Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

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Wingspan Dinner Draws Crowds And Donations

By Mark R. Kerr

TUCSON (Observer Update) - From a small office on Court Street to its new facilities on 7th Street, Wingspan has been Tucson and Southern Arizona's LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) community center for 20 years and people from Tucson, Arizona and across the nation came together Saturday to mark the work of this organization.

More than 1,000 people, elected officials, candidates and others, gathered at the Tucson Convention Center Saturday, September 20 for the annual Wingspan Dinner, a fund raising event for the organization which proceeds go for the services and nine programs Wingspan offers.

This year's theme, marking the twentieth anniversary of Wingspan, was "Looking Back and Moving Forward," which the program commemorating the successes, mourned the people lost and moved forward on the goal of equality for all people, regardless of race, gender, sex, sexual orientation or national orientation, perceived or otherwise.

A gourmet dinner, silent auction and entertainment throughout the crisp and well staged program was only part of the well-planned festivities, making for a great evening for those in attendance.

At the dinner, Wingspan honors members of the community for their work and at this year's event, the following people received awards for their achievements.

This year's Annual Benefit Dinner will celebrate Wingspan's 20 years of service to the southern Arizona community. What better way to celebrate the organization's history than to thank those who have made such tremendous service possible through their contributions of time, energy and expertise.

Godat Award - Noel Matkin. A lifelong servant to the LGBT movement. The Godat Award was created to recognize those who have made outstanding, long-term contributions to Southern Arizona's LGBT community. Receiving more than a modest number of nominations, Noel is hailed as an advocate, leader, mentor and dear friend.

Among Noel's many accomplishments, he was among the first members of the city's LGBT commission. Noel was critical in the successful merger of Tucson AIDS Project (TAP), Shanti, and People with AIDS Coalition of Tucson (PACT) into what is now the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation. He is a Community Foundation for Southern Arizona and Alliance Fund board member, a two-term president of the board of Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN), a leader for Equality Arizona, and a missionary for Wingspan. And all of this is in addition to his tremendous contributions to the University of Arizona as an audiology professor and advocate for equal LGBT benefits in the workplace.

Community Ally Award - Mary Ellen Beaurain, honored for her dedication to LGBT seniors. Recognizing the tremendous need for support for the community's aging LGBT population, Mary Ellen rallied support from the Pima Council on Aging, organized a community-wide survey of LGBT elders, and worked nationally with Rainbow Trainers to implement what is now Wingspan's Senior Programs. "She is a true and loyal ally to our LGBT and elder community," said Frances Coleman. "[The program] might not exist were it not for Mary Ellen's advocacy, support and hard work."

The Hall Award Winners, which two winners were selected to receive the Hall Award, which recognizes outstanding contributions to the Southern Arizona LGBT community. One of Wingspan's longer-serving front desk volunteers, Shirley Snow has been a beacon of reliability and dedication for nine years. "Anyone who is lucky enough to be greeted by Shirley on their first visit to Wingspan will not leave disappointed by their experience," said Michael Woodward, Wingspan's Health and Wellness Programs Manager. Shirley is

Continued on Page Two

Cash For Trash

By PAUL KRUGMAN

Some skeptics are calling Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson's $700 billion rescue plan for the U.S. financial system "cash for trash." Others are calling the proposed legislation the Authorization for Use of Financial Force, after the Authorization for Use of Military Force, the infamous bill that gave the Bush administration the green light to invade Iraq.

There's justice in the gibes. Everyone agrees that something major must be done. But Mr. Paulson is demanding extraordinary power for himself — and for his successor — to deploy taxpayers' money on behalf of a plan that, as far as I can see, doesn't make sense.

Some are saying that we should simply trust Mr. Paulson, because he's a smart guy who knows what he's doing. But that's only half true: he is a smart guy, but what, exactly, in the experience of the past year and a half — a period during which Mr. Paulson repeatedly declared the financial crisis "contained," and then offered a series of unsuccessful fixes — justifies the belief that he knows what he's doing? He's making it up as he goes along, just like the rest of us.

So let's try to think this through for ourselves. I have a four-step view of the financial crisis:

1. The bursting of the housing bubble has led to a surge in defaults and foreclosures, which in turn has led to a plunge in the prices of mortgage-backed securities — assets whose value ultimately comes from mortgage payments.

2. These financial losses have left many financial institutions with too little capital — too few assets compared with their debt. This problem is especially severe because everyone took on so much debt during the bubble years.

3. Because financial institutions have too little capital relative to their debt, they haven't been able or willing to provide the credit the economy needs.

4. Financial institutions have been trying to pay down their debt by selling assets, including those mortgage-backed securities, but this drives asset prices down and makes their financial position even worse. This vicious circle is what some call the "paradox of deleveraging."

The Paulson plan calls for the federal government to buy up $700 billion worth of troubled assets, mainly mortgage-backed securities. How does this resolve the crisis?

Well, it might — might — break the vicious circle of deleveraging, step 4 in my capsule description. Even that isn't clear: the prices of many assets, not just those the Treasury proposes to buy, are under pressure. And even if the vicious circle is limited, the financial system will still be crippled by inadequate capital.

Or rather, it will be crippled by inadequate capital unless the federal government hugely overpays for the assets it buys, giving financial firms — and their stockholders and executives — a giant windfall at taxpayer expense. Did I mention that I'm not happy with this plan?

