



Tucson Observer Archives

Federal Court OKs Oregon Partner Law



PORTLAND, OR - Gay and Lesbian couples await in line.
(PHOTO: Oregonian)

PORTLAND, Oregon (Observer Update) - A state law allowing Gay couples to register as domestic partners belatedly took effect late Friday (February 1) after a federal judge ruled the state's process of disqualifying petition signatures was consistent enough to be valid, 365Gay.com reported. The state quickly announced that the domestic partnership applications were available online, and jubilant Gay-rights activists predicted hundreds of couples would line up at county offices to register.

"We're a family. We've been waiting for this for a long time," said a beaming Cathy Kravitz of Portland. She said she and her partner of 21 years will be among those registering.

The law passed by the 2007 Legislature was to take effect when the new year started, but U.S. District Judge Michael Mosman suspended it to hear testimony about a petition drive that sought to put the law before voters. The petitions fell 96 signatures short of the 55,179 needed to refer the law to the November 2008 ballot. The petitioners claim that county clerks rejected signatures improperly.

The Alliance Defense Fund, an Arizona-based group that advocates for Christian legal issues, said it would appeal Mosman's ruling. Fund lawyer Austin Nimocks had argued that a signature on a petition should have the same weight as a signature on a ballot, and that elections officials should have made more of an effort to contact voters whose signatures were disqualified. But Mosman said signatures on a petition amounted to, "a call for an election, not a substitution for an election."

Testimony at the hearing turned on whether Oregon counties had a "common standard" to evaluate whether a voter's signature on a petition was valid. Mosman said the state had supplied enough evidence -

if just barely - that a common standard existed in all 36 counties. Petitioners plan to start another drive to put the domestic partnership law to a referendum. "We want to vote - we think that our signatures mean something and it was an arbitrary move by the secretary of state's office," said Carolyn Wendell, who was a chief petitioner in the lawsuit.

Gay rights groups said they were prepared to continue fighting, both in court and on the ballot. "The (Alliance Defense Fund) is an out-of-state group that could care less about the individual rights of folks here in Oregon," said Jeana Frazzini, executive director of Basic Rights Oregon. "They have certainly demonstrated that through the harm they have caused to same sex couples across this state because of the delay they've faced for the past month."

Gay couples who register as domestic partners will be able to file joint state tax returns, inherit each other's property and make medical choices on each other's behalf, along with a host of other state benefits given to married Oregonians.

In 2004, about 3,000 same-sex couples were granted marriage licenses in Multnomah County, the largest county in Oregon. But Oregon voters later approved a constitutional ban on Gay marriage, and the state Supreme Court nullified the marriage licenses.

Oregon becomes the ninth state to approve spousal rights in some form for Gay couples, joining Connecticut, Vermont, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Maine, California, Washington and Hawaii. Massachusetts is the only state that allows Gay couples to marry.

Clinton Takes Calif., New York; Obama Snags Majority of Super Tuesday States

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - Super Tuesday was shaping up as a super battle early between Democrats Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton, with each claiming a share of states in early returns and results seeming to verify predictions that the intense campaign would continue through another round of states, rawstory.com reported.

Clinton won the night's two biggest states New York and California, but the extent of her victory in the Golden State likely would not become clear until all the votes are counted early Wednesday morning (February 6).

Polls in the evening's biggest prize, California, closed at 11 p.m. Eastern (8 p.m. Pacific). Clinton was projected to win California around 12:15 a.m. Eastern on MSNBC. Exit polls reported by the network seemed to indicate that women and Hispanic voter fueled Clinton's victory; she won women by a 57-39 margin and Hispanics by a 65-to-34 percent margin, according to the polls.

Clinton was initially projected to win Missouri by the Associated Press and The Politico, but tightening results as the final votes were counted threw the result into question. Around 12:30 a.m. Fox News projected Obama would win the race there, and he was ahead by fewer than 5,000 votes of nearly 800,000 cast with 97 percent of precincts reporting. MSNBC followed soon after in projecting Obama's win. Results from the state showed Obama's win was fueled by huge leads in St. Louis and its surrounding county, where he bested Clinton by better than 2-to-1 margins.

The evening basically ended in a stalemate, with just New Mexico's votes remaining to be counted early Wednesday morning (February 6). Clinton's wins in the big states was offset by Obama's victories in a majority of all the states voting Tuesday.

Obama picked up extra victories in Alaska, Colorado, Idaho and Missouri, while Clinton claimed a win in Arizona.

"While Washington is consumed with the same drama and divisions and distractions, another family puts up a for sale sign in their front yard, another factory shuts its doors, another soldier leaves for a war that should've never been authorized," Obama told his raucous supporters just before networks declared Clinton the California winner.

Obama, the junior senator from Illinois, reiterated his double-barrel message of changing the nature of politics and inspiring hope among his supporters.

"At this moment, you are standing up all across this country to say not this time, not this year, the stakes are too high and the challenges too great to play the same Washington game with the same Washington players," he said. "This time we have to write a new chapter in American history."

Clinton took to the stage at her New York headquarters to address supporters a little after 10:30 p.m. and before polls closed in California. As she spoke, Obama was the declared winner of more states that voted Tuesday, and his campaign had just estimated he was leading the count of pledged candidates awarded so far.

Obama addressed his supporters about an hour later and spoke as Tuesday became Wednesday on the East Coast, delivering the type of impassioned, inspirational speech that has become his hallmark throughout the campaign.

The former First Lady reiterated her argument that she would be best prepared to serve as president "from day one," a dig at Obama's perceived inexperience, and she vowed that her campaign would not be torpedoed by the same types of negative attacks that are seen to have sunk the 2004 campaign of John Kerry, who is supporting Obama.

"We know Republicans won't give up the White House without a fight," she said. "Well let me be clear: I won't let anyone Swift Boat this country's future."

Most of Clinton's speech seemed to be looking ahead to the general election, with attacks focused on Republicans, who she accused of wanting to continue President Bush's policies of tax cuts for the wealthy, deficit spending and the war in Iraq.

"They say ... why not 100 years more," Clinton said, a clear shot at Republican frontrunner Sen. John McCain, who recently mused about just such a lengthy occupation.

ABC News projected Obama would win the North Dakota caucus.

Connecticut and Minnesota would end up in the Obama column, Fox News predicted before 10:30 p.m. MSNBC soon followed suit calling Connecticut.

Utah and North Dakota went to Obama, Fox News and MSNBC projected as polls closed there at 10 p.m. About 15 minutes later the network called Connecticut for Obama as well.

Kansas also went to Obama, according to cable network predictions made around 9:40 p.m. Those states joined Alabama, Delaware, Georgia and his home state of Illinois, according to projected results.

News networks called Massachusetts for Clinton just before 9 p.m. Early returns showed Obama was unable to overtake Clinton in a state where he had been endorsed by both senators, John Kerry and Ted Kennedy, and its governor, Deval Patrick. MSNBC and CNN did not call Massachusetts as early Fox, but followed suit about 10 minutes later. Clinton also

UPDATE

Southern Arizona Stonewall Democrats Meet Feb. 18

TUCSON - Southern Arizona Stonewall Democrats will meet Monday, February 18 at 6:30 p.m. at Howl At The Moon, 915 W. Prince. The program will include Julie Roberts, Development Coordinator for Equality Arizona, who will discuss their new program.

Also, Les Krambeal, Regional Director for the National Stonewall Democrats will update us on the NDS Convention in Tucson this May. A lot is happening so come and join us. Get Involved. This is an important year for our community. More info: sasdtucson@yahoo.com or Mayurice 323-2293.

Desert Voices "Come Out And Play" Auction, February 9

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Desert Voices (DV) Chorus members are busy gathering wonderful items for our auction scheduled for February 9 at the Historic Y, 300 East University and busy rehearsing for the cabaret, this year entitled "Come Out & Play."

Desert Voice's first parental guidance performance, it promises to be just naughty enough to tickle all funny bones. This show features the best of our chorus and their hobbies and special interests. Desert Voices has a group of women that aren't afraid of power tools (A Girl's Best Friend), men who aren't afraid of getting older (When I'm Sixty-Four), and another group that's trying to figure out vectors of transmission (I Got It From Agnes). One young woman is sharing her not-so-secret desire to be used as a plaything (The Masochism Tango), and another young man is sharing his secret life in the suburbs (Sam and Me).

The doors to the Y will open at 6:00 p.m. for perusal of the auction tables. Tables will close at 7:30 with the entertainment to follow and there is ample seating for all. We are again offering stage-side tables seating 4/5. This is Desert Voices only fund raiser of the year, so come out and see what Desert Voices has for sale, then enjoy chorus members at their best.

Chris Tackett, the artistic di-

rector of Desert Voices, Tucson's gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, and supportive others mixed chorus, said they "have been working, playing, and making music for nineteen years now, striving to reach out and heal divisions among the diverse communities in Southern Arizona through singing and performing." For all of our serious singing and performing, though, these people know how to throw a party, Tackett added.

