



Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

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WEEKLY OBSERVER

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ISSUE 1100

GLBT Issues Destined For Supreme Court

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Abortion may dominate next month's Senate hearings on whether to confirm John Roberts to the U.S. Supreme Court, but Gay rights is the stealth issue, reported the San Francisco Chronicle.

Democrats aren't as eager to push for same-sex marriage as they are to protect abortion, but there is little question that the leading edge of civil rights law involves Lesbians and Gays rather than more settled questions of gender and racial equality.

Over the next decade or more — and if confirmed, the 50-year-old Roberts could be on the court for 30 years — activists on both sides expect the Supreme Court to decide the constitutionality of state bans on same-sex marriage, the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act denying homosexuals federal benefits conferred by marriage and the "don't ask, don't tell" ban on Gays and Lesbians in the military.

Several such cases already are moving through lower courts, though they may be several years away from the Supreme Court.

"I don't think there's any question" such cases ultimately will come before the Supreme Court, said Tony Perkins, president of the Family Research Council, a leading social conservative group, who supports President Bush's nomination of Roberts to the court.

Jon Davidson, legal director of Lambda Legal, a Gay advocacy group, agreed. "Whoever gets appointed is going to be on the court for a long time, and eventually, these issues are going to reach the Supreme Court," Davidson said.

Although the stakes are high, both sides are downplaying the issue for strategic reasons.

Some Gay leaders warn against making Gay issues a focus of the confirmation hearings, fearing such a move could backfire.

Very few Democratic senators support same-sex marriage, and the public remains largely opposed to the idea. Activists are advising the Senate Democrats to address the issue indirectly under the rubric of a constitutional right to privacy.

Privacy rights underpin not only the Supreme Court's 1973 Roe vs. Wade decision permitting abortion but also the landmark 2003 Lawrence vs. Texas decision that struck down state sodomy laws.

Religious conservatives want to avoid imposing a litmus test on Gay rights so that liberals cannot demand one on abortion. Bush himself has carefully avoided doing so.

"We're not setting litmus tests; it's the other side doing that," said Peter Sprigg, vice president for policy at the Family Research Council.

Still, he added, "I would say that we would not want a candidate to say they considered Lawrence vs. Texas to be settled law or beyond the scope of review on constitutional grounds."

The sensitivity of the Gay rights issue became clear last week with the revelation that Roberts provided free legal advice for Gay plaintiffs on a groundbreaking 1996 Supreme Court case, Romer vs. Evans, which struck down a Colorado ballot initiative banning antidiscrimination laws for Gays.

The work sparked momentary alarm among religious conservatives that Roberts could harbor secret sympathies.

Most religious conservatives said they had been assured that Roberts would be reluctant as a judge to overturn the will of voters or legislators despite his work on Romer, although a Virginia group, Public Advocate of the United States, said it would oppose his nomination. Gay rights groups say his work on the case does nothing to reassure them.

Same-sex marriage was a central cultural issue in the 2004 presidential campaign after the Massachusetts high court made that state the first ever to allow such unions. For religious conservatives, the ruling epitomized activist judges imposing their own moral code and overriding legislatures and voters.

"You had four members of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court who suddenly found a right to same-sex marriage in the oldest written constitution still enforced in the world," said Jan LaRue, chief counsel of Concerned Women for America. "That is a prime example of what we mean by judicial activism."

The decision became a rallying cry for voter mobilization drives that helped win re-election for Bush — who denounced the ruling and promised to nominate conservative judges. It also fueled a raft of state constitutional amendments to ban same-sex marriage as well as an effort in Congress to amend the U.S. Constitution.

Bush's promise to name conservatives justices, "more than perhaps any other, charged me and millions of other values voters across the land to vote for Mr. Bush," Perkins said after Justice Sandra Day O'Connor's retirement. He said the new court vacancy "presents the most important opportunity we may have for decades to stop the nation's courts from stripping away our Judeo-Christian heritage."

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New Appeal Bid By Shepard's Killer

CHEYENNE - Russell Henderson, one of the two men convicted of killing Matthew Shepard in 1999 has asked a federal court to reinstate his appeal, 365Gay.com reported.

Henderson is serving a double life prison sentence.

His attorney asked a US District Court in Cheyenne to allow Henderson to challenge the constitutionality of his conviction on the grounds that he had ineffective counsel. Henderson claims that his trial attorney didn't tell him he could appeal his sentence.

Last year an Albany County judge and the Wyoming Supreme Court denied Henderson's attempts to appeal.

Prior to the trial Henderson made a deal with prosecutors to void the death sentence and pleaded guilty to murder and kidnapping in Shepard's slaying. The second man convicted of Shepard's murder, Aaron McKinney, also is serving two life sentences for the killing.

During their trial the court heard that Henderson and McKinney, both 21 at the time, kidnapped, pistol-whipped, robbed and left Shepard tied to a fence outside Laramie in October 1998. The 21-



Matthew Shepard



Russell Henderson

year-old University of Wyoming student died five days later at a hospital from massive head injuries. The trial was told that the pair targeted Shepard solely because he was Gay. Shepard's murder led to the award winning play The Laramie Project

U.S. Poll: HIV Vaccine Facts Elude Many

WASHINGTON, D.C. - A government survey of American adults, including a large sample of men who have sex with men, has uncovered mixed emotions about support and testing for HIV vaccines, reported 365Gay.com.

The survey, conducted by members of the HIV Vaccine Communications Campaign of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of the National Institutes of Health, found that while most Americans believe HIV vaccines are the best hope for controlling the AIDS epidemic, most are not comfortable supporting a loved one's decision to participate in an HIV vaccine clinical trial.

The survey polled 3,509 Americans over the age of 18 between December 2002 and February 2003. More than half of the respondents (2,008) were randomly selected from the general population, and 1,501 were chosen from among three groups that are highly affected by HIV: African Americans, Hispanics and men who have sex with men (MSM).

Across the board, most respondents felt it was important to personally support HIV vaccine research: 89 percent of both Hispanics and MSM, 86 percent of African Americans and 73 percent of the general population.

But the numbers dipped when it came to supporting loved ones volunteer-

ing for HIV vaccine trials.

Men who had sex with men were the most supportive, with 68 percent. Next came Hispanics at 46 percent, followed by African Americans at 35 percent and the general population at 29 percent.

One of the most shocking discoveries for pollsters was that several people believe an HIV vaccine already exists and is being kept a secret. Out of those polled, 47 percent of African Americans, 26 percent of Hispanics and 13 percent of MSM said they believed in such a conspiracy theory.

Phill Wilson, executive director of the Black AIDS Institute, was not surprised by the numbers.

"I think quite frankly there is a general distrust of the medical industry that goes back several years. The other problem is a lack of real information in black communities," he said. "The bottom line is we have too few black organizations with the infrastructure and capacity to address the problems of HIV/AIDS."

Matthew Murguia, director of the Office of Program Operations and Scientific Information in the NIAID Division of AIDS, said problems in the African-American community and others

Continued on Page Eleven

UPDATE

Looking For BBG's

TUCSON - Are you looking for BBG's (buff, beautiful guys)? Well, so are we - to be in the opera!

Arizona Opera Company needs actors for non-singing, non-speaking parts for their upcoming season on the boards. Previous performing experience is not necessary, only enthusiasm and a love of music is.

For more information, contact Keri at the Arizona Opera Company, (520) 283-4336, ext 405.

TIHAN Volunteer Training Aug. 27

TUCSON - Did you know that over one million people are living with HIV in the United States? How can you help? Get involved! Get active! Get educated! Share your love and change lives.

Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN) announced their interactive and informative volunteer training, August 27, 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. This training is open to all who want to learn more about HIV/AIDS, gain understanding of and sensitivity to those living with HIV/AIDS and are interested in TIHAN volunteer opportunities.

Call TIHAN at (520) 299-6647 to register; pre-registration is required. The cost is \$15 and scholarships are available. TIHAN encourages people of all ages, including seniors, college and high school students to participate in this powerful and informative day.

For more information, contact Diane at TIHAN (520) 299-6647, E-mail: diane@tihan.org.

Wingspan Annual Dinner Sept. 24

TUCSON - On Saturday, September 24, more than 900 guests are expected at the Tucson Convention Center for the Wingspan Eighth Annual Benefit Dinner; an evening of celebration, socializing, recognition and enlightenment.

Wingspan is honored to have Mandy Carter as keynote speaker for the event. Mandy is a leading African American Lesbian activist and the co-founder and current Executive Director of Southerners on New Ground (SONG), southnewground.org. Her work against war and violence and promoting social and economic justice for people of color and equal rights for women and the LGBT community has been successful because of her strength as a both a grassroots and national coalition builder. Winner of the prestigious Stonewall Award, Mandy was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize as part of the 1000 Women for Peace nominations.

Three community awards will be presented during the dinner.

The Godat Award, which honors a lifetime of service to the LGBT community, will go to Mae Krueger who has been a tireless advocate for the rights of LGBT people in Tucson and Southern Arizona. Her leadership in Desert Voices has both provided beautiful music, but also a tool for community building. Mae has also assumed leadership roles with the Tucson LGBT Chamber of Commerce (formerly the CBA), the Steering Committee for the Rainbow Habitat for Humanity Build and Lesbian breast cancer awareness and advocacy.

The Community Ally Award is Wingspan's "thank you" to allies outside the LGBT family, and will be presented to Detective Tim Rupel of the Tucson Police Department for his outstanding contributions to Tucson's LGBT community, particularly for his work against hate crimes as part of the Hates Crime Unit.

The Steve Hall award, named in memory of the past Wingspan board president, honors a person who demonstrates outstanding contributions toward the mission, values and work of Wingspan. This year's Hall award goes to Kathy Altman who has served on the Wingspan Board of Directors for six years, including nearly three years as President of the Board. Kathy was instrumental in helping transition Wingspan from an all-volunteer run organization to one with professional staff. Kathy has also run the Lesbian cancer and health project in its early days and more recently, coordinates the Rainbow Build Habitat for Humanity project.

