

Outcry Over Santorum Remarks Escalates

WASHINGTON, DC - Angry reactions from Gay groups on Monday, April 21, to Sen. Rick Santorum's published anti-Gay comments fanned flames of political indignation on Tuesday, April 22, as politicians, presidential candidates and Democratic Party leaders rebuked the Republican senator.

The firestorm started with remarks Santorum made in an Associated Press interview in which he equated consensual Gay sex with bigamy, polygamy, adultery and incest. The comments were part of a discussion about the pending Supreme Court ruling on the constitutionality of state sodomy laws, Gay.com/PlanetOut.com reported.

The three largest U.S. Gay political groups -- the Human Rights Campaign, National Stonewall Democrats (NSD) and Log Cabin Republicans-- immediately denounced the senator's comments after they were published on Monday.

The Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee (DSCC) turned up the heat on Tuesday by calling on the Pennsylvania Democrat to step down as chairman of the Senate Republican Conference, the third-highest post in the GOP leadership.

Sen. Santorum responded with a brief statement on Tuesday, emphasizing that his comments "were specific to the right to privacy and the broader implications of a ruling on other state privacy laws." The remarks, he added, were not "a statement on individual lifestyles."

He did not address the DSCC's call for his resignation, nor did he apologize for his published statements.

Two Democratic presidential candidates, Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry and former Gov. Howard Dean of Vermont,

condemned Santorum's remarks and criticized the White House for not responding.

"The silence with which President Bush and the Republican Party leadership have greeted Sen. Santorum's remarks is deafening," Dean said in a written statement.

White House spokesman Ari Fleischer told reporters at a press briefing that he had no comment, adding, "I haven't talked to the president about it so I really don't have anything to offer."

Fleischer's statement did not sit well with Gay Democrats.

"This type of quote would be inexcusable if Santorum was referring to almost any other minority group," John Marble, spokesman for the NSD, told the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com Network. "The White House was right, though tardy, to call Lott's comments 'offensive.' However, they should recognize (Santorum's) comments are insulting as well."

(Last December President Bush rebuked Sen. Trent Lott, R-Miss., who had praised the old segregationist platform of former Sen. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C. Lott subsequently resigned as the Senate majority leader.)

After Santorum tried to clarify his remarks on Tuesday, Log Cabin Republicans (LCR) said it wasn't enough.

"Sen. Santorum has a leadership role in coalition-building as the Senate GOP conference chairman -- you don't build coalitions by divisive and mean-spirited statements," said LCR chief Patrick Guerriero. "Without a more forceful apology from the senator, it is hard to imagine that he can effectively promote the compassionate conservative message of President George W. Bush."

Syphilis Outbreak Clouds Palm Springs White Party

PALM SPRINGS, CA - State health officials in California have expressed concern that with upwards of 30,000 predominantly Gay and Bisexual men attending the "White Party" in Palm Springs over Easter Weekend, a localized syphilis outbreak will spread.

"We're nervous that they're going to take it there, and we're nervous that they're going to bring it home," said Dr. Peter Kerndt, director of sexually transmitted disease control in Los Angeles County.

The number of new infectious syphilis cases in the state of California nearly doubled last year, to 1,035. Los Angeles County reported 362 cases, up from 199 a year earlier. San Francisco

logged 316 cases, more than two times the 2001 tally, according to preliminary estimates. County health officials found the majority of the new cases were among Gay and Bisexual men.

But Palm Springs, which is far smaller than either metropolitan area, has in one year developed one of the highest per capita rates of syphilis in the nation. "The disease is spreading dramatically here," said Robert Farrell, director of medical services at the Desert AIDS Project.

Riverside County in 2002 reported 54 new infectious syphilis cases - 48 of them in the eastern part of the county that

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Expulsion Of G/L Military Linguists Continues

WASHINGTON, DC - The United States military continues to discharge Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual linguists, despite a critical need for language specialists, the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network said.

In November 2002, the military began discharge proceedings against nine linguists, trained in Arabic and Korean. Since then, the SLDN said it has assisted an additional 24 linguists targeted under "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue."

Nine of the 24 were trained in Arabic. Eight were Korean language specialists, and three were trained to speak Farsi. SLDN has also provided assistance to two Chinese and two Russian linguists.

"Our nation faces a serious shortfall in the number of trained professionals who can speak and decipher the languages critical to our national security," said the SLDN's C. Dixon Osburn. "The continued firing of Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Americans who are trained in those languages underscores the detriment of 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' on our nation."

According to a Government Accounting Office (GAO) study released in January 2002, the Army faces a critical shortfall in linguists needed to translate intercepts and interrogate suspected terrorists. The report concluded that staff short-

falls "adversely affected agency operations and compromised U.S. military, law enforcement, intelligence, counterterrorism and diplomatic efforts."

The majority of language specialists are being discharged from the Defense Language Institute (DLI), the military's premiere language training facility in Monterey, California. SLDN also reported in 1999 a series of significant "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" violations at DLI, including a witch-hunt which resulted in the discharge of 14 service members.

Cathleen Glover, a discharged Arabic linguist, recently wrote in the Monterey Herald, "The fear that we all feel in these hostile environments is a constant presence. It drives some of us into severe depressions and others of us to seek discharge in order to protect ourselves. This is the only way we can ensure our safety, since the upper ranks of the military refuse to do so."

Democratic Sen. Russ Feingold of Wisconsin recently remarked on the Senate floor, "Not only does the 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' policy waste time, money and linguistic skill, it also initiates discrimination against those who simply want to serve their country." Another Democrat, Rep. Barney Frank of Massachusetts, called the new round of discharges in the face of shortages "the new height of stupidity."

Hate Group Pickets Yale; Students Respond With Humor

HARTFORD, CT - On Palm Sunday, members of Fred Phelps' Topeka, Kan., Westboro Baptist Church gathered at churches to jeer at congregants walking into church while yelling anti-Gay slogans.

The protesters say they are preaching the word of God and giving "ample notice to sinners that the Day of Judgment will come."

Phelps -- who gained national notoriety for shouting anti-Gay epithets during the funeral of slain Gay college student Matthew Shepard -- claims his group has conducted nearly 22,000 such protests over the past decade, to call attention to the sin of homosexuality.

During the most recent Palm Sunday event, Phelps' group, about 10 picketers, carried signs that said "God Hates Homosexuals," "God Hates America" and "Thank God for Sept. 11," a reference to the protesters' belief that Sept. 11 was some sort of judgment.

The next morning, the picketers arrived at the Yale University campus in New Haven, but found they were outnumbered by counter-protesters, who mocked

the hate mongers with a protest of their own -- the Christian Dental Network.

"We heard that they were from the Midwest, an area known for poor oral hygiene," said Will Tauxe, a Yale sophomore, who helped organize the tongue-in-cheek counter-protest. "It was our calling -- dental evangelism."

Students filmed the protesters on a hand-held video camera, while counter-protesters set up shop on opposite corners of the intersection. Project Orange, a community-wide, Gay-rights organization, held vigil at the southwest corner and the dental contingency on the northeast.

The church's patriarch, Fred Phelps, a pastor universally denounced by nearly all religious denominations, didn't attend, but a handful of members of his congregation pulled out protest signs and sang anti-Gay songs.

At one point, one of the protesters delivered a dramatic faux sneeze and then theatrically blew her nose in a rainbow flag.

"We've been on every major cam-
CONTINUED ON PAGE TEN

UPDATE

Jell-O Wrestling Returns In Two Weeks

TUCSON - On May 4, join an enthusiastic crowd at Woody's for the annual Jell-O experience, benefitting the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF). Our famous diva hostesses will lead you through an entertaining afternoon mix of wrestling action and live auction excitement.

Come support our bold and beautiful wrestlers as they take to the ring to bring in funds for SAAF. The live auction will feature a wonderful selection of objects, artwork, date packages and gift certificates from local businesses and friends of SAAF. We'll also be holding the drawing for our raffle Grand Prize - a three-night getaway to San Carlos, Mexico and \$250 cash.

All proceeds from the Reno Gannon Memorial Jell-O Wrestling Extravaganza will go to SAAF. This year our goal is \$20,000. The money raised at this event will allow SAAF to continue providing its vital programs and services for this community.

There is a \$3 cover at the door, and you must be over 21 to enter. The event takes place from 4 to 7 p.m. Seating will be limited, so get there early to get a good spot! If you have questions or need more information, call Amy at (520) 628-7223.

Reveille's Rummage Rave, April 26

By Renata Tebaldi

TUCSON - Yes, all you GLBT bargain-hunters, this Saturday - April 26 - is IT. The RRR opens at 7 a.m. at Rincon Congregational Church, 122 North Craycroft.

I personally am donating several liters of the most exquisite extra-virgin, cold-pressed olive oil from my orchards in Tuscany. Can you imagine anything being extra-virgin?? And then there's my Traviata gown, which I promised last week.

Lusting for an almost-new bread machine? They've got it! A 12-speed black and red Univega bicycle? Got that, too. Clothes from Ralph Lauren, Brooks Bros. and others? Yes, they'll all be there. A real Zen-like water feature, complete with stones (water not included)? Yes! The gorgeous green Lexus 430? I'm not sure about that one. And, of course, tchachkes galore.

But wait a minute. What about your rummage, the rummage I asked you to donate to Reveille? This is the moment to bring some order and simplicity to your own nest. Call before it's too late - (520) 617-3100, and Reveille will send a hunky singer to pick up your stuff. It's almost too late, but you still have a day or two. And on Saturday the men of Reveille will be waiting for you - Craycroft and Broadway. Be there or... you know.

Community Forum On GLBT Aging

TUCSON - What are the issues for LGBT people as they get older? How can the LGBT community support its older members -- and vice versa?

Wingspan will present the latest in its Community Forum Series, "Issues In Aging for the LGBT Community" on Thursday, May 8, 30 to 7:30 p.m. Panelists will include older LGBT people from the community and professionals from local and state organizations who are trying to better serve the aging LGBT population.

Results will also be shared from a community-wide survey on LGBT aging issues that was conducted by Fran Coleman, a provider of in-home care services, in collaboration with Wingspan and the Pima Council On Aging. A free reception will follow. All ages are welcome.

The Forum will take place at Wingspan Main Office, 300 E. 6th Street. For more information, call Wingspan (520) 624-1779, or visit www.wingspanaz.org.

GLAAD Launches 'People of Color' Campaign

LOS ANGELES, CA - The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation is launching the "People of Color" media campaign to promote fair, accurate, and inclusive representations of people of color in the GLBT community.

The campaign is part of GLAAD's strategic plan to develop diverse markets. "GLAAD's [People of Color] media program is designed to serve the explosive growth of media targeting specific communities," said John Sonogo, GLAAD's director of communications. "And we wanted to invest significant staff time and resources to maximize opportunities for collaboration."

