



Observing Tucson And  
The Greater Arizona Community

**BSERVER**

<http://www.tucsonobserver.com>

WEEKLY OBSERVER

MAY 2, 2007

ISSUE 1189

## Hate Crimes Prevention Act Passes U.S. House Judiciary Committee



WASHINGTON, D.C. - Human Rights Campaign (HRC) President Joe Solmonese joined with Reps. Barney Frank, D-MA; Deborah Pryce, R-OH; Tammy Baldwin, D-WI; and Chris Shays, R-CT, to introduce the bipartisan Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) in the U.S. House of Representatives. The bill would address discrimination in the workplace by making it illegal to fire, refuse to hire or refuse to promote an employee based on the person's sexual orientation or gender identity. Read Mark Kerr's Politics column this week on ENDA, Page Nine.

## Pentagon Advised To End Spying On Gay, Other Groups

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The new undersecretary for intelligence at the Department of Defense has recommended that the pentagon discontinue a controversial domestic surveillance program that was found to be spying on Gay and anti-war groups, 365Gay.com reported. The Threat and Local Observation Notices surveillance program, known as TALON, was launched in 2003 track and monitor domestic terror threats.

But it came under intense scrutiny after news reports revealed officials were collecting data on demonstrators and protestors, including those within the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community. The reports said that the Pentagon had spied on New York University law school's LGBT advocacy group OUTlaw and Gay groups at the State University of New York at Albany, William Patterson College in New Jersey, and University of California at Berkeley and at Santa Cruz.

In Feb. 2006, the DoD acknowledged in a letter to the Senate Armed Services Committee that it had 'inappropriately' collected information on protestors but did not name any of the organizations. That same month the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network filed a lawsuit to obtain information related to the government's domestic spy program when the Pentagon turned down a Freedom of Information Act request.

James R. Clapper, Jr., undersecretary of defense for intelligence, said the Pentagon "must lay to rest the distrust and concern about the

department's commitment to civil rights." Clapper said that it is "important that the proper balance be struck between the counterintelligence mission, on one hand, and the protection of civil liberties, on the other." He forwarded his recommendation to Defense Secretary Robert Gates, but no final decision has been made.

SLDN believed it had been targeted because of its support for Gays in the military and its efforts to have "Don't Ask, Don't Tell", the ban on Gays serving openly, repealed. "The Pentagon's surveillance program undermined the constitution and eroded Americans' privacy rights, Sharra E. Greer, director of law and policy for SLDN, said. "The freedom to dissent and the right to voice that dissent are fundamental bedrocks of American democracy. Rather than wasting time and money peeping through keyholes, the government should strengthen our country's defense by lifting the ban on open service and welcoming every qualified American to our armed forces."

Last month Congressman Marty Meehan (D-MA), chair of the House Armed Services Sub-Committee on Oversight and Investigations, reintroduced legislation to repeal the law. Meehan said that more than 120 Members of Congress from both parties have signed on to co-sponsor the bill, called the Military Readiness Enhancement Act. A lawsuit is also underway challenging the ban.

## Feds Prodded On HIV Immigration Ban

WASHINGTON, D.C. - A bipartisan think tank has urged the U.S. government to delay no further in ending the requirement for people with HIV to declare their status and get a special visa before they enter the country, reported Gay.com on the PlanetOut Network. President Bush announced his intention to do so on World AIDS Day, Dec. 1, but no action has been taken.

The Center for Strategic and International Studies met to discuss possible ways of relaxing the ban. It produced a report urging action and outlining ways forward. Co-author Helene Gayle, formerly of the federal Centers for Disease Control, said the U.S. travel ban is inconsistent with the international leadership role on HIV that America has demonstrated it wants by adopting measures such as the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. "It is just one more thing where we are out of line and inconsistent with what we are trying to do," she said.

The full report is available at [csis.org/media/csis/pubs/movingbeyondinadmissibility.pdf](http://csis.org/media/csis/pubs/movingbeyondinadmissibility.pdf)

Co-author Dr. Phillip Nieburg said there is no justification for the law in terms of public health.

The HIV knowledge base has grown since 1993, when the ban was imposed, and it is now clear that HIV is not an easily spread contagious disease, Nieburg said. As for worries about the cost of treating someone with HIV who ends up in the United States stranded or seeking asylum, he said that a blanket ban on anyone with HIV is inherently discriminatory: Other costly chronic health problems are not singled out for a blanket ban, but are handled on a case-by-case basis.

A waiver is available to HIV-positive foreigners entering the United States for "designated events," such as last year's Gay Games in Chicago. But it requires individuals to disclose their HIV status - thereby limiting their ability to enter the United States in the future.

The ban was instituted in 1993 against the advice of Louis Sullivan, then-secretary of Health and Human Services, when Sen. Jesse Helms carried legislation to add HIV to the list of communicable diseases barring people from U.S. entry.

Sullivan told the meeting that the introduction of effective treatments and their greater availability in developing countries makes now "truly a propitious time to try and end these restrictions."

Part of the challenge is that it was much easier to add a clause to the list saying "and this specifically include anyone with HIV" than it will be to replace it with a clause saying "but this does not include people with HIV" -

because many legislators will want to ensure that a ban remains on people who genuinely do constitute a danger to public health.

Legislation is likely to apply to both short-term tourist visas and long-term immigrant visas, and legislators are thought to want to continue to ensure that hard questions are asked about an HIV-positive person's ability to pay for his or her medical care if he or she wishes to live and work in the United States.

But the report noted that other wealthy countries with more relaxed policies have not seen a huge influx in pos immigrants seeking free HIV care.

The simplest way of relaxing the aspect of the ban that affects most people would be for Bush to issue an executive order saying that tourists - people staying for less than 30 days - are exempted from the HIV ban.

But it is thought that a rear guard in the White House is uneasy about the idea of letting people in without any knowledge of their HIV status.

The situation was not helped when, after the international AIDS conference in Toronto last summer, more than 150 HIV-positive people attending the conference chose to remain in Canada and seek asylum, claiming that they feared discrimination or worse in their own countries.

Some commentators have said that the White House will still require people with HIV to declare their status while lifting an automatic ban, at least for tourist visas.

Tom Walsh, a member of the Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator who was in the meeting's audience, would not specify when the ban might be lifted. "The process is under way, it is complex, and I wish there was more that I could say," Walsh said.

## N.H. Civil Unions Bill Passes Legislature

CONCORD, New Hampshire (Observer Update) - Lawmakers voted Thursday (Apr. 26) to authorize civil unions and sent the measure to Gov. John Lynch, who had announced that he would sign it, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com. "This legislation is a matter of conscience, fairness and of preventing discrimination," said Colin Manning, a spokesman for the Democratic governor. "It is in keeping with New Hampshire's proud tradition of preventing discrimination."

# UPDATE

## LGBT&S Alliance Fund Raiser May 11

TUCSON - The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Straight (LGBT&S) Alliance Fund announces its annual "Evening of Music and Friends," May 11, 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

This year's gala features elegant hors d'oeuvres by Dakota, great wines, music by jazz singer Marilyn Harris, and the special University of Arizona group The Tuba Cats. Karen Uhlich of the Tucson City Council moderates a fine evening at the stunning home of Randy Soderstrom and Steve Quinlan.

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Straight (LGBT&S) Alliance Fund is a special project of the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona (CFSA), created in 1999 in partnership with the National Lesbian and Gay Community Funding Partnership.

The Alliance Fund addresses the chronic pattern of underfunding of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender programs and supports efforts to address these issues through philanthropy and endowment building.

The Alliance Fund connects donors with the LGBT community. The Fund has become known for making grants available at critical times during the development of an organization's infrastructure. Since its inception, the Fund has awarded more than 49 grants totaling nearly \$300,000 to local nonprofits.

Tickets are \$75 per person, and tickets must be purchased in advance since space is limited. Tickets can be ordered by mail. Make check out to: Community Foundation of Southern Arizona (add "Alliance Fund" to the memo line) and mail to: Martin Rivera, CFSA-Program Coordinator LGBT&S Alliance Fund, 2250 E. Broadway Blvd., Tucson, AZ 85710 or online at: [cfsoaz.org/page33432.cfm](http://cfsoaz.org/page33432.cfm). For more information, go online to [alliancefund.org](http://alliancefund.org).

## Clock In For Equality May 15

PHOENIX - Join thousands across the country in taking small and large actions for Workplace Equality on May 15.

The Arizona Human Rights Fund is participating in Lambda Legal's Clock in for Equality to ensure equal protections exist for Arizona's LGBT workers. Help make a difference by educating your coworkers, supporting current efforts to obtain legal protections, and activating others to fight for equal rights.

To sign up, go online to: [ga4.org/campaign/CIFE\\_signup](http://ga4.org/campaign/CIFE_signup). Learn more at [ahrf.org](http://ahrf.org) or call (602) 650-0900.

## 24th International AIDS Candlelight Memorial May 20

TUCSON - SAAF, Wingspan, and TIHAN announced that Tucson will participate in the 24th Annual International AIDS Candlelight Memorial.

This event will take place on May 20, at Himmel Park (Tucson Blvd., 1 block south of Speedway) in solidarity with memorials and events worldwide. Tucson's Candlelight Memorial will highlight the effects of AIDS on African-American and youth communities. Bring a blanket and/or lawn chair.

For more information, contact Madeline Porta, (520) 624-1779, E-mail: [mporta@wingspan.org](mailto:mporta@wingspan.org), and [candlelightmemorial.org/](http://candlelightmemorial.org/).

## Feminists Who Changed America - The Book, The Editor, The Conversation May 5

TUCSON - Seventeen Tucsonans are named in the Directory of Feminists from the Second Wave 1963-1975. Come and meet them Saturday, May 5,

5:00 - 7:00 p.m., at Antigone Books, 411 N. Fourth Avenue.

Featured will be Barbara Love, who conceived, collected, edited and readied this Directory of 2,200 Second-Wave Feminists for Publication by Illinois University Press, Nov. 2006, as well as Jacqueline Ceballos, President of Veteran Feminists of America, Michèle Ceballos, Director, Opendance in Phoenix, Sheila Tobias, Author Faces of Feminism: Lessons from our Past, and others from the Directory.

For more information, call (520) 792-3715.

## Smoke-Free Arizona Act Now In Effect

TUCSON - In Nov. 2006 the citizens of Arizona made their voices heard by passing Proposition 201, The Smoke-Free Arizona Act which went into effect Tuesday, May 1.

Proposition 201 defines the "reasonable distance" between a smoker and a restaurant door or window is 20 feet. The state Department of Health Service has said 20 feet is the generally accepted distance to prevent tobacco smoke from getting indoors.

The smoke-free zone doesn't apply to patio doors, but owners still are responsible for making sure smoke doesn't get inside. The zone does apply to employee entrances, which must be smoke-free. The same rules that veterans centers and fraternal clubs must follow for liquor laws will apply to smoking. When a club is open only to members and their invited guests, smoking is allowed. But for public events, such as bingo night or a fish fry, smoking is prohibited.

Under Proposition 201 Businesses need to: Remove ashtrays, post "no smoking" signs with required information and of the appropriate size (order required no-smoking signs for free at [smokefreearizona.org](http://smokefreearizona.org)), educate employees on new law, prohibit smoking in nonsmoking areas, protect enclosed areas from smoke entering from the outside, including from outdoor smoking patios, if applicable, protect all entrances and entryways from smoke and keep Smoke-Free Arizona Program information on hand.

Smoking is not allowed in: Offices and other work areas, employee lounges, restrooms and waiting rooms, common areas of apartments, condominiums and hotels, health care and educational facilities, bars and restaurants, entertainment venues and sports facilities, retail stores and banks, airports and other public transportation facilities, laundromats, clubs and other private facilities during public events.