The logic of the crisis seems to call for an intervention, not at step 4, but at step 2: the financial system needs more capital. And if the government is going to provide capital to financial firms, it should get what people who provide capital are entitled to — a share in ownership, so that all the gains if the rescue plan works don't go to the people who made the mess in the first place.

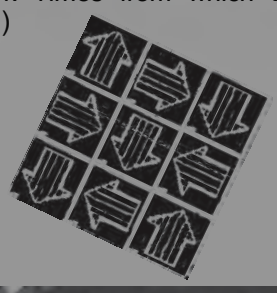
That's what happened in the savings and loan crisis: the feds took over ownership of the bad banks, not just their bad assets. It's also what happened with Fannie and Freddie. (And by the way, that rescue has done what it was supposed to. Mortgage interest rates have come down sharply since the federal takeover.)

But Mr. Paulson insists that he wants a "clean" plan. "Clean," in this context, means a taxpayer-financed bailout with no strings attached — no quid pro quo on the part of those being bailed out. Why is that a good thing? Add to this the fact that Mr. Paulson is also demanding dictatorial authority, plus immunity from review "by any court of law or any administrative agency," and this adds up to an unacceptable proposal.

I'm aware that Congress is under enormous pressure to agree to the Paulson plan in the next few days, with at most a few modifications that make it slightly less bad. Basically, after having spent a year and a half telling everyone that things were under control, the Bush administration says that the sky is falling, and that to save the world we have to do exactly what it says now, now, now.

But I'd urge Congress to pause for a minute, take a deep breath, and try to seriously rework the structure of the plan, making it a plan that addresses the real problem. Don't let yourself be railroaded — if this plan goes through in anything like its current form, we'll all be very sorry in the not-too-distant future.

(Paul Krugman is a noted economist, author and columnist for the New York Times from which this is reprinted.)



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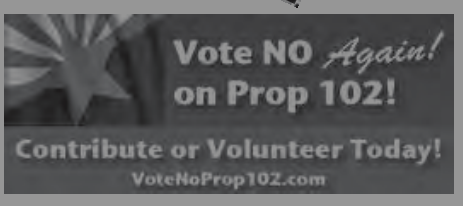

UPDATE

How To Survive On A Fixed Income & Other Budgeting Miracles, Sept 27

TUCSON - On Saturday, September 27, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m., TMC Senior Services/ Healthy Living Connections, 1400 N. Wilmot Rd., Wingspan Senior Pride presents How to Survive on a Fixed Income and Other Budgeting Miracles.

In this time of economic squeeze, how do you stretch an already stretched budget? John Barnes will share tips and resources from his many years of experience being a helpline specialist at Pima Council on Aging. After the presentation there will be a time for sharing what works for you so bring along your survival strategies. John Barnes is an intake / helpline coordinator at Pima Council on Aging. He has worked in social service jobs for over 20 years, working with disabled children, AIDS population (Tucson AIDS Project), hospice and senior populations. He has a wealth of knowledge about discount programs for seniors and budgeting helpful hints.

For more information, contact Penelope Starr, (520) 624-1779, Ext. 122.

Lesbian Looks Film Series: Freeheld Oct. 3

TUCSON (Observer Update) - The 16th Annual Lesbian Looks Film Series opens with a free screening of Freeheld, Friday, October 3, 7:30 p.m., UA Modern Languages Auditorium. This Academy Award-winning documentary chronicles the story of Laurel Hester's fight to give her earned pension benefits to her partner, Stacie.

Detective Lieutenant Laurel Hester spent 25 years investigating tough cases in Ocean County, New Jersey, protecting the rights of victims and putting her life on the line. She had no reason to expect that in the last year of her life, after she was diagnosed with terminal cancer, her final battle for justice would be for the woman she loved. The documentary film Freeheld chronicles Laurel's struggle to transfer her earned pension to her domestic partner, Stacie Andree. With less than six months to live, Laurel refuses to back down when her elected officials - the Ocean County Freeholders–deny her request to leave her pension to Stacie, an automatic option for heterosexual married couples.

As Laurel's plight intensifies, it spurs a media frenzy and a passionate advocacy campaign. At the same time, Freeheld captures a quieter, personal story: that of the deep love between Laurel and Stacie as they face the reality of losing each other.

"Freeheld is a quietly understated work of art that packs a punch you will feel for days." - Armistead Maupin

"Cynthia Wade presents perhaps the single best, most coherent argument for GLBT equality. If Freeheld isn't Oscar-worthy... I don't know what is!" - Daniel Kent, Out & About Nashville

"Freeheld is simply an amazing documentary, a true piece of unscripted reality, with all its blemishes and beauty intact. It is a documentary that pays fitting tribute to a true hero, a woman who refused to compromise and who ultimately helped to secure for all of us a little bit more of the equality we all richly deserve. A+"- Edge Boston

"OUTSTANDING... An absolutely amazing film...Showing the injustice of discrimination faced by same sex couples by personalizing it with real human faces and stories is the most effective tool for changing public opinion." - Seattle Gay News

"A heart-stopping documentary." - Philadelphia Gay News

Apples N' Honey New Year Party September 28

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Join the LGBT Jewish Inclusion Project for a Jewish New Year party.

All are welcome. Bring a veggie or dairy dish to share. We will supply the apples! Bring along your favorite honey. This part will take place Sunday, September 28, 6:00 p.m.

