Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

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Observer Recomendations For November 7th General Election

TUCSON (ON) - For those people who are going to vote early or by mail, here is the list of recommendations for the Nov. 7 general election.

U.S. SENATE
Jim Pederson

U.S. HOUSE CD - 7
Raul Grijalva

U.S. HOUSE CD - 8
Gabrielle Giffords

GOVERNOR
Janet Napolitano

SECRETARY OF STATE
Israel Torres

ATTORNEY GENERAL
Terry Goddard

TREASURER
Rano Singh

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
Jason Williams

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION (Vote for Two)
Mark Manoil, Richard Boyer

ARIZONA LEGISLATURE

DISTRICT 25 - SENATE
Marsha Arzberger

DISTRICT 25 - HOUSE (Vote for Two)
Pat Fleming, Manuel Alvarez

DISTRICT 26 - SENATE
Charlene Pesquiera

DISTRICT 26 - HOUSE (Vote Only)
Lena Saradnik

DISTRICT 27 - SENATE
Jorge Luis Garcia

DISTRICT 27 - HOUSE (Vote for Two)
Olivia Cajero Bedford,
Phil Lopes

DISTRICT 28 - SENATE
Paula Aboud

DISTRICT 28 - HOUSE (Vote for Two)
David Bradley, Steve Farley

DISTRICT 29 - SENATE
Victor Soltero

DISTRICT 29 - HOUSE (Vote for Two)
Linda Lopez, Tom Prezelski

DISTRICT 30 - SENATE
Jeff Chimene

DISTRICT 30 - HOUSE (Vote Only)
Clarence Boykins

PIMA COUNTY CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
Patricia Noland

TUSD SCHOOL BOARD (Vote for Two)
Adelita Grijalva, Bruce Burke

BALLOT PROPOSITIONS

PROP. 100 - NO
PROP. 101 - NO
PROP. 102 - NO
PROP. 103 - NO
PROP. 104 - YES
PROP. 105 - NO
PROP. 106 - NO
PROP. 107 - HELL NO!!!
PROP. 200 - NO
PROP. 201 - YES
PROP. 202 - YES
PROP. 203 - YES
PROP. 204 - YES
PROP. 205 - YES
PROP. 206 - NO
PROP. 207 - NO
PROP. 300 - NO
PROP. 301 - NO
PROP. 302 - NO!
PROP. 400 - YES

This list will be reprinted in next week's edition for those people who will go to the polls to cast their ballots.

Groups Push For Help For LGBT Senior Citizens

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Though often unrecognized as a crucial issue in the struggle for equality, the rapidly increasing number of LGBT people 65 and over threatens to strain ability of service agencies to provide for them, the Advocate reported.

According to the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, there are as many as 3 million LGBT senior citizens across the country, and that number is expected to climb as high as 4 million by 2030. Many of these people are without adult children or partners to care for them.

Even if coupled, they may be financially unstable due to lack of access to a partner's Social Security, health insurance or pension benefits.

Twenty percent of people in unmarried same-sex relationships lack health insurance, compared with 10 percent of married people, the Williams Institute at UCLA's law school reported Wednesday (Oct. 18).

"This generation includes the LGBT people who came of age with the profound social changes of the 1960s and 1970s," Gerard Koskovich of the American Society on Aging told the San Francisco Chronicle.

"They took part in the Gay liberation movement when they were young and they are moving toward old age with expectations that are quite distinct from those of the previous generation of LGBT people, who grew up in an era when discretion was the key to survival," Koskovich said.

Although organizations for older queer people are emerging in major urban centers in New York, California and Florida, LGBT seniors are often at higher risk for isolation, financial difficulties and prejudice from caregivers.

Brian de Vries, a professor of gerontology at San Francisco State University, claims his research indicates that nondisclosure of sexual orientation is widespread and presents another obstacle for LGBT seniors seeking reliable health care.

The North Berkeley Senior Center has become the first senior organization in the Bay Area to earn the certification of "LGBT-friendly" by Lavender Seniors of the East Bay, an LGBT senior group that hopes to

Continued on Page Fifteen

Good Samaritan Knifed Trying To Stop Gay Attack

SAN DIEGO - A 50 year old man who came to the aid of a teenager being Gay bashed on a city Trolley was slashed with a knife, 365Gay.com reported. Police say that the Trolley was traveling ;through the Encanto neighborhood when a man in his mid 30's began making homophobic remarks to the teen. The man then punched the young man in the face.

When the older passenger attempted to intervene and prevent the teenager from further attack the assailant pulled a knife and slashed the 50 year old. The attacker escaped when the Trolley made its next stop. Bother victims were treated at the scene and did not need hospitalization.

The incident points to a wider problem of Gay bashing. Last month three men accused of vicious attacks on men leaving San Diego's Gay pride festival last July were handed lengthy prison terms. A fourth person, a minor boy, was sentenced to a teen facility. Six men were attacked as they left Balboa Park where San Diego's Gay pride was being held on July 29. The victims were taunted with homophobic remarks then beaten. At least two of the victims were struck by a baseball bat. One victim required reconstructive surgery on his face after being struck nearly a dozen times with an aluminum bat. Another victim received a non life threatening stab wound. All the accused were charged with hate crimes.

The attacks came a week after California's Attorney General released a report showing one-in-five hate crimes in the state was perpetrated against members of the LGBT community. In San Francisco police have beefed up patrols in the Castro following three attacks and rapes of Gay men. An FBI report released Tuesday (Oct. 17) shows that hate crimes against Gays and Lesbians accounted for the third largest number of bias crimes in the country last year. While some states, like California have hate crime laws that include Gays and Lesbians, they are not protected under federal hate laws. Legislation that would have included crimes against Gays and Lesbians in federal hate crime laws passed the House but was dropped in the Senate in May.

UPDATE

Around Tucson

"Musical Potpourri" benefit for TIHAN, Nov. 5, Catalina United Methodist Church, 2700 E. Speedway. An exciting hour and a half of musical entertainment with Reveille Gay Men's Chorus, Nancy McCallian (folk/Celtic), Tucson Arizona Mass Choir (gospel), and Lisa Otey and Dianne VanDeurzen (Jazz/ boogie-Woogie). A reception following sponsored by Trader Joe's, Wild Oats Market, and Rincon Market. Panels of AIDS quilts will be available for viewing. Tickets are $20 children 12 and under are $5. Tickets available at the door or at TIHAN, (520) 299-6647. For more information, call (520) 577-9463 or go online to tihan.org. ...

Senior Pride Halloween Party. Come show your sinister side at the Senior Pride Halloween Costume Party Oct. 28, 1 to 4 pm in Wingspan's Anzaldua Room, 425 E. 7th St. Prizes will be given for the scariest, funniest and most creative costumes. Bring treats (or tricks) for the potluck, and enjoy music, friends and games. For more information, call Pat Woelke, (520) 624-1779, pwoelke@wingspan.org. ...

The Traveling Gay Chavurah. Tucson's Reform and Conservative synagogues welcome LGBT Jews to their services. An informal group of LGBT Jews goes to services the first Friday of the month, with an optional dinner afterwards. The schedule for the remainder of the year is: Nov. 3 at Congregation Ner Tamid at 7:30 pm, northwest corner of Swan and River. For more information, contact Edward Leven, (520) 465-1165, with the LGBT Jewish Inclusion Project or go online to jewishtucson.org/lgbt. ...

Community Forum on Giving Blood, Oct. 30. Come learn about the FDA's ban on Men who have sex with Men donating blood and find out how you can help put a stop to it, Monday, Oct 30, 7 to 9 p.m. at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St. For more information, call Peter, (520) 990-8305 or E-mail: letusgive@msn.com.

Wingspan Really Needs To....

TUCSON - Do you have ideas about what Wingspan should be doing? Do you wish Wingspan offered more social events, was less political, was on the Eastside, had a community garden, etc.

Would you like to help shape the future of Wingspan? Wingspan is organizing several community focus groups to gather input to help shape the future direction of the organization. Wingspan needs community people just like you to help shape Wingspan's 5 year strategic plan.

If you are a Lesbian and are available Saturday, October 28, 11 a.m. to noon, or a Gay man and are available Saturday, October 28, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., or identify as Bisexual and are available Saturday, October 28, 2 to 3 p.m., or are an LGBT person who has children and are available Sunday, October 29 from 3pm, please E-mail cathy@wingspan.org for information on joining the focus group. Other focus group opportunities may be available. Please E-mail cathy@wingspan.org for more information as Wingspan schedule the groups.

Lesbian Looks - Loving Annabelle, Nov. 10

TUCSON - Loving Annabelle (Katherine Brooks 2005 USA 80 min), is the next film to be featured in the UA LGBT Studies Lesbian Looks Series, Nov. 10, 7 to 9 p.m., Loft Cinema, 3233 E. Speedway.

A modern homage to the 1931 classic, Mädchen in Uniform, Loving Annabelle is a smart and sultry film about a boarding school student who finally meets her match...or does she? The wild daughter of a senator, Annabelle comes to a very strict Catholic boarding school as the last stop in a run of exclusive private schools that have expelled her. Intelligent, beautiful and bored, Annabelle immediately impresses both her classmates and her English teacher, Simone, when she correctly interprets the heavily sexual meaning of an e.e. cummings poem. When student and teacher are the only two left on campus during spring break, the temptation is nearly overwhelming.

For more information, contact Beverly Seckinger, E-mail: bsecking@u.arizona.edu.

Kate Clinton 25th Anniversary Tour Nov. 4

TUCSON - On Saturday, Nov. 4, 8 to 9:30 p.m., well-known comedienne, Kate Clinton, brings her tour to the Rialto Theatre, 318 E. Congress.

Kate Clinton is a faith-based, tax-paying, America-loving political humorist and family entertainer. She has worked through economic booms and busts, Disneyfication and Walmartization, Gay movements and Gay markets, Lesbian chic and queer eyes, and ten presidential inaugurals. She still believes that humor gets us through peacetime, wartime and scoundrel time.

This year Kate Clinton celebrates her 25th Anniversary of performing with a 50 city It's Come To This! tour across the United States and Canada. She will be celebrating all those laughs, those first dates and those comings out with a special show that also honors 25 years of community building.

For more information, contact the Rialto Theatre, (520) 740-1000 or go online to rialtotheatre.com.

IN MEMORIAM

Carter Nicely

TUCSON - On Friday, Oct. 20, Reveille Gay Men's Chorus lost a great friend and member when Carter Nicely passed away from stage four lung cancer at the age of 59.

While Carter had only been with Reveille a little over a year Reveille had become a very important part of Carter's life and he had become an important part of Reveille. Carter approached life with great passion and zeal, he had a hearty laugh and a sharp wit. Anyone who was fortunate enough to share a dinner or drink with Carter knew he saw life as a banquet and he would be your host.

Carter was originally from Annapolis, Maryland where he started his career as a high school teacher and eventually rose to the position of School Superintendent. Carter retired to Tucson in 2005 to dedicate himself to breeding and raising his beloved champion Boxers. That same year Carter joined Reveille. He was a professor at Pima College teaching Art History and Western Civilization. Carter sang bass with the chorus and was in charge of publicity.

Carter was truly a generous person, in his brief time with Reveille he made an indelible mark on the chorus and will be greatly missed.