Tickets will go on sale at Antigones and are also available as well through our box office (520) 791-9662 and from any chorus member.

Arizona DP Benefits Widely Supportive

PHOENIX (Observer Update) - Public response has been widely supportive of a plan to expand state benefits to domestic partners of state employees, according to the more-than, 1,400 e-mails, letters and faxes received by the Arizona Department of Administration.

Most of the feedback came from regular Arizonans and state employees, current and retired.

The Department of Administration estimates that the benefits expansion would bring 315 to 850 new individuals under state coverage at a cost of up to \$4.5 million in its first year. Those additional costs, the agency says, could be offset with benefits savings in other areas.

The benefits-expansion proposal will next be presented to the Governor's Regulatory Review Council, a six-member board appointed by Napolitano. The hearing, which will allow public testimony, will likely come in March or April. If approved, the change would take effect Oct. 1.

For more information, go online to grcc.state.az.us

United In 2008: Progressive Lobby Day February 12

PHOENIX (Observer Update) - Join Arizona's progressive community Tuesday, February 12, to learn about important issues affecting our state.

Learn how lawmakers work and how you can make a difference in

creating a more fair, just and compassionate Arizona.

Wingspan is organizing a group to attend Progressive Lobby Day. If you are interested in participating in this exciting opportunity to meet with Arizona legislators and staff, please contact Michael Woodward at mwoodward@wingspan.org or call (520) 624-1779, x117.

Borderlands Theater Looks At Violence/ Queer Connections

TUCSON (Observer Update) - The Borderlands Theatre presents the world premiere of Peter Gil-Sheridan's "Topsy Turvy Mouse", winner of the Smith Prize, running February 14 - March 2, at the Cabaret Theatre, Temple of Music and Art 330 S Scott Ave.

When Richie discovers a disturbing photo of his parents military involvement in Iraq in his locker at school, a series of events whirl him into the middle of a local murder mystery. "Topsy Turvy Mouse" reveals the connection between violence and abuse in our daily Lives, including abuse toward teenagers see as "queer," and US military incarcerations and torture in today's headlines. Directed by Barclay Goldsmith.

Produced in conjunction with community partner American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee. (Please call for details concerning the panel and dinner). Supported in part by the LGBT&S Alliance Fund of the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona; the Arizona Humanities Council; the Smith Prize; Tucson/Pima Arts Council, and the Arizona Commission on the Arts.

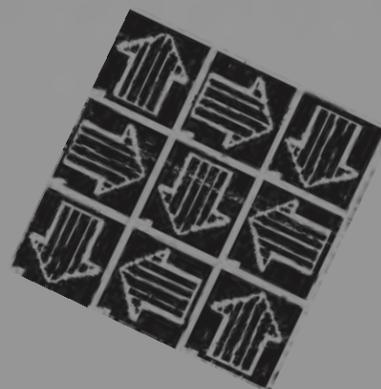
Preview: February 14 - 7:30 p.m., students \$10.75 - seniors \$13.75 - general \$15.75. Opening Celebration: February 15 - 7:30 p.m., students \$10.75 - general & seniors \$19.75. Post-Performance reception plus meet-and-greet with playwright, director and actors. Tickets available through the Borderlands Theater box office (520)882-7406, 40 W. Broadway Blvd (enter through Jackson St.). More Info is available at borderlandstheater.org.

Wingspan Seeking Community Center Manager

TUCSON (Observer Update) - The Wingspan Community Center is the gathering place for LGBT persons and allies in Tucson.

The Community Center Manager oversees all functions of the community space, including the reception desk, information and referral services, the library, the CyberCenter and is responsible for planning, development, and implementation of systems that engage volunteers in the work of Wingspan.

Position open until filled; first review of resumes on February 11. For more information, visit wingspan.org/content/com_jobs.php#ccm.



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Super Tuesday Voting Continued From Page One

took her home state of New York, along with New Jersey, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Arkansas in early results.

Polls in Connecticut and Missouri were too close to call around 9 p.m. In Connecticut, which borders New York, just 4,000 votes separated Clinton and Obama, MSNBC reported.

Georgia and Alabama were Obama's second and third Southern triumphs of the primary season, and like an earlier victory in South Carolina, was built on a wave of black votes. Exit polls in Georgia showed 88 percent support for Obama among black voters, fueling his decisive win over Clinton.

The 87 delegates at stake in Georgia's primary were divided between the two candidates in rough proportion to the votes.

After an early series of low-delegate, single-state contests, Super Tuesday was anything but — its primaries and caucuses were spread across nearly half the country in the most wide-open presidential campaign in memory.

Democrats in 22 states went to the polls Tuesday for primaries or caucuses that will allocate 1,681 delegates to the Democratic National Convention — more than half the total needed for victory. Observers predicted little would be decided on the Democratic side after Tuesday's vote; party rules allocate delegates based on support a candidate receives, rather than the winner-take-all system favored by Republicans.

Clinton was winning only a slight edge among women and white voters, both groups that she has won handily in earlier contests, according to preliminary results from interviews

with voters in 16 states leaving polling places. Obama was collecting the overwhelming majority of votes cast by blacks, and Clinton was gaining the votes of roughly six in 10 Hispanics.

Democrats and Republicans alike said the economy was their most important issue. Democrats said the war in Iraq ranked second and health care third. Republican primary voters said immigration was second most important after the economy, followed by immigration and the war in Iraq. The survey was conducted in 16 states by Edison Media Research and Mitofsky International for The Associated Press and television networks.

Democrats Obama and Clinton conceded in advance that neither was likely to emerge from the busiest day in primary history with anything more than a relatively narrow edge in convention delegates.

"Senator Clinton, I think, has to be the prohibitive favorite going in given her name recognition, but we've been steadily chipping away," said Obama, seeking to downplay expectations.

As she voted in Chappaqua, N.Y., Clinton said, "The stakes are huge." Her aides conceded in advance that Obama might win more Super Tuesday delegates than the former first lady.

Already, both campaigns were looking ahead to Feb. 9 contests in Louisiana, Nebraska and Washington state and February 12 primaries in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia. And increasingly, it looked like the Democrats' historic race would go into early spring, possibly longer.

Clinton led Obama in the delegate chase as the polls opened, 261 to 202, on the strength of so-called

superdelegates. They are members of Congress and other party leaders, not chosen by primary voters or caucus-goers. It takes 2,025 delegates to win the Democratic nomination.

Among delegates actually selected by voters in the first four primaries and caucuses, Obama maintained a slight edge before Tuesday's vote, but his advisers sought to lower expectations earlier in the week, saying the Illinois Senator hoped to keep his margin within 100 delegates of the former First Lady.

The de facto national primary was the culmination of a relentless campaign that moved into overdrive during Christmas week.

After a brief rest for the holiday, the candidates flew back to Iowa on Dec. 26 for a final stretch of campaigning before the state's caucuses offered the first test of the election year. New Hampshire's traditional first-in-the-nation primary followed a few days later, then a seemingly endless series of campaign days interspersed by debates and a handful of primaries and caucuses.

Along the way, the poorest performers dropped out: Democratic Sens. Joe Biden and Chris Dodd, New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson and Rep. Dennis Kucinich of Ohio; and Republican Reps. Duncan Hunter and Tom Tancredo, and former Tennessee Sen. Fred Thompson. Former Sen. John Edwards pulled out of the Democratic race last week, and former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani left the Republican field. Edwards offered no endorsement as he exited, instead leaving Obama and Clinton to vie for help from his fundraisers and supporters.

But Obama benefited from an

endorsement by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, who made a series of campaign appearances in California as well as his home state of Massachusetts.

Giuliani quit the race and backed McCain in the same breath, clearing the way for the Westerner in New York and New Jersey.

Giuliani's departure also made it possible for California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to back McCain. Schwarzenegger said he would not have done so as long as the former mayor was in the race.

Obama and Clinton spent an estimated \$20 million combined to advertise on television in the Feb 5 states.

Obama spent \$11 million, running ads in 18 of the 22 states with Democratic contests. Clinton ran ads in 17, for a total of \$9 million.

Neither advertised in Illinois, Obama's home state.

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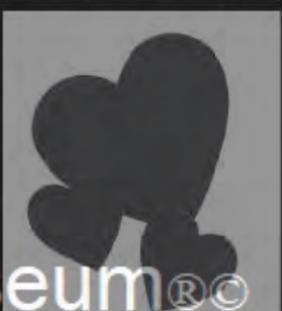
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UPDATE

LGBT Scholarships Offered

TUCSON (Observer Update) - It's that time of year again to apply for LGBT scholarships offered through PFLAG Tucson and Men's Social Network.

This year six \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded through PFLAG to LGBT persons to attend an institution of higher education. In addition, Men's Social Network will award two \$1,000 Jerry Curl Scholarships to gay male students through PFLAG's application process. The application deadline is March 31, 2008.

