Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

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AP Misrepresents Obama, McCain LGBT Positions

tucsonobserverarchives.org

NEW YORK CITY (Observer Update) - An August 28th 'The Associated Press' (AP) article titled 'McBama agenda: Common ground between candidates', misrepresents both Senator John McCain's and Senator Barack Obama's positions on LGBT issues, reported On Top Magazine on pageoneq.com.

The AP piece, written by Calvin Woodward, attempts to make the case that both men share common ground on many issues. The story leads the reader to believe that both candidates share a similar outlook with regard to Gay & Lesbian rights due to the fact that they both oppose Gay marriage. "Both say Gay marriage should be left to the states and oppose a constitutional amendment to ban it. President Bush, in contrast, proposed such a ban but did not push for one. McCain has obliquely endorsed at least some of the rights inherent in Gay civil unions while Obama has expressed strong support for those rights. Both say they oppose Gay marriage," Woodward writes.

McCain, in fact, has endorsed a federal constitutional amendment to ban Gay marriage. He said in early March that he would support an amendment if the Supreme Court required states to recognize Gay marriages performed in other states; that is, if his first line of defense - state bans - failed. "I believe that states like mine and other states should amend our state constitutions," he said on Fox News' 'Hannity & Colmes'. "And I will stick to that position until such time, if ever, a higher court says that my state or another state has to recognize the other sta - another status of marriage. ... I'm committed to maintaining the unique status of marriage between man and woman." Additionally, McCain not only endorsed but campaigned for a constitutional ban on Gay marriage and civil unions in his home state of Arizona in 2006. The measure was rejected by voters, the first to do so, but opponents of Gay marriage in the state have returned with a new version for the November ballot.

Openly Gay Conn. State Rep. Jason Bartlett, a DNC delegate, disagreed with the notion that the two candidates share common ground, saying, "Everything that I've heard come out of his [John McCain's] mouth has been homophobic, and to try to suggest that just because the two of them oppose Gay marriage that they both have the same position on the [Gay & Lesbian] issues is absolutely ridiculous" Indeed Obama favors civil unions over marriages, but does so for more pragmatic reasons, not personal bias. In stark contrast to McCain, Obama recognizes the need for some legal protections for Gay couples in loving relationships.

McCain believes that Gay rights, particularly in the areas of marriage and adoption, need to be halted, in some form - he simply happens to prefer the state level. Whereas, Obama endorses Gay rights, as is evident in his recent Democratic nomination acceptance speech in Denver: "I know there are differences on same sex-marriage, but surely we can agree that our Gay and Lesbian brothers and sisters deserve to visit the person they love in a hospital and live lives free of discrimination." One is mistrustful of Gay voters, while the other seeks them out.

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Lesbian Activist Del Martin Dies At 87

By Lisa Neff

"By being honest about who we are, we have freed most Americans from the misperception that they were supposed to be homophobic," U.S. Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., said. He was speaking within the fold to the flock, talking with members of the GLBT caucus at the Democratic National Convention in Denver.

That day, August 27, we learned of the death of Del Martin, a pioneer in the GLBT civil rights movement who did so much to free so many Americans "from the misperception that they were supposed to be homophobic."

Martin, 87, was an activist, one of the earliest in the modern GLBT movement, and as such she did much to show people the truth, the way, the right from wrong on Gay and Lesbian issues.

She also did much to show people the truth, the way, the right from wrong on Gay and Lesbian issues by being a committed, loving, devoted partner and eventually, after way too many years of struggle, as a bride.

Martin and Phyllis Lyon, partners of more than five decades, married on June 16, after the California Supreme Court ruled that marriage is a fundamental right that cannot be denied same-sex couples. They had met in 1950, became committed partners in 1953, and together, in 1955, purchased the San Francisco home they would share for the next 53 years.

The couple "defined, from my perspective, what marriage was supposed to be about," San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom said the day Martin died. From my perspective, too. I remember early in my own romance – now approaching a 16th anniversary – writing about my partner and I following in the tradition of Martin and Lyon, our names forever linked, not two but one.

Martin's death brought condolences from Barack and Michelle Obama to "her spouse Phyllis Lyon, and all those who were touched by her life."

Her passing also brought calls to action from activists facing another round of ballot initiatives intended to corrupt state constitutions with prohibitions against our marrying and the recognition of our unions.

The right for which Martin, alongside Lyon, fought for so long faces a threat in California Proposition 8, a Nov. 4 ballot initiative that would amend the state constitution to read, "Only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California." (Noonprop8.com)

Floridians also will vote in November on a proposed constitutional amendment – the Florida Marriage Amendment – that would ban recognition of unions outside the marriage of a man and a woman. The amendment would read, "Inasmuch as a marriage is the legal union of only one man and one woman as husband and wife, no other legal union that is treated as marriage or the substantial equivalent thereof shall be valid or recognized." (Sayno2.com)

In Arizona, where voters defeated an anti-Gay marriage measure in 2006, Proposition 102 would amend the constitution to state, "Only a union of one man and one woman shall be valid or recognized as a marriage in this state." (Arizonatogether.org, votenoprop102.com)

GLBT activists have long looked to Martin and Lyon as leaders and examples, asking what would Del and Phyllis do?

Now, inheritors of Martin's legacy, beneficiaries of Martin's fight, say, Do it for Del. Don't get so wrapped up in this year's partisan campaign for the White House that you neglect the peoples' battles in the states.

Do, for Del, engage in the campaign for "no" votes if you live in one of the states facing an anti-Gay initiative. And do, for Del, support those vote "no" campaigns financially if you live in a state safe from an initiative this election season.

Do listen to Barney Frank and be honest, inform the American electorate that they are not supposed to be homophobic.

And do heed Del Martin's own call to action, written so many years ago: "Nothing was ever accomplished by hiding in a dark corner. Why not discard the hermitage for the heritage that awaits..."

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

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Preserving Our History Since 1967

Del Martin (left) and Phyllis Lyon

UPDATE

'Dirty Secrets' Opening Friday, Sept. 5

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Dirty Secrets is a smart, gender-bent thriller that pokes fun at brainless Gay stereotypes. Right from the opening scene you know you're watching a play about homosexuals. Instead of boring us with platitudes about the evils of pigeonholing people, the characters skewer stereotypes by spouting spout earnest lines like, "You don't act Gay – you're masculine!"

It's all about Tom, who shows up at the home of Nick and Shane, a Gay couple who live in Manhattan. Tom is depressed because he's just discovered that his lover of eight years has had sex with another man. It turns out that Tom has come to torture Shane, to seek retribution for his messed up romance. It's the ways in which Tom carries out his revenge – first demanding sex with Shane, later seducing Nick – that move the play along. He has a worthy opponent in the snaky Shane, who trumps Tom's attempts at blackmail, but can't keep up with his nasty houseguest's vile temper. Dirty Secrets has previously been produced in Phoenix, San Diego and Los Angeles and contains brief male nudity.

Show times: Friday evenings at 8:00 p.m., (September 5, 6, 12 and 13) and Sunday matinees at 2:00 p.m., September 7 and 14, at the Temple of Music and Art's, Cabaret Theatre, 330 S. Scott. For more information and tickets, call (520) 883-8246.

Community Forum September 6

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Look Both Ways: Looking Back, Looking Forward, Wingspan's Community Conversation series is celebrating Wingspan's 20th anniversary. Environmentalism and the LGBT Movement is the fourth topic of conversation and will be held, Saturday, September 6, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St.

Come to the forum and join in the conversation with the following community panelists: Karin Uhlich, Tucson City Council; Jim Cook, Executive Director Tucson Nature Conservancy; Debbie Hicks, former President Tucson Mountain Association.

For more information, call (520) 624-1779.

Reveille'And Sambalanco Sept. 6

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Come celebrate Brazilian Independence with Sambalanço and Reveille at Hotel Congress, 311 E. Congress, Saturday, September 6, 8:00 p.m.

Wear your best carnaval outfit for a chance to win the costume contest. Everyone in costume saves $5 on admission. Enjoy hot music and dancing all night long. (Part of Brazilian Independence Week.)

Tickets: $15, only $10 for costumed revelers. Advance tickets: $10 at Hotel Congress. For more information, call (520) 304-1758, E-mail: Info@ReveilleChorus.org, or online at reveillechorus.org/.

TIHAN Team Member Orientation, September 11

TUCSON (Observer Update) - TIHAN (Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network) is seeking a diverse group of volunteers that represent a cross section of our community to join existing volunteers in meeting the program and service needs of our CarePartners, people living with HIV/AIDS. TIHAN's goal is to have our volunteers reflect the ethnic diversity of the people we serve. With your help, we will continue to grow – not to become bigger, but to become better.

TIHAN has a variety of volunteer opportunities that will allow you to give as much or as little time you can (quarterly, monthly, or weekly). We are seeking both professional and non-professional volunteers who have a sincere interest in making life better for a sometimes forgotten group of special people, our CarePartners. Please join TIHAN, Thursday, September 11, 5:15 - 9:15 p.m. at 1011 N. Craycroft #301, and make a difference!

For more information, contact Kim Talerico (520) 299-6647, kim@tihan.org, tihan.org.

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
"Runner Up—Best Cover Band" 2006 Tucson Area Music Awards
Saturday, Sept 13
rock
blues
dance
Too Much Information
9 pm $5 cover
Bailamos
Saturday 9/20
no cover
latest cumbias, baladas, & corridos
- plus a little old school! 9:30 pm
presented by "Mobile Sounds"

IN MEMORIAM

BRIAN MORRIS KRUGER
July 1, 1961 - August 18, 2008

Brian passed away on Monday, August 18, 2008 with his family in Marble Falls, Texas after a year-long struggle with leukemia.

Born on July 1, 1961to father Sol (deceased) and mother Lavene Kruger, Brian lived life to its fullest. He was a true lover of animals. There wasn't a time in his life when he wasn't surrounded by one or two feline or canine friends.

Brian grew up in the Dallas area and graduated from the Selwyn School in Denton, Texas. From an early age, he was aan entrepreneur at heart. He opened his first business, a tanning salon, in Denton. From there he moved to Dallas and started a successful flotation tank business, H20 Float. After a brief residence in New Orleans, Brian Moved to Tucson where he developed and owned a nightclub.

In the mid-90s Brian purchased the 2520 Club located at 2520 North Oracle Road. After much remodeling he changed the name to The Plug and it became known as Home of the Big Sofa. The club ran very successfully for three years until the property owner decided he wanted to sell the building and lot to Pima County Arts Council.

Brian moved to Green Valley, Arizona, where he lived for the past eight years. He recently earned his Broker's License in real estate. But one of his real passions was revitalizing older homes. Brian had a true talent for decorating. For years he turned that passion into a thriving business restoring many older homes and turning them for profit. He was a fine art enthusiast, collecting works of art from galleries in Texas and Arizona. He also loved to garden and could transform a mundane home garden into the star of the neighborhood.

Brian had a zest for life and charmed all who met him. He was truly unique. Close to his friends and family, Brian had an amazing humor and wit about him that has truly left a hole in our hearts. After 47 years on this earth, Brian, you will be missed.

Brian is survived by his mother, Lavene, brother Phillip and wife Barbara, his sister Rebecca Gatton and husband Phillip Gatton, his aunt Mary George and her 4 children and other relatives and close friends.

