



Olivia Starts First Lesbian Housing Development



TUCSON (Observer Update) - One day in July, Gail Davis, 58, and her partner, Janyce Bender, 64, sat down at their computer to find an email from Olivia Companies. They were already anticipating their upcoming Olivia cruise - but when they clicked to open the message, their excitement was overwhelming, reported 365Gay.com.

"Oh my gosh," Davis said as she read the message in disbelief. Olivia, the Lesbian-owned women's travel company and record label, had finally come through with a decade-long promise: to open what may be the first large-scale Lesbian housing development in the country.

Bender turned to her partner and said, "I absolutely want to do this." Less than a week later they sent a \$10,000 deposit and their registration was secured. "Nobody really knew this was coming," said Davis, "but then they send us this email that said 'Hi, we're ready to start taking reservations.'"

Olivia Communities will be a 334-unit resort-style living community in Tucson. Although anyone can purchase a home, the company is targeting Lesbians. "My whole vision of this has always been about creating community and creating a place where we can not only be free... but also the kind of community where you're really connected with the people there and feel comfortable and happy in your environment," said Judy Dlugacz, president and founder of Olivia Companies.

What makes this community unique, Dlugacz said, will be the social aspect. Women from their 20s to their 80s have put down deposits on condos in the development, though the most women fall in the 55- to 70-year-old age group. Olivia plans to have a full-time events coordinator who will bring in live entertainment, including comedy events and film festivals, and who will coordinate tea dances and other parties. Group excursions will be arranged to nearby locations like Las Vegas and Mexico.

Dlugacz said that the idea of

building this sort of community has been kicking around at Olivia for a long time. But last April, a few Olivia frequent travelers approached her with an idea: buy a 1996 condominium complex that had converted to rentals when the market bottomed out.

Dlugacz and her partner Rachel Wahba went to Tucson to review the property and look over the area. What they found was a complex with a swimming pool, fitness center and clubhouse, nestled in a Gay-friendly town. "I just thought this would be perfect, because we didn't want to start from scratch," said Dlugacz. To test the idea, she decided to do a little market research.

One evening, when she was speaking to an audience of 900 on an Olivia trip, she asked, "How would you all feel about a community that I've been talking about for 18 years? It would be in Arizona, one to three bedroom condos, and you'd have to buy now. How many of you would be interested?" Half of the people raised their hands eagerly. Dlugacz continued, "No, no, no. You would have to do it now."

About 450 people raised their hands again, and Olivia Communities started to become a reality. Interest has been fairly high so far, within two weeks of sending out the July email that Davis and Bender responded to, Olivia had received 40 deposits and hundreds of enquiries. Dlugacz said that when 400 women have sent in deposits that construction will begin. About half of those expressing interest would live there year-round; half would use the property for a getaway, a winter home, an investment or eventual retirement.

An intentional year-round Lesbian community may be a first, but the idea makes sense, said Nicholas Dagen Bloom, a social science professor at the New York Institute of Technology. He said that there is an American tradition of wanting to establish a community based upon similar ideas and filled with like-minded people. "A sense of greater control over your

Continued on Page Five

State LGBT Leaders Meet In Ohio To Discuss Movement Strategies

COLUMBUS, Ohio - On Sunday (August 10), 120 leaders of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender civil rights movement from 34 state organizations and 21 allied groups departed Columbus after four days of workshops, strategic conversations and networking at Equality Federation's 11th Annual Summer Meeting. Hosted this year by Federation member organization Equality Ohio, the Summer Meeting is the largest gathering of leadership in the LGBT movement.

State organizing and advocacy work is critical to our movement's ability to achieve full civil rights for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Americans," said Federation executive director Toni Broaddus. "Our state leaders founded Equality Federation to ensure that our state organizations have the resources necessary to do their work, and our annual Summer Meeting is the place that we gather to learn from each other, to plan our strategies for success, and to build a national agenda for LGBT equality."

The Equality Agenda is the Federation's emerging plan for LGBT equality in every state. The Agenda is defined by the work of our state organizations and based on what we know is achievable in each state. It covers the entire range of issues important to LGBT people, including equality in the workplace, in housing, in our schools, and for our families. State goals for affirmative legislation in the states include all members of our Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender community. At the Summer Meeting, Equality Federation member organizations elected their board of directors and board officers for 2008-2009 terms. Members of the board include: Mo Baxley of New Hampshire Freedom to Marry and a New Hampshire State Representative; Howard Bayless, the first openly Gay man elected to office in Alabama; Alexis Blizman of Equality New Mexico; Lynne Bowman of Equality Ohio; Jeana Frazzini of Basic Rights Oregon; Ross Levi of Empire State Pride Agenda in New York; Ian Palmquist of Equality North Carolina; Paul Scott of Equality Texas; Sharon Semmens of Georgia; Marc Solomon of MassEquality; Mark St. John of Indiana Equality; Rhonda White of Tennessee Equality Project; and Deon Young of the Milwaukee LGBT Center.

Board officers for 2008-2009 are: Lynne Bowman, Equality Federation Chair; Howard Bayless, Equality Federation Institute Chair; Deon Young, EF Vice Chair; Alexis Blizman, EFI Chair; Ross Levi, EF and EFI Secretary; and Paul Scott, EF and EFI Treasurer. "I am pleased and excited to serve a second term as Chair of the Equality Federation board of Directors," said Lynne Bowman, executive director of Equality Ohio, this year's Summer Meeting host organization. "Equality Federation has been critical to the growth and increasing

success of Equality Ohio and of all of our state organizations across the country." The Summer Meeting ended with the presentation of the Freddie Awards to state organizations that submitted specific strategies and achievements over the past year. State groups recognized for outstanding achievements by their peers were: Empire State Pride Agenda, Equality Arizona, Equality Ohio, and Garden State Equality (New Jersey). Key national and regional allies of state work sponsored the Summer Meeting, including: the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force; Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network (GLSEN); Lambda Legal; Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Discrimination (GLAAD); Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG); Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD); and Rockway Institute.

Equality Federation works to achieve equality for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender people in every state and territory by building strong and sustainable statewide organizations in a state-based movement. For more information and a complete list of Federation member organizations in the states, visit our website at equalityfederation.org.

Court Rules Doctor Can't Withhold Care To G/L Patients Based On Religious Beliefs

SAN FRANCISCO, California (Observer Update) - In a unanimous decision, the California Supreme Court ruled Monday (August 18) that doctors cannot withhold care to Gays and Lesbians based on their religious beliefs, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com.

The Court said that California's civil rights law barring sexual orientation discrimination extends to medical care. The Court was considering the case of a woman who was denied fertility treatments because she is a Lesbian and was not married. The case began in 2001 when Guadalupe Benitez filed suit against Drs. Christine Brody and Douglas Fenton after they refused to artificially inseminate her, claiming to do so would violate their religious beliefs.

A lower court ruled that the doctors could not use religion as a defense, but in 2005 a state appeals court struck down the ruling, saying that the doctors were within their rights because they based their decision on Benitez's unmarried status and that discrimination based on marital status is not prohibited by state law.

Represented by Lambda Legal Benitez appealed to the California Supreme Court. Benitez alleges that after she had received 11 months of preparatory treatment from the North

Continued on Page Five

UPDATE

Turnabout For TIHAN Aug. 24

TUCSON (Observer Update) - "Turnabout for TIHAN" is one of Tucson's biggest shows. This year's Turnabout features emcees Lucinda Holliday and Barbra Seville! Turnabout is an annual fundraiser put on for TIHAN by Tucson's GLBT clubs and their bar staff. The staff request donations from their friends and customers in order to do a "turn-about" from male to female (or vice versa) then put on a fabulous show to benefit the work of TIHAN, the Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network.

The theme for this year's "Turnabout for TIHAN" benefit show is "Stonewall Riot," and you can imagine the glitz, the passion, and fabulous splendor of it all! It's one of the biggest drag shows of the year! This year's show will take place at the Doubletree Hotel at 445 South Alvernon Way. The doors open at 4:30 p.m., and the show starts at 6:00 p.m. Tickets: \$15. Admission includes hors d'oeuvres at 4:30 p.m. The evening also features a raffle with some great prizes. Come out for Turnabout, featuring emcees Lucinda Holliday ("Tucson's Queen of Comedy") and Barbra Seville ("Arizona's Entertainer Of The Year"), along with your favorite bar staff from participating bars including, Yard Dog Saloon, Woody's, IBT's, Howl at the Moon, and Colors.

For more information on how you can participate in the fun, contact Scott Blades at 520-299-6647. Tickets are on sale now through the TIHAN office (credit card orders can be taken), or at participating bars. Volunteers are needed to assist in a variety of roles on the day of the event - contact Kim Talerico, Volunteer Coordinator, at (520) 299-6647 or kim@tihan.org.

No On 102 Fundraiser Aug.22

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Please join Congressman Raul Grijalva (D-CD 7) and friends at a fund raiser for No on Prop. 102, this election's anti-marriage amendment, Friday, August 22, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. at People for Grijalva Headquarters, 452 S. Stone.

To RSVP, either call (520) 629-0050 or rsvp@grijalvaforcongress.com please indicate No on 102 event.

There will be food, fun and beverages and the suggested donation: \$1.02 to \$1,000,002.

Reveille Returns For Another Season Of Music And Laughter

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Reveille Men's Chorus will be starting their 14th season of changing hearts and minds through music with a Welcome Back rehearsal at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, August 28th at The Hall at The Historic Y, 300 E. University (corner of University and 5th).

Tucson's GLBT men's chorus is actively looking for new members and encourages anyone who likes to sing or who has thought about joining to come by and see what it's all about. Reveille is dedicated to musical excellence and performs locally and worldwide (having traveled to Canada, Mexico and Brazil) to promote human rights, diversity and world free of AIDS.

The past year was a tremendously successful one for Reveille with their critically acclaimed spring show "Dim Sum and Then Some: A Foreign Affair" and the release of their 4th CD of the same name. Reveille just returned from Miami Florida where they performed at the GALA conference of Gay and Lesbian Choruses where they were one of the most talked about choruses that performed at the event (you can see Reveille's performances in Miami on Youtube). If you like to sing and have always want to make a difference in your community please join them, they are actively seeking new members. This year's holiday program will be "Holidays in Hollywood" featuring songs from our favorite Christmas movies and the spring show for 2009 will focus on music and comedy in a show entitled, "Make 'em Laugh".

2 Upcoming Events At Antigone Books

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Please join us for an event at Antigone Books, 411 North Fourth Avenue on Friday, August 29 at 7:00 p.m.

Katherine Adam, co-author of The New Feminized Majority (Paradigm, \$16.95), will read from and discuss her book. For those in the progressive community, Katherine Adam and co-author Charles Derber's book provides

a welcome ray of hope. The authors argue that a rising feminized majority - made up of both women and men - is emerging as a pivotal force in American politics. Characterized by cooperation, empathy, an appreciation for equality, and a preference for nonviolent solutions, this new majority can help Democrats change America for the better.