The requirements for application are: Must be a Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual or Transgender person to receive a PFLAG scholarship and a gay male student to receive a Jerry Curl Scholarship; and must be accepted to an institution of higher education for the period for which the scholarship is requested.

A complete application packet, which can be downloaded at pflagtucson.org/scholarships/index.html, shall consist of: The application (personal information page); an essay detailing the applicant's plan for higher education, activities within the community, and why PFLAG Tucson/Men's Social Network should award a scholarship to them; two letters of recommendation (one must be from someone other than a family member); and a copy of the student's admission acceptance letter (if the applicant is a

current student, then a copy of the most recent grade report).

The essay should be typed, double-spaced, no longer than two one-sided pages or one front-to-back page and detailed enough to describe the applicant and his/her situation to the committee. Remember, any information that is provided will be used only to select the seven worthy candidates and will be kept in the strictest confidence. All information must be submitted to the following address in one envelope and postmarked by March 31, 2008: PFLAG Tucson Scholarship Application, P O Box 36264, Tucson AZ 85740-6264

The applications for the PFLAG Tucson Scholarships are reviewed by the Board of Directors, or by a committee established by the Board, and a representative from Men's Social Network. Applications will be judged on an individual basis using only the information provided by the applicant. All applicants will be notified by mail of the committee's decisions by April 30, 2008. The board of directors of PFLAG Tucson and their families are excluded from receiving or applying for this scholarship.

If you have any questions, please contact PFLAG Tucson at pflagtuc@pflagtucson.org or call (520) 360-3795.

Free Beginners Computer Classes For Seniors., February 9 & 16

TUCSON (Observer Update) - If you have always wanted to know more about using a computer and your friends are bugging you to wade into the cyberworld, this is a perfect opportunity to learn from the proven OASIS model in the company of other LGBT seniors in Wingspan's computer lab. Classes are being taught by the talented and knowledgeable Wingspan volunteer, Rick.

in this free series on Saturday Feb 9 and 16, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Never tried a computer before? Wondering what all the excitement is about? Join this two hour class and find out a bit about computers. This is a hands-on class that will acquaint you with a computer for the first time.

Space is limited so contact Penelope Starr at Wingspan, (520) 624-1779 x122, to reserve a spot for you.

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Lisa Otey Owns Tucson

By Jimmy Petrol

TUCSON - Lisa Otey has been a Tucson Icon for as long as Linda Ronstadt and Paul Newman have been missing in action (I've never seen them performing here....just hear rumors that they have houses here). Lisa is the big female Icon; her shows, especially playing her "Desert Divas" gig, draws huge crowds of over 30 ladies; her last Diva concert on the 19th of January drew a crowd I counted as around 400 strong. Almost everyone there was female; I can't vouch for anything else, but they seemed to be mostly female duos. And of course, Lisa is one of us. Well, again, all I know is that she introduced her partner to me and she was a she. The rest I leave to you.



Lisa Otey

Lisa has been pounding the piano professionally in Tucson for decades. She provided the melodrama piano at the Gaslight, played every Sunday at St. Francis, sings in Steakhouses and bars too numerous to mention, boogie-woogies like crazy with Mr Boogie-Woogie....and of course, began the wonderful (almost) all female Desert Divas years ago. The Divas...Lisa on the piano, Hurricane Carla on the Sax, Diane Van Deurzen, Liz McMahon and Regina Wills on vocals (Hurricane and Lisa also sing) and a couple of cool bluesy guys (John Westfall on drums and Rich Nordenberg on base) round out a group that fills the Berger with women's really hot voices and shimmering sexiness. These aren't Brittany gyrating on an imaginary Pole....they have real singing voices that need no huge accompaniment or electronic masking; they are just plain good.

The wizard behind this venture, the only one like it anywhere I know about, is Lisa Otey. This Tucson Lady is smooth, tall and bluesy. Her eyes smoke out at you from an inquisitive, smiling face. She is taller than me, and when I stand close to her, I am aware that she is looking easily past JP's snappy exterior and into his quirky little soul. She waits for you to do or say whatever you have to do or say, kind of floating there in front of you, above you, surrounding you in an odd sense of timelessness. There is nothing there except you then, and Lisa waiting to see what you have for her. It is the performer's soul, used to scrutiny and happy to return the piercing gaze of any interviewer. It is the only time I have ever felt that my interview was being graded. Not that Lisa would give anyone any kind of grade....I have a feeling that with Lisa, it is simply pass or fail. This lady has a presence. I ask her what she thinks about when she is playing....she looks at me like the dunce I must be and flatly says, "The music!". Undaunted, I ask her what she thinks about when she is just daydreaming, letting her mind go where it will. This time I can tell I've asked a new question. She thinks a bit, then says, "I think about the next show...the next thing I am going to do, how it will go, what I am going to do with it." A smile. I don't doubt her. She is Truth.

Her Divas are Grand Divas; boas bound both on stage and in the audience. The ladies sing with a confidence that comes from being loved by the audience; we saw them

several years ago and they have honed the performance to a level that is hard to criticize. Hurricane is amazing on the sax, sultry when she sings. The sax wails it's brassy, scratchy, surging cry like a mechanical cat in heat; pure sex. Carla's playing is so smooth, so on key, that it disappears into the matrix of the total sound. There is a lot of power in Otey's piano (another reviewer calls her left hand a 'jackhammer') and there is nothing like her boogie. All the while there are three other women singing low, medium and high like a trio of high energy backup singers from 1929. There is a benevolent despot in Lisa...the lead singing runs round robin through the group and everybody gets a song that is specially suited to her specific vocal style and strength. You wanna hear some high notes? Liz makes you wanna cry. She's so cute when she hits a high one perfectly and then looks surprised it came off.

Every one of these guys is good enough to be a pro. They are pros, too....but day jobs snare them all; only Lisa earns her bread with music, playing a variety of gigs and combos in Tucson, Phoenix and even overseas. Lisa, Tucson's workingest female musician, still here, still doin' it, getting smoother all the time and giving us great shows, the best Boogie and the truest course. Go online to LisaOtey.com for upcoming fun.

(Jimmy Petrol can be reached at jpetroulisx@yahoo.com.)

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TUCSON'S ONLY MEN'S BAR

TUCSON LEATHER/LEVI COMMITTEE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH

Tucson Observer Archives

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To see pictures of previous events please visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TucsonLeather>

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Tucson Observer Archives

McCain Targeted Romney With Anti-Gay Robo-Calls In Florida

TALLAHASSEE, Florida - Did John McCain learn his lesson on the power of push polls, robocalls and smear tactics in the South Carolina primary of 2000? No, not really. During the Florida presidential primary, the McCain campaign has aggressively bombarded Florida voters with a deceptive robo-call that attacks "Multiple Choice" Mitt Romney's formerly Gay-friendly positions—and ignores



Mitt Romney

John McCain

his own flip-flopping on Gay rights and marriage equality.

Text of automated call:

"We care deeply about traditional values and protecting families. And we need someone who will not waver in the White House: Ending abortion, preserving the sanctity of marriage, stopping the trash on the airwaves and attempts to ban God from every corner of society. These issues are core to our being.

"Mitt Romney thinks he can fool us. He supported abortion on demand, even allowed a law mandating taxpayer-funding for abortion. He says he changed his mind, but he still hasn't changed the law. He told Gay organizers in Massachusetts he would be a stronger advocate for special rights than even Ted Kennedy. Now, it's something different.

"Unfortunately, on issue after issue Mitt Romney has treated social issues voters as fools, thinking we won't catch on. Sorry, Mitt, we know you aren't trustworthy on the most important issue and you aren't a conservative. Paid for by John McCain 2008."

The timing of the automated calls and the references to "Gays" and "special rights" make it obvious McCain hopes Gay panic will turn out the social conservative vote. Perhaps he heard that Romney would be "tougher" on the "militant Gay agenda"?

"It's ironic that Sen. John McCain is using the same tactics that George Bush used against him in 2000; surreptitiously trying to exploit anti-Gay prejudice for votes," Human Rights Campaign President Joe Solmonese tells Sam Stein at the Huffington Post. "So much for John McCain being above that."

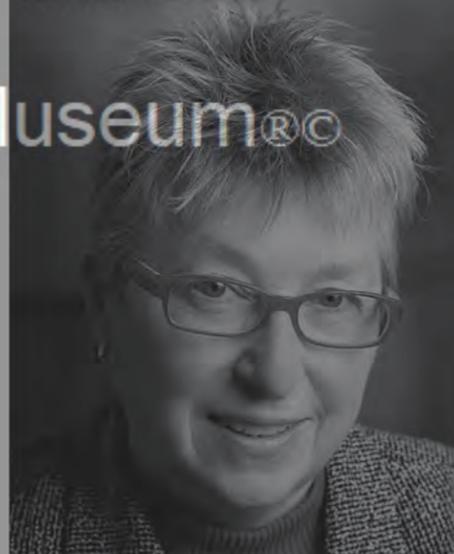
That automated message refers to Romney's unsuccessful 1994 run for the Senate, when he boasted that he would be more pro-Gay rights than Ted Kennedy. Since then, Romney has flipped back and forth on Gay rights, and, at least for today, he is against it. The call - which apparently was pulled tonight, after the damage was done - totally glosses over McCain's records on the "sanctity of marriage." (Second marriage and cheated on first wife.) The Arizona senator opposed the Federal Marriage Amendment but starred in several commercials for the proposed amendment that ultimately lost.

