

Memorial Day 2005



Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

WEEKLY OBSERVER

MAY 25, 2005

ISSUE 1088

Nothing beautiful in this world is ever really lost. Those we cherish will always live on in memory. . . .
On Memorial Day, the Tucson Gay and Lesbian Community remembers its brothers and sisters. . . .

Phil Aaberg
Jim Ableman
Michael Stephen Acosta
Theresa Marie Acrea
Mark Adams
Steven Adcock
Tracy Adkins
Javier Aguilar
Michael Rene Aguilar
George Alameda
Ian Duncan Alexander
Robert Alexander
Francisco Alexander
Alfonso
Vincent Alger
Mohammed Alikha
Randy Allen
Robert Alley
Glen Almack
Danny Almada
Peter Alpert
Dean Alsobrook
Lucio Alvarez
Andy Anaya
Craig Anderson
John Anderson
David Andrews
Richard Ansell
Larry Anspach
William Applegarth
Michael Arcoletta
Freddy Arias
Victoria Armstrong
Leonardo Arvizu
Larry Scott Ashlock
Ched Ashmead
Giselle Astola
Charles Aitchison
Richard Lee Austin

Todd B.
Bill B.
Crystal Badia
Francisco Javier Badilla
Larry Bailey
Bruce Bak
Gary Baker
Paul Baker
David Balliotti
Bobby Balog
Bradley Barba
Robbie Barber
George Barela
Roger Barger
Stuart Barkel
David Barker
Peter Barnes
Chester Barrett
Oscar Barrill
Edward Barris
Michael Barth
Tom Bartone
Ray B. Basham
Johnnie Batiste
John Bauman
Richard "Rick" Baumlein
David Baus
Chris Beasley
Jerome Beillard
Alex Bejarano
Edward "Eddie" Bejarano
Gordon Bell
Frank J. Bellafiore
Rene Benjamin
Charles Bennett
Greg Bennett
Michael Bennett
John R. Benson
Richard Bergstrom
Bob Bernardi
Greg Berndt
David Horten Berry
Edward Betancourt
Eddie Betrano
Andrew Bidlingmaier
Paul Bigley
Charles "Chuck" Bilbro
Ken A. Billingsley
Doug Billow
John Bircumshaw
Bob Bishop Sr.

Frank Bishop
Phil Black
Larry Bloch
Tim Blodgett
Richard Wayne Blum
Samuel Bruce Bobo
Carl Bocock
Donna Bohrer
Henry Boido
Adelina Borgaro
Tom Bortone
Michael Bosch
Tom Bowers
Francisco Bracamonte
Greg Bracht
Charles "Chuck" Brady
Robert Brady
Thomas Brady
Peter Brandlen
Randy Bratton
David Brause
Matthew Breakey
Mike Brederman
Neil Brennan
Michael Shawn Brewer
Phil Brock
Carlos Brockman
Andrew Siliar Brooks
Allen Brown
Austin Brown
Brian Brown
Gerald Allen Brown II
Leonard Brown
Mark Brown
Melinda Brown
Karen Bruce
William E. Bruder Jr.
Clark Bryan
Jeff Bryan
Terry Bryant
Richard Buckley
Buffer
Jerome "Jerry" Buggin
Gary Bunge
David Burrows
John Busenbarrick, Jr.
Ruben Bustamante
Timo Butters

Steve C.
Vincent Cabello
Felix Caez
Kevin "Andrew"
Callaghan
Dale Calloway
Juan Carlos Calvo
Michael Campbell
Otis Campbell
Nicholas Candelaria
Viola Caneloz
Carolla C.
James Henry Carlin
John Carlson Jr.
Eugene Carr
Marcos Carrasgo
Cuberto Castanada
Roberto "Beto"
Castanada
Idefonso Castanos
Hector Castillo
Jerry Castrillo
Fletcher Knight Catron
Bill Chapman
Jeffrey Van Chapman
Darryl Chapple
Charles
Charles
Joe Christopher
Jean Renee Cicci
Charles "Chip" Ciperley
Brian Clark
Charles "Chuck" Clapp
Steve Clark
Don Codner
Terry Coen
Lou Colby
Bruce Collins
Jock Collins
Lonnie Dean Combs
Rick Condor
Efrain "Jamie" Contreras
Mike Conway

Bill Cook, Jr.
Ronald D. Coon
Randolph "Randy" Cooper
W.N. "Bill" Coplies
Ben Corbin
Eddie Cordova
Corky
Christopher Corr
Steven Corty
Francisco Corral
William Cottrell
Neil Cowhey
Nick Cranz
Mace Edward Crawford
Richard Crellin
Adrian Crites
Ivan Crocker
David Croft
James Allen Crouch
David Cruice
Roy Cruz
William Cruz
Mark Cumberworth
Jerry Curl
Dan Curtis

Alvin Dabney
Michael Daley
Dan
William E. "Bill" Darnell
William H. Daniels
Rev. Bernardo David
Carl Davis
James "Jimmy" Dawson
Harry Dean
Derek
Patrick De Armond
Rob Detwiler
Phyl Jay "PJ" DeWolf
Tom Di Antonio
Nathaniel Todd Dickerhoff
Daniel J. Dickerson
Harold "Hal" Dickey
Robert Diffie
David Dixon
Roger Dixon
David Doane
Cary Dobbs
John Dobson
Keith Douglas
Michael Dralle
Mark Drum
Rory Drwinga
Bruce Thomas Duggan
Al'Lisa Ja' Rene Duke
Christopher "Rick" Duncan
Donald Dupie
Richard DuPont
Shirley Jean Dykstra

Tim E.
Jesse Eberhardt
Ron Edgerly
Bruce E. Edward
Michael Patrick Edwards
Edy
Michael Egli
Larry Eichberg
Val "Valerie" Ekins
Tim Elchuck
Mark Alan Elenz
Frank Elias
Suzanne Elliott
Bill Ellsworth
Bruce "Popcorn Polly" Elward
Lewis Elze
John Emerich
Tony Encinas
Chuck Ennett
Bill Enos
Gustavo Enrique
Ruben "Mama Reyna"
Escamilla
Emilio Escarega
Brad Essuary
Phillip Estrada
Roy Estrada
Richard Everett
David Eyde
Dick F.
David E. Farford

James Farias
Juan Farmer
Chris Farnsworth
Eddie Felix
Richard Felix
Dan Fenstermaker
Gary Feltner
Brent D. Ferrin
Dr. Ben Field
Mark Alan Fields
Alejandro Figueroa
Bill Findley
Nina M. Finley
James E. Fisher
Larry Fisher
James Fisher
John Fitzgerald
Keith "Keill" Fleeman
Christopher "Rick" Flener
Eddie Florez
Matt Flores
Paul Flores
Yolanda Flores
William Flores
Jack Dean "Poonie" Foley
Vernon Fontecchio
Daniel Foote
Robert Foreman
Bruce H. Fowler
Gary Matthew Fowler
Myron Foxx
Alex Francisco
Walter Franks, Jr.
David Fredricks
Jesus "Jesse" Fregoso
Bill Fry
Jose Fuentes
Doug Fuller

Peter Gabor
Robin Gabriel
James Ggner
Gary Galeoto
Vito Galeoto
George Gallego
Reno Gannon
Apolonio Garcia
Ken Garcia
Maria Garcia
Mona Garcia
Michael Garcia
Jerry Gardner
Heather Joy Garvey
Douglas E. "Doug" George
Jeremy George
Christopher Giano
Ira Gibson
Monte-Jon Gilmer
Jean-Claude Girard
Mark Gish
Carroll Gladson
Dennis Allen Gladu
Jeff R. Glasser
Ramon Gomez
Antonio Gonzalez
Armando Gonzalez
Alexander John Goodrum
Tom Gora
Ron Gould
Patrick Grace
Garold "Gary" T. Graham
Robert Allen Graham
Emil Grandberg
Donald Grant
Arthur L. Green
John Green
Jeff Greer
Gregory
Richard "Dick" Gregory
Michael Griffin
Gary Grimes
Grace Maria Groves
Felipe Guerrero
René Guimond
Rebecca Guitierrez
René M. Guitierrez
Betsy Guthrie
Anna H.
Archibald H.
John Haase
Cliff Hachimoto

Charles Hacker
John "Rob" Haddix
Dennis Hale
Herb Hale
Randy Hale
Kevin Hall
Michael Hall
Stephen M. Hall
Eric Hallam
James Hallaway
George Hamilton
Ken Hannon
Robert Hanson
Don Harris
Shirl Harris
Alice Harrison
Terry Harrison
Bob Hart
Kent Harvey
Patrick Hayes
Thomas Hayes
Larry "Mavis" Hemeon
Roy Henderson
Jay Henley
James "Jimbo" Henry
Graciela A. Hernandez
Joe Hernandez
Michael Hernandez
Oscar Hernandez
La Hanna Heyde
Delbert Hibdon
Bruce Hickcox
Rick Hildreth
John High
Brian Hill
Danny Hill
Rev. Randy Hill
Walter Hill
Warren Hogan
Hector Holgen
Bobbi Holiday
Carl Michael Holiman
Andrew Holland
James Hollaway
Mark Holly
Richard L. Holmes
Herbert F. "Bert" Hoop
John Horne
David Horton
Sam Hosp
Gary Hotham
Bob Householder
Joseph A. Houser
Mark Howe
Paul Hoyer
Brian Hoyt
Randy Hubbard
Robert Hubbard
Keith Huffman
Henry Hufford
James L. "Jimmy" Hughes
Maureen Hughes
Larry "Papa" Humphrey
Jeff Huntoon
Bart Andrew Hust
Steven Hutchings
Luke Hynes

Ian
Teko Ipock
David Iszler
Edmond "Bob" Jacques
Harold J.
Christopher Jenner
Jim
Jimmy J.
Jess
John
Juan
James E. "Jimmy"
Johnson
Paul "PJ" Johnson
Thomas Johnson
Brad Jones
Dickie Lee "DJ" Jones
Terry Jordan
Scott Jordan
Rudy Juren
Phil Kanenan
Continued On Page Two

Memorial Day 2005

Continued from Page One

Kip Karr
Douglas Karschner
Jamie Kealoha
Randy Kellems
Raymond Kelly
Steven Kelly
Gene Kelton
Rex King
James Kinney
Bruce Kiron
Steve Kissler
Brian Klomp
Randy Klutts
Bruce Knapp
Thomas Koch
Jim Kogel
Jerry Kohihoff
Steve Kopelberg
Richard Koussa
Charles Krahe
Victoria Kratina
Dennis Krenick
David R. Krough
David Phillip Krug
"Pat" Kube
James Kusiak

Russell L.
Steven L.
Gary L'Abbe
Michael LaBossiere
Fernando Labrada
Jack F. Lacey, Jr.
Dan Laguna
Bobby Laine
Mark Allen Landsfeld
Larry Lang
Larry (with the cast)
Darla Laughlin
Mitchell LaVern
Eric Lavers
Bruce Lazarus
Adrian LeChance
Terry Lea
Joseph R. "Joe" Lee Jr.
Steve LeGro
Margo Leigh
Lou Leoni
Tony Leoni
Russel Lepard
Scottie Levine
Art Lewis
Denise Lewis
Steve Lewis
Tom Lewis
Richard Lisa
Rusti (Blanche) Liston)
Jerry Livingston
Regioberto Llanez
Curt Long
Murray Lorenzen
Kent Lott
James Howard Lucas
Joseph Lucero
Enrique Luna
Jesus Luna
Robert Lundien

Octavio M.
R. Harrison MacArthur
Charles Mac M.
John Mackin
William Madsen
Garry Magnum aka
Tish Tanner
Matthew Magnussen
David Majia
Jason Mallonee
Ella F. Manciet
Larry Mann
Tracie Manos
C. Larry Mantz
Jim Manus
Larry Gene Maple
Carl Marcum
Sergio Marino
Daniel Maris
Jessie Martin
Joseph Martin
Kenneth W. Martin
Peter Martinez
Louis Robert Martinez
John Mason
Carl Matajasik
Skeets Alan "Skeeter"
Mathews
Dana "Barritt" Matthews
Larry Mavin
Chuck Mayer
Linda Mayer
Greg Mayes
Brenda McClain
Fr. Peter McClintock
Kevin McCormick
Ron McCourt
Jerry McCoy
Lauren McCoy
Marilyn McCutchin
"Mac" McElvain III
Curtis McGowen
Brian J. McKee
Farrell McKee
Raymond McKintosh
Dale Autry McKissack
Maurice McLain
John McLaughlin
John J. "Jack" McMahon
Michael McN.
Edward McNeal
William McTarnahan

Peter McWhorter
Edward Meadows
Billy Meek
David Paul Mejia
Eric Melcher
Bruce L. Meyer
Buzz Metzger
Jan Meyer
Darrell Micholski
Ivan Millard
Ivan Millard
Robert Miller
Terry Lee Miller
Leonard G. Mills
James Minor
Gary Mitchell
Lawrence Mixon
Gary Moore
Gene Moore
George Moore
Edwin Mora
Sergio Moreno
Tina Morgan
Tom Morgan
Dan Morris
Gary Moss
Patrick Thomas Murdock
Brian P. Mulford
Michael Mulholland
Leo Murillo
Larry Murphy
John B. Murphy
Michael Murphy
David James Murray
Kevin Murray
Jose "Joe" Murrieta
Kenneth "Kenny" Muse
Mike Mustard
Dr. Jon F. Myers II

Chris Nakamura
Jesse Lee Nance
Michael Navauo
William H. "Bill" Neal
Kelly Nesbitt
Kevin Nevison
Ernie Nicholson
Marilyn Nicholson
Jon Night
Mike Nikolin
M. Alexx Niles
Frank Norton
Ed Norway, Jr.

