



Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

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EDITORIAL

Observer Recommendations For Sept 12 Primary Election

On Tuesday, Sept. 12, voters will go to the polls and decide whom they want to be their party's nominees for a range of political offices from the local to the federal level.

For the various political contests, there are many choices for voters to consider and to cast their ballot for in the primary election. This is the case for Tucson and Southern Arizona's LGBT community.

In fact some races, all the respective candidates have expressed a supportive position on issues of concern to the LGBT community.

With that in mind, the Observer will not be making recommendations for some of these primary choices since whomever the voters choose, the LGBT community will have a strong choice for the general election on Nov. 7.

There are other races for which there are outstanding individuals currently serving in office who have been LGBT friendly and supportive, for which deserve a "primary vote on the back."

Some of whom are: Congressman Raul Grijalva (CD-7), state Representative Olivia Cajero Bedford, state Representative Phil Lopes, state Senator Jorge Luis Garcia, state Representative David Bradley, state Senator Victor Soltero, state Representative Linda Lopez, and state Representative Tom Prezelski.

Naturally the Observer is

strongly backing Janet and Terry for another term to lead and protect Arizona. Both will face opposition in the general election and the LGBT community should work hard to ensure another four successful years with these two in statewide office.

Three other primary contests of note, the Democratic nominations for: the U.S. House of Representatives (CD-8), Arizona Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Legislative District 28 (LD-28) state Senate seat. For these contests, the LGBT community has a series of choices to make. For the CD-8 race, the Observer recommends Gabrielle Giffords and Slade Mead for Arizona Superintendent of Public Instruction contest.

The race for the LD-28 state Senate seat is another story since both candidates are very friendly supportive of the LGBT community. In this race though, one of the candidates, current state Senator Paula Aboud is the first "out" Lesbian or Gay from Southern Arizona to serve in the Arizona Legislature, something the Observer is very proud of and would like to see continue. On the other hand, her opponent, state Representative Ted Downing has a strong record of support for the LGBT community in the district as well as Southern Arizona.

Go to the polls Tuesday, Sept. 12 and cast your ballot for whomever you think is the best choice for the political contests. This is one election for which the LGBT community has many to consider.

Labor Day 2006: LGBT Workers Mark Year Of Successes

NEW YORK CITY - Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals and Transgendered (LGBT) workers marched in trade unions marched under their own banners in Labor Day parades across the country Monday, Sept. 4, a sign of the growing visibility of LGBT workers, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com.

More and more unions are requiring equality for Gay and transsexual workers in contracts. But, legislation on both the state and national level is sorely lacking.

In 34 states, it is legal to fire someone based on their sexual orientation. In 44 states, it is legal to do so based on gender identity. While lawmakers have been slow, or in many cases reluctant, to extend employment rights to members of the LGBT community, labor and business have not.

As of this year 92 percent of the Fortune 500 companies include sexual orientation protection and a May Gallup Poll found that approximately 89% of prospective voters believe that Gays and Lesbians should have workplace nondiscrimination protection.

Three years ago only 65% of the Fortune 500 companies explicitly offered workplace protection to their Gay and Lesbian employees.

In addition to an almost clean sweep by the nation's biggest companies this year, for the first time, a majority of them also offer domestic partner health insurance benefits.

Almost all major unions have LGBT caucuses or components and

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Record 92% Of Fortune 500 Companies Provide Sexual Orientation Protection

PHILADELPHIA - The FORTUNE 500 Project, a collaboration of Equality Forum with Professors Louis Thomas, Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, and Ian Ayres, Yale Law School, announced that a record 461 (92.2%) of 2006 FORTUNE 500 Companies include sexual orientation protection.

According to a May 2006 Gallup Poll, approximately 89% of US citizens believe that Gays and Lesbians should have workplace nondiscrimination protection.

"When 92% of the FORTUNE 500 and 89% of the public support workplace equality, Congress needs to respond. These seismic changes signal that Gays and Lesbians are valued as employees and, as citizens, deserve equality," stated Malcolm Lazin, Executive Director, Equality Forum.

"We started the FORTUNE 500 Project in fall 2003 with 323 (64.6%) companies including sexual orientation protection. The additional 139 (27.6%) FORTUNE 500 Companies now providing that protection have a combined workplace of over 15 million employees," stated Ron Ansin, Chair, National Board of Governors, Equality Forum.

The project communicated with CEOs and HR directors of the 177 FORTUNE 500 companies (35.4%) that did not provide such protection. By fall 2004, 82 companies were added, bringing the total to 405 (81%).

Beginning in summer 2005, the project contacted the CEOs and Boards of Directors of the 95 (19%) remaining FORTUNE 500 companies that did not include sexual orientation protection.

The project also communicated with the 25 largest mutual funds, investment managers, endowments, foundations and labor, state and municipal pension funds to solicit their support on proxy statements requesting sexual orientation protection. Among those responding, Vanguard determined that shareholder interest is best served by providing sexual orientation protection. At the 2006 Exxon Mobil annual shareholders meeting, Vanguard voted its 194,000,000 shares for sexual orientation protection, bringing to 35% the total of shareholders calling for nondiscrimination protection.

"With no federal protection and only 16 states statutorily providing nondiscrimination for Gays and Lesbians, FORTUNE 500 Companies that include that protection contractually obligate the corporation to provide a workplace where merit, not intolerance prevails," said Professor Ian Ayres.

"Including sexual orientation protection helps companies to tap into the over \$600 billion annual US Gay and

Lesbian consumer market," said openly Gay Allan Gilmour, former Vice Chair, Ford Motor Company.

"Equality Forum salutes GLBT workplace groups Out & Equal Workplace Advocates, Human Rights Campaign, and others for their efforts on behalf of workplace equality," states Kevin Ray, Esq., Board Chair, Equality Forum.

The Equality Forum has contacted the newest additions to the FORTUNE 500 list, seeking statements of compliance. Equality Forum will only list a company as compliant when we receive written proof that "sexual orientation" is included in the company's employment nondiscrimination policy. The following 39 companies do not offer sexual orientation protection to their gay and lesbian employees.

137 Delegates To AIDS Conference Seek Asylum

OTTAWA, Canada - One-hundred-and-thirty-seven delegates to the International AIDS Conference, held last month in Toronto, are seeking refugee status in Canada, alleging they face persecution and denial of life-saving medication if they are returned home, 365Gay.com reported. The group includes people from South Africa, El Salvador, Eritrea, Uganda and Zimbabwe. Many of them are women and they are being housed in Toronto area hostels awaiting immigration board hearings.

One claimant, Eritrean AIDS activist Amanuel Tesfamichael, told the Toronto Sun newspaper that his government allowed him travel to Canada but his passport was held by two Eritrean officials who traveled with him. "I was only allowed to leave my homeland for 10 days," he told the Sun. "The government didn't want me to leave the country." Tesfamichael, a founder of Eritrea's 6,000-member association for people living with AIDS, said when the plane landed he was given his passport for clearing at Canadian immigration. When he got into the terminal he bolted to a pre-determined meeting place and was taken away by a waiting car.

The South Africans, all women, have declined to speak to the media, but at the conference, delegates from South African AIDS groups accused the government of ignoring the plight of people living with HIV/AIDS. Activists have repeatedly demanded the dismissal of Health Minister Manto Tshabalala-Msimang who promotes beets, garlic and lemon as remedies for AIDS.

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UPDATE

Proposition 107 To Be On Nov. Ballot; Polling Shows Measure Lacking Support

PHOENIX (ON) - Arizona's Supreme Court has upheld Proposition 107 set for the Nov. 7 ballot, while a poll of Arizona voters indicates the measure will fail.

The justices, upholding a lower court ruling, rejected Arizona Together's arguments that the marriage measure violates the state's single-subject rule for ballot initiatives.

Arizona Together and five couples had sued to keep the measure off the ballot. A key talking point for opponents of Proposition 107 is that the proposed amendment to Arizona's Constitution aims to forbid any domestic partnership or granting of marriage-like rights.

Several Arizona localities, including Phoenix, Tucson, Tempe and Pima County, grant partner benefits. Some offer domestic partnerships popular among older people seeking to keep health benefits that would be jeopardized by remarriage.

State Rep. Kyrsten Sinema, D-Phoenix, chairing the organized opposition to the marriage amendment, said the unsuccessful challenge did serve a purpose. Supporters of Proposition 107 admitted the measure effectively would end the ability of public employers to offer insurance and other benefits to partners of unmarried employees.

Sinema said the campaign against Proposition 107 will concentrate on informing voters about the loss of domestic-partner benefits for both straight and Gay and Lesbian couples.

Meanwhile, a poll of Arizona registered voters released Tuesday (Aug. 29) by KAET/Channel 8 in Tempe indicated that the measure would fail. Fifty-one percent of those surveyed said they opposed the constitutional marriage ban, while 38 percent supported it.

The statewide telephone poll of 846 registered voters was conducted August 24-29, 2006, and has a sampling error of plus or minus 3.3 percent. Fifty-eight percent of the interviews were conducted in Maricopa County, 18 percent in Pima County and 24 percent in the less populated counties. The sample was 39 percent Republican, 35 percent Democrat and 26 percent independent. Fifty-two percent of voters interviewed were

females and 48 percent males.

Arizonans consistently oppose anti-Gay measures that would deprive people of benefits, according to the journalism school's polling on the issue.

In January 2005, 54 percent of registered voters said they would support an amendment to the Arizona Constitution specifying that marriage be allowed only between one man and one woman. But only 33 percent would support a Gay and Lesbian marriage ban if it also prohibited domestic partners from receiving public health or retirement benefits, according to KAET's web site, listing previous polls conducted.

'Lesbian Shorts III Sept. 14, 16-17, 22-24

ON - The Bloody Unicorn Theater Company will be performing new and original works for their production of Lesbian Shorts III, Sept. 14, 16-17 and 22 - 24, at the Temple of Music & Art, 330 S. Scott Ave.

Lesbian Shorts is the company's annual festival of original, one act plays with a Sapphic slant. All shows will be at the Cabaret Theater of the Temple of Music and Art with the curtain rising at 7:30 p.m. all nights, plus 2:30 matinees on all weekend performances.

Tickets \$12 for one show, or \$20 for both performances on any two nights, for all Tucson shows! To reserve tickets, E-mail: kyaroc@yahoo.com or call (520) 990-3628, and leave your name, phone number, which performance dates you would like, and the number of tickets.

Rainbow Families Gathering Sept. 10

TUCSON - Rainbow Families is a monthly social group for LGBT and Allied people who have children or are interested in starting families. Rainbow Families will be having a potluck bar-b-que and picnic on Sunday, Sept. 10, 4 - 6:00 p.m. at Reid Park, Ramada 4.

Kids can play on the big playground near the ramada. They can also play frisbee or kickball or jump rope, or just enjoy an afternoon in the grass under the tall trees near the lake. Dogs are welcome on leashes. The dog training area is near the ramada, and there is also an off-leash fenced area nearby in the park. The Cramers, who are sponsoring this month's event, will provide water and charcoal, as well as hot dogs (kosher and chicken), along with ketchup, mustard, relish and buns. You are asked to bring something to share: salad, chips, fruit,

dessert, juice boxes or sodas.