McCain ran a series of anti-Mormon push calls in New Hampshire. This must be his new strategy.

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Abercrombie & Fitch Ad Seized By Police; Charges Dropped



HAMPTON ROADS, Virginia - Police, saying they were responding to citizen complaints, carted away two large promotional photographs from the Abercrombie & Fitch store in Lynnhaven Mall on Saturday (February 2) and cited the manager on obscenity charges, reported the Virginia Pilot.

Adam Bernstein, a police spokesman, said the seizure and the issuance of the summons came only after store management had not heeded warnings to remove the images. The citation was issued under City Code Section 22.31, Bernstein said, which makes it a crime to display "obscene materials in a business that is open to juveniles." He did not say what was being done with the pictures and when the manager, whose name was not released, is scheduled to appear in court.

the incident, saying that he was conferring with and waiting for guidance from Abercrombie corporate officials. The mural-like black-and-white photographs were taken from the store at midafternoon.

Bernstein confirmed that one depicts three shirtless young men from the back, walking through a field. The man in the lead appears to be about to pull up his jeans, which have slipped down enough to reveal his upper buttocks. The same image is displayed on the Abercrombie Web site. The other image is of a woman who is topless and whose "breast is displayed with her hand covering just the nipple portion," Bernstein said. "You could still pretty much see the rest of the breast." The seizure was "prompted by several customer complaints, and the management of Abercrombie & Fitch was notified of those complaints," Bernstein said.

The manager, reached by telephone, declined to comment on

On Monday, February 4, the charges were dropped in the matter.

California Could Be First State With Gay Holiday



Harvey Milk

San Francisco, California (Observer Update) - California could be the first state in the nation to have a holiday commemorating an openly Gay person, reported 365Gay.com. Assemblymember Mark Leno (D-San Francisco) has announced he will introduce a bill that would formally recognize the efforts of civil rights pioneer, Harvey Milk.

The legislation, if passed, would establish a non-fiscal state holiday in his name on the anniversary of Milk's birth, May 22. In 1977, when he was elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors Milk became the first openly Gay elected official of any large city in the United States, and only the third openly Gay elected official in the nation. Milk and Mayor George Moscone were assassinated in San Francisco on November 27,

1978. "Harvey Milk was a true American hero," said Leno. "He gave hope to a generation of Gay and Lesbian individuals whose basic humanity and freedom had been denied and dishonored. His history is our history, and a day in his honor will preserve his legacy for generations to come."

Leno's bill would proclaim May 22nd 'Harvey Milk Day' and add it to the list of state holidays, although it will be crafted in a way so as not to generate additional state costs or increase the number of paid state holidays. 'Harvey Milk Day' will provide a forum to raise public awareness of Milk's work to extend basic human rights to all people and demonstrate that each one of us possesses the ability to create extraordinary change in our communities, our country and the world," Leno said.

The legislation is supported by Equality California, the state's largest LGBT civil rights organization. "Harvey Milk knowingly put his safety at risk and ultimately gave his life because he believed that living as an openly Gay man would help achieve true equality for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Americans," said EQCA Executive Director Geoff Kors. "His leadership transformed public consciousness and paved the way for the achievements we have realized in the past 30 years." Leno's announcement comes as director Gus Van Sant films a new biopic on Milk in San Francisco starring Sean Penn.

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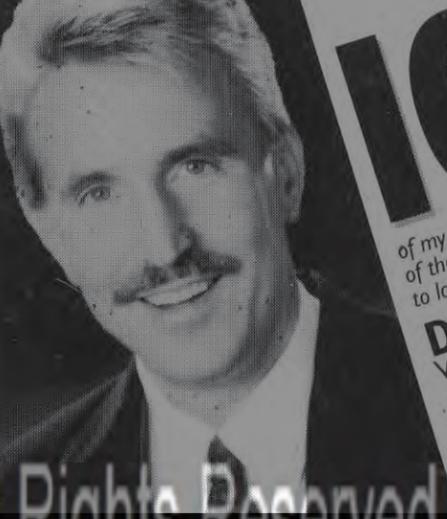
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POLITICS 2008

by Mark R. Kerr

1366 And Rising

At 1700 West Washington, the dark clouds have gathered, creatures with cell phones and blue tooth technology scurry across the mall trying to please their corporate masters while the latest group set up their lunch tables for the gang of ninety as lighting strikes around the ninth floor or in other words, another week at the Arizona Legislature.

While the preening and posturing by the Republican leadership over Governor Janet Napolitano's sensible solution to solve the pending state budget shortfall continues, members of the Arizona House and Senate continue to propose legislation.

As of press time, a total of 1,366 bills, resolutions, mandates and memorials had been introduced, including measures concerning Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) citizens, as well as those either living with or affected by HIV/AIDS, for consideration during this current session.

Arizona would go on record supporting the repeal of the federal "don't ask, don't tell" policy that discriminates against openly Gay and Lesbian individuals from serving in the country's armed forces, if HM (House Memorial) 2001 or SM (Senate Memorial) 1004 is approved. As of press time, neither measure has been first read and assigned to a respective committee.

While Governor Janet Napolitano's Regulatory Review Council is considering the proposal to extend medical benefits to state employees' domestic partners (same and opposite sex) and their families, Arizona Legislature has measures dealing with this.

SB 1371 defines "domestic partnerships" under state statutes (Arizona Revised Statute Chapter 21) as "two unrelated adults who are in a committed relationship and who share a household should undertake certain responsibilities, obligations and duties to one another that they should be required to uphold." SB 1371 has been

assigned to the Senate Public Safety and Human Services Committee.

SB 1199 and its companion measure in the House, HB 2458, deal with family leave insurance would include "domestic partners" as those eligible. HB 2458 has been first read and assigned to the House Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee and House Appropriations Committee respectively. SB 1199 has been assigned to the Senate Appropriations Committee and Senate Financial Institutions and Retirement Committee respectively.

SB 1368 allows for "domestic partnerships" for state employees in their retirement systems and plans, and has been assigned to the Senate Financial Institutions and Retirement Committee for consideration.

SB 1182 that deals with prohibitions of incomplete documents and notaries public, would recognize "domestic partnerships." The Senate Government Committee is scheduled to hear SB 1182 on February 11.

On HIV/AIDS, SB 1113, dealing with HIV testing was approved, unanimously, by the Senate Health Committee and Senate Rules Committee.

If passed and signed into law, SB 1113 would require a health care provider to ensure that oral or written informed consent information is provided to the subject of an HIV-related test before the test is ordered, rather than requiring the specific written informed consent of a subject to be on a form prescribed by DHS (Department of Health Services) or the Department of Insurance, before ordering the test and exempts from these requirements an HIV-related test that is performed on an anonymous basis at a public health agency.

SB 1342 and the companion bill in the House, HB 2708, would allow for the medically accurate instruction in Arizona's public school system on HIV and AIDS. As of press time, HB 2708 had not been first read and assigned to a House committee and SB 1342 was assigned to the Senate Education K-12 committee for consideration.

HB 2036, entitled "state hospital employees; disease testing" would allow the Department of Health Services (DHS) and employees of the Arizona State Hospital (ASH) to petition the court for an order authorizing testing of a patient's blood for diseases (including HIV), if the patient may have assaulted an employee of the ASH. HB 2036 is now before the House Rules committee.

SM 1002 would have Arizona go on record in support of the Matthew Shepard Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act and has been assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

SB 1367 would expand Arizona's current laws dealing with hate crimes to cover misdemeanor offenses and also has been assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee for consideration.

For more information, go online to azleg.gov or call (800) 352-8404.

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COMMENTARY....

byTowleroad.com

Log Cabin Misses The Point

The Log Cabin Republicans are throwing quite a tissy over John McCain's Gay-baiting. In case you haven't been paying attention, the Republican presidential candidate came under fire after allegedly organizing a robo-call denouncing Mitt Romney's Gay friendly ways.

The right wing bent boys (and girls) posted a hypocritical rant on their website in which they blast the "left wing" bloggers for attacking McCain. They write:

The attacks on Sen. John McCain by the Gay Left are completely out-of-bounds and don't reflect the facts.

Let's look at those facts:

Had anyone bothered to reach out to the McCain Campaign, they would have realized Sen. McCain immediately stopped the calls. The campaign told us Sen. McCain never saw the script and never approved it, which is why he stopped the calls ASAP.

Of course, those facts won't satisfy the left-wing who pounces on these kinds of things. But where were these same left-wingers when Democrat Barack Obama, who has never introduced a single piece of pro-Gay legislation in his Senate career, paraded around on stage with an anti-Gay religious leader who believes in so-called "conversion therapy"?