John W. O'Brien
John H. Ochs
Bobby O'Connell
Patrick O'Connor
Robert D. O'Connor
Jesse James Onken
Mark Orosz
Amelia Ortega
Jesus Orozco
Raphael Ortiz
Larry Owens
Wm. Edward Owens, Jr.
Billy Owmbey

Nate P.
Raymond "Mon" Padias
Danny "Moose" Pagel
Bob Palmer
John Palmer
John Parrish
Rachel Pastemack
Robert P. "Bob" Patton
Lynne Payne
David "Willie" Peck
Bruce Pegg
David Peña
Lance Penny
Paul Perez
Rev. Eduard E. Perry
Lance R. Perry
Ray Peterson
Henry Petter
Rick Pfensdorf
Cecil Phillips
James Phillips
Ward Pickard
Jim Pickett
Rudy Piper
George J. "Gina Who" Plencencio
Dick Pletcher
James Plumb
Robert J. "Bobby" Plummer
Michael John Polonis
Louis-John Porcelli
Lynda Sue Poss
Wade Poteet
John R. Potter
Nancy Powell
Jerry Prall
Dean Pratt
Phillip Prell
Ed Prendergast
William Provo
Christopher Charles Pruett

Paul R.
Roger A. Radabaugh
Robert Raines, Jr.
C. Roger Raines
Robert M. Ralston
Albert Ramirez
John Paul "PJ" Ramirez, Jr.
Jose Luis Ramirez
Raul
Robert Ratcliff
Paul Ratella, M.D.
Jery Ray

George Rederus
Jerry O. Reece
John H. Reed
Mitchell Reed
Paul Reed
Will Reeder
William Reeves
Michael Alan Reid
Joel Reiter
Bill Relph
Andrea Remson
Rene
Rock Renze
Tim Renze
Charles Renovato
Glen Reynolds
Freddy Rias
Rev. James C. 'Jim' Rice
Robert Rice
Steve Richards
Lee Ridinger
Rudolph "Rudi" Riesgo
Riff
Eddie Rios
Ron G. "Ronnie" Rios
Riley Ritchie
Frank Rizzuto
Gerard Roberts
Jason Roberts
Rocky Dean Roberts
Craig Robinson
Lucille Robinson
Barnabe "Barney" Robles

James Rocco
Donald L. Rodriguez
Lionel Rodriguez
Logan Rodriguez
Richard Rodriguez
Joe Rogers
Joe Romano
John Romano
Ray Romero
Thomas Romero
Tony Romo
David Alan Root
John Edward Rose
Julie Rosen
Mike Rouse
Gerald Roy
Al Russek
Martin Russell
Ruth
Jessica Rutledge
Gloria Ryan
Paul Ryan

Chuck S.
Tim S.
Glenn Sabel
Daniel Saenz
Charles Andrew Salano
John Salazar
Mario "Arnold" Salazar
Matthew Sanders
Joseph Daniel Sanchez
Joseph Sanchez
Robert Santa Cruz
Phillip C. Santhon
Jorge Santos
Joe Sauer
Leonard Scarbrough
John Schimmel
John Schmitt
Dennis L. Schmidt
Robert "Klee" Schmidt
Fritz Schneider
Pete Schneider
Richard Lee Schoenlaub
Kathy Schot
Louis "JoJo" Schraeder
David Schweda
David Schweinitz
Ronald C. Schuyler
John B. Scipio Jr.
Scott
Leonard Scott
Vern Scott
Bruce Seleb
John Semmens
Robert Sexon
James E. "Jim" Shafer
Lila Shakeridge
Paul Shanks
Ernest Shaw
Russell Shaw
Larry Sheets
James Sherbo
Fran Shevitz, MD
Albert "Del" Shockley Jr.
Fred Sibnic
Ernie Silver
Shane Sims
Ryan Sinatra
James Sindeldecker
Victor R. Silcox, Jr.
Stuart Eric Sinding
Herb Skinner
Newton John Skinner
Eric Smith
Doris W. Smith
Frank Smith
James Smith
Jeff Smith
K. Smith
Leigh Smith
Mark S. Smith
Rodney "Ronnie" Smith
William Bonner Smith
Jerry Smithson

Robert L. Smock
Richard L. Snook
Charley Solano
Jody Sommers
Frank Souel
Timothy Speck
Sid Spencer
Tim St. Pierre
Fred Stahl
Joe Stanson
Roger Stallings
Rue Starr
Michael Stefan
Lee Stephens
Troy Stephenson
Keith Stern
Steve
Steven
Stan Stevens
T-Barr Stevens
Jean Stillson
Terry Stinnett
Anita Story
Dennis Stowell
Robert Olen Strickland
Jeffrey A. Strickler
Chris Coronado Strigle
Steve Strigle
Ken Stringer
Michael Stryker
Tommy Ray Stumbo
Tommy Stumbs
Mike Swanson
Rodger G. Sweet

Robert Tamango
Steven J. Tapter
John Tarone
James M. "Jim" Tate
Hal Taylor
Valerie Taylor
Ruben Tellez
Ronald "Ronnie" Templeton

Stephen Terry
David Thacker
Jeffrey Theis
Sean Thomas
Thommy
Lee Thompson
Robert "Rob" Thompson
Scott "Sadie" Thompson
Jonathan George Tiaz
Jeffrey Tidwell
Ollie Joe Tillman III
Tito
Stan Tolonen
Tony
John Torregrossa
Gary Lewis Trent
Randy Tribble
Carlos Trujillo
Phillip Turlan
Hal Tyler

Juan "John" Uresti, Jr.

James V.
Lillian V.
Tim Vaccario
Carlos Valladares
Daniel Valdez
Gregg Van Ash
Jonathan L. Vandine
John Van Meter
Bruce Van Nostrand
Kevin Van Polen
Lillian Vasquez
Ophelia Vasquez
Tomas Vega
Hermalinda Velasquez
Christopher M. Veoukas
Gene Verhaagen
Andy K. Villalba
Linda Brown "Elbie" Vindiola
Michael J. Vining
Glen Vogt

Michael W.
David Wade
John Walker
Richard Walker
Edward "Big Ed" Walls
Sgt. P.A. "Pat" Walters
Louis "Louie" Walsh
Philip A. Walsted
Bennett H. Walzer
Darren B. Wamhoff
Anita Ward
David Warner
Rev. Henry Warner
Donald Warren
Lila Washington
Dennis A. Wasser
Cliff Waterson
Elmer Watford, Sr.
Danny Watson, Jr.
Andy Webber, Jr.
Mary Webber
Kevin Wells
Russell Wells
Jackie Ray West
John West
Ronald "Ron" Wetzel
Willie Weyant
Roger Whitaker
Stephen F. Whitaker
Larry White

Reggie White
Roger Whitehead
Oza Whittin
Norris Whittom
Allan Wiggins
Gilbert D. "Gibb" Wihour
William C. "Bill" Wiley
Tom Williams
Tracy Williams
Roy Williamson
George Frederick Wilson
Jack "Blanche" Wilson
Winifred Wilts
David Windsor
Tom Winters
Alton Wisdom
Richard Wise
Thomas Wohlgemuth
Richard L. Woodworth
David Wright
Robert S. Wright Jr.
Travis Wright

Leon Yi
Francis Young
Norman Young
Terry Young
Dale Yount
Joseph Yurkovich

Robert E. Zack
Gerald L. Zagst
Gene Zarr
Armando Zegri
Donald Anthony Zerkowsky

Teresa Zell
Joseph Ziemer
A man whose name
cannot be used

NOTE: Although the great majority of persons named here died of complications of AIDS, some died from other illnesses, natural causes, suicide, murder, accidents, etc.

This list has been compiled from obituary notices that appeared in the Observer and Arizona Gay News, and information received from the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation. It is not a complete list by any means. It has been updated each year since May 24, 1989. For any corrections, additions or deletions please contact the Observer.

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



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 Wendy Ascione at 628-7223 or wascione@SAAF.org

SAAF



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The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

New Bid To Pass Federal Hate Crimes Bill

WASHINGTON, D.C. - A new attempt to pass legislation to make crimes of bias against members of the LGBT community a federal crime will be introduced in Congress, reported 365Gay.com.

The first attempt to pass a hate crime bill failed in 1994 and further attempts have died almost annually since then.

The last attempt failed in October. The measure was contained in a massive defense department bill as add-ons. It was stripped out during conference, the procedure where different versions of bills in the House and Senate are "rationalized" for a final vote.

The bill had come under fire from Transgender activists because it would not have included protections for transsexuals. The new legislation - for the first time - would cover the Transgendered.

"Transgender and Gay Americans deserve the same clear protections against hate crimes as other Americans," said HRC President Joe Solmonese. "

The bill will be submitted on Thursday. It has bipartisan support - its sponsors include Reps. Barney Frank, D-

Mass., Ileana Ros-Lehtinen R-Fla., John Conyers Jr., D-Mich., Christopher Shays, R-Conn., and Tammy Baldwin, D-Wisc..

In April a report released by the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs showed violence against Gays on the rise.

Overall, NCAVP's report noted a 4% increase in reported incidents of anti-LGBT violence. Such incidents rose from 1,720 in 2003 to 1,792 in 2004.

Included in the rise in incidents for the year, was an 11% increase in anti-LGBT murders, which rose from 18 in 2003 to 20 in 2004. During 2004, the total number of victims rose 4%, from 2,042 in 2003 to 2,131 in 2004.

According to a 2002 Human Rights Campaign-commissioned poll, two-thirds of voters favor having hate crime laws that cover Transgender people.

"The public support is there," said Solmonese. "Congress should act swiftly to ensure local law enforcement agencies have the tools they need from the federal government to combat hate crimes against the entire Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender community."

Pentagon Hires Foreign Translators To Replace Dismissed Gays

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Republican-controlled Congress may grant "special immigrant status" to 50 foreign translators who were hired the US military to replace Americans fired by the Pentagon after they came out.

Despite previously saying that under "don't ask, don't tell" it had discharged seven translators who specialized in Arabic, records obtained under a Freedom of Information Act request show that between 1998 and 2004, the military discharged 20 Arabic and six Farsi speakers. But, now the Pentagon acknowledges the true number was 54.

During a House Judiciary Committee hearing today to consider the legislation to grant immigrant status to the replacement translators, Congressman Jerrold Nadler (D-NY) called on Congress to end the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy.

"The answer to our dire need for translators is not to give U.S. citizenship to Iraqis and Afghans," Nadler said, "but rather to stop discriminating against American citizens who are ready to serve their country.

"Because of 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell,' the military continues to devote its resources to rooting out patriotic Gay Americans whose service is central to the war on terror. This is just another example of how 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' is not in the best interest of our national security,

and why we should repeal it as soon as possible."

Nadler is a cosponsor of H.R. 2293, which would repeal "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." He vowed today to pursue all avenues toward ending discrimination in the military.

Nadler's bill is supported by a bipartisan coalition of more than 50 Congressional representatives.

In February the Government Accounting Office released a report showing "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" has cost taxpayers more than \$200 million since its inception in 1993.

More than 10,000 service members have been discharged over the last 10 years under the policy according to statistics from the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network.

The GAO report says that it cost taxpayers \$10,500 a person, to recruit replacements for enlisted service members who were discharged from 1994 to 2003 for being Gay. The figures do not include the hundreds of officers who also had been discharged under the policy.

The report said that GAO investigators could not quantify the cost of losing personnel discharged after having been trained in certain areas of expertise like intelligence or languages like Arabic, Chinese, Farsi or Korean.

Psychiatrists May Push For G/L Marriage OK

NEW YORK - Representatives of the nation's top psychiatric group approved a statement Sunday urging legal recognition of Gay marriage. If approved by the association's directors in July, the measure would make the American Psychiatric Association the first major medical group to take such a stance, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com.

The statement supports same-sex marriage "in the interest of maintaining and promoting mental health."

It follows a similar measure by the American Psychological Association last year, little more than three decades after that group removed homosexuality from its list of mental disorders.

The psychiatric association's statement, approved by voice vote on the first day of its weeklong annual meeting in Atlanta, cites the "positive influence of a stable, adult partnership on the health of all family members."

The resolution recognizes "that Gay men and Lesbians are full human beings who should be afforded the same human and civil rights," said Margery Sved, a Raleigh, N.C., psychiatrist and member of the assembly's committee on Gay and Lesbian issues.

The document clarifies that the association is addressing same-sex civil marriage, not religious marriages. It takes no position on any religion's views on marriage.

Massachusetts is the only state that allows same-sex marriage. Eighteen states have passed constitutional amendments outlawing same-sex marriage.

Constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage and DP benefits filed in California

Opponents of marriage equality on Thursday, May 19, filed a proposed amendment to the California constitution that would ban same-sex marriage and strip domestic partners of most spousal benefits.

The move comes after California lawmakers rejected a similar proposed constitutional amendment and follows a March ruling by a judge in San Francisco who said state laws prohibiting Gay couples from marrying are unconstitutional.

"The bad guys here are the judges and the politicians. The people are frustrated," Randy Thomasson, organizer of a group called VoteYesMarriage.com, said outside the state capitol. "The people are ready to protect marriage once and for all."

The amendment's sponsors must submit nearly 600,000 signatures from voters to the California secretary of state to qualify the measure for the June 2006 ballot.

Under the proposed California amendment, same-sex couples still would be allowed to register as domestic partners, but most of the privileges and

responsibilities the state has provided for people in such unions would be taken away. State and local governments, for example, would no longer be allowed to provide health coverage for the partners of their Gay employees.

Gay rights supporters described the measure as among the most extreme attempts nationwide to counter the gains same-sex couples have made since Massachusetts legalized same-sex marriage a year ago. If passed, it would make California the 20th state with a constitutional prohibition on marriage equality. "It's absolutely ahead of the pack in its viciousness," said Thalia Zepatos of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

Massachusetts has allowed same-sex marriage since last May. Vermont has offered civil unions to Gays since 2000; Connecticut will begin offering civil unions in October.

Since January 1, domestic partners in California have had all the rights and responsibilities of marriage conferred by the state except the ability to file joint income taxes.

A federal judge in Nebraska overturned the Gay marriage ban adopted in that state in November after ruling its "broad prescriptions," which included limiting public employee benefits to married spouses, went "far beyond merely defining marriage as between a man and a woman."

North Carolina County Protects G/L Workers

CHARLOTTE - Commissioners in North Carolina's most populous county voted to add sexual orientation to its nondiscrimination policy despite vehement objections from Republicans, reported the Associated Press on Advocate.com.

The new policy means Mecklenburg County cannot discriminate in hiring and personnel decisions on the basis of sexual orientation as well as race, color, sex, religion, national origin, and age. The change was approved 6-3 on Tuesday, May 17.

Republican Dan Bishop said Democrats provoked controversy over the policy change to draw attention from a planned tax increase. Commission chairman Parks Helms said Republican reaction to the agenda item showed why it was needed. "This is to say who we are," he said. "This is what we believe."