Square Dance Lessons from T-Squares

T-Squares, Tucson's only GLBT square dance club. Here's your chance to learn to dance! We are starting our annual series of class days for new dancers on the Tuesday evenings of October 24th, and 31st from 6:30 till 8:00 p.m. If you can't make it one evening, try another. No dance experience or special clothing is necessary. Live callers will teach you. These free introductory classes of modern gay square dance are held at the Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N Geronimo Ave, with parking off of Laguna St. For directions, maps, or more info, call us at 745-9212 or 325-6739, e-mail us at T-Squares@AZGayDance.org or visit www.AZGayDance.org . You will find our club friendly, welcoming, and lots of fun.

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

OBSERVER

P.O. BOX 50733,
TUCSON, AZ 85703
(520) 622-7176 (Voice)

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Monday thru Friday

Office Closed Thursdays

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Informing the Community
The Observer

Arizona's LGBT Vote: Congressional District 8

By Mark R. Kerr

TUCSON (ON) - Joel Ireland, Judith Belcher, Chuck Phillips, Jim Toevs, Gary Auerbach, Mort Nelson, Tom Volgy, George Cunningham, Mary Judge Ryan and Eva Bacal all have something in common - they each ran against Republican incumbent, Jim Kolbe as the Democratic nominee for Congress, from 1986 - 2004 and lost, most of them badly since the Democrat's had basically given up on reclaiming the seat.

Kolbe is leaving Congress at the end of this year, so a contest for the open seat has ensued, with the national Democrats and Republicans, eyeing Arizona's Congressional District 8 (CD - 8) which covers most of Tucson, Pima County and Southeastern Arizona. Four candidates are running for the open seat in the Nov. 7 general election.

One of these individuals first ran for political office, in 2000, for the Arizona House of Representatives for then Legislative District 13 which covered Eastern, Central Tucson North to the Catalina Mountains. In that race, a political rarity had occurred with the state Senate seat, as well as both seats in the state Houses of Representatives were open, resulting in a free-for-all on the local level for the three posts.

When contacting these individuals to see where they stood on issues of concern to Tucson's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community, one candidate stood out, actually knowing the two bills before the Arizona Legislature during the session pertaining to HIV/AIDS testing and protecting the rights of LGBT people in the workplace, they knew the bill number, sponsors and stated their position on both, citing information, studies as well as the attempts to enact legislation on the federal level.

This candidate was elected to the Arizona House of Representatives in 2000 and elected to the Arizona Senate in 2002, serving her constituents and people across the state with their knowledge and caring for the betterment of everyone's lives.

Not paying just "lip service," but taking stances and action (through sponsorship or co-sponsorship of legislation) when needed, especially for the LGBT and HIV/AIDS communities.

From protecting the rights and privacy of those wishing to be tested for HIV;

Ensuring funding for Arizona's AIDS Service Organizations;

Attempting to ensure that medically accurate information is given on HIV/AIDS in the state's public education system;

Allowing governmental entities to provide medical and dental benefits to the domestic partners (same or opposite sex) and their families;

Creating a real, right-to-work state, in which all Arizonan's, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity, perceived or otherwise, could earn a living without fear of losing their job because of whom they are;

Expanding the state's bias crime's law to cover misdemeanors; and,

Preventing the scape-goating for political profit of Arizona's LGBT community by the Republican majority on worthless "postcards," this person, Gabrielle Giffords, has stood with Arizona's LGBT and HIV/AIDS communities, one of the few who did in Arizona's Legislature and it is time to stand with Giffords during this election year.

Giffords is the Democratic nominee for the U.S. Congress for CD-8 and the choice for LGBT constituents as well as those living with or affected by HIV/AIDS.

The Human Rights Campaign has also endorsed Giffords candidacy. "Every single time we have needed someone in the fight for equality, Gabrielle Giffords has been there ready to lead," said Human Rights Campaign President Joe Solmonese. "Whether it was cracking down on hate crimes or protecting employers against discrimination in the workplace, Senator Giffords never hesitated. We look forward to her bringing the same tenacity and unwavering support for the value of equality to the United States House of Representatives."

"I am honored to receive the endorsement of the Human Rights Campaign, an organization that fights for the equal rights of all Americans. Everyone knows that discrimination is wrong for America, and we deserve a Congress that reflects that belief," Giffords said.

Solmonese continued, "The Human Rights Campaign is proud to endorse Gabrielle Giffords for Congress and we urge 8th District voters to not only vote on election day with equality in mind but start working towards it today by volunteering and becoming active in the campaign."

A vote for Gabrielle Giffords would ensure for the first time, residents of Congressional District 8, especially LGBT residents and those living with or affected by HIV/AIDS have real representation in the U.S. House of Representatives.

For more information about the Giffords campaign, headquarters at 5704 E. Broadway, to request an early voting ballot, or to volunteer, call (520) 512-0012, or go online to gabriellegiffords.com.

It a political rarity when a seat opens up for an office on the federal level, a once in a lifetime occurrence for many constituents and it is time that the LGBT and HIV/AIDS communities to take advantage of it and not let their choices slip away.

Play Safe!

Tucson's #1 Gay Club

IBT's

THE WITCHING HOUR EXTRAVAGANZA

SATURDAY OCTOBER 28th

"Saturday Starrlets" with Janee Starr
Showtime at 9pm!

DJ "Q" Spinning Inside &
DJ Mike Lopez on the Patio

12AM COSTUME CONTEST*

*REGISTER BY 11PM
ALL WINNERS
MUST BE PRESENT
TO WIN!!!

1ST PLACE $150
2ND PLACE $75
3RD PLACE $50

HALLOWEEN NIGHT
TUESDAY OCT 31ST

9PM-DANCE WITH
DJ "Q"

12AM-COSTUME
CONTEST*

1ST PLACE $200
2ND PLACE $100
3RD PLACE $50

*REGISTER BY 11PM
ALL WINNERS MUST BE PRESENT

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TELL OUR ADVERTISERS
YOU SAW THEIR AD IN THE OBSERVER

Arizona's LGBT Vote: C. D. 7

By Mark R. Kerr

TUCSON (ON) - Thanks to one individual, Pima County's government became the first public entity to officially recognize same-sex relationships and families when the Board of Supervisors voted to extend medical and dental benefits to the same-sex (and opposite sex) domestic partners and families of county employees in 1997.

When the policy and Board's vote was challenged by a citizen and the County Attorney's office, thanks to one individual, the Board fought these challenges in court and won their case a year later.

Over the years, this individual as an elected official has forcefully spoken out and acted on issues and matters of concern to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community, as well as attending events, rallies and vigils held by LGBT organizations and groups.

Words came come cheap from many politicians, especially on LGBT issues and concern but this individual has a long and outstanding record of backing up their statements with action - a rarity in Arizona.

LGBT voters in Arizona's CD (Congressional District) 7 are thankful for this individual who served on the Pima County Board of Supervisors and now serves as a Member of Congress in the U.S. House of Representatives since 2002.

Congressman Raul Grijalva, D-CD 7 is running for another term in this year's election and Arizonans - LGBT, straight, young, old of all persuasions who reside in his District as well as the rest of the state should give thanks that he wants to continue to serve the common good, especially in the nation's capital during these times and with the Republicans, on Capitol Hill and at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.

During his time in Congress, Grijalva has scored a perfect, 100% rating on his voting record on legislation and issues of concern to the LGBT and HIV/AIDS communities, according to the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), the Washington, D.C. - based LGBT and HIV/AIDS rights organization which has endorsed Grijalva in this year's election.

Since his initial election, Grijalva priorities have not been solely on national issues but civil and human rights issues affecting all people, including this year's effort to enshrine discrimination in Arizona's Constitution with Proposition 107, being one of the first elected officials to publicly oppose the measure, with words and actions through his political campaign.

LGBT constituents, as well as those living with or affected by HIV/AIDS in CD 7 should be thankful for Grijalva's public service and commitment and for which they can return the favor by casting their ballot for the clear choice, Democrat Raul Grijalva, in the race for the CD 7 seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

For more information, call (520) 629-0050 or go online to: grijalvaforcongress.com/.

Proposition 107 Update

By Mark R. Kerr

TUCSON - As the Election Day homestretch begins, Arizona Together announced that it is going on the air with a television commercial to protect domestic partner benefits. The 30-second commercial, "Can We Afford It," is a reference to the fact that Arizona cannot afford to take away health care from thousands of families, including children and seniors.

To view the ad, go online noprop107.com/videos/.

Upcoming events: Mondays through Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.; Fridays 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.; Saturdays 1:00 - 7:00 p.m., Arizona Together Tucson office, 181 South Tucson Blvd # 103. With only a short time before Nov. 7, more people are needed to help reach out and touch as many Southern Arizonans as possible to educate them about why they need to vote no on 107. There is phone and data entry work that needs to be done from now until E-Day, and so far most of the folks called are on our side of the issue (i.e., no "hostiles"). Please stop by or call (520) 326-8154 to sign up for a two-hour (or longer) shift.

Walk with Congressman Raul Grijalva's campaign every Saturday, 9:00 a.m., Grijalva Campaign Headquarters, 3301 South Sixth Ave, southeast corner at I-10, next to El Indio Restaurant. Congressman Grijalva has done a lot to support LGBT equality, so the LGBT community should donate some time on a Saturday morning to walk and knock for him? This is a chance to have fun, educate voters face-to-face about what is at stake and get the word out about Proposition 107 and its impacts on all Arizonans. For more information, call (520) 629-0050 or go online to grijalvaforcongress.com.

Walk with Gabrielle Giffords, every Sunday, 2:00 p.m., at Giffords Campaign Headquarters, 5704 East Broadway Blvd, between Craycroft Road and Park Place Mall. While in Arizona's Legislature Gabrielle Giffords did a lot to support the community and its now time to return the favor to help, have fun, and get the word out about the so-called Protect Marriage Amendment impacts on all Arizonans. For more information, call (520) 512-0012 or go online giffordsforcongress.com.

Barbecue Bust at IBT's, 616 N. Fourth Avenue, Sunday, Oct. 29, 5 p.m. People can either; Work this event. It's Fun! Requires standing for three hours, ability to move quickly, cheerfulness. Attend this event. Five U.S. dollars gets you a burger (cow, chicken, or veggie) and five (count 'em, FIVE) coupons for either Budweiser beer, flavored drink, soda, or juice, or tell your friends, family, co-workers, and neighbors to attend this event. ...

Call Jeff Simpson - Southern Regional Field Organizer, (520) 326-8154, jsimpson@aztogether.org, Kendra Leiby - Central Regional Field Organizer, (602) 254-6401, kleiby@aztogether.org, or Lisa Rayner - Northern Regional Field Organizer, (928) 221-4667, lrayner@aztogether.org to volunteer or give time to help defeat Proposition 107. ...

For donations, go online to voteno107.com/donate.html or iwssecure.com/noprop107/contribute/. To send a check, make checks payable to "No on 107," and mail them to No on 107, 1718 E. Speedway Blvd. #244, Tucson, Arizona 85719, (Due to campaign finance disclosure laws you must include your occupation and employer when making a contribution), or "Arizona Together," and mail them to Arizona Together, 319 E. McDowell Road, Suite 100, Phoenix, Arizona 85004.