Please RSVP by E-mailing Cathy at Wingspan, cathy@wingspan.org or calling (520) 624-1779 and let them know what you will bring.

Tucson Rainbow Pride Bowling Starts Sept. 10

TUCSON - Tucson Rainbow Pride bowling league will begin their fall season at Cactus Bowl, 1630 S. Alvernon, Sunday, Sept. 10, 5 p.m.

On Sept. 10, the league will hold an organizational meeting and begin bowling at 6 p.m. TRP is a handicap league and will bowl for 33 weeks and open to all bowlers.

For more information, call Duane (520) 981-0859.

New Local LGBT Social Group In Beginning Stages Looking For Interested People At Formation Meeting Sept. 10

Come and help us form a new GLBT Social Group. We are looking for 12 persons (6 men & 6 women), to form the committee for the group. First meeting will be at Rainbow Planet Coffee Shop on 4th Ave., Sunday 9/10/06, at 2:00 P.M., please be prompt. We look forward to seeing you. Lillian Woodhouse

Wingspan Annual Dinner Sept. 16

TUCSON - Join in supporting Wingspan's important mission and recognizing the individuals who help build a better LGBT community is Southern Arizona at Wingspan's annual dinner, Saturday, Sept. 16, 5:30pm - midnight, at the Tucson Convention Center, 260 South Church Ave.

The evening includes a keynote address by Neil Giuliano, President of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD), and former Mayor of the City of Tempe.

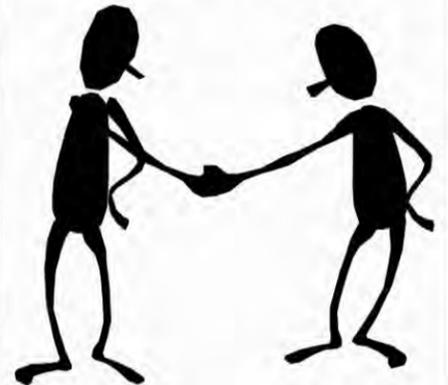
Three individuals will be honored at Wingspan's annual event:

Craig Snow will posthumously be awarded the Godat Award.

As the founder of the Tucson AIDS Project (TAP) in 1985, Craig Snow helped engineer the first local, organized response to the HIV/AIDS crisis. An all-volunteer effort, TAP provided basic services to those living with HIV and AIDS at a time when other service agencies were not even talking about the disease. Snow put in endless hours and took a leadership role that allowed the agency to grow, add paid staff, and expand its services. Under his direction TAP became a nationally recognized organization known for innovative programs. Snow was instrumental in the merger of TAP with two other agencies in 1997 to create the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF). At that time Snow graciously stepped down as director recognizing that multiple executive directors would not serve the agency well and would take funds away from vital services to people with HIV/AIDS.

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Calling for friendly and reliable people to join SAAF's Client Services Team as volunteer Peer Counselors.



If you are interested in offering peer support to clients, educating on HIV/AIDS and more, please contact Wendy Ascione at 628-7223 wascione@saaf.org

SAAF

Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation



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COMMENTARY . . .

by E. J. Montini

For Better Or Worse, Gays And Straights Treated Equally Bad

Some opponents of the Pro-ect Marriage Arizona Amendment, which will appear on the Nov. 7 ballot, claim that the people behind the proposition are prejudiced.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

The framers of Proposition 107 went out of their way to produce a law that would treat heterosexuals as badly as it treats homosexuals.

The proposition would amend the state Constitution to ban same-sex marriages (which already are illegal in Arizona) and prevent cities, counties, universities and others from recognizing any arrangement similar to marriage, such as civil unions or domestic partnerships.

Cathi Herrod, president of the Center for Arizona Policy, a prime backer of the amendment, explained it to me this way: "The issue here is simple. What place is a marriage between one man and one woman going to have in our society? Is it going to have the unique status that it has had or are there going to be the different marriage alternatives?"

Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon has said that if cities like ours can't offer health insurance to the domestic partners of its employees (Gay and straight) Arizona's cities wouldn't be able "to compete against the private sector or other cities."

Peter Likins, former president of the University of Arizona, said the same thing about Arizona's universities.

To which Herrod said, "Marriage is at risk of being undermined and redefined by counterfeits like civil unions and domestic partnerships and so on. Marriage between one man and one woman provides benefits to society. That's why society provides benefits based on your marital status."

So, the hundreds or more of police officers, firefighters, teachers and so on who have partners to whom they aren't married aren't providing any benefit to society? And in fact are doing harm to marriage?

"Marriage is the building block of society," Herrod said. "It has been the foundation of society. What happens to marriage has an effect. Is there a direct affect on my marriage or your marriage? No. Is there a direct effect on society and the benefits it provides society. Yes."

Although exactly what that direct effect is and how this amendment would correct it appears to be fairly sketchy.

For one thing, Herrod said that children do better in homes with married parents. Unless they happen to be special-needs children, who often are adopted and lovingly cared for by single, sometimes Gay, men and women.

There are 10,000 or so such kids in Arizona foster care and, for now, the state simply looks for the best parent, married or single. According to the head of the non-profit agency Aid to Adoption of Special Kids, to do otherwise "would have a negative impact on the system."

The backers of the marriage amendment seem to suggest that such people provide no benefits and therefore deserve none. Although Herrod does have a solution.

"They say this (amendment) goes after unmarried people who are cohabitating together," she said. "But those people could get benefits if they just get married."

I suppose that's true. For heterosexual couples, anyway.

But isn't it odd that Herrod would even suggest such a thing?

I mean, if Proposition 107 backers believe that "marriage is the fundamental building block of society" (as the Center for Arizona Policy says on it's Web site), and that it is an institution based on love, commitment and children, would they want people tying the knot just so they can get benefits?

(E.J. Montini is a columnist for the Arizona Republic, from which this is reprinted from their Sept. 3 edition.)

137 Delegates To AIDS Conference Seek Asylum

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"What they are doing is yap, yap, yap," Tshabalala-Msimang said in an interview with the Toronto Star during the conference. "I don't listen to them." "I want anybody to challenge me that it's not important to eat nutritious food. If I have a cold. South Africa has the world's highest infection rate for HIV/AIDS. The South African government has asked Canada for information on the refugee claimants. With the Labor Day holiday the government has not responded and it is not clear if it would turn over names of those seeking to remain.

Canadian officials said it might take a year for officials to rule on the cases. About one in two applications for asylum in Canada is successful. "They don't have the right to treatment (in their native countries), they don't have access to medicines," refugee advocate Francisco Rico-Martinez told CTV News.



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UPDATE

Wingspan Annual Dinner Sept. 16

Continued from Page Two

Snow formed a consulting firm with his personal and professional partner, Artie Stone, that lent its expertise and experience to local non-profit groups and he continued to work tirelessly for local causes and was a key player in the creation of the LGBT&S Alliance Fund through the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona, which has awarded more than 50 grants totaling nearly \$300,000 to local nonprofits.

Donna Rochester will receive the Community Ally Award. Donna Rochester's name has become synonymous with that of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) in Tucson. Having served on the PFLAG Board of Directors and having chaired the group for many years, Rochester has walked along with countless families on their journeys with LGBT family members. With her tireless dedication and unflagging energy, she has been instrumental in keeping PFLAG thriving and visible in the community.

Under Rochester's leadership PFLAG has served as a steady source of information and support. Through regular meetings family members and friends network and form bonds that reinforce inclusive family values. Because of her work, PFLAG now offers scholarships for LGBT youth and young people who would otherwise have less opportunity to pursue continuing education. Rochester has continuously made herself and PFLAG available in the LGBT and Southern Arizona communities. PFLAG has acted as a coalition partner for many LGBT causes and Rochester has advocated for LGBT issues to outside agencies and is always ready with information and PFLAG materials. Her leadership, energy, and tireless support have made Southern Arizona a better place for LGBT people and their families.

Kevin Maxey will be given the Hall

Award.

Kevin Maxey is a founder of the Southern Arizona Gender Alliance (SAGA), a Wingspan program whose mission is working for basic rights for transgender and transsexual people to be open, honest, and safe at home, at work, and in the community. Maxey's leadership and dedication have furthered that mission immeasurably. SAGA offers multiple monthly meetings for discussion, support, and networking. Maxey's quiet leadership has allowed SAGA to become a nationally recognized model for support and services for this community and a pioneer of innovative programs such as the Arizona Transgender Workplace (ATWORK) Project and the Alexander John Goodrum Transgender Mental Health Project.

Maxey is both a front line volunteer, willing to do the everyday work of organizing events, staffing information tables, and providing presentations, and is an experienced leader who helped facilitate the merger of SAGA with Wingspan, sharing the strengths of the two organizations in a mutually beneficial way so that both are stronger.

A dance with music by LeeAnne Savage will conclude the evening. ASL interpretation will be provided. Parking is free.

Tickets are: individual, \$95, reserved table of ten, \$950 with recognition as a table host. (\$50 is the value of goods and services provided and generally not tax-deductible) A limited number of scholarship tickets are available.

Please contact Wingspan (520) 624-1779 for more details. For more information, go online to wingspan.org.

Gay Mayor In Hot Water Over Welcoming Letter To Ex-Gay Group

PALM SPRINGS, California - The openly Gay mayor said Thursday (Aug. 31) that he regrets using the word "proud" in a letter he wrote welcoming an "ex-Gay" group to his city, the Desert Sun reports on advocate.com. Focus on the Family, a notoriously antiGay group from Colorado Springs, Colo., is hosting its Love Won Out conference at Southwest Community Church in Indian Wells, south of the city, on September 23. The conference centers on a message that Gays can change their sexual orientation.

"I probably would have changed the phrase," Mayor Ron Oden said during a news conference on Thursday. Oden also said he would accept Focus on the Family's invitation to attend the conference, hoping it would provide an opportunity to share his perspective. Oden has received criticism from some local Gays and Lesbians over the letter, the Sun reports. The ex-Gay Christian group Exodus International, which has held conferences like this across the country for eight years, is the event's other sponsor. Indian Wells is one of six conferences planned for 2006. The next city is Atlanta, on November 4.

Organizers say the conference will feature speakers who will offer strategies to help Gays change their sexual orientation. They will also offer friends and family members ways to "cope" with a loved one's homosexuality.



Palm Springs Mayor Ron Oden

Don Bruhnke, a Palm Springs resident and Gay man who attended Thursday's news conference at Palm Springs City Hall, told the Sun he couldn't believe the mayor would welcome "a group with a professed hatred of my lifestyle and who I am. I'm just outraged the city would be proud to welcome [them]." Oden said that as the mayor of Palm Springs he receives requests from events on a "regular basis" asking for personal appearances and letters of welcome. While the city doesn't have a policy to respond, "most people who send a request get a letter," he said.

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'This Film Not Yet Rated' Explores Anti-LGBT Bias Of MPAA Rating System

LOS ANGELES - The IFC Original Documentary This Film is Not Yet Rated opened in limited release Friday, Sept. 1, and will roll out in select markets (In Tucson at the Loft Theater, Sept. 29) across the country through October.