For location and more information, contact Jenny Schultz, (520) 577-9393, Ext. 128.

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& Tempest DuJour
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Sunday, Sept. 28 9:30 pm

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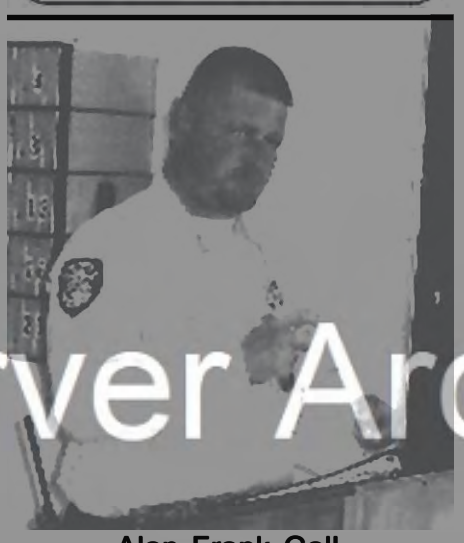

Alan Frank Gall

Born on April 10, 1970, Alan Gall passed away September 10 at his home. He was employed by the Arizona State Prison System and was better known by Tucsonans as a bartender at the Venture-N.

Alan loved life and lived it to the fullest. He cherished time spent with friends and family. His fun-loving sprit will be remembered by everyone who knew him. Alan's sense of humor charm, and flair for the dramatic will shine on in our hearts always. Good bye to our blue-eyed friend. We'll miss you.

Wingspan Dinner

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also a key member of the library committee, helping organize and manage Wingspan's collection, which is now one of the largest LGBT libraries in the southwest.

Likewise, AngieRose Tilghman is a touchstone for Wingspan. She too has dedicated nine years of service to Wingspan, both at the front desk and as one of the most active Anti-Violence Programs volunteers. Additionally, she has served on a variety of panels, and started the Progressive People of Color Coalition, which she directed for a year.

Jason Cianciotto, Wingspan's new Executive Director delivered a terrific address, reminding the people in attendance is was because of them that Wingspan is where it is today. (Cianciotto's speech appears in this week's Observer).

The emotional high point of the evening was the address by Judy Shepard, the mother of the murdered, openly Gay college student, Matthew Shepard, who told the audience the most important thing for everyone in the LGBT community to do was to "tell their stories" to everyone to help reach the goal of equal rights. "We must talk about how things would affect us," so that it would have the biggest impact," Shepard said to an audience, many of whom were in tears.

At the end of the evening, Nick Ray, Development Director said more than $50,000 had been raised through contributions and that more than $85,000 was raised from the silent auction held prior to the dinner, all of which will help Wingspan move forward in its efforts to better the community.

AIDSWALK 2008
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Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation

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Saving Our History Since 1967

Your Community, Your Center

By Jason Cianciotto,
Executive Director - Wingspan

Looking back, moving forward. Tonight we celebrate Wingspan's 20 years of service to our community. After watching that incredible video, I look back on what enabled Wingspan to deeply affect so many lives, including my own, and I know that moving forward is dependent on one simple word, "you."

Tonight is not just a celebration of Wingspan, it is a celebration of you, because you make our work possible. When I first walked through Wingspan's front door nearly 14 years ago, it was you volunteering at the front desk who greeted me with a welcoming smile. It was you who facilitated the Saturday youth group and provided a safe and welcoming space for me to accept and love ALL of myself.

And, it was you who gave the time and resources that made Wingspan a nationally recognized community center. You made a difference in my life and in the lives of countless others. Thank you so much! As Bill Kruse said in the video, over the past 20 years Wingspan has grown to meet the needs of our community. From our Youth and Families programs to our Anti-Violence Programs. From the Southern Arizona Gender Alliance to our Health and Wellness Programs. From the Community Center, our home, to our public advocacy and education efforts.

Wingspan continues to grow to achieve our mission of promoting the freedom, equality, safety and well-being of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. And, where will our community center move forward to in the future? How about into our own building? The time has come for our community to stop only dreaming about having our own building and start moving toward that goal. With your help, we will make that happen!

Of course, it takes quite a team of dedicated staff and volunteers to continue moving Wingspan forward. Every staff member is here tonight to celebrate with us and I'd like to ask them to stand so we can thank them. Amidst all of these wonderful programs, I don't want to lose sight of the individuals, the people that you enable us to support. Last month I had what I call a "stop the presses moment," one of those experiences that smacks me in the face and reminds me about the reason behind our work. A mother and her 16-year-old gay son came to the center asking for help. Our youth and families program staff were out of the office, so I met with them and listened as she told me that she had to pull her son out of the Amphi School district because he was being harassed and physically assaulted. She was searching for a charter school he could attend safely, but her son was being rejected from other schools because he stood up for himself and was labeled a "problem student."

I could tell her son was feeling a little uncomfortable during the conversation, so I joked that he was probably happy not to have to go to school right now. He looked me straight in the eye and said, "No, I really want to go to school." In that moment, I had a flashback to my own experience, to being teased and tormented at school nearly every day. I looked at his mother and I thanked her. Choking back tears, I thanked her for being there to protect her son in a way that my own mother was not there for me. I gave her contact information for our youth program and the local GLSEN chapter, and in that moment I was reminded of another reason why Wingspan is here: to provide resources and to support families like hers.