UPDATE

Desert Voices' 18th Season To Feature Music Of WWII

Desert Voices, Tucson's premier LGBTS chorus, now in their 18th season, will feature the music of WWII, beginning with their Veteran's Day weekend concert, "Keep The Home Fires Burning," Nov. 11, 7:30 p.m, and Nov. 12, 2 p.m., at the Proscenium Theatre on the Pima West campus.

This season, Desert Voices will invoke the classic sounds of the era with with fantastic vocal jazz arrangements of "In the Mood," "Don't Get Around Much Anymore," and "Begin the Beguine." They will visit Broadway and Hollywood as well as great modern choral works including the "Alleluia" of Randall Thompson, music of composers interned in the German concentration camps, and the hauntingly beautiful music of Margaret Dryburgh and the vocal orchestra she created among her fellow prisoners in a Japanese prison camp in Sumatra. Join Desert Voices for one of the most powerful seasons in their 18-year history.

Desert Voices' 18th season's three shows will also feature the Andrews Sisters, Carmen Miranda, Frank Sinatra and the "Desertaires" as well as individual chorus members' instrumental talents. The Veteran's Day weekend show, "Keep The Home Fires Burning," will be followed by the annual Silent Auction & Cabaret on Feb. 17, 2007, "Stage Door Canteen," and completed April 21-22, 2007, with "Coming Out Under Fire." Individual and season tickets may be purchased at any time. For more information, go online to desertvoices.org.

SAAF Update

By Anne Maley, Anne Maley, Executive Director - SAAF

Save the Date for the 18th Annual Jerôme Beillard Festival for Life. Enjoy an "Evening in Paradise" and show your compassion for people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS at the 18th Annual Jerôme Beillard Festival for Life. This live and silent auction will be held on Sunday, Nov. 19, 4 to 7 p.m. at The University of Arizona Student Union Grand Ballroom and is presented by Long Realty Cares Foundation and the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation. (SAAF). You'll feel as though you have escaped to an exotic tropical island for the evening as you enjoy the music of steel drum band Jovert, and the sounds of marimba and guitar from Duo Sonido, while sampling luscious hors d'oeuvres and sipping a cool beverage from the no-host bar.

Festival for Life is known for its impressive selection of fine artwork, unique gifts and experiences, along with plenty of holiday items and gifts. This year's auction includes some outstanding travel opportunities, including a cruise for two on Norwegian Cruise Lines, a Hawaiian vacation for two including air travel from US Airways, a week's stay at the Queen's Surf Resort and a rental car courtesy of Gari-Sue Greene from All About Travel. Other items donated include season tickets to all Chicago White Sox and Arizona Diamondbacks Spring Training games, a Laura Gibson necklace from Marshall's Jewelers, and artwork by Molly Phoenix Glassworks, Paula Wittner, Gail Marcus-Orlen, Deezie Manning-Catron, David Adix, Diana Madaras and many other local, nationally acclaimed artists.

Tickets are $60 in advance and $75 at the door, and are available by calling SAAF, (520) 628-7223. For more information, check out the website at FestivalForLife.org. The mission of SAAF is to create and sustain a healthier community through a compassionate, comprehensive response to HIV/AIDS. SAAF is the only community-based organization providing comprehensive services for people in Southern Arizona living with HIV/AIDS, and prevention programs for the entire community.

Single Capsule Reyataz Approved

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Federal Food and Drug Administration has granted approval of a new 300 mg single capsule formulation of Reyataz for the treatment of HIV-1 infection in adults, reported 365Gay.com. The single dose capsule is taken as part of combination therapy that includes ritonavir and food.

The 300 mg single capsule formulation can replace two Reytaz 150 mg capsules for patients who have previously received anti-HIV medicines; patients who will be receiving tenofovir disoproxil fumarate; and patients who have never taken anti-HIV medicines that require efavirenz as part of their anti-HIV drug regimen. Reyataz blocks the action of the HIV protease enzyme, which is needed for the virus to multiply.

FDA approval came following 48-week trials in both patients who have taken or have never taken anti-HIV medicines. Since Reyataz in 150 mg dosages was initially approved by the FDA in 2003, approximately 129,000 patients in the United States have been treated with the drug. Bristol-Myers Squibb said it will continue to produce the currently available Reyataz 200 mg, 150 mg, and 100 mg once-daily capsules.

WOODY'S

Tucson's Alternative

GET READY TO *BURN*

HALLOWEEN 2006

Saturday October 28
Costume Party and Contest
1st Place Wins- $250
2nd Place Wins-$50
3rd Place Wins- $25

Sunday October 29
Black and Orange Party
With your Hostess Ajia Simone
And Special Guests!!!
8:30pm

"Skary"oake
Inside w/Michael D
9pm

Tuesday October 31

Masquerotic Ball And Costume Contest
1st Place Wins- $250
2nd Place Wins- $50
3rd Place Wins-$25

Tarot Card and Physic Readings On the *Back Pocket* Patio all weekend long!

Monday-Friday
Noon-2AM
Saturday
11AM-2AM
Sunday
10AM-2AM

3710 North Oracle Road
520.292.6702

U.S. Freedom Of Press Slipping Further, According To New Rankings

WASHINGTON, D.C. - New countries have moved ahead of some Western democracies in the fifth annual Reporters Without Borders Worldwide Press Freedom Index, while the most repressive countries are still the same ones.

"Unfortunately nothing has changed in the countries that are the worst predators of press freedom," the organization said, "and journalists in North Korea, Eritrea, Turkmenistan, Cuba, Burma and China are still risking their life or imprisonment for trying to keep us informed. These situations are extremely serious and it is urgent that leaders of these countries accept criticism and stop routinely cracking down on the media so harshly.

"Each year new countries in less-developed parts of the world move up the Index to positions above some European countries or the United States. This is good news and shows once again that, even though very poor, countries can be very observant of freedom of expression. Meanwhile the steady erosion of press freedom in the United States, France and Japan is extremely alarming," Reporters Without Borders said.

The three worst violators of free expression - North Korea, bottom of the Index at 168th place, Turkmenistan (167th) and Eritrea (166th) - have clamped down further. The torture death of Turkmenistan journalist Ogulsapar Muradova shows that the country's leader, "President-for-Life" Separmurad Nyazov, is willing to use extreme violence against those who dare to criticize him. Reporters Without Borders is also extremely concerned about a number of Eritrean journalists who have been imprisoned in secret for more than five years. The all-powerful North Korean leader, Kim Jong-il, also continues to totally control the media.

Northern European countries once again come top of the Index, with no recorded censorship, threats, intimidation or physical reprisals in Finland, Ireland, Iceland and the Netherlands, which all share first place.

Deterioration in the United States and Japan, with France also slipping

The United States (53rd) has fallen nine places since last year, after being in 17th position in the first year of the Index, in 2002. Relations between the media and the Bush administration sharply deteriorated after the president used the pretext of "national security" to regard as suspicious any journalist who questioned his "war on terrorism." The zeal of federal courts which, unlike those in 33 US states, refuse to recognize the media's right not to reveal its sources, even threatens journalists whose investigations have no connection at all with terrorism.

Freelance journalist and blogger Josh Wolf was imprisoned when he refused to hand over his video archives. Sudanese cameraman Sami al-Haj, who works for the pan-Arab broadcaster Al-Jazeera, has been held without trial since June 2002 at the US military base at Guantanamo, and Associated Press photographer Bilal Hussein has been held by US authorities in Iraq since April this year.

France (35th) slipped five places during the past year, to make a loss of 24 places in five years. The increase in searches of media offices and journalists' homes is very worrying for media organizations and trade unions. Autumn 2005 was an especially bad time for French journalists, several of whom were physically attacked or threatened during a trade union dispute involving privatization of the Corsican firm SNCM and during violent demonstrations in French city suburbs in November.

Rising nationalism and the system of exclusive press clubs (kishas) threatened democratic gains in Japan, which fell 14 places to 51st. The newspaper Nihon Keizai was firebombed and several journalists physically attacked by far-right activists (uyoku).

Fallout from the row over the "Mohammed cartoons": Denmark (19th) dropped from joint first place because of serious threats against the authors of the Mohammed cartoons published there in autumn 2005. For the first time in recent years in a country that is very observant of civil liberties, journalists had to have police protection due to threats against them because of their work.

Yemen (149th) slipped four places, mainly because of the arrest of several journalists and closure of newspapers that reprinted the cartoons. Journalists were harassed for the same reason in Algeria (126th), Jordan (109th), Indonesia (103rd) and India (105th).

But except for Yemen and Saudi Arabia (161st), all the Arab peninsula countries considerably improved their rank. Kuwait (73rd) kept its place at the top of the group, just ahead of the United Arab Emirates (77th) and Qatar (80th).

Newcomers to the top ranks: Two countries moved into the Index's top 20 for the first time. Bolivia (16th) was best-placed among less-developed countries and during the year its journalists enjoyed the same level of freedom as colleagues in Canada or Austria. Bosnia-Herzegovina (19th) continued its gradual rise up the Index since the end of the war in ex-Yugoslavia and is now placed above its European Union member-state neighbors Greece (32nd) and Italy (40th).

Ghana (34th) rose 32 places to become fourth in Africa behind the continent's three traditional leaders - Benin (23rd), Namibia (26th) and Mauritius (32nd). Economic conditions are still difficult for the Ghanaian media but it is no longer threatened by the authorities.

Panama (39th) is enjoying political peace which has helped the growth of a free and vigorous media and the country moved up 27 places over the year.

War, the destroyer of press freedom: Lebanon has fallen from 56th to 107th place in five years, as the country's media continues to suffer from the region's poisonous political atmosphere, with a series of bomb attacks in 2005 and Israeli military attacks this year. The Lebanese media - some of the freest and most experienced in the Arab world - desperately need peace and guarantees of security. The inability of the Palestinian Authority (134th) to main-

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Soldier Convicted In Connection With Anti-Gay Military Murder Released Early

PFC Barry Winchell

FORT CAMPBELL, Kentucky - A soldier convicted in connection to an anti-Gay murder in 1999 has been released early by the U.S. Army, according to reports by an activist group, rawstory.com reported.

Former Army Specialist Justin Fisher, who was convicted of conspiracy to murder Private First Class Barry Winchell at Fort Campbell, Ky., has been released from prison after serving just seven years of a 12 and one half-year sentence.

Winchell was attacked by Calvin Glover, a former soldier based at Fort Campbell, in July 1999, in what was later revealed as an anti-Gay hate crime. A later investigation by Servicemembers Legal Defense Network (SLDN) found that Winchell had been the target of anti-Gay harassment in the months leading to his murder.

"Army leaders gave Justin Fisher a shockingly lenient sentence in the first place, but just as importantly, they have also failed, every day since, to protect other soldiers from Barry's fate," said Patricia and Wally Kutteles, PFC Winchell's parents, in a release issued today. "As a mother, I never want to see Barry's story repeated. As an American, I am outraged that our leaders have taken no action to make sure it never happens again."

The SLDN noted that shortly after Winchell's death the Pentagon adopted a 13-point "Anti-Harassment Action Plan," but contends they have found no evidence that the plan was ever implemented.

