Observing Tucson And The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

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More Than 20% Of Gays And Lesbians Voted For Bush in The 2004 Election

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In a stunning development from Tuesday's (November 2) election, George W. Bush did not lose much support from Gay Americans—despite his hard right turn during this election year, his vocal support for the anti-Gay Federal Marriage Amendment, and Republicans' successful passage of anti-Gay marriage ballot amendments in 11 states, Advocate.com reported.

The president received between 21% and 23% of the GLBT vote, about same percentage he received in the 2000 election, according to data from CNN and The Washington Post. Challenger John Kerry received a slightly higher percentage of votes from Gay Americans than Al Gore did four years ago, according to the numbers—77% versus the 70% that were cast for Gore in 2000. As in the previous race, about 4% of voters identified as GLBT. Kerry picked up more votes from those who voted for independent Ralph Nader in 2000.

The strongest support of the president from GLBT voters came from those living in the South and the rural Midwest. For example, in the Northeast, only about 8% of Gay and Lesbian voters picked Bush, while that figure soared to about 30% in the South.

For many Gay rights groups, the data are proof that Bush senior political adviser Karl Rove's plan to energize anti-Gay Christian voters with the president's vocal opposition to same-sex marriage worked. Republican strategists had long estimated that 4 million evangelical Christians did not vote in 2000. Perhaps coincidentally, the president's margin of victory in the popular vote was approximately 4 million votes.

On the other side of the aisle, Gay and Lesbian Kerry voters failed to energize their families and friends or to convince young people to support their cause. Indeed, the Kerry camp clearly failed to win over any significant number of Gay and Lesbian voters who had previously supported Bush.

For the overall electorate, same-sex marriage was evidently a defining issue. Moral values—heavily emphasized by the president—edged out terrorism and the economy as the top issue in many areas of the country. Three fourths of white voters who described themselves as born-again Christians or evangelicals supported Bush. Those white evangelicals—a crucial voting bloc for the president—represented about a fifth of all voters. Their top issue was moral values.

Kerry was the overwhelming favorite of black voters and had a big lead among Hispanics, though Bush improved his performance with that key group. Kerry had the lead among women, another core group of Democratic supporters.

Young voters supported Kerry over Bush by about 10 percentage points, but the expected surge in their participation this year was not evident. Just under 10% of voters were between ages 18 and 24, about the same share of the electorate as in 2000. But four years ago they were evenly split between Bush and Gore.

Besides in-person interviews Tuesday, this survey, conducted by the Associated Press, included 500 absentee or early voters interviewed by telephone during the past week. The margin of sampling error for the entire group was plus or minus one percentage point.

Bloomberg Ordered To Honor G/L Partner Law

NEW YORK - A state Supreme Court judge has ordered New York mayor Michael Bloomberg to put the city's Equal Benefits Law into effect immediately, 365Gay.com reported.

The legislation was passed by city council in May. The following month Bloomberg vetoed it saying the law would hurt the city. Two weeks later council overrode the veto by a 41 - 4 vote.

The law would require contractors that do more than $100,000 of business each year with NYC to offer benefits to the partners of Gay and Lesbian workers equal to those the companies give heterosexually married couples.

The legislation would make health coverage available to tens of thousands of additional people in the New York City region and because many companies which do business with New York are national corporations it could also provide same-sex benefits to hundreds of thousands of people across the country.

When city council overrode the mayor's veto, Bloomberg went to court saying he would not implement the law until the legal process had been exhausted.

Monday, November 8, New

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GLBT Candidates Fared Well

SAN FRANCISCO - Despite losses on the national scene Tuesday, November 2, the election news was not all bad, especially for GLBT candidates running, 365Gay.com reported.

All three openly Gay and Lesbian incumbent Members of Congress, Representatives Barney Frank, Tammy Baldwin and Jim Kolbe won reelection.

Three candidates became the first Gay politicians to serve in their state legislatures. Julia Boseman was elected to the North Carolina State Senate, Nicole LeFavour becomes the first Lesbian to serve in the Idaho State House, and Jeanette Mott Oxford becomes the first out Lesbian elected to the Missouri State House.

In Oregon, Rives Kistler was elected to the Oregon State Supreme Court becoming the first openly Gay statewide elected in Oregon, and only one of two current statewide nationally.

Ed Flanagan becomes the first openly Gay man to join the Vermont State Senate.

In California, all 6 of the GLBT candidates running for statewide office were elected by substantial margins.

Christine Kehoe, Sheila Kuehl, and Carole Migden all won election to the California Senate. Returning to the Assembly are Mark Leno, John Laird and Jackie Goldberg.

In Colorado, Jennifer Veiga was reelected to the state Senate.

Sam Adams becomes the first ever openly Gay Portland, Oregon council member and Lupe Valdez was elected the first ever Latina Lesbian sheriff in Dallas, County, Texas.

Valdez, 57, defeated Republican Danny Chandler, who had been expected to win. She is an accomplished officer with U.S. Customs and other federal agencies and also has served as a captain in the U.S. Army Reserves.

Amanda Simpson, a transsexual who was running for a seat in the Arizona legislature, however, was defeated. Simpson was unopposed in the Democratic primary last month and became the first TG to win a major party endorsement in the US. Both incumbent Gay legislators, state Senator Ken Cheuvront and state Representative Robert Meza were reelected.

Another transsexual candidate, Robert Haaland, who ran for Supervisor in San Francisco, appears headed for a runoff.

New Jersey Governor McGreevey Bids Farewell

TRENTON - A contrite James E. McGreevey, governor of New Jersey, delivered a farewell address Monday, November 8, in which he said he does not apologize "for being a Gay American but rather for having let personal feelings impact my decision-making."

McGreevey, who is to step down November 15, used the speech to list several accomplishments of his administration, but the Democrat also expounded on the soul-searching that has occupied his time since making his stunning nationally televised resignation announcement three months ago. "I am sorry that I have disappointed the citizens of the state of New Jersey who gave me this enormous trust," McGreevey said during the 15-minute address to staff and supporters, Advocate.com reported.

McGreevey resigned over a Gay affair with a man identified as Golan Cipel—an Israeli poet hired by the governor in 2002 to head the state's Homeland Security department despite having little experience. Cipel has steadfastly denied any involvement with McGreevey. The governor announced his resignation on August 12 during a now-famous speech in which he stood in front of the cameras with his wife and parents by his side and declared, "My truth is that I am a Gay American."

On Monday, November 8, McGreevey received a standing ovation after he walked onto the stage through a curtain to begin his speech, and he got more cheers as he left while hugging staff and cabinet members. His family did not attend. He delivered the speech on a stage decorated with seven poster-size photos of his time as governor—one showing him with the late actor Christopher Reeve and another with a group of children. He talked about being "an American who just happens to be Gay and proud" as he reflected on the accomplishments of his administration, including stem cell research, reforms of the state's child welfare agency, environmental protections, and benefits for domestic partners. "I don't look back with bitterness, anger, or sorrow. I look forward to seeking knowledge, a journey of self-discovery," the governor told the crowd, at times quoting Abraham Lincoln and Martin Luther King Jr.

The governor also called for an end to partisan politics and blamed himself for contributing to a climate in which "we smile in person and then throw each other

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UPDATE

Desert Voices: Naughty ...or Nice

TUCSON - Tickets are now available for Desert Voices' Winter concert, "Naughty….Or Nice?", on Saturday, December 4, 7:30 p.m., at The Muse Community Arts Center, 516 N. 5th Avenue, with a second performance on Sunday, December 5, 2 p.m.

This Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Supportive Others (GLBTS) Chorus, will both celebrate and skewer a wide variety of Winter Celebrations from the ancient to the recently invented, with a healthy dose of songs about the man with the bag, a.k.a. Santa.

Director Chris Tackett and accompanist Namoli Brennet have combined their musical talents to develop a show repertoire that, well, sings. An accomplished musician and arranger, Tackett has taken the ideas and suggestions of chorus members and created and arranged musical selections that complement the talents of the singers, including a jazzy arrangement of "Santa Claus is Coming To Town". Working together with talented local singer/songwriter Brennet, two new Brennet pieces will premiere at the show, 'Sugarplum Dreams" and "Angels in the Snow", now arranged for the chorus, guitar and bells, by Tackett. The results are nothing but magical.

The chorus will also be holding a raffle at each show for some great items, including a freshly baked "Christmas Pie" from Pies By Gerry, Tickets to the Symphony and a Day Spa package from Coyote Moon Resort and Spa. (Items will vary at each performance). Tickets may be purchased from Antigone Books, 411 N 4th Avenue, Desert Pride, 611 N. 4th Avenue, or by calling the Desert Voices office at (520)791-9662, and are $12 if purchased in advance. Tickets at the door will be $15. More information about the chorus, their activities and the upcoming show can also be found at www.desertvoices.org.

Desert Voices would like to thank the community for their generosity and support for the annual Yard Sale Fundraiser, held this past weekend. Many donations were received from Observer readers, for which the chorus is very grateful, both to the donors and the staff of The Observer. The chorus raised over $1,000 at the sale, and would like to remind readers that the yard sale is an annual fundraiser, so if readers have items to get rid of, the chorus would appreciate it if readers would set aside those items for Desert Voices. Thanks again!

Day Of Remembrance November 20

TUCSON - The Southern Arizona Gender Alliance (SAGA) will be sponsoring Tucson's observance of the National Transgender Day of Remembrance on Saturday, November 20, 6:30 p.m. at Catalina Park (N. 4th Avenue).

There will be a candlelight ceremony at the park followed by a march down Fourth Avenue and a reception at Wingspan.

The Day of Remembrance is an annual event commemorating the lives of Transgender people who were murdered because of their gender identities. The event is held in November to honor Rita Hester, whose murder in 1998 led to the "Remembering Our Dead" web project (http://www.gender.org/remember). Since then, the event has grown to encompass memorials in dozens of cities across the world.

Kate Clinton In Tucson Nov. 21

TUCSON - Kate Clinton will be performing Sunday, November 21, 2:00 p.m., at The Muse Community Arts Center, 516 N. 5th Ave., for a benefit for Wingspan.

Kate Clinton has been a prolific performer, writer, and activist in the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community for more than 20 years. She has performed as a standup comic throughout the country, and recently released her 7th and latest comedy collection, titled "The Marrying Kind."

A sought-after commentator, she has appeared on many national talk shows, including Good Morning America, Nightline, The Rosie O'Donnell Show, and Entertainment Tonight. As an actor, Clinton starred in Eve Ensler's smash hit The Vagina Monologues and in The Rocky Horror Show on Broadway.

In addition, her writing has been featured in The New York Times. Clinton published her first book, Don't Get Me Started, in 1998, and she has monthly columns in The Progressive and The Advocate.

Doors will open at 1:00 p.m. since this is one performance you won't want to miss! Tickets are $20 in advance, $25 at the door, and are now on sale at Antigone Books. For more information about Kate Clinton, check out http://www.kateclinton.com For More Information about the Tucson show, contact Kristen Felan at (520) 440-6735 or mailto:kristen_felan@hotmail.com.

G/L Great American Smoke out Nov. 18

TUCSON - The GLBT community has the highest rate of smoking than any other minority population. Typically held on the third Thursday in November, the Gay American Smoke Out was created to coincide with the American Cancer Society's Great American Smoke Out.

Please join Wingspan on Thursday, November 18, 6:00 p.m. to learn about the risks of tobacco use, to gather resources, and to challenge yourself to quit smoking.

For more information, contact Cathy Hammer, (520) 624.1779 x25, Wingspan Health and Wellness Program Coordinator, or visit http://www.wingspan.org for more information

McGreevey

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under the bus when we leave the room."

Republicans say McGreevey's term was marked by several scandals and ethical missteps. They also have criticized him for staying in office so long after announcing his resignation. "The reality is, this governor disgraced himself and the state," said assembly Republican leader Alex DeCroce. "The only people who did exceptionally well under his administration were his friends and campaign contributors."

The decision to remain in office until November 15 means senate president Richard Codey, a Democrat, will serve out the final year of McGreevey's term. Had McGreevey stepped down immediately, a special election would have been held. Specifics on McGreevey's marital future are not known, other than reports that he and his wife plan to move to separate homes.

Bloomberg

Continued from Page One

York Supreme Court Justice Faviola Soto ordered Bloomberg to implement the law immediately.

A spokesperson for the mayor said the law would be put into action while Soto's ruling is appealed.

When he ran for mayor Bloomberg backed the measure but once in office changed his mind, saying that city money should not be used "to advance social issues." He also cited a decrease in competition for contracts and a resulting increase in the cost of services.

Gay civil rights advocate Matt Foreman resigned from the NY Human Rights Commission last month to protest Bloomberg's legal action against the benefits law. Foreman was appointed to the Commission by Bloomberg.

Foreman, who is also executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force in a letter to Bloomberg and Commission chair Patricia Gatling said that he felt as a matter of conscience obligated to resign

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P.O. BOX 50733,
TUCSON, AZ 85703
(520) 622-7176 (Voice)

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Observer on the World Wide Web :
http://
www.tucsonobserver.com
E-Mail:
info@tucsonobserver.com

EDITOR/PUBLISHER:
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ARTS & GRAPHICS:
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MANAGING EDITOR:
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Informing the Community
The Observer

NEWS FLASH - NEWS FLASH -

YARD DOG SALOON SAYS
Good Bye Big Jim
And Welcomes
JOHN and MERLIN
Co-Owners With Ray

COME AND JOIN A NEW ERA

49th Parallel Gay Divide

WASHINGTON, D.C. - There's a new map of North America making the rounds where all the so-called blue states that went Democratic in this week's U.S. election are now part of Canada, reported the Canadian Press on 365Gay.com.

It's a joke, winding its way via e-mail across the continent, but it belies the wide divide between Canada's view of the world and the views of Americans who re-elected President George W. Bush.

And it reinforces the notion that many Democrats are more comfortable with Canada's liberal take on social policy and its tradition of separating politics from religion.

"There's queasiness in the blue states, with Bush's political style, his conservatism, the evangelical religiosity he wears on his sleeve," says Stephen Newman, a political scientist at York University in Toronto.

"I think all of that makes Canadians a little queasy too."

Bush's big success was in galvanizing fundamentalists, who have a long tradition in the United States, and regular church-goers of all sorts.

He also appealed more to Americans in rural areas and small towns in the "heartland," while Democrat John Kerry prevailed in cosmopolitan urban centers.