There will be a Silent Auction during the reception from 5:30 - 7 pm. Items up for bid include entertainment packages, restaurant certificates, jewelry, artwork and accessories for the home in a variety of price ranges. After the Awards Ceremony there will be dancing with live dance music provided by Descarga.

Tickets are on sale for \$85 per person or \$850 for a table of ten by calling (520) 624-1779 or visiting www.wingspan.org.

Senior Pride Tea August 20

TUCSON - Come on down for a wonderful cup of tea and some good company, Saturday, August 20, 1 - 4 p.m., at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St., for the next Senior Pride event.

Meet other LGBT folks, 55+ and learn about volunteer opportunities with the group and upcoming events.

For more information, call Pat Woelke (520) 624-1779, ext. 22, E-mail: pwoelke@wingspan.org.

Join The Fight Against Discrimination

TUCSON (ON) - The effort continues in the ongoing battle against the Center for Arizona Policy (CAP), the right-wing, homophobic group spearheading the Protect Marriage Arizona amendment (PMAA)

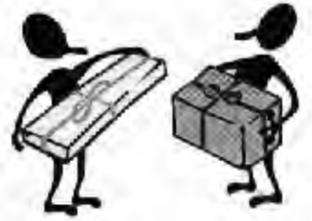
If approved the PMAA would define marriage as consisting of "one man and one woman," and prohibits the recognition or creation of any legal status for any unmarried persons similar to marriage.

This measure would strip away many benefits, including health and dental coverage, currently offered to the domestic partners, same and opposite sex, of employees of the governmental entities which offers these as well as affected many state laws and private business policies. With the PMAA, Gays and Lesbians will lose access to petition their grievances in a court of law on such matters.

One thing is clear, once the state Constitution is amended, there is no going back and we must stop those individuals, such as CAP, who insist on mandating their discriminatory will upon the rest of the state. No one is safe, regardless of their station in life. No one should feel comfortable, since this measure will affect every Gay and Lesbian so the time for involvement is now!

The LGBT Outreach and Social Continued on Page Ten

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For more information, contact Wendy Ascione 628-7223 or wascione@saaf.org



Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation



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COMMENTARY . . .

by Frank Rich

Someone Tell The President The War Is Over

Like the Japanese soldier marooned on an island for years after V-J Day, President Bush may be the last person in the country to learn that for Americans, if not Iraqis, the war in Iraq is over. "We will stay the course," he insistently tells us from his Texas ranch. What do you mean we, white man?

A president can't stay the course when his own citizens (let alone his own allies) won't stay with him. The approval rate for Mr. Bush's handling of Iraq plunged to 34 percent in last weekend's Newsweek poll - a match for the 32 percent that approved L.B.J.'s handling of Vietnam in early March 1968. (The two presidents' overall approval ratings have also converged: 41 percent for Johnson then, 42 percent for Bush now.) On March 31, 1968, as L.B.J.'s ratings plummeted further, he announced he wouldn't seek re-election, commencing our long extrication from that quagmire.

But our current Texas president has even outdone his predecessor; Mr. Bush has lost not only the country but also his army. Neither bonuses nor fudged standards nor the faking of high school diplomas has solved the recruitment shortfall. Now Jake Tapper of ABC News reports that the armed forces are so eager for bodies they will flout "don't ask, don't tell" and hang on to gay soldiers who tell, even if they tell the press.

The president's cable cadre is in disarray as well. At Fox News Bill O'Reilly is trashing Donald Rumsfeld for his incompetence, and Ann Coulter is chiding Mr. O'Reilly for being a defeatist. In an emblematic gesture akin to waving a white flag, Robert Novak walked off a CNN set and possibly out of a job rather

than answer questions about his role in smearing the man who helped expose the administration's prewar inflation of Saddam W.M.D.'s. (On this sinking ship, it's hard to know which rat to root for.)

As if the right-wing pundit crackup isn't unsettling enough, Mr. Bush's top war strategists, starting with Mr. Rumsfeld and Gen. Richard Myers, have of late tried to rebrand the war in Iraq as what the defense secretary calls "a global struggle against violent extremism." A struggle is what you have with your landlord. When the war's number-managers start using euphemisms for a conflict this lethal, it's a clear sign that the battle to keep the Iraq war afloat with the American public is lost.

That battle crashed past the tipping point this month in Ohio. There's historical symmetry in that. It was in Cincinnati on Oct. 7, 2002, that Mr. Bush gave the fateful address that sped Congressional ratification of the war just days later. The speech was a miasma of self-delusion, half-truths and hype. The president said that "we know that Iraq and Al Qaeda have had high-level contacts that go back a decade," an exaggeration based on evidence that the Senate Intelligence Committee would later find far from conclusive. He said that Saddam "could have a nuclear weapon in less than a year" were he able to secure "an amount of highly enriched uranium a little larger than a single softball." Our own National Intelligence Estimate of Oct. 1 quoted State Department findings that claims of Iraqi pursuit of uranium in Africa were "highly dubious."

It was on these false premises - that Iraq was both a collaborator on 9/11 and about to inflict mushroom clouds on

America - that honorable and brave young Americans were sent off to fight. Among them were the 19 marine reservists from a single suburban Cleveland battalion slaughtered in just three days at the start of this month. As they perished, another Ohio marine reservist who had served in Iraq came close to winning a Congressional election in southern Ohio. Paul Hackett, a Democrat who called the president a "chicken hawk," received 48 percent of the vote in exactly the kind of bedrock conservative Ohio district that decided the 2004 election for Mr. Bush.

These are the tea leaves that all Republicans, not just Chuck Hagel, are reading now. Newt Gingrich called the Hackett near-victory "a wake-up call." The resolutely pro-war New York Post editorial page begged Mr. Bush (to no avail) to "show some leadership" by showing up in Ohio to salute the fallen and their families. A Bush loyalist, Senator George Allen of Virginia, instructed the president to meet with Cindy Sheehan, the mother camping out in Crawford, as "a matter of courtesy and decency." Or, to translate his Washingtonese, as a matter of politics. Only someone as adrift from reality as Mr. Bush would need to be told that a vacationing president can't win a standoff with a grief-stricken parent commandeering TV cameras and the blogosphere 24/7.

Such political imperatives are rapidly bringing about the war's end. That's inevitable for a war of choice, not necessity, that was conceived in politics from the start. Iraq was a Bush administration *idée fixe* before there was a 9/11. Within hours of that horrible trauma, according to Richard Clarke's "Against All Enemies," Mr. Rumsfeld was proposing Iraq as a battlefield, not because the

enemy that attacked America was there, but because it offered "better targets" than the shadowy terrorist redoubts of Afghanistan. It was easier to take out Saddam - and burnish Mr. Bush's credentials as a slam-dunk "war president," suitable for a "Top Gun" victory jig - than to shut down Al Qaeda and smoke out its leader "dead or alive."

But just as politics are a bad motive for choosing a war, so they can be a doomed engine for running a war. In an interview with Tim Russert early last year, Mr. Bush said, "The thing about the Vietnam War that troubles me, as I look back, was it was a political war," adding that the "essential" lesson he learned from Vietnam was to not have "politicians making military decisions." But by then Mr. Bush had disastrously ignored that very lesson; he had let Mr. Rumsfeld publicly rebuke the Army's chief of staff, Eric Shinseki, after the general dared tell the truth: that several hundred thousand troops would be required to secure Iraq. To this day it's our failure to provide that security that has turned the country into the terrorist haven it hadn't been before 9/11 - "the central front in the war on terror," as Mr. Bush keeps reminding us, as if that might make us forget he's the one who recklessly created it.

The endgame for American involvement in Iraq will be of a piece with the rest of this sorry history. "It makes no sense for the commander in chief to put out a timetable" for withdrawal, Mr. Bush declared on the same day that 14 of those Ohio troops were killed by a roadside bomb in Haditha. But even as he spoke, the war's actual commander, Gen. George Casey, had already publicly set a timetable for "some fairly substantial reductions" to

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The Tale Of The Color TV

Once upon a time, [Sunday, August 7, 2005], there was a drawing for a large Sanyo Color TV Set at the appropriately named establishment - Colors Food and Spirits on Speedway, in the City of Tucson.

On that fateful day, there were two journalists who had been on assignment to cover the grand opening of Tucson's Gay Community Castle and afterwards went to Colors to eat and imbibe. The elder journalist noticed the Color TV to be raffled and said to his partner that it would be wonderful to win the TV and give it to the community's new castle so he bought some tickets.

Well, the Good Witch of the West apparently heard about the plan and used her powers to make the winning ticket go to the journalists who, in turn placed the prize TV into the hands of the King of the castle. And all is well with the world.



Desert Voices Open House Rehearsals

TUCSON - Singing frees your spirit. Music changes hearts, minds and lives. And singing together with others creates family. If you're looking for way to express yourself as a Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender or Straight individual, and you believe in equal rights for all people, Desert Voices may just be the chorus for you!

Open House rehearsals will be held on August 22 and 29, at Water of Life MCC, 3269 N. Mountain Ave, and will begin at 6:30 p.m. New members are invited to come and meet the chorus members and director, Chris Tackett, and participate in a voice check to determine their part in the chorus. Membership dues are paid annually or per show, and some scholarships are available. All levels of singing skills are welcome.

Desert Voices will present two concerts this season, "As We Dream By the Fire" in December of 2005 and "A Many-Gendered Fling" in April of 2006. The group will also sing at community events for a variety of different causes and celebrations. Chorus members work with director Tackett to choose music and develop their shows, weaving together familiar songs, personal experiences, laughter and outrageous parodies to create a unique theatrical event.

This amazing group will also

present "A Passionate Affair", a silent auction and cabaret in February of 2005. The chorus continues their mission in this season of "Reaching Out", singing out in celebration of the amazing diversity of the GLBT & S community, and working for equal rights for all people in these politically troubling times

If you are interested in singing with Desert Voices, or just in learning more about the chorus and their mission, please come to the Open Rehearsals, or call their office at (520)791-9662, or see their website, www.desertvoices.org, for more information. You can also email the chorus at info@desertvoices.org. Come and discover why everyone is talking about Desert Voices and the work they are doing in the Tucson GLBT community. You'll be glad you did!