The reading will be followed by a question and answer period.

Refreshments will be served; and Friday, September 5 at 7:00 p.m., join us for a Chile Relleno Demonstration and Tasting with award winning Chef Janos Wilder of Tucson's Janos Restaurant and Jbar! Janos' recently published The Great Chiles Rellenos Book (Ten Speed, \$16.95) offers more than 30 recipes for delicious chiles rellenos, ranging in complexity to suit beginning and expert home cooks alike. He introduces regional Mexican rellenos, then provides contemporary interpretations, with everything from Cheddar Chorizo Poppers to Mango, Apple and Roquefort Rellenos. From choosing the right chiles to serving them up with a flourish, the book provides plenty of inspiration for anyone craving a taste of the Southwest.

Helpline Launches Campaign To Increase Awareness Of LGBT Suicide

LOS ANGELES, California (Observer Update) - The nation's only around-the-clock crisis and suicide prevention helpline for LGBT youth is launching its first social marketing campaign to increase awareness of Gay teen suicide, reported 365Gay.com. The campaign, by the non-profit Trevor Project, was developed by Better World Advertising and will coincide with National Suicide Prevention Week, which is sponsored by the American Association of Suicidology. It will run Sept. 7-13, 2008.

The series of print and online advertisements feature four young people, representing those who attempted suicide because of intolerance and harassment, and expressing how glad they are that they did not complete suicide because their lives have since changed for the better. The vignettes deliver the message that the despair leading to suicide can be resolved in a way that leads to a happy and fulfilling life. The Trevor Project said it hopes to place the advertisements pro-bono in media outlets and on Web sites nationwide.

"It is significant that our first social marketing campaign will launch during National Suicide Prevention Week because suicide is one of the top three killers of all young people, and LGBTQ youth are up to four times more likely to attempt suicide than their heterosexual peers," said Charles Robbins, executive director of The Trevor Project. "It is time for young people to rise above homophobia and work together to create inclusive, respectful environments for one another."

The Trevor Helpline, 866-4-U-TREVOR, is a free and confidential service that offers hope through its trained counselors. It also provides lifesaving guidance and vital resources to parents and educators in order to foster safe, accepting and inclusive environments for all youth, at home and at school. The organization was founded by three filmmakers whose film, Trevor, about a Gay teenager who attempts suicide, received the 1994 Academy Award for Best Short Film (Live Action). The "I'm Glad I Failed" print and online advertisements can be downloaded free at TheTrevorProject.org/ImGladIFailed.

Calling for friendly and reliable people to join SAAF's Client Services Team as volunteer Peer Counselors.



If you are interested in offering peer support to clients, educating on HIV/AIDS and more, contact Volunteer Resources at 628-7223 or volcoord@saaaf.org

SAAF
Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation



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

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

Office Closed Thursdays

EDITOR/PUBLISHER:

Bob Ellis

ARTS & GRAPHICS:

Gary Clark

MANAGING EDITOR:

Mark Kerr

Special Events Photos:

Bill Morrow

Hunter Johnson

Horoscope:

Charlene Lichtenstein

Contributing Columnists

Mark R. Kerr

Jimmy Petrol

Jack Melichar

Publication of names or photos of any person or organization in the OBSERVER is not to be construed as indication of the sexual orientation of such person, organization or advertisers or any employees thereof.

Opinions that are expressed in Letters to the Editor or columns by contributors are not necessarily those of the OBSERVER, its staff or advertisers. OBSERVER assumes responsibility for its own editorial policy only.

Although OBSERVER has many fine advertisers, we do not accept responsibility for any claims made pertaining to their products and/or services.

Permission to reprint (except for separately copyrighted material) is granted when credit is given to the OBSERVER.

Informing the Community
The Observer



Howl at the Moon
sports pub & dance club

915 W. Prince Rd.
1st stoplight west of Oracle
SW corner of Prince & Fairview
293-7339
howlatthemoontucson.com

Saturday, Aug. 23
DJ Libby plays your requests

Saturday, Aug. 30
It's Reigning Men
with drag king Anson Reign



Around The Old Pueblo

Come to the second gathering of community members and grassroots organizers to discuss the campaign to defeat Proposition 102, the Anti-Marriage Amendment, Saturday, August 23, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m., at the Main Downtown Library, 101 N. Stone (Main Meeting Room - Lower Level). Proposition 102, if approved by Arizona voters, will amend the Arizona Constitution by adding the following article related to marriage: "Marriage - Only a union of one man and one woman shall be valid or recognized as a marriage in this state." Your input on defeating this hate measure is valuable! For more information, go online to votenoprop102.com.

Registered voters, Democrats, Republicans, Independents and others who want to vote early or by mail have until Friday, August 22 to get their request into the Pima County Recorder's office. Those registered voters who are listed as independent or other, not one of the recognized political parties (Democratic, Republican, Libertarian or Green) will have to state their request for a specific party ballot. For more information, either call the Pima County Recorder's office, (520) 740-4330, or go online at recorder.pima.gov.

Interested in spending time, creating a safe space, and empowering youth? We have volunteer positions available for folks who want to volunteer during youth lounge hours, as well as volunteer for specific Eon events, like our monthly gender bender and support groups. We are open Tuesday through Thursday, 3 - 8 p.m., Friday 3 - 10p.m., and Saturday, 12 - 8 p.m. The First Step to becoming an Eon Volunteer is to attend a volunteer orientation specifically for Eon, being held Saturday, August 23, 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th Street. We will talk about Eon's empowerment model, role

play and answer questions specific to LGBT youth. After the orientation participants are required to have a finger print card and participate in a brief youth interview in order to begin volunteering at the lounge. We are so excited to welcome new volunteers into Eon and to all share in creating a safe space for youth to be who they are. For more information, contact Katie Komar, (520) 909-6173, E-mail kkomar@wingspan.org.

"Hamlet 2," a hit at the 2008 Sundance Film Festival, this irreverent and politically incorrect comedy will screen on August 21 at Century Park Place, 5870 E. Broadway (fandango.com/centuryparkplacemall20_aapqi/theaterpage), (520) 745-2321, and opens in theaters on August 22. From the Co-Writer of South Park: Bigger, Longer & Uncut and Team America: World Police comes "Hamlet 2" starring Steve Coogan, Catherine Keener, David Arquette, Amy Poehler and Elizabeth Shue as Elizabeth Shue.

The 2008 Wingspan Annual Benefit Dinner will be an evening of fun, reflection, and motivation as Wingspan celebrates 20 years of service to southern Arizona's LGBT community. This remarkable event, September 20, 5:30 p.m., will bring together more than one thousand community members, as we remember the past and rally together for the future. This year's gala, themed "Looking Back, Moving Forward," will take place in the Grand Lobby and Grand Ballroom of the Tucson Convention Center, 260 S. Church Avenue, and will feature a gourmet dinner, silent auction, live entertainment and more. Helping celebrate this momentous occasion is keynote speaker Judy Shepard, mother of Matthew Shepard, whose tragic death on October 12, 1998

challenged millions of individuals to eradicate hate. His murder was a wake-up call to the discrimination faced by our community and a call to action to demand change. As executive director of the Matthew Shepard Foundation, Judy tours the country speaking out against hate in all forms, making her a

key figure in the LGBT civil rights movement. Tickets are \$125 individually, \$1250 per table of 10, and are available now. Please call Erin Russ at (520) 624-1779 x115 to reserve your seats, tables or your Philabaum glass centerpieces.

Billboard Campaign Highlights G/L Families

MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin (Observer Update) - A Milwaukee group aims to show that Gay and Lesbian families are everywhere with an aggressive billboard and bus shelter ad campaign, 365Gay.com reported. The "Gay Neighbor" campaign will feature LGBT families drawn from the Milwaukee area and was unveiled at a news conference.

The ads, from the Cream City Foundation, all bear the slogan "Family. It's all about LOVE!" and direct people to a Web site that offers more information on the issues facing same-sex couples and their children. In 2006, Wisconsin voters approved a constitutional amendment limiting marriage to opposite-sex couples. Since then LGBT activist groups have been focusing on efforts to get bills granting recognition of domestic partnerships passed in the legislature.

Marketing expert Denise Crawley said the photos used in the campaign were selected following intensive focus groups. "We tried single people, we tried couples by themselves. None of those sorts of images worked as well as presenting people in the sense of family," Crawley told Milwaukee Public Radio. The ads feature with young children and teens pictured with their Gay and Lesbian parents, and LGBT kids with their mothers and fathers. "We also heard from people that they thought that Gay people don't have families, certainly thought they don't have children. Don't even think to ask about a significant other, about their mother, about their sister," Crawley said.

Several of the families represented in the campaign were present at the news conference, but were identified only by their first names. One of the couples, Kristie and Karen, said that it was difficult to decide whether to expose their children in the ads. "The last thing a parent wants to do is to put their child in harms way and, while I don't feel like we're necessarily doing that, it's a little nerve-wracking. And there were days I did feel sick to my stomach about it and we talked about that a lot. But, we felt like the cause was worthwhile and we need to do it," Karen said. "My true feeling was, I came back to the code, you have to be a part of the change you want to see in the world and there was no other way to do it. And I think our families and our kids know, that it's a worthwhile cause."

Crawley said that in addition to educating the straight population, she hopes the ads encourage more Gay people to come out. "The fact that there are still hate crimes and there are still unfair laws, there are so many people who are still closeted," she said. "There are plenty of people who still have people come into their homes and have dinner parties and people don't know that they're Gay. And we're not going to be able to make inroads into more fair laws and opportunities if more people don't realize how many Gay neighbors they have." The foundation did not say how much it cost to produce the ads, but noted that it received funding from the Joseph R. Pabst LGBT Infrastructure Fund and that Clear Channel had donated a large number of billboards.

VOTED TUCSON'S #1 GAY CLUB



Saturday's

5pm Karaoke on the Patio with Troy
 9pm "Saturday Starrletts" w/ Bunny FuFu & Jane Starr
 11pm CIRCUIT SATURDAY (DJ Q) & PARTY ON THE PATIO w/ DJ Mike Lopez

Sunday's

4pm KARAOKE on the patio with Troy
 9pm DJ Hurricane Spinning Top 40
 S.I.N.DAYS DRINK SPECIAL!!!
tucsongaymuseum.org
\$1.50 Well Cocktails & Domestic Beer
\$2.50 Call Cocktails & Premium Beer
 Saving Our History Since 1967

HAPPY HOUR = \$2.00 WELL & DOMESTIC NOON-8PM

UPCOMING EVENTS
MONDAY MORNING MADNESS
 September 1st
 Bar opens at 10am
 &
MISSY ELLIOTT
CD RELEASE PARTY
 Tuesday September 9th at 9pm

616 N. 4th Ave 520.882.3053 www.ibts.net and www.myspace.com/ibtstucson

VENTURE-N
TUCSON'S ONLY MEN'S BAR

JUNGLE PARTY

SATURDAY
EVENING
AUGUST 30TH

DRESS IN YOUR BEST
JUNGLE ATTIRE.

