either leasing or purchasing the voting equipment.

So what happens:

if the maps are thrown out, especially to those candidates running, or wanting to run for Congress or the Arizona Legislature in a political district they may not reside, and have been raising money and getting signatures;

to those who are running for the Arizona Legislature as a "Clean Election" candidate, getting public financing;

for incumbents, such as state Representative Steve May, R-Paradise Valley for example, who was gerrymandered into another district and had planned to run for another term in the Arizona House and who may be in a district where they may now have the opportunity to run for a higher post, in May's case, the Arizona Senate, and;

to the electorate, who won't have a clue where to vote, or for who are their candidates for the various offices, plus whether voters will have a chance to vote for candidates for the state's two new seats in the U.S. House of Representatives?

When this occurred the last time, in 1991, a court ruled that the new boundaries, then drawn by the Arizona Legislature would be used for nomination signatures, campaign contributions and voting for the 1992 election but the lines would have to be adjusted, for which they were, albeit slightly. A judge will now have to consider whether the intent of Proposition 106 has been violated, a different picture than in 1991, and something that may have to be redrawn again.

California Primary
Continued from Page One

California legislators ever, along with John Laird who won the Democratic nod in liberal Santa Cruz.

In other state Assembly primaries, Lesbian incumbents Christine Kehoe of San Diego and Jackie Goldberg of Los Angeles both won Democratic nominations.

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e-mail HUMOR

These are from the days when game show responses were spontaneous and not scripted like they are now. Do you remember these classic Hollywood Squares responses to questions from MC Peter Marshall?

Q: If you're going to make a parachute jump, you should be at least how high?

A: Charley Weaver: Three days of steady drinking should do it.

Q: According to Cosmo, if you meet a stranger at a party and you think he's really attractive, is it okay to come out directly and ask him if he's married?

A: Rose Marie: No, wait until morning.

Q: Which of your five senses tends to diminish as you get older?

A: Charley Weaver: My sense of decency.

Q: In Hawaii, does it take more than three words to say "I love you"?

A: Vincent Price: No, you can say it with a pineapple and a twenty.

Q: What are "Do It", "I Can Help" and "Can't Get Enough"?

A: George Gobel: I don't know but it's coming from the next apartment.

Q: As you grow older, do you tend to gesture more or less with your hands while you are talking?

A: Rose Marie: You ask me one more growing older question, Peter...and I'll give you a gesture you'll never forget!

Q: Paul, why do Hell's Angels wear leather?

A: Paul Lynde: Because chignon wrinkles too easily.

Q: In bowling, what's a perfect score?

A: Rose Marie: Ralph, the pin boy.

Q: It is considered in bad taste to discuss two subjects at nudist camps. One is politics. What is the other?

A: Paul Lynde: Tape measures.

Q: During a tornado, are you safer in the bedroom or in the closet?

A: Rose Marie: Unfortunately, Peter, I'm always safe in the bedroom.

Q: Can boys join the Camp Fire Girls?

A: Marty Allen: Only after lights out.

Q: When you pat a dog on its head he will usually wag his tail. What will a goose do?

A: Paul Lynde: Make him bark.

Q: If you were pregnant for two years, what would you give birth to?

A: Paul Lynde: Whatever it is, it would never be afraid of the dark.

Q: According to Ann Landers, is there anything wrong with getting into the habit of kissing a lot of people?

A: Charley Weaver: It got me out of the army!

Q: Is it possible for the puppies in a litter to have more than one daddy?

A: Paul Lynde: Why, that bitch!

Q: It is the most abused and neglected part of your body - what is it?

A: Paul Lynde: Mine may be abused but it certainly isn't neglected!

Q: Charley, what do you call a pig that weighs more than 150 pounds?

A: Charley Weaver: A divorcee.

Q: Back in the old days, when Great Grandpa put horseradish on his head, what was he trying to do?

A: George Gobel: Get it in his mouth.

Q: Who stays pregnant for a longer period of time, your wife or your elephant?

A: Paul Lynde: Who told you about my elephant?

Q: When a couple has a baby, who is responsible for its sex?

A: Charley Weaver: I'll lend him the car. The rest is up to him.

Q: Jackie Gleason recently revealed that he firmly believes in them and has actually seen them on at least two occasions. What are they?

A: Charley Weaver: His feet.

Q: Do female frogs croak?

A: Paul Lynde: If you hold their little heads under water long enough.

SPORTS

DESERT COYOTES LEAGUE STANDINGS

	W	L
Bernadette's Peter	14.0	0.0
Mama's Boys	14.0	0.0
Gutter Snipes	10.0	4.0
Big Ballers	7.0	7.0
Gay Divorcees	7.0	7.0
Free Your Balls	7.0	7.0
Erratica 6	7.0	7.0
Hardwhere?	7.0	7.0
Tres Amigos	6.0	8.0
Beat Around The Bush	6.0	8.0
2 PP's & A HooHoo	5.0	9.0
One Is-Two Ain't	5.0	9.0
Sleaze Bearz	3.0	11.0
Even-Stevens	0.0	14.0

SEASON ACHIEVEMENTS

High Average: Bernadette's Peter, 593; JoAnn S, 174; Erick J., 218.

High Series Scratch: Bernadette's Peter, 1988; Erick J., 731; Heather H., 656.

High Game Scratch: Bernadette's Peter, 725; Keith D., 289; Heather H., 279.

High Series Handicap: Bernadette's Peter, 2186; Dave F., 799; Heather H., 806.

High Game Handicap: Bernadette's Peter, 798; Heather H., 329; Jack S., 307.

BOWLERS NEEDED FOR DESERT COYOTES

TUCSON - Two bowlers are needed for the Desert Coyotes, Tucson's Gay and Lesbian bowling league.

Skill is not important, having fun is since averages range from 100 to over 200 in the Wednesday night league, which bowls at 9:00 p.m. at Golden Pin Lanes, 1010 W. Miracle Mile.

The cost of bowling is \$12 a week plus a one-time sanction fee. If interested, show up a few minutes prior to the 9:00 p.m. start time. For more information, call (520) 323-6449.

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Now is the time to donate your books, cds, clothes, housewares, lawn ornaments, bird cages and other miscellaneous items cluttering up your closets or storage space.

Put your junk to good use by donating it to the Arizona Human Rights Foundation.

PLEASE NOTE THE DATE CHANGE FROM PRIOR NOTICES OF THIS EVENT

APRIL 20TH, 2002 7:00 am - 2:00 pm
The AHRF parking lot - 4201 N. 16TH St. Phoenix, AZ

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DEAR OBSERVER:

First, I would like to say that I appreciate the dedication and effort of the Observer's staff in helping to keep the community aware of current events locally and throughout the nation as a whole. Having started on a positive note, here follows my "complaint." This is more of a question really and I hope you understand my point.

I was reading your paper this afternoon and had someone ask me about the "Helms Ashamed" article. Having already read it, I had proceeded to the next page. As I was about to explain the article, I set the paper down to fold the page closed. As I did, an ad for a local bar was noticed by this gentleman. Not only did he immediately show an immense disinterest in anything I might have to say, but he proceeded to call me "faggot," "queer-ass cocksucker," and a number of other less pleasant names. This, of course, excludes various references to certain sexual positions involving a variety of farm animals. Naturally, at this point, all hopes of any type of intellectual conversation and chance to make a point were gone. I, who am never without opinion or comment, was stunned into uncharacteristic speechlessness. Fortunately, before I could respond in anyway, the management of the restaurant I was patronizing asked the man to leave the premises for his derogatory remarks. This brings me to my problem with the ad in question.