The family held private services in Marble Falls, Texas. In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that donations from Brian's Arizona friends be made to the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF), 375 S. Euclid Avenue..

What's On The Blog?

TUCSON (Observer Update) - In addition to the online Observer, located at tucsonobserver.com, Tucson's weekly LGBT newspaper has a blog, at tucsonobserver.blogspot.com, that is updated daily to keep readers up to date on what's going on, with video, audio and important links.

So what's on the blog? See Barack Obama's acceptance speech at the Democratic National Convention, tributes to Marilyn Monroe or Princess Diana, the Daily Show's John Stewart visiting the infamous bathroom in the Minneapolis airport in which Idaho Senator Larry "Wide Stance" Craig was arrested attempting to have a tea-room trist.

Take a look at LGBT Tucson's newest media source online and you'll be glad that you did.

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@saaf.org

SAAF.org
Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation

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Saving Our History Since 2006

EDITORIAL

With A Little Help From Our Friends

To paraphrase the title of the song, written by John Lennon and Paul McCartney, released on The Beatles album Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band in 1967, can describe the crux of this editorial and appeal to the community and readers of this publication during these troubled economic times, especially in lieu of the announcements by Cleveland, Ohio's weekly LGBT newspaper and the Advocate magazine, reducing the time-frame of their publication.

For the past thirty-two years, the Observer's goal was to provide Tucson's LGBT community a free, weekly newspaper, covering the issues of concern and through the rough beginning, the bad times and the good, this has been achieved with the hope of the betterment for all. Readers may or may not have agreed with the content but they can't state that every week, this publication wasn't there for the reading.

As time passed and with the advent of the Internet, things have changed for the Observer and every other newspaper, magazine or otherwise resulting in the reduction in size of many publications, as well as the readership viewing these endeavors by using a computer. Audio, video, podcasts and links to stories on such websites have become part of the lexicon.

This publication has been available online since 1996 and interactive with a blog, online at tucsonobserver.blogspot.com since April of this year. Is the Observer a little late to the game online, maybe or maybe not, since this publication isn't about "profit," but is for "informing the public" of what's going on in Tucson and the world from the LGBT perspective.

One of the pluses that the Observer has over other LGBT newspapers and magazines is the online archive. From 1976 to the present, people can access this publication to read or most importantly, learn about LGBT history and the HIV/AIDS crisis from the very beginning - a point the staff and management of this publication takes pride in knowing.

How was this achieved? With thanks to "a little help from our friends," also known as the LGBT and straight supportive community of Tucson, Southern Arizona and the rest of the globe, with their contributions to get the print edition library copied by the Arizona State Archive into form to be uploaded to the Internet.

On the website, tucsonobserver.com, the archive is the most popular feature, with online readers looking at copies of the paper going back to this nation's bicentennial year. When a new edition comes out in print, it goes immediately into the archive for review, unlike other publications, which takes a couple of weeks to be able to be read online at the Pima County Public Library website or for a fee on the respective publication's web page.

So why this editorial then? During these times, the Observer, in an effort to provide a free weekly publication to inform the readership of the issues of concern to the LGBT and HIV/AIDS communities, needs a little help from our friends to ensure that Tucson's LGBT history doesn't become lost.

Maintaining the archive online does cost the publication and readers are well aware that the newspaper has been scaled back to continue printing weekly at no cost to the readers and wants to do so for the future but some help would be appreciated to assist in alleviating costs in the interim.

What would happen if the website had to be closed down, put offline, for those needing to use the Observer archive? A trip to Phoenix to the Arizona State Archive would be the means then to be able to access old edition of The Observer, a potential tragedy for all and something that can be avoided with "a little help from our friends."

So when reading the Observer, either in print or online, consider making a small contribution to help defray the web/Internet costs to help keep the publication free, online and most importantly, weekly. This publication over the years has beaten the daily newspapers in this town covering the same issues concern the LGBT community and HIV/AIDS and will continue to strive to do so for the future.

At the website or the blog, people have the option of donating through the PayPal system but for those wanting to send a check, make checks payable to "The Observer," and mail them to P.O. Box 50733, Tucson, AZ 85703 and with "a little help from our friends," we all will get by during these times.

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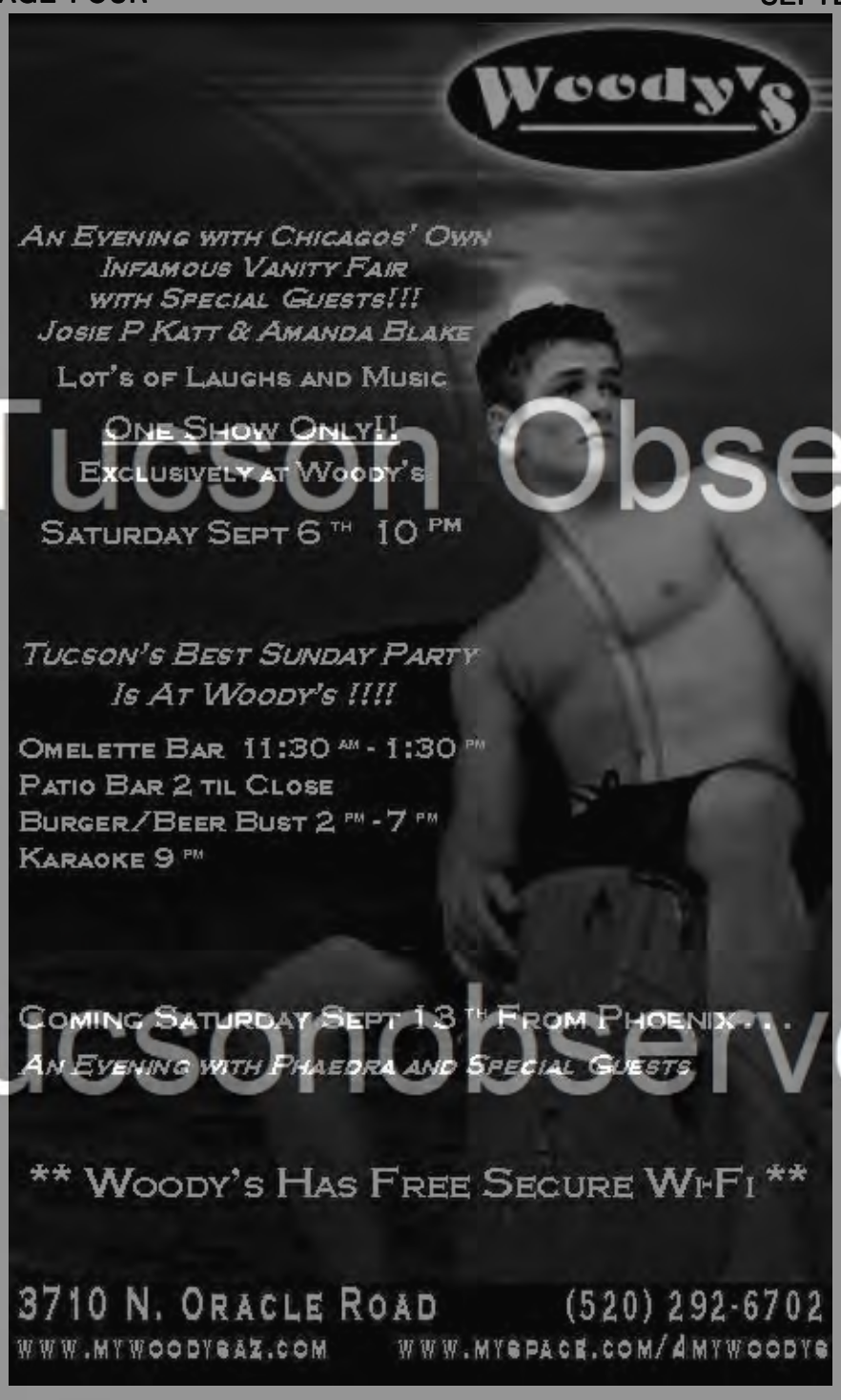
In Their Own Words

tucsonobserverarchives.org

Senator Barack Obama (D-IL), Democratic presidential nominee, included Gays and Lesbians in his Thursday night (August 28) acceptance speech at Denver's Invesco Field at Mile High.

"I know there are differences on same-sex marriage," the Senator spoke, "but surely we can agree that our Gay and Lesbian brothers and sisters deserve to visit the person they love in the hospital and to live lives free of discrimination."

Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) will "run on the final version" of the Republican Party's election platform, which calls for constitutional bans on abortion and G/L marriage.



UPDATE

UofA Out On The Job Brownbag Series Sept. 18

TUCSON (Observer Update) - A new, free series sponsored by the Office of LGBTQ Affairs, UA Career Services, and the Tucson LGBT Chamber of Commerce. LGBTQ and Allied Professionals talk about their career paths as "out" people in various fields.

Karen Uhlich

City Council member Karin Uhlich will kick off the series. Karin is also the Executive Director of the Southwest Center for Economic Integrity. Drinks and dessert will be provided; please bring your own lunch. Everyone is welcomed - allies are encouraged to attend Thursday, September 18, noon to 1:00 p.m. at the University of Arizona, Career Services, SUMC (4th floor).

For more information, contact the UA Office of LGBTQ Affairs, (520) 626-1996 or go online to dos.web.arizona.edu/lgbtq.

Museuming With Maurice September 14

TUCSON - Did you know the Arizona State Museum, is the oldest and largest anthropology museum in the Southwest, established in 1893, is an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is the state's official archaeological repository and the largest non-federal archaeological repository in the country and is the University of Arizona's anthropology museum and is one of the oldest research units on the campus.

That's where we'll be going for a fascinating intro by Maurice. The museum is located in two historic buildings on the UA campus, just east of the main gate at University Boulevard and Park Avenue in Tucson. We'll meet Sunday, September 14, 1:00 p.m., in the north building. $3 per person suggested donation.

For more information, contact Penelope Starr, (520) 624-1779 x122.

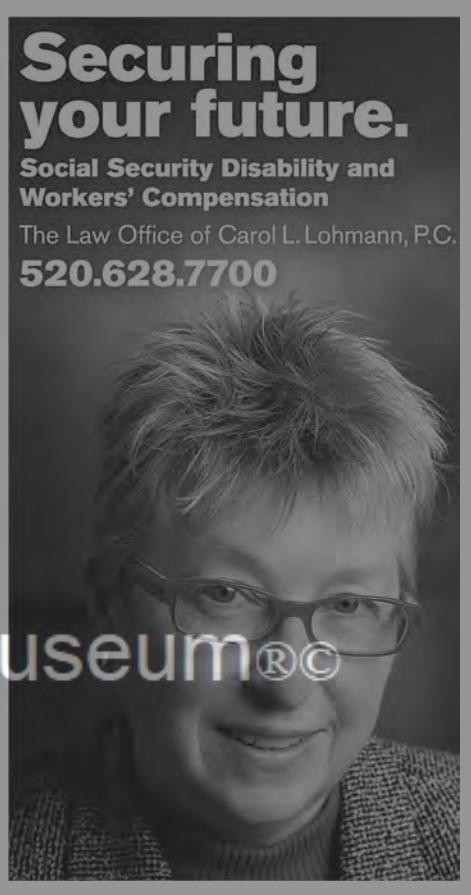
POLL: Opposition Widens To Calif. Marriage Ban (Prop. 8)

SACRAMENTO, California (Observer Update) - A majority of California voters oppose a ballot initiative to ban same-sex marriage, though they are evenly split on the practice itself, according to a poll released Wednesday (August 27), reported 365Gay.com. The ballot question essentially will ask voters to prohibit the practice of same-sex marriage, which was approved in May by the California Supreme Court.