The film is an unprecedented investigation into the Motion Picture Association of America's (MPAA) film rating system and its profound influence on American culture including its impact on representations of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) people in film.

This Film is Not Yet Rated is directed by Oscar-nominee Kirby Dick (Twist of Faith) and asks whether Hollywood movies and independent films are rated equally for comparable content, and whether sexual content involving LGBT characters faces tougher scrutiny by the MPAA. The MPAA is the trade organization of the six major film studios, which indicates age-based content classification using the letter grades G, PG, PG-13, R and NC-17.

"Films with Gay or Lesbian sexuality are rated more strictly than films about straight sexuality," says director Kirby Dick. "After our film premiered at Sundance, Kori Bernard, the spokesperson for the MPAA, was asked about this bias. She replied: 'We don't set the standards. We just reflect them,' which I found very revealing. What if this society's standards were racist? Would the MPAA rate films about African-Americans more strictly? What if the standards were anti-Semitic? Would they rate films about Jews more harshly? Her response was a tacit admission that a homophobic bias is built into the ratings system."

"This film provides a valuable opportunity for people to acknowledge and confront the double standard the

MPAA places on films with Gay content," says Damon Romine, entertainment media director of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD). "We hope this leads to an overhaul of a system that has compromised honest depictions of Gay people and relationships for far too long."

While Dick says he had no trouble finding stories of filmmakers who had first-hand experience with the MPAA's "often arbitrary and clandestine ratings system," getting filmmakers to speak on camera was another matter, as some feared being penalized in the future. Others, however, were willing to have their stories told. Jamie Babbit, director of But I'm a Cheerleader, tells Dick she felt discriminated against by the MPAA for making a film about Gay teenagers. Director Kimberly Peirce is interviewed about the process she went through to get the MPAA to lower its initial rating of Boys Don't Cry from NC-17 to R.

Directors John Waters (A Dirty Shame), Kevin Smith (Clerks), Matt Stone (South Park) and Atom Egoyan (Where the Truth Lies) also share their experiences with the ratings board. In addition, a key figure in the film is openly Gay detective Becky Altringer of Ariel Investigations, who helped the director research the MPAA.

The MPAA gave This Film is Not Yet Rated an NC-17 rating. Because this rating can greatly inhibit the distribution and success of a movie, IFC Films will release the documentary as unrated. It will premiere on IFC TV in January 2007. For more information about this film, go online to: ifctv.com/thisfilm/about.php.

Family Pride Releases 'Back To School' Tools For LGBT Parents

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Family Pride announced the launch of a Back to School pamphlet, titled, "Building Family Equality in Every Classroom." The materials give concrete, easy to execute strategies to educate school communities about the unique needs of children of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) parents in the classroom.

"This time of year, most parents are making out 'Back to School' lists: pens and pencils, backpacks and lunchboxes, jeans and sneakers," said Jennifer Chrisler, Executive Director of Family Pride. "It's just as important to add Family Pride's resources to that list. Introduce your family, check for anti-harassment and anti-bullying policies, insure that school forms and curricula are inclusive of all types of families. Family Pride encourages LGBT parents to consider your child's needs, to know your rights, and to reach out to the school community."

The tool provides checklists of concrete methods for parents to be proactive in their dealings with the school community. It provides strategies for talking to teacher and principals, formulating questions about inclusivity and language, and working with others to enact positive change.

"Like all parents, the reality is that LGBT parents have to raise the needs of our kids and help educators do their jobs better with positive solutions and innovative ideas," continued Chrisler, whose twin sons

started pre-school last week. "If our schools had asbestos, we'd stand up, if our playgrounds were unsafe, we'd stand up. Children are facing anti-LGBT hostility and we need to stand up."

Working successfully with a school community isn't always about lofty projects "It's often the little things that make the most difference," said Trina Olson, Family Pride's Program and Education Manager. "For example, we suggest you speak with your child's teacher about the language your family uses. 'I'm Mom and Jill is "Momma."' This kind of basic information gives your child's teacher the framework he or she needs to talk about your family. By giving these specifics, you have given the teacher the tools to be comfortable talking about and advocating for your family," continued Olson.

"Building Family Equality" is a simple and easy to use guide that encourages parents to play an active role in shaping their children's schools. The materials also encourage parents to talk with their kids about what they need at school; they may have helpful insights about their school community, and preferences for how they are represented.

To obtain a copy of "Building Family Equality in Every Classroom", go to familypride.org or call (202) 331-5015.

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LGBT Activists Join Marches For Immigration Rights

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Gays and Lesbians joined marchers nationwide calling for a massive overhaul of immigration laws, reported 365Gay.com.

Congress has been grappling with dueling immigration bills amid calls for granting legal status to illegal immigrants to throwing them out of the country altogether.

For LGBT activists the issue is compounded by the refusal of the government to recognize binational same-sex couples. "In my case, I'm an immigrant. I've been here for 8 years under a work visa. My partner 'cause she's female, cannot sponsor me to stay here." said Belinda Ryan who marched in San Francisco. "If I were a man she could sponsor me."

Similar marches were held in 17 cities across the country on Monday (Sept. 4) including Chicago, Los Angeles, Phoenix and Pittsburgh.

The 2000 U.S. Census estimated that in the United States there were almost 40,000 Lesbian and Gay couples in which one partner is a U.S. citizen (or permanent resident), and the other a foreign national.

The figure does not include the many thousands of binational couples who have to hide the fact they are partners, are forced to live apart, or who have been forced to leave the United States the report said, noting that under U.S. statutes, these couples have no recognition under the law.

In May, Human Rights Watch and Immigration Equality released a report showing thousands of U.S. citizens and their foreign same-sex partners face enormous hardships, separation and even exile because discriminatory U.S. immigration policies.

The 191-page report, "Family, Unvalued: Discrimination, Denial and the Fate of Binational Same-Sex Couples under U.S. Law," is the first-ever comprehensive report on the issue.

For more than 50 years, family reunification has been a stated and central goal of U.S. immigration policy. Immigration law places a priority on allowing citizens and permanent residents to sponsor their spouses and close relatives for entry into the U.S.

U.S. citizens with foreign Lesbian or Gay partners, however, find that their relationships are considered non-existent under federal law.

The so-called "Defense of Marriage Act," passed in 1996, declared that for all purposes of the federal government, marriage would mean "only a legal union between one man and one woman as husband and wife." Since Lesbian and Gay couples are excluded from the definition of "spouse," U.S. citizens receive no legal recognition of their same-sex partners for purposes of immigration.

LGBT activists called on Congress to pass the Uniting American Families Act. The bill, sponsored by Representative Jerrold Nadler (D-NY) and Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT) would offer binational same-sex couples' relationships the same recognition and treatment afforded to binational married couples.

The proposed law would add the term "permanent partner" to sections of the Immigration and Nationality Act where "spouse" now appears. If passed, a U.S. citizen or permanent resident could sponsor their permanent partner for immigration to the country, just as they can now sponsor such family members as siblings, children or husbands and wives.

The bill was introduced in the current Congress on June 21, 2005; it has a total of 104 cosponsors from both houses.

Anti-LGBT Group Attacks Domestic Violence Law In Court

COLUMBUS, Ohio - How far will right-wingers take their campaign for "traditional marriage?" For one ultraconservative group, all the way into a courtroom to argue that Ohio's domestic violence law—which covers all couples, married or not—can't be applied to unmarried heterosexual couples because of the state's new constitutional provision prohibiting the recognition of the marriages of same-sex couples and prohibiting the recognition of "a legal status" for any unmarried couples "that intends to approximate the design, qualities, significance or effect of marriage."

In an ugly development that has so far received little national attention, Citizens for Community Values (CCV) recently filed a friend-of-the-court brief in the Ohio Supreme Court in support of a man accused of assaulting his girlfriend, with whom he resides. The man is being prosecuted under Ohio's domestic violence law, which makes it a crime for someone to cause physical harm to a person who is "a spouse, a person living as a spouse, or a former spouse of the offender." CCV was the primary group urging adoption of Ohio's 2004 anti-Gay constitutional amendment. At the time, legal scholars warned that the amendment could have far reaching implications for all unmarried couples—Gay or not—including the possibility that domestic violence legislation could be overturned.

Now, Citizens for Community Values is trying to do just that. Their brief contends that the domestic violence law creates and recognizes a "legal status" for "marriage-mimicking relationships" that is prohibited by the new constitutional amendment, and that the man therefore cannot be prosecuted under that law for attacking his girlfriend.

People For the American Way Foundation President Ralph G. Neas issued the following statement. "It's not surprising that this group would push to deny legal protections to unmarried couples, but it's striking that they would choose to do so in a case involving such an abhorrent crime as domestic abuse. This case confirms every worry we had about the amendment. It is a reminder that, in their rush to discriminate against Gay and Lesbian couples, right wing activists pushed destructive measures that have broad reaching consequences for all families. All families, Gay and straight, deserve full protection under the law."



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POLITICS 2006

by Mark R. Kerr

Proposition 107 And Tucson's Anti-Discrimination Measure

"To preserve and protect marriage in this state, only a union between one man and woman shall be valid or recognized as a marriage by this state or its political subdivisions and no legal status for unmarried persons shall be created or recognized by this state or its political subdivisions that is similar to that of marriage," is the language of Proposition 107, which registered Arizona voters will decide whether to add to Arizona's state Constitution in the upcoming general election, taking place Tuesday, Nov. 7.

Contrary to reports by the mainstream media, Proposition 107 would affect more just a definition of marriage (even though it's defined already under Arizona law, A.R.S. 25-101 and A.R.S. 25-112 as a "man" and a "woman").

Laws and measures, such as Tucson's Human Relations ordinance, currently in effect for more than 29 years, would either be immediately rescinded or be just one lawsuit or legal challenge from being history if the untruths, paranoia and phobias Proposition 107 proponents, a front group known as Protect Marriage Arizona but in reality, the homophobic Center for Arizona Policy (CAP) currently led by Cathi Herrod and Lynden "Len" Munsil, candidate for the Republican gubernatorial nomination, are allowed to be enshrined in the state constitution.

Tucson's Human Relations ordinance came about due to a death.

In June 1976, Richard Heakin, a young Gay man leaving a local bar, was brutally murdered by three high-school students who were looking for "some fags to hassle."

According to newspaper accounts and court documents, three

young men, students from Canyon Del Oro were arrested for the crime, tried and convicted, of manslaughter and given a slap on the wrist (probation), by the judge for taking a life because as the judge put it, "boys will be boys."

Outrage and action from the community, both straight and Gay followed the sentencing. In Feb. 1977, the Tucson City Council, by a unanimous vote, approved a human relations ordinance, ensuring everyone, regardless of race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, familial status, perceived or otherwise, had equal access to employment, public accommodations and housing within city limits.

Tucson's ordinance was more than just "words on a paper" since it provided Individuals who have complaints based on gender identity, sexual orientation, ancestry, familial status (employment) or marital status, the ability and legal right to file a complaint with the City of Tucson's Equal Opportunity Office (EOO) and who has been enforcing the ordinance since 1977.

If Proposition 107 is approved by voters, Tucson's ordinance, one of the first enacted in the nation, is one law of many laws that will be history if Lynden, Cathi and CAP's Proposition 107 are made part of Arizona's Constitution.