But, I also became really angry. How is it possible that 15 years after I graduated from high school, LGBT youth are still being teased and tormented to the point that their education, their future, is threatened? Yes, Wingspan was there to provide resources to that mom, but there must be something more. There has to be something more! Well, there is something more: we have a vision for the future that goes beyond healing wounds.

Through the public advocacy and education conducted by Wingspan's programs, we work in solidarity with Equality Arizona and other partners to prevent those wounds from happening in the first place. It's easy to feel overwhelmed by the forces of bigotry who demonize our families in pursuit of their political objectives. This election year, the anti-LGBT industry in Arizona is alive and well. However, because of you, Wingspan is here to expose their lies and fight for our families. When they cite bunk research to support so-called ex-gay or "conversion therapy" programs, Wingspan is here to offer scientific truth that brings families together, instead of breaking them apart.

When they claim that our families are unfit to raise children, Wingspan is here to remind them that every mainstream medical and mental health professional association supports policies that enable our families to legally protect their children. Friends, It's time for us to come together, drawing strength from a righteous anger to say, "For far too long extremists have run amuck in our state and we're not going to let them hurt our community anymore!" One of the best ways for us to do this is to work together to defeat Proposition 102, the so-called "marriage amendment" - again! Wingspan is proud to partner with No on 102 and Arizona Together. However, we need your help to spread the poll-tested messages that can produce a victory for our community in November. Vote NO - keep Phoenix politicians out of marriage. Arizona has a budget deficit of over 3 billion dollars. But, what does the state legislature spend their time debating? Marriage—even though we voted on this two years ago. Tell the Phoenix politicians to get to work on real issues that matter to Arizona families, like health care, energy policy, and the economy. Vote NO - tell the Phoenix politicians that we aren't dumb. Why won't they listen to us? In 2006 we voted no, now they are back at it, putting divisive issues on the ballot. Vote NO - leave marriage alone. Marriage in Arizona is already defined in state law. There's no reason to change the Constitution. Vote NO - again and Trust the people. Voters made their views known on this issue two years ago. Forty-nine legislators shouldn't be able to overturn the voters on this issue.

Now, I know that's a lot to remember, so I encourage you to please stop at the No on 102 and Arizona Together tables in the lobby to pick up the literature they have. Distribute those pamphlets and buttons to your friends, family, neighbors and coworkers and sign up to volunteer. Please join me in thanking the incredible volunteers running these campaigns for helping our community to defeat the anti-LGBT industry in our state, again. We've been hearing the words "hope" and "change" a lot in this election year. Next month, a new film will be released about

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Wingspan Executive Director, Jason Cianciotto, speaking to the crowd attending the 2008 Dinner last Saturday.

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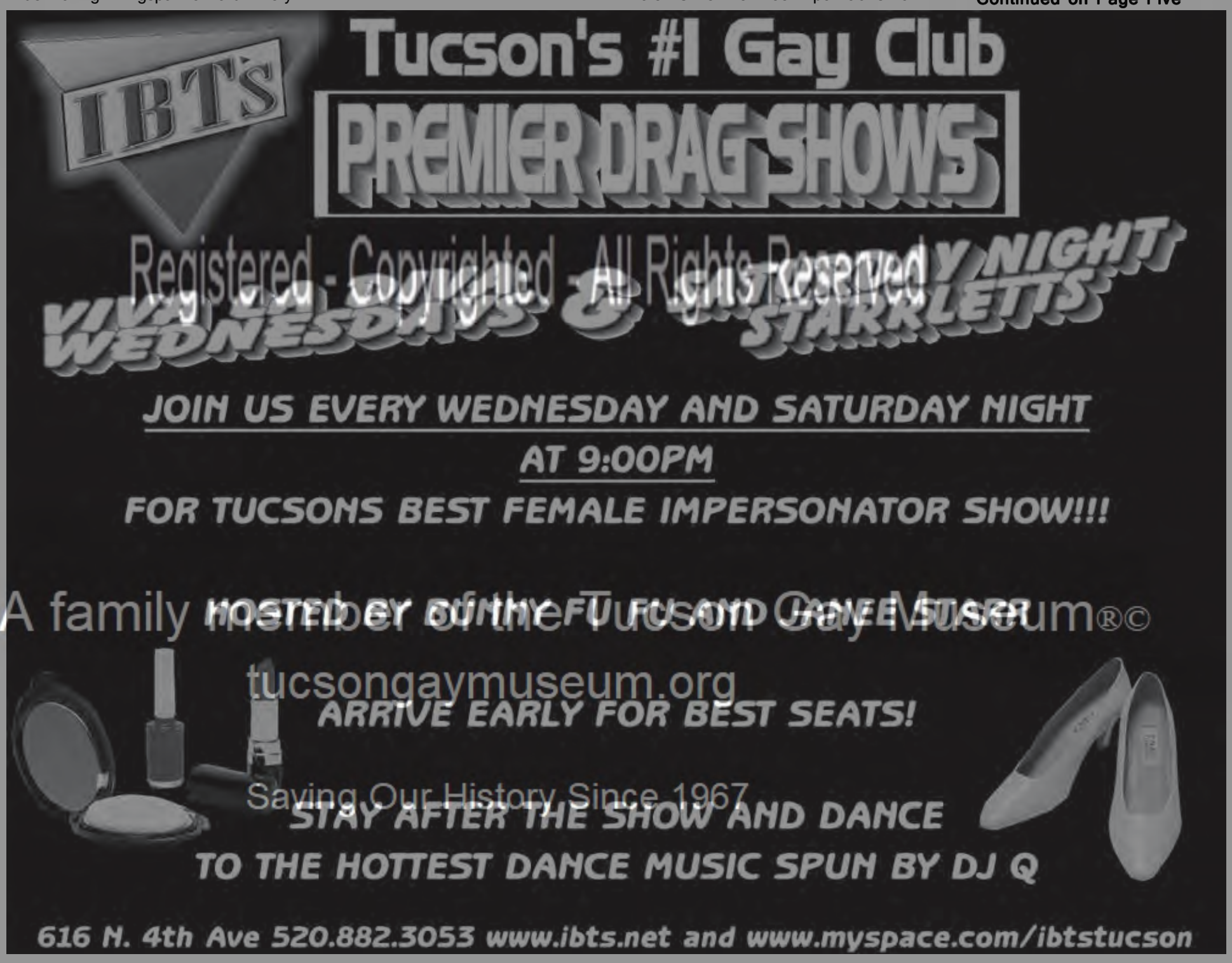