Smoking is allowed in: Designated hotel guest rooms, retail tobacco stores, outdoor patios, properties on tribal reservations, including casinos, veterans, fraternal clubs and as part of religious ceremonies or film or theater productions.

To report a violation of the smoking law, call 1-877-4AZNOSMOKE (1-877-429-6676). Complaints will be investigated by county health departments. If a violation is found, the business owner will receive a warning letter. Subsequent violations might be punishable by up to \$500 for each violation. Each day a violation occurs constitutes a separate violation. If a judge finds the violations are willful or evidence of a pattern of noncompliance, a fine up to \$5,000 per violation may be imposed. For more information, go online to [smokefreearizona.org](http://smokefreearizona.org) or call toll-free, (877) AZSTOPS (1-877-297-8677).

Looking for information on HIV/AIDS?



Our Speakers Bureau provides free presentations to the community about HIV transmission, testing, risk reduction and living with HIV/AIDS.

For more info contact our Volunteer Resources Coordinator at 628-7223 or [VolCoord@saaf.org](mailto:VolCoord@saaf.org)

SAAF

Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation



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

Office Hours: 9a.m.-6p.m.  
Monday thru Friday

Office Closed Thursdays

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Informing the Community  
**The Observer**

**Howl at the Moon**  
SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION

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SW corner of Prince & Fairview  
293-7339  
[howlatthemoontucson.com](http://howlatthemoontucson.com)

**Cinco de Mayo**  
SATURDAY, MAY 5

ROSA'S TRAVESTI SHOW  
8:30 PM

LATINO DRAG PERFORMANCES  
\$ 3.00 COVER

\$2.50  
Mexican  
beers  
all night

FOLLOWED BY DJ MICHELLE  
PLAYING YOUR FAVORITE CUMBIAS,  
CORRIDOS, AND REGGAETON



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# COMMENTARY. . . .

## LGBT Lawmakers Have Impact On Gaining Rights

By Deb Price

When Connecticut state Rep. Beth Bye's turn came to speak about the need for her legislature to approve gay marriage, she tearfully recalled her devout Catholic father's loving participation in her civil union ceremony, then described the pain of being excluded from actual marriage.

The freshman lawmaker recounted filling out a health care form: Her choices were "married," "divorced," "widowed," "single" or "other."

"Forgive me if I'm not patient," Bye told Connecticut's joint House-Senate Judiciary Committee. "I don't want to be 'other' anymore. I want to be married."

Bye's touching plea helped create a lopsided victory – the 27-15 committee vote that endorsed opening marriage to gay couples. Gay marriage now goes to the full state House and Senate. (To watch Bye's moving testimonial, go to [lmfct.org](http://lmfct.org).)

Connecticut's breakthrough is one in a series of astonishing gay advances in the past three weeks. The headline-grabbing victories shared one thing in common: A gay lawmaker played a key role.

"We have seen in the last month at almost every major win, almost always there is an openly gay legislator behind that story," says Denis Dison of the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, which helps elect openly

gay or transgender officials, who now number 370.

Here's a quick tick tock:

Apr. 12: Connecticut's Judiciary Committee overwhelmingly approves same-sex marriage.

Apr. 19: Oregon Senate votes, 19-7, to ban discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity in housing, employment, public accommodations and public education. The House did as well, 35-25. Oregon's House also passed a domestic partner bill, 34-26, on Apr. 17, which would grant gay couples the state-level rights of marriage. The Senate is expected to follow suit. Gov. Ted Kulongoski, a Democrat, promises to sign both bills.

Apr. 21: Washington state Gov. Chris Gregoire, a Democrat, signs a domestic partnership bill, giving gay couples important marriage-like rights.

Apr. 24: Out gay U.S. Reps. Barney Frank, D-Mass., and Tammy Baldwin, D-Wis., help reintroduce legislation to ban job discrimination based on sexual orientation and for the first time include gender identity. The bill's prospects are encouraging.

Apr. 25: Iowa's House votes 59-37 to ban discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity at work and many other places. Hours later, the Senate agrees, 34-16. Democratic Gov. Chet Culver says he'll sign the protections into law. (Iowa

and Oregon will bring to 19 the states prohibiting anti-gay job discrimination and to 10 those banning anti-transgender discrimination.)

Apr. 26: New Hampshire's Senate follows its House by embracing civil unions, 14-10. Gov. John Lynch, a Democrat, says he'll sign it. So New Hampshire, which hosts the first 2008 presidential primary, will be the fourth civil union state. It is the first state to act without being prodded by a lawsuit.

Apr. 27: Five years after a gay

state senator pushed for marriage equality, New York Gov. Eliot Spitzer, a Democrat, becomes the first governor to introduce gay marriage legislation.

If you ever wonder whether it's important for gay people to risk being out at work, just review this wonderful list. Gay lawmakers are rocketing our country forward.

(Deb Price is a reporter and columnist for the Detroit News, from which this is reprinted from their Apr. 30 edition.)

## Supreme Court Bypasses Lesbian Custody Case

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - The Supreme Court declined to get involved in a dispute between two former lesbian lovers over visitation rights involving a 4-year-old child, the Associated Press reported on 365Gay.com. The child's biological mother, Lisa Miller, had asked the justices to take the case because Vermont courts have ordered Miller to allow her former lover, Janet Jenkins, to see the child, Isabella, one week a month.

In 2000, the two women entered into a civil union in Vermont and they decided Lisa would use artificial insemination with an anonymous donor to have a child. Isabella was born in Virginia in 2002 and the two women moved to Vermont, where they lived for a year before separating. Miller renounced her homosexuality, returned to Virginia and denied Jenkins' demands for visitation rights.

Relying heavily on the rulings by Vermont courts, the Virginia Court of Appeals said Miller is required to comply with visitation orders of the Vermont courts under the federal Parental Kidnapping Prevention Act. Miller says the act conflicts with a more recent federal law, the Defense of Marriage Act, on same-sex marriage. That act says no state shall be required

to abide by a law of any other state with respect to a same-sex marriage.

In asking the justices to take the case, Miller's lawyers said state courts in Vermont and elsewhere have "eviscerated the protections afforded each state" under the Defense of Marriage Act. Jenkins' lawyers said Vermont courts were the first to take jurisdiction of the case and that Miller's response was to "run to a Virginia court" seeking a result more to her liking.



# Tucson's #1 Gay Club UPCOMING EVENTS



**CINCO DE MAYO  
SATURDAY MAY 5TH**

**NOON-9PM=\$2.75 MARGARITA'S &  
IMPORT MEXICAN BEER**

**5PM-9PM=FREE TACO BAR**

**5-8PM=KARAOKE**

**9PM=SHOW HOSTED BY  
BUNNY FU FU**

**10PM-CLOSE=DANCE WITH DJ Q INSIDE  
& DJ MIKE LOPEZ ON THE PATIO**

**EVERY SUNDAY IS NOW  
LATIN NIGHT**

**9PM-CLOSE**

**JOIN DJ HILLARY FOR  
THE HOTTEST IN LATIN & TOP 40 MUSIC!!!**

**DRINK SPECIALS**

**\$2.75**

**MARGARITA'S  
CORONA'S  
PACIFICO'S  
SOL'S  
DOS XX  
MILLER CHILL**

**An Evening With Alex Sanchez May 8**



**Alex Sanchez**

TUCSON (Observer Update) - The GLBT Services Committee of the Pima County Public Library are hosting a free evening with author Alex Sanchez on Tuesday, May 8, 6:30 p.m., in the lower level meeting room of the Joel D. Valdez Main Library, 101 N. Stone Ave.

Sanchez is the author of Rainbow Boys, Rainbow High, Rainbow Road, So Hard to Say, and Getting It. Rainbow Boys was selected as a 2002 "Best Book for Young Adults" by the American Library Association and was a Lambda Literary Award (Lammy) finalist in 2001. His novel, So Hard to Say, won a 2004 Lammy.

Complimentary pizza from Magpies Gourmet Pizza will be on hand and the event will include a question-and-answer session, followed by a book signing..

Free parking is available after 5:00 p.m. in the city parking garage below the library, accessible from Alameda Street. For more information, E-mail: Beth.Petrucci@pima.gov.

**20th Annual Reno Gannon Jell-O Wrestling And Auction, Sunday, May 5**

TUCSON (Observer Update) - The 20th Anniversary of the Reno Gannon Memorial Jell-O Wrestling and Live Auction Extravaganza will be held on Sunday, May 6, 2:00 p.m., at Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle to raise funds for the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF).

The sold-out extravaganza will begin with entertainment from afternoon hostesses Bunny Fu Fu and Ajia Simone, fun games for great prizes, a silent auction and terrific food. Hostesses Lucinda Holliday and Diana Flair will rev up the crowd for the main event.

Teams of wrestlers will wrestle in a pit of Jell-O, often with extraordinary costumes and characters. Between wrestling matches, our hostesses will run a live auction of a variety of unique items selected with the proceeds going to the programs and services of SAAF.

These wonderful people have lined up pledges in their efforts to help SAAF but there are no limits to the number of sponsors these wrestlers can get, so to pledge, sign up with a wrestler, go online to jello-wrestling.org, or call Mae at SAAF, (520) 628-7223

Local businesses have generously signed on as sponsors to help underwrite the costs of holding the event including: Title Sponsor Woody's; Champion Sponsors Fascinations and Dean Groth of Long Realty; Patron Sponsors Speedway Veterinary Hospital, Those Feng Shui Guys, Century 21-Centra Realty, Colors Food & Spirits, IBT's and the Tucson GLBT Chamber of Commerce; and Supporter Sponsors All You Do Is Pack Travel,

Stand Firm Personal Training, Tucson Pride Inc., Reveille Gay Men's Chorus, and Professional Bartenders Unlimited. Media Sponsors include ION Arizona Magazine, 'N Touch News and The Observer and In-Kind Sponsors La Cocina Restaurant, Bentley's and WhiteSpace Design helped to keep costs low.

Woody's, IBT's, Howl at the Moon, The Biz and Colors Food & Spirits have all come out in a big way to support this event. Each of these bars will be promoting and supporting at least one wrestling team on May 6th, and will be hosting parties and special events during the next two weeks to raise funds for SAAF.

In addition to these events and the Jell-o Wrestling, a raffle with a marvelous prize of \$1,000 in cash, sponsored by John Swain. Tickets for the raffle are \$1 each and are now on sale at SAAF and the participating bars and restaurants: Woody's - 3710 N. Oracle, The Biz - 2900 E. Broadway, IBT's - 616 N. 4th Ave., Colors -5305 E. Speedway and Howl at the Moon - 915 W. Prince.

Please visit the Jell-O website at jello-wrestling.org to get more information, or contact Mae at (520) 628-7223 or by E-mail at events@saaf.org.



Photos from Jell-O 2006

**Es PARRANDA de CINCO de MAYO en**

**(It's a CINCO de MAYO party at)**

**VENTURE-N**

**FRIDAY, MAY 4 --5:00 - 7:00**

**BAR SNACKS**

**SATURDAY, MAY 5 --5:30 - 9:00**

**6th Annual MEXICAN BUFFET by MAMACITA CHARLES**

**MUSIC by LIONEL**



**SUNDAY, MAY 6**

**5:00 - 7:00**

**MARIACHIS**

**1239 N. 6th Ave. Tucson, AZ 85705 (520) 882-8224**

**Thunder Thursday** **The Biz** **Cinco de Mayo**  
 2900 E. Braodway/ 318-4838  
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**Drag show hosted by Boy Sean** **-DJ HILL Shakes it up Saturday (Cinco de Mayo)**

**May 3rd** **May 4th, 5th and 6th**

**Latin Night**  
**\$2 tequila shots**  
**Every Sunday!**

**Every Wednesday**  
**18 and over night**  
**Doors open at 930pm**

**Wine Tasting**  
**Tuesday May 8th**  
**at 6pm**

## Federal DADT Case In Court June 18

WASHINGTON, D.C. - A legal challenge to "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" filed by Log Cabin Republicans will go to trial on June 18 in Los Angeles a federal judge has ruled, 365Gay.com reported.