A prejudicial act in 1976 brought about the rights and protections all Tucsonans enjoy under the City's Human Relations Ordinance, let us make sure another prejudicial act doesn't take those cherished rights away.

Man Charged In Giuliani Gay Aide Slaying

NEW YORK CITY - Police Wednesday (Aug. 30) charged a 26 year old man with murder in the killing of Martin Barreto a Gay former aide to Rudy Giuliani, reported 365Gay.com. Edwin Ramos, 26, is described as a drug addict who is homeless and works occasionally as a day laborer.

Police said they believe the two men met for the first time on the street and Barreto invited Ramos home. After going to the apartment, the pair became involved in a dispute that ended in his death, police said. Investigators Wednesday would not say if Ramos is under investigation for the murder of David Webb, a chef at one of the city's most exclusive hotels and whose killing bears similarities to that of Barreto's.

Both men were considered wealthy, both were strangled, and both were discovered naked. In neither case was there any sign of a break-in. Barreto's nude body was found a week ago in the bedroom of the million-dollar Greenwich Village apartment of a cousin with whom he frequently stayed. "His larynx was crushed like an eggshell," one investigator reportedly said at the time. Police said that a condom wrapper was found near the body and that it appeared Barreto, 49, and his killer had sex shortly before the killing. News reports said that Barreto was known to have hired hustlers and engaged in rough sex. Several of

Barreto's friends told the News that Barreto three years ago had complained about being stalked by a former flame and obtained restraining orders several years ago against the man in New York and Miami. The arrest of Ramos came by chance. Investigators were seeking information on him at an employment agency that had hired him when Ramos walked in seeking back-pay, police said Wednesday. Under questioning, police said, Ramos implicated himself in the killing.

During the Giuliani administration Barreto dealt with the Hispanic press for the mayor. Most recently he was a partner in a Manhattan public relations firm. He a former radio journalist he served on the board of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists from 1993 to 1996. David Webb, 44, was found naked and strangled in the living room of his Westchester home by a housemate just a day after the Barreto slaying. Webb was the chef at the Benjamin Hotel, one of New York City's most exclusive inns. Police in Westchester County have several times with New York City police to compare notes on the two investigations but declined Wednesday (Aug. 30) to comment on the case.

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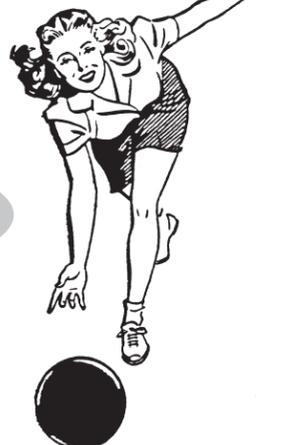
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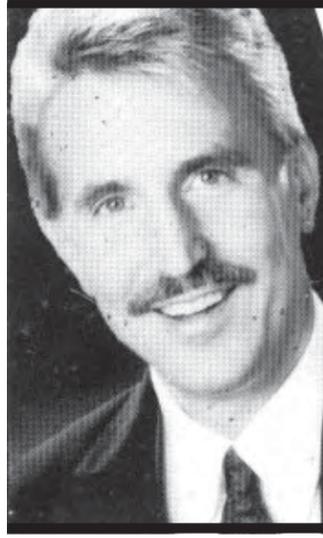
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Police Officer Convicted Of Sexually Assaulting Transsexual

SAN ANTONIO, Texas - A police officer was convicted Wednesday (Aug. 30) of violating the civil rights of a transsexual who said the officer raped and beat her during a traffic stop, reported the Associate Press on advocate.com.. The jury found that Officer Dean Gutierrez's conduct violated Gabriel Bernal's rights through aggravated sexual assault. A sentencing hearing is set for Dec. 1. The felony carries a sentence of up to life in prison and as much as \$250,000 in fines, the U.S. Justice Department said.

evidence and the testimony of Bernal, 23. Prosecutors said Gutierrez, 46, stopped Bernal on June 10, 2005, ordered her into his car, and drove her to a remote location where he physically and sexually assaulted her.

Although the names of sexual assault victims are usually withheld, Bernal has consented to have her name made public. Bernal goes by the name of Starlight and prefers to be addressed as a woman, the San Antonio Express-News reported. In the trial, prosecutors presented DNA

The defense argued in the trial that Bernal had consensual oral sex with Gutierrez and was lying about the incident in order to later win money in a civil lawsuit. Prosecutors said no suit had been filed. "Using one's official authority to forcibly violate another individual, as the defendant did in this case, is disturbing and abhorrent," Wan J. Kim, assistant attorney general for the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, said in a news release. Gutierrez, a 16-year police veteran who previously had been placed on indefinite suspension, was taken into custody following the verdict.

School Board Asks Students If They're LGBT

NEW YORK CITY - As high school students head back to classes for the start of a new year districts across the country face a patchwork of policies regarding LGBT students, reported 365Gay.com. While the number of Gay-Straight clubs grows nationwide some school boards have dug in their heels to block LGBT students from organizing.

floor he said GSAs are a recruiting tool for Gays and are "tearing down the moral pillars of society." The measure died in the legislature.

Students returning to classes in the Rowan-Salisbury School System in North Carolina will face what is described as the most repressive regulations in the country. The school board voted last month to bar what it called sex-based clubs at the school and to declare the Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) fit that criterion. The recommendation to amend the policy and define the GSA as a sex club was based on the school district's existing mandate for abstinence-only sex education.

The need for GSAs was highlighted in a report issued in April showing Gay-bashing remains a major problem in the nation's schools. The National School Climate Survey was released in Washington by the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network.

Schools in several states have or are considering regulations requiring parental approval to join school clubs. In Georgia a federal judge ruled in July that White County High School must allow students in the Gay-straight alliance club to meet on campus. But Perry McGuire, the Republican candidate for Georgia Attorney General, says that allowing Gay Straight Alliances in schools is "much like allowing a pedophile club or a gambling club to meet at school."

Three-quarters of students surveyed across America said that over the past year they heard derogatory remarks such as "faggot" or "dyke" frequently or often at school, and nearly nine out of ten reported hearing "that's so Gay" or "you're so Gay" - meaning stupid or worthless - frequently or often. Over a third of students said they experienced physical harassment at school on the basis of sexual orientation and more than a quarter on the basis of their gender expression. Nearly one-in-five students reported they had been physically assaulted because of their sexual orientation and over a tenth because of their gender expression.

In the last session of the Utah legislature state Chris Buttars (R) called for a bill that would have barred cities and the state government from offering the benefits and then proposed a bill to ban Gay-straight alliances in schools. On the Senate

Yet while the issue of protecting Gay students and whether GSAs should be recognized roils school districts across the country one Canadian school board is taking a pro-active approach. The Toronto School Board is launching a major survey of its students this fall to help set a policy to better serve all of its pupils. Among the 55 questions being asked of students from junior kindergarten to grade 12 is whether they are "Lesbian, Transgendered, Bisexual, queer or two-spirited." There is also a box to indicate "don't know."

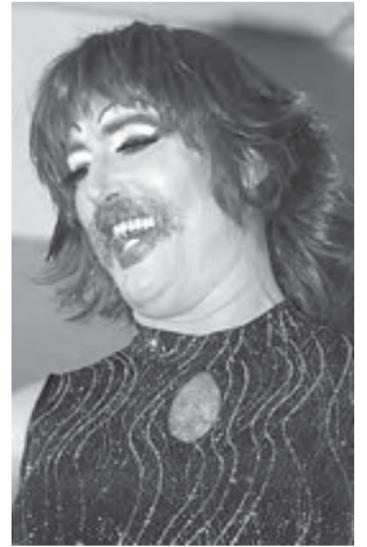


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NBA Great Charles Barkley Mulls Run For Alabama Governor; Supports Gay Marriage



BUZZ1155-4

solutions and no front-runner."

Barkley was a Republican until recently, saying he switched parties when the Republicans "lost their minds." He said he is troubled by some of the actions of people in the United States in the name of religion. "Religious people in general are so discriminatory against other people, and that really disturbs me," he said. "My idea of religion is we all love and respect. We all sin, but we still have common decency and respect for other people. So right now I'm struggling with my idea of what religion is."

He also said he supports Gay marriage. "I think if they want to get married, God bless them," Barkley said. "Gay marriage is probably 1 percent of the population, so it's not like it's going to be an epidemic. Hey, trust me, I'm never going to kiss you and say, 'Chris, you're sexy.'" Barkley also acknowledged that a Gay athlete likely would be discriminated against in professional sports, though he said he believes they would face the same discrimination in everyday life.

The Hall of Famer, who donated money to help with the reconstruction in the Gulf Coast following Hurricane Katrina, said he realizes he has limitations when it comes to governing, though that isn't stopping him from considering a gubernatorial bid. "I don't know anything about a lot of things, but I would ask somebody and try to make a fair, honest decision for the majority of the people. Not the rich, not the poor, not the black, not the white," Barkley said. "When you get elected to public office, you're supposed to represent everybody. Your job is not to take care of the rich or the poor or the black or the white. Your job is to take care of everybody."

Daniel Craig's Gay Kiss The Talk Of Venice

VENICE, Italy - No doubt there are plenty of on-screen kisses in store for Daniel Craig as the new James Bond. But none will be more talked about than the one that premiered at the Venice Film Festival, reported the Associated Press on advocate.com. Craig plays one of the men who brutally murdered a Kansas farm family in "Infamous," which examines Truman Capote's emotional journey into the minds of two killers that formed the core of his true-crime novel, *In Cold Blood*.

An attachment grew between Capote and confessed killer Perry Smith during the long periods the author spent in Kansas teasing out their story, and in a pivotal moment the two men kiss. "I never dreamed I'd kiss James Bond," quipped Toby Jones, the British actor who plays Capote. "Now that I've done it, I say I hope I'm just the first of many."

Director Douglas McGrath said Craig was not a recognizable screen presence to most moviegoing audiences when he cast the 38-year-old actor for his movie, which also stars Sandra Bullock. "That isn't going to be the case in [a few] weeks," McGrath said. Craig missed Thursday night's (Aug. 31) premiere, reportedly to finish work on the Bond picture, *Casino Royale*, due out in November. While the Bond movie will enjoy a much wider release, McGrath said the close timing is good for both films—and a good opportunity for audiences to see what Craig is made of. "For people to see Daniel as Perry Smith, a low-class,



Daniel Craig

unedicated, vile misfit, and then to see him as James Bond—it offers an immediate comparison and shows what kind of range he has," McGrath said.

"Infamous" was shown out of competition in Venice. The movie was in production just a bit behind last year's *Capote*, which examines roughly the same period of the author's life. McGrath said the studio held his film back so that the two movies would not get in each other's way.

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Gay Son's Picture Missing From Traditional Values Candidate's Mailers

TALLAHASSEE, Florida - Randall Terry doesn't run away from "family values issues" in his state Senate race, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com. Among the conservative Christian's pledges are preserving traditional marriage and opposing Gay adoptions. He has touted efforts to stop abortions. His campaign mailers sum up the value he puts on family: they show a picture with his wife, a daughter and three grinning young sons taken before a fourth was born this summer.

