



Observing Tucson And  
The Greater Arizona Community

# OBSERVER

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## Bush Appointment Angers GLBT, HIV Groups

WASHINGTON, D.C. - President George W. Bush has appointed a champion of abstinence-only programs to be his new domestic policy adviser, prompting criticism from some Democrats, Gay groups and advocates for people with HIV, the PlanetOut Network reported.

On Wednesday, January 5, the president tapped Claude Allen, deputy secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS), for the post. Allen will be responsible for shaping all White House proposals and decisions on domestic issues, the Associated Press reported.

In a press release, President Bush said that Allen, a member of the administration since 2001, has helped "to improve the health and welfare of all Americans."

Bush had tried twice to appoint Allen as a judge for a federal appeals court, but those nominations were blocked by Senate filibusters. During one of the hearings Allen was criticized for his use of the word "queer" in 1984, when he was an aide to former Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C.

Allen has also come under fire for remarks he made during a 2003 HIV-prevention conference in Atlanta. He called for abstinence to be a "key pillar" for prevention programs aimed at young adults. He added, "Encouraging young people and young adults to abstain is the only appropriate initial strategy."

"Bush's appointment of Claude Allen is disappointing and appalling," said Democratic National Committee Chairman Terry McAuliffe. "If Bush wants someone with a history of intolerance to set domestic policy for the country, then the American people are in for a difficult four years."

Organizations that serve people living with HIV/AIDS also responded negatively.

Lynn Schulman, spokeswoman for the Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York, said, "GMHC is disappointed that someone who has a history of promoting abstinence only with regard to HIV prevention, and who has a strong moral rather than scientific approach to HIV/AIDS issues, will be advising the president on these matters."

"[Allen's] vigorous advocacy of scientifically unproven 'abstinence only until marriage' programs

ignores reality for millions of people in this country and around the world," Terje Anderson, executive director of the National Association of People with AIDS, told the PlanetOut Network.

"His hostility to condoms and other effective strategies to combat HIV transmission stand in opposition to scientific facts," Anderson added.

## IRS Sends Warning To Same-Sex Couples

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Internal Revenue Service is warning same-sex couples that they cannot file joint income tax returns even if they were legally married in Massachusetts or Canada, 365Gay.com reported.

The IRS says it is basing its denial of joint filings on Federal DOMA which restricts marriage to opposite-sex couples.

The warning follows a court ruling in Minnesota where a federal judge Monday dismissed a lawsuit that was filed by a Gay couple.

Jack Baker and L. Michael McConnell claimed they deserved a tax refund because they were legally married and should be granted married taxpayer status.

McConnell had sought to change his taxpayer status to married, and claimed he deserved a refund of nearly \$800. The suit asked U.S. District Judge Joan Ericksen for an order "declaring plaintiff to be a full citizen who is lawfully married" in Minnesota.

In 1971, Baker and McConnell sued Hennepin County when they were denied a marriage license. They lost that case - but while it was before the court they managed to get a marriage license in Mankato County and were married before a Methodist minister in St. Paul.

Four years later the couple returned to court seeking to force the Veterans Administration to increase Baker's educational benefits, claiming McConnell was a dependent spouse.

The 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said the fundamental issues of joint tax status were the same as those raised regarding veterans benefits.

That decision formed the basis for Ericksen's ruling Monday which said that the earlier ruling barred the couple from "relitigating claims against the IRS."

Baker, a corporate attorney, said he would appeal.

A study last year shows that Gay families pay on average higher taxes and get fewer benefits.

## Former GLBT Rights Leader Jacques Speaks Out

BOSTON - Cheryl Jacques, who resigned in November as head of the Gay rights group Human Rights Campaign amid rumors that she was asked to leave, told The Boston Globe on Thursday that Gay rights activists should not back down from their goal of gaining full marriage rights for same-sex couples despite the electoral defeats of November 2, reported Advocate.com reported.

The interview was the first time that Jacques had spoken publicly in five weeks. She predicted that opponents of same-sex marriage would continue to use the issue to portray supporters as out of the mainstream, even if Gays stop pushing for marriage rights. "If we all take a vow of silence and never mention Gay marriage again, do you really think George Bush is not going to raise the Federal Marriage Amendment again?" she told the Globe. "They're going to use that issue whether we vow never to touch it or not. It's...silly...to believe that somehow our enemies, those who support discrimination, are going to play by the rules and not raise the issue if we don't."

Jacques, a former state senator from Needham, Mass., was dropped as head of the nation's largest Gay rights group on November 30. Some speculated that resounding victories for the opponents of Gay rights on Election Day spurred HRC's board to ask Jacques to leave. But those rumors have been soundly denied by all involved. Instead, a "difference in management philosophy" was cited as the reason for Jacques's having served only one year of a three-year contract.

Supporters of Jacques also said she parted ways with the organization because of her belief that marriage should continue to be the group's focus. In the interview, Jacques reasserted her support for full marriage rights for Gays and Lesbians. "The Gay rights movement...is at a crossroads, and a crossroads that those who have come before us have been at, with some saying we should retreat, should accept responsibility for our setbacks, trim our sails," she said. "And I wholeheartedly disagree with that. We plant the flag of full equality, and we march steadily toward it, and that's a long, hard road. You never ever give up the pursuit of full equality."

Jacques would not speak specifically about her tenure at the campaign or about the organization in general, citing an agreement made at the time of her departure. However, she said that some in the movement "are not thinking confidently and learning the lessons of the nation's history—that when you stumble, you pick yourself up and keep marching on, and you never apologize for or retreat

from the goal of full equality. There is a minority of voices who somehow think that we should retreat."

Jacques, who served as a state senator for 12 years before leaving Massachusetts to head the 600,000-member Human Rights Campaign, would not say what her plans are now or whether she would leave Maryland to return to her home state. She said she is exploring opportunities around the country and that she wants to continue to be involved in the push for same-sex marriage. "I am interested in exploring any opportunity, public or private, that will allow me to serve the public and continue to maintain a strong voice in the national debate on Gay rights," she said. Jacques, who ran an unsuccessful campaign for Congress in 2001, also said she might consider another run for office.

## White House Pays Off Anti-Gay Commentator

WASHINGTON, D.C. - A prominent black conservative was paid nearly a quarter million dollars by the White House to promote the President's agenda in his columns and nationally syndicated talk show, 365Gay.com reported.

Armstrong Williams who regularly attacks Gays was given the money to promote the No Child Left Behind law according to documents obtained under the Freedom of Information Act by USA Today.

"I wanted to do it because it's something I believe in," Williams said. He also said that he does not recall disclosing the contract to audiences on the air but told colleagues about it when urging them to promote NCLB.

The contract with the White House may have broken federal law in addition to the ethics of journalism.

Congress has prohibited propaganda," or any sort of lobbying for programs funded by the government, said Melanie Sloan of Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington. "And it's propaganda."

Rep. George Miller of California, the ranking Democrat on the House Education Committee Friday called for an investigation.

Williams is a former aide to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas. In a column following the November 2 election Williams linked Gay rights advocates with organized crime.

Continued on Page Seventeen

# UPDATE

## Phoenix AGRA Roadrunner Rodeo January 14 - 16

SCOTTSDALE - Arizona's annual Gay rodeo takes place, January 14-16 (Martin Luther King Day Weekend) at Rawhide Western Town & Steakhouse in Scottsdale.

With its beginnings in Reno in 1976, the Gay rodeo movement raises thousands of dollars for charity each year. The Arizona rodeo is among the longest-running and best-attended on the International Gay Rodeo Association circuit. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Arizona Gay Rodeo Association (AGRA), so plans are underway for the biggest and best event ever.

Rawhide Western Town is a rodeo grounds and western theme park in Scottsdale. In addition to Gay rodeo events and the Rawhide attractions, there will be entertainment, shows, and dancing. There will be free shuttle bus service to and from the rodeo grounds, host hotels, and Charlie's and some other bars. \$15 per day for Rodeo Admission. Children under 12 years of age admitted free to the Rodeo.

All the profits raised from the rodeo is distributed to charities, and TIHAN (Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network) has been the recipient of rodeo funds from AGRA over the past 10 years. In order for TIHAN to continue receiving funding from this event, TIHAN is seeking volunteers from Southern Arizona to help with the weekend.

Volunteers are still needed for the event (primarily for the late afternoon shifts), and volunteer opportunities include ticket taking, ticket sales, volunteer check-in booth, security, parking, runner, relief, and AGRA booth, morning, mid-morning, afternoon, and late afternoon shifts available. For a three-hour shift, rodeo volunteers receive free admission to the rodeo, a free t-shirt, and an invitation to the post-rodeo volunteer party.

Persons interested in volunteering at the Phoenix Gay rodeo can sign up through the AGRA website: [www.agraphx.com](http://www.agraphx.com), click on "AGRA Rodeos," then "Volunteer." There is also information on frequently asked questions (FAQ) and more details on shift dates and times, as well as directions to Rawhide.

For more information, call Scott Blades at TIHAN, (520) 299-6647 or AGRA, (602) 265-0618.

## Jury Selection Begins In Hate Crimes Trial

TUCSON - On June 12, 2002, Philip Walsted, 24, was robbed and murdered near 4th Avenue. Walsted, an openly Gay man, had been beaten with a baseball bat in what was months later determined by the police to be a hate crime.