Drink Specials
&
Costume Contest

OPENS MON - SAT 9AM; SUN 10AM
1239 N. 6TH AVENUE TUCSON, AZ 85705
(520) 882-8224

Tucson Observer Archives

tucsonobserverarchives.org



Tucson's only Gay Bar
with Internet Jukebox &
2 Smoking Patios!

Wednesdays

Dart Tourney @ 8 pm
Saturdays @ 10 am

*****Fridays*****

Karaoke @ 9 pm

Free WiFi

2449 N. Stone Ave., Tucson, AZ, 85705
(520)-624-3858

Home Bar of: "Tucson Knight Owls"
& "Bears of the Old Pueblo"
www.yarddogsaloon.com

Openly Gay Kentucky State Senator Tapped For Judicial Post

FRANKFORT, Kentucky (Observer Update) - Senator Ernesto Scorsone (D-Lexington) of the Kentucky state Senate has been picked by Gov. Ernie Beshear (D) to fill a vacancy on the Fayette County, Kentucky circuit court. The post is in effect until November 4, when Scorsone must win an election to fill the seat. Scorsone has no opposition in the race.



Senator Ernesto Scorsone

An attorney who came out publicly in 2003, Scorsone has been a member of the state legislature since 1984, when he was first elected to the House of Representatives. In 1996 Scorsone was elected to the state Senate, a post he has held since.

The popular politician was reelected in 2000 and 2004 without opposition and was on his way to an expected fourth term when the governor made the appointment.

Slain Teen's Parents Blame Schools

OXNARD, California (Observer Update) - The family of a Gay teenager who was fatally shot in class blames the school district for allowing their son to wear makeup and feminine clothing to school factors the family claims led to the death, reported 365Gay.com. The parents and brother of 15-year-old Larry King of Oxnard filed a personal injury claim against the Hueneme school district seeking unspecified damages for not enforcing the dress code.

code when King wore feminine clothing and makeup to school. His parents, Dawn and Gregory King, said faculty members knew their son had "unique vulnerabilities" and was subject to abuse because of his sexual orientation. King was a ward of the court and living at a shelter for abused, neglected and emotionally troubled children at the time of the shooting.

A call for comment to district Superintendent Jerry Dannenberg was not immediately returned, reported the Associated Press. State law requires individuals to file a claim before proceeding with a lawsuit against a public agency.

King, an eighth-grader at E.O. Green Junior High School, was shot in February. Classmate Brandon McInerney pleaded not guilty to the shooting last week. He was charged as an adult and also faces a charge of committing a hate crime. The family's claim, filed in Ventura County Superior Court, said administrators and teachers failed to enforce the school's dress



A family member of the Tucson Gay Museum

Saving Our History Since 1967

Olivia Starts First Lesbian Housing Development

Continued from Page One

environment, and a lack of environmental disturbances drives people to creating and inhabit planned communities," said Bloom.

Bloom said that usually groups create these sorts of planned communities out of fear of difference or crime. But that didn't seem to be the case here. "I find it interesting that a group, LGBT people, already unconventional in itself, is going off and creating its own intentional community. I don't think there's anything else like that. There are certainly enclaves and cities that are known as highly Gay-populated areas, but an intentionally planned suburban-type community is something new," he said.

Though perhaps this sort of community will become more common as Gays and Lesbians are more accepted. Bloom said there was a demographic boom of Gays and Lesbian moving to the suburbs and wanting a more conventional life - and a suburban housing development is nothing if not conventional. Locals expect the new development to fit in fine with the rest of the community that will react negatively to this kind of development," but when an LGBT resort opened in town a few years ago, "the public reaction was good," said Cindy Jordan-Nowe, co-chair-

woman for City of Tucson Commission on GLBT issues. "Tucson is a very inclusive community, years beyond other places in the country as far as embracing diversity and accepting and protecting LGBT people," Nowe said. The city has a large transgender community and several anti-discrimination laws in effect.

Dlugacz is optimistic about the area and believes in the future of the project. Though it is a time of economic hardship and developers are scrambling to find home buyers, Dlugacz projects Olivia Communities will be one of the only successful developments this year. "We have such a connection with the [Lesbian] community, and there is such a trust in Olivia...that says a lot about who we are," says Dlugacz. She noted that Olivia has been a mainstay of the Lesbian community for over 35 years.

Davis and Bender say this is why they put down their money so quickly. "It's a pretty gutsy move to commit to living in a place we've never been or seen," said Davis. "Knowing their philosophy... and their reliability, and their level of standards, there is just a built in trust for us."

For more information, call 1-888-855-8649 visit OliviaCommunities.com.



Court Rules Doctor Can't Withhold Care To G/L Patients Based On Religious Beliefs

Continued from Page One

Coast Women's Care Medical Group clinic in San Diego, and at "the critical and brief moment when Benitez needed to be inseminated," Brody and Fenton refused to inseminate her.

Both Brody and Fenton said that because of their personal religious beliefs about Gay people, they would not administer the treatment Benitez had been promised. In court papers the doctors also said they object to treating unmarried heterosexual women and they claim that their fundamentalist Christian beliefs exempt them from California's civil rights laws.

The doctors contended they denied treatment because Benitez and her registered domestic partner of 15 years were not married. Lambda legal maintained she was denied because of her sexual orientation, not her marital

status. When the appeal was filed with the Supreme Court, Lambda argued that marital status was being used as a smokescreen. "Doctors with anti-Gay religious beliefs are not excused from obeying the laws that govern all of us," said Lambda legal attorney Jennifer C. Pizer at the time. "That our client's doctors felt that they could defy well-established California law and medical ethics is very worrisome for all of us in a civil society."

Woody's

LIVE SOUL - BLUES - MOTOWN
WITH SIMON CROWN
FRIDAYS 6 - 9 PM

MSHAPE HIV
AND SYPHILIS TESTING
FRIDAY AUG 22ND 8-11 PM

AN EVENING WITH BARBRA SEVILLE
AND AJIA SIMONE
SATURDAY AUG 23RD 10 PM

CHECK OUT OUR "NEW"
MARTINI SHOW LOUNGE

WELCOME BACK STUDENTS
BACK TO SCHOOL PARTY!!!
SUNDAY AUG 24TH
8 PM TIL CLOSE
DRINK SPECIALS ALL NITE!!

WE OFFER 60 VARIETIES OF VODKA'S
TUCSON'S LARGEST SELECTION!
...STOP BY -AND- TRY ONE OUT...

3710 N. ORACLE ROAD (520) 292-6702
WWW.MYWOODYSGAZ.COM WWW.MYSPACE.COM/AMYWOODY

WELCOME TO Fabulous LAS VEGAS
AUGUST 23
Special Guest Performance by BOOGIE B.
2900 E Broadway Blvd. 520-318-4838 www.thebiztuc.com

VEGAS NIGHT
\$1000
GIVEAWAY from IMAGES SALON
The Biz
HUSH... PARTIES

NAUGHTY SCHOOL GIRLS
& DIRTY SCHOOL BOYS PLAYGROUND
WELCOME BACK PARTY!
GO GO DANCERS
IPOD GIVEAWAY!
The Biz
2900 E BROADWAY BLVD
520-318-4838

Saving Our History Since 1967



COMMENTARY...

by Deb Price

Librarian Champions Intellectual Freedom

Weddings are supposed to be joyful occasions. But reading about Uncle Bobby's big day in a children's book upset a grownup library patron. Fortunately, a calm and wise librarian, James LaRue, was there to guide the patron through the dark emotional woods that can be very scary after reading something unsettling. That interaction recounted on LaRue's MYLIBLOG — has touched countless lovers of books and intellectual freedom.

We tend to forget what a hotbed of controversy a public library can be. Each year, the American Library Association receives hundreds of reports of challenges to books, most by parents. But thanks to the Internet, this particular book challenge in Douglas County, Colorado, a place most folks would need to Google to find has sparked a far-reaching conversation about censorship, the importance of neighborhood libraries and what makes a good librarian.

Ironically, the theme of "Uncle Bobby's Wedding" by Sarah S. Brannen is that Chloe, a girl guinea pig, doesn't need to be upset about the upcoming marriage of her favorite uncle, also a guinea pig. Chloe fears she'll lose her uncle's love. It all works out, though, and Chloe is the flower girl at the wedding.

The library patron was upset that Uncle Bobby was marrying another male guinea pig. In an e-mail to LaRue, the patron objected that the children's book "is specifically designed to normalize gay marriage" and had prompted "not the type of conversation I thought I would be having with my seven year old." She added she strongly believes "in America and the beliefs of our Founding Fathers" and that marriage is between a man and a woman.

LaRue's respectful defense of keeping "Uncle Bobby's Wedding" where it belongs — not locked away where kids can't find it displays all the ingredients that make for a really good public librarian: A generous portion of Atticus Finch, lots of Miss Manners and a dash of Sigmund Freud. "Stories help children name their fears, understand them, work out strategies for dealing with life," wrote LaRue, a 54-year-old dad who is also the author of "The New Inquisition: Understanding and Managing Intellectual Freedom Challenges."

Another library patron, he adds, used "Daddy's Roommate" to help her young son understand why his dad had left to go live with a man. "Most of the books we have are designed not to interfere with parents' notions of how to raise their children, but to support them. But not every parent is looking for the same thing," LaRue explained.

Thanking the patron for being so concerned about her child, he went on to stress that our nation's founders wanted to encourage individual freedom, not government restrictions. The hero of this library tale first fell in love with libraries at age 7, when he asked "Mrs. Johnson" what's the speed of light, and she replied, "What a fascinating question. Let's find out."

Through his decades as a librarian, LaRue has come to believe that censorship attempts are usually rooted in parental grief at the prospect of losing control over their children's world. "Parents want woods without wolves," he says with a knowing sigh. The neighborhood library, this wise librarian knows, can help teach children how to survive, even thrive, in a world with wolves.

(Deb Price is a columnist for the Detroit News, from which this article is reprinted.)

Ellen And Portia Tie The Knot

LOS ANGELES, California (Observer Update) - "Ellen DeGeneres and Portia de Rossi were married tonight in an intimate ceremony at their home in Los Angeles," their spokesperson told People magazine late Saturday (August 16).

De Rossi, 35, wore a backless, light pink dress, and DeGeneres, 50, wore pants, a button-up shirt and vest — all in white, according to US magazine. Both outfits were designed by Zac Posen. The private ceremony was attended by 19 guests, including DeGeneres's mom Betty and de Rossi's mother Margaret Rogers (who flew in from Australia for the occasion). The pair reportedly spent the afternoon leading up to the ceremony laughing and

walking "all over the lawn together holding hands and posing," before exchanging handwritten vows.