Other North Carolina counties and cities have passed similar antidiscrimination policies, and two counties—Durham and Orange—offer domestic-partner benefits.



UPDATE

Domestic Partner Facts & Figures

By Mark R. Kerr

TUCSON (ON) - According to figures from the 2000 U.S. Census, Arizona has a total of 118,196 unmarried-partner households, of which 6,278 are Gay (male householder and male partner), and 6,054 are Lesbian (female householder and female partner).

In Pima County and Tucson, according to the 2000 Census, there are 20,917 unmarried-partner households, of which 1,028 are Gay and 1,216 are Lesbian.

Since 2003, a total of 259 couples (same and opposite sex), have signed up with the City of Tucson domestic partner registry, guaranteeing hospital visitation and family discount rates at city facilities.

Thirty-one employees of the City of Tucson have signed on, since 1997 to get medical and dental benefits for their (same-sex only) domestic partners and dependents.

A total of 175 employees of the Pima County government have signed up to have medical and dental benefits for their domestic partners (both same and opposite sex) and their dependents, since 1998.

In 2003, the Sunnyside Unified School District has offered domestic partner benefits (same and opposite sex) to their employees for which three employees have signed up to receive.

Tucson Unified School District offers domestic partner benefits (same and opposite sex) as well, and 17 employees get these benefits as well for this policy, in effect since 2003.

By a unanimous decision in 2001, the Pima Community College (PCC) Board voted to extend medical and dental benefits to the domestic partners (same and opposite sex) of their employees. Seven PCC employees partake in these benefits.

Observer Clarification

On Monday, May 16, the legal paperwork was filed for the Protect Marriage Arizona proposed constitutional amendment. The petitions to garner the 183,917 valid signatures of Arizona voters started being circulated on Tuesday, May 17.

Rainbow Build Update

TUCSON - On Saturday, May 28, 7 p.m., Water of Life-MCC, located at 3269 N. Mountain, will present Mustard Seed in concert.

This concert is a fundraiser for the Rainbow Build Habitat for Humanity.

All tickets are \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door, and everyone is welcome. Call Water of Life-MCC (520) 292-9151 for more information. . . .

Tile Painting/Mosaic Classes: Make It & Take It! Come and build a memory. Two Classes Saturday, May 28, 9 a.m. to noon, Mosaic on Tile with instructor Jeanise Jalbert-Decenzo, 1 to 4 p.m. with instructor Kay Smith, Cost: \$20 includes tile and all supplies. Call Bobbi at (520) 292-9151 for your reservation.

Tiles made, as well as others, will be for sale to raise funds for the Rainbow Build. Hand-painted clay tile wall decoration, 18" x 10", \$20 each. Other Southwestern designs also available, call (520) 292-9151 to place an order.

Desert Voices To Appear At Bisbee Pride

BISBEE - Desert Voices, Tucson's GLBT & S Chorus will present portions of their Spring Show "Our True Colors" at the Bisbee Gay Pride Festival in Bisbee's City Park on Saturday, June 18, 3:30 p.m.

Garland Smith of Bisbee is sponsoring the concert and admission is free. Bisbee Gay Pride is open to all, and anyone who wishes to attend are heartily encouraged to do so. Bisbee is a progressive little town with a mixture of people. The eclectic mix from all walks of life makes living and visiting Bisbee one of life's little experiences!

City Park is off of Brewery Gulch, just past St Elmo's Bar on the left. The front of the park rests on top of some buildings on Brewery Gulch and there are two stairways to the park from Brewery Gulch. At the far end of the park, there's a street that goes up to the park level before it curves up and around behind and above the band shell.

Please see the website, BisbeePride.com, for further information about events, hotels and restaurants.

Remembering Philip Walsted

Hate Crime Victim June 18

TUCSON - The Wingspan Anti-Violence Project (AVP) will hold a memorial event to remember Philip Walsted on Saturday June 18, 10:30 am to noon, Catalina Park, at 1st Street and 4th Avenue.

Walsted, a 24-year old Gay man, was murdered in the 4th Avenue area on June 12, 2002. In January this year David Higdon was found guilty of first degree aggravated and premeditated murder and armed robbery. Higdon was sentenced to natural life in prison on March 28.

"We envision this as a step toward closure now that the legal phase is completed," commented Lori B. Girshick, Coordinator of the Anti-Violence Project. "The pain and loss will never be erased for Philip's family and friends but we hope this gathering of community members will show our caring and support for them," Girshick continued.

Family members, Wingspan staff, and others will speak at the event. A tree will be planted in Philip's memory and a stone and bench will be dedicated.

For more information, call (520) 624-1779, ext. 20.

Janice Ian In Concert June 9

TUCSON - Tickets are on sale now for Janis Ian in concert, June 9, 7:30 p.m., at the Temple of Music and Art, 330 S. Scott.

Rolling Stone said of Janis: "Before Jewel, before Ellen came out, and when only a few bible Scholars had heard of Lilith, there was Janis Ian." It is an apt portrayal of an artist known for her ethereal vocals, poetic wordplay, and sublime melodies. Through more than three decades, Ian has managed to keep her music fresh and inspiring, always winning praise for her remarkable songwriting and tender voice.

Her debut album, 1967's Janis Ian, earned Ian the first of nine Grammy nominations. The single "At Seventeen" sold more than a million copies. The release of her 18th studio album, "Billie's Bones," is the latest achievement in Ian's remarkable career. "Billie's Bones" beautifully showcases Ian's superb songwriting and sultry vocals.

For more information, call (520) 884-4875.

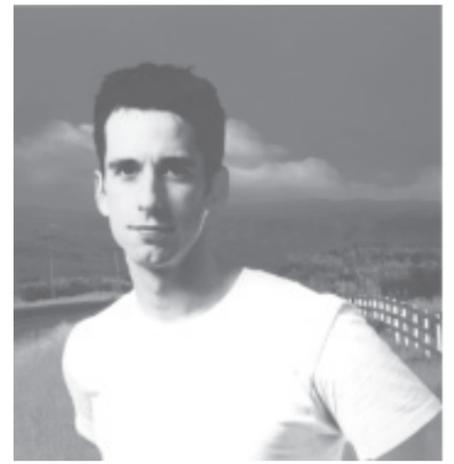
GLSEN Retracts Statement On Safe-Sex Booklet Offered To Teens

BOSTON - The Boston chapter of the Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network is now admitting that a graphic safe-sex guide aimed at adult men was offered to high school students at its annual conference last month, Sirius Out-Q Radio reported on Advocate.com.

GLSEN Boston had earlier denied claims by conservative activists that the safe-sex booklet was distributed at the conference, held April 30 at Brookline High School, saying, "The allegations are simply lies."

But on Thursday, May 19, GLSEN Boston posted a correction on its Web site. GLSEN Boston executive director Sean Haley said that despite the group's "rigorous" efforts to ensure only age-appropriate materials are distributed, one of the groups present, the Peer Listening Line of the Fenway Community Health Center, mistakenly offered the guide. Haley promised that GLSEN Boston will "redouble" its efforts to screen materials at its events.

Dan Savage In Tucson June 15



Dan Savage

TUCSON - In celebration of Gay Pride Month, the GLBT Services Committee of the Tucson-Pima Public Library (TPPL) will host an evening with author and columnist Dan Savage on Wednesday, June 15, 6:30 p.m.

Savage is the author of "The Kid: what happened after my boyfriend and I decided to go get pregnant, an adoption story," "Skipping Towards Gomorrah: the seven deadly sins and the pursuit of happiness in America," and writes the syndicated column "Savage Love."

The event is free and open to the public and will be held at the Joel D Valdez Main Library, 101 N. Stone, in the lower level meeting room. Free parking is available in the parking garage below the library, accessible from Alameda Street. This event made possible by The Friends of the Tucson-Pima Public Library.

For more information call Beth Petrucci, co-chair of the TPPL's GLBT Services Committee, (520) 791-5745.



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Office Hours: 9a.m.-6p.m.M-F

Office Closed Thursdays

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COMMENTARY . . .

by **The Arizona Coalition For Fairness**

The ballot measure launched May 17, under the deceptive title, "Protect Marriage Arizona," would be more accurately titled, "Harm Unmarried Arizona," and is only the latest effort by the radical group, the Center for Arizona Policy, to make any form of unmarried cohabitation illegal in Arizona.

When the Legislature attempted to modernize old laws prohibiting unmarried cohabitation, the Arizona Daily Star quoted CAP executive director Len Munsil: "It sends the wrong message to repeal that kind of law." (February 5, 1998).

Even in the (May 17, 2005) East Valley Tribune article, CAP initiative supporter Rep. Mark Anderson (R-Mesa), when asked if the initiative's effect on unmarried straight couples would be a problem for passage, was quoted to say, "I guess if you're going to go to all the trouble of collecting all those signatures and getting it on the ballot, you might as well put on the ballot what you would prefer."

Their present attempt to make Gay marriage illegal in Arizona makes as much sense as outlawing glaciers in Arizona during the summer: it just isn't a problem. Gay marriage is not the law in Arizona, and there is no effort to create such law.

The Center for Arizona Policy understands this fact, and the overreaching language of their ballot proposition - reaching into the lives of unmarried but cohabitating straight people and retirees—is no accident: they aim to make all Arizonans live according to their code.

Arizona's human rights advocates, gathered now to fight this expensive and unnecessary battle, fully respect the institution of marriage in Arizona and

recognize that it is the traditional basis for strong families.

This battle will not be about the sanctity of marriage but will be about people finding the courage to face down a sanctimonious radical fringe whose members care nothing for the damage they might do to tens of thousands of ordinary Arizonans. They seem to care only to get out the vote and reshape a free society into a fearful and punished society. People who find love and offer commitment in this world need feel no shame, but the Center for Arizona Policy should feel shame indeed.

If this measure passes, unmarried couples, Gay or straight, who rely on partner benefits will be one lawsuit away from losing those benefits—if a judge agrees that providing such benefits creates a status "similar to marriage" for unmarried people, as the proposed measure would outlaw.

Members of the Radical Right, presently conniving on another front to destroy Arizona's independent judicial appointment process, are working to make sure that the judge in that lawsuit agrees with their narrow world view.

The citizens of Arizona, who generally favor fairness and a government that promotes individual freedom and responsibility, should defeat this overreaching attempt to harm a large portion of Arizona's straight and Gay, young and old population.

[Editor's Note: The Observer is a proud member of the Arizona Coalition for Fairness and will do its part in the effort stem the tide of the Radical Right in Arizona over the Protect Marriage Arizona proposed state constitutional amendment. Every Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and straight individual (in Arizona and beyond its

borders) who believes in the rights of the citizens must work and make financial donations to defeat this "protection measure." For more information about the Arizona Coalition for Fairness, call (520) 624-1779, ext. 22, or (602) 650-0900. To join the Coalition, go online to aztogether.org. To make a financial contribution to help the effort to defeat this measure. In Tucson and Southern

Arizona, make checks payable to Wingspan, putting "ACF" on the memo line of the check, and send them to Wingspan, 300 E. Sixth St., Tucson, Arizona, 85705. In Phoenix and Northern Arizona, make checks payable to AHRF, putting "marriage equality project" in the memo line of the check, and send them to AHRF, P.O. Box 25044, Phoenix, Arizona 85002-5044.]

PMA's Potential Effect: Personal Stories

TUCSON (ON) - For whom does Protect Marriage Arizona (PMA) want to protect with their proposed state constitutional amendment?

We could lose our home."

On Monday, May 16, the paperwork was filed for PMA's proposal barring the recognition of same-sex marriages, civil unions and domestic partnerships, as well as prohibiting governmental and school district entities from extending medical and dental benefits to employees who aren't legally married under Arizona law, and to create or recognize any legal status for any unmarried couples.

McNeal was one of the original county employees who spearheaded the effort to have medical and dental benefits extended, and was a plaintiffs, along with the Pima County government, in the year long court battle resulting upholding the Board of Supervisors 3-2, 1997 decision to extend benefits to both same and opposite sex domestic partners of their employees.

A total of 183,917 valid signatures of registered voters are needed on petitions by July 6, 2006, to place this on the November 2006, general election ballot. PMA started their drive on Tuesday, May 17.

McLean, a floral designer for a small flower shop that does not offer health coverage, and earns too much money to qualify for the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System.

This proposal has Damien McNeal and his partner, Richard McLean, are preparing for the potential financial storm, reported the Arizona Daily Star, since it's not the marriage part of the proposal that worries them, but the other provisions of PMA's proposal dealing with the extension of benefits.

"I don't want my relationship to be a threat to anyone else. I just want to provide for and protect the person I love," McNeal said.

"It would be emotionally and financially devastating if those benefits are taken away," said McNeal, a county employee whose partner's health insurance is covered by the county plan, in an interview with the Arizona Daily Star. "My partner has a health condition that requires him to take medication. If those benefits were taken away, he couldn't afford all the medication. It would jeopardize his health and our finances.

PMA's proposed amendment, if approved, would not only affect same-sex couples but other couples as well.

Albert V. Lannon and his partner of more than two years, Kaitlin Meadows, are listed on Tucson's domestic-partner registry. The couple say it is financially unwise to marry before Meadows, 58, turns 60 because of Social Security rules.

"This is not just a Gay issue, it's a human issue," said Lannon, a 67-year-old poet and historian, in an interview with the Arizona Daily Star. "The good news for us is that when Kaitlin is 60, we can legally marry. The bad news is Gay people can't do that."