After two and half years, the trial for David Higdon, begins with jury selection on January 11 at 10:30 a.m. at Superior Court, 110 W. Congress, room 586. The trial is expected to last two weeks.

Wingspan has organized a community court watch of volunteers for the trial, as well as a community forum to discuss the trial on Thursday, January 27 from 6:00 to 8:00pm at Wingspan. For more information on the trial or forum, E-mail: [lori@wingspan.org](mailto:lori@wingspan.org).

## Arizona's Anti-Gay Marriage Amendment Meeting January 25

TUCSON - On Tuesday, January 25, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Wingspan will host a community forum at their main office, 300 East Sixth St., to discuss implications of the anti-Gay marriage efforts nationally and in the Arizona State Legislature.

Topics will include Election 2004 anti-Gay propositions, Arizona Legislature update as well as implications for advocacy of civil rights for LGBT citizens in Arizona.

Panelists will include Cathy Busha, Director of Programs at Wingspan; Ron Bogard attorney and Arizona Human Rights Board member; Laura Penny, Wingspan Board and Arizona Women's Political Caucus VP; Kristen Felan, who spent two weeks in Oregon working against the recent anti-Gay initiative; and Nancy Polikoff, visiting professor at UA College of Law. The majority of the evening will be dedicated to community dialogue and audience questions and comments.

The forum is free and open to the public. No RSVP required. This is the first of a 2005 Wingspan series of community discussions to explore strategies for advancing LGBT civil rights in Arizona. Call (520) 624-1779 or visit the website <http://www.wingspan.org> for more information.

## Hate Crimes Forum January 27

TUCSON - The Wingspan Anti-Violence Project (WAVP) will hold a community forum to reflect on the outcome of the David Higdon trial and discuss responses to hate crimes in general.

On trial for the murder of Philip Walsted, a 24-year old Gay man murdered in the 4th Avenue area in June, 2002, Higdon has been incarcerated since his arrest. The murder has been labeled a hate crime. The trial process begins with jury selection on January 11, and is expected to last two weeks. "This trial has been a long time in coming," says Lori Girshick, Coordinator of the WAVP. "It has been difficult for Philip's family members as the case has taken many twists and turns. It finally looks like justice is within reach."

Confirmed panel members so far include Teresa Godoy, county prosecutor in the case, Detective Tim Rupel of the Tucson Police Department's Special Investigations Section who works closely on hate crimes in Tucson, Matt Heil, writer and reporter with Echo Magazine, who has extensively covered hate crimes and bias acts, and a survivor of a bias-motivated attack. Panelists will discuss this case in particular and what we can do as a community to respond to hate violence. The community forum will be held on January 27th from 6 - 8 p.m. at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th Street. It is free and open to the public.

The Wingspan Anti-Violence Project is part of a national coalition of LGBT anti-violence programs which pools statistics, information, and strategies to address hate violence. "We encourage LGBT community members to call the WAVP crisis line to report any bias acts and receive support, safety planning, and referrals. Staff is available during week-days from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. for walk-in hours and appointments. Wingspan is committed to advocating for individuals and working on local and state levels to respond to hate violence," continues Girshick.

## 'Ruthless: The Musical' January 13 - 30

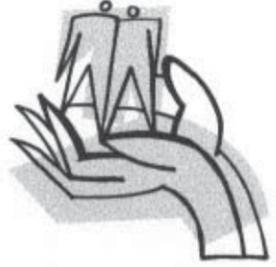
TUCSON - Arizona Onstage Productions (Falsettoland, Assassins) presents the Off-Broadway musical comedy "Ruthless! The Musical," playing January 13 - 30, at The Zuzi Little Theatre.

With music by Marvin Laird and book and lyrics by Joal Paley, "Ruthless! The Musical" is a high speed musical that The New York Daily News says is "A hilarious show business musical." "Ruthless! The Musical" has been awarded the Outer Circle Critic's Award for Best Off-Broadway musical.

The Zuzi Little Theatre is located at 738 North 5th Ave - near the corner of 5th and University in the Historic Y Building. Tickets are \$20 general admission and \$16 for students and 55 or older. Group rates are available.

To purchase tickets, call (520) 882-6574, or for more information call (520) 270-3332.

♥ Want to do something positive with your leisure time?  
♥ Interested in helping people while learning about HIV/AIDS issues?



If so, the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation wants you to consider becoming a volunteer!

Volunteer orientations are open to all those interested and are held once a month at our main office, located at 375 South Euclid Avenue.

Sign up today!

Contact Jess Pabón at 628-7223 or [jpabon@saaf.org](mailto:jpabon@saaf.org)

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**COMMENTARY. . . .**

By Cathy Busha

# Why Wingspan Endorsed An Off-Site Event

Wingspan recognizes that not everyone in the community is supportive of the strategy Wingspan and school officials crafted to respond to Fred Phelps. If community members are disappointed in Wingspan's response to Phelps, please know we understand—we, too, were torn about the most effective and safest ways to respond. We acknowledge there are benefits of holding a counterprotest at the school. Ultimately, it was our concern for student and community member safety that led us to our decision. Wingspan wanted to offer some thoughts on why, along with school officials and police, we chose the strategy we did.

Because the school is in a neighborhood, it would be very difficult to legally organize a counter-protest that does not block traffic or right-of-way, thus forcing police to arrest counterprotesters. Additionally, the Southern Poverty Law Center recommends treating Phelps as an organized hate group on par with the KKK. Therefore, SPLC recommends that safety be the main concern, and to organize an event away from Phelps.

When Wingspan organized the counterprotest at the First Baptist Church last year in response to the conversion therapy conference, we were confident that the church staff and conference attendees would not attempt to incite violence. Wingspan felt like we had the capacity to organize a counterprotest, while minimizing the potential for violence. However, knowing Phelps' tries to incite violence, school officials, Wingspan, and the police did not feel like we could safely organize a counterprotest

on site. After much discussion, we felt like the risk of violence at the school was too great to endorse a counterprotest.

No doubt one of the most profound and effective counterprotests ever was the angels responding to Fred Phelps' picket of Matthew Shepard's trial. The angels, however, took many weeks to prepare their outfits, strategy, and training—we have several days (not withstanding the beginning of the Philip Walsted trial on Wednesday, January 12 and the introduction of the anti-LGBT ballot measure in the state legislature next week), and a school filled with students to consider.

Students at the school will know that the counter-demonstration is being held at Wingspan. The media will be at Wingspan. Students will be told why we chose an off-site protest. Please be assured that holding an event at Wingspan is not "doing nothing," as some community members have expressed. We are not asking people to stay home, but come to Wingspan and be visible as a community against hate.

We are optimistic that hundreds of people will come through Wingspan on Monday, January 10, to sign the card and show support for the school (which is how the school officials, GSA students, and play cast asked to be supported). To me, that is indeed radical community-building and organizing at its finest—the LGBT Community Center, GLSEN, police, churches, and school officials working together, no doubt building relationships that will endure even after Phelps leaves town.

We know that some students and community members may counterprotest Phelps at the school, and we support their First Amendment rights as we support Fred Phelps' First Amendment rights to do so. As an institution, Wingspan has offered a response to Phelps. As an institution, Wingspan has elected to follow the lead of the school and the Southern Poverty Law Center in organizing the community.

Wingspan staff will be at the school to serve as peacekeepers, in an effort to minimize any possible arrests or violence. We will hand out flyers to counterprotesters, alerting them of Phelps' tactics, and encourage them to not engage with him at all. Wingspan staff will also be inside the school, available to talk to students and faculty who are traumatized by Phelps and his extreme messages of hate.

It is our hope that community members who disagree with Wingspan and the school's plan are constructive with their feelings, thoughts, and actions toward Wingspan and the school. More than ever, as a community we cannot "eat our own" The right-wing uses divide-and-conquer against us very well. Perhaps we can agree to disagree on our chosen strategies, see the value in both, and be supportive of one another. If we fight among ourselves, then Phelps has truly won.

[Cathy Busha is the Director of Programs at Wingspan. Editor's Note. Fred Phelps and his Westboro Baptist Church protestors didn't show up.]

# Desert Voices Seeks New Voices

**P** TUCSON - Are you busy working on your New Year's resolutions? If any of them include meeting new people, having more fun and working to advance positive social change, especially for the GLBT community, you might want to consider singing with Desert Voices!

Desert Voices, Tucson's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and straight/supportive (GLBTS) others chorus, will be holding open rehearsals on the first three Mondays in the new year, January 10 and 17 at Water of Life MCC, 3269 N. Mountain Ave, just north of Ft. Lowell, beginning at 6:30 p.m. each evening. If you love to sing, if you get a thrill from performing on stage, and if you want to make a difference in the world, come to an open rehearsal and see what Desert Voices is all about.

A voice check will be conducted between 6:30 and 7 p.m. on the evenings mentioned. Their Spring show is titled "Our True Colors" and will be presented on April 16, 2005 at The Muse Community Arts center, 516 N. 5th Avenue in Tucson. The show will focus on the colorful diversity of the GLBTS community.

Please call the Desert Voices office at (520) 791-9662, or email to [info@desertvoices.org](mailto:info@desertvoices.org) to sign up for a voice check during these open rehearsals. For more information about the chorus, check out their website at [www.desertvoices.org](http://www.desertvoices.org). Rehearsals for the April show start immediately on the January 3, so the earlier you audition, the faster you'll get in the 'sing' of things! Be a voice! Come out and sing!