Log Cabin originally filed suit in the fall of 2004, on behalf of its Gay and Lesbian members currently serving in the United States Armed Forces. The suit did not provide specific names of its members affected by the policy, which bars Gays from serving openly in the military.

In 2006 the judge dismissed the case, ruling that to consider the case Log Cabin would have provide the court with the names of its members who had been impacted by the policy. Log Cabin re-filed the lawsuit explicitly providing the Court with two injured members. One of those members is Alexander Nicholson, who was discharged from the Army because of the Don't Ask, Don't Tell law. The second member is referred to as John Doe, and is currently serving in our armed forces. This John Doe plaintiff represents scores of Log Cabin members courageously fighting the war on terror, Log Cabin said in a statement on Monday.

"The case presents important constitutional law issues," said Dan Woods, lead attorney for the Log Cabin Republicans.

"The Supreme Court has not addressed the Don't Ask, Don't Tell law since its decision in Lawrence v. Texas, which struck down that state's sodomy laws. The Court held

Americans have a fundamental right to privacy and this includes the right of Gay and Lesbian Americans to engage in intimate relationships without government interference. Don't Ask, Don't Tell violates this fundamental right."

The case is one of two currently before the courts.

The Servicemembers Legal Defense Network is awaiting a ruling by a federal judge in Boston in case involving 12 former servicemembers who were discharged under DADT and who seeking reinstatement in the Armed Forces. Arguments in that case were heard earlier this year.

## Memorial To Mark Bingham, Others On Flight 93 Stalls

SHANKSVILLE, Pennsylvania (Observer Update) - The campaign to raise money for a memorial to the victims of Flight 93 has fallen far short of its goal, 365Gay.com reported.

The 40 passengers and crew members killed on Sept. 11, 2001 after a group of them, including Gay businessman Mark Bingham attempted to storm the cockpit of the hijacked plane. The aircraft slammed into a field near the town of Shanksville before it could be used as a target on Washington, earning Bingham and the other passengers hero status. Families and friends of the victims soon after set up a temporary memorial and began organizing to have a permanent memorial.

## Syphilis Rate On Rise In U.S. Gay, Bisexual Men

ATLANTA, Georgia (Observer Update) - Science Daily reported that armed with more than a decade's worth of statistics, researchers are sounding a new alarm about growing rates of syphilis among Gay and Bisexual men, 365Gay.com reported. The overall number of syphilis cases in the United States fell from 50,578 in 1990 to just 7,177 in 2003 perhaps because of a nationwide prevention campaign aimed at heterosexuals. Nevertheless, Gay men have seen their rates rise significantly in this decade.

"The entire nation was caught unawares," said study lead author James Heffelfinger, M.D., a medical epidemiologist with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "You're concentrating on one population, but the next thing you know, you start seeing a large increase among another group." It is still easy to cure syphilis, but it can cause serious medical problems, including death if untreated. In addition, officials worry that Gay men will get syphilis and become more susceptible to HIV infection, although statistics have not made it clear if that is actually happening. The study authors looked at syphilis rates from 1990 to 2003 and reported the changes during that time. The American Journal of Public Health released the findings online this week, and they will also appear in the June print edition. Between 1990 and 2000, syphilis rates fell by a whopping 90 percent, from a rate of 20.3 cases per 100,000 people to 2.1 cases per 100,000. Among other factors, public health officials think the rates dropped because fewer people were selling sex to get crack cocaine as the decade

went by.

However, the syphilis rate rose by 19 percent between 2000 and 2003. During that period, the rates among women continued to slide - by 53 percent - while rates among men jumped by 62 percent. While syphilis statistics do not identify the gender of the sex partners of infected people, the study authors infer that a large number of those infected - 62 percent in 2003 - are Gay or Bisexual, in part, because so few women become infected. The study does not look past 2003, but statistics suggest the trends continued through 2005, Heffelfinger said. There were 8,724 new cases of syphilis recorded in 2005.

Khalil Ghanem, M.D., assistant professor of medicine at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, said rates among Gay men could be going up for several reasons, including illicit drug use and "safe-sex fatigue." In addition, he said, prevention messages might have been "drowned out" by talk about how medications are doing a great job of keeping AIDS patients alive. "We've been seduced by these amazing drugs and we've fallen behind in our prevention efforts," Ghanem said. "We have to get back on track with prevention messages. That's the only way we will curb this outbreak."



# COMMENTARY . . .



**SATURDAY:**  
**"CINCO de MAYO"**  
**PARTY!**  
**\*\*DEB'S TACO BAR\*\***  
**@ 10 am**  
**\*\*TKO BEER BUST\*\***  
**2 - 6 pm**  
**\*MEXICAN DINNER\***  
**@ 4 pm**  
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## Cho And The Blame Game

By Ralph R. Reiland

It's a ritual now. A major tragedy occurs and immediately the fingers of partisanship begin pointing at longtime enemies as the culprits.

Mohammed Atta, for example, wasn't a Lesbian. Still, the dust hadn't even settled in lower Manhattan when the Rev. Jerry Falwell got on TV and blamed America's Lesbians, among others, for the collapse of the World Trade Center.

It wasn't the heterosexual nuts at the controls of United Airlines Flight 175 or American Airlines Flight 11 who drew Falwell's foremost condemnation — or even the heterosexual Osama bin Laden with his three or four wives and 10 kids.

Instead, declaring that "God will not be mocked," Falwell had an instant list of domestic God-mockers who made God mad enough to "lift the curtain" of protection from America, mad enough to pull the plug on the cooks and waitresses who were starting their day at Windows on the World on the 107th floor of the North Tower.

"I really believe," proclaimed Falwell on the Sept. 13, 2001, edition of The 700 Club, "that the pagans and the abortionists and the feminists and the Gays and the Lesbians who are actively trying to make an alternative lifestyle, the ACLU, People for the American Way — all of them who tried to secularize America — I point the finger in their face and say, 'You helped this happen.'"

It's the same with Virginia Tech. Lesbians, along with some other sexual non-traditionalists, might well have played a role in driving poor Seung-Hui Cho over the edge, according to James Lewis.

Classes hadn't even resumed on campus when Lewis, writing at The American Thinker Web site, reported that the English Department at Virginia Tech was "a wonder world of PC weirdness."

Citing the publications of English Department professors at Virginia Tech, Lewis shows what Cho, a senior English major, might have been exposed to: "Maybe he read Professor Bernice Hausman's 'Changing Sex: Transsexualism, technology, and the idea of gender' — just the thing for a disoriented young male suffering from massive culture shock on the hypersexual American campus.

"And even more gender-bending from Professor Paul Heilker, who wrote 'Textual Androgyny, the Rhetoric of the Essay, and the Politics of Identity in Composition (or The Struggle to Be a

Girly-Man in a World of Gladiator Pumpitude)'. Or the Lesbian love stories of Professor Matthew Vollmer. Yup, that's just what this student needs."

That'll do it! Girly-Man gets turned down by two cute co-eds in a World of Gladiator Pumpitude while campus Lesbians are gaily writing love notes to each other. Who wouldn't decide to roll out of bed in the morning and kill 27 students and five teachers and then kill himself?

Asks Lewis, "What's a kid from South Korea to think?" Well, he could have thought about switching to engineering.

Others blamed guns. Compared to other industrialized countries, American violence tends to be "lethal violence," writes David Hemenway, professor of health policy at Harvard. "The reason, plain and simple, is guns," he asserts. "We own more guns per capita than any other high-income country — maybe even more than one gun for every man, woman and child in the country."

In contrast, former House Majority Leader Tom DeLay saw more guns as the answer to Cho's unchecked killing spree: "We need to remove the ban of guns on the Virginia Tech campus and allow people to defend themselves, and allow people to get concealed carry licenses."

Rush Limbaugh blamed liberals: "If this Virginia Tech shooter had an ideology, what do you think it was? This guy had to be a liberal. You start railing against the rich and all this other — this guy's a liberal. He was turned into a liberal somewhere along the line. So it's a liberal that committed this act."

On the other side, Barry Lando, a former producer with "60 Minutes," used the Virginia Tech murders to argue that George W. Bush, commanding "the most fearful military apparatus the globe has ever known," is an "infinitely greater threat to his countrymen" than Seung-Hui Cho, "acting by himself and armed with only a couple of pistols."

Asks Lando: "Why are we so repelled by the video-taped rantings of the young South Korean psychopath, yet not equally shocked by the day-to-day outpourings of the American president?"

My answer? We need a better mental health system.

(Ralph R. Reiland is an associate professor of economics at Robert Morris University, this op-ed is reprinted from the Apr. 30 edition of the Pittsburgh Tribune.)

# Colors' Jell-O Fundraiser A Big Success

On Monday, May 1, COLORS raised \$1658.92 in a special 'Turn-about Show' as the employees and 2 patrons performed for Colors' first Jell-O fundraiser event. A wonderful time was had by the packed house. John and Ric could not have hoped for more support than they received from the community, and they are especially proud to be able to participate this year!

You may not recognize some of these accompanying photos so you can try to identify them from their real name: Dan Gillmore, Ernie Carrasco, Danny Brinson, Adam Espinosa, James

Roberts and two special patrons Jose Hinjoso and a first-time drag king, Canise.

"We are grateful for the huge contribution provided by Larry Moore, Jason Lattimore and Michelle Webster" Co-owner John Lochart. "Without the willing contribution from everyone including those who contributed their hard earned dollars, this event would not have been possible. Thank you to everyone". There will be some more photos next week after Jell-O, so, in the meantime, see you at Jell-O!



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# In Their Own Words

## Mission NOT Accomplished!



Tuesday, May 1, marked the fourth anniversary of President Bush's jet landing on the aircraft carrier Abraham Lincoln, in a stage-managed event, and his speech declaring major fighting in Iraq over, all in front of a giant "Mission Accomplished" banner.

"Four years after President Bush landed on an aircraft carrier and declared 'Mission Accomplished,' we are still in a war where more than one hundred American service members have died in just the month of April. We grieve for them today and urge the President to avoid making another tragic mistake by signing the bill that will end this war and bring our troops home." - Senator Barack Obama.

"Four years ago, President Bush flew onto the deck of the U.S.S. Lincoln under a 'Mission Accomplished' banner to declare victory in Iraq, but all the photo ops in the world

can't hide the truth - his disastrous mismanagement of the war has left our troops in harm's way and made Iraq a breeding ground for terrorists." - Senator John Edwards.

"Today is the fourth anniversary of what I consider to be one of the most shameful episodes in American history." - Senator Hillary Clinton.

The death toll for American soldiers in Iraq is at 3,351 (through Apr. 30). The number of wounded and maimed is over 24,000. The toll for Iraqis is literally immeasurable. The bitter fight over the latest Iraq spending bill has all but obscured a sobering fact: The war will soon cost more than \$500 billion. That's about ten times more than the Bush administration anticipated before the war started four years ago, and no one can predict how high the tab will go.

# Teacher In Tolerance Flap Settles With School

WOODBURN, Indiana (Observer Update) - A high school teacher who faced losing her job after a student newspaper published an editorial advocating tolerance of Gays can continue teaching at another school, the Associated Press reported on advocate.com. Amy Sorrell reached an agreement that allows her to be transferred to another high school to teach English, said her attorney, Patrick Proctor.

"The school administration has said in no uncertain terms that she's not going to be given a journalism position," Proctor said. Sorrell, who had been an English and journalism instructor at Woodlan Junior-Senior High School, was placed on paid leave Mar. 19, two months after an editorial advocating tolerance

of homosexuals ran in Woodlan's student newspaper, The Tomahawk. Sorrell had been the newspaper's adviser.

School officials in the conservative northern Indiana community about 10 miles east of Fort Wayne said Sorrell did not comply with an agreement to alert the principal about controversial articles. The agreement she signed includes a written reprimand that says she neglected her duties as a teacher and was insubordinate in refusing to obey school officials' orders. Sorrell said she is "very proud" of Megan Chase, the student who wrote the editorial calling for tolerance and acceptance of Gays, and the Tomahawk's other writers and editors. But she said she could not financially afford to fight the school district over her discipline.

# Telecom Denies Right To Be Gay

WELLINGTON, New Zealand - A woman's email to Telecom New Zealand's help-desk was rejected because the company's filter system found her name, Gay, "inappropriate for business-like communication," a newspaper reported on Sunday (Apr. 29).

Gay Hamilton, of Nelson, admitted that she did happen to be Gay but was concerned that the country's biggest public company had spent time and resources deciding that the word was offensive, the Herald on Sunday reported. "If they do have to put content filters on, then maybe they should ensure that it only gets genuinely abusive words," she told the paper.

Telecom's automated reply to her email said the message "was identified by our content filtering processes as containing language that may be considered inappropriate for business-like communication." It confirmed that the offending word was "Gay". Public relations spokesman Lenska Papich said the response was triggered by Telecom's internal email monitoring system, which exists to "prevent misuse of email technologies in the workplace and act as a deterrent to harassment." "Our systems internally detect a number of words, including both the words Gay and heterosexual, that could be deemed as inappropriate for use at work," she said.

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# POLITICS 2007

by Mark R. Kerr

## Federal ENDA Introduced, Hate Crimes Bill Advances

After a marathon session, lasting more than ten hours of debate and Republican parliamentary maneuvering to water down legislation, the U.S. House Judiciary Committee on Wednesday, Apr. 25, passed H.R. 1592, the "Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act (LLEHCPA) of 2007," by a party line vote of 21 (Democrats) to 17 (Republicans).

H.R. 1592 gives the Justice Department the power to investigate and prosecute bias-motivated violence by providing the department with jurisdiction over crimes of violence where the perpetrator has selected the victim because of the person's actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability.

According to House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, D-MD, who said in a statement that H.R. 1592 will go to the House floor for consideration and that the vote will take place the week ending May 5.

S. 1105, the Senate companion version, known as the "Matthew Shepard Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2007," was introduced Apr. 12 and assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee and awaits a hearing date. . . .

If a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) individual is fortunate enough to be employed at one of the "Fortune 500" companies, they can be relatively assured that they will not be fired because of whom they are since 433 offer protections based on sexual orientation and 124 for gender identity, perceived or otherwise, according to recent reports.

On the other hand, it is legal to fire an individual based on their sexual orientation in 33 states, and in 42

states, it is legal to fire someone for their gender identity, perceived or otherwise, perceived or otherwise.

At a news conference in Washington, D.C., Tuesday, Apr. 24, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) (H.R. 2015) was introduced for consideration by the House of Representatives.

"This is a protection against discrimination that has been tried in a number of states, beginning in Wisconsin more than 20 years ago, and it has worked extremely well. It has caused none of the problems that opponents inaccurately claimed it would and it has provided job protection for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender people who ask simply to be allowed to do their jobs and be judged on their job performance," Openly Gay Representative Barney Frank, D-MA, said, in a press release.

H.R. 2015 would make it illegal to fire, refuse to hire or refuse to promote employees simply based on a person's sexual orientation or gender identity, perceived or otherwise, and as in past versions of the legislation, ENDA would exempt the U.S. armed services, religious institutions, including churches and church-operated institutions and schools, from the sexual orientation and gender identity provisions, as well as employers with fewer than 15 employees.

In addition, the bill prohibits hiring quotas or affirmative action requirements on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity and explicitly states that employers are not required to provide benefits to domestic partners of employees.

This version of ENDA, according to Frank and his co-introducers, includes language addressing Transgender issues. H.R. 2015 has 76 additional sponsors

## Rosie, "The View" To Part Ways, Will Reveal Plans Soon

NEW YORK CITY (Observer Update) - Rosie O'Donnell's stormy tenure on "The View" will be a short one. The opinionated host was unable to agree on a contract with ABC, and she'll leave the show in June, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com. "My needs for the future just didn't dovetail with what ABC was able to offer me," O'Donnell said in a statement Wednesday (Apr. 25). "This has been an amazing experience," she said, "and one I wouldn't have traded for the world."

Rosie O'Donnell may quickly be putting "The View" in her rear-view mirror. Asked Monday (Apr. 30) about her future plans in television, she said, "you'll hear very soon."

O'Donnell only winked and walked away when pressed for details by reporters outside the Eugene O'Neill Theater in Manhattan, where she was a host for an online panel about teen issues with the cast of the N's "Degraasi: The Next Generation" and cast members of the Broadway musical "Spring Awakening." "I'll give an autograph, not a comment," she said as she scribbled her name for some fans. "An autograph is easier." O'Donnell, the actors and a theater audience of teenagers talked about

sex, relationships, coming out and peer pressure in the online discussion. O'Donnell's advice for teenagers who felt pressure from girlfriends or boyfriends: "You will never meet an adult who will say, 'God, I wish I had sex sooner.'"



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# Pro-Gay Religious Billboards Vandalized

# Boy George Busted In Alleged SM Assault



INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana (Observer Update) - Church leaders sponsoring a pro-Gay religious billboard campaign in Indianapolis say they will not be deterred after several of the huge signs were painted out, 365Gay.com reported. One of the billboards was completely obliterated with black spray paint. Another had the words "lie, lie, lie," spray painted in red.

The campaign is being coordinated by Jesus Metropolitan Community Church of Indianapolis, with support from Faith In America and Metropolitan Community Churches worldwide. Faith In America is a national organization devoted to ending the injustice of religion-based bigotry against Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender people. Twenty-two billboards featuring pro-Gay Biblical messages were put up throughout Indianapolis. The campaign which began earlier this month is to last 30 days. One billboard proclaims "David loved Jonathan More than women. II Samuel 1:26" another says "Jesus affirmed a Gay couple. Matthew 8:5-13." Yet another says "Ruth loved Naomi as Adam loved Eve. Genesis 2:24; Ruth 1:14."

Police said that to deface the signs the vandals would have needed an extension ladder. A police department spokesperson said that it would

be hard to find the culprits, unless they were caught in the act. Police stations throughout the city have been told to be on the lookout for suspicious activity around the other billboards. Jesus MCC also has distributed about 2,000 yard signs around the city. Many of them have been pulled out of the ground in front of LGBT supporters homes. "There was a sense of disappointment, a sense of shock, the church's pastor, Rev. Jeff Miner, told WRTV. Milner said he hopes a community sense of outrage helps spur debate. "We're going to share a positive, powerful message how the Bible affirms Gay people and we know there is going to be some opposition as we try to get that message out here," he said.

No one has claimed responsibility for the vandalism. The Indiana Family Institute which has been pressing for a constitutional amendment to bar same-sex marriage denounced the vandalism but also criticized the billboards messages. "I think homosexuals are noted in the Bible in a couple of key passages that were an example of sexual sin that is decryed by God," said spokesperson Curt Smith. Earlier this month a proposed amendment banning same-sex marriage and likely barring any benefits for unmarried couples - same, or opposite-sex - died in a committee at the legislature.

LONDON - Former Culture Club frontman Boy George is reportedly again in trouble with the law, 365Gay.com reported. The singer, whose real name is George O'Dowd, was arrested after a male escort claimed to have chained to a wall in a London apartment a tabloid reported Monday (Apr. 30).

The Mirror reports that George was arrested on suspicion of assault and false imprisonment. He was released on bail while the investigation continues the paper reported. Auden Carlsen, 28, claims to have met the singer on a popular British gay dating site. He told the Mirror that he agreed to go to George's apartment late Saturday night (Apr. 28) to pose for photographs for a fee of about \$750 and on the stipulation there would be no sex. But after he arrived at the apartment Carlsen claims to have been attacked by George and another man. "I was convinced I was going to die," he told the Mirror. "George handcuffed me to a hook by the bed as they held me down." Carlsen said he managed to get the hook out of the wall and escape in only his underwear. He called police from a local news vendor's stand.

Metropolitan police do not release the names of people under investigation until formal charges are

laid. A police spokesperson would say only that: "We investigated reports of an alleged forced imprisonment and common assault made by a 28-year-old man. A man in his 40s was arrested in connection with the investigation."

# McGreevey's Ex Continues To Insist She Didn't Know He Was Gay

CHICAGO (Observer Update) - The estranged wife of the nation's first openly Gay governor fired back at her husband during an appearance on "The Oprah Winfrey Show," saying she never knew he was Gay, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com. "He kind of gave me the news in cowardly installments," said Dina Matos McGreevey, who is divorcing former New Jersey Gov. James E. McGreevey.

In divorce papers filed recently, the former governor wrote that his wife "knew of my sexual orientation before our marriage" and "chose to either ignore it or block it out of her mind, even when questioned by her friends." He told the world in August 2004 he was "a Gay American" and had an extramarital affair with a male aide. He resigned months later. "I felt like my world had crumbled and my life was over," Matos McGreevey said. "In the course of the three days of his explanation and confession to me, it was clear to me that he never loved me."

Oprah Winfrey interviewed Matos McGreevey the same day "Silent Partner: A Memoir of My

Marriage," was published by Hyperion Books. "No one ever said to me that he was Gay," she said. "It's a cliché that the wife is always the last to know, and it's true." The former first lady stood with a frozen-faced smile beside her husband when he made the announcement about his sexuality nearly three years ago. Matos McGreevey said she was instructed to smile during that news conference.

"I smiled because I didn't want to break down," she said. "He told me, you have to be Jackie Kennedy today. And I'm thinking, Jackie Kennedy? Her husband was murdered. You cheated on me and I have to be Jackie Kennedy?" "Silent Partner" is Matos McGreevey's response to her husband's memoir, "The Confession," which was published last September. In it, McGreevey described sexual encounters with aide Golan Cipel - who has denied having an affair with McGreevey - and wrote that he married Matos McGreevey to help him advance his political career. In the fall, Winfrey landed an exclusive interview with McGreevey, who until then, had been publicly silent since announcing that he was Gay.

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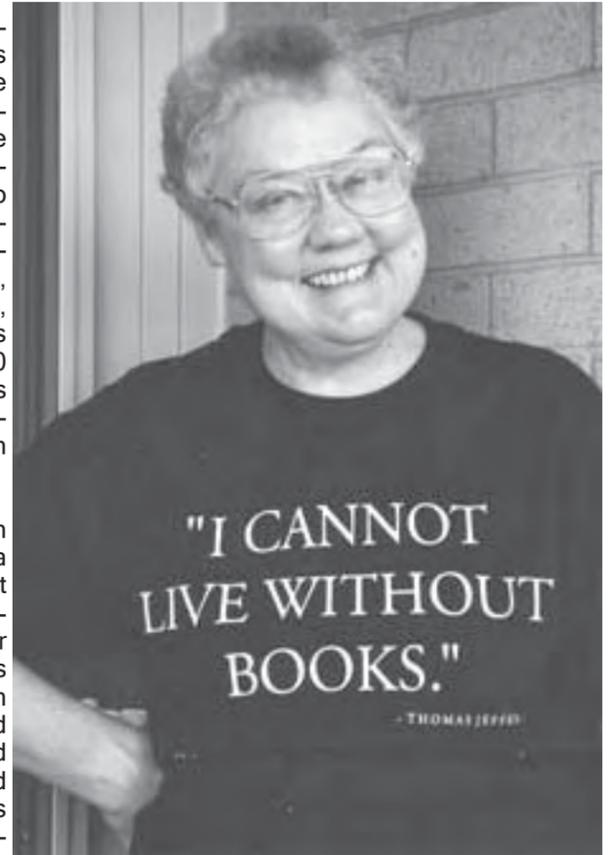
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# Major LGBT Rights Archive Left To NY Public Library

NEW YORK CITY (Observer Update) - What is described as one of the largest collections chronicling the history of the LGBT civil rights movement has been donated to the New York Public Library, 365Gay.com reported. The manuscripts, publications, placards, handbills and photographs were collected over 40 years by Barbara Gittings and her life partner, photo-journalist Kay Tobin Lahusen.



Barbara Gittings

Gittings died in Feb. at the age of 75 after a lengthy battle with breast cancer. Lahusen, her partner of 46 years was at her side. The Barbara Gittings and Kay Tobin Lahusen Gay History Papers and Photographs will be housed at the Manuscripts and Archives Division of NYPL's Humanities and Social Sciences Library. Gittings' involvement in the Gay rights movement started in the late 1950s when she helped organize the New York City chapter of the Daughters of Bilitis. It was there she met Lahusen.

Gittings first came to the public spotlight in 1965 when she and a handful of Gay men and Lesbians held demonstrations outside the White House and Independence Hall seeking equal rights for homosexuals. They are considered the first Gay demonstrations in American history. Gittings other accomplishments include head of the American Library Association's Gay Task Force. In 2003 The American Library Association presented Gittings with it's highest honor, a lifetime membership.

She was an active cornerstone in the campaign that led to the American Psychiatric Association dropping its categorization of homosexuality as a mental illness in 1973. Gittings was an early community journalist. She edited the D.O.B. publication "The Ladder" from 1963-66 and worked with Lahusen on her 1973 book "The Gay Crusaders." On July 2, 2005 Gittings

and Lahusen attended the unveiling of the first official historic marker in the nation recognizing the Gay Rights Struggle. The marker, placed by the Pennsylvania Historic Commission, is located directly across the street from Independence Hall in Philadelphia. Gittings continued to make appearances, even accepting an award from the American Psychiatric Association this past fall, but ill health finally led her and Lahusen to an Assisted Living Facility in Kennet Square, PA, where she died in February.

In addition to the material collected over the years by Gittings, the donation to the NYPL includes Lahusen's photographs documenting the Gay rights movement, files and oral histories used in the preparation of her 1972 book "The Gay Crusaders." "The collection donated by Barbara Gittings and Kay Tobin Lahusen is a remarkable first-hand chronicle detailing the battles of Gays and Lesbians to overcome the prejudice and restrictions that were prevalent prior to the activism and protest movements that started in the 1960s," said NYPL president Paul LeClerc in a statement.

## Seattle's Embattled Pride Parade Goes On

SEATTLE, Washington (Observer Update) - Organizers for Seattle's Gay Pride event have decided to scrap the festival but keep the parade, reported advocate.com. Seattle Out and Proud, which is \$102,000 in debt with the city, originally voted to dissolve the entire event, file for bankruptcy, and dissolve, the Seattle Times reported Wednesday (Apr. 25).

parade since 1975. It was originally held in Seattle's Volunteer Park, with a parade along Broadway in the city's predominately Gay neighborhood, Capitol Hill. The festivities were moved to Seattle Center and the parade moved to the downtown area to attract more exposure. Last year an estimated 200,000 people attended the event.

The announcement to keep the parade came after a vote Tuesday (Apr. 24), hours after the decision was announced to shelve the entire event. According to the report, board member Troy Campbell said that community support persuaded the board to keep the parade. "We feel the parade should go on as planned," he told the Times. "It is something that has always turned a profit and that will allow us to chip away at the debt and not walk away from it."

The group's staff consists of a dozen volunteers, with no paid staff, and they rent an office for storage. Seattle has celebrated an annual pride



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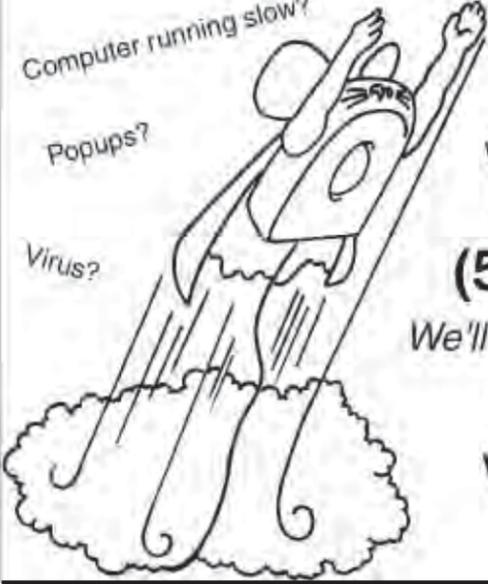
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## Soulforce Releases Video Of 'Focus On The Facts' Campaign Citizens Bring Roses And Reality Check To Dobson's Headquarters

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colorado - Soulforce has posted video documenting an ongoing campaign called "Focus on the Facts," which asks Focus on the Family founder James Dobson to cease his misleading statements about research on Lesbian and Gay parents.

At approximately 10:30 a.m. on Apr. 28, Christopher Hubble and Leigh Lyon of Denver, Colorado, were arrested and removed from Dr. James Dobson's ministry headquarters in police custody. The two entered the campus after an earlier vigil during which participants silently prayed for Dr. Dobson's wholeness and then read aloud numerous inflammatory and dehumanizing statements that Dobson and his associates have published over the years regarding Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) people and their families.

During the first Focus on the Facts action on Feb. 19, Soulforce was challenged to document Dr. Dobson's and his colleagues' negative bias

toward LGBT people. Later, in an interview with Reuters, Dobson claimed that he has never made a hateful statement about Lesbians and Gays. At the event, Soulforce members provided ample evidence to belie Dobson's claims. Video of the vigil and the recitation of the statements is available at: [soulforce.org/article/1257](http://soulforce.org/article/1257)

This is the second action in the Focus on the Facts campaign, which is modeled on Gandhi's Satyagraha campaigns in South Africa and India. In the words of Nelson Mandela, Gandhi "believed in the efficacy of pitting the soul force of the Satyagraha against the brute force of the oppressor and in effect converting the oppressor to the right and moral point." Soulforce is a national civil rights and social justice organization. Our vision is freedom for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender people from religious and political oppression through the practice of relentless nonviolent resistance. For more information go online to [soulforce.org](http://soulforce.org)

## Adoption Curtailed For Lesbian Couple; Judge Instead Amends Birth Certificate

GLEN ROCK, New Jersey (Observer Update) - Jo Brown's heart sank when she heard a judge say, "There's going to be no adoption today," just after she entered a courtroom, the New Jersey Ledger reported. For nearly a year Brown had been trying to adopt the twin girls she is raising with her partner, Robin Brown. Due to fertility problems, Jo Brown's eggs were implanted into Robin Brown through in vitro fertilization and their daughters, now 23 months old, were born. But only Robin's name was allowed on the birth certificate.

Although Superior Court Judge Gerald Council did not permit the adoption to go through, saying it was unnecessary since Jo Brown is the biological mother, he did issue an order to amend the little girls' birth certificates to add Jo Brown's name. "He found that (Jo) is in fact the biological parent so she need not adopt," said Kimberly Gandy Jinks, the couple's lawyer. "He will simply give her an order recognizing her as the mother in fact." "The order will say that my client has all the rights and responsibilities of a parent," said Jinks. As the laws are written now there was no statute for Jinks to cite other than the adoption statute, she said.

"I'm a little bit upset," said Jo Brown. "They could have told us this months ago. Why did he have to wait for the article to be in the paper for a court date?" The Times wrote about the Browns' plight earlier this month. Brown is a fictitious name. The Hamilton couple has requested anonymity to protect themselves and their children. Jinks was also concerned that Council called Robin the "gestational surrogate" because "surrogacy has the connotation you're not keeping the child."

However, her name will not be removed from the birth certificate. Council told Jinks there was no case law in New Jersey to cover this situation but mentioned prior cases from Ohio and California in rendering

his decision. Jinks said she will not appeal, because, in essence, "we got the relief we wanted." It was necessary to establish that Jo was also the girls' parent so they could be insured under her company health plan and be named as beneficiaries on her pension plan, Jinks said. Also, if she were to die, the children would not have been able to receive her Social Security benefits if her parenthood had not been established.

Just after the hearing for the Browns, a second Lesbian couple whose circumstances mirrored theirs was called into court. Council ruled the same way for that couple, also from Hamilton, regarding their toddler. "Until the Legislature acts, that's what we're left with," said Jinks about Council's ruling. Michele Nash, a lawyer representing the second couple, said the judge is "100 percent correct. The law has not caught up with the times."

Sally Goldfarb, a Rutgers University law professor who teaches family law, said Council's holding was "interesting in an era where egg donation takes place in many settings, including fertility clinics. It's not always obvious that an egg donor is the legal parent." Debra Guston, a Glen Rock lawyer who handles many Gay and Lesbian adoptions, said adoption is the preferred method of establishing parenthood since it gives the couple protection in other states that do not recognize civil unions as New Jersey has since Feb. "A problem for this couple is while it's great to have a court order based on New Jersey's law that the other party is a parent, there are theoretical questions whether that will be recognized in other states," Guston said. "We're really recommending that couples go through the adoption process." While there are many cases where judges have ordered the birth certificate amended, Guston said, "It's something we're concerned about. There are a lot of wonderful things happening here in New Jersey but what happens if they leave the state?"

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## NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE

### Audacity Surviving

by Lee Thorn

I remember discovering Repp Design + Construction a few years ago. I drove past one of their projects and asked myself, "Who could have done that? How could that be in Tucson?" Then I drove past another one of their projects and, deciding that I had to know who did it, I stopped and knocked on a randomly selected door.

After tracking the owner of the company down, interviewing him about what they were doing, and being shown more of their projects, I had one burning question that only time could answer: Could a firm as outrageously original as Repp continue doing its defiantly brilliant work in a town that's infamous for its cultural timidity? Time has answered my question in the form of a recently completed Repp project at 4551 E. Pima. The answer is exhilarating in its boldness and total lack of compromise. Here is Repp coming at you with both barrels blazing, this project as original and daring as any of the ones that caught my eye years ago.

As usual, in accordance with their low maintenance philosophy, Repp has taken unadorned concrete block (formerly known as "cinder block"), corrugated metals, concrete and glass and created a small fourplex that conveys a sense of such exquisite precision and elegance it takes your breath away. How can you get this grace, drama, elan from these plain, hard, unromantic materials? You might as well ask how Michelangelo got the Pieta out of a chunk of stone. The answer would be the same — creativity. I'm not confusing art with architecture or the Repp folks with Michelangelo. I'm just saying that — without the eternally inexplicable magic of creativity — block, metal, glass and concrete get you a second-rate lockup in a third-world country.

Repp starts with their very rigorous low maintenance philosophy and then adds the policy of bending design to the limitations of the available space. And this isn't their first project in which the available space was narrow. We end up with units that are 18 feet wide and 66 feet long. I must confess that I have never before seen an apartment that was only 18 feet wide. The width in itself is audacious. Although the long narrow space derived in part from site limitations, it results in a powerful sense of coziness. You don't feel at all squeezed in this space; you feel absolutely cosseted. As a practical matter, if one member of the household had to finish his income taxes and others wanted to party, a great deal of distance could be put between the conflicting factions.

Three powerful accents enhance the units' personality. Both the staircase and the floating bridge that connects the second story spaces are made of a creamy bright bamboo. Its warm glow contrasts so strikingly with the other materials that the effect is stunning. The idea of a bridge instead of an ordinary hallway, in addition to accentuating the vertical spaciousness of the design, adds an element of whimsy and even impishness. A third accent is the 18-foot glass facade that creates the back wall of each apartment. Again, vertical spaciousness is emphasized and north light with a mountain view are thrown in for good measure.

What is it about these Repp spaces that is so exciting and attractive? They seem to hold you securely aloft like a tree house. Getting back to earth, the designers had the good sense to provide more parking and bigger backyards than are typical of the neighborhood. The neighborhood itself is an old stable one

that evinces lots of pride of ownership. There's also a very active neighborhood association that has succeeded on at least one occasion in keeping the city from doing something truly stupid.

At 1640 square feet these apartments are clearly in the luxury class. They're either the only or almost the only luxury units in their immediate vicinity. I'm not sure if that makes good economic sense, but I figure, based on Repp's already amazing survival in the Tucson market, that they know it makes sense.

I guess the moral of the story is that you can never guess where things are going to pop up. The opera pops up in Santa Fe. The Taj pops up in Agra. The space alien industry pops up in Roswell. The Beatles pop up in Liverpool. An enormous 17-acre poetry center pops up on the campus of the University of Arizona.

And now Repp Design + Construction is doing things here that I'm pretty sure aren't being done anywhere else. If I'm wrong about that, would someone please let me know.

(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](mailto:Doid3@aol.com).)

## Florida Bullying Bill Dies

TALLAHASSEE, Florida (Observer Update) - Legislation that would require Florida school boards to establish anti-bullying programs has been declared dead in the Senate, reported the 365Gay.com. The House on Tuesday (Apr. 24) passed the bill, named for Jeffery Johnston, a 15 year old who committed suicide in 2005 after he was repeatedly bullied and taunted online. The vote was nearly unanimous.

But in the Senate a parallel bill stalled in the Education Pre-Kindergarten-12 Appropriations Committee which adjourned without considering the measure. Committee chair Sen. Stephen Wise (Rep.) said the issue is closed, and accused supporters of bullying him. Before adjourning the committee took up a number of minor issues - including one that would ban low-slung pants which allow a student's underwear to be seen. Jeffrey Johnston's mother, Debbie, was in the committee room, expecting a vote. She said she was shocked when Wise did not call a vote on the bill, and vowed to keep on pressing for passage of the measure.

During committee hearings on the bill in Jan. senators heard from the father of a boy who nearly died in a schoolyard beating. Bobbie Bean told the committee that his son was rushed to hospital when another student began beating on a school bus and then continued the attack inside the school. "For 22 minutes of my life I had to sit there and watch that clock tick by, and I had to contemplate I was going to have to go home and tell my wife we didn't have a son no more," Bean told senators. The House version of the bullying bill sets out 10 forms of harassment and bullying that would be prohibited. Senate supporters of the bill said they hope to resurrect the legislation next year. Wise said he is not opposed to protecting children from bullies, but believes schools already have the power to set their own bullying standards.

# LA Times Sportswriter: I'm A Woman!

LOS ANGELES - A veteran sportswriter for the Los Angeles Times said in his column Thursday (Apr. 26) that he is a transsexual, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com. Mike Penner told readers of his struggle to embrace his gender, and said when he returns from vacation in a few weeks he will be known as Christine Daniels. He did not say whether he was having surgery or why he's changing his last name.

"I am a transsexual sports writer," Penner wrote. "It has taken more than 40 years, a million tears and hundreds of hours of soul-wrenching therapy for me to work up the courage to type those words." The 49-year-old Penner said his brain has been "wired female" and he's tried to fight off the urge to change sexes. He called writing a story about his sexuality the "most frightening of all the towering mountains of fear I somehow had to confront and struggle to scale. "How do you go about sharing your most important truth, one you spent a lifetime trying to keep deeply buried, to a world that has

grown familiar and comfortable with your facade?" Penner asked.

Penner, who is married to another Los Angeles Times writer, said he started coming out about two months ago by telling his boss, his barber and a soccer teammate, and that he now feels happier and healthier. "Mike Penner has been an exemplary contributor to the Los Angeles Times sports pages for over two decades and today's column is no exception," Randy Harvey, the newspaper's sports editor, said in a statement. "The decision to go public cannot have been an easy one and, while we do not make a habit of commenting on the personal and private lives of our journalists, we do look forward to continuing our relationship into the future."

Penner has spent more than 20 years at the Los Angeles Times and has covered the Olympics and Angels baseball and has served as the Times' sports media critic.

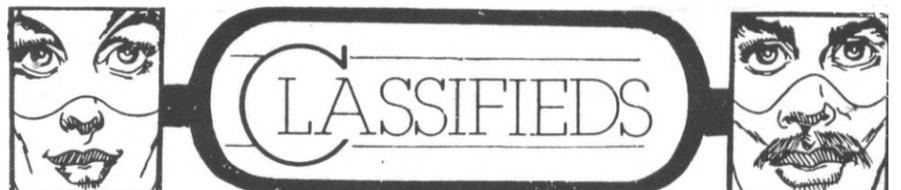
## Governor To Sign Iowa Civil Rights Bill

DES MOINES, Iowa (Observer Update) - With the clock running out on the legislative session the Iowa House has approved legislation adding sexuality and gender identity to the categories protected under the state's anti-discrimination law, reported 365Gay.com. The measure passed 59 - 37. No one spoke in opposition to the bill during the floor debate.

(D) following the vote. Among those supporting the measure were nine Republicans. Three Democrats voted against it. The bill passed the Senate last month (story) and now returns to the upper house for a concurrence vote before moving to the desk of Gov. Chet Culver (D) who has said he will sign it. The law already protects people on the basis of race, religion and disability in employment, housing and public accommodations.

House Speaker Pat Murphy (D) wiped a tear of joy from his eye when it was apparent the bill had passed. "It is a historic vote," said House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy

Earlier this month Culver chided the House for stalling a vote on  
**Continued on Page Eighteen**



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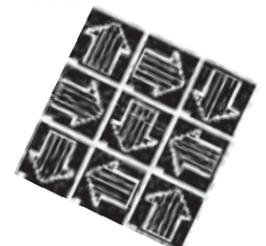
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# HOROSCOPES

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Get your gayme on while merry May gets underway this week. We have a bit of a dreamy time as dizzy Neptune retrogrades. Will you grab the wrong maypole and go for a spin? Worse things could happen.

**ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)**  
Rough and ready proud Rambos can find themselves perplexed in the center of a crowd now. Neptune's retrograde has you dancing in various social settings. But as the month progresses your dance card could be switched. How will it look when you show up at a formal affair dressed in your best moo-moo? Maybe no one will notice your lack of underwear.

**TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)**  
Your corporate designs are florid, fluid and subject to change all through May. That is because retro Neptune has wonderful plans for you in other atmospheres. Senior staff may not know what to make of your unusually unorthodox manners. Queer Bulls are advised to take a vacation and percolate in a more receptive environment, like anywhere except at work.

**GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)**  
If you are hankering to travel, be sure to pack extra patience and an acute sense of adventure. Retro Neptune tests new waters for you that might have a couple of sharks hiding in the coral. But all is not lost, There is the opportunity for a boatload of fun with every adventure. Who knows who will paddle by? Keep your mind open and your knees apart.

**CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)**  
You are offered a range of romantic choices. Will your steamy affair go the distance or run out of gas at the next corner? Only you can say, pink Crab. Retro Neptune makes any fleeting fling momentous. Hold on to your heart and wait until June before you give it away. And in the meantime, enjoy the May madness for what it is worth, which is not very much.

**LEO (JULY 24 - AUGUST 23)**  
Partners have a few tricks up their sleeves. Things are not what they seem, or maybe you are just not seeing things clearly. Don't promise anything monumental until June, proud Lion. You will not be able to fulfill your promise. Retro Neptune may cause some false starts or unrealistic expectations. But at least it keeps life interesting!

**VIRGO (AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23)**  
Queer Virgins like to feel in charge of process. But retro Neptune has other plans for you. No sooner do you set upon a task when various forms of distraction and detours take over. Why ask why? Why stress out? Let things do their assorted ebbs and flow and wait it out. In the long run it is less work to let things pile up a bit. At least that is what I have been told.

**LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23)**  
Fun has a way of getting totally out of hand. Blame it on retro Neptune who spikes your punch and leaves you high and dry by the end of the evening. Proud Libras may find themselves overdoing it and later, ruing it. But there is no glory sitting on the sidelines wishing for a chance. Go forth with a sense of adventure and your eyes wide open.

**SCORPIO (OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22)**  
Don't be surprised if things go awry around the house through May. Retro Neptune will have a way of creating havoc in your island of tranquility. Before the madness hits, check for any loose wires and leaky pipes. Tend to all domestic chores early in the month. Then you can relax and enjoy the creative side of Neptune later in the month. Rainbow shag carpet anyone?

**SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22)**  
You think you are making sense. In fact, you see yourself as seer-like and erudite. Actually retro Neptune has a way of making you seem outrageously wooly. If you find folks moving out of your sphere now, try to think more and speak less. The world catches up to you later in the summer but for now you are marked as just another crackpot. Sigh, typical.

**CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20)**  
A pink Cap and their money are soon parted thanks to retro Neptune. If a certain investment is too good to be true, it probably is. Stay close to your dough and save rather than spend or even invest. You don't have all the facts and tend to gloss over the important fine print. There will be plenty of time to break the bank later this summer. For now, simmer.

**AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19)**  
Neptune retrogrades in your own sign and makes you too glorious for words. At least that is what you will believe. You make an, ahem, interesting first impression on important folks now. Should you hide yourself away lest you upset your carefully crafted course? No. Just try to hang around friends and supporters. They will bolster you no matter what. I think.

**PISCES (FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20)**  
Your intuition is off kilter. Guppies with their finely attuned sense of destiny may find themselves traipsing down deadends and going on wilde detours. No matter - sometimes you find the most interesting people on a tangent or in some lost corner. The trick is to maximize every opportunity and maintain that good sense of humor and irony.

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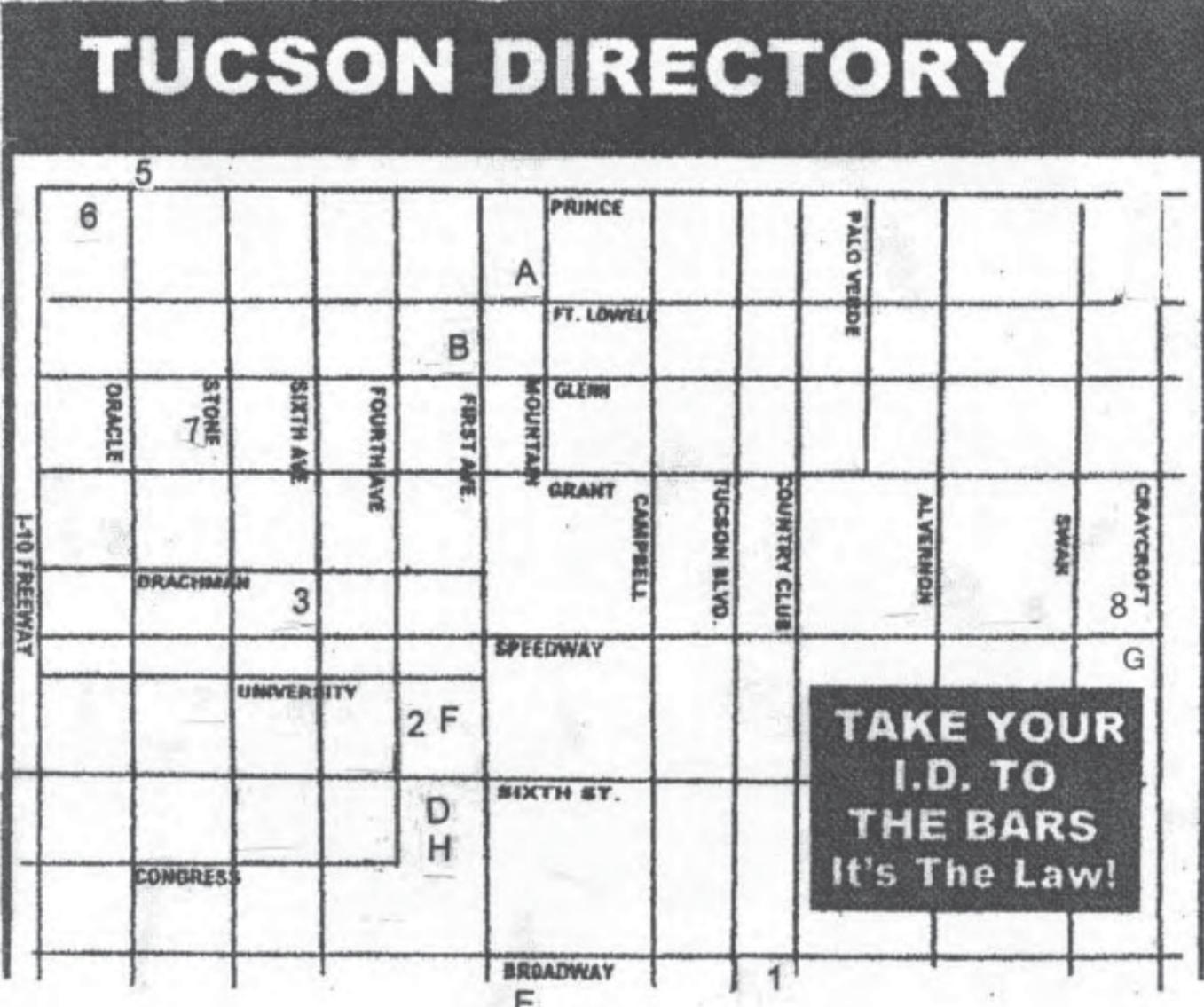
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  - D. WINGSPAN - 425 E. 7th St. - 624-1779
  - E. S.A.A.F. - 375 S. Euclid Ave. - 628-7223
  - F. RAINBOW PLANET COFFEE HOUSE  
606 N. 4th Ave. - 620-1770
  - G. TIHAN -Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network  
1101 N. Craycroft, Ste 301. 299-6647
  - H. EON YOUTH CENTER 620-6245

# Non Bar Calendar

Tuesday, May 1

#1 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Gay Reading Group meets at Wingspan. For info, contact Doug at 529-0014

#2 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Hand and Foot with Peter. Call for info and directions: 881-8276. Please call ahead to assist your host in planning the evening.

Wednesday, May 2

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00pm. Canasta hosted by Bruce at 743-3890. MSN Canasta is played every Wednesday at 7pm, but check back here for the specific host.

Thursday, May 3

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Triangle Tribe-A Men's Circle. According to a recent study, very few people have as many close friends as they would like. Are you as connected with other men as you want to be? Do you get the support you need for issues in your life? Do you wish you had more meaningful friendships and relationships with other men? Join like-minded men at Wingspan to share feelings, thoughts and ideas in a safe, respectful space. For the same experience with both straight and gay men, join us at the regular Circle of Men meetings. Call Tom at 591-2828 for dates and times.

Friday, May 4

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Join Merlin and Lee for an evening of Charades. Come out and totally enjoy putting your acting/miming and pantomime skills to the test! For directions and reservations [(a limited space event, please plan ahead and phone early)], place a telephone call to Lee and Merlin, your gracious yet competitive emcees and moderators, at 207-5336.

Tucson Prime Timers, Cocktails - 5:30 - 7:00, Colors, 5305 E. Speedway

Saturday, May 5

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

#2 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. MSN Potluck and Social Night located at 6801 N. Oracle Road. Just bring your favorite food to share (already fully cooked please) and join us for a relaxed evening of food and conversation.

Sunday, May 6

20<sup>th</sup> Annual Reno Gannon Memorial Jell-O Wrestling Extravaganza and Benefit Auction at Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle. Pre-event Party 2:00 p.m. wrestling starts at 4:00 p.m. Tickets on sale now. For more information II SAAF, (520)628-7223.

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 6:30p.m. Dinner Out at one of Tucson's Ultra-Fabulous Buffets. For reservations and directions, contact Thom 623-2941, e-mail thomsepals@hotmail.com, or Ken at 294-6606. Please contact Thom or Ken by Sunday at Noon to facilitate

reservations. Price is usually under \$10. Check the Yahoo MSN on-line calendar for the scheduled place. The venue is rotated to include all parts of town, and may occasionally be held at a full-service menu restaurant.

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

Monday, May 7

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

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Mexican Train Dominos. Please call Karol at 744-9017 for information and to reserve your place at this limited seating event.

Tuesday, May 8

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Enjoy an evening of Bridge twice a month on the second and fourth Tuesdays. Call Jim at 790-8735 for details.

Wednesday, May 9

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00pm Canasta hosted by Marv & Steve. MSN Canasta is played every Wednesday at 7pm, but check back here for the specific host. Call Marv at 745-0304.

The Man to Man Party is all about relationships, and enjoying life in a holistically healthy way. Call Marc, 881-4582.

Thursday, May 10

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Triangle Tribe-A Men's Circle. According to a recent study, very few people have as many close friends as they would like. Are you as connected with other men as you want to be? Do you get the support you need for issues in your life? Do you wish you had more meaningful friendships and relationships with other men? Join like-minded men at Wingspan to share feelings, thoughts and ideas in a safe, respectful space. For the same experience with both straight and gay men, join us at the regular Circle of Men meetings. Call Tom at 591-2828 for dates and times.

Friday, May 11

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

Saturday, May 12

#1 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 6:30p.m. MSN CLASSIC MOVIE NIGHT hosted by Ross. Enjoy an evening of good, clean fun and this month's great film. Three spectacular Busby Berkeley musical productions top off this fast-paced story about 'movie prologues'—live stage musicals that were produced and shown in theatres before the feature film. Sassy Joan Blondell gets all of the good lines in between the music! You will never be the same after seeing 'Honeymoon Hotel', 'By a Waterfall', and 'Shanghai Lil'!

#2 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Shuffle over for Floating Pinochle every Saturday of the month except for first Saturday MSN Monthly Pot Luck. Contact Jack at 887-3736.

Tucson Prime Timers, Business Meeting - 11 AM, Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St.

## Personal Injury?



**Sarah J. Showard**  
Attorney at Law

**SHOWARD**  
*Law Firm*

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**BY APPOINTMENT**



# DAILY BAR CALENDAR

## SUNDAY

THE BIZ - Open 3pm-2am; \$2 Pitchers til 10pm and Rotating Shot Specials all night; Latin Music with live DJ at 9:30pm. Get ready!!! L Word Season 4 begins Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> at 8pm!

COLORS - Open 11am - 11pm Champagne Brunch 11am - 2pm with choice of complimentary mimosa, Bloody Mary or Screwdriver. Dickie Steed on piano during brunch. Brunch served until 2pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm \$3.50 Skyy Cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and well. Reduced price appetizers. Dinner served until 10pm.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 10am. \$2.50 Smirnoff Vodkas all day. 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. Happy Hour 11am-8pm (excl spec events); Brunch 11:30am-2:30pm; Back Pocket Patio Bar 2pm til 2am. Beer Bust 2-7pm; Bar-B-Que 5-9pm; Karaoke with Michael D. 9p.m.; DJ Jeff in the Back Pocket 9pm; Drag Bingo every other Sunday 8-9pm

## MONDAY

THE BIZ - Open 3pm-10pm; Drink what you want with ½ priced Happy Hour. Poke-Her Monday! Free card lessons 5pm. Free Texas Hold-'em Tourney at 6pm; Prizes for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Places. Happy Hour pricing & Free Food

COLORS - Closed on Mondays.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour all day & night with \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. Kitchen closed. \$3 taco & tostada bar 4-8 pm. GLBT Movie Nite with shows at 6 & 8 pm. Free pool all day.

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 Noon til 2am. Happy Hour Noon-8pm (excl spec events) Karaoke with Michael D. 9pm

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

## TUESDAY

THE BIZ - Open 3pm-10pm; Drink What You Want with ½ priced Happy Hour. Monthly Wine Tasting on 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month at 5:30pm. Please RSVP by the first Monday of the Month. Wine bottles will be for sale after the tasting at a special discounted price.

COLORS - Open 4-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7 \$3.50 Skyy cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and well and reduced price appetizers. Dinner served until 10pm.

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. Tequila Nite with \$2.50 well tequila & margaritas, 75¢ off call tequilas.

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 (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday every month \$2.00).

WOODY'S - Open Noon til 2am. Happy Hour Noon-8pm (excl spec events) 80s Nite with Alex 8-close

YARD DOG - Open daily 8am. 50¢ off any Top Shelf Tequila until 8pm. Dart Tourney at 9am. Beer Bust 4-8pm. Patio Bar Opens 7pm.

## WEDNESDAY

THE BIZ - Open 3pm-2am; Drink what You Want with ½ priced Happy Hour 3-8pm; 18 to Party, 21 to Drink! 18 & Over Night w/DJ Shorty at 9:30pm! Rotating Shot Specials all night.

COLORS - Open 4-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3.50 Skyy cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and well and reduced price appetizers. Dinner served until 10pm.

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 day and 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. Great way to learn the game or sharpen your skills.

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

VENTURE-N - Open 9am. Patio 7pm. Free Pool til 4pm. \$2.75 Cuervo Margaritas 4-8pm

WOODY'S - Open Noon til 2am; Happy Hour Noon-8pm (excl Spec Events); Chili Dog Buffet 5-9pm; Underwear/Fetish/Leather Party with Alex and Blake 9-close - \$1 off all drinks for those who participate (50¢ off draught/schnapps) Back Pocket Patio Bar open 9pm-close.

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

## THURSDAY

THE BIZ - Open 3pm-2am; Drink What You Want with ½ priced Happy Hour 3-8pm; 'Thirsty Thursday' with Tori Steele & Friends! Drag show starts at 9:30pm with Tori Steele, Janee Starr, Diana Flair and weekly special guests. \$2 Pitchers and Rotating Shot Specials. Followed by a new Surprise guest DJ!

COLORS - Open 4pm-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3.50 Skyy cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and Well and reduced price appetizers. Dinner served until 10pm.

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. \$2.50 Mexican Beers all night, \$1.00 Jello shots.

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 Noon-2am; Happy Hour Noon-8pm (excl Spec Events); Free Pool all day. Nacho Chip Buffet 5-9pm; \$1 PBRs Longnecks and \$2 Tecate Longnecks; Back Pocket Bar open 8-close.

YARD DOG - Open daily 8am. 50¢ off any Top Shelf Bourbon til 8pm. Beer Bust 4-8pm. Patio Bar opens 7pm.

## FRIDAY

THE BIZ - Open 3pm-2am; Drink What You Want with ½ priced Happy Hour 3-8pm; Rotating weeks Latin or Hip Hop Music with DJ Shorty at 9:30pm. Rotating Shot Specials all night!

COLORS - Open 4pm-1am. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3.50 Skyy cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and Well and reduced prize appetizers. Dinner served until 10pm. "Hot Jazz, Cool Martinis" with Susan Artemis and Craig Faltin 6:30-9:30pm. "Guys & Dolls" comedy drag show hosted by Lucinda Holliday at 10pm.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. Kitchen open 4 - 9 pm. \$4.50 Fried Chicken dinner with fries and slaw. Free Two-Step lessons with Amanda every other Friday. Call 293-7339 for schedule. DJ Pat plays the best of contemporary and classic country 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 Noon-2am; Happy Hour Noon-8pm (excl spec events); Martini Happy Hour 5-8pm-\$1 off all call Martinis; Back Pocket Patio Bar open 8-close. DJ Jeff in the Back Pocket 9-close; Watch for special events.

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

## SATURDAY

THE BIZ - \$1 Draught Beers until 10pm & \$4 Finlandia Vodka Red Bull drinks until 11pm; Dance Party with DJ Shorty at 9:30 mixing it up and playing what you want to hear!

COLORS - Open 4pm-11pm. Lunch served until 4pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3.50 Skyy cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and Well, reduced price appetizers. Dinner served until 10pm. Nightly dinner specials.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open 11:00am. Happy Hour 11am-8pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. Kitchen open 11am-9pm. \$2.50 Capt. Morgan or Mailbu. Cheeseburger & Fries Special for \$4.50 all day. Best burgers around. Learn to play Texas Hold-'Em Poker Lessons at noon with a friendly game to follow - no money involved. DJ 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-2am; Happy Hour 10am-8pm (excl spec events); Steak/Fish Dinner in the Back Pocket 5-9pm. Back Pocket Patio Bar open 5-close. Live Jazz with Arthur Migliazza in the Back Pocket 6-9pm; DJ Jeff in the Back Pocket 9-close. Watch for special events.

YARD DOG - Open daily 8am. Beer Bust 4-8pm. \$1.25 glass, \$2.25 pitcher. Patio Bar Opens 7pm.

## Governor To Sign

Continued from Page Fifteen

the legislation. At the time McCarthy said he did not believe he had enough support to ensure passage. The additional votes came after more than a dozen church leaders from throughout Iowa announced their support for the bill. "Civil rights laws are designed to protect groups of people who have faced blatant and historic discrimination," Carol Ryan Terrell, head of the Interfaith Alliance of Iowa and Action Fund told a Capitol news conference. When Culver signs the bill into law Iowa will become the 19th state to ban workplace discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and the 10th to ban discrimination on the basis of gender identity.

# BAR CALENDAR Of Upcoming Events

## FRIDAY, MAY 4

VENTURE-N - Cinco de drinco starts a day early here with bar snacks served from 5 to 7 p.m.

## SATURDAY, MAY 5

THE BIZ - DJ Hill shakes it up for you Cinco De Mayo folks.

HOWL AT THE MOON - It's Cinco de Mayo! Rosa's Travesti Drag Show at 8:30 p.m. followed by DJ Michelle playing cumbias, corridos and reggaeton. \$2.50 Mexican Beer All night. \$3.00 Cover.

VENTURE-N - 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Mexican Buffet by Mamacita Charles from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. Music by Lionel.

WOODY'S - Cinco de Mayo Party with Jose Cuervo and Bud Light Promos and Taco Bar.

YARD DOG SALOON - Cinco de Mayo Party here with Deb's Taco Bar at 10:00 a.m. TKO Beer Bust from 2 to 6 p.m. and Mexican dinner at 4:00 p.m. plus "Sonny Jones" on the patio at 7:00 p.m.

## SUNDAY, MAY 6

IBT'S - Cinco here all day and evening. Noon-9:00 p.m. \$2.75 Margaritas and Imported Mexican Beer. 5-9 p.m. Free Taco Bar. 5-8 p.m. Karaoke and 9 p.m. Showtime with Bunny FuFu. 10 p.m. To closing dance with DJ Q inside and DJ Mike Lopez on the patio.

VENTURE-N - Cinco Cools down with here to the tune of Mariachis playing from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

WOODY'S - 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Reno Gannon Memorial Jell-O Wrestling Extravaganza and Benefit Auction at Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle. Pre-event Party 2:00 p.m. wrestling starts at 4:00 p.m. Doors open at 2:00 p.m. Must have ticket to get in. 7:00 p.m. bar opens to general public for a Post Jell-O Party and Karaoke at 9:00 p.m.

## SATURDAY, MAY 12

HOWL AT THE MOON - Tori Steele is your host for an evening with great female illusionists. 9:00 p.m. \$5.00 cover.

## SATURDAY, MAY 19

HOWL AT THE MOON - Miss Desert States Pageant at 7:00 p.m. Come and see who wins the crown!

## TUESDAY, MAY 22

HOWL AT THE MOON - Amber Sound is shere playing acoustical favorites and original songs. 8:30 p.m. No Cover

## SATURDAY, MAY 26

HOWL AT THE MOON - Viva! Latino Drag Show starting at 10:00 p.m. \$3.00 Cover.

## SATURDAY, JUNE 9

HOWL AT THE MOON - Too Much Information is here playing classic rock and blues. 9:00 p.m. \$5.00 Cover.

## SATURDAY, JUNE 23

HOWL AT THE MOON - Mark your calendars for Gay West at Old Tucson.



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# NOTICES - COMMUNITY - NOTICES

**TUCSON KNIGHT OWLS (T.K.O)** Openly invites new members to our monthly meetings which occur on the first Saturday of every month at 12:00 pm., followed by a beer bust from 2pm to 6pm., at our home bar the Yard Dog saloon. T.K.O.'s annual spring/summer fling is now called owls fling. This year we will be going to Holly Lake July 27th - 30th. The run fee is \$60 for members and \$70 for non-members. Applications will be available at our next beer bust. You can also pick one up from any T.K.O. member.

**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. 22<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:Tucsonpt@primetimersww.org)

**TUCSON GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**IINNER 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 or visit our website at [www.botop.com](http://www.botop.com) All are welcome to our general meetings/potlucks on the 2nd Friday of every month, at 3202 E. 1<sup>st</sup> St. (the "Ward 6" Office Bldg.) Just south of Speedway & East of Country Club. PotLuck Dinner begins at 6:30 and the monthly meeting follows at 7:15 p.m.

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

**CHRISTIAN SCIENCE GROUP - Out-**reach 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](http://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](http://www.desertvoices.org), or call (520)791-9662 for information about upcoming concerts or how to join.

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

**AA Meeting with HIV/AIDS focus,** Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., Wingspan Annex, 425 E. 7th 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](http://teamarizona.org)

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

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

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

**TUCSON PRIDE, INC. (Formerly Tucson Lesbian and Gay Alliance - TLGA)** meets on the second 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](http://www.tucsonpride.com)

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

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

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

**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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**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](http://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 5<sup>th</sup> 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@yahoo.com](mailto:SAGE-Tucson-subscribe@yahoo.com). See you on the trails.

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

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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays, 7-9pm. Potluck dinner. Donation. **BROTHERS OF THE COMPASSIONATE WAY.** Pagan spiritual group for gay, bisexual, transgendered men. Box 41623, Tucson, AZ 85717.



# Top Gay Cop In London Quits



LONDON (Observer Update) - The highest ranking out Gay police officer in the world is reportedly ready to leave his job as Deputy Assistant Police Commissioner of London's Metropolitan Police, 365Gay.com reported. Brian Paddick has confirmed he will leave the force in which he has served for more than 30 years at the end of the month. He said he wants to begin writing a book on his career and to do public speaking.

Paddick had become disenchanted with the way the force was being run following a disagreement with the way Police Commissioner Sir Ian Blair had handled the shooting of an innocent man police had mistaken for a terror suspect at in 2005. Paddick told a commission investigating the shooting that Blair's own private officer believed, just hours after the shooting the wrong man had been killed. Still, Blair had maintained the man was a terrorist. Following the July 2005

terrorist attack on the London transit system Paddick led the investigation to find those responsible and was a near constant presence at news conferences to update the public.

The grandson of a policeman, Paddick grew up in South London. He joined the Metropolitan Police, called the Met, in 1976. Progressing through the ranks, he gained operational experience in Brixton in 1981 when the area was hit by race riots and was promoted to detective and then served in managerial roles in a variety of areas.

Paddick holds degrees in Politics, Philosophy and Economics from Oxford University and a Masters in Business Administration from Warwick. At Oxford, he was Captain of the University Swimming Team and Vice-Captain of his college's Rugby team. At the end of 2000, Paddick was promoted to the rank of Commander

and moved back to Brixton. His "softly, softly" approach to marijuana possession was met with stiff opposition by many on the force, and helped fuel his detractors who had argued against promoting a Gay officer in the first place. In Nov. of the same year Paddick was rebuked by the Metropolitan Police Commissioner for saying arresting people for using Ecstasy was "low" on his priority list. He then was accused of posting a message on a web board that he found the "concept of anarchism appealing." The controversy surrounding him climaxed in March 2002 when his former lover James Renolleau went public with drug allegations, which the officer denied. Nevertheless, Paddick was suspended following an investigation. But, in Oct.

2002 it was announced that no criminal charges would follow. That summer he led a march of other Gay police officers through central London as part of the Gay Pride festival.

Following the investigation over drugs Paddick was seconded to Scotland Yard where he helped implement the National Intelligence Model - a blueprint for dealing with emergencies such as the subway terrorist attack. The Model also helped develop the intricate surveillance camera system that blankets London. It was those cameras that helped make arrests in the attack. In 2003 Paddick returned to the Met becoming Deputy Assistant Commissioner - the number two man in the Met.

## Surprise Guilty Plea In Gay Murder Case

BAY MINETTE, Alabama (Observer Update) - One of three people charged in the capital murder of a Gay man in 2004 suddenly entered a guilty plea on Monday (Apr. 30) - a week before his trial was to begin, reported 365Gay.com. Despite the guilty plea by Christopher Gaines, 22, Alabama law requires that a jury to hear evidence in the case to determine whether a capital murder charge is warranted.

The jury's decision will mean either the death penalty or life in prison for Gaines. He, along with Nichole Kelsay, 21, and Robert Holly Lofton Porter, 21 were charged with killing Scotty Joe Weaver in part because he was Gay. All three defendants opted for separate trials. Neither the prosecution nor the defense attorneys would speculate if Gaines will testify at the trials of the other two. Assistant Baldwin County District Attorney Jim Vollmer had said that had wanted to try Gaines first.

Weaver was attacked and murdered in his trailer home in July 2004. He was 18 years old. His body was then carted to a quiet dirt road

where his killers set it on fire and then casually drove off, after robbing him of between \$65 and \$80. A man driving an all-terrain vehicle discovered Weaver's severely burned and decomposed body Two of the accused, Gaines and Kelsay were Weaver's roommates. Porter is described as a friend of the pair who spent a considerable amount of time at Weaver's home.

Police said all three suspects were out of work, and Weaver was paying the bills at their home. Gaines and Kelsay apparently had a romantic relationship with each other, investigators said, adding that it appeared the trio plotted Weaver's death several days before the killing. Hallie Dixon, one of the defense attorneys has called for a change of venue, saying that media coverage has tainted a potential jury pool in Baldwin County. The murder drew interest from Gay rights groups across the country, and hundreds of mourners attended a vigil for Weaver in Mobile after the killing. An anti-Gay group picketed outside the Crossroads Church of God, where Weaver's funeral was held.

# May 6, 2007



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