In a 2000 Department of Defense survey, 37 percent of troops reported that they witnessed or experienced targeted incidents of anti-Gay harassment, 9 percent of whom reported anti-Gay threats and 5 percent of whom reported witnessing or experiencing anti-Gay physical assaults.

"By the Pentagon's own admission, anti-Gay harassment is rampant throughout the forces," said C. Dixon Osburn, executive director of SLDN, "yet Pentagon leaders have barely lifted a finger to curb attacks on its own troops."

"The most important step in curbing harassment is ending 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell,'" Winchell's parents continued in the release, "and sending a strong message that second-class citizenship is not tolerated in a first class military. But, until that happens, Pentagon leaders must, at the very least, step up to the plate and take real steps to protect our troops."

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U.S. Freedom Of Press Slipping

Continued from Page Six

tain stability in its territories and the behavior of Israel (135th) outside its borders seriously threaten freedom of expression in the Middle East.

Things are much the same in Sri Lanka, which ranked 51st in 2002, when there was peace, but has now sunk to 141st because fighting between government and rebel forces has resumed in earnest. Dozens of Tamil journalists have been physically attacked after being accused by one side or the other of being biased against them.

Press freedom in Nepal (159th) has shifted according to the state of the fighting that has disrupted the country for several years. The "democratic revolution" and the revolt against the monarchy in April this year led immediately to more basic freedoms and the country should gain a lot of ground in next year's Index.

Welcome changes of regime: Changes of ruler are sometimes good for press freedom, as in the case of Haiti, which has risen from 125th to 87th place in two years after the flight into exile of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide in early 2004. Several murders of journalists remain unpunished but violence against the media has abated.

Togo (66th) has risen 29 places since the death of President Gnassingbe Eyadema in February 2005, the accession to power of his son and internationally-backed efforts to make peace with the opposition.

A coup in Mauritania in August 2005 ended the heavy censorship of the local media and the country has risen to 77th position after being 138th in 2004, one of the biggest improvements in the Index.

Reporters Without Borders compiled the Index by asking the 14 freedom of expression organizations that are its partners worldwide, its network of 130 correspondents, as well as journalists, researchers, jurists and human rights activists, to answer 50 questions about press freedom in their countries. The Index covers 168 nations. Others were not included for lack of data about them.

GAO Pokes Hole In Bush Condom Advice

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Government auditors reminded the Bush administration Thursday (Oct. 19) that literature distributed by federally funded abstinence programs must contain medically accurate information about condoms' effectiveness in preventing sexually transmitted diseases, reported the Associated Press on advocate.com.

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) did not make any judgment about the accuracy of the literature. But the government watchdog did say the Department of Health and Human Services is required by law to ensure that materials addressing sexually transmitted diseases ''shall contain medically accurate information on condom effectiveness.''

The Bush administration has contended that materials prepared by the programs, which received about $170 million in 2006, did not fall within the scope of the statute.

''We have no disagreement that abstinence education curricula should be medically accurate,'' said Wade Horn, a top HHS official. ''In fact, we insist on it.'' Horn, assistant secretary for the Administration for Children and Families, said the Administration didn't need a law to tell it that the information had to be correct. The GAO's opinion will have no effect on the literature, he said.

The GAO opinion was hailed by groups that allege abstinence education programs routinely exaggerate condom failure rates.

''For the better part of 25 years, abstinence-only-until-marriage programs have been permitted to use taxpayer dollars to lie about the effectiveness of condoms, and the current administration has, time and again, failed to hold these programs accountable for much of anything except cashing their grant checks,'' said William Smith, vice president for public policy at the Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States. The council distributes sexual health literature to educators, parents, and others. It also conducts workshops and provides technical assistance.

The requirement about providing medically accurate information on condom effectiveness was part of an appropriations bill approved in 2000.

Horn said his agency's reading of the statute was that it applied to other activities, such as training material provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

A CDC fact sheet for public health personnel states: ''For persons whose sexual behaviors place them at risk for STDs, correct and consistent use of the male latex condom can reduce the risk of STD transmission. However, no protective method is 100% effective.''

The CDC manual said condoms used correctly are ''highly effective'' in preventing the virus that causes AIDS and ''can reduce the risk'' of transmission of gonorrhea, chlamydia, and trichomoniasis.

LeAnna Benn, national director of Teen-Aid Inc. of Spokane, Wash., said she does not believe the GAO's recommendation would change what's taught by abstinence programs. ''I think there would be very little change in what had to be said based on medical referencing,'' Benn said.

At the same time, she questions whether the government has the resources to go through all the materials that grantees use to teach about the effectiveness of condoms. ''My program is 400 pages long with 1,000 medical foot notes. Would the government want to go through all my footnotes?'' she said.

Grey's Anatomy Star Comes Out

NEW YORK CITY - "Grey's Anatomy" star T.R. Knight says he's Gay, but hopes people don't consider that "the most interesting part of me," reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com. The 33-year-old actor addressed rumors of his sexuality in a statement to People magazine Thursday (Oct. 19).

"I guess there have been a few questions about my sexuality, and I'd like to quiet any unnecessary rumors that may be out there," Knight's statement read. "While I prefer to keep my personal life private, I hope the fact that I'm Gay isn't the most interesting part of me."

Knight plays Dr. George O'Malley on the popular ABC drama. A former stage actor, his television credits also include "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation" and "Law & Order: Criminal Intent." Knight's "Grey's Anatomy" character, a bumbling, puppy-eyed surgeon, has long been in love with Dr. Meredith Grey

T.R. Knight

International G/L Chamber Of Commerce To Open HQ In Montreal

MONTREAL, Quebec - The headquarters of the International Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce will open in January 2007, and serve as a source of aid for other countries trying to establish their own Gay and Lesbian chambers of commerce. The chamber was founded during the Outgames last summer and met in Hamburg, Germany, reported The [Montreal] Gazette on advocate.com.

"Montreal has been chosen for its international vocation, its safe and politically neutral location, in addition to being a symbol of the kind of openness all [LGBT] communities aspire to," said the chamber in a statement.

According to spokesperson Audrey Nanot, the headquarters will employ five people. The chamber's founding countries are Canada, France, England, Austria, Denmark, Mexico, the United States, Switzerland, and Germany.

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POLITICS 2006

by Mark R. Kerr

'So Have You Checked Your I.D. Lately?'

For those Arizonans who want to cast their ballots on Tuesday, Nov. 7 at their polling place will need to bring identification if they want to vote. In an unsigned opinion Friday (Oct. 13) the U.S. Supreme Court threw out an injunction issued (Oct. 5) by the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, blocking the state from enforcing the voter ID provisions of Proposition 200 while it is being challenged in court, stressing in their opinion that their order does not mean that they believe the provisions of Proposition 200 are legal but to "allow the election to proceed."

When one goes out to the LGBT nightclubs or other locations across the city and state that serve alcohol, you are asked to show either your driver's license or a photo I.D. (state identification, military I.D. card, etc.), to prove that you're over 21 so that you can go have a good time, and the establishment isn't cited for breaking state laws - serving alcohol to someone under age which could in turn have your favorite "watering hole," losing their license.

Whether the picture matches the person showing the card and does the birthday listed puts them at 21 or older are the two things looked for when one is asked, usually at the entrance, or in other words, "carded." Persons can also be "carded" in Arizona if they want to purchase alcohol, tobacco products, certain cold medications and other items in which state law requires a showing of a valid photo I.D.

In these two examples, the address listed isn't something that is checked but in regard to casting a vote at your polling place, a valid government photo I.D., with your current address is required to be shown, thanks to the passage of Proposition 200 by the voters in Nov. 2004.

One may be currently registered to vote, voted in every election but now a hurdle has been put up for people wanting to exercise their rights, thanks to radical, right-wing extremists who want to limit who can cast ballots with the passage of this initiative.

Proposition 200 deals with both photo identification for current registered voters, registration for people wanting to vote for the first time and voting at their polling place.

To cast a vote at the polls for people who were registered to vote prior to Nov. 2004, one needs to have a valid government photo I.D., with your name and current address that has been issued after Oct. 1, 1996.

The most standard form of identification, accepted and used in many cases, is the Arizona driver's license. People though may not have updated theirs in a long while, since the state has been issuing driver's licenses that expire when one turns 65 years of age for ten plus years or so - the picture or information may be old but the license is still valid.

An interesting "Catch-22" but if one who is currently registered, wants to cast a ballot at their polling place now, their driver's license or photo identification card doesn't have the current information or was issued prior to Oct. 1, 1996, it isn't valid and unlike Visa, it won't be accepted.

So one wants to cast a ballot but doesn't have a valid photo I.D., does this person still have a way to vote? Yes, under Proposition 200, one can still exercise their constitutional rights by either voting early or voting by mail, since they omitted these in the drafting of their initiative.

In the upcoming general election, Tuesday, Nov. 7, there are many political offices on the federal, state, county and local levels will be up for consideration, as well as ballot propositions, including Proposition 107, all voters can go online to: recorder.pima.gov/earlyreq.html to get the details and recorder.pima.gov/images/earlyreq.pdf, to print out the request form, following the instructions and sending it in, or call the Pima County Recorder's Office, (520) 740-4330. Early voting is currently ongoing and the deadline to request a ballot is Friday, Oct. 27.

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COMMENTARY. . . .

Beginnings Of The End Of America

By Keith Olbermann

We have lived as if in a trance. We have lived as people in fear. And now—our rights and our freedoms in peril—we slowly awake to learn that we have been afraid of the wrong thing.

Therefore, tonight have we truly become the inheritors of our American legacy. For, on this first full day that the Military Commissions Act is in force, we now face what our ancestors faced, at other times of exaggerated crisis and melodramatic fear-mongering: A government more dangerous to our liberty, than is the enemy it claims to protect us from.

We have been here before—and we have been here before led here—by men better and wiser and nobler than George W. Bush.

We have been here when President John Adams insisted that the Alien and Sedition Acts were necessary to save American lives, only to watch him use those acts to jail newspaper editors. American newspaper editors, in American jails, for things they wrote about America.

We have been here when President Woodrow Wilson insisted that the Espionage Act was necessary to save American lives, only to watch him use that Act to prosecute 2,000 Americans, especially those he disparaged as "Hyphenated Americans," most of whom were guilty only of advocating peace in a time of war. American public speakers, in American jails, for things they said about America.

And we have been here when President Franklin D. Roosevelt insisted that Executive Order 9066 was necessary to save American lives, only to watch him use that order to imprison and pauperize 110,000 Americans while his man in charge, General DeWitt, told Congress: "It makes no difference whether he is an American citizen—he is still a Japanese." American citizens, in American camps, for something they neither wrote nor said nor did, but for the choices they or their ancestors had made about coming to America.

Each of these actions was undertaken for the most vital, the most urgent, the most inescapable of reasons. And each was a betrayal of that for which the president who advocated them claimed to be fighting.

Adams and his party were swept from office, and the Alien and Sedition Acts erased. Many of the very people Wilson silenced survived him, and one of them even ran to succeed him, and got 900,000 votes, though his presidential campaign was conducted entirely from his jail cell. And Roosevelt's internment of the Japanese was not merely the worst blight on his record, but it would necessitate a formal apology from the government of the United States to the citizens of the United States whose lives it ruined.