Ellen announced her engagement to Portia on The Ellen DeGeneres Show in May to a standing ovation from the live studio audience, the day after the California Supreme Court struck down a ban on Gay marriage by ruling it unconstitutional. Backstage after winning another Emmy for her talk show a few weeks later, Ellen answered reporters questions about the engagement, joking, "Planning a wedding is very stressful. It's crazy. My gardener is now invited." She and Portia also showed off Portia's new pink diamond engagement ring at the Emmys.



Happy Hour 4-7 Daily

Tucson Observer Archives

starring *Lucinda McMillan*
"Tucson's Queen Of Comedy"

"ALL YOU CAN EAT"
Sunday Brunch Buffet
10 - 2

Friday Nights • 10p
HOT JAZZ & COOL MARTINIS
FRIDAYS FROM 6:30 - 9:30
WITH **SUSAN ARTEMIS**

COLORS
323-1840
5305 E Speedway

Douglas J. Newman, P.C.

A T T O R N E Y A T L A W

Corporations • Limited Liability Companies • General Business
Wills • Trusts • Estate & Estate Tax Planning • Probate

2650 North Country Club Road • Tucson, Arizona 85716
Phone 520-325-2053 • Fax 520-325-2274 • dougnewmanlaw.com

MICHAEL & BRADFORD HULTQUIST
MEXICAN SCANDINAVIANS
Proprietors
WE SERVE WONDERFUL MEXICAN FOOD
SELECTED WINES & BEER

El Torero
RESTAURANT

231 E. 26th St. Tucson, Arizona
Open every day except Tuesday 622-9534

A family member of the Tucson Gay Museum

You are invited to
tucsongaymuseum.org

Charlie
Phoenix
Saving Our History Since 1967
Country & western dancing nightly!

727 W. Camelback Rd.
602.265.0224
www.charliesonline.com

Fueled By Petrol

by Jimmy Petrol

Always On A Sunday

A couple of thousand years ago, sex got put in the closet. There was a confluence of opinion among the "holy" that human sexuality should, basically, not be. Silly, but there it is. The resultant social, political, religious and even legal result is a world population that has been programmed to believe that the human sexual response is evil. Wow.

So it is that, from time to time, one of us humans who has a healthy sex life (lots and hots) gets it in our head that our quest for sex is getting in our way. What is really happening here is most likely that someone near and dear is playing on our hot and healthy love of sexual communion and making us dance a jig to get it. Screw 'em. Figuratively, of course.

The idea that a human who likes sex (with other people) might do better in life sans-sex is faulty in one basic way; the sex drive is an outgrowth of passion for life, love of intimacy, drive to Live! It is not a thing unto itself, like an illness that could plague and torment. It is simply the celebration of life. It is not hard to see why the act of procreation is the direct result of this wonderful act of celebration, this wild and sumptuous coupling of humans that pleases us above all other things. What better place to put procreation than in the most solemn, intimate, metamorphic act two (or more) humans can engage in; the celebration of life we call sex.

In fact, I have such a deep and abiding respect for the act of sex that I refer to it among my closest friends as worship. As we all know, since we were (accidentally) borne in a largely Christian nation, worship of the "one true God" most often involves abusing ourselves by not having any sex. This is, we are told, is being "married" to God. God first! Well. What an Idea!

First, God makes us in his own image (really?...I wouldn't) and then the priests (not priestess) tell us that God doesn't like it when we "do it". It follows, then, if we really all loved God, nobody would do it. Presto, there would be no more humans to bother about. See, if humans don't celebrate life by "doing it", there can be no more humans. So this business about sex being sinful is just a bunch of lies. Evil Lies.

And funny thing about this kind of lie, one told to aid in controlling people; it gets around us and gets into us and bingo, some of us start to use it to control some of the others....start to take sex and make it into something owned, something to be bartered, traded, examined, codified, hidden and finally used as a temptation and a reward. It becomes, thereby, perverted.

The perversion of the Church is well documented; the "religious orders" that demand celibacy from its clergy simply can't be trusted to leave the kiddies alone. Clearly, when the human is denied sex, especially in the name of Godliness, it is the simplest thing in the world to turn humans into monsters. Perversion, sexual perversion, is not what we have learned; it only happens when humans allow the wonderful, worshipful act of sexual communion to be limited, examined and condemned. I have never met a libertine with a perversion; a large sexual skill set is not a bad thing, my rabbits. It is the examination of another person's sexual response, her or his worshipful celebration of life, that is perverted.

So if you ever get to thinking that maybe your sex drive is too large, that

your quest for sexual communion is too costly, think of this; it isn't the sex that is getting you down....it is probably your sex partner. Chances are slim that we would be wondering if all the trouble of sex is worth it if we were having sex with another monkey that is nice enough to simply join us in our celebration of life, our worship, our Godly humping and not be using the intimacy of it all to control and/or condemn us.

Sex is an outgrowth of being really alive; be alive and let all the deadly, evil bastards (and bastardets) go do it with each other. Find a monkey that loves life and you will find a monkey that won't monkey around with your sex.

rsletterslettersletters

EDITOR:

The Observer obviously spent little time or effort on the endorsements for Pima County Board of Supervisors in Districts 2 and 3. Donna is quite supportive of The Stonewall Democratic Club and has been active in opposing Proposition 107 where Sharon Bronson and Ramon Valadez refused to take a stand. Neither of them have done much if anything to address the important issues that affect all of us such as unbridled growth, a dwindling water supply, and proper oversight to assure that our elections are handled honestly and without tampering, to name only a few.

It was very disappointing to see the incumbents endorsed by the Observer when both Donna Branch-Gilby and Robert Robuck are clearly far superior candidates. In comparison, both Donna and Robert speak about specifics when it comes to the issues where Sharon and particularly Ramon give generalizations with little substance if any to back them up. I expect more from a publication that has the ability to influence a large number of people who may or may not be well informed on issues when it comes to voting.

Alan Leibensperger,
Tucson

TURNABOUT FOR TIHAN 2008
"STONEWALL RIOT"
 a benefit for the
 Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network

AUGUST 24, 2008
 TICKETS: \$15
 Doors Open at 4:30 with Fingerfood Buffet
 Show Begins at 6pm
 Doubletree Hotel at Reid Park
 445 South Alvernon Way

Featuring Emcees:
Lucinda Holliday
 and
Barbra Seville

For more information and tickets, call 299-6647 or stop in at one of the sponsoring bars:

YARD DOG SALON & SPA, COLORS, Woody's, Fowl at the Moon, LBTS

Member of the Tucson Gay Museum
 tucsongaymuseum.org
 Turnabout FOR TIHAN

Saving Our History Since 1967

**TELL OUR ADVERTISERS
YOU SAW THEIR AD IN THE OBSERVER**

POLITICS 2008

by Mark R. Kerr

More Than Just One Issue

On Monday, August 18, the Obama for President campaign held a telephone conference call to highlight the differences between Senator Obama and the presumptive Republican presidential nominee, Arizona Senator John McCain on the issue of hate crimes.

According to Matt Nosanchuk, Convener, Obama for America National LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) Steering and Policy Committee, there is a stark contrast between McCain and Obama. Senator Obama has been supportive of expanding current federal hate crimes statutes to include sex, sexual orientation and gender identity, perceived or otherwise.

Nosanchuk went on to point out Obama's consistent support for federal hate crimes legislation and his work in the Illinois senate joining Jewish lawmakers to pass legislation with criminal enhancements for hate groups. McCain has never cast an affirmative vote for such a measure in Congress, missing a vote (one of many) on such a bill in 2007.

One issue does not a campaign make and for LGBT voters, there more than just one where Barack Obama and John McCain differ which makes the choice of whom to vote for quite easy.

Obama has expressed his opposition to same-sex marriage but has expressed his support for civil unions with the full federal rights and benefits, totalling 1,138, which he has stated can be done through the repeal of the Defense of Marriage Act that prohibits federal recognition of Gay and Lesbian couples.

According to Obama, Gays and Lesbians would have the same rights, in regard to adoption, as heterosexuals do.

Legislation to allow bi-national Gay and Lesbian couples to be together in the United States was introduced, known as the Uniting American Families Act (UAFSA). Obama has expressed reservations over the potential of fraud about UAFSA but is supportive of allowing loving, committed, same-sex binational couples the same immigration rights as opposite sex couples have.

Obama co-sponsored legislation, known as the Early Treatment for HIV/AIDS Act (ETHA) to provide Medi-

care coverage to low income, HIV positive Americans and has expressed support for increased funding for HIV/AIDS research and programs.

Gays and Lesbians would be able to serve openly in the military if Obama had his way, since he has expressed opposition to the federal law, "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," which prohibits openly Gay and Lesbian Americans from serving openly in the armed services.

Protecting the rights of worker from discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, known as the Employment Non Discrimination Act, is something Obama supports.

On the other hand, when Iowa was in the headlines when Judge Robert B. Hanson (August 30, 2007) ruled that the state's Defense of Marriage Act violates the Iowa state constitution, "Straight Talk" McCain, said the ruling was "a loss for the traditional family," adding that "I have always supported the traditional definition of marriage as between one man and one woman," he said. "The ruling of the court only reinforces my belief that we must have a president who is committed to appointing strict constructionists to the bench." Senator McCain is a two-time tripper down the aisle, marrying Carol Shepp, his first wife, in 1965. He adopted her two children from a previous marriage, and they have a daughter, born in 1966. According to an article from the Washington Monthly (June 2006), McCain was still married and living with his wife in 1979 while, according to The New York Times' Nicholas Kristof, "aggressively courting a 25-year-old woman who was as beautiful as she was rich." McCain divorced his wife, who had raised their three children while he was imprisoned in Vietnam, then launched his political career with his new wife's family money.

McCain opposes governmental and legal recognition of same-sex marriage, civil unions and domestic partnerships, when he expressed his unconditional support for Arizona's Proposition 107 in 2006.

McCain opposes the lifting of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," the federal law prohibiting open Lesbians and Gays from serving in the military.

On the proposed, federal Employment Non-Discrimination Act, Senator McCain opposes the measure.

When it comes to expanding current federal statutes on hate crimes to cover sexual orientation and gender identity, McCain is not in favor of this premise, through legislation entitled "the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act."

Arizona's Senator has expressed his opposition to the proposed federal legislation (ETHA) that if passed and signed into law, would will help eliminate barriers to early drug therapy and comprehensive care for people living with HIV by giving states the option to allow HIV positive people with low incomes to qualify for Medicaid coverage earlier in the course of their infection.

It is not a "stark contrast," for the presidential election for LGBT voters, the choice is clear, Barack Obama of Illinois, the soon to be Democratic nominee is the one who was earned our support with his support of the LGBT and HIV/AIDS communities through his work as an elected official.