While the ads are not exactly or outright lewd, the innuendo and implicit sexual references they make do not seem conducive to a journalistic presentation of any sort. They would be more appropriate in literature more commonly bought wrapped in plastic. I do not doubt for a second that such ad space is a vital money maker for your publication and is necessary, however, I can't imagine that it would be a great loss for such sponsors to have a more appropriate and less provocative ad. I am far from being a prude, but I believe that there is a place for everything and the unmentioned clubs could show a little more public-awareness in regards to perception and appearance and understand that such a self-portrayal does not help to diminish our often negative impact on society in representing our community as a whole.

Thank you for your time and I do hope that neither of the establishments are offended. I do frequent them myself and would not stop going over something as seemingly trivial as this, but I do feel it hurts the professional level of the paper.

Sincerely,
Robert Mathis
Tucson, AZ

EDITOR:

Re: The reassignment of the Miss Carousel title

I feel partly responsible for this mean-spirited occurrence and I like to publicly state the following:

Miss Carousel 2002 (Miss Zamora Monae) volunteered her talents to the TKO Holiday Magic benefit show, December 2, 2001. Exactly one week before the big night I was informed that Her appearance needed to be announced in the Observer. At that time this was impossible as the ad copy had already been delivered.

To (hopefully) make up for this surprise, I had a full-page insert printed (with Miss Monae's photo) added to the program. I posted a huge photo of Miss Carousel that noted her title and "special guest appearance" participation at the

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entrance to the Showroom. She was thanked first from the stage and thanked first in the Observer the following week. Seemingly, none of this was enough.

Jose helped TKO raise \$3,300.00. His efforts impacted 28 families and 60 HIV affected children. In this matter it would appear "principles" are being put before "people" as this benefit was deemed invalid by the Promoter sponsoring the Crown, and would not count towards Jose's obligations as Miss Carousel.....All because it was too late to change the ad.

There's probably more to this story. I just wanted the Community to know (in part) about one un-correctable error that led to Jose's de-crowning.

My apologies to Jose. Your charitable efforts were truly appreciated by TKO

Mark Little
Show Director
of Holiday Magic 2001
Tucson, AZ

DEAR TUCSON COMMUNITY:

In this weeks issue of the Observer, you will note that there is an article in reference to the "Reassignment of the Miss Carousel title". I met with the producer of the TKO "Holiday Magic" Show held at the Flamingo Hotel in December of last year (after his article had been submitted for print). We had discussed the article which he had inserted in this week's issue. I was informed that Jose a.k.a Zamora Monae, had several conversations with the producer within a three week period prior to the event. And only informed the producer on Sunday, one week prior to the event, and after the ad copy had been delivered for publication that he had to be advertised as Miss Carousel 2001, a rule of the pageant that Zamora was fully aware of. While we are on the subject of rules, and so there is no misunderstanding, the following, as simple as they may sound, are the obligations of the Miss Carousel title, which have been in effect since it's inception eight years ago.

The winner of the title of Miss Carousel must perform at, or hold, two (2) community benefits for the charity or cause approved by MRM Productions. The first to be held within the first six months (March 1st 2002). Failure to do so will result in revocation of the title. In which case, the 1st Alternate will become Miss Carousel. Please note that at a meeting of the contestants on Sept. 9th, 2001 this rule was modified to read....."both to be held within first 6 months" (March 1st 2002).....the rest of the rule to remain the same.

As a representative of MRM Productions and the Miss Carousel Pageant, you will be required to be advertised as Miss Carousel where you will be raising money in that official capacity.....Please note, it has been understood that advertisements have been, and always will be, printed in the local Gay community paper - The Observer.

Miss Carousel must be a person of strong moral character and professionalism.

In the event Miss Carousel is unable to fulfill her obligations, the Miss Carousel crown and plaque will be returned to the promoter in the same condition that

they were received. Please note, these items as of this date have not been returned.

Now knowing the obligations of Miss Carousel, you can see that not one single obligation was met. I might also add that each contestant vying for the title of Miss Carousel signs a release which states "by my signature below, I affirm and attest that I have read the rules and regulations of the Pageant and hereby agree to abide by the same".

These obligations are the only requirements of Miss Carousel during her reign. The Miss Carousel Pageant has been a starting point for many fine entertainers in the Tucson Gay community over the past eight years. Some of which have went on to become Miss Gay Tucson America, Miss Gay Arizona USofA, Miss Western States Regional America, and have also placed in the top twelve (12) in national competition in the Miss Gay America system. We are very proud of their accomplishments and we have always tried to instill the highest standards of professionalism in our title holders. Now back to the article in question.

I assured the producer (and I wish to assure the Tucson Community) that his article and statement of apology was written with only one side of the story known. I also assured him that he should not feel guilty or responsible in any way for the revocation of the title of Miss Carousel, for it was not the TKO show that led to that unfortunate situation. To my knowledge, there were four (4) separate invitations to participate in benefit shows produced by other performers since the TKO show, as an effort to assist Zamora Monae in fulfilling her obligations. In every case, Zamora Monae declined.

As most if not all active participants in the Tucson Gay community are aware, there are several benefit shows produced annually, and I feel that there is no reason that any Miss Carousel could not have performed in at least two within a six month period.

To the producer of the TKO show, I feel that your efforts (the full page insert of Miss Monae, the huge photo, etc etc) were admirable in trying to make up for a mistake that was not your fault. I would also like to congratulate you and your club in your efforts in raising \$3,300 which assisted 28 families and 60 HIV affected children. TKO has always been an intricate part of the Tucson Gay community and has always been willing to participate in many raising efforts. As to your comment in your letter....."there's probably more to this story".....from reading my response this is true. I hope this helps clear up any misconceptions or misunderstandings that you or the Tucson Gay community may have, regarding the revocation of Zamora Monae's title. And again, please do not feel that you or any members of the TKO club, had anything whatsoever, to do with the revocation of the title of Miss Carousel 2001.

One final point. For if it wasn't for my chance meeting with you Mark, you and the community would not have been aware of the correct circumstances surrounding this unfortunate incident. I wish to thank you for your open mindedness and willingness to listen to the other side of the story.

Ric Reyna a.k.a. Misti Malone
MRM Productions
Miss Carousel Pageant Promoter
Tucson, AZ

DEAR OBSERVER AND MEMBERS OF THE GLBT COMMUNITY:

I would like to convey our thanks to the producers, performers, and all those attending the "Tips for TIHAN" benefit show last Saturday night, which was designated to benefit the services provided by the Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN). We very much appreciate the \$300 that was raised for TIHAN's services that night.