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

FRIDAY - MAY 27 **MAY 27-30**

- Live Jazz on the Patio 6pm - 9pm
- 9pm - Close DJ Mike Lopez Spinning the Hottest Music

SATURDAY - MAY 28

- Teriyaki Kabobs and Karaoke 5pm - 8pm
- 8:30pm Showtime Starring Janee Starr
- The Hottest Place for Music with DJ Q Spinning Music on the Dance Floor and DJ Mike Lopez on the Patio

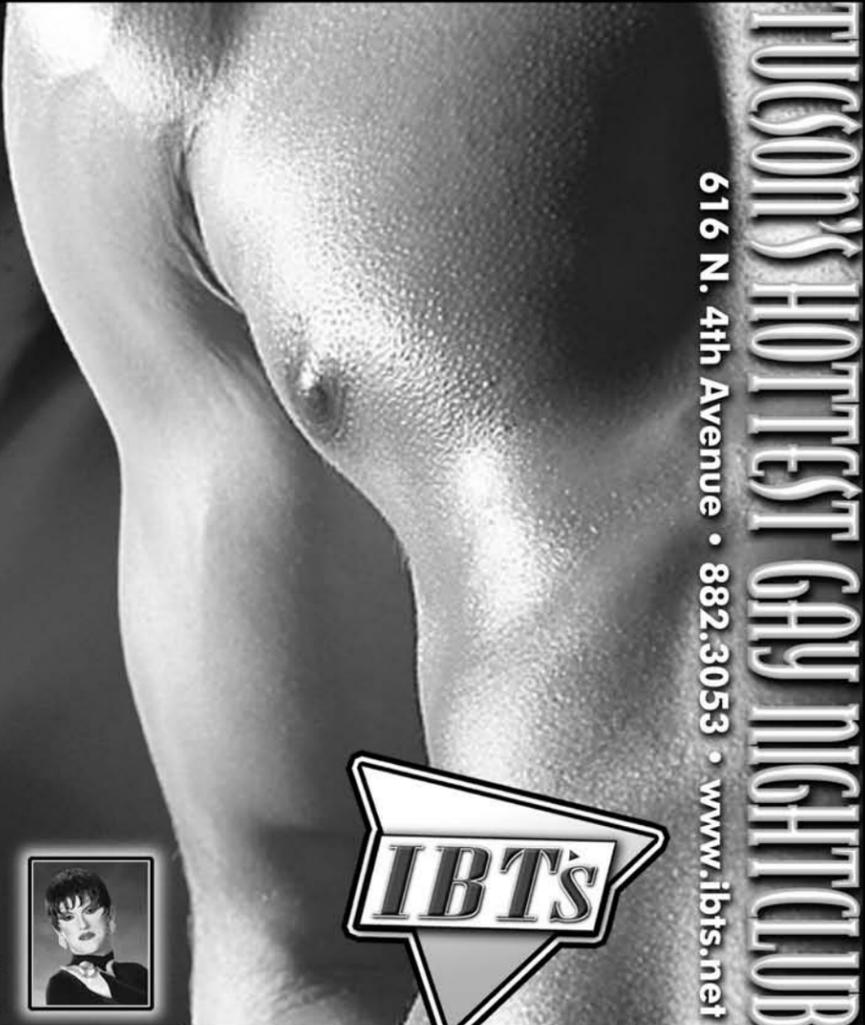
SUNDAY - MAY 29

- Karaoke on the Patio 4pm - 7:30pm
- Bar-B-Que Beer Bust 5pm - 8pm
- DJ Mike Lopez 9pm - 2am
- 2 for 1 Drink Specials 10pm - 1:30am

MONDAY MORNING MADNESS

- Free Breakfast Starting at 10am **MAY 30, OPEN AT 10AM**

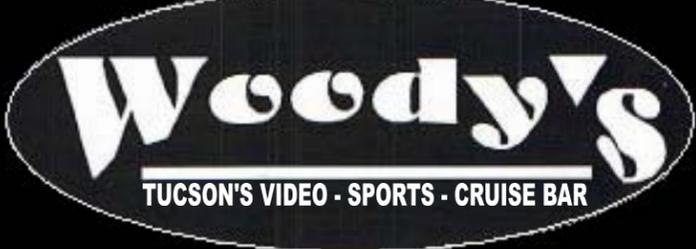
Showtime 11am Hosted by Bunny Fu Fu and Special Guests Lucinda Holliday, Janee Starr and Veronica Halliwell also with a Special Stripper Appearance.



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Daily SPECIALS	Sunday Troy's Recovery Bar 12-4pm \$1.75 Mimosas & Bloody Marys Karaoke 4-7:30pm Beer Bust 5:30-7:30pm DJ Mike Lopez 2-4-1 Drink Specials 10pm - Close <small>some restrictions apply</small>	Monday DJ Mike Lopez Spinning the Hippest Music in Tucson! \$1.50 Well Vodka Drinks 10pm - Close	Tuesday Tropical Tuesdays with DJ Q spinning music from the 70s, 80s and 90s \$2.50 Tropical Drinks 10pm - Close	Wednesday The Best Premier Drag Shows in Town! 9pm The Divalicious Show Starring Bunny FuFu Dance with DJ Q 10:30-Close	Thursday Boyz Night Out Hot Bar Staff and GoGo Boyz dancing in their underwear \$1.75 Long Islands \$1.50 Tequila Shots 10pm - Close	Friday Jazz Happy Hour 6pm - 9pm Dance all night with DJ Mike Lopez spinning the best music in town! 9pm - Close	Saturday Beef Kabobs, Beer and Karaoke 5-8pm Drag Show 8:30pm - 10pm Party with DJ Q 10pm - Close
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Woody's Memorial Day Weekend Red - White - Blue Party

FRIDAY MAY 27TH - THE RED PARTY
 Wear Red for Drink Specials
 Door Giveaways 8PM til Close
 DJ Jeff 9PM til Close

SATURDAY MAY 28TH - THE WHITE PARTY
 Wear White for Drink Specials
 Door Giveaways 8PM til Close
 DJ Jeff 9PM til Close

SUNDAY MAY 29TH - THE BLUE PARTY
 Wear Blue for Drink Specials
 Door Giveaways 8PM til Close
 Bud Light Team Jenga Party
 (8-10PM \$2.00 Bud Lights)

Brunch 11:30AM
Sirloin Burgers 5:30PM
Karaoke w/ Michael D. 9PM
Patio Bar Open 1PM til Close
Sports Court Open All Day

MONDAY MEMORIAL DAY COMMUNITY PICNIC
 2:30 PM to 6:30 PM
 Karaoke with Michael D. 9PM

Mark Your Calendars
 Woody's Sarong Party - Wednesday June 8th
 June Birthday Celebrate at Woody's - Friday June 10th
 (Sign Up w/ Your Favorite Bartender)

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Human Cells Can 'Silence' HIV Genes

NEW YORK - For the first time, scientists have shown that humans use an immune defense process common in plants and invertebrates to battle a virus, reported 365Gay.com.

plays a role in the defensive repertoire of mammals and other vertebrates. Dr. Jeang and his colleagues set out to determine if RNA silencing (also called RNA interference or RNAi) contributes to human cells' defense against HIV.

The new finding that human cells can silence an essential part of HIV's genetic make-up could have important implications for the treatment of people infected with the virus.

They asked three questions. First, does HIV have genetic sequences that an HIV-infected cell can detect and transform into the necessary precursors of RNAi, called short interfering RNA (siRNA)? Second, do human cells use siRNAs to disable HIV? Third, if human cells try to battle HIV using RNAi, does HIV have a way to evade the defensive maneuver? The answer to all three questions, the scientists determined, is yes.

Led by Kuan-Teh Jeang, M.D., Ph.D., of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part the National Institutes of Health, the researchers published their findings in this week's issue of the journal Immunity.

The most unexpected finding, according to Dr. Jeang, was the way HIV uses one of its proteins, called Tat, to suppress the silencing efforts of the cell. HIV is well known for evading drugs by quickly mutating its genes. However, the virus could not evade the newly discovered sequence-specific siRNA attack by mutation.

"This research suggests that a novel approach to HIV therapy targeting a stable component of HIV might be feasible," says NIAID Director Anthony S. Fauci, M.D.

Instead, HIV required a virally encoded protein to blunt the assault. Dr. Jeang believes that Tat may be shielding a rare HIV Achilles' heel, a genetic sequence that, for functional reasons, the virus cannot change in order to escape siRNA attack. This novel siRNA sequence discovered by the team may lead to the development of new RNAi-based drugs to which HIV would not be able to develop resistance by simple mutation.

The phenomenon, called RNA silencing, was detected first in plants and later in insects. Although plants and insects lack the sophisticated immune defenses of higher organisms, they nevertheless successfully battle viruses by detecting, and then silencing, viral genetic material. Silencing leads to the destruction of viral RNA. Viruses, however, are not permanently defeated because they have evolved ways to suppress the silencing action.

Until now, scientists have not had clear evidence that RNA silencing

Gay Man's Killer Apologizes Before Execution

HUNTSVILLE, TX - For the family of Nick Moraida it was too little too late for a crime that should never have occurred. But, just before he was given a lethal injection Thursday night, May 19, in the Texas death chamber Richard Cartwright for the first time apologized for Moraida's murder a decade ago in Corpus Christi, reported 365Gay.com.

The trio decided that Cartwright and Overstreet would rob him while Hagood rifled through Moraida's car. But, Moraida, resisted and Overstreet stabbed him.

Moraida, 37, was lured into a park by three men pretending to be Gay. Moraida was stabbed, fatally shot and robbed of his watch and wallet containing between \$60 and \$200.

The stab wound wasn't fatal and when Moraida tried to run, Cartwright shot him. Two fishermen found Moraida's body the next morning.

The two other men involved in the attack are serving prison terms. Kelly Overstreet, 27, is serving 66 years and Dennis Hagood, 28, is serving a 20 years.

While awaiting trial Cartwright wrote letters from jail to his partners urging them to all agree on a single story. The letters were intercepted by authorities and used to help convict him.

Both Overstreet and Hagood testified against Cartwright at this trial. Overstreet has since recanted his testimony saying he had been pressured by investigators.

Cartwright, 31, was quietly led into the death chamber. "I want to apologize to the victim's family for the pain and suffering I caused them," he said in a statement before the lethal needle was administered.

Cartwright's lawyers appealed to Gov. Perry for a 30-day reprieve based on Overstreet's declaration but Perry declined to stop the execution. In January the U.S. Supreme Court refused to review the case and the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles earlier this week voted 7-0 to reject a clemency petition. The Supreme Court also rejected a final appeal less than an hour before Cartwright was taken to the death chamber.

He then urged death row inmates he left behind at the Texas Department of Criminal Justice Polunsky Unit to "just keep your heads up and stay strong."

Eight minutes later he was pronounced dead.

Last November, another man was executed for the killing of a Gay Houston man. Demarco McCullum had been found guilty of killing Michael Burzinski in 1994.



During the trial testimony showed Cartwright, Hagood and Overstreet lured Moraida to the park, frequented by Gays on the bay front at Corpus Christi.

The three had planned to mug and rob a Gay man the court was told. Moraida happened to be at the wrong place at the wrong time.

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*****Memorial Day*****
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Federal Marriage Policy Hurts G/L Employees

THORNTON, CO - A woman has filed a complaint with the Social Security Administration, where her Lesbian partner works, claiming she was denied a job because the agency considers her married to her partner, reported the Denver Post, Sunday, May 22.

Fay McCall's partner, Karen Muller, works as a Social Security claims representative. Muller said she was told by an office manager that McCall couldn't have the job because a regional manager placed a prohibition on hiring married couples.

Gay couples cannot marry under state or federal law. Muller cannot list McCall as a beneficiary on her federal health plan. And, in what the two women see as the greatest of ironies, neither could receive the other's Social Security death benefits if one died.

"Married couples, if one of them dies, the other can claim benefits as a survivor," said John Hummel, legal director for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center of Colorado and McCall's attorney. "That's not something available to Karen and Fay, and yet, for the purpose of this job, they are married."

So, nearly two months after first lodging an informal complaint with the administration seeking to simply be given a job at the Lakewood office, McCall is still working at her old post in a private medical transcription company.

"It made me mad enough to file a complaint," McCall said. "It was unfair, it was unwarranted, and there was no excuse for it."

McCall's complaint suggests that the real reason the agency refused to hire her is because she is a Lesbian.

Regional Social Security spokeswoman Delia Lasanta said the formal complaint triggered an investigation by Social Security's associate commissioner for civil rights and equal opportunity. Until that investigation is finished, Lasanta said, she cannot discuss details of the case, but it is against Social Security policy to discriminate against anyone on the basis of their sexual orientation.

"When we have job openings, we evaluate all the candidates on their qualifications," she said.

McCall, 54, first applied for an entry-level call-taker job with the Social Security Administration's telephone service center in Lakewood in August. There were three openings then, and she was not selected for any of them.

However, she received a letter from the office's manager telling her that she was rated "acceptable" following her interview and would be eligible for future openings, according to a copy of the letter in McCall's complaint.

In January, 10 positions opened at the office, and McCall again applied. Because of her previous interview, she did not need to re-interview, but Muller, according to her declaration in the complaint, soon learned there was a "problem" in hiring McCall and asked why.

The office manager told her it was because a regional administrator said that no married couples should be hired.

"So, I said, 'Yeah, but we're not married,'" said Muller, a claims representative in the office.

The office manager said that he

didn't have a problem hiring McCall, according to Muller's statement in the complaint, but that because of the prohibition on hiring married couples, he didn't think he could.

Hummel said there are several instances of married heterosexual couples or other related individuals working at the Social Security offices.

"It seems like it was a special rule just adopted for this Lesbian couple," Hummel said.

Lasanta said the administration has no policy against hiring married couples so long as the hiring doesn't constitute nepotism.

"It's not part of our evaluation of their qualifications," she said.

A mediation session in February proved fruitless. McCall said the administration offered to give her the chance to re-interview for any future openings. Muller said McCall wants the job she deserves.

"All we're asking for is a job," she said. "It's not like we're asking to be millionaires. Just a job."

2004 Not As Bad As Thought, Group Says

WASHINGTON, D.C. - A new report weighing the effects of anti-Gay measures nationwide against the positive ones has concluded that 2004 wasn't that bad after all, 365Gay.com reported.

The report was prepared by the Human Rights Campaign. It shows that on a variety of fronts - from family rights to workplace protections - there has been consistent progress made in obtaining LGBT legal rights, in spite of reports characterizing last November's election as a 'backlash.'

"Even with the setbacks at the end of last year, we've seen more progress in the past 12 months than we've seen in any other year since 1992," said HRC President Joe Solmonese.

"In spite of the best political maneuverings of those on the ultra-right, there is undeniable progress across the spectrum from family rights to workplace protections to rising polling — hearts, minds and laws are slowly changing for the best."

The report showed, among other things, that 14 state legislatures defeated anti-Gay constitutional amendments in 2004 (compared to the 13 states where these measures passed) and six state legislatures have defeated them already in 2005.

Two states, Connecticut and Maryland, legislatively approved civil unions and domestic partner benefits, respectively. Two other states are considering legislation granting rights to same-sex couples this year so far - California is debating a marriage bill, and Oregon a civil unions measure.