Monica Taher, former Western regional media manager for GLAAD, has been tapped to build the program. Prior to her employment with GLAAD, Taher worked for public relations firm Rogers and Associates, the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center, and the news departments of two Telemundo stations. She is credited with placing the first op-ed about GLBT images in Spanish language media in La Opinión, the largest Spanish-language paper in the country.

"With the new [People of Color] media initiative and the expansion of GLAAD's staff, the organization will increase the innumerable opportunities in local and national markets to share our stories and encourage inclusive representation of Gay and Lesbian people of color in all media," said Taher.

Treasures For TIHAN Generates Record Revenue

TUCSON - On April 12, the atmosphere was electric as more than 400 people gathered in the large ballroom at the Radisson Hotel in downtown Tucson for the 6th annual "Treasures for TIHAN" an auction benefitting the Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN).

A record \$64,000 was raised in spirited bidding on everything from original local art to a fabulous weekend at Miraval Resort and Spa right here in Tucson.

In just its sixth year, Treasures for TIHAN has grown from a local "White Elephant" sale to one featuring nationally and internationally known galleries, artists and patrons who donate items for both a silent and live auction. To illustrate how the event has grown, one guest remembered the highlight of the first auction was a set of hubcaps—in fact, the guest who bought the hubcaps still has them on his car!

The evening began with arriving guests arriving to more than 250 live and silent auction items. The event moves quickly, as tables of silent auction items begin closing before the live auction begins. There is a spirit of one-upmanship as people compete for the right to take home cherished items or artwork. Although no hard feelings are harbored if items are lost to a higher bid, as each guest knows the money is going to a great cause. The live auction is the highlight of the event as auctioneer extraordinaire Dan Haslam returned from California to lead Treasures For TIHAN to new heights. The sale of every item brought applause, and guests waited in anticipation as Haslam was able to generate the highest amount for each item.

As it was, by the end of the night, Scott Blades, TIHAN's Executive Director knew that his Co-Chairs Christina Rossetti and Noel Matkin had worked their magic. "I knew we were doing well but I was nervous because this event does so much to help TIHAN in its everyday mission. It helps keep us afloat in some very difficult times—especially the summer months" he said.

Blades also points out that TIHAN is the only organization in Tucson whose focus is to mobilize faith communities to respond compassionately to those infected by HIV/AIDS, a mission they have been actively pursuing since 1994. TIHAN works with these communities to provide non-medical care to persons living with HIV/AIDS. There are now 27 supporting churches, congregations and temples, and member agencies, in the greater Tucson area.

[In next week's Observer, pictures from this record breaking event will be featured.

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Around The USA

Philadelphia Markets To G/L Tourists

PHILADELPHIA, PA - The Philadelphia Gay Tourism Caucus wants Gays and Lesbians to visit their fair city - and they've got the support of the City of Brotherly Love who says it plans to market the city to the Gay community the same way that it's marketed to everyone else.

"We need to put out there that we're Gay-friendly," says Bill Gehrman, founder of the Caucus.

The push for tourists coincides with the city's annual PrideFest celebration, April 28 through May 4. The event has been renamed Equality Forum this year to reflect its international focus. Arts, entertainment, civil rights, education, youth programs and, of course, parties will be part of the offerings during the week of events sponsored by the Equality Forum.

Last year, some 75,000 attended the symposium and festival.

Philadelphia is hardly the first to try to lure Gay travelers with tourism pushes that target the Lesbian and Gay community - Fort Lauderdale and Montreal have been doing it for some time.

This year Portland, Ore., is offering visitors a new publication: "Gay Portland: A resource guide for the GLBT visitor."

Available in print and online, "Gay Portland" provides an overview of Portland's attractions, art offerings and culture - many of the same elements that make

Portland a popular destination for straight visitors.

"Gay Portland" goes a step further, though, listing clubs that cater to Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender patrons, showcasing festivals such as the Portland Lesbian and Gay Film Festival in October and the Portland Pride Festival in June.

Town Flooded With Anti-Gay Mail

COVINGTON, KY - A mass mailing of anti-Gay letters condemning the morality of homosexuality and accusing local council members of attempting to "normalize" Gay relations and behavior were sent to some 20,000 Covington households.

A group calling itself Citizens for Community Values, which is funded by the Family Research Council, took responsibility for the mailing. It came two weeks in advance of a vote before the Covington City Commission which will decide whether the municipal anti-bias ordinance should be extended to sexual orientation and gender identity.

"They are about forcing all of us to accept homosexual behavior as normal, healthy and natural," the letter says. "They are about capturing the minds of the next generation - our children! And they are intended to be one important step toward legalizing same-sex marriages in Kentucky and across the nation."

The letter includes a 24-page booklet published by FRC that maintains homosexual behavior "has serious emotional and physical dangers associated with it."

A separate letter from CCV was sent to members of the City Commission, most of whom are Catholic, saying the Vatican maintains that "anti discrimination laws that includes sexual orientation are damaging to families, so the Church discourages such legislation."

The letter reminds them that Catholic politicians must follow the tenants of the faith.

An angry Covington Mayor Butch Callery said: "I thought we had separation of church and state." A spokesperson for the Diocese of Covington declined to comment on letter except to say that it had not been requested, sent or paid for by the Catholic church.

At recent public hearings in Covington, representatives of the parish councils at Mother of God Church and the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, along with representatives of several Protestant churches, expressed support for the proposed ordinance.

NBC Renews 'Will & Grace' For 2 Seasons

LOS ANGELES, CA - The NBC television network has renewed "Will & Grace" through the 2004-05 season and boosted the stars' salaries, according to the Hollywood Reporter.

The sitcom, the first in prime time to feature an openly Gay male lead character, is finishing its fifth season, and it went into syndication last fall, reported Gay.com/PlanetOut.com.

According to the Reporter, a deal is nearly signed that will raise the salary of the title stars, Eric McCormack and Debra

Messing, to about \$400,000 per episode during the show's seventh season. Supporting stars Megan Mullally and Sean Hayes, who play Karen Walker and Jack McFarland, respectively, will also receive comparable raises.

Prime time network series usually shoot 22 episodes per season.

Scott Seomin, spokesman for the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD), praised NBC's decision.

"Will Truman and Jack McFarland - two very different and very likable Gay men - are welcomed into millions of living rooms every week. The power of these images cannot be overestimated as viewers learn about our Gay lives," Seomin told the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com Network. "GLAAD is thrilled that the cast and crew will remain on NBC through 2005."

He added: "We are looking forward to Will finding his husband and to Jack finding even more fabulousness. And we're excited that Karen will continue to discover new vodka drinks for at least two more seasons."

"Will & Grace" won an Emmy Award for best comedy in 2000, and Mullally and Hayes won Emmys that year in supporting categories. McCormack won a best actor Emmy in 2001.



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EDITORIAL

'Recognizing Relationships'

In 1997, the Pima County Board of Supervisors made history by becoming the first governmental entity in the state by recognizing Gay and Lesbian relationships when they extended medical and dental benefits to the same-sex domestic partners of their employees, for which they were able to implement the following year after a protracted court battle.

Tucson's government, as well as several other cities, in the ensuing years, followed Pima County's lead, extending domestic partner benefits to same-sex employees. A positive change in employment policy is one good thing but it is time for Arizona's cities to recognize committed Gay and Lesbian relationships of its populace.

The City of Tucson Commission on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) Issues, Wingspan, and the Arizona Human Rights Fund (AHRF) have been working on a proposal to be considered by Tucson's Mayor and Council, creating a domestic partner registry so that committed Gay and Lesbian couples could have their relationship recognized in the city limits.

This proposal will once again put Tucson in the forefront of human rights issues in the state. A human relations ordinance protecting the rights of its GLBT populace was passed in 1977, as well as a hate crimes ordinance in 1995, and the formation of the Tucson GLBT Commission

in 1998, the first governmental entity to include GLBT citizens, officially, as part of its government and now Tucson must lead on the issue of recognizing relationships.

Is this the equivalent of marriage and does it grant medical and dental benefits? No, but it grants some rights to these relationships and advances the very important issue of recognizing same-sex relationships forward, something The Observer wholeheartedly agrees with and supports.

Arizona has a state defense of marriage act on its books, recognizing marriage as between a man and woman. Vermont's Civil Unions are a long time and long distance away so we must speak out to get our committed relationships recognized by government, in one form or another, and the proposal is a good start.

Speaking out paid off regarding the proposed ordinance to restrict the right to assemble, march and protest, which was withdrawn from consideration by the Tucson Mayor and Council and will work again in this matter.

On Tuesday, April 29, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., a forum, co-sponsored by the Commission, AHRF and Wingspan is being held at 300 East Sixth Street. So get informed, involved and help to get this proposal adopted. For more information, E-mail: lucinda-youngaz@yahoo.com, kfelan@ahrf.org or call (520) 990-3714.

Pakistan Leader Outed In Political Battle

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan - The head of a state government in Pakistan is caught in the eye of a political storm after descriptions of his Gay lifestyle were leaked to the press in bickering between the country's spy bosses, reports from the mostly military-ruled South Asian nation said.

Pakistan's Friday Times weekly published an exposé that the chief minister of Pakistan's southeastern state of Sindh, Ali Mohammed Maher, was Gay and loved late-night dancing parties, sometimes in women's clothes.

In a follow-up report, the U.S.-based South Asian Tribune attributed the press leaks in the conservative Muslim nation to an infighting between two army generals - Ehsanul Haq and his deputy Ehtesham Zamir Jaffery - both of whom command the country's infamous spy agency, the Inter Services Intelligence (ISI). The ISI was widely suspected of involvement in the killing of U.S. journalist Daniel Pearl last year.

"I commend Maher (for being less discreet than other closeted officials)," said Hasan Mujtaba, an openly Bisexual intellectual and writer originally from Maher's home state, from San Diego. "This is something ideological, really mystical, as it has never happened before in history. Not even during the Mogul era in India, when some rulers and princes were highly closeted Gays."

The local Sindhi vernacular press blacked out the news item because of Maher's tribal and political clout. Mujtaba added that the way Maher's sexuality was presented in the "homophobic" media was all the more deplorable.

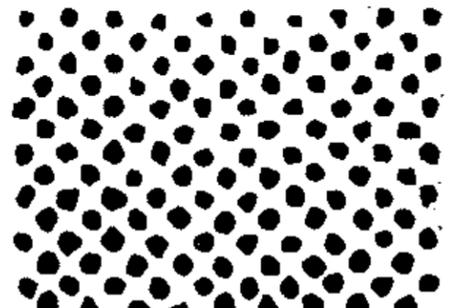
Mujtaba said, "In Pakistan's peculiar context, none would come to (Maher's) defense. This is a prime case for international human and Gay rights bodies to lobby and fight for him."