Many Bush supporters reported that moral issues like banning same-sex marriage, limiting abortion rights and cutting funds for embyronic stem-cell research topped their list of concerns.

In fact, Gay marriage was banned in all 11 states that had the question on election ballots.

Those profound conservative convictions make many Canadians nervous as they consistently move in the opposite direction on such critical social issues.

And it's hard for Canadians, or many Europeans for that matter, to understand the intense involvement of the religious right in U.S. policy, which dates back to the Moral Majority of the 1970s.

Even issues like the Iraq war and anti-terrorism engaged Americans on moral grounds in the election and people nervous about their security flocked to the faith-based Bush.

In the aftermath of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, America turned inward and Bush resorted to the kind of "you're in or you're out" doctrine that has alienated many Canadians and other key allies.

"Just about everybody is mad at us and for reasons that are real," says Chris Sands, an analyst at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies in Washington.

"Canadians are closer to the other side of the U.S. divide, the softer side, the pre-Sept. 11th America."

That some north of the border can't remotely identify with the siege mentality that has overtaken much of American politics was evident in comments by Liberal MP Carolyn Parrish, who called Bush "war-like" and "completely out of step with most of the free world." "I guess it's a reflection of the profound psychological damage of 9-11," she added.

Adding to the chasm between Canada and the U.S. is the fact that Americans have moved steadily away from seeing government as the solution to societal ills like poverty after costly programs in the 1960s didn't provide the expected results and spurred a huge backlash.

Liberalism has come to symbolize high taxes and the unwelcome interference of government in much of the U.S., the antithesis of Canada's national pride in its public health-care system and focus on tolerance and equal opportunity.

"I definitely feel there's a level of social consciousness in Canada that I relate to," said artist Chris Walsh, 49, a New Hampshire native who lives in Brooklyn with his Canadian wife and son.

"I don't get the feeling that Canadians are simply looking out for themselves. As a group, I can't understand how Americans can say we don't care about what the rest of the world thinks."

The big question is whether, in the interest of uniting Americans, Bush will return to some of the goals he professed in 2000, including a "compassionate conservative" agenda and a humble foreign policy.

Many analysts didn't see it as likely, especially after being handed what Bush called "earned capital" in an election that increased Republican majorities in both levels of Congress.

"I'm going to spend it for what I've told the people I'd spend it on," said Bush, who vowed to press ahead with his tough anti-terrorism war at all costs.

Some U.S. analysts blame Bush for exacerbating the fears of Americans with a campaign that traded heavily on his leadership after 9-11, a traumatic event that allowed him to restrict some civil rights that Canadians regard as sacred.

"It is legitimate that people have safety concerns," said Clarence Lusane, a political scientist at American University's school of international service.

"But Republicans built their campaigns around these fears rather than people's hopes. And people have been willing to give up rights that have existed for more than a couple hundred years because these fears have been exploited."

Newman, for one, says it's possible that the U.S.-Canada divide will grow over the next four years.

"More of the same is not going to make Canadians feel any better. If the situation in Iraq gets worse, the Canadian public will grow even more disaffected."

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GLBT Reaction To Bush Win: Look Ahead!

WASHINGTON, D.C. - After the results of Tuesday's (November 2) elections came into focus on Wednesday, November 3, many Gay groups tried to turn their disappointment into determination to fight harder for equal rights for the GLBT Americans, the PlanetOut Network reported.

Not only were many Gay leaders upset over Democratic Sen. John Kerry's loss to President George W. Bush, but most decried the overwhelming 11-state sweep against giving marriage rights to same-sex couples.

The prospects for judicial appointments and HIV/AIDS policies under another Bush administration also trouble many GLBT people.

"Last night, we took a step back," Matt Coles of the ACLU Lesbian & Gay Rights Project said on Wednesday. "Eleven states changed the very charters that establish our society to try to keep same-sex couples out of that society forever."

He added, however, that "the results yesterday ended nothing." The ACLU is vigorously pursuing lawsuits related to equality for GLBT citizens in New York, California, Washington, Maryland, New Jersey, Florida and others.

The Gay Men's Health Crisis, based in New York City, expressed "a deep sense of disappointment" over the re-election of President Bush.

"Over the past four years, the Bush administration's response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic has been notable for ideologically driven attacks on HIV prevention programs and research efforts and a virtual neglect of the funding needed by domestic and global programs of treatment and care," said a statement issued by the GMHC.

Of course, most Democrats were distressed by the presidential election results. According to exit polls, roughly 77 percent of GLBT voters chose Kerry. Many politically active Gay Democrats also traveled to battleground states to help the Kerry campaign, often sacrificing vacation time.

In an unscientific poll of visitors to the PlanetOut site on Monday, November 1, 61 percent of those polled said they would be "depressed" or "disappointed" if their candidate didn't win.

Even Andrew Sullivan, a well-known conservative Gay blogger who ended up voting for John Kerry, called the loss "deeply, deeply dispiriting." Nonetheless he exhorted readers not to "give in to despair" and to "turn hurt back into pride."

On its Web site, Lambda Legal agreed the Election Day results were a "setback" for the GLBT community, but the group urged members to remember that the last two years held "the most significant civil rights gains we've ever experienced."

"We've climbed up the face of a rock these past 18 months and yesterday we slipped back some," Lambda Legal said. "But there's no question, we're

Rove Says Bush Wants Same-Sex Marriage Ban

WASHINGTON, D.C. - White House political adviser Karl Rove confirmed some of the worst fears of GLBT activists when he told "Fox News Sunday" that President Bush in his second term would "absolutely" push for a federal constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage, the PlanetOut Network reported.

"If we want to have a hopeful and decent society, we ought to aim for the ideal. And the ideal is that marriage ought to be, and should be, a union of a man and a woman," Rove said.

Rove, who is credited with Bush's victory over Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., said the president will use the political capital he earned to push once again for an amendment banning same-sex marriage.

An earlier attempt to place a ban on same-sex marriage in the U.S. Constitution died in the Senate in July, and in the House in September.

"Without the protection of that amendment, we are at the mercy of activist federal judges or activist state judges who could ... without the involvement of the people, determine, as the Massachusetts Supreme Court did, that marriage no longer consists of a union between a man and a woman," Rove said.

Rove added that President Bush believes states can extend civil unions between same-sex couples, to ensure same-sex couples could make hospital visits and inherit property.

Conservative allies, however, like Dr. James Dobson of Focus on the Family, criticized the pro-civil union statement. "I think the president made a big mistake there," Dobson told ABC's "This Week."

GLBT activists were livid with Rove's remarks.

In a prepared statement Human Rights Campaign (HRC) President Cheryl Jacques said, "President Bush should unite Americans, not try to enact a discriminatory constitutional amendment that goes beyond marriage to ban hospital visitation rights for same-sex couples. Voters by a wide margin support equal rights for same-sex couples. President Bush has said he supports civil unions, but they would be banned by the constitutional amendment he is promoting."

John Marble, spokesman for the National Stonewall Democrats, said, "It appears that the Bush administration is trying to build its legacy on the discrimination and scapegoating of an entire segment of Americans."

"This is not a surprise," said Chris Barron, the spokesman for the Log Cabin Republicans. "Throughout the campaign President Bush said he would fight for this amendment."

"But Log Cabin will continue to fight as well," Barron continued. "And we expect to be victorious again."

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(520) 628-7700
Fax (520) 628-7711
627 North 7th Avenue
Tucson, Arizona 85705

Voters In Eleven States Ban Same-Sex Marriage

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In a bruising defeat for GLBT Americans, voters on Tuesday, November 2, approved state constitutional amendments banning same-sex marriage in all 11 states where the measures were on the ballot, the PlanetOut Network reported.

The anti-Gay measures passed in Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Oklahoma and Utah.

Voters approved the measures despite vigorous campaigns against them by GLBT groups. The Human Rights Campaign (HRC) spent more than $6.5 million dollars on election efforts nationwide, in part to defeat anti-Gay ballot measures.

While conceding a "a setback in our fight for equality," HRC President Cheryl Jacques urged the GLBT community not to despair. "We are moving forward in the court that matters most, the court of public opinion," she said during a conference call with reporters Wednesday morning.

Despite the approval of the 11 constitutional amendments, she said "61 percent of Americans support legal recognition of same-sex couples."

Gay rights activists were considering court challenges of the new amendments in Georgia, Ohio and Mississippi, although supporters of the measures predicted they would hold up.

Perhaps the most heartbreaking loss for GLBT groups was in Oregon, where they felt they had the best chance of defeating the measure.

"The Constitution was designed exactly to prevent the rights of a minority from being determined by the whims of a majority," said Aisling Coghlan, campaign manager for the "No on Constitutional Amendment 36" campaign. "The very notion that, with a simple majority vote, we can change our Constitution to deny minority rights is ludicrous."

The constitutional amendments varied in severity from state to state. The measures in Oregon, Mississippi and Montana only ban same-sex marriage. The rest also prohibit recognizing civil unions.

Ohio's measure is considered the most repressive. It bans same-sex marriage and civil unions, and denies any legal status to all unmarried couples. It also prohibits two unmarried people from jointly adopting a child.

Analysts say the Ohio measure could also affect private companies and universities from offering domestic partner benefits. Largely for that reason, many corporate and political leaders opposed the amendment, fearing it will affect Ohio's already ailing economy by making it hard to recruit top-notch employees.

The anti-Gay amendments were largely inspired by developments in Massachusetts. A ruling last year by that state's highest court paved the way for Massachusetts to become the first and only state to allow same-sex marriage.

Even though most of the states which passed the anti-Gay constitutional amendments already have laws on the books prohibiting same-sex marriage, anti-Gay groups felt that amending the state constitutions would prevent court rulings like the one in Massachusetts.

Earlier this year, voters in Missouri and Louisiana approved similar measures, but a court struck down the one in Louisiana on a technicality.

Meanwhile, activists are pursuing marriage-rights lawsuits in states like California and New Jersey, hoping the high courts will allow same-sex marriage.

Anti-Gay groups were jubilant that all 11 state measures passed on Tuesday.

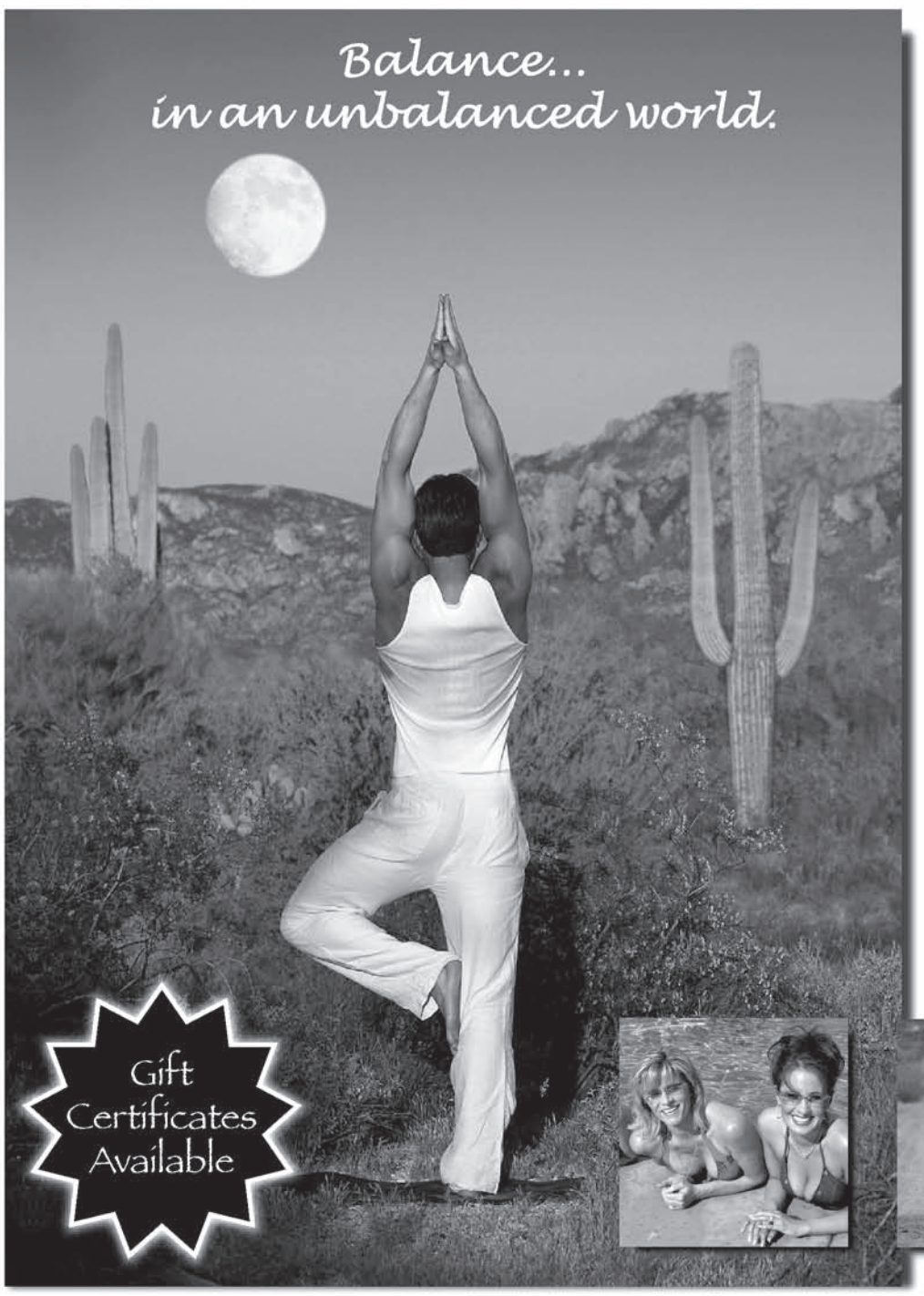
"The country overwhelmingly rejects same-sex marriage," conservative activist Gary Bauer told the Associated Press. "Our hope is that both politicians and activist judges will read these results and take them to heart."

Groups promoting fairness lamented voters' decisions to write discrimination into their state constitutions.

"People get harmed when their relationships are not respected, and this means that relationships won't be respected," said Beth Wilson of the American Civil Liberties Union of Kentucky.

Gay rights groups were licking their wounds, but promising not to give up on equal rights.