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# Arizona Legislature Opens Session; Marriage Ban Bill Not Introduced..

## Yet

By Mark R. Kerr

PHOENIX (ON) - Monday, January 10, marked the first day of the Arizona's 47<sup>th</sup> State Legislature and social issues would be pushed to the forefront with the composition of the state House and Senate, with Republican majorities and conservatives dominating.

As talked about and reported in the mainstream press and television news, a bill to place before Arizona voters a proposed amendment to the Arizona Constitution to ban same-sex marriage for the November 2006 would be one of the issues dealt with during the session.

During the week prior to the beginning of the Legislative session, Republican legislative leaders and Arizona Governor, Janet Napolitano, a Democrat had words about same-sex marriage.

In an interview, Governor Napolitano, called for the election to take place in November 2005, instead of the same time, the following year. Senate President Ken Bennett, R-Prescott declared Napolitano's remarks were nothing but "political chicanery."

On Thursday, January 6, it looked that the measure had revealed itself, as a "strike-everything" amendment, entitled, "marriage; one man; one woman" to a pre-filed bill, SCR 1003, a proposed constitutional amendment dealing with the powers of the governor.

A strike everything amendment, or striker as it also has been called, is a parliamentary procedure used in the Arizona Legislature to advance issues when the original bill either did not make through the committee or wasn't considered by the legislative deadlines, naming two of several reasons for its use. Arizona's Defense of Marriage Act, ramrodded through the state legislature in 1996 is one of many examples of a "strike-everything" amendment.

SCR 1003, strike-everything and all was scheduled to be heard on Wednesday, January 12, at 1:30 p.m., and was the only bill on the agenda.

The new language for SCR 1003 only needed to be revealed, according to sources at the Arizona Capital, until 48 hours prior to the date for which the bill is to be heard before a legislative committee. According to reports, this proposal will be based a measure that went to voters in Ohio which banned same-sex marriages,

civil unions and domestic partnerships, and may include the following:

"Only a union between one man and one woman may be a marriage valid in or recognized by this state and its political subdivisions. This state and its political subdivisions shall not create or recognize a legal status for relationships of unmarried individuals that intends to approximate the design, qualities, significance or effect of marriage."

Phoenix, Tempe, Scottsdale, Tucson and Pima County offer domestic partner benefits to their workers that, in general, extend medical benefits. Tucson has a domestic partner registry.

On January 10, the first day of the session, SCR 1003 had not even been first-read and was pulled from the committee's agenda, and on Tuesday, January 11, the committee meeting had been cancelled, posing the question of what happened?

According to sources, the new language was overly broad and even its leading proponents admitted that it would realize fail the single subject test mandated under Arizona's constitution for consideration as a proposed amendment.

A statewide poll conducted by the Arizona Republic, released Sunday, January 9, showed that 54% of those surveyed expressed their opposition to a proposed constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage while 40% had expressed support. In the last poll conducted on the issue, 49% had expressed support while 42% had expressed their opposition.

Proponents of a state constitutional amendment didn't expect the opposition to the measure to be so quickly organized, and didn't want to start the legislative session with this divisive issue.

Unexpected opposition over the way the bill was written, preempting local measures already on the books, surprised the conservative proponents.

This proposal, according to sources, will be introduced, between one and four weeks from now and opponents of the measure have pledged another forceful response will take place over the matter.

## IN MEMORIAM

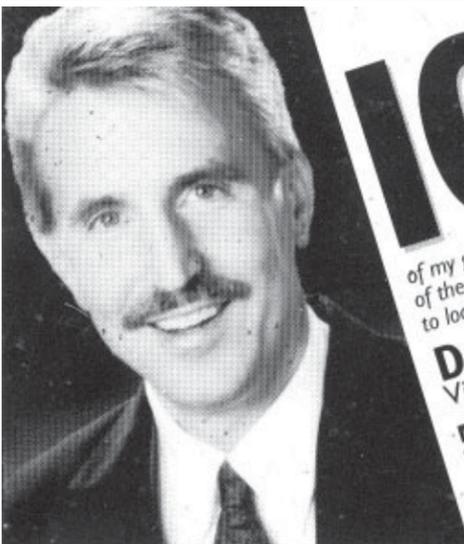
JOHN PEACHER

John Peacher, born in Lincoln, Nebraska on February 16, 1959, left us on December 7 after a short battle with lung cancer.

Mother Faye preceded him in death in 1980. He is survived by father Ed; sisters Joey Peacher-Wilson (Bob) and Jeri (Jim) McCorry; niece Faye, and nephews Colin and Spencer; by long time companion Juven Solano and beloved dog Ariel.

John graduated from Palo Verde H.S. in 1977, spent many years working in the hospitality industry in Arizona and California, most recently as Executive Housekeeper. at Miraval Resort. John loved California's oceans and Arizona's mountains and deserts.

John and his family thank everyone at Miraval for their support and generosity, TIHAN volunteers, and Peppi's Hospice. The memorial service was held January 7, 3:00 p.m., at Miraval, 16500 N. Lago Del Oro Pkwy.



# 10%

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# Canada May Shut Down Internet Drug Trade

OTTAWA - Canadian health officials are drafting a proposal to prevent Internet pharmacies from selling mail-order prescription drugs to U.S. consumers, a spokesman said Wednesday, January 5, a move that would essentially kill a \$700 million industry that has become increasingly popular with underinsured patients in search of cheaper medicine, reported the Associated Press on Advocate.com.

The issue has become politically touchy for President Bush, whose administration has argued that reimporting U.S.-made drugs from Canada would put consumers at risk because U.S. regulators could not guarantee their safety. The pharmaceutical industry, which donated heavily to Bush's reelection campaign, vehemently opposes reimporting drugs, a practice that undercuts their U.S. sales.

Representatives of both the U.S. and Canadian governments say Bush discussed the issue with Canadian prime minister Paul Martin when he visited last fall. That has sparked accusations that Bush pressured Martin to change Canadian policy—an accusation the White House denies.

system, the Canadian government sets drug prices that are substantially lower than those charged in the United States. But the savings from Canadian drugs purchased over the Internet are eroding. For example, savings on 100 pills of 20 milligrams of Lipitor fell to 31% at the end of last year from 44% in the first quarter of 2003. The average Canadian price rose 26% to \$201.01, while the American price was essentially flat at \$290.34.

The three-pronged measure being considered by Canadian health minister Ujjal Dosanjh would prevent Canadian doctors from co-signing prescriptions for U.S. patients without examining them in person, spokesman Ken Polk said by telephone from India. It also would prohibit prescriptions for foreigners who are not present in Canada and create a list banning the export of certain drugs that are widely used by Canadians, Polk said. A proposal was expected to be presented to Martin's cabinet by the end of the month, Polk said, although Asian tsunami aid efforts were diverting government resources and it was not clear how much time would be required for approval.

As part of its socialized medical

## Iraqi Troop Demands Spark New End For Don't Ask, Don't Tell

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Reports that the Pentagon is considering a drastic policy change that would allow for longer and more frequent call-ups of reservists to meet the demands of conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan has prompted a new effort to end the ban on Gays in the military, reported 365Gay.com reported.

The Washington Post quoting a military source reports that to avoid pushing reserve forces to the breaking point a temporary increase of 30,000 troops in active-duty ranks that was authorized last year will probably need to be made permanent, especially if U.S. troop levels in Iraq remain high. He told the paper that significant troop levels may be required in Iraq for four or five more years.

Yet figures released by the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network show that more than 9,000 service members have been discharged since 1993 under the "don't ask, don't tell" policy at a cost of more than a quarter billion dollars to U.S. taxpayers.

The Human Rights Campaign joined SLDN today in renewing the call to repeal the military's anti-Gay policy.

"Any policy that keeps patriotic Americans from serving during wartime is bad for the nation," said HRC Political Director Winnie Stachelberg.

"Don't Ask, Don't Tell' is deeply hurtful to Gay and Lesbian service members and their families, and is costing the nation valuable service members."

## Human Rights Campaign Gives \$100,000 To Tsunami Relief

WASHINGTON, D.C. - A humanitarian service agency that seeks charitable contributions from the Gay community announced on Wednesday, January 5, that it had received a gift of \$100,000 from the Human Rights Campaign Foundation to support tsunami relief efforts in Southeast Asia, reported Advocate.com.

"Our work puts our community's highest beliefs and values into action," said Jeffrey Cotter, president of the Rainbow World Fund. "HRC's contribution reaffirms the GLBT community's commitment to service and charity and will inspire thousands of others to give what they can to support relief efforts."

"The GLBT community joins with the rest of the world in demonstrating compassion for the tsunami victims in Southeast Asia," said Bruce Bastian, a

member of HRC's board of directors and lead sponsor of HRC's gift. "Americans are coming together like never before to help our friends across the globe." Steven Fisher, communications director for HRC, told Advocate.com that no general or program funds were used for the donation. "This money was donated specifically for the tsunami relief in the past week," he said.

The sponsored contribution, along with individual gifts, will go directly to tsunami relief efforts across Southeast Asia to provide food, water, shelter, medical supplies, and other critical provisions through CARE, Cotter said. "The tsunami aid drive is an important way for GLBT Americans and our friends and allies to help," added Cotter.

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# Supreme Court Rejects G/L Adoption Case

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Supreme Court turned down an appeal Monday of Florida's blanket ban on adoption by Gays. Florida is the only state with an all out ban on Gays and Lesbians adopting children, 365Gay.com, the Associated Press and Reuters reported.

The high court did not offer a reason for rejecting the case. The justices seldom offer an explanation when an appeal is turned down.

Last year the Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit declined to hear a challenge to the Florida law, allowing to stand a ruling by a three-judge panel of the Court that upheld the ban.

The American Civil Liberties Union brought the lawsuit on behalf of four Gay men who would like to adopt in Florida but are prevented from doing so by the state law. The ban was passed in 1977 in response to Anita Bryant's infamous anti-Gay campaign.

The key vote by the court was cast by Judge William H. Pryor Jr. Pryor's nomination to the eleventh Circuit had been blocked by Democrats concerned about his conservative views, but during a one-week recess of the Senate last February, Bush used a clause in the Constitution giving the president the right to appoint judges directly when Congress is not in session to put Pryor on the bench.

The ACLU appealed the ruling to the US Supreme Court.

The circuit panel's decision "reflects an almost complete failure to absorb this Court's rulings in Lawrence and Romer that disapproval of Gay people is not a constitutionally acceptable basis for government action," wrote American Civil Liberties Union lawyer Matthew Coles in his petition to the Supreme

Court. "It threatens to strip this Court's holdings of any principled meaning and deprive them of the significance that they rightfully deserve."

In his brief to the justices Coles said that while Florida excludes Gays as adoptive parents, it does allow adoptions by individuals who are unmarried, disabled, or have a history of substance abuse or even domestic violence.

But, the state of Florida in its brief to the Supreme Court said that the state's law is rationally related to valid state goals and also uses Lawrence in its argument noting that that case involved private sexual acts where adoption is a public act and a privilege, not a right.

Had the Court agreed to hear the appeal it would have been its first chance to comment on the scope of its 2003 ruling in Lawrence v. Texas that proclaimed due process extends to Gays.

"This case deserved to be heard," said Patricia Logue, Senior Counsel at Lambda Legal. "Florida's law keeps thousands of children in state care and out of permanent loving homes — solely because the state wants

to express disapproval of Gay people.

# PFLAG: GLBT Youth Needs Unmet At Schools

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Schools across the country are unprepared to deal with the needs of LGBT students, according to a study published Thursday, January 6, by Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), the PlanetOut Network reported.

Unlike PFLAG's reports that determine how safe students feel in school, the new National Schools Assessment details how educational systems across the country are responding to the LGBT student's needs.

According to PFLAG, 95 percent of school counseling services surveyed had little or no resources for Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual students. For Transgender students, that percent was higher — 99 percent. Also, parents having questions about LGBT needs would find little or no resources in 84 percent of all school systems surveyed.

When it came to stopping anti-Gay bullying, 70 percent of the nation's school systems surveyed had no training for educators and staff; 92 percent had no training for students.

Most of the country's school harassment policies do not mention LGBT students: 59 percent surveyed did not include Gay, Lesbian or Bisexual students; 75 percent did not include Transgender students.

Respondents to PFLAG's National Schools Assessment came from 39 states: 65

percent of respondents were professional educators; 30 percent were students.

"Our findings help explain why so many people still hold on to damaging old fictions and profound misunderstandings about our GLBT family members and friends," said Ron Schlittler, PFLAG's executive director, in a press release. "Misinformation goes unchallenged because accurate information is virtually banned in our schools."

Schlittler admitted there were "encouraging signs."

"Nearly 39 percent of respondents reported the existence of support groups for Gay and straight students that address the needs of LGBT students. PFLAG regularly receives requests for help from students trying to start Gay-straight alliances in their schools," he said.

However, Schlittler is concerned that students are frequently the only ones lobbying for their needs. "Parents, community members and professional educators need to take responsibility as well. PFLAG stands ready to help."

## New Rapid HIV Test Produces Results In Ten Minutes

ERCULES - Bio-Rad Laboratories announced it has received approval from the Food and Drug Administration for a rapid test for detecting HIV antibodies, reported the Associated Press on Advocate.com.

Bio-Rad says the single-use test kit will be available in the United States this month and is the first approved by the FDA that distinguishes between the HIV-1 and HIV-2 viruses. HIV-1 is the more common type of the virus. The company says the Multispot HIV-1/HIV-2 Rapid Test can be used on both fresh and frozen serum and plasma samples and produces results in about 10 minutes. OraSure Technologies makes a rapid saliva-based test for HIV that gives results in 20 minutes.



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## Bush AG Nominee, Alberto Gonzales, Linked To FMA

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Senate Democrats wanted answers from the man nominated by President Bush to be Attorney General. Senate confirmation hearings for White House Counsel Alberto Gonzales took place Thursday, January 6, amid allegations Gonzales secretly helped write the Federal Marriage Amendment to ban same-sex marriage, 365Gay.com reported.

The American Civil Liberties Union said on Wednesday that Gonzales' White House office undertook the legal thinking behind Bush's decision to support the amendment and helped formulate the legal framework for it and for the president's "faith-based initiative" which would allow faith groups to circumvent local laws which prevent discrimination against Gay and Lesbian workers.

In discussing the administration's consideration of the Federal Marriage Amendment, Bush announced in August 2003 that he had assigned "lawyers" to examine the different legislative approaches to banning same-sex marriage. "Although President Bush did not identify Gonzales as one of the assigned lawyers, the Senate Judiciary Committee ought to explore Gonzales's role on the issue," the ACLU said in a statement Wednesday.

"Gonzales, who may have been responsible for the legal vetting of the different amendatory approaches, should make clear his position on the Musgrave-Allard amendments, which would bar all

marriage rights for same-sex couples, and would likely ban civil unions," the ACLU said.

It is also likely that Goznales will be questioned on his role in developing legal arguments that permitted aggressive interrogation tactics in the months after 9/11, and denying detainees in the "war on terror" any formal legal protections. He is also expected to be asked if the White House counsel's office played the leading role in creating the system by which the president could move American citizens from the criminal justice system into detention as "enemy combatants," without any formal due process protections.

Gonzales' career has been linked with Bush for at least a decade, serving as general counsel when Bush was governor of Texas, and then as secretary of state and as a justice on the Texas Supreme Court.

Bush in November named Gonzales to succeed John Ashcroft as Attorney General shortly after Ashcroft announced he was leaving he administration.

Last fall, under Ashcroft's direction, the Department of Justice filed a motion to intervene in a lawsuit challenging California's law that prevents same-sex marriage.

He also was named as a defendant in several Florida lawsuits challenging the Federal Defense of Marriage Act.

## Judge Limits Involvement Of Anti-G/L Groups In Georgia Case

ATLANTA - A judge's decision to limit defendants in a case involving a ban on same-sex marriage in Georgia was blasted Thursday, January 6, by the marriage ban's original sponsor, reported the Associated Press on Advocate.com

Sen. Mike Crotts, a Republican from Conyers who sponsored the state's constitutional amendment to ban Gay marriage and civil unions, said he and any other interested lawmakers should be free to join the governor in defending the amendment, which was overwhelmingly approved by voters last November. A group of Gay rights supporters has challenged the amendment in court, saying it was misleading because voters saw only part of the new constitutional language.

Fulton County superior judge

Constance Russell denied a request by Crotts and the Christian Coalition of Georgia to become intervenors in the case, meaning they could not help Gov. Sonny Perdue defend the amendment. "I think it's only fair" to allow lawmakers and other supporters help defend the amendment, Crotts told reporters Thursday. Crotts is not returning to the legislature next—he made an unsuccessful bid for the U.S. Congress last year—but he vowed that no court in Georgia would be able to defeat a Gay marriage amendment. "If a judge throws it out, I think you're going to see it again. Not only are you going to see it again, it'll pass again," Crotts said.

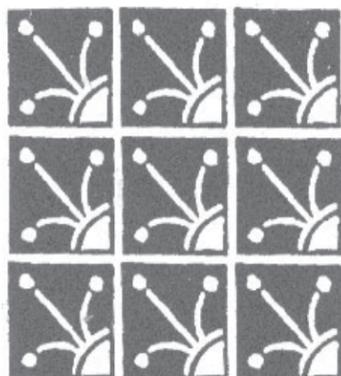
Gay marriage and civil unions were illegal in Georgia before the amendment, but the matter wasn't addressed in the state constitution. In her decision Monday, Judge Russell wrote that people who support a law or amendment are not therefore entitled to get involved in a later lawsuit about it. She noted that the governor didn't say he needed help defending the amendment. "The proposed intervenors do not dispute that the governor...is vigorously defending the litigation," she wrote. A hearing on the amendment language has not been scheduled.



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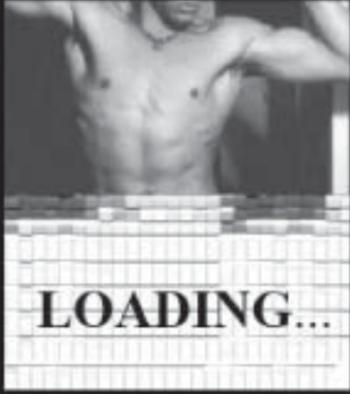
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## POLITICS 2005

by Mark R. Kerr

### 'Desperate Legislators'

Noises were heard on West Washington Street on Thursday, January 6, when late that night, many sounds were heard from inside the east building at 1700 West Washington, according to witnesses passing by admiring the mall, the rotunda, the glass and the history surrounding it.

On Friday, January 7, those noises at the Arizona Legislature, turned out to be acts of extremism, when the gruesome remains were discovered and the mystery began.

It turns out that the discovery - a strike everything amendment, entitled "marriage; one man; one woman" to SCR 1003, and the scheduling of the amendment and bill to be considered by the Senate Government Accountability and Reform Committee on Wednesday, January 12, made the investigators ponder how could this have happened, since the session of the Arizona Legislature wasn't going to begin until January 10, and the bill, originally entitled "governor's powers; technical correction," had not even been first read.

SCR 1003's original sponsor, a wingnut state Senator, Jack "Bree" Harper, R-Surprise, was in a snit, since he sponsored the bill, was the chair of the Government Accountability and Reform Committee. Bree's world wasn't perfect and by God, something had to be done about it! So taking out a quill, Bree penned a piece talking about protecting the public by lowering taxes and banning same-sex marriage, civil unions, domestic partners and any individual expressing any creativity whatsoever since Bree was the only one who could pull "it" together.

This didn't stem the tide, since the investigators went back to the statements made by others who reside on West Washington prior to January 6.

What of another wingnut Republican state Senator, a former state Representative, Karen "Susan" Johnson, R-Mesa, who in an interview with the Phoenix New Times, said "... the majority of your homosexuals just prefer to live a quiet life and want to be left alone." When asked whether homosexuality is a choice, Susan said, "Oh, absolutely it's a choice. There's no way that people were born that way - despite recent findings by the scientific community about how the hypothalamus determines sexual orientation." She goes on to cackle that homosexuals are unhealthy, promiscuous people.

Then there was state Senator Ken "Lynette" Bennett, R-Prescott, another desperate wingnut, who turned in a thriving oil industry career to oversee thirty unmanageable "children," as Arizona Senate President - giving up hope of profits for petty politics, and who had expressed "publicly" the importance of an amendment to Arizona's constitution banning same-sex marriage - even despite the fact a law was already on the books! Lynette's catty remarks about Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano, after she had delivered a great State of the State address, calling Janet's remarks about the proposal, having a vote this year since they were so hot-to-trot for it, as political chicanery, as well as dishing about the fact that Janet wasn't married and didn't

have a family.

Another desperate legislator was state Representative Mark "Edie" Anderson, yet another wingnut Republican, but a neighbor of "Susan" Johnson who had said to local reporters that a proposed amendment "sends a good message," and protects "traditional family values," or state Senator Thayer "Gabrielle" Verschoor, yet another Republican wingnut from Chandler, expressing "public" support, emphasizing the need for this amendment, despite the now-nine year old, Arizona Defense of Marriage Act on the books, being upheld by those activist judges in 2004.

So, which one of those desperate legislators pre-filed the strike-everything amendment for SCR 1003 on January 6, and how could it have happened since the session hadn't started? Who pulled it from the Government Accountability and Reform Committee Calendar for Wednesday, January 12 and for that matter, cancelled the January 12 committee meeting on January 11?! Mysteries indeed for the residents, those desperate legislators who live on West Washington.

### Mandela Says Son Died Of AIDS

JOHANNESBURG - South Africa's Nelson Mandela, one of Africa's most committed campaigners in the battle against AIDS, announced that his only surviving son had succumbed to the disease on Thursday, January 6, reported Reuters on Advocate.com.

Makgatho Mandela, 54, died in a Johannesburg clinic where he had been receiving treatment for more than a month. His wife, Zondi, died in 2003 from pneumonia. "I announce that my son has died of AIDS," the 86-year-old Nobel Peace laureate told a news conference, urging a redoubled fight against the disease. "Let us give publicity to HIV/AIDS and not hide it, because the only way to make it appear like a normal illness like tuberculosis, like cancer, is always to come out and to say somebody has died because of HIV/AIDS. And people will stop regarding it as something extraordinary," said a frail-looking Mandela, surrounded by his grandchildren and other family members.

Mandela's announcement of his personal AIDS tragedy challenges a widespread taboo that keeps many Africans from discussing an epidemic that now infects more than 25 million people across the continent. In South Africa, which has some 5 million HIV-positive people and one of the highest AIDS caseloads in the world, the disease kills more than 600 people each day, activists say. Despite the mounting death toll, few public figures in South Africa or other African countries have personally come forward to say that AIDS has affected them or their families. Deaths from the disease are usually attributed to a "long illness," pneumonia, or other secondary causes.



# TV Bosses Go Into Hiding After Gay Jesus 'Springer Opera'

LONDON - Just like the TV show which inspired it, "Jerry Springer - The Opera" did not fail to titillate with its Gay Jesus and 8,000 expletives when it was broadcast on Saturday night, January 8, on the BBC. It was so outrageous that the state financed broadcaster was inundated with complaints, 365Gay.com reported.

Sunday, the network's top top figures were in hiding under the protection of a security service. Some of the complaints contained death threats against Director General Mark Thompson, Controller Roly Keating and Director of Television Jana Bennett.

Keating, his wife and their three young children left their house after the group Christian Voice posted his address and telephone number on its website.

The organization said Sunday it would try to have the BBC charged with blasphemy.

Saturday, hours before the telecast, two dozen peaceful protesters handed out leaflets outside the BBC Television Center in West London, calling for the program to be withdrawn.

In 1977 Christian activist Mary Whitehouse brought a private prosecution against London's Gay News for publishing a poem depicting a centurion's love for Christ. The publication was convicted and the poem remains banned.

The Opera has been playing to packed houses in London's West End where it received critical acclaim.

It features songs titled "Pregnant By A Transsexual" and "Here Come The Hookers" and addition to a black Jesus in a diaper who declares he is a "bit Gay."

Despite the outcry from conservative Christian groups, the BBC drew a record audience for the show.

Over 1.7 million viewers tuned in - some 700,000 more than any similar program, the demographic also was unique for the BBC with a high number of 16-24 year-olds tuning in to the channel.

## New York Town Scraps Health Benefits For G/L Couples

EASTCHESTER - Four years after Eastchester, N.Y., became one of the first small towns to extend health benefits to city employees' same-sex partners, the rights were rescinded in a new labor contract., Advocate.com reported.

Only two employees had been receiving the benefits, and the Civil Service Employees Association and the police union agreed to drop the language conferring the benefits in contracts that were approved 3-2 Tuesday night (January 4) by the town board. The two employees, whose names have not been made public, will continue to receive the benefits until age 65, and other employees have 60 days to sign up for them before the offer is revoked.

In September 2000 the board, then led by Supervisor James Cavanaugh, unilaterally added the benefits for city employees' partners. Current town supervisor Anthony Colavita, then a board member, approved the measure, but he campaigned against it during his successful run against Cavanaugh in the 2003 Republican primary. He said Wednesday, however, that politics had nothing to do with the loss of the benefits in the new contracts. "They were on the table for bargaining like anything else," said Colavita. "I was not condemning or condoning it. It was a matter of practicality."

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**ARIES (MAR. 21 - APR. 20)**  
Exotic new people catapult you to a new consciousness when Mars square Uranus. Satisfaction morphs into yearning. Suddenly everything that you once treasured and nurtured will no longer do. Beware of a stranger bearing gifts, proud Ram. This person goads you into making dramatic life changes that need time and thought. Take a trapeze lesson before you join the circus.

**TAURUS (APR. 21 - MAY 21)**  
You graze in friendly pastures and feast among extremely friendly compadres. Suddenly, queer Bulls are tossed head over hooves with love and desire when Mars squares Uranus. Your immediate circle becomes your hunting ground. Is it advisable to add a twist of lust to a cocktail of pals? You happily indulge in more than a few highballs. Anyone we know?

**GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)**  
The balance between relationships and career may tip one way or another as Mars squares Uranus. Pink Twins are in for an exciting time when both professional and personal liaisons pop and change. If your career path takes a sudden turn, try to restore balance within the comforting arms of a certain special someone. Is that someone working in the same office? Tsk tsk.

**CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)**  
The humdrum no longer holds any allure to you when Mars squares Uranus. Gay Crabs yearn to break free of the routine, quit their job, trash their responsibilities and take a few risks. Can you soar to new, exciting and fascinating destinations? Can you embark on a new course of study? Will you eventually tire of all this excitement and uncertainty? Yes, yes and yes.

**LEO (JULY 24 - AUG. 23)**  
Indulge yourself this week when Mars squares Uranus. This is no time to be hampered by routine and detailed tasks. Let your imagination roam free and follow your Gay muse. There are all sorts of surprises in every creative and artistic venture. Your Pandoras Box of assorted passions flies open and unleashes various forms of bad behavior and reckless abandon. Lucky thing.

**VIRGO (AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23)**  
Relationships go through dramatic change as Uranus squares Mars. Queer Virgins may have to reevaluate the careful domestic balance that now seems to serve neither their partners nor themselves. There will be more than a few discussions this week about the future. Think about what will work for you. A new broom sweeps clean. Don't sweep it under the rug.

**LIBRA (SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)**  
As charming as you usually are, your words can cause great, volcanic and sudden change when Uranus squares Mars. Proud Libras need to practice their eloquence and diplomacy lest their emotions take charge and lead them down an unanticipated path. Restraint is especially important when it comes to job issues. Or maybe you secretly yearn for a refreshing change ...?

**SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)**  
Fun will certainly be more expensive than you expect as Mars squares Uranus. Proud Scorps are off the leash and ready to spend, spend, spend on sheer nonsense. On the other hand, a bit of scratch can cause an explosive creative fire, if you decide to rub it that way. Put your time, energy and cash into projects that may have an eventual payoff. And enough is not enough!

**SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)**  
Is it time to go into business for yourself? Things are reaching a boiling point and the urge to divest and create a place for yourself in a new circle of experts suddenly manifests. Blame Uranus square Mars for your no-compromise attitude and resolve to change the structure any way possible. Gay Archers are independent by nature. Become more naturally inclined.

**CAPRICORN (DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)**  
Pink Caps are urged to break free of all restrictions and embrace their "wilde" muse. You may be a creature of convention but now you realize that compromise is not in the cards. Uranus squares Mars and demands a new personal manifesto. Good! Let them know exactly what you are thinking. Go and do your own thing and see who tags along. You may be very surprised....

**AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)**  
Someone has lit a fire under your social pool and brings it to a rapid boil. Aqueerians are the ones to see when Uranus squares Mars. But don't overbook your various commitments. Too much activity becomes too much to handle and you may squander valuable resources trying to rein things in. Everyone wants a piece of you. An arm and a leg? That's all? Oh well.

**PISCES (FEB. 20 - MAR. 20)**  
Hard work pays off in big, unexpected ways as Mars squares Uranus. Guppies who have been swimming against the tide can be washed out to sea where they set up their own colony of achievers. Those who are content to swim with the crowd find opportunities to stand out and excel. You make some unusual first impressions now. It all depends on how you press....

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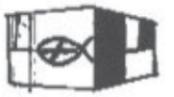
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# Saudi Cleric Blames Gays, Sin For Tsunamis

RIYADH - In comments that have angered Gay rights groups and liberal Muslims across the world, a Saudi professor and Islamic cleric has drawn links between Indian Ocean tsunami disaster and what he terms "sexual perversion."

In an interview translated by the Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI) Web site, Sheik Fawzan Al-Fawzan said that the disaster was a result of "stupid people" going against God's word in the area, the PlanetOut Network reported.

Transmitted on Saudi television, he included people who took part in "fornication, homosexuality, usury" and "corruption" in his damning diatribe, calling on people across the world to "atone for their sins."

"These great tragedies and collective punishments that are wiping out villages, towns, cities and even entire countries are Allah's punishments of the people of these countries, even if they are Muslims," the professor at Al-Imam University said.

He said that the timing of the disaster — just a day after Christmas — was a "sign from Allah."

"It happened at Christmas, when fornicators and corrupt people from all over the world come to commit fornication and sexual perversion," the MEMRI Web site reports him as saying.

The disaster devastated the coastlines of nearly a dozen countries in the South East Asia and Eastern Africa region, with Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Thailand hardest hit.

So far, the number of dead has hit 140,000, with many still missing and presumed dead.

The disaster has brought massive donations to aid relief charities, with the U.K.'s general public donating more than £70 million and the government promising to match the total sum.

The professor-cleric said the world must now ask forgiveness.

"We must atone for our sins, and

for the acts of the stupid people among us and improve our condition," he said. "We must fight fornication, homosexuality, usury, fight the corruption on the face of the earth, and the disregard of the lives of protected people."

The comments come after a year of Gay Muslim groups working to improve awareness of their religion, and to push for more acceptance.

## Lawsuit Tests Property Rights For Same-Sex Couples

SPOKANE - A Washington State woman in a longtime Lesbian relationship is suing her estranged lover to divide assets they shared or accrued while living together, reported the Associated Press on Advocate.com.

The trial started Tuesday, January 4, before retired superior court judge Harold Clarke II and is based on a court ruling last year that Gay couples can be treated like married couples when they split up.

Roseanne Day concedes that Linda Kelsh is entitled to keep her home and business assets. Day wants part of the proceeds from the sale of undeveloped Lake Spokane property purchased in Kelsh's name while they were together but sold after they split. Day also wants compensation for improvements she says increased the value of Kelsh's home.

The state court of appeals ruled last year that the legal doctrine on "meretricious"—marriage-like—relationships applies to same-sex couples, even though they can't legally wed in Washington. The state supreme court had laid out several criteria for determining whether property acquired by unmarried couples should be divided as though they were married. One of the criteria was the couple's intent to assume marital roles that are legally denied to Gays.

Day claims in court documents that she took on the role of "wife" when she moved into Kelsh's home in mid 1990. State law doesn't allow unmarried partners to collect alimony, but Day, a part-time high school language teacher and coach, wants compensation for contributions she says she made as "the little hausfrau" during the relationship.

In the October 2003 Spokane County superior court lawsuit, Day contends she contributed her pay to household expenses and sometimes worked without pay in Kelsh's Candy 'N' Carmelcorn store at the Northtown Mall before the couple broke up in December 2002. Day seeks compensation for the amount a mortgage was reduced while she lived with Kelsh, starting in 1990, as well as for appreciation in the home's value.

In a counterclaim, Kelsh contends Day should have to reimburse her for the equivalent of 11 years of rent and other support, including much of the cost of Day's master's degree in education at Eastern Washington University. Kelsh also seeks reimbursement for electric bills, cellular phone bills, and personal debts Day ran up on a credit card. Kelsh says the credit card was supposed to be reserved for trips the two took together.

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Kelsh contends Day contributed little to their relationship, which she says ceased to be romantic in 1998. Day failed to help her financially or emotionally when she suffered colon cancer and her business collapsed, Kelsh claims in court docu-

ments. Day acknowledges she owes Kelsh about \$3,000 for credit card charges but contends that would be offset by proceeds from the sale of the Lake Spokane property.

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## NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE

by Lee Thorn

### Jennifer Fitzgerald

She may have been a real player in American political history, but our press has pretty much ignored her. One exception to the studious indifference was the lead in a January 1989 issue of *The Washington Post*, Jennifer Fitzgerald, who has served President-elect Bush in a variety of positions, most recently running the vice presidential Senate office, is expected to be named deputy chief of protocol in the new administration." The article was referring, of course, to the first President Bush.

Fitzgerald, according to Kitty Kelley's recent bestseller on the Bush dynasty called "The Family", as more than just another woman in the long Washington tradition of secretaries" who couldn't type, more than just another in the same tradition of executive assistants with \$100,000-a-year salaries and no college degree. She was, according to Kelley's many sources, a major presence in the life of an American president and an influence of yet unknown dimension in that president's career and administration.

The lengths to which journalists and quasi-journalists have gone in avoiding Kelley's book have been amusing. Kelley has long been a regular on CNN's "Larry King Live". King has an established tradition of promoting the books of his regulars. But Kelley and her bestseller where never seen on the show she has served so faithfully.

And when *The New York Times* reviewed "The Family", the reviewer characterized the work as a bunch of "recycled rumors." You will be forgiven for smiling if you remember the recent embarrassments at *The Times*, but the recycled rumors charge is in itself a fresh embarrassment. Anyone who reads Kelley's book will see that it is very meticulously sourced, documented in fact with a care that *The Times* would do well to emulate.

Kelley quotes at least two individuals by name who explicitly refer to Fitzgerald as Bush's "mistress," one a Mondale aide named Ambrose (page 375), another a biography writer named Kabaservice (353). She also piles up a mountain of circumstantial evidence concerning the nature of the relationship, including Bush answering Fitzgerald's hotel door after midnight in his pajamas (377).

One can easily imagine journalists saying that the private life of public individuals isn't news. I don't know why it shouldn't be, especially when it is starkly at variance with the public individual's political pronouncements. But journalists do say such things.

One can also imagine journalists saying that it wouldn't be fair to the current President Bush to expose the hypocrisy of his father. But what if journalists only told the truth when doing so seemed fair to everyone involved?

If journalists have hidden from the Fitzgerald-Bush story, perhaps we can now hope that historians will be braver. After all, a lot of time has passed since the administration of the first President Bush. One can't even argue that doing honest history would hurt the current president who's already been elected as many times

as the law allows.

Some historians take the view that the sex lives of presidents aren't necessarily history. They say that it really doesn't matter that Lincoln shared a bed with another man for years before he became president because whatever they did in that bed didn't affect his presidency.

But even if you grant that argument, which seems to me more a matter of squeamishness than one of logical necessity, there remain the presidential sexual relationships that do change history. What could Clinton have accomplished without the Monica scandal?

Would anyone dismiss the possible importance of JFK's sharing a mistress with a mob boss who had strong ties to Cuba? If the FBI has transcripts of the pillow talk on either end of that triangle, what historian would turn it down?

We know from Kelley's book that Fitzgerald had enough political influence on Bush that it upset James Baker and caused Bush's top political aide, Rich Bond, to resign. Craig Fuller was Bush's chief of staff when Bush was vice president. Kelley quotes one of Fuller's assistants as saying, "You cannot overestimate (Fitzgerald's) influence on Bush. He went whenever she called. If she wanted him to meet with a senator or a congressman, we had to change his schedule to do it. Those were his orders..." (435).

[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 ]

## GLBT Attacks In Media Rise

BEW YORK - Less than a week into the new year and attacks on Gays in the mainstream media are on the rise, 365Gay.com reported.

Syndicated columnist Thomas Sowell in an attack on same-sex marriage wrote that "it is not even clear how many homosexuals actually want marriage, even though Gay activists are pushing it. What the activists really want is the stamp of acceptance on homosexuality, as a means of spreading that lifestyle, which has become a death style in the era of AIDS."

In another part of the column he writes, "Marriage is not a right extended to individuals by the government. It is a restriction on the rights they already have," and "Society has no such stake in the outcome of a union between two people of the same sex. Transferring all those laws to same-sex couples would make no more sense than transferring the rules of baseball to football".

Sowell's columns are distributed to newspapers by Creators Syndicate which represents some of the nation's most rightwing columnists.

"Thomas Sowell mixes absurd

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-Peter Travers, ROLLING STONE

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-Lou Lumenick, NEW YORK POST

★★★★★  
-John Anderson, NEWSDAY

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PRODUCTION DESIGNER STEPHEN DEATHEZ DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY XAVIER PEREZ GRODET SCREENPLAY BY NICOLE KASSELL AND STEVEN FECHTER BASED ON THE PLAY BY STEVEN FECHTER PRODUCED BY LEE DANIELS DIRECTED BY NICOLE KASSELL

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claims about marriage and same-sex couples with a hateful, bigoted attack on Gay and Lesbian Americans — including an assertion that being Gay is a "death style," the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation said Thursday in a statement.

GLAAD has also raised alarms about two Spanish language television talk shows on Liberman Broadcasting.

"José Luis Sin Censura" and "El Show de María Laria," promote verbal abuse of and physical violence against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) people, GLAAD says.

The LGBT media watchdog said that the abuse, and violence escalated on Jan. 3 broadcasts of a new "José Luis Sin Censura" show and a re-run of "El Show de María Laria."

Hosts José Luis González and María Laria have long allowed audience members to use homophobic insults and defamatory remarks about LGBT people. Both programs regularly broadcast defamatory epithets such as "puñales [faggot]," "joto [faggot]," "maricón [faggot]," "marimacha [dyke]," and others. Other comments made on the shows include "a Bisexual person is someone who has not recognized yet that he is Gay," "people are confused when they are homosexual," "you should take an AIDS test because all of these guys have AIDS," and "you man, transvestite or thing. I just don't know what you are."

During the Jan. 3 re-run, María

Laria goaded a Transgender panelist to lift her skirt to verify whether the woman had undergone a sex change and then laughed about it.

In addition to the cruel ridicule of LGBT guests, the talk shows have taken the abuse a step further by allowing physical violence, GLAAD said. González and Laria permit audience members and panelists to beat, hit and insult each other. On the Jan. 3 "José Luis Sin Censura," an audience member beat and dragged a Gay man across the entire length of the stage before González signaled his guards to stop him. This occurred after the man, a guest on the show, confessed his love for a male friend.

"José Luis Sin Censura" and "El Show de María Laria" are promoting prejudice, hatred and violence toward LGBT people," said GLAAD People of Color Media Director Mónica Taher. "This is one of the reasons we have so many hate crimes against LGBT people in the Latino community."

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## Sharpton Admonishes Blacks Who Voted For Bush Over Marriage Fears

ATLANTA - African Americans were taken in by a "con" game by Republicans last November former presidential candidate Al Sharpton said, 365Gay.com reported.

Speaking to parishioners at Atlanta's Butler Street Christian Methodist Episcopal on Sunday, January 9, Sharpton said Bush manipulated the Gay marriage debate to draw attention away from the Iraq war and his domestic problems.

"I think George Bush manipulated a lot of religious feelings about marriage when the president has little or nothing to do with marriage," Sharpton said.

"The president cannot order

what marriage is for men or women," Sharpton said.

"It was the place for a debate on Iraq, he's in charge of the military; health care, he's in charge of that; on Social Security, he's in charge of that," he told church goers. "But we should not relinquish the morality of the church to the office of president. He has nothing to do with that."

Sharpton lost the Democratic presidential nomination to Sen. John Kerry but recently his name has been suggested for chair of the Democratic Party.

During weekend meetings with African American members of the Democratic National Committee, Sharpton warned that party leaders will continue to ignore blacks when choosing future leaders at the party's peril.

He said that more African Americans will drift from the Democrats unless leaders reward black party members with key posts.

During he primaries Sharpton was one three Democratic presidential candidates to endorse same-sex marriage. The others were Congressman Dennis Kucinich, former Senator Carol Mosely Braun.

Senators John Kerry and Joe Lieberman, Congressman Dick Gephardt and former Governor Howard Dean endorsed civil unions but not marriage.

## 'White Garden' Opens Jan. 13 For Eight Performances

Cubrienne Productions in association with Green Thursday Theatre Project presents

WHITE GARDEN

by Adrienne Perry

TUCSON - Cubrienne Productions in association with Green Thursday Theatre Project presents "White Garden" by Adrienne Perry at the Temple of Music and Art Cabaret Theater.

Virginia Woolf, Vita Sackville-West, and Violet Trefusis were all contemporary authors and lovers at a time when homosexuality was not only unacceptable but was illegal. Their loves were acted out in different ways by each of the three women quietly, carefully, and recklessly. "White Garden" focuses the apex of this love triangle, Vita Sackville-West. A member of the British Aristocracy, she was brought up during the morally dubious Edwardian era and became a well-loved author and well-respected part of British upper class society. Having married respectably as a young woman, she embarked upon a Lesbian affair with her childhood friend, Violet Keppel (later Trefusis), which was to rock the foundations of both women's lives.

The affair, which nearly ruined Vita's marriage, ended badly when Violet married and the two lovers not only split, but avoided all contact for the next twenty years. In the intervening time, Vita Sackville-West established herself as a serious author and poet and pursued a series of love affairs with women, most notably Virginia Woolf. Violet, on the other hand became an expatriate living in France, dodging the scandal of her Lesbian affair and the disapproval of the British aristocracy that did not take indiscretion lightly.

"White Garden" picks up in 1940 with England in the throes of war and Virginia Woolf in the throes of depression under the watchful eye of Vita Sackville-West. Violet Trefusis, fleeing the occupation, is forced to spend the night at Vita's estate. The two women are compelled to confront their feelings once again and come to terms with a love that was never allowed to bloom into full flower but never died.

This play is a powerful and sensitive exploration of how we can be honest with ourselves in spite of a world that tells us who we should be - not who we are. Part

history, part fiction, this production uses the lives of these intriguing women to look at love, sex, art, and human relationships in a way that is both funny and moving.

"White Garden" written by Tucson playwright Adrienne Perry, will be directed by David Morden and will feature Susan Arnold, Jenny, Bazzell, Betsy Beard, Eric Taylor and Halsy-Taylor.



(1 to R) Betsy Beard as Violet Trefusis, Susan Arnold as Vita-Sackville-West and Halsey-Taylor as Virginia Woolf.



Susan Arnold as Vita Sackville West.



(1 to r) Betsy Beard as Violet Trefusis and Susan Arnold as Vita Sackville-West

Performance dates and ticket information:

Thursday, January 13 at 8:00 p.m.  
Friday, January 14 at 8:00 p.m.  
Saturday, January 15 at 8:00 p.m.  
Sunday, January 16 at 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 20 at 8:00 p.m.  
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Dear Dr. X

I was wondering about what my church has been saying about wearing condoms. The Pope and my local priest issued a statement that we should not to wear condoms because it will not protect from HIV. They said that there is scientific proof that condoms have little tiny holes that HIV can pass through and infect you or your partner. I need to know if this is true. I am confused about whom to believe: I want to trust my church, but this doesn't make sense.

Confused, Joe

Dear Joe,

Answering your question at a personal level, it seems to me that this is yet another mechanism to control the behavior of the masses, brought to you by your friendly, neighborhood Catholic Church. If you think about it, promoting abstinence until marriage has long been their goal, and they have even advocated against condoms for use as birth control because it is not part of God's plan. To my knowledge, the only studies to suggest that there are microscopic holes in condoms allowing HIV to pass through have been conducted and funded by groups who already discourage condom use before the study begins. Not the best way of obtaining objective results. These results are manipulated to facilitate your confusion. But confusion is never a means toward better health. If you are having sex, latex condoms are still your best bet against contracting HIV and other STD's. This latest message is merely another in a string of attempts to reeducate you into their way of thinking and behaving. Unfortunately, it also sanctions unsafe sex, which can and will lead to an increase in HIV and other STD's in populations around the globe. It is a sad day in our world when any leader values the blind following of their flock over true and accurate information that disagrees with their personal beliefs.

To answer your question at a professional level, there have been dozens, maybe hundreds, of studies over the last 20 or so years conducted by independent organizations and institutions that have supported latex condoms as a an effective barrier for the transmission of HIV. Latex and polyurethane condoms will not allow the transmission of the HIV virus through their membranes. Lambskin condoms, being of a natural membrane, are not effective for preventing transmission of the virus. If you would like information on the efficacy of certain condoms, Consumer Reports recently conducted a study of condom strength and reliability. Among 23 popular latex condoms, only 3 performed at less than a "very good" rating. It is safe to assume that you may be a purchaser of the remaining 20 that were tested, or the many reliable and safe condoms which were not among those in this particular study. If you would like more information on the efficacy of condoms or the study referenced above, please visit [www.ashastd.org](http://www.ashastd.org) or visit Con-

sumer Reports at [www.consumerreports.org](http://www.consumerreports.org) for the full study. You can also find some information at the Center for Disease Control website, [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov). (though the current administration has recently limited what they are allowed to post there with some new abstinence regulations). Rubbers rule!