As per Islamic law, called Shariah, which cannot be challenged under Pakistan's constitution, a Gay person can even be sentenced to death. Though no such sentence has ever been actually passed, the law hangs over the heads of Gays in Pakistan.

Maher's political future appears sealed. The South Asian Tribune reported, "The immediate fallout of the (spies') power struggle is likely to be in the Southern province of Sindh, where Chief Minister Ali Mohammed Maher may become its first casualty."

"He is finished. His sexuality would be exploited beyond imagination," commented an engineer of Pakistani origin from Miami, while requesting anonymity.

As in Oman, Palestine, Morocco, Afghanistan and Saudi Arabia, there are closeted Gays in Pakistan's power structure, but any "coming out" is simply inconceivable. Public disgrace and stiff penalties, even death, befall common Gay men.



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Gay Language Jeopardizes AIDS Grants

WASHINGTON, DC - Health officials studying AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases have been warned by federal health officials their funding will "likely come under intense scrutiny" by officials at the Department of Health and Human Services if their grant applications include phrases like, "anal sex" and "men who sleep with men."

AIDS researchers and scientists have apparently been told that unfavorable attention can be avoided by keeping key words and phrases out of funding requests submitted to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The HHS denies applications are screened for controversial content or that they are rejected for political reasons. But an NIH official requesting anonymity told The New York Times that project officers were using informal channels to spread the word that "sensitive language" should be avoided.

Dr. Alfred Sommer, the dean of the Bloomberg School of Public Health at Johns Hopkins University, told the Times that a Johns Hopkins researcher, seeking funding to track rates of HIV among prostitutes, had been advised by a grant screener at the NIH to change the term "sex worker" into something more euphemistic.

Dr. Sommer said the idea that grants might be subject to political surveillance was creating a "pernicious sense of insecurity" among researchers.

A researcher at the University of

California similarly said he had been told by an NIH project officer that a grant proposal "should be 'cleansed' and should not contain any contentious wording like 'Gay' or 'homosexual' or 'Transgender.'" The researcher said the official told him that grants that included those words were "being screened out and targeted for more intense scrutiny."

The UC scientist has since struggled over how to word a funding request for a study that is designed to focus on Gay people and HIV testing. When the subjects are Gay men, he said, "It's hard not to mention them in your abstract."

Health specialists have repeatedly charged that the administration's domestic AIDS policy has been hijacked by far right conservatives who are putting ideology before young lives.

AIDS professionals say the evidence of bias against the Bush administration is overwhelming. Information explaining the effectiveness of condoms in preventing HIV transmission was pulled from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Web site in September 2002. Also gone: a section called "programs that work," which focused on HIV and highlighted several condom-use programs.

The HHS inspector general last year began investigating eight or more federally funded AIDS programs to see if their content was "too sexually explicit" or "promoted" specific kinds of sexual activity. It appears the line on what is "acceptable" for federal financing is being redrawn yet again.

Study Details Lesbian Sex Practices

LONDON, UK - What do British Lesbians have in common? Sex with men, according to a recent study.

In the largest study of its kind in the United Kingdom, researchers found 85 percent of Lesbian and Bisexual woman surveyed said they'd had sex with men during their lives, although only 12 percent had done so within the past year. Most women said their first sexual experience had been with a man, Gay.com/PlanetOut.com reported.

The findings aren't surprising, said Susan Cochran, an expert on Lesbian health and professor of epidemiology at the University of California at Los Angeles. Studies in the United States have shown that Lesbians typically begin their sex lives by having intercourse with a man around age 18, she said. Sex with a woman happens, on average, about a year later.

"What happens is that most Lesbians have sex (with the opposite sex) like other adolescents do," she said.

It's becoming more common, however, for Lesbians to avoid sex with men entirely, she said, reflecting greater sexual freedom among women.

British researchers interviewed about 1,200 Lesbian and Bisexual women from 1992 to 1995. They found the women at community centers and sexual health clinics. The findings of the study appear in the April 2003 issue of the journal Sexually Transmitted Infections.

While almost all the women reported having had sex with men, 70 percent said they hadn't done so in at least four years. Twenty-five percent of the Lesbians said they had been pregnant during their lives. Of those who reported intercourse with men, one-third said they never used condoms.

Some safer-sex practices were even less common in Lesbian relationships. Only 14 percent of those who engaged in oral sex said they ever used dental dams, which protect against sexually transmitted diseases. Many of those who used sex toys didn't clean them properly or put condoms on them.

Researchers also studied the variety of sexual practices that Lesbians engage in with each other. Ninety-seven percent reported engaging in oral sex often or occasionally. Other popular activities included vaginal penetration with fingers (97 percent), mutual masturbation (95 percent), anal penetration with fingers (55 percent) and vaginal penetration with sex toys (53 percent).

Study co-author Dr. Julia Bailey, a researcher at King's College London, said she hopes the study will encourage doctors to better understand Lesbian sexuality. "Even if Lesbians and Bisexual women identify themselves, assumptions may be made that Lesbians have never had sex with men or that Lesbian sex does not involve penetration," she said. "Many Lesbians engage in penetrative sex, have sex with men, get pregnant and have children."

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Two Murder Suspects Confess

SALINAS, CA - Two of the three Monterey County residents held in connection with the murder of Robert Maricle have confessed their role in the crime, according to just released police documents.

Jeanne Soja, 29, and Dominique Daniel England, 19, apparently confessed their involvement in the December 2002 torture and murder of 30-year-old Maricle, shortly after their arrest.

Police offered little information about the third person held in the case, 20-year-old Dayton Schrock. A declaration justifying the young man's arrest says he did not cooperate with investigators, instead invoking his right to legal counsel.

England, Soja and Schrock allegedly murdered Maricle at Soja's Salinas apartment sometime around Dec. 14, police said. Authorities learned of the killing April 8 from an informant who led them to Maricle's body in a remote spot in northern Monterey County. The informant also told police that one of the reasons Maricle was killed was that he was Bisexual.

Despite the allegations the crime was motivated in part by anti-Gay bias, the suspects have so far been charged only with murder. Salinas police Sgt. Dino Bardoni said it is still possible that prosecutors will level hate crime or torture charges against the threesome.

Prosecutors have thus far held off on making those charges because they do not believe they have enough evidence to prove them beyond a reasonable doubt.

According to Salinas police detective Richard Maldonado's statement, Schrock is an admitted member of the white supremacist gangs "Nazi Low Riders" and the "Peckerwoods." Since England was his friend, England is also considered by police to be a gang associate.

Man Under House Arrest After Anti-Gay Attack

TAMPA, FL - Three men beaten as they left a Florida Gay pride party last year are upset that their attacker has been sentenced to only two years' house arrest plus four years' probation. Devin Scott Angus, 21, had faced up to 30 years in prison.

He pleaded guilty earlier this month to charges of aggravated battery and battery with evidence of prejudice, a hate crime. Prosecutor John Terry asked the judge to give Angus a four-year prison sentence. Angus's attorney, Tim Taylor, asked the judge to give Angus two years in prison. Instead, Hillsborough circuit judge Chet Tharpe sentenced Angus to house arrest, probation, and 500 hours of community service.

Tharpe told Angus he was concerned that sending him to prison might have a detrimental effect on his rehabilitation. "I hope this judge isn't involved in any other discrimination cases, because evidently he doesn't know how to handle these," said Steven Hair, 26, who has been to the dentist 20 times to repair teeth knocked out by the beating he took from Angus.

The assault took place July 7, the last day of PrideFest, a six-day Tampa-St. Petersburg event. The victims, all from St.

Petersburg, were leaving a party at the Florida Aquarium when Angus confronted them in a parking garage. Before attacking the men, Angus taunted them by dropping his pants and screaming obscenities. Sonny Gonzales, 35, received a head laceration; Hair suffered a skull fracture, a split sinus, and a broken front tooth; and Scott Boswell, 25, suffered a split lip.

At the sentencing hearing, Angus tearfully apologized to the victims, saying he was drunk when he attacked them. "I don't know why I did it," Angus said. "I don't hate homosexuals. I didn't hate you that night. I don't now."

G/L Group Launches Murder Probe

PHILADELPHIA, PA - A Philadelphia Gay and Lesbian group has announced it will do its own investigation in the killing of a Transgender person, as police have no suspects after three months on the case, the Philadelphia Daily News reported.

The newspaper cited Asa Khalif, president of Racial Unity, an African-American Gay and Lesbian group, as saying members of his group will go do the field investigations into the death of Nizah Morris. Racial Unity is also offering a \$1,000 reward for information that leads to an arrest, reported the Gay.com/Planet-Out.com network.

Both police and the district attorney's office were unaware of Racial Unity's plans. The police apparently welcomed the move, and the homicide division's Capt. Thomas Lippo told the Daily News, "If they come up with some additional information, we'd be happy to have it."

Morris suffered a blow to the head in the early hours of Dec. 22 and died two

days later. According to the newspaper, she had collapsed in front of a bar and police offered her a ride home. The officers say she asked to be dropped off in Center City in the early hours of Sunday. She was found shortly afterward with the head injury.

Police ruled her death a homicide, but so far no witnesses or clues have been found.

Many in the local GLBT community have accused the police of not investigating properly because Morris was a Transgender person, though the officers attribute their failure to a lack of information.

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Hello readers! I want to start this week by giving a kudos to the staff and crowd at last Saturday's prom held at the Yard Dog. I don't think anyone will ever see me dressed like that again. If you see me out and about, ask to see the pictures taken, they are a blast. Those of you who know my column are aware of my respect for anyone who dons a dress for either entertainment or personal reasons. I have to say that the level of that respect was raised considerably last Saturday.

This was the first week in a while where the news was not a flood of pictures and stories from the front lines in the Middle East. It was a welcome change to not have the entire newscast be a summary of all that was accomplished that day in the war. The fervor of the media to show the troops at their best though was quickly replaced by stories here at home that brought our senses back to reality. There is still a lot going on in our nation, and freedom of the press can only survive if all tales are told completely.

Hidden deep in the back lot of the news this week was a story that caught my eye. It seems with all the back patting and bragging that our elected officials are now doing, they are attempting to take advantage of our lessened senses. The shock and awe that was the preview of what was to come to Iraq never really materialized. But the shock and awe of the American public is being taken advantage of from within our own lawmakers. The one bill that stands out is the revision of the Patriot Act.

After the attacks on September 11th, the president and his cabinet launched a bill aimed to make our shores less vulnerable to the terror we faced on that day. The original Patriot Act gave federal officials certain abilities that most of us were not

aware them not having to begin with. Search and seizure, evidence withholding and detention suddenly were revised in the hopes to keep the terrorists from making American soil a ground for terror. The bill was passed quickly on the sentiment of the attacks, and launched the formation of the Homeland Security office.

