



Observing Tucson And  
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

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WEEKLY OBSERVER

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## Flu Virus Joins HIV In Resisting Drugs

ATLANTA - The government, for the first time, is urging doctors not to prescribe two antiviral drugs commonly used to fight influenza after discovering that the predominant strain of the virus has built up high levels of resistance to them at alarming speed, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com.

A whopping 91 percent of virus samples tested by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention this flu season proved resistant to rimantadine and amantadine, a huge increase since last year, when only 11 percent were. The discovery adds to worries about how to fight bird flu should it start spreading among people. Health officials had hoped to conserve use of two newer antiviral drugs, Tamiflu and Relenza, because they show activity against bird flu, unlike the older drugs.

Now, because of the resistance issue, the newer drugs are being recommended for ordinary flu, increasing the chances that resistance will develop more rapidly to them, too, as they become more commonly used. The newer drugs work against Type A and B influenza strains; the older ones work only against Type A, but cost less and are available in generic form.

CDC officials took the unusual step of calling a Saturday news conference to announce that the predominant strain this season - the type A H3N2 influenza strain - was resistant to the older drugs. "Clinicians should not use rimantadine and amantadine ... because the drugs will not be effective," said CDC director Dr. Julie Gerberding. She said the lab tests, which CDC scientists had been analyzing since Friday (Jan. 13), surprised health officials and the health agency rushed to get the word out. "I don't think we were expecting it to be so dramatic so quickly this year," Gerberding said. "We just didn't feel it was responsible to wait three more days during a holiday weekend to let clinicians know."

The CDC tested 120 influenza A virus samples from the H3N2 strain and found that 109 were resistant to the two drugs. Two years ago, less than 2 percent of the samples were resistant. Last year, 11 percent were. Gerberding said the agency didn't know how the resistance occurred, saying it may have been the result of a mutation in the virus or overuse of the drugs abroad, such as in countries that permit the drugs to be purchased without a prescription.

One flu expert, Dr. William Schaffner of Vanderbilt University, said the development was "disconcerting" as flu now has joined the ranks of other diseases, such as tuberculosis and HIV, that recently have acquired the ability to

resist front-line medications. But Schaffner said doctors have other options to fight influenza.

The CDC said that all H3 and H1 influenza viruses the agency has tested so far are susceptible to the newer antivirals: Tamiflu, also known as oseltamivir, and Relenza, also called zanamivir. Doctors also recommend an annual flu shot to help prevent getting influenza in the first place.

"Tamiflu is now readily available everywhere \_ in most places, it is the primary antiviral being used" against flu, Schaffner said. "But we're always a bit frustrated when one of the therapeutic agents is foreclosed. It makes every infectious disease doctor worry a little bit."

That's especially worry with fears that bird flu could become turn into a human epidemic. The bird flu spreading through Asia infects people relatively rarely, but officials worry that it might morph into a form that spreads more easily, triggering a worldwide super-flu outbreak. The CDC said it planned to alert doctors throughout the country via its emergency Health Alert Network and through a special edition of its weekly journal, the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report.

Each year, the flu kills about 36,000 people, and some 200,000 are hospitalized because of it in the United States, the CDC said. As of Dec. 31, the latest CDC data available, flu activity was only considered widespread in seven U.S. states, mainly in the Southwest and West: Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, Utah, Nevada and California.

## NGLTF Gets \$3-Million Grant

SUMMARY: The LGBT rights movement hit a fund-raising milestone as the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Foundation announced it received a \$3 million grant for its advocacy work.

The award, to be spread over three years, comes from the Arcus Foundation and its founder and president, Jon Stryker, task force officials said Tuesday (Jan. 10)

"This combined award of \$3 million by Mr. Stryker and the Arcus Foundation will make a huge difference to the LGBT movement at the state and local level," said task force Executive Director Matt Foreman. "Not only is it the largest award ever

## A Lesson In Humanity : Dr. Martin Luther King



by Julian High and Donna Payne

By the Most of America's greatest heroes never make it out of the shadows. Martin Luther King Jr. certainly was not one of them. But as we celebrate one of our greatest American heroes this weekend (Jan. 14 - 15), we should follow Dr. King's own vision by not looking toward the spotlight but toward the ordinary.

It's not the people making headlines who will have the greatest affect on our freedom, but the people in our own backyards who can shape the future.

Take Dr. King himself, a man who found peace in conflict through conversations with his friends and family. While many of us now know of Gay civil rights leader Bayard Rustin's vital role in organizing the March on Washington, it's less known that before he ever became a historical figure, Rustin helped shape Dr. King's commitment to pacifism.

Rustin didn't introduce a bill or organize a petition drive to let Dr. King know his feelings about non-violence. He talked to him.

We shouldn't ignore political acts, or the people who make headlines. But too often we ignore how our own voices can shape the discussion.

Sunday (Jan. 15) would have been Dr. King's 77th birthday. Let's salute Dr. King by raising our voices.

The new year comes with a new set of goals. At the Human Rights Campaign, one of our goals is to use our voices to talk to our neighbors, our friends, our family, our co-workers and our fellow churchgoers. We're going to talk about our commitment to Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender equality. We're going to do this when the opportunity presents itself, but we're also going to create those opportunities ourselves.

We must raise our voices because by not doing so we are putting ourselves at great risk.

This year, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released some startling new statistics. In

five major U.S. cities, of African-American men who have sex with men, almost half are living with HIV. And two-thirds of them don't know it.

Our brothers and sisters are being decimated by this disease. But it's not the disease that's killing us. It's our silence. Yes, our government could do more, but we must be a part of the solution.

Dr. King spoke up. And the essence of his speaking wasn't about politics. It was humanity. When he made his most famous speech, he didn't dream of passing legislation. He dreamt of the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners sitting down together. He dreamt of people.

And he never lost hope. As we look ahead as at the coming year, we must never lose hope.

It's past time to break down the divisions that exist in America. We must look at each other's differences not as walls that keep us apart but as bricks that make our foundation stronger. And we must start in our own backyards.

Dr. King assured us that we all belonged to the struggle for equality and dignity. No matter the color of our skin, the gender we identify as, the faith we hold dear or the person we love, we are all each others' brothers and sisters.

We have a political fight coming up in 2006. But it's not going to be won by polls and message points. It's going to be won by us shaking the hand of the candidate and talking. Telling her what we care about. Finding out if we have a connection. And, if she does, then it will be won by us talking to our family about her, our friends and our neighbors.

It's time we stopped being frustrated when our enemies are in the spotlight and started to put the spotlight on the heroes we want to be seen. And it's up to us to find those people, to help them get there and to say to ourselves with great satisfaction, "Yes, I may be in the shadows, but I am doing my part."

[Julian High is the Human Rights Campaign's Director of Diversity, and Donna Payne is a Senior Constituency

Continued on Page Thirteen



# UPDATE

## TIHAN Update

TUCSON - Do you like the satisfaction of doing a good job that enables others to work more efficiently? Then consider joining Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network's (TIHAN) team of database input volunteers.

The project: Maintain database by entering update information, entering information for new entries, adjusting family and organization entries as situations change, and tracking people's group memberships. Approximately 2 - 4 hours per week, based on times you are available. The qualifications: General knowledge of how a database works, detail-oriented, ability to maintain confidentiality, and willingness to attend an upcoming TIHAN volunteer training session.

If you enjoy working quietly, are detail-oriented, type accurately, and can follow the same input methods as other team members, this may be the opportunity for you! Call Leslie Johnson, TIHAN Administrative Assistant, (520) 299-6647. . . .

TIHAN has begun a walk-in volunteer opportunity for anyone who is interested in helping out for an hour or two in the evening! Starting in January, every Thursday evening from 5:30 p.m.- 8:00 p.m., TIHAN will be welcoming volunteers at the office to help with mailings, event planning, volunteer coordination, and more! TIHAN is inviting anyone who finds it easier to volunteer in the evening to consider this opportunity. Since so many people are tied up with work and school during the day, our staff is extending our office hours for Thursday nights to make it more convenient for people to begin to get involved and volunteer.

Please call the office (520) 299-6647, if you are planning on coming in on a given Thursday (and if you know Excel, Publisher, or Outlook, let them know that you are coming so that we can set up a special project for you). Drop in, meet some new friends, and help out TIHAN for an hour or two! Snacks provided.

## Medical Forum Jan. 26

TUCSON - Do you think your doctor is open and knowledgeable of LGBT people's needs, open and not knowledgeable of LGBT people's needs, closed and judgmental and disinterested - believing that sexual orientation and gender identity are irrelevant to one's health?

Coming out to your Doctor could be an essential step in receiving the accurate health care that you need and deserve and on Jan. 26, 6 - 8 p.m. at Wingspan, 425 E. 7<sup>th</sup> St., join Wingspan's Serina Preciado, Bilingual Health Educator and Ed Ware, Anti-

Violence Project Advocate / Educator, and Dr. Dexter, our ally and local physician for this important forum and explore, in a safe and supportive environment, about the pros and cons and process of coming out to your doctor.

For more information, call Serina Preciado, (520) 624-1779, ext. 25, E-mail: [preciado@wingspan.org](mailto:preciado@wingspan.org).

## LGBT People Of Color Coalition Forming

TUCSON - The LGBT People of Color Coalition will meet monthly to discuss social justice, political change, creating coalitions, building solidarity within our communities, and preventing the divisions that happen when we experience multiple, intersecting oppressions.

The First Meeting will take place Sunday Jan. 22, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the Anzaldúa room at Wingspan, 425 East 7th St.

For more information, please contact Angie Rose at (520) 690-0546.

## Observer Archives Completely On-Line

TUCSON (ON) - The Observer archive, after a technical delay has now been completed uploaded and is online at [tucsonobserver.com/archives.html](http://tucsonobserver.com/archives.html).

Who would have thought the delay dealt with Y2K? It wasn't the supposed computer glitch that was to screw up the computers at the turn of the millennium (2000) but a delay with the file for The Observer for the year 2000.

After the delay, Observer Y2K is now online for your review. The management and staff wishes to express its thanks to Mighty Mouse Consulting for creating, uploading and maintaining the archive, as well as the website.