The discrepancy between voters' general attitudes against Gay marriage and their position on banning it could be explained by a hesitancy to remove a constitutional right, said Mark Baldassare, president and chief executive of the Public Policy Institute of California, which conducted the poll. A majority of likely voters, 54 percent, oppose ending same-sex marriage, compared with 40 percent who support it, the poll said. The result is similar to the findings of a Field Poll in July, which found that 51 percent of likely California voters opposed ending Gay marriage, while 42 percent said they supported it.

But when it comes to general attitudes about same-sex marriage, voters in the Public Policy Institute poll are evenly split, at 47 percent for and against – as they have been for the past three years. "It's early in the campaign season, and in the end the vote on this measure ... could be hard to predict," Baldassare said. "Overall views on Gay marriage have not budged." The Public Policy Institute began asking voters how they feel about Gay marriage in 2000, the year voters approved an initiative to ban same-sex marriage but did not enshrine it in the Constitution. That year, the poll found 55 percent opposed to Gay marriage and 38 percent in favor.

In May, the state Supreme Court ruled the 2000 initiative unconstitutional, opening the door to same-sex weddings throughout the state. The new poll indicates that those opposed to Gay marriage will have to mobilize voters if they are to be successful in November, Baldassare said. "The burden is always on the yes side to convince people there is good reason to vote for the measure," he said. The institute surveyed 2,001 California residents, including 1,047 likely voters, in English and Spanish from Aug. 12 to 19. The poll has a margin of sampling of error of 2 percentage points for all residents and 3 percentage points for likely voters.



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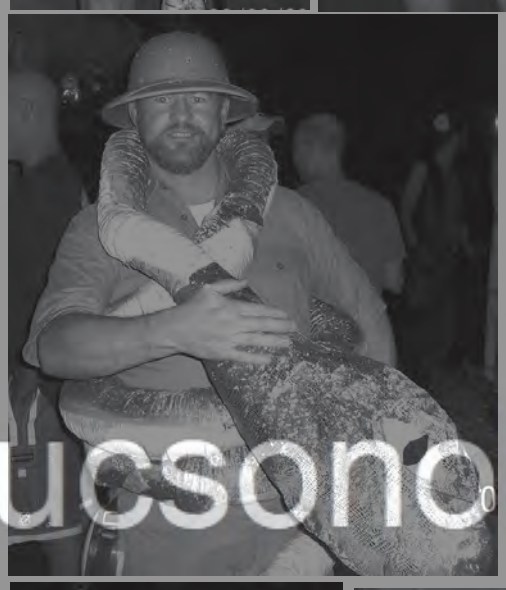
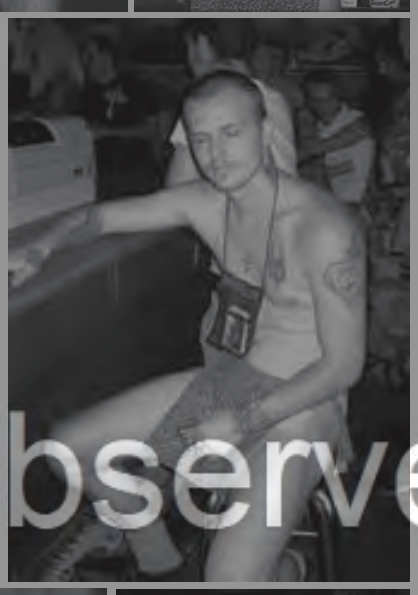
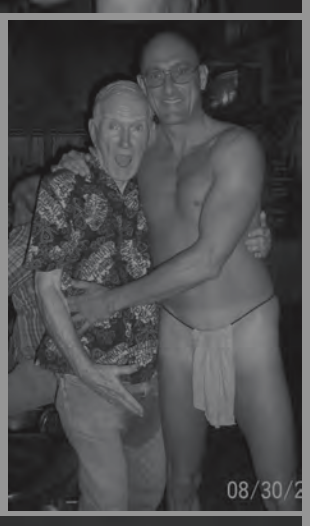
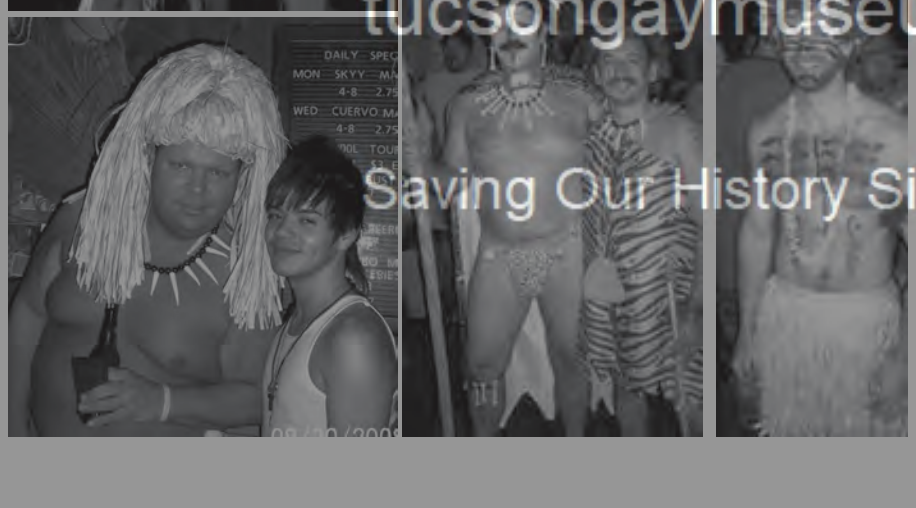
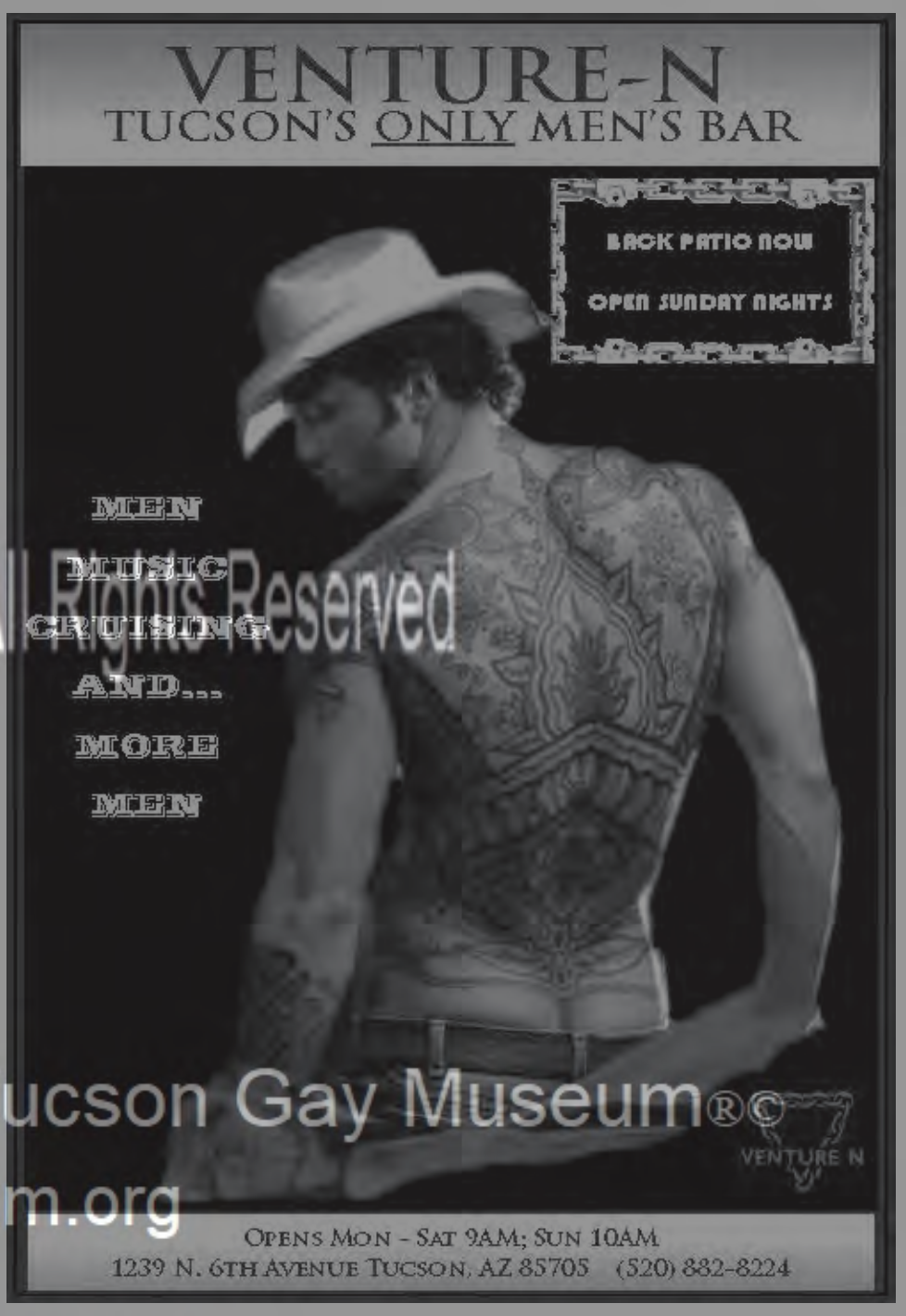
It's A Jungle Out There
At The Jungle Party at Venture-N











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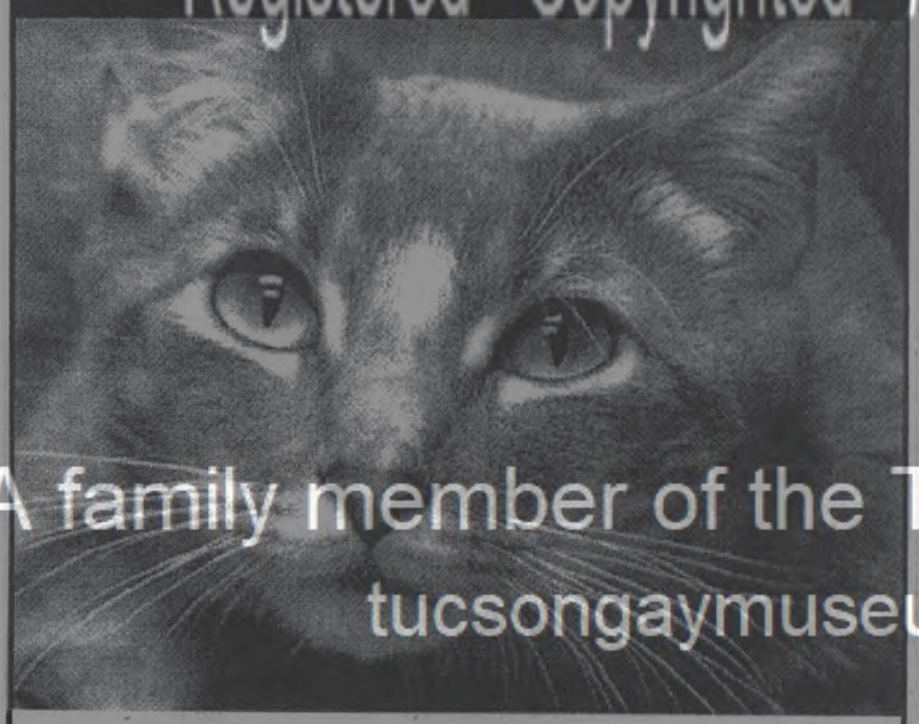
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POLITICS 2008

by Mark R. Kerr

Proposition 102 Update: The Voters Will Be Informed

Arizona Secretary of State Jan Brewer and Attorney General Terry Goddard had settled their dispute over the wording and information to be provided to voters in the publicity pamphlet and ballot in regard to Proposition 102 but another lawsuit was filed.