Insurance & Financial Services Representative



- Auto
- Home
- Life
- Business
- 529 Plans
- IRAs
- Retirement Planning
- Health Insurance

FARMERS INSURANCE GROUP
Symbol of Superior Service

FARMERS
Tim Brown
www.pimainsurance.com

Authorized Broker
Blue Cross BlueShield of Arizona

ASSURANT Health

Office: 520.322.3924 • Cell: 520.548.9377

WILLS TRUSTS POWERS OF ATTORNEY

Laura G. Schoenfeld PLLC

PROTECTING OUR FAMILIES

520.514.8383

845 S. Craycroft Rd. • Tucson AZ 85711
lgs@tucsonlaw.us

PROBATE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS



Check us out the next time you're in Phoenix

cool patio. hot guys.

now open at 8am • happy hour until 8pm

bunkhousesaloon.com • 602.200.9154 • 4428 n 7th ave

Tucson Real Estate Experience Since 1971



Del Sutton
Native of Tucson
2nd Generation REALTOR
Graduate of the REALTOR Institute
Celebrating Diversity with Pride

- * Homes & Land For Sale
- * FREE Seller Foreclosure Prevention
- * FREE Real Estate Counseling
- * FREE Foreclosure Lists
- * FREE Relocation Services

Direct: (520) 622-4663 Available 24/7
Business: (520) 323-3948
Del@MasterConsultants.net

EXIT
EXIT REALTY 1st CHOICE

Exit Realty 1st Choice
6763 E Broadway Blvd
Tucson, AZ 85710

Local, State, National & International Assistance

Securing your future.

Social Security Disability and Workers' Compensation

The Law Office of Carol L. Lohmann, P.C.
520.628.7700



Tucson Gay Museum

tucsongaymuseum.org

Registered - Copyrighted - All Rights Reserved

Hunter's Mobile Hair Care

Why leave the house! We come to you!

Hunter Johnson (520) 240-1153

Large line of Products ~ Licensed and insured



Soulforce Q Completes Arizona Journey

PHOENIX (Observer Update) - Meg Sneed is a cancer survivor. She is also a Lesbian. After spending three days walking to benefit breast-cancer research, she had an idea. What about a walk to raise awareness about marriage inequality?

Sneed, 25, and seven other Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual young people aged 19 to 28 walked through the Phoenix metro area to the state Capitol to raise awareness about Gay rights and the fall referendum that would add a Gay-marriage ban to the state constitution. The 96-mile walk - symbolic for the 96-year-history of the state - ended August 16 at the state Capitol. "We just feel it is really important for young people to get out

and say how they feel about these issues and share their stories," Sneed said, reported the Arizona Republic.

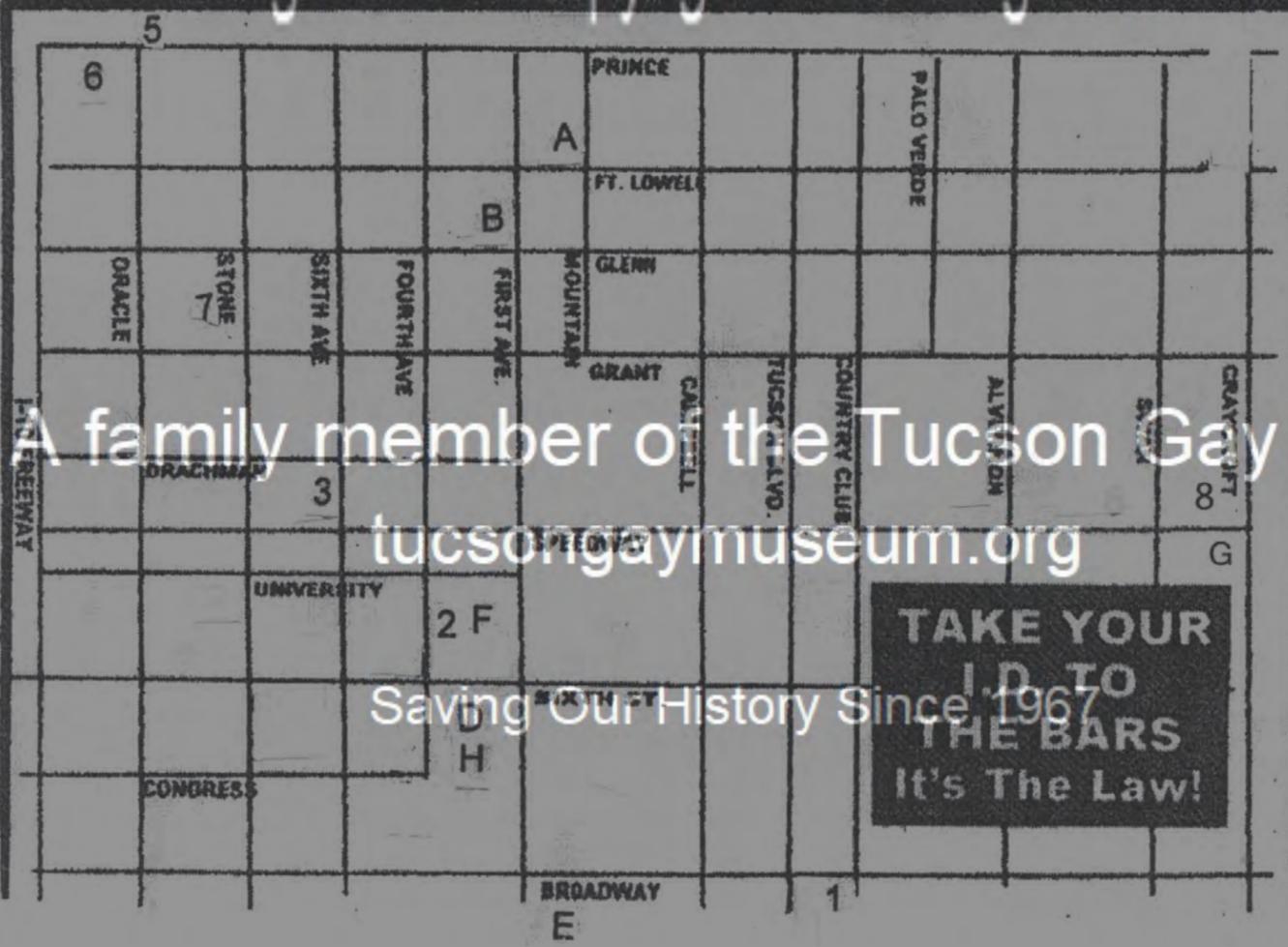
Arizona does not have any legal recognition for Gay or Lesbian partners, such as domestic partnerships or civil unions. It also was the first state where voters rejected a constitutional amendment banning Gay marriage. Proponents have brought back the Gay-marriage ban. But this time the constitutional amendment is more straightforward, without a provision banning government benefits for domestic partners, which many observers say doomed the 2006 proposal.

Sneed, a social worker and member of Soulforce Q, the young-adult division of the national Gay rights group Soulforce, said she and her fellow walkers' immediate goal is to defeat the marriage amendment this fall. But she also has another goal: to spread their message in the hopes of one day getting the right to marry in Arizona. They took that message from city hall to city hall, stopping along the way to meet other walkers and supporters. For reports about the walk, go online to soulforce.org/article/1402.



TUCSON DIRECTORY

Registered - Copyrighted - All Rights Reserved



Community Bars

1. THE BIZ
2900 E. Broadway 318-4838
2. IBT'S
616 N. 4th Ave. 882-3053
3. VENTURE-N
1239 N. 6th Ave. 882-8224
5. WOODY'S
3710 N. Oracle Rd,
292-6702
6. HOWL AT THE MOON
915 W. Prince Rd. 293-7339
7. YARD DOG SALOON
2449 N. Stone, 624-3858
8. COLORS FOOD & SPIRITS
5305 E. Speedway 323-1840

Organizations

- A. MCC - METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH
3269 N. Mountain - 292-9151
- B. CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP
2902 N. Geronimo - 622-4626
- D. WINGSPAN - 425 E. 7th St. - 624-1779
- E. S.A.A.F. - 375 S. Euclid Ave. - 628-7223
- F. RAINBOW PLANET COFFEE HOUSE
606 N. 4th Ave. - 620-1770
- G. TIHAN -Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network
1101 N. Craycroft, Ste 301. 299-6647
- H. EON YOUTH CENTER 620-6245

tucsonobserverarchives.org

tucsonobserver Archives

A family member of the Tucson Gay Museum
tucsongaymuseum.org

Saving Our History Since 1967

TAKE YOUR I.D. TO THE BARS It's The Law!

TELL OUR ADVERTISERS YOU SAW THEIR AD IN THE OBSERVER

Personal Injury?



SHOWARD Law Firm

(520) 622-3344 • toll free (866) 307-2147 • fax (520) 327-1667

- Auto Injury
- Medical Malpractice
- Premises Liability
- Products Liability

Sarah J. Showard Attorney at Law

Bank of America Building 33 North Stone, Suite 1430 Tucson, Arizona 85701

Come Home with Troy...

and I'll donate 10% of my net income generated by this ad to your favorite charity.

520.955.3634



TROY GOODWIN A World of Experience Right Here in Tucson

COLDWELL BANKER

RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE Owned and Operated by NRT LLC

www.ISellTucsonRealEstate.com

TUCSON RESOURCES - TUCSON RESOURCES - TUCSON RESOURCES

Charles Weasner REALTOR® GRI (520) 906-8103
Steve Redmond REALTOR® (520) 548-2096

Uptown, Downtown, ALL around the Valley!

LONG REALTY COMPANY

TucsonFoothillsLiving.com

Joel Color, Highlights, Cuts
4400 Hair Salon
4400 Broadway /Swan
322-5858

Ph.D. NICHOLAI MUSZYNSKI
LICENSED PSYCHOLOGIST

520.906.7048 Phone | 5956 E. Pima, Suite 130
520.296.8157 Fax | Tucson, AZ 85712

4400 Hair Salon
GREG YEDDING Hair Designer / Stylist
520-322-5858
azspydca@msn.com
4400 E. Broadway Suite 106 Tucson, Az 85711

A. Michael Hutchins, Ph.D.
Counseling - Psychotherapy - Consulting

6812 North Oracle Rd. Suite 100
Tucson, Arizona 85704 520-797-2117

Nikolaus Groesser REALTOR®
520.918.5216
nikg@longrealty.com

LONG REALTY COMPANY

Presidio Hair and Nail Salon
Ed Thibeault
985 N. Alvernon Tucson, AZ 85711 (520) 321-9626

PRIDE OF THE FOOTHILLS THE ARBORETUM AT QUAIL CANYON APARTMENT HOMES
4700 N. Kolb Rd • Tucson, AZ 85750
Phone (520) 519-6800
www.hslproperties.com

MASSAGE *NEW CLIENT DISCOUNT*
Swedish, Deep Tissue, Triggerpoint, Acupressure, Sports, Reflexology
Mon-Sat: 11 am to 7 pm
225.7982
www.SomaTherapist.com

Alec Laughlin, LMT

Speedway Veterinary Hospital, Inc



Kayla R. Boyer, DVM Small Animal Veterinarian

(520) 321-4235 3736 E. Speedway Blvd. Tucson, AZ 85716 www.speedwayvet.com

Antigone Books
• progressive
• independent
• fabulous
20% off any one rainbow item
LGBT novel or LGBT DVD
We have books, cards, gifts, and things to make you laugh.
411 N. 4th Ave. • 792-3715 • antigonebooks.com

Portraits - Landscapes - Architecture
Weddings - Family Events - Special Occasions
Passion Skill Vision
Timm Kuhns Photography Tucson, AZ
520-390-4921
TimmKuhnsPhotography.com interwine@earthlink.net

JON THE HANDYMAN
Can do: Home, Office cleaning, Yard-Work!
You name it...
CALL: Phone: 619-977-6012
GEMINI-Handyman services.....