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Turnabout for TIHAN Sept. 4

TUCSON - It's coming September 4th, the big event - 9th Annual Turnabout for TIHAN. This annual show is put on by Tucson's GLBT clubs and their bar staff. The staff requests donations from their friends and customers in order to do a "turnabout" from male to female (or vice versa) and put on a show for the community to benefit TIHAN (Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network).

Sunday, September 4th (Labor Day Weekend) at the Inn Suites Hotel and Conference Center on the corner of St. Mary's and Granada. Tickets are \$12.50 in advance or \$15.00 at the door. Tickets purchased at TIHAN can be charged using Visa or MasterCard. The evening also features a silent auction and raffle.

All proceeds will benefit the programs of TIHAN. For tickets or more information call 299-6647 or ask your favorite bartender. This year's show will be a fantabulous evening of glitz and glamor.

The theme for this year's Turnabout Show is "Anthems and Show-Stoppers". Be sure to mark your calendars for this is always one of the wildest nights of the year.

The event will take place on

Tucson Knight Owls Installs New Officers



TUCSON - On July 30th, Tucson Knight Owls (TKO), held their monthly meeting at their homebar, Yard Dog Saloon. At this meeting, TKO installed their new officers for the 2005-2006 term. They are left to right: Merlin Cummins, Chairman; Shawn Cummins, Vice Chairman; and Hilary Madrid Secretary/Treasurer.

After the meeting, the club held a bar-run to celebrate their 26th Birthday with stops at IBT's, Venture-N, Woody's, and lunch at Howl at the Moon.

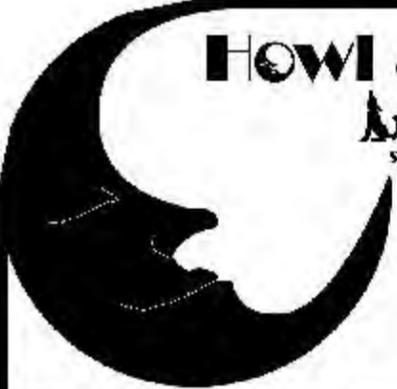
Anyone interested in joining TKO or need more information, drop in on their monthly meeting, held on the first Saturday of every month at 10:30 a.m. at the Yard Dog.




****Sat. Aug. 20th****
TKO Beer Bust
Watermelon Eating Contest
 &
BumperCuts Mobile Hair Salon
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4 - 8pm
Pork Chop Dinner @ 7pm

****Sat. Aug. 27th****
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Reveille, Tucson's Gay Men's Chorus, Seeks New Members

TUCSON - After its ground-breaking tour of Brazil this past June, Reveille Tucson Gay Men's Chorus is eager to begin its new 2005-2006 season under the continued artistic direction of Linus Lerner. The tremendous impact Linus Lerner has had during his three year tenure with Reveille will be felt for many years to come. In the ten year history of Reveille, no artistic director has done more for the sound of the chorus or has led the chorus to more stellar achievements than Linus.

When he first began directing Reveille three years ago he encountered a struggling chorus of just a handful of men and since then has built the membership up to 40 singers. He has also helmed two successful CD recording projects, led the chorus to a triumphant performance at GALA in Montreal last summer, two performance trips to Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico, and most recently a truly amazing tour of his home country of Brazil where he functioned not only as the choir's conductor but also as its tour guide.

Reveille members who were able to perform in Brazil this summer retain many wonderful memories of their solidarity with the GLBT communities of Brazil and are looking forward to a broader perspective and vision for the now local and international goals of the chorus. The 2005-2006 season promises to be equally challenging and rewarding as many local community service performances are planned in addition to outreach performances in Hermosillo, and several other towns in Sonora, Mexico. Talk continues regarding the possibility of the choir

returning to Brazil next summer, now that it has established a reputation and following in the communities it visited.

For the time being, Reveille is eager to focus on its upcoming concert on October 7th, in observance of Tucson's annual OUTOBERFEST, which will feature the songs and dances performed in Brazil this past summer. The Fall season will also be spent preparing for the choir's annual Winter Holiday Concert in December.

Reveille is eagerly and cordially accepting new chorus members and looks forward to your participation in its CAMP REVEILLE, a kick off weekend event this Sat. evening and Sunday daytime, August 20th and 21st. The event begins at 6 pm at the Tucson Botanical Gardens, 2150 N. Alvernon way, with a catered meal and a presentation by the director, Linus Lerner. Sunday morning and afternoon will provide members with a head start rehearsal that introduces the chorus to the music selected for the Fall season.

If you love to sing and would like to be a part of this dynamic group of individuals please call 617-3100 for more information. We look forward to meeting you!



Unique New Website Launched

PHOENIX - A new tool in the move for equality has been launched at www.youknowoneaz.com.

The new site, www.youknowoneaz.com will help advance a positive image for the Gay community through a campaign of openness, honesty and honest relationships. Anyone can send in a photo telling the world "You Know One," or "You Love One," or "You Are One;" the "One" referring to a Gay or Lesbian person.

Be one of the first to participate on this site by submitting your jpeg photo. Hold up a sign that says "I know one" or "I am one" or "I love one" and take a picture of yourself or your friends. Or, manipulate a photo (only if you have the rights) with the same words in Photoshop or similar program. Photos can be posted and rated from the "gallery" page.

"By coming out and leading honest lives we will show people what we have known all along...that there is nothing wrong with being Gay and living differently is not wrong," says the site developer Neil A. Schneider, who built the site with help from his brother-in-law.

"The photo gallery idea worked wonderfully for www.werenotafraid.com, a tribute against terrorism," Schneider says. "Please join the community in participating."

Those who cannot send a photo, may send a pet's photo or something else creative. "This could help initiate the coming out process for many people," he says.

There are links to Arizona Together (www.aztogether.org), the coalition to defeat the proposed marriage amendment, a vow not to sign the Center for Arizona Policy's hurtful petition and a link to register to vote. There is also a regular poll question.

"I hope to drive traffic to the great new Arizona Together site so we can defeat the hurtful and archaic marriage amendment," Schneider says. Visitors can also contribute by PayPal to help pay for the costs of running the site.

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POLITICS 2005

by Mark R. Kerr

Multiple Cap-Tasms

On Friday, August 5, former State Representative Steve May and the Rev. David Ragan of the Shadow Rock United Church of Christ engaged in a debate with Lynden Munsil and Glenn Stanton of Focus on the Family on a Phoenix radio station about the proposed, Protect Marriage Arizona amendment for the state constitution.

If approved, the PMAA would define marriage as consisting of "one man and one woman," and prohibit the recognition or creation of any legal status for any unmarried persons similar to marriage - meaning this would strip away many benefits, including health and dental coverage, currently offered to the domestic partners, same and opposite sex, of employees for the governmental entities which offers these as well as affected many state laws and private business policies.

In his Monday, August 8 "Family Misfacts Arizona," Lynden said of the radio debate, the first of many to be held before November 2006, when voters would cast their say on the PMAA if it gets on the ballot, "opponents refuse to engage on any relevant issue," and that Glenn and Lynden were called "liars" by "our opponents" and that "the facts don't seem to matter to our opponents, and when we (Lynden and Glenn) present facts they shout over us." Oh the nerve, the drama, the bull Lynden! Here are some facts for consideration:

This proposed amendment (PMAA) is supposed to be spearheaded by an organization called Protect Marriage Arizona but Munsil, Cathi Herrod and Peter Gentala are the only people that have been quoted in news accounts as well as doing radio programs, like the August 5 aforementioned spot on the Phoenix radio station.

According to CAP, either through their spokespersons or on their Web site (azpolicy.org), they are an organization is just trying to promote "marriage between a man and a woman," and "marriage between man and a woman benefits our state" but yet on their site, they have more issue briefs (position papers) on homosexuality (12) than their definition of marriage, only four. In fact, CAP has seven position papers on the subject of abortion alone.

Munsil alleges in the recent newsletter that they will continue to present a positive message about the importance of marriage between a man and woman but yet on their Web site, they have no information to help these poor men and women out who want to get hitched, i.e., the fees (perhaps a grant to help a couple out), paperwork, etc.

Is CAP really promoting marriage between a man and woman? Case in point, the recent study conducted by the Rutgers University National Marriage Project (USA Today 7/17/05, 7/18/05), that showed that the number of marriages and divorces were going down but cohabitation was on the rise. Another point to note about Rutgers University National Marriage Project, in the CAP issue brief, "benefits of marriage" the Project is cited as the first source.

On three CAP issue papers dealing with "homosexual domestic partner benefits," "benefits of marriage," and "harms of divorce," Maggie Gallagher is cited as a source of information. This is the Maggie Gallagher, a conservative columnist who got caught in the press payola scandal in the beginning of 2005, in which Gallagher, Michael McManus and Armstrong Williams received money to promote Bush administration initiatives

and objectives and in the case of Gallagher, it was marriage between a man and a woman.

CAP purports to support "traditional family values," so leading one to think maybe CAP would have many papers for heterosexual couples who may not be able to conceive children about adoption but the only issue CAP discusses, in their position papers, is "homosexual adoption," and nothing about a man and a woman adopting a child for their "traditional valued family."

So why then Lynden and his minions are really so perturbed, calling people "liars" and calling them uncivil? Just the facts which prove them wrong otherwise.

Commentary

Continued from Page Three

start next spring. Officially this calendar is tied to the next round of Iraqi elections, but it's quite another election this administration has in mind. The priority now is less to save Jessica Lynch (or Iraqi democracy) than to save Rick Santorum and every other endangered Republican facing voters in November 2006.

Nothing that happens on the ground in Iraq can turn around the fate of this war in America: not a shotgun constitution rushed to meet an arbitrary deadline, not another Iraqi election, not higher terrorist body counts, not another battle for Falluja (where insurgents may again regroup, The Los Angeles Times reported last week). A citizenry that was asked to accept tax cuts, not sacrifice, at the war's inception is hardly in the mood to start sacrificing now. There will be neither the volunteers nor the money required to field the wholesale additional American troops that might bolster the security situation in Iraq.

