Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

# OBSERVER

WEEKLY OBSERVER FEBRUARY 20. 2008 ISSUE 1231

Tucson Observer Archives

## N.J. State Commission: Civil Unions Fail G/L Couples

MOUNT LAUREL, New Jersey (Observer Update) - A commission established to study same-sex civil unions in New Jersey has found in its first report that civil unions create a "second-class status" for Gay couples, rather than giving them equality, the Associated Press reported on 365Gay.com.

The report stops short of recommending that the state allow Gay marriage. But it does find that Gay couples in Massachusetts, the only state that now allows same-sex marriage, do not experience some of the legal complications that those in New Jersey do. State lawmakers made New Jersey the third state to offer civil unions with a law adopted in 2006 in reaction to a state Supreme Court ruling that year that found Gay couples were entitled to the same legal protections as married couples.

The civil union law sought to give Gay couples those benefits, but not the title of marriage. As a part of the same law, the review commission was created to look into whether it was working. Gay rights advocates say the civil unions do not deliver and have pledged to push lawmakers to vote to allow marriage. Gov. Jon S. Corzine has said he would be willing to sign such a bill into law but doesn't want the issue to be taken up before the presidential election in November.

The activists say civil unions, in practice, do not offer the legal protections that marriage does. The commission largely agreed with them. The commission held three public hearings last year at which the majority of the testimony came from people who were in civil unions and said they were still not being treated the way married couples are by government agencies, employers and others.

For instance, the commission found that many companies in the state that are self-insured - and therefore are regulated by federal, rather than state, law - refuse to provide health insurance to the partners of their employees. While employers in Massachusetts could legally do the same thing, most do not, according to the report. The commission also finds that many people in the state do not understand civil unions, which create a "second-class status." The commission's report says the misunderstanding of civil unions makes it more difficult for a child to grow up in New Jersey with Gay parents, or to be Gay themselves.

Through Jan. 19, 2,329 couples had received civil union licenses, according to the state Health and Senior Services Department. Some social conservatives have said the commission is slanted in favor of allowing Gay marriage, and opponents of Gay marriage have been pushing back in New Jersey. Roman Catholic churches around the state have been planning special prayers on marriage for Sunday. A major aim is to promote marriage as being between only a man and a woman. A conservative Princeton group, the National Organization for Marriage, has aired radio commercials that say allowing Gay marriage would undermine some religious teachings that homosexuality is wrong.

## Indiana Marriage Amendment Dies

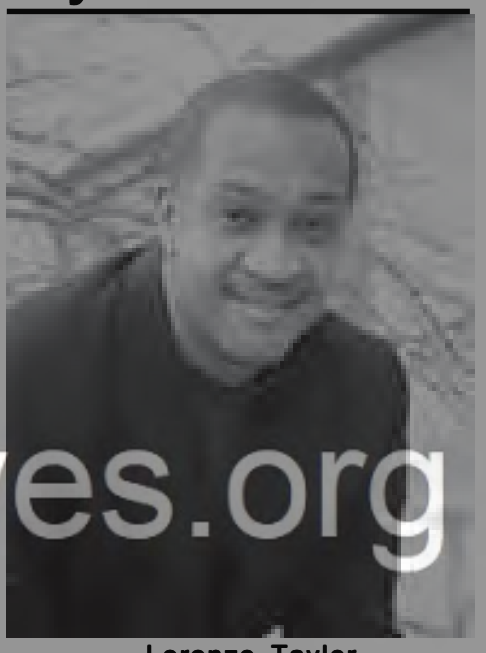
INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana (Observer Update) A proposed amendment to Indiana's constitution that would bar same-sex marriage will not be on the ballot this November after House Democrats shelved the issue, reported 365Gay.com.

Rules Committee Chair Rep. Scott Pelath (D) said that he will not bring the proposed amendment to a committee vote, ensuring its doom for at least four years. "There's no reason to put very poorly crafted verbiage into our constitution, out state's highest document, that could potentially be a lawyer's dream with all sorts of unintended consequences," Pelath told the Indianapolis Star. The measure passed the Republican-controlled Senate in January Pelath's decision did not come as a surprise. House Democrats said last month they had more important issues to consider before the session ends in March. The proposed constitutional amendment defines marriage only as the union of one man and one woman. But, it goes to say the state cannot provide the "incidents" of marriage on unmarried couples or groups. The second part of the amendment would block domestic partner benefits from being offered state employees or institutions funded by the state, say opponents.

Amending the constitution is a two stage process in Indiana, requiring votes in two consecutive separately elected sessions of the legislature. It already passed the first phase in 2005, but last year Democrats also killed the measure in the House. Amendment supporters now have to begin the whole process all over. That would mean the earliest it could go to voters would be 2012.

## State Department Drops HIV Ban In Employment

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - The Foreign Service will no longer automatically reject job candidates based on their HIV status but will instead assess each on a case-by-case basis – as the federal Rehabilitation Act requires.



Lorenzo Taylor

Lambda Legal has represented Lorenzo Taylor since 2003 in his fight against the State Department for denying him employment because he is HIV-positive. Taylor, who speaks three languages and holds a degree from Georgetown University's Walsh School of Foreign Service, received a conditional offer of employment after passing the rigorous application process required to be a Foreign Service Officer.

The offer was retracted because he has HIV. Lorenzo Taylor was denied medical clearance even though he has never had any HIV related illness and his medication had completely suppressed the virus in his system.

This case challenged a federal policy of bias and discrimination. It barred the door not just for Taylor, but for all people living with HIV, limiting their opportunities for government service based on outdated notions about the ability of people living with HIV to work.

Case History:

September, 2003 - Lambda Legal files lawsuit in federal court arguing that the STATE Department illegally prohibits anyone with HIV from being hired as a Foreign Service Officer, regardless of applicant's qualifications or health status.

April, 2005 - Federal district court rules in favor of the state Department, saying that the government should not have to accommodate Taylor by letting him use some of his sick and vacation leave, available to all Foreign Service Officers, to travel to see his doctor.

June, 2005 - Lambda Legal files an appeal To ask a higher court to reverse the decision of a trial court with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

April, 2006 - Lambda Legal presents oral arguments in the case.

June, 2006 - U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia issues decision stating that Taylor presented "more than enough" evidence for the matter to go to trial.

February, 2008 - Less than two weeks before the trial date, the U.S State Department adopts new hiring guidelines and lifts its ban against hiring people with HIV as Foreign Service Officers.

## Arizona Marriage Amendment Update:

By Mark R. Kerr

PHOENIX (Observer Update) - On Thursday, February 14, the Arizona House Judiciary Committee held hearings on HCR (House Concurrent Resolution) 2065.

HCR 2065, if approved by the full Arizona House of Representatives and its companion measure (Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 1038) is passed by the Arizona Senate will place on the November general election ballot a proposed state constitutional amendment defining marriage as between one man and one woman.

Only written statements of support or opposition to HCR 2065 were taken at the hearing. Two people Ron Johnson, Executive Director, Arizona Catholic Conference and Cathi Herrod, The Center for Arizona Policy, expressed their support while ten people, including Sam Holdren and Barbara McCullough-Jones from Equality Arizona were opposed. One person said they were neutral on the matter.

Adrienne Bowers, Majority Intern (Republican), advised that HCR 2065 "amends the Arizona Constitution to read that only a union of one man and one woman must be valid or recognized as a marriage in Arizona."

According to the Arizona Legislature's website, according to the House summaries for the House Judiciary Committee and the House Committee of the Whole, no mention was given that the laws had been challenged by a Phoenix Gay couple in 2003 and upheld by the Arizona Supreme Court in 2004.

By a party line vote, HCR 2065 was approved by a 6-3 vote and has been second read and sent to the House Rules Committee, which only

**Continued on Page Four**

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Archive Courtesy of the Tucson Gay Museum

# UPDATE

## Gay Activist Steve May Seeks Shedegg's Seat

**Steve May**

PARADISE VALLEY - Steve May, a former Republican Arizona lawmaker who is openly gay, announced he will seek the seat being vacated this year or not, by Rep. John Shadegg (Arizona's District 3), reports the Arizona Republic on 365Gay.com.

Shaedegg has an HRC rating of 0 percent, voted to limit marriage to a man and a woman, and voted against Gay adoption rights and laws that would protect Gays and Lesbians from discrimination.

May, a former Army lieutenant and critic of Don't Ask, Don't Tell, led a successful campaign against Arizona Proposition 2006, which would have amended the state constitution to ban Gay marriages. He served in the legislature from 1998 to 2002.

## Winter Tea Dance For LGBT Seniors And Their Friends February 23

TUCSON - A free dance is coming your way! Yes indeed, a "Winter Tea Dance", for LGBT Seniors and their friends.

Join in on Saturday, February 23, 4:00 - 8:00 p.m., to celebrate ourselves and have some dancin' fun at Howl at the Moon, 915 W. Prince Rd (SW corner at Fairview) The music will be a DJ mix of 40's Big band, 50's/60's oldies, Country Western, and the best of Disco. This is our first event, and if successful we'll have more! Food items will be available for purchase, including a "Howl/Senior Pride" food and drink special.

Mark your calendars; you don't want to miss this! If you have questions contact PV at pvtoaz@hotmail.com. This event is sponsored by: Wingspan's Senior Pride, The LBT Breast Cancer Health Project funded by Susan G. Komen For the Cure, Puertas Abiertas, and Howl At The Moon.

## LGBT Seniors Wanted For Arizona Oral History Project

TUCSON (OBSERVER UPDATE) - Pan Left Productions is looking for LGBT seniors in and around the Tucson community to participate in an Arizona Oral History Project.

Would you be interested in telling your personal story on camera to be a part of our Arizona LGBT Archives? Or would you be interested in learning the video production skills to document your LGBT community's oral histories?

Please email Jamie A. Lee, Co-Executive Director of Pan Left Productions, at jamie@panleft.org to get your name on the list.

## The Color Of Queer: The 1st Annual UA QueerPeople Of Color Film Series

TUCSON - The University of Arizona Office of LGBTQ Affairs presents "The Color of Queer: 1st Annual Queer People of Color Film Series! All films are free and open to everyone and will be shown in Nugent, room 2005, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, February 28: "Flag Wars" (pbs.org/pov/pov2003/flagwars/). "Flag Wars" is a poignant account of the politics and pain of gentrification. Working-class black residents in Columbus, Ohio fight to hold on to their homes. Realtors and Gay home-buyers see fixer-uppers. The clashes expose prejudice and self-interest on both sides, as well as the common dream to have a home to call your own.