PS. Your local free condoms, supplied by Gay Men's Health Project, are made by the same manufacturer that makes Lifestyles—all of which rated a "very good" or "excellent" in the Consumer Reports study.

[Send your questions to Dr. X at [gmhp@saaf.org](mailto:gmhp@saaf.org) or mail them to SAAF/GMHP, 375 S. Euclid, Tucson, AZ 85719. You can also check out Dr. X online at [www.gmhp.org](http://www.gmhp.org).]



## Condom Testing Reveals Best Brands

NEW YORK - The consumers group best known for rating cars and washing machines has turned its testing prowess to condoms to find out which ones measure up best and how other birth control methods compare, reported Reuters on Advocate.com.

The nonprofit Consumers Union says in a new guide to contraception that the seven top types of condoms they studied did not burst despite vigorous testing, and all models met international standards. But results showed that the top brand, able to take the most punishment, was the Durex Extra Sensitive Lubricated Latex, according to the report. Other top performers include the Durex Performax Lubricated, Lifestyles Classic Collection Ultra Sensitive Lubricated, and TheyFit Lubricated.

A melon-colored model distributed by Planned Parenthood performed the worst, bursting during a test in which the latex condoms were filled with air. The group says its review of contraceptives was not politically motivated, although there is an intense debate among health professionals and advocacy groups about the focus on abstinence-only education by the Bush administration. "We plan our testing programs quite a while in advance. This is purely accidental," said senior editor Nancy Metcalf.

Consumers Union uses standardized tests to rate the products it examines, which for latex condoms

involves filling them with air. There is no accepted method to test silicon or non-latex condoms.

The New York-based organization, which publishes Consumer Reports magazine, also tested 16 other contraceptive choices. "Condoms remain the only family planning and pregnancy prevention method that can help prevent sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV, which causes AIDS," the group, which has issued similar reports on condoms periodically since 1979, said in a statement. "Condoms have improved since the mid '90s because industry manufacturing standards have become more universally used and more effective," added Edward Kippel, who led the condom test project.



## SYPHILIS IS BACK! & HIV NEVER LEFT!

If you have had sex, you could be at risk for **Syphilis, HIV and other STD's**. Although, condoms used correctly each and every time can reduce your risk, why not go the extra mile. **Protect yourself, your health and your community by getting tested today.**

### Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic Schedule

Theresa Lee Health Center  
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Monday	12:30 – 3:30 P.M.
Tuesday	8:00 – 10:30 A.M.
Tues.	12:30 – 3:30 P.M.
Wednesday	12:30 – 3:30 P.M.
Thursday	4:00 – 6:30 P.M.
Friday	12:30 – 3:30 P.M.

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#### Second Stop:

**Colors Food & Spirits**  
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**White House Pays Off Anti-Gay Commentator**  
Continued from Page One

"Despite the rhetoric that you hear from the homosexual Cosa Nostra, the lack of support for the Gay marriage amendment has nothing to do with prejudice," he wrote.

"It's not about trying to dictate to adults what they should do in the privacy of their own homes. Let's be clear about that. Opposition to the Gay marriage amendment isn't about disallowing homosexuals the same basic rights we extend to everyone else. It is about recognizing that marriage between man and woman is the bedrock of our society. It is about the citizens of this country saying, en masse, that they are unwilling to deconstruct certain basic and essential norms in our culture and society."



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## NON-BAR CALENDAR

### Groups / Clubs / Organizations /

#### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12

#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.

#### FRIDAY, JANUARY 14

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): - 7:00 p.m. Join us for an evening of Charades. For details and directions, please call Merlin and Lee at 207-5336.

#### SATURDAY, JANUARY 15

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

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

#### MONDAY, JANUARY 17

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

#### TUESDAY, JANUARY 18

#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, JANUARY 19

#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.

#### SATURDAY, JANUARY 22

#1 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.

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

#### MONDAY, JANUARY 24

#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 "Boys to Men" (after Newsletter Night). For reservations and directions, please call Arlan at 323-7414.

## BAR CALENDAR

### Of Upcoming

#### THURSDAY, JANUARY 13

IBT'S - 'Tricked Out Thursday'! \$1.75 Long Island, \$1.50 Shot Specials. Come party with your favorite bartender in their underwear. 1 Cher Concert Ticket will be given away and your bartenders dressed up like the Village People. Must be present to win.

#### SATURDAY, JANUARY 15

YARD DOG - It's that excellent Prime Rib Dinner time again - 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. On the heated patio. Check it out and gorge yourselves.

#### SUNDAY, JANUARY 16

IBT'S - Cher Party - 8:30-10:00pm Benefit Show for Veronica Halliwell (also appearing as Cher). 10 p.m. - 2 a.m. Concert tickets will be given away throughout the night. Must be present to win. Come dressed as one of your favorite Village People or as Cher.

WOODY'S - 8:00 p.m. Drag Bingo hosted by Janee Starr and Veronica Holliwell. 9:00 p.m. to closing Karaoke with Michael D.

#### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19

IBT'S - After Cher Concert Party. Bring your Cher concert ticket and get your first well drink for \$1.00. 9:00p.m. Diva-Licious Show hosted by Bunny FuFu.

WOODY'S - 8:00 p.m. Gay Men's Health Project Underwear Party.

#### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3

VENTURE-N - The annual, fabulous Aquarian Party is here along with food, specials and much, much more. DJ Jerry starts at 9:00 p.m.

#### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

WOODY'S - Mardi Gras Party. Watch for details and mark your calendars.

#### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14

WOODY'S - Valentine's Day Party. Watch for more details.

## 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. Enjoy the Smooth Sounds of Susie Rough 8:00 - 10:30 pm..

IBT's - Open Noon. \$1.75 Bloodys, Screws or mimosas. til 4pm 4-7:30 Karaoke with Michael D. on the patio 5:30-8 Benefit BBQ for community organizations 7:30-2am Dance with David Z. 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 ù 8 pm, \$2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3 sm pitchers, \$5 lg pitchers. Monday Munchies 3 - 8 pm with reduced prices on appetizers - best deal in town!

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-7pm, Audio Anomaly 9pm-2am with DJ Trinidad, 10pm-2am \$1.50 well vodka drinks, 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. 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 Debbie 8 - midnight

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-7pm, Tropical Tuesdays \$2.50 Tropical drinks and DJ Q playing Retro Music 70's, 80's and 90's 9pm-close, All drink specials not available during special events.

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

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 ù 8 pm, \$2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3 sm pitchers, \$5 lg pitchers. \$2.00 Mexican Beers all day. Karaoke with Debbie from 8 to midnight.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-7pm, Tricked Out Thursday with your Bartenders in their undies and DJ Mike Lopez spinning Top 40 & All request \$1.75 Long Islands and \$1.50 Cocksucker shots 10pm-2am, 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 ù 8 pm, \$2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3 sm pitchers, \$5 lg pitchers. Line Dance Lessons 7:30 to 8:30 pm. DJ Pat plays your favorite country dance songs 8:30 to midnight then a mix of dance & country until close. Kitchen open 10 pm - 2 am for late night munchies.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-7pm, Live Jazz on the Patio with Susan 6pm-9pm, Hot Dance from 9pm-2am, All drink specials not available during special events.

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. Beer 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 Burger & Fries all day. DJ playing your favorite country songs 8:30 ù midnight, then 'anything goes' requests until close. Kitchen open 10 pm - 2 am for late night munchies.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-7pm, 8:30pm Show time w/ Ajia Simone or Janee Starr, Circuit Saturday's with DJ Q spinning Hot Club Music. 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 & 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.

# NOTICES - COMMUNITY - NOTICES

**HALLELUJAH RECOVERY DRUG & ALCOHOL 12-STEP.** Every Thursday 5:30-6:30pm at Cornerstone Fellowship, 2902 N. Geronimo. 622-4626.

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

**SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION (SAAF),** 375 S. EUCLID. Office Hours 8am to 5pm, Monday through Friday. Direct services and emotional support for persons with and affected by HIV. Anonymous HIV testing and support groups available. Prevention education programs. 628-SAAF (7223). World wide web: <http://www.sAAF.org>. VOLUNTEERS WELCOME.

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

**P.F.L.A.G. - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays** - is a support group available to anyone who has a son, daughter or friend who is Gay. Call 575-8660 or write P.O. Box 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 info.

#### 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 call 529-2269, leave name and phone number. [Tucsonpt@primetimersww.org](mailto:Tucsonpt@primetimersww.org)

**TUCSON INFORMATION & REFERRAL**  
For Information on Gay 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 Hotline (520)790-5775 or write P.O. Box

43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910 or visit our website at [www.botop.com](http://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.

**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](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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; Dezerz Girlz MTF Support) meets 2nd Mondays at 7pm; Dezerz Boyz (FTM Support) meets 3rd Tuesdays at 7pm. Also serving partners, youth, intersex, service providers and allies. Call (520)867-0083 for more info.

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

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

**DESERT 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](http://AAPSP.org) or e-mail: [AAPSP@aol.com](mailto: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 Quimm, (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](http://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/](http://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](http://www.desertdominion.org)) For those who are kinky or just curious. No fee, contributions are appreciated, but not required.



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