The most vital, the most urgent, the most inescapable of reasons. In times of fright, we have been only human. We have let Roosevelt's "fear of fear itself" overtake us. We have listened to the little voice inside that has said, "the wolf is at the door; this will be temporary; this will be precise; this too shall pass." We have accepted that the only way to stop the terrorists is to let the government become just a little bit like the terrorists. Just the way we once accepted that the only way to stop the Soviets was to let the government become just a little bit like the Soviets. Or substitute the Japanese. Or the Germans. Or the Socialists. Or the Anarchists. Or the Immigrants. Or the British. Or the Aliens. The most vital, the most urgent, the most inescapable of reasons. And, always, always wrong.

"With the distance of history, the questions will be narrowed and few: Did this generation of Americans take the threat seriously, and did we do what it takes to defeat that threat?" Wise words. And ironic ones, Mr. Bush. Your own, of course, yesterday (Oct. 17), in signing the Military Commissions Act. You spoke so much more than you know, Sir. Sadly—of course—the distance of history will recognize that the threat this generation of Americans needed to take seriously was you.

We have a long and painful history of ignoring the prophecy attributed to Benjamin Franklin that "those who would give up essential liberty to purchase a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety." But even within this history we have not before codified the poisoning of habeas corpus, that wellspring of protection from which all essential liberties flow.

You, sir, have now befouled that spring. You, sir, have now given us chaos and called it order. You, sir, have now imposed subjugation and called it freedom. For the most vital, the most urgent, the most inescapable of reasons. And – again, Mr. Bush – all of them, wrong.

We have handed a blank check drawn against our freedom to a man who has said it is unacceptable to compare anything this country has ever done to anything the terrorists have ever done. We have handed a blank check drawn against our freedom to a man who has insisted again that "the United States does not torture. It's against our laws and it's against our values" and who has said it with a straight face while the pictures from Abu Ghraib Prison and the stories of Waterboarding figuratively fade in and out, around him.

We have handed a blank check drawn against our freedom to a man who may now, if he so decides, declare not merely any non-American citizens "unlawful enemy combatants" and ship them somewhere—anywhere – but may now, if he so decides, declare you an "unlawful enemy combatant" and ship you somewhere - anywhere.

And if you think this hyperbole

Continued on Next Page

Continued from Page Ten

or hysteria, ask the newspaper editors when John Adams was president or the pacifists when Woodrow Wilson was president or the Japanese at Manzanar when Franklin Roosevelt was president.

And if you somehow think habeas corpus has not been suspended for American citizens but only for everybody else, ask yourself this: If you are pulled off the street tomorrow, and they call you an alien or an undocumented immigrant or an "unlawful enemy combatant"–exactly how are you going to convince them to give you a court hearing to prove you are not? Do you think this attorney general is going to help you?

This President now has his blank check. He lied to get it. He lied as he received it. Is there any reason to even hope he has not lied about how he intends to use it nor who he intends to use it against? "These military commissions will provide a fair trial," you told us yesterday, Mr. Bush, "in which the accused are presumed innocent, have access to an attorney and can hear all the evidence against them."

"Presumed innocent," Mr. Bush? The very piece of paper you signed as you said that, allows for the detainees to be abused up to the point just before they sustain "serious mental and physical trauma" in the hope of getting them to incriminate themselves, and may no longer even invoke The Geneva Conventions in their own defense.

"Access to an attorney," Mr. Bush? Lieutenant Commander Charles Swift said on this program, Sir, and to the Supreme Court, that he was only granted access to his detainee defendant on the promise that the detainee would plead guilty.

"Hearing all the evidence," Mr. Bush? The Military Commissions Act specifically permits the introduction of classified evidence not made available to the defense.

Your words are lies, Sir. They are lies that imperil us all.

"One of the terrorists believed to have planned the 9/11 attacks," you told us yesterday, "said he hoped the attacks would be the beginning of the end of America." That terrorist, sir, could only hope. Not his actions, nor the actions of a ceaseless line of terrorists (real or imagined), could measure up to what you have wrought.

Habeas corpus? Gone. The Geneva Conventions? Optional.

The moral force we shined outwards to the world as an eternal beacon, and inwards at ourselves as an eternal protection? Snuffed out.

These things you have done, Mr. Bush, they would be "the beginning of the end of America." And did it even occur to you once, sir – somewhere in amidst those eight separate, gruesome, intentional, terroristic invocations of the horrors of 9/11 – that with only a little further shift in this world we now know–just a touch more repudiation of all of that for which our patriots died – did it ever occur to you once that in just 27 months and two days from now when you leave office, some irresponsible future president and a "competent tribunal" of lackeys would be entitled, by the actions of your own hand, to declare the status of "unlawful enemy combatant" for – and convene a Military Commission to try – not John Walker Lindh, but George Walker Bush? For the most vital, the most urgent, the most inescapable of reasons. And doubtless, Sir, all of them–as always–wrong.

(This was the special commentary delivered by Keith Olbermann on the Oct. 18 edition of "Countdown" on MSNBC.)

Bus Company Takes Back Stand On Ads

MINNEAPOLIS, Minnesoata - Metro Transit issued a statement Friday (Oct. 20) expressing regret for its decision to accommodate a bus driver who had asked to drive buses free of Gay advertising, reported the Minneapolis Star Tribune. The driver told her employer that her religious beliefs opposed the ads.

"In attempting to accommodate a driver's religious beliefs, we inadvertently sent the wrong message about tolerance," read a statement issued Friday by Metro Transit spokesman Bob Gibbons. The statement went on to say that the bus company would be "reluctant to make similar accommodations in the future."

The driver, who was not named publicly, told bus company officials that she was offended by advertisements from Lavender, a locally published magazine for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender people. The ad featured a picture of a man with the words "Unleash your inner Gay." The advertisements ran for 7 days ending Oct. 18. The driver was not asked during that time to drive one of the 50 buses carrying that ad, said Gibbons.

The bus company thought it was following Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, according to Gibbons, which talks about accommodating employees' sincerely held religious practices. The news was lauded by both the editor of Lavender magazine and the bus drivers union. "It just opened Pandora's box and I'm glad they closed it," said Stephen Rocheford, president and CEO of Lavender. Rocheford said he plans to run the ads in the spring. This was the third time Lavendar has run the advertisement on city buses, he said. "I'm glad to hear they reversed their decision," said Michelle Sommers, president of Amalgamated Transit Union local 1005. "We want the public to know that our membership doesn't believe in discrimination," she said. Sommers said she has received e-mails and phone calls from around the country expressing support for the magazine ad, with one person supporting the driver's request.

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NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE

Day Trip

by Lee Thorn

As has long been my wont, if I can't find any inspiration for a Tucson column in the newspapers by Wednesday, I come to town and look for something in person. I couldn't get worked up about any of the local election issues. I'm for some initiatives, against others, but they don't impassion me.

Driving east on Speedway, I saw a small anti-war demonstration just west of the University, four people with signs in front of a church. On the other side of the University I saw a pro-war demonstration of about thirty people and, just beyond them, another four people against the war. I wondered, if the American public is as disillusioned with the war as the polls seem to indicate, why was the pro-war demonstration so much bigger than the anti-war demonstrations? I next wondered why I wasn't demonstrating.

To listen to myself talk, I'm as anti-war as anybody I know. I think the war is the biggest foreign policy fiasco since Viet Nam. And I certainly don't have anything against demonstrating. I marched against the Viet Nam war as soon as I got home from it and for Gay rights way back in the '70s when doing so was relatively dangerous. Why wasn't I out there now?

I resolved to go back and at least talk with the anti-war folks. Maybe, if I felt comfortable with them, I'd go to an art store and make an anti-war sign and stand on Speedway with it for a few hours. I was thinking of possible sign messages as I drove back there: "Bring Our Troops Back Alive – Now!" "Bush Lied. Troops Died." "We Are Making Things WORSE!" But by the time I got back to the demonstration sites, well before noon, everyone had gone home. I'll have to find out where one gets the schedule for these events. It's got to be on somebody's website.

Still casting around for column material and having a good chunk of Wednesday left, I decided to go to an art show I'd been avoiding because I suspected from its theme that it would be a disaster, the Tucson Museum of Art's (TMA) exhibit of works inspired by the Grand Canyon. The Canyon is so magnificent that any depiction of it is likely to suffer by comparison. Everyone already knows what it looks like, so the artist is fighting against familiarity, even over familiarity. Finally, it's been done, by countless artists over many decades, to death. So what can anybody show me about the place? The answer is, "Not much."

The biggest failure of the show is Joseph DiGiorgio's fairly realistic pointillist oil painting, about seven feet high and 90 feet long. All the drama, intensity and grandeur of the actual Grand Canyon are missing. This is easily the biggest oil painting I've ever seen and it's one of the biggest flops.

Mark Klett's "Picnic on the Edge of the Rim," gelatin silver print, shows lower legs with shoes, apples and plastic bags resting just inches from the rim. It's interesting in part because it makes us feel the danger of the place.

Jack Balas' "Rumor," oil, enamel and ink on canvas, is an incomplete conventional depiction of the Canyon that is covered with tourist photos of visitors. The work seems to say, "Look, you already know what the place looks like, so I'll do a painting about the idea of tourism that is respectful of both the place and the people it attracts."

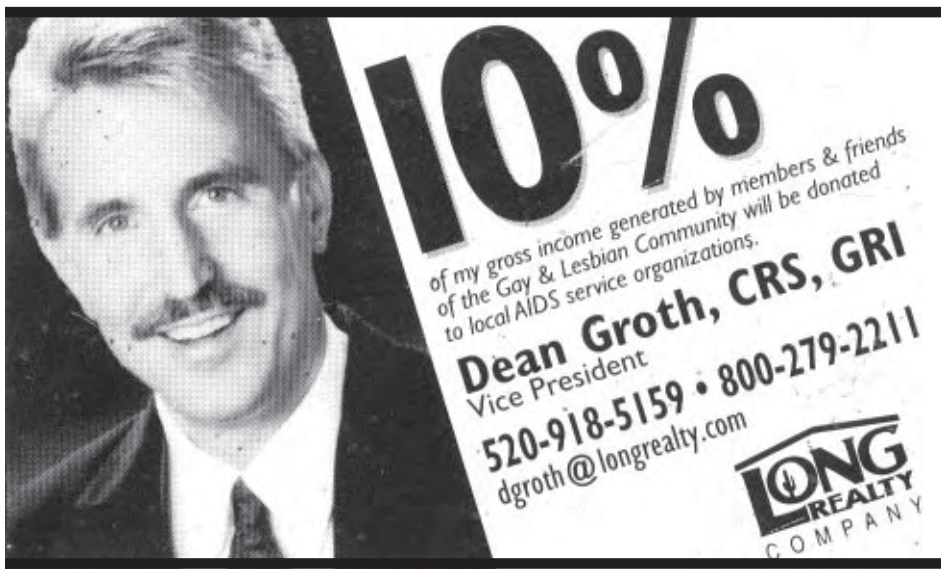
Ansel Adams' "Grand Canyon...'42" uses the Canyon as raw material for a very painterly photo that amounts to another of the artist's brilliant studies of light and dark, near and far. Adams made a career of trumping spectacular subjects with spectacular technique. If he did a photo of the face of God, you'd say, "What a great Adams!"