I want to thank all the performers--Sapphire (Miss Gay Tucson USofA 2002), Diana Flair (Miss Carousel 2001), Jasmine Bouvier, Miss Reyna (Miss Carousel 1999), Misti Malone and special guest appearances by Daphne Steele (1st Alternate Carousel 2001) and Miss Kristin--for treating us to a wonderful show. I also want to express my thanks to Jake's for providing the venue for this benefit show. This was the first benefit for TIHAN that has been held at Jake's in several years, and it was good to be back in that bar that has been the site of benefits that have raised thousands of dollars for TIHAN programs over the years. Lots of memories there of great friends and great times (we miss you Chuckles!).

I also owe a big thank you to Richard Villa and Ofelia's Flowers and Gifts for the donation of beautiful flowers, to the newly crowned Miss Carousel Diana Flair for designating her benefit show to TIHAN, and to Ric Reyna and friends for putting it all together.

I would also like to convey our thanks to everyone who supported the March 10 BBQ benefit at IBT's which raised \$121.00 in support of TIHAN. Thanks to the hard-working volunteers Claudio and Glen, to Dave and Frank of IBT's and all the staff there, and to everyone who came out and joined us--thanks again for your support of TIHAN's programs and services.

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

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

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Wed., Mar. 20, 2002
6:00-9:00pm

Jake's
2921 N. 1st. Ave
624-8805



HOROSCOPES

BY C. LICHTENSTEIN

What can we expect when delightful Venus enters Aries and feisty Mars moves into Taurus this week? Our ardor and actions take on a dramatic new zing so let's set our sights on the highest brass ring as we ride this crazy carousel. Go Out there kids and make a grab for it.

ARIES

MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

Is there anyone who can match the energy and charisma of the proud Ram when charming Venus enters their own sign? No one! Use this fabulous transit to strut and fret your time on stage. Your adoring audience will beg for more. It's time for new starts without the fits. Anything is possible now as Mars in Taurus launches your grand plan. Set sail. Hello sailor!

TAURUS

APRIL 21 - MAY 21

Gay Bulls are given an incentive to be their proud selves when Venus enters energizing Aries and Mars posits in your own sign. Pick up a broom and sweep Out your closet. (There may be one or two rats lurking in the corners so be sure to squash them.) Who can resist doing a good Gay deed or two? Not you! Volunteering brings about immediate rewards. Thank you Mars!

GEMINI

MAY 22 - JUNE 21

You are especially charming this week when Venus enters Aries and Mars, Taurus. The planets conspire to elect you Miss Photogenic as Venus provides the pink light. Since Gay Twins are so naturally sociable and diplomatic, put your talents to work in balancing the requests of pals with your internal needs and desires. Balance, as you will see in this life, is everything.

CANCER

JUNE 22 - JULY 23

Venus in Aries opens the door of opportunity in any professional endeavor. Careers can be made or laid right now if you decide to accept the challenge. Mars in Taurus, in the meantime, energizes more pleasant, platonic pursuits. Remember to be charming and benevolent both up the ladder and down the pub. Fates and fortunes change but a friend is forever, or so they say.

LEO

JULY 24 - AUGUST 23

Queer Lions are in for a treat when attractive Venus enters Aries. It's an excellent time to plan a grand scale adventure and explore exotic vistas if you can. Of course those poor wage hounds who can't afford to break away now will have the fiery Mars oomph in Taurus to help catapult them into a rarified upper corporate strata. Money or manna? Which to choose?

VIRGO

AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23

Pink Virgins go from cool to piping hot as Venus ascends into fiery Aries and pokes the flames of passion in you. Start cooking on high immediately cousin and enjoy this tasty interlude while it lasts. Pioneering Mars in Taurus conspires to plant a few exotic ideas in your head. There's more than one way to heat the coals. Bring on the hot tamales and the naked dancers!

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23

Relationships are highlighted when Venus enters Aries and Mars enters Taurus. Flirty queer Libras lust for commitment during this transit. Venus provides the balm and Mars the massage to quell even the most stressed love relationship. If you are still soulmate searching, use this time to explore new, romantic avenues. Around every corner is a Gay smile, or at least a Gay bar.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22

Leave it to prickly pink Scorps to find a ray of hopeful light at work. If you've been asked to handle a particularly onerous task, Venus paves the way to easy success. If you have a secret admirer in accounting, Mighty Aphrodite sees to it that it adds up correctly. Mars sez that maybe it's time to revamp that exercise regime so you can vamp your stuff with a particular pencil pusher. Ahem.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22

Proud Archers charm the stars from the sky when Venus shines in Aries. Your creative juices flow so go with the flow. It's time to test your artistic capabilities by taking to the stage, writing the great Gay novel or planning a fab party. Whatever you do, do it with style. Mars in Taurus turns on the juice to make any great Gay effort a great Gay masterpiece. What will you concoct??

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20

Venus ambles into Aries so pink Caps can make great headway in any home related project. This energy is especially pronounced if you are coming to terms with a particularly irksome family issue. Mars in Taurus gives you a few creative approaches to lay your cards on the table. Venus provides the sugar and Mars the oomph to make your point clear and compelling. No compromise please!

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19

As if life wasn't interesting enough, Venus enters Aries and turns up the volume on communication. Aqueerians are naturally sociable, but now you can charm the pants off just about anybody. (So choose your target wisely...) But why waste all that brain power on fanning the air? Mars in Taurus concentrates your efforts on home entertaining. Invite a bit of the Outreach home to dinner.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

Guppies find themselves counting their pennies and finding a few dollars in the bunch. Venus waltzes into Aries this week and finances sit up and take notice. Why not plan for an early retirement? Mars in Taurus provides considerable direction and Venus enables you to get even the most recalcitrant advisors to give you a piece of their golden minds. Grab a nugget or two, comrade.

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NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE

by Lee Thorn

'Conflicts of Interest'

The practice of medicine in this country has become such a disaster that it's hard to know where to attack it. The abundance of targets begging to be hit amounts to an embarrassment of riches for any willing critic.

The robbery angle, however, is becoming a little shopworn. Anyone with even a casual interest in the subject of medicine already knows that the insurance companies, the pharmaceuticals and the politicians have formed an unholy alliance to pull off the greatest robbery in history. Every other industrial country on the planet has figured out a way to provide health care without financially crippling the average citizen. We in America fully realize that, when it comes to health care, we're strapped over a barrel and we're staring at a full can of Crisco, to describe the situation as impolitely as it deserves.

Whenever you tell the robbery angle like it is, some politician who's part of it will pop up and claim, "Our health care system is the envy of the world." If it is, the world envies the facts that "One-fifth of all patients who leave a hospital take with them an infection or some other more serious problem that they didn't have when they checked in. An average of 180,000 patients die preventable deaths each year due to human error, mistaken judgment, or negligence" (Theodosakis and Feinberg).

Since the robbery angle - outrageous as it is - has already been done to death, let's look at something subtler. Let's look at something so subtle that two doctors who've written a very informative book about HMOs don't seem to be able to grasp it. The book is called DON'T LET YOUR HMO KILL YOU. The doctors are Jason Theodosakis and David T. Feinberg. The concept that seems to elude them is called "conflict of interest."

The good doctors spend much of the first 40 pages of their book explaining how HMO administrators, HMO doctors, and even HMO nurse practitioners are financially rewarded by the HMOs for denying medical services to their patients. In those same 40 pages, the phrase "conflict of interest" does not occur.