But Terry's adopted son Jamiel says the picture is missing two people: he and his sister Tila, also adopted. Both have been estranged from Terry since Jamiel came out as a Gay man and Tila had a child out of wedlock. Jamiel Terry said the self-image that his father is crafting and the campaign message about strong families ignores part of his own family history. He said voters have a right to know about that. "He is very big on image," Jamiel Terry said. "In a large way Tila and I mess up that image." Jamiel Terry, 26, said in interviews that voters in the northeast Florida district where his father is trying to unseat Sen. Jim King in the Republican primary should know more about the candidate's family.

Randall Terry said he's upfront about his whole family and has never tried to hide anything about his children, even those with whom he has deep disagreements. He said voters don't care anyway. "I don't think it would affect one vote, one way or another. Everybody has problems in their family," said Terry, who founded Operation Rescue, an anti-abortion protest group. He said voters care more about issues they deal with in their own lives, such as homeowners insurance, medical malpractice problems and property taxes. The fact that he has two adopted children isn't news. Jamiel and Randall Terry's relationship has been the subject of a long article in The Washington Post and The Associated Press wrote a story when Jamiel went public with his homosexuality in Out Magazine in 2004.

"He was a good dad," Jamiel Terry said, but added that he wouldn't support his candidacy. Randall Terry said he strongly disapproves of his son's



homosexuality. "But I'm absolutely not ashamed - I love him," he said. He said Jamiel Terry was smart - and said that by talking to a reporter Jamiel was simply trying to get at his father as part of their ongoing disagreement. But he said overall, "I'm very proud of him."

Jamiel Terry also said his father left Tila Terry to fend for herself when she was pregnant - a charge Randall Terry vehemently denies. He said he has tried to get his daughter into a program that helps unwed young mothers. She didn't return phone calls seeking comment. Jamiel Terry said his father's policy ideas don't always fit his own behavior. "He has tried to say abortion should not exist because families and churches should step in," Jamiel Terry said. "When his own daughter is pregnant, he refuses to help her."

Randall Terry and his first wife adopted them when Jamiel was 8 and Tila was 3. Terry has

said publicly that some problems stem from the way the children were treated before they were adopted. Terry persuaded a woman not to have an abortion in 1987. When the child - Tila - was born, Terry took care of her and then adopted her older brother Jamiel. They grew up with Randall Terry, who was famous as a leading religious conservative voice. A spokeswoman for King, Terry's opponent, declined to comment on Terry's family.

Randall Terry said he tells anyone who asks that he has seven children, including Jamiel and Tila. As for campaign literature that doesn't have them in the picture, Randall Terry said it's not because he is embarrassed. "The reason we don't have a photo with Jamiel and Tila is that we haven't been in the same room with them in about three years," Randall Terry said. That's the point, Jamiel Terry said. If a candidate is going to talk about strong families - he ought to talk about why his own family isn't, he said. "Both Tila and I have tried to revive or rekindle our relationship with my father and we've been shut out," Jamiel Terry said. "So maybe if we had been invited for Christmas, Thanksgiving, birthdays, etc., we would be in a family photo."

Randall Terry denied that his son has tried to fix the relationship, accusing Jamiel of only wanting to hurt him. Jamiel Terry occasionally e-mails his father. Randall Terry said the e-mails simply are "vicious." Jamiel said he's only trying to reconnect.

Gay Indian Prince To Become A Dad

VADODARA, India - An Indian prince, believed to be the only openly Gay royal in the world, has announced he is becoming a father, 365Gay.com reported. Prince Manendra Singh Gohil said that he is adopting a child, reported 365Gay.com. Prince Manendra came out earlier this year and quickly became the public face of the Gay rights movement in Gujarat state. He is the patron of the region's biggest HIV/AIDS organization and regularly speaks out in support of repealing India's laws against sodomy.

But coming out was costly for the prince. In June his family disowned him and stripped him of his title, inheritance, and all rights. He learned of the decision by his father only by reading announcements placed in local newspapers by the Royal Family. In an interview with The Times of India the prince said that he was not altogether surprised. He told the paper that he had come out to his family in 2002. "However, they may not have expected that I would go public with the issue." This month his father, one of the richest men in India, softened his stance. "I was in an awkward situation and didn't know how to deal with it. Relatives from all over the country called me up. Rajpipla is a conservative place. Women still cover their heads with a pallu; sex is a taboo topic to talk about. I was in the line of fire," Raghbir Singh Gohil told the Times.

Manvendra says that he has reunited with the family and his titles and privileges have been restored. He is Raghbir's only son. The 40 year old prince says that by adopting he will ensure that the family line will continue. He tells the Times that he would like to adopt a teenager and send the child abroad to be educated.

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 Saturday, Sept. 16 at 7:30
 Sunday, Sept. 17 at 7:30

Saturday, Sept. 23 at 2:30
 Sunday, Sept. 24 at 2:30

Performances of Series B:

Saturday, Sept. 16 at 2:30
 Sunday, Sept. 17 at 2:30

Friday, Sept. 22 at 7:30
 Saturday, Sept. 23 at 7:30
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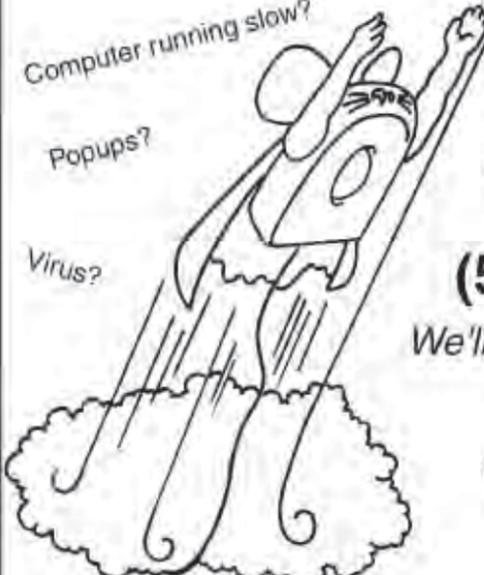
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NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE

Court Reporter

by Lee Thorn

Network news, on all the networks, has become such a joke that it now attempts to hide its embarrassment by tirelessly poking fun at itself. And it would be funny if it weren't so sad.

As an op-ed columnist I deal in ideas and analysis, but there are times when the news is so under reported that I feel compelled to fling myself into the breach and play reporter. I'm thinking at the moment of the 43-page judgment recently handed down by a federal court, the judgment which concluded that President Bush repeatedly violated the Constitution of the United States by authorizing warrantless wiretaps of the phone calls and e-mail of American citizens. I have seen this judgment alluded to on literally every TV news network I've chanced to watch, but I have seen practically no reporting about what is actually contained in its 43 pages.

The case was decided in the US District Court, Eastern District of Michigan, Southern Division (Case No. 06-CV-10204). The judge, Hon. Anna Diggs Taylor, spends a lot of ink on the technical issue of "standing," the issue of whether the people bringing the suit have a legal right to do so. For the purpose of establishing standing, the judge wanted to determine that the plaintiffs had suffered real damages from the government's abrogation of their constitutional rights. The judge shows that the plaintiffs - scholars, journalists and lawyers with Middle East connections - have been damaged by their Middle East connections' reluctance to communicate with them by phone or e-mail when they know the feds might be listening in. The plaintiffs lose real money - and nothing is more real to us than money - in having to travel to the Middle East for the face-to-face communications required to defeat the government's wiretaps.

Having established standing, another big chunk of the 43 pages goes to explaining the American legal tradition of separation of powers, explaining that one of our primary reasons for being as a nation has always been to resist the monarchical concentration of power that the president is currently seeking to obtain for himself. The judge points out that the struggle against "general executive warrants" of the type Bush wants is actually older than our nation and deeply embedded in our Anglo-American legal tradition. She traces the arguments against warrantless searches from Entick v. Carrington, decided in 1765, down to the present.

The judge gives short shrift to the government's arguments that Article 2 of the constitution effectively negates the constitution as a whole and that the implications of an act of congress trump both the constitution and the explicit language of other acts of congress. These government arguments are so wildly illogical that the judge should have ordered the lawyers who made them to go back to their respective law schools and demand a full refund of their tuitions.

The judge very briefly alludes to the government's failure to show that it needs to go beyond existing law to secure the intelligence it requires when she says, "It is noteworthy ... that Defendants here have sought no Congressional amendments which would remedy practical difficulty."

That leaves the elephant standing in the living room. If the government has no practical difficulty in obtaining legal wiretaps, why would it want illegal wiretaps? Remember that, under existing law, they can tap anyone anytime as long as they subsequently seek a warrant. It probably wasn't the judge's job in this case to ask why the government wants warrantless wiretaps, but it should be SOMEBODY'S job to ask that question. Where are the media? Why are no dogs barking?

The only motive that I can imagine for the government's wanting warrantless wiretaps is that they give them the ability to wiretap without ever having to tell anybody who they wiretapped. Now why would you suppose that a government would want that? Could it possibly be that the government would like to tap its critics and its political opponents and never have to tell anybody about it and, as an added bonus, never have to worry about being labeled, as one court labeled the Nixon White House, "a criminal conspiracy?"

If there's an alternative explanation for the president's monarchical power grab I'd sure like to hear it.

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

Pro-LGBT Bills Head To Governor's Desk In California

SACRAMENTO, California - On a 22-15 vote, the California senate sent the governor a bill sponsored by openly Lesbian state senator Sheila Kuehl that would prohibit schools from using textbooks or providing instruction that criticizes people because of their sexual orientation, the Associated Press reported on advocate.com.

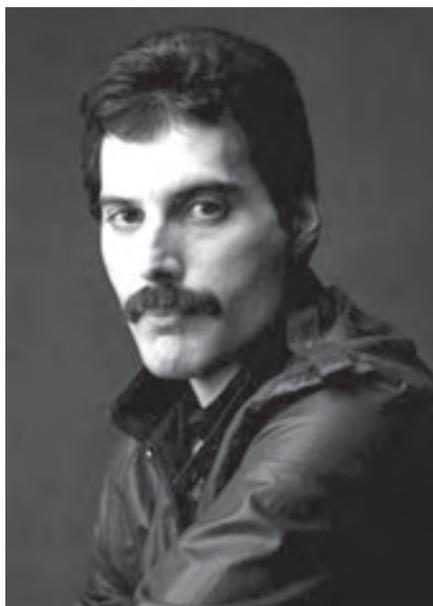
At one point the bill, SB1437, also would have required social science textbooks to discuss the historic contributions of Gays. Kuehl dropped that provision in the assembly in hopes of getting Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to sign the measure, but his aides have made statements indicating that he still might veto the bill.

Lawmakers also sent the governor SB1827, a bill sponsored by another out senator, Carole Migden, that would let domestic partners file joint state income tax returns. The 24-15 vote approved assembly amendments. The bill, which may impact as many as 38,000 same-sex couples, would also allow registered domestic partners to have their earned income treated as community property for state tax purposes.

"SB1827 is the final piece to the puzzle in reaching California tax equity for LGBT families under California law," said Migden. "The financial burdens that go with parenthood and/or being a spouse are softened by tax cuts afforded to married couples. Fairness dictates that LGBT families are afforded the same help from the state."