Coming Up: Thursday, March 13: "The Business of Fancydancing" (fallsapart.com/fancydancing/). Seymour Polatkin is a successful, Gay Indian poet from Spokane who confronts his past when he returns to his childhood home on the reservation to attend the funeral of a dear friend. Based upon Sherman Alexie's book of poetry of the same name.

Thursday, April 10: "Saving Face" (sonyclassics.com/savingface/). A Chinese-American surgeon, living in Manhattan, is shocked when her single mother shows up on her doorstep pregnant. To help her mom save face and avoid the taboo in the Chinese community of an unmarried woman pregnant, the doctor helps her mom find Mr. Right. Cultures clash in this film that explores culture shock.

Feel free to bring food for yourself or to share. For map to Nugent: iiewww.ccit.arizona.edu/uamap/staticLarge/40.html. Closest parking available behind Student Union at the Second Street Garage, or on University at the parking meters. For more information, contact Cathy Busha, UA Office of LGBTQ Affairs, (520) 626-1996 or cbusha@email.arizona.edu.

## Woodward Moves To Health & Awareness

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Wingspan announcedthe promotion of SAGA Program Coordinator C. Michael Woodward to Wingspan Health & Wellness Program Manager.

Michael began as a Wingspan front desk volunteer in April 2001, just a few weeks after he moved to Tucson from his Indiana hometown. He also volunteered time to both TGNet Arizona, founded by the late Alexander John Goodrum, and to the Southern Arizona Gender Alliance (SAGA). Michael oversaw the merging of SAGA and TGNet following Goodrum's death and, in April 2003, became SAGA's Executive Director– the organization's first paid, quarter-time staff. When SAGA later merged with Wingspan, Michael became the SAGA Program Coordinator. He also served briefly as Wingspan's interim Volunteer Coordinator in 2005, and, since April 2007, has also worked part-time as an Advocate/Educator with the Wingspan Anti-Violence Project. Michael is currently the lead editor of the Wingspan eWeekly.

Michael is the co-founder of the highly successful Tucson Transgender Awareness Week and is recognized nationally for his work on transgender and LGBT community issues. He was elected in January 2008 to the Board of Directors of FTM International, Inc., and he is profiled on Lynn Conway's "Successful Transmen", a prestigious Web site recognizing leaders in the international transgender community. He serves on the City of Tucson Commission on GLBT Issues and is a founding member of The University of Arizona President's LGBT Advisory Council. Woodward holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Public and Corporate Communications from Butler University. A former Executive Editor at Macmillan Publishing USA, he has published books and articles on a variety of non-fiction topics. You might also recognize Michael as the lead singer and co-founder of the Tucson-based rock and blues band, Too Much Information.

Michael begins his new role in Health and Wellness immediately, but will remain part-time managing SAGA activities until his successor is hired.

OBSERVER

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**The Observer**

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# MSN And PFLAG Offering LGBT School Scholarships

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.htmshall, 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.

# Anti-Gay Attacks On Rise In Seattle

SEATTLE, Washington (Observer Update) - The Capitol Hill section of Seattle has seen a recent spike in malicious harassment incidents targeting Gays and Transgender people, according to The Seattle Times.

In October 2007, a Transgender woman was walking down Broadway Avenue when she was approached by a man. He immediately demanded to know whether she was "a man" and proceeded to call her names and motion as if he were going to hit her. The man, later identified as Charles Schewe, has been arrested and is awaiting sentencing.

Several other incidents in which perpetrators have shouted anti-Gay epithets or assaulted Gay men have been reported in the past 12 months and are being investigated.

# Charles Barclay On CNN: 'I'm Pro Gay Marriage And Pro-Choice'

NEW YORK CITY - While appearing on CNN's The Situation Room with Wolf Blitzer, basketball great Charles Barkley slammed the Republican Party and Christian conservatives as "fake Christians" and reiterated his strong support for Gay rights and marriage equality, rod 2.0 beta reported. (Transcript from rawstory.com)

"Every time I hear the word 'conservative,' it makes me sick to my stomach, because they're really just fake Christians, as I call them. That's all they are. ...

"I think they want to be judge and jury. Like, I'm for Gay marriage. It's none of my business if Gay people want to get married. I'm pro-choice. And I think these Christians, first of all, they're not supposed to judge other people. But they're the most hypocritical judge of people we have in the country. And it bugs the hell out of me. They act like they're Christians. They're not forgiving at all."

Barkley first came out in favor of Gay rights and in August 2006, saying, "I'm a big advocate of Gay marriage. If they want to get married, God bless them." Barkley has been a terrific ally and we definitely need more men like him on our team. The legendary basketball player also explains why he supports Barack Obama for president. "When I look at him, he represents everything that's good in the black community. He's intelligent. He's articulate. You know, most of our role models are athletes or entertainers. We've got to get more black kids to be educated, carry themselves with great class and dignity. He's perfect for what we need.

Charles Barclay

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# Arizona Marriage Amendment Update:

**Continued from Page One**
looks at the constitutionality of proposed legislation.

SCR 1038 awaits to be heard by the Senate Judiciary Committee. ...

On Wednesday, February 13, two letters from Equality Arizona, were delivered to the prime sponsors of SCR 1038 and HCR 2065, Senate President Tim Bee, R-Tucson and House Speaker Jim Weiers, R-Phoenix.

Equality Arizona's Executive Director Barbara McCullough-Jones, in the letters, called the effort "an unnecessary waste of government time and taxpayer money."

McCullough-Jones cited a statewide poll of 601 likely Arizona voters conducted in April 2007 by Wright Consulting Services for Equality Arizona that showed 52% of voters felt a constitutional amendment to ban same-sex marriage was not needed, with only 33% suggesting it was needed. In addition, 87% percent of Arizonans were aware that Arizona law already prohibits same-sex marriage.

"The people of Arizona do not need the government and anti-Gay political zealots lecturing them about what is right and wrong," wrote McCullough-Jones. "When the state is facing a budget crisis, legislators need to be focused on finding real solutions to real problems, without being distracted by an issue that has already been decided."

Equality Arizona has set up an online activism page on their website, to take action go online to: eqfed.org/campaign/hcr2065.

# 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. I'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

Empress of the World, Sara Ryan (Viking). While attending a summer institute, fifteen-year-old Nic meets another girl named Battle, falls in love with her, and finds the relationship to be difficult and confusing.

So Hard to Say, Alex Sanchez. Thirteen-year-old Xio, a Mexican American girl, and Frederick, who has just moved to California from Wisconsin, quickly become close friends, but when Xio starts thinking of Frederick as her boyfriend, he must confront his feelings of confusion and face the fear that he might be Gay.

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

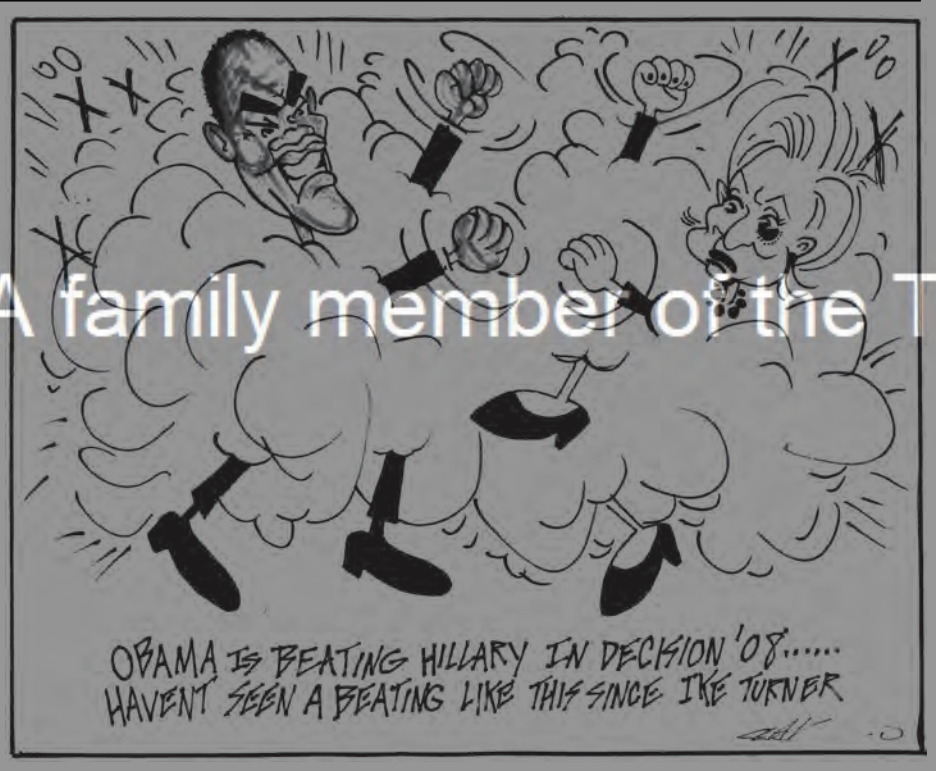
## What Is Tucson Prime Timers?

TUCSON - Tucson Prime Timers. is 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.

Our mission is to reach out to seniors and encourage them to discover new pathways for developing a rich and meaningful social life along with providing them with a broad range of personally enriching, interesting and fun activities Visitors are always welcome.

For info call the message phone (520) 731-3485 or go online at tucsonprimetimers.org.

## AS I SEE IT..... BY CLARK




# Church Court Opposes G/L Ministers

PITTSBURGH, Pennsylvania (Observer Update) - Three rulings by the Presbyterian church's high court have delivered a stunning defeat for actively Gay and Lesbian candidates for the ministry, including a San Francisco woman who just won the right to be considered for ordination, insidebayarea.com reported. At issue in all three decisions is the practice of "scrupling," which allows a candidate to deviate from church doctrine.