Once the shock of the attacks waned off, law experts began to read into the bill. They found it to have in its text, the blessing for federal officials to perform acts that totally conflict the freedoms this country was founded on. It was found that just about anyone could be subject to search without warning or justification. Detainment could be enacted solely on speculation and the rights of those being detained disappeared in a legal jargon that would make the best lawyer dizzy. The revised version of this bill is even more in violation of freedoms we are given under the constitution.

There has been some resistance to the new bill at the local level. Cities are finding that the Patriot II (that's what it is being labeled) will make something as simple as going to the public library a task filled with the worry that the FBI could be knocking on your door at any moment. Wire taps and surveillance did not sit well with the cities who are passing law to override the Patriot II. The modern convenience of the Internet is also an open range for the bill to be enforced upon. If you were just curious as to what the Al Jazeera network was all about, it could be traced to your home and give the official cause to prosecute.

'Patriotic Paranoia'

This bill is just one of many that the lawmakers are attempting to slide under our doors at a time when we are most vulnerable. They are masking them with key phrases and terms that would lead people to think that they are in the interest of our security and progress. I find it almost humorous that Congress and the House could debate for months on a package to help fund AIDS research, but can pass a Homeland Security bill in less time than it takes us to have lunch. The only reason that it does not reach the plateau of funny to me is that in the end, we the people, are the victims of terrorism launched by our own.

Homeland security is everyone's responsibility. This is our land, so it is up to us to make sure that it is safe and secure. The government does not want us running around playing vigilante, so they attempt to make committee and jury all in one. The true fear of those on Capitol Hill is that the American public will realize what is being done and remove those who do not represent the view of the people. They would have to find a real job and worry about attacks just like the rest of us.

Unfortunately, the solution to this situation is one that is not easy. If we elect a different group to help form our laws, it is not a guarantee that they will represent us any better. I can not support a group of folks who claim to be the deliverers of democracy to other lands while our own is reverting to a near communist state. I commend the local governments who are standing up for our rights. We can look to them to model what

our nation was founded on and try to give the message to the upper level lawmakers that we can govern our own well being when we have to.

On to lighter information. I am still taking donations for the big Jell-O Wrestling Extravaganza on May 4th. The donations go to SAAF and I can guarantee you a memorable event. Woody's is the host as always, with the festivities starting in the early afternoon. Come on down and see the matches, bid on articles during the auction, and kick off May in grand style. I can be reached via the email address calabazamusic@yahoo.com if you have any other questions. Have a good week!

ERS - LETTERS - LETTERS - LETTERS - LETTER

Dear Editor:

I would like to thank IBT's for allowing Gay Men's Health Project (GMHP) the opportunity of their barbecue/drag show fundraiser this past Sunday.

Thanks to Clark for running the food as well as Larry for cooking it. Huge thanks go to those incredibly fabulous performers Janee Starr, Teri Aki, Miss Saigon, Lady Ashley, Veronica Halliwell, Deora Le Blanc, Stella Virgin and AprilMay Showers for going beyond the call of duty, donning some fabulous outfits, raising the roof and helping raise \$385.00 for Condom Brigade.

I would also like to thank the audience for being so generous with their tips and for their amazing support of the program. This money will buy condoms and lube for distribution in Tucson's Gay bars. Again thanks to all who took the time and energy to help Condom Brigade. I couldn't do it without you.

Bearhugs, Scott A. Davey
GMHP Manager, Tucson, AZ



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NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE
by Lee Thom



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**War Coverage:
How Good Was It? Compared To What?**

If you want to compare it to the news coverage of Viet Nam, coverage which was characterized by year after year of journalists' willing suspension of disbelief, and by the famous Saigon "Five O'clock Follies" where the military lied to the journalists who in turn pretended not to realize they were being lied to; if that's the comparison, this war coverage was brilliant.

If you want to compare it to the coverage of the first Gulf War, a war where the military effectively prevented coverage until after the fact, this coverage was sensational.

Of course the difference was the "embedded reporters," journalists who were permitted to be at the scene of the action at the time that the action was occurring. Whoever came up with that concept should get some important award from somebody like the American Civil Liberties Union. I'm betting that our hero was some obscure Pentagon bureaucrat who wants to and will be allowed to remain obscure. He or she is a hero nonetheless. Viva the shadowy idea people!

And now let's turn to nit-picking. Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld beautifully characterized the biggest fact of the coverage -- biggest after embedding -- when he said with his habitual incisiveness that the press seemed to undergo major mood swings, often within the space of 24 hours.

He was referring to the sad fact that the press would take two or three snippets of information, present them as some significant emerging trend, and conclude that the sky was falling or that the war was over. Hence the war plan was brilliant, flawed, brilliant again, terribly flawed, brilliant once again, and so on.

Little tiny facts, even if you string them together, don't amount to much. An honest journalist, even when he really needs a story, has got to restrain himself when he knows, deep in his gut, that his two or three tidbits don't add up to anything. CNN, whose coverage I watched the most, generally failed to exercise this restraint and gave in to the mood pendulum.

Another major sin of CNN, and I pick on them because they're probably the best, was their use of "many people thought." It is sinful, and almost as bad as outright lying, because you can follow the phrase with anything you want to convey legitimacy upon and never be factually incorrect. You can say, "Many people thought the war would be short." Who can argue? "Many people thought the war would be long." Also true. "Many people thought the war would be of medium duration." Correct again.

This "many people thought" business is a very old and shabby trick, a way to give a position authority when you can find no legitimate authority to give it. Shame shame on anyone, Mr. Blitzer, who calls himself a journalist and stoops to this hackneyed nonsense.

It's hard to leave the subject of war coverage without making reference to the very silliest example that one has encountered. My vote for the absolute silliest statement goes to Christiane Amanpour, a famous CNN reporter, who said that a very serious issue should be made of whether a tank should have returned disproportionate

fire at a hotel known to house international journalists, such as one C. Amanpour.

Give us a break! Does she really think that a tank jockey in a five-million person town that he's never been in before knows one hotel from another? Does she really think that a tank jockey's boss is going to tell him, "Don't return fire if you think it's coming from a hotel with international journalists in it?" Can she possibly think that, when somebody's shooting at you, you're going to stop and say, "Wait a minute. That sounds like mere rifle fire. It wouldn't really be fair or sporting to return fire with our cannon. Let's just give 'em a taste of our machine gun fire."

Amanpour pointed out that the fire might not even have come from the hotel in the first place. But when you're being shot at, you return fire to wherever you think it's coming from. That's one of the things that makes war so damned dangerous.

Maybe Christiane should consider a safer line of work.

[Thom welcomes comments, suggestions for future columns, and tips on local skulduggery that ought to be exposed. Write to Box 85571, Tucson, AZ 85754].

**Showtime To Produce
'Prayers For Bobby'**

HOLLYWOOD, CA - Variety reports that Showtime will adapt Leroy Aaron's book *Prayers for Bobby*, which explores the true story of a Gay young adult who committed suicide and how his death inspired his religious mother to become a crusader for Gay and Lesbian teens, into a made-for-TV movie.

David Permut (*Face/Off*), Daniel Sladek (*Tale of the Mummy*), and Chris Taaffe have signed on as executive producers for the project, tentatively titled *Prayers*, and out screenwriter Katie Ford (*Miss Congeniality*) will write the screenplay.

Actress Susan Sarandon had originally planned to be an executive producer and possibly a star of the film, which was attached at one point to NBC, but she and the producers parted ways.

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Jugando a la ruleta rusa

¿Sabes cuál es el juego de la ruleta rusa? ¡No! Pues es muy sencillo. Cargas un revolver con una bala, le das vueltas a la mazorca y sin mirar donde quedo ésta, te apuntas con la pistola y disparas. Es posible que la bala haya quedado justo en el espacio que al apretar el gatillo, ésta saldría disparada y como te estás apuntando a ti mismo, salgas herido y posiblemente muerto. Claro que también hay la posibilidad que la bala haya quedado en otro de los espacios y que al apretar el gatillo pues no pase nada. Seguramente ya hayas visto la escena antes descrita en una de esas películas de vaqueros donde muestran hombres que les gusta jugar con la muerte pero creemos que tu no eres una de estas personas, además eso solo se ve en las películas. Sin embargo, es posible que estés jugando algo similar a la ruleta rusa cada vez que tienes sexo sin protección con personas que no conoces lo suficiente.

La analogía, aunque pueda sonar cruel es válida. Sin embargo, déjame clarificar algunos puntos que necesitas tener en mente cuando hacemos esta comparación de la ruleta rusa. Primero, el VIH no es una sentencia de muerte como a analogía de la ruleta rusa puede implicar. Segundo, hay que recordar que las personas que viven con el VIH no son culpables por su estado; puede haber otros factores envueltos. Tercero, la gente no son balas, consecuentemente la gente con VIH no están matando otra gente como esta analogía podría sugerir. Finalmente, el VIH no es transmitido todas y cada una de las veces que hay coito sin protección con una persona VIH+.

Con estos puntos aclarados, vamos a analizar los puntos válidos en esta analogía. Cada vez que tienes sexo sin protección té estas arriesgando a contraer el virus que causa el SIDA y aunque esta enfermedad ya no esta matando la gente

como hace varios años, no hay que olvidar que todavía no hay una cura que haga desaparecer el peligro que todo esto implica. Aunque no con las mismas proporciones de hace una década, todavía hay gente que esta muriendo por complicaciones de SIDA y recuerda que nadie está exento de la infección. ¿Pero como es que la ruleta rusa es comparable a qué me pueda infectar de VIH? Bueno miralo así. Si por ejemplo, en una semana o mes tienes relaciones sexuales donde haya penetración anal sin protección con seis diferentes personas té estas arriesgando a que una o varias de estas personas sean, como en el caso de la ruleta rusa, la bala que podría cambiar tu vida para siempre. En el caso de la ruleta rusa, la pistola no es la culpable de que la persona se vaya a disparar en este juego, lo mismo pasa en este caso. Con esto no queremos decir que hay una responsabilidad compartida. Pero al tener coito sin protección, tú eres el que esta decidiendo aceptar tener relaciones así, y por lo mismo es tu responsabilidad de lo que pueda pasar.

El propósito de este artículo no es asustarte para que ya no tengas sexo ni tampoco es para decirte que te acuestes con solamente una persona. Esas son decisiones que solamente tú vas a tomar. Lo único que te recordamos es que te cuides usando condón cada vez que tengas penetración anal. La vida es para vivirla y cuando la vivimos con responsabilidad ten la seguridad que se vive mejor. Por eso recuerda, al igual que usas el cinturón de seguridad cuando vas en un automóvil, usa un condón cada vez que tengas coito. Te invitamos a participar en nuestros entrenamientos para aprender más de cómo protegerte del VIH y otras enfermedades transmitidas sexualmente. Háblanos para más información al (520) 628-7223 y pide hablar con José, Rafael o Ernie. También puedes mandarnos un correo a salud@saaf.org.