A big thanks goes out to the LGBT and HIV/AIDS communities, organizations and businesses, who contributed funds to make this a reality, so that Tucson's LGBT and HIV/AIDS history can be preserved for now and the future. So enjoy the archive, complete going back to 1976!

## GLBT Issues Commission Update

TUCSON - The City of Tucson Commission on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Issues needs you! The GLBT Commission is a group of individuals who advise the Mayor and Council on local, state, and national issues affecting our community.

Continued next column

## In Memoriam



Scott Alan Childress

Born August 16, 1965 in Fairbanks, Alaska, died January 14, 2006. Survived by life partner, Joseph Roos; parents Stephen and JoAnn Childress; sisters Theresa Harrington (Jim), son John, Stephanie Shire, children Chelsea, Devan and Braden, and Stacey Yeager (Wes), daughter Sarah; aunt Judy Hines (Tom) and family; aunts Linda, Lorraine, and Gina (Lloyd); and Cousins Dan and Patrick.

Scott graduated from Catalina High School, Tucson in 1983. Attended University of Arizona and University of Phoenix, where he graduated with his Masters degree in 2003. He worked for Ratheon for the past five years as a computer engineer.

Scott was loved and will be remembered by his numerous relatives and friends. Funeral services 6:00 p.m., Thursday, January 19, 2006 at Streams in the Desert Lutheran Church, 5360 E. Pima St., with Pastor Tom Dunham officiating. Reception to follow at 5512 E. Spring Street.

The family requests donations be made to the Scott Childress Computer Science Scholarship Fund, % Presidio School, 1695 E. Ft. Lowell Road, Tucson, AZ 85719.

Friends may call from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 18 at Bring's Broadway Chapel, 6910 E. Broadway.

In addition to working with the City to implement and enforce its non-discrimination policy, the GLBT Commission was instrumental in drafting Tucson's Domestic Partner Registry and educates groups such as the Tucson Police Department and TUSD teachers on GLBT issues. Come voice your opinion, share your thoughts, and get involved in your Commission.

Commission meetings are the third Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m., in the EOO Conference Room - 100 North Stone Avenue, first floor. Visit us at [www.tucsonglbtcommission.org](http://www.tucsonglbtcommission.org) or E-mail Melissa Noshay Petro with any questions: [mpetro@chandlerudall.com](mailto:mpetro@chandlerudall.com).



How can I help?

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

Sign up today!

Contact Wendy Ascione at 628-7223 or [wascione@saaf.org](mailto:wascione@saaf.org)



Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation



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# Why ‘Brokeback Mountaiin’ Is So Frightening

By Leonard Pitts Jr.

I went to see “Brokeback Mountain,” mainly to prove to myself that I could.

This was after reading a New York Times piece by Larry David of “Seinfeld” and “Curb Your Enthusiasm” fame in which he wrote that, though he loves Gay people and supports both Gay marriage and Gay divorce, he does not plan to see this critically praised movie about Gay cowboys. David said he’s discomfited by the idea of watching two men fall in love and fears it might make him Gay by osmosis.

“Not,” he added, “that there’s anything wrong with that.”

It strikes me that David’s essay amounted to the smiley-face liberal version of what is being said more bluntly in conservative circles. “Gay love story carries a high ‘ick’ factor” reads the headline of a story on the American Family Association Web site. It quotes a prediction that people will leave the theater vomiting.

How asinine, I think.

Yeah, says a little voice in my head, but if that’s how you feel, why haven’t YOU been to “Brokeback Mountain”?

Well, I protest, right now I’m teaching in this tiny college town in the middle of nowhere. I’d have to drive 90 miles.

Good point, says the voice.

But didn’t you drive that far to see “Good Night, and Good Luck”?

Now look, I say, and suddenly there’s this wheedling tone to my voice, some of my best friends are Gay. Heck, my own brother’s Gay. But you know, we ARE talking about a love story between two guys, and they might be kissing and, you know, touching and ... stuff.

The little voice falls silent. It is a put-your-money-where-your-mouth-is silence.

So I went to see “Brokeback.” And I can report that it was as shattering and powerful as advertised. People were moved. Nobody threw up.

Which brings me back to that ick factor.

I find myself wondering if this primeval revulsion doesn’t speak less to our antipathy toward homosexuality than to our fears about masculinity. I mean, while a movie about two women in love would surely be controversial, I doubt it would present the visceral threat “Brokeback Mountain” does for some of us. I doubt Larry David would be scared to see it.

Indeed, the idea of women who can’t keep their hands off each other is a staple of so-called men’s entertainment. Visit a magazine stand if you don’t believe me. In the ‘80s, it seemed as if every Prince video had band members Lisa and Wendy groping each other.

Point being, when it’s women,

we - meaning straight men - tend to find it titillating, exotic, arousing in its very forbiddance. When it’s men, we - meaning straight men AND women - tend to react as if somebody dropped a snake in the bed. Small wonder the FBI reports that while 902 men were reported victims of sexual orientation hate crimes in 2004, ONLY 212 women were.

We seem prone to find male homosexuality the more clear and present danger, the more urgent betrayal of some fundamental ... something. Some will say it’s - and I will finesse this for a general audience - the nature of man-to-man sex some of us find off-putting. I think it’s more basic than that. I think Gay men threaten our very conception of masculinity.

The amazing thing about “Brokeback Mountain” is its willingness to make that threat, directly and overtly. These are not cute Gays, funny Gays, “Queer Eye for the Straight Guy” Gays. These are “cowboys,” and there is no figure in American lore more iconically male. Think Clint Eastwood, John Wayne, the Marlboro Man. The cowboy is our very embodiment of male virtues.

In offering us cowboys who are Gay, then, “Brokeback Mountain” commits heresy, but it is knowing heresy, matter-of-fact heresy. Nor is it the sex (what little there is) that makes it heretical. Rather, it’s the emotion, the fact that the movie dares you to deny these men their humanity. Or their love.

Ultimately, I think, that’s what

the Larry Davids among us sense. And why for them, “Brokeback Mountain” might be the most frightening movie ever made.

[Leonard Pitts is a columnist for the Miami Herald, from which this article is reprinted.]

## Girl Expelled Over Same-Sex Kiss Files Suit

LOGANSVILLE - A private school is facing a \$1 million lawsuit after school authorities expelled a ninth grader for kissing another girl during a slumber party, reported the PlanetOut Network.

Jessica Bradley was ejected from the Covenant Christian Academy for showing “disregard for the spirit of the school standards,” after word of the kiss filtered up to the school’s principal last spring. According to press reports of the complaint, Jessica’s father, Ronald Bradley, sued the school for invasion of privacy and breach of contract, arguing that the school reneged on its promise to educate his daughter in exchange for tuition.

The school delivered its answer to the Gwinnett County Superior Court, maintaining that the religious-based decisions of a Christian school are not subject to judicial review. But speaking to the Associated Press, Bradley’s lawyer, David Clark, said that the Constitution’s guarantee of religious freedom “does not give [the school directors] the absolute right to act how they wish to act.”

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# UPDATE

## OUToberfest And Pride Parade Figures Released

By Mark R. Kerr

TUCSON (ON) - Between 5-6,000 GLBT and straight supportive Tucsonans turned out for OUToberFEST, as well as 1,000 onlookers took in the annual Pride Parade, according to Tucson Pride figures obtained by The Observer.

"OUToberFEST 2005 was another successful year, thanks to the ongoing support and enthusiasm of Tucson's LGBT community," said Nancy Robinett of Tucson Pride.

She went on to state that, "A special thanks to Arnette Miller, our outgoing Board President, for her years of hard work, and her commitment to making this another good year," adding that "approximately 100 business vendors, including many vendors from the local LGBT community had booths at OUToberFEST."

Matt Harding, chair of the Pride Parade Committee said this year's Pride Parade had a three-fold increase of floats from the previous year, with 25 LGBT organizations, associations and businesses, as well as 150 individual participants taking part in the parade along the Fourth Avenue route.

According to the audit conducted after the events, OUToberFEST brought in \$86,720 in total revenue, including in-kind donations of \$9,390. Expenses totaled about \$75,886, including a net loss from our Gay Wet event in June and an outstanding invoice.

Tucson Pride additionally contributed \$3,042 to local charities in our Volunteer for Dollars program tied to OUToberFEST and \$1,000 to the Habitat for Humanity Rainbow Build.

The Pride Parade took in \$9,918 in revenue and spent \$8,392, leaving \$1,526 as money to begin work on next year's event, the audit showed.

If you would like to participate in Tucson Pride's events, such as OUToberFEST or the Pride Parade for this coming year, please visit Tucson Pride's website, [www.tucsonpride.com](http://www.tucsonpride.com) or call the Pride Line, (520) 622-3200 and leave a message.

## Native American LGBT & Two Spirit Group Forming

TUCSON - Are you Native American and identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender or Two-Spirit?

The time has come to establish a group here in Tucson to promote our ethnic beauty, to educate the public about our traditional culture, and unite to advocate for our social issues.

Please join in, Monday Jan. 23, 6 p.m., at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St., if you would like to be a part of our first meeting and help develop the mission/vision of your new Tucson Native American LGBT group.

For more information, contact Jeanette, [azdesertdine@aol.com](mailto:azdesertdine@aol.com).



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# UPDATE

## A Passionate Affair Feb. 4

TUCSON - Think romance and passion, with plenty of elegance, lots of great music, and fabulous shopping, and you'll be envisioning "A Passionate Affair," with Desert Voices, Tucson's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Straight chorus, who present their annual Silent Auction fund raiser complete with cabaret style entertainment, just in time for Valentine's Day gift giving, Saturday, Feb. 4, 6:30 p.m., at the Historic Y, 300 E. University.

In addition to enjoying beer, wine and champagne from the open bar and some tantalizing hors d'oeuvres and sweets, guests will find items such as ticket to "The Flying Dutchman" from the Arizona Opera, a stay at Casa de San Pedro B&B, dinner and theatre ticket packages, amazing jewelry from The Turquoise Door, freshly baked home-made pies, a beautiful rug from the Indian Rug Outlet, and gift baskets for beach lovers, chocolate lovers, wine lovers and martini lovers, just to mention a few. In addition, the chorus is raffling off an ipod nano the night of the event. Tickets are available for \$5 each, or 5 tickets for \$20 and can be purchased by calling the Desert Voices office, or contacting any member of the chorus. The winning ticket will be drawn at the event, but winner need not be present to win.

Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased in advance by calling the Desert Voices office at (520)791-9662 or at Antigone Books, 411 N 4th Ave, or at the door if available.

More information is available on the Desert Voices website, [desertvoices.org](http://desertvoices.org), so make your plans now to get in the mood for love by taking part in "A Passionate Affair," and tickets are limited, so don't delay!

## Wingspan Anti-Violence Project Training Jan. 21

TUCSON - The Wingspan Anti-Violence Project offers a free, amazing three-day volunteer training, Jan. 21, 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

At the end of these three days you will be able to: identify local community resources for people in crisis, be a more effective communicator and listener in all your relationships, feel comfortable doing crisis intervention work, and learn more about the issues facing Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender people including domestic violence, sexual violence, hate crimes, harassment and discrimination. The training also offers cultural competency training in Latino, Transgender, and LGB issues and the opportunity to learn about the various agencies AVP works with. Following the training you will be given the opportunity to become a much-needed volunteer on the Anti-Violence Project 24-hour crisis line. Volunteering requires committing to a minimum of one night per month.

In order to volunteer, you must attend all three days of the training and seating is limited, so contact Ed Ware, E-mail: [eware@wingspan.org](mailto:eware@wingspan.org) or (520) 624-1779, ext. 20, to sign up or for more information.

## Lucie Blue Tremblay In Concert Feb. 5



Lucie Blue Tremblay

TUCSON - Lucie Blue Tremblay, internationally-touring singer/songwriter, brings her music to Tucson on Sunday, Feb. 5, 6:30 P.M., at the Water of Life MCC, 3269 N. Mountain Ave.

This concert is a fundraiser for The Breast Exam Project ([www.thebreastexamproject.org](http://www.thebreastexamproject.org)), an endeavor she began while helping her sister through chemotherapy.

Tickets for the event are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. They are available at Antigone Books, 411 N. 4th Ave. and Water of Life MCC, 3269 N. Mountain Ave. For more information, call Julie Nicolay of Outloud Productions at (520) 780-3605.

## Transgender Issues: An Interactive Panel Jan. 26

PHOENIX - An interactive panel discussion of issues affected the Transgender community will take place at the Community Church of Hope, 4121 N. 7th Avenue, Phoenix.

On the panel will be: Madelaine Adelman, PhD, associate professor whose research focuses on the politics of gender, sexuality and culture, Myles Anthony, activist, member of GLSEN National Jump Start Leadership Team, Loren Cannon, MS, MA, doctoral candidate in the Department of Philosophy, ASU, Transman, Jessica Pettit, MeD, national trainer, consultant and facilitator for gender inclusivity and ally development, and Donna Rose, a post-operative transsexual woman, who lived the first 40 years of her life as a successful man in a man's world. Today Rose is a well known educator, author, advocate and spokesperson for a condition steeped in misconception, prejudice and ignorance.

This event is co-sponsored by GLSEN Phoenix and 1N10, Inc.



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## POLITICS 2006

by Mark R. Kerr

### Principled Hypocrisy

Arizona's Senator John McCain, the media darling, has been taking his "straight talk express" across the country, speaking on various subjects, such as: supporting Dubya on Iraq, the economy and his torture bill (which Dubya signed into but in a "signing statement," said his administration won't follow and will ignore), and expressing his concern about domestic spying and wiretapping American citizens, but still is in Dubya's corner like a lapdog in an effort to get the 2008 GOP Presidential nomination. Too bad McCain doesn't practice what he preaches on his "straight talk" crusade.

Hill, recently, Arizona Congressman John Shadegg declared his candidacy to be the next Tom DeLay, er House Majority Leader as a principled conservative. "I think we need to clean up our act in the wake of the recent ethics scandals and get back to the agenda that brought us the majority in the first place," Shadegg said in a statement, Jan. 11.

Is Shadegg clean of Abramoff? Not quite, the principled conservative is ensnared as well by Jack Abramoff, to the tune of \$7,000 in donations, use of sports suites provided to him for fund-raisers at hockey and basketball games at the MCI Center in Washington, D.C., and expenditures for one fund-raising dinner. According to reports, one of the contributions went undisclosed for five years in violation of federal campaign-finance rules. Shadegg has said he will return the money. Whoops!

Shadegg is such a principled conservative, he came out against Dubya's Medicare Drug Bill Proposed Debacle, but in Nov. 2003, when it looked like the drug bill would have died in the U.S. House, Shadegg voted in favor and rounded up votes to get it to pass by two, voting rules broken notwithstanding. In June 2003, a few months before the prescription drug vote, Shadegg said, "Sadly, Congress is putting politics ahead of policy. In its rush to pass something—anything—it is on the verge of imposing a staggering financial burden on our children and grandchildren, pushing Medicare closer to financial collapse and losing a once in a lifetime opportunity for reform." . . .

When the corporate hack media calls, Arizona Congressman J.D. Hayworth, R-Foghorn Leg Horn answers, especially for Faux News. Hayworth, currently on a book tour touting his destruction of trees, entitled "Whatever It Takes," said he had only taken a couple of thousand Abramoffian dollars in contributions and perks. According to the report from the Center for Responsible Politics, opensecrets.org, Hayworth had taken over \$60,000 and his PAC, named "T.E.A.M. PAC," received more than \$80,000. So what does his constituents think of all this? According to a new KPNX-TV/SurveyUSA poll, 62% of CD-5 (Hayworth's District) residents do not believe Hayworth is "telling the truth" about contributions he received from Jack Abramoff, and only 26% say they believe Hayworth. . . .

McCain has been an advocate of strict privacy laws to restrict commercial Web sites' data collection practices, and in a statement posted on his own Web site, he assures visitors that "I do not use 'cookies' or other means on my Web site to track your visit in any way," but visiting mccain.senate.gov implants a cookie on the visitor's PC that will not expire until 2035, CNET.com reported in an investigative story on Jan. 6. Cookies are unique ID numbers that a remote Web site hands a browser, which automatically regurgitates them upon subsequent visits. They can be used for something as permitting someone to customize a Web site's default language for return visits to the worst case, invading someone's privacy by correlating one person's visits to potentially thousands of different Web sites. "ColdFusion was used to design the site by a third-party vendor, and we were not aware of any cookies," McCain's office said in a statement sent to CNET.com, "The information collected is not used by our office for any purpose, and we are currently in the process of deleting them."

Sixty-six Members of the U.S. Congress (Senate and House) use cookies to track visits to their government Web sites according to the CNET investigation. Only two of Arizona's Congressional Delegation use cookies, McCain and Arizona's other Senator, Republican Jon Kyl, whose cookies don't expire for thirty years.

McCain has spent years warning that cookies were a problem when used by corporations. "Through the use of cookies and other technologies, network advertisers have the ability to collect and store a great deal of information about individual consumers," McCain said Oct. 3, 2000 during a hearing of the Senate Commerce Committee on the matter. "This information is collected without the consumer's knowledge or consent." It's ironic for senators to complain about private companies setting cookies and then go ahead and do it themselves, said Jim Harper, director of information studies at the Cato Institute, a conservative, Washington D.C. based think-tank in the CNET story. Ironic maybe, hypocritical perhaps or just the Republican way! . . .

In the ongoing saga of the Abramoff-GOP Scandal on Capitol

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Editor -  
This letter is addressed to the men of Tucson.

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Love to all  
  
Jim Dondson

EDITOR:

Last November, approximately 20 people attended the Arizona Human Rights Fund (AHRF) Tucson town hall meeting at Wingspan to discuss AHRF, its structure - including the AHRF Southern Arizona Caucus - and AHRF's accomplishments and goals. The central issue of the meeting was the 2005 Tucson City Council endorsements which disappointed, angered and alienated some LGBT and straight voters, activists and AHRF members.

The consensus of the meeting was that the Southern Arizona Caucus should have greater latitude and autonomy on candidate endorsements and voter education, especially in local races where there are multiple candidates with outstanding pro-LGBT records. AHRF recognizes that it must respect the needs and unique characteristics of different communities, and has agreed to pursue an endorsement policy that is responsive to regional needs while maintaining consistency as a statewide organization. The meeting also resulted in an agreement to consistently post notices of Southern Arizona Caucus meetings on AHRF's website and in the weekly emails.

AHRF appreciates the constructive criticism of its members and

friends about AHRF's recent Tucson endorsements and of the organization overall. AHRF staff and leadership is dedicated to opening lines of communication, listening to the thoughts and concerns of Tucson residents, and working toward building stronger relationships. AHRF staff and leadership also acknowledges the seriousness of the discontent within the community caused by the Tucson City Council endorsements, and offers a sincere apology to those who felt slighted or hurt.

We look forward to implementing a more inclusive and engaging process, not only regarding endorsements, but regarding AHRF's community activities as well. AHRF members and friends are encouraged to attend the monthly Southern Arizona Caucus meetings. Meeting times and locations are available on the "Meetings & Events" page at [www.ahrf.org](http://www.ahrf.org).

Barbara McCullough-Jones  
AHRF Executive Director  
Phoenix, Arizona

GLAAD Eye On  
The Media

Today show reviewer regrets Brokeback comment - In his Jan. 5 Today show review of "Brokeback Mountain," NBC's Gene Shalit referred to the character of Jack as a "sexual predator" who "tracks Ennis down and coaxes him into sporadic trysts." Based on an outpouring of passionate emails and phone calls by Today show viewers angered and hurt by Mr. Shalit's assertion, GLAAD asked for an apology from NBC and Mr. Shalit for a comment that was heard by many as defamatory.

On Jan. 10, Mr. Shalit responded to GLAAD's request with a statement saying, "I certainly had no intention of casting aspersions on anyone in the Gay community or on the community itself. I regret any emotional hurt that may have resulted from my review of 'Brokeback Mountain.'" GLAAD thanks and applauds Mr. Shalit for clarifying his comments and making clear that he did not intend his words to be defamatory to the LGBT community.