What lies ahead now in Iraq instead is not victory, which Mr. Bush has never clearly defined anyway, but an exit (or triage) strategy that may echo Johnson's March 1968 plan for retreat from Vietnam: some kind of negotiations (in this case, with Sunni elements of the insurgency), followed by more inflated claims about the readiness of the local troops-in-training, whom we'll then throw to the wolves. Such an outcome may lead to even greater disaster, but this administration long ago squandered the credibility needed to make the difficult case that more human and financial resources might prevent Iraq from continuing its descent into civil war and its devolution into jihad central.

Thus the president's claim on Thursday that "no decision has been made yet" about withdrawing troops from Iraq can be taken exactly as seriously as the vice president's preceding fantasy that the insurgency is in its "last throes." The country has already made the decision for Mr. Bush. We're outta there. Now comes the hard task of identifying the leaders who can pick up the pieces of the fiasco that has made us more vulnerable, not less, to the terrorists who struck us four years ago next month.

[Frank Rich is a columnist for the New York Times, for which this is reprinted from the August 14 edition.]



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GLBT Issues Destined For Supreme Court

Continued from Page One

The Massachusetts ruling relied heavily on the Lawrence decision that decriminalized homosexuality. That 6-3 ruling was penned by Justice Anthony Kennedy, a Republican appointee of President Ronald Reagan, denounced afterward as "the most dangerous man in America" by Focus on the Family founder James Dobson.

The stakes are every bit as high for Lesbians and Gays.

A Supreme Court ruling against same-sex marriage would be disastrous for the Gay rights movement, which views marriage as a core right that could in one stroke eliminate nearly all other forms of discrimination.

Fearing such a setback, Gay legal advocacy groups are deliberately holding back on challenges to the 1996 federal Defense of Marriage Act, even though the Massachusetts marriages present the first opportunity to challenge that law.

Instead, they are concentrating on getting more state courts or legislatures to permit same-sex marriage or civil unions while waiting for cultural norms to shift in their favor.

Gay advocacy groups are "trying

to make it possible for more same-sex couples to marry in more parts of the country before this matter gets taken to the Supreme Court," Davidson said. "That's not at all unusual in various human rights struggles. You don't ask the highest court to decide questions until they've been vetted by other courts and more discussed by the general public."

The only Gay rights-related case on next term's Supreme Court docket addresses whether colleges can keep military recruiters off their campuses because the military discriminates against Gays.

Bigger issues may still be several years off.

These include a challenge to Nebraska's constitutional amendment banning not only same-sex marriage but also civil unions, domestic partnerships or any similar contract between Lesbian and Gay couples.

U.S. District Judge Joseph Bataillon struck down the amendment as violating the Constitution's guarantee of equal protection, citing Romer vs. Evans. Both sides vow to take the case to the Supreme Court.

Gay rights groups are highly skeptical of Roberts on the basis of his decisions in the District of Columbia Court of Appeals and his

work for the Reagan and first Bush administrations that imply a narrow view of the judiciary's role in overseeing executive and legislative action.

They will be concentrating on whether Roberts believes the Constitution contains a right to privacy, and whether he believes the Romer case he helped win was correctly decided.

"Judicial restraint is a buzzword just like activist judge," said Evan Wolfson, head of Freedom to Marry. "Everybody's in favor of judicial restraint, but what does it mean? If it means not acting as a check against majoritarian excesses or upholding constitutional rights against im-

proper government action, then restraint is not something admirable."

Most of Roberts' work — such as a decision he joined in Hamdan vs. Rumsfeld allowing military tribunals — shows "a very cramped view of constitutional protection for personal liberty," Wolfson said.

Geoffrey Kors, executive director of Equality California, finds no reassurance in Roberts' work on Romer.

"(It) tells us absolutely nothing about his views on whether Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Americans are protected by the Constitution or whether our relationships are entitled to equal protection," Kors said.

Reporter Jumps To Logo Network

NEW YORK - CNN correspondent Jason Bellini has been named the new anchor for Logo's network news, reported 365Gay.com.

The openly Gay Bellini will work out of parent company CBS's New York newsroom to present a daily newscast on the Gay network.

Bellini will front three-to-five-minute mini newscasts which will run at various times



Jason Bellini

throughout day on Logo, which debuted in June.

Court Passant of CBS News will oversee the CBS News On Logo unit.

The unit will also provide coverage of breaking news events and feature stories of interest to the LGBT community.

"Drawing from the worldwide resources of CBS News, we will be able to offer daily reports and even provide long-form specials covering everything from the headlines of the day to feature stories," said Eileen Opatut, Senior Vice President, Original Programming, in a statement.

During the 2003 invasion of Iraq, Bellini served as an embedded reporter with an infantry Marine unit, and was one of the first CNN correspondents to reach downtown Baghdad.

Earlier, Bellini spent months in New York covering the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks as the crisis evolved into an international war on terrorism. He later traveled to

Central Asia to report on the story from Afghanistan.

He also covered the Kashmir conflict from India and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict from Gaza, the West Bank, and Israel. Bellini was also a contributor to News Night with Aaron Brown and Anderson Cooper 360.

In 2000, Bellini was a part of MTV's four-member Choose or Lose Street Team, which traveled with Presidential candidates Al Gore and George W. Bush and reported on issues of interest to younger voters.

"Jason is an experienced journalist who will use his reporting skills and range of knowledge to relay the news stories of interest to our audience," said Opatut.

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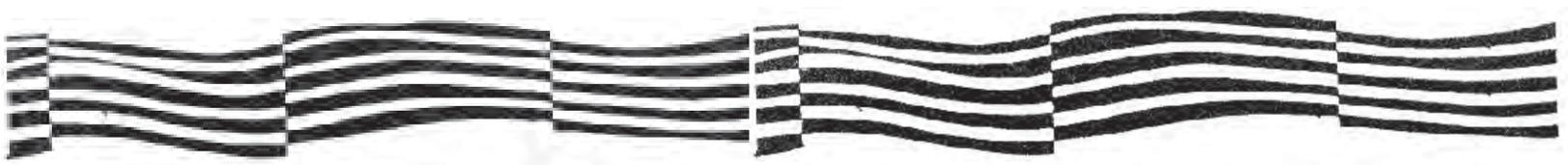
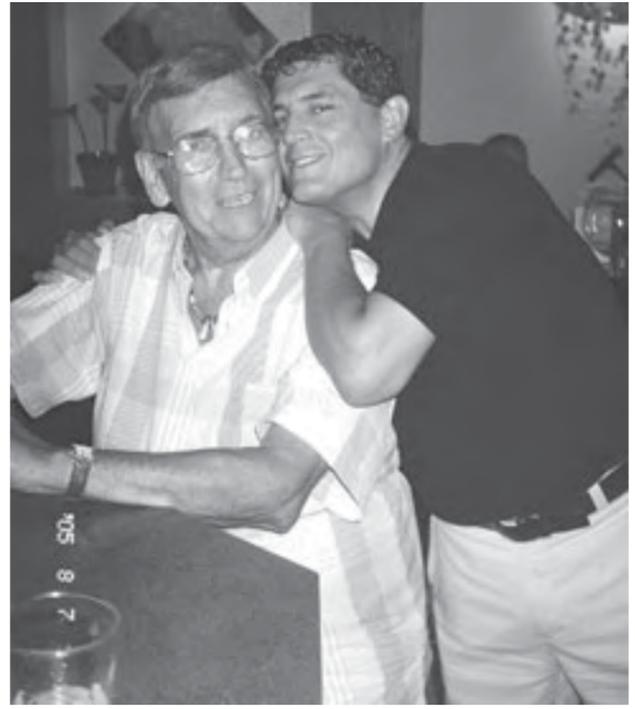
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EXPOSED!



NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE

The Poetry Center

by Lee Thorn

The University of Arizona's Poetry Center has a new home and is well on its way to having an even newer one. This after subsisting in a tiny cracker box of a house — charming, but a cracker box — for over 40 years. What can it all mean?

The Center was founded by philanthropist Ruth Walgreen Stephan and dedicated with the help of a kind of cracker-barrel poet, Robert Frost, in 1960. The current Poetry Center, up and running for a couple of years, is a spacious, airy, elegant building at 1600 E. First. The even newer one will be in the same neighborhood and will be ready for occupancy in the fall of 2006. The current building is several times bigger than the original, but the coming facility will be even bigger — 17,000 square feet!

Just at a time when popular culture has been fully flushed down the toilet, unpopular culture — namely poetry — is getting this fifty-year flood of support in a community that, to put it kindly, has never been known as a champion of serious art. What's up with that?

I wouldn't have known about any of this if the Center hadn't recently written me wanting to purchase a complete run — all 91 issues — of an avant-garde poetry journal that I've been putting out for about eight years. That in itself was a shocker. Why is a respectable academic institution buying a full run of an unfailingly disreputable poetry rag?

But here's the topper — stranger than there suddenly being money for poetry after a 40-year drought, stranger than high culture being up when low culture is down and out, stranger than academic institutions buying avant-garde work before its authors are long dead — the absolute topper is a Tucson institution, any Tucson institution, wanting to buy the artistic output of a Tucson organization. Could it be that our decades old tradition of dismissing locally produced art is finally being challenged?

I am developing a theory that's admittedly wobbly on its legs at this point. Pop culture historically borrows its ideas, its real content, from serious culture. You don't have to read the Iliad; you can wait for the movie. My notion is that as pop culture has run dry, as it has dried up to the point of "reality shows," some people with money to spend on philanthropy have become so alarmed at the dust drifting out of their TV sets that they've decided to support serious art.

Headline: Demise of Pop Culture

Sparks Second Renaissance!

As for Tucsonans taking Tucson art seriously, I can't even come up with a weak theory for that. Ted De Grazia, a now famous Tucson artist who had to build his own gallery to get a show back in the day, is no doubt spinning in his grave.