"GLBT Americans and our allies are more united than ever before," said Jacques. "Since the beginning of this fight, we knew it would be a long journey. We are committed and we will not give up. In challenging times, America has grappled with and ultimately stood on the side of fairness, and we will repeat this proud experience. History is on our side."



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UPDATE

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POLITICS 2004

by Mark R. Kerr

'Faith Can Move Mountains. . . . And Elect An Idiot'

Tuesday, November 2, Americans went to the polls and showed that they drank the "Kool-Aid," and are Fallujanal, so it's mourning in America, land of the free, special restrictions apply in seventeen states total - up 13 this year, and void were prohibited, for all homosexuals if the right gets their way.

Unemployment is up, people losing health insurance is up, salaries are way down but people have faith and want four more years of Dubya, Dickie and the Cabal in the "free and fair" election (Florida, Ohio, Nebraska, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Texas and North Carolina not withstanding) held, thanks to Diebold, ESS, and their touch screen, no paper trail voting, as well as several key Republican Secretary of State's, who made sure polling places were a little inconvenient for minorities, college students and Democrats.

Dubya claims a mandate, with his 51% of the vote that was cast, by voters who believe in "morality" and "family values," two wonderful coined terms that really mean no abortions or rights for homosexuals but don't expect the mainstream media morons to pick up on that since their benefactor is in for four years. Whoopee, let the looting continue with the rising federal deficit and debts and handouts, as tax deductions for the filthy rich and corporations. Remember, what's good for Halliburton is good for Halliburton.

Praise Gawd and pass the bigotry, despite laws prohibiting recognizing same-sex marriage in every state but Oregon, voters in thirteen states in 2004, (Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Oklahoma, Utah, Louisiana and Missouri), approved amendments to their state constitutions banning same-sex marriage.

Of these, all but three states - Oregon, Montana and Mississippi ban more than marriage, so say goodbye to domestic partnership registries and civil unions in the other states, pending the inevitable court challenges.

Was this due to the Massachusetts court ruling earlier this year? Probably not, since there was not a proposal on the Bay State's ballot and those who support the ruling in Massachusetts' legislature won reelection.

Could have been from the actions taken by San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom, allowing Gays and Lesbians to wed for which more than 4,000 couples took part and was later overturned by the California Supreme Court? Provided good file footage maybe but not quite.

How about a classic play from the book of Karl Rove? In 1994, during the gubernatorial contest in the state of Texas between the Republican nominee, none other than Dubya, versus the Democratic incumbent, Governor Anne Richards.

A campaign, starting off as a whispering type spread about Anne Richards and her staff, stating that if she was reelected, Lesbians would be taking over key governmental posts in Texas. Rove's plan, taught by Lee Atwater of "Willie Horton" fame worked perfectly and the "Kool-Aid" was drunk then and a career was born, much to the probable relief of Dubya's parents, the Carlisle Corporation.

So the election, pending the supposed tallying of the absentee and provisional ballots is over and the Republicans will use their proven tactic, Gay and Lesbian marriage in 2005 in New Jersey and Virginia, and in 2006.

Would this work in Arizona during the 2006 elections where the elephants are gunning for Janet? There has been talk at the Republican election night party, held at some-exclusive country club in Lily Whiteland in Maricopa County.

Gee, what about the Arizona Defense of Marriage Act passed as an election threat in 1996 for which was recently upheld by the Arizona Supreme Court this year?

Exactly how many marriages between persons of the same-sex have been performed in Arizona?

Isn't the Republican philosophy, is to make sure that government doesn't act like "Big Brother," telling individuals and businesses what they can and can't do?

We are hard working, tax paying residents of this state and the United States of America who cast votes and take part in the goal of bettering our society. We are not second-class citizens, since there isn't such things since the government is supposed to be of the people, by the people, for the people. We will not be degraded, discriminated against or accept being a part of the "self loathing, pee on me" society so to the radical right, this battle may not have been a success but a movement was not built in a day and we will continue the fight and triumph!

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On-Line Observer What Do You Think?

TUCSON (ON) - Recently, the online version of The Observer changed its look after eight years with the same format.

This revamp of tucsonobserver.com is still a work in progress, and the staff thanks those who have commented, positively and negatively, on the changes completed so far. The staff though wants to hear from more online readers to make sure The Observer remains to its ideal - a community publication.

Likes, dislikes, comments and suggestions for more changes are needed and The Observer wants to hear from you. The Observer has set up an E-mail address, website@tucsonobserver.com for online readers to E-mail in their thoughts. So as long as we have the First Amendment, for at least the next couple of weeks or so, please send in your E-mail, something that will be noted and appreciated.

Back To Basics Grant Awarded To Increase Community Safety In 4th Avenue Area

TUCSON - Wingspan, Tucson's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Community Center, has secured a Back to Basics grant from Mayor Walkup's office to increase safety and reduce risk of crime in areas directly east of the 4th Avenue business area.

"This successful collaborative effort with community members, business owners, staff of Council Member Fred Ronstadt's office, University of Arizona administrators, Tucson Police Department Downtown Division, and Wingspan is an important measure we can take to increase the safety of Tucson residents," said Lori B. Girshick, Coordinator of the Wingspan Anti-Violence Project. "I want to thank Mayor Walkup's office and Fred Ronstadt's staff for their work and dedication to respond to safety concerns of our community." Girshick continued, "The murder of Philip Walsted and beatings of several other gay men in the north 600 block of 4th Avenue have pointed to a serious need for community action." Walsted, 24, was found lying in the street at E. 5th Avenue and North Hoff Avenue on June 12, 2002. He had been heading to his home on North 4th Avenue and died later that day from injuries he sustained from being beaten.

This $54,000 Back to Basics grant will allow for streetlights to be installed on 4th St, 5th St, 7th St, and 3rd Ave as well as solar lighting on Hoff Avenue and 8th St. Wingspan and residents of the Pie Allen Neighborhood expect that additional lighting in these areas will deter violent criminals, as well as discourage theft, trespassing, and loitering that have been a problem for many area residents as well as patrons of 4th Avenue businesses, many of whom park in the Pie Allen Neighborhood. The Pie Allen Neighborhood Association put forward a $5,000

UPDATE

AROUND THE GAY WORLD. . . . . .

Seventh Canadian Jurisdiction To Allow Same-Sex Marriage

REGINA- A Saskatchewan court ruling Friday, November 5, made the Canadian prairie province the country's seventh jurisdiction to allow same-sex couples to wed, Advocate.com reported.

In a five-page ruling, Justice Donna Wilson sided with courts in five other provinces and one territory, saying existing marriage laws discriminate against Gay couples and were unconstitutional. "The common-law definition of marriage for civil purposes is declared to be 'the lawful union of two persons to the exclusion of all others,'" Wilson wrote.

The Saskatchewan ruling came after five same-sex couples went to court seeking the right to wed. At least one couple said they plan to say their vows as early as this weekend. Courts in Quebec, British Columbia, Ontario, the Yukon, Manitoba, and Nova Scotia have already ruled the same way.

There are currently two couples challenging the law in Newfoundland and Labrador, and the supreme court of Canada is in the process of evaluating a draft federal law that could make Gay weddings legal from coast to coast. The high court is expected to rule next year. The Saskatchewan challenge was not contested by either the province or the federal government. Lawyers for both told Wilson that they did not oppose the application but were not able to support it either.

The federal government maintained it could not back the change because of the matter currently before the supreme court, while the provincial government sidestepped the issue by saying marriage is a federal jurisdiction. The challenge was spearheaded by Nicole White and Julie Richards of Saskatoon. They plan to get married next September.

Six Arrested In Anti-Gay Attacks

LONDON - Six people have been arrested in connection with the murder of David Morley, Gay.com UK reported.

Officers from the Metropolitan Police confirmed that the group, all from South London, was being questioned over the killing of Morley, 37, a barman from Chiswick.

He died in hospital on Oct. 30 after being brutally kicked and beaten by a group of youths. During the attack he sustained 40 bruises on his torso and body, fractured ribs and a ruptured spleen.

The attack was part of four other separate beatings, with five other victims injured.

One man received hospital treatment after he was hit over the head with a bottle.

Police believe the violence, which took place on the city's South Bank, was aimed at Gay men leaving nearby club Heaven.

Meanwhile, a vigil for David Morley took place on Friday, November 5. Large numbers of people met at the Admiral Duncan pub, since Morley was a barman there the night of 1999's nail bombing attack.

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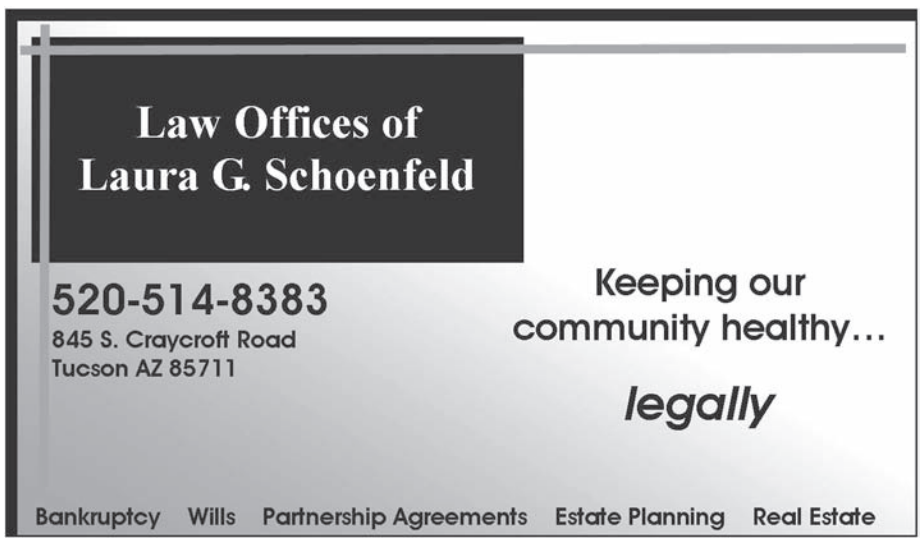

UPDATE

Canada: U.S. Immigrants Must Seek Visas

OTTAWA - Gay and straight Americans attempting to escape four more years of President Bush by fleeing to Canada will have to wait in line just like immigrants from any other country, Canada's Immigration Ministry said Wednesday, November 3, Advocate.com reported.

Over the years Canada's social climate has shifted to the left of the United States, with relatively higher taxes supporting programs such as public health care. That and the promise of legalized same-sex marriage and lenient marijuana laws might be a draw to some Democrats despondent over the Bush victory and the promise of continued conservatism from his administration.

The U.S. consulate in Toronto estimates there already may be a million Americans living in Canada—most don't register—about a quarter of them in Ontario. But Americans who want to join the expatriate ranks across what is called the world's longest undefended border won't get special treatment just because their brother is married to a Canadian or they like cheap weekends in French-speaking Montreal. "The immigration program is universal—it applies to everyone the same," France Bureau, spokeswoman for Immigration and Citizenship minister Judy Sgro, said.

All immigrants need a work permit, according to a government Web site. A government department must approve any offer of local employment before a permit is issued. Those without a job offer can apply in the skilled worker category to become a permanent resident, which takes about a year to process. Applicants must have enough funds to support themselves in the meantime. Citizenship applications take an additional three years or so.

Skilled-worker applicants must posses a minimum of points in required areas such as education and language proficiency. Immigrants without a work visa wanting to live and invest in Canada must have a net worth of $662,000 and be ready to put up at least $331,000. Those wishing to start a business must have a net worth of $248,000.

Hepatitis C Linked To Half Of U.S. Liver Cancer Cases

BOSTON - Researchers from the Liver Cancer Network report that the hepatitis C virus is involved in more than half of U.S. cases of liver cancer, Reuters Health reports on Advocate.com.

Liver cancer is increasing faster than any other type of cancer, according to a report presented by the researchers at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases.

A study of 250 liver cancer patients showed that 52% were infected with HCV. Overall, 87% of liver cancer patients had some sort of underlying liver disease. St. Louis University researcher Alex S. Befeler, who presented the study data, said chemotherapy is typically ineffective for liver cancer, since liver damage makes drug metabolism poor. "Liver transplantation is the best approach," he said.

Vaccine Shown To Prevent Cervical Cancer

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Efforts to develop the world's first vaccine to prevent cervical cancer took a key step forward Monday, November 1, with test results suggesting that it can provide long-lasting protection, the Associated Press reported on Advocate.com.

Four years after getting the vaccine, 94% of women were protected from infection with the virus that causes most cervical cancers, and none had developed worrisome precancerous conditions, a study showed. "We're thrilled about these results. The immune responses seem to be really long-lasting," said Eliav Barr, who leads development of the vaccine for Merck. The company plans to seek U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval next year for an expanded version of the vaccine that also could be used to prevent genital and anal warts in both women and men.

"They showed clear effectiveness," said Scott Hammer, a Columbia University infectious disease expert who reviewed the work but has no ties to Merck or the study. "This is a very important issue for women's health around the world." If the vaccine makes it to market, it would be the second developed to prevent cancer. The hepatitis B vaccine has dramatically reduced the number of infections that progress to liver cancer. Cervical cancer strikes nearly half a million women worldwide each year and kills about half. In the United States about 15,000 women get it and about 5,000 die. Cervical cancer is an AIDS-defining opportunistic infection in HIV-positive women. Virtually all cervical cancer cases are caused by infection with human papillomavirus, or HPV, which is spread through sex. One strain, HPV-16, accounts for about half of all cervical cancers.

A previous study showed that HPV-16 infections were completely prevented in 768 women who had received the Merck vaccine 18 months earlier. None developed precancerous conditions either. The new study followed 755 of these women for four years after vaccination. HPV-16 infections had taken hold in seven; none developed precancers. In a comparison group of 750 women who received dummy shots, infections took hold in 111 and precancers formed in 12. Even though protection had waned for a small number of women in the study, the vaccine's effectiveness was still very high, said Douglas Lowy, a National Cancer Institute scientist who invented the vaccine.

The government gave rights to develop the vaccine to two companies—Merck and GlaxoSmithKline—and Merck's work is a little further along, Lowy said. "Revaccination might be advisable at some point," but it will take more study to know whether that is necessary or would improve effectiveness, he said. Women in the study were ages 16 to 23 when they received the vaccine, given in three doses over six months. "Most people think it would be recommended for young adolescents. The idea would be, you would immunize people relatively soon before they become sexually active," because the virus is spread through sex, Lowy said.