The trio of rulings are the first stemming from the denomination's Peace, Unity and Purity recommendations passed in 2006. The General Assembly affirmed support for its long-standing rule that ministers either be married to someone of the opposite sex or celibate, but permitted local ordaining bodies to make exceptions. "If you're around the church long enough, you learn to expect things like this," said Lisa Larges, an actively Gay candidate from San Francisco. "My case will go forward."

The San Francisco Presbytery voted on January 15 to accept Larges' objection to the church's fidelity and chastity rule, clearing the way for her consideration for ordination. Opponents are appealing. In a February 11 case from Pittsburgh, the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission ruled that all candidates must comply with the church's standards for sexual behavior, regardless whether that violates an individual's conscience. That means Gay candidates must not engage in sexual relations. Most significantly, the Pittsburgh decision states that church rules can't be changed by the General Assembly without polling the nation's 174 presbyteries.

"This case says no," the unity measure did not give presbyteries the power to set their own standards, said Laurie Griffith, manager of judicial process for the judicial commission. In a second case, the commission told an Alaskan synod that it couldn't simply refuse to let candidates depart from church doctrine in all matters, but must decide each candidacy on a case-by-case basis. In their third ruling, the commissioners said local judiciaries have no obligation to require disputing parties to reconcile before filing an appeal. The Pittsburgh decision was "profoundly disappointing," said the Covenant Network of Presbyterians, an advocacy and support organization for Gay and Lesbian clergy. While the other two offered an encouraging emphasis on local decision-making, the Pittsburgh ruling was deeply hurtful, the group's co-moderators said. "We pledge to do everything we can to help set the church back on the path that the ... decision has partially blocked," they said in a pastoral letter.

The issue has its roots in a 1729 decision to allow candidates to challenge theological doctrine as conscience dictates. "The church said, 'OK, you don't have to agree on every comma and semi-colon,' which is quite remarkable for the 18th century – very liberal," said Lewis Mudge, professor emeritus at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley. "The General Assembly (in 2006) extended that to Gay and Lesbian persons, that set of issues," he said. "When you extend theological scruples to those relating to behavioral questions, you go into an arena that was not there in 1729."

All three rulings must be taken into account when the judicial commission hears Larges' case, Griffith said. "The ruling tries to make a distinction between faith and practice, and I don't think that makes any sense," said Larges, minister coordinator for the San Francisco-based organization That All May Freely Serve. "There is definitely a backlash" against Gays and Lesbians in the church, she said.

The rulings will also have a bearing on Paul Capetz, a Gay seminary professor from Minnesota who set aside his ordination in 2000 to protest the church's standards. The Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area voted by a more than 2-to-1 margin to restore his ordination for That All May Freely Serve.

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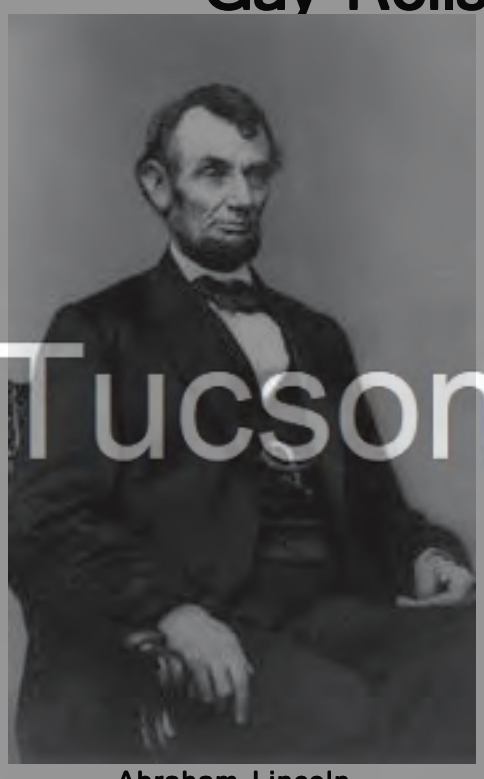
# Suggestions Lincoln, Buchanan Gay Roils Historians



**Abraham Lincoln**

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - As the country observed Presidents' Day the debate over whether two former Presidents - James Buchanan and Abraham Lincoln - were gay continues.

James Buchanan was born in 1791 near Mercerburg, Pennsylvania. He was elected five times to the House of Representatives; then, after a serving as ambassador to Russia he was elected to the Senate where he served for a decade.

Buchanan became Polk's Secretary of State and Pierce's Minister to Great Britain. Service abroad helped to bring him the Democratic nomination in 1856 because it had exempted him from involvement in bitter domestic controversies.

The 15th president of the United States was the only bachelor to serve in that office and his private life soon became fodder for Washington wags.

For Buchanan had lived with William Rufus King, the Senator from Alabama.

The two were inseparable and the friendship did not go unnoticed.

Andrew Jackson dubbed King "Miss Nancy." Aaron Brown in a letter referred to King as Buchanan's "better half," "his wife," and "Aunt Fancy . . . rigged out in her best clothes."

When Buchanan appointed King ambassador to France in 1844 the president wrote to King saying that "I am selfish enough to hope you will not be able to procure an associate who will cause you to feel no regret at our separation."

Historians for decades have debated whether the references showed a love attachment between the two or whether the friendship was blown out of proportion by political foes.

The friendship between Abraham Lincoln and Joshua Speed is equally contentious.

Noted gay author C. A. Tripp in The Intimate World of Abraham published in 2004 shortly before Tripp died, lays out what the author says is the evidence Lincoln had a gay relationship with Speed.

Tripp was a noted psychologist. He previously wrote The Homosexual Matrix and was a researcher for the Kinsey Institute. The Intimate World of Abraham was the result of more than 20 years of studying Lincoln's private life.

**James Buchanan**

Using the methodology of the Kinsey sex-research model he probes Lincoln's personal relations with men and women and concludes that Lincoln was unnaturally uncomfortable around women, never had a love match with Ann Rutledge, suffered through a strained marriage with Mary Todd Lincoln, and had a gay sexual relationship with his longtime friend Speed.

He also details the relationship Lincoln had with another man with whom he shared his bed, David Derickson, captain of his bodyguards. As well, Tripp describes another lover who said Lincoln's thighs 'were as perfect as a human being could be'.

The book contains a poem discovered by Tripp that was written by the young Lincoln which includes the lines: Billy has married a boy. The girlies he tried on every side/but none could he get to agree. All was in vain he went home again/and since that is married to Natty.

# Senate Ethics Panel Admonishes Craig Over Arrest

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - Senator Larry E. Craig was admonished by his colleagues for conduct that reflected poorly on the Senate as the result of his arrest and guilty plea last summer in an undercover sex sting in a men's bathroom at the Minneapolis airport.

The reprimand handed down by the Senate Ethics Committee said that Mr. Craig's conduct in the bathroom was improper and that his actions after his arrest appeared to be an effort to evade the legal consequences in violation of the code of ethics for government service.

Committee members also raised questions about Mr. Craig's conversion of over $200,000 in campaign money to pay legal fees, noting that he had not cleared that action as required with the committee. The panel said it would consider further use of campaign money without approval as showing a continuing disregard for ethics rules.

# Remains Linked To Edward II's Male Lover

LONDON - A mutilated body found at an abbey in the U.K. has been identified as that of Sir Hugh Despenser the Younger, one of the most reviled medieval courtiers and reputed Gay lover of the Plantagenet King, Edward II.

Despenser died a gruesome death, being publicly hanged, drawn and quartered for treason in 1326 following Edward's fall. The remains, found in the 1970s on Despenser's brother-in-law's estate at Hulton Abbey, Staffordshire, bear such hallmarks, anthropologist Mary Lewis says.

Lewis, from Reading University, made the link by drawing on the manner of execution, carbon-dating of the bones and the absence of several parts of the body.

# LOGO Greenlights Feature Film Version Of 'Noah's Arc'

HOLLYWOOD, California - Logo greenlighted a feature film based on the channel's popular series "Noah's Arc." "Noah's Arc: Jumping the Broom" will revolve around four black Gay friends living in Los Angeles and pick up where the series' second-season cliffhanger left off.

Series creator Patrik-Ian Polk will direct from a script he wrote with John R. Gordon. Darryl Stephens, Doug Spearman, Rodney Chester and Christian Vincent will star.

Polk will produce with Carol Ann Shine. Distribution plans for the film, which begins filming in March in Canada, have not been announced.

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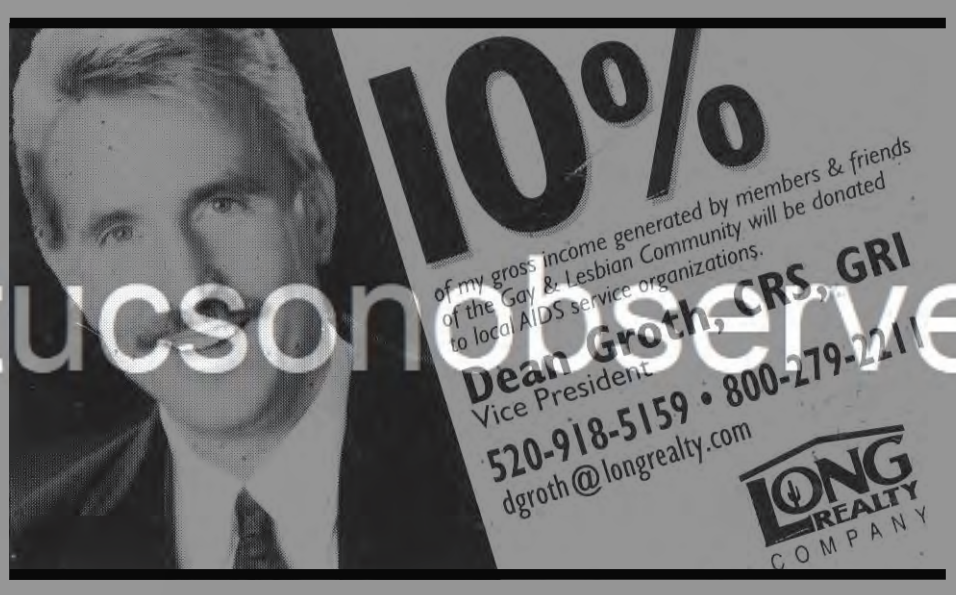


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# Total Drag: Bush Judge Appointee Resigns After DUI Arrest While Cross Dressing

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire That I find this story so hilarious probably says more about me than the cross-dressing federal judge in question, but as they say these days, it is what it is. The punch line is probably the best part, reported Trish from the Pensito Review.