Below is the full text of Mr. Shalit's statement:

In reviewing the fictional movie "Brokeback Mountain," I expressed my opinion of "Jack," one of the fictional characters. It is my responsibility to my audience to present my views of the film and the actions of the film's fictional characters. My view of "Jack" may be contrary to the views of others, but we are all entitled to our opinions. In describing the behavior of "Jack" I used words ("sexual predator") that I now discover have angered, agitated, and hurt many people. I did not intend to use a word that many in the Gay community consider incendiary. Baron Lytton wrote in 1839 that "the pen is mightier than the sword," and this matter proves again how hurtful words can be. I very much regret using them.

Continued on Page Eighteen

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Author JT LeRoy Called Hoax

NEW YORK - The fragile HIV-positive ex-teen hustler known to the literary world as JT LeRoy is actually a 40-year-old woman, the New York Times reports, reported the PlanetOut Network. The elusive, gender-bending literary artist known as JT LeRoy was revealed Monday (Jan. 9) as an elaborate hoax that duped many readers, celebrities and editors, as reported by the New York Times.

Rather than being a 25-year-old, HIV-positive former male teen hustler, the author is allegedly a 40-year-old woman named Laura Albert. The person who appeared in public as LeRoy – usually disguised with a blond wig and dark sunglasses – is Albert’s sister-in-law Savannah Knoop, the Times reported. LeRoy became a literary sensation in 2000, when his first novel, “Sarah,” was published. The story was reportedly based on LeRoy’s own life story, which involved being pimped by his mother into prostitution at the age of 12. He was supposedly rescued from the streets by Albert and her husband, Geoffrey Knoop, and they became a family in San Francisco.

His dramatic life story attracted celebrities and high-profile literary figures, including Gus Van Sant, Courtney Love and author Dave Eggers, to support and encourage his burgeoning career. He later published a collection of short stories, “The Heart Is Deceitful Above All Things,” and a long short story called “Harold’s End.” JT LeRoy rarely appeared in public, but when he did he was heavily disguised to look androgynous, and his voice was reportedly feminine. At some time during his rise to fame, he began saying that he was actually a Transgender woman.

The elusiveness and several oddities, such as the advance for “Sarah” being paid to Laura Albert’s sister, led many to question JT LeRoy’s identity. Stephen Beachy wrote an article casting doubt about the writer’s persona in the October issue of New York magazine. “There is no longer any doubt that ‘JT LeRoy’ is a fake identity created by Laura Albert and her husband, Geoffrey Knoop, maintained with the help of Geoffrey’s sister, Savannah,” Beachy said in an e-mail to the San Francisco Chronicle on Monday. Albert and Knoop did not respond to requests for comment from



JT LeRoy

the Chronicle or the Times.

Jenny Stewart, the entertainment editor for PlanetOut Inc., said she was not surprised to hear about the hoax, as she tried to work with the author on a few occasions that became frustrating because of LeRoy’s unusual demands and whims. Stewart, who in August 2005 decided not to publish a celebrity interview LeRoy conducted, said the author’s payment was held up because he refused to give a Social Security number. “We always require a Social Security number from our writers, but what we got was to send payment to some company in Nevada,” she said. “Without that number, we cannot pay, and we’ve made that clear to JT Leroy’s ‘people.’ “

Christopher Daly, director of the Transgender Law Center, told the PlanetOut Network he found some elements of the hoax troubling. “It’s obviously not the crime of the century,” he said, “but for a community like the Transgender community, whose voice is so rarely heard, it stings to hear about somebody fraudulently appropriating the experiences of Transgender people in this way.”

Ron Turner of Last Gasp, LeRoy’s publisher in San Francisco, told the Chronicle the revelation will not change his plan to publish LeRoy’s next novel, “Labour,” this spring. “If it was a hoax, hey, it was a great hoax,” he said. “They’re still great books. I don’t care who wrote them as long as they’re really good reads.”



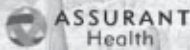
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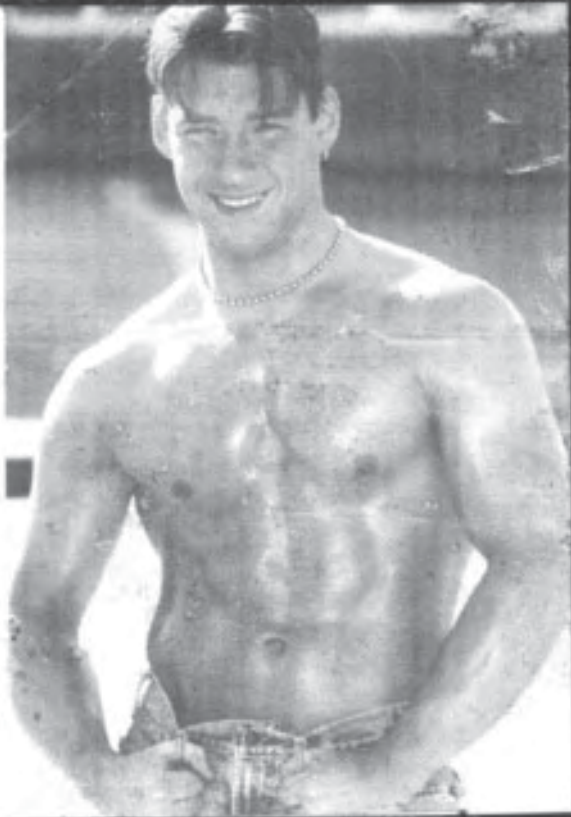
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# ‘Brokeback Mountain’ Earns Four Golden Globes; LGBT Characters Win Nods



Brokeback Mountain Wins Four Golden Globe Awards

LOS ANGELES - ‘Brokeback Mountain,’ the critically acclaimed film about two cowboys who fall in love, dominated the Golden Globe awards ceremony Monday (Jan. 16), winning four honors, including best picture and best director.

In addition to honoring director Ang Lee, the awards for “Brokeback” included best screenplay for Larry McMurtry and Diana Ossana and best song, “A Love that Will Never Grow Old.” “Brokeback” was also nominated for best actor (Heath Ledger), supporting actress (Michelle Williams) and score (Gustavo Santaolalla).

The awards, presented by the Hollywood Foreign Press to honor excellence in film and television, are widely considered to signal favorites for the Academy Awards.

Two other groundbreaking cinematic portrayals of LGBT characters won acting awards for Phillip Seymour Hoffman, who played conflicted Gay writer Truman Capote in “Capote,” and Felicity Huffman, who played a Transgender woman who reconnects with her son.

Several LGBT performers and artists were also nominated for Golden Globes, including actor Nathan Lane (“The Producers”), actress Cynthia Nixon (TV miniseries “Warm Springs”) and writer Tony Kushner (screenplay co-writer for “Munich”).

The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) was quick to applaud the winners on Monday night.

“This is yet another victory in ‘Brokeback Mountain’s’ growing list of accomplishments. The Hollywood Foreign Press Association, like most critics, recognized the emotional authenticity of this film and its power to connect with both Gay and straight audiences alike,” said GLAAD President Neil G. Giuliano. “The critical and award-winning success of movies like ‘Brokeback Mountain,’ ‘Capote’ and ‘Transamerica’ should send a very clear message to Hollywood that there is a market for these kinds of smart, inclusive films.”

“Brokeback Mountain’s” depiction of sexual attraction between two men that spans decades, despite their respective marriages, has sparked little controversy from right-wing groups, which have recently attacked companies like Ford and Microsoft for their pro-Gay policies.

When “Brokeback Mountain” opened in December, it earned the highest per-screen gross of any film in 2005.

The nominations for Academy Awards will be announced on Jan. 31, and the awards ceremony will take place March 5 in Hollywood.



Phillip Seymour Hoffman as Truman Capote



Felicity Huffman as a transgendered woman in the film ‘Transamerica’



# Black LGBT Search For Acceptance In Shadow of Martin Luther King Day

WASHINGTON, D.C. - As the country observed the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Black Gays continue to search for acceptance within the African American community, 365Gay.com reported. Despite support from the NAACP which has condemned constitutional amendments to ban same-sex marriage, Black churches have fueled anti-Gay sentiment. Last November many Blacks across the country supported President Bush’s re-election over concerns Democrats were too favorable to LGBT issues.

Black church leaders were instrumental in the advancement of amendments in several states to ban same-sex marriage. The growing disharmony between Black clergy and Gays reached a climax in October when Gay African American leader Keith Boykin was prevented from speaking at the Millions More March on the National Mall, despite an invitation from march organizer Louis Farrakhan.

The position of Black churches, say Gay African American leaders, would have been condemned by Dr. King. Dr. King’s widow, Coretta Scott King, has said on a number of occasions that her husband would have supported Gay marriage. But, her statements

have estranged her from her daughter, Bernice King, an outspoken opponent of Gay unions.

The civil rights leader’s 1963 March on Washington, one of the largest nonviolent protests ever held in the United States, was organized by a close associate of Dr. King - Bayard Rustin, an openly Gay man.

Rustin brought Gandhi’s protest techniques to the American civil rights movement, and helped mold Martin Luther King, Jr. into an international symbol of peace and nonviolence. But, despite these achievements, Rustin was silenced, threatened, arrested, beaten, imprisoned and fired from important leadership positions, largely because he was an openly Gay man in a fiercely homophobic era. Little has changed for Gay African Americans since then.

African American Gays and Black clergy who are Gay positive will hold a landmark summit in Atlanta to confront growing homophobia. The keynote address will be delivered by former Presidential candidate the Rev. Al Sharpton. The summit, organized by the National Black Justice Coalition, the only national Black LGBT organization in the country, is aimed at developing specific strategies to challenge homophobia in religious institutions - from the seminary to the ~~pulpit~~.

# Right-Wingers Take Aim At Ford Again

DETROIT - A coalition of socially conservative groups has accused Ford Motor Co. of taking a pro-Gay side in “the culture war” and called on the auto giant to reverse its recent decision to continue running ads in LGBT publications, reported the PlanetOut Network. In a letter to Chairman Bill Ford on Tuesday, Jan. 10the group claimed that Ford reneged on a verbal deal struck Nov. 28 with the American Family Association in which the company agreed not to donate to LGBT groups and Pride events or advertise its brands (except Volvo) in LGBT media outlets.