Freddie Mercury Event Quashed After Muslim Protests

ZANZIBAR, Zanzibar - A 60th birthday gala for the late Gay rock star Freddie Mercury was canceled Thursday (Aug. 31) on the east African island of Zanzibar, where Mercury was born, after outraged Muslims threatened to disrupt it, Agence France Presse reported on advocate.com. On Wednesday (Aug. 30), organizers said they would continue with the planned Sept. 2 event despite fierce opposition from Islamists, who said the lifestyle of Queen's flamboyant lead singer was offensive to many on the overwhelmingly Muslim archipelago. Organizers said Thursday they have no choice but to call it off.



Freddie Mercury

"We have decided to cancel the party after misleading and erroneous information was spread about it," said organizer Simai Mohamed Saidi, who runs a Freddie Mercury theme restaurant in the capital. "I urge Muslim groups in the future to seek correct information from us instead of relying on rumors," he said in an open letter, adding the event was intended to honor Mercury, who died of AIDS in 1991. Saidi lamented that the cancellation would hurt his intention to use the party to raise money for HIV/AIDS victims on Zanzibar.

Zanzibar, a semiautonomous region of Tanzania, criminalized Gay and Lesbian sex in 2004, but remains a popular resort destination for South African Gays. Conservative Zanzibari Islamists demanded that authorities ban the party and then vowed to stage mass demonstrations if it went ahead, saying it would tarnish the islands' reputation and culture and promote homosexuality.

"We were ready to join forces against the party because we had information that a number of Gays from abroad had come to take part," Sheikh Azzan Hamdani of the asso-

ciation for Islamic Modernization and Propagation, told AFP. "We had also written letters to the tourist commission and the owner of the Mercury restaurant, demanding that they stop the party." Authorities, who have long tiptoed between the demands of a booming tourist industry and the wishes of conservative Muslims, never formally responded to Islamists, AFP reported. But Zanzibar's information ministry this week ordered local state-run media not to give the event any coverage. Few on Zanzibar are aware of Queen or Freddie Mercury, who was born Farrokh Bulsara on the main island of Unguja to ethnic Persian parents on Sept. 5, 1946. But the appearance of posters advertising the beach party to celebrate what would have been his 60th birthday in recent weeks prompted the Islamist complaints. Although he was educated in India and moved with his family to Britain in 1964, Mercury remains Zanzibar's most famous son to many Westerners and rock music fans.

LGBT Israeli's Give Police Last Chance To Avoid Court Over Pride March

JERUSALEM - Jerusalem LGBT community leaders are telling police to 'put their money where their mouth is' and have given the force several alternate dates to hold a gay pride parade, reported 365Gay.com.

Police in Jerusalem announced Tuesday (Aug. 29) they would not grant a permit for the parade which Open House wanted to hold on Sept. 21, the day before Jews around the world begin celebrating the High Holidays. Officials said that the timing of the parade before the holiest period of the year would be incendiary. They also said that because of the holidays the force would be understaffed and it could not provide the necessary security. The police force suggested, however, that if Open House selected another date a permit might be granted.

On Friday (Sept. 1) Jerusalem Open House, the LGBT community center that sponsors the parade, said it would go to court seeking an injunction to force police to give them the permit. But over the weekend Open House leaders opted to try to resolve the situation before applying to the court. The proposed dates are all the week before Rosh Hashana, the Jewish New Year.

Jerusalem police spokesperson Shmuel Ben-Ruby said that police are studying the alternative dates. Some city officials and several

members of the Israeli Parliament said the event should be moved outside the city to avoid protests by religious groups that oppose homosexuality. El-Ad said Open House rejected the proposal.

Last month police cited security concerns for refusing a parade permit for a march during World Pride. At the time Israel was at war in Lebanon. Instead of a parade hundreds of gays and lesbians held a rally and vigil to denounce homophobia. With a ceasefire in place gay leaders hoped they would be given approval for a local pride parade.

Last year when the city refused to issue a pride parade permit Open House went to court and won an injunction forcing the city to allow the march. The parade was marred a series of violent attacks in which more than a dozen protestors were arrested and three people were stabbed. Almost 1,000 protestors lined the parade route. Bottles of urine and bags containing feces were hurled at marchers. Shortly after the parade began Shai Schlissel, a member of a militant Orthodox sect, rushed into the marchers on Ben Yehuda Street stabbing a man and a woman. Others in the parade attempted to subdue him. The third victim was a marcher who went to the aid of the other two victims. Schlissel is in prison for the attack.

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Drama has a way of unfolding in more controllable, less destructive ways when manic Mars settles in easy Libra. It is as if the tumult of the past month suddenly seems to all make sense. Why not make a few dollars while you are at it.

ARIES (MAR. 21 - APR. 20)
Just when you thought that certain relationships weren't worth their salt, rowdy Mars spices things up. Proud Rams make the most of any partnership. Some may surprise you and transform your life. If you are in the market for someone new, this is a good time to make yourself available. Pick and choose the best from the litter. Are you into trash?

TAURUS (APR. 21 - MAY 21)
Beneficial changes can be made on the job while Mars makes a move. Some possibilities occur even without any great effort on your part. You have several choices but left too long, some of these choices may evaporate. Queer Bulls can be laissez-faire, allowing themselves to be treated like a piece of styrofoam bobbing along the turgid waters. Hey, who is this Bob?

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)
Let out a cheer, be footloose and be sure to have fun while Mars mambos. Pink Twins find themselves in the center of all the action and love it. Strut your stuff and show the crowd what you can do - beautifully! Just how over the top will you be? Some things you can chalk up to the foibles of youth and some things have no excuse. Oh thank goodness!

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)
Turn your attention to your domestic agenda when Mars enters Libra. Not only can you make some significant decor changes, you can totally transform your sense of home. A change of residence is possible with an eye to making your situation more secure and less prone to the vagaries of others. Gay Crabs deserve a pink castle complete with moat. Nice turret.

LEO (JULY 24 - AUG. 23)
Proud Lions might have had trouble reigning in their exciting but explosive ideas. Now your communication hits home in a compelling, charming, disarming and bold manner. You attract an eager audience for any half baked idea. Why not keep it in the oven a little longer and let it rise to the occasion? You never know who will grab a slice.

VIRGO (AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23)
Queer Virgins can finally manage to wrest control of their finances thanks to Mars in Libra. And not a moment too soon. You have squandered too many resources and suffered too many losses due to unmanageable risks. Take stock. The thing is, are you able to prioritize what is most important and what is merely accessory? Did I say "what?" I meant "who."

LIBRA (SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)
Everyone knows that you have to till the soil before you can plant the seeds. And even Gay Libras sense (correctly) that it is high time to start anew as the ground shifts, churns and turns. What was hidden is now revealed. What needs to be buried can be stowed and forgotten. But don't forget, after all the dirt has been dished you must plant the seeds so they can sprout.

SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)
Life has served you more cosmic spit balls than soft balls recently. Chalk it up to bad guesswork and crummy

karma. But you will bounce back this week. Mars not only improves your sense of direction, it also gives you the intuitive oomph to make the right guess at the right time. Why not rub a crystal ball or two and see how rosy things become, proud Scorp.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)
If you have been feeling out of sync with the group dynamic, this is the time to get back into the social swim. Not only are you welcomed back with open arms, you are also everyone's favorite, even among some who you dislike. We can't always get the cheerleaders we want but it is better than a raspberry from the stands. How hungry are you, Gay Archer?

CAPRICORN (DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)
Your past, ill conceived actions might have created quite a few potholes on your corporate highway. But now you can fill in the spaces with meaningful and substantive actions thanks to Mars in Libra. Pink Caps sense that they have been feeling their way in the dark without a clear direction and without a proper guide. Keep feeling. You will find the big prize. Oooh baby!

AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)
There is no rest for the weary, at least it will seem that way while Mars moves into Libra. The urge will be to kick back but don't be lazy now Aqueerius. Activity has its rewards. Reach out to far flung friends, travel and even expand your knowledge base. Make your mark on the world in no uncertain terms. And make it more than a grimy oil slick for a change.

PISCES (FEB. 20 - MAR. 20)
All of your inept attempts at meaningful connection seem to have a sense of grace after all thanks to Mars. Guppies are ready and raring for love. Put on your spurs and chaps and lasso a few strays. You can literally sweep them off their feet. Ah, but will they love you when you are down and Out? Oftentimes that is the best position!

Labor Day 2006: LGBT Workers Mark Year Of Successes

Continued from Page One

the inclusion of basis LGBT employee rights and partner benefits has become a mainstay in union contract negotiations with varying results.

Labor contracts negotiated between unions and the state of Michigan provided for health benefits for the same-sex partners of state workers.

But, despite the agreement with the unions, in December, 2004, Governor Jennifer Granholm announced that domestic partner benefits would be removed from the contracts following a legal opinion from Attorney General Mike Cox that the state's constitutional amendment banning Gay marriage bared all public employers from providing domestic partner benefits.

Gay state employees sued and the case is still pending.

Conservatives in a half dozen other states with constitutional amend-

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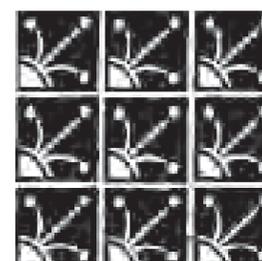
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G. TIHAN -Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network: 492 N. Alvernon, 299-6647
H. EON GAY YOUTH CENTER 620-6245

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 2. IBT'S: 616 N. 4th Ave. 882-3053
 3. VENTURE-N: 1239 N. 6th Ave. 882-8224
 5. WOODY'S - 3710 N. Oracle Road, 292-6702
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ments also are fighting state universities which offer partner benefits.

And, while major corporations are signing on to LGBT rights tens of thousands of Gays work for smaller non-unionized companies which have no protections.

Still, Labor Day 2006 marks a year of the greatest achievements for LGBT workers in nearly a decade.



Wednesday, September 6th
 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00pm
 Canasta hosted by Bruce 743-3890 MSN Canasta is played every Wednesday at 7pm, but check back here for the host du soir. If you are a nervous first timer, you will find printed rules of play, and guys eager to get you up and in the action as you learn the game!

Thursday, September 7th
 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m.
 Coffee Night at Rainbow Planet on Fabulous 4th, the Premier Central Tucson GLBT owned and operated purveyor of stimulating caffeine enhanced beverages, delicious food, WIFI energy, and safe social intercourse. Just show up to join in this no host cavalcade of queer conversation.

Friday, September 8th
 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00 p.m.
 Lloyd hosts a word for word 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. If you're loquacious, erudite, or a wordsmith; this man's game just may be a triple word score for you!

Tucson Prime Timers Cocktails - 5:30 p.m.
 Colors, 5305 E. Speedway

Saturday, September 9
 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m.
 Shuffle over for Floating Pinochle every Saturday of the month except for first Saturday MSN Monthly Pot Luck. Call your host Marvin at 745-0304. New recruits are always welcome and beginners are tutored to develop their gay Hollywood movie serial killer instincts!