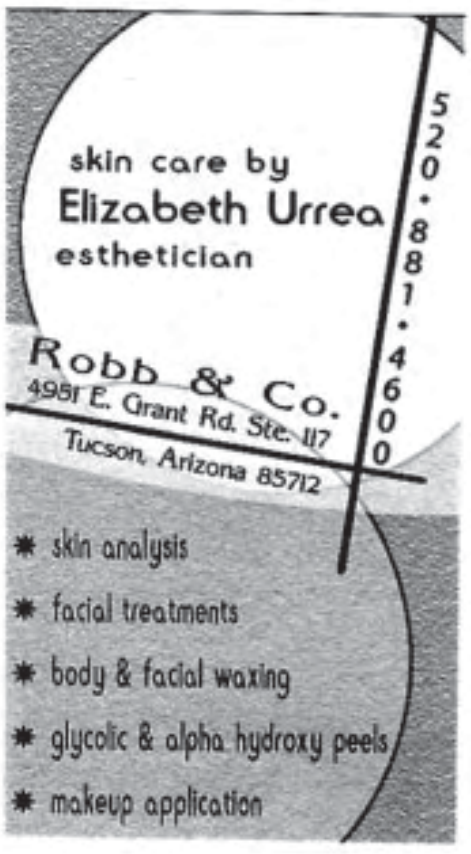
And then there are dozens of works that make you think, "Very nice. So what?"

TMA's legendary gift shop is still featuring an astonishing array of crafts in wood, paper, glass, cloth, ceramic, jewelry, everything. I saw something this time that I've never seen before and couldn't have imagined and wouldn't have believed, a traditional depiction of the Virgin Mary inside the bottle cap from a Pacifico beer and functioning as a refrigerator magnet. Also functioning as fridge magnets, Dirk Arnold's collection of about 4x4 inch reproductions of actual signs that you see around Tucson – Tiki Motel, Carpet Giant, Sparkle Cleaners, and many more.

No matter what the main exhibit is at TMA, the gift shop makes a visit there worthwhile.

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





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'I Was Raped' Says Reichen

Reichen Lehmkuhl

NEW YORK CITY - Reichen Lehmkuhl has revealed for the first time that he was sexually assaulted by two fellow cadets while he was at the Air Force Academy in the early 1990s, 365Gay.com reported. In an with ABC News, Lehmkuhl said that homophobia was common at the Academy and little was done to combat it. He also said that while he felt forced to remain closeted because of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" a friend outed him.

He told the network that he felt he had no one to turn to to discuss his sexuality and felt abandoned by the military. His sense of alienation escalated until one night when he was sexually assaulted by the people he served beside everyday. "A bag was put over my head," he said. "I was stripped of my clothes. I was forced to do things sexually with two other male cadets," he told "Good Morning America." "I think it's the first time that I've said that that happened," he said. "I've been ashamed of it." Lehmkuhl said that he did not report the assault because he did not want to come out publicly. He said that the assault and the pressure of being Gay in the military drove him to the brink of suicide. "That's when you start having suicidal thoughts, and that's when you start saying, 'Oh my God. I am so stuck in this situation. I can't go to anyone,' " he said.

The Servicemembers Legal Defense Network said that the sexual assault on Lehmkuhl is a reminder of why the Pentagon needs to take anti-Gay harassment seriously. "The Pentagon has an anti-harassment plan that was approved at the end of the Clinton administration but has never been properly implemented under President Bush's leadership," SLDN spokesperson Steve Ralls told 365Gay.com. "It's a good plan but the Pentagon's refusal to implement it results in incidents like the one Reichen recounted."

The anti-harassment policy was created following the murder of Pfc Barry Winchell at Fort Campbell, Kentucky in 1999. The interview coincided with the release of Lehmkuhl's autobiography "Here's What We'll Say: Growing Up, Coming Out, and the U.S. Air Force Academy". Lehmkuhl said he hopes his story will help other Gays in the military and help the effort to repeal "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" (DADT).

Since the passage of DADT a decade ago more than 11,000 men and women have been dismissed under "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" according to the Government Accountability Office. More than 800 of those service members were trained in skills deemed 'mission-critical' by the Pentagon. The GAO also said that it has cost taxpayers more than $200 million to recruit replacements for LGBT enlisted service members who were discharged. A study conducted last year for the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network concluded that the U.S. military could attract as many as 41,000 new recruits if Gays and Lesbians in the military were able to be open about their sexual orientation. After leaving the Air Force Lehmkuhl won $1 million in season four of the reality adventure show, "The Amazing Race." He currently works as a model and actor and is in a relationship with former pop star, Lance Bass, who come out in July.

Anti-Gay Sign Goes Up In Post Falls

POST FALLS, Idaho - Jim Valentine lumps Gay people and pedophiles together. And he doesn't want any of them living in Idaho, reports the Spokane (WA) Spokesman Review (Oct. 20). The Post Falls business owner posted a message in bold letters on his reader board this morning: "Peds queers fags your (sic) in Idaho now..."

That's what northbound drivers on Pleasantview Road see when they drive past the sign for his landscape supply and horse-boarding business, Dixie Services. "Don't fruit with Idaho kill yo-yo boy" is the message greeting southbound drivers. According to Valentine, "yo-yo boy" is his nickname for convicted killer and child molester Joseph Duncan, who killed three members of a Coeur d'Alene family and allegedly abducted two children from the family home so he could rape and molest them. "People are kind of numb. I think they need to wake up a little bit," said Valentine, who drives classic cars emblazoned with the Confederate flag. One has a horn that plays "Dixie." The father of eight said he was inspired by the "Kill Duncan" bumper stickers he has seen around town. Valentine said he believes he's speaking on behalf of others in the community who are "afraid" to speak up.

For those who have worked diligently to promote human rights in North Idaho, Valentine's message is shocking and sad, said Tony Stewart, board member of the Kootenai County Task Force on Human Relations. "It sends a message of hate directed at an entire group of people," Stewart said. "It's stereotyping an entire population. It's so unfortunate when that happens." Stewart said the crimes Duncan committed have affected the entire community. "We all condemn completely the atrocious crimes of Duncan," Stewart said. "We wanted swift justice and harsh punishment." He said Valentine is "trying to take a whole community of people and stereotype them." "One can't use a certain crime to preach hatred against a whole community of people," Stewart said.

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The Sun elbows into Scorpio this week and gives us a dash of flair mixed with a dollop passion. Let's put it in a mixing bow and stir things up. There is no better time than to get on top of things and see what transpires. Oh yeah baby!

ARIES (MAR. 21 - APR. 20)

Feeling too hot to handle? Sun in Scorpio pokes your embers and inflames your passionate desires. Whew! Gay Rams are hot to trot yet need some direction. Thankfully the cosmos gives you a bit of advice and guidance. Use this time to bolster current relationships or to forge new ones. Single Rambos are overflowing with pizzazz. What a nice change of pace!

TAURUS (APR. 21 - MAY 21)

Queer Bulls are apt to drift from their responsibilities when the Sun sits in Scorpio. Whatever is expected of you gets pushed to the bottom of the "To Do" list. You are more interested in relaxing and enjoying some time with partners. It's okay to have fun but don't let home projects stagnate either. Accomplish some pressing tasks around the house. Yeah - press this!

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)

As Sun enters Scorpio, pink Twins become more interested in applying themselves on the job. It's a good time to clear off your desk and find shortcuts to inefficient ongoing projects. You are in luck. Supply some expansive thought (and not some hot air). Add a dash of creativity to any routine task. It is time to view everyday life from an entirely different angle. Prone?

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)

Gay Crabs can't contain themselves with Sun in Scorpio. You are bursting with inspiration, spit and fire. Let it all seep Out! You are also the life of the party, commanding everyone's full attention and taking control of the festivities. Lucky us. But control your overhead - fun can cost much more than you expect. Do you really care? Thought not.

LEO (JULY 24 - AUG. 23)

Concentrate on home-based projects. Proud Lions loooove to entertain and this is one of the best times to plan intimate soirees and delightful dinners with assorted companions. Another benefit of this homey turn of mind is your ability and opportunity to to discuss prickly issues with parents. Your confidence soars and brings not only the ommph but also the tri-oomph.

VIRGO (AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23)

Queer Virgins can take full advantage of the Sun in Scorp to get their point across in a charming and compelling manner. Press your point every chance you get, cousin. Not only can you help clear up any confusion, you can also get to the underlying heart of the matter. There is a great deal of stuff fermenting under the surface. Tap into it. It can be intoxicating.

LIBRA (SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)

Have your finances been a bit of a bother and worry recently? Gay Libras can now cash in while the Sun enters Scorpio. While the glaring hot spotlight may be off you, your ability to reap the monetary rewards is greatly heightened. Make good use of this profitable time to create your own low level press buzz. It will ultimately pay off with a hive of sticky honey.

SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)

You are at the top of the heap with Sun in your own sign. Proud Scorps know what to do and what to say to get what they want. Don't sit back and wait for good things to come to you. Make a move, launch new projects, meet new people and create a new, lavender you. If you can't impress the powers-that-be, at very least, become a legend in your own mind.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)

Gay Archers find themselves marching to the tune of a different drummer with Sun in Scorpio. Suddenly they have a charitable spirit. Plant your karmic seeds now. Be sure that you do good Gay deeds and make a difference in our community. You are also especially intuitive for a change. Rub your crystal ball and see what transpires. Oh won't you be surprised!

CAPRICORN (DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)

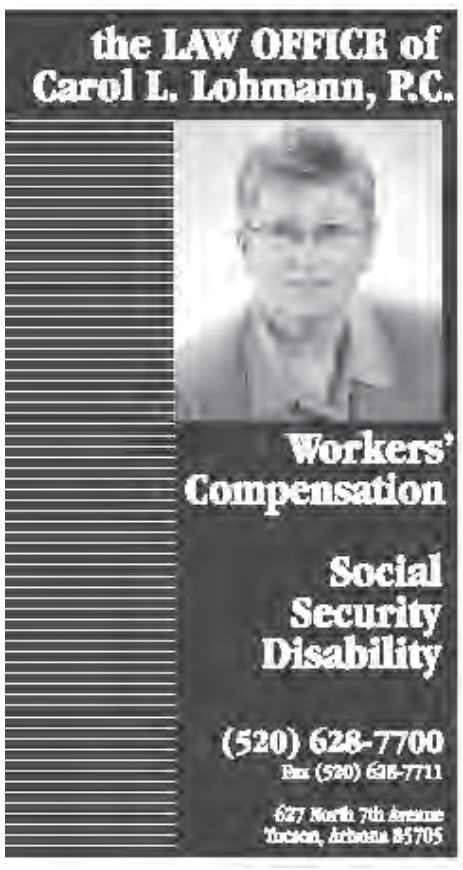
Opportunities abound while Sun sits in Scorpio. Pink Caps are in their element and can swim around the social pool easily and effectively. Enjoy being the leader of the pride parade, but don't rest on your laurels. You are offered the rare opportunity to clear up any friendly misunderstanding. Do it before it turns into something a bit less friendly.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)

Sun in Scorpio sets a fire under you and bring you to a boiling point. Aqueerians are agitating to demonstrate their talents and make their mark on the world. Strategize and plan your next big move whether it's in your career, with any travel plans or in any intensely personal mission. There are no small ideas, only small people. Sigh; sad but true.