“We can not, and will not, sit by as Ford supports a social agenda aimed at the destruction of the family,” the group warned. The letter, written by AFA Chairman Donald Wildmon, was signed by more than 35 other groups, including Focus on the Family, the Family Research Council and Concerned Women for America. The groups criticized the company for meeting with LGBT leaders last month, saying, “Evidently you consider seven homosexual leaders more important than your thousands of dealers.”

The December meeting led to Ford publicly restating its commitment to diversity and pledging to advertise its brands in media outlets – including LGBT publications – as appropriate. Ford representatives also said there was no deal with the AFA about canceling LGBT ad campaigns.

“We strongly suggest that Ford remove itself from involvement in the culture war and apply its resources to building the best product possible,” the groups said. They requested a response in writing by Jan. 20.

“Ford’s last statement is crystal clear,” Jay Smith Brown, spokesman for the Human Rights Campaign, said in response to the groups’ letter. “It’s time for these extremist groups to move on already.”

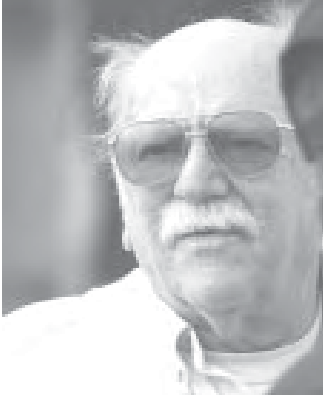
Justin Nelson, co-founder and president of the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, called the letter “beyond ridiculous.” “I sit here in amazement that these people do not understand that unlike them, bigotry and hatred is not a mantra a major corporation wants to promote,” he told the PlanetOut Network. “It’s Economics 101: Companies target and market to diverse segments in which they do business in an effort to increase market share and make a positive impact on the bottom line. If a company was to employ the AFA strategy, it would not only be morally bankrupt, but would be in Chapter 11 as a business enterprise.”







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# Pastor Resigns After Arrest For Lewdness

TULSA - A pastor has resigned from his Tulsa church and from the executive committee of the Southern Baptist Convention after being arrested on charges that he propositioned a male plainclothes police officer, reported the Associated Press on Advocate.com.

Rev. Lonnie Latham was senior pastor at South Tulsa Baptist Church, also resigned from the board of directors of Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma on Thursday (Jan. 12), citing "personal reasons," Heidi Wilburn, a spokeswoman for the state organization said Friday (Jan. 13).

He was arrested Tuesday



Rev. Lonnie Latham as a pastor on the left and his mug shot as a prisoner on the right

night (Jan. 10) on charges of offering to engage in an act of lewdness. He was accused of asking the officer to join him in his hotel room for oral sex, said police Capt. Jeffrey Becker.

enroll in that study or several others testing the new approaches. "The question is, how good are they?" says the NCI's Norman Coleman. "You're not treating the whole breast. What's the loss (in effectiveness) by leaving some of the breast untreated?"

Early-stage studies suggest the five-day approaches can work well for at least some patients, but too few women have been tracked for long enough to be sure that partial-breast radiation works as well as standard therapy in preventing cancer's return. "Patients need to understand where we're at," cautions Frank Vicini of William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Mich., who pioneered the five-day approach and is leading the new NCI study.

About 70% of the 200,000 American women who will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year qualify for a lumpectomy removing just the tumor, not the whole breast. A lumpectomy plus radiation cures early stage breast cancer just as well as breast-removing mastectomies do. But daily radiation treatment for about six weeks is an inconvenience at best, and at worst impossible for women who live far from medical centers or who can't spare that much time away from jobs or home responsibilities. Also, some women suffer serious skin side effects from the beams. Consequently, many early-stage patients choose a mastectomy. Worse, up to one quarter of lumpectomy patients forego radiation altogether, risking a recurrence. Partial-breast radiation attempts to focus the powerful treatment on just the areas most likely to harbor stray cancer cells, those near the original tumor; most methods do so from inside the breast.

In the NCI study, 3,000 patients around the country are being randomly assigned to either standard

six-week radiation or one of the three five-day methods: Interstitial brachytherapy, in which thin tubes are inserted through the breast and pellets of radioactive iodine are temporarily placed in the tubes twice a day; Balloon brachytherapy, administered with a machine called the MammoSite that inserts radioactive pellets into a balloon filling the tumor area; External radiation focused just on the tumor site.

In Toronto, Jean-Philippe Pignol is trying to make partial-breast radiation even faster—a one-day method similar to a treatment men with prostate cancer can choose. Pignol has permanently implanted pellets made of a different radioactive material, palladium, into 44 women's breasts. The pellets emit radiation for about two months until they run out; they then sit harmlessly just under the skin. For this treatment to work, Pignol and colleagues at Toronto's Sunnybrook and Women's Health Sciences Centre had to create an ultrasound-guided tube to implant the pellets at just the right spot, and talk the pellets' manufacturer into connecting the 60 pellets with strands, almost like a necklace, so they don't shift.

In a study published this month by the American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology, Pignol's first 16 patients tolerated the treatment well. He's tracking how the women fare over time. Finally, the Food and Drug Administration approved a new machine, Xoft's Axxent Electronic Brachytherapy System, to deliver partial-breast radiation through a miniature X-ray system, potentially easier for doctors to handle. All of these methods must be rigorously tested to prove whether they're equally effective, cautions Vicini. But probably, he says, "what you're going to end up finding out is there's no one particular technique that works in all patients. Ultimately, we'll need more than one technique."

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## Little Chance Alito's Confirmation Will Be Blocked

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Senate confirmation hearings ended Friday on Judge Samuel Alito's nomination to the Supreme Court and while Democrats continue to oppose him it is doubtful they will be able to muster enough support for a filibuster to block a vote.

"I don't think he's going to get many votes from Democrats on the committee," Sen. Charles Schumer (D-NY) told CBS' "The Early Show." "As for a filibuster, it's something we'll have to discuss. So it's not on the table or off the table right now," Schumer, a member of the Justice Committee said. At least two moderate Republicans have said they would not support a filibuster on Alito.

Despite 700 questions being put to Alito on a range of topics his answers danced around the more contentious, including LGBT rights and abortion.

Senator Russell Feingold (D-WI) questioned Alito on his 2001 vote on the 3rd US Circuit Court of Appeals to strike down a public school policy that prohibited offensive conduct toward individuals based on sexual orientation or other personal characteristics. In the case, Alito ruled that the First Amendment only protects people against harassment regarding religious beliefs. Feingold asked Alito whether he felt the First Amendment might also protect Gay students against harassment. Alito said only that the policy he struck down read the amendment too broadly.

"It not only prohibited the expression of political viewpoints, but it went so far as to say that just about anything that any student would say about another student that would be offensive to that student, including comments on the way the student dressed or the things that they liked to do, would be a violation of the anti-harassment policy," Alito said. But he also noted that in another case he had ruled in favor of a New Jersey student who wanted attend a high school outside of his neighborhood because he had been subjected to homophobic harassment.

After four days of hearings, there are "even more questions about Judge Alito's commitment to the fairness and equality for all," said Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-MA). On Wednesday (Jan. 11) Kennedy questioned Alito about his membership in the now defunct Concerned Alumni of Princeton, an extreme conservative group that Alito joined while

a law student. Kennedy read from a publication put out by the group that attacked Gays, people with AIDS, women and other minorities.

In one selection from The Prospect, read by Kennedy into the record, the publication, noting that scientists believed they had traced the origin of AIDS to rhesus monkeys, called for more research and that it be conducted on homosexuals. It further suggested that the studies be conducted on members of Princeton's Gay alliance. Kennedy then read a portion from another Prospect article attacking adoption for Gays. "I would not have anything to do with statements of that nature," Alito told Kennedy. "Had I thought that that's what this organization stood for, I would never have been associated with it in any way."

Sen. Sam Brownback (R-KA), a leading supporter of a constitutional amendment to ban same-sex marriage, asked Alito about Gay unions. Brownback wanted to know if Alito believed that the Federal Defense of Marriage Act which says states do not have to accept same-sex marriages from other states is counter to the full-faith-and-credit clause of the Constitution. Without directly answering the question Alito said that the issue is the subject of disagreement by constitutional scholars.

Alito's nomination is opposed by Lambda Legal, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, Human Rights Campaign, National Center for Lesbian Rights, and Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays among others.



## GOP Funds Drive For G/L Marriage Ban

TALLAHASSEE - Nearly all of Florida4marriage.org's campaign funds have come from the state Republican Party, reports the St. Petersburg Times on the PlanetOut Network. The group trying to put a same-sex marriage ban on the Florida ballot in 2006 is being bankrolled by the state Republican Party, according to an investigative report by Florida's St. Petersburg Times.

State campaign finance records unearthed by the newspaper show that \$193,000 has been raised by Florida4marriage.org – \$150,000 of it from a single donation from the Florida Republican Party. The paper described the contribution as surprising, since Republican Gov. Jeb Bush has called such an amendment unnecessary because state law already bars same-sex marriage. "Gov. Bush was not aware of the contribution," Alia Faraj, a Bush spokeswoman, told the paper. "The party has a right to participate in the process and support initiatives that reflect their principles."

Florida GOP chief Andy Palmer told the paper that similar measures boosted Republican turnout in battleground states in 2004 by energizing turnout among religious conservatives.

"We see it as a desperate attempt by a gubernatorial candidate who is behind in the polls and has missed every mark it has set for itself," said Brian Winfield, communications director for Equality Florida.

Gubernatorial candidate Tom Gallagher, the state's chief financial officer, helped organize media events last Friday (Jan. 13) in an attempt to create momentum for the ballot language, Winfield told the PlanetOut Network. Florida4Marriage chairman John Stemberger said his organization has collected at least 250,000 signatures. The group needs 600,000 signatures by Feb. 1 to qualify for the ballot.

Eric Stern, the executive director of the National Stonewall Democrats, an organization devoted to LGBT issues, said these developments show that the Republican Party is desperate. "The corruption of the Republican Party is failing to convince voters to support their candidates, so they are turning to controversial

activist groups to push unnecessary initiatives in an attempt to scare individuals in the electoral fringe into voting," Stern said.