Actually, loads of "left-wing" bloggers - including ourselves - came out against Obama after the McClurkin scandal.

The Log Cabin Republicans are missing the point of the McCain episode. The fact that his campaign - with or without his knowledge - ran such a tasteless ad not only taints the political pool, but speaks volumes about how the Republicans consider queer citizens. The fact that the Log Cabin Republicans can't see that makes us wonder whether they understand liberal democracy - period. Unless, of course, they're more concerned with self-interest and would rather ignore their party's institutional homophobia.

symbols and slogans were signs that students were part of a "secret/illegal organization." according to the ACLU.

The ACLU became involved after Gillman and other students approached it saying there was atmosphere at the school in which students said they were routinely intimidated by school officials for things such as writing "Gay pride" on their arms and notebooks or wearing rainbow-themed clothing. According to students, problems began in September when a Lesbian student tried to report to school officials that she was being harassed by other students because she is a Lesbian. Instead of addressing the harassment, students say the school responded with intimidation and censorship.

"Because the Supreme Court has held that students have a right to free speech at school unless that speech disrupts the educational process, many administrators think they can just slap the label 'disruptive' on anything they don't like and get away with stomping on students' First Amendment rights," said Benjamin James

Stevenson, a staff attorney for the ACLU of Florida. "The law doesn't work that way," said Stevenson. "School should be a marketplace of ideas, where students share new ideas and learn about themselves and others. Just talking about Gay rights or any other topic outside of class isn't inherently disruptive." In the complaint filed Thursday (January 31), the ACLU asks the court for an injunction to stop Ponce de Leon High School officials "from suppressing students' First Amendment rights in the future."

"Writing something like 'I support Gay rights' on your notebook doesn't mean you're part of some secret conspiracy or shadowy organization," said Christine Sun, a staff attorney with the ACLU's national Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Project. "Schools shouldn't be in the business of trying to frighten students into silence." Ponce de Leon is located halfway between Pensacola and Tallahassee, in Florida's panhandle. According to the school's website, about 400 students are enrolled there.

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. On a daily basis they review, order and make GLBT materials available for all PCPL users, regardless of age, location or sexual orientation.

The Pima County Public Library's (PCPL) GLBT Services Committee is dedicated to upholding the library's Mission Statement as well as the Library Users Bill of Rights for all of our customers. 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

Keeping you a secret Julie Anne Peters (Brown Little). As she begins a very tough last semester of high school, Holland finds herself puzzled about her future and intrigued by a transfer student who wants to start a LesBiGay club at school.

What Happened to Lani Garver Carol Plum-Ucci, (Harcourt). Sixteen-year-old Claire is unable to face her fears about a recurrence of her leukemia, her eating disorder, her need to fit in with the popular crowd on Hackett Island, and her mother's alcoholism until the enigmatic Lani Garver helps her get control of her life at the risk of his own. (Gina Macaluso)

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

Lawsuit Claim: Anything Gay Illegal In School

PONCE DE LEON, Florida (Observer Update) - A Florida high school is "trampling the First Amendment rights of students who support equal rights for Gay people", according to a federal lawsuit filed by the American Civil Liberties Union, 365Gay.com reported. In its lawsuit, the ACLU describes what it calls an atmosphere of fear and censorship at Ponce de Leon High School, where the school board's attorney allegedly has said that expressions like a rainbow sticker may mean students are members of an "illegal organization."

"All any of us wants to do is be able to talk about Gay rights issues

without having to be scared," said Heather Gillman, a 16-year-old junior at the school. "Nobody should have to worry about being kicked out of school just for having a rainbow sticker on your notebook."

The dispute began last fall said Gillman. The ACLU sent a letter in November to the school board's attorney on behalf of Gillman, asking for clarification as to whether a variety of symbols and slogans, such as the rainbow flag or "I support my Gay friends," would be allowed at the school. The school district replied that it would not allow any expressions of support for Gay rights at all because such speech would "likely be disruptive." The district then said that such

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San Jose State Bans Blood Drives Over Gays

SAN JOSE, California (Observer Update) - "Lacking further action by the FDA, we are guided by the clear mandates of our nondiscrimination policy," says university president Don Kassing, reported advocate.com. San Jose State University has become the first American college to suspend all campus blood drives because of a long-standing government policy which bans any man who has had sex with a man from giving blood, university officials said.



"This is a terribly misguided tactic that could have a devastating impact on the blood supply and, therefore, patients in our community," the Stanford Blood Center said in a statement. "We agree that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's lifetime ban on donations from men who have sex with men is overly restrictive. . . . However, it is not appropriate to withhold life-saving blood donations while taking on a national health policy issue."

San Jose-area blood banks have condemned the suspension, contending that it could lead to a heavy drop in donations at local colleges, putting patients' lives in danger.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration's mandate violates the campus' nondiscrimination policy, university president Don Kassing said in an email to faculty, staff and students this week. According to his letter, a university employee brought it to his attention. "I recognize the importance of giving blood and we know that universities are a significant source of blood," he wrote. "Our campus alone accounts for 32,000 students and 5,700 employees. However, lacking further action by the FDA, we are guided by the clear mandates of our nondiscrimination policy. Our hope is that the FDA will revisit its deferral policy in a timely manner and we may soon be able to hold blood drives on this campus again."

The American Red Cross and other national organizations that run blood drives have been urging the administration to change the policy, which was instated when AIDS first emerged in the United States in the 1980s, arguing that modern blood screening techniques make the lifetime ban on Gay men unnecessary. The FDA counters that it is necessary to take the precautions because Gay men have an increased infection rate of HIV, hepatitis B and other transmittable diseases, according to the San Jose Mercury News.

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HOROSCOPES

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This week marks the beginning of the end of an era. Pluto touches into Capricorn and heralds in new thoughts, actions, personal power and generational change. Are we ready? Bring it on!

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)
The advancement of Pluto changes the way you approach your career over the next few years. Proud Rams find that they boldly set off on one course only to dramatically change direction because of forces beyond their control. Change is good, or so I am told. The trick is to not lose your footing. Keep your eye on the ultimate prize. Yes, a cushy retirement.

TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)
Although you are happier at home or in familiar territory, Pluto in Capricorn not only tempts you into long, adventuresome jaunts, it practically compels you to do so. Expand your horizons and your tastes. Look for your bucket of gold at the end of the rainbow. Oh, there is no gold? Well there are certainly other riches there so don't be dissuaded or discouraged.

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)
A certain love entanglement may help grease your wheels to success. In fact, your sex life not only undergoes a dramatic change in taste, it also influences other areas of your life for the better. Does this mean that pink Twins should be particularly mercenary in their intimate liaisons for the next few years? Let's hope not but why change a pattern?

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)
There will be something transformative happening in any close relationship while Pluto lolls in Capricorn. Gay Crabs might be expected to go out of their way or compromise their long held beliefs for the sake of domestic harmony. Something, somewhere, at some time will break. Don't hold on to those who hold you down. Hold on to those who carry you up and Out.

LEO (JULY 24 - AUGUST 23)
If you are beginning to feel at loose ends about your day to day job, expect Pluto in Capricorn to change things rather dramatically, and for the better. Proud Lions begin to hate the daily grind. Okay - so what are you gonna do about it? The next few years are a time of consolidation, change and ka ching, when it ultimately all pays off. At least we HOPE so!

VIRGO (AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23)
Your usual entertainments and ways of having fun are in for a change when Pluto ambles into Capricorn. Queer Virgins are compelled to try something new and exciting, even if they don't want to at first. But surprise surprise: Suddenly your tastes expand and you find amusements in all sorts of new diversions. Hmmm anyone we know...?

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23)
This is the time to contemplate your home environment. Whether you move, redecorate or renovate, you find that the usual set up will no longer do. Of course, Pluto in Capricorn can also be a time of great family upheaval where long held dictates and rules disintegrate and collapse. Happily you have been waiting for this for a long time. It is all for the best.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22)
Although you pride yourself on your scrupulous and carefully rehearsed communications, Pluto in Capricorn may make you more of a motor mouth for the foreseeable future. Welcome the change proud Scorp and rev your mouthy engine. It is time to change the landscape as well as a few stubborn minds. If not you, then who? If not now then when?

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22)
Your financial picture may go to the negative ... and then back again with Pluto in Capricorn. Harness these ups and downs with sensible investments. Can you become the mogul you were always meant to be? Use the next few years to consolidate your funds, avoid major risk and feather your nest for a cushy future. Then tell the boss where to get off.

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20)
Pink Caps can only begin to feel the power rise within themselves as Pluto wends into their sign. Suddenly you are able to transform the way you approach others, how you look to the world and who you impress. In fact, expect your very appearance to change. Will you appear to be wiser, motivated and more in charge? Let's not expect miracles.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19)
There may be a few hidden potholes on your personal highway when Pluto enters Capricorn. Of course, Aqueerians like it that way. Expect your life to be full of excitement and change where you find yourself on one path only to shift to another. It is all very exciting and energizing and surprising. Find ways to reduce stress so that you don't totally burn out. Too late.