DUI SR-22
MIKE PIERCE INSURANCE
FREE QUOTES
Saving Our History Since 1967
888-8888
AUTO, LIFE, HOME, MEDICAL
COMMERCIAL, PROPERTIES, CONTRACTORS BONDINGS

TUCSON GLBT Chamber Of Commerce
Inclusive ▽ Engaged ▽ Professional
520 615-6436 P.O. Box 13312 Tucson, AZ 85732
info@tucsonglbtchamber.org
www.tucsonglbtchamber.org

Tucson Observer Archives

tucsongaymuseum.org

Registered - Copyrighted - All Rights Reserved

A family member of the Tucson Gay Museum

tucsongaymuseum.org

HOROSCOPES

©2008 Madam Lichtenstein

Mars makes its move into Libra. Let's go crazy and throw caution to the four winds! Lust comes COD in a cheesy, over-ripe package. Hmm, just how badly do you want it?

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)

Relationships may chaff at the dog collar as Mars rushes forth. You want everything and everyone all at once. What you would love to do seems to conflict with your partner's ideas of a good time. As much as you would like to grab it all, try to share and share alike, proud Ram. If not, you may find yourself warming your own sheets. And that is a sorry spectacle indeed!

TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)

Queer Bulls yearn to spread their wings and fly but the requirements of the job weight you down with excess cargo. Don't give up your dreams of unencumbered flight. However, do expect some minor delays as co-workers hold you back from your grander schemes. Cruise into the final leg of your professional journey after all the drudge work is finally done.

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)

Pink Twins may be too good to be true. In fact, Mars gives you excessive energy and enthusiasm for anything creative and "fun". Become a party animal. But if you find that the crowd holds back, don't be afraid of going it alone. It is more important to do your own thing than to hang around doing the same old things with a group of Miss Things.

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)

Gay Crabs have to choose between personal commitments and the demands of family. Despite your high energy level, there is simply too much to do and not enough time to do it. And yet you'll soon realize that you can't dance at two affairs with only one tush. Which affair helps pay the rent? Which one will be there for you when times are tough? Decision made!

LEO (JULY 24 - AUGUST 23)

Even the most diplomatic of proud Lions can't help but place their very large foot completely into their very large mouths. You are bursting with grrreat ideas. But when the temptation is to say one more "vital" thing, try to resist the temptation. Loose lips sink ships...among other things. Use those loose lips for something more constructive than flapping the air.

VIRGO (AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23)

Mars stirs up your finances into a feeding frenzy. So whose money are you playing with, queer Virgin? You may find that your sticky fingers get you into all sorts of icky trouble so behave, at least as far as the fiscal bottom line is concerned. For all other bottom lines, this is the week that you get what you pay for. Are you shopping for bargains or gems...?

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23)

Proud Libras have rockets in their pockets this week. Not only are you fired up to achieve new heights, you are bursting to meet and greet. Start new projects and get a few ideas off the ground. And don't let all those jealous Janes and Joes rain on your pride parade; If you have a hot idea that is ready to catch fire, don't let a wet drip snuffit out.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22)

Are you just going to be a cog in the great corporate machine? Think of it differently. Queer Scorps feel empow-

ered and find the strength deep inside themselves to do what they need to do when they want to do it. Even if fates wear you down, it is sometimes it's the smallest cog that can have the greatest impact on the machine. Of course, the bigger the cog the better.....

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22)

Gay Archers seek and find themselves in the center of the group. The crowd is ready for your entrance and direction. And you have plenty of great ideas to get the crowd going. Exactly where you are all going may be still in the planning stages. If so, try to delegate some of the finer details to those experts who know your tastes well. And I hear you like it salty.

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20)

Pink Caps are ready to make their fortunes in the world. Not only are you re-energized, you are also very clear and directioned in your goals. What a nice change of pace! If the corporate police find you hacking away at the perks vault, find some bureaucratic guerrilla tactic to make it seem that you are working on a top level project, even as you fill your benefits package.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19)

Your words pack a global punch, Aqueerius, so be careful of the who, what, when, where, why and how of it. Tabloid headlines blare out all the juicy news and push you Out into the front pages. Diplomacy is not your strong suit this week so let others carry the banner while you take a break from your rants and raves. Oh thank goodness!

PISCES (FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20)

You are ready and raring for love but be discerning in your choice of companions. Guppies find that the price tag on a certain sexy bauble may not be worth the wear and tear. Before you plunk down your hard earned energies on a certain someone, try to set boundaries and limits. Hmm, do these situations come with a 30 day satisfaction guarantee...?

Pop Hit 'I Kissed A Girl' Has Divided Lesbian Listeners



LONDON - She is frothy and catchy and fun or she is demeaning to Gay people. Either way singer Katy Perry is expected to go to number one this weekend with a record about Lesbian passion that is dividing parts of the Gay community, reported The Guardian.

Her 'I Kissed A Girl' is number one in the US and has been outselling all other singles in the UK, played all over the radio and in bars - straight and Gay - up and down the country. The song - about her pleasurable guilt at kissing a girl - might have passed unremarked had it not been for Perry's previous single, UR So

Gay: a rant against her boyfriend for "acting Gay" when he's not. Some bloggers in the US are decided.

On the MSNBC site, contributor Tony Sclafani writes: "Well, it's official. It's cool to make fun of Gay people again. How do we know? Because the folks in Medialand told us as much by relentlessly cheerleading two Gay-unfriendly songs by newcomer Katy Perry." On UR So Gay she opens with the lines: "I hope you hang yourself with your H&M scarf/ While jacking off listening to Mozart."

Personal Training

Community Friendly

- Oil Changes * CV Boots *
- Brakes * Air Conditioning *
- Radiator Power Flush *
- Transmission Rebuilding *
- Fuel Injection * Carburetor Rebuilding *
- Suspensions *
- Clutches * Vehicle Inspections
- Cooling Systems * Diagnostic Analysis *
- Maintenance Service
- Gas and Tires.

Phone (520) 882-8095 • Fax (520) 870-1597
802 N. 4th Avenue • Tucson, Arizona 85705

CALL • CRUISE CONNECT™

SO MANY GUYS - Listen & Reply to Ads FREE!

Tucson
520.791.2345

Phoenix
602.993.4567
480.505.1011
623.298.3500

FREE code 4270 CALL NOW!
For other cities call (888) MegaMates

Where FREE Means FREE!

- ▶ FREE to create a profile
- ▶ FREE to record a personal ad
- ▶ FREE to listen to public ads
- ▶ FREE to send messages
- ▶ FREE to accept chat requests
- ▶ FREE to accept calls from users
- ▶ FREE to receive message alerts & So Much More . . .

MegaMates.com®
VISIT US ONLINE

A family member of the Tucson Gay Museum®

tucsongaymuseum.org

Saving Our History Since 1967

McCain Camp Returns \$2,300 To Manhunt Co-Founder



NEW YORK (Observer Update) - Donations to Republican presidential hopeful John McCain have been returned to the cofounder of male dating website Manhunt.net, according to the Boston Herald. Jonathan Crutchley, who stepped down as chairman of the company was told by the McCain camp that his \$2,300 contribution would be returned.

we have an experienced, seasoned person defending the country in this dangerous age, we will be able to argue about the Gay agenda later." Crutchley has been described as a "liberal Republican" in an Out magazine profile on Manhunt.

As a result of the news of Crutchley's donation, some Manhunt members canceled their subscriptions. In a statement last week to Towleroad.com, Manhunt cofounder Larry Basile said Crutchley's support for the GOP left the rest of the board in disbelief, reported advocate.com.

"I believe McCain will be a better commander-in-chief than Obama, who also opposes Gay marriage," Crutchley wrote in response to an item in the Huffington Post about his donation. "If

MI5 Recruiting Gay Spies: Report

LONDON - The Security Service is actively recruiting Gay spies and wants its staff to be more open about their sexuality, the Financial Times reported, Agence France Presse reported. The chief executive of Stonewall, a Gay rights lobby group, told the business daily it had been hired by the Security Service - better known as MI5 - to help the agency encourage more Gay applicants for positions.



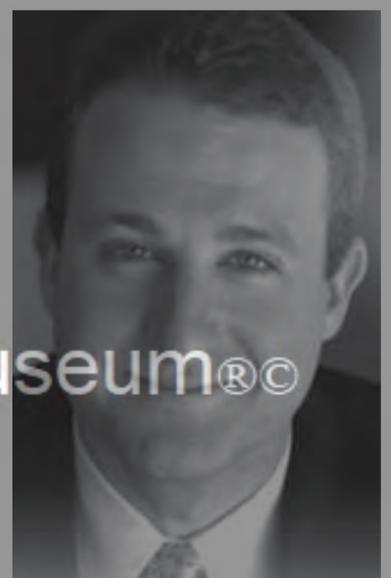
"Historically, public services were delivered by the man from the ministry, who was white and heterosexual and got the 4:30 pm (train) back to Tunbridge Wells every afternoon," Ben Summerskill said. "This (move by MI5) is recognition that the establishment is changing and slowly becoming more reflective of wider society."

The intelligence agencies have in recent years attempted to cast a wider net when it comes to recruiting - the country's foreign intelligence service MI6 placed its first-ever advertisement for jobs in a newspaper in May 2007, and in recent years, it has launched its own website.

Polis Wins Colorado Congressional Primary

DENVER, Colorado (Observer Update) - Internet entrepreneur Jared Polis' victory in the Colorado Democratic primary bodes to make him only the sixth openly Gay member of Congress, reported the Associated Press on advocate.com.

Polis, a former member of the state Board of Education, took 42 percent of the vote in a heated three-way race, according to the Denver Post. His chief opponent, former state Senate president Joan Fitz-Gerald, accused him of trying to buy the election after he poured \$5.3 million of his own money into his campaign. Polis made his fortune - \$96.5 million last year, said the Post - founding and selling e-commerce sites like Proflowers.com. He also funded several charter schools.