PISCES (FEB. 20 - MAR. 20)

Guppies are ready to pack up and escape their mundane surroundings when the sun traipses into Scorpio. Heck, why not? Happily, you will be able to say the right things to convince even the most domesticated lover to travel to the ends of the earth with you, at least for the next few weeks. Remember to pack extra cash and go all Out.



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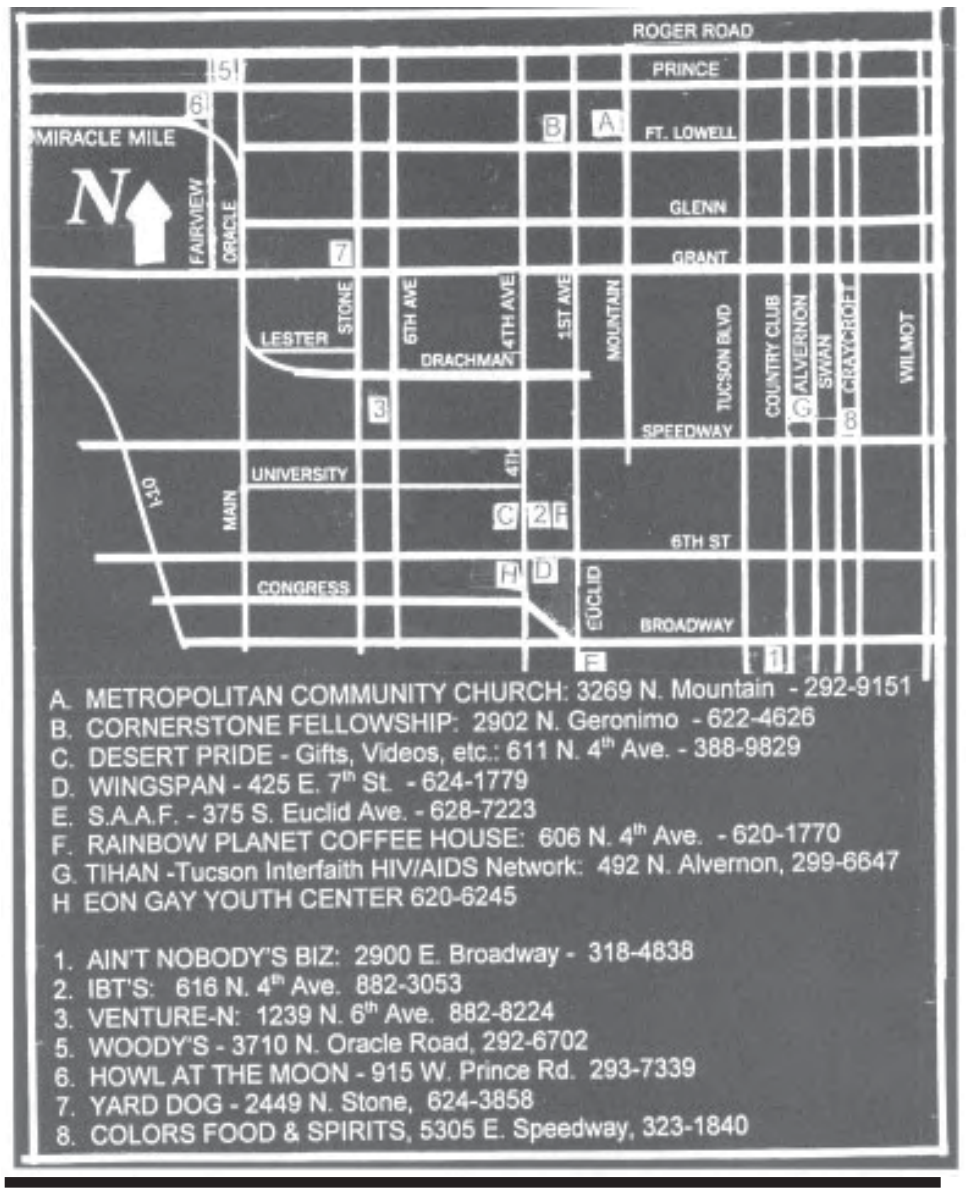

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Non Bar Calendar

Wednesday, October 25

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00pm . Canasta! Hosted by Merlin and Lee at 207-5336. 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, October 26

#1 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, October 27

#1Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 9:30a.m. Does it "Matter?" It matters to the Sunrise Scientists! Join host Tom for goodies in his Luxurious Laboratory Lounge (Decorated by Elvis during a sighting). Then.....Lecture 1: Enter the Quantum and Lecture 2: Wave or Particle? Call Tom at 744-9036 and you will go from Quantum to Cosmic at the speed of light!

#2Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00 p.m. 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 Lee and Merlin at 207-5336. If you're loquacious, erudite, or a wordsmith; this man's game just may be a triple word score for you!

Saturday, October 28

GMAC Mortgage in partnership with Chicanos Por La Causa is presenting a free home buyer orientation seminar in Tucson for those interested in beginning the home buying process. It will be hosted by experienced, bilingual loan officers who will be onsite to teach the basics on understanding the mortgage loan application and understanding your credit. Loan officers will also be available for one-on-one counseling regarding different home financing programs and to guide participants through the pre approval process. Attendees seeking additional resources such as down payment assistance and credit counseling, will also have an opportunity to meet with bilingual housing counselors from Chicanos Por La Causa's housing department. 9:00 a.m. until Noon at Chicanos Por La Causa, 200 N. Stone Ave. (corner of Stone Ave. and Alameda St.) You must pre-register by calling 1-800-572-0924. The seminar is free and open to the public.

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 Monthly Pot Luck. New recruits are always welcome and beginners are tutored to develop their gay Hollywood movie serial killer instincts! Phone host Marvin at 745-0304 for location, driving directions, and info.

Sunday, October 29

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 12:30p.m. Ranch Lunch...it's Bi-annual! If you did not pay by October 23rd, then please come join us the next time. Contact Lloyd at 792-8537 or dflatlloyd@highstream.net

Tuesday, October 31

Here's your chance to learn to dance! We are starting our annual series of class days for new dancers on the Tuesday evenings of October 17th, 24th, and 31st from 6:30 till 8:00 p.m. If you can't make it one evening, try another. No dance experience or special clothing is necessary. Live callers will teach you. These free introductory classes of modern gay square dance are held at the Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N Geronimo Ave, with parking off of Laguna St. For directions, maps, or more info, call us at 745-9212 or 325-6739, e-mail us at T-Squares@AZGayDance.org or visit www.AZGayDance.org . You will find our club friendly, welcoming, and lots of fun.

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 6:30p.m. Cheap Movie Night at The Crossroads Movie Theatres at Grant and Swan. We will vote on the movie to see and see it together. If there are dissenting votes, at least we will be in the same building together. For more than competent info, contact MSN's and Southern Arizona's Premier Cheap Movie Expert: Danny at 349-5295. Happy Halloween!

Sunday, November 19

3-5 p.m. The original Men's Massage Group is a great way to meet men and have clean, safe erotic fun. Give and receive and non-professional massage for fun and relaxation. November is a big month. Sign up right away. Call Marc in advance at 881-4582 for information and to sign up in advance. This group has been attended by men all over Arizona for 15 years. Fee. Space is limited.

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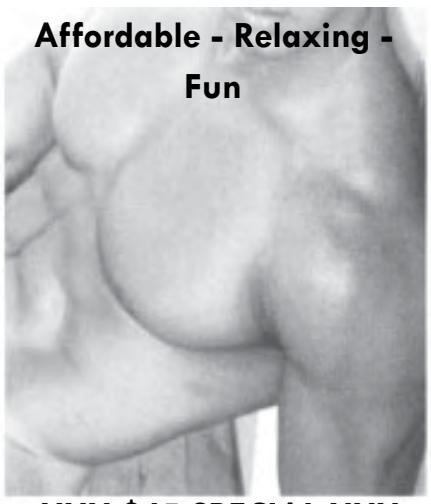

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Senior Citizens

Continued from Page One

compile a nationwide directory of LGBT-friendly senior centers and nursing homes.

"So many of our seniors, especially the older ones, have had negative experiences in health care agencies or in community agencies like senior centers," Lavender Seniors director Barbara Faulkner told the Chronicle.

Across the Bay, San Francisco has funded a social support organization that promotes intergenerational dialogue and helps to keep seniors an integral part of the LGBT community.

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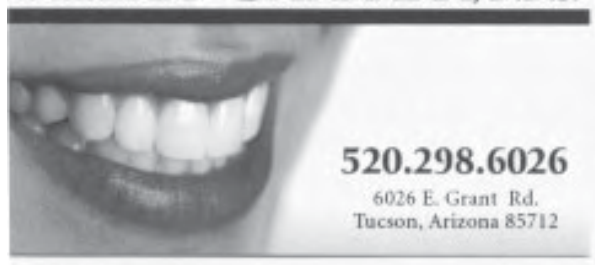

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DIVORCED, BLUE COLLAR MAN - RUGGED GOOD LOOKS - RETIRED MILITARY. I have brown hair, green eyes, beard, big muscular arms and gut, beefy legs and nice butt.

Interests are: horses, motorcycles, ATV, vintage aircraft, muscle/sport cars, exploring Arizona, restoring old houses, collecting unusual stuff, fine restaurants, cooking and quiet times at home. Not into bars.

I'm looking for a man to spend quality time with. If you find any of this intriguing, write me at P.O. Box 885, Tucson, AZ 85702 1163

EMPLOYMENT

BURGER KING NOW HIRING ASSISTANT MANAGERS. Call Shawn at 250-6518 1162

NEW BAR OPEN NOW., Looking for experienced bartenders. Art 628-3446 1164

MASSAGE

Various **BODY TREATMENTS**
Massage,Body Rubs and More...
Thorough - Anytime
Ric 520-981-1141 1211

QUALITY THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE. True Tantric sensual stimulating energy. Strong hands leave you ecstatically alive. Not a rub down at cheap prices. An exceptional experience for 25 years. Call Marc - 881-4582, from 8AM - 7PM 1165

TENSE? STRESSED OUT? Relax for an hour with a full body rub by Frank. Private studio, off-street parking. 548-7019 days, evenings. 1164

THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE FOR MEN. Private Pool-Side Massage Studio. Near Sabino Canyon. In-Call Only. www-gaymanmassage.com Steve-CMT 247-8139 1162

INTUITIVE BODY WORK DESIGNED TO AROUSE YOUR MOST SACRED SENSES. Swedish, Sports, Body Electric, Tantric and more. $45 in .$60 out. Afternoons & evenings. Christopher 631-8509. 1167

KNEADING TENSE SORE MUSCLES in relaxing central location. Nurturing, stress relief body rub. Affordable. 326-8226. 1162.

RELAX WITH A FULL BODY MASSAGE FOR MEN in a private studio on the West Side. Call Ralph, 883-7496. 1160

SYPHILIS IS BACK!
&
HIV NEVER LEFT!

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

Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic Schedule
Theresa Lee Health Center
332 S. Freeway
Tucson, AZ 85745
(520) 624-8272

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

COMING TO A SITE NEAR YOU!
Catch the next stop!