Our Poetry Center has a national reputation, a big collection (over 50,000 items), a visiting poets reading series dating from 1962, an array of non-credit community classes and workshops, a writer-in-residence program dating from 1993, and a wide variety of educational outreach activities for getting poetry into schools, jails, probably old folks' homes, to all sorts of captive audiences.

Proper respects to the Center having been paid, we now come to the funny part, the name of the building in which the Poetry Center will next reside. It will be named after a local community fund-raiser with little if any discernable connection to poetry. That's okay with me. If some lady who goes out and beats the bushes for bucks wants her name on the building, what real harm can it do?

But it's still funny. When I was delivering the back issues of my zine to the Center, I asked them, "What possible connection can this person have with poetry?" The staffers I was chatting with laughed out loud. I asked, "Why would you want to name your new building after someone who has absolutely no . . ." I was interrupted by a one-word answer. "Money." More laughter followed.

Now I'm wondering why the lady herself wants her name on the building. Perhaps she's competing with her husband who happens to have his name on another UA Building. But can't she see what a joke it will be?

[Thorn welcomes comments, suggestion 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.]

Join The Fight

Continued from Page Two

Change Committee will be holding their next meeting, Sunday, August 21, 2:30 p.m. at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th Street. These meetings are open to all, so if you want to take part, come on down to Wingspan, Sunday August 21. For more information, call (520) 624-1779, Ext. 21.

Every Thursday, is "Double Trouble Thursdays," were people can drop by Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St., 6 - 8 p.m., and help the effort to defeat the anti-LGBT PMAA, through putting together various packets, data entry, making copies, volunteer recruitment and much more, so come help out and put an end to this hate! For more information, contact Jessica Knutson at the phone number listed below.

So to get involved in Arizona Together, for Southern Arizona, call Jessica Knutson at Arizona Together, (520) 624-1779, Ext. 21, and in Phoenix and Northern Arizona, call the Arizona Together office, (602) 908-4067, or go online to aztogether.org and sign up to volunteer and get the E-mail updates.

There are two options to donate funds for the upcoming fight. If you don't wish to give online, then make checks payable to "aztogether.com" and mail them to AZTogether.com, 2303 N 44th St, #14-1548, Phoenix, AZ 85008. At their Web site, aztogether.org, people can also make secure online, credit-card donations as well.

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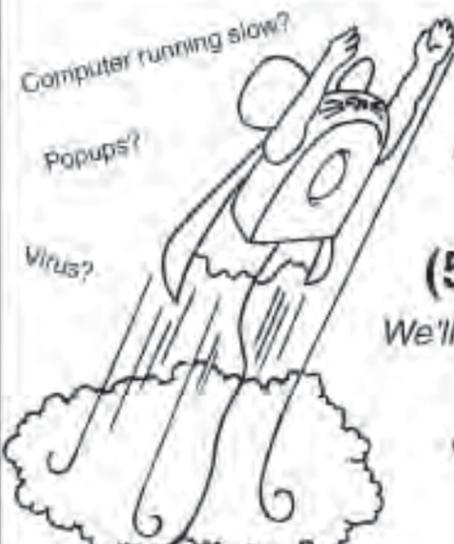
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Gay Rams, Lesbian Swans & Queer Penguins:

NEW YORK - Gay rams in Corvallis, Oregon, Lesbian swans in Boston, and Gay penguins at several zoos around the world - they may shock conservative Christian groups fighting Gay rights but for scientists they offer an insight into the origins and development of human sexuality, 365Gay.com reported.

Researchers at Oregon State University have found that about eight percent of rams are Gay. The scientists, at the university along with those at the Oregon Health & Science University and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Sheep Experiment Station, say that the finding may prove sexuality in general, and homosexuality in particular, may be biologically driven.

In rams who prefer to mount other rams, the anterior preoptic area of the hypothalamus was about half the size of this part of the brain in heterosexual rams, the researchers say in a new report.

"This was exciting to us because this area of the brain has been found in many species to regulate sexual behavior," Fred Stormshak, a distinguished professor of animal science at Oregon State and an investigator on the project, told The Gazette-Times of Corvallis on the weekend.

The investigation also targeted aromatase activity in the hypothalamus. Aromatase is an enzyme that converts androgens such as testosterone into estrogens such as estradiol. In male mammals, estrogen causes masculinization of the brain during gestation.

The researchers hypothesize that low levels of aromatase in the brain of the developing fetus "somehow keep it from becoming fully masculinized."

The news comes as Boston Parks officials disclosed that Romeo and Juliet, the famed pair of white swans in the Pubic Garden, are really two females.

U.S. Poll: HIV Vaccine Facts Elude Many

Continued from Page One

showed "it is clear that we have a lot of work to do in explaining HIV vaccine research."

Based on interviews, focus groups and media analysis, NIAID team members first developed five key messages on vaccine research. They are:

There is currently no vaccine to prevent HIV infection.

Only HIV-negative individuals can volunteer for a preventive HIV vaccine trial.

You cannot become infected with HIV from the vaccines being tested.

All populations must be involved in HIV vaccine research.

An HIV preventive vaccine, complemented by strong behavioral prevention programs and AIDS care and treatment, is the best way to end the epidemic.

"Tens of thousands of volunteers are required for the more than 30 HIV vaccine clinical trials currently planned or under way," added NIAID Director Anthony S. Fauci, M.D. "It is essential that current and future trials involve volunteers from diverse communities to enable us to find a vaccine that works for all populations."

The Summer Of Love

The manicured Garden that adjoins the Boston Common, in the city's downtown, is a tourist favorite and the swans over the years have become so popular the city added swan boats to lure more tourists to the area.

Last year, the most recent pair of real swans were purchased as chicks from a breeder.

As they grew the swans settled down together in domestic bliss. The parks people found eggs in their nest. But, they never hatched.

After doing some scientific tests they discovered the eggs had not been fertilized and more tests revealed Romeo was really a girl.

The revelation has stirred a debate in the only state where Gay marriage is legal over whether Romeo should be renamed to properly reflect

her true sex.

The Boston Globe put the question to people in the Public Garden.

"If these two swans are happy together, they shouldn't have to have a guy," said Emma Stokien, a 15-year-old from New York. "It's good to have the swans as a symbol of the acceptance in Massachusetts."

Zoos in three countries have Gay penguins. There are three Gay couples at the Bremerhaven Zoo in Germany. There are about 20 same-sex pairs at 16 major aquariums and zoos in Japan. But, two Gay penguins at the Central Park Zoo in New York broke up last year.

Roy and Silo, had been together for several years. They even put a rock simulating an egg in their nest and sat on it, keeping it warm in the folds of their abdomens. After they broke up, Roy for a while spent time with a female penguin but

that did not last long, and now the Roy and Silo live separately.

Animal sexuality is a relatively new field. The first book on the subject, Bonobo: The Forgotten Ape, unleashed a torrent of condemnation for the Christian right.

In 1999, Bruce Bagemihl published Biological Exuberance: Animal Homosexuality and Natural Diversity. It provided an overview of scholarly studies of same-sex behavior in animals. Bagemihl said homosexual behavior had been documented in some 450 species.

The book was cited by the American Psychiatric Association and other groups in a "friend of the court" brief submitted to the Supreme Court in Lawrence v. Texas, the case in which the court overturned sodomy laws.

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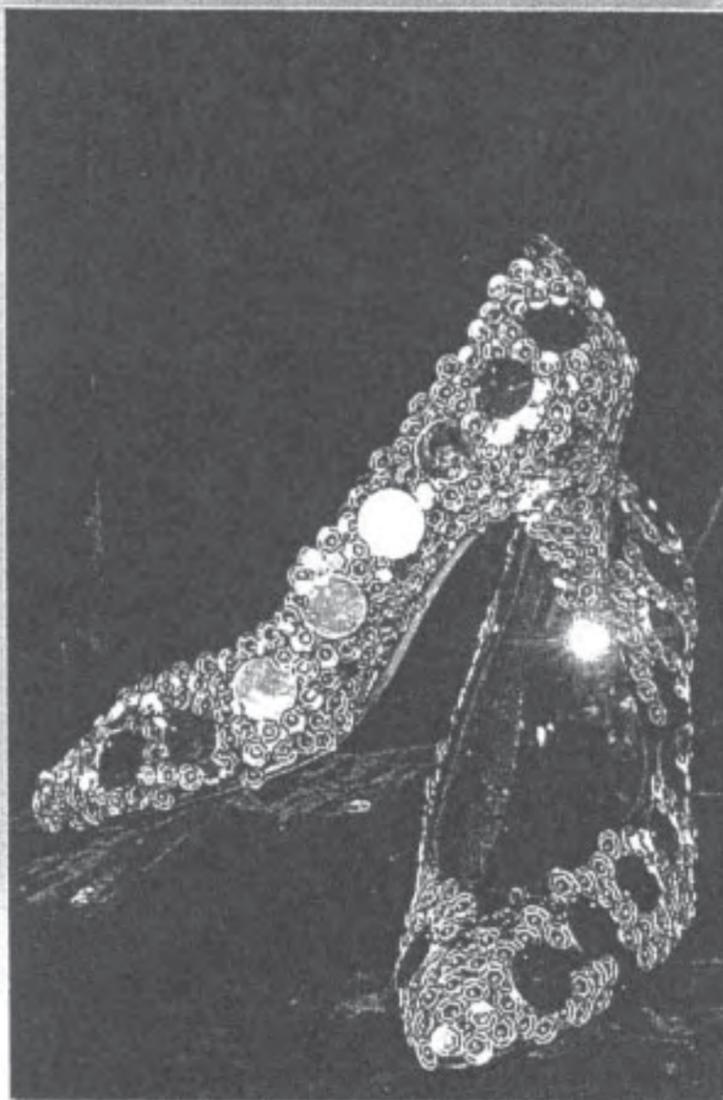


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Cherokee Lesbian Couple Face New Legal Hurdle

TULSA - Two Cherokee women are again under legal assault because of their marriage, just days after winning a victory before the tribe's highest court, the Judicial Appeals Tribunal in Tulsa, Okla.