Trans Woman Wins Bias Suit Against Library Of Congress

Diane Schroer

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - The Library of Congress unlawfully discriminated against a Transgender woman whose job offer was revoked when her plans to transition from male to female were revealed, the U.S. District Court ruled. U.S. District Judge James Robertson decided that Diane Schroer was discriminated against on the basis of sex, a groundbreaking conclusion according to the American Civil Liberties Union, which represented her.

"The evidence established that the Library was enthusiastic about hiring David Schroer – until she disclosed her transsexuality," Robertson ruled. "The Library revoked the offer when it learned that a man named David intended to become, legally, culturally, and physically, a woman named Diane. This was discrimination 'because of...sex.'" The court agreed with the ACLU's argument based on the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which bans sex discrimination in the workplace. The Library of Congress attempted to have the case dismissed, claiming that Transgender people are not protected under the federal act. The court also said that the Library adapted gender stereotyping because Schroer would have failed to adhere to traditional gender roles.

Schroer, 52, was denied a job as a terrorism research analyst in December 2004. She retired from the military as a special forces commander while she was still David, and previously directed a classified organization formed to track and target international terrorists after the September 11 attacks. The ACLU filed suit on Schroer's behalf in June 2005 for $300,000 (the legal limit for such a case) and the position for which she applied. The district court trial started in August, where Charlotte Preece, Schroer's once-prospective supervisor, said she worried the transition would distract her from her work. Schroer countered, saying that her transition has helped her focus even more. "It is especially gratifying that the court has ruled that discriminating against someone for transitioning is illegal," Schroer said in a statement. "I knew all along that the 25 years of experience I gained defending our country didn't disappear when I transitioned, so it was hard to understand why I was being turned down for a job doing what I do best." Schroer currently heads a consulting firm she launched, and has contracts with several federal agencies including the U.S. Coast Guard and the Department of Defense, reported advocate.com.

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D.C. Police Back Off Hate Crime In Killing Oustide Bar

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - A man severely injured during a brutal street assault in Washington, D.C., has died and police are backing away from their initial belief the man was a victim of Gay bashing.

Tony Hunter and a friend were attacked as they walked to the Bebar, a well-known Gay club. While the bar holds a memorial for Hunter, police are calling his death a homicide and not a hate crime. A severe blow to the head left Hunter in a coma. After lingering ten days in a vegetative state, he died. "Everybody loved him. He was a country boy with a city swagger," said friend Tra'il. At first, investigators suspected Gay bashing. A group of four young men attacked Hunter and his friend as they walked to a Gay bar.

But based on witness accounts and since the assailants robbed Hunter, police now call it a homicide. But Hunter's former partner still suspects Gay bashing.