Syphilis Outbreak

Continued from Page One

includes Palm Springs. The entire county reported only 17 cases of infectious syphilis a year earlier, said Barbara Cole, director of disease control for Riverside County.

The California Department of Health Services issued an alert in late January warning health authorities nationwide of the Palm Springs problem and asking them to report syphilis cases among people who recently traveled to the area. In part, the upsurge can be traced to the area's growing popularity among Gay men for retirement and recreation.

Health department volunteers are distributing laminated wallet-sized cards warning, "Check him out! Syphilis is spreading rapidly among Gay men in the Coachella Valley. The increase in cases is dramatic and is impacting the health of individuals who are infected."

The safety and comfort of my patrons is my No. 1 priority," said White Party founder Jeffrey Sanker. "The continued risk of HIV infection as well as the recent outbreak of syphilis cases in the Palm Springs area are both issues we certainly cannot ignore."

Hate Group Pickets

Continued from Page One

pus in the United States," said Margie Phelps, one of the Rev. Phelps's daughters. "No reason Yale should be exempt."

One of their signs read "Thank God for Sept. 11" and another asserted that the space shuttle explosion was a matter of divine intervention.

Margie Phelps called the two disasters "fair warning from God" that "this nation institutionalizes sin at every level."

Shirley Phelps-Roper, another daughter, stood next to her 7-year-old son in the picket. The boy looked shy and cast his eyes downward when a reporter asked him a question.

At one point, the mother asked him if he knew why they were there and he murmured a response.

"He said, 'Because God hates fags,'" Phelps-Roper answered for the child.

Yale University sent out e-mails to students alerting them to the planned protest and urging them to avoid confrontation.

But Tauxe said he and his friends couldn't resist and created the Christian Yale Dental Network to tweak the visiting group.

Other than the peaceful counter-protests, the 30-minute picket by the church went off without incident.



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HOROSCOPES

The radiant Sun changes signs this week from robust Aries to unstoppable Taurus. Personal goals take on a new hue and strong direction from the unshakable (read: stubborn) Taurean force. Take your dreams to the next level, cousins. And remember, Taurus also knows how to stop and smell the flowers. Enjoy your gotten gains.

ARIES

MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

What do proud Rambos value most aside from their own good looks? The feisty Sun traverses the zodiac and lands in solid Taurean energy. Financial issues move from chorus to center stage as money becomes the driving concern of the moment. You are as you spend, dear, queer Aries. If you need big bucks to make a big splash, so be it. Everybody into the pool!

TAURUS

APRIL 21 - MAY 21

Birthday Bulls should let loose when the Sun moves into your own sign and over does in the charm department. (If you could only bottle and store it for a rainy day...) Proud Taureans should display the merchandise and see who buys. Launch new projects and meet many new folks now. If you can view life from a different angle, the sky is the limit. Pack a protractor and get going.

GEMINI

MAY 22 - JUNE 21

Spread Gay charitable cheer, pink Twin. Get with the program and graciously offer your time and energy to one of our great community causes. Sun in Taurus highlights volunteerism and spiritual redemption which means you should give now to reap impressive rewards later. Bonus time; Expect great things when the planets empty out your closet. Talk about a breath of fresh air! Whew!

CANCER

JUNE 22 - JULY 23

Get ready for a wilde social fest with Sun in sensual Taurus. Pink Crabs seek the company of friends and acquaintances who can reinforce their goals and direction in life. But don't let the group think lead you down a primrose path where you feel out of place. Hold firm to your ideas and opinions dear, queer Crab and be who you are, barnacles and all. We love you for your true lavender you.

LEO

JULY 24 - AUGUST 23

Don't despair of not being properly recognized for your professional achievements. Sun in practical Taurus brings home the bacon in a big way in your career. Proud, dramatic Lions should use this advantageous time to court power and present their best ideas to those with the power to make them explode. Examine your life's direction and see if you are on the right track. If not, change trains.

VIRGO

AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23

Proud Virgos are energized with the Sun in Taurus to explore and experience foreign places and folk. Pack those bags and explore parts unknown, friend. It's an excellent time to feast upon the spicy and learn by doing. The knowledge that you acquire now may be of especially good use down the road. Even lawsuits take a turn for the better, but only if you've done your homework and remain focused.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23

Gay Scales are inspired by the fabulous energy of the Sun in sensuous Taurus. Sexual activity reaches a peak as the hot tub goes from cool to full boil. Feast while the meat is hot, hot, hot. For those higher types, a little introspection now could also go a long way later. Psychological breakthroughs are possible for those proud Libras who prefer to get off with their minds.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22

Relationships are accentuated when the daring Sun waltzes into earthy Taurus. Even calculating Gay Scorps get the warm and fuzzies with partners during this fabulous solar surge. This is the time to share future plans and mutual feelings. If you are still trolling for your dreamboat, send out a few search parties this week. You never know who will rescue you. Ahoy sailor!

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22

Even rats on a treadmill get a coffee break every so often. This week, with Sun in Taurus, Gay Archers smell the java. Drink deeply, cousin, you have struggled too long and hard without much reward. Day-to-day jobs ease up a bit or, at very least, you begin to see the light at the end of the tunnel. Could it be the lights of an oncoming train? Stay tuned...

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20

Serious, conservative Gay Goats must admit that life is nicer with the Sun in Taurus. Enjoyable, creative pastimes have their attractions so pursue them with vim and vigor. Party on dear, queer Cap and use this feisty energy to play hard. (Some people like it that way...) Anything you tackle will get you one step closer to where you eventually want to be. So where do you really want to be?

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19

Aqueerians plant their feet firmly on home-plate when the glorious Sun enters Taurus. Explore your roots to see if they are strong, enduring and provide you with the firm support you seek. One of your greatest attributes is your selfless sense of right and wrong.. Carry the rainbow flag a giant step forward with enthusiasm and commitment. You won't carry the banner alone.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

Speak Out this week, Guppie and you can upend the landscape. Chalk up this fortuitous turn of events to the bold Sun in measured and practical Taurus. Gather up your thoughts; It's time to fire off a compelling letter to the editor or a representative or five. Your words pack a punch. Make them loud, proud and uncompromising. Remember, every year is an election year.

"If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music which he hears, however measured or far away."
- Henry David Thoreau

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DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROJECT

As we are all well aware, Pennsylvania Senator Rick Santorum opened his mouth, inserted foot and shown once again, to paraphrase Rick, the right to homophobia is still exercised by another member of the Republican Congressional leadership.

Remember "Barney Fag," or being compared to kleptomaniacs since it's a disease and now Grays and Lesbians are "all those things antithetical to a healthy, stable, traditional family." Republican supporters are blaming the liberal, elitist media and saying this is really nothing. Santorum said he was talking only about the Texas sodomy case pending before the U.S. Supreme Court, then about homosexuals in general but then about only the case.

What follows are Santorum's comments from the Associated Press interview, which was conducted and taped April 7, for your review so that you can decide, since the conservative McCarthyite mainstream press, bought and paid for by the Bush Administration, won't give you the full story. [Note: Words that couldn't be heard clearly on the tape are marked (unintelligible).]

AP: If you're saying that liberalism is taking power away from the families, how is conservatism giving more power to the families?

SANTORUM: Putting more money in their pocketbook is one. The more money you take away from families is the less power that family has. And that's a basic power. The average American family in the 1950s paid (unintelligible) percent in federal taxes. An average American family now pays about 25 percent.

The argument is, yes, we need to help other people. But one of the things we tried to do with welfare, and we're trying to do with other programs is, we're setting levels of expectation and responsibility, which the left never wanted to do. They don't want to judge. They say, Oh, you can't judge people. They should be able to do what they want to do. Well, not if you're taking my money and giving it to them. But it's this whole idea of moral equivalency. (unintelligible) My feeling is, well, if it's my money, I have a right to judge.

AP: Speaking of liberalism, there was a story in The Washington Post about six months ago, they'd pulled something off the Web, some article that you wrote blaming, according to The Washington Post, blaming in part the Catholic Church scandal on liberalism. Can you explain that?

SANTORUM: You have the problem within the church. Again, it goes back to this moral relativism, which is very accepting of a variety of different lifestyles. And if you make the case that if you can do whatever you want to do, as long as it's in the privacy of your own home, this "right to privacy," then why be surprised that people are doing things that are deviant within their own home? If you say, there is no deviant as long as it's private, as long as it's consensual, then don't be surprised what you get. You're going to get a lot of things that you're sending signals that as long as you do it privately and consensually, we don't really care what you do. And that leads to a culture that is not one that is nurturing and necessarily healthy. I would make the argument in areas where you have that as an accepted lifestyle, don't be surprised that you get more of it.

AP: The right to privacy lifestyle?

SANTORUM: The right to privacy lifestyle.

AP: What's the alternative?

POLITICS 2003

'We Report, You Decide'

SANTORUM: In this case, what we're talking about, basically, is priests who were having sexual relations with post-pubescent men. We're not talking about priests with 3-year-olds, or 5-year-olds. We're talking about a basic homosexual relationship. Which, again, according to the world view sense is a perfectly fine relationship as long as it's consensual between people. If you view the world that way, and you say that's fine, you would assume that you would see more of it.

AP: Well, what would you do?

SANTORUM: What would I do with what?

AP: I mean, how would you remedy? What's the alternative?

SANTORUM: First off, I don't believe...

AP: I mean, should we outlaw homosexuality?

SANTORUM: I have no problem with homosexuality. I have a problem with homosexual acts. As I would with acts of other, what I would consider to be, acts outside of traditional heterosexual relationships. And that includes a variety of different acts, not just homosexual. I have nothing, absolutely nothing against anyone who's homosexual. If that's their orientation, then I accept that. And I have no problem with someone who has other orientations. The question is, do you act upon those orientations? So it's not the person, it's the person's actions. And you have to separate the person from their actions.

AP: OK, without being too gory or graphic, so if somebody is homosexual, you would argue that they should not have sex?