Dawn McKinley and Kathy Reynolds obtained a legal marriage certificate from tribal authorities last year. They married in May of 2004, but before they had a chance to register their marriage with a lower tribal court clerk, a local attorney, Todd Hembree, stepped in with a challenge.

Aided by the National Center for Lesbian Rights, McKinley and Reynolds argued that Hembree lacked standing to contest their marriage. In the interim, the Cherokee Nation Tribal Council voted to define marriage as a union of a man and a woman, guaranteeing that same-sex couples in the future could not obtain a marriage certificate to begin with, let alone register a marriage with the court.

Obtaining a marriage certificate in Cherokee law is the equivalent of obtaining a marriage license in the U.S. system. After a ceremony is held, marriage licenses are signed by the officiating party and filed with the appropriate state office.

The Judicial Appeals Tribunal had ruled that Hembree indeed lacked standing to intervene in the marriage procedures, stating

that he "has failed to show that he will suffer individualized harm" as a result of the Lesbian union.

On Tuesday (August 9), members of the Cherokee Nation Tribal Council acted preemptively to block the couple from again trying to file their certificate, petitioning the high court to issue a declaratory judgment confirming that the law against same-sex marriage applies retroactively to the McKinley-Reynolds wedding.

According to the Tahlequah Daily Press, the petition was signed by eight of the 15 council members. The members also asked the court to issue a temporary injunction preventing the lower court from accepting the women's paperwork, insisting that the Cherokee Nation will suffer irreparable harm if the documents are allowed to be submitted, and possibly accepted, by the court.

"Those of us listed on the petition believe we were in a situation where we could do one of two things," said member Audra Smoke-Conner. "We could either sit back and wait to see if the couple tried to file the certificate, and if they did, wonder whether the court clerk would accept it. Or, we could act swiftly to block the filing of the certificate."

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Gay Feud Over Quadruplets

LEXINGTON - A Gay Kentucky couple that made headlines in 2002 when they became the first same-sex parents of quadruplets are back in the news as details of a nasty custody battle over the four children become public, 365Gay.com reported.

Michael Meehan and Thomas Dysarz originally planned to have two children - one fathered by Meehan, the other by Dysarz. In 2001, doctors implanted four eggs fertilized by Meehan into a surrogate mother, hoping one of the eggs would take. Instead, all four did, resulting in the births of three boys and one girl.

Last year the same surrogate was implanted with eggs fertilized by Dysarz, and a fifth child was born.

When the couple split up a battle broke over custody and time sharing of the quads who are now three.

Dysarz went to court seeking joint custody and visitation rights to visit the four toddlers. Meehan is not seeking visitation with the fifth child.

The dispute has been raging for more than a year but was not made public until court records were released, when the Kentucky Court of Appeals dismissed the case after Dysarz said he was giving up.

His appeal had centered around a Fayette Circuit Court decision in 2004 that said he did not qualify as a "person acting as a parent" under Kentucky law and had no standing to bring a custody action. The ruling had been sealed.

Fayette Family Court Judge Kim

Bunnell had ruled that Dysarz did not assume the role of a parent to the quads, but stood "alongside the biological parent."

In arguing against Dysarz before Judge Bunnell, Meehan said that "there is no prejudice to Thomas by virtue of his sexual identity, as the standard is applied across the board to step-parents, grandparents, day-care providers and others."

But, while that argument may sound amicable as far as sexuality is concerned, the rest of the case was far from it.

Meehan, who is a lawyer, claimed in court documents that the couple actually ended their relationship two months before the quads were born. The documents, show that the continued to share expenses, purchased a home together and were joint owners of a business.

Meehan alleged that Dysarz started dating someone else in the summer of 2003 and brought the man to live with the babies and Meehan.

Dysarz countered in his court filing that he and Meehan had a committed relationship for a longer period than Meehan acknowledged.

Meehan has since moved to Atlanta. Dysarz runs a Lexington beauty salon.

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New Strategy For 'Hidden HIV'

LONDON - A new treatment strategy has shown promise in helping to transform HIV into a curable infection, reported the Associated Press on the PlanetOut Network.

Preliminary research published in The Lancet medical journal outlines how scientists used an anti-convulsant drug to awaken dormant HIV hiding in the body, where it is temporarily invisible but still dangerous.

HIV infection is incurable because current drugs only work when the virus is multiplying, which occurs only when it is in an active cell. However, HIV sometimes infects dormant cells, and when it does, it becomes dormant itself.

While the virus poses no threat in its resting state, the sleeping cells sporadically wake up, reactivating the virus and causing it to multiply. Patients must continue to take medications for the rest of their lives so they can fight the virus when it comes out of the reawakened cells. Only if every last infected dormant cell is wiped out - or the virus purged from these cells - can patients stop taking medication and be virus-free, experts say.

Figuring out how to clear this reservoir of latent infection, or whether that's even possible, is one of the hottest areas of AIDS research.

Over the last few years, a handful of drugs have been shown to decrease the size of the dormant HIV pool, but they were subsequently abandoned because their effect was either too weak or the side effects too toxic.

The latest drug, valproic acid, shows more promise, said Dr. Warner Greene, director of the Gladstone Institute for Virology and Immunology at the University of California, San Francisco.

"It's a first baby step, showing that maybe the use of (this type of drug) - far more likely in combination with one or two other agents - might be a viable approach for tackling this latency problem," said Greene, who was not involved with the research but is conducting similar studies.

"The idea, if we could ever do it, is to purge every latently infected cell. Treat patients for probably two or three years, they'd be able to come off their antiretroviral therapy and they'd be virus-free," he said.

The study, led by Dr. David Margolis at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, tested the ability of valproic acid to reduce the number of infected dormant cells.

Four patients on standard therapy were given the pills to take twice daily for three months. The size of this pool of infected dormant cells decreased by 75 per cent in three out of the four patients, the study found.

"This finding, though not definitive, suggests that new approaches will allow the cure of HIV in the future," Margolis said. "It's a significant conceptual move forward."

Margolis said he believes the drug reactivates the virus inside a dormant cell, either waking up the cell with it or killing it.

Dr. Jean-Pierre Routy, a professor at McGill University in Montreal, who

also studies the dormant HIV issue, said Margolis' results were an impressive first try.

"It's enormous for just three months' treatment to have such an effect," he said, adding that the findings merit urgent further study. "I think it's very exciting news."

However, other experts were less optimistic.

"It's extremely unlikely that this approach would work," said Dr. Robert Siliciano, a professor of medicine at Johns Hopkins University who was one of the scientists who discovered the dormant infection problem in the mid-1990s. "It assumes something about the mechanism which we don't know is true. The mechanism may involve other issues that are not affected by this drug."

"It didn't get all the cells. That's probably because it's not really targeting the right mechanism for latency," Siliciano said. "It's got to be a 99.9999 per cent reduction to be useful. When you stop the drugs the virus explodes back so quickly, even if you had one latently infected cell left, in a matter of days you would be back to where you started from."

Siliciano said he also doubts the valproic acid approach will solve the problem because it's likely HIV lies dormant in other types of cells that scientists have not discovered yet and tackling those reservoirs may require a completely different approach.

"It's a little bit premature to be talking about a cure for HIV," he said.

NGLCC Assails FRC For Bigotry

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce fired back at a conservative think tank that criticized the group's recent contracting deal with the Department of the Interior, reported 365Gay.com.

The Gay group claims the conservative Family Research Council (FRC) has "taken bigotry to a new level."

The memorandum of understanding (MOU) signed in June by NGLCC and the government aims to boost Interior's outreach efforts to LGBT-owned small businesses. The department purchases more than \$4 billion a year in goods and services, with more than \$2 billion in contracts awarded to small and disadvantaged businesses.

In a recent letter to Interior Secretary Gale Norton, FRC President Tony Perkins asked for an explanation as to why the agency entered into the agreement, which he believes gives LGBT-owned businesses preferential treatment. By denouncing the MOU, the FRC is "trying to take away opportunities from the very people they purportedly claim to represent—American families," NGLCC co-founders Justin Nelson and Chance Mitchell said.

Perkins called into question whether LGBT businesses "are actually disadvantaged," and argued that there is "no basis whatsoever in federal law for such special treatment." Nelson and Mitchell said FRC can't see the forest for the trees, charging that FRC doesn't understand that LGBT-owned businesses are also American taxpayer-owned businesses and, as such, should have the same access to opportunities with the federal government.

Agencies are required to contract with small businesses as well as disadvantaged businesses and "nowhere in the statute does it say only small businesses that are owned by heterosexuals," NGLCC's leaders responded.

"Our agreement with the department is clearly written to educate business owners and offers no special treatment. This ultimate display of bigotry is shameful, unfortunate and a clear misrepresentation of the facts," they argued.

Perkins said he has still not heard from Norton, nor has he seen any indication that the director of the agency's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization "has even been reprimanded for ignoring statutory law."

NGLCC noted that similar MOUs are in effect with the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Black Chamber of Commerce, the Women's Chamber of Commerce and other business interest groups that work with Interior to share information about the federal marketplace with American small businesses. "It's unconscionable that a group called the Family Research Council is conspiring to close the doors on the American dream," Nelson and Mitchell said.

Among the divisions taking part in the MOU are the National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Geological Survey, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, Minerals Management Service, Bureau of Reclamation and the Office of Surface Mining. The Department of the Interior is the first federal agency to sign a memo expressly aimed at increasing opportunities for LGBT enterprises.



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NON-BAR CALENDAR

Wednesday, August 17
 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m.
 Join Merlin and Lee for an evening of Canasta. If you don't know how to play, they'll teach you-and it's a very relaxed atmosphere. For directions and reservations, please call Lee and Merlin at 207-5336.

Thursday, August 18
 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m.
 Join the men of MSN for Coffee Night out at Rainbow Planet Coffee House. This is a chance to have a cup of coffee and chat with the men of MSN. This is a No-host event, so please ask Barista to point you in our direction.