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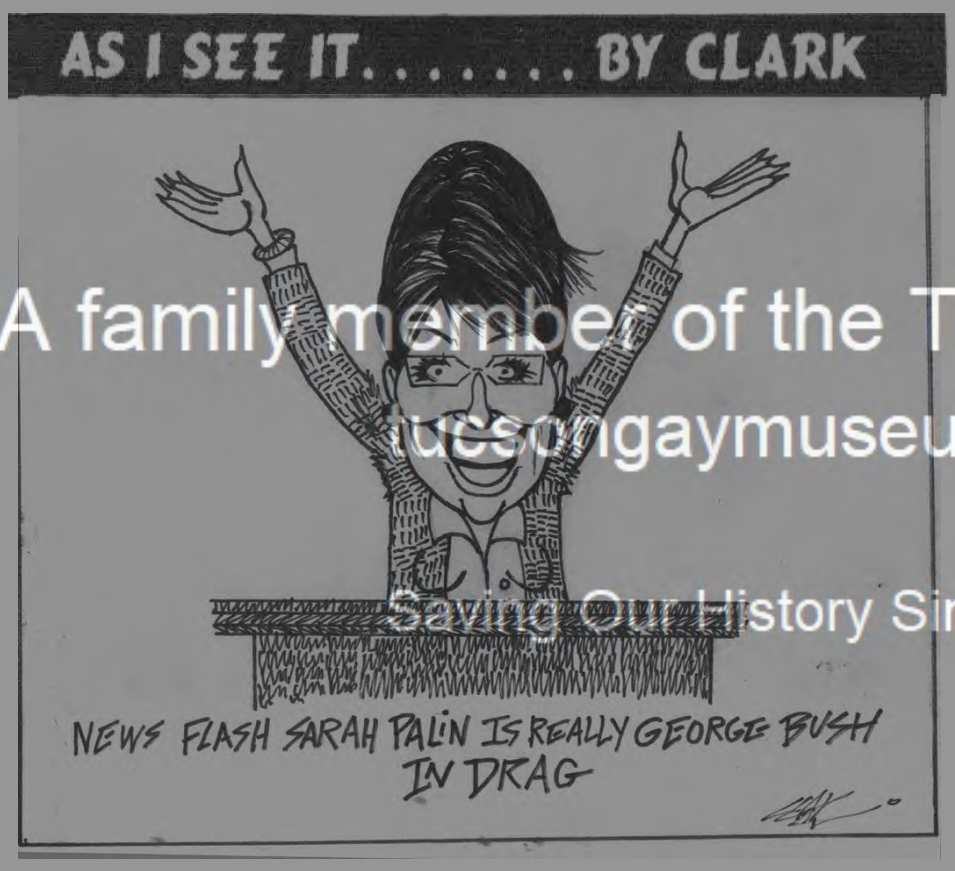

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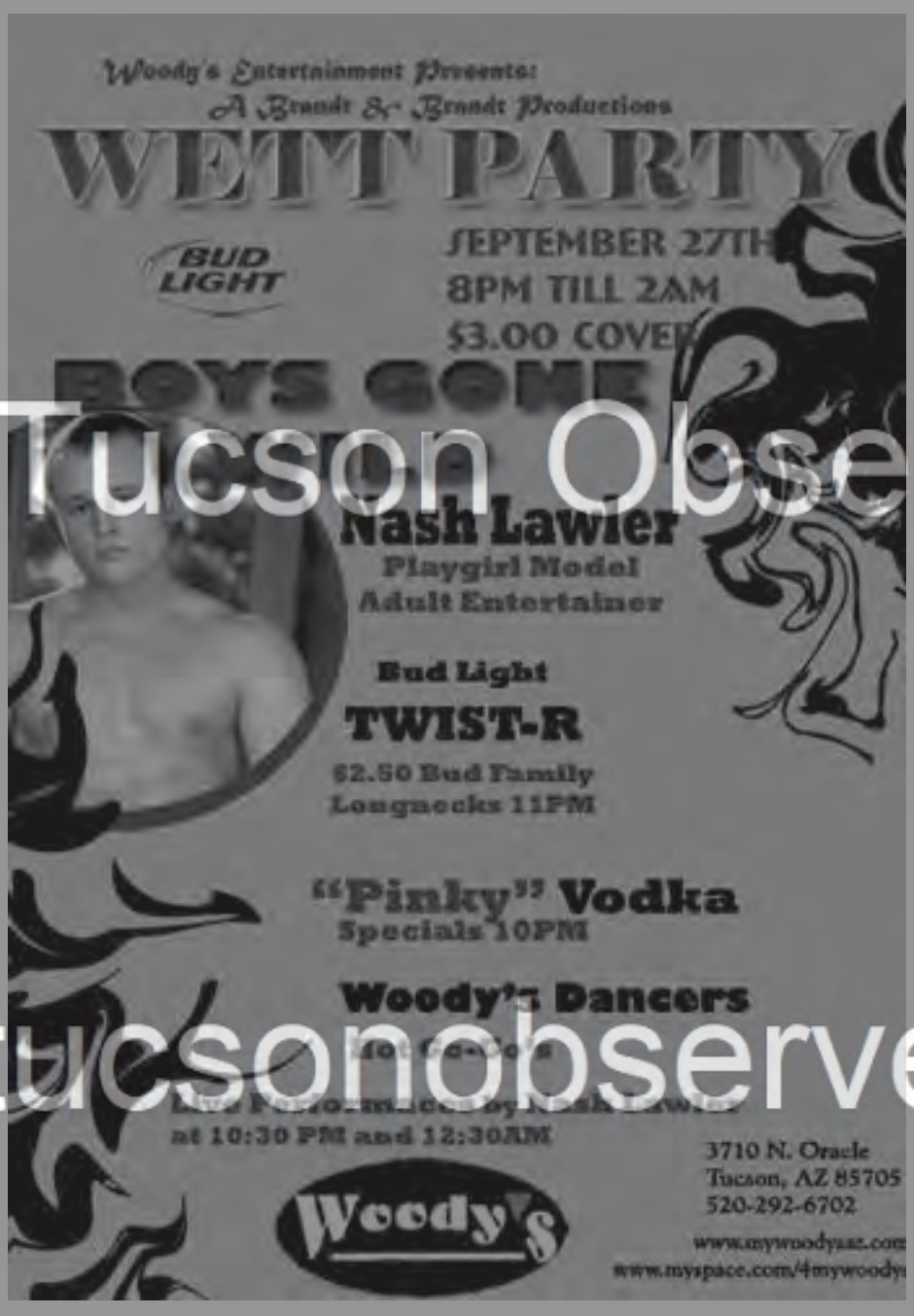


Hypnovideo Performer Dominick DeCarlo Returns To Desert Diamond Casino Sept. 27

Dominick DeCarlo

"In 1988, I was attending Pepperdine, one of the nation's most ultra-conservative universities. Since I didn't feel comfortable enough in that environment to make such a life-changing announcement, I transferred to the University of Arizona. Knowing I could count on the support of my family, I came 'out' on a memorable Thanksgiving Day in 1990. I felt like the weight of the world had been lifted off my shoulders and have been thankful ever since." He graduated from UofA in 1992 where he holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Media Arts and split minor between Chemistry and Physics. He also completed the pre-medical curriculum.