Now offering:
Confidential HIV Oraquick Rapid Testing,
Syphilis Screening

HIV results – next business day
Syphilis results – one week

8th Stop:

Ain't Nobody's Biz
2900 E. Broadway
Friday August 18th, 2006
Time: 7 pm – 10 pm

9th Stop:

Woody's
3710 N. Oracle Road
Wednesday September 20th, 2006
Time: 7 pm – 10 pm

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

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 Domestics 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. We've got the NFL Sunday Ticket. Watch your favorite NFL team here. $1 Jumbo Dogs, $2 Chili Dogs. Free Texas Hold-'Em Poker Tournaments at 4:00, and 7:00 pm. Play 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! $1 Jumbo Dogs, $2 Chili Dogs. Domestic Draft Beer at happy hour prices all night.

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 Domestics 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 Domestics 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 Pool All Night. 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.

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.

Play Safe!

THURSDAY

COLORS - Open 4-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm,$3 Skyy cocktails, $2.50 Domestics 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. Karaoke with Rosemary at 8:30pm

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 Domestics 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 menu.

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 Domestics 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. $2.50 Capt. Morgan or Malibu. Cheeseburger & Fries Special for $4.50 all day. Best burgers around. Johnny D playing dance mix or check our ad for special events. 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 November 11

Arizona Theatre Company presents August Wilson's "Jitney" the winner of New York Drama Critic's Award for Best Play. Overflowing with passion, poetry and unforgettable characters , August Wilsons's plays are important reflections of our American history. ATC Box Office 520-622-2823.

Now Playing thru November 12

Live Theatre Workshop "Caught In The Net" - Two teens discover both their fathers are taxi drivers, they want to meet in person. Little do they know they both have the same father. 7:30 p.m. Thursdays - Saturdays; 3:00 p.m. Sundays. 5317 E. Speedway Blvd. Tickets $14 - $17. 327-4242.

Now Playing thru December 17

Live Theatre Workshop - All Together Theatre's production of Christopher Johnson and Michael Matinez's "The Pirate Queen Of The Caribbean" continues every Sunday at 1:00 p.m. through December 17. $5.00- $8.00. Call 327-0160 for reservations.

Now Playing thru November 4

Gaslight Theatre presents "Phantom of the Opera" adapted by Peter 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.

October 27 - 29

Borderlands Theater presents Gaytino! at the Leo Rich Theater, Tucson Convention Center, 260 S. Church. When legendary father, Lalo Guerrero, was composing classic Mexican anthems like "Cancion Mexicana" and "Nunca Jamas," little Danny Guerrero was lip-syncing in his bedroom to Ethel Merman and Judy Garland records. And when Lalo finally made it to Broadway with his music in "Zoot Suit", Dan had moved from song-and-dance man to Broadway Agent. In Gaytino! Dan Guerrero takes us on a remarkable forty-year journey, from Caesar Chavez to Stephen Sondheim, from LA to NY and back, and from the back of the bus to the front of American pop culture. Touching, hilarious and absolutely one-of-a-kind, this sixty-plus Chicano finally brings his two fascinating worlds together in this riveting solo show con musica, of course! 7:30 p.m. Oct. 27 and closing 2:00 p.m. Oct. 29. Call 882-7406 for more information and reservations

.

November 2 - 5

Invisible Theatre presents "A Single Woman" written and performed by Jeanmarie Simpson. At Invisible Theatre, 1400 N. First Ave (at Drachman). $25 per person. 520-882-9721 for info and reservations. A Single Woman is based on the life and writings of early feminist Jeannette Rankin, who was the first woman elected to Congress - before women had the right to vote! Deliciously political, occasionally chilling, ironic and idiosyncratic.

Saturday, November 4

Jay Leno live at Desert Diamond Casino. Two shows 7:30 and 10:00 p.m. Tickets on sale now. Tickets available at www.ticketemaster.com Or 321-1000. I 19&Pima Mine Road. (Exit 80, 7 minutes South of Tucson. desertdiamondcasino.com

November 9-10-11-12

Invisible Theater presents "Let It Be Art!" at it's theatre, 1400 N. First Avenue (At Drachman). "Let It Be Art!" Harold Clurman's Life of Passion, starring Ronald rand, is a dramatic journey of humor, boldness and fervor,

Arts and Entertainment
CONTINUED

BAR CALENDAR
Of Upcoming Events

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25

WOODY'S - Underwear Night. Join the staff and wear your best Boxers.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

HOWL AT THE MOON - Lucinda Holliday hosts "IDOLS" celebrity impersonation show. One show only at 10:00 p.m. Cher, Selena, Michael Jackson, Reba and more. This is a great show that has been playing to packed crowds at the Casino of the Sun/ Here's your chance to see it - don't miss it! $5.00 cover.

IBT'S - "Saturday Starletts" with Janee Starr 9pm. 12am Costume Contest. Register by 11:00 p.m. All winners must be present to win. 1st; $150 - 2nd: $75 - 3rd: $50

WOODY'S - Halloween Party and Costume Contest.

YARD DOG SALOON - "Graveyard Bones" - Costume Contest at 11:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

WOODYS - A special Halloween show with Tucson's Black Cat Ajia Simone and guests.

YARD DOG SALOON - Spaghetti Dinner and Boo's Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tourney at 5:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31

IBT'S - 9pm Dance with DJ Q. 12:00 a.m. Costume Contest. 1st: $200 - 2nd: $100 - 3rd: $50. Register by 11pm. All winners must be present to win.

VENTURE-N - "Nightmare In Black" Halloween Party! Costume Contest 11:30 p.m. Cash Prizes. Specials 9:00 p.m. until closing,

WOODY'S - Annual Masquerade Ball and Costume Contest.

YARD DOG SALOON - Bat Stew at 10:00 p.m. "All Hallows Eve Best Costume Contest" at 1'1:00 p.m. Cash prides on costume contests.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2

HOWL AT THE MOON - Silver Coyote Ballroom Dance from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Swing, easy listening, golden oldies, country. Non-Smoking in the dance area. Feel free to bring a snack to share with your friends. Full bar service available. $2.00 cover. Held the 1st Thursday of every month.

NOTICES - COMMUNITY - NOTICES

"CELEBRACION" Out & About The group is planning to go out for Thanksgiving brunch. Our plans are not yet complete, but if you would like some more information about this, please contact us at out-about@comcast.net, or leave a message at 520-615-9237. We will contact you, as soon as possible, Come and join us it will be fun.

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 (GPGLCC) P.O. BOX 2097, Phoenix, AZ 85001-2097. E-mail: webmaster@gpglcc.org or call (602)225-8444.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

T-SQUARES Lesbian and Gay Square Dance Club, 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, contact TEAM ARIZONA at their website: teamarizona.org

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

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

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

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

Pride Weekend. 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.

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.

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.

MEN'S HIKING CLUB - A peer-run MEN's outdoor club for hiking, biking, camping, boating etc, is now up and running in the Tucson area. To join, go to SAGE-Tucson-subscribe @yahoogroups.com. See you on the trails.

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.

Got A News Tip?
Call The
WEEKLY OBSERVER
(520) 622-7176
Or FAX Us At
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Melissa Etheridge And Partner Have Boy, Girl Twins

Melissa Ethridge and partner Tammy Michaels

LOS ANGELES - Melissa Etheridge and partner Tammy Lynn Michaels are celebrating after becoming parents to twins, reported the PlanetOut Network. Tammy had a boy and a girl – Miller Steven and Johnnie Rose – Tuesday (Oct. 17) and are in "excellent health," the singer wrote on her Web site late Sunday (Oct. 22).

The couple told fans, "The creation of life brings about immeasurable love, and pours hope into the future. "The joy will help carry us through our upcoming sleepless nights." The children were conceived using an anonymous donor from a sperm bank. Melissa wed long-term partner Tammy in a same-sex ceremony in 2003.

Etheridge was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2004 but was declared to be in full remission nine months after treatment. Her last release was a greatest-hits compilation titled "The Road Less Traveled," and she has sold more than 25 million records around the world.

Appeals Court Rules For Gay Partner In Will Dispute

DENVER - The Colorado Court of Appeals on Thursday (Oct. 18) reversed a lower court ruling and said the partner of a man who died in 2004 is entitled to his estate 365Gay.com reported. Before his death Ronald Wiltfong wrote a letter saying he wished to leave everything to his partner, Randall Rex, and acknowledged this letter as his will in the presence of witnesses.

After his death, a relative took Wiltfong's partner to court to overturn Wiltfong's written wishes and demand the estate go to her sons from whom he had been estranged. The trial court ruled that the letter was not a legal will and ordered the state to go to Wiltfong's blood relatives. Rex appealed and the Appeals Court ruled that the letter was sufficient. It ordered the case back to lower court for reconsideration. The ruling ended two years of litigation but if a measure going before voters next month is passed it would prevent similar situations for other same-sex couples in the state. Called Proposition I, it was approved by the legislature earlier this year but must be ratified by the electorate. It would create a domestic partner registry and give same-sex couples many of the rights of marriage.

"If this couple had a domestic partnership license, legal protections would ensure the estate was left to the long-time partner," said Sean Duffy, Executive Director of Coloradans for Fairness. "Opponents of Referendum I question whether it is necessary," Duffy said. "This case shows that Referendum I is absolutely necessary to provide basic legal rights to thousands of Colorado couples." Proposition I is one of two measures going to voters that would affect same-sex couples. The other is a proposed constitutional amendment that would ban same-sex marriage. That effort was undertaken by religious conservatives who collected enough signatures to have it placed on the ballot. The poll released last month showed that 58 percent of Colorado voters would vote in favor of the domestic partnership measure while 53 percent of voters in the state support the ban on Gay marriage.

Houston Chronicle Adds Insult To Injury In coverage Of Anti-Gay Bias Incident

HOUSTON - Landscaping company owners Sabrina and Todd Farber ignited a firestorm of controversy Thursday (Oct. 19) when Sabrina Farber sent an e-mail to Gay potential client Michael Lord canceling a scheduled appointment because of his sexual orientation, reported advocate.com. "Dear Mr. Lord, I am appreciative of your time on the phone today and glad you contacted us," the Houston Chronicle reported her as writing, "I need to tell you that we cannot meet with you because we choose not to work for homosexuals. Best of luck in finding someone else to fill your landscaping needs. All my best, Sabrina."

Lord and his partner, Gary Lackey, told the paper they did not notice the small print at the bottom of the Web site for the Farbers' company, Garden Guy Inc., that reads, " The God-ordained institution of marriage is under attack in courts across the nation, and your help is needed. Go to noGaymarriage.com to take action." The couple forwarded the e-mail to friends and relatives, one of whom posted it on the popular internet social site MySpace, urging people to take action. The Farbers declined to comment on the situation, but they set up a temporary forum on their Web site, www.garden-guy.com, for people to debate the issue.

The trouble for Lord and Lackey did not end with the Farbers, however. Houston Chronicle contributor Rick Casey decided to add his two cents to the issue at the end of his article, stating, "Were I posting [on the Farbers' site], I would commend the Farbers for standing by their principles in an age where money trumps all. They might, however, consider climbing up one more rung on the moral ladder. They should refuse to do business with all sinners." Those interested in contacting Casey can do so by writing to him at P.O Box 4260, Houston, TX 77210, or via e-mail at rick.casey@chron.com.

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