Peter Gentala, lead mouthpiece for the Center for Arizona Policy, acting as the counsel for yesformarriage.com and the confederate flag hoisting Republican state Senator, Ron Gould had filed suit seeking an injunction in Maricopa County Superior Court. Since Goddard and Brewer settled their differences, according to reports, but not to the liking of Gentala and his organization, who wanted to limit the information provided to the voters or in other words, not tell the truth as stated under A.R.S. (Arizona Revised Statute) 19-125, Section D ., which states:

"The Secretary of State must ensure that there shall be printed on the official ballot immediately below the number of the measure and the official title of each measure a descriptive title containing a summary of the principal provisions of the measure, not to exceed fifty words, which shall be prepared by the secretary of state and approved by the attorney general or the ballot shall comply with subsection E of this section: A "yes" vote shall have the effect of _____. A "no" vote shall have the effect of _____. The blank spaces shall be filled with a brief phrase, approved by the attorney general, stating the essential change in the existing law should the measure receive a majority of votes cast in that particular manner."

Gentala said he still believes the wording is unfair and is designed to convince voters that Proposition 102 is unnecessary.

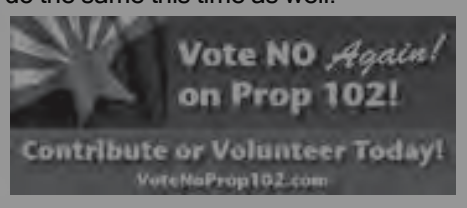
Really? What about A.R.S. 25-101, that reads:- Void and prohibited marriages - A. Marriage between parents and children, including grandparents and grandchildren of every degree, between brothers and sisters of the one-half as well as the whole blood, and between uncles and nieces, aunts and nephews and between first cousins, is prohibited and void. B. Notwithstanding subsection A, first cousins may marry if both are sixty-five years of age or older or if one or both first cousins are under sixty-five years of age, upon approval of any superior court judge in the state if proof has been presented to the judge that one of the cousins is unable to reproduce. C. Marriage between persons of the same sex is void and prohibited?

Or Peter for that matter, A.R.S. 25-112, covering - Marriages contracted in another state; validity and effect - A. Marriages valid by the laws of the place where contracted are valid in this state, except marriages that are void and prohibited by section 25-101. B. Marriages solemnized in another state or country by parties intending at the time to reside in this state shall have the same legal consequences and effect as if solemnized in this state, except marriages that are void and prohibited by section 25-101. C. Parties residing in this state may not evade the laws of this state relating to marriage by going to another state or country for solemnization of the marriage?

Then there is the case of Standhardt v. Superior Court (2003), upholding these two statutes in a ruling by the Arizona Superior Court (Maricopa County) and that the Arizona Supreme Court refused to hear the appeal, making the decision precedent!!

Fair, why then did you Peter Gentala cite these in your arguments before the Governor's Regulatory Review Council in a plea asking them to vote down Governor Napolitano's decision to extend medical and dental benefits to the domestic partner's (same and opposite sex) and subsequent families of state employees?

As was done in 2006, so shall be again this election year, victory over hate in 2008. Donate to Arizona Together (arizonatogether.com) and most importantly to Vote No on Proposition 102, (votenoprop102.com) the local grass roots effort, which includes the same individuals who helped to deliver Pima County into the "No" column by such a wide margin, it was a major contributor to the overall victory to defeat the proponents (Cathi Herrod and the Center for Arizona Policy) in 2006 and will do the same this time as well.



Primary Election Results

By Mark R. Kerr

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Arizonan voters have cast their ballots for their party's standard bearers in the Arizona Primary Election held Tuesday, September 2.

Political posts on the federal Congressional level, Arizona Legislature, the Arizona Corporation Commission, County offices, school boards and others are up for consideration in this year's election.

As of press time, the ballots were being tabulated and the full, final results will not be available before this print edition of the Observer is produced. If you want to check the results, the new, Observer blog, tucsonobserver.blogspot.com, has links to the results page for Pima County and the state of Arizona.

A full rundown will be featured in next week's print edition.

Five Tucson GLBT Bars Raised The Roof and Raised $13,000 For TIHAN

TUCSON - Hundreds of Tucsonans harkened back to the days of Stonewall 1969 as five of Tucson's LGBT bars produced a spectacular show to benefit AIDS education and support services in Tucson during the 12th annual "Turnabout for TIHAN" benefit.

Under the leadership of the participating bars Yard Dog Saloon, Woody's, IBT's, Howl at the Moon, and Colors, bar staff undertook a "turn-about" from male to female (and female to male) and performed to raise money for the Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN). In one of the most talent-filled shows in its long history, this year's Turnabout benefit raised over $13,000 for TIHAN!

The efforts of the event's producers, performers, employees from Tucson's LGBT clubs, and their special guests paid off well, not just in terms of financial support for TIHAN's programs, but also in terms of a spectacular evening of entertainment for the crowd. After opening the show with a re-enactment of the 1969 Stonewall uprising, Scott Blades, TIHAN's Executive Director, who came out to welcome the audience, pay tribute to the long history of drag as a tool for protest and mobilization, and talk about TIHAN's work. Then the evening's emcees, Tucson's Queen of Comedy Lucinda Holliday and Arizona's Entertainer of the Year Barbra Seville, took over and entertained the crowd and introduced excellent performances from the staff and owners of the five participating bars.

From the opening number featuring the cops who were stripped to their underwear to a show-stopping big production number from "Hairspray" performed by Woody's staff and backup dancers from the University of Arizona School of Dance, to the special guest appearance from Miss Gay Tucson America/Miss Gay Tucson USofA Tempest Du Jour, to the traditional closing number with all the cast singing "We Are Family," the show was loaded with spectacular and often hilarious performances by the amazingly talented staff of participating bars and our two emcees. This year's show was filled with creativity and an abundance of gifted performers treating the packed house to an array of pop, Latin, country, disco, alternative, Broadway, and Hollywood songs, giving their everything to entertain the packed house and raise funds for AIDS awareness and support services.

The $13,000 was raised through community members pledging money to support their favorite bar staff/owners, as well as through tips, admission tickets, program advertising, raffle ticket sales, sponsorships, and donations from the audience.

"Tucson's bars and the Tucson GLBT community have been so generous in their support of TIHAN's work, and it's so good to see everyone joining together for this common cause," said Scott Blades, TIHAN's Executive Director. "We are especially grateful to our donors, to the participating bars and their staff, to emcees Lucinda Holliday and Barbra Seville, and to David Zinke, our stage manager and lead volunteer." Blades also expressed his gratitude to event sponsors, and the many volunteers and donors who made the evening such a great show and a great benefit.

Turnabout is the second-largest fundraising event for TIHAN, which provides HIV/AIDS education and awareness to thousands of people each year, and provided support services last year to 272 people living with HIV/AIDS. "Unlike other organizations, TIHAN does not receive government funding. So an event like Turnabout, where our community helps raise over $13,000 to support our programs, it's vitally important to TIHAN and those we serve," said Blades.

Turnabout event sponsors included Wingspan, SAAF, Tucson's GBLT Chamber of Commerce, and the Tucson Shopper.

Florida Amendment Could Be In For Rough Ride

ORLANDO, Florida (Observer Update) - A proposed amendment to Florida's constitution that would limit marriage to people of the opposite-sex could be in for a rough ride at the polls this November a new survey of likely voters shows, reported 365Gay.com. The Mason-Dixon poll, taken for The Orlando Sentinel, shows that 57 percent of voters support the amendment while 36 perecent said they intend to vote against it. Florida's constitution requires a 60 percent majority to amend the document.

With a four percent margin of error in the poll results are too close to say the amendment is likely to be defeated, but most political analysts say usually such voter initiatives start out with a large percentage which becomes whittled down as opponents make voters aware of the issues and consequences. The issue likely will be determined by the seven percent who said they were undecided. A broad coalition of LGBT groups and their allies say they are mounting a massive campaign to defeat the amendment.

The proposed amendment says, "Inasmuch as marriage is the legal union of only one man and one woman, no other legal union that is treated as marriage or the substantial equivalent thereof shall be valid or recognized." Florida already has a law restricting marriage to opposite-sex couples but supporters of the amendment say the law could be overturned in court. The conservative Florida4Marriage attempted to have the proposed amendment placed on the 2006 ballot but fell short of the required number of signatures. Under Florida law the organization was allowed to continue to add names to the petition in a bid to get it on the 2008 ballot. It was certified in February to go on the November ballot. Last year it was discovered that the state GOP was bankrolling the amendment effort. An investigation by the St. Petersburg Times into funding for the Florida4Marriage found that of the $193,000 that had been raised by the group $150,000 came from a single donor - the Florida Republican Party.

Opponents of the proposed amendment say in addition to barring Gay marriage it would bar civil unions and would be used to deny partner benefits not only to same-sex couples but also to unmarried couples who live together. That has spurred Florida Red and Blue a non-partisan organization to enter the fray on behalf of unmarried opposite-sex couples. Last year in just 60 days the group amassed more than $1 million to battle the proposed amendment.

More From Turnabout 2008

Sunday, August 24 PHOTOS: BILL MORROW

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Advocate To Go Monthly And Report More Hard News

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - The Advocate, one of the country's oldest biweekly Gay publications, will go monthly beginning in January, its new editor said.

Jon Barrett, the magazine's new editor-in-chief, made the announcement during the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association's LGBT Media Summit in Washington, D.C. "I don't think there is a need for a biweekly magazine anymore with the Web," Barrett said. "We will have more room for bigger stories and we're going to get better writers," he added. "You will see more news in the magazine."

Barrett took over editing the magazine earlier this summer. The Advocate was purchased from PlanetOut by Regent Entertainment, which also owns Here Television. The last several months have seen staff reorganization and some layoffs. The magazine also has moved into smaller offices in Los Angeles.

GOP Axes Delegate Guide Over G/L Listings

ST. PAUL, Minnesota (Observer Update) - The Virginia delegation cancelled an order of a publication it planned to hand out to visitors at the Republican National Convention in St. Paul, Minnesota, because it included a six-page section for Gays and Lesbians, KSTP reported.