Patrick Howell, president of the Log Cabin Republicans Orlando chapter, said he was surprised by the news, since he believed the Gov. Jeb Bush was against the measure. "I think it is a terrible use of party funds," he told the PlanetOut Network. "Party funds are meant to support Republican candidates and expand and strengthen the Republican party. I think that giving money to the anti-marriage initiative does not meet any of those stated goals."

"Voters should be weary of these stealth tactics used by the Republican Party both nationally and here in Florida," said Michael Albetta, president of the Florida GLBT Democratic Caucus, an official caucus of the Florida Democratic Party representing more than 10 chapters across the state. "Republicans fear a Democratic trend in this state, and they are attempting to force measures like these as a substitute for productive policies."

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TUCSON, ARIZONA



## NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE

Made In Tucson

by Lee Thorn

For the past 30 years or so, every time I've asked Tucson drama people why you can't produce original dramatic works in our fair pueblo I've been told that (1) the money for them can't be raised and/or (2) there's no local audience for original drama here and/or (3) the local press wouldn't respond to local drama and it would therefore die on the vine.

I now know a Tucsonan who has disposed of the first two objections and is working on getting rid of the third. He recently produced a two-hour DVD, found enough of an audience to make a profit showing it, and has heard some vague mutterings that it might get reviewed locally.

Hurrah! It's now possible to become a movie star without leaving Tucson. How did it all happen? Before I answer that question I want to emphasize the artistic seriousness of my informant's enterprise. We are not talking about home movies here. The forty-minute sample of this filmmaker's work that I saw compared favorably with standard commercial fare. It wasn't brilliant. It wasn't amateurish. It had the look of everyday dramatic commercial TV with perhaps a hint of a British influence.

As for how he did it, he actually took a harder route than was necessary. He didn't know about Access Tucson, wasn't aware that they'd let him use the equipment he needed for free as well as instruct him in its uses, so he saved his nickels and dimes until he could rent what he required. Access Tucson, which was formerly known as Tucson Community Cable, is an agency funded by fees the cable companies pay the City. Its mission is to give ordinary citizens a way to produce programs and show them on TV.

My informant was his own writer, producer, director and editor, so he saved a lot of money right there. Most of the acting was done by friends who did it for free. The real actors agreed to work for copies of the finished DVD that they wanted to send out with their resumes.

The next step was getting the product in front of a paying audience. The Loft, a theater located on Speedway just east of Country Club, lets filmmakers screen their works for \$500 a pop. My informant said that, with almost no publicity, his screening at The Loft attracted a large enough audience for him to pay the \$500 and make a profit of \$1,000. If a largely unadvertised production by an unknown filmmaker can draw enough of an audience to make a profit, no one can really say that there's no audience for original drama in Tucson. That myth must be put to rest.

Our intrepid filmmaker is still trying to crack the final nut, that of getting a critical response. He doesn't have a firm commitment from anyone to publish a review, but he says some local press people have expressed interest. Getting reviewed is an important part of the creative process. Even purely commercial ventures that achieve enormous commercial success get reviewed and even those artists who boast of hating criticism do in fact take it seriously, especially when it's favorable.

I suspect that it's going to be difficult to get the Tucson press to review a Tucson film product. It goes back to the issue of our historical inferiority complex. It might be expressed something like this: "If I seem to be taking a Tucson product seriously, Tucsonans will laugh at me." And of course they would. My informant told me that there are about a dozen people in Tucson who are doing what he is — making original productions and showing them at The Loft. If there's enough of

an audience to support these filmmakers with negligible publicity and no critical media response, the logical and extremely interesting question is, "What would happen if the local media woke up and got behind this?"

If just one of the daily newspapers or one of the local TV stations decided to give these Tucson producers the serious critical attention they deserve, maybe we could grow an economically and artistically significant local industry. I'm thinking of something that would develop slowly over a long period of time, but wouldn't it be fun to watch? And wouldn't it be a kick to be a part of it, even if just as a member of the audience for it that wasn't supposed to exist?

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

## NGLTF Gets \$3-Million Grant

Continued from Page One

made to the task force in our 33-year history, it is the largest known gift ever given directly to support movement building and advocacy in the 50-plus-year history of the modern LGBT rights movement."

The grant consists of a \$1 million donation from Stryker and \$2 million from the Arcus Foundation. The task force said it will use the money to train leaders, organize local communities, strengthen coalitions among LGBT and non-Gay allies and build up statewide LGBT organizations.

The group noted that the award comes at a "crucial time" for the LGBT community, as anti-Gay laws and constitutional amendments against same-sex couple rights are likely to appear on several state ballots in 2006.

The Arcus Foundation, with offices in Michigan and New York City, invests in causes relating to human rights, civil rights and animal rights, according to Stryker, who has been listed in the Forbes 400 tally of wealthiest Americans.



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HOROSCOPES

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What happens when the brilliant Sun opposes stern Saturn? Our frothy dreams get a pop of reality. Rude awakening? Maybe just a gentle nudge? It is all good, if we remember to pack a parachute for our landing.

ARIES (MAR. 21 - APR. 20)

Compadres are ready to have a good Gay time but proud Rams may wind up paying their freight. Your life is filled with assorted mischief, boundless creativity and glorious romance all with a price tag. Choose your assorted jollies with an eye towards personal enjoyment as opposed to what the group's wants. Press the flesh but count your fingers as Sun opposes Saturn.

TAURUS (APR. 21 - MAY 21)

You are the wunderkind of work and can do no wrong. That is until you trot home after yet another late night at the office. (It was at the office, wasn't it?) Significant others are significantly pissed. In fact, any type of relationship can create moments of intense conflict on the domestic front when Sun opposes Saturn. Who loves you baby? I know it ain't the Vice President.

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)

Communication is the connector to every part of your life this week. Pink Twins hanker to make a few pithy statements to get their various opinions even greater global coverage. You press hound, you! Travel may be highlighted but you can be strangely coy about what you need and where you want to go. Is it because you secretly yearn to visit Gary, Indiana?

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)

Gay Crabs think that they are especially sexy this week. It may even seem to be true as many alluring folks are inexplicably drawn to you. You draw them in as a moth to a flame but don't be surprised if you singe your own pink claws instead. Sun opposes Saturn and makes every intimate encounter a costly one. Gaudy baubles don't come cheap as you will soon find out!

LEO (JULY 24 - AUG. 23)

You have always enjoyed roaming the plains. Now, as Sun opposes Saturn, proud Lions find themselves lured, trapped and caged. Relationships become stronger and more defined. You may rant and rail at your lack of independence but secretly you are thrilled. You now have your own

personal cheering section. Shelve the concept "me" and go for the "we." Wheeee!

VIRGO (AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23)

Queer Virgins are usually very pragmatic and practical. Now you are apt to be more intuitive, spiritual and psychic. At least that is what you think. In fact these voices in your head can be a bit disconcerting. It will be easy to fall back into old, safe patterns rather than take a risk on totally new and exciting opportunities. Spread your wings and make a creamy, cheesy schmear.

LIBRA (SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)

You are the life of the party. At least you will think so as the Sun opposes Saturn. Proud Libras cannot be tied down or reined in and avidly seek over-the-top wildly extreme fun. Yet, friends are decidedly unimpressed with your antics so you may have to blaze a new independent trail and seek new playmates. How boisterous can you be? Why not seek the bois and ask?

SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)

Is it January doldrums? Is it the post holiday lull? Whatever it is you seem content to hang around the house and keep a low profile now. Proud Scorps realize that they need to find the balance between an intensely active career and a happy, calm homelife. Currently, concentrating on one negates the other. Until the solution presents itself, repair and rest your nubby stub.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)

You yearn to make your mark when Sun opposes Saturn. Will it be a dirt smudge or a neon sign? It is up to you Gay Archer. Will you fall back into old habits of pushing, pushing, pushing until you are all pushed out? Don't. The secret to your success is to think big but take action in small steps. A couple of umbrellas steps can't hurt either as long as Simon Says.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)

Practical pink Caps think that they can buy love but this week they are sadly mistaken. Sure you can woo a few misbegotten souls with glitter and gloss for a short time. However, if you are in it for the long haul, the expensively short and sweet approach may not ultimately satisfy. Don't you want someone to love you just as you are? Err lets think about this.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)

Who is this superstar? Aqueerians are the center of attention and manage to grab the limelight wherever they go. This is good if you are a solo act but it may cause frictions with partners who begin to feel left out. And not just partners feel that way. You may also dazzle potential admirers to the point of overload. Can you be too much of a good thing now? You don't think so.

PISCES (FEB. 20 - MAR. 20)

Stress may build to a breaking point. There are too many under-the-surface things going on at work. Guppies are very sensitive to outside stimuli and now you are bombarded with all sorts of cosmic vibes. How can you discern the real from the imagined? You can't. Wait. Next week the demons make themselves known in no uncertain terms so you can overcome them.



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**Map of Tucson showing locations of various businesses and organizations:**

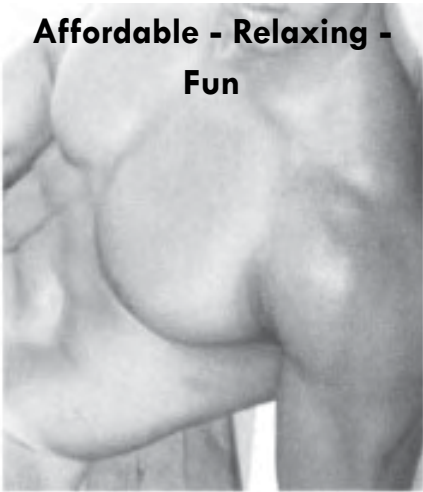
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Wednesday, January 18

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed: 7:00 p.m. Join Jack 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 Jack at 887-3736.

Thursday, January 19

#1 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.

#2 Call Bruce at 743-3890 and reserve by Noon today for Pizza Night on the 20th.

Friday, January 20

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00

p.m. Join Bruce 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 Bruce at 743-3890. Please reserve your spot by noon on Thursday, January 19th.

Saturday, January 21

#1 Men's Social Network (open

Non Bar Calendar

to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed: 8:30 a.m. Join Robert, Mike & Jack for a morning of Volleyball. This is played for fun, and you'll get to know some nice guys as you play. For details and directions, please call Jack & Mike at 881-5733 or Robert at 400-1376.