[Federal Judge Robert] Somma worked in private practice for years in Boston before he was appointed to the bench by President Bush in December 2004. Yes, the fact that Bush appointed him as a federal bankruptcy judge does crack me up, but let's start at the beginning.

Somma's Mercedes-Benz E320 sedan hit a pick-up truck from behind about 11:29 p.m. on February 6, the police report said. No one was hurt. Somma, who lives in Newbury, Mass., fumbled in his purse for his driver's license before handing it to the officer who later arrested him, the police report shows.

"He had a difficult time locating his license in his purse. He passed over it multiple times before removing it," officer Paul J. Thompson wrote in his report. The officer offered no other details with regard to the judge's attire or accessories. Nor would representatives of the Manchester Police Department or the city solicitor's office, which worked out the negotiated plea agreement with Somma's lawyer...

But lots of other people did offer those details, of which Audrey Hepburn would have been proud.

When authorities removed him from the vehicle, they said he wore a black women's cocktail dress, fishnet stockings and high heels. But in his mug shot, the judge appears to be wearing blue eye shadow. Way to wreck a really chic look, Robert.

And where, you might ask, was the judge going that night dressed that way? Somma told police he had been at the Breezeway Pub where he had one gin and tonic about two hours earlier, the police report reveals. He later said he drank two gin and tonics.

The Breezeway Pub, at 14 Pearl St., bills itself as "New Hampshire's favorite Gay and alternative bar," according to its web site.

The arresting officer reported Somma smelled of alcohol, slurred his speech and fell backwards against the door frame while getting out of his car. The Boston-based judge chose the bar in question, according to local rumor, because his wife, Wendy, was out of town and no one knew him in New Hampshire. Sounds like Wendy is pretty cool, though.

Federal Judge Robert Somma

"I suspect that he will not be interested in talking to anyone from the newspaper, and I'm his wife," said a woman who answered the telephone at the judge's home yesterday. She referred media calls to Gary H. Wente, chief administrative officer for the First Circuit Courts.

Somma showed his sense of style to the end. He phoned in his resignation from a vacation spot in the Caribbean. If I were him, I think I'd just stay there.

# Washington State House Passes DP Bill

OLYMPIA, Washington (Observer Update) - A bill that would extend an additional 160 rights to registered domestic partners in Washington state was passed on a vote of 62-32 by the state house Friday (February 15). The measure, cosponsored by 59 out of 98 house members, would create greater parity for same-sex couples and heterosexual couples by expanding state-provided benefits.

"It is indeed symbolic that this vote comes as the 11th annual National Freedom to Marry Week comes to a close," Equal Rights Washington's Connie Watts said in a statement. "Equal Rights Washington and the prime sponsors of the Domestic Partnership Expansion Bill have been clear and unequivocal in stating that we are seeking full marriage equality for families formed by Gay and Lesbian couples."

Equal Rights Washington expects the bill to pass through the senate, where a majority of the members are cosponsors.

# Boy Taken Off Life Support, Shooter Charged With Murder

Over 1,000 people gathered at two locations on Friday and Saturday (February15-16) in Oxnard California to honor the memory of Lawrence King, 15, an openly Gay middle-school student who was shot in the head last Tuesday (February 12) by Brandon McInerney, a 14-year-old fellow 8th grader.

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OXNARD, California - A 15-year-old California boy who police say was shot at his junior high school has been taken off life support and his organs have been given away, the Associated Press reported on advocate.com. Authorities say Lawrence King was targeted by a younger boy because he came to school in Oxnard dressed like a woman.

Prosecutors have charged 14-year-old Brandon David McInerney with premeditated murder and want him tried as an adult. McInerney has been jailed on $770,000 bail. ''It is inevitable that this is going to become a murder case,'' Ventura County prosecutor Maeve Fox said.

King was shot in the head Tuesday morning (February 12) during a class at E.O. Green Junior High in Oxnard, police said. More than 20 other students were in the room at the time. Fox said she could not discuss the facts behind the allegation of a hate crime because those details of the case have not been publicly disclosed. Oxnard police have not specified a motive but said there appeared to be a personal dispute between the two. King sometimes came to school wearing makeup and high heels, eighth-grader Nicholas Cortez, 14, told the Associated Press.

Another eighth-grader, Michael Sweeney, said King's appearance was ''freaking the guys out,'' the Los Angeles Times reported Thursday (February 14). ''He would come to school in high-heeled boots, makeup, jewelry, and painted nails – the whole thing,'' Sweeney told the Times. King was pronounced brain-dead at St. John's Regional Medical Center on Wednesday, (February 13) said Craig Stevens, senior deputy medical examiner in Ventura County. Doctors planned to remove some of his organs for donation , Stevens said.

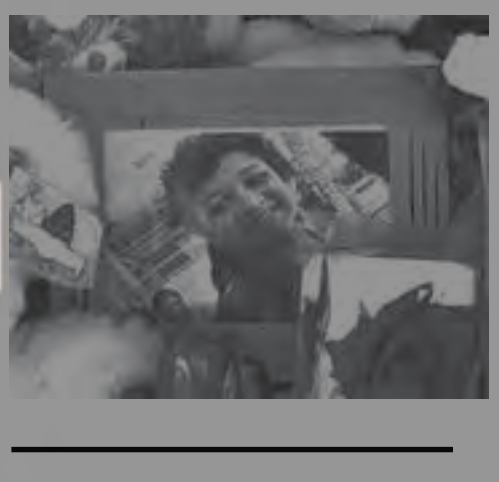
''I think that's what he would have wanted,'' the boy's father, Greg King, told the Ventura County Star.

Lawrence King had been under the care of the county foster care system and lived at Casa Pacifica, a nearby center for abused and neglected children, said Steve Elson, the facility's chief executive. ''We're are all stunned, and it's just an unspeakable tragedy,'' Elson said. ''This is a very big traumatic experience for all of us.'' ...

California which has some of the most Gay inclusive school legislation in the country could get mandated tolerance classes in the wake of the slaying last week of a 15-year old student.

Assemblymember Mike Eng (D) says he will introduce a bill that would require schools to implement a mandatory tolerance class as part of the curriculum. The legislation also would provide training for teachers to help them identify "symptoms of hate". The move follows the shooting of Lawrence King on February 12 during a class at E.O. Green Junior High in Oxnard. More than 20 other students were in the room at the time.

**Shooting Victim 15-year-old Lawrence King**



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# COMMENTARY. . . .

by Wayne Besen

## New Happy Feet

I went to my first Creating Change conference in Detroit where the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force brought together nearly 2,000 GLBT activists from across the nation. While I was looking forward to catching up with friends, I was not sure what to expect. My past experience with left-leaning gatherings was that they often devolved into bitter hairsplitting arguments over maddening minutiae.

Often, these functions were retreats for the dysfunctional, which turned ordinary meetings into impromptu therapy sessions. The people were angry, frustrated and more interested in self-defeating arguments than defeating our right wing opponents.

The other major problem was a dearth of optimism. The left would repeat that until everyone was free no one was free – or several variations of this theme. While this goal is laudable, it is depressing. Essentially telling Gay and Lesbian people that they can't smile or laugh until every last baby has a bottle is a recipe for Prozac or burnout. The world will never be perfect and calling on activists to sacrifice their happiness until utopia occurs, is a way to shrink – not grow – a movement.

Granted, there were many reasons for people to be infuriated when I started my activism career in the late 80's. At the time, AIDS was taking a horrific toll while the government remained indifferent. The wounds from institutional sexism and racism were raw. Men still controlled much of the GLBT movement. Transgender Americans were expected to work hard, but know their place. So, while much of the unpleasantness was understandable, it was still unattractive.

The internal divisions were greatly exacerbated by the rise of the Religious Right, which was determined to roll back what little progress Americans had made on a number of social issues. So, there was a legitimate feeling of besiegement. Indeed, the right succeeded in turning "liberal" into a dirty word – as politicians ran away from the "epithet" for nearly two decades.

So, I walked into Creating Change not knowing what to expect. I was delighted to find that the GLBT left had transformed into a much more optimistic movement. While many of the goals were the same, people had realized that it is okay to have fun on the journey to utopia. The event's host, comedian Kate Clinton, perhaps the most hilarious of all the acclaimed Lesbian comedians, personified this sunny outlook.

At Creating Change, people were laughing and hopeful about the future. This helped account for a large turnout of youth activists who were attracted to the Task Force's uplifting vision for the future.

There was also a feeling of vindication on the Gay left. The right wing juggernaut of the 90's has hit a wall. The seemingly unstoppable movement elected the most incompetent president in American history and its policies are sinking America on every level. Suddenly, conservative has become the dirty word and people are looking for a change.

The long-term struggle for justice has also brought us to the point where the first woman or African American will lead the Democratic presidential ticket. This historic event has empowered the left who can see tangible results and a more inclusive vision of American coming to fruition.

Within the movement, the anger over sexism was lessened by the enormously successful tenures of female leaders such as the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation's Joan Garry, the Human Rights Campaign's Elizabeth Birch and the Task Force's Urvashi Vaid and Lori Jean.

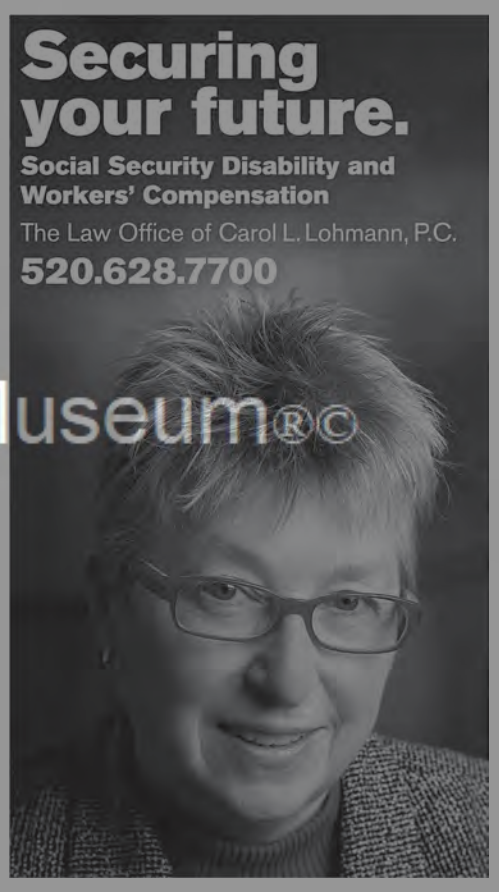
Even the oft-combustible Transgender activists were sedate. While they lost this year's battle over inclusion in a federal bill that would protect Gay and Lesbian people from getting fired, they did win the larger public relations war. And, the fact that major institutions, such as the Task Force, unabashedly fought for their inclusion showed that they had real political allies.