SANTORUM: We have laws in states, like the one at the Supreme Court right now, that has sodomy laws and they were there for a purpose. Because, again, I would argue, they undermine the basic tenets of our society and the family. And if the Supreme Court says that you have the right to consensual sex within your home, then you have the right to bigamy, you have the right to polygamy, you have the right to incest, you have the right to adultery. You have the right to anything. Does that undermine the fabric of our society? I would argue yes, it does. It all comes from, I would argue, this right to privacy that doesn't exist in my opinion in the United States Constitution, this right that was created, it was created in Griswold — Griswold was the contraceptive case — and abortion. And now we're just extending it out. And the further you extend it out, the more you — this freedom actually intervenes and affects the family. You say, well, it's my individual freedom. Yes, but it destroys the basic unit of our society because it condones behavior that's antithetical to strong, healthy families. Whether it's polygamy, whether it's adultery, where it's sodomy, all of those things, are antithetical to a healthy, stable, traditional family.

Every society in the history of man has upheld the institution of marriage as a bond between a man and a woman. Why? Because society is based on one thing: that society is based on the future of the society. And that's what? Children. Monogamous relationships. In every society, the definition of marriage has not ever to my knowledge included homosexuality. That's not to pick on homosexuality. It's not, you know, man

on child, man on dog, or whatever the case may be. It is one thing. And when you destroy that you have a dramatic impact on the quality...

AP: I'm sorry, I didn't think I was going to talk about "man on dog" with a United States senator, it's sort of freaking me out.

SANTORUM: And that's sort of where we are in today's world, unfortunately. The idea is that the state doesn't have rights to limit individuals' wants and passions. I disagree with that. I think we absolutely have rights because there are consequences to letting people live out whatever wants or passions they desire. And we're seeing it in our society.

AP: Sorry, I just never expected to

talk about that when I came over here to interview you. Would a President Santorum eliminate a right to privacy — you don't agree with it?

SANTORUM: I've been very clear about that. The right to privacy is a right that was created in a law that set forth a (ban on) rights to limit individual passions. And I don't agree with that. So I would make the argument that with President, or Senator or Congressman or whoever Santorum, I would put it back to where it is, the democratic process. If New York doesn't want sodomy laws, if the people of New York want abortion, fine. I mean, I wouldn't agree with it, but that's their right. But I don't agree with the Supreme Court coming in.

Hate is not a family value



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SAAF UPDATE

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION

By Anne Maley

The recent Gender Bender was fun and successful thanks to community participation and support! The event benefited the Condom Brigade of the Gay Men's Health Project. This year over \$3500 was raised, an increase of 17% over last year's amount! Special thanks goes to all the performers for dressing up and soliciting contributions. Thank you for helping to make this "fun-raising" event the experience and success it was.

The Gay Men's Health Project works with adult Gay men in the community to promote a holistic approach to health of mind, body, and spirit. Community forums go beyond HIV prevention to include other wellness issues affecting Gay men-male associated cancers, substance use, and relationships. Check out the GMHP website at www.gmhp.org.

The lusty month of May is near. Hence, it is time for the 16th Annual Reno Gannon Memorial Jell-O Wrestling Extravaganza! On May 4, 2003 from 4-7 p.m. at Woody's, wrestlers will entertain spectators as they slosh back and forth knee-high in a pit full of 300 gallons of purple Jell-O. (Doesn't the thought of that make you shudder with excitement or just plain shudder?) Auction items will also be available at Jell-O Wrestling. The drawing for the 'Beat the Heat' Beach Getaway raffle prize (a three-night stay in a 2 BR beach view condo in San Carlos, Sonora Mexico with \$250 in

spending money) will also occur during this extravaganza. Details about participating as a wrestler or volunteer and about purchasing raffle tickets are available from Amy Brazier at SAAF, (520) 628-7223.

In 1987, Reno Gannon, a bartender at "Rumor Hazzit," brought the idea of jell-o wrestling to Tucson. The owners and management of "Rumor Hazzit" liked the idea and would organize it. Next, Reno approached Shanti (one of the three AIDS service agencies that merged to create SAAF) with the event as a fundraiser. Staged at the bar, jell-o wrestling was born that same year. Reno was an energetic, fun-loving, intelligent man in his early 20's. Committed to doing something to help, he made the event a reality. Unfortunately, at age 23, Reno died from AIDS. Nonetheless, the enthusiasm that marked so much of his life continues in this delightfully zany event. It is a memorial to Reno Gannon as well as a fundraising activity for AIDS services.

The Gay community's commitment to support AIDS services and people living with HIV/AIDS is amazing. For more than 20 years, you have been at the front lines of this illness and continue to have a huge impact on the delivery of AIDS services to people in southern Arizona. Thank you for all you do for people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS.

[Anne Maley is the executive director of the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation.]

GENDER WORLD BY JON K. ROSE

Spartacus. Jeanne d'Arc. Gandhi. Martin Luther King. Some people are just immortal, living down through history long after their bodies have seemingly been destroyed. Jesus of Nazareth was like that. Heither or not he was physically resurrected, he is as alive now as he was then, and likely will be throughout human history.

Like the preceding examples, Jesus was a martyr. The Romans executed him by torturing him to death under the hot desert sun. It had to be the Romans who killed him; crucifixion was a favorite method of execution for them. The Jews at worst stoned people to death.

Transpeople should be able to relate to martyrdom. From Jeanne d'Arc to Gwen Araujo our people have been murdered for being who we are. Indeed, Queer people in general are still being victimized daily by bigots. And even now there remains resistance to calling these murders hate crimes.

Why was Jesus killed? The reasons seem complicated; but basically his very existence and the message he preached threatened the Imperial social order. Yet those who sought to destroy him are centuries gone, and he lives on.

While I doubt if Jesus looked much like the blue-eyed blond in the paintings, he may well have been that feminine. With all the shock and awe his words sometimes induced, he had a gentle side. He may or may not have been Gay; though no one every saw him in sexual embrace with a man. Otherwise he wouldn't have lasted even as long as did; and his enemies, who sought to say the most awful things about him they could, would have capitalized on it.

Platonically he embraced freely

both male and female disciples. And, as shown in the Gospel according to Thomas, he always treated and regarded them as equal, much to the consternation of some of the men. In reply to Peter's protests, he offered to make Mary "male," so she could be admitted into God's Kingdom. What did he mean by that? Female-to-male sex reassignment surgery was 2000 years in the future (if, even now, it can be said to be workable).

Hence, I'd suggest, what Jesus really meant was that he would make Mary the equal of a male; in short, a human being in her own right, no longer a subhuman chattel. What a radical notion for the First Century! To enter God's kingdom as Jesus portrayed it, the male must become female and the female male. In other words, the oppressive dialectic of gender must be ended to allow people to be human, regardless of sex.

To say such things in his day may well have been at the risk of his life. In any case, when the horrible torture began, it was Jesus' female apostles who stayed with him to the bitter end, after most of the men had fled for safety.

Amazingly, at times his words seemed to hint at the rise of the sometimes brutal monster-religion that was to spring up in his name. As he predicted, millions continue to cry his name, while only handfuls follow his teaching. Yet despite this travesty of his message he survives even now, as he has through the centuries and millennia.

Now we're in America, and we're supposed to practice freedom of religion. Whether you agree or disagree with the above, please don't crucify me! We've lost enough people that way. But you can write me at desertwordsmith@yahoo.com and

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Henry David Thoreau

COMMENTARY

These Are Indeed 'Savage' Times For Dissent

By Glenn LeCarl

That GLAAD's campaign against the 'Savage Nation' show on MSNBC has itself generated strident criticism should surprise no one. Though considered by many "an act of faith," as William Fulbright so eloquently referred to it, and as GLAAD apparently grasps it, dissent seems today a much-maligned concept both within our community and nation.

Fear of terrorism, the war in Iraq and one party control of all three branches of the federal government have together helped foster an environment in this nation hostile to dissent—however loyal or reasonable it may be. Those who express unpopular or critical views regarding our nation's policies and actions are oft labeled "unpatriotic," and calls for "unity" are frequently utilized by those in power to bully opponents and suppress dissent.

The climate in the LGBT community is equally harsh. Tremendous advancement by some segments of our community has brought the requisite increase in access and insider status for our leadership, and the subsequent professionalization of our advocacy ranks. Though in many ways positive, these developments have to our detriment helped create a "we're just like you" ... at all costs' attitude that inherently leaves behind those whose differences cannot or will not be so readily sublimated and those who, like our homeless youth, detract from the desired image. Not surprisingly, tolerance of and receptivity to internal dissent has suffered.

Of this I have first-hand experience. Recently a spokesperson for a nationally prominent community advocacy organization suggested that my vocal dissent is not only divisive, but disloyal. My crime is publicizing the failure of such organizations to take up the cause of our homeless youth. Though studies consistently bear out the anecdotal experience of those in the field indicating vast numbers, and incalculable suffering, of homeless LGBT youth on our nation's streets, our national community advocacy organizations remain virtually silent and inactive on this issue—possibly the most life-threatening that faces our community today.

Ominously, some LGBT persons appear as uncomfortable with our community's organized efforts as are these organizations with internal dissent. In an article published in the Los Angeles Times on March 27th, Norah Vincent condemned GLAAD's campaign against 'Savage Nation,' angrily comparing it to the (successful) campaign in 2000 against Dr. Laura Schlessinger's show. In other words, GLAAD is doing its job as our community's chief media watchdog in calling media executives and advertisers to a higher and more responsible standard, again.

By contending that GLAAD would "deny Savage his right to free speech" and "silence him," Ms. Vincent ascribes to it incredible power and the darkest of intentions. But in actuality, GLAAD is the minority David up against the mainstream media Goliath and, I believe, is representing our interests in good faith. The Constitution simply does not serve up television shows on silver platters for Mr. Savage and Dr. Laura, just as it does not bylines for Ms. Vincent and me. In addition to numerous other considerations, editorial discretion determines the fate of our efforts.

Within a societal context of discrimination and hate violence, discretion—editorial or otherwise—was severely lacking in the decision to give Michael Savage a regularly scheduled show, just as it was previously with Dr. Laura. When those who hold the reins of power within the media provide national network platforms to individuals who have routinely targeted LGBT persons with ignorant and defamatory rhetoric, dissent is not only an appropriate response, but a necessary one as well.

Though clearly I disagree with Ms. Vincent's argument, I just as strongly respect her right to voice it, to dissent. In response to the plight of our homeless youth, I also have claimed my right to dissent. As Bell Hooks—feminist, human rights advocate and writer—stated so well: "...solidarity rooted in a commitment to progressive politics must include a space for rigorous critique, for dissent, or we are doomed to reproduce in progressive communities the very forms of domination we seek to oppose."

Dissent is, after all, born of "faith"—to me, it is a faith that we can do much better as a community and as a nation.

[Glenn LeCarl resides with his life partner in Tallahassee, Florida. He welcomes comments at glennlecarl@aol.com.]

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CHAT LIVE WITH THE MEN OF MEGAPHONE
24 Hour Customer Service (800) 263-1489 * 18 © 2001 ITC LLC

"YOU HAVE QUESTIONS?"
Ask Dr. X
"DR. X HAS ANSWERS."