#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.

Sunday, January 22

#1 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed: 12:00 p.m. Steve & Marv host Classic Movie & Bagels. They will be showing "The Day the Earth Stood Still". For reservations and directions, call Steve or Marv at 745-0304.

#2 If you would like to donate your gently used items to the MSN Auction at our February 4th Auction/Pot Luck, please contact Jack at home at 887-3736 or 745-8844 at work. He will store and if needed, pick up the articles from MSN members.

Monday, January 23

#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 "Holiday Heart", a 2002 film starring Ving Rhames as a larger than life drag queen. (after Newsletter Night). For reservations and directions, please call Arlan at 323-7414.

Tuesday, January 24

#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. Karol hosts Bridge Night. If you don't know how to play, they'll teach you-and it's a very relaxed atmosphere. For reserva-

tions and directions, please call Karol at 744-9017.

Wednesday, January 25

#1 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed: 7:00

p.m. Join Merlin & 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 & Merlin at 207-5336.

#2 If you would like to donate your gently used items to the MSN Auction at our February 4th Auction/Pot Luck, please contact Jack at home at 887-3736 or 745-8844 at work. He will store and if needed, pick up the articles from MSN members.

Thursday, January 26

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, January 27

#1 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.

#2 If you would like to donate your gently used items to the MSN Auction at our February 4th Auction/Pot Luck, please contact Jack at home at 887-3736 or 745-8844 at work. He will store and if needed, pick up the articles from MSN members.

Saturday, January 28

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, January 31

#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 If you would like to donate your gently used objects in support of MSN, please contact Jack at home at 887-3736 or 745-8844 at work. He will store and if needed, pick up the articles from MSN members.

Saturday, February 4

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. We invite you to join us for our Annual Auction Pot Luck dinner and to get to know the nice guys of MSN. The Auction is our major fundraiser for the year and has allowed our dues to remain at a more than reasonable level since our inception. While reservations are not necessary, please call Robert at 400-1376 for location and directions. If you would like to donate your gently used objects in support of MSN, please contact Jack at home at 887-3736 or 745-8844 at work. He will store and if needed, pick up the articles from MSN members.

SYPHILIS IS BACK!  
&  
HIV NEVER LEFT!

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

Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic Schedule

Theresa Lee Health Center  
332 S. Freeway  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
(520) 624-8272

|           |                   |
|-----------|-------------------|
| Monday    | 12:30 – 3:30 P.M. |
| Tuesday   | 8:00 – 10:30 A.M. |
| Tuesday   | 12:30 – 3:30 P.M. |
| Wednesday | 12:30 – 3:30 P.M. |
| Thursday  | 4:00 – 6:30 P.M.  |
| Friday    | 12:30 – 3:30 P.M. |

COMING TO A SITE NEAR YOU!

Catch the next stop!

Now offering:

Confidential HIV Oraquick  
Rapid Testing,  
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HIV results – next day  
Syphilis results – one week

2nd Stop:

Ain't Nobody's Biz

2900 E. Broadway  
Friday February 17, 2006  
Time: 7 pm – 10 pm

3rd Stop:

Woody's

3710 N. Oracle Road  
Wednesday March 15, 2006  
Time: 7 pm – 10 pm

A collaboration of the Pima  
County Health Department and  
Gay Men's Health Project





# Meet him here.

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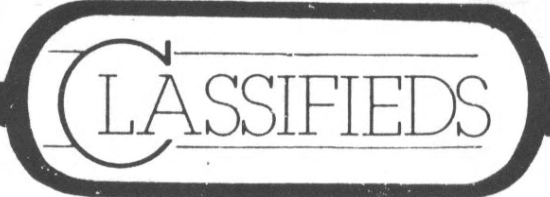
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4 BEDROOM, 2 ½ BATH. Fireplace, built-in buffet, A/C. Hardwood floors, free W/D. \$1250 + utilities. Brian 270-1425 1121

3 BEDROOM/2 BATH. Near Ft. Lowell/First Ave. New central air/heat, Fenced yard and pets OK. Wall to wall tile. \$925/mo + Util. AND 4 bedroom/2 bath. New central air/het. Laundry hookup. Pets OK. Wall to wall tile. \$1225/mo. + util. Brian 270-1425. 1121

ROOMS BY THE MONTH - SPACIOUS, CENTRAL MEN'S RESIDENCE. All utilities, cable, pool, hot-tub, more! \$345/mo. Must See! Dodge @ Grant. John, 327-3135. 1119

6 BEDROOM/3 BATH - WINTERHAVEN AREA. 2625 E. Prince Rd. Fireplace, W/D hookups. Wall to wall tile. Pets OK. Central air & heat. \$1650 + utilities. Brian 270-1425 1121



### EMPLOYMENT

PART-TIME COOK NEEDED. Evenings and weekends required, 22-26 hrs/wk. Pick up application at Howl At The Moon, 915 W. Prince Road. 1119

HANDYMAN - Professional Background in electrical, carpentry and pool repair. No job too small. Call Jon at 881-5988 for rates and estimates. Not a licensed contractor by choice. 1119..

GAY HOUSE PAINTER. Interior and exterior. Quality work and good prices. Free inspection, guaranteed lump sum price. Not a licensed contractor. Chuck, 207-6467. 1119..

### PERSONALS

LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO SHARE MY LIFE. G.W.M. Retired motorcycle cop. I'm a mentor. Successful, Hardworking, Honest and Good Looking. Write to: P.O. Box 885, Tucson, AZ 85702 1126

### SERVICES

END BACK PAIN. The back solution, massage and bodywork. 15 years experience. Tension Erasure - Stress Reduction - Relax for Health. Abe 294-4810 1127

SENSUOUS/EROTIC MEN'S FULL BODY MASSAGE. Experienced Therapist. Satisfaction guaranteed., Tucson's Be\$t Deal. \$45/hr. Evenings/Weekends only. John 327-3135 1119...

TENSE? STRESSED OUT? Relax for an hour with a full body rub by Frank. Private studio, off-street parking. 548-7019 days, evenings. 1119...

RELAX WITH A FULL BODY MASSAGE FOR MEN in a private studio on the West Side. Call Ralph, 883-7496. 1129

FULL BODY SWEDISH MASSAGE FOR MEN. Best rates in Tucson! Speedway & Swan area. IN and OUT calls 7 days. 548-6314 1119...

PROFESSIONAL THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE GUARANTEE QUALITY. Strong and masculine hands open your heart. An exceptional experience for 24 years. Call now.. Marc 881-4582 by appointment. 1124

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## Safe Sex



## Is Bringing Men Together

Text CHAT to 55455 \$4.99/10min 18+

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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 \$3 skyy Cocktails, \$2.25 Domestic and half price appetizers. Full menu served 2-10pm. Nightly dinner specials. Live music from Bob Feldhaus during Brunch (11:30-2:30) & Dickie Steede during dinner (6:30-9:30)

HOWL AT THE MOON -Open at 11am. Kitchen open until 9pm. . \$2 Smirnoff Sundays. Watch the NFL here! \$1.00 Jumbo Hot Dogs, \$2 Chili Dogs. Free Texas Hold'em Poker Tournaments 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 -Troy's Recovery Bar noon-4pm. 4-7:30 Karaoke on the patio. Benefit B-B-Q for the Pride Parade 5:30-7:30 and dance with DJ Mike Lopez 9pm to close.

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 10am - 2am. Patio Bar opens at 5pm.

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. Kitchen open 4-9 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 PrizesandPoints.

IBT's -Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, DJ Craig Carter 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 8am. 50¢ off any Top Shelf Rum until 8pm. Beer Bust 4-8pm

tuesday

COLORS - Open 4-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7 \$3 Skyy cocktails, \$2.25 Domestic and half-price appetizers. 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. Kitchen open 4-9pm. Women-Only Texas Hold-Em P oker at 6:30 play for prizes and points.

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

VENTURE-N - Open 9am. Patio 6pm. Free Pool til 4pm. Spaghetti Nite (2<sup>nd</sup> 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 8am.50¢ off any Top Shelf Tequila until 8pm Beer Bust 4-8pm.

wednesday

COLORS - Open 4-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3 Skyy cocktails, \$2.25 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. Kitchen open 4-9pm. Women-Only Texas Hold-Em Poker at 6:30. Play for prizes and points

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, "Diva-Licious" show 9pm w/ Bunny Fu Fu& Friends. After show dance with DJ Q til 2am,

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 8am.50¢ off any Top Shelf Vodka until 8pm Beer Bust 4-8pm.

thursday

COLORS - Open 4-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm,\$3 Skyy cocktails, \$2.25 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. Kitchen open 4-9pm. 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 8am.50¢ off any Top Shelf Bourbon til 8pm. Beer Bust 4-8pm. Patio Bar opens 5pm.

friday

COLORS - Open 4pm-1am. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3 Skyy cocktails, \$2.25 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.

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 4-9pm.

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 8am.50¢ off any Top Shelf Gin until 8pm. Beer Bust 4-8pm. Patio Bar Opens 5pm

saturday

COLORS - Open 4pm-1am, Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3 Skyy cocktails, \$2.25 Domestic and half-price appetizers Full menu served 4-11pm. Nightly dinner specials. Singer, piano player Marilyn Harris performs during dinner from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Reservations suggested.

HOWL AT THE MOON -Open at 11:00 am. Kitchen open til 9pm. Happy Hour 11am-8pm, \$2 Well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3 small pitchers, \$5 large pitchers. \$4.00 Cheeseburger & Fries all day. DJ Johnny D playing your favorite dance & country 9pm to close. Kitchen re-opens 9pm - midnight 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 Janee 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 8am. Beer Bust 4-8pm. \$1.25 glass, \$2.25 pitcher. Patio Bar Opens 5pm.

CASINOS. . . . .

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

Feb. 26 - Brooks and Dunn (Tickets On Sale Now)

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

HARRAH'S AK-CHIN CASINO RESORTFrom Tucson take I-10 West to Queen Creek Road (Exit 164), turn left, drive 17 miles. Buses leave from Tucson daily. Call (520)743-4386..Ride freee and get cash. For more information 1-800-Harrahs or visit [www.harrahs.com](http://www.harrahs.com)

BAR CALENDAR  
Of Upcoming Events

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12

WOODY'S - Black Light Party from 9:00 p.m. until closing. Drink specials / Wear leather or White and stand out!