Tucson Prime Timers Business Meeting -

Non Bar Calendar

11:00 a.m., Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St.

Sunday, September 10
 #1Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed:
 Noon About As Gay As It Gets! Join Marvin and Steve for Queer Duck The Movie and meet said duck, his boyfriend Openly Gator, and their pals Oscar Wildcat and Bi-Polar Bear. This is a limited space event, so please call 745-0304 to reserve your seat. Celebrity cartoon voices include: Conan O'Brien, Tim Curry, Bruce Vilanch, and David Duchovny. Come and meet Queer Duck: He Can't Even Fly Straight!

#2Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed:
 6:30p.m. Thom hosts Dinner Out at one of Tucson's Ultra-Fabulous Buffets. Price is usually under \$10 bucks. For reservations and directions, please contact Thom at 623-2941, or e-mail thomsepals@hotmail.com by the Event Sunday at Noon to facilitate reservations. There is nothing like a buffet with men to find everything you have been craving!

Tucson Prime Timers Brunch, Noon,
 Colors, 5305 E. Speedway

Monday, September 11.
 Tucson Prime Timers Lunch - 12:30 p.m., The Wildcat House, 1800 N. Stone Ave.

Tuesday, September 12th
 #1Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed:

7:00p.m. A Circle Of Men by Tom Saylor-Brown Are you looking for an opportunity to connect with men at a deeper level? A Circle Of Men meets every Tuesday evening. Please call Tom at 591-2828 for info and directions.

#2Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m.
 A "whistful" evening of Bridge with host Terry at 577-3545. Please plan and call ahead for an evening of fun, and challenge your skills or learn new ones. And when your Bridge partner excuses himself to go to the bathroom, at least then you will know what he has in his hand!

Wednesday, September 13th
 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00pm
 Canasta! Hosted by Marvin 745-0304 MSN Canasta is played every Wednesday at 7pm, but check back here for the host du soir. If you are a nervous first timer, you will find printed rules of play, and guys eager to get you up and in the action as you learn the game!

Thursday, September 14th
 #1Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m.
 Triangle Tribe-A Men's Circle According to a recent study, very few people have as many close friends as they would like. Are you as connected with other men as you want to be? Do you get the support you need for issues in your life? Do you wish you had more meaningful friendships and relationships with other men? Join like-minded men at Wingspan to share feelings, thoughts and ideas in a safe, respectful space. For the same experi-

ence with both straight and gay men, join us at the regular Circle of Men meetings. Call Tom at 591-2828 for dates and times.

#2 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m.
 Coffee Night at Rainbow Planet on Fabulous 4th, the Premier, Central Tucson, GLBT owned and operated purveyor of stimulating caffeine enhanced beverages, delicious food, WIFI energy, and safe social intercourse. Just show up to join in this no host cavalcade of queer conversation.

Friday, September 15.
 Tucson Prime Timers Cocktails - 5:30 p.m. Colors, 5305 E. Speedway

Saturday, September 16
 #1 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:30a.m.
 Join Robert for a morning of Volleyball. This is played for fun, and you'll get to know some nice guys as you play. Two great ways to work on your game! For details and directions please call Robert at 400-1376.

#2 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 5:30p.m.
 Wingspan Dinner! Dress code is Speedo to Tuxedo, and MSN has 2 tables for the event this year. Contact Curt at 877-9161 to reserve your seat at the MSN subsidized price of \$50. This year's Keynote speaker is former mayor of Tempe, and President of GLAAD, Neil Giuliano. Dinner is served, community awards are bestowed, drinks are to be had, and dancing to LeeAnne Savage rounds out this always emotional and amazing event.

#3Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m.
 Shuffle over for Floating Pinochle every Saturday of the month except for first Saturday MSN Monthly Pot Luck. Call your host Jack at 887-3736. New recruits are always welcome and beginners are tutored to develop their gay Hollywood movie serial killer instincts!

Sunday, September 17th
 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 6:30p.m.
 Thom hosts Dinner Out at one of Tucson's Ultra-Fabulous Buffets. Price is usually under \$10 bucks. For reservations and directions, please contact Thom at 623-2941, or e-mail thomsepals@hotmail.com by the Event Sunday at Noon to facilitate reservations. There is nothing like a buffet with men to find everything you have been craving!

Tucson Prime Timers Brunch - Noon,
 Colors, 5305 E. Speedway

Monday, September 18th
 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m.
 Anatomy Lesson Or Card Game?!? Try your hand at Hand and Foot. A new MSN event hosted by Peter at 881-8276. This is a limited space event, so please call ahead ASAP. Come out and get carded!

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

Tuesday, September 19th
 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m.
 A Circle Of Men by Tom Saylor-Brown Are you looking for an opportunity to connect with men at a deeper level? A Circle Of Men meets every Tuesday evening. Please call Tom at 591-2828 for info and directions.

Wednesday, September 20th
 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00pm
 Canasta! Hosted by Jack at 887-3736. MSN Canasta is played every Wednesday at 7pm, but check back here for the host du soir. If you are a nervous first timer, you will find printed rules of play, and guys eager to get you up and in the action as you learn the game!

Thursday, September 21st
 #1Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m.
 Coffee Night at Rainbow Planet on Fabulous 4th, the Premier, Central Tucson, GLBT owned and operated purveyor of stimulating caffeine enhanced beverages, delicious food, WIFI energy, and safe social intercourse. Just show up to join in this no host cavalcade of

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 Time: 7 pm – 10 pm

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 Wednesday September 20th, 2006
 Time: 7 pm – 10 pm

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

Sexually Transmitted Disease

Clinic Schedule

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 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.

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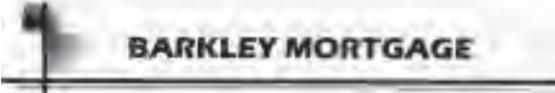
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HOUSEMATE WANTED TO SHARE 2BR/2BA TRAILER with professional 41 GWM. Near Ryan Airfield (SW). Fully furnished, nice landscaping, QUIET. I have a small dog and parakeets. No cats (allergy). Lots of storage. Large back yard and garden. \$300/month rent, deposit and split utilities. Smoking ok outside, but no illegal drugs. Barry, 615-6317 days. 1155

ROOMMATE WANTED TO SHARE LARGE CONDO MIDTOWN. Own bedroom and bath. Pool and laundry in complex. Share rent and electric. Pool in complex. Parking available. No smoking. Call 881-1369 1154

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Church Dumped By Baptists For Ministering To Gays And Lesbians

FLINT, Michigan - A church that opened its doors to Gays and Lesbians has been ordered out of the Baptist denomination, 365Gay.com reported. Woodside Baptist Church - the oldest Baptist church in the region - began ministering to Gays and Lesbians five years ago.

Other Baptist churches in area denounced the move, and over the past five years the situation has grown progressively worse. The North Region of the American Baptist Churches of Michigan voted to sever all ties with Woodside. The decision will be presented to the American Baptist USA Churches regional meeting next month for affirmation.

Pastor Deborah Kohler says the action was not unexpected. Still, she says that the Region is honoring

Christ's teachings of loving one another without judgment. Kohler said her 270 parishioners would like to remain part of the Baptist churches, but not at the expense of ending its open-door policy.

Meanwhile, in Oklahoma, a megachurch in Tulsa has voted to quit the Presbyterian Church U-S-A. over the denomination's the support for Gay pastors. The Kirk of the Hills Presbyterian Church, with just over three-thousand members voted 967-to-36 to leave. The church elders had recommended the departure. Church members also accepted a recommendation to join the Evangelical Presbyterian Church which does not permit Gay clergy.

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Gay Men's Health Project is a collaborative effort of Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF), Pima County Health Dept. and Wingspan.

DAILY BAR CALENDAR

SUNDAY

COLORS - Open 11m - 11pm Champagne Brunch 11am - 2pm with choice of complimentary mimosa, Bloody Mary or Screwdriver. Happy Hour 4-7pm \$3 Skyy Cocktails, \$2.50 Domestic and well. Full menu served 2-10pm. Nightly dinner specials. Live music performed by Dickie Steed during Brunch (11:30-2:30)

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 10am. \$2.50 Smirnoff Vodkas all day. Watch your favorite NFL team here. Free Texas Hold-Em Poker Tournaments at 4:00, and 7:00 pm. Ply for points and prizes - no cash involved.

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 Bar open 2pm-close. Yard games on the grass. Beer Bust 16oz \$1 2-7pm. \$2.50 Sirloin or Chicken Burgers w/sides 5-9pm. Karaoke with Michael D. 9pm-close. DJ Jeff on the Patio 9pm. Drag Bingo every other Sunday 8-9

YARD DOG - Open 10am - 2am. Patio Bar opens at 7pm.

MONDAY

COLORS - Closed on Mondays.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. Kitchen open 4 - 9 pm. Watch Monday Night Football here!

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 Martinis 4-8pm..

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. Patio Bar opens 7pm

TUESDAY

COLORS - Open 4-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7 \$3 Skyy cocktails, \$2.50 Domestic and well. Game Night with Dan 5-7pm and nightly dinner specials.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. Kitchen open 4-9pm. Free Texas Hold-Em Poker for women only at 6:30 p.m. Play for points and prizes - no cash involved. Great way to learn the game or sharpen your skills.

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 7pm. Free Pool til 4pm. Spaghetti Nite (2nd Tuesday every month \$2.00).

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

YARD DOG - Open daily 8am. 50¢ off any Top Shelf Tequila until 8pm Beer Bust 4-8pm. Patio Bar Opens 7pm.

WEDNESDAY

COLORS - Open 4-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3 Skyy cocktails, \$2.50 Domestic and well. Full menu served 4-10pm. Nightly dinner specials.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints, Kitchen open 4 - 9 pm. Free Texas Hold-Em Poker Tournament at 6:30 pm for Women Only and open tournaments at 7 and 10. Play for points & prizes - no cash involved. Great way to learn the game or sharpen your skills.

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 9am. Patio 7pm. 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. Patio Bar Opens 7pm.

THURSDAY

COLORS - Open 4-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3 Skyy cocktails, \$2.50 Domestic and Well. Full menu served 4-10pm. Nightly dinner specials.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. Kitchen open 4 - 9 pm.

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 7pm. Free Pool til 4pm. Pool Tourney 7pm. \$3 entry. Special prices for players. Steak Nite (3rd Thursday during summer). 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 7pm.

FRIDAY

COLORS - Open 4pm-1am. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3 Skyy cocktails, \$2.50 Domestic and Well. Full menu served 4-11pm. Nightly Dinner Specials. 6:30-9:30pm. "Hot Jazz, Cool Martinis" with Susan Artemis and Craig Faltin. 10pm "Guys & Dolls" hosted by Lucinda Holliday. 21 and over.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. Kitchen open 4 - 9 pm. Free Two-Step lessons with Amanda every other Friday. Call 293-7339 for schedule. DJ Pat plays your favorite country dance songs 8:30 to close. Kitchen open 9 pm - midnight serving late night munchies.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, 9pm Hot Dance with DJ Mike Lopez outside on the patio and DJ Raynman spinning club music inside. 9pm-2am.

VENTURE-N - Open 9am. Patio open 7pm. Free Pool til 4pm.