Dear Dr. X,
 A few days ago, this guy and I exchanged blowjobs for a few hours. Afterwards, I've been noticing a taste of blood in my mouth, and if I suck on something and look in my mouth, I see traces of blood. Did I catch something, or did I do some damage from sucking? Does this increase my risk of HIV? He didn't cum in my mouth.

Signed Lockjaw

Dear Lockjaw,
 It is very common for people to have irritation at their gum lines, and constant sucking creates negative pressure in your mouth. You could have irritated your gums, the back of your throat or tonsils. Mouth breathing will also dry your throat and cause irritation. That said, I think your risk of HIV was low. You could go to a doctor for a gonorrhea and chlamydia throat test, but you will have to tell the doctor this is what you want. Routine throat cultures will not detect common STDs. You can also get tested for HIV in a few months, just to be sure.

Dear Dr. X,
 Am I bad or what? I have always tried to be kind and mindful to all who have wanted to have sex with me, but what can you do when the sexual advances of unwanted others do not respect this fact?

Sam

Dear Sam,
 Because men in general think about sex so much during the day, many Gay men assume that other men are ready and willing to f*ck around anytime, anywhere. Promiscuity is essentially second nature to a lot of men. It sounds as though you have generally respected this trait in your fellow men. They inevitably make advances, and you try to be a good sport and be as accommodating as possible. But when guys disrespect your personal space and expect you to put out even when you aren't horny, they are crossing a line. I suggest that you take a strong stand in these cases. Be upfront and honest with these men. Tell them that it's nothing personal but that you aren't horny at the moment. Tell them that they are coming on too strong and that you need a little more space. If they can't respect your own sexual needs, then you probably don't need to be hanging around them anymore. Your sexuality is a precious gift to be shared only in circumstances that you deem to be appropriate. Other men can either accept that or go f*ck themselves.

[Send your questions to Dr. X at gmhp@saa.org or mail them to SAAF/GM-HP, 375 S. Euclid, Tucson, AZ 85719. You can also check out Dr. X online at www.gmhp.org.]

XOXO
 Hug a PWA today!
 XOXO

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SPORTS

DESERT COYOTES BOWLING LEAGUE STANDINGS

	Won	Lost
ToledoDeJaneiro	38.0	18.0
Pseudovirgins	36.0	20.0
Team Sux	35.0	21.0
Sofa King Sleazy	33.0	23.0
Aces Over Queens	31.0	25.0
Public Trough	31.0	25.0
Mama's Boys	28.0	28.0
2 Dicks No Peter	26.0	30.0
Itchy Balls	24.0	32.0
The Nutz	21.0	35.0
3-4 Buddocks Luv	18.0	38.0
One Is Two Ain't	15.0	41.0

SEASON ACHIEVEMENTS

- High Average - Erick J., 206; JoAnn S., 170; ToledoDeJaneiro, 573.
- High Series Scratch - Erick J., 749; JoAnn S., 609; ToledoDeJaneiro, 1842.
- High Game Scratch - Erick J., 300; Heather H., 229; ToledoDeJaneiro, 674.
- High Series Handicap - Jason B., 782; JoAnn S., 753; Mama's Boys, 2170.
- High Game Handicap - Michael H., 312; Heather H., 283; Mama's Boys, 788.



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NON-BAR CALENDAR
GROUPS / CLUBS / ORGANIZATIONS

Bar Calendar
OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Daily Bar Calendar

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Marv for Canasta. If you don't know how to play, we'll be glad to teach you. For reservations and directions, please call Marv at 745-0304.

Tucson Prime Timers Video Night - 7 p.m. Non pornographic movies with Gay themes are shown. Phone: 740-0620

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

The Committee on Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Studies at the University of Arizona presents "Race, Gender, Sexuality & Identity in Visual Art." This is one of a series of three by queer visual artists. A reception will follow the lectures. Tonight at 6:00 p.m., Ernesto Pujol will be the presenter. Pujol, a Cuban-American who lives in Brooklyn, is a conceptual artist who describes himself as a cultural worker, producing objects, photographs, and installations about memory, masculinity, and whiteness. Aerospace & Mechanical Engineering Building Auditorium, Room S202, 1130 N. Mountain Ave., at the northeast corner of Mountain Avenue and Speedway Boulevard, parking available.

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Bill hosts a seminar on planning for retirement. In today's volatile market, it's never too early to think about your retirement. Nothing will be sold at this seminar, it is for informational purposes only. For directions and reservations, please call Bill at 546-7539.

A Fellowship Group starts at 7:00 p.m. at the Water of Life MCC. All are invited to come and your expand your relationship with God. You need not be a church member to participate. For more information, call (520) 292-9151.

FRIDAY, APRIL 25

#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): 7:30 p.m. Jerry & Les show the film "Under One Roof", which is about a closeted young man who is put to the test when a new border turns out to be gay. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry or Les at 690-9565.

SATURDAY, APRIL 26

A rummage sale sponsored by Reveille Gay Men's Chorus starting at 7:00 am will be held at the Rincon Congregational Church Parking Lot, 122 North Craycroft (just north of Mervyn's). Reveille will provide free pickup for those wanting to donate items. For information, please call 617-3100 and leave a message.

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Marv will host Pinochle Night. If you don't know how to play, but would like to learn, this is the place. For more information, please call Marv at 745-0304.

Tucson Prime Timers Food and Drinks - 5 p.m. Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd.

SUNDAY, APRIL 27

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 12:30 p.m. Join Lloyd for our semi-annual trip to the Tanque Verde Guest Ranch for a wonderful lunch. For reservations and directions, please call Lloyd at 792-8537.

MONDAY, APRIL 28

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.

Tucson Prime Timers Luncheon - 12:30 p.m. Wildcat House, 1800 N. Stone Ave.

TUESDAY, APRIL 29

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Chris 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 Chris at 304-5814.

Tucson Prime Timers Breakfast - 9:00 a.m. The Egg Connection, 3114 E. Fl. Lowell @ Country Club

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. The Canasta Club meets to play this fun card game. If you don't know how to play, we'll teach you. For directions and reservations, please call Terry at 577-2396.

Tucson Prime Timers Video Night - 7 p.m. Non pornographic movies with Gay themes are shown. Phone: 740-0620

SATURDAY, MAY 3

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 9:00 a.m. Join Jack for a morning of Volleyball. This is played for fun, and you'll get to know some nice guys as you play. For details and directions, please call Jack at 881-5733.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join us for our monthly Potluck and Social Gathering where we invite you to have dinner and get to know the nice guys of MSN. It's a nice, safe setting in which to meet new men and greet old friends. For directions, please call Jerry at 690-9565.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

IBT'S - 9:00 p.m. the "DivaLicious Show" hosted by Lucinda Holliday and starring Angela Dodd, Samantha White and Janee Starr.

SATURDAY, APRIL 26

IBT'S The Bud Light Team is shere with Flickball plus \$1.75 Bud Lights and Bud. A lot of fun and prizes.

SUNDAY, APRIL 27

AINT NOBODY'S BIZ - Drag Show featuring Jasmine Bourvier and special guests. 9:30 p.m. \$1.25 Bud pitchers from 5:00 to 10:00 p.m. Latin music will follow the show.

IBT'S - Party line-up includes Troy's Recovery Bar from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. \$1.75 Bloody Marys, Screwdrivers or Mimosas. Karaoke Party with Michael D. on the patio from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., Benefit Bar-B-Que / Beer Bust from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. This weeks proceeds go to Arizona OnStage Productions. 8:00 p.m. it's 'Sissy Bingo' hosted by Lucinda Holliday and Ajia Simone with prizes and surprises. 9:00 p.m. it's a special Benefit Show for Arizona OnStage Productions starring Lucinda Holliday, Ajia Simone, Teri Aki, Janee Starr, Veronica Halliwell and Sade Michaels.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

IBT'S - 9:00 p.m. the "DivaLicious Show" hosted by Lucinda Holliday and starring Tori Steele, Lady Ashley and Stella Virgin.

FRIDAY - MONDAY, MAY 2 - 5

VENTURE-N - Cinco de Mayo Fiesta. Salsa Party, Piñata Break, Food, Games & Prizes plus a Sombrero Contest. \$2.25 Mexican Beer and \$1.00 Cactus Juice Shots. Viva Mexico!

SUNDAY, MAY 4

NOVEMBER DANCE BAR & GRILL - The November Girl's Show at 8:30 p.m.

WOODY'S - The 16th Annual Reno Gannon Memorial Jell-O Wrestling extravaganza from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Be a wrestler and help a great cause. Volunteer by calling Call Army at SAAF 628-7223. All proceeds benefit the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation.

MONDAY, MAY 5

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, MAY 6

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Chris 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 Chris at 304-5814.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Perry for Bridge Night. If you don't know how to play, the guys are willing to teach you. For directions and reservations, please call Perry at 321-4387.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Bruce for Canasta. If you don't know how to play, we'll be glad to teach you. For reservations and directions, please call Bruce at 743-3890.

The International Cat Association presents

Spring in the Desert a Cat Show

presented by Coatimondi Cat Club

April 26 - 27, 2003

9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Rodeway Inn at Grant/I-10

Local favorite Pashette

Tudie "the Dress-up NPA" will be there to "Spring" into your heart.



MANY EXOTIC BREEDS WILL BE FEATURED.



God Bless America United We Stand

Sunday

AINT NOBODY'S BIZ - Open 2pm. Beer Bust 5-10. \$1.25 pitchers Bud or Bud Light. Latin Music with DJ Hill 8pm to close. Drink & Shot specials all night.

IBT'S - 10am-8pm \$1.75 Bloodys, Screws or Mimosas. Sangria Party \$2.50 from 4-1 Benefit B-B-Q and Beer Bust for community organizations 5:30-8pm. Karaoke with Michael D. on the patio 4:30-7:30. 8:30 shows or special events or Hi energy dancing w/DJ Q. All drink specials not available during special events.

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open 12pm-12am. DJ "Rayman" high NRG dance music 8-close. "November Girls" 2nd/4th Sundays.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio open 3pm. Daily special til 7pm. Patio Beer bust 3-7. Burger Bar-B-Que 5-7. (Donation only).

WOODY'S - Open 11am. \$1.50 Bloody Marys, screwdrivers, Mimosas; Happy Hour 11am-8pm \$2 well or domestic beer. Pick-up Volleyball games 5-7. \$2.50 sirloin burger or chicken 5-8pm. Karaoke with Michael D. 9pm.

YARD DOG - Open Sundays 10am - 1am. Bloody Marys or Screwdrivers \$1.75 from 10am - 1pm. 50¢ off any Rum 1pm-7pm. Dinner and live jazz 5-8pm. Kennel open daily at 5pm.