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13

WOODY'S - January Birthday Celebration for all those whose birthday is in January. 10:00 p.m. Balloons - cake and champagne!!!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15

WOODY'S - Drag Bingo at 8:00 p.m. Final game prize will be a DVD Player.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17

VENTURE-N - It's a big "Hello and Goodbye" party from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. as Big Jim is retiring and moving on with David and Tom taking up the reins. Come celebrate with David and Tom! Fun, food, drink specials and more!!!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21

WOODY'S - Ski Weekend !! Just like Aspen. Don't miss out!!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

WOODY'S - Celebrate Chinese New Year's - the Year of the Dog.

YARD DOG SALOON - According to the Chinese Calendar, the New Year is the 'Year of the Dog' - So what more of an excuse to you need to throw a party? Mark your calendars now

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

WOODY'S - Still celebrating the Chinese New Year 'Year of the Dog' - Best Pooch Contest here at 3:00 p.m.

Girl Expelled Over Same-Sex Kiss Files Suit

Continued from Page Three

According to the Atlanta Journal Constitution, the off-campus slumber party took place Apr. 22. Four days later, Jessica and a few other girls were called into McKinnon's office and interrogated for over an hour. Jessica, who was also accused of sharing an earlier kiss with a different girl, was expelled, despite her 3.5 grade point average. David Clark said none of the other girls were expelled at the time, although he was not sure whether or not anyone else was subsequently disciplined.

Although the school handbook prohibits "sexual immorality," along with the usual high school taboos, there is no explicit mention of same-sex kissing. As for the policy against showing disregard for the spirit of school standards, Bradley's attorney argues that the vague language in this and other school regulations makes them unenforceable in cases such as Jessica's. "It's unfair to the students, because they don't know what they can do to get themselves expelled," Clark said. The Bradleys have since moved to Pennsylvania.

GLAAD Eye On The Media

Continued from Page Seven

The GLAAD website carried an assertion that instead of reviewing "Brokeback Mountain," which is my job, I "used the occasion to promote defamatory anti-Gay prejudice to a national audience." This is untrue. It is unfair to me and must be corrected. Everything in my life and in my family's life demonstrates beyond doubt that I am not homophobic. Indeed, the contrary is true, and everyone who knows me knows it. I certainly had no intention of casting aspersions on anyone in the Gay community or on the community itself. I regret any emotional hurt that may have resulted from my review of "Brokeback Mountain."





# 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 360-3795 or write P.O. Box 36264, Tucson, AZ 85740-6264. All replies confidential.

GLBT-friendly AL-ANON group mets Saturdays at 11am at Unitarian Universalist Church, 4831 E. 22nd Street, Tucson

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](mailto: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](mailto:webmaster@gpglcc.org) or call (602)225-8444.

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

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

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

BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO – a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, Call the Bears Hotline (520)790-5775 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910 of visit our website at [www.botop.com](http://www.botop.com) All are welcome

to our general meetings/potlucks on the 2nd Friday of every month, at 3202 E. 1<sup>st</sup> 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](http://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, 425 E. 7th St. All alcoholics welcome.

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

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

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT SPORTS TEAMS and updates on Gay Games 2002, contract TEAM ARIZONA at their website: [teamarizona.org](http://teamarizona.org)

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

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

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](http://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 indi-

vidual needs should be directed to Wingspan and other local agencies listed here. For more information call 622-3200 or visit the TPI website at [www.tucsonpride.com](http://www.tucsonpride.com)

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

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

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

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

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

AZdykes is a new email list for Lesbians living in Arizona. For information mail [tyan@theriver.com](mailto:tyan@theriver.com) and request guidelines.

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

THEATER / DINNER / MOVIES / ETC! Nonsmoking Lesbian Network meets every month. If you'd like to meet women 50+ (flexible) and socialize in a smoke-free environment, please call or email: 888-8010 'til 9pm, or [joycesmth1@aol.com](mailto:joycesmth1@aol.com). The group dines OUT! and attends shows, movies, comedy events, etc. Now in our 23rd year, 7th in Tucson.

SOUTHERN ARIZONA GENDER ALLIANCE (SAGA). The Southwest's largest transgender and gender-diversity advocacy organization. Speakers and panelists available. General meetings monthly on the 1<sup>st</sup> Mondays at 7pm; Dezert Girlz (MTF Support) meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays at 7pm; Dezert Boyz (FTM Support) meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays at 7pm. Also serving partners, youth, intersex, service providers and allies. Call (520)624-1779 x26 for more info.

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

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

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

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

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

9059 (Tucson) or Kim (602)534-6219 (Phoenix)

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](http://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](mailto: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, and reading from Buddhist spiritual text and discussion. Bring a friend and a pillow or cushion. Takes place every Sunday from 10:00 - 11:30am at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St.. Contact Maurice Grossman for more info. 323-2293.

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. 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Contacts Rick R. 520-792-2604 or Gary S. 520-323-1969. More information at [www.secularhumanism.org/sos/](http://www.secularhumanism.org/sos/) This group is an alternative to 12-step programs.

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

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

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. Contact Marc Haberman, Holistic Health Practitioner at 881-4582.





## California ‘Gay Panic’ Bill One Step Closer To Reality

SACRAMENTO - Legislation that would limit the use of the “Gay panic” defense in criminal court cases cleared a California legislative committee on Tuesday, (Jan. 10) moving one step closer to passage, reported the PlanetOut Network. Named the Gwen Araujo Justice for Victims Act, the legislation would amend jury instructions to say that the use of societal bias to influence a criminal trial is inconsistent with California public policy, specifically hate-crime laws.

The act, sponsored by Gay advocacy group Equality California and introduced by Assemblywoman Sally Lieber, passed the assembly public safety committee by a 4-2 vote. “We should not allow criminal defendants to blame their victims,” Lieber said. “We prohibit discrimination based on race, religion, gender, and sexual orientation in nearly all areas of public life. Why should we allow killers to use bias and intolerance as a



Gwen Araujo

justification for murder?”

The legislation will now go before California’s full assembly. The bill is named after a Transgender California teen brutally murdered in 2002. In a 2004 trial that was later declared a mistrial, lawyers of the three men accused of attacking and killing Araujo asserted that the defendants “panicked” after learning Araujo was a Transgender person. (Advocate.com)

## Two More NBC Affiliates Close The Book On Daniel

NEW YORK - Two more NBC affiliates chose not to air the network’s new drama The Book of Daniel, which features an Episcopal priest with a Gay son, the network said Friday (Jan. 13), reported the Associated Press on Advocate.com. Four affiliates nationally have rejected the series, and conservative Christian groups have campaigned against it.

KBTU in Beaumont, Texas, and WGBC in Meridian, Miss., were the latest stations to reject the series. Earlier, NBC affiliates KARK in Little Rock, Ark., and WTOG in Terre Haute, Ind., said they wouldn’t air it.

NBC has 230 affiliates nationally, and a spokeswoman noted that the four affiliates make up less than 1% of



NBC’s national audience. The series stars Aidan Quinn as the Reverend Daniel Webster and depicts him as talking regularly with Jesus Christ.

## All-Gay I’ve Got A Secret Coming

NEW YORK - The Game Show Network announced Thursday (Jan. 12) that it will begin airing a revival of the classic show I’ve Got a Secret on Apr. 17, reported Advocate.com.

The twist for this new version is that everyone on the panel of celebrities is openly Gay.

Doing their best to guess the secrets of contestants will be radio host Frank DeCaro, comedian Suzanne Westenhoefer, retired major league baseball player Billy Bean, and Broadway performer Jermaine Taylor. Burt Dubrow Productions will produce the show, which will be hosted by Bil Dwyer (Extreme Dodgeball, I Love the 80s).

## Sony To Cultivate LGBT Artists

LOS ANGELES - The recording industry is coming out of the closet when Sony Music on Tuesday (Jan. 10) said it was launching the first major music label dedicated to nurturing Lesbian, gay, Bisexual, and Transgender artists, reported Reuters on Advocate.com. The label, Music With a Twist, is a joint venture with Wilderness Media & Entertainment, the company led by Matt Farber, who founded Viacom Inc.’s MTV Networks’ new gay and Lesbian channel, Logo, which is available in an estimated 20 million homes.

The label also comes as Wilderness Media plans this weekend to launch a syndicated national radio show called Twist, targeting gay and “gay-adjacent” communities, debuting on FM stations and the Web. The weekly two-hour radio show will feature music, celebrity interviews, entertainment reports, and relationship and lifestyle advice and news in a “morning show” format. “It’s an idea whose time has come,” Farber told Reuters, referring to the expansion of gay-themed media properties. “Only now are media and entertainment brands being created for the gay and Lesbian audience following the success of brands for other minorities,” he said.

Farber noted that the success of brands dedicated to African-American and Hispanic audiences have also helped talent in these communities cross over well beyond their core audiences. Likewise, Music With a Twist’s roster will feature gay artists who have mass appeal and hit potential across all musical genres. The label will collaborate with Sony Music’s other U.S. labels and divisions, including Columbia Records Group, Epic Records, Sony Nashville, and Sony Urban Music. Sony Music is part of Sony BMG, a joint venture of Sony Corp and Bertelsmann AG. The label also plans to release various compilations geared toward gay and Bisexual audiences, as well as music fans everywhere, featuring hit songs by established artists that have been embraced by gay, Bisexual, and Transgender audiences as well as tracks from emerging gay artists. The

first of these compilations will be released in June 2006 during National Gay Pride Month.

STRICTLY  
CHILL OUT

Friday  
January 20,  
2006 From  
2am-4am  
At The  
Casbah Tea  
House Next To  
IBT's

AFTER  
HOURS

Enter Through  
The Back

Pulse is a collaborative effort with ADHS, Pima County Health  
Department, Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation and Wingspan

Food and Non  
Alcoholic  
Drinks Will  
Be Provided  
Along With  
Belly Dancing

Pulse

www.pulseucson.org