Outgoing Task Force Executive Director Matt Foreman, who did an outstanding job framing the issues and improving the organization's infrastructure, also bolstered the Gay left's prospects.

The confluence of these events and larger social trends made for a Detroit love-in. A lesson learned from Creating Change is that the GLBT left has a bright future. Instead of getting mired in past grievances and pet disputes, it focused on building a powerful movement. The people in attendance were clearly more interested in practical solutions than dogmatism. This bodes well for a movement that has often served as its greatest foe.

Leaving behind rancor and recriminations to fight for real progress and ending discrimination should be the continued focus of the GLBT left. As the right continues to implode, there is a real void to fill and a need to create lasting change including everything from Gay rights to healthcare. Let's hope the left remains a force up to the important task of transforming America into a more fair and equitable nation.

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

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# POLITICS 2008

by Mark R. Kerr

## Again To Those Poor, Oppressed, Threatened Straight 'Married' Couples

Again I pose this to those poor, oppressed, threatened straight 'married' couples that consist of a man and a woman, under Arizona law (A.R.S 25-101 and A.R.S 25-112), some questions:

As a "married" couple, have you been denied a bank loan to purchase a house, condominium, apartment, mobile home, R.V., trailer, etc., because of your relationship?

Is it problematic or impossible to get health, life, dental insurance for your spouse because of your "marriage?"

Can you not live under the same roof because of local, county, state and federal laws or due to the prejudice of a landlord, if you have to rent a place to call home?

Every year, on April 15, the nation's taxpayers file their respective 1040's, or requests for extensions. When that time comes, do you have to pay a higher tax rate because of your relationship and the subsequent deductions allowed to be taken under federal and state law given to your ability to file a joint tax return?

When that time comes, American citizens will retire and collect a pension, one part of which will be the Social Security benefits they've contributed to during their working career. Under the federal laws that the Social Security Administration, have you been denied benefits, such as for the surviving "spouse," or have them drastically reduced because you fell in love and got hitched after a certain age, all because you are "married?"

A Power of Attorney is defined as a legal instrument that is used to delegate legal authority to another for which the person who signs (executes) a Power of Attorney is called the Principal. This document gives legal authority to another person (called an Agent or Attorney-in-Fact) to make property, financial and other legal decisions for the Principal. Is it almost impossible, to have a Power of Attorney drawn up and recognized because of your "marital status?"

Laws dealing with domestic violence, child support or visitation of children, citing three that are on the respective books, not apply to you or your "married" spouse?

Have you ever been denied discounted rates for governmental facilities, such as parks and recreation, or programs offered because of your relationship as "man and wife?"

According to a 2004 Governmental Accountability Office report, there is 1,138 laws, regulations, rights and benefits given under the respective laws (federal, state or otherwise). Are you denied these rights and benefits, too numerous to list. because of your "marriage?" Does your offspring not receive the full-entitlements stated under the laws because of your "marriage?"

On the topics of adoption or becoming a foster parent, due to your "married" relationship, is it almost impossible or can you not adopt a child or open your home to children residing in a state children's programs?

Health inevitably plays a major part in one's life. Have you not been told about the medical condition of your "married" spouse, not played a part in the medical decision making process or been denied hospital visitation rights to your "married" spouse for the reason of being "husband and wife?"

Death will eventually come into play to "bring down the curtain," on one's life. An important, legal document every individual must have drawn up, is a "last will in testament," dealing with finances and possessions. With that, can you not get a "last will in testament" drawn up, or hasn't been held up in court, because of your "marriage" as well as having your "spouse's" family taken all the possessions obtained during the "wedlock," even with a will drawn up, denying you everything due to the relationship of being "man and wife?"

If any of above written has been the case, please send me an E-mail at mrkerr@tucsonobserver.com, that lists your name, home (a snail mail address), a verifiable phone number (I will be calling to confirm), verifiable documentation showing that you are "married," and the case, incident or otherwise of the discrimination because you are "husband and wife."

# In Their Own Words

**Tim Bee, R-Tucson**

In an interview (February 15) with Tucson's morning daily newspaper, Arizona Senate President Tim Bee, R-Tucson, sought to downplay his prime sponsorship of Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 1038, the proposed state constitutional amendment to define marriage as being between a man and a woman and if the Legislature agrees to this and the House companion measure, House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 2065, it will be on the November ballot.

"I think there's been a lot more to-do about that bill than is really warranted," said Bee, a Republican candidate for Congress in Southern Arizona's 8th District. "It's one of many bills I've introduced, and certainly isn't the bill that's on my priority list of bills to be running. But it's a bill that was important to the caucus," he said in the interview. One of the co-chair's of Bee's campaign is former Congressman, Jim Kolbe, who was one of two openly Gay Republican Members of the U.S. House of Representatives.

During the interview, Senator Bee mentioned Proposition 107, which failed at the ballot box. Proposition 107 would have prohibited governmental and legal recognition of same-sex marriage, civil unions and domestic partnerships.

Proposition 107, according to Bee in the interview, "was extremely controversial and was very far-reaching. That measure affected many people in my district, of all walks of life. "It was very broad, and I think there were a lot of problems with it," Bee said.

Senator Bee was asked whether he supported Proposition 107, saying "There were concerns about how far-reaching it was. ... I didn't go out and champion it." In 2005, Senator Bee did sponsor a bill identical to this year's offering.

Arizona law already bars same-sex marriages and has done such since 1996 and the laws (Arizona Revised Statutes 25-101 and 25-112) were was ruled constitutional in 2003 by the state Court of Appeals, a decision the Arizona Supreme Court upheld in 2004.

**Former Congressman Jim Kolbe with Arizona Senator Gabriella Giffords**

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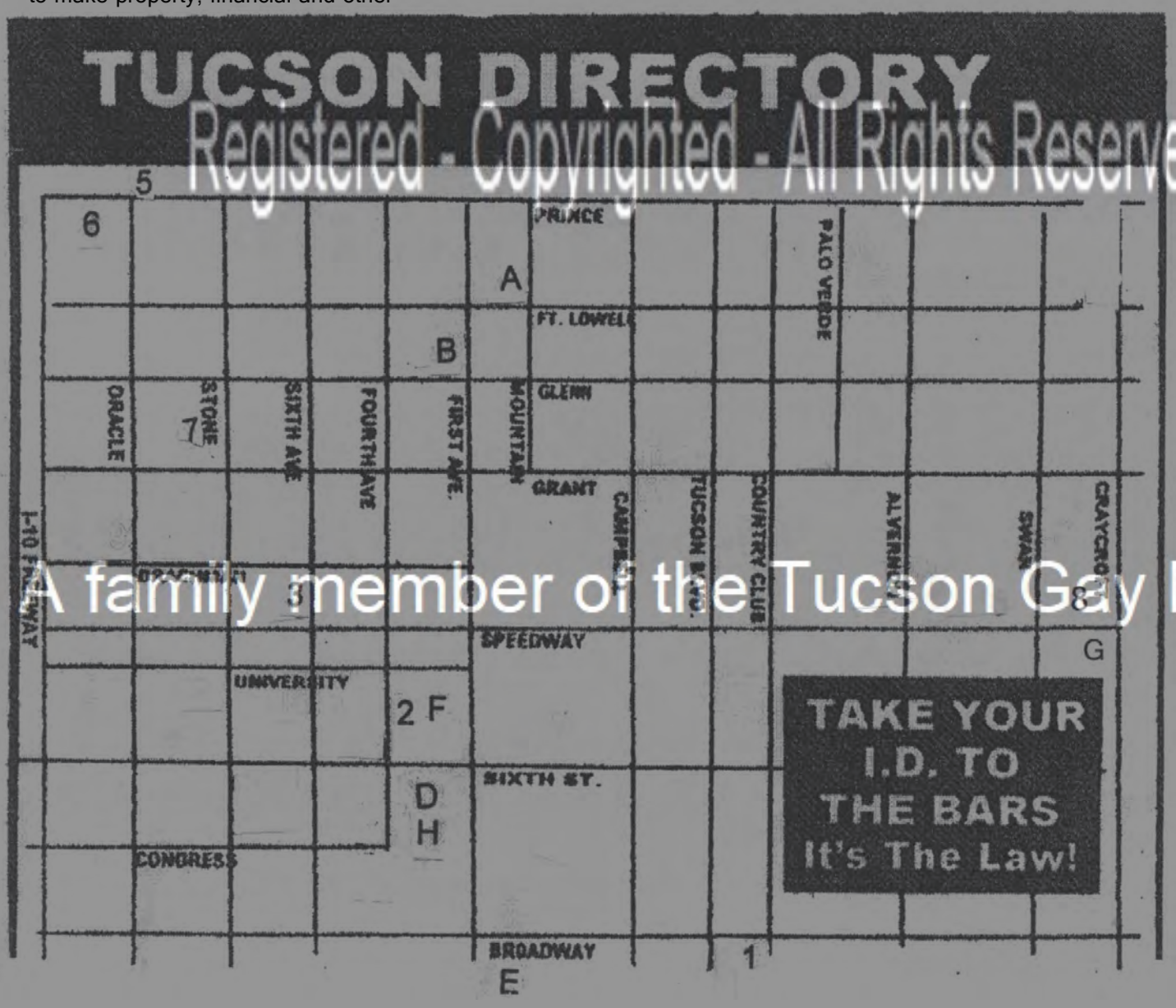


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# Across The Q Globe

## Bahrain Immigration Seeks To Stop Foreign Gays From Entering

MANAMA, Bahrain - A crackdown on homosexuals could be launched in Bahrain, including tougher immigration checks to stop foreign Gays entering the country. It would include a study to determine how widespread homosexuality is in Bahrain.