Meanwhile, Merck is in the final stages of testing an expanded vaccine. Besides HPV-16, it contains strain 18, which causes another 10% to 20% of cervical cancers, as well as strains that cause genital warts in men and women, and penile and anal cancers in men. About 25,000 women and men have been enrolled in that study in 34 countries, and results are expected next year, Barr said. The vaccine also might prevent women already infected with HPV from developing cancer.

COMMENTARY. . . . by Thomas Oliphant

The Gay Marriage Deception

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The news media have grossly misreported the contents of state referendum questions targeting Americans who are apparently seen as more dangerous to national security than John Kerry — Gay people.

Using unthinking shorthand that carries out the hidden agendas of the people who want Gays banished to the fringes of society, the press has over and over again referred to these measures as banning Gay marriage. In fact that is only accurate regarding three of the 11 initiatives passed last week.

In state after state — most prominently in Ohio (which Bush barely won) and in Michigan (which he nearly did) — these referendums went far beyond the question of who gets to be formally married. They also banned legal and other conventions incidental to marriage, which are central to the evolving institutions of civil unions and domestic partnerships.

For political reasons, it was central to the hidden agendas of the groups pushing these restrictions (the target is homosexuality, not relationships between homosexuals) that they not become the focus of the debate.

Therefore marriage was used as the cover for the far more consequential effort to strip contractual rights from Gay couples who have formed hundreds of thousands of families in recent years across the United States.

That is why proponents described them repeatedly as efforts to ban Gay or same-sex marriage, a formulation the press has mindlessly repeated. It reminds me of the success of groups who spent nearly a decade on behalf of banning a rare pregnancy procedure, the name for which was invented solely for political and shock-value purposes — partial-birth abortion. Again, the press's lazy penchant for a catch phrase, unexamined for accuracy, led reporters and editors to mindlessly repeat the phrase.

The point about that phony campaign — already rejected once by federal judges of all stripes, including the Supreme Court, and back in the courts now — was to use the shock value of the procedure to create a ban written to cover all three trimesters of pregnancy without an exception to preserve a woman's health, in other words to challenge Roe v. Wade and abortion rights themselves.

Just for the record, the three states whose initiatives last week refer only to the granting of marriage licenses are Montana, Oregon (the one place where the vote was very close), and Mississippi. The states that used marriage as a cover to mount an assault on contractual relationships of all kinds were Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Michigan, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, and Utah.

In pivotal Ohio, for example, the voters may not have realized it but they voted to strip people of the right to contractually arrange distribution of assets, child custody, pensions, and other employment benefits. They most definitely were not "protecting" marriage; they were attacking Gay people. That is why the political and business establishment there, including Republicans, opposed the measure.

The evidence is that the voters who approved it also opposed its actual contents. In the official exit poll Tuesday night, 27 percent of the voters said they support full marriage rights, 35 percent supported civil unions, and only 27 percent oppose any legal rights for same-sex couples. In other words, to underline the importance of artifice and deception in our sound-bite culture, the voters approved a measure opposed substantively by 62 percent of the very same voters.

President Bush embodies this incoherence while he manipulates the sentiments cynically. Just before the election he tried to say he supports the rights of states to have civil unions, though he would have opposed them as governor of Texas. He also supports a federal constitutional amendment that would both limit "marriage" to man-woman couples and permit states to ban civil unions.

The incoherence was tactical. Bush knew fair-minded supporters of civil unions were going to vote for him (according to the exit polls, up to half did); but he also knew he needed to keep his base of bigots happy, too — hence his campaign's alliance with them at the grass roots in places like Ohio.

The irony is that a federal amendment is probably necessary for the pro-discrimination forces to succeed.

Many states have laws to keep groups from putting two issues in the same referendum, in order to avoid exactly the kind of deception that has occurred. In fact, injunctive relief on that ground has already been granted in states that passed such initiatives earlier. In addition, they directly challenge both the contract and the equal protection clauses of the US Constitution.

The federal amendment does not have the votes, even in the new Congress, and my hunch is that Bush doesn't have the stomach to truly fight for discrimination. He was, however, willing to benefit from the deception this year, and a lazy news media played right into the hands of those who would officially sanction discrimination.

[Thomas Oliphant's is a columnist for The Boston Globe, from which this article is reprinted from the November 7 edition.]

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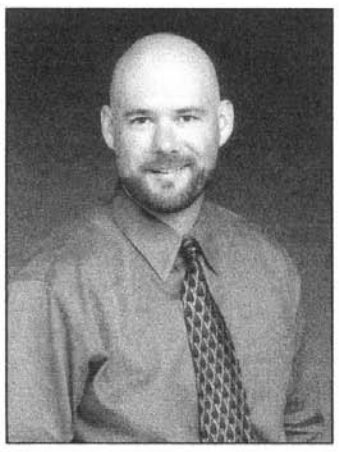

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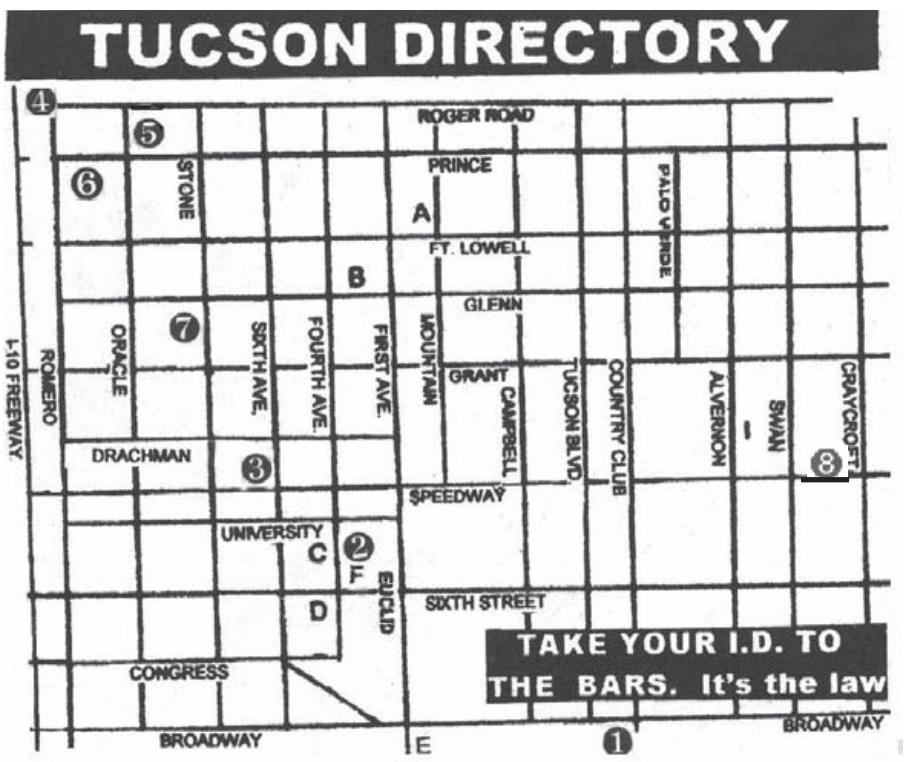

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The nonsense that is talked and written, even here in Tucson, about illegal immigration!

I heard one argument recently against putting water stations in the desert to save the lives of lost illegals. The reasoning was that word of the water stations would get back to Mexico and encourage more illegal immigrations which would result in even more dehydration deaths than the number that would occur without the stations. In other words, the water stations would act as a magnet to Mexicans who were thinking of coming here but hadn't quite made up their minds

Ask a politician what he'll do about illegal immigration and, like the knee-jerk response to the doctor's rubber hammer, he'll talk about beefing up the Border Patrol. Does it matter at all that the Border Patrol is 99 percent ineffective? Not at all. We'll beef it up and make it 98 percent ineffective.

Everyone's been talking about "the fact of the matter' this election season. The fact of the matter is that both major political parties like illegal immigration just the way it is. The Dems think that illegals from Mexico will bring them a net gain in votes over the next few years. The Republicans think they'll hold down wages and thereby increase profits.

Both parties know full well that you could disband the Border Patrol entirely and end illegal immigration at the same time by the simple expedient of putting the American employers of illegals in jail. Mexicans are coming here for jobs, not to drink from our desert water stations, not to sample Tucson's famous chimichangas, not even to vote in our elections. Jobs.

NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE

by Lee Thorn

Backdoor To Healthcare

And that brings me to the unstoppable myth of "jobs that Americans won't do." Both political parties say that we need Mexicans to perform these mythical jobs. As an American who's done a lot of really rotten jobs for low pay over the last few decades, I'm not aware of any job, not a single one, that Americans won't do.

Since we're not afraid of being deported, we're free to organize ourselves on the nasty jobs and stand up to our employers in ways that illegals can't, but jobs that Americans are just too darn dainty to perform are figments of the middle-class imagination. Don't take my word for it. Ask a coal miner, especially one who's been trapped underground a few times.

Further nonsense, I read an essay in a Tucson paper recently arguing that, since capital is free to flow across international borders, labor should be free to do so as well. This is technically known as a "non sequitur." If you're not familiar with the fallacy, you've no reason at all to feel lonely.

This same Tucson essay argued that completely open borders wouldn't cause drastic economic changes; they'd mostly keep illegals from dying of thirst. There's a strong emotional appeal to this bogus argument that arises from the fact that, despite the unreality of the games our politicians play, the Border Patrol agents who get hurt trying to enforce ineffective laws are really hurt and the Mexicans who die of thirst trying to evade ineffective laws are really dead.

But even the major political parties that love the status quo of substantial illegal immigration do not favor completely open borders. First, it's a political nonstarter. More importantly, no one knows what the political consequences of open borders would be. No one can even guess.

For decades we've had a predictable flow of illegals with fairly predictable consequences, consequences the powers that be are essentially happy with. Throw the borders wide open and you don't know how many folks would cross or how fast they'd come.

What if they came in such numbers and with such speed that US citizens started shooting at them? What if they started shooting back? What if the government tried to stop the shooting with shooting of its own? Could we have a civil war? Who knows?

How about unexpected consequences on the positive side? Let's say the former illegals, no longer having to fear deportation, join with American-born workers and start new unions that revitalize our moribund labor movement. Let's say the revitalized labor unions get a ring in the Democratic Party's nose and force it to start acting Democratic again. Maybe Americans and Mexicans working in the US end up doing what nobody else has come close to doing, getting everybody who works in America healthcare.

Coming back to the for-real side, the fact of the matter is that we're stuck in the tragic status quo because that's where our major parties want us.

[Thorn welcomes comments, suggestions for future columns, and tips on local skulduggery that ought to be exposed. Write to Box 85571, Tucson, AZ 85754. e-mail: Doid3@aol.com]

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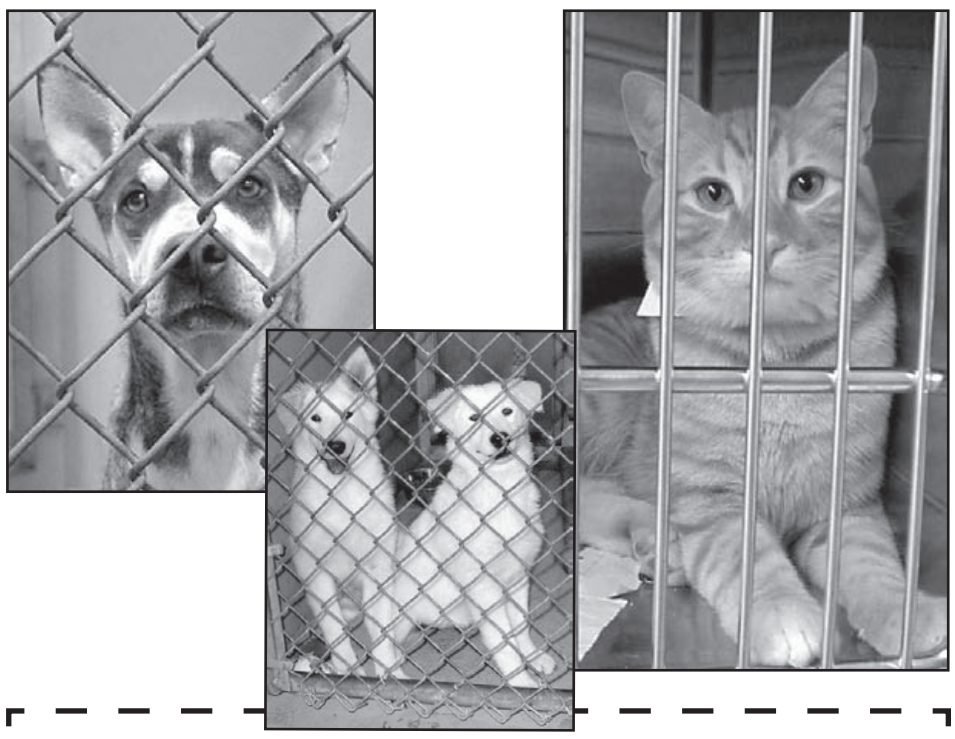

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SAAF UPDATE

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION

By Anne Maley

TUCSON - On Sunday November 21, SAAF will be holding the 16th Annual Jerôme Beillard Festival For Life! The Hilton El Conquistador is this year's location for this phenomenal live and silent art and gift auction.

From 4 p.m.-7 p.m., the El Conquistador will be transformed into an opportunity to find amazing works of art and great gifts. Works by such notable and distinguished artists like Allan Mardon, Lorraine Darconte, Sylvia Garland, Barbara Gurwitz, Jon Lightfoot, Deezie Manning-Catron, Tom Philabaum, Gail Marcus-Orlen, Julie Sasse, Paula Wittner, Owen Williams, and many other local and national artists will be available. A wide array of holiday and gift items, getaways, celebrity collectibles, and Paper Prayers will be available as well. It is a fabulous event.

Masters of Ceremony for the event are Lupita Murillo from KVOA-TV and Allen Kath of Skyview Traffic. Gina Corral also from KVOA-TV will assist them. Dr. Kevin Carmichael and Dr. Tejal Parikh are this year's Honorary Chairs. In addition to the live and silent auction, festivities include an hors d'oeuvres buffet and live music by the Molehill Orkestrah. Celebrity Auctioneers for the live auction are Shannon & Chandler from Star 97.5.