Dominick DeCarlo's Hypnovideo show will be returning to Tucson by popular demand to the Desert Diamond Casino at 7350 South Nogales Highway (at Valencia) in the Monsoon Room. 'Come Out' and support a member of the LGBT Community this Saturday, September 27 at 9:00 p.m. Doors open at 8:00 p.m. Get there early to grab a seat because the show is Free and seating is first come, first served.

Self-classified as a new genre of entertainment. DeCarlo coined the term Hypnovideo to describe his act. Designed by DeCarlo himself, his show takes hypnotized volunteers from the audience on a light-hearted, winding and hilarious 90-minute introspective adventure.

Although the show appeals to all ages, DeCarlo makes occasional but subtle gay innuendos, all in good taste, of course.. "I will never humiliate or embarrass a volunteer," states DeCarlo, "but I will gender bend and this is where my humor originates.: He adds that no two shows are ever alike because every volunteer reacts differently while under hypnosis.

In May 2008, the former University of Arizona Wildcat debuted his Hypnovideo Show at the Desert Diamond in Tucson. "Dominick is a rising star," says his manager Skip Seip. "David Copperfield is to magic is what Dominick DeCarlo is to hypnosis."

So come on 'out' to Desert Diamond Casino Saturday, September 27 and see for yourself what everyone is talking about. Show your support for a very unusual show performed by a very talented Hypnovideo artist who also happens to be gay.

Tucson Latin Pride Thru Sept. 26

TUCSON (Observer Update) - De Colores, being shown Thursday, September 25, 7:00 p.m., Gallagher Theater (University of Arizona Student Union), is a bilingual documentary about how Latino families and communities are replacing the deep roots of homophobia with the even deeper roots of love.

Through moving personal stories, audiences learn about how families are breaking cultural barriers and how love always prevails. Running time: 28 minutes. Reception and music to follow the film. Free.

Mr. and Miss Tucson Latin Pride 2008, Friday, September 26, 9:30 p.m., at Ain't Nobody's Bizness, 2900 E. Broadway.

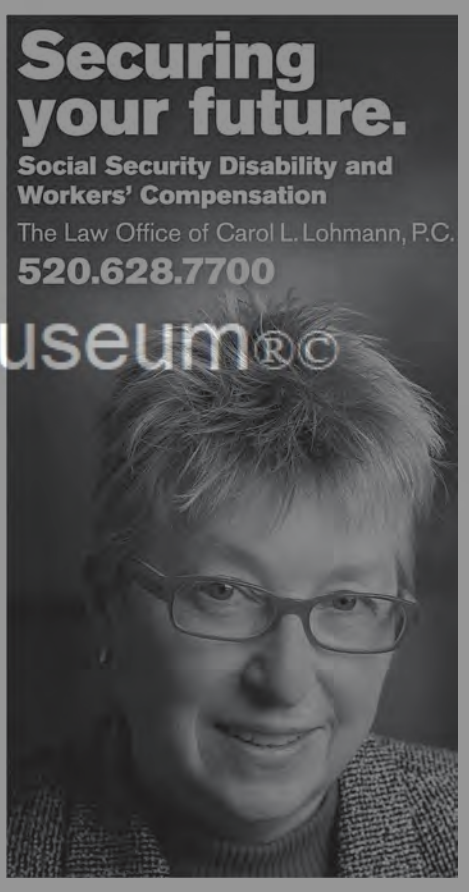
Join us as we crown the first ever Mr. and Miss Tucson Latin Pride! If you are interested in helping represent and raise awareness of the LGBT Latino community and would like to be a contestant please contact Miguel at msotocope@yahoo.com or Oscar at ojimenez@wingspan.org or (520) 624-1779 Ext. 124.

Wingspan Dinner

Continued fromPage Three

Harvey Milk, the first openly gay man elected to public office in the United States. Harvey brought hope to our community nationwide at a time when bigotry, homophobia and anti-LGBT violence was even more of threat than it is today. I want to share with you something he said in a speech in 1978 that made me think about my own personal connection to Wingspan. He said: "And the young gay people...who are coming out and hear Anita Bryant on television and her story. The only thing they have to look forward to is hope. And you have to give them hope. Hope for a better world, hope for a better tomorrow, hope for a better place to come to if the pressures at home are too great. Hope that all will be all right."

For 20 years, Wingspan has been providing hope and a home for people like me and countless others, and it couldn't have happened without you. Together we look back on Wingspan's incredible history and move forward, hand-in hand, into the next 20 years. This is your community and Wingspan will always be your center. Thank you and enjoy the rest of our 20th anniversary celebration!



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rslettersletters

EDITOR:

There is not much time to register to vote (Oct.6). I expect this will be a record breaking year for voter turnout, maybe a mind-boggling 60-65%.