PISCES (FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20)
Guppies swim in many new social pools when Pluto enters Capricorn. But don't just float by the wet bar waiting for someone to bubble forth. Move, shake and bake. Use all your charms to expand your range of acquaintances and increase your influence. Who knows what (or who) waits for you in the wings. Whatever it is will take you to new heights.

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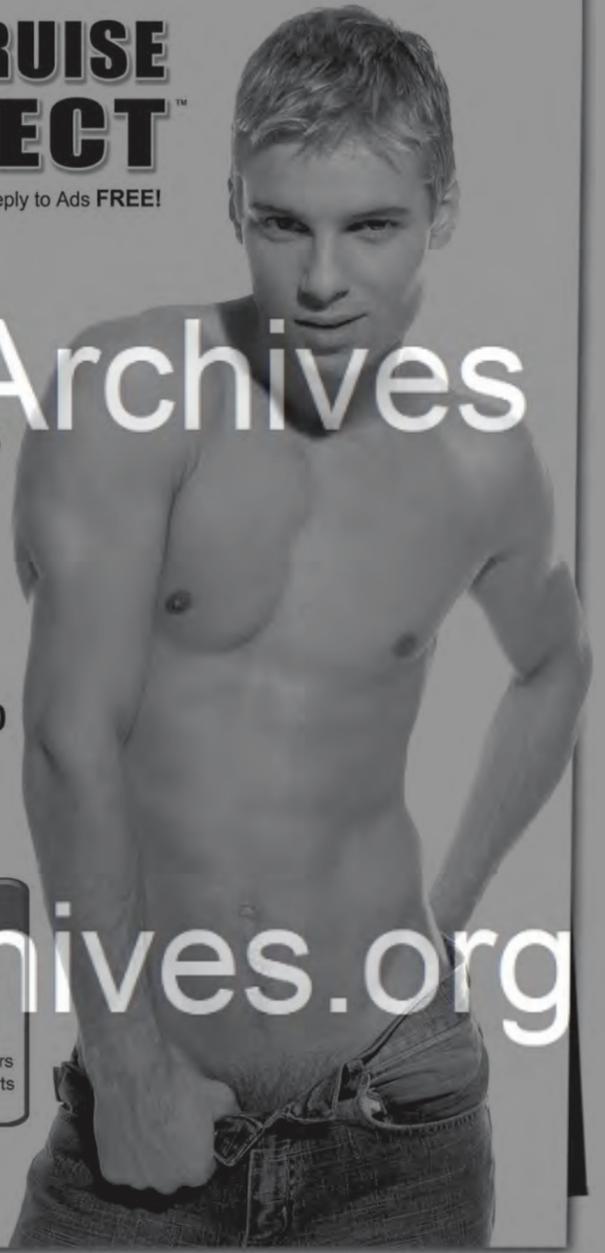
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Gay Monument Moves Forward As Germany Marks Hitler's Rise To Power

BERLIN, Germany (Observer Update) - The 75th anniversary today of Adolf Hitler's elevation to German chancellor is one the country would prefer to forget, but the ignominious event remains part of the weighted history that drives past and future generations to remember the victims of the Nazi regime and ensure their crimes cannot happen again.

Hitler's accession to chancellor on Jan. 30, 1933, gave the Nazi party its "in" to eventually consolidate absolute control over the country in the months soon after, setting it on the path to World War II and the Holocaust that left millions of people dead. But while few public events are planned to mark the anniversary, the lessons of the date are not lost on those whose parents were not even born the day Hitler was appointed.

"I will definitely talk to my students about this date," Frank Rudolph, 44, a history teacher at a Berlin high school, said. "It is a very important day in German history, but of course it's not as easily remembered as, for example, Kristallnacht on November 9, because nobody was hurt on January 30."

The head of the German Teachers Association said many schools had received letters from state governments asking them to mark the date with special sessions in class. "Definitely the entire period of the Third Reich is taught in more detail than most other historical times," said Heinz-Peter Meidinger, who is also the principal of the Robert-Koch-Gymnasium in Deggendorf. "The only problem we have is that there are so many dates to commemorate in Germany."

German students spend at least half a school year learning about Hitler's rise to power and the Third Reich, part of a concerted effort on the part of modern Germany to prevent history from repeating itself. The Holocaust remains "for us Germans an indelible part of our history," Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier said Sunday as the country marked the 63rd year since the liberation of the Auschwitz death camp in annual Holocaust remembrance ceremonies "The memory of the genocide committed by the Germans serves to keep us alert and fight anti-Semitism and racial hatred around the world," he said.

The rise of Hitler, and the Nazis, is viewed with national shame and horror, but its reasons for happening were complex, said Hans Ottomeyer, director of Berlin's German Historical Museum.

He cited the First World War, the rampant inflation in the postwar years, the world economic collapse of 1929 and the country's massive unemployment as factors that led people to vote for extremist parties. "The general fear of social and economic decline was stirred from both the left and the right," he said. "They all tried to consolidate their positions with violence, and that opened the flank to this seizure of power." About a month after being appointed chancellor, Hitler used the torching of the Reichstag - blamed on a Dutch communist, Marinus van der Lubbe parliament building to strengthen his grip on power, suspending civil liberties and cracking down on opposition parties. Van der Lubbe, a bricklayer, was convicted of arson and high treason in December 1933 and executed in January 1934. In a move that shows Germany's rehabilitation is still going on, prosecutors earlier this month formally overturned van der Lubbe's conviction.

In accepting responsibility for the Nazi Holocaust, in which six million people, primarily Jews, were killed, Germany has established scores of memorials and museums across the country. Two new memorials are planned for the capital near the Reichstag building: one commemorating Roma and Sinti, or Gypsy, victims of the Nazis and another remembering homosexual victims.

The Reichstag building, which again became the seat of the lower house of parliament after reunification, already hosts a memorial to political victims of the Nazis. The much bigger Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe, 2,711 concrete slabs in undulating rows that opened in 2005, sits nearby on the other side of the landmark Brandenburg Gate. "The important thing is to never forget, to never erase the memory of the Holocaust - not to punish future generations of Germans, but to serve as a warning to us all," said Rabbi Burt Schuman, an American who leads Poland's Reform Jewish community. "I can't think of a society that Hitler would have hated more than the Germany of Angela Merkel or most of her predecessors."

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Wednesday, Feb 6

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00pm Hand and Foot with Bruce. 743-3890

Thursday, Feb 7

#1 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.

#2 Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Play Bridge with Ike and company! Call for info: 207-6264

Friday, February 8

Tucson Prime Timers, invites you to our weekly Friday no-host Cocktail Mixer at 5:30PM. Colors, 5350 E Speedway

Saturday, Feb 9

Desert Voices Chorus members have been gathering wonderful items for their auction at the Historic Y. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. for perusal of auction tables. Tables will close at 7:30 with entertainment to follow. This is the Desert Voices only fundraiser of the year. Tickets will go on sale at Antigone's and are also available through their box office (520)791-9662. Prices for this event are \$30 (no discounts) which includes entrance to the auction, complimentary hors d'oeuvres and spirits (beer, wine and champagne), and fun-filled entertainment from the chorus members.

#1 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 10:00a.m. Sabino Canyon Hike. MSN members are invited to join Desert Adventures up the Canyon along the Esperero Trail to Cardiac Gap. Wonderful views, 8 miles, elevation to 1600'. Call for info: Peter 881-8276.

#2 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Shuffle over for Floating Pinochle every Saturday of the month except for first Saturday MSN Monthly Pot Luck. Contact Marvin at 745-0304.

Tucson Prime Timers, invites you to attend an important forum on Estate Planning for Gay Men. The guest speaker will be Kate McMillan, Attorney at Law Regular TPT meeting and no-host lunch to follow. 11AM at Wingspan, 425 E 7 St.

Sunday, Feb 10

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 6:00p.m. Dinner Out at one of Tucson's Ultra-Fabulous Buffets. For reservations and directions, contact Thom 623-2941, e-mail thomsepals@hotmail.com, or Ken at

294-6606. Please contact Thom or Ken by Sunday at Noon to facilitate reservations. Price is usually under \$10. Check the Yahoo MSN on-line calendar for the scheduled place. The venue is rotated to include all parts of town, and may occasionally be held at a full-service menu restaurant.

Tucson Prime Timers, men and their younger (21+) admirers, welcomes guests to our weekly Sunday Brunch at 11:00AM Colors, 5350 East Speedway

Monday, Feb 11

Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Trivial Pursuit. Please call Lee and Merlin at 207-5336 for information and to reserve your place at this limited seating event.

Tucson Prime Timers, welcomes visitors to our weekly drop-in Luncheon at 12:30PM. The Wildcat House 1800 North Stone

Wednesday, Feb 13

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Hand and Foot with Marvin at 745-0304.

Thursday, Feb 14

#1 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.