Festival For Life is named after Jerôme Beillard. Jerôme and his partner Robert Markley started Festival in 1988. Jerôme was the Executive Director of People With AIDS Coalition (PACT); one of the three AIDS services organizations that merged in 1997 to become SAAF. Jerôme was highly committed to helping people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS. His determination and compassion were evident in everything he did. In 1995 just before Jerôme's death, the PACT Board voted to name the event in honor of him and his contributions to the community. Since then, Festival For Life has continued to grow to the point that last year we moved to the largest venue we found available: The Hilton El Conquistador. We are there again this year.

The 16th Annual Jerôme Beillard Festival For Life is a holiday event representative of Jerôme's enthusiasm. Join us for this evening of tantalizing hors d'oeuvres and delightful music as you have the opportunity to bid on tasteful works of art and quality gifts. Be a part of the Festival For Life on November 21, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. at the Hilton El Conquistador, 10000 N. Oracle as we honor a memory and experience an evening of enchantment! Advance tickets for $45 are available at (520) 628-7223 and ask for Ethan. Tickets at the door are $50.00. Come and be good to yourself!

GAY BIGOTRY

In an election where voters called moral values their top issue, President Bush benefited from the support of people who showed up in record numbers to ban same-sex marriage.

But these down-ballot questions in 11 states threaten to reverberate in fear and intolerance long after Bush's term has come to an end.

Bush played upon people's fears - about terrorism, Iraq and spendthrift liberals - to win another term. Fear was also a weapon in helping ensure that marriage remains a man-woman arrangement.

A check of the source material used by proponents of these amendments reveals conservative Christian arguments taken to ridiculous levels. Web sites from groups such as Focus on the Family provided talking points for use in crafting letters to the editor. Among them: Allowing same-sex marriage would lead to group marriage, schools would be forced to teach that same-sex marriage is normal, churches would be pressured by law to perform same-sex marriages.

Others suggest that same-sex marriage is not a denial of equal rights because homosexuals have never had the right to marry. Nor is tolerance an issue, according to Focus on the Family: "Instead it is about forcing everyone to fully accept these unnatural families."

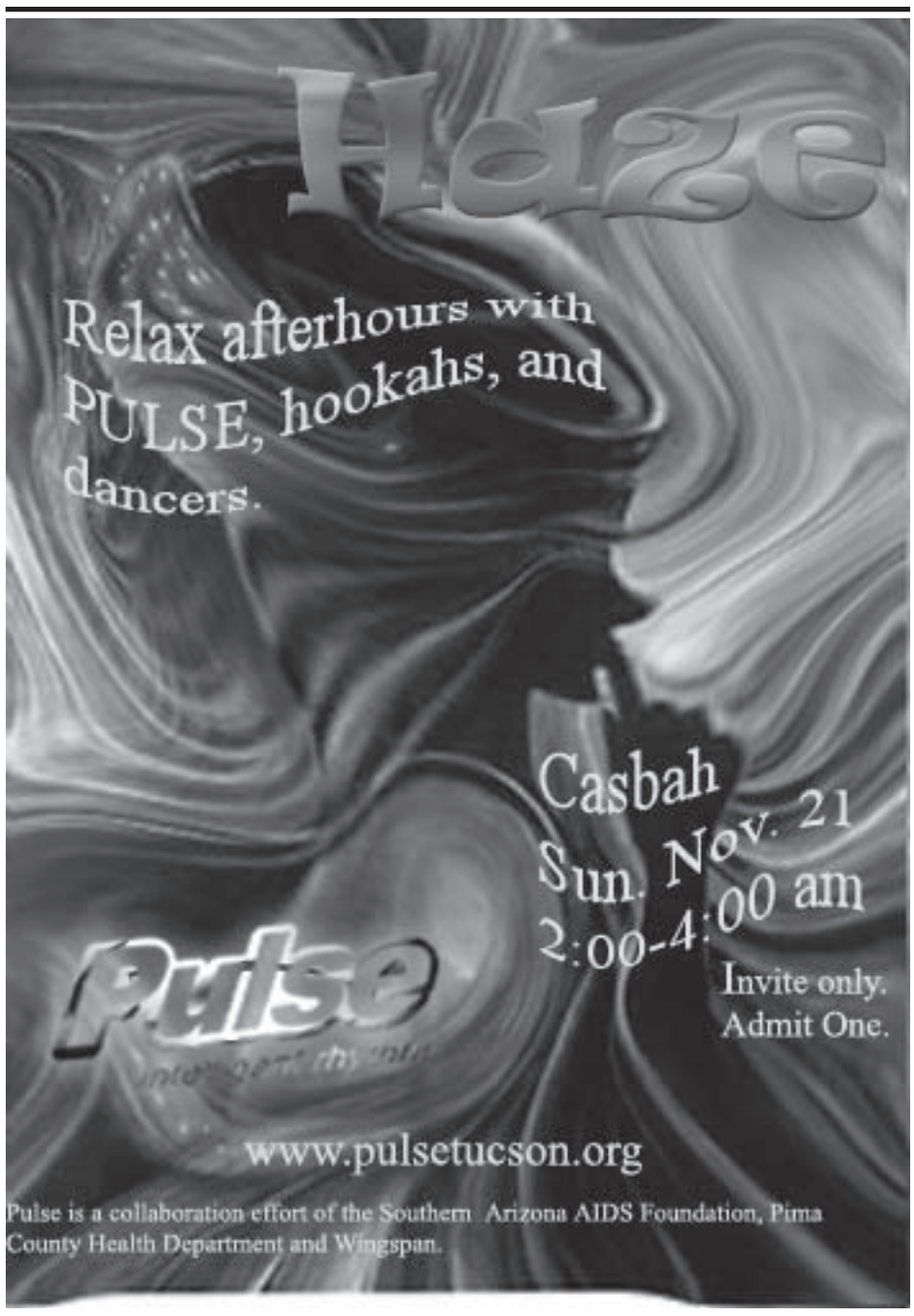
"Unnatural families" is an idea at the heart of this movement. But unnatural by what standard? None exists in the Constitution, a document that promises "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" to all, whether or not some might find their relationship repulsive.

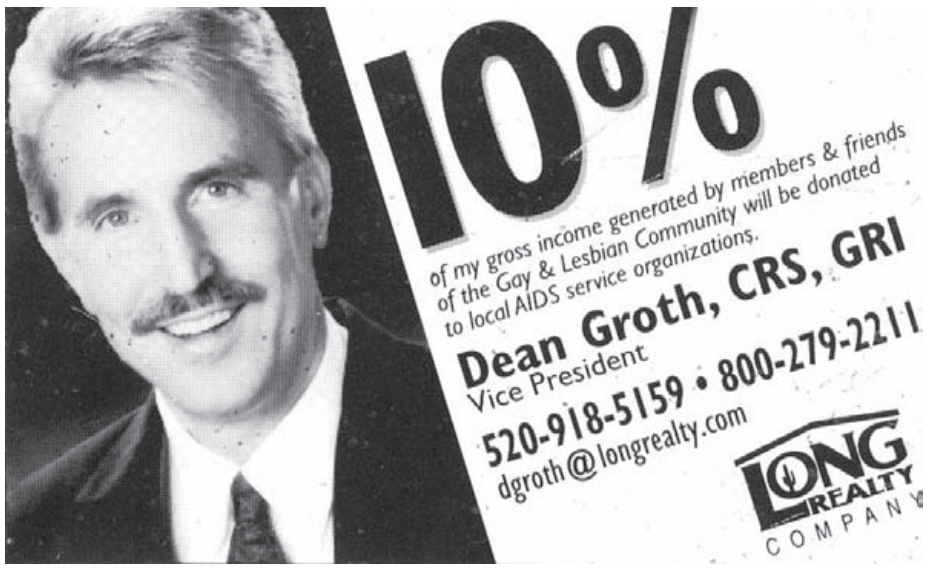
President Bush, though not Vice President Cheney, supports the idea of codifying same-sex marriage as repulsive by amending the Constitution. In doing so, he misses the fundamental philosophy of equal rights underlying the Constitution. This historic change would amount to a rejection of the Constitution, not an amendment to it.

Despite legislation written for 17 states now, we have not seen a good argument for preventing same-sex marriage. Nor has convincing evidence come to light that traditional marriage would suffer by it.

The only moral position on this issue is one that voters so far are missing: People should be allowed to marry other people.

[The above was an editorial, reprinted from the November 8 edition of The Arizona Daily Star.]





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Experimental Drug Entecavir Proves Effective Against Hepatitis B

BOSTON - Data presented by drugmaker Bristol-Myers Squibb at the 55th Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases shows that the experimental drug entecavir is more effective in treating hepatitis B than the antiretroviral Epivir (3TC), Advocate.com reported.

Entecavir was shown in two studies to both improve liver function and lower blood-based hepatitis B virus levels, outperforming Epivir therapy. Patients studied had chronic HBV infection and included both those who were HBV treatment-naive and others who had been treated with and developed resistance to Epivir. After 48 weeks of entecavir therapy, 70% of treatment-naive patients showed liver function improvement, compared with 61% of patients who began Epivir treatment. Undetectable HBV levels were seen in 91% of the treatment-naive patients who began entecavir therapy after 48 weeks, compared with 73% of those taking Epivir. A study of treatment-experienced patients showed that those switched from Epivir to entecavir had significantly higher improvements after 48 weeks in liver clinical measurements and had better viral suppression than those who continued taking Epivir.

Entecavir is currently in Phase III clinical tests. Bristol-Myers Squibb recently submitted a new drug application for the medication to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and a marketing authorization application to the European Medicines Evaluation Agency. More than 2 billion people worldwide have been infected with HBV; 350 million to 400 million are chronically infected and are at high risk of liver damage, liver cancer, and death. HBV can be transmitted sexually and is a common sexually transmitted disease among Gay and Bisexual men. The Gay and Lesbian Medical Association recommends that all sexually active Gay and Bisexual men be vaccinated against both hepatitis A and B. Fewer than half of sexually active U.S. Gay men have been vaccinated, according to GLMA.

Lesbian Couple Launch First Court Battle Over Same-Sex Marriage

DUBLIN - A Lesbian couple who wed in Canada launched a legal battle Monday, November 8, to have their union legally recognized in Ireland, where homosexuality itself was outlawed until a decade ago, Advocate.com reported.

Ann Louise Gilligan and Katherine Zappone—who were married in British Columbia in September 2003 within months of the legalization of same-sex marriage there—became the first Gay couple in Ireland to go to court to seek state recognition of a foreign marriage. They demanded that Ireland's tax collection agency, the Revenue Commissioners, allow them to file as a married couple rather than as two single people, which involves paying more tax. High Court justice Liam McKechnie, who sits on Ireland's second-highest court, said he would rule Tuesday on whether their claim merits a full hearing.

Zappone, a member of Ireland's government-appointed human rights commission, and Gilligan, a Dublin philosophy lecturer, have been partners for 23 years and live together in Brittas, a beachside resort south of Dublin. They have worked together on poverty research and feminist rights projects since the early 1980s.

Their lead lawyer, Gerard Hogan, argued that neither Ireland's 1937 constitution nor its more recent tax laws explicitly defines marriage as solely between a man and a woman. Hogan, one of Ireland's most prominent experts on constitutional law, said the Revenue Commissioners "have discriminated against them in an unjust and invidious manner, in breach of their constitutional rights and the European Convention on Human Rights."

He conceded that the Irish constitution drafted 67 years ago by then-prime minister Eamon de Valera undoubtedly presumed that "marriage" meant between a husband and wife but argued that constitutional law should not be trapped within "the permafrost of 1937."

The case, if granted a full hearing Tuesday, could have major implications for Ireland's unmarried couples, both heterosexual and homosexual, in this predominantly Catholic country of 3.9 million. The 2001 census identified 77,600 households involving unmarried partners, among them 1,300 Gay and Lesbian couples. Under Irish law, married couples enjoy advantages over unmarried couples, who pay higher income and inheritance taxes.

Oregon Students Walk Out To Protest Ban On S/S Marriage

EUGENE - The students at North Eugene High School in Oregon were too young to vote in the election, but they were old enough to be upset with the adults who cast ballots, Advocate.com reported.

More than 100 students walked out of their classes Thursday to protest the approval of Measure 36, the proposal to amend the state constitution to ban same-sex marriage, which was decisively approved by Oregon voters.

Kristin "Khushi" Shrestha, 16, said the protest grew out of the frustration students felt Wednesday morning. "Everybody came to school and they were so depressed," she said. "Our world is changing before our eyes. Our rights are going down the drain, and there's nothing we can do about it because we can't even vote yet." The students marched to a busy intersection, holding banners while chanting, "Equal rights! Equal rights!"

Police warned the students to stay on the sidewalk, and some "Yes on 36" kids rode their bikes in front of the protesters. Other than that, there was no trouble. The organizers arrived at school early to make signs, banners, and a small flier to let other students know about the planned walkout during fifth period, which starts at 2 p.m.

Students estimated that as many as 200 students joined the vocal procession. By 3:30, about 100 students were still clustered on the sidewalk, holding signs for passing motorists. "You know there's something wrong where you get this big of a reaction from the youth," said Rebecca Wells, 17.

Kay Graham, the assistant principal, was keeping a watchful eye "to see that nobody gets hurt." She said the students will face the same consequences as any student skipping class, such as getting no credit for work they missed or credit for that day of school.

Cincinnati Voters Repeal Anti-G/L Law

CINCINNATI - While Ohio was one of the 11 states that approved bans on same-sex marriage on Election Day, there was one thing LGBT Ohioans could celebrate: Cincinnati voters repealed an amendment to the City Charter which barred the city from offering any protections to Gays and Lesbians, the PlanetOut Network reported.

Voters approved the repeal of Article XII, Issue 3, by a 54-46 percent margin.

Article XII stated: "The city of Cincinnati and its various Boards and Commissions may not enact, adopt, enforce or administer any ordinance, regulation, rule or policy which provides that homosexual, Lesbian, or Bisexual orientation, status, conduct or relationship constitutes, entitles or otherwise provides a person with a basis to have a claim of minority or protected status, quota preference or other preferential treatment."

While those wanting to preserve the anti-Gay charter spent at least $535,000 on television commercials, LGBT activists relied on grassroots campaigning. They also received grants totaling $20,000 from the Human Rights Campaign and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

"You can run a broad-based movement involving the whole city and beat people with a lot of money," Gary Wright, a leader of the Yes on 3 campaign, told the Cincinnati Post. "We have demonstrated that, in fact, this city has changed."