Parliament's foreign affairs, defense and national security committee has already backed the proposal, which would force the government to carry out the study. The proposal is in response to what MPs see as Bahrain's growing Gay problem and foreigners found to be Gay face deportation, said committee secretary Jalal Fairooz. "The Interior Ministry has told us that it already bans suspected homosexuals as they try entering the country from Bahrain International Airport," said committee secretary Jalal Fairooz.

However, he claimed the ministry said homosexuals pretend not to be Gay by posing "manly" until they make it past immigration.

## Gay Africans And Arabs Are Coming Out On Blogs

KHARTOUM, Sudan - When Ali started blogging that he was Sudanese and Gay, he did not realize he was joining a band of African and Middle Eastern Gays and Lesbians who, in the face of hostility and repression, have come out online.

But within days the messages started coming in to black-Gay-arab.blogspot.com. Close behind came comments, posts and links purporting to be from almost half the countries in the Arab League, including Egypt, Algeria, Bahrain and Morocco. Ali, who lists his home town as Khartoum but lives in Qatar, had plugged into a small, self-supporting network of people who have launched Web sites about their sexuality, while keeping their full identity secret.

Caution is crucial - homosexual acts are illegal in most countries in Africa and the Middle East, with penalties ranging from long-term imprisonment to execution.

## Foreign Gay Couples Seeking Surrogate Mothers In India

NEW DELHI, India - An in-vitro fertilization expert in the city had no idea how to respond to this inquiry. Pune doctors say there has been an increasing number of inquiries from Gay couples, from India as well as abroad, wanting to know if they can hire a womb.

According to Dr Shehbaaz Daruwala, director of a Pune fertility centre, it's not only career-conscious women, but Gay couples have started scouting for surrogate mothers too. "Of late, I have been receiving a number of inquiries same sex couples," he says.

Another IVF expert says she got an email from a Gay couple in Europe, wanting to know if both partners could give their sperm to the same egg donor. "We want our children to have a genetic link through the donor," Brett, one of the partners, wrote.

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# HOROSCOPES

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The Sun glides into psychic Pisces this week. Let's promise to add a little intuition to our best laid plans. Go with your gut and taste the best that life has to offer. No, even better!

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)

Rams are in the pink this week as the Sun enters Pisces. Not only can you expertly pick friend from foe, you can lead everyone to the side of goodness instead of nastiness. Give back to our community through charitable acts and good Gay deeds. You never know when you could use that extra dose of good karma to attained your hoped-for personal miracles.

TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)

Queer Bulls crave an adoring crowd now. Thank the stars that friends are available to provide adulation and support when and where you need it. You become the epicenter of attention. (Or maybe it's those luminescent lime green hotpants...?) Find a group that thinks the way you do. Then angle your way into the power elite and become a benevolent dictator.

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)

Get going on your professional path now. Pink Twins find that their career opportunities open up like a treasure chest where you insert your key and choose among a delectable assortment. Consider each option carefully; Sometimes the least likely scenario can be the most intriguing. Sometimes it's to a new and fabulous career level. Sometimes it's to the mailroom.

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)

Gay Crabs hang their hats just about anywhere and feel at home this week. Travel and see the world while you have the urge and the extra dough. It's an excellent time to spread your wings, enrich your global perspective and learn (or meet) some new and exotic tricks. Sometimes these new, exotic tricks require whip cream and a leather collar... So don't be an old dog.

LEO (JULY 24 - AUGUST 23)

Feisty proud Lions turn the sexual spigot on full blast and manage to get wet when the Sun enters Pisces. You are full of animal magnetism. Don't waste it and don't be shy. Let your actions speak louder and prouder than words with current or potential lovers. You find that great minds begin to think alike. Will you bite off more than you can chew. Let's hope so!

VIRGO (AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23)

Sun in Pisces offers you a renewed appreciation for one to one relationships. If you are lucky enough to have a special someone, all thoughts and communication between the two of you will be in tandem. If you are setting sail to seek a dreamboat you are now able to track, contact and attract the pick of the fleet. So get Out there and get your sea legs, queer Virgin!

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23)

Proud Libras get down to work and actually accomplish a thing or two this week. Your energy level is especially high, particularly for any thought-intensive work. For those who have contemplated owning the perfect body, may I suggest a personal trainer? A serious exercise regime can produce incredibly delicious improvements now. Think prep work for cruise season.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22)

Any creative or artistic pursuit is especially enjoyable and fulfilling now. Gay Scorps not only demonstrate their flair for fun, they also reveal a hidden talent for just about anything. This means that if you are asked to plan a party or grand scale social event, the results will have 'em talking for months! Don't forget the rainbow bunting and naked gogo dancers.

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22)

Gay Archers find that there is a lot to do around their home base when Sun enters Pisces. You may get the redecorating bug in an urge to make your home reflect your innate sense of romantic style. Or maybe it means moving to a more spiritually affirming part of town. Whatever you decide to do, be sure to invite a few kindred souls over for a pleasant prideful evening.

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20)

Use your words like sugar when the Sun enters Pisces; shake it on liberally and lick it up. Pink Caps get exactly what they want without any major cavities (well maybe one or two...). The best use of this your time is to find a receptive entourage for your many wonderful ideas. What about getting in touch with friends and friends of friends? Give 'em a call.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19)

Aqueerians find that their financial picture looks a little brighter this week. If you've done your fiscal homework you'll find investments begin to pay off. If you have put off the inevitable, start saving now. It's money management time! It will become possible to envision an easy retirement light at the end of the tunnel. (Or is it the lights of an oncoming train...?)

PISCES (FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20)

Now that the Sun is in your own sign, get Out and show the world what you can do. You are full of confidence and great new ideas. Meet and greet; your middle name is charisma. Begin new projects; you have a receptive, fertile ground from which to nurture your personal dream.


**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.**

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

www.wingspan.org



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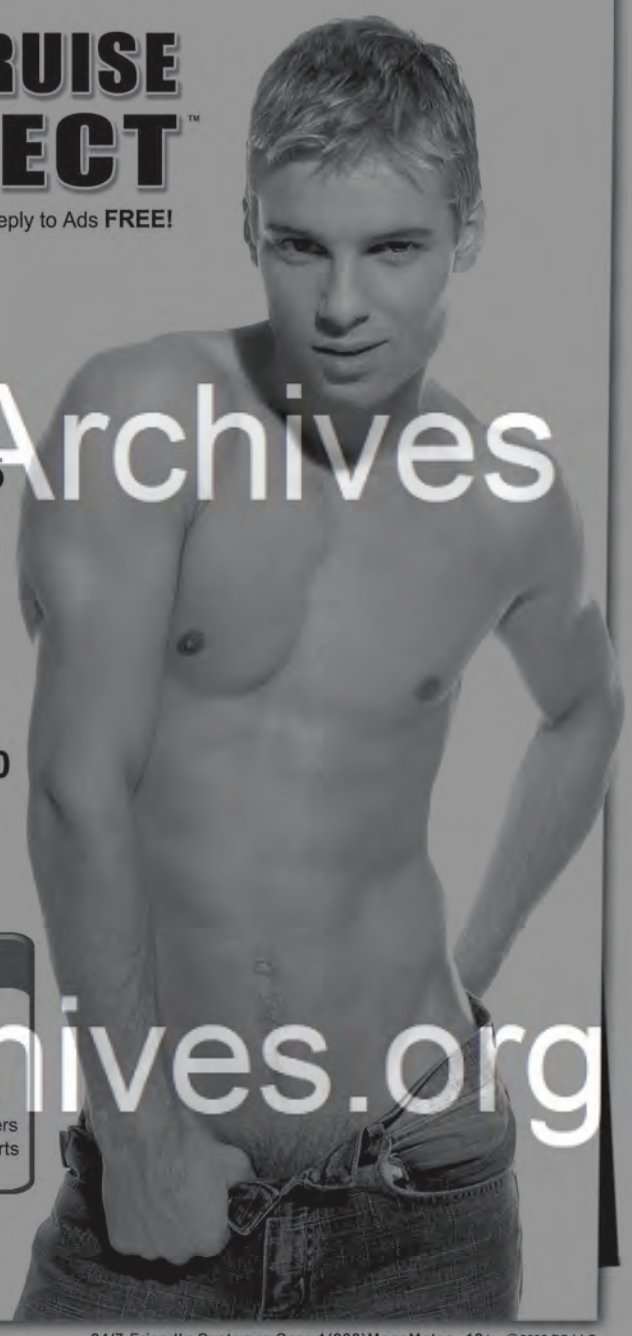

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# Barrowman Claims His Torchwood Co-Star James Masters Found Their Gay Kiss A Turn-On

Tucson Observer Archives

CARDIFF, Wales - The actor – who plays Captain Jack Harkness in the hit British TV show – claims former Buffy the Vampire Slayer star Marsters found their on screen smooch arousing, despite being straight – thanks to his girlfriend!

John says: "James Marsters plays Captain John in the show. The first day we were on set together, we had to do the kiss and he said I made him feel very comfortable. Then he said: 'My girlfriend's getting really turned on by this! Feel free to do it as many times as you want!' Who could ask for more?"

John – who married his long-term partner in a civil ceremony in 2006 – also claims he has been romantically propositioned by a host of famous men, but has never taken things further. He adds: "I have never had a relationship with a famous person. I've been propositioned by famous people but I've always said no. They wanted me for other reasons and I wasn't prepared to be a trophy."

tucsonobserverarchives.org

# Bill Would Allow G/L Divorce In RI

PROVIDENCE, Rhode Island (Observer Update) - House Majority Leader Gordon Fox says he'll file a bill in the General Assembly that would allow married Gay couples to divorce, 365Gay.com reported.

The state's highest court ruled in a 3-2 decision in December that a Lesbian couple who married in Massachusetts could not get divorced in their home state of Rhode Island. Supporters of the bill say it makes no sense to require people to remain married when they have no desire to do so. But the legislation is expected to face opposition from Gov. Don Carcieri and many other lawmakers.

The group Marriage Equality RI is also calling for passage of a measure that would give domestic partners access to benefits such as family medical leave, nursing home visitation and funeral planning. Gay marriage is illegal in the Ocean State.