Friday, August 19
 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m.
 Join Lloyd as he hosts Pizza Night. For just \$5.00, come and enjoy a night of Pizza and good conversation. For reservations and directions, please call Lloyd at 792-8537. Please reserve your spot by noon on Thursday, August 18th.

Saturday, August 20
 Tucson Knight Owls (TKO) is hosting a beer bust beginning at 2:00 p.m. The bust will be held at The Yard Dog Saloon. Proceeds will go to start setting up the annual holiday meal donation from TKO

#1 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed) 7:30 am
 Join Jack & Mike and Ed & Marcus for a morning of Volleyball. This is played for fun, and you'll get to know some nice guys as you play. For details and directions, please call Mike/Jack at 881-5733 or Marcus/Ed at 407-5733.

#2 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m.
 Steve hosts Pinochle Night. If you don't know how to play, but would like to learn, this is the place. For more information, please call Steve at 664-2076.

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

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

Tuesday, August 23
 #1 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m.
 The Circle of Men is a support group that helps you deal with yourself and your relationships with others. For directions and reservations, please call Tom at 591-2828.

#2 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m.
 Terry hosts Bridge Night. If you don't know how to play, they'll teach you-and it's a very relaxed atmosphere. For reservations and directions, please call Terry at 577-3545.

Wednesday, August 24
 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m.
 Join Richard & T. Jay for Canasta. If you don't know how to play, we'll be glad to teach you. For reservations and directions, please call T. Jay and Richard at 881-7919

Thursday, August 25
 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m.

Join the men of MSN for Coffee Night out at Rainbow Planet Coffee House. This is a chance to have a cup of coffee and chat with the men of MSN. This is a No-host event, so please ask Barista to point you in our direction.

Friday, August 26
 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m.
 Lloyd hosts a fun evening of Scrabble. If you don't know how to play, we'll be glad to teach you. For reservations and directions, please call Lloyd at 792-8537.

Saturday, August 27
 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m.
 Marv hosts Pinochle Night. If you don't know how to play, but would like to learn, this is the place. For more information, please call Marv at 745-0304.

Tuesday, August 30
 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m.
 The Circle of Men is a support group that helps you deal with yourself and your relationships with others. For directions and reservations, please call Tom at 591-2828.

Wednesday, August 31
 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m.
 Join Merlin and Lee for an evening of Canasta. If you don't know how to play, they'll teach you-and it's a very relaxed atmosphere. For directions and reservations, please call Lee and Merlin at 207-5336.

Sunday, September 4
 9th Annual 'Turnabout for TIHAN' at the Inn Suites Hotel on the corner of St. Mary's and Granada. Tickets \$12.50 in advance of \$15 at the door. Available at TIHAN and most GLBT bars in Tucson. The performers request donations from their friends and customers in order to do a "turnabout" from male to female (or vice versa) and put on a show for the community to benefit the programs of TIHAN.

New Threat To Spain's G/L Marriage Law

MADRIS - A second Spanish judge has asked for a ruling on same-sex marriage from the country's Constitutional Court, reported 365Gay.com.

Judge Francisco Garcia, from Gran Canaria, has refused to register three same-sex marriages saying the law which allows Gay marriage is likely in violation of the Constitution.

Garcia said the Constitution specifically states that marriage is between a man and a woman. He has asked the high court to declare the Gay marriage law invalid.

"Heterosexuality is the fundamental and identifying element of the institution of marriage," Garcia told to the Spanish news agency Efe.

Last month a judge in the southern town of Alicante also asked for a ruling for the Constitutional Court.

Judge Laura Alabau made the announcement in refusing to grant a license to a Lesbian couple. Since then, she has blocked at least one other same-sex marriage.

The law granting Gay and Lesbian couples the right to marry passed Parliament in June. It altered the definition of marriage in the Civil Code to read

Continued on Page Fifteen



HOROSCOPES

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Retro Mercury has been tracking mud on your carpet for the past month but this week the old marauder changes direction. Not a moment too soon. Now you can mean what you say and say what you mean. Hmm just what do you mean by that?

ARIES (MAR. 21 - APR. 20)
Your creative block is... well... unblocked when Mercury redirects. Your innate gift of gab is unwrapped, displayed and justly admired. Proud Rams can finally let loose and fully enjoy themselves now that the chains of responsibility are hacked off. Make a bold statement. Ask and you shall receive. But be careful of what you demand- you may just get it. And then what?

TAURUS (APR. 21 - MAY 21)
Retro Mercury may have rained on your pride parade as the rainy storm clouds of family nonsense dampened your spirit. It might have been difficult to communicate with relatives but now it is time to proudly shine. Queer Bulls must be themselves and concentrate on their own needs and wants. Rule one: Always pack an umbrella ... and a pair of rubbers.

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)
If you've experienced run-ins with neighbors recently, blame retro Mercury and try to mend fences. Pink Twins seem to know what to say to bring heated situations from a rapid boil to a slow simmer. Turn on the charm! But if the right words don't come and you simply can't say anything nice, give 'em a big smile and dump weeds in their yard when they're not looking.

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)
Proud Crabs may have taken a financial bath during retro Mercury as their greedy ardor got the best of them. Now you can begin to reassess and reinvest what's left. Seek the right financial advisor and ask the right questions. Keep your eye on the bottom line. The next financial bath you take should consist of quarts of champagne instead of boiling oil.

LEO (JULY 24 - AUG. 23)
Retro Mercury cramped your style as your desire to please may have inadvertently trod on a few toes. Breathe a sigh of relief, proud Lion; you can now charm the pants off just about anybody and should quickly make up for lost time. Spend a little energy planning new projects with new acquaintances as you begin to plot your future position. Is it prone?

VIRGO (AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23)
Gay Virgins were clueless to the machinations of retro Mercury. Now, the light is on in your closet and you have no impediments to cleaning it out and dumping all the contents in the trash. Who knows? All this fresh air may encourage you to travel and seek new, exotic stimuli. Just how exotic is up to you. Will it involve a tub of margarine and a roll of aluminum foil?

LIBRA (SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)
Have you alienated any compadres over the past few weeks? There may be too many to count, proud Libra. Although they have been fairly forgiving, the strains may still be showing. Don't wait. Make up for lost time and a few misunderstandings with a few Gay get togethers. Bosom buddies will be closer to you more than ever. How about a group grope ... err hug?

SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)
It is time to repair your corporate ladder. Mercury redirects this week and so does your Fortune 500. Not a moment too soon - you were beginning to slip into the belly of the mailroom. With the right meetings and careful conversations to the powerful few, queer Scorps can recoup their losses and receive a helping hand. At this point

you'll need to use every finger.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)
Legal processes may have had their snafus when Mercury was in contempt of court with many hostile witnesses. This week however Gay Archers can rest their case and show their briefs. But don't rest on anything else; You will be given a rare opportunity for extravagant and exotic travel. Either that or a possible trip to the corner honky tonk for some wilde honky tonkying.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)
If you find yourself sitting upstream without a paddle, be prepared to happily coast along when Mercury redirects now. Pink Caps find more interesting and sexy possibilities as the week progresses. Look sharp, lover. You pull into overdrive, seek more pop ups and have quite a bit more zip in your corruptible hard drive. Just steer clear of any spam or viruses.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)
Aqueerians might have run their dearest and queerest relationships over hot coals while Mercury retrograded. Now that you have grilled things over from rare to well done it's time to sit down and examine the arrangement. You begin to yearn for permanence and balance. Don't spend time dreaming of what might be. Get off your duff and start cooking.

PISCES (FEB. 20 - MAR. 20)
If work has been especially annoying recently blame retro Mercury and welcome it's change of direction for the better this week. Guppies seem to have improved their negotiation skills as well their ability to better organize their thoughts and projects. Maybe it's time to ask for that overdue raise. If they refuse, you can always parlay your skills in the pond up the street.

New Threat To Spain's G/L Marriage Law

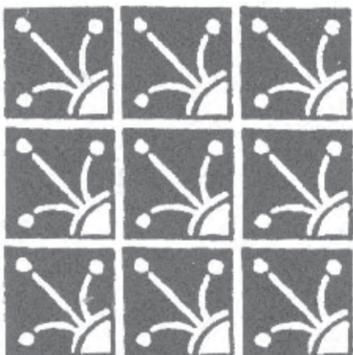
Continued from Page Fourteen

"Marriage shall have the same requirements and effects whether both parties are of the same or of the opposite sex."

If Spain's Constitutional Court decides to hear the case it has the power to nullify the new law.

Spain's major opposition party said it may join the constitutional challenge. The Partido Popular was the main opponent to the legislation in Parliament.

The government said it is confident the law will survive any constitutional challenge. On Wednesday (August 10), the justice ministry overturned a decision by a court in Catalonia that prevented foreign same-sex couples from marrying.





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Roberts Role In Romer Seen As Too Pro-Gay To Some

RICHMOND - A conservative group in Virginia said Tuesday (August 9) it would oppose Supreme Court nominee John Roberts's confirmation because of his role in helping to repeal an antiGay amendment to the Colorado constitution, reported the Associated Press on Advocate.com.

The stance by Public Advocate of the United States, which describes itself as a pro-family organization, puts it in opposition to conservative groups that have endorsed Roberts. A number of liberal groups oppose President Bush's nominee. "The move comes as a result of Roberts's support for the radical homosexual lobby in the 1996 Supreme Court case Romer v. Evans, which overturned a pro-family law passed by the citizens of Colorado in an appalling act of judicial activism," the group said in a news release. It planned a news conference for Wednesday in front of the Supreme Court.

The group's president, Eugene Delgaudio, had said last week that if "Judge Roberts did provide advice on how to overturn this pro-family measure overwhelmingly supported by the people of Colorado, then Public Advocate calls on President Bush to withdraw his nomination of Judge Roberts immediately." Messages left for Delgaudio seeking comment were not immediately returned on Tuesday.

This is not the first time Delgaudio has gone up against the Bush administration. He criticized Vice President Dick Cheney last year after the vice president, when asked about Gay marriage, said, "Freedom means freedom for everyone." Delgaudio said then, "'Freedom' is not embracing perversion."