Jared Polis

As the Democratic nominee in massively Democratic Boulder, he faces only token opposition Nov. 4. He'd join Reps. Tammy Baldwin, D-Wisc., and Barney Frank, D-Mass., as the only out Gays now in the House of Representatives. Polis' rivals felt obliged to proclaim their own Gay-friendliness (out philanthropist Tim Gill backed Fitz-Gerald) even as they sniped at his wealth, which allowed him a factfinding trip to Iraq with a

\$10,000 security detail. This chafed a bit, Polis said. "It's insulting when somebody who is not a member of our community feels like they have a great understanding of what it's like to grow up Gay in this country," he told the Post in December. "These are all personal issues for me. I do intend to have kids and have a family."



Don't Save Money On Food.

Save Money On Car Insurance.

Go fill your fridge, because your State Farm® agent's got your back with the right coverage and discounts up to 40% on car insurance. You can call an agent's office 24/7, so what are you waiting for? Go see an agent today, or log on to statefarm.com*. It's a better way to save.



Dan Kalm
2632 N Campbell Ave
Tucson, Arizona 85719
520-795-0231 Office
520-795-0758 Fax
dan@dankalm.com
Hablamos Español



LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR,
STATE FARM IS THERE.™

dankalm.com



YOU
can change
the political
landscape
in Arizona!

Turn Arizona Blue this November!

Join Southern Arizona Stonewall Democrats!

For more information,
call 323-2293 or email
SASDTucson@yahoo.com



LIBERTY AND JUSTICE... FOR ALL!

tucsonobserverarchives.org

A family member of the Tucson Gay Museum®

tucsongaymuseum.org

Saving Our History Since 1966

FDA Approves Viread For Hepatitis B Treatment

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - The United States joins Europe, Turkey, Australia and New Zealand in allowing Gilead to market the AIDS drug as suppressing the chronic liver disease, reported advocate.com. Gilead Sciences Inc. prepared to expand its reach further beyond AIDS drugs after federal regulators approved the biotech drug maker's signature anti-HIV therapy as a hepatitis B treatment.

Gilead announced that the Food and Drug Administration is joining regulators in Europe, Turkey, Australia and New Zealand by allowing the

company to market Viread as a tool for suppressing the chronic liver disease. Sales of Viread as a stand-alone pill have declined in recent years following Gilead's launch of Truvada and Atripla, which combine Viread with other drugs.

The FDA's approval was based on two clinical trials that showed Viread was more effective than Hepsera at combatting liver inflammation and scarring caused by hepatitis B, the company said. The infectious disease is blamed as a major cause of liver cancer and is especially common in the U.S. among Asian-Americans owing to the prevalence of hepatitis in Asian countries.

Deep In Brazilian Amazon, Members Of Tribe Come Out

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil - Deep in the Amazon jungle, in the Brazilian border with Peru and Colombia, a few young men from the country's most populous indigenous tribe - the Ticunas - have begun to defy cultural norms requiring they behave in a masculine manner or that they marry a member of the opposite gender already designated for them during their childhood, blabbeando.com reported.

Three Ticuna tribe members from the Umariacu village, including 22 year-old Natalicio Ramos Guedes, say that at least twenty of the 3,600

village members - including them - are Gay.

The Indian National Foundation of Brazil confirms that different tribes have recently reported members coming out. Ramos Guedes, whose brother Marcenio is also Gay, participates in a local folk dance group. Both dress up like women and perform traditional dances at different social events throughout the region.

NON-BAR CALENDAR

Wednesday, August 20th
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00pm Hand and Foot with Jack 887-3736, call for directions and reservations - if you like canasta, you will love Hand and Foot.

Thursday August 21st
Men's Social Network. Mexican Dominos. Open to men of all ages. 6:30PM Call Jack at 887-3736 for reservations and directions.

Saturday August 23rd
Come to the second gathering of community members and grassroots organizers to discuss the campaign to defeat Proposition 102, the anti-Marriage Amendment. 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Main Downtown Library, 101 N. Stone (Main Meeting Room - Lower Level).

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 PotLuck. Contact Marvin at 745-0304.

Sunday, August 24th
Turnabout for TIHAN 2008 "Stonewall Riot" a benefit for the Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network at Doubletree Hotel at Reid Park, 445 S. Alvernon Way. Tickets \$15.00. Doors open t 4:30 p.m. with fingerfood buffet. Show begins at 6:00 p.m. Lucinda Holliday and Barbra Seville are Emcees for this annual benefit show.

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Dinner OUT at Mimi's. For reservations and directions, contact Thom 908-6160.

Wednesday, August 27th
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Hand and Foot with Lee and Merlin at 207-5336, call for directions and reservations - if you like canasta, you will love Hand and Foot.

Thursday, August 28th
Men's Social Network. Open to men of all ages. Bridge Join your MSN friends for a night of fun and cards. Call Michael at 326-3555 for reservations and directions.

Friday, August 29
Antigone Books hosts Katherine Adam, co-author of The New Feminized Majority and will read from and discuss her book. Katherine Adam and co-author Charles Derber's book provides a welcome ray of hope. The authors argue that a rising feminized majority - made up of both men and women - is emerging as a pivotal force in American politics.

Sunday, August 31st
Men's Social Network. Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Dinner OUT at Sweet Tomatoes. For reservations and directions, contact Thom 908-6160.

Wednesday, September 3
Tucson Prime Timers invites you to join us for lunch at 1:30 p.m. at Saffron Indian Bistro, 7607 North Oracle Road. RSVP John at 2989-6727 or www.tucsonprimetimers.org

Thursday, September 4
Tucson Prime Timers invites you to Bowl with us at 1:00 p.m. at Golden Pin Lanes, 1010 W. Miracle Mile

Friday, September 5
Tucson Prime Timers invites you to join us for dinner. Great seafood and live music at 6:30 p.m. at El Mazon Del Cobre Restaurant, 2960 N. First Avenue. RSVP Clemat 885-1270.

Saturday, September 6
Tucson Prime Timers invites you to join us for Drinks and Grub at 6:30 p.m. at Woody's Bar, 3710 N. Oracle Road.

Sunday, September 7
Tucson Prime Timers invites you to join us for Brunch at 11:00 a.m. at Café Ramey, Glenn and North Swan. RSVP Dennis at 883-8257

ON-SITE COMPUTER REPAIR

Mighty Mouse Computer Consulting, Inc.

WE FIX PCs AND MACs!

Repair - Maintenance - Networking - Upgrades - Webhosting - Web design

(520) 312-2630
We'll save you time, money and frustration!
We come to you!
A+ Certified
7 years experience!

Water of Life

Metropolitan Community Church

The Rev. William H. Knight, D.D., Interim Pastor

"It is the greatest of all mistakes to do nothing because you can only do a little." Sydney Smith, (1771-1845)

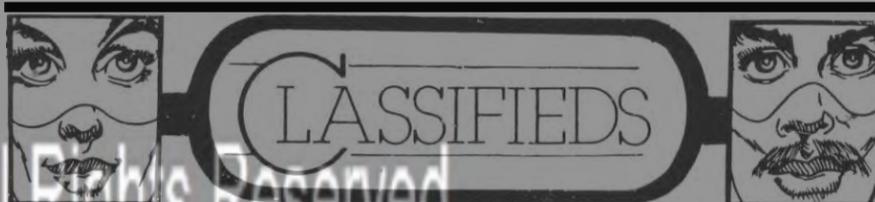
Sunday Worship: 10:15am

Thursday Fellowship: 7:00pm

The Gathering Place: Fridays, 7:00 p.m



3269 North Mountain Avenue
Tucson AZ 85719
(Just North of Ft. Lowell)
292-9151
www.wolmcc.org



CLASSIFIED ADS ARE 25¢ PER WORD, \$5.00 MINIMUM
CLASSIFIED ADS WILL NOT BE TAKEN BY PHONE

FOR RENT

MIDTOWN
AVAILABLE NOW. Large 2 bedroom duplex in small complex, pool. Pima/Swan area. \$600/mo plus elect & gas. JoAnn, 326-1934 or 488-7682.

EMPLOYMENT

1260
DJ WANTED FOR LATINO NIGHT. Leave message at 326-2525

COLORISTS / HAIR DESIGNERS
New salon @4400 Hair Salon on Broadway in Bank of Tucson building. Chair rental and new customers welcome. Call 981-0824 or tucsonjoel@aol.com 1253

SERVICES

1255
CRISES COUNSELING, and relationship trining that can include 'Being a Better Lover' to include the tantric kiss, and better love making. Life Coaching at its holistic best. Call Marc at 881-4582.

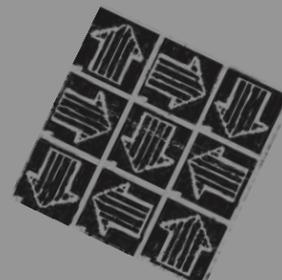
ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS
Let me keep your clothes fitting properly and in good repair. Experienced - Economical - Prompt. Merle Hudson, (520)888-7264 in Tucson. 1270

WANTED

CARETAKERS WANTED. GAY COUPLE Wanted for ranch outside of Tucson. 4-room house provided in return for pool maintenance, odd jobs, etc. One stay at home for daily security. References required. (520)762-5934, (818)980-7868. 1259

MASSAGE

COMFORTABLE, RELAXING MASSAGE. Strong hands, warm heart. Let me take you away from the stress & strain of everyday life. Timm: 390-4921 1259
HIGH QUALITY THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE! STRONG sensual hands give you more STAMINA! Have a true tantric session. Professionally trained and licensed. -- An exceptional experience for 27 years. Marc - 881-4582 from 8 AM-8 PM 1257



NOTICES - COMMUNITY - NOTICES

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.

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.

YOUNG AND GAY?

GLBT Youth 23 and under, meet 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 520 742-1271. 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.

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 (GPGCLCC) P.O. BOX 2097, Phoenix, AZ 85001-2097. E-mail: webmaster@gpgclcc.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

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

BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO - a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, Call the Bears Hotline (520)790-5775 or

write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910 or 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

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 207-5336 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 (TIHAN) 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

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GLBT, Tucson's Gay and Lesbian business networking group holds regular meet-

ings 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. 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.

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. on Sundays 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.

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.

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 to SAGE-Tucson-subscribe@yahoo.com. See you on the trails.

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

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

NA MEETING WITH GLBT FOCUS meets Mondays, 6:30pm at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th Street. This is an open meeting of Narcotics Anonymous - all are welcome. For more info call Bernie W.:



DAILY BAR CALENDAR

SUNDAY

THE BIZ - Open 3pm-2am; Visit the outdoor patio enjoy aa cocktail or two. Sports on all day!!! MLB; WNBA; You call it!! Music with DJ/Hill starts at 9pm.