Monday

AINT NOBODY'S BIZ - Open 2pm. Happy Hour Two-For-One domestics and well 2-7pm. Free pool 8-10pm. 50¢ cups draft Bud & Bud Light 8pm to close.

IBT'S - Open 11am. Happy Hours 11am-8pm. \$2 domestic beer and well. 4-9pm. Undie Mondie- Happy Hour prices for those in their undies 9pm-close. Queer As Folk shown beginning at 8pm. Hot Dancing follows with Johnny DJ. All drink specials not available during special events.

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open 12pm - 12am. Happy Hour 3-5. Pool Tournament 7pm. Free pool 9pm-close.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Pabo 5pm. Daily specials til 7pm.

WOODY'S - Open Noon. \$2 well or domestic beer til 8pm. Karaoke w/Michael D. 9pm to close.

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

Tuesday

AINT NOBODY'S BIZ - Open 2pm. Happy Hour Two-For-One domestic beer & well 2-7pm. Pool tourney 7:30pm. \$3 entry, bar matches pot. Country music 9pm to close. \$2 bottled Bud products 8pm to close.

IBT'S - Open 11am. Happy Hours 11am-8pm, \$2 domestic beer and well. 4-9pm. Tee's & Tattoo Nile, wear an IBT's T-shirt or IBT tattoo get happy hour prices 9 to close, or buy an IBT's T-shirt for \$5 and get a complimentary drink. House Hi-Nergy Dance 9pm to close w/DJ-Q.

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open 12pm-12am. Happy Hour 3-5. Chicken BBQ Dinner \$5.99 - 5:00-8:00pm.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio 5pm. Daily specials til 7pm.

WOODY'S - Open Noon. \$2 well or domestic til 8pm. Tropical drink specials 8 to close. \$3 zombies, Jungle Juice, Mai Tai's.

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

Wednesday

AINT NOBODY'S BIZ - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2-4-1 domestic beer and well from 2-7pm. 90s retro music 9pm - close. \$1.25 pitchers of Bud/Bud Light or \$1 Tequila shots 8pm to close.

IBT'S - Open 11am. Happy Hours 11am-8pm, \$2 domestic beer and well. 9pm "Diva-Licious" show w/Lucinda Holliday and guests. HiNRG Dancing with DJ-Q. All drink specials not available during special events.

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL

- Open 11am-1am Happy Hour 3-5. Shrimp Fry Dinner 5-8pm \$5.99. Karaoke 8pm-close.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Pabo 5pm. Daily specials til 7pm.

WOODY'S - Open Noon. \$2 well or domestic beer til 8pm. 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 BIZNESS - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2-7pm with 2-4-1 domestic beer and well. Karaoke 9-close, with \$2 Kamikazees and \$1 Hot Sex.

IBT'S - Open 11am. Happy Hours 11am-8pm, \$2 domestic beer and well. 4-9. Hi NRG video dancing with Johnny DJ 9-1 All drink specials not available during special events.

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open noon. Grill open 12pm-1am. Happy Hour 3-5pm. 10oz Sirloin Steak w/potato & salad 5:30-8pm, \$6.99. Techno 9pm-close.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio open 5pm. Daily special til 7pm. Steak Nite 6pm \$5 donation. Your meat or theirs. They cook and provide the side dishes. Pool Tournament 7pm. 3 entry. (Special prices for players).

WOODY'S - Open Noon. \$2 well or domestic beer til 8pm. Trivia Thursday 8pm-close plus 50¢ off all Big Ass drinks. Top scores on NTN game wins special prizes. Free Pool 7 to close. 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 BIZNESS - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2-7pm with 2-4-1 domestic beer and well. Music with DJ Hill 9pm - close. Shot and drink specials all night. No cover.

IBT'S - Open 11am. Happy Hours 11am-8pm, \$2 domestic beer and well. Live Jazz on the patio with the Susan Artemis 6-9pm. Patio Bar 5-1pm. Dance Party 9 to 1 w/DJ Vertigo. All drink specials not available during special events.

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open 10:30am-1am. Happy Hour 3-5. Fish or Shrimp Dinner \$5.99 5-8pm. Country Western Dance with Libby 8pm-closing.

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 8pm. 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 BIZNESS - Open at 2pm. Pool Tournament 6:30pm \$3 entry. Bar matches pot. \$2 pitchers for pool players. DJ Hill 8pm-close. Drink & Shot Specials all night.

IBT'S - 10am-8pm \$2 domestic beer and well. Dance Party 9-1 w/DJ-Q. All drink specials not available during special events.

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open 12pm-1am. Latino Nite. Drag Show 11:30rd Sat. 10:30pm. Free HIV testing by SAAF.

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 8pm. Happy Hour 4-9pm. \$1.75 well or domestics. Patio Bar opens 5pm. 5-9pm Filet Mignon or Swordfish BBQ with all the trimmings \$5.

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am. Beer Bust 3-7pm. 75¢ glass, \$2.25 pitcher. 50¢ off any Rum 1pm to 7pm. Kennel open 5pm.

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 Care Teams to support HIV+ persons, a referral network of HIV-sensitive clergy, and interfaith services of healing and hope. For more information call 299-6647.

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

GRACE GROUP - CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 2nd and 4th Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the Madonna Hall at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 1436 N. Campbell across from University Hospital. For more info. Call Anabeli at 325-0892

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 838-3975.

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

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

THEATER / DINNER / ETC! Non-Smoking Lesbian Network meets every 3rd Saturday night of each month. If you'd like to meet women 35+ (flexible) and socialize in a smoke-free environment 888-8010 before 10:00 p.m. The group dines out and attends shows or movies. Now in their 15th year! (2nd in Tucson).

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

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

AA Meeting with HIV/AIDS focus, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., Wingspan Annex, 739 N. 4th Ave. All alcoholics welcome.

MEN'S SOCIAL NETWORK: Social organization for men of all ages. Building an extended Gay family in Tucson. Monthly social potluck gatherings the first Saturday of each month and almost weekly social activities. Call Jerry at 690-5655 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 299-6647.

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 MEN'S MESSAGE GROUP meets the 3rd Sunday of each month. It is a good way to meet other men of all ages, safely, and with the art of nurturing touch. There is a fee. You must sign up in advance to participate. Call Marc at 681-4582 for more information or sign up.

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

TUCSON PRIDE, INC. (Formerly Tucson Lesbian and Gay Alliance - TLGA) meets on the second Tuesday at 845 S. Craycroft Road at 7pm. Tucson Pride produces Pride events: Pride Week, Gay West and QUToberFEST. 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 the TPI website at 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 at-risk patients. Training every 6 weeks. 694-7063.

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 745-6977 in Tucson for more information. Strictly confidential.

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

GUYS BOOK CLUB meets 4th Tuesday of each month at 7pm, Rainbow Planet Coffee House, 606 N. 4th Ave.

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE 25 PER WORD \$5.00 MINIMUM



CLASSIFIEDS



CLASSIFIED ADS MUST BE MAILED NO PHONE ADS

NOTICES

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

DESERT DOMINION, whose focus is providing information and education for people interested in the BDSM lifestyle, meets monthly for group discussion and social events. Visit our web site http://www.desertdominion.org or call (520)792-6424

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

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

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

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

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

TUCSON GREATER SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION. Interested? Call Kelly Quinn, (520)742-7895 or go to our web site http://www.tgsasoftball.org

LUTHERANS CONCERNED - Tucson chapter for Gay/Lesbian Lutherans meets 3rd Sunday, 8:30 p.m. each month at Santa Cruz Lutheran Church, 6809 S. Cardinal Ave. For information visit www.lctucson.org while 1C, 7014 E. Golf Links Road, PMB 212, Tucson, AZ 85730.

RAINBOW SUPPORT GROUP: LGBT and supportive friends meet for open discussions in a loving, supportive atmosphere. Support meetings are the 2nd and 4th Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:00 pm at St. Francis in the foothills Church, Swan and River Road, Room 42. The 3rd Thursdays of the month, the group will meet at 7:30pm at Rainbow Planet Coffeehouse (606 North 4th Ave.) as a social outing. For more information call the church at 299-9063 and ask for a contact person.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"OUT ON THE TRAILS" - EQUESTRIAN FUN! Rider Club forming. 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

SOUTHERN ARIZONA STONEWALL DEMOCRATS meet 3rd Monday of each month 7pm at 4639 E. First Street. Call Jesse 743-4320 or Maurice 323-2293. All LGBT Democrats and supporters welcome. TucsonStonewall@aol.com

NOTICES

HALLELUJAH RECOVERY DRUG & ALCOHOL 12-STEP. Every Thursday 5:30-6:30pm at Cornerstone Fellowship, 2902 N. Geronimo. 622-4828.

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. 628-SAAF (7223). World wide web: http://www.saat.org. VOLUNTEERS WELCOME.

LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP. Involving discussion, support and activities. Designed to support each other. Meets 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month from 6:30 to 8pm. Alternate Saturdays the group meets for social activities. For info call Dorian Easley. 882-7723 Facilitator.

P.F.L.A.G. - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays - is a support group available to anyone who has a son, daughter or friend who is Gay. Call 575-8660 or write P.O. Box 36284, Tucson, AZ 85740-8264. All replies confidential.

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

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

The **TUCSON Chapter of PRIME TIMERS WORLDWIDE** invites Gay or Bisexual men and their admirers to join and share Prime Timers fellowship. We welcome mature men (and admirers) who wish to become involved with planned and future Prime Timers activities. Meetings luncheons and dinners are held monthly. For dates, times and information call 690-4613, 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.

THE MAN TO MAN Social/Voleric education club is the latic men's group that offers passionate friendships, fun activities and sex education. Marc 881-4582

BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO - a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, Call the Bears Hotline (520)798-5775 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910 or visit our website at www.btop.com All are welcome to our general meetings/potlucks on the 2nd Friday of every month, 7pm at Sentinel Bldg. On the City of Tucson Resource Campus, 310 N. Commerce Park Loop on Bonita St. between St. Marys and Congress.

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 888-5541

LESBIAN AND GAY AL-ANON - Affected by someone's drinking? Meeting every Tuesday 8:45 to 9:45 p.m. at Lambda Center, 2940 E. Thomas, Phoenix. Ellie 581-8850 or Ronn 968-2384.

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

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

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

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

COME EXPLORE YOUR SPIRITUALITY! St. Philip's In the Hills Episcopal Church offers a variety of Gay and Lesbian groups and services for the spiritually minded. Come meet the Family! For more information call Debbie 579-9827 or David 323-7943.

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

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

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

PERSONALS

FREE GAY KITTENS FOR ADOPTION SOON. See info/photos at http://groups.msn.com/tucsonkittys

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