One Hundred Fifty copies of the "Secrets of the City" guide, printed by The Rake, were ordered by the campaign for Virginia Lieutenant Governor Bill Bolling to hand out to delegates as gifts on arrival at the convention, which starts on September 1.

"I am so terribly sorry to do this," Bolling's political director Melissa Busse wrote to The Rake, "especially when the both of you have been so 'out of your way' helpful, generous and easy to work with. But, we need to cancel the order for 150 of the 'Secrets of the City' guidebooks...having a section dedicated solely to GLBT (sic) will be a BIG problem for many of our folks. We simply can't hand them out."

Lesbian Senator's Staff Sent Home After Screaming Flap

Carole Migden

SAN FRANCISCO, California (Observer Update) - State Senate officials told Sen. Carole Migden's Capitol staff to go home for the week after the combustible San Francisco Democrat was overheard berating them.

Enedina Hidalgo, the director of personnel for the state Senate, was in the hallway when she heard Migden screaming at the staff, according to a witness to the event. The source said Hidalgo later entered the office while the senator was not present, informing the staff of their rights. Soon after, Hidalgo returned to Migden's office with Tony Beard Jr., the chief sergeant-at-arms of the state Senate.

They told staff members to pack up their belongings and then helped them out of the building, the witness said. It was the latest transgression for Migden, whose decade in the Capitol has been marked by controversy, volatile behavior and high staff turnover amid complaints that she is unreasonably demanding and verbally abusive.

NBC Apologizes For Snubbing Gay Golden Medalist Diver

NEW YORK CITY (Observer Update) - NBC Olympics President Gary Zenkel has issued an apology for his reporting team not mentioning on air that gold-medal diver Matthew Mitcham is Gay and has a partner.

"We regret that we missed the opportunity to tell Matthew Mitcham's story. We apologize for this unintentional omission, Zenkel said in the statement.

The statement comes after an NBC spokesperson defended the network's decision not to mention it. Zenkel's response was pretty short and sweet, but is this case closed?

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COMMENTARY. . . .

by John Corvino

Why Moral Approval Matters

"The problem with you people," my critic scolded, "is that you're no longer happy with merely being left alone. You don't just want us to tolerate homosexuality. You want us to think it's RIGHT." Well, duh.

Seriously: no matter how many times I hear this complaint - and it's pretty often - it still surprises me. Of course I want people to think that homosexuality is morally equivalent to heterosexuality. Why think otherwise?

This is not to say that I anticipate universal approval. But I can still aspire to - and work towards - as much approval as possible. One reason is that such approval makes our lives easier. True, my life is pretty good as it is. But it would be better with the legal protections that straight couples take for granted.

And it's not just about me. I care about teens kicked out of their homes, workers fired from their jobs, servicemen and women discharged from the military, and so on - all simply for being Gay. Increased moral approval of homosexuality would help.

Yet there's another reason for seeking to change people's false moral beliefs about homosexuality. Moral truth matters.

It matters both for its own sake and for what it achieves. Morality has a crucial social function. It shapes our behavior; it coordinates our life projects; it defines our community. These are all good things.

But morality doesn't work in the abstract. It works only when people recognize and encourage it. This requires moralizing - the voicing of approval and disapproval that gives morality its public face and force.

Moralizing often gets a bad rap. The term "moralist" conjures up an image of a finger-wagging busybody, hypocritically pointing out the specks in his neighbor's eye while ignoring the planks in his own.

But at its best, moralizing can protect and nurture us. It steers us in ways that are good for us, good for those we love, and good for the community at large.

As social creatures, we depend on moralizing. We benefit from our parents' scolding, which keeps us out of trouble. We benefit from our neighbors' raised eyebrows and encouraging glances, which nudge us to be the best people we can be.

In order for moralizing to work, however, we have to care to some extent about what other people think. We have to take moralizing seriously. Imagine life in a world where no one cared about other people's moral opinions. Such a life would be, in Thomas Hobbes' words, "solitary, poor, nasty, brutish, and short."

Now imagine a world where vast numbers of people—maybe half your neighbors or more—morally disapprove of some of the most intimate and important aspects of your life. Most readers of this column don't have to imagine that. As LGBT people, we live it daily.

What do we do in the face of such widespread moral disapproval? Often we avoid or ignore it. That's an understandable response, but it worries me.

It worries me because of how morality works. Morality has a job to do, and it can't do it well if we become too comfortable with ignoring others' moralizing. Just as unreasonable or unenforceable laws erode our confidence in law itself (think Prohibition), widespread dismissal of others' moral views erodes morality's social function.

Don't misunderstand: I believe people should think for themselves, and of course we shouldn't worry about everything our neighbors think. Some neighbors are thoughtless and stupid. What's more, there are sometimes good moral reasons for bucking the majority.

But when large numbers of people - many of them educated, intelligent, and decent - disapprove of a central feature of our lives, that's troubling. Not just for pragmatic reasons - although those are important - but because of morality's role in the social fabric.

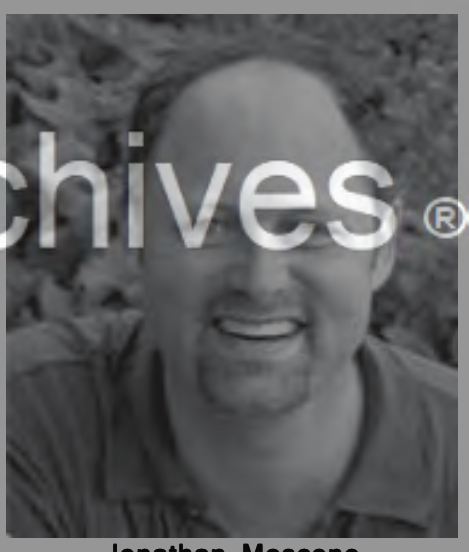
The alternative to avoiding or ignoring other people's disapproval is to try to reverse it. Reversing it means convincing them that same-sex relationships are not merely tolerable, but morally good.

And that's what we should aim to do. Not because we desperately need to be patted on the back, and not merely because their moral approval would make our lives easier.

Ultimately, we should do it because morality matters—to us, to them, to everyone.

(John Corvino, Ph.D. is a columnist for 365Gay.com, an author, speaker, and philosophy professor at Wayne State University in Detroit. For over fifteen years he has traveled the country speaking on homosexuality and ethics. His writing has been featured in regional and national periodicals, at the online Independent Gay Forum www.indeGayforum.org, and in numerous scholarly anthologies. His column "The Gay Moralist" appears Fridays on 365Gay.com. For more about John Corvino, or to see clips from his "What's Morally Wrong with Homosexuality?" DVD, visit johncorvino.com. This oped is reprinted from 365Gay.com.)

Gay Son Of Murdered S.F. Mayor Won't See 'Milk' Film



Jonathan Moscone

SAN FRANCISCO, California (Observer Update) - Jonathan Moscone, the Gay son of former Mayor George Moscone, has no plans to see the new biopic Milk set for release this fall, reported the Bay Area reporter.

Seeing his father's assassination recreated on film is still too much for the 43-year-old Moscone to bear. "I won't be seeing the Milk movie. I would have to leave at one point. I have no desire to see my dad's death recreated on screen," said Moscone, who lives in the Oakland hills. "I am not that brave of a guy."

Thirty years ago on November 27, Dan White, a former cop, firefighter, and city supervisor, shot and killed George Moscone and then-Supervisor Harvey Milk in their City Hall offices. The movie, directed by Gus Van Sant and starring Sean Penn as Milk, depicts the Gay politician's rise to power from the streets of the Gay Castro District to his election to City Hall.

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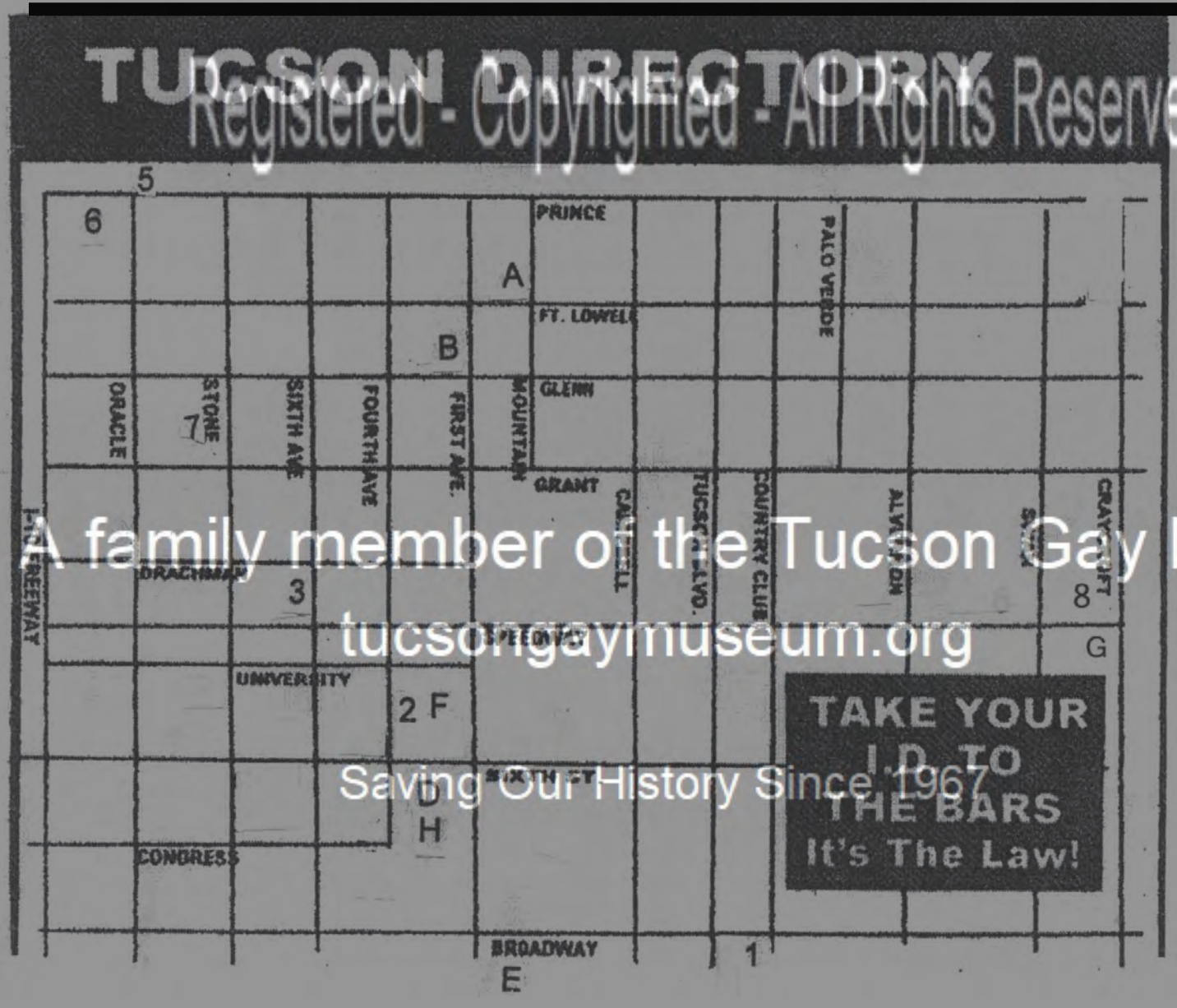

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3. VENTURE-N
   1239 N. 6th Ave. 882-8224
5. WOODY'S
   3710 N. Oracle Rd, 292-6702
6. HOWL AT THE MOON
   915 W. Prince Rd. 293-7339
7. YARD DOG SALOON
   2449 N. Stone, 624-3858
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B. CORNERSTONE 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
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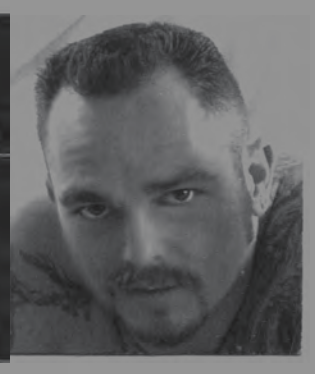

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Fueled By Petrol

by Jimmy Petrol

USDA Prohibits Mad Cow Testing

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In a move that is Orwellian in its aspect, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has refused to allow a large Midwestern meat packing plant to test its product for mad-cow disease.