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

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open 11am. Beer Bust Sunday - \$1 draft beers (12 oz), domestic only; \$2.25 domestic long necks. Texas Hold-Em Poker at 3 & 6. No cash involved - Play for Points & Prizes. SIN Nite - drink discounts for Service Industry employees with ID or payroll receipt.

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 3pm-2am. Visit the outdoor patio enjoy aa cocktail or two. Drink specials every hour.

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 3 - 8 p.m. \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. \$3.50 sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg. Bucket o" Beer - \$10 Domestic, \$12 Imports (4 beers to a bucket, for 2 or more people, Some brands excluded). Texas Hold-Em Poker at 6 & 8:30 p.m. No cash involved - Play for points & Prizes

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. Beer Bust 3-7pm.

TUESDAY

THE BIZ - Open 3pm-2am. Visit the outdoor patio enjoy aa cocktail or two. Drink specials every hour.

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

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3-8. \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. Pitcher Special \$3.50 sm. Pitcher/\$5.00 lg. Pitcher (excluding Blue Moon & Dos XX Amber). Ladies Only Texas Hold-Em Poker at 6:00 p.m.

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

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

WOODY'S - Open 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 3pm-2am. Happy Hour ALL Daytil 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 Domestic and ½ price appetizers 4-6. Full menu served until 10pm. Nightly dinner specials.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open 3pm. Happy Hour All Day \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3.50 sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg. Pitchers. Texas Hold-Em Poker at 6 & 8:30 pm Play for points & Prizes. No cash involved.

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

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

WOODY'S - Open 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 - Open 11am-2am. Beer Bust 3-7pm.

THURSDAY

THE BIZ - Open 3pm-2am. Karaoke starts @9:30pm with 2 for 1 starting after the first singer! (Poker Pub will resume in the Fall).

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

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3.50 sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg.. Pitcher. Bicarid Thursdays - \$3.00 Bicarid Rum - all flavors. Karaoke with Kristen and K2 Tunes 8pm.

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

FRIDAY

THE BIZ - Open 3pm-2am. With incredible Happy Hour pricing from 5-8pm. Noche de calor w/DJ Hill jugando la mejor en musica latino! Todos los viernes por la noche, la musica comienza a las 9. Shot specials cada nora!!

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

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. \$3.50 Sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg. Pitcher. \$2.75 All Mexican Beers and Dos XX Amber. Free Country Dance Lessons at 7:30 p.m. Country Dancing 8:30 p.m. to close with DJ Pat.

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 3pm - 2am. Patio opens @9pm. **BEER PONG** tournament on the patio every Saturday night!! DJ Hill 9pm. Don't forget to catch the WNBA games every Sat on our 51" flat screens!!Lesbian Olympics 8pm in our sexy outdoor lounge.

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

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 2pm. Happy Hour 2-8pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. \$3.50 sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg. Plus check out the bartenders choice of shot specials. \$5.00 cheeseburger & fries. \$3.00 Cuervo and \$4.75 Jager Bombs. Check our calendar for the Saturday Night Special Entertainment.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, 5-8pm karaoke & Teryaki Kabobs on the patio. 8:30pm Show time w/ Bunny FuFu or Janee Starr. DJ Q spinning Club Music inside & Mike Lopez spinning on the patio 10pm -2am **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

Saturday, August 23

THE BIZ - 'Vegas Night' with special guest performance by Boogie B. PLUS a \$1,000 Give-Away from Images Salon.

HOWL AT THE MOON - DJ Libby plays your requests.

Sunday, August 24

Community Event: **TURNABOUT** for TIHAN Doubletree Hotel, 6:00 p.m.

Saturday August 30

HOWL AT THE MOON - It's Reigning Men: Drag King Anson Reign and his entourage are back for an incredible night of entertainment. Don't miss this show!

VENTURE-N - It's Jungle Party time. Dress in your best Jungle Attire. Costume Contest plus plenty of Drink Specials. Don't miss this fun party!

Monday, September 1 - LABOR DAY

IBT's - Monday Morning Madness' - Bar opens at 10:00 a.m. Madness starts at 10:01 with entertainment and drink specials and loads of fun throughout the day and evening.

Saturday, September 6

Naughty School Girls - Welcome Back Party.GoGo Dancers- Ipod Give-Away and a whole lot more...

Tuesday, September 9

IBT's - Missy Elliott CD Release Party at 9:00 p.m.

Panama Legalizes Gay Sex

PANAMA CITY, Panama - Panamanian President Martín Torrijos Espino signed a decree July 29 repealing a 1949 law that criminalized sodomy under penalty of a \$500 fine or jail time, reported sfbayguardian.com.

The move followed protests by the Gay group New Men and Women of Panama and other human-rights defenders, local media said. The decree, issued by the Ministry of Health and also signed by Health Minister Rosario E. Turner, said the ban was at odds with the Panamanian Constitution and international human-rights treaties Panama has signed.

It also said the law conflicted with the Health Ministry's policy to "maintain respect for the sexual preferences of each person, without the existence of any type of discrimination" in the operation of its sexually transmitted diseases programs. According to Amnesty International, 11 nations in Central America, South America and the Caribbean continue to ban Gay sex - Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago.

Police Officer Reinstated In G/L Remark Scandal

AUSTIN, Texas (Observer Update) - A labor arbitrator has ordered the reinstatement of an Austin Police commander who was fired for not reporting discriminatory remarks by a fellow officer.

The dispute began earlier this year. Cmdr. Calvin Smith, a 34-year veteran of the force and the newly appointed supervisor of the Austin police training academy, told outgoing academy supervisor Cmdr. Larry Oliver that he was worried about the "kind of potential transfer of a Gay female officer to the academy. Smith later denied the remark to his command. Oliver then had a conversation with Smith to another officer. A complaint was filed with internal

The investigation Oliver told internal officers that he had denied the officer's remarks for reasons other than her sexuality, in disciplinary papers. Smith agreed to a 20-day suspension but Oliver refused to accept a 30-day suspension for not reporting the incident. When he was reinstated. In its ruling reinstating Oliver, the arbitrator ordered Oliver a 20-day suspension without pay. Smith has been off the job. At a news conference, a veteran officer said he hopes to return to work after the arbitration hearing, Oliver said he should have reported Smith's remarks and taken action on "an oversight.



COMMENTARY....

by Lisa Neff

Still Shopping Around For A Political Party?

Try the party platforms on for size. Both parties are at work on their 2008 platforms – the Democrats, with their convention set to begin Aug. 25 in Denver being further along than the Republicans.

What do we know about the national Democratic Party platform? We know that a recent draft does not contain the words “Gay,” “Lesbian,” “Bisexual” or “Transgender,” but the platform is the most inclusive in the nation’s history, earning it the praise of GLBT activists from the Beltway to the Corn Belt. Much of the praise comes for the passage titled “A More Perfect Union,” where the party for the first time explicitly commits to ending discrimination based on both sexual orientation and gender identity.

“We believe in the essential American ideal that we are not constrained by the circumstances of birth but can make of our lives what we will,” the platform reads. “Unfortunately, for too many, that ideal is not a reality... We have more work to do. Democrats will fight to end discrimination based on race, sex, ethnicity, national origin, language, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, age and disability in every corner of our country, because that’s the America we believe in.”

The platform also calls for the passage of hate crimes legislation, the repeal of the “don’t ask, don’t tell” policy banning Gays and Lesbians from openly serving in the Armed Forces and the establishment of equal rights and benefits for same-sex couples and

their families. For the first time, the party has included in the platform opposition to the federal Defense of Marriage Act and “all attempts to use this issue to divide us.”

The Democrats’ platform, to be voted upon at the convention this month, builds upon platforms of the past:

The 2004 plank that promised an “ironclad” commitment to civil rights, including “equal treatment” of all servicemembers and banning workplace discrimination based on sexual orientation.

The 2000 plank proclaiming, “We support the full inclusion of Gay and Lesbian families in the life of the nation. This would include an equitable alignment of benefits.”

The 1996 plank stating, “Today’s Democratic Party knows we must renew our efforts to stamp out discrimination and hatred of every kind,” and vowing to pass employment protections.

The 1992 plank that promised “an end to Defense Department discrimination,” and the aggressive prosecution of hate crimes.

The 1988 plank that stated, “We believe that we honor our multicultural heritage by assuring equal access to government services, employment, housing, business enterprise and education to every citizen regardless of race, sex, national origin,

religion, age, handicapping condition or sexual orientation.”

The 1980 plank the said, “Violent acts of bigotry, hatred and extremism aimed at women, racial, ethnic and religious minorities and Gay men and Lesbians have become an alarmingly common phenomenon. A Democratic administration will work vigorously to address, document and end all such violence.”

The Democratic Party’s platforms wear like platform shoes compared to the Republican Party’s platforms of the past. Gays and Lesbians who sought to try on a GOP platform from 1980 probably ended up in stocking feet—the first mention of sexual orientation came in 1992 and it was far from lofty.

The GOP’s 1992 platform supported “the continued exclusion of homosexuals from the military as a matter of good order and discipline,” and opposed “any legislation or law that legally recognizes same-sex marriages and allows such couples to adopt children or provide foster care.”

Under a section on “promoting cultural values,” the 1992 Republican platform said the party stood “united with those private organizations, such as the Boy Scouts of America, who are defending decency in fulfillment of their own moral responsibilities.”

The party remained firm in its opposition to lifting the ban against Gays in the military in its 1996 platform, as well as lauded Republican leaders for passing the Defense of Marriage Act.

The 2000 Republican platform, the document of George W. Bush’s uncompassionate conservative era, stated, “We do not believe sexual preference should be given special

legal protection or standing in law,” and “we affirm that homosexuality is incompatible with military service.”

Four years ago, Republicans did little to modify – or modernize – the platform on GLBT issues. The platform actually more aggressively opposed GLBT equality, containing a lengthy passage on the party’s opposition to government recognizing same-sex unions and pledging to promote Bush’s proposed constitutional amendment defining marriage as the union of a man and a woman.

There is little to suggest the Republicans will adopt a Gay-friendly platform at its national convention in Minneapolis/St. Paul next month. In fact, there’s little to suggest that the GOP platform will be as promising on GLBT issues as the Democratic platform was 28 years ago.

So, if you still are shopping around for a political party, I remind you of an old proverb, “If the shoe fits, wear it.”

(Lisa Neff is a writer and a columnist for 365Gay.com, from which this is reprinted.)



2008 mobile HIV/syphilis testing

Registered - Copyrighted - All Rights Reserved

woody's Friday 8/22

venture-N Thursday 9/18

the biz Wednesday 10/22

IBT'S Wednesday 11/19

woody's Friday 12/12

A family member of the Tucson Gay Museum

tucsongaymuseum.org

Saving Our History Since 1967

Mobile testing is from 8-11pm at each location. The last test is taken at 10:30pm. Results are available next business day for HIV tests and seven days for Syphilis tests.

For more information please call Dave at (520) 628-7223.