Four state legislatures have passed or strengthened workplace protections for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender employees: Colorado, Hawaii, Illinois and Maine.

In addition, polling on election day last November showed that a high-water mark of 60 percent of the country supports either marriage or civil unions for same-sex couples, the report says. Similar polling in Massachusetts and New Jersey has shown that a majority of residents in those states favor marriage equality.

"Clearly, we still have a long way to go," said Solmonese. "But the American people over time always value fairness over discrimination, and we continue to see that dynamic play out all across the country."

VENTURE-N

MEMORIAL WEEKEND BLOWOUT

Thursday, May 26
STEAK NITE -- 6 - 8 PM

Friday, May 27
TAILGATE BUFFET -- 6 - 8 PM

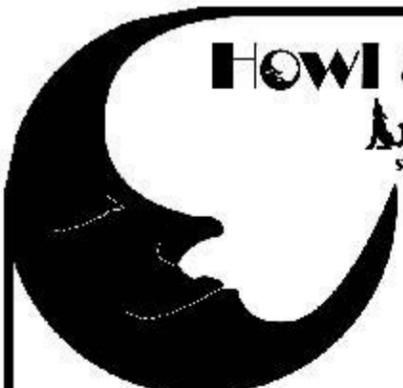
Saturday, May 28
BUCKY'S OMELETTE BAR -- 9 - 11 am
WET & WILD BEERBUST -- 3 - 7 pm

Sunday, May 29
BEERBUST -- 3 - 7 pm

Monday, May 30
Help yourself to patio sunshine!!!
SPECIAL MEMORIAL DAY BBQ -- 5 - 7 pm

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One coupon per book, limit 10 coupons per person. Coupons cannot be combined and expire 9/1/05.



10%

of my gross income generated by members & friends of the Gay & Lesbian Community will be donated to local AIDS service organizations.

Dean Groth, CRS, GRI
Vice President
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Showtime Shows Its Pride

LOS ANGELES - Throughout June, Showtime Networks will honor Gay Pride Month with special programming featuring the network's celebrated new documentary Same Sex America, which takes a hard look at Gay marriage, 365Gay.com reported.

A mix of compelling dramas and documentaries, the network's original programming slate demonstrates that Gay Americans, despite decades of civil rights advances, are still struggling for acceptance and equal rights.

The June line-up will also include four new episodes of Queer As Folk, which began its fifth and final season on May 22 and ends July 31st with a two-hour season finale. This groundbreaking series, which airs Sundays at 10 p.m., was the first television drama series to fully explore the lives and issues of a Gay community.

The Gay Pride Month programming also furthers the network's commitment to Viacom's KNOW HIV/AIDS initiative, an unprecedented, global media campaign that combats HIV/AIDS through education.

The line-up includes the following films:

Same Sex America (June 28, 8 p.m.) has played to enthusiastic audiences at many prestigious festivals including The Tribeca Film Festival, The Full Frame Documentary Festival and The Independent Film Festival of Boston. The film follows several Gay and Lesbian couples as they try to navigate the civil rights clash over same sex marriage. Beginning in Massachusetts, where the move to legalize Gay marriage created a conservative backlash that reached all the way to the White House, Same Sex America examines both sides of the political debate and a family's right to define itself without interference from the state or federal government. The film is directed by Henry Corra ("Umbrellas," "George") of Corra Films, Inc., edited by Charlene Rule, produced by Alex R. Johnson and executive produced by Robert F. Katz, Jerry Kupfer and Jay Peterson.

We Are Dad (June 19, 7 p.m.) is a gut-wrenching documentary centered around partners Steve Lofton and Roger Croteau. The two have been deemed "unfit" by the state of Florida to adopt the five children they have raised since birth — even though they were viewed as capable foster parents for the "unwanted" children born HIV positive. When one of the children - now a teenager — is found to be HIV-free and thus "adoptable," the state decides to remove him from the only home he has known. The film is produced and directed by Michel Horvat and was acquired for Showtime from All Channel Films.

Jack (June 19 at 5:05 p.m.), the Emmy and GLAAD award-winning original movie which aired on Showtime in 2004, stars Anton Yelchin (Showtime's Huff) in the title role. Jack is a 15-year-old boy who must come to terms with his parents' divorce and the revelation that his father is Gay. Stockard Channing ("The West Wing," "Six Degrees of Separation") and Ron Silver ("The West Wing," "Reversal of Fortune") play his parents. Jack, already struggling with the usual adolescent demons, must fight the Gay-bashing he encounters at school and come to terms with his family. Jack was directed by Lee Rose, from the screenplay by A.M. Homes based upon her novel, and is a Daniel L. Paulson/Susan Rose/Ellen M. Krass production.

Damaged Goods (June 14 at 10 p.m.) is a one-hour documentary which explores the lives of five people living with a stigmatized disease in a judgmental

society. It follows them from the moment they are diagnosed with HIV/AIDS through treatment and acceptance. The film features interviews with some of today's prominent medical authorities and activists in the fight against HIV/AIDS. The film is produced and directed by Nadia Buckmire, with Rahi High also producing.

Shook (June 28 at 10:40 p.m.) is a dramatic short film about a woman who discovers her husband is Bisexual and that she is pregnant. With concerns for the child, she gets tested for HIV and attempts to understand her husband's relationship with a male friend and its impact on their marriage. This film, directed and produced by Melanie RW Oram, first aired on Showtime in February during the 2005 Black Filmmakers Showcase.

Queer As Folk (Sundays at 10 p.m.) Featuring four all-new episodes in the month of June, this award-winning series will continue to explore cutting-edge social and political issues that affect the Gay community. This season Gay rights issues, such as Gay marriage, are explored with a sensitivity and candor rarely seen on television. Starring are Michelle Clunie, Robert Gant, Thea Gill, Gale Harold, Randy Harrison, Scott Lowell, Peter Paige, Hal Sparks and Sharon Gless with special guest appearances by Rosie O'Donnell and Cyndi Lauper.

Know HIV/AIDS is an unprecedented, global media campaign that combats HIV/AIDS through public service messages (PSAs), television and radio programming, and free print and online content. The multi-year effort combines the public health expertise of the Kaiser Family Foundation with the power of Viacom's media brands and unmatched audience relationships to foster awareness of the disease and its prevention.

UK Activists Slam Elton Pedophile Joke

LONDON - Gay activists are making a formal complaint to the BBC, after the broadcaster aired a joke that suggested Sir Elton John was a pedophile, reported Gay.com UK.

The Outrage! group is calling on the broadcaster to launch an investigation into the hit satirical show "Have I Got News For You" after the joke was made by guest presenter Dara O'Brian.

Speaking about the acclaimed musician's involvement in the musical "Billy Elliot," O'Brian said that Elton "sees a little bit of himself in Billy."

The group says this perpetuates the myth that Gay men are predatory and is libelous to the singer.

"Like everyone else, we can laugh at ourselves when jokes are fair," the group's Chas Newkey-Burden said in a statement. "But jokes that tap into prejudices that cast all Gay people as sexual predators and a threat to children are dangerous and irresponsible."

The group says the BBC may be in breach of its guidelines after airing the comment, which it says should have been blocked by producers.

Outrage! is calling for a full inquiry into the program.



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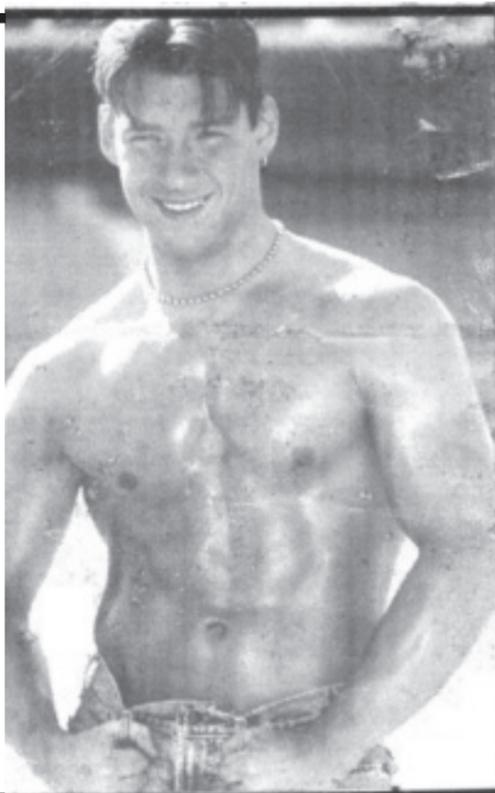
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POLITICS 2005

by Mark R. Kerr

'It's About Rights, Not Control

In the previous column (Observer #1087 - May 18, 2005), this reporter posed questions to individuals, presently "married," asking whether they have been discriminated against because of the status of the relationships under current local, state (Arizona and the other 49) or federal law and to respond to the questions, sending documentation of such incidents of mistreatment.

Are those poor, "married," oppressed and threatened "Christians" actually being mistreated, discriminated against, because the government recognizes their relationship?

Good question, but according to one individual who sent an E-mail to this reporter responding to the column, the solution is to settle down with and getting married, joining the poor, oppressed majority, and signed this reporter, without permission, up with an online, heterosexual online dating service. (Before one asks, it wasn't eharmony.com!)

So all then it would take, according to this E-mail, is just choosing "the right woman," simply walking down the aisle and getting hitched and becoming part of the new "Stepford" as the Radical Right wants, controlling all aspects of society, including the populace, something George Orwell wrote in his book "1984."

In Orwell's book, war is important for consuming the products of human labor; if this work were to be used to increase the standard of living, the control of the party over the people would decrease.

War is the economic basis of a hierarchical society, and there is an emotional need to believe in the ultimate victory of Big Brother. In becoming continuous, war has ceased to exist, and the continuity of the war guarantees the permanence of the current order - in other words, "War is Peace."

There have always been three main strata of society; the Upper, the Middle and the Lower, and no change has brought human equality one inch nearer.

Collectivism doesn't lead to socialism. In the event, the wealth now belongs to the new "upper-class," the bureaucrats and administrators.

Collectivism has ensured the permanence of economic inequality and wealth is not inherited from person to person, but it is kept within the ruling group.

The masses (described as proles) are given freedom of thought, because they don't think thanks to newspeak.

A Party member is not allowed the slightest deviation of thought, and there is an elaborate mental training to ensure this, a training that can be summarized in the concept of doublethink - reality control, with the power to hold two completely contradictory beliefs in one's mind simultaneously, and accept both of them.

One wonders then if the Radical Right is taking their plans from the writings of a socialist, English author to remake a society that has been in existence for more than 200 years to create one based on a book, not the holy scriptures as they purport to support and uphold, since it seems that the first few chapters of "1984" has already been implemented in the good old U.S.A., the land of the "free."

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Mass. Justice Defends G/L Marriage Ruling

WALTHAM - Judicial independence is vital to our nation, not a "problem to be solved," and leaders should steer away from anti-judicial rhetoric, the chief justice who wrote the decision legalizing same-sex marriage in Massachusetts told graduates, reported the Associated Press.

In a commencement speech Sunday, May 22, at Brandeis University, Supreme Judicial Court Chief Justice Margaret Marshall expressed concern over recent attacks against the judiciary.

"Our courts function as a pressure valve to defuse political and social tension," Marshall said. "As a nation, we have tacitly agreed that it is better to settle our large differences in the courtroom than in the street."

The court's 4-3 ruling in November 2003 that Gays and Lesbians have the constitutional right to marry in Massachusetts sparked opposition around the nation. Conservative politicians, including President Bush, blamed "activist judges," including Marshall, who wrote it, for advancing a social agenda.

"I worry when people of influence use vague, loaded terms like 'judicial activist' to skew public debate or to intimidate judges," Marshall said. "I worry when judicial independence is seen as a problem to be solved and not a value to be cherished."

Marshall referred to court rulings concerning school desegregation and civil rights as proof that an independent judiciary is vital.

"Individual rights and human dignity are vulnerable when they depend for protection on the will of the majority or the good faith of those in power," she said.

Marshall, who received an honorary degree, told the nearly 1,000 graduates that they must pick a side.

"Respect for the rule of law is deeply imbedded in our American experience but it is not embedded in our DNA," she said. "Each of you must decide whether to embrace, to protect the rule of law, or to repudiate it. Make no mistake, inaction and indifference are acts of repudiation."

Texas Anti-G/L Amendment Goes To Voters

AUSTIN - The Texas Senate approved a proposed constitutional ban on same-sex marriage with a 21-8 vote Saturday, May 21, sending the issue to voters, the Associated Press reported on 365Gay.com.

Last month, the House narrowly passed the proposal, which would define marriage as between one man and one woman.

State law already prohibits same-sex marriages. If approved in a statewide vote in November, Texas would join 14 states that statutorily and constitutionally ban same-sex marriage. Massachusetts is the only state that allows such marriages, although Vermont and Connecticut have approved same-sex civil unions.

Opponents have criticized the ban as discrimination against Gays and Lesbians and warn it could harm heterosexual families if domestic partner benefits, powers of attorney and common law marriage are called into question.

Sen. Todd Staples, R-Palestine, who sponsored the legislation in the Senate, said none of those scenarios would be affected and would not prevent same-sex couples from adopting children. The House has voted to ban Gays from becoming foster parents, but that measure has received little support in the Senate.

Staples rejected arguments the amendment would discriminate against Gays and Lesbians and the estimated 43,000 same-sex couples in Texas.

Sen. Rodney Ellis, D-Houston, equated the amendment to Jim Crow-era laws that discriminated against blacks.

"At least they had the good sense to never write their bigotry into the state Constitution," said Ellis, who called the amendment "trash."

Staples said he is offended by accusations the amendment is anti-Gay.

"There's a distinction between intimate associations and the right to have the government recognize or subsidize your arrangement," Staples said.

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Three Charged In Gay Murder Case To Be Tried As Adults

BAY MINETTE, AL - Three young people charged in the slaying of a Gay teenager will be tried as adults in capital murder trials, the Associated Press reported on 365Gay.com.

Investigators have pointed to robbery as the primary motive, but prosecutors believe the suspects acted in part because Weaver was Gay.

Christopher Ryan Gaines, 20; Nichole Kelsay, 19; and Robert Holly Lofton Porter, 19, entered not guilty pleas Thursday, May 19, after a Baldwin County, Ala., circuit court judge denied their requests for youthful offender status in separate arraignments.