The USDA is a functional arm of the Bush administration and acts in direct accord with the policies and direction of the White House.

Creekstone Farms Premium Beef wants to test all its cows to meet the market demand for beef that is proven free from the deadly disease. Oddly opposed to this market driven and consumer friendly testing, the Bushies refuse to allow testing on the basis that it will raise the cost of beef.

The government reports that "other" beef suppliers fear that if Creekstone is allowed to label its product as "tested", that all suppliers will have to follow suit, adding expense to the already over-burdened consumer. These unnamed "others" are hard to find. I have not been able to find them and suspect that they are another of the administrations fantastic fabrications, as were the Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD's) that provided the excuse to invade Iraq and install Lord Cheney's company as government-in-fact.

The USDA does do some testing for Mad Cow; the press reports that fully one percent of the beef slaughtered in the US is tested. It also reports that no cattle that are visibly ill are tested. The Orwellian Doublespeak that the Bushies use to explain all this is of the best quality; without a doubt, they employ only the finest, most diabolical minds to produce the official position statements and court briefs.

What you and I know is simpler: for an administration (and congress) that is so pro-market forces to alter position like this is a sure sign of deeper trouble.

United States beef is currently believed to be clear of mad-cow, due entirely to the fact that nobody is allowed to look for it. Creekstone has been in court fighting this prohibition since March of 2006, when it filed suit to gain access to mad-cow test kits. It wants to assure foreign buyers that its meat is safe to eat; currently, US beef is barred from foreign markets in a variety of ways and conditions because the people in other countries find US testing inadequate to protect its citizenry.

The Bush's, hailing from Texan cattle country, have a Machiavelian purpose in preventing us from knowing whether our beef is safe to eat. What is really at stake here is the preception American beef-eaters have of safety. Since no mad-cow disease can be found if no effective testing is allowed, no market panic can result.

The amazing fact that sick animals are not tested, due to the convoluted reasoning in the USDA testing protocols, coupled with the fact that voluntary testing is prohibited by law can mean only one thing: the USDA is certain that mad-cow will turn up in US beef if tested for.

What the USDA and the Bushies claim is that new standards in processing, feeding and the like are sure to eliminate the threat of contamination. But the testing standards are designed to protect the beef-market from boycott, not to assure the safety of the consumer.

The USDA has authority to administer treatment for livestock disease. Claiming that the test for mad-cow is part of a "treatment" is the highest order of double-think; Creekstone intends to test the animals after they are killed. If this is "treatment", then we can expect the administration to soon reveal success in resurrecting the dead, since my understanding is that treatment of a disease is meant to provide a cure, unlike the autopsy, which can only investigate the cause.

When a government finds it acceptable to mislead its people, when the primary purpose of the intelligent people in the government is to mislead and trick the people, it is time for those in office to be replaced.

It is foolish to expect government to be more than we demand it to be; if we elect anyone who is supportive of the Bush regime, we send the message that we don't mind being tricked and laughed at. Do you suppose that the brilliant lawyers, pressmen and whatnot that provide these fabricated, Orwellian positions do anything but laugh at you and I?

Calif. Prisons Prepare To Permit Same-Sex Weddings

SACRAMENTO, California (Observer Update) - Now that same-sex couples can get married in California, state prison officials are trying to figure out what that means for Gay inmates.

No prisoners so far have sought to arrange weddings with same-sex partners since the state Supreme Court granted same-sex couples the right to wed as of mid-June, according to Michele Kane, spokeswoman for the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Nonetheless, department lawyers are drafting guidelines to bring the state's 33 adult prisons into compliance with the court's ruling that same-sex couples must be treated the same as opposite-sex couples under the California Constitution, Kane said.

What they have determined so far is that would mean allowing Gay inmates to marry someone on the outside, but not a fellow prisoner – the same rules that apply to straight inmates, according to Kane.

Birmingham Mayor Sued For Discrimination

Mayor Larry Langford

BIRMINGHAM, Alabama (Observer Update) - A Gay rights group in Alabama is filing a lawsuit against the mayor of Birmingham for not allowing city workers to hang banners supporting Gay Pride Week. Central Alabama Pride Inc. filed the federal suit, claiming that Mayor Larry Langford's actions violated workers' First Amendment rights, according to the Birmingham News.

Some workers wanted to hang banners on city property, as other workers have done to promote football games and music festivals. However, individuals were denied use of city property to advertise for Birmingham's 20th annual Gay pride parade on June 7. Langford said he turned down the request because it was inappropriate for the government to endorse a "lifestyle choice," according to the lawsuit. He then said he would not interfere with a permit request as long as he did not have to sign it. Birmingham police later issued the permit, and the Birmingham City Council passed a resolution supporting the event, reported advocate.com

"The bottom line is, I don't condone the lifestyle and what they were asking me to do," Langford said in the article. "Proclamations are under my purview as mayor, so they're asking me for a personal endorsement."

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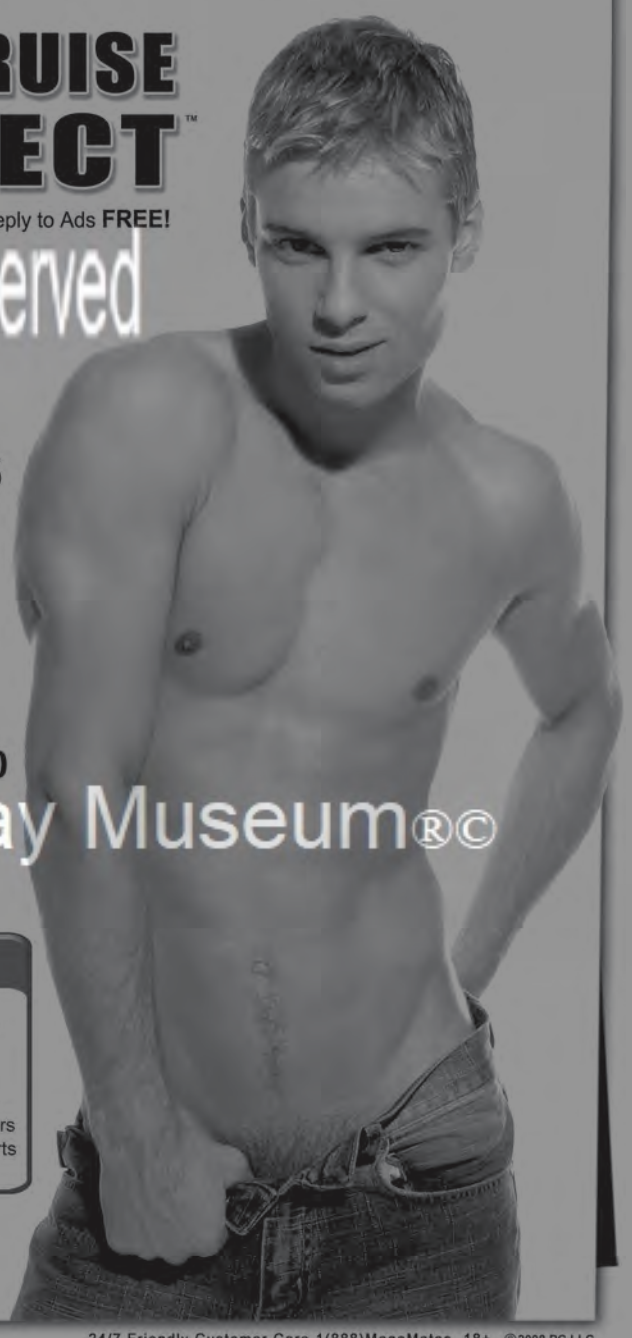

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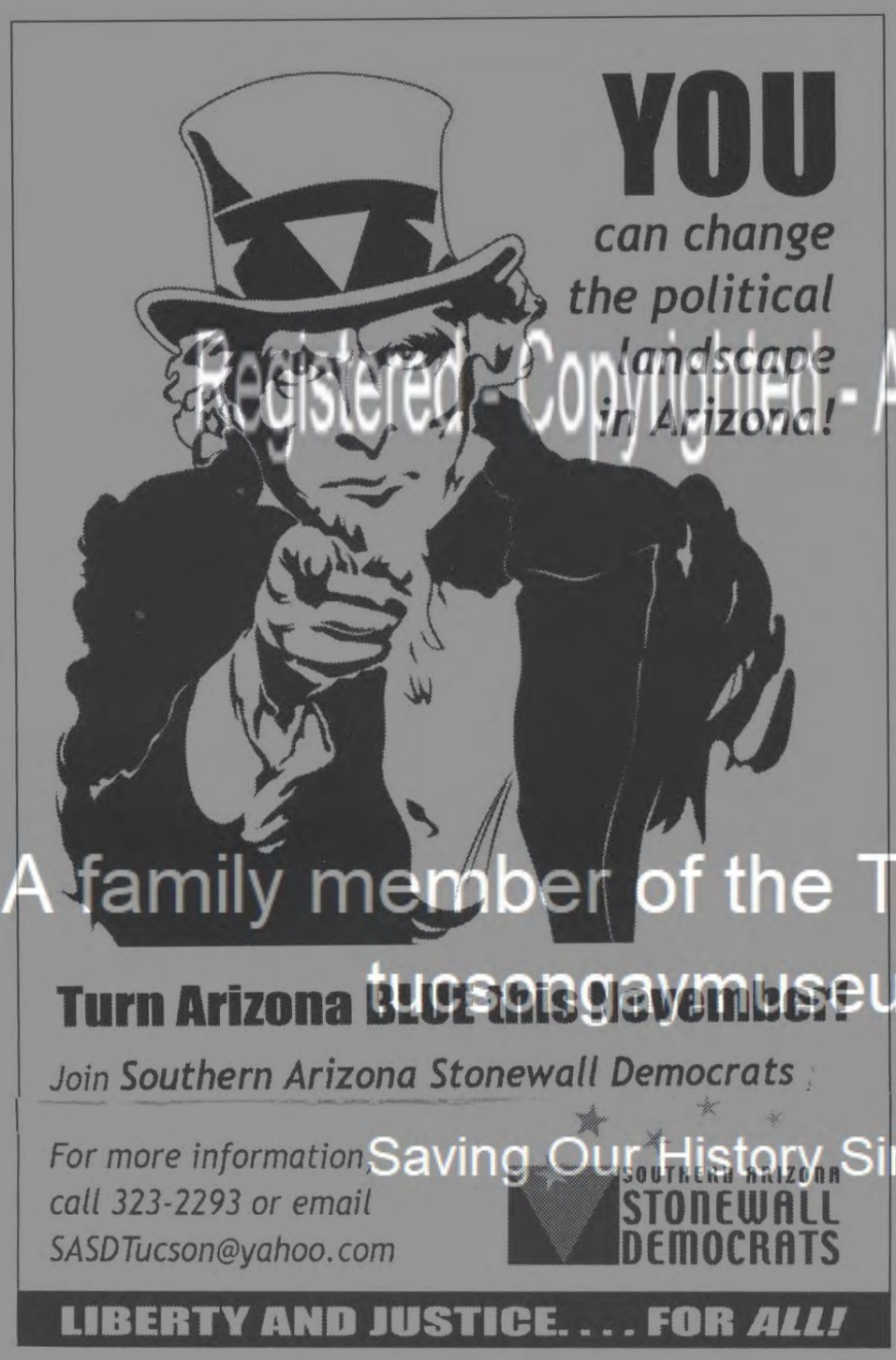

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Summer may be winding down but that doesn't mean that we should. Lucky Jupiter redirects now and delivers a package of luck and bounty to our front door. Don't hurt your back lifting it up.