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 7pm

SATURDAY

COLORS - Open 4pm-1am, Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3 Skyy cocktails, \$2.50 Domestic and Well. Full menu served 4-11pm. Nightly dinner specials. Hot new jazz duo "Sunyatta" performs 7:00-10:00pm.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 11:00 am. Happy Hour 11 am - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. Kitchen open 11am -9pm. Cheeseburger & Fries Special for \$4.50 all day. Best burgers around. Johnny D playing dance mix. Kitchen open 9pm to midnight serving late night munchies menu.

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.

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 7pm.

Arts and Entertainment

Now Playing thru September 24

"The Lion King" Broadway's Award Winning Musical. At Tucson Music Hall. Tickets: Tucson Convention Center Box Office, 260 S. Church Ave. Ticketmaster 321-1000.

Now Playing thru September 10

Arizona Repertory Theatre present Neil Simon's "Biloxi Blues" 7:30 p.m. Marroney Theatre. 621-1152. Follow naive Eugene Jerome through his hilarious and touching experiences at boot camp in Biloxi Miss.

Now Playing Thru October 1

Live Theatre Workshop presents Ira Levin's 'Deathtrap' a comedy about a playwright. Performances 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Friday, Saturday and 3:00p.m. Sunday., 327-4242.

Now Playing Thru November 1

Gaslight Theatre presents "Phantom of the Opera" adapted by Poeter Van Slyke. 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday. 7:00 and 9:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. 3:00 and 7:00 p.m. Sundays. 886-9428.

Friday, September 8

Comedienne Paula Poundstone at the Rialto Theatre, 318 E. Congress. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Showtime

Arts and Entertainment

CONTINUED

8:00. Reserved seating \$25 and \$20. 740-1000

September 9 thru 30

Arizona Theatre Company (ATC) presents William Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" as part of Shakespeare for a New Generation, a national theater initiative sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts in cooperation with Arts Midwest. Directed by Jon Jory who directed last seasons elegant "Pride and Prejudice". ATC Box Office 520-622-2823

September 11 thru October 1

The Invisible Theatre presents "Rounding Third" by Richard Dresser. One's never wrong and the other's always right...a recipe for fireworks...just what happens in a riotously funny play about two mismatched little league coaches and their tumultuous baseball season which begs the age-old question of what's really important - is it whether you win, or is it really how you play the game? 1400 N. First Avenue (at Drachman). \$22 - \$25 per person. Call 882-9721 for reservations and information.

October 10 thru 15

A Nederland Broadway In Tucson presentation "The Ten Tenors" - a new musical force to be reckoned with. They have been seen by 77 million people on 3 continents selling out shows and winning hearts with their unmistakable charm, camaraderie and vocal prowess in opera. Pop, rock and more. Since their debut in 2001, the classically trained all-Australian singing sensation has enjoyed a relentless touring

BAR CALENDAR Of Upcoming Events

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

WOODY'S - Designer Underwear Nite 8:00 p.m. til closing.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

HOWL AT THE MOON - 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Silver Coyote Ballroom Dance. \$2.00 Cover. Easy listening swing, Ballroom, Golden Oldies - just a fun afternoon of dancing!

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

WOODY'S - Welcome Back Students Party and Spykes Promo Party 10:00 p.m. till midnight. \$1.00 Spykes and Prizes. DJ Jeff on the patio..

YARD DOG SALOON - 9:00 p.m. "Sonny and Band" Live on stage.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

HOWL AT THE MOON - Miss Mid-City USofA 9:00 p.m. Call Amanda Nicole at 319-8478 for more information.

WOODY'S - UofA Tailgate Party 3:00 p.m. See the game on our 6' screen and enjoy complimentary Hot Dogs or Popcorn. \$2.50 Bud and Bud Light during the game. DJ Jeff on the patio 9:00 p.m. til closing.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

WOODY'S - 11:0 A.M. Brunch / Patio Bar 2:00 p.m. / Beer Bust 2-7 p.m.. Sirloin Burgers 5:00 p.m. / Drg Bingo with Stella Virgin and Janee Starr 8:00 p.m. Karaoke with Michael D on the inside and DJ Jeff on the patio 9:00 p.m.

YARD DOG SALOON - Steak Night at 7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

WOODY'S - Project Runway Underwear Nite and Contest for Most Creative Underwear. \$50 first place. (Minimum four contestants) 10:30 p.m.

VENTURE-N - Cajun Buffet prepared by Chef Howard - 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

HOWL AT THE MOON - It's her 1st time ... Turning 50! Come One, Come All to celebrate Tammi Caprice aka Venetia 8:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

WOODY'S - September Birthday? Celebrate at Woody's. Register with your favorite Bartender.

SATURDAY, SEPT EMBER 16

HOWL AT THE MOON - CD Release Party for Amber Gaia

SATURDAY, SEPT EMBER 23

HOWL AT THE MOON - TMI is here playing classic rock, blues and more.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

VENTURE-N - Steak Night 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

HOWL AT THE MOON - Phoenix AGRA here with Pussy LeHoot as your hostess. Mark your calendars now!

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.

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 meets 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 298-6727, leave name and phone number. Tucsonpt@primetimersww.org

TUCSON GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

the monthly meeting follows at 7:15 p.m.

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

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

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

T-SQUARES Lesbian and Gay Square Dance Club, dances Tuesdays. from 6:30-9 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N. Geronimo (Northwest of 1st Ave. and Glenn). No experience, no partner required! For more info contact David at 325-6739, or visit www.azgaydance.org

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

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

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

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

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

AA Meeting with HIV/AIDS focus, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., Wingspan Annex, 425 E. 7th Street. All alcoholics welcome.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

groups and individual needs should be directed to Wingspan and other local agencies listed here. For more information call 622-3200 or visit the TPI website at www.tucsonpride.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THEATER / DINNER / 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. 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 1st Mondays at 7pm; Dezert Girlz (MTF Support) meets 2nd Mondays at 7pm; Dezert Boyz (FTM Support) meets 3rd Tuesdays at 7pm. Also serving partners, youth, intersex, service providers and allies. Call (520)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 or e-mail: AAPSP@aol.com or call Dave (520)745-9059 (Tucson) or Kim (602)534-6219 (Phoenix)

GLSEN - Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network meets first Thursday of every month at 4:30pm at Wingspan, 425 E.7th Street. 743-4800.

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

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

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

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

REVEILLE GAY MEN'S CHORUS rehearses Thursday evenings 7-10pm at the Historic Y, corner of University Blvd. And 5th Ave. Join us!! Call 304-1758 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

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 10-11:30AM at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St. Donations accepted. 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. 4th Avenue. Contacts Rick R. 520-792-2604 or Gary S. 520-323-1969. More information at www.secularhumanism.org/sos/ This group is an alternative to 12-step programs.

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

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

The new **MAN TO MAN INTENTIONAL COMMUNITY** is meeting about honoring the spiritual side of ourselves. It is the men's social/erotic group that offers passionate friendships, fun activities, and real tantric sex education. Call Marc 881-4582 in advance Check it out. We meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 7-9pm. Potluck dinner. Donation.



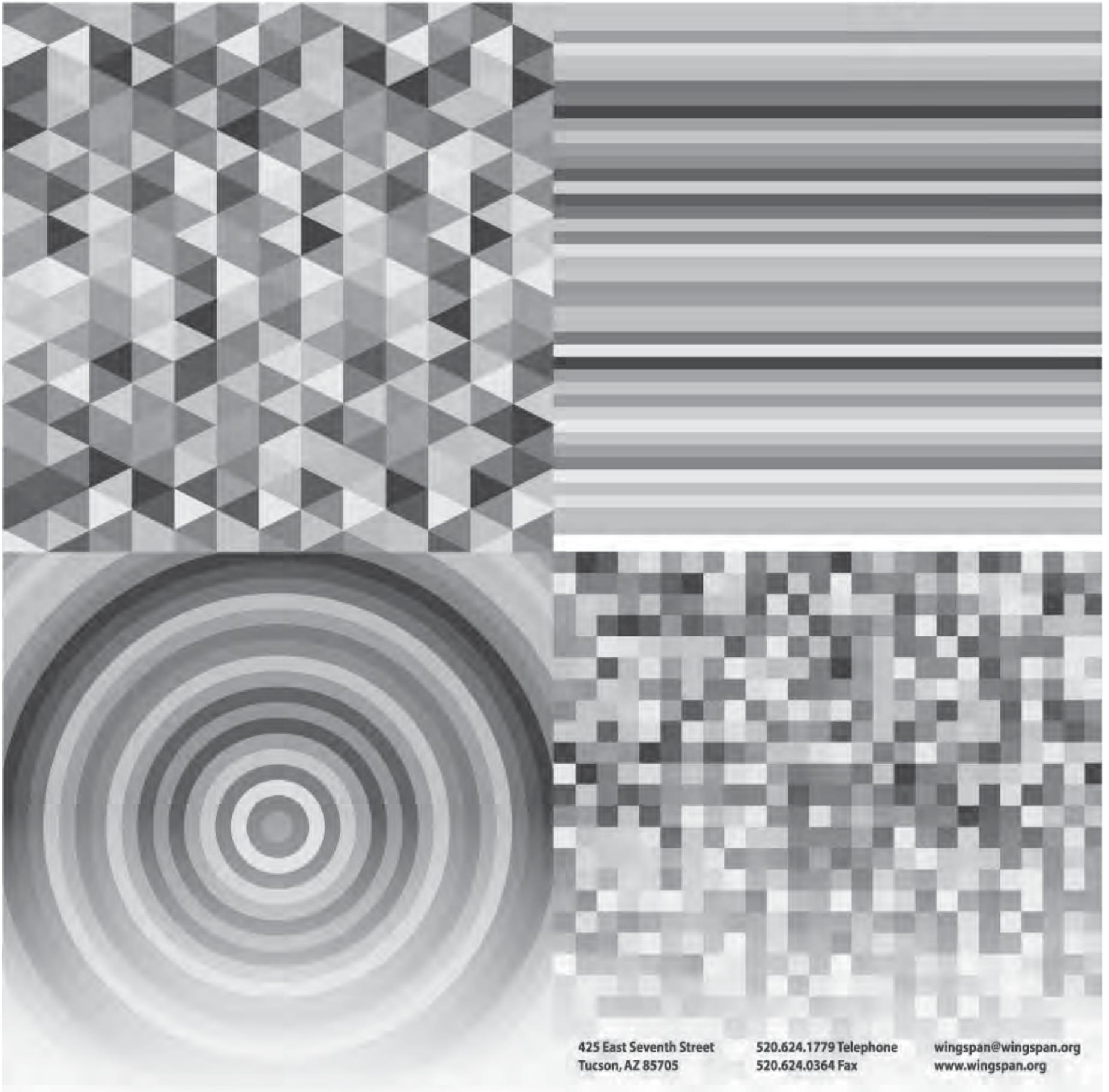
Southern Arizona's
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual,
and Transgender
Community Center

9th Annual Benefit Dinner
16 September 2006
Tucson Convention Center
Tucson, Arizona

For tickets call 520-624-1779.



Diversity is Unity



425 East Seventh Street
Tucson, AZ 85705

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