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## MASSAGE

NEED TO RELAX? Come to my home and get a full-body massage. I'm young and attractive. Noon to 6 p.m. Call Mike for quotes. 546-3110. Near Speedway & Kolb. 1229..

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# NON-BAR CALENDAR

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
#1Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Triangle Tribe-A Men's Circle. According to a recent study, very few people have as many close friends as they would like. Are you as connected with other men as you want to be? Do you get the support you need for issues in your life? Do you wish you had more meaningful friendships and relationships with other men? Join like-minded men at Wingspan to share feelings, thoughts and ideas in a safe, respectful space. For the same 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
Winter Tea Dance for LGBT Seniors and their friends 4 to 8 p.m. at Howl at the Moon, 915 W. Prince Rd (SW corner at Fairview) Join us to celebrate ourselves and have some dancin' fun. The music will be a DJ mix of 40's big band, 50's/60's oldies, country western, and the best of disco. Food items will be available for purchase, including a "Howl/Senior Pride" food and drink special. Mark your calendars; you don't want to miss this! This is our first event, and if successful we'll have more! For more information contact: Penelope Starr, pstarr@wingspan.org, 624-1779 x 122. This event is sponsored by: Wingspan's Senior Pride, The LBT Breast Cancer Health Project funded by Susan G. Komen For the Cure, Puertas Abiertas, and Howl At The Moon.

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 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, February 25
Tucson Prime Timers, welcomes you to our weekly Monday drop-in Luncheon at 12:30PM The Wildcat House, 1800 North Stone

Wednesday, Feb 27
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00pm Canasta hosted by Merlin and Lee at 207-5336. MSN Canasta is played every Wednesday at 7pm, but check back here for the specific host.

Thursday, Feb. 28
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Triangle Tribe-A Men's Circle. According to a recent study, very few people have as many close friends as they would like. Are you as connected with other men as you want to be? Do you get the support you need for issues in your life? Do you wish you had more meaningful friendships and relationships with other men? Join like-minded men at Wingspan to share feelings, thoughts and ideas in a safe, respectful space. For the same experience with both straight and gay men, join us at the regular Circle of Men meetings. Call Tom at 591-2828 for dates and times.

Friday, February 29
Tucson Prime Timers, invites you to our weekly Friday no-host Cocktail Mixer at 5:30PM Colors, 5350 E Speedway

Sunday, March 2
Tucson Prime Timers welcomes guests to our weekly Sunday Brunch 11:00AM-Colors, 5350 E. Speedway. See our website for club info: www.tucsonprimetimers.org

Monday, March 3
Tucson Prime Timers welcomes visitors to our weekly drop-in Luncheon at 12:30PM The Wildcat House, 1800 North Stone. See our website for club info: www.tucsonprimetimers.org

Friday, March 7
Tucson Prime Timers invites you to our weekly Friday no-host Cocktail Mixer at 5:30PM. Colors, 5350 E Speedway. See our website for club info: www.tucsonprimetimers.org

Saturday, March 8
Tucson Prime Timers invites you to attend a presentation by Dr. Stuart Cohen on Wingspan's programs for older gay folks. Regular Prime Timers meeting and no-host lunch to follow. 11AM at Wingspan, 425 E 7 St. see our website for club info: www.tucsonprimetimers.org

Sunday, March 9
Tucson Prime Timers welcomes guests to our weekly Sunday Brunch at 11:00AM Colors, 5350 East Speedway. See our website for club info: www.tucsonprimetimers.org

3:30-5:30 p.m. Sign up for the monthly Men's Massage Group in its 18th year. Mark your calendar. Spend two hours on the 2nd Sunday of each month in nude bliss with other men. Non-sexual. Call Marc at 881-4582 to sign up and for information.

Monday, March 10
Tucson Prime Timers welcomes visitors to our weekly drop-in Luncheon at 12:30PM. The Wildcat House 1800 North Stone. See our website for club info: www.tucsonprimetimers.org

Friday, March 14
Tucson Prime Timers invites you to our weekly Friday no-host Cocktail Mixer at 5:30PM Colors, 5350 East Speedway. See our website for club info: www.tucsonprimetimers.org

Sunday, March 16
Tucson Prime Timers, welcomes guests to our weekly Sunday Brunch at 11:00AM Colors, 5350 East Speedway. See our website for club info: www.tucsonprimetimers.org

Monday, March 17
Tucson Prime Timers wishes you A Happy St. Patrick's Day and Invites you to our weekly drop-in Luncheon at 12:30PM . The Wildcat House 1800 North Stone. See our website for club info: www.tucsonprimetimer.org

Friday, March 21
Tucson Prime Timers Invites you to our weekly Friday no-host Cocktail Mixer at 5:30PM Colors, 5350 East Speedway See our website for club info: www.tucsonprimetimers.org

Monday, March 24
Tucson Prime Timers welcomes you to our weekly Monday drop-in Luncheon at 12:30PM The Wildcat House, 1800 North Stone. See our website for club info: www.tucsonprimetimers.org

Friday, March 28
Tucson Prime Timers invites you to our weekly Friday no-host Cocktail Mixer at 5:30PM Colors, 5350 E Speedway. See our website for club info: www.tucsonprimetimers.org

Sunday, March 30
Tucson Prime Timers invites You to our weekly Sunday Brunch at 11:00AM Colors, 5350 E Speedway. See our website for club info:

# Scratch-Off Lottery Ticket To Benefit People Living With HIV

SPRINGFIELD, Illinois - Governor Rod R. Blagojevich announced the nation's first state lottery ticket to benefit HIV/AIDS outreach and prevention, reported pageoneq.com. All net proceeds from the sale of "Red Ribbon Cash" tickets will go directly to the Illinois Department of Public Health, the allocation of which will be overseen by a special advisory board.

"With so many Illinoisans afflicted with this terrible disease," said Blagojevich, "we must continue to create opportunities that raise awareness and to fund prevention and treatment options." "The 'Quality of Life' lottery ticket," says Ida W. Byther-Smith, founder and executive director of The Jo-Ray House, "is an innovative resource for communities affected by HIV/AIDS. If half the people that play the lottery supported our education and prevention efforts, we can begin to win the fight against the spread of HIV/AIDS."
"This isn't a lottery ticket for us," Byther-Smith continues, "this is a ticket that gives us hope for a better future."

"Red Ribbon Cash" hits retail outlets with widespread support from HIV outreach organizations, business and lawmakers alike, including U.S. Congressman Danny Davis, State Rep. Greg Harris, the AIDS Foundation of Chicago, and the Greater Westside Development Corporation.

# Gay Man Loses Gym Membership Over Clothing

ELK GROVE, California - David Cano wore a t-shirt to his gym, California Family Fitness, that said "I need a man or a date, serious inquiries only," and the gym canceled his membership, saying several guests had come forward complaining about his choice of clothing, towleroad.com reported.

Apparently the t-shirt wasn't "family" enough for them.

Said Cano: "I just thought something up, and said maybe I would wear it. It was kind of like a gag thing. They're responsible for kicking me out because of my shirt and discrimination. It's basically because I'm open [about my sexual orientation]."

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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)
We are a non profit social club that is open to every one. T.K.O. contributes to the fellowship and support of the community, and openly invites new members and/or guests. Monthly meetings occur on the first Saturday of every month at 11:00 pm., Please come and join us! Our next meeting will be held at the Venture-N.

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 in Tucson for sharing, support and information. 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 (GPGLCC) P.O. BOX 2097, Phoenix, AZ 85001-2097. E-mail: webmaster@gpglcc.org or call (602)225-8444.

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

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

IINNER WISDOM - Try hypnotherapy for pain relief, past life exploration and addiction release. Also available: Spiritual Counseling and Dream Interpretation. 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.Sundys only on 91.3 FM, Community Radio KXCI.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

REVEILLE 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 3 Jewels, 314 E. 6th 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 toSAGE-Tucson-subscribe @yahoogroups.com. See you on the trails.

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

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

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# DAILY BAR CALENDAR

## 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 Domestics and well. Appetizers ½ price 4-6. Brunch served until 2pm. Full menu served until 10;m. 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-2am. Peter's Build Your Own Bloody Mary Bar 11am-2pm. Happy Hour 11am-8pm (excluding special events). Full Menu Kitchen open 11am-8pm. Back Pocket Patio Bar 2pm-2am. Beer Bust 2pm-7pm. Karaoke with Michael D 9pm-Close. Drag Bingo every other Sunday 8-9pm. Check our Ad for Special Events or Parties

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 ½ 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 11am-2am. Happy Hour 11am--8pm (excl spec events) Full Menu Kitchen open 11am-10pm Back Pocket Patio Bar 8pm-close. Karaoke with Michael D. 9pm-close.

YARD DOG - Open 11am-2am.Beer Bust 3-7pm

## 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 Domestics and well and ½ 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 11am- 2am. Happy Hour 11am-8pm (excl spec events). Full Menu Kitchen open 11am-10pm. Back Pocket Patio Bar open 8pm-close, Caribbean Party Night with Woody's own Specialty Mojitos, Caprioskas and Martinis with Tucson's Hottest Bartenders.

YARD DOG -Open 11am-2am.Beer Bust 3-7pm

## WEDNESDAY

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

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

HOWL AT THE MOON -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, "Diva-Licious" show 9pm w/ Bunny Fu Fu& Friends. After show dance with DJ Q til 2am,

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

WOODY'S - Open 11am-2am;. Happy Hour 11am-8pm excl. special events). Ful Kitchen open 11am-10pm. Back Pocket Bar open 8pm-close. Service Industry Employee Special All Day Long - $1 off all drinks except schnapps and draft. Different Themed Underwear Party 9pm-close with $1.00 off for those who participate (excl. Schnapps and Draft). Retro 80s & 90s Dance with DJ Clint 9 til close..

YARD DOG -Open11am-2am BeerBust 3-7pm

## 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). DJHill spins hip hop & R&B all night. 21'n up

COLORS - Open 4pm-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm,$3.50 Skyy cocktails, $2.75 Domestics and Well and ½ 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 11am-2am; Happy Hour 11am-8pm (excl Spec Events); Full Menu Kitchen open 11am-10pm. Back Pocket Patio Bar open 8pm-close. Cheap Party Day **FREE POOL**, $1.00 PBR Longnecks, $2.00 Tecate Longnecks. Techno and Top 40 Dance with DJ Jeff 9pm - close..