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)

Even though you have worked hard all through the summer, it was simply to keep from falling behind. Progress wasn't expected or attained. But now it all comes to you, Gay Ram. Jupiter redirects and suddenly the senior staff sits up and takes notice. Cash in and slide through the holiday season on your good looks alone. It's payback time.....

TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)

Queer Bulls are not necessarily intrepid travellers. For them, something close to home and sedate is the best vacation. However you may have felt more penned in than usual this summer. September is the time to break loose and see the world. Jupiter redirects and puts the fire back into your imagination and navigation. How exotic and spicy will it be? Pack the pepto!

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)

Lucky in cards, unlucky in love? Not this month, pink Twin. While the past has been a series of affairs, now you get serious. Show lovers your hand and reap the delightful benefits as Jupiter redirects. You are back to your charming and flirty self and can attract anyone you desire. The trick will be to keep it down to a manageable 52 cards. All hands on deck!

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)

If you have been feeling unappreciated or even under-appreciated, September is the month to get back on track with certain relationships. The summer might have been a struggle for balance and understanding. The dust is settling so you can concentrate, speak your mind and be understood and accepted. Gay Crabs who are at sea can net a big fish later in the month.

LEO (JULY 24 - AUGUST 23)

The day to day job has been one long slog through the summer. Not only have your efforts not been noticed, you yourself might have felt ignored and marginalized. Proud Lions have been working far too long and far too hard to not see some reward at the end of the day. Jupiter now redirects and brings home the bacon. Now it is your job to fry it up and serve it to the masses.

VIRGO (AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23)

Although it is difficult to believe, fun might have been too much trouble for you this entire summer. There were always too many tiresome details to the arrangements and too much clean-up after it all. But now, as Jupiter redirects, queer Virgins can finally enjoy the bon temps. The question is, are there any good times left as autumn arrives? Yes! Create some!

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23)

Proud Libras will enjoy all the comforts of home this September. All through the summer you might have found any excuse to escape and let the house collect dust. Concentrate now on sprucing up your surroundings and prepare for the holiday season ahead. You can also enlist some helping hands. Ply them with food and drink while you "supervise".

Continued next column

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22)

While you pride yourself on your deft communication, eloquence might have eluded you throughout the summer. There was nothing you could say to sway others to your side. But now, queer Scorps can charm any snake and get what they want through words alone. Will you use this gift for goodness or nastiness? Let me guess....

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22)

Your financial situation brightens after a summer of clouds and showers. Money problems find excellent solutions in September. No only can you find the right advisor and discover the best research, you are able to effectively maneuver through the markets to create an overflowing nest egg. Think cushy early retirement, Gay Archer. Whoo hoo!

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20)

Pink Caps cannot be relegated to the sidelines any longer. Your ideas reach a critical mass, your charisma quotient soars and lesser planets gravitate into your orbit. Jupiter redirects this September and pushes you Out into the center of the limelight to great public acclaim. So prepare for your close-up and wear something suitable. No not cellophane micro mini shorts.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19)

The best decisions you can make are those that come from your gut this September. Aqueerians have felt that their intuition was on the fritz throughout the summer. But now that Jupiter redirects, you get back on track and can discern friend from foe easily. There may also be a secret admirer hiding in the background. Will they make themselves known? I think you know.

PISCES (FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20)

If the summer has felt more solitary than usual, you can use the fall to come out of your self imposed exile and rejoin the gang. Jupiter redirects and gives you many reasons to get involved in a myriad of group activities. Join new organizations and expand your social circle. And current friends will seek you out too. Fill up your dance card and dance through all the holidays.

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NON-BAR CALENDAR

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 www.tucsonprimetimers.org or 298-6727

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

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

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, Triangle Tribe. Call Tom for more information

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 Clem at 885-1270.

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

Saturday, September 6
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. MSN Potluck at Casa Adobes Church located at 6801 N. Oracle Road. This month we will have an Italian Theme. So bring a friend and enjoying a great meal with your friends at MSN.

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
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Dinner Out at the Guadalajara Grill. For reservations and directions, contact Thom 908-6160, e-mail thomsepals@hotmail.com .

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

Monday, September 8
Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Trivial Pursuit. Please call Lee and Merlin at 207-5336 for information and to reserve your place at this limited seating event.

#1 Tucson Prime Timers invites you to Bowl with us at 10:30 a.m. at Golden Pin Lanes, 1010W. Miracle Mile.

#2 Tucson Prime Timers invites you to our drop-in-lunch at 12:30 p.m. at Wildcat House, 1801 N. Stone Ave.

Wednesday, September 10
#1 Men's Social Network Lunch out at Govinda's. Contact Merlin for more information and directions at 207-5336

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

Tucson Prime Timers invites you to join us for lunch at 1:00 p.m. Buddy's Grill, East Grant & N. Swan. RSVP Ry at 576-8045

Thursday, September 11
#1 Men's Social Network. Bridge Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Contact Jim at 790-8735 for location and directions

#2 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, 7:00 pm Triangle Tribe. Call Tom for more information at 591-2828

Tucson Prime Timers invites you to bowl with us at Golden Pin Lanes, at 1:30 p.m. 1010 W. Miracle Mile

Friday, September 12
Tucson Prime Timers invites you to help celebrate our 15th Anniversary in Southern Arizona with drinks and dinner at 5:00 p.m. at El Corral Restaurant, 2201 E. River Rod, RSVP Clem at 885-1270

Saturday, September 13
Tucson Prime Timers invites you to attend our monthly Membership Meeting held at Wingspan. A no-host Luncheon follows. Information at 885-1270.

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. Contact Marvin at 745-0304 for directions and information.

Sunday, September 14
Tucson Prime Timers invites you to join us for Brunch at 12:30 p.m. Thono Chul Tea Room, Ina Road just west of Oracle Rd. RSVP John at 298-6727.

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Dinner Out at Kettle Restaurant. For reservations and directions, contact Thom 908-6160, e-mail thomsepals@hotmail.com .

Monday, September 15
#1 Tucson Prime Timers invites you to Bowl with us at 10:30 a.m. Golden Pin Lanes, 1010 W. Miracle Mile.

#2 Tucson Prime Timers invites you to our drop-in-lunch at 12:30 p.m. Wildcat House, 1801 N. Stone Ave.

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

Tuesday, September 16
Men's Social Network. Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcome. Mahjongg, contact Jerry at 325-7665 for Directions. We begin at 6:30pm

Wednesday, September 17
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00pm Hand and Foot with Jack 887-3736

Tucson Prime Timers invites you to join us for an escorted day trip - picnic and Tour of Mount Kitt Observatory. Transportation $112. For reservations or info call Clem at 885-1270

Thursday, September 18
Tucson Prime Timers invites you to bowl with us at Golden Pin Lanes, 1010 West Miracle Mile 1:30 p.m.

#1 Men's Social Network. Mexican Dominoes. Open to men of all ages. 6:30pm. Call Jack at 887-3736 for directions.

#2 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, Triangle Tribe 7:00 pm. Call Tom for more information at 591-2828

Friday, September 19
Tucson Prime Timers invites you to join us for dinner at Opa! Greek Restaurant, 2990 N. Campbell Ave. RSVP Ray at 578-8045

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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 (GPGLCC) P.O. BOX 2097, Phoenix, AZ 85001-2097. E-mail: webmaster@gpglcc.org or call (602)225-8444.

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

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

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

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

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 meetings the third Thursday of every month. Call 615-6436 for more info. www.tucsonglbtchamber.org

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

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

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

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.:

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DAILY BAR CALENDAR

SUNDAY

THE BIZ - Visit the outdoor patio enjoy a cocktail or two. Sports on all day!!! You call it!! NFL $5 Beer and Burgers 10am - 3pm 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 Domestics and well. Appetizers ½ price 4-6. Brunch served until 2pm. Full menu served until 10;m. Nightly dinner specials.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open 11am. 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. College Night - 50 cent canned beer!

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

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open 3pm. 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 3-7

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

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

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

YARD DOG - 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 Domestics and Well and ½ price appetizers. Full menu served until 10. Nightly dinner specials.. .

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, $2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints, $3.50 sm. Pitcher/$5.50 lg.. Pitcher. Bicardi Thursdays - $3.00 Bicardi 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 musicia 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 Domestics and Well and ½ price appetizers. Finlandia martinis $5.50 open to close! Full menu served until 10. "Hot Jazz, Cool Martinis" with Susan Artemis & Craig Faltin 6:30 to 9:30. "Guys & Dolls" drag show hosted by Lucinda Holliday at 10pm. Nightly dinner specials. Drink specials during the drag show.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, $2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. $3.50 Sm. Pitcher/$5.50 lg. Pitcher. $2.75 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 Domestics and Well, ½ price appetizers 4-6. Pianist/Vocalist Marilyn Harris 6:30-9:30. Full menu served until 10. Nightly dinner specials.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 2pm. Happy Hour 2-8pm, $2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. $3.50 sm. Pitcher/$5.50 lg. 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, September 6
THE BIZ - Naughty School Girls - Welcome Back Party.GoGo Dancers- Ipod Give-Away and a whole lot more...

HOWL AT THE MOON - Welcome to the UA fraternity Delta Lambda Phi for their evening out. Music with DJ Johnny D.

WOODY'S - Exclusive at Woody's.An evening with Chicago's own infamous Vanity Fair with guests Josie P, Katt & Amanda Blake. One show only starts at 10pm.

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

Saturday, September 13
HOWL AT THE MOON - Tucson's own "Too Much Information" - live band playing classic rock & blues. Want a night out with great music and dancing? This is it. $5 cover 9 pm

WOODY'S - From Phoenix an evening with Phaedra and special guests.