The defendants are accused of taking between \$65 and \$80 in cash from Weaver after the 18-year-old returned home from working at the Bay Minette Waffle House. Weaver had shared a trailer home with the defendants.

Scotty Joe Weaver was beaten, stabbed, and strangled and his body burned in woods near his mobile home on July 18, 2004, according to investigators.

Prosecutors have not decided whether they want the three defendants to be tried together or separately, said Baldwin County assistant district attorney Jim Vollmer. The judge did not set a future court date in any of the cases but gave defense attorneys 20 days to file special pleas or motions, Vollmer said.

Gaines, Kelsay, and Porter now face the death penalty if convicted in light of Judge J. Langford Floyd's ruling, prosecutors said.

The case has drawn interest from Gay rights groups, and hundreds of mourners attended a vigil for Weaver in Mobile. AntiGay hate groups picketed outside the Crossroads Church of God, where Weaver's funeral was held. All three defendants are being held without bond at the Baldwin County Corrections Center.

Under Alabama law, any defendant 21 or younger at the time of an offense can request youthful offender status, which would seal the case record. The defendant would waive his or her right to a jury trial, and the maximum jail time for a youthful offender is three years.

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Suspended After Painting Out Gay Hate Message, Students Won't Attend Graduation

HOWELL, MI - Four students who painted out a homophobic slur in front of their school and then replaced by spray painting the word "Love" on the walkway have had their ten day suspension extended for the rest of the school year, reported 365Gay.com.

"We did it because it upset us that somebody could be that rude to our friend, that they could say something that close-minded. We were very insulted," 18-year-old Shayna Kamilar, another of the suspended seniors said.

Three of the students are senior and will not be allowed to take part in their graduation ceremony or other activities.

Kamilar's father, Gregg Kamilar, said the district will arrange for the seniors to complete their studies so they can receive diplomas. He said he and the other parents are planning a separate commencement ceremony for their children and any other students wishing to participate.

The students said the "God hates fags" message, that had been painted by an unknown person on the sidewalk in front of the school earlier this month, was aimed at a fellow student who is Gay and they wanted to come to his defense.

He also said that he expects the students will be required to pay the \$1,392 it is estimated to cost to remove the "Love" graffiti.

A teacher watched as the students removed the slur from the walk and then painted their own message on the rock, and went to the principal. The students wanted to make sure that the message got out. They then also spray-painted "Love" more than 25 times around the flagpole and more than 25 times on sidewalks on the north side of the building.

Principal Margaret Hamill initially suspended the four for ten days. Hamill said she did not suspend the four for getting rid of the hate message, but for putting their own graffiti on school property.

The students say they were simply making a statement against discrimination.

Hamill informed the students that the suspension was being extended until the end of the academic year.

"Our goal was that every single student who walked into Howell High School would have one word on their minds, and that word would be love. We made a mistake. But at the time, we weren't aware that it was a mistake," one of the seniors, Vinnie Mascola, 17, told the Detroit Free Press.

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Navajo Marriage Act Veto Draws Swift Reaction

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. - Navajo Councilman Larry Anderson urged the Navajo Nation Council to override Navajo President Joe Shirley Jr.'s veto of the Dine' Marriage Act of 2005, legislation which includes a ban on same-sex marriages, reported ICT, May 23.

However, as tribal leaders debated the issue in the capital, Navajos circulated a petition online stating the legislation violates Dine' law and the sanctity of life by invoking intolerance and legal discrimination.

Among those rallying for Gay rights were Navajo elders who defended the choices of their grandchildren. Other Navajos recommended legal action if a council veto override succeeds in making the legislation into law.

Anderson, sponsor of the legislation, lashed out at Shirley over the veto, accusing the president of an abuse of veto power and a lack of specifics as to the marriage act's supposedly discriminatory nature.

Anderson, disagreeing with the president's view, said the law does not interfere with private and personal lives. On the contrary, Anderson said the legislation fosters Navajo family life.

"As the Navajo Nation promotes stable family units and preserves and strengthens family values, we are a step closer to addressing crime, child abuse, drug abuse and other social, environmental and health care issues," Anderson said in a statement.

Anderson accused Shirley of attempting to manipulate personal opinion to score a victory for his re-election campaign.

Meanwhile, Shirley confirmed his opposition to the legislation and said

his office has not received a single e-mail or telephone call opposing the veto.

"To the contrary, the Office of President and Vice President received an unprecedented number of unsolicited e-mails and telephone calls in support of the president's veto, of the reasons he stated for vetoing the legislation, and thanking him for the veto," Shirley said in a statement.

Shirley, who said earlier that there are no significant numbers of Navajo Gay couples requesting marriage licenses, said the legislation is not necessary.

Shirley disagreed with Anderson's accusation that the veto was an abuse of power. He said the veto and opportunity for an override both represent the checks and balances of the Navajo Nation's three-branch government.

"So, in this instance, for a council delegate to accuse the president of an abuse of power because he vetoed legislation the delegate sponsored, shows more of a lack of statesmanship on the part of the delegate than an abuse of power by the president."

In the petition online, written and circulated by Navajo Gays, 600 comments were received in one 24-hour period.

Charles Cambridge, Navajo from Huerfano, N.M. who holds a doctoral degree, said, "This is the dumbest thing that I have seen the tribal council do. I will provide expert testimony in any legal action against this anti-Navaho cultural legislation."

Percy Anderson, Navajo from Manuelito, N.M., was among the writers of the online petition opposing the legislation.

"The response has been tremen-

dous," Percy Anderson told Indian Country Today. "My dear aunt, who is a retired elementary school teacher, called me and volunteered to obtain signatures from Navajo elders. She is quite involved at the community level and is an active mobilizer."

Another Navajo opposing the ban, Sherrick Roanhorse, said the legislation is not pertinent to the real needs of the Navajo people and is a step back from self-determination.

"If the council overrides the president's veto, they are justifying division and working against the beauty of our people, our unique culture, and belief system. Some delegates believe that being Gay is a chosen lifestyle, not a true sense of being or identity," Roanhorse told ICT.

Referring to Larry Anderson's comments in Navajo Times, Roanhorse said: "How is a discriminatory and unjust act going to solve and fix breakdowns in our Navajo way of life?"

"He told us, for Gay Navajo couples, 'That's their choice to make. But, they must understand that there are laws and policies within the Navajo Nation government system that prohibits them to practice that here.'

"Is he saying we are not welcome home? Gay Navajo people fight every day for inclusiveness at home on the Navajo Nation, and when we leave our homeland to go to college or get a decent-paying job. He says he is traditional, but his extreme actions and beliefs contradict our Navajo belief system of humbleness, tolerance, and living a life in harmony with all that surround us."

Roanhorse said the Navajo Council, comprised of 88 delegates representing 110 chapters in Arizona,

New Mexico and Utah, has too much power.

"We may need more checks to balance our council's overreaching power."

The online petition stated that the Navajo Nation Bill of Rights ensures life, liberty and happiness for all human beings.

"The natural law of the Navajo Nation states that all creation living on Mother Earth and in Father Sky have their own laws and rights and freedoms to exist; and that the Dine' have the sacred obligation to respect, preserve and protect all that is provided," the petition read.

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HOROSCOPES

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The Sun glides into affable Gemini this week and can make even the most anti social of us the belles of the balls, or something like that. Jupiter gets into the act with over the top fun. Hurry and make your mark before it becomes an oil slick.

ARIES (MAR. 21 - APR. 20)
If you have something to say, say it when the Sun moves into Gemini. Proud Rams express themselves with style and panache and get what they want without being pushy and obnoxious. What a nice change of pace! Go for the gold standard buddy and don't settle for the silver. While you are at top form, do a bit of press for a good cause. Press as much flesh as possible.

TAURUS (APR. 21 - MAY 21)
Money is on the top of your list with Sun in Gemini. This is the time to make as much of it as you can and enjoy it to the fullest. But what is it that you really want? Love? Contentment? Self actualization? Queer Bulls may just find that there is something that money simply can't buy.... but thank goodness they get over it! Champagne, truffles and a pack of twinkies anyone??

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)
There is nothing quite so charming and engaging as a pink Twin with Sun in their sign. You have ample opportunity to meet and greet. Plus, if you muster a bit of effort, you put new projects in place for guaranteed long term payoff. Life seems pretty darn good ... even excessively good. Will the glare of your pearlies entice, entertain or repel? Check for corn to be sure.

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)
There are those who have taken great delight in stabbing you in the back whenever they darned pleased. Sometimes you didn't realize it until the damage was done. Now a light goes on and you finally figure out who they are and what they are up to. Revenge is a dish best eaten cold, Gay Crab. Enjoy your dinner while the Sun basks in Gemini. Go for just desserts.

LEO (JULY 24 - AUG. 23)
Surround yourself with pals and a few new acquaintances with Sun in Gemini. You are especially sociable and seem to attract a delicious array of avid followers. Some of the folks you meet now are so impressed that they just can't get enough of you and hang on your every word. Proud Lions are in their element. Is that in deep water, down to earth, full of hot air or on fire?

VIRGO (AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23)
If professional goals have seemed unattainable and difficult, thank your stars for Sun in Gemini. Instead of struggling in the dark, suddenly it all becomes clear. You can implement your strategies in the right priority. Queer Virgins are finally able to set things in motions that have considerable payoff. Don't spend it all in one place, tempting as it might be.

LIBRA (SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)
Gay Libras find that this is a good time to take stock of where they are and where they are going. Are you where you want to be in this life? Are you itching for more? Scratch that itch with anything that helps expand your horizons. There is nothing like new stimuli to move some old stasis. Travel, study or mingle with some new interesting cohorts. See what you can concoct.

SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)
Love is in the air with Sun in Gemini. Okay maybe it really isn't love but that doesn't matter when the lights are low and so are you. Proud Scorps seem to ooze that certain special sauce - a mixture of piquant charm, spicy wit and juicy charisma. Hurry and make your best moves while you are so delicious. By tomorrow you may revert back to just another overcooked slab.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)
This is no time to be alone and whether you decide to surround yourself with platonic or passionate company is entirely up to you. Whoever you choose will transform you in unimaginable ways and on very meaningful levels. Gay Archers are often considered to be incorrigible bachelors but Sun in Gemini demands that you become a part of a pair. Hey nice pair.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)
If you ever had an excuse to get down to work this is the time with Sun in Gemini. Pink Caps are fairly ambitious and can now clear off their desks and free themselves up for some real wheeling and dealing. A little effort has some considerable and dramatic payoff. Aim carefully lest you upset a careful balance. You are a shooting star but watch were you point that thing.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)
Put a bit of zip in your doodah. What is it about Aqueerians that makes them so full of fun and so giddy right now? You seem to be unable to concentrate on anything serious or on highly detailed work because your wilde imagination and sense of adventure crowds the scene. Embrace the inevitable. Tap a few kegs along with a few pals and dance to a different drummer.

PISCES (FEB. 20 - MAR. 20)
Make you home picture perfect - you will spend loads of time there when Sun is in Gemini. Guppies plan some wonderful get togethers and become a royal presence in any social beehive of activity. If you have a long domestic agenda, now is the time to get the necessary work done without a taxing effort. Good thing too - you don't want to create an unmanageable deficit!



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Gay Chat Mayor: Apology But No Resignation

SPOKANE - Mayor Jim West returning from a leave of absence, following revelations he offered city jobs to men he met in a Gay chat room, has apologized for what he calls "poor judgment in my private life."

But, he dismissed a demand from local business leaders to resign amid allegations of abuse of power over the affair, reported 365Gay.com.

The charges arose in a series of articles by the Spokesman-Review that outed the conservative Republican earlier this month. The paper also alleged that West had abused two boys while he was a sheriff's deputy and Boy Scout leader in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

West, 55, has denied the abuse charges but has admitted to being a regular in the chat room. He also denies using city equipment to visit the Gay site, but during a short news conference Monday he refused to answer questions from reporters.

The FBI is investigating whether West improperly used his political office and city resources.

Spokane business leaders earlier on Monday, May 23, demanded that West resign "in the best interest of our community."

The nation's oldest national LGBT civil rights group has also called for his resignation.

Only a recall petition and public vote can remove him from office. A petition request has been refiled by a citizen, whose first request was ruled incomplete because it didn't include a sworn statement.

West, a former sheriff's deputy and Republican leader of the state Senate before he was elected mayor in 2003, built his political career on conservative issues including a condemnation of Gay rights.

After Gov. Booth Gardner signed a surprise executive order banning discrimination in state jobs based on sexual orientation, West and 14 other Republicans introduced a bill in January 1986 to bar Gays and Lesbians from working in schools, day-care centers and some state agencies. The bill, which called for firing state workers whose sexual identities became known, failed.

In 1986, West voted to bar the state from distributing pamphlets telling people how to protect themselves from AIDS during sex.

West opposed Gay rights bills introduced in 1985 and 1987.

In 1989, West opposed expanding a needle exchange program from Pierce County to the entire state.

In 1990, West proposed that teen sex be criminalized.

In 1998, West voted for the Defense of Marriage Act, which defines marriage as between a man and a woman.

In 2003, West, as Senate majority leader, bottled up a Gay-rights bill in committee and it died.

As incoming mayor in November 2003, West opposed giving benefits to domestic partners of City Hall workers, citing cost. The Spokane City Council in April approved domestic partner benefits in a 5-2 vote, enough to withstand any mayoral veto.

Cop Guilty In Gay Student's Slaying

COLUMBIA, MO - Columbia police officer has been found guilty of killing a Gay University of Missouri student with whom he had an affair, 365Gay.com reported.

The jury of nine women and three men Saturday, May 22, found police officer Steven Arthur Rios guilty of first-degree murder for the slaying of Jesse Valencia, 23,

Rios, 28, faces a mandatory sentence of life in prison without parole.

The jury deliberated nine hours over two days before reaching its unanimous verdict.

During the trial prosecutor Morley Swingle told the jury that Rios killed Valencia to keep him from revealing their relationship.

"He used his badge for sex and then he used his knife to forever close the mouth of his secret lover," said Swingle.

Public defender Valerie Leftwich, however, told the jury that just because the two had sex was not proof that Rios killed Valencia.

Valencia's body was discovered on the lawn of a home about a block from his apartment near the university campus. An autopsy showed that his throat had been slashed.

The last time anyone saw him was about 3:30 the previous morning as he left a party off campus.