YARD DOG-Open11am-2am BeerBust 3-7pm

## 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 Domestics and Well and ½ price appetizers. Finlandia martinis $5.50 open to close! Full menu served until 10. "Hot Jazz, Cool Martinis" with Susan Artemis & Craig Faltin 6:30 to 9:30. "Guys & Dolls" drag show hosted by Lucinda Holliday at 10pm. Nightly dinner specials. Drink specials during the drag show.

HOWL AT THE MOON - 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 11am-2am; Happy Hour 11am-8pm (excl spec events). Full Menu Kitchen open 11am-11pm Back Pocket Patio Bar open 5pm-close. Enjoy the Live Blues/Motown/Soul sounds of Simon Crown 6-9 p.m.; Request your favorite Music Dance Night with DJ Clint 9pm-close. Monthly Birthday Party every 2nd Friday Night of the month.

YARD DOG - Open 11am-2am. Beer Bust 3-7pm. Patio Bar Opens 8pm

## SATURDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm - 2am. $2.00 U-Call-Its til 11pm. Saturday night dance party with DJ Hill9pm. Patio Bar opens at 10:30pm.

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

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 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 11am-2am; Happy Hour 10am-8pm (excl spec events); Full Menu Kitchen open11am-11pm. Back Pocket Patio Bar open 5pm-close. Techno and Top 40 Dance with DJ Jeff 9pm til close. Check our ad for Twice-A-Month Special Events or Themed Parties.

YARD DOG - Open 8am-2am. Patio Bar Opens 8pm.

# BAR CALENDAR Of Upcoming Events

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20
WOODY'S - Camouflage Party 9:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22
WOODY'S - The live Blues/Motown/Soul sounds of Simon Crown 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23
HOWL AT THE MOON - Winter Tea Dance for LGBT Seniors and their friends 4 to 8 p.m. 915 W. Prince Rd (SW corner at Fairview) Join us to celebrate ourselves and have some dancin' fun. The music will be a DJ mix of 40's big band, 50's/60's oldies, country western, and the best of disco. Food items will be available for purchase, including a "Howl/Senior Pride" food and drink special. Mark your calendars; you don't want to miss this! This is our first event, and if successful we'll have more! For more information contact: Penelope Starr, pstarr@wingspan.org, 624-1779 x 122. This event is sponsored by: Wingspan's Senior Pride, The LBT Breast Cancer Health Project funded by Susan G. Komen For the Cure, Puertas Abiertas, and Howl At The Moon.

WOODY'S - Male Dance Review Show

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24
WOODY'S - Drag Bingo with Janee Starr and Stella Virgin 8:00 p.m. followed by Karaoke with Michael D at 9:00 p.m.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25
WOODY'S - Karaoke with Michael D 9:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26
WOODY'S - movie nite

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27
WOODY'S - Sarong Party 9:00 p.m. with your favorite bartenders Chris and Ryan.

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. Inside & Outside Djs, Shot Specials, GoGo Boys, and much more! Don't miss it.

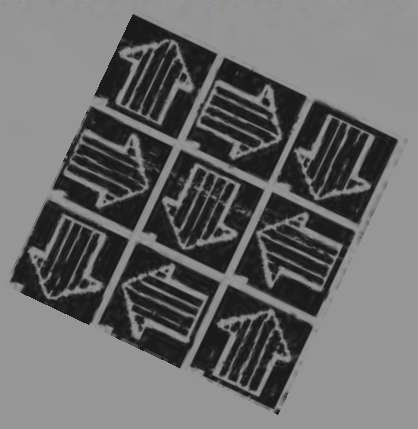
SUNDAY, MARCH 16
THE BIZ - God-Des and She from the 'L Word' will be performing live following the 'L Word'. Live at 9:00 p.m. Tickets on sale now!! 18+ $15 Adv. $17 @ door. 21+ $10 Adv. $12 Door. All ages show.

# Rove Cites Polygamy In Defending Marriage Positioin

WALLINGFORD, Connecticut - In an appearance before 850 or so Choate Rosemary Hall students, former Bush aide Karl Rove talked about rumors his adopted father is Gay and explained his opposition to Gay marriage.

Marla Spivak, a senior from Hamden, asked Rove to explain how giving Gay people the right to marry would endanger other people. Rove took issue with the way the first Gay marriages came about, through the Massachusetts Supreme Court. Gay couples could gain the legal rights of married couples through legislation without actually getting married, he said. "But wouldn't creating a separate body of legislation for Gay people be creating a separate but equal system, a step back?," Spivak asked.

Their verbal pingpong match tapered off after Rove brought up polygamy.



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# Federal Courts Rule Against Homophobic T-Shirt, Sex-Toy Ban

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - Two rulings from federal courts have taken place against homophobic T-shirts and sex toys.

A federal judge ruled that officials from the Poway school district near San Diego did not violate the First Amendment rights of a student they punished for wearing a homophobic T-shirt to class. Tyler Chase Harper sued the school district in 2004, arguing that his rights were violated when he was removed from class for wearing the anti- Gay shirt on the Day of Silence, which is intended to promote tolerance of Gays and Lesbians. The shirt read "I Will Not Accept What God Has Condemned" on one side and "Homosexuality Is Shameful, Romans 1:27" on the other side.

The next day, he wore the same shirt, but it had been altered to read, "Be Ashamed [of What] Our School Has Embraced." School administrators asked him to remove his shirt on the second day because they said it violated their dress code, which bans promotion of "violent or hateful behavior." Harper refused, and he was removed from class and assigned to the front office to complete his day's remaining schoolwork. "The main point of the case is free speech, and students have their right to be heard on campus," Kevin Theriot, one of Harper's attorneys, told The Advocate in May. "Just because other students don't agree, doesn't mean that he can't voice [his opinions]."

The case made its way to the U.S. Supreme Court, which eventually nullified it because at that point Harper had already graduated from high school. His sister Kelsie then took his place in the case, where it is now. When her brother first went to the federal court, he won. On Tuesday (February 12), U.S. district judge John Houston overturned the court's earlier decision. Houston decided not to issue an injunction to stop the district from enforcing the policy in 2006. A year later, he threw out the case against the district. The ninth U.S. circuit court of appeals agreed with Houston's decision not to issue an injunction, according to The San Diego Union-Tribune.

Houston wrote that Poway school district's "interest in protecting homosexual students from harassment is a legitimate pedagogical concern that allows a school to restrict speech expressing damaging statements about sexual orientation and limiting students to expressing their views in a positive manner." Free-speech advocates and the Harpers' legal team are distraught over the decision, which states that school districts are within their rights to protect students by limiting freedom of expression. David Blair-Loy, the legal director for San Diego and Imperial County American Civil Liberties Union, told the newspaper that the ruling is troubling. The organization filed a friend-of-the-court brief on the student's behalf, siding with religious groups they normally argue against.

"And let's face it: What about high school is not psychologically damaging?" Blair-Loy said in the article. "This student wore a T-shirt that expressed an idea. It's an idea we don't agree with at the ACLU, but that is the essence of free speech. It's not just for ideas you like." . . .

A federal appeals court has overturned a Texas statute outlawing sex toy sales, essentially leaving Alabama as the only state with such a ban. The fifth U.S. circuit court of appeals ruled that the Texas law making it illegal to sell or promote obscene devices, punishable by up to two years in jail, violated the Constitution's Fourteenth Amendment on the right to privacy.

Companies that own Dreamer's and Le Rouge Boutique, which sell the devices in its Austin stores, and the retail distributor Adam & Eve, sued in Austin federal court in 2004 over the constitutionality of the law. They appealed after a federal judge dismissed the suit and said the constitution did not protect their right to publicly promote such devices.

In its decision Tuesday (February 12) the appeals court cited Lawrence and Garner v. Texas, the U.S. Supreme Court's 2003 opinion that struck down bans on consensual sex between Gay couples. ''Just as in Lawrence, the state here wants to use its laws to enforce a public moral code by restricting private intimate conduct,'' the appeals judges wrote. ''The case is not about public sex. It is not about controlling commerce in sex. It is about controlling what people do in the privacy of their own homes because the state is morally opposed to a certain type of consensual private intimate conduct. This is an insufficient justification after Lawrence.''

The Texas attorney general's office, which represented the Travis County district attorney in the case, has not decided whether to appeal, said agency spokesman Tom Kelley.

# HIV Vaccine Research Hits Impasse

BOSTON, Massachusetts (Observer Update) Scientists are no further forward in developing a vaccine against HIV after more than 20 years of research, a Nobel Prize-winning biologist has said, bbcnews.com reported.

Professor David Baltimore, president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), said there was little hope among scientists. But he said that they were continuing efforts to develop a vaccine. "Our lack of success may be understandable but it is not acceptable," he said. "Some years ago I came to the conclusion that our community had to seriously undertake new approaches or we might find ourselves with a worldwide epidemic and no effective response," Baltimore told the annual meeting of the AAAS in Boston. "That is just where we are today."

HIV had evolved a way to protect itself from the human immune system, he said. "This is a huge challenge because to control HIV immunologically the scientific community has to beat out nature, do something that nature, with its advantage of four billion years of evolution, has not been able to do," Prof Baltimore said. "I believe that HIV has found ways to totally fool the immune system. So we have to do one better than nature."

Attempts to control the virus through antibodies or by boosting the body's immune system have ended in failure. This has left the vaccine community depressed because they can see no hopeful way of success, Baltimore said. Among the novel techniques that scientists are turning to are gene and stem cell therapy, although these are still in their infancy. "In the human you really only have one shot which is to try to change genes in stem cells," said Baltimore, one of the leading experts on the HIV virus. "So we're trying to do that, to design vectors that can carry genes that will be of therapeutic advantage."

Baltimore won the Nobel Prize in Medicine in 1975 for the co-discovery of reverse transcriptase, an enzyme that was later found to be used by HIV to replicate in human cells. He now leads the Baltimore laboratory at Caltech, with support from the Gates Foundation, to look for ways to genetically boost the immune system against infectious agents, particularly HIV.

## HITHER AND YON . . . . . .

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