The repeal effort had supporters that stretched from the public to private sector.

Along with a majority of city council members, Mayor Charlie Luken supported the repeal. "I am proud of my city tonight," Luken told the Cincinnati Post. "This shows we're ready to welcome all of our citizens."

Several corporations also supported the repeal, including Procter & Gamble and Federated Department Stores.

The fight over Article XII has stretched 10 years. U.S. District Court Judge S. Arthur Spiegel ruled the measure unconstitutional in 1994. A year later the Cincinnati-based U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit reversed the ruling.

Opponents of Article XII appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court (news - web sites) in 1999, but the nation's highest court declined to hear the case, effectively preserving the appellate court's ruling.

LGBT activists admitted they were not sure if conservatives would try to pass a similar amendment later.

"If they do, we're ready," Wright told the Cincinnati Post. "We've seen that scare tactics and fear-mongering don't work."

Okla. CouplesSue Over G/L Marriage Ban

OKLAHOMA CITY - Two Lesbian couples in Oklahoma have filed a federal lawsuit that will take on the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) and the new anti-Gay marriage amendment to the Oklahoma Constitution, the PlanetOut Network reported.

Oklahoma was one of 11 states to pass an anti-Gay marriage amendment into its state constitution in Tuesday's, November 2, general election. The Oklahoma amendment defines marriage as a union between a man and a woman; it prohibits giving the benefits of marriage to people who are not legally married; and it denies recognition of the legal marriages or civil unions Gay couples may have had in other states. The amendment also makes it a misdemeanor for anyone to issue a marriage license to a same-sex couple.

The lawsuit challenges the amendment, as it denies the couple's liberty and property rights without due process as guaranteed under the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The lawsuit also states that DOMA violates the Full Faith and Credit Clause of the U.S. Constitution because it prohibits the federal government from recognizing the privileges, immunities and rights that couples should be entitled to with a legal civil union.

One of the attorneys for the couples involved in the case, Kay Bridger-Riley, said she has been working for four to five months with the ACLU and several other groups to put together some kind of lawsuit that would challenge the potential amendment. The groups decided to wait until the amendment passed into law to file the lawsuit.

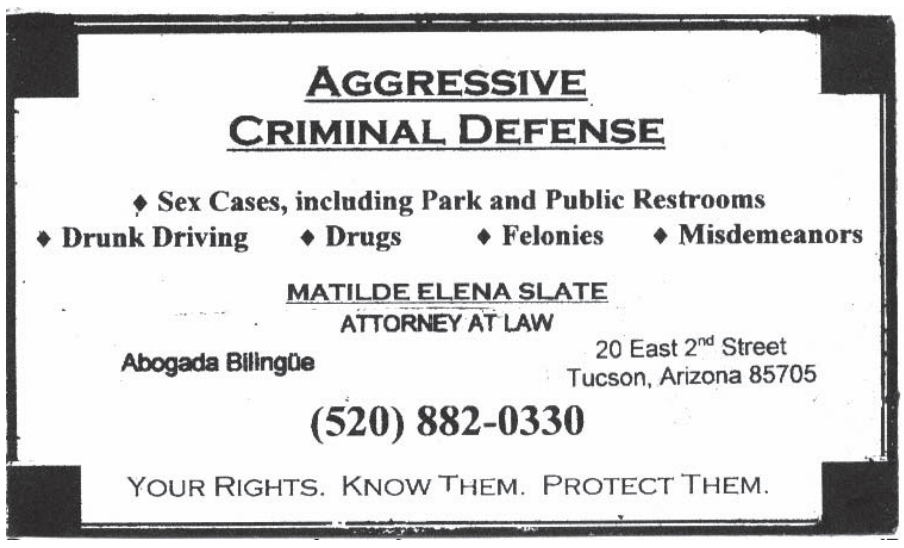
The anti-Gay marriage amendment passed with overwhelming voter support. According to the Oklahoma Board of Elections, 75.59 percent of Oklahoma voters said yes to Question 711, the anti-Gay marriage amendment. The couples filed their case with the U.S. District Court in Tulsa the day after the election.

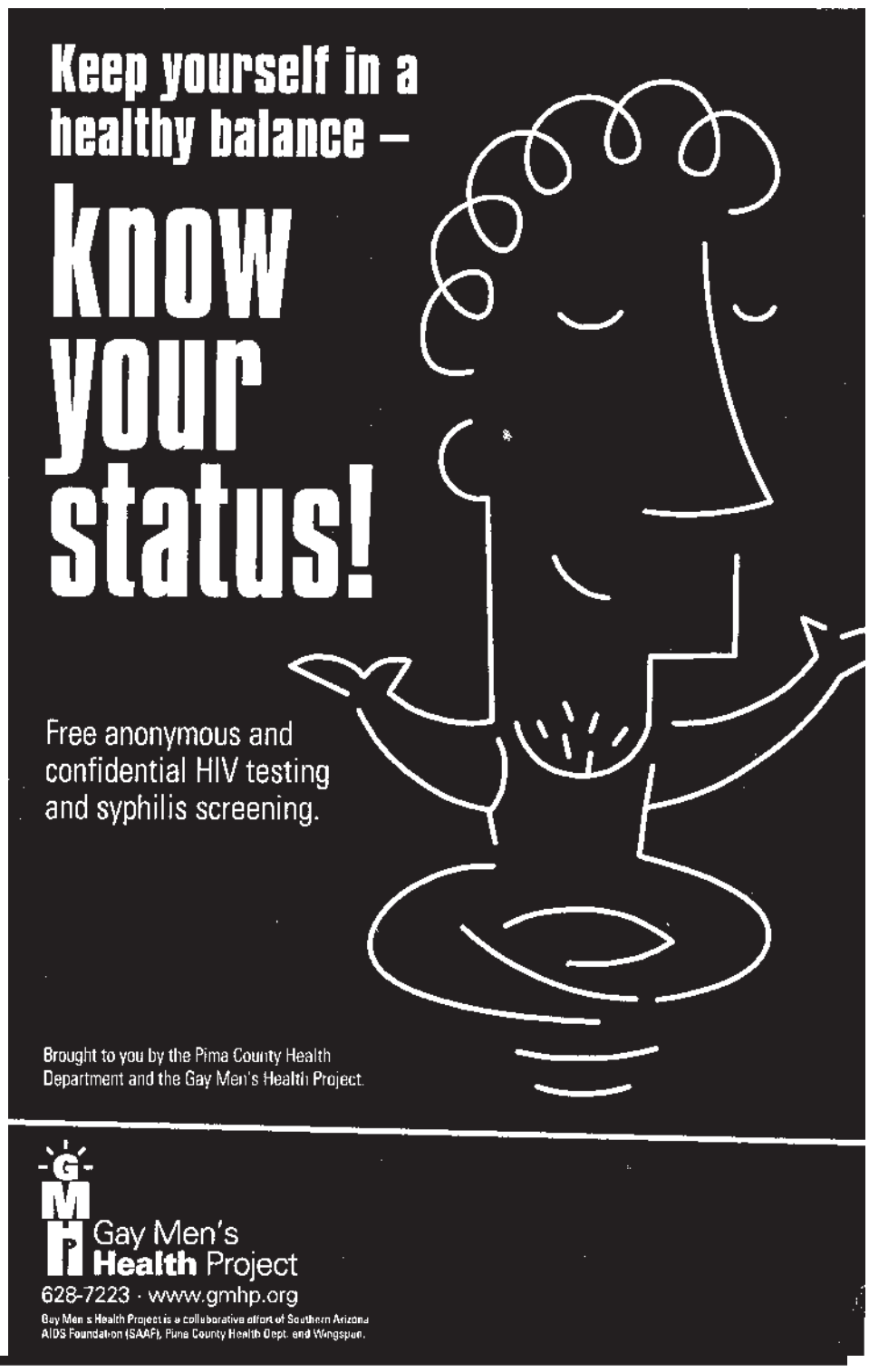
"We are excited about this case," said Bridger-Riley. "These are two of the most wonderful couples you'd ever meet — they deserve the same rights and protections every one else has with a legal marriage."

One couple, Susan G. Barton and Gay E. Phillips from Tulsa, celebrated a legal civil union in Vermont in 2001. The other couple, Mary Bishop and Sharon Baldwin from Broken Arrow, Okla., have been living in a committed relationship for eight years. They had a commitment ceremony four years ago. To provide legal protection for each other, Bishop and Baldwin have spent almost $1,300 on legal fees to cover wills and power of attorney arrangements — rights that would been automatic if their state saw their union as legal. Both have made every effort to make their relationships legal, according to attorney Bridger-Riley.

Oklahoma's is just one of many lawsuits expected to challenge the new anti-Gay marriage amendments. The ACLU said it will file a lawsuit against Georgia's amendment as soon as election results are approved there.

There is already a case in the state courts challenging Louisiana's constitutional amendment and one in Nebraska challenging an amendment passed there in 2000. There is no known deadline for the courts to hear the case in Oklahoma, but it could be sometime early next year.





Pro G/L Lawmakers In Mass. Win Re-Election

BOSTON - Activists in New England on Wednesday morning, November 3, reported some very positive election outcomes for Gays in Massachusetts, Advocate.com reported.

Officials from MassEquality said that despite orchestrated Republican opposition led by the state's governor, Mitt Romney, all incumbent lawmakers who voted in favor of legalizing marriage for same-sex couples earlier this year won reelecton.

"This election should finally put to rest the fear-mongering that led up to and followed May 17 when Gay and Lesbian couples began to marry in Massachusetts," said MassEquality political director Marc Solomon. "The truth is, Massachusetts voters care much more about health care, education, and jobs than they do about same-sex marriage. Attempts to use Gay marriage as a wedge issue that will decide legislative elections simply do not work in Massachusetts."

Added Marty Rouse, campaign director for MassEquality: "We unleashed an unprecedented effort statewide to reelect our allies and defeat our opponents. Supporters of equal marriage rights worked strategically in both the primary and general elections. We told incumbents we'd stick with them, and we did, from door-knocking to phone banking to fund-raising. Our volunteers were critical to this success."

MassEquality spent $700,000 to conduct polling, phoning, field work, and mailings. The group sent more than 30,000 pieces of mail to MassEquality members urging them to volunteer, contribute, and vote for a candidate in their district. At phone banks across the state, volunteers made more than 15,000 telephone calls to voters urging them to support a pro-equality candidate.

The Massachusetts results contrast dramatically with the experience of legislators in Vermont who supported civil unions legislation. Following the passage of the civil unions law in 2000, the issue dominated state elections, with anti-equality forces launching a "Take Back Vermont" campaign. In the 2000 Vermont primaries, five incumbent Republican supporters of civil unions were defeated, and in the general election, 17 supporters of civil unions were defeated. The Vermont house of representatives shifted from majority Democratic control to a 21-seat Republican majority.

"Four years ago many Vermont legislators were not prepared for the backlash from the voters," Rouse said. "This time in Massachusetts, MassEquality was prepared with volunteers, expertise, and donations."

Texas Approves Textbooks After Change In Definition Of Marriage

AUSTIN - The Texas board of education approved new health textbooks for the state's high school and middle school students Friday, November 5,after the publishers agreed to change the wording to describe marriage as the union of a man and a woman, Advocate.com reported.

The board decision could affect books sold in dozens of states because of Texas's market clout as the nation's second-largest buyer of textbooks.

On Wednesday, November 3, a board member charged that the proposed new books ran counter to a Texas law banning the recognition of Gay civil unions because the texts used terms like "married partners" instead of "husband and wife." After hearing the debate Thursday, one publisher agreed to include a definition of marriage as a "lifelong union between a husband and a wife." Another changed phrases such as "when two people marry" and "partners" to "when a man and a woman marry" and "husbands and wives."

Board member Mary Helen Berlanga, a Democrat, asked the panel to approve the books without the changes. Her proposal was rejected on a 10-4 vote. "We're not supposed to make changes at somebody's whim," Berlanga said. "It's a political agenda, and we're not here to follow a political agenda."

Board member Terri Leo, a Republican, said she was pleased with the publishers' changes. She had led the effort to get the publishers to change the texts, objecting to what she called "asexual stealth phrases" such as "individuals who marry." "Marriage has been defined in Texas, so it should also be defined in our health textbooks that we use, as marriage between a man and a woman," Leo said.

Texas lawmakers last year passed a law that prohibits the state from recognizing same-sex civil unions. The state already had a ban on Gay marriage. A controversy arose last year in Texas when the board approved new biology textbooks that contained Charles Darwin's theory of evolution, brushing aside opposition from religious groups.

A man who doesn't advertise is like one who winks in the dark: he knows he's doing it, but nobody else does.

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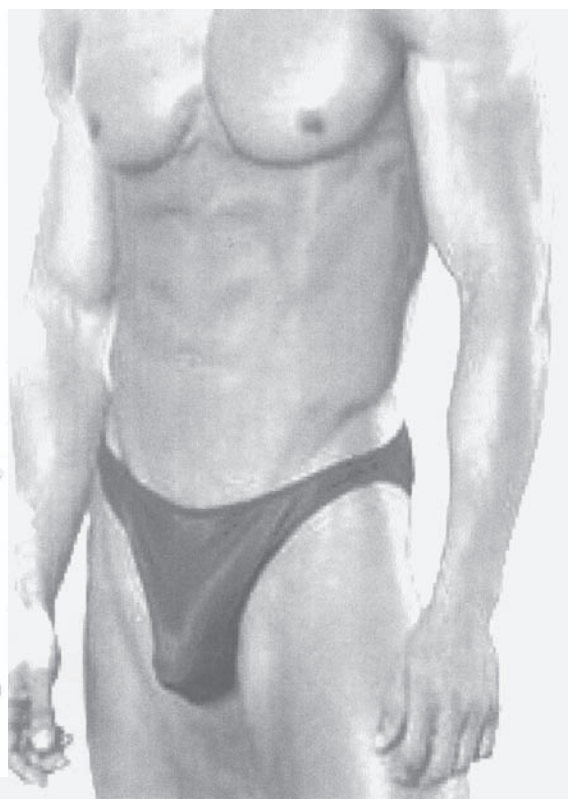

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HOROSCOPES

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Selfish actions will have their assorted reactions this week when retro Saturn squares Mars. Life raps you on the knuckles. Naughty naughty. How about a spanking instead?