Tuesday, September 16
HOWL AT THE MOON - Martini and Massage night is back! Tough day at work? Need a little TLC? How about a cocktail and massage? Feeling better now, aren't you? For only $20, enjoy a fifteen minute massage and the beverage of your choice. 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Saturday , September 20
THE BIZ - TOGA Party in the works. Watch for details

HOWL AT THE MOON - Bailamos! Latino Dance Night - Latest cumbias, baladas, and corridos plus a little old school. Presented by Mobile Sounds. 9:30 pm

Saturday, September 27
HOWL AT THE MOON - Drag Show presented by "Miss Native Americans", including Knokache and Samora Dehuni. A fabulous night of entertainment! 9:30 pm

Military Courts HS Dropouts While Banning College-Trained Gays and Lesbians

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - The U.S. Army, eager to fill its ranks amid wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, is turning to high school dropouts, opening a prep school to enable prospective enlistees to gain the GED.The military has turned six World War II-era buildings at Fort Jackson, South Carolina into a mini-campus of spartan classrooms and barracks. Under the year long pilot project, classes of about 60 soldiers will enter the month long program, reported 365Gay.com.

"It's academic immersion," Col. Jeffrey Sanderson, chief of staff at Fort Jackson told The Associated Press. "Our studies show that with only three out of every 10 people of military age being capable of joining the Army, we are going to have to do something different." Last October, Army officials said they intended to expand the force by adding 74,000 soldiers by 2010, with the active duty force growing to a total of 547,000. But while the military reaches out to high school dropouts the number of gays drummed out of the armed forces under "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" continues to grow. Under DADT two people every day are dropped from the military for being gay. In the 15 years that DADT has been in force more than 10,000 personnel have been discharged as a result of the policy, including 800 with skills deemed "mission critical," such as pilots, combat engineers, and linguists. The number of gay men and lesbians turned away by military recruiters is unknown.

A study conducted last year for the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network concluded that the U.S. military could attract as many as 41,000 new recruits if gays and lesbians in the military were able to be open about their sexual orientation. An ABC News/ Washington Post poll released last month found that 75 percent of Americans believe LGBT people should be allowed to serve. A similar poll taken shortly after Pres. Bill Clinton signed the law in 1993 found that only 44 percent of Americans supported the idea of letting gays serve openly. A study published by a University of California think-tank found that "allowing gays and lesbians to serve openly is unlikely to pose any significant risk to morale, good order, discipline or cohesion." Democratic Presidential candidate Barack Obama supports repeal of DADT and the party platform contains language calling for an end to the policy.

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Palin And LGBT Rights: The Straight Dope

Republican Presidential Candidate John McCain with his Vice-Presidental candidate Sarah Palin

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DAYTON, Ohio (Observer Update) - Republican Senator John McCain has selected Sarah Palin, Alaska's governor and a little-known conservative with a slim record on Gay and AIDS issues, to be his running mate in the 2008 presidential race, Gay City News reported. "She's fairly socially conservative, she's fairly anti-choice," said Jeffrey A. Mittman, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Alaska (ACLU).

Palin became governor in 2006 after serving as a councilwoman and then mayor of a small Alaskan town. She made an unsuccessful run at becoming Alaska's lieutenant governor in 2002. Palin has confronted a single piece of Gay rights legislation in that time. In 2005, Alaska's highest court ruled, in a case brought in 1999 on behalf of nine couples, that the state could not deny benefits to the domestic partners of state government employees. The court ordered the state to implement that ruling in late 2006.

The ruling was seen by right wingers as conflicting with a 1998 amendment to the Alaska Constitution, passed by voters in a ballot referendum, that defined marriage as solely between one man and one woman. The Republican-dominated State Legislature passed a bill that barred the state's administrative agency from implementing the ruling. Palin vetoed it. "The Department of Law advised me that this bill... is unconstitutional given the recent court order... mandating same-sex benefits," Palin said in a statement. "With that in mind, signing this bill would be in direct violation of my oath of office." The statement added, "The governor's veto does not signal any change or modification to her disagreement with the action and order by the Alaska Supreme Court. It is the governor's intention to work with the Legislature and to give the people of Alaska an opportunity to express their wishes and intentions whether these benefits should continue."

Eight days before signing the veto, Palin signed another bill that called for a "statewide advisory vote" regarding the ruling from Alaska's high court, saying in a statement, "We may disagree with the rationale behind the ruling, but our responsibility is to proceed forward with the law and follow the Constitution... I disagree with the recent court decision because I feel as though Alaskans spoke on this issue with its overwhelming support for a Constitutional Amendment in 1998 which defined marriage as between a man and woman. But the Supreme Court has spoken and the state will abide."

The ACLU's Mittman framed the way the bill calling for the statewide advisory played out in the ongoing controversy about the high court's order. "Then what happened was the anti-Gay forces came up with what they called an advisory vote," he said. "It was essentially a way for anti-LGBT people to try and rally public opinion to try and move their agenda forward."

In 2007, the state spent an estimated $1 million to hold that vote and Alaskans expressed their opposition to the court ruling by a narrow margin. The vote did not have the effect of making law. The McCain campaign has very effectively spun the veto to show Palin, 44, as sympathetic toward the Gay and Lesbian community.

Palin opposes same sex marriage. A 2006 Anchorage Daily News story, said of Palin: "She's not out to judge anyone and has good friends who are Gay, but that she supported the 1998 constitutional amendment."

Some press reports following the McCain campaign announcement have repeated that right-wing rhetorical flourish that has Palin declaring that she has Gay friends. That softer image is not what some Alaskans saw.

"That's just completely wrong," said Allison E. Mendel, the attorney who brought the 1999 case. "She spoke on radio programs all throughout the campaign saying, 'I want a constitutional amendment, I think these things are only for a man and a woman.' ... I don't think she's ever said a friendly word about Gay people, that they ought to have health benefits like other people do or anything along those lines."

On AIDS issues, Palin simply has no record at all. "There is not a lot to speak of for AIDS policy because she hasn't done much," said Trevor Storrs, executive director of the Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association. "She's never been given the opportunity to address our situation here because it has never been put before her." With roughly 1,200 AIDS cases, Alaska is a "low incidence state," Storrs said, and most of its HIV funds come from the federal government.

Then Palin's 20 months in the governor's office have been taken up with the state's oil and gas industry. Health issues generally, such as substance abuse or mental health, have not received much attention, Storrs said. "She has done very little to address the major epidemics," he said.

There's quite a lot to say about Sarah Palin. There's actually quite more to say about Barack Obama's magnificent speech, but John McCain kicked the soccer ball and the media herd is chasing it. So we'll go with Palin for now and come back to Obama's speech on the weekend.

What's striking to me is what has happened in Alaska since Palin was swept into office as a reformer. In 2006, sitting governor Frank Murkowski finished third out of four in the primary due to corruption scandals. A good chunk of the Republicans in the state legislature are either under indictment or under suspicion. Ted Stevens will go to court in September. Palin offered a new direction from that culture of corruption.

And then she came into office and did the same thing as every other Republican in Alaska. The most prominent scandal, for which she is currently under an ethics review, concerns her trying to get her sister's ex-husband fired as a state trooper.

Gov. Sarah Palin, a rising young GOP star mentioned as a possible running mate for John McCain, could see her clean-hands reputation damaged by a growing furor over whether she tried to get her former brother-in-law fired as a state trooper. A legislative panel has launched a $100,000 investigation to determine if Palin dismissed Alaska's public safety commissioner because he would not fire the trooper, Mike Wooten. Wooten went through a messy divorce from Palin's sister.

Palin has denied the commissioner's dismissal had anything to do with her former brother-in-law. And she denied orchestrating the dozens of telephone calls made by her husband and members of her administration to Wooten's bosses.

There's actually tape of a Palin aide pressuring the Public Safety Department to fire Wooten. And when the Public Safety Commissioner wouldn't, she fired him and replaced him with someone who would. Someone who had a history of sexual harrassment and is now the PUBLIC SAFETY commissioner.

That's shades of Archibald Cox and Elliot Richardson and William Ruckleshaus. I understand that the state trooper and her sister had a messy divorce, and he's been alleged to have done all sorts of terrible things to the sister and the kids, but firing people who refuse to carry out your wishes - well, that's good for Woodward and Bernstein's career, but not for the country. And there's more.

Siun reports that Palin broke the law to ensure that Alaskan water would stay dirty: It is against the law for the governor to officially advocate for or against a ballot measure; however, Palin took what she calls "personal privilege" to discuss one of this year's most contentious initiatives. Along with taking a position on the big mine's side, Palin's administration apparently used state Department of Natural Resources resources to lobby for defeat of the Clean Water Initiative under the pretense of creating a state run website to "educate" citizens. The citizen group Alaskans for Clean Water responded by filing "a complaint against DNR for a recently-launched state website meant to clarify the issue for voters. "

The complaint alleges that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) improperly attempted to influence the outcome of an election by publishing information against the initiative on its website. It also alleges that DNR failed to report to APOC the expenditures, including employee time, related to creation of the information.

"It has become clear to us that the Department of Natural Resources is working hand-in-hand with the industry, and that the state is inappropriately making efforts to influence voters on this ballot initiative," said Art Hackney, a co-sponsor of Ballot Measure #4.

Now, this reflects Nixon as much as it reflects our current White House resident. When the laws constrain you, use a "personal privilege" or make a signing statement. The point of similarity is contempt for the rule of law and a belief in the expansion of executive power. There are a lot of ways to talk about Palin. She is a creationist-loving anti-choice, environment-despoiling gift to the fundie right who's resume is so thin that she doesn't really know what the Vice President does. It's clear that McCain, who has only met Palin a few times, sees the election as an uphill climb and tried to use the pick to command the news cycle with a surprise. Maybe that works for a day, but over time this could backfire heavily. Like Eagleton heavy.

Not to mention that she is completely in line with Fourthbranch Cheney and Spiro Agnew and the rest of the Corruptocrats on the issue of abuse of power. The Anchorage Daily News put it best: She can look you in eye and tell you black is white. Especially when there's oil involved.

Md. Gov. Backs Civil Unions, Local Trans Ordinance

Gov. Martin O'Malley

BALTIMORE, Maryland (Observer Update) - Gov. Martin O'Malley spoke briefly Monday (August 25) with the Washington Blade on the floor of the Democratic National Convention about the merits of civil unions versus civil marriage, Montgomery County's upcoming transgender rights referendum and other Gay issues.

"I think that there is a growing awareness of the shortcomings of our laws and the manner in which they shortchange the children of committed couples who happen to be Gay. And I think that there is certainly an awareness in the General Assembly of the need to update our laws in Maryland so that we can treat people equally, more equally, and closer to the ideal that we hold as a country that believes that individuals should have their rights protected equally. So in Maryland, I think that there's a lot of consensus for civil unions. And the last session, some advocates chose instead to go a different route. And so, we'll see. I don't know."

Ending the violence.

Wingspan launches the Anti-Violence Project – a community initiative to assist lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender victims of discrimination, domestic violence, sexual assault and hate crimes.

Call the Anti-Violence Project 24-Hour Crisis Line at 624-0348, or toll-free 1-800-553-9387.

WINGSPAN

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

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