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Wingspan launches the Anti-Violence Project – a community initiative to assist lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender victims of discrimination, domestic violence, sexual assault and hate crimes. Call the Anti-Violence Project 24-Hour Crisis Line at 624-0348, or toll-free 1-800-553-9387.



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DAILY BAR CALENDAR

sunday

COLORS - Open 11am - 11pm Champagne Brunch 11am - 2pm with choice of complimentary mimosa, Bloody Mary or Screwdriver. Happy Hour 4-7pm \$2 skyy Cocktails, \$3 Skyy Martinis, \$2 Domestic and half price appetizers. Full menu served 2-10pm. Nightly dinner specials.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 11:00 am. Chuckwagon Breakfast 11am - 1:30pm, - Scrambled eggs, hash brown, biscuit & sausage gravy and your choice of Bloody Mary, Screwdriver or Mimosa. 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. \$2.00 Bloody Marys or Screws til 3pm Patio Beer Bust 3-7. Burger BBQ 5-7. Selection of burger meats to choose from. \$3 proceeds go to Pet Watch (helping HIV/AIDS clients with their veterinary bills).

WOODY'S - Open 11am. Brunch \$5, 11:30 - 2:30. Patio open 1pm-close. Yard games on the grass. Beer Bust 16oz \$1 2-7p. \$2.50 Sirloin Burger or Chicken w/sides 5-9pm. Karaoke with Michael D. 9pm-close. Drag Bingo every other Sunday 8-9

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 9am. Patio 6pm. Free pool til 4pm. \$2.75 Skyy & Beefeaters Martinis.

WOODY'S - Open 10am. w/Special Happy Hour til 2pm \$1.50 well or domestic longnecks. 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 Skyy cocktails, \$3 Skyy Martinis, \$2 Domestic and half-price appetizers. 1st Tuesday of month "Dinner & Movie" sponsored by GMHP. All other Tuesdays "Dinner and a Concert" shown on 52" projection system. Full menus served until 10pm.

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 9am. Patio 6pm. Free Pool til 4pm. Spaghetti Nite (2nd Tuesday every month \$2.00).

WOODY'S - Open 10am w/Special Happy Hour til 2pm \$1.50 well or domestic longneck. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. 80s Nite 9-close. \$1 off to those wearing 80s concert T-shirt. (Excludes draught & schnapps).

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 Skyy cocktails, \$3 Skyy Martinis, \$2 Domestic and half-price appetizers 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. Free Pool all day. Draught Beer Specials all day.

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. \$2.75 Cuervo Margaritas 4-8pm

WOODY'S - Open 10am w/Special Happy Hour til 2pm \$1.50 well or domestic longnecks. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. Underwear- fetish-leather nite \$1 off for those wearing underwear-fetish or leather. (Excludes draught & 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 Skyy cocktails, \$3 Skyy Martinis, \$2 Domestic and half-price appetizers. 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. \$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 9am. 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 \$6.00.

WOODY'S - Open 10am w/Special Happy Hour til 2pm \$1.50 well or domestic longnecks. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. Free Pool all day. NTN Game Nite w/prizes 9-close. \$1 Pabst Blue Ribbon. Patio bar open 8pm-close

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 Skyy cocktails, \$3 Skyy Martinis, \$2 Domestic and half-price appetizers. Full menu served 4-11pm. Nightly Dinner Specials. 6:30-9:30pm. "Hot Jazz, Cool Martinis" with Susan Artemis 10pm "Guys & Dolls" hosted by Lucinda Holliday. 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,, Hot Dance with DJ Mike Lopez 9pm-2am.

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

WOODY'S - Open 10am.w/Special Happy Hour til 2pm \$1.50 well or domestic longnecks. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. Patio Bar open 8-close. Party w/DJ Jeff 9-close.

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

saturday

COLORS - Open 4pm-2am, Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$2 Skyy cocktails, \$3 Skyy Martinis, \$2 Domestic and half-price appetizers Full menu served 4-11pm. Nightly dinner specials. Amber Norgard sings originals and cover tunes 6:30-9:30pm. Reservations suggested.

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. \$4.00 Cheeseburger & 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 Teryaki Kabobs on the patio. 8:30pm Show time w/ Ajia Simone or Jancee Star. DJ Q spinning Club Music inside and Mike Lopez spinning on the patio 10pm to close..

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

WOODY'S - Open 10am. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. \$5 Steak or Fish w/all the trimmings 5-9. Patio Bar open 5-close. Live Jazz w/Arthur Migliazza on the patio 6-9. Party w/DJ Jeff 9-close.

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am. Beer Bust 3-7pm. 75¢ glass, \$2.25 pitcher. 50¢ off any Rum 1pm to 7pm. Beer Bust 3-7pm. Kennel Open 9pm.

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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 traditional 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 at

Of reported demographic information from participants, 60% of all registered walkers are female, two thirds are under 35, and one-fourth are under 18.

BAR CALENDAR Of Upcoming Events

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17

WOODY'S - Gay Men's Health Project (GMHP) Underwear Party. Play Twister in your shorts.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18

WOODY'S - Wet Shorts Contest 10:00 p.m. \$75 First Place.

SATURDAY AUGUST 20

HOWL AT THE MOON - Ellas de Noche Latino Drag Show back by popular demand. The fun starts at 10:00 p.m.

VENTURE-N - Bucky's 'world famous' Reubens and BLTs will be served from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Then from 7 p.m. until midnight Full Moon Aftermath.

WOODY'S - Airbrush Tattoo Party and Tattoo drink specials.

YARD DOG SALOON - Tucson Knight Owls (TKO) is hosting a beer bust beginning at 2 p.m. Proceeds will go to start setting up the annual holiday meal donation from TKO. Watermelon Eating Contest. And BumperCuts Mobile Hair Salon Haircuts by Hunter 4-8 p.m. Pork Chop Dinner at 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

WOODY'S - Giant Jenga Party 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. with Bud Specials.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24

WOODY'S - Boys Gone Wild Underwear Party 9:00 p.m. to closing. Drink specials for those in underwear, Leather or Fetish.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25

VENTURE-N - It's Steak Nite here from 6 to 8 p.m. Only \$6.00 and it includes salad and baked potato.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

HOWL AT THE MOON - Moon Glow Painting Party - black lights, body paints - Oh Yeah!

YARD DOG SALOON - BraveHeart Party. (Men in Kilts!!!!)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

VENTURE-N - Jungle Party!!!! Get your free loincloth. Ask the bartender for instructions. Jungle party favors
Costume contest. \$1 Jell-o shots.



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, 425 E. 7th Street. Call 624-1779 for more information.

YOUNG AND GAY? GLBT Youth 23 and under, meet every Saturday in Tucson for sharing, support and information. Meetings are held at 425 E. 7th 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 743-0810, 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 M-F.

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, 425 E. 7th St., offers support groups / info line / social events / library / meeting space. Volunteer Opportunities. Board meetings every 2nd Thursday (open to all), 6:00 p.m. Information 624-1779.

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

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

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

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

BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO — a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, Call the Bears 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.

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

DESERT VOICES, Tucson's Gay, Lesbian, 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.

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

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

CARE TEAMS ARE AVAILABLE to offer support to people living with HIV/AIDS. The Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network offers trained, compassionate and committed volunteers to provide services including friendly visits, light housekeeping, assistance with meals, shopping, errands, transportation and companionship for medical appointments, and respite care for primary care givers. No judgement or proselytizing - we are here to be of service. For information call Scott at 299-6647.

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

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

THE MEN'S 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.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GLBT, Tucson's Gay and Lesbian business networking group holds regular meetings the third Thursday of every month. Call 615-6436 for more info. www.tucsonglbtchamber.org

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 til 9:00 p.m. The group dines out and attends shows or movies. Now in their 16th year! (2nd in Tucson).

SOUTHERN ARIZONA GENDER ALLIANCE (SAGA). The Southwest's largest transgender and gender-variant advocacy organization. Speakers and panelists available. General meetings monthly on the 1st Mondays at 7pm; Dezerz Girlz MTF Support) meets 2nd Mondays at 7pm; Dezerz Boyz (FTM Support) meets 3rd Tuesdays at 7pm. Also serving partners, youth, intersex, service providers and allies. Call (520)867-0083 for more info.

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

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

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

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

AAPSP - ARIZONA ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY PROFESSIONALS: a confidential organization committed to providing support and networking for all Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual public safety professionals in Arizona. Membership open to Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters, Probation, Parole and Corrections Officers and civilians working within these agencies. Website: AAPSP.org 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, 425 E.7th Street. 743-4800.

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

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

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

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

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

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

LIKE TO READ? The Guys' Book Club (TGBC) invites new members to join us. The group meets once a month, on the 3rd Monday, at 6:30 p.m. Reading selections include Gay-themed novels, bios and other nonfiction. For location or more info, email Bryan at Bryansct@aol.com

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

LGBT BUDDHIST MEDITATION GROUP. Join us for two 20 minute silent sitting meditations, a reading from a Buddhist religious text and discussion. Bring a friend and a pillow or cushion. Meets every Sunday from 10:00 - 11:30am at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St.. Contact Sean Seeba at 622-8759 for more information.

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

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

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

SUN WORSHIPERS OF TUCSON (SWOT) is a local men's nudist organization for men of all ages. Events feature swimming, hot tubbing and socializing in a relaxed, private setting. Check out our website at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/swot>. Bi-weekly daytime meetings, Saturdays at 10am and Sundays at 2pm. Contact John at 327-3135 for more info and upcoming dates.

MAN TO MAN INTENTIONAL COMMUNITY FORMING for anyone wanting quality friendships, better health and more passion in their lives. This group has far-reaching benefits for those who want to explore their own spirituality, sexuality and purpose in life. Weekly social events include Keys to Healthy Relationships, and Be Your Own Best Lover. Also events include entertainment like dinner, movies, theater and art. Group discussions. Group fun with intimacy, spontaneity and play. A great way to meet other men who are on a more focused path. Contact Marc Haberman, Holistic Health Practitioner at 881-4582.



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Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual,
and Transgender
Community Center**

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