Shortly after the investigation into the killing began friends of Valencia said he was having a secret affair with a police officer.

The friends told homicide investigators that the officer had arrested Valencia on April 18 for interfering with officers responding to a peace disturbance in the area. The friends said that shortly after that the officer started visiting Valencia's apartment.

Rios was arrested several days later. Under police questioning Rios, who is married, acknowledged having a sexual relationship with Valencia. Investigators said Rios killed Valencia after the student threatened to tell the police chief about the relationship.

Shortly after his arrest Rios was confined to a state mental health facility for his own protection after twice threatening to commit suicide when his affair was made public.

The night of the murder Rios worked that morning until 3 a.m. Part of his beat included the campus area where Valencia's body was found.

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Dear Dr. X,

I hooked up with a guy the other night who is a friend of a friend. We exchanged blow jobs, and everything was great. When I told my friend who introduced us about it, he told me that the guy is HIV positive. I'm not freaked out or anything, because I know that oral sex is pretty safe, but I'm kinda upset that he didn't tell me first. I still would have gone home with him, but he should have told me, don't you think? When do you think a guy should tell his status?

Signed, In The Dark

Dear Dark,

The topic of when (or if) to disclose one's positive status is certainly a hot one. With good arguments on all sides, it is also a topic that will almost certainly never be put to rest. In this column, I will give you some things to think about, and you can make your own decision about it.

If you are considering having sex with someone, it is understandable that you would want to know your partner's status right up front. It gives you the choice of what risks you are willing to take. It allows you to negotiate what you are comfortable with. Having the conversation about each other's status is also a great way to open up conversation about other aspects of sex. When you are able to talk openly and honestly about things, you will be surprised at how much better the sex will be. And hearing someone say they are HIV negative can certainly help to put your mind at ease, especially if you are thinking about having kinds of sex that can put you at risk for HIV and other STDs.

On the other hand, does it really mean anything at all when someone tells you they are HIV negative? What if they are too scared to tell the truth? What if they are lying? What if they don't really know? How do you know that someone really is HIV negative just because they said so? It seems to me that the only time that you can really count on someone telling the truth is if they tell you they are positive. Even then they could be lying, of course, by why would they? If someone tells you they are positive, chances are good that it is the truth. When someone says they are negative, it doesn't really mean much.

So, do you make your decision to hook up based on what they said their status is? Will you do different things sexually with someone who admits to being positive than with someone whose status you are unsure of? If so, why? Why is it any different to, let's say, have anal sex with someone who told you they are positive, than to have anal sex with someone who told you they are negative (but who doesn't really know, because he hasn't ever been tested. He assumes he's negative because he doesn't feel sick.) Best advice I can give here: assume everyone is the status opposite yours, and play safely from there.

In short, while you certainly should talk about things like HIV status, be careful about the decisions you make based on those conversations. If you have your own rules about what safe sex and acceptable risk mean for you, don't let those change based on what someone else says while trying to get you into bed.

In your situation, I would be less concerned about your trick not disclosing his HIV status (especially since you said

that you would have gone home with him anyway), and more concerned that your friend felt it was okay to tell you of your trick's status. That is between you and your sexual partner, and your friend may have broken confidentiality to tell you that. Ask yourself what that says about how your friend might talk about you.

I know I didn't answer your question, but it is really for you to answer for yourself. I'm just here to give you something to think about. In my mind, it's not about disclosure, it's about respect.

[Send your questions to Dr. X at 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.]



G/L Weddings In Shadow Of Vatican

ROME - A group of same-sex couples staged a symbolic marriage ceremony Saturday, May 21, only blocks from the Vatican, 365Gay.com reported.

The ceremony was performed by a member of the Rome city government. Although the 'marriages' have no legality they served to point out the inequity of Italian law which limits marriage to opposite-sex couples.

Supporters of same-sex marriage held banners proclaiming "Let's free love from religious phobias".

"It's our mother of all battles," said Franco Grillini of the LGBT civil rights group ArciGay. "

The mock nuptials were performed on the Piazza San Lorenzo as curious shoppers looked on. Several applauded but many expressed their displeasure that the demonstration was taking place so close to the Vatican.

The Roman Catholic Church exerts considerable influence on Italian politics. The Church has been involved in fighting same-sex marriage throughout the world.

A 2003 document, titled Considerations Regarding Proposals to Give Legal Recognition to Unions Between Homosexual Persons was prepared by Pope Benedict while he headed the Church's guardian of orthodoxy, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the

Faith.

It said that laws safeguarding marriage between man and woman must be promoted and that "in no way can other forms of cohabitation be placed on same level as marriage, nor can they receive legal recognition as such."

The Church has funded anti-Gay campaigns in Canada and Massachusetts where same-sex marriage is legal.

Last June, shortly after Spanish Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero announced he would bring in a bill to legalize Gay marriage, he was summoned to the Vatican for a severe tongue lashing from Pope John Paul.

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Tues.	12:30 – 3:30 P.M.
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Friday	12:30 – 3:30 P.M.

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915 W. Prince Rd
Friday June 17, 2005
Time: 7 pm – 10 pm

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NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE

Real Estate

by Lee Thorn

One of our daily newspapers recently pointed out that, while the median household income for Pima County fell 1.5% from 2002 to 2003, the median home price for the same period rose 7.9%.

How can that be? Is there a real estate bubble? Can it last? Since I've been investing on a modest scale in Tucson real estate for well over a decade, some of my friends who are thinking of sticking a toe into the water for the first time have asked me for advice.

The first thing I tell them is to stay away from books that claim to show you how to get rich in real estate. If the guys writing those books really know how to get rich in real estate, why would they be diverting their time from getting rich in real estate to write books?

My next advice is to get free reliable information from working real estate agents. There are plenty of experienced agents who will endlessly answer buyers' questions for free. And there's no substitute for experience in this business.

I offer my next gem as a landlord who knows whereof etc. Pay rent for as little time as possible. Rent money goes to us landlords and never comes back to you. In remarkable contrast, mortgage payments will likely come back to you when you sell your house. One way to look at it is that, when you're buying a house, you're living in it for free.

One implication of the above is that it may not be wise to wait for the "home of your dreams." Start buying the home you can afford to make the payments on now and the home of your dreams will arrive a lot faster.

Location matters. There are some parts of town that are very hot right now and if you simply must live in one of them you'll be paying for that trendiness. That's not necessarily a bad investment. A hot area may stay hot until you're ready to sell. Or it might not.

On the other hand, there are some areas of town where real estate values have stagnated for decades. This is where your pro comes in. She should be able to tell you exactly where not to buy or even look.

And then there are bargain areas, places that are neither sexy nor depressed, older neighborhoods where pride of ownership has maintained value and

looks to continue doing so for the long run. Here, in my humble opinion, is where first-time buyers can make a profitable beginning.

If you buy a home in one of these established but not glamorous neighborhoods, a home that needs paint, minor repairs and new landscaping, it's very hard to see how you could go wrong. You spruce the place up as your time and finances permit. You get involved in the local neighborhood association that protects you from any gross stupidity that politicians might commit that would hurt your property value. You do the neighborhood watch thing to keep the bad guys at bay. A few years go by and you develop a wonderful thing called "equity," a thing that gives you leverage and choices and a feeling of accomplishment.

Other than buying in an area of stagnant real estate values, I think the biggest mistake first-time buyers make is getting into the most expensive home they can afford. This is really a form of Russian roulette. What you can just barely afford today might be something you can't possibly afford tomorrow. Circumstances change. If you don't give yourself some margin for financial mishap, you may have to act fast to save your bacon. In real estate, he who is forced to act fast gets hammered.

Once you get settled into your new place, don't get too exotic with your home improvements. The likelihood is that you're going to want to sell in a few years. Exotic features generally diminish the value of the place. Express your idiosyncrasies in furnishings and fixtures that can easily be removed. Remember that the most popular flavor of ice cream is and will always be vanilla.

It's not uncommon for people to buy a modest home in the hopes of someday moving up to something better and falling so desperately in love with the place, the neighborhood, and their neighbors that they can't tear themselves away. The good news for these people is that they can still use their equity to assist them in other real estate investments, or other non-real estate investments.

The answers to the questions in my second paragraph are, "investors, yes, no."

[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.]

NON-BAR CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25
Tucson Prime Timers Lunch, 1 p.m.
China A River at Stone Ave.

SATURDAY, MAY 28
Tucson Prime Timers Food and drinks - 5 p.m.
Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd.

MONDAY, MAY 30
Tucson Prime Timers Lunch, 12:30 p.m.,
the Wildcat Hous 1800 N. Stone Ave.

Saturday, June 4
Tucson Prime Timers Food & Drinks-
5:00 p.m. Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd.

Monday, June 6
Tucson Prime Timers Bowling - 10:30
AM. Visitors Welcome. Lunch - 12:30
p.m. The Wildcat House, 1800 N. Stone
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Saturday, June 11
Tucson Prime Timers Food & Drinks-
5:00 p.m., Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd.

Monday, June 13
Tucson Prime Timers Bowling - 10:30
a.m.. Visitors Welcome. Lunch - 12:30

p.m. The Wildcat House, 1800 N. Stone
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Saturday, June 18
Tucson Prime Timers Visitors Welcome,
Lunch/Business Meeting - Noon, Home
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Saturday, June 18
Tucson Prime Timers Food & Drinks -
5:00 p.m., Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd.

Monday, June 20
Tucson Prime Timers Bowling - 10:30
a.m., Visitors Welcome. Lunch - 12:30
p.m. The Wildcat House, 1800 N. Stone
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Saturday, June 25
Tucson Prime Timers Food & Drinks -
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Monday, June 27
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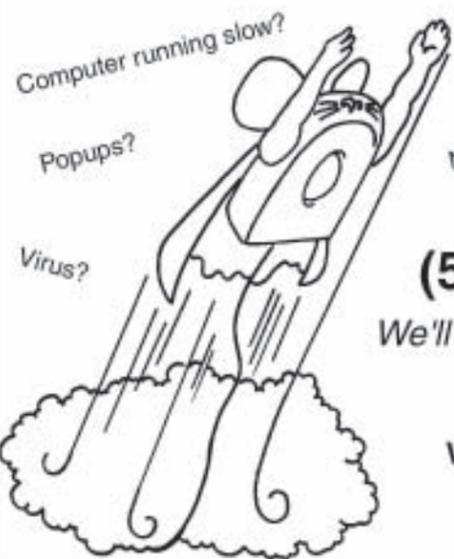
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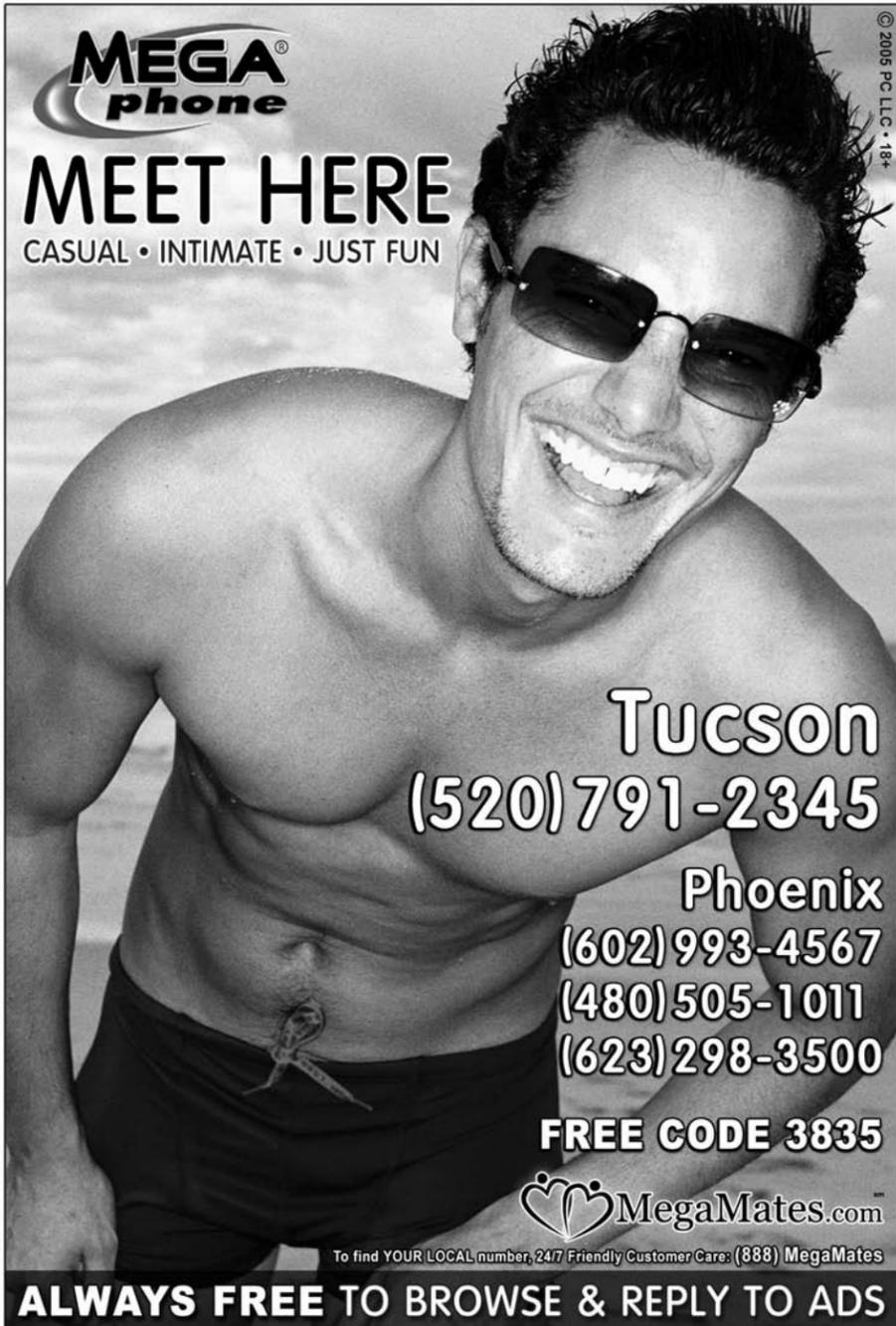
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EASTSIDE HOME. NICE LOCATION. Near 22nd & Wilmot. Swimming pool. I'm 46, student, easy going. Call Joey 207-6467 1088

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Bartenders needed, part-time. Phone 623-3704. 1088

AUTO DEALERSHIP IN PHOENIX is hiring a full-time vehicle inspector. \$10.00 an hour to start. Must be willing to work outdoors., Please call Pat @ 602.380.4892 for more information.