The concept of conflict of interest

is simple, ancient and basic to all types of businesses. It refers to a situation in which an individual is asked to do two things that are incompatible. It inevitably results in one of the interests that the individual is charged with serving being cheated by the other interest he is simultaneously charged with serving.

A doctor is supposed to provide medical services. When an HMO pays him to deny medical services, a conflict of interest is created.

Perhaps it would be helpful to give an illustration of the concept in a field more respectable than the modern practice of medicine. A jockey gets paid by an owner to try to win a race. If that same jockey takes money from a gambler to try to lose the same race, he has a conflict of interest. One of the interests, either that of the owner or that of the gambler, is going to be cheated because of this conflict.

Doctors Theodosakis and Feinberg suggest that we ameliorate the situation that they decline to characterize as conflict of interest with clever plays like this: "We have to learn how to ask our questions without aggravating our doctors."

States that license horse racing ameliorate the conflict of interest described above by putting jockeys and gamblers in jail. It could be that the more reputable enterprise has the more efficacious remedy.

Could HMOs work without conflicts of interest? Sure they could. Step one: You put HMO executives who act in any way to reward anyone for denying medical services in prison. Step two: You insure that patients are given appropriate treatment at costs that are fair to the payer by instituting a peer review process utilizing the disinterested judgment of human experts. Life doesn't get any simpler than that.

[Thorn welcomes comments, suggestions for future columns and tips on local skulduggery that ought to be exposed.

Gay Murder

Continued from Page Four

vance that Eads had made toward Steward. Police said the pair set the fire when they returned to wipe fingerprints away.

Boone did not testify during the trial, and his attorney, Julia Craft-Rochat, did not call any witnesses. In her closing argument she said prosecutors failed to prove that Boone had done anything beyond helping to dispose of stolen property. Also, an arson investigator could not pinpoint the exact cause of the blaze, she said. "He can't rule out, with 100% certainty, that the fire wasn't started by a candle or a cigarette," she said. "If the fire wasn't intentionally set, then Mr. Eads was not murdered."

Assistant district attorney Barry Disney disagreed. Disney told jurors that Eads's blood was found on Boone's pant leg and his shoe. Disney also said Boone's mere presence in the home made him guilty as an accomplice to the fire. "It's not necessary that we show who actually struck the match," he said. "It does not matter who was the leader or if there was a leader. What are the usual consequences of setting a house on fire with a person inside?" he asked the jury. "The usual consequence is that the person is going to die."

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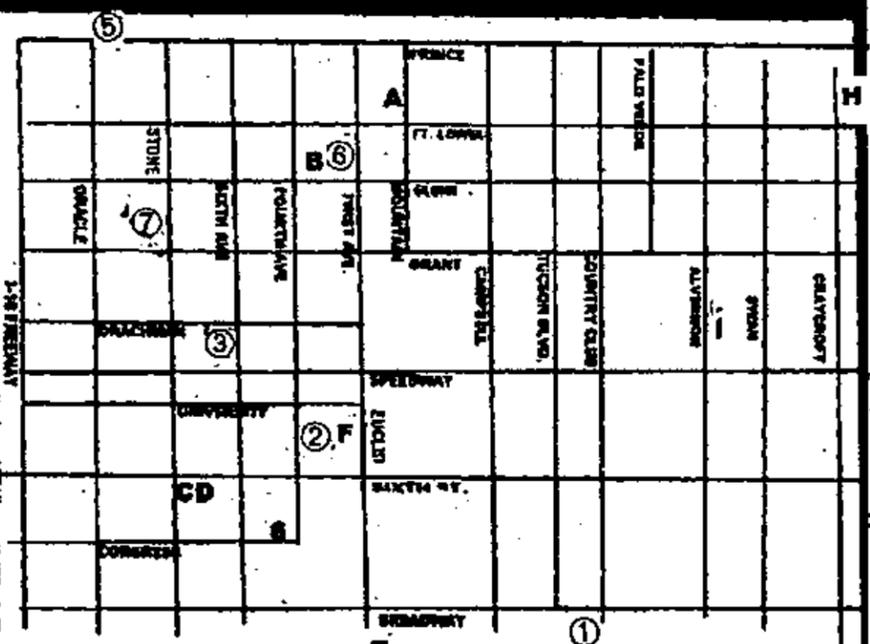
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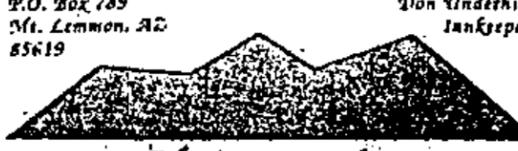
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Dear Dr. X:

I think my boyfriend might have a problem with eating. He has always been very thin, and I thought that he was just lucky or something. However, recently I have noticed that he continues to lose weight, and he is starting to look sick.

You hear all the time about girls who have eating disorders but you never hear about guys. Could he have a serious problem? Is this a common thing for guys or could it be something else? Also, can you give me some suggestions for confronting him with this?

Signed,
Hungry Man

Dear Hungry Man:

In these body conscious times more and more men are developing eating disorders. It seems in this day and age the thinner the better.

I have said before that the national media is inundated with skinny, muscular, "perfect" people. As Gay men we also buy into the idea that if we are skinny we could have who ever our hearts desire. When we have friends who lose weight we always say things like you look great or wow you lost so much weight, but we fail to acknowledge when a person gets to thin.

Male eating disorders are another one of those Gay taboo subjects such as Domestic Violence, or open relationships. It's a subject that not many people want to discuss. In fact men account for less than 5% of the total people that seek help for eating disorders. If you think you or a friend have an eating disorder, contact a counselor or doctor and get some help.

Dear Dr. X:

I love poppers during sex! They make anal sex so much better and I am way less inhibited when I use them. I have heard that they can be addictive or even cause you to get HIV. Is this true? I like using them but I don't want to become addicted or worse, infected. I need the truth.

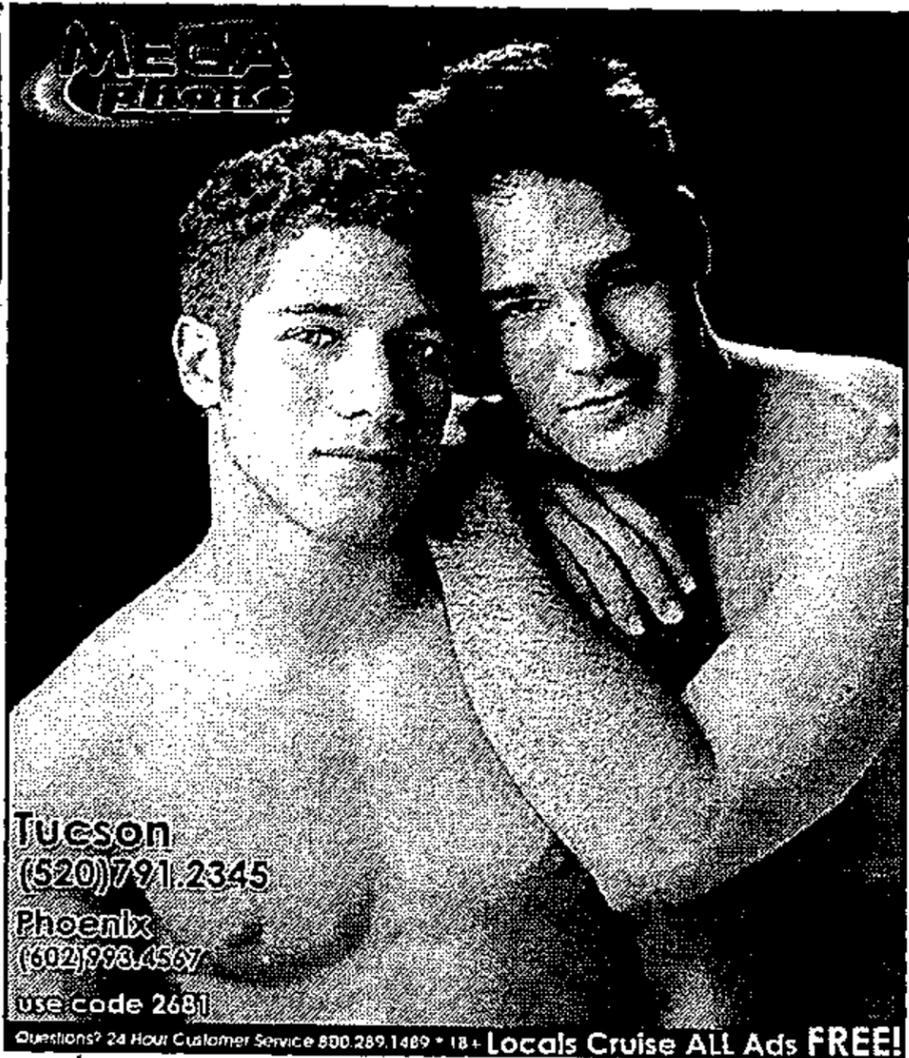
Signed,
Popper Pig

Dear Popper Pig:

Poppers or Video Head Cleaner are a stimulant inhalant used during sex to intensify the feeling or make anal penetration easier. Poppers are vasodilators, a term that describes the opening of the blood vessels in the rectum. This makes it easier for anal penetration. Just as you stated, you tend to be less inhibited. This can lead to all sorts of other problems such as unsafe sexual behaviors due to bad judgment and abuse of other drugs such as alcohol or Viagra.

This is a big no no. Poppers and Viagra are a horrible combo that can lead to loss of consciousness and strokes (bad pun.) Poppers are very dangerous for men with HIV and AIDS. Poppers are considered Immuno-suppressive which is a big word for saying this is a drug which lowers you immune system and makes you more susceptible to health problems if your immune system is already compromised. I'm unsure if they are physically addictive but a lot of men develop a psychological addiction and believe that they can't have sex with out them. Try and have sex without them and see what happens. Who knows, you may find that the sex is just as good.

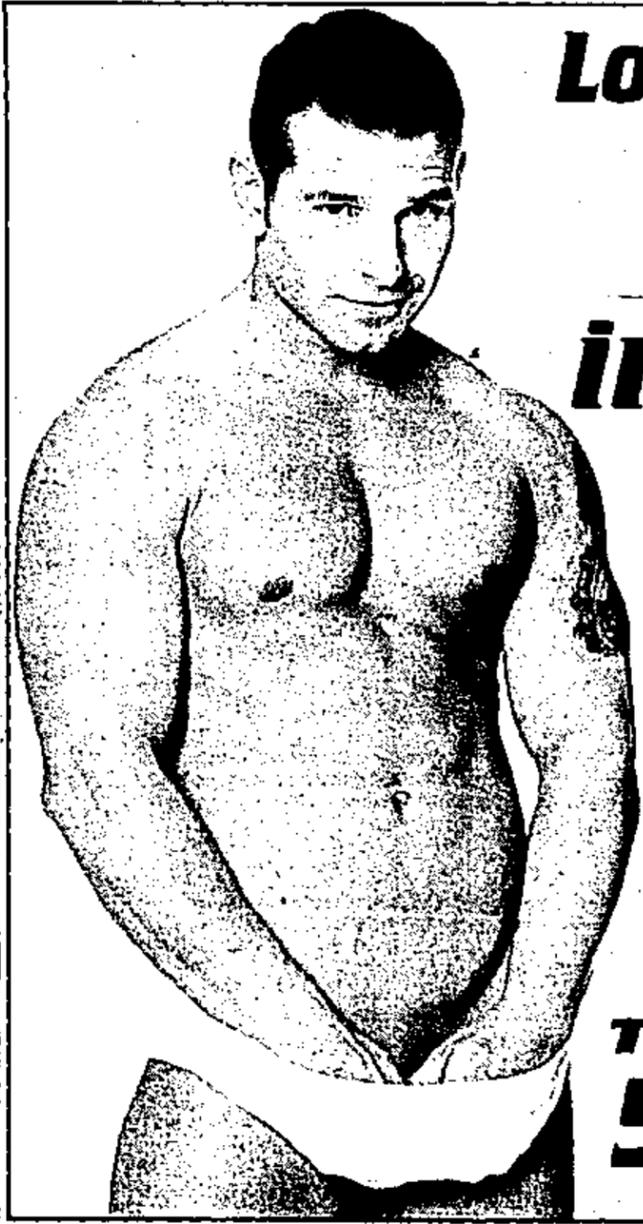
[Have a question for Dr. X? Contact him at GMHPoutreach@SAAF.Org or www.gmhp.org or SAAF, 375 S. Euclid, Tucson, AZ 85719, Attn: Dr. X.]



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Non-Bar Calendar

Groups / Clubs / Organizations

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

Tucson Prime Timers Video Night - 7:00 P.M. A non pornographic movie with a Gay theme will be shown. Phone: 740-0620 - David Eyde

Beers of the Old Pueblo, Every Wednesday night, 7 pm. Bear Coffee Night: Coffee Etc., 2830 N. Campbell. All welcome.

THURSDAY, MARCH 14

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 1:00 p.m. Join Doug for a Lunch Out at one of Tucson's favorite Mexican eateries: Café Poca Cosa. For reservation, please call Doug at 520-803-0716.

FRIDAY, MARCH 15

Reveille Gay Men's Chorus Presents "The Sound of New Music", their first full concert of contemporary choral music. The concert will premier their commissioned piece featuring the text of Arizona poet Alberto Rios and the music of Ted Owens. Music of the 20th century with messages of diversity, awareness and acceptance. 8:00 p.m. at Pima Community College Center for the Arts. Tickets \$15 in advance and \$18 at the door. Ticket Line (520) 577-5525. Tomorrow too.

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

Reveille Gay Men's Chorus Presents "The Sound of New Music", their first full concert of contemporary choral music. (See above for more info). 8:00 p.m. at Pima Community College Center for the Arts. Tickets \$15 in advance and \$18 at the door. Ticket Line (520) 577-5525.

Tucson Prime Timers 12:00 Noon Lunch/Business Meeting, Home Town Buffet, 5101 N. Oracle Rd., North of River Rd. Phone: 622-1835

Tucson Prime Timers Food & Drinks - 5:00 P.M. Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd., North of Prince Rd. Phone: 622-1835

SATURDAY, MARCH 17

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 1:00 p.m. Join Maurice for a tour of the Tucson Museum of Art. He'll guide you through the latest exhibits and answer questions about art. For more information, please contact Maurice at 323-2293.

MONDAY, MARCH 18

Tucson Prime Timers Lunch - 1:00 P.M., The Wildcat House, 1800 N. Stone Ave., South of Grant Rd. Phone: 622-1835

TUESDAY, MARCH 19

The 5th Annual Arizona Human Rights Foundation (AHRF) Tucson membership gathering at Botanical Gardens. AHRF will be presenting the 2002 award to Janet Napolitano for her outstanding service to the Tucson GLBT community. Last year over 175 people attended the most successful Tucson Membership Event ever. As an affiliated organization of the AHRF, the AHRF Foundation engages in research and provides public education and programming to secure, protect, and defend the rights and welfare of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered people. For more details call (520)990-5161.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 6:00 p.m. The Triangle Tribe is a support group that helps you deal with yourself and your relationships with others. For directions and reservations, please call Tom at 318-1850.

Tucson Prime Timers Video Night - 7:00 P.M. A non pornographic movie with a Gay theme will be shown. Phone: 740-0620 - David Eyde

Beers of the Old Pueblo, Every Wednesday night, 7 pm. Bear Coffee Night: Coffee Etc., 2830 N. Campbell. All welcome.

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

#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's 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 MSN Premiere of the "Moulin Rouge", an Oscar-nominated film that sets the musical on its ear! For reservations and directions, please call Les at 690-9565.

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Arlan for an evening devoted to the game of Hearts. If you've never played, this fun game is easy to learn. For reservations and directions, please call Arlan at 323-7414.

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 6:00 p.m. Bill will host Pinocchia & Pizza Night beginning with a chance to share some pizza and meet and greet the other players over pizza (\$5), followed by Pinocchia at 7:00 p.m. For more information, please call Bill at 297-3569.

Tucson Prime Timers Food & Drinks - 5:00 P.M., Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd. North of Prince Rd. Phone: 622-1835

SUNDAY, MARCH 24

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 9:30 a.m. Join Curt for a moderate hike (3-5 miles). This first hike will get your new year off to the right start. For more information, please contact Jerry or Les at 690-9565.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 1:00 p.m. Art and Jeff host a video of "Smoke Signals", a comedy about young American Indians discovering themselves.

BAR CALENDAR

OF UPCOMING EVENTS

FRIDAY, MARCH 15

IBTS - 9:00 p.m. The Green Party with guest DJ Tim Outland. Door give-aways and Go-Go Dancers.

JAKE'S - Celebrating St. Patrick's Day all weekend. Enjoy a traditional Irish meal from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m. Corned Beef & Cabbage. Mmmmm good. Gifts and give aways from Miller Beer from 6:00 to 7:00 and 9:00 to 10:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

JAKE'S - Celebrating St. Patrick's Day all weekend. Enjoy a traditional Irish meal from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m. Corned Beef & Cabbage.

VENTURE-N - 3 to 7pm. Beers of the Old Pueblo Beer Bust. 1239 N. 6th Ave. 520-882-8224. Come have a brew & a bowl of chili. Tips benefit local charities.

SUNDAY, MARCH 17 - ST. PATRICK'S DAY

AINT NOBODY'S BIZ - \$1.25 Draught pitchers all day and all night! Free Corned Beef and Cabbage from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. DJ Hill plays for dancing from 8:30 to closing. No Cover.

IBTS - 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. it's Dennis and Mike's Recovery Bar. \$1.50 Bloodys, Screws or Mimosas. 4:30 - 7:30 Rodger's Corned Beef and Cabbage; Tea Dance on the dance floor with DJ Chris. Karaoke on the Patio with Billy Dee. 7:30 p.m. a special benefit show for Katie Show hosted by Lucinda Holiday and stars Aja Simone, Adrienne Alexander, Bunny FuFu, Janee Starr, Veronica Hollowell, Miss Saigon, Lady Ashley, Diana Flair, Mr. Dorian Grey, Sade Michaels, Triania Oberon and Stella Virgin.

JAKE'S - Free corned beef and cabbage from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m. Come on by and see what else we have planned for you. Food, fun, drink specials.

VENTURE-N - 5 to 7pm. Beers of the Old Pueblo Boss Burgers. 1239 N. 6th Ave. Come enjoy a hot burger with some hairy hunk! Tips benefit local charities.

WOODY'S - Corned Beef and Cabbage feed 5:00 p.m. until ??? plus drink specials and green volleyball! Karaoke at 9:00 m. with Billy Dee.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

IBTS - 9:00 p.m. "Divalicious" Show hosted by Lucinda Holiday, and starring Bunny FuFu, Angela Dodd and Adrienne Alexander.

JAKE'S - Free anonymous HIV testing from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. by Pima County Health Department in conjunction with the Gay Men's Health Project.

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

VENTURE-N - Tom and Tattered Party! Check the bartender for times and more information.

FRI-SAT-SUN, MARCH 22-23-24

IBTS - 4th Avenue Spring Street Fair. Shows Saturday 3:00 p.m. \$2.00 Cover. Sunday, 3:00 p.m. \$2.00 Cover; and 9:30 p.m. NO COVER.

VENTURE-N - Hides of March weekend here. Booze and brew specials all weekend. Friday: reception and registration... Saturday: Breakfast by TKO. Saturday night: Underwear party and wet jockey contest. Sunday a.m. Breakfast. Sunday p.m. Boesburgers.

SUNDAY, MARCH 31 - EASTER SUNDAY

IBTS - Easter Egg Hunt and Party! Watch for their ad.

They'll also serve pork and rice and have you bring a salad or dessert to share. For more information, directions and reservations, please call Jeff or Art at 762-9135.

#3. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 6:00 p.m. Join Bill for MSN's annual Oscar Party. It's your chance to join the guys for a night of self-congratulation as only Hollywood can do it! For reservations, please call Bill at 546-7539.

Tucson Prime Timers Lunch & Museum - 11:00 A.M. Meet at Marriott University Park Hotel, 880 E. 2nd St. for lunch. Meet at Arizona Historical Society 949 E. 2nd St. at Noon. Phone: 622-1835. (Free parking in garage at Euclid Ave. and 2nd St. provided for Arizona Historical Society.)

MONDAY, MARCH 25

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 6:00 p.m. The Triangle Tribe is a support group that helps you deal with yourself and your relationships with others. For directions and reservations, please call Tom at 318-1650.

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Joe for an evening out at Rainbow Planet. This is a chance to have a cup of coffee and chat with the men of MSN. For directions or more info, please call Joe at 686-1536.

Tucson Prime Timers Lunch - 1:00 P.M., The Wildcat House, 1800 N. Stone Ave., South of Grant Rd. Phone: 622-1835

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

Tucson Prime Timers Video Night - 7:00 P.M. A non pornographic movie with a Gay theme will be shown. Phone: 740-0620 - David Eyde

Beers of the Old Pueblo, Every Wednesday night, 7 pm. Bear Coffee Night: Coffee Etc., 2830 N. Campbell. All welcome.

FRIDAY, MARCH 29

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. The boys are back in town! Join us for more of the new season of "Queer As Folk". For reservations and directions, please call Bill at 546-7539.

Daily Bar Calendar

AINT NOBODY'S BIZ - Beer Bust 5-10, \$1.25 pitchers. Latin Music with DJ Hill 8:30 to close. Shot specials all night.

IBTS - 10am-6pm \$1.50 Bloodys, Screws or Mimosas. Benefit B-B-Q and Beer Bust for community organizations 5:30-6pm. Karaoke with Billy Dee on the patio 4:30-7:30. 8:30 shows or special events or HI energy dancing. (Call for details). All drink specials not available during special events.

JAKE'S - Open 11am daily. VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio open 3pm. Daily specials til 7pm. WOODY'S - Open Noon. \$2 well or domestic beer til 4pm. Happy Hour 4-9pm. \$1.75 well or domestic. Volleyball games start 7pm. Underwear-fetish-leather nite with Michael \$1 off your favorite drink. Chili dogs or bowls \$1.

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am-50¢ off any Vodka until 7pm. Kennel open daily at 5pm. Thursday AINT NOBODY'S BUSINESS - Karaoke w/Stephanie 9-close. \$2 Kamikazees and \$1 Hot Sex. IBTS - 9am-4pm \$2.00 domestic beer and well. Happy Hour \$1.75 Well & domestic 4-9. Retro 80s Dance w/Jonathan HI NRQ dancing 9-11 All drink specials not available during special events.

JAKE'S - Open 11am daily. Dance Room open 9pm-1am. Latino Night. VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio open 5pm. Daily special til 7pm. Pool Tournament 7pm. 3 entry. (Special prices for players).

WOODY'S - Open Noon. \$2 well or domestic beer til 4pm. Happy Hour 4-9pm \$1.75 well or domestic. Trivia Thursday 5pm-close plus 50¢ off all Big Ase drinks. Top score on NTN per game wins special pizza. Volleyball Court is Open. See bartender. YARD DOG - Open daily 6am-50¢ off any Bourbon til 7pm. Kennel open daily at 5pm.

Friday AINT NOBODY'S BUSINESS - Happy Hour Two-For-One 2-7. Free food at 5:30pm. Dance music 8:30-1 w/DJ Hill. Drink specials all night.

IBTS - 9am-4pm \$2.00 domestic beer and well. Happy Hour \$1.75 well & domestic beer 4-10. Live Jazz on the patio with the Susan 8-9pm. Patio Bar 5-1pm. Dance Party with DJ Rayman 9 to 1. All drink specials not available during special events.

JAKE'S - Open 11am daily. Dance Room open 9pm - 1am. Country Music Nite

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio open 5pm. Daily special til 7pm. Happy Hour Buffet 5-7pm.

WOODY'S - Open Noon. \$2 well or domestic beer til 4pm. Happy Hour 4-9pm. \$1.75 well or domestic. Martini Party - Well Martinis \$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 AINT NOBODY'S BUSINESS - Open at 2pm. Pool Tournament 8:30pm \$3 entry. Pot matched. \$2 pitchers for pool players. Dance music w/DJ Hill 8:30-close.

IBTS - 9am-4pm \$2.00 domestic beer and well. Happy Hour \$1.75 well & domestic beer 4-10. Live Jazz on the patio with the Susan 8-9pm. Patio Bar 5-1pm. Dance Party with DJ Rayman 9 to 1. All drink specials not available during special events.

JAKE'S - Open 11am daily. Dance Room open 9pm - 1am. House Dance Nite

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio Bar open at 3pm. Daily special til 7pm. Patio Beer Bust 3-7pm.

WOODY'S - Open 11am \$2 well or domestic beer. Til 4pm. Happy Hour 4-9pm. \$1.75 well or domestic. Patio Bar opens 5pm. Steak & Fish Fry 5-9pm Filet Mignon or Swardfish with trimmings & roll \$5.

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

Wednesday AINT NOBODY'S BUSINESS - Happy Hour 2-4-1 from 2-7. Beer Bash \$1.25 Pitchers Bud/Bud Light 8-close. Dance music 8-close.

IBTS - 9am to 4pm. \$2.00 domestic beer & well. Happy Hour \$1.75 well & domestic 4-9pm. 9pm "Divalicious" show w/Lucinda Holiday and guests. HIHRQ Dancing with DJ-Q. All drink specials not available during special events.

JAKE'S - Open 11am daily. Dance Room open 9pm - 1am. House Dance Nite

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

United Document Service, L.L.C.

- Bankruptcy - Chapter 7 & 13
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- Living Will/Medical Power of Att.
- Simple Will & Living Trusts
- L.L.C.'s & Corporations
- Child Support Modification
- Child Custody Modification
- Real Estate Documents, Deeds
- Power Of Attorney / Medical P.O.A
- Name Change
- Child Guardianship

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(520) 408-4847
We Make Housecalls!

NOTICES

TUCSON INTERFAITH HIV/AIDS NETWORK (TIHAN), a coalition of faith communities committed to a compassionate response to HIV/AIDS, provides HIV education in congregational settings, volunteer CareTeams to support HIV+ persons, a referral network of HIV-sensitive clergy, and interfaith services of healing and hope. For more information call 298-8847.

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

ANONYMOUS HIV COUNSELING AND TESTING is available through the Pima County Health Department at sites throughout Tucson, Very Gay Friendly. For more information or to make an appointment call 791-7678.

GRACE GROUP - CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 2nd and 4th Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the Madonna Hall at Santa Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 1438 N. Campbell across from University Hospital. For more info. Call Ernie Sleight 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 Jennifer at 792-4607, Ext.398

AZdykes is a new email list for Lesbians living in Arizona. For information mail tyam@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 KUCI. 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. Desert Q&A (MTF) Meets 2nd Monday at 7pm. Desert Boyz meets 3rd Tuesday at 7pm. of every month. All meetings take place at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. Call 624-1779 for more info. SAGAE-mail@aol.com http://members.aol.com/sageaemail

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP FOR ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLES. Not a dating club. Discreet. Meetings every Monday evening. Call for more info. APEX (Arizona Power Exchange) 802-415-1123. 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 802-278-4805.

DESERT DOMINION TUCSON'S 100% CONSENSUAL, Pan-Petite, Pan-Sexual, Informational, Educational, Safe Space for the B&D, B&M, D&S and TV community. For more info call (520)792-8424 or http://www.desertdominion.org

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)745-8059 (Tucson) or Kim (602)534-8219 (Phoenix)

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

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

SAA (Sex Addicts Anonymous) has 5 meetings a week in Tucson. People who wish to stop their compulsive sexual behavior, please call (520)570-1226 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, PWB 212, Tucson, AZ 85730.

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

REVELLE GAY MEN'S CHORUS rehearses Tuesdays 7-10pm at MCC Church, 3288 N. Mountain. Have any history/experience singing? Join us! Call 617-3100 for more info.

TGNAriz: The central source for news and information for, by and about the TG, YG, and Gender-variant communities of Arizona. Website URL: http://www.tgnarizona.org - e-mail address: tgnarizona@uwest.net.org

SENIORRAP, a discussion group for older LGBTs, meets from 3 to 5pm on the last Sunday of every month at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. For more info call 640-0820

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE 25 PER WORD \$5.00 MINIMUM



CLASSIFIEDS



CLASSIFIED ADS MUST BE MAILED NO PHONE ADS

NOTICES

"OUT ON THE TRAILS" - EQUESTRIAN FUN! Rider Club learning. Looking for women and men to ride together on the trails of Southern Arizona. Must have own horse, truck and trailer. For more info write: "Out On The Trails" P.O. Box 44045, Tucson, AZ 85733-4045

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

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION (SAAF), 375 S. EUCLID. Office Hours 8am to 5pm, Monday through Friday. Direct services and emotional support for persons with and affected by HIV. Anonymous HIV testing and support groups available. Prevention education programs. 828-SAAF (7223). World wide web: http://www.saaaf.org. VOLUNTEERS WELCOME.

LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP. Involving discussion, support and activities. Designed to support each other. Meets 1st & 3rd Saturday of each month from 9:30 to 11am. Ahmatsa 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 575-6600 or write P.O. Box 36284, Tucson, AZ 85740-6284. 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 528-9344, 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.

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 745-8977 in Tucson for more information. Strictly confidential.

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

SUPPORT GROUP: Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals meet weekly for open discussions in a loving, supportive atmosphere. Meetings Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:30 pm at St. Francis in the foothills Church, Swan and River Road, Room 43. For more information call the church at 298-8063 and ask for a contact person.

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

GREATER PHOENIX GAY & LESBIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (GPOCC) P.O. BOX 2097, Phoenix, AZ 85001-2097. E-mail: webmaster@gpoccc.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. 322-5458. Leave message.

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

ATTENTION ALL NUOISTS - 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 85632.

INNER WISDOM - Try hypnotherapy for pain relief, past life exploration and addiction release. Also available: Spiritual Counseling and Dream Interpretation. 578-8020

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 (820)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 Sonita St. between St. Marys and Congress.

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 at 866-8841.

TUCSON GREATER SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION. Interested? Call Kelly Quinn, (520)742-7885 or go to our web site http://www.tgsoftball.org

NOTICES

LESBIAN AND GAY AL-ANON - Affected by someone's drinking? Meeting every Tuesday 8:45 to 9:45 p.m. at Lambda Center, 2940 E. Thomas, Phoenix. EBe 581-8850 or Ronn 988-2364.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE GROUP - Outreach to Gay and Lesbian people in Arizona. Meets monthly. Write to P.O. Box 883, Phoenix, AZ 85001 or call Eddy Walters, (602)371-1102

CRONES SOCIAL GROUP. A Social group for Gay men who enjoy the fellowship of their peers. Call Leo at 624-8768.

T-SQUARES Lesbian and Gay square dance club meets every Tuesday from 8:30-9:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N. Germinal (near 1st Ave. and Laguna). Open to All. Call Liz at 325-8468 or Ray at 749-8247.

LIGHTNING LIGHTING will provide lighting for AIDS and related benefits at no charge. For more info call Adrienne at 869-7298.

COME EXPLORE YOUR SPIRITUALITY! St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church offers a variety of Gay and Lesbian groups and services for the spirituality minded. Come meet the Phenix! For more information call Debbie 578-8827 or David 323-7843.

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 8:30 to 9:30pm at Armory Park Senior Center, 220 J. 8th Ave. Call 791-9882.

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

AA Meeting with HIV/AIDS focus, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., MCC Church, 3288 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 890-9585 for information and a newsletter. Check the Non-Bar Calendar in the Observer.

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 298-8647.

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT SPORTS TEAMS and updates on Gay Games 2002, contact 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.

THE MENS 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 881-4682 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 815-8436 for more info.

TUCSON LESBIAN/GAY ALLIANCE (TLGA) meets on the second Tuesday at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th Street at 7pm. TLGA produces Pride events. Inquiries about support groups and individual needs should be directed to Wingspan and other local agencies listed here. For more information call 622-3200 or visit TLGA website www.tucsonpride.com

LEARN TO BE A LISTENING FRIEND Unique Hospital Volunteer Program teaches listening skills to Volunteers who provide a safe/compassionate environment to stroke patients. Training every 8 weeks. 894-7063.

MEN TALK - A new group forming for Gay men that explores ourselves, our community and encourages positive growth. A great way to meet people. Meeting 3rd Tuesday of each month at Wingspan. 7-9pm. Call 760-8714 for more info.

PERSONALS

PSYCHIC RENEWS LOVE, LUCK, HAPPINESS, FINANCES, ETC. Remove obstacles. Find destiny. Get your answers and help today. Free consultation. (208)951-4432 924

HAPPY ROOMMATE WANTED TO SHARE: Beautiful happy old-style home. Cozy fireplace. Washer/Dryer. \$360/mo. Utilities included. Close to 4th Avenue and downtown. Private bedroom. Hardwood floors. Big front yard and back. Organic garden coming soon. Must be family friendly. Call Elise 622-4833 921

HOUSEMATE TO SHARE 14 WIDE MANUFACTURED HOME. 2br; 1 1/2 ba. Smoke and drug free. Price/Oracle area. No pets. \$200/mo. References checked. 868-7284 924

ROOMMATES WANTED to share 3 bedroom Eastside home. 722-1481 920.

HOUSING/FOR RENT

2 br 1 ba, large enclosed yard. Grand & Country Club area. Gay owned. 408-2722 921

HOUSE FOR RENT. \$795/mo. Very unique and beautiful. High wood beamed ceilings, exposed brick, huge backyard, block fence, pets okay. 1500 sq. ft. Air conditioned, washer/dryer. Available 4/1. 4944 E. Rosewood. Jill, (602) 410-7770. 921

1br or 2br., 1 ba. Ea., covered parking, oversized, private patio, Mid Town \$425 or \$525. 3Br 1Ba house Ajo and I-19 \$750. Gay owned and operated. Call 331-5466. 920

2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH HOME. EXTRA LARGE BACK YARD w/5' BLOCK WALL. Newly remodeled. Exterior freshly painted. Carpet. \$700/mo. Country Club/Glenn area. Call Mark or Gary 881-5106. 919

SERVICES

HOUSE CLEANING, 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN TUCSON. Impeccable references. Cindy, 578-7848 between 8am - 4pm. 925

UNITED DOCUMENT SERVICE: Bankruptcy \$165 • Divorce \$155 • Wills \$75 • Living Trust \$399 • Housecalls: 488-4847 920

DR. BOB'S QUALITY TOUCH. Sensitive and skillful. Nurturing gliding hands, magical muscle releases, and energy healing by ft professional. True tantric work available for regular clients. Treat yourself today! 318-1919. 927

MANLY KNEADS. Professional massage by a fit, friendly guy. Certified and experienced. \$45. Short on time or cash? Try my 1/2 hour session \$25. Short-notice calls welcomed. Jake, 444-8004 928

TENSE? STRESSED OUT? Relax for an hour with a full body rub by Frank. Private studio, off-street parking. (520)271-3880 days, evenings. 924

CONSCIOUS CONTACT. Swedish-Style full body massage. Relaxation, stress, tension release. In-home, hotels, resorts. 7-days/evenings. Call John, LMT, (520)490-4962 918.

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