#2 Please call Lloyd at 792-8537 before Noon today to reserve for tomorrow night's MSN Pizza Night!

Friday, Feb 15

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. MSN Pizza Night! Did you phone in your reservation on time? Then join Lloyd for a great MSN Pizza Night!

Tucson Prime Timers, invites you to our weekly Friday no-host Cocktail Mixer at 5:30PM Colors, 5350 East Speedway

Saturday, Feb 16

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Shuffle over for Floating Pinochle every Saturday of the month except for first Saturday MSN Monthly Pot Luck. Contact Steve at 664-2076.

Sunday, Feb 17

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 6:00p.m. Dinner Out at one of Tucson's Ultra-Fabulous Buffets. For reservations and directions, contact

Thom 623-2941, e-mail thomsepals@hotmail.com, or Ken at 294-6606. Please contact Thom or Ken by Sunday at Noon to facilitate reservations. Price is usually under \$10. Check the Yahoo MSN on-line calendar for the scheduled place. The venue is rotated to include all parts of town, and may occasionally be held at a full-service menu restaurant.

Tucson Prime Timers, welcomes guests to our weekly Sunday Brunch at 11:00AM Colors, 5350 East Speedway

Monday, Feb 18

#1 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 6:30p.m. Meet Stephen and the group monthly for dinner and discussion of an agreed upon work of gay fiction. Currently, the group meets the 3rd Monday. Contact Stephen at 241-7854 to add yourself to their e-mail list.

#2 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Newsletter Night & Movie! Help us bend, fold, spindle, mutilate, and mail the MSN Newsletter, and enjoy snacks and this month's movie. Info at 323-7414.

Tucson Prime Timers, welcomes you to our weekly drop-in Luncheon at 12:30PM The Wildcat House 1800 North Stone

Tuesday, Feb 19

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Join Bruce for Canasta. Phone 743-3890.

Wednesday, Feb 20

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed:

7:00pm Hand & Foot with Jack 887-3736

Thursday, Feb 21

#1 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.

#2 Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Play Bridge with Ike and company! Call for info: 207-6264

Friday, February 22

Tucson Prime Timers, Invites you to our weekly Friday no-host Cocktail Mixer at 5:30PM Colors, 5350 East Speedway

Saturday, Feb 23

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Shuffle over for Floating Pinochle every Saturday of the month except for first Saturday MSN Monthly Pot Luck. Contact Marvin at 745-0304.

Sunday, Feb 24

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 6:00p.m. Dinner Out at one of Tucson's Ultra-Fabulous Buffets. For reservations and directions, contact Thom 623-2941, e-mail thomsepals@hotmail.com, or Ken at 294-6606. Please contact Thom or

NON-BAR CALENDAR

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NOTICES - COMMUNITY - NOTICES

WRITE NOW is an LGBT writers' group that meets at Wingspan, twice monthly, on the 2nd and 4th Sunday afternoons, 2:30 to 4:00. For more info please call 323-2465 or email evynrubin@yahoo.com.

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.

Start getting more out of life with TUCSON PRIME TIMERS. We're the local chapter of Prime Timers Worldwide, the preeminent social organization for mature gay and bi men as well as younger (21+) men who enjoy their company. Each month we sponsor a wide range of dining events, cultural enrichment activities, parties, meetings, bowling, day trips, picnics, tours and much more. Visitors are always welcome. For info call our message phone 520 731-3485. Visit our website: www.tucsonprimetimers.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 (GPGCC) P.O. BOX 2097, Phoenix, AZ 85001-2097. E-mail: webmaster@gpgcc.org or call (602)225-8444.

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

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

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

BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO - a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, Call the Bears Hotline (520)790-5775 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910 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, contract TEAM ARIZONA at their website: teamarizona.org

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

THE MEN'S MASSAGE GROUP meets the 2nd Sunday of each month. It is a good way to meet other men of all ages, safely, and with the art of nurturing touch. There is a fee. You must sign up in advance to participate. Call Marc at 881-4582 for more information or sign up.

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

TUCSON PRIDE, INC. (Formerly Tucson Lesbian and Gay Alliance - TLGA) meets on the second Wednesday at 845 S. Craycroft Road at 6pm. Tucson Pride events: Pride Week, Gay West and OUToberFEST. Inquiries about support groups and individual needs should be directed to Wingspan and other local agencies listed here. For more information call 622-3200 or visit the TPI website at www.tucsonpride.com

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

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

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

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.

THIS WAY OUT, 1/2 hour national GLBT show. 4:30 p.m. daily 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; Dezer Girlz (MTF Support) meets 2nd Mondays at 7pm; Dezer Boyz (FTM Support) meets 3rd Tuesdays at 7pm. Also serving partners, youth, intersex, service providers and allies. Call (520)624-1779 x26 for more info.

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

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

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

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

AAPSP - ARIZONA ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY PROFESSIONALS: a confidential organization committed to providing support and networking for all Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual public safety professionals in Arizona. Membership

open to Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters, Probation, Parole and Corrections Officers and civilians working within these agencies. Website: AAPSP.org or e-mail: AAPSP@aol.com or call Dave (520)745-9059 (Tucson) or Kim (602)534-6219 (Phoenix)

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

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

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

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

REVELLE MEN'S CHORUS rehearses Thursday evenings 7-10pm at the Historic Y, corner of University Blvd. And 5th Ave. Join us!! Call 304-1758 for more info. "OUT ON THE TRAILS - EQUESTRIAN FUN!" Rider Club forming. Looking for women and men to ride together on the trails of Southern Arizona. Must have own horse, truck and trailer. For more info write: "Out On The Trails" P.O. Box 44045, Tucson, AZ 85733-4045

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

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

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

MEN'S HIKING CLUB - A peer-run MEN's outdoor club for hiking, biking, camping, boating etc, is now up and running in the Tucson area. To join, go to SAGE-Tucson-subscribe@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 BROTHERS OF THE COMPASSIONATE WAY. Pagan spiritual group for gay, bisexual, transgendered men. Box 41623, Tucson, AZ 85717.

Ending the violence.

Wingspan launches the Anti-Violence Project - a community initiative to assist lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender victims of discrimination, domestic violence, sexual assault and hate crimes.
Call the Anti-Violence Project 24-Hour Crisis Line at 624-0348, or toll-free 1-800-553-9387.



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

www.wingspan.org

DAILY BAR CALENDAR

BAR CALENDAR Of Upcoming Events

SUNDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am; L Word Sundays. L Word shows at 7pm on two 51" flatscreens. Beer Bust 5pm-10pm. DJ HILL following til 2am.

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 1/2 price 4-6. Brunch served until 2pm. Full menu served until 10pm. Nightly dinner specials.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open 11am. Wear an NFL team t-shirt or jersey and get 50¢ off your drink. Smirnoff Vodkas \$2.50. Texas Hold'Em Poker at 3 and 6 pm. Play for points and prizes - no cash involved. \$1 hot dogs, \$2 chili dogs during game. SIN Nite Drink Discounts for Service Industry employees with ID or payroll receipt. Latin Dance Music 8:30 to close.

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. Mimosas & Bloody Mary Bar (Build your own)

MONDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. Poker Pub...FREE. No Happy Hour on this day. Games at 6:30 and again at 9:00pm. 21 and up.

COLORS - Open 4-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7. \$3.50 Skyy Cocktails, \$2.75 well & domestics. Appetizers 1/2 price 4-6m. Full menu served until 10pm.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open 3pm. Happy Hour all day \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. \$3.50 sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg. Texas Hold-Em Poker 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. Beer Bust 4-8pm.

TUESDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. No Happy Hour on this day. Spin Tuesdays with Karaoke. Spin the drink wheel every hour for incredible drink prices...nothing over \$2!! Karaoke at 8pm. 21 and up.

COLORS - Open 4-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7 \$3.50 Skyy cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and well and 1/2 price appetizers 4-6. Full menu served until 10pm.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open 3pm. \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints \$3.50 sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg. Pitcher. \$2.50 well margaritas and tequila. 75¢ off call tequilas. Ladies Only Texas Hold-Em Poker at 6:00 p.m. Play for points and prizes - no cash involved. \$2 U-call-it drink special 9pm to midnight (some restrictions apply).

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. Beer Bust 4-8pm.

WEDNESDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. 1/2 Price Happy Hour til 8pm. Wild Wednesdays. DJ Hill Spins til 2am. This is an 18 and over event..

COLORS - Open 4-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3.50 Skyy cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and 1/2 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 - Open 3pm. 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. 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; Service Industry

Day - \$1 off all drinks except schnapps and draft. 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 Beer Bust 4-8pm.

THURSDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. 1/2 Price Happy Hour til 8pm. 20/20 Thursday's a night guaranteed to F*UCK,, with your vision!! \$20 at the door we take care of the rest (premium top shelf not included). DJ Hill spins hip hop & R&B all night. 21'n up

COLORS - Open 4pm-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3.50 Skyy cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and Well and 1/2 price appetizers. Full menu served until 10. Nightly dinner specials..

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open 3pm. 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. Starting 1/17/08 TNT Thursday Night Temptation for 18 & over. Eat-drink-dance Music with DJ Shorty v2.0

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. Beer Bust 4-8pm..

FRIDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. NOCHE de CALOR. 1/2 price Happy Hour til 8pm. Every Friday DJ Hill spins the best norteno, Cumbias, Salsa, Bachata Reggaeton, Rock en Espanol and anything else that makes you shake your hips!!

COLORS - Open 4pm-midnight. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3.50 Skyy cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and Well and 1/2 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 - Open 3pm. 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 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) Enjoy the sounds of Simon Crown 6-9 p.m.; Martini Happy Hour 5-8pm-\$1 off all call Martinis; Back Pocket Patio Bar open 8-close. Watch for special events.

YARD DOG - Open daily 8am. Beer Bust 4-8pm. Patio Bar Opens 8pm

SATURDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm - 2am. \$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, 1/2 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 2pm. Happy Hour 2-8pm, \$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/ Bunny FuFu 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. Patio Bar Opens 8pm.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9

THE BIZ Mardi Gras Ball. Come dressed in your best Mardi Gras attire. Show your boobs - get some beads! Drink Specials all night. DJ Hill til 2:00 a.m.

VENTURE-N - The Tucson Leather/Levi Committee will hold a benefit here starting at 10:00 p.m. to raise fund for the next Leather/Levi Weekend which will be held March 14-15-16. For more information contact the Tucson Leather Committee at TucsonLeather@Yahoo.com

WOODY'S - Chinese New Year's Party "Year of the Rat".

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Drag Bingo with Janee Starr and Stella Virgin.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

WOODY'S - Valentines Underwear Party.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14

IBT'S - Valentine's Day Red Party. Bar staff in their underwear; Go-Go Boys, drink specials and DJ Hurricane spinning the hottest top 40 and R&B. Come, feel the love.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

IBT'S - Janet Jackson CD Release Party. Listen to her new album and enter to win the CD.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 29

IBT'S - Leap Year Party. A party 4 years in the making.

Stewie Has Been Outed



NEW YORK CITY (Observer Update) - Cartoon baby Stewie Griffin, from the animated comedy series Family Guy has been outed by the show's creator Seth MacFarlane as Gay, livenews.com reported.

In an interview with The Advocate, MacFarlane said the show's writers have kept the character's sexuality ambiguous because they could get jokes 'from both sides'.

While the show's writers believe Stewie is "almost certainly Gay", he thinks the character himself is "in the process of figuring it out for himself".

The acclaimed show often features Gay subplots exploring Gay marriage, adoption rights and AIDS. MacFarlane's other successful creation, American Dad features and alien character who, like Stewie, is also famous for his effete mannerisms.

Informing The Community



The Grandparents Are Out

FROM US TO YOU.....

PHILADELPHIA, Pennsylvania - Back in the mid-1970s, Marian Mitchell was a single mother, a recent divorcee who emerged from the closet only on Saturday nights, heading down to Sneakers, a women's bar at Second and Market, the Philadelphia Inquirer reported. Once, Mitchell's daughter, then 9, asked, "Why don't you date boys?" "Because Mommy likes girls," was the reply.

going to make sure my grandchildren would see that there are many good people out there who happen to be Gay or Lesbian."

Larry Buss and Roy Wilbur arrived at the Bryn Mawr Birth Center early on a Saturday morning last May, a brand-new Gund teddy bear in hand. Another set of grandparents - the usual male/female variety - showed up at the same time.

"I looked at them and said, 'You're undoubtedly the grandparents,'" Buss said. "They looked at me and I said, 'We are, too.'"

Now, eight months later, a picture of Sonja, Buss' first grandchild, fills the screen of his computer at Drexel University College of Medicine, where he manages budgets for the Office of Educational Affairs.

"She is the most supremely adorable, talented, wonderful child," he gushed, adding, "I was predestined to be a grandfather."

Thirty years ago, he might have said otherwise. Buss left his marriage and came out in 1980, when his daughter was 7 and his son was 2. "I grew up in a generation that still felt tensions about identifying themselves," he said.

After meeting Wilbur, an arts consultant, the two settled into a life Buss now describes as "typically Gay" - vacations in Provincetown or Miami, volunteer stints with Philadelphia Community Health Alternatives, evenings in the "Gayborhood" of Center City.

But every other weekend, they were just "Dad" and "Roy" - taking the kids to the Franklin Institute, the zoo, the Art Museum, the Lehigh Gorge hiking trails both men loved. As the kids grew older, they joked that Wilbur, now 51, was their "step-other."

These days, Buss, 63, savors nothing more than a 90-minute babysitting stint with his granddaughter.

"I think Roy and I can serve as a model of a happy relationship," he said. "I think she'll grow up with us as the norm. I want to convey the idea that it's better to be extraordinary than normal, and to follow your bliss."

That outlook may be one gift LGBT grandparents bring to the children in their lives, said Chrisler of the Family Equality Council. "Gay grandparents have a wisdom about how the world can change, and how people's prejudices can be moved over time. They've seen the long arc of history."

"People with LGBT grandparents learn a broader view of how people can love," says Beth Teper, executive director of Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere (COLAGE).

That is, if the grandfolk are out. Nancy Orel, a Bowling Green State University professor who interviewed Lesbian and Bisexual grandmothers for a 2006 journal article, found that some grandmothers feared that coming out would rupture the relationship with their grandchildren. Others had explicit direction from their adult children to keep the "Lesbian issue" under wraps.

"Those who were not out felt a lot of anxiety; they felt shame that they were keeping such a large part of their identity a secret," Orel said.

A generation later, Mitchell found herself fielding a new round of questions. "Mom-mom, what does LGBT mean?" her oldest granddaughter asked after seeing the acronym for Lesbian / Gay / Bisexual / Transgendered on a sign in Mitchell's kitchen.

But Mitchell no longer keeps her identity cloaked. After her longtime partner died in 1997, Mitchell decided it was time to come out. To everyone - including her grandchildren. Mitchell, 55, coordinates the calendar for Amazon Country, a women's-music show on WXPB. Each month, members of the Lesbian Group of Montgomery County fill her Juniata living room for Rocky Horror theme parties or competitive puzzle-making nights. Her grandkids - 19-year-old Kimberly, 15-year-old Kayla, and 10-year-old Chaly - almost always join the festivities. "When I was closeted, it was like living a double life," Mitchell said. "I never imagined being able to live so openly. It's so much easier to just be me."

"Lesbian grandmother" or "Gay grandpa" used to sound like a contradiction in terms. But now Gay grandfolk are a quietly emerging demographic - men and women who married in the 1960s and '70s, had children, and came out later, sometimes only after their children were grown.

There's still no grandparent equivalent of the children's picture book *Heather Has Two Mommies*. But a recent novel, *Grampa Jack*, chronicles a Gay grandfather's fight for custody of his 6-year-old grandson. And an online boutique sells kids' T-shirts emblazoned with the words "I love my...trailblazing...woman-loving...out and proud grandma."

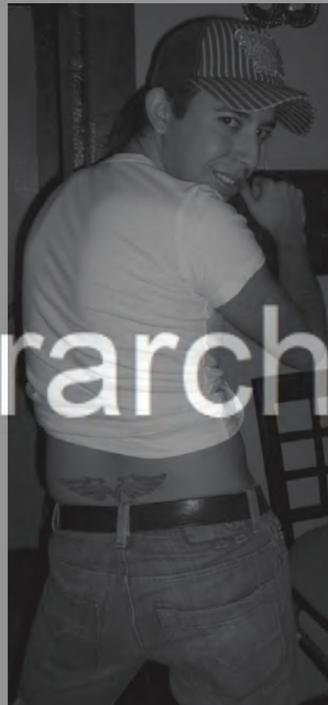
"There is a growing number of Gay grandparents who are looking for ways to explain to their grandchildren who they are and who they love," said Jennifer Chrisler, executive director of the Family Equality Council.

Even the youngest Gay and Lesbian grandparents, those in their early 50s, can remember the Stonewall riots that kick-started the Gay civil rights movement in 1969. In 40 years, the world has changed. And so have they.

Marian Mitchell knew she was different as far back as third grade, when she had fierce crushes on female teachers and other girls. But that was the 1960s. She didn't dare speak the L-word. It's different now. Mitchell's granddaughters spent time with her partner, Chris Saloma. "When I tell my friends my grandmother's a Lesbian, they say, 'Really? She is?' They're cool about it," Kim said.

So is Kim's mother, Angela Bennett - though she does remember a brief period of discomfort about Mitchell's sexual orientation. As a teenager, she was afraid to openly admire another girl - even to say her jeans looked nice - because someone might think that she, too, was a Lesbian.

Mitchell recalled watching television with Saloma 20 years ago, before Kim was born. "The only place you saw Lesbians on TV then was on the talk shows, and they looked like they were scraped from the bottom of the barrel. We both said that we were



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