PERSONALS

GWM MID-AGE RANGE. Bicycling and Companion. Some fun too. 731-6152 1090

SERVICES

PROFESSIONAL YARD CARE AND LANDSCAPING. Very reasonable rates. No job too small. When you need help, call Ben 975-1614. 1087

TENSE? STRESSED OUT? Relax for an hour with a full body rub by Frank. Private studio, off-street parking. 548-7019 days, evenings. 1095

GAY HOUSE PAINTER. NEW TO TUCSON. Seeking work and friends. Interiors and Exteriors. Free inspection and low lump sum price. Guaranteed excellent quality. No license yet. Chuck. 971-3473. 1085...

COOLERS - START-UPS - REPAIRS - ETC. \$40/hr. + Parts. Frank, (520)991-8804. 1090

FULL BODY SWEDISH MASSAGE FOR MEN. Best rates in Tucson! Speedway and Swan area. IN and OUT CALLS. 7days. 548-6314 1085...

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RELAX WITH A FULL BODY MASSAGE FOR MEN in a private studio on the West Side. Call Ralph, 883-74 96. 1088

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DAILY BAR CALENDAR

sunday

COLORS - Open 11am. Champagne Brunch 11am - 2pm with complimentary mimosa. Lunch menu served 11am-10pm. Nightly dinner specials.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 11:00 am. Chuckwagon Breakfast 11am - 1pm, \$4.00 - Scrambled eggs, hash brown, biscuit & sausage gravy and your choice of Bloody Mary, coffee, juice or milk. Free Texas Hold'em Poker Tourney at 4 and 7pm. Sign-up begins one hour before playing time. No Cash - Play for Prizes and Points. Great chance to learn the hottest game around

IBT's - Open Noon. \$1.75 Bloodys, or mimosas. til 4pm. 4-7:30 Karaoke with Michael D. on the patio 5:30-7:30 Beer Bust. 2-4-1 drink specials and DJ Mike Lopez 10pm to close. (Some restrictions apply).

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. Patio Bar open 5-close. Pick-up Beach Volleyball games 5-7. \$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 - Closed on Mondays.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3 sm pitchers, \$5 lg pitchers. Monday Munchies 3 - 8 pm with reduced prices on appetizers - best deal in town! Free Texas Hold-'Em Poker Tournaments at 6:00 pm and 9:00 pm. Sign-up begins one hour before playing time. No Cash - Play for Prizes and Points.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, DJ Mike Lopez 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 10am. Special Happy Hour 10am-2pm. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. Karaoke w/Michael D. 9-1

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

tuesday

COLORS - Open 4-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7 \$2.25 well & domestic. Full menu served 4-10pm. Nightly dinner specials.

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 from 8 - midnight

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, Tropical Tuesdays \$2.50 Tropical drinks and DJ Q playing Retro Music 70's, 80's and 90's 9pm-close.

VENTURE-N - Open 8am. Patio 6pm. Free Pool til 4pm.

WOODY'S - Open 10am. Special Happy Hour 10am-2pm. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. Bartender Calls rink specials..

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

wednesday

COLORS - Open 4-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$2.25 well & domestic. Full menu served 4-10pm. Nightly dinner specials. 1st Wednesday of month "Dinner & Movie" sponsored by GMHP. All other Wednesdays "Dinner & Concert" shown on our 52" projection System.

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. Country DJ Jake plays 8:30 - close

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, 9pm "Diva-Licious" show w/ Bunny Fu Fu. HiNrgy dance with DJ Q,

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

WOODY'S - Open 10am. Special Happy Hour 10am-2pm. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. Free Hot Dog Buffet 5-11pm. Underwear- fetish- leather nite w/Gary and Chris 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 4-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$2.25 well & domestic. Full menu served 4-10pm. Nightly dinner specials. Karaoke from 9pm with Johnny DJ & Dan..

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

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, Boyz Nite Out with your Bartenders & GoGo Boys dancing in their undies and DJ Mike Lopez spinning Top 40 & All request \$1.75 Long Islands and \$1.50 Tequila shots 10pm-2am.

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 10am. Special Happy Hour 10am-2pm. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. 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 4pm-2am. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$2.25 well & domestic. Full menu served 4-11pm. 6:30-9:30pm Amber Norgarrd sings originals and cover tunes. 10pm "Guys & Dolls" Hosted by Lucinda Holliday in a 2 girl cabaret show with a different guest each week. Reservations suggested.

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

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3 sm pitchers, \$5 lg pitchers. Line Dance Lessons 7:30 to 8:30 pm. DJ Pat plays your favorite country dance songs 8:30 to midnight then a mix of dance & country 'til close. Kitchen open 10 pm - 2 am for late night munchies.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, Live Jazz on the Patio with Susan 6pm-9pm, Hot Dance with DJ Mike Lopez 9pm-2am.

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

WOODY'S - 10am. Special Happy Hour 10am-2pm. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. Martini Party - Well Martini's \$2.00 3-4pm. Call Martinis \$3 from 3-4pm. 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

SATURDAY

COLORS - Open 4pm-2am. Full menu served 4-11pm. Nightly dinner specials. Reservations suggested. Karaoke 10pm-close with Johnny DJ & Dan.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 11:00 am. Chuckwagon Breakfast 11am-1:30pm, \$4.50. 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 - midnight, then "anything goes" requests until close. Kitchen open 10 pm - 2 am for late night munchies.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, 5-8pm karaoke and Terryaki Kabobs on the patio. 8:30pm Show time w/ Ajia Simone or Janee Star. DJ Q spinning Club Music inside and Mike Lopez spinning on the patio 10pm to close..

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

WOODY'S - Open 10am. Special Happy Hour 10am-2pm. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. Patio Bar opens 5pm. 5-9pm Steak or Mahi Mahi BBQ with all the trimmings \$5, Live Jazz with Arthur Migliazza 6-9pm.

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

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

THRU JUNE 12

Live Theatre Workshop presents "Baby With The Bathwater" by Christopher Durang. 5317 E. Speedway. Thursdays thru Saturdays 7:30pm; Sundays 3pm. Tickets \$13 - \$15. Call 327-4242.

MAY 16 THRU JUNE 5

Invisible Theatre presents "Meshuggah-Nuns!", the Ecumenical Nonsense Book, Music and Lyrics by Dan Goggin. The 5th in a series of six "Nonsense" shows. This one finds the Little Sisters of Hoboken out to sea on a "faith of all Nations" Cruise. After a terrible storm, every cast member of the ship's production of Fiddler on the Roof succumbs to sea sickness

Invisible Theatre is located at 1400 N. First Avenue at Drachman. Tickets are available at the Box office by calling 520-882-9721 or by stopping by the theater, Tuesday through Friday, 10 am - 4pm. Visa, MasterCard and American Express are accepted. Play dates and times vary. Call the box office for more information.

BAR CALENDAR Of Upcoming Events

THURSDAY, MAY 26

VENTURE-N - Tonight is steak Night and kicks off Memorial Day Weekend here. Bring your own steak or buy one here. V-N provides the side dishes.

YARD DOG SALOON - Boo is serving meat balls from 4 until 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 27

VENTURE-N - Tailgate Buffet from 6 to 8 p.m.

WOODY'S - Mark your calendars for Woody's Memorial Day Weekend Party. Tonight it's the Red Party. Wear red and get drink specials. Door give-aways 8 til close. DJ Jeff 9 to close.

SATURDAY, MAY 28

VENTURE-N - Bucky's 'Internationally Famous' Omelette Bar from 9 to 11 a.m. then a 'Wet & Wild' Beer Bust from 3 until 7 p.m.

WOODY'S - Memorial Day Weekend - tonight the White Party. Wear white for drink specials. Door give-aways 8 til close. DJ Jeff 9 til close.

SUNDAY, MAY 29

VENTURE-N - Beer Bust from 3 to 7 p.m.

WOODY'S - Tonight it's the Blue Party. Wear blue and get drink specials. Door give-aways 8 til close. Bud Light Team Jenga Party 8 - 10 p.m. \$2 Bud Lights. Brunch 11:30 a.m. Sirloin Burgers 5:30 p.m. Karaoke with Michael D. 9 p.m. Patio Bar opens 1 p.m. til close. Sport Court open all day.

YARD DOG SALOON - 'Build your own sandwich' bar featured today.

MONDAY, MAY 30 - MEMORIAL DAY

IBT's - Wind up your Memorial Day activities with Monday (A.M.) Morning Madness hosted by Bunny FuFu.

VENTURE-N - Special Memorial Day B-B-Q served from 5 to 7 p.m.

WOODY'S - Memorial Day Community Bar-B-Que Picnic 2:30 til 6:30 p.m. Karaoke with Michael D. 9 p.m..

YARD DOG SALOON - Burgers and Dogs served from 5 to 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8

WOODY'S - Sarong Party. More details later.

FRIDAY, JUNE 10

WOODY'S - June birthdays celebrated today. Sign up with your favorite bartender.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT CONTINUED

AVA AMPHITHEATER AT CASINO DEL SOL COMING ATTRACTIONS: (Box office 838-6700 - I-10 Exit Valencia West)

JUNE 16 - Reba w/ Brad Paisley and Terri Clark

JUNE 27 - Tom Jones

JULY 13 - Julia Iglesias

DESERT DIAMOND CASINO UPCOMING ATTRACTIONS: (Box office 393-2799 - I-19 & Pima Mine Road, Exit 80 - 7 minutes south of Tucson)

JUNE 4 - The Temptations

OCTOBER 16 - 17TH Annual AIDS WALK takes place at Rillito Downs Race Park, s River Road and First Avenue in Tucson. AIDS WALK 2005 will again feture both the traditionala 4K walk as well as a 10K non-competitive run. Tucson's support of AIDS WALK over the years has made an important and lasting statement about Southern Arizona's commitment to the fight against AIDS. AIDS WALK attracts approximately 4,000 walkers annually and continues to enjoy strong corporate underwriting alliances.

Of reported demographic information from participants, 60% of all registered walkers are female, two thirds are under 35, and one-fourth are under 18. AIDS WALK Tucson has grown from 800 participants in 1989 to more than 4,000 individuals and 79 businesses raising over \$239,000 in 2004 for local HIV/AIDS education, prevention and support programs.

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 Facilitator.

P.F.L.A.G. - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays - is a support group available to anyone who has a son, daughter or friend who is Gay. Call 575-8660 or write P.O. Box 36264, Tucson, AZ 85740-6264. All replies confidential.

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

TUCSON GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

TNTucsonMEN, a nudist Gay men's club. We are a social and recreational group. By the way the TN means Totally Naked! Drop us an e-mail at TNTucsonMEN@nethere.com

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

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

BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO - a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, Call the Bears Hotline (520)790-5775 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910 of visit our website at www.botop.com All are welcome to our general meetings/potlucks on the 2nd Friday of every month, at 3202 E. 1st St. (the "Ward 6" Office Bldg.) Just south of Speedway & East of Country Club. PotLuck Dinner begins at 6:30 and the monthly meeting follows at 7:15 p.m.

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

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

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

T-SQUARES Lesbian and Gay square dance club meets every Tuesday from 6:30-9:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N. Geronimo (near 1st Ave. and Laguna). Open to All. Call Liz at 325-9466 or Ray at 749-5247.

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

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

DESERT VOICES, Tucson's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Straight Chorus, has been singing songs of pride, hope and laughter for 16 seasons. Check out our website at www.desertvoices.org, or call (520)791-9662 for information about upcoming concerts or how to join.

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

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

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 info call Scott at 299-6647.

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

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

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

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

TUCSON PRIDE, INC. (Formerly Tucson Lesbian and Gay Alliance - TLGA) meets on the second Tuesday at 845 S. Craycroft Road at 6pm. Tucson Pride events: Pride Week, Gay West and OUToberFEST. Inquiries about support groups and individual needs should be directed to Wingspan and other local agencies listed here. For more information call 622-3200 or visit the TPI website at www.tucsonpride.com

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

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

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

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

SMART (Self Management And Recovery Training) a free non-12-step self-help alternative for people working to overcome addictive and other emotional problems meets in Tucson Monday thru Thursdays at different locations. For more information about SMART, contact Jennifer at 838-3975.

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

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

THEATER / DINNER / ETC! Non-Smoking Lesbian Network meets every 3rd Saturday night of each month. If you'd like to meet women 35+ (flexible) and socialize in a smoke-free environment 888-8010 before 10:00 p.m. The group dines out and attends shows or movies. Now in their 16th year! (2nd in Tucson).

SOUTHERN ARIZONA GENDER ALLIANCE (SAGA). The Southwest's largest transgender and gender-variant advocacy organization. Speakers and panelists available. General meetings monthly on the 1st Mondays at 7pm; Desert Girlz MTF Support) meets 2nd Mondays at 7pm; Desert 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. Web: <http://www.desertdominion.org> or call (520)792-6424

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

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

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

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

SAA (Sex Addicts Anonymous) has 5 meetings a week in Tucson. People who wish to stop their compulsive sexual behavior, please call (520) 745-0775 for current info.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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, pretensions? TNTucsonMEN@nethere.com P.O. Box 12176, Tucson 85792 or call 514-9894

DESERT PRIDE - Your store for Gay Pride and more!

611 N. Fourth Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85705 (Across from IBT's, Next to Magpies. Come See Us!) (520)388-9829

Call for Participants: Help us stop the spread of HIV.



Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation is embarking on a new and unique HIV prevention project that combines innovative photography with intensely personal stories of how HIV has affected our lives.

We are looking for approximately forty individuals of all genders, ethnicities, body types, sexual preferences, HIV+ (-) and all ages 18 years and older who are willing to bare their bodies and souls for this distinctive project.

Once the stories have been completed you will be asked to tastefully bare your body for a large-scale group photo that will showcase the beauty of the human body in all its forms. Put together, this special project will be the newest HIV prevention campaign for Tucson.

First, you will be asked to bare your soul in a personal interview that will be condensed into a short story.

Help us stop the spread of HIV and possibly become a local celebrity. Call Gary at GMHP to participate in this unique and exciting opportunity.

520-628-7223

GMHP
Gay Men's
Health Project

SA&F
SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION