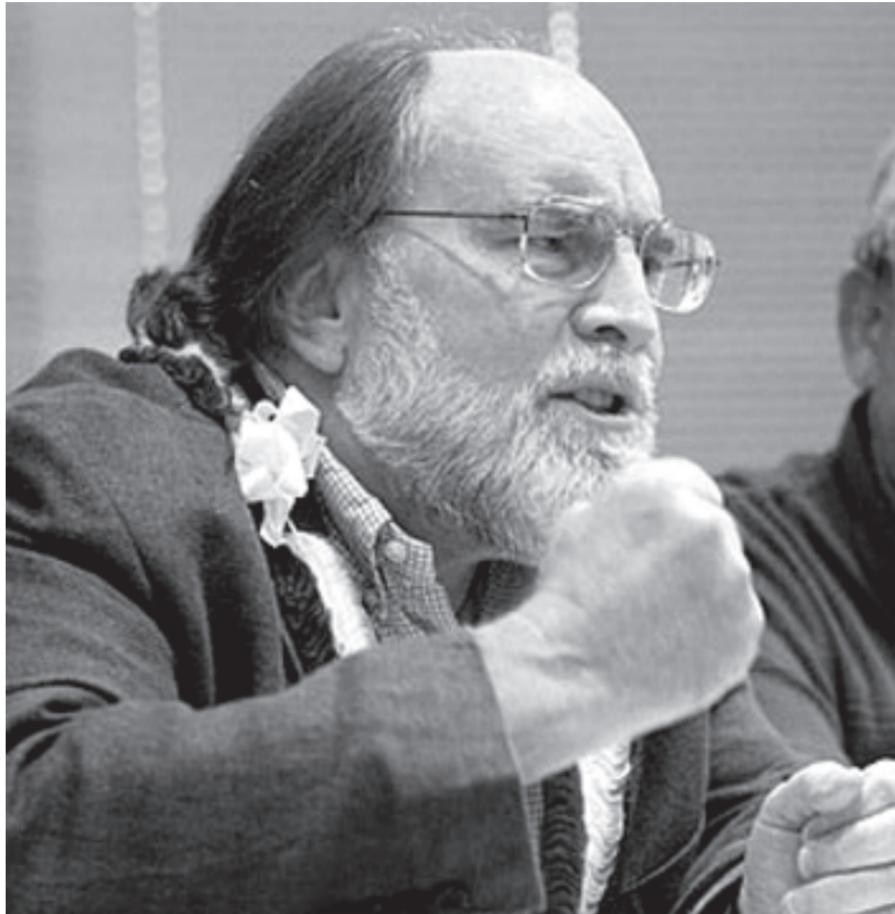




Federal Hate Crime Bill Reportedly In Trouble



U.S. Representative Phil Abercrombie, D-HI

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - How to proceed with the Matthew Shepard Act, which would add sexuality to the list of categories covered under federal hate crime law, is roiling Democrats and could end up dying at the end of the session in January, reported 365Gay.com. The legislation passed the House in May and the White House threatened to veto it.

In an effort to get around a veto the Senate version tied the measure to the 2008 defense authorization bill. It passed in September and then went to conference where the two versions of the bill needed to be harmonized for a final vote. Since then the bill has been tied up with House fears that Democrats could not muster enough votes to pass the military bill with the Shepard Act attached to it.

The Congressional newspaper The Hill reported that the negotiations will likely drag on into December. One of the possibilities would be to separate the Shepard Act from the Defense bill, leaving it as a standalone measure. "This is a strategic question, not a tactical question," Rep. Neil Abercrombie (D-Hawaii) one of the conferees tells The Hill. "The middle ground is to recognize that and realize to put the defense bill out as is, as opposed to changing it," he said. "It does no harm to the principle involved in the hate crimes bill."

With election year quickly approaching both the House and Senate are anxious to move the defense bill forward. It includes measures designed to help wounded soldiers and increase

military pay. If the Shepard Act is severed, and with the clock ticking on the session, it may never make it to final approval. Even if it does, as a standalone it would most assuredly be vetoed by the President.

The Shepard Act, also called the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act, would allow the Department of Justice to assist local authorities in investigating and prosecuting cases in which violence occurs against people based on their sexuality. Federal hate crime legislation already covers people on the basis of race and religion. FBI statistics show that one in six hate crimes is motivated by the victim's sexual orientation. The White House says the Shepard Act is "unnecessary and constitutionally questionable."

(Read Mark Kerr's column this week on how to let your Member of Congress know how you feel and how they should vote on the federal hate crimes bill.)

Feds Enter HIV Transplant Probe

CHICAGO, Illinois (Observer Update) - Federal officials are investigating what three hospitals knew and told four organ transplant patients about a high-risk donor who infected them with HIV and hepatitis, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com.

The investigation's new phase involves the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, which oversees organ procurement programs and hospitals nationwide.

DHS To Further Restrict Travel For HIV+ Foreign Nationals

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced proposed regulations Thursday (November 15) purporting to offer a "streamlined," "categorical" waiver for HIV-positive visitors from other countries, 365Gay.com reported. However, by using this "streamlined" application process, applicants would have to also waive the possibility of any change in immigration status while in the United States.

The United States is one of 13 countries in the world to bar HIV-positive travelers from entering the country. Last year on World AIDS Day, President Bush announced that he intended to create a streamlined process for foreign travelers with HIV to enter the U.S. more easily. However, the regulations proposed nearly one year later would make it even harder to get a short-term waiver. According to a joint release from Immigration Equality and Gay Men's Health Crisis, the proposed changes do not hold much promise for HIV-positive travelers. "Unfortunately, despite using the terms 'streamlined' and 'categorical,' in reality these regulations are neither," said Victoria Neilson, legal director of Immigration Equality. "More than two decades into this epidemic, the United States continues to stigmatize people with HIV and treat this illness unlike any other virus. Creating insurmountable hurdles to travel does

nothing to protect the American public from HIV."

Under the new rules, a visitor would need to travel with all the medication he would need during his stay in the U.S., prove that he has medical insurance that is accepted in the U.S. and would cover any medical contingency, and prove that he won't engage in behavior that might put the American public at risk. The maximum term of the waiver would be 30 days. The new regulations purport to speed up the waiver application process because consular officers would be empowered to make decisions on waiver applications without seeking DHS signoff.

"As written, the rule could leave individuals with HIV who obtain asylum in the U.S. in a permanent limbo - forever barred from obtaining legal permanent residence and therefore cut off from services, benefits, and employment opportunities," said Nancy Ordovery, assistant director of Research and Federal Affairs for Gay Men's Health Crisis. "It seems very disingenuous that the government is claiming to make things easier for people with HIV, but it's really compelling them to forfeit their rights." Homeland Security will issue a final decision on the proposed changes after a 30-day comment period ending on December 6.

Hate Crimes Against Gays And Lesbians Rise

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - According to the annual FBI report, hate crime incidents in the United States rose in 2006 by 7.8 percent, reported 365Gay.com.

Police across the nation reported 7,722 criminal incidents in 2006 targeting victims or property as a result of bias against a particular race, religion, sexual orientation, ethnic or national origin or physical or mental disability.

Nearly 62 percent of the crimes were racially motivated and almost 19 percent were motivated by religious bias. Crimes against members of the Gays and Lesbians were the third largest reported, at 15.5 percent. Of that figure, more than half of the crimes were committed against Gay men. The figures also show that two percent of sexuality bias crimes were committed against heterosexuals. The FBI report did not identify bias crimes against transsexuals.

Although the noose incidents and

beatings among students at Jena, La., high school occurred in the last half of 2006, they were not included in the report.

The FBI includes bias crimes against Gays and Lesbians in its report although currently there is no federal hate law that includes the LGBT community.

The Matthew Shepard Act, which would add sexuality to the list of categories covered under federal hate crime law, passed the House in May and the White House threatened to veto it. In an effort to get around a veto the Senate version tied the measure to the 2008 defense authorization bill. It passed in September and then went to conference where the two versions of the bill needed to be harmonized for a final vote. Since then the bill has been tied up.

"This FBI report confirms what the Human Rights Campaign has known for over a decade—that hate crimes protections for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender community are long overdue," said Human Rights Campaign President Joe Solmonese. "We urge Congress to send this legislation immediately to the President's desk, and for the President to sign it into law."

(Read Mark Kerr's column this week on how to let your Member of Congress know how you feel and how they should vote on the federal hate crimes bill.)

Continued on Page Four

UPDATE

Life Term Coming In Killing Of Gay Disabled Man

TUCSON - Ronnie Gene Sartin Jr. was convicted of first-degree murder for the second time in the 1998 stabbing of a 29-year-old disabled Gay man, reported the Tucson Citizen. The jury deliberated 90 minutes Tuesday morning (November 13) before reaching its verdict after a three-week trial.

Pima County Superior Court Judge Howard Hantman on Dec. 17 will sentence Sartin to life in prison, either with the possibility of parole after 25 years or no parole. Sartin protested his retrial continuously, saying that the original prosecutor, David White, who died in 2003, committed misconduct to the extent that another trial amounted to double jeopardy. Hantman ruled that White didn't commit misconduct in pretrial hearings. Sartin smiled as the verdicts were read and the jury was polled. As he was led from the courtroom, Sartin said the trial was unfair.

Sartin had admitted on the stand that he killed Tucsonan Marc Truesdell in May 1998. Jurors had to decide whether Sartin committed first-degree murder because he meant to kill or rob Truesdell or committed second-degree murder or manslaughter because Truesdell made a sexual advance and kicked Sartin, triggering post-traumatic stress disorder from an unrelated 1997 shooting. "I don't recall stabbing him 26 times," Sartin testified. "(I was) gettin' ready to stab him in the neck and it was goin' off in my head, 'You don't hurt people like that,'" Sartin testified.

Deputy County Attorney Rick Unklesbay told jurors during closing arguments, "Ronnie Sartin unjustifiably, Ronnie Sartin absolutely in cold blood, took the life of a mentally retarded, physically handicapped, harmless individual." Sartin was convicted in 1999 of first-degree murder and sentenced to life in prison. The Arizona Court of Appeals ordered the case returned to Pima County Superior Court for retrial after changes were made to the law regarding how premeditation is explained to jurors.

GLBT Commission Meeting November 27

TUCSON (Observer Update) - The monthly meeting of the City of Tucson Commission on GLBT (Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender) Issues will take place Tuesday, November 27, 5:30 p.m., in the EOO conference room, first floor, 100 North Stone Avenue.

The Commission on GLBT Issues is the official advisory body to the Tucson Mayor and Council. The mission of the Commission is to foster conditions that promote the welfare of GLBT people of metropolitan Tucson, Arizona through education, advocacy and collaborative and advisory relationships with government, community organizations, businesses and individuals. The City of Tucson Commission on GLBT Issues was originally formed in November 1998 as a mayoral task force, and became an independent city commission in July 1999.

For further information please contact the City Clerk's Office at (520) 791-4213 or go online to: tucsonaz.gov/clerks/boards.php?board=40 or tucsonglbtcommission.org/.

Festival For Life A Success

TUCSON (Observer Update) - More than 600 LGBT and straight supportive Tucsonans gathered Sunday, November 18 at the University of Arizona Student Union Grand Ballroom for the 19th Jérôme Beillard Annual Festival For Life.

Those in attendance enjoyed a wonderful evening with entertainment, a silent and live auction, great food and a no-host beer, wine and champagne bar to benefit the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF).

According to event organizers, a total of \$113,108 was raised from the Festival, surpassing the goal of \$105,000 set for this year's event.

The Jérôme Beillard Festival for Life is SAAF's second-largest community fundraising event. All proceeds from this event stay 100% local and help to fund SAAF's vital programs and services.

This event was started in 1988 by Robert Markley (Markley Salon, Tucson) and Jérôme Beillard, who was the Executive Director of People With AIDS

Coalition of Tucson (PACT) - one of the organizations that later merged to become SAAF. In 1995, just before his death, the PACT Board voted to name the event in honor of Jérôme Beillard and his contributions to the community.

Scottsdale Board Approves EEOOO Proposal For LGBT

SCOTTSDALE (Observer Update) - In a unanimous vote Monday (November 19), the City of Scottsdale's Personnel Board approved a recommendation to amend the city's equal employment opportunity ordinance (EEOO) by adding protections based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

The proposal, which has already received the support of the Scottsdale Human Relations Commission, is expected to be presented to the Scottsdale City Council in early December for consideration.

Equality Arizona Executive Director Barbara McCullough-Jones said tonight's vote sends a powerful message that the City of Scottsdale will not tolerate discrimination. "We join Scottsdale's Personnel Board and Human Relations Commission, along with a growing number of civil rights and faith-based leaders, in calling on the Mayor and City Council to guarantee workplace equality for all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity."

In addition to considering the recommended amendments to the city's employment ordinance, members of the City Council are also expected to discuss a proposed citywide civil rights ordinance that would apply to businesses that contract with the city and businesses that operate within city limits.

Reveille's 'Twisted Christmas', Nov. 29; Dec. 1-2

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Familiar Christmas tunes and not-so familiar "Twistmas" tunes...Reveille will tweak your hearing and your memory about familiar lyrics and bring you laughter to start your Holiday Season.

No standing in post office lines or queuing at department stores as part of this Holiday experience. Reveille to your Holiday rescue...twisting up and down carolers' lane!

The curtain rises for Reveille's 'Twisted Christmas,' Thursday, November 29, 7:30 p.m., Saturday, December 1, 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, December 2 at 3:00 p.m. at Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 2331 East Adams Street. Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door. To get your advance tickets either call (520) 304-1758 or go online to reveillechorus.org.

Reveille Men's Chorus is dedicated to musical excellence and performs worldwide to promote human rights, diversity, and a world free of AIDS. Reveille's Artistic Director is Linus Lerner, who has conducted orchestras, choirs and instrumental groups in Brazil, the United States, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, and Spain. As a singer, Lerner has performed in many operas and concerts in the United States, Italy and Brazil, and has received awards in Competitions such as the Neyde Thomas International Voice Competition, the Porto Alegre Symphony Orchestra Voice Competition and the Miami University Concerto Competition. Lerner is currently a voice teacher and voice coach at his private studio in Tucson, and travels on a regular basis to work with students both in Chicago and New York City.

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Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation



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COMMENTARY . . .
by Lisa Neff

**Unless We're Counted,
We Don't Count**

We like to say Gays and Lesbians are everywhere. But how many of us populate this country? Are we 3 percent, 5 percent, 10 percent of the population? We don't really know.

And anyone counting on the 2010 U.S. Census to provide that statistic is out of luck. The next Census questionnaire is not going to ask about sexual orientation – unless it is revised over the next several months.

A new Census question in 1990, providing for the identification of an "unmarried partner" in a household, led to a campaign with the 2000 Census that allowed Gay rights groups and even the government to make some estimates of the number of same-sex couples in the states and draw some conclusions about how they lived. The Census counted 601,209 same-sex, unmarried partner households in 2000.

Researchers were able to identify the states with the highest number of same-sex households, towns and cities with the highest concentration of same-sex households, even neighborhoods with the highest concentration of same-sex households. Researchers analyzed where Gay couples preferred to live compared to Lesbian couples, the percentage of same-sex couples with children, and even the residential preferences of Hispanic and African-American same-sex couples.

With the release of such statistics came some high expectations for what the next Census – the population survey upon which so much public policy is based – might reveal.

Census Bureau director Ken-

neth Prewitt was asked back then if the count of same-sex households might lead to the Bureau collecting more data on Gays and Lesbians, including single Gays and Lesbians. He replied, "Obviously it's hard to state what might happen. But I would say that the movement from 1990 to 2000 already represents a movement forward.... So that's already, I believe, a reflection of the attempt to maintain a Census operation, which is somewhat consistent with the changing social dynamics of this country."

But it appears that the next Census won't tell us much more about the GLB population.

Federal law requires the Census Bureau to submit decennial Census subjects to Congress three years before Census Day. With the next Census Day set for April 1, 2010, the Bureau submitted its subjects for the Census to Congress earlier this year, boasting that the Census would take people less than 10 minutes to complete and would be one of the shortest and easiest since the nation's first Census in 1790.

Having done away with the "long-form" questionnaire that about 20 percent of households received every 10 years since 1940, the Bureau's 2010 subjects include gender, age, race, ethnicity, relationship and whether a person

owns or rents his or her home.

The Bureau, already ramping up for dress rehearsals for 2010, maintains that it can circulate such a short Census because it collects annual information in the relatively new American Community Survey.

So, will we be able to turn to the American Community Survey and discover much about Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual America?

Probably not much more than the surveys of the past. Unless there are revisions before final questions are submitted to Congress next March, the Census Bureau will continue to collect data for households with unmarried partners, but not single Gays and Lesbians. Why would we want the Census Bureau to survey on sexual orientation? Because so much government policy is based on the Bureau's data beyond apportionment for the House of Representatives. The data is used to determine how to distribute about \$200 billion in federal, state and local funds, as well as evaluate programs and identify populations in need of services.

The government, through the ACS, will collect data about the kitchen facilities, bedrooms, vehicles, heating systems and plumbing in a person's home but not, unless partnered, the person's sexual

orientation.

What might the data have revealed about Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals and military service, income, housing, race and ethnicity, education, age, children, "marital" or "partnership" status, ancestry, citizenship, birth place, language, education, disability and employment?

Will the federal government not count us because we don't count? Or because some in the government don't want our numbers known?

(Lisa Neff is a reporter with The Islander, a weekly newspaper on Anna Maria Island, Fl. This column is reprinted from 365Gay.com)

**'Out In The Cold'
November 29**

TUCSON - On Thursday November 29, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., Eon's Homeless Youth Project (HYP) will be showing the documentary "Out in the Cold", which illustrates LGBT youth's struggles with homelessness and homeless issues.

Come to the Wingspan Garage, 425 E. 7th Street, for the documentary showing and a Homeless Youth Panel. Come get to know Eon's Homeless Youth Project.

Donations of nonperishable food, socks, underwear, deodorant, razors, warm clothing, and sleeping bags will be accepted at that time. For more information, call Katie Komar (520) 624-1779.

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Feds Enter HIV Transplant Probe

Continued from Page One

spread simultaneously from one donor to transplant recipients, public health officials say. While Medicare officials generally contract with local authorities to investigate hospitals, this time the agency has sent officials to Chicago to assist investigators from Illinois' Department of Public Health, said Jan Tarantino, director of the agency's division of continuing care providers. "We're taking some extra steps ... because this is potentially a very serious situation," she said.

Hospital and public health officials have called the case a tragedy, but emphasize that the risk of getting any disease from transplanted organs is less than 0.01 percent. Tarantino said officials from her agency has visited the Elmhurst group that procured the organs, Gift of Hope Organ & Tissue Donor Network. This week they started questioning authorities at the three hospitals, Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Rush University Medical Center and the University of Chicago Medical Center. "We're looking at the circumstances surrounding the donor and the four recipients and checking to make sure that all the notifications" took place, Tarantino said.

None of the hospitals has said publicly what patients were told, citing doctor-patient confidentiality. They also have declined to identify the donor, the patients and what organs they received, citing privacy concerns. Gift of Hope officials have said they followed proper procedures before the January transplants by notifying all three hospitals that the donor had engaged in high-risk behaviors. Attorney Thomas Demetrio has filed a petition in Cook County Circuit Court on behalf of an infected female patient, asking officials to keep the University of Chicago and Gift of Hope from destroying or altering any records involving the donation. The patient received a kidney transplant at the University of Chicago Hospitals on Jan. 9, Demetrio said in a statement. Gift of Hope and the University of Chicago both knew the kidney donor was high-risk and did not inform the patient, according to the petition. "It is imperative that we secure any and all records and information pertaining to this transplant surgery and the kidney donor in order to properly protect the legal rights and interests of our client," Demetrio said.

Federal guidelines say patients are supposed to be notified about the possibility of HIV infection from a high-risk donor even if tests show the donor doesn't have the virus. Standard tests for HIV and hepatitis antibodies showed the donor didn't have those diseases. Authorities say the donor probably acquired

the infections a few weeks before death, too soon for the tests to detect antibodies. A newer, costlier test that is not widely available can detect the virus earlier but wasn't done in this case. That has led public health officials to press for more widespread use of the newer test.

"Hopefully in the future it can be the norm," said Dr. Susan Gerber, chief medical officer for Chicago's Department of Public Health. Gerber said her office is working with the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "trying to find out what happened." That includes examining the circumstances surrounding when the patients were first tested for HIV.

CDC guidelines recommend testing three months after transplants from high-risk donors. But the University of Chicago said the patients didn't learn they were infected until tests within the past few weeks, prompted by a blood test one of them underwent during an evaluation for a new transplant. The CDC's Dr. Matt Kuehnert said his agency has not sent anyone to Chicago but is doing laboratory testing on blood samples from the donor and patients to determine how responsive the virus is to anti-HIV drugs, which will help doctors determine the best treatment.

Three Charged After Four Stabbed Outside Greenville Gay Bar

GREENVILLE, South Carolina - Three men were charged with assault and battery after four men suffered serious stabbing injuries early Saturday (November 17) at the same site linked with the death of a 20 year-old gay Greenville man, deputies said, the Greenville News reported.

The four men suffered injuries to either their back, face, stomach or arm at Croc's, at 1 a.m., said Lt. Gene White, a Greenville County sheriff's spokesman. "I don't know what started it," he said. He said all four who were stabbed were treated then released later Saturday from Greenville Memorial Hospital.

The three suspects - from Greer, Florida and North Carolina- were charged with either assault and battery with intent to kill or assault and battery, White said.



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AS I SEE IT..... BY CLARK



Holsinger Nomination Blocked By Senator Reid



Senator Harry Reid

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - As much of the nation enjoys a light schedule and the House of Representatives is in recess, the Senate will twice open for business and each time quickly close.

The expected "pro forma" sessions will be part of a rare gambit by Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.) to prevent President Bush from making any so-called recess appointments, as presidents sometimes do when a nomination is in trouble in the Senate.

The sessions are expected to last less than 30 seconds - the clerk will announce who the presiding officer is, and then that senator will gavel the session closed.

The Constitution gives a president



Doctor James Holsinger

the power to fill vacancies without the Senate's confirmation when the legislative body is in recess. Such appointees can serve without confirmation through the rest of the current session of Congress, which ends in January 2009.

Reid announced that the Senate would not be in recess to prevent President Bush from issuing a recess appointment to Dr. James Holsinger to the post of Surgeon General.

Holsinger raised eyebrows with his United Method-backed paper, "Pathophysiology of Male Homosexuality," in which Holsinger used plumber slang to prove the "logical complementarity of the human sexes." The Democrats were not pleased by this blue-color comparison. Holsinger later claimed to have rethought the matter, saying that the 1991 paper "doesn't represent where I am today."

"With the Thanksgiving break loom-

ing, the administration informed me that they would make several recess appointments. I indicated I would be willing to confirm various appointments if the administration would agree to move on Democratic appointments," Reid said in a statement inserted into Friday's (November 16) Congressional Record. "I am committed to making that progress if the president will meet me halfway," said Reid, adding, however, that "progress can't be made if the president seeks controversial recess appointments and fails to make Democratic appointments to important commissions."

The White House responded coolly Saturday (November 17) to the majority leader's move.

"Since he intends to bring the Senate in every three days, we encourage him to put that time to good use and schedule confirmation hearings for our nominees," spokesman Trey Bohn said.

Pennsylvania Court Tosses Hate Crimes Law

HARRISBURG, Pennsylvania (Observer Update) Pennsylvania Gov. Ed Rendell has urged the legislature to immediately approve "appropriate legislation" reinstating the state's hate crime protections for Gays after the Commonwealth Court in a split decision ruled the measure illegal on a technicality, 365Gay.com reported. In a 4-1 ruling the court said that the law, passed in 2002, was invalid because it had been tacked onto another nonrelated bill.

"It's important to note that the Commonwealth Court's decision was based on a procedural issue and not on the substance of the amendment," Rendell said. "It's also important to note that this legal challenge was mounted by individuals who themselves may benefit from the law's protections for religious minorities."

The challenge to the law had come from a conservative Christian group, Repent America. In 2004, 11 members of the organization were arrested during a protest at the city's Gay pride celebration. When the members of Repent America

showed up at the pride event police allowed them to demonstrate at the edge of a cordoned off area where OutFest was being held. But when the demonstrators began using a bullhorn yelling Biblical passages to drown out the events on stage pride organizers complained to police. The protestors then allegedly attempted to enter the cordoned off area, continuing to use the bullhorn to condemn homosexuality. At that point they got into an argument with a group of Pink Angels, who screamed back. It was at that point police intervened and arrested the demonstrators.

Repent America sued claiming the hate law violated the civil rights of its members. The hate bill had been passed with bipartisan support and Gov. Rendell called on lawmakers to act quickly to pass legislation that would be acceptable to the court. Meanwhile the Pennsylvania attorney general's office is studying the court's ruling. It has 30 days to decide whether to appeal to the state Supreme Court.

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PROBATE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS

National Day Of Remembrance Honors Murdered Trans People; Tucson Marks Day With Procession

WASHINGTON D.C.(Observer Update) - Vigils, services and a variety of other events are being held in 250 cities around the world Tuesday (November 20) to mark Transgender Day of Remembrance - the day set aside to memorialize those who were killed due to anti-Transgender hatred or prejudice.

brief debate on the amendment in the House Baldwin pulled it before a vote. It allowed Baldwin to speak in favor of Trans rights on the record, but without a recorded vote Republicans will not be able to use Transgender rights as an election issue in 2008. In withdrawing the amendment Baldwin said the fight is not over.

In Tucson, the marking of the Day of Remembrance started with a march and procession from Catalina Park (at 4th Avenue and 2nd Street) to Wingspan, located at 425 E. 7th Street.

Comments from local community members followed, a reading of the names of the dead, and a candle-lighting ceremony took place at the park followed by a sunset procession down Fourth Avenue ending with a reception at Tucson and Southern Arizona's LGBT community center.

LGBT Democrats called for the passage of an inclusive ENDA. "Violence towards Transgender Americans can be dramatically reduced by affirming individual dignity through equal enforcement of employment and hate crime laws," said Jon Hoadley, the Executive Director of National Stonewall Democrats. "If we are serious about reducing violence towards Transgender Americans, then we must proactively work towards providing all of our community equal protection under the law. It is our actions, rather than words, which which will demonstrate our tribute."

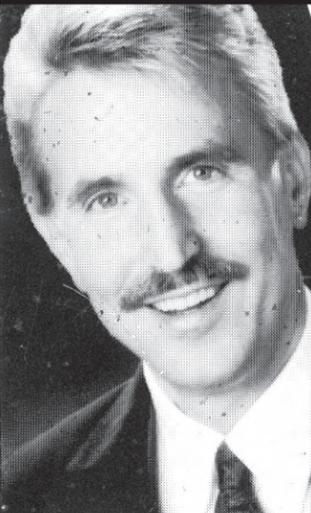
The day also drew attention to ENDA, the Employment Non Discrimination Act, which passed the House this month but without protections for the Transgendered. ENDA originally included all members of the LGBT community, but its sponsor, Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.) one of only two openly Gay and Lesbian members of Congress, removed gender identity fearing the legislation might not get out of committee.

The first Transgender Day of Remembrance was organized by Gwendolyn Ann Smith in 1999 in San Francisco to honor the memory of Rita Hester who was murdered on November 28th, 1998.

Smith's candlelight vigil spread nationwide and then around the world. But Hester's murder - like most anti-Transgender murder cases - has yet to be solved.

ENDA, as currently worded, would make it illegal for employers to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation in hiring, firing, promoting or paying an employee. Following the committee vote Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) - the other openly Lesbian member of Congress - proposed an amendment that would reinstate gender identity and secured the support of House leadership to introduce it. After a

While there are no official statistics - the FBI does not keep records of Trans killings - Transgender advocacy groups say they number in the hundreds over the past decade. Some studies have shown that crimes against the trans community accounts for 10 percent of all violent crimes in America.



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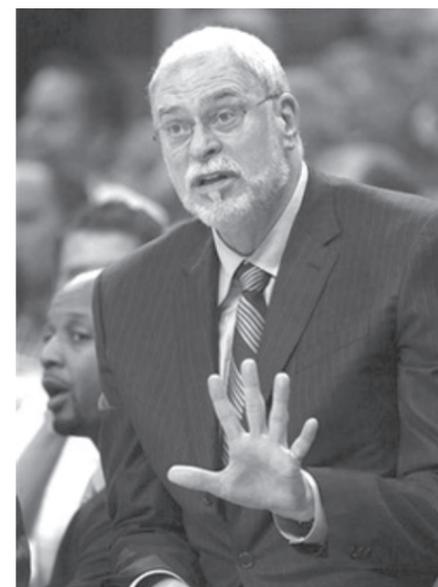
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NBA Slaps Lakers' Coach Over Homophobic Remark

SAN ANTONIO, Texas - Coach Phil Jackson said he deserved the reprimand he got from the NBA on Wednesday (November 14) for making a sexual reference in a comment following the Los Angeles Lakers' loss in San Antonio, 365Gay.com reported. The Spurs made 13 three-pointers in their 107-92 victory on Tuesday night (November 13), and Jackson was asked if too much penetration was leading to open outside shooters.



LA Laker Coach Phil Jackson

"We call this a 'Brokeback Mountain' game, because there's so much penetration and kickouts," Jackson said. "It was one of those games." The 2005 film, which won three Oscars, depicts two cowboys who conceal their homosexual affair. "But in retrospect, it wasn't really funny," Jackson said before the Lakers played Houston. "When you take it out of context, it wasn't funny. It was a poor attempt at humor and I deserved to be reprimanded by the NBA."

can't get away with the jokes that Jay Leno and David Letterman do for a living on their late-night talk shows. "It's societal right now," he said. "Some people can do it. Some people can't. That's something that's appropriate for certain categories."

Still, Jackson couldn't resist making another joke as he apologized. "If I've offended any horses, Texans, cowboys or Gays, I apologize," Jackson said. Jackson thanked beat writers and other journalists who covered game for dismissing the comment as an innocent joke. He said several of them laughed when he said it. The NBA did not. NBA spokesman Brian McIntyre said: "The remarks are in poor taste, and the Lakers have assured us such remarks will not occur in the future." Jackson admitted he should've known better, that coaches

Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) president Neil G. Giuliano issued a statement saying: "Phil Jackson's been coaching long enough that he should be able to talk about the Lakers' performance without resorting to cheap Gay jokes."

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Anti-GL Pastor Calls On Conservatives To Buy Microsoft Shares To Topple G/L Rights Rule

SEATTLE, Washington (Observer Update) - Gay rights foe Rev. Ken Hutcherson is calling on religious conservatives to buy stock in Microsoft so they can force a shareholders vote on the company's policy that provides equality for Gay workers, 365Gay.com reported. Hutcherson, whose church is a stone's throw from Microsoft headquarters in Redmond, Washington, caused a stir at the company's recent annual meeting, demanding the world's biggest computer company abandon its LGBT worker policy.

Microsoft's directors urged shareholders to reject the attempt, and the issue failed to get enough support for a vote, but Hutcherson is undeterred. Following the meeting he told the British newspaper The Daily Telegraph that he intends to keep lobbying and will urge Christian and Jewish conservatives to buy shares in the company so they can vote. He also told the paper that Microsoft is only the first public company he intends to target. "There are 256 Fortune 500 companies alone pouring millions upon millions of dollars into pushing the homosexual agenda," he told The Daily Telegraph. "I consider myself a warrior for Christ. Microsoft don't scare me. I got God with me." As for any comparison with LGBT rights and civil rights for African Americans, Hutcherson says there is none. "How many homosexuals have you ever seen had to ride on the back of a bus? I haven't seen one. I know that many blacks have in the past. I've never seen an ex-black. Michael Jackson couldn't even achieve that. But I've seen ex-Gays. We minister to them every day. We talk to them about how to get out of that sin."

Hutcherson has been battling

Microsoft and the state of Washington over LGBT rights for two years. When a Gay rights bill was before the legislature in 2005 Hutcherson met with company executives and threatened a national boycott of the computer giant if it did not disavow itself from the Gay rights bill. Microsoft earlier had announced its support for the legislation saying it would help attract talented workers to the state. Following Hutcherson's threat the company distanced itself from the bill and the measure lost by a single vote in the Senate sparking outrage from Microsoft's LGBT workers and Gay consumers around the world. Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer then sent an email to employees claiming that the company had made a decision before the legislative session began that it should to narrow its focus on a shorter list of issues directly affecting the business. But, that explanation, in light of details of the meeting between Microsoft and Hutcherson, failed to appease LGBT advocates. Even an attempt by Microsoft chair Bill Gates to quiet opposition failed. "Next time this one comes around, we'll see," Gates told the Seattle Times a few weeks later. "We certainly have a lot of employees who sent us mail. Next time it comes around that'll be a major factor for us to take into consideration."

When the storm showed no sign of abating Microsoft came full circle, announcing that it would once again support LGBT civil rights. The measure was reintroduced in 2006 and passed. Hutcherson then began a petition drive to force a statewide vote on repealing the rights law but failed to get enough signatures to put the issue on the ballot.

Allen Quits In Wake Of Bathroom Gay Sex Scandal

TAMPA, Florida (Observer Update) - State Rep. Bob Allen (R), with one of the state's worst records on LGBT rights votes, resigned from the legislature late Friday (November 16), hours after he was sentenced for offering an undercover male police officer cash for sex, 365Gay.com reported. In the last session of the Florida legislature he sponsored a failed bill that would have tightened the state's prohibition on public sex. He also has been a supporter of amending the state constitution to ban same-sex marriage and has opposed a bill to curb bullying of gay students.



State Rep. Bob Allen (R)

Allen was sentenced to serve six months of probation. He must pay a \$250 fine, court costs and \$245 restitution to Titusville Police Department. Allen also was ordered to undergo testing for HIV and other STDs, complete a class in HIV awareness class and to stay away from the park where he was arrested.

The conservative Republican submitted his resignation to House Speaker Marco Rubio, who had pressed Allen to give up his legislative seat since his conviction on charges of lewd conduct and soliciting. Allen's resignation though is not effective until February 15, 2008 unless the Secretary of State can arrange a special election before then.

It could cost taxpayers more than \$400,000 to elect a replacement to serve the remainder of Rep. Bob Allen's term in the Florida House. But state Republican leaders and colleagues, who pressured the disgraced seven-year lawmaker to resign, and potential candidates hoping to replace him said that it will be money well-spent.

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Favorite Books Of The New Queerlenium

The GLBT Services Committee was established in 1997 to better serve southern Arizona's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender library users. It seeks to fulfill this mission by creating exciting programs such as GLBT author visits, and through participation at various outreach events such as OUToberFEST and Tucson's annual Pride Parade.

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PCPL is one of the few public libraries in the country to have an established GLBT Services Committee. It's an exciting time for GLBT-themed publishing.

More and more books reflecting the strength, experience and vision of GLBT people appear on the shelves of book stores and libraries. The Pima County Public Library's GLBT Services Committee are proud to offer our favorite recent books that are by and about GLBT people. We hope this offering inspires you to read one or more of these marvelous books

On The Down Low: A Journey into the Lives of "Straight" Black Men who Sleep with Men by J.L. King (Broadway Books). The premise of this book is that a sizeable percentage of "straight" African-American men are having unsafe man-to-man sex, thus exposing their female partners to HIV, in ever increasing numbers. With this in mind Mr. King writes to a female audience; giving them pointers on what to look for in order to tell if the man they are involved with is on the Down Low (DL).

I felt that the book is really more about raising suspicion in your relationships than about the proclivities of certain men. The reader continually is told about the behavior of "brothers" who while ostensibly heterosexual have an alternative self that is engaged in all kinds of homosexual behavior - which they just won't acknowledge. Almost anything a man does or doesn't do is suspect. I feel bad for the women who rely on this book to clarify things for them. According to Mr. King's logic nothing short of catching your husband or boyfriend in the act is going to prove that they're on the DL. To ease fears about the possibility of being in a

relationship with a DL man each dire warning is countered with an acknowledgement that the guy might be a bona fide heterosexual with no DL inclinations at all. I won't even get into the part where he tells women to have a Gay friend play a decoy to "draw" their man out and then tell them if he played or not. Besides being a terrible thing to ask a friend to do, it doesn't say much for Mr. King's attitude about Gay men. Though, to his credit he does state that honesty in a relationship is the best way to deal with problems.

I guess what bothered me the most about Mr. King is his own homophobia. He can't bring himself to say he's Gay, he somewhat grudgingly admits to Bisexuality, but I don't buy it. Maybe he's not Gay, but he sure does engage in a lot of homosexual activity. He states, "If I admit I'm Gay, my son's friends will look at him differently. If I'm Gay or Bisexual, every time they talk about some Gay thing on television, some Gay bashing, or some Gay issue you'll think about me. I don't want that." Besides being somewhat self-centered (is he really the center of that much attention?) I wonder what is so wrong with his son's friends thinking that he's Gay? Maybe such knowledge would change their perceptions of Gay men for the better? To Mr. King's way of thinking, what others think about us is more important than how we think about ourselves. How does he expect conditions of Gay men in the black community (and society in general) to ever change with an attitude like that?

On The Down Low would have been a better book if Mr. King had let other men speak of their experience more often and had not continually repeated the same litany of DL warning signs over and over. The subtitle, A Journey into the Lives of "Straight" Black Men Who Sleep with Men, might have worked better with the singular, "Man", since Mr. King's experience and outlooks are what the book is all about. (Rich DiRusso)

Out & About Campus: Personal Accounts by Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transgendered College Students edited by Kim Howard & Annie Stevens (Alyson). The editors have compiled 28 personal stories about being queer in college, reflecting a wide diversity of experiences and backgrounds. There is no sugar coating of reality here: from the BYU student who was told to enter "reparative therapy," to the Santa Clara student who survived a bashing, there are plenty of examples of the prejudice and hostility that Gay students often

Continued on Page Thirteen



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COMMENTARY....

by Wayne Besen

Fired Up

Now that the Employment Nondiscrimination Act has passed the House of Representatives, the religious right has launched an all-out offensive to ensure people can be fired because of their sexual orientation. The first obvious fib propagated by Focus on the Family and the Christian Business Association is that this bill is bad for business.

"Businesses should be up in arms over ENDA," said Ashley Home, federal policy analyst for Focus on the Family Action. "This bill will increase their litigation and compliance costs, create conflict among employees and is simply bad for business."

Notice how they used the words "should be" up in arms instead of "is." What they fail to point out is 49 of the Fortune 500 have policies prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation, as well as ninety-percent of the Fortune 500. With all due respect to the Christian Business Association - I trust the Fortune 500 more than the Faith 500.

Focus on the Family and the CBA aren't really concerned about the negligible affect on business - what drives them bonkers is that they might have to mind their own business. It isn't enough that in America they have the freedom to pray as they wish and practice their religion as they see fit. They aren't happy unless they can impose their values and bully people into adopting their beliefs.

Focus on the Family's true agenda reared its ugly head in a story on the group's website which said: "ENDA would prevent employers from taking sexual orientation into consideration when hiring, promoting or firing."

Well, this is absolutely true. Why should sexual orientation be taken into consideration for a job? If people work hard, pay taxes and play by the rules they shouldn't have their careers ruined and personal finances wrecked because of an employer's religious hang ups.

"ENDA also could silence religious speech in the workplace," the story goes on to say. Hiram Sasser, Director of Litigation for the Free Market Foundation, elaborated on this point in a debate against me on the Alan Colmes radio show, by complaining that ENDA might force him to take down a screen saver with a Bible verse condemning homosexuality.

First, the notion of "free speech" at work is patently absurd. If we could truly say whatever we wanted to our boss - few people would be employed. There is reasonable expectation that employees make the effort to create a harmonious workplace. Condemning anyone - for whatever reason - results in a hostile work environment that lowers morale and production. Any employee that can't make it through eight hours without hurling insults at co-workers - even if they are based on an interpretation of the Bible - should be fired. Could you imagine the chaos that would ensue if people were given the green light to debase others based on their beliefs?

Of course, these fundamentalists don't want all people hurling nasty barbs at the water cooler - they want to reserve for themselves the

special right to be nasty. If a co-worker insulted their faith - they'd be on the phone with a lawyer crying victim faster than one could say Leviticus. Finally, ENDA has a religious exemption - so no radical churches would be required to hire gay people. Therefore, the choir can remain closeted, as it has for centuries.

I want to end this column with a surreal thought. If the Senate passes ENDA - the bill would go to President Bush. There is no doubt in my mind that he will veto it - however, what if I am wrong? There are three remote - but real - reasons why Bush might sign ENDA.

1. The Cheney family could lobby him and he might have difficulty defying his surrogate Daddy.

2. Bush has few legislative accomplishments. Signing landmark civil rights legislation would boost his legacy.

3. Like rats, the right wing has abandoned Bush's sinking ship. There is a small chance Bush will get vindictive and put a thumb in their eye.

If any of these scenarios occur, Bush instantly becomes the most pro-gay president in history. In the not too distant future, we might pay to see him as the keynote speaker at the Human Rights Campaign's national dinner. Now, that's enough to give anyone indigestion.

(Wayne Besen is an author, activist, columnist and public speaker. He is the founder and executive director for Truth Wins Out, an organization that counters the ex-gay movement and right wing disinformation campaigns. This oped is reprinted from 365Gay.com)



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Talking Camera Aimed At Sex On Florida Beaches

STUART, Florida (Observer Update) That big booming voice Martin County beachgoers might hear next year along the sandy shores will not be coming from the heavens, it may be Martin County officials trying to scare off people looking for sex on the beach, reported the Palm Beach Post. The county is exploring the idea of installing "talking" cameras at several of the public beaches to ward off or catch people engaged in public sex.

"I'm all for it," said Commission Chairman Michael DiTerlizzi, who first proposed putting Web cams at beaches after several recent arrests of men soliciting men for sex at county beaches. "Anything that deters that kind of activity is going to be good." FlashCAM devices sense motion and then flash a bright light, said David Graham, assistant to County Administrator Duncan Ballantyne. After being activated, the cameras issue a pre-recorded verbal warning to let people know they are under surveillance, Graham said. Sixty seconds later, they start recording.

The cameras, which the California company of Q-Star Technology makes, are solar powered and can be connected to light poles or even trees along the shores, Graham said. In July, a sheriff's office sting caught six men at two county beaches on charges of either exposing themselves to undercover officers or soliciting them for sex. A Martin County teacher was arrested and charged with exposing himself to an undercover deputy. DiTerlizzi's call for surveillance also comes after several high-profile arrests statewide and nationally involving elected officials soliciting sex in bathrooms. The commissioner said he wants cameras watching everywhere on the



beaches and parking lots but not in the public bathrooms because it would be an invasion of privacy.

Los Angeles officials are using the talking cameras around that city to catch graffiti vandals, said Ben Golombek, spokesman for Los Angeles City Councilwoman Wendy Greuel, one of the leading proponents of using the cameras there. "It serves as a very good deterrent. That's the key, really," said Golombek, who said Los Angeles has not used the cameras to tape sex crimes. The cameras cost about \$5,500 each, said Graham, who said he hopes to make a recommendation to county commissioners within a couple weeks. Martin County Economic Development Council Executive Director Tammy Simoneau questioned whether public sex crimes, or other types of crimes at the beaches, are frequent enough to spend money on buying and maintaining cameras. "The solution may be more expensive than the crime," she said.

Gay Activist Named A 2008 Rhodes Scholar

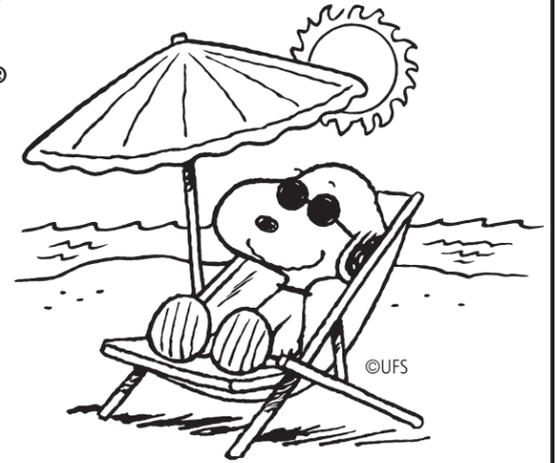
CHARLOTTE, Michigan - An LGBT organizer was among thirty-two men and women from across the United States have been selected as Rhodes Scholars for 2008, the scholarship trust announced Sunday (November 18), reported the Associated Press on advocate.com. The scholars were selected from 764 applicants endorsed by 294 colleges and universities. The scholarships, the oldest of the international study awards available to American students, provide two or three years of study. The students will enter Oxford University in England next October.

This year's winners include Brett T. Masters of Charlotte, Mich., a senior at Princeton where he majors in comparative literature. Masters was a finalist for the national Dante prize of the Dante Society of America and has won prizes in the humanities and in writing. He writes for the Daily Princetonian, was an organizer of the Gay Family Rights Project, and tutors with two local groups. At Oxford he plans to focus on medieval studies. Rhodes Scholarships were created in 1902 by the will of British philanthropist Cecil Rhodes. Winners are selected on the basis of high academic achievement, personal integrity, leadership potential, and physical vigor, among other attributes.

The American students will join an international group of scholars selected from 13 other jurisdictions around the world. Approximately 85 scholars are selected each year. The value of the Rhodes Scholarship varies depending on the field of study. The total value averages about \$45,000 per year. With the elections announced, 3,142 Americans have won Rhodes Scholarships, representing 307 colleges and universities.



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POLITICS 2007

by Mark R. Kerr

Legislative Update and Action Alert: Hate Crimes and Employment Discrimination

According to the annual FBI report in 2006, the number of criminal hate crime incidents reported rose close to 8% over the statistics compiled from 2005. Police departments across the United States reported a total of 7,722 criminal incidents in 2006, up from the 7,163 incidents reported in 2005, an increase of 7.8%

Incidents of hate crimes based on sexual orientation totaled 1,195 (15.5% of total overall cases) reported to law enforcement agencies in 2006: an increase of 18% from the 1,017 reported cases of hate crimes based on sexual orientation for 2005. Hate crimes based on gender identity are not compiled in the annual report.

Despite that bias crimes based on sexual orientation are not covered, as well as gender identity, under current federal statutes, the FBI compiles an annual report based on voluntary reporting from local, county and state law enforcement authorities, over which only 12,600 of the 17,000+ total actually take part in reporting figures.

This shows the dire need to expand current federal statutes to include sexual orientation and gender identity.

H.R. 1592, "the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2007" (LLEEA) was approved by the House of Representatives on May 3, by a vote of 237-180 (Representatives Raul Grijalva, D-CD 7 and Gabrielle Giffords, D-CD 8 voted in favor).

Over in the Senate, S. 1105 "the Matthew Shepard Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2007," was introduced and was eventually added to H.R. 1585, the "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008."

Both measures are now in a House/Senate conference committee and the potential for advancement of one of the measures to the president's desk is in trouble and Representatives and Senators need to hear from their constituents on the importance of ex-

panding current federal statutes on bias crimes.

E-mail or call your Senator of Representatives local office and let them know of your support to expand the federal hate crimes statutes to include sexual orientation and gender identity.

In Tucson, you can call Representative Raul Grijalva, D-CD 7 at (520) 622-6788 or online at grijalva.house.gov/?sectionid=49§iontree=2,49. To reach Representative Gabrielle Giffords, call (520) 881-3588 or go online to giffords.house.gov/contact/email/. To reach Senator John McCain's office, call (520) 670-6334, online mccain.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Contact.ContactForm. Senator Jon Kyl can be reached at (520) 575-8633 or online at kyl.senate.gov/contact.cfm

You can also go online to the following sites to register your support and urge your Representative, Senator, as well as those Members of Congress on the conference committee determining the future of the measure at: thetaskforce.org/hatecrimes07/hatecrimes07.html and capwiz.com/hrc/home/, kintera.org/c.n1121eN1JyE/b.2536927/k.5DFF/2007_Hate_Crimes_Legislation_Contact_Your_Senator/siteapps/advocacy/ActionItem.aspx . . .

Previously reported in this publication, Massachusetts Senator Edward Kennedy (D) stated his intentions to introduce an Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) that would be similar to the House measure (H.R. 3685) introduced by openly Gay Representative, Barney Frank, D-MA, covering sexual orientation only, that was approved by the full House on November 7, by a vote of 235-184. (Representative Raul Grijalva, D-CD 7 voted yes, Representative Gabrielle Giffords, D-CD 8, did not vote.)

In Tucson call or E-mail your Representatives and Senators about the bill. To let your Representatives and Senators know about ENDA online, go to kintera.org/c.n1121eN1JyE/b.3508109/k.B.A.A.B./2007_ENDA_Contact_Your_Congressperson/2/siteapps/advocacy/ActionItem.aspx.

State Taxpayers Subsidized Former Lawmaker's Scandalous Trip



OLYMPIA, Washington (Observer Update) - Taxpayers covered an \$800 tab for the trip to Spokane that spawned a sex scandal and the resignation of a state lawmaker, reported the Associated Press on kgw.com. State records show the House of Representatives paid the money on behalf of former Republican Representative Richard Curtis of La Center.

The roughly \$800 bill covered his mileage, hotel stay and daily expenses during a three-day October planning retreat for Republican state lawmakers. As that retreat was winding down, police reports say Curtis complained that a man he'd had sex with was trying to blackmail him. Curtis resigned

soon after those details became public. He had voted against Gay-rights bills in the Legislature.

The House's chief clerk says she briefly considered not paying Curtis for the trip. But Barbara Baker says she couldn't find justification for that step. Baker says Curtis attended all the meetings he was supposed to. And she says any activity that got him in trouble occurred on his own time. The state received Curtis' expense forms on the same day police say he was complaining about the alleged blackmail attempt.



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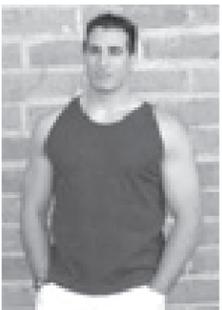
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*The Reader Speaks***RAVE or RANT****Shattering Some Myths**

by Gerald Libonati

Gay and Lesbian people often grow up being taught the same homophobic attitudes as their peers.

With few role models to correct the misinformation, we believed many of the myths surrounding homosexuality. Sometimes we carried those beliefs into adulthood. So maybe it's time to shatter a few.

The much beloved notion that homosexuality is an illness was disputed by Freud as far back as 1951. He said, "...homosexuality is assuredly no advantage, but it is nothing to be ashamed of, no vice, no degradation, it cannot be classified as an illness."

Just about everything written about homosexuality prior to 1960 was taken from people in therapy or in prison, according to Joseph Norton in *Counseling on Homosexuality*

That means they either had mental problems or criminal tendencies. If researchers went to the same groups to find out what it was like to be heterosexual, they would have come away with an equally unflattering conclusion.

Contrary to popular belief, all transvestites are not gay. In fact, researchers have written that most transvestites, people who derive pleasure from wearing the clothes associated with the opposite sex, are heterosexual; many of them married men.

An idea that has caused confusion and frustration is the belief

that one can, with great will power, change one's sexual orientation. Judd Marmor wrote in *Homosexual Behavior*, "There is no evidence that a person's basic sexual orientation has been or can be changed."

One can change his or her behavior to mimic an interest in the opposite sex, but no one can change their orientation.

If you can't change our own orientation, then you certainly cannot change anyone else's orientation. Some people believe homosexuals have the amazing ability to influence children by our mere presence. Concern has been expressed that if kids see gay and lesbian people being open about their lives, they might be turned.

Researcher John Money wrote that, "neither homosexuals nor heterosexuals can recruit children or adults...sexual orientation will not be altered by contact with or exposure to gays or straights. Sexuality is an innate part of a person's personality and not a chosen orientation."

It is unfortunate that gay men and lesbian women grow up believing the same myths that some homophobic mainsteamers believe. That why it is up to us to us to educate ourselves. It is much easier to love the reflection in the mirror when it's not the boogeyman we were warned about. Peeling away the erroneous myth reveals the wonderful reality about ourselves.

Gerald Libonati is a journalist and novelist. He is the author of *The Adjuster* and *The Artist's Life*.

Favorite Books

Continued from Page Eight

face. Other stories deal with self-discovery, coming out, solidarity with other queer students, various levels of sexual awareness and/or confusion, and, thankfully, some instances of acceptance and support from straight peers. The voices are honest and articulate, and the book could be a lifesaver for GLBT students who need to know that they're not alone. (Chris Dashiell)

Bloom briefly places each phenomenon in historical context, followed by recent medical and psychological standards and data. She then compassionately interviews those closely involved; individuals who were not born with medically "normal" genitalia, female to male transsexuals, crossdressing heterosexual men, their partners and loved ones, social scientists, physicians, and psychologists. Just as Bloom's understanding of gender and sexuality radically changed through the course of writing this book, your own ideas of what is male and female are bound to be challenged by this fascinating and extremely well written book. (Karyn Prechtel)

For more information, visit your local Pima County library or go online to tppl.org/community/glbti/index.cfm.

Two Women Arrested In 'Top Chef' Attack Case

SEA CLIFF, NEW YORK (Observer Update) - Two women have been charged in the case of a former contestant on Bravo's Top Chef who said she was beaten by attackers in Sea Cliff, N.Y., yelling anti-Gay slurs over Labor Day weekend, reported the Associated Press on advocate.com.

Nassau County police announced the arrests on Saturday (November 17) after Josie Smith-Malave, who was featured on the second season of the reality show, had accused investigators of not pursuing her case vigorously.

Smith-Malave, who is a Lesbian, said she and three other women were assaulted by about a dozen people after being told to leave a Sea Cliff bar on September 1, according to police. The attackers yelled slurs about the women's perceived sexual orientation, spat on them, and hit them, police said. Melissa Trimarchi, 21, was charged with misdemeanor assault, police said. She was released on an appearance ticket until a November 30 court date. No working telephone number could be found for Trimarchi at the Sea Cliff address police gave, and they didn't know whether she had an attorney. Elizabeth Borroughs, 20, was charged with aggravated harassment, also a misdemeanor. She also was released on an appearance ticket and is due in court. A woman who identified herself as Borroughs at the Glen Cove address police gave said Saturday that she didn't know about the case. Police were unsure whether she had a lawyer. A homeless man, Matthew W. Walli, 20, was accused of stealing a victim's video camera during the attack. He was arrested in September on a charge of robbery as a bias crime. His lawyer's name and the status of his court case were not immediately available on Sunday.

Smith-Malave's lawyer, Yetta Kurland, rapped the investigation, saying police hadn't gone after all suspects vigorously and had failed "to treat the vicious attack...as the violent hate crime that it was." Kurland didn't immediately respond to a telephone message left at her office. Smith-Malave, a 32-year-old Miami native, is a former sous-chef for the Marlow and Sons restaurant in Brooklyn. She has played for the New York Sharks of the Independent Women's Football League.

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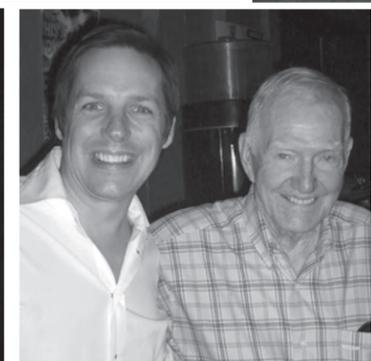
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Task Force Taps Dr. Jaime Grant To Head LGBT Think Tank

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force has appointed Jaime Grant, Ph.D., as director of the Task Force Policy Institute, a leading Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) think tank, Gaywired.com reported. Grant succeeds Sean Cahill, Ph.D., who served as Policy Institute director for six years before moving to Gay Mens Health Crisis to serve as its managing director for public policy, research and community health.

Grant, a scholar, writer, researcher and longtime activist in the LGBT and other progressive communities, is widely recognized for her work on the causes and impact of discrimination. Most recently, she was program director for the Ford Foundation's signature leadership awards program, Leadership for a Changing World, at the Advocacy Institute/Institute for Sustainable Communities. Grant also has extensive experience in building resources, infrastructure and management practices for a diverse range of progressive academic and movement-based organizations, including the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill and the Gaea Foundation.

"We looked for someone who could continue the legacy of the Policy Institute's past visionary directors—John D'Emilio, Urvashi Vaid, Sean Cahill—of combining exceptional academic, writing and policy analysis skills and activist heart, and we found that person in Jaime Grant," Task Force Executive Director Matt Foreman said in a release. "She will continue and strengthen the Policy Institute's unique work in racial and economic justice, build the Policy Institute as a catalyst to put forth new ideas, new language and new visions for LGBT equality, and will more directly use our existing body of research to support and push our public policy agenda at the state and national level."

sity and she knows the world of grassroots organizing. She understands how research can be a tool for social change and how bold new ideas can provoke waves of activism for social justice. This was the vision of the Policy Institute from the beginning, and I can't think of anyone better suited than Jaime to lead it forward," added John D'Emilio, gender studies professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and founding director of the Policy Institute.

"As a community, we have made huge gains over the last 20 years, yet we haven't truly examined the impact of our progress or the possibilities that lie ahead," Grant in a statement. "The Policy Institute will serve as an intellectual town square where activists, thinkers, funders, academics and policy makers can come together. This is also an exciting time for our movement to shape research and for grassroots activists to use it in innovative ways to affect change and support LGBT people in all areas of their lives. The Task Force is one of the rare places where I can bring my two decades of work exploring race, gender, class, and sexuality and put it to use as we build a just world." Grant lives in Washington, D.C., with her partner and their two children. She began her leadership of the Policy Institute on November 9 and is based in the Task Force's Washington, D.C., office.



Top Judge Halts Iran Execution

NEW YORK CITY (Observer Update) - Iran's Chief Justice has halted the execution of 21 year old man who allegedly had sex with another male when the accused was only 13 years old an international human rights group reports, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com. But Moulloodzadeh's legal problems are not over

As is usual in Iran when a male is charged with having sex with another person of the same sex the charge against Makvan Moulloodzadeh was listed as rape. Chief Justice Ayatollah Seyed Mahmoud Hashemi Shahrudī in his ruling described the death sentence to be in violation of Islamic teachings, the religious decrees of high-ranking Shiite clerics, and the law of the land, the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission said. It is believed to be the first time a sodomy conviction had been overturned based on Islamic teaching and followed a letter from the IGLHRC to to the Iranian authorities.

Other human rights organizations, including Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and the Iranian Queer Organization also pleaded for Moulloodzadeh's life. At his trial no witness ever accused Moulloodzadeh of rape. Instead, the prosecution witnesses all told the court that their statements during the investigation were either untruthful or coerced. A

review by the IGLHRC of the investigation showed it was riddled with procedural irregularities the group said in a statement. "This is a stunning victory for human rights and a reminder of the power of global protest," said Paula Ettelbrick, IGLHRC's executive director. While the chief justice's action blocks Moulloodzadeh from being immediately executed he remains in prison. The ruling sends the case back to the lower court for retrial.

Under Islamic law sodomy is a capital crime punishable by public lashings or hanging. Some international Gay rights groups believe that more than 4,000 Lesbians and Gay men have been executed since the Ayatollahs seized power in 1979. The government in Tehran has repeatedly denied the reports. Earlier it was learned that during a meeting between British and Iranian politicians a high ranking Iranian cabinet minister acknowledged for the first time that the Islamic state upholds the death penalty for homosexuality. The disclosure was in marked contrast to remarks in September by President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad during a speech at Columbia University when he declared there were no homosexuals in Iran. "In Iran we don't have homosexuals like you do in your country. We do not have this phenomenon. I don't know who's told you that we have it," Ahmadinejad said.



At Columbia University, Iran's Presi-

"Jaime Grant knows the univer-

TUCSON DIRECTORY

The map shows a grid of streets. Major streets labeled include I-10 Freeway, Broadway, University, Speedway, and Congress. Neighborhoods labeled include Prince, Ft. Lowell, Glenn, Grant, Campbell, Tucson Blvd., Country Club, Alvernon, Swan, Craycroft, and Drachman. A sign in the bottom right corner reads "TAKE YOUR I.D. TO THE BARS It's The Law!".

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The earth may shimmy and shake but you easily retain your footing when Uranus redirects. So don't fear the heights. Trip the light fantastic and show the world how deft and graceful you are. Whoops!!

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)

This is the week to exert more control over your environment. Find out what is happening behind the scenes and use your acumen and strength to put an end to any underground dissent. Proud Rams not only see which way the wind blows, they create quite a wind-storm all by themselves. Err or does that mean you become a bit of a blowhard? Whatever turns 'em on.

TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)

Social interactions continue to shock and surprises but now, as Uranus redirects, at least these surprises are happy ones. Queer Bulls are pushed and prodded into the crush of the herd. Rejoice, mingle and learn a few things. Expand into areas where you demonstrate your talents. Of course if one of those talents is toenail clipping sculpture, I would rethink it.

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)

Get a grip on your professional plans and obligations. More and more, pink Twins find themselves leaving their career movement to the whims of fate. Why allow others to dictate your direction, speed and progress? Those days are over. Harness your horsepower, gird your loins and take a giant step. No risk, no reward. No reward, no cushy retirement.

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)

Although life is more comfortable in your shell, Gay Crabs should venture Out and explore the world. Uranus redirects and offers exotic surprises. Don't snooze your life away. Catch your extra z's on a faraway beach with a zesty stranger. If money and time are tight, move your travelling show to the immediate neighborhood and get very neighborly.

LEO (JULY 24 - AUGUST 23)

Love has its ups and downs (with more ups than usual) when Uranus redirects. Charming proud Lions easily sweep anyone they want right off their feet. And they will have a wide choice of admirers from which to choose. Be discerning. Your eyes are too big for your stomach (among other things) and you become insatiable. This is bad?

A man who doesn't advertise is like one who winks in the dark: he knows he's doing it, but nobody else does.

VIRGO (AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23)

Balance needs and wants in a major relationship. Have there been times recently when your expectations have not been met? Or has it been the case that your actions caused unintended reactions or even over reactions? Step back and survey the landscape. Queer Virgins are able to get things back on track ... if that is what they really want.

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23)

Unanticipated mistakes on the job have left you stressed, tired and ready to bolt. Reconsider before you walk out the door. Things become more manageable. Or at least "expectedly unexpected". No matter where you go, there is no escape from the salt mines, proud Libra... unless of course you find a clever way of spreading the sugar around the senior staff.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22)

There are many ways to have fun and express your artistic self. Recent attempts, however, veered towards the radical extremes... often with unexpected results. Ouch! The tide is shifting. Happily you now command the party scene instead of vice versa. And you manage to enjoy it with a vengeance. That is exactly the way Gay Scorps like it!

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22)

If your home life has had its ups and downs, blame retro Uranus and sweep the dust under the rug. This is the time to recover and get back into the groove. There might be a few unanticipated projects floating around but at least you handle them with flair and dispatch. In fact, you might enjoy a bit of quiet domesticity... especially if you don't have to clean.

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20)

Before you blurt out your opinion on a certain subject, wait until Uranus redirects. Pink Caps are usually careful communicators but recent mistakes have made you gun shy. Now, although you still experience a slip of the tongue, at least you know where it will go and how you can move it around. That makes you quite popular in certain circles.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19)

Money issue come under your control when Uranus redirects. At least it seems that way compared to the past few weeks. Instead of squandering your hard earned dough on some yeasty scheme, Aqueerians might let it bake a while. Avoid risky ventures and feast on your bread later in the holiday season. Who knows who you may get a rise out of later this year.

PISCES (FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20)

You are apt to make some very interesting first impressions while Uranus redirects. Guppies cannot fade into the background, much as they may try. You are so bold now that you impress important folks. So forget your shyness and find ways to make your presence known. It also helps if you can make your presents known. Hint, hint.

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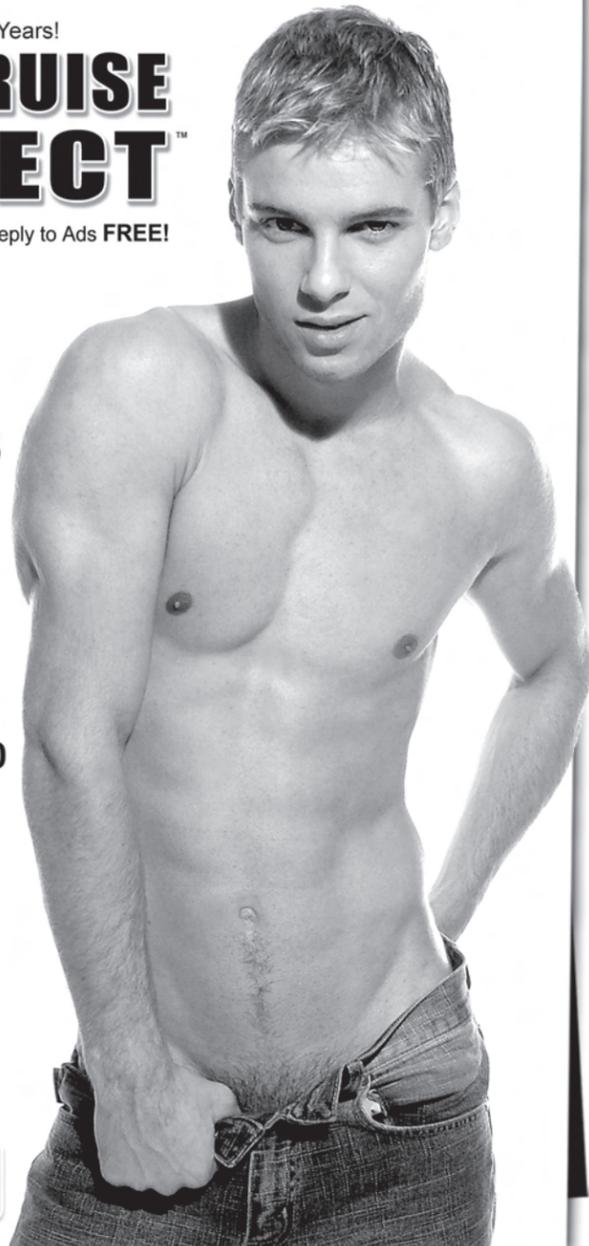
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NON-BAR CALENDAR

Wednesday, November 21st
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00pm Hand and Foot hosted by Jack. 887-3736. MSN Hand and Foot is played every Wednesday at 7pm, but check back here for the specific host.

Thursday, November 22nd
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, November 23rd
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00 p.m. Merlin and Lee host a word for word fun evening of Scrabble. If you don't know how to play, they will be glad to teach you. For reservations and directions, please contact Merlin and Lee at 207-5336. If you're loquacious, erudite, or a wordsmith; this man's game just may be a triple word score for you!

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

Saturday, November 24th
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00pm Shuffle over for Floating Pinochle every Saturday of the month except for first Saturday Monthly Pot Luck. Phone host Marvin at 745-0304 for location, driving directions, and info.

Sunday, November 25th
Men's Social Network Open to men of

all ages, newcomers welcomed: 6:30p.m. Thom and/or Ken host 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 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, November 26th
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00pm MSN Newsletter Night! Join Arlan and crew to help get the MSN newsletter in the mail, plus find out next month's events. Call for info: Arlan at 323-7414.

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

Tuesday, November 27th
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Play bridge with Michael. Call for info: 326-3555

Wednesday, November 28th
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00pm MSN Hand and Foot hosted by Merlin and Lee at 207-5336. MSN Hand and Foot is played every Wednesday at 7pm, but check back here for the specific host.

Thursday, November 29th
Reveille Men's Chorus presents "A Twisted Christmas" at Grace St. Paul's episcopal Church, 2331 E. Adams. Familiar Christmas tunes and not so familiar 'Twistmas' tunes. Tickets \$15 in advance or call 304-1758. Also available at Antigone Books, 411 S. 4th Ave.

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MEN'S BLACK LEATHER CHAPS, 38/34 Black leather dress (lined) vest. Size 46. Call Hal 319-0248 evenings. 1216.

GAY MALE EROTIC CERAMIC TILES. Orgy scene - fully nude. 18" X 18". Write Neal, P.O. Box 5002, Tucson, AZ 85703. Serious only. 1216.

ROOMMATES

ROOMMATE WANTED. Beautiful room in spacious new, quiet southwest Tucson home. Water, gas, electricity and laundry facilities included. No pets. 520-891-8914 1217.

MASSAGE

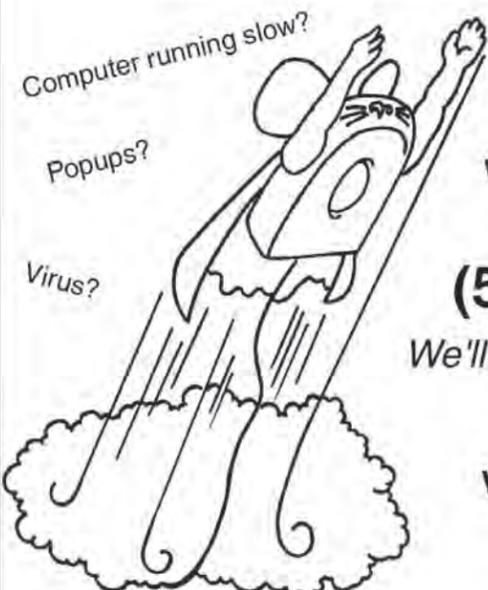
PROFESSIONAL THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE FOR MEN. In-call Only. Private studio near Sabino Canyon. www.massagemenu.com for more information. Steve - CMT 247-8139 1222

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DAILY BAR CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 21, 2007

WEEKLY OBSERVER

BAR CALENDAR Of Upcoming Events

SUNDAY

THE BIZ - Open 3pm-2am; \$2 Pitchers til 10pm and Rotating Shot Specials all night; Latino Explosion 9pm with DJ Hill. Beer Bust 5-10pm

COLORS - Open 10am - 10pm Champagne Brunch 10am - 2pm with choice of complimentary mimosa, Bloody Mary or Screwdriver included. Happy Hour 4-7pm \$3.50 Skyy Cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and well. Appetizers ½ price 4-6. Brunch served until 2pm. Full menu served until 10pm. Nightly dinner specials.

HOWL AT THE MOON - 10am. Starting 9/9. NFL package here. Wear an NFL team t-shirt or jersey and get 50¢ off your drink. Smirnoff Vodkas \$2.50 all day. Free Texas Hold-Em Poker Tournaments at 3 and 6 pm. Play for points and prizes - no cash involved. \$1 chili dogs during game.

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 Watch for special events.

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

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 1st, 2nd, 3rd Places. Happy Hour pricing.

COLORS - Open 4-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7. \$3.50 Skyy Cocktails, \$2.75 well & domestics. Appetizers ½ price 4-6m. Full menu served until 10pm.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Happy Hour all day & night with \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. \$3.50 sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg. Watch MNF here! \$1.00 hot dogs during game. Free Texas Hold-Em Poker tourney at 6 & 8:30, Play for points and prizes. No cash involved.

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 - Half-Price Happy Hour 3-8pm. Karaoke 8pm-12am with 2 for 1 drinks.

COLORS - Open 4-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7 \$3.50 Skyy cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and well and ½ price appetizers 4-6. Full menu served until 10pm.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. \$3.50 sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg. Pitcher. \$2.50 well margaritas and tequila. 75¢ off call tequilas. Free Texas Hold-Em Poker for women only at 6:00 p.m. Play for points and prizes - no cash involved. Fabu Tuesdays with your hostess Chantelle Douglas as your hostess for a mid-week brek. Show starts at 9:30 p.m.

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

VENTURE-N - Open 9am. Patio 7pm. Free Pool til 4pm. Spaghetti Nite (2nd Tuesday every month \$2.00).

WOODY'S - Open Noon til 2am. Happy Hour Noon-8pm (excl spec events). Havana Night with Woody's own Specialty Mojitos, Caprioskas and Martinis.

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 Hill at 9pm! Rotating Shot Specials all night. Patio Bar opens @ 10:30pm.

COLORS - Open 4-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3.50 Skyy cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and ½ price appetizers 4-6. Full menu served until 10pm. Nightly dinner specials. Every Wednesday is "Cabaret Open Mic Night". Sign up at 6:30 - Show starts at 7. MC: Cabaret Diva Liz McMahon. Music Director: Marilyn Harris.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3.50 sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg. Pitchers. \$5.00 Jager Bombs and Long Island Ice Tea. Free Texas Hold-Em Poker Tournaments at 6 & 8:30 pm Play for points & Prizes. No cash involved.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, "Divalicious" 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 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 Vodka 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 now ts at 10pm with Tori Steele, China Colliins and guests. \$2 Pitchers and Rotating Shot Specials. Followed by DJ Hill til 2am.

COLORS - Open 4pm-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3.50 Skyy cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and Well and ½ price appetizers. Full menu served until 10. Nightly dinner specials..

HOWL AT THE MOON - Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3.50 sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg.. Pitcher. Mexican Beers \$2.50 all day, all night. Karaoke starts at 8:30 p.m.

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 Hill at 9pm. Rotating Shot Specials all night! Patio Bar opens at 10:30pm

COLORS - Open 4pm-midnight. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3.50 Skyy cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and Well and ½ price appetizers. Finlandia martinis \$5.50 open to close! Full menu served until 10. "Hot Jazz, Cool Martinis" with Susan Artemis & Craig Faltin 6:30 to 9:30. "Guys & Dolls" drag show hosted by Lucinda Holliday at 10pm. Nightly dinner specials. Drink specials during the drag show.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. \$3.50 sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg. Pitcher. \$2.50 Smirnoff Ice. Triple Black, Green Apple and Raspberry Twisters. Free Country dance lessons at 7:30p.m. DJ Pat plays the best of contemporary and classic country 8:30 to close..

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 - \$2.00 U-Call-Its til 11pm. Saturday night dance party with DJ Hill 9pm. Patio Bar opens at 10:30pm.

COLORS - Open 4pm-10pm, Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3.50 Skyy cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and Well, ½ price appetizers 4-6. Pianist/Vocalist Marilyn Harris 6:30-9:30. Full menu served until 10. Nightly dinner specials.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 11am. Happy Hour 11-8pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. \$3.50 sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg. \$4.50 cheeseburger & fries. \$2.50 Captain Morgan or Malibu Rum all day, all night. Check our calendar for the Saturday Night Special Entertainment.

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.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23

HOWL AT THE MOON - Line Dance Lesson with Libby 7:30p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24

HOWL AT THE MOON - Venecia and Friends presents a Drag Sow with a Latin Twist. Starts at 10:00 p.m.

WOODY'S - Holiday Kick-off Party.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25

HOWL AT THE MOON - "Glamour Dolls" show hosted by Chantelle Douglas. 8:30 pm.

WOODY'S - Barbeque to benefit Reveille Men's Chorus 3:00 p..m. - ??????. Enjoy delicious burgers smothered in Ajia Simone's Famous BBQ Sauce! Also \$1.00 pints.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28

WOODY'S - Sarong Party from 9:00 to closing.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1

HOWL AT THE MOON - Live Jazz and Blues, internationally-known "Mr. Boogie Woogie and the Firesweep Blues Band".

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6

IBT'S - 4th Annual Party Monster Ball begins at 9:00 p.m. Costume Contest with prizes and Drink Specials. Be there!!!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

HOWL AT THE MOON - MCC Holiday Fundraiser Show.

YARD DOG SALOON - Holiday Extravaganza Show! Dinner served from 5:00 to 7:00 followed by a great show at 8:30 featuring Adrienne Alexander, Amanda Nicole, Jasminac Miyaki and Miss Gracie Wray. The show and dinner is a benefit for SAAF and TIHAN. \$25 for a couple for dinner and show. \$15 or a single for dinner and show. If you want to see the show only it's \$5.00 and for a great cause. Come on down!

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31

HOWL AT THE MOON - Howl-in' the New Year! Starts at 8:00 p.m. Music, food, dancing, champagne, silly hats.

Gay Calif. Mayoral Hopeful Arrested For Being Drunk

PALM SPRINGS, California - Openly Gay councilman Gary Cloutier, one of two candidates in the yet undecided Vallejo's mayoral race, was arrested Sunday, November 18 on charges of public intoxication, police said, reported the Vallejo Times-Herald.



Openly Gay Councilman Gary Cloutier

Police were called for a report of an intoxicated man attempting to drive away around 3:45 a.m., a Palm Springs Police Department press release said. Cloutier was arrested after police found him in the driver's seat of a newer Cadillac, according to the Palm Springs police report.

Cloutier was "staggering and could barely stand" after leaving Hunter's Bar, according to the police report. As of Friday (November 16), Cloutier had been ahead by 52 votes with about 400 provisional ballots from Vallejo yet to be counted.

**HATE IS
NOT A
FAMILY
VALUE**

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.

HALLELUJAH RECOVERY DRUG & ALCOHOL 12-STEP. Every Thursday 5:30-6:30pm at Cornerstone Fellowship, 2902 N. Geronimo. 622-4626.

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE CLINIC provided daily by the Pima County Health Department. Gay friendly. Confidential. Treatment and Medication too! Any questions? Call 624-8272

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION (SAAF), 375 S. EUCLID. Office Hours 8am to 5pm, Monday through Friday. Direct services and emotional support for persons with and affected by HIV. Anonymous HIV testing and support groups available. Prevention education programs. 628-SAAF (7223). World wide web: <http://www.sAAF.org>. VOLUNTEERS WELCOME.

P.F.L.A.G. - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays - is a support group available to anyone who has a son, daughter or friend who is Gay. Call 360-3795 or write P.O. Box 36264, Tucson, AZ 85740-6264. All replies confidential.

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

YOUNG AND GAY?

GLBT Youth 23 and under, meet every Saturday in Tucson for sharing, support and information. Meetings are held at 425 E. 7th Street from 3 to 4:30 pm. You are not alone. For more info call Wingspan, 624-1779.

The TUCSON Chapter of PRIME TIMERS WORLDWIDE invites Gay or Bisexual men and their admirers to join and share Prime Timers fellowship. We welcome mature men (and admirers) who wish to become involved with planned and future Prime Timers (TPT) activities. Meetings luncheons and dinners are held monthly. For dates, times and information call 298-6727, leave name and phone number. Tucsonpt@primetimersww.org

TUCSON 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 325_2111_7am_7pm M-F - 9am-5pm weekend and holidays.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

tion. 579-9020

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

DESERT VOICES, Tucson's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Straight Chorus, has been singing songs of pride, hope and laughter for 19 seasons. Check out our website at www.desertvoices.org, or call (520)791-9662 for information about upcoming concerts or how to join.

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE MEN'S MASSAGE GROUP meets the 3rd Sunday of each month. It is a good way to meet other men of all ages, safely, and with the art of nurturing touch. There is a fee. You must sign up in advance to

participate. Call Marc at 881-4582 for more information or sign up.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BROTHERS OF THE COMPASSIONATE WAY. Pagan spiritual group for gay, bisexual, transgendered men. Box 41623, Tucson, AZ 85717.

of sexual assault. Interested persons please call Mirto Stone, MSW, at 327-1171 (if unavailable leave message).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LGBT Buddhist Meditation Group. Join us for two 20 minute silent sitting meditations, and reading from Buddhist Spiritual text and discussion. Bring a friend and a pillow or cushion. Takes place every Sunday from 10-11:30AM at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St. Donations accepted. Contact Maurice Grossman for more info. 323-2293.

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

MEN'S HIKING CLUB - A peer-run MEN's outdoor club for hiking, biking, camping, boating etc, is now up and running in the Tucson area. To join, go to SAGETucsonsubscribe@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 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m. at Desert Dominion, 3843 E. 37th Street, Tucson, AZ. (Map available at www.desertdominion.org) For those who are kinky or just curious. No fee, contributions are appreciated, but not required.

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



Reveille Men's Chorus presents
A Twisted Christmas
 Linus Lerner, Artistic Director



Thursday, Nov 29, 7:30 PM
 Saturday, Dec 1, 8:00 PM
 Sunday, Dec 2, 3:00 PM

Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church
 2331 E. Adams Street, Tucson Arizona
 Tickets \$20 at the door, \$15 in advance and seniors, \$10 for students
 Available online at www.reveillechorus.org, Antigone Books
 or from any Reveille member