ARIES (MAR. 21 - APR. 20)
Your home is your castle and you are its royalty. At least that is what proud Rams think (like the petty despots they aspire to be). You can be very demanding and short tempered now thanks to Saturn square Mars. Long suffering partners are not amused and may plot a coup d'etat or a palace escape. Will your head be served on a platter? Anyway you can get it now, I suppose.

TAURUS (APR. 21 - MAY 21)
Something you say or do can upset those around you at work. Okay, so things are not perfect on the job - Less capable souls than you appear to glide to the top of the heap. But complaining about it won't change your luck. Hard work and a diplomatic outlook eventually pays off. So watch what you say, queer Bull, lest you are hoisted on your own petard. Wear clean petards just in case.

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)
You ache for a good time. Okay, the reality is that you will ache after your good time. Mars squares Saturn and pushes you to the outer limit of fun, physically and financially. There are no restraints, unless that is your thing. But how far can you go before they find you in a trash heap the morning after. Fetid, stinking, crusty and spent. That must have been some party....

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)
Are you getting tired of your surroundings? Are you aching for a change? Mars square Saturn casts a pallid light on your living space and suggests that you want to make some rather dramatic changes ... now! You want light, color and a look that more clearly reflects the true you. But hold off on building your dream house until next week. Dream on, pink Crab.

LEO (JULY 24 - AUG. 23)
Proud Lions are very quick to bellow their ideas. As Mars squares Saturn, you think that you have a lot to say, but words seem to escape you. A rousing roar becomes a phlegmy growl. Consider keeping your opinions to yourself for the time being. There is plenty of time to clear the air and make your point next week. Hey watch where you point that thing.

VIRGO (AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23)
Your dough is rising, among other things and sticking it in the bank seems so ... well... boring. Friends seem to have a few half baked schemes to help you spread the goods around. You are a willing and enthusiastic participant in this fiscal frolic. All very well and good, Virgin, but who will love you once the dough is spent and the good times pass into fond memory? Who indeed!!

LIBRA (SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)
It seems that you have a rather high opinion of yourself and your abilities this week. (It's nice to know that someone does.) But are your standards as high as those who have the power to make things happen? If you try to reach for a gold ring and can't quite grab it, take a deep breath and wait until next week after the Mars Saturn square. Then crush 'em with your talent!

SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)
There is nothing quite as frustrating as seeing an opportunity for a relaxing getaway somewhere on the horizon but not being able to reach it. Gay Scorps yearn for escape but Saturn now squares Mars and ties you down and strings you up. And yet, staying close to home will prove to have its advantages now. At least you won't have to worry about getting too much sun….

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)
Mars squares Saturn as well as your sweet tooth. A very familiar friend comes on to you. How familiar do you want to be in return? Gay Archers are faced with some new interesting choices and some landscape changing personal decisions. What to do? What to do? Wishing doesn't make it so. So be a so and so and sow your just desserts. Want to add some whipped cream?

CAPRICORN (DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)
People who need people find that the Saturn Mars square brings too many relationship entanglements and too many mediations. It is tiring. If you feel pulled in two or more directions this week it may be because you care too much and want to find the perfect solution that can make all sides happy. I am not sure if that is possible. Deal with the push me, pull you later, sweetheart.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)
There is a certain satisfaction in knowing you have done a job well done. But what if you and I know that you really have been gliding by, doing what comes easy and delegating the crummy work? The chickens come home to roost as Mars squares Saturn and your job now demands more than a courtesy appearance. It is blessing in disguise. However you may want to get a new disguise.

PISCES (FEB. 20 - MAR. 20)
They say that genius is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration. Ain't that the truth while Mars squares Saturn! Even an eyedrop of creativity seems like too much effort. But all is not beige suburbia, Guppie. There are loads of exciting things brewing on the horizon that can spurt next week. Why not give yourself a break this week and forget all the neurotic nonsense that ails you?

Ending the violence.

Wingspan launches the Anti-Violence Project – a community initiative to assist lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender victims of discrimination, domestic violence, sexual assault and hate crimes.

Call the Anti-Violence Project 24-Hour Crisis Line at 624-0348, or toll-free 1-800-553-9387.

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Last Rights For 'Six Feet Under'

NEW YORK - HBO is preparing a eulogy for Six Feet Under, reported Advocate.com.

The pay cable network confirmed Friday, November 5, that the upcoming fifth season of Six Feet will be the last for the ensemble drama revolving around the trials and tribulations of a family that runs a mortuary. Out series creator-executive producer Alan Ball recently informed HBO executives that he felt the show will have run its creative course by the end of the upcoming 12-episode season. "Working on Six Feet Under has been enormously fulfilling creatively, but if the show is about anything, it's about the fact that everything comes to an end," Ball said in a statement. "I will miss working with such enormously talented writers, cast, staff, and crew, and I'll always be grateful to HBO for allowing and encouraging us to tell the story we set out to tell in a challenging and uncompromising way."

Six Feet has been a critical darling for HBO, if not a commercial hit on the scale of The Sopranos or Sex and the City, since its 2001 debut. The drama—whose ensemble cast includes Peter Krause, Michael C. Hall, Rachel Griffiths, Lauren Ambrose, and Frances Conroy—has been showered with Emmy nominations. It earned 16 Emmy bids in 2002, its first year of eligibility, and 23 noms in 2003—but has yet to claim the top drama series prize in the annual Emmy derby. Six Feet is a project that has been particularly close to the heart of Carolyn Strauss, HBO entertainment president, who originally dreamed up the notion of doing a series set in a mortuary. She pitched the idea to Ball, who was then hot off the success of his Oscar-winning screenplay for American Beauty, and the writer-producer fell for it immediately. "Dealing with death seemed like a very common experience that we could all relate to, and [the mortuary setting] seemed like a great lens for a fairly ironic show," Strauss said. "It also seemed like the kind of show that only [HBO] could do." Strauss was quick to praise Ball and the rest of the Six Feet crew for "all the impressive work. It's been a fantastic experience to be associated with this show," she said.

Production on Six Feet's fifth season is set to begin November 16, but a premiere date has not yet been set, Strauss said. Word of Six Feet's swan song season comes at a time when HBO is already in a transitional phase after bidding farewell to Sex and the City this year, while its other original series tentpole, The Sopranos, isn't due back for its final season until 2006. HBO has the sophomore season of its wild Western Deadwood on tap to premiere in January, followed in March by the return of Depression-era drama Carnivàle. Other series in the production pipeline at HBO are Big Love, starring Bill Pullman as a modern-day polygamist in Utah, and the big-budget costume drama Rome.

Yoko Ono's G/L Marriage Anthem Tops Dance Charts

NEW YORK - Yoko Ono isn't known for her voice, but it's still a hot commodity. The famously off-key singer and wife of John Lennon has the number one single on the dance chart, the Associated Press reported on Advocate.com.

"Everyman Has a Man Who Loves Him/Everywoman Has a Woman Who Loves Her (Basement Jaxx Club Mix)" is a mix of techno beats and her screeching vocals. It's her second number 1 dance song this year. Ono says once she allows someone to remix her song, she is hands-off and gives them rein to create beats and rework the song. But she isn't planning on grooving to any of her beats in the clubs soon.

"I don't think I'm the type of woman who can walk into a club by myself. I'm inhibited, I suppose," she told AP Radio. Ono, 71, is already working on her next single, a version of "Give Peace a Chance." She says she's putting contemporary beats on it and that she updated the words after the September 11 attacks.

Elton John And David Furnish Plan To Marry

BERLIN - Elton John has given an interview saying he wishes to marry his longtime boyfriend, David Furnish, according to Agence France-Presse on Advocate.com.

"We haven't set a date, and it surely won't be a public ceremony, but I would like to place my life in his hands with a wedding vow," John told the German magazine Gala.

The pop legend went on to call Furnish "the most important person in my life," adding, "I cannot imagine a life without him." John was married to Renate Blauel from 1984 to 1988.

NON-BAR CALENDAR
Groups / Clubs / Organizations /

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10
#1 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Jack for Canasta. If you don't know how to play, we'll be glad to teach you. For reservations and directions, please call Jack at 887-3736.
#2 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. The Circle of Men is a support group that helps you deal with yourself and your relationships with others. For directions and reservations, please call Tom at 591-2828.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11
Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Karol hosts Bridge Night. If you don't know how to play, they'll teach you- and it's a very relaxed atmosphere. For reservations and directions, please call Karol at 744-9017.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12
#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 11:30 a.m. Join Karol for a morning of Miniature Golf at Funtasticks. For reservations and directions, please call Karol at 744-9017.
#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 1:00 p.m. Karol hosts a Lunch Out at Hometown Buffet. For reservations and directions, please call Karol at 744-9017.
#3 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 6:00 p.m. Join David for Dinner Out at Pinnacle Peak. Must RSVP by Friday, November 05. Contact David at 404-4039.
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13
Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Steve hosts Pinochle Night. If you don't know how to play, but would like to learn, this is the place. For more information, please call Steve at 664-2076

Tucson Prime Timers, Food & Drinks- 5:00 p.m., Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): - Join us for an evening of Charades at 7:00 PM. For details and directions, please call Karol at 744-9017

Tucson Prime Timers, Lunch – 12:30 p.m., The Wildcat House, 1800 N. Stone Ave.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16
#1 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. The Circle of Men is a support group that helps you deal with yourself and your relationships with others. For directions and reservations, please call Tom at 591-2828.
#2 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join the men of MSN for an evening out at Rainbow Planet Coffee House. This is a chance to have a cup of coffee and chat with the men of MSN. For more information, please contact Ray at 247-2716.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17
#1 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Terry for Canasta. If you don't know how to play, we'll be glad to teach you. For reservations and directions, please call Terry at 577-2396.
#2 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. The Circle of Men is a support group that helps you deal with yourself and your relationships with others. For directions and reservations, please call Tom at 591-2828

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18
Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Willie hosts Bridge Night. If you don't know how to play, they'll teach you- and it's a very relaxed atmosphere. For reservations and directions, please call Willie at 297-8756.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19
Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 pm - Join Karol for a night of Poker. If you don't know how to play, but would like to learn, this is the place. For details and directions, call Karol at 744-9017

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20
#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 8:30 a.m. Join Jack & Mike & Ed 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/Mike at 881-5733 or Ed at 407-5733.
#2 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Marv hosts 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.

#1. Tucson Prime Timers, Lunch/Business Meeting - Noon, Home Town Buffet, 5101 N. Oracle Rd.
#2. Tucson Prime Timers, Food & Drinks - 5:00 p.m., Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22
#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join us for the "putting out the Newsletter" Night. For reservations and directions, please call Arlan at 323-7414.
#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:30 p.m. Join us for the MSN Premiere of "Saved" (after Newsletter Night). For reservations and directions, please call Arlan at 323-7414.

Tucson Prime Timers, Lunch – 12:30 p.m., The Wildcat House, 1800 N. Stone Ave.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23
#1 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. The Circle of Men is a support group that helps you deal with yourself and your relationships with others. For directions and reservations, please call Tom at 591-2828.
#2 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join the men of MSN for an evening out at Rainbow Planet Coffee House. This is a chance to have a cup of coffee and chat with the men of MSN. For more information, please contact Ray at 247-2716.

BAR CALENDAR
Of Upcoming Events

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10
IBT'S - The DivaLicious Show hosted by Bunny FuFu 9:00 p.m. Dance to DJ Q afterwards.

WOODY'S - "Boys Gone Wild" party 8:00 p.m. til close.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11
VENTURE-N - The annual art show and sale continues. Tonight its Meet the Artists Reception from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. with hot hors d'oeuvres and champagne.

YARD DOG - It's Veteran's Day and the Uniform Party goes from 7:00 p.m. to whenever.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13
IBT's - 8:30 p.m. "An Evening With Ajia Simone" with special guests. Then dancing to DJ Mike Lopes til 2 a.m.

YARD DOG - Breakfast by Nick, served from 10:00 a.m. until noon to benefit the Balboa Heights Center. Tucson Knight Owls are having benefit car wash from 9:30 a.m. until ???

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25
VENTURE-N - Thanksgiving Potluck. Spend the holidays with your friends. More later.

DAILY BAR CALENDAR

SUNDAY
COLORS - Fabulous Brunch 11am - 2pm with complimentary mimosa. Dinner 5-10pm..

HOWL AT THE MOON – Open at 10:30 am. Chuckwagon Breakfast 10:30 am – 1:30 pm, includes Bloody Mary or Mimosa. $2 Smirnoff Sunday. DJ Jake playing country favorites 8:30 pm to close.

IBT's -Open Noon $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 'T.C. Wildman'. 9-close. All drink specials not available during special events.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio open 3pm. $1.75 Bloody Marys or Screws til 3pm Patio Beer Bust 3-7.Burger BBQ 5-7. Selection of burger meats to choose from. $2 proceeds go to Pet Watch (helping HIV/AIDS clients with their veterinary bills).

WOODY'S - Open 11am. Sunday Brunch 11:30 - 2:30. Eggs and meat du jour plus BMs, Mims or Screws $5. $1.50 Bloody Marys, screwdrivers, Mimosas; Happy Hour 11am-8pm $2 well or domestic beer Patio Bar open 5-close. Pick-up Beach Volleyball games 5-?. $2.50 sirloin burger w/salad 5-9pm. Karaoke with Michael D. 9pm

YARD DOG - Open Sundays 10am - 1am. Bloody Marys or Screwdrivers $1.75 from 10am - 3pm.

MONDAY
COLORS - Open 11am for lunch; 5pm for dinner. Happy Hour 4-7pm. Domestic beer and well cocktails $2.25

HOWL AT THE MOON – Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 – 8 pm, $2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, $3 sm pitchers, $5 lg pitchers. Monday Munchies 3 – 8 pm with reduced prices on appetizers. Pool Tournament 6:30 pm - $3 entry fee, bar matches pot. Draught Beer Specials for players.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-7pm, All drink specials not available during special events.

VENTURE-N - Open 8am. Patio 6pm. Free pool til 4pm. $2.75 Skyy Martinis 4-8. Free Hot Dogs.

WOODY'S - Open Noon. $2 well or domestic beer til 7pm.Karaoke w/Michael D. 9-1

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am. 50¢ off any Scotch until 7pm. Beer Bust 3-7pm.

TUESDAY
COLORS - Open 11am for lunch, 5pm dinner. Happy Hour 4-7pm. Domestic beers and well cocktails $2.25. Karaoke 10:30pm to close w/Johnny DJ.

HOWL AT THE MOON – Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 – 8 pm, $2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, $3 sm pitchers, $5 lg pitchers. Tequila Tuesday: $2.00 well margaritas, 50¢ off call tequilas. Karaoke with Calabaza Cabeza Karaoke 8 – 11:30 pm

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-7pm, Bare Chest Nite- Bare it and get happy hour prices from 9 to close. Progressive/Retro '80s dance with DJ Q. 9 to close

VENTURE-N - Open 8am. Patio 6pm. Free Pool til 4pm. WOODY'S - Open Noon. $2 well or domestic til 7pm. Bartender Calls It drink specials..

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am.50¢ off any Tequila until 7pm Beer Bust 3-7pm.

WEDNESDAY
COLORS - Open 11am for lunch; 5pm dinner. Happy Hour 4-7pm Domestic Beers or Well cocktails $2.25.

HOWL AT THE MOON – Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 – 8 pm, $2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, $3 sm pitchers, $5 lg pitchers. Free Pool all day. Draught Beer Specials all day. Beginning couples dance lessons with Amanda 7:30 – 8:30 pm. Country DJ Jake plays 8:30 - close

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hours Noon-7pm, 9pm "Diva-Licious" show w/Lucinda Holliday and guests. HiNRG Dancing with DJ-Q. All drink specials not available during special events.

VENTURE-N - Open 8am. Patio 6pm. Free Pool til 4pm. Draft Special 12-4pm. $2.75 Cuervo Margaritas 4-8pm

WOODY'S - Open Noon. $2 well or domestic beer til 7pm. Free Hot Dog Buffet 5-11pm. Underwear-fetish- leather nite w/Gary and Chris along with GMHP. $1 off any drink or bottled beer.(Excludes draft & schnapps) for all in leather or underwear.

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am.50¢ off any Vodka until 7pm Beer Bust 3-7pm.

THURSDAY
COLORS - Open 11am for lunch, 5pm dinner. 4-7pm Happy Hour Domestic Beers or Well cocktails $2.25. Karaoke 10:30 - close with Johnny DJ.

HOWL AT THE MOON –Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 – 8 pm, $2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, $3 sm pitchers, $5 lg pitchers. $2.00 Mexican Beers all day. Karaoke with David Z from 8 to midnight.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hours Noon-7pm, DJ 9-1 All drink specials not available during special events.

VENTURE-N - Open 8am. Patio open 6pm. Free Pool til 4pm. Pool Tourney 7pm. $3 entry. Special prices for players. Steak Nite (4th Thursday of each month). Bring your own or get it here $5.

WOODY'S - Open Noon. $2 well or domestic beer til 7pm. Free Pool 8 to close. Volleyball Court is Open. See bartender.

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am.50¢ off any Bourbon til 7pm. Beer Bust 3-7pm.

FRIDAY
COLORS - Open 11am for lunch. Dinner 5-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm domestic beers or well cocktails $2.25.

HOWL AT THE MOON – Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 – 8 pm, $2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, $3 sm pitchers, $5 lg pitchers. Line Dance Lessons 7:30 to 8:30 pm. .

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hours Noon-7pm, Live Jazz on the patio with the Susan 6-9pm. Patio Bar 5-1pm. GoGo Boys and Dance Party with DJ 'T.C. Wildman' 9 to 1. All drink specials not available during

VENTURE-N - Open 8am. Patio open 6pm. Free Pool til 4pm. DJ 9pm to close.

WOODY'S - Open Noon. $2 well or domestic beer til 7pm. Martini Party - Well Martini's $2.00 4-8pm. Call Martinis $3 from 4-8pm. Complimentary Shrimp Cocktail 4-8pm. Patio Bar Open 7pm - midnight.

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am.50¢ off any Gin until 7pm. Beeer Bust 3-7pm. Kennel open 9pm.

SATURDAY
COLORS - Open 11am for lunch; 5-10pm full dinner.

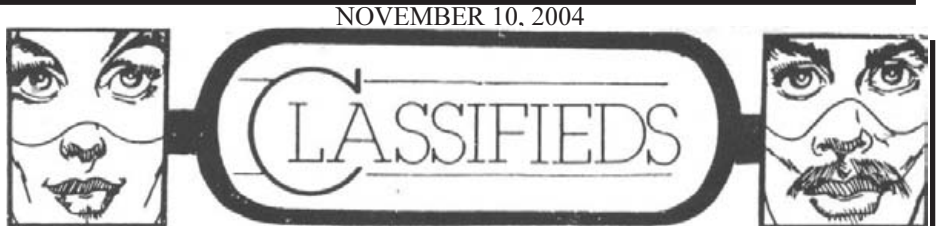
HOWL AT THE MOON – Open at 10:30 am. Happy Hour 3 – 8 pm, $2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, $3 sm pitchers, $5 lg pitchers. $3.00 Cheese Burger & Fries all day. Country DJ with the best in country dance music 8:30 to close

IBT's - 10am-5pm $4 Martinis and Daquaris. Happy Hours Noon-7pm. Dance Party 9-1 w/DJ-Q. All drink specials not available during special events.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio Bar open 3pm. Patio Beer Bust 3-7pm. DJ 9-1.

WOODY'S - Open 11am $2 well or domestic beer. Til 7pm. Patio Bar opens 5pm. 5-9pm Steak or Mahi Mahi 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. Beer Bust 3-7pm. Kennel Open 9pm.



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

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

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

The TUCSON Chapter of PRIME TIMERS WORLDWIDE invites Gay or Bisexual men and their admirers to join and share Prime Timers fellowship. We welcome mature men (and admirers) who wish to become involved with planned and future Prime Timers (TPT) activities. Meetings luncheons and dinners are held monthly. For dates, times and information call529-2269, leave name and phone number. Tucsonpt@primetimersww,org

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

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

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

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

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

GET NAKED with TNTucson MEN! We're a social and recreational club. Have you ever longed to camp, swim, hike or play with others who enjoy the same, dropping all the masks and pretensions? We;re for you! TNTucsonMEN@nethere.com, P.O. Box 12176, Tucson 85792 or call 514-9894

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

BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO — a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, Call the Bears Hotliine (520)790-5775 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910 of visit our website at www.botop.com All are welcome to our general meetings/potlucks on the 2nd Friday of every month, 7pm at Sentinel Bldg. On the City of Tucson Resource Campus, 310 N. Commerce Park Loop on Bonita St. between St. Marys and Congress.

LESBIAN 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 325-9466 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. Want to join? E-mail: www.desertvoices.org or call 791-9662 .

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

AA Meeting with HIV/AIDS focus, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., 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 690-9565 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, contract TEAM ARIZONA at their website: teamarizona.org

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

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

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

TUCSON PRIDE, INC. (Formerly Tucson Lesbian and Gay Alliance - TLGA) meets on the second Tuesday at 845 S. Craycroft Road at 6pm. Tucson Pride events: Pride Week, Gay West and OUToberFEST. 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.

TUCSON INTERFAITH HIV/AIDS NETWORK (TIHAN), a coalition of faith communities committed to a compassionate response to HIV/AIDS, provides HIV education in congregational settings, volunteer CareTeams to support HIV+ persons, a referral network of HIV-sensitive clergy, and interfaith services of healing and hope. For more information call 299-6647.

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 tyan@theriver.com and request guidelines.

OUTLOUD! Tucson's premiere Local Lesbian and Gay Radio Show, broadcast every Sunday from 7-8 pm on 91.3 FM, Community Radio KXCI.

THEATER / DINNER / ETC! Non-Smoking Lesbian Network meets every 3rd Saturday night of each month. If you'd like to meet women 35+ (flexible) and socialize in a smoke-free environment 888-8010 before 10:00 p.m. The group dines out and attends shows or movies. Now in their 16th year! (2nd in Tucson).
SOUTHERN ARIZONA GENDER ALLIANCE (SAGA). The Southwest's largest transgender and gender-variant advocacy organization. Speakers and panelists available. General meetings monthly on the 1st Mondays at 7pm; Dezert Girlz MTF Support) meets 2nd Mondays at 7pm; Dezert Boyz (FTM Support) meets 3rd Tuesdays at 7pm. Also serving partners, youth, intersex, service providers and allies. Call (520)867-0083 for more info.

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) 745-0775 for current information.

TUCSON GREATER SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION. Interested? Call Kelly Quinn, (520)906-0669 and or Mona Garcia 256-8728.

LUTHERANS CONCERNED — Tucson chapter for Gay/Lesbian Lutherans meets 3rd Sunday, 6:30 p.m. each month at Santa Cruz Lutheran Church, 6809 S. Cardinal Ave. For information visit www.lctucson.org write: LC, 7014 E. Golf Links Road, PMB 212, Tucson, AZ 85730.

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

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

"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
LIKE TO READ?

The Guys Book Club (TGBC) invites new members to join them. The group meets once a month, on the 3rd Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at Magpie's Pizza on 4th Avenue to discuss the Gay-themed book read by members the previous month.

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

GLBT Buddhist meditation group meets Sundays from 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. at the Wingspan annex space, 739 N. 4th Ave. Please be willing to sit for two twenty minute sessions in silence. All are welcome.

LGBT SUPPORT GROUP FOR VICTIM/SURVIVORS OF Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Hate Crimes, Bias Acts, Harassment. Call Lori at Wingspan, 624-1779, ext. 20. Services are free.

NEW TUCSON SOBRIETY SUPPORT GROUP. Secular Organizations for Sobriety - Sundays 8:00 - 9:30 p.m. at 739 N. 4th Avenue. Contacts Rick R. 520-792-2604 or Gary S. 520-323-1969. More information at www.secularhumanism.org/sos/ This group is an alternative to 12-step programs.

MEN'S KINK DISCUSSION GROUP (Open to all who identify as male and are 18 or older) meets 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m. at Desert Dominion, 3843 E. 37th Street, Tucson, AZ. (Map available at www.desertdominion,org) For those who are kinky or just curious. No fee, contributions are appreciated, but not required.

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Looking for people willing to speak in front of small groups with leadership skills. Above average income for the right person. 886-9314. Mr. Ross 1059.

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FULL BODY SWEDISH MASSAGE FOR MEN. Best rates in Tucson! Speedway and Swan area. IN and OUT calls. 7 days. , 548-6314 1066

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A man who doesn't advertise is like one who winks in the dark: he knows he's doing it, but nobody else does.

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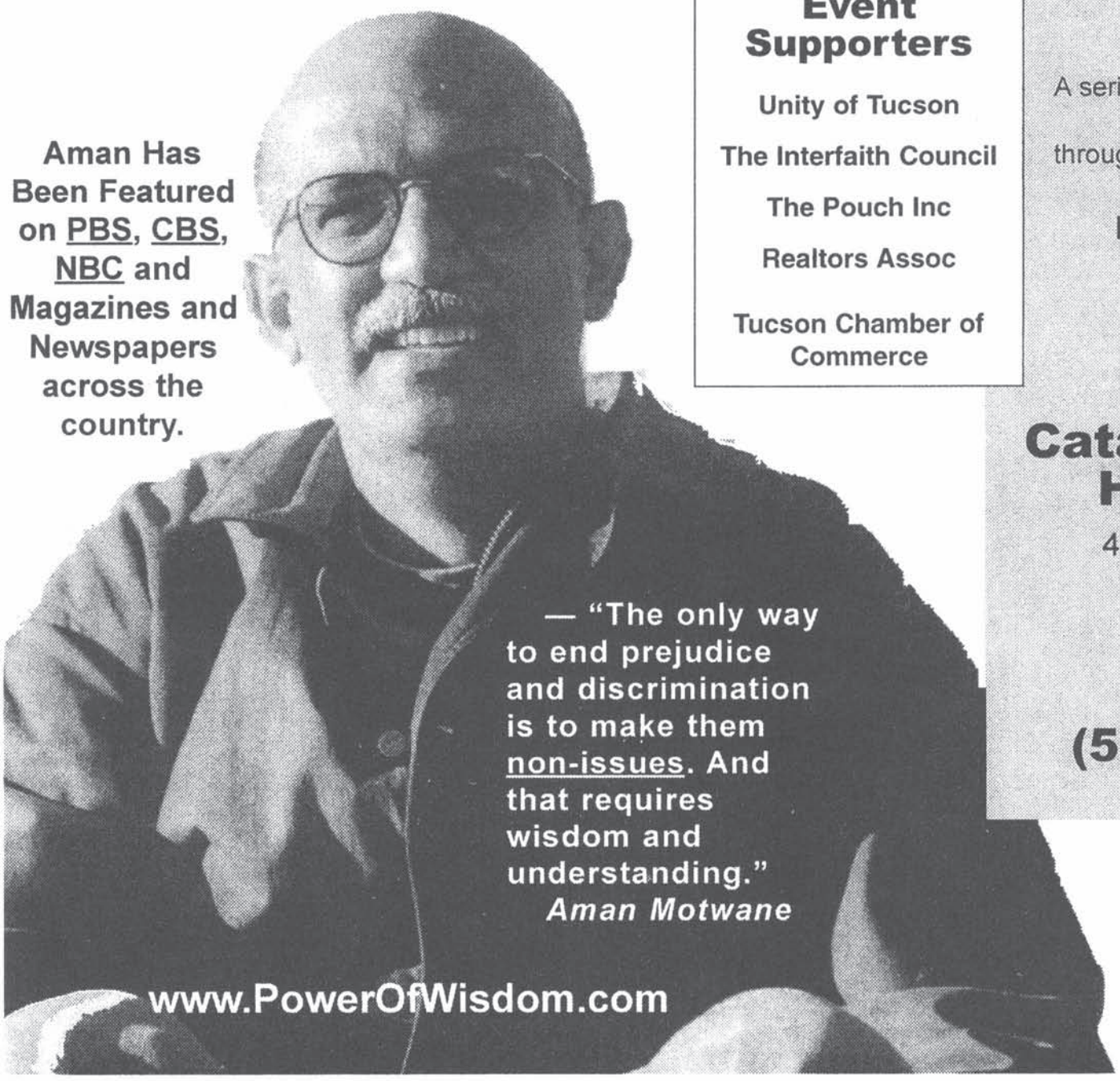

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