Still, far too many will choose to sleep in or, go bowling or stay home and watch a thrilling line up of mind-numbing television. And most people, when asked, can recognize that this is a crucial election at a very important crossroads for our country. The latest financial debacle is the perfect illustration of how far this government is from truly representing We, The People. For the past 60 years and especially the past 8, this government has served the growing corporate monsters that have run our country's good name and our finances into the ground. And now they want us to pay for it. It is clear that these puppet master's are pulling Bush's strings to make one more great move - to save their skins before they all lose their best puppet president.

Well, McCain's future Treasury Secretary Phil Gramm is one of these "free" market, no-holds barred, capitalists who created this mess - free for the corporations that are in the game. The average American isn't even on the sideline, doesn't even know where the stadium is. Well, the time has come to vote these power brokers out. But if you don't register NOW, you won't have a say. You can put your head in the sand and hope it all gets better. But if you don't vote, you better keep your head buried for the next four years because you will have sacrificed your right to complain.

Peter J. Burns
Tucson, Arizona

EDITOR:

I have a message for Patrick Sammon, Executive Director of the Log Cabin Republicans, following his organization's endorsement of McCain/Palin and his prediction that "Senator McCain will receive strong support from Gay and Lesbian Americans." While Sammon is correct in stating, "LGBT people are not single-issue voters," he also needs to recognize that we are not fools.

In 2000, Log Cabin told LGBT Americans to trust them that George W. Bush was a friend to the Gay community. Bush received 23% of LGBT votes, possibly costing Al Gore the states of Florida and New Hampshire, and ushering in eight years of Gays used as a political football kicked around by Bush and his right-wing allies.

In a recent press release, Sammon states, "Log Cabin's endorsement of Sen. McCain will ensure our community has a strong voice making the case for Gay rights to John McCain when he is President." This statement is absurd. After endorsing Bush in 2000, Log Cabin had no "voice for Gay rights" inside the White House. Why, Mr. Sammon, do you think you can hoodwink the Gay community this time?

The Gay community's biggest fear is that a McCain/Palin Supreme Court could set our movement for equality back a generation. In a bewildering statement to the Advocate, Log Cabin's Sammon dismisses this concern: "Every political analyst agrees that Democrats are going to have a margin of two, three, four, five, maybe even six or seven seats. So the fact is, Sen. McCain, if he's elected, will have to pick mainstream, middle-of-the-road judges, or they're simply not going to get confirmed." It is unusual and unsettling to see the Log Cabin Executive Director admit that he's counting on Democrats to have enough seats in the Senate to save LGBT people from his party and his candidate's anti-Gay judicial choices.

Nothing has excited the so-called "values voters" more than McCain's running mate and septuagenarian heartbeat away from the presidency, Sarah Palin. As Kathryn Kolbert, President of People For the American Way puts it, "clearly the pick of an anti-choice, anti-Gay, anti-science extremist wrapped in a folksy hockey-mom package has fired up the base in ways that even McCain's pledge to pack the Courts with right-wing judges has failed to do.

Fiercely anti-Gay Lou Sheldon of the Traditional Values Coalition is almost giddy talking about Palin: "I thought I died and went to heaven. The Coalition is planning a nationwide get-out-the-vote effort."

James Dobson of Focus on the Family has gone from scorning McCain to enthusiastically endorsing McCain/Palin. A recent Focus mailer stresses the importance of electing McCain/Palin because of the Gay and choice issues facing the Supreme Court: "Our next president will likely replace one or more Supreme Court Justices who will make decisions on issues like abortion, which is one vote away from overturning Roe v. Wade, and marriage, to protect traditional values, including the definition of marriage."

A 2006 questionnaire from Phyllis Schlafly's anti-Gay Eagle Forum recorded Sarah Palin's view of Gay and Lesbian couples: "I believe spousal benefits are reserved for married citizens as defined in our constitution (referring to the Alaska Constitution which banned recognition of Gay unions in 1998)." In other words, no legal rights and benefits for Gay and Lesbian couples, ever.

Compare this to a recent Barack Obama Windows Media interview: "If elected, I would call on Congress to enact legislation that would repeal DOMA and ensure that over 1,100 federal legal rights and benefits currently provided on the basis of marital status are extended to same-sex couples in civil unions and other legally recognized unions."

The McCain/Palin ticket is happy to watch the Log Cabin Republicans try to siphon off enough LGBT votes to help them win Florida, Ohio, Nevada, and a couple of other swing states. Should McCain/Palin be successful, they will be beholden to the 40 million so-called "values voters" who put them in office, and not the at most one million LGBT votes that Log Cabin is hoping for.

On issue after issue, McCain/Palin are wrong for America, but for Gay rights, they would be a complete disaster. Do not be taken in by the Log Cabin Republicans' fantasy that they will have influence on LGBT issues with a President McCain or, God forbid, a President Palin. Rather, James Dobson, Lou Sheldon, Phyllis Schlafly, and the other captains of America's anti-Gay industry will be the ones helping McCain/Palin make policy.

With their endorsement of McCain/Palin, Log Cabin has crawled into bed with the most homophobic groups in our nation. Obama verses McCain is a race between the most pro-Gay and the most anti-Gay presidential tickets in modern history. This year, vote as if your life depends on it. In many ways, it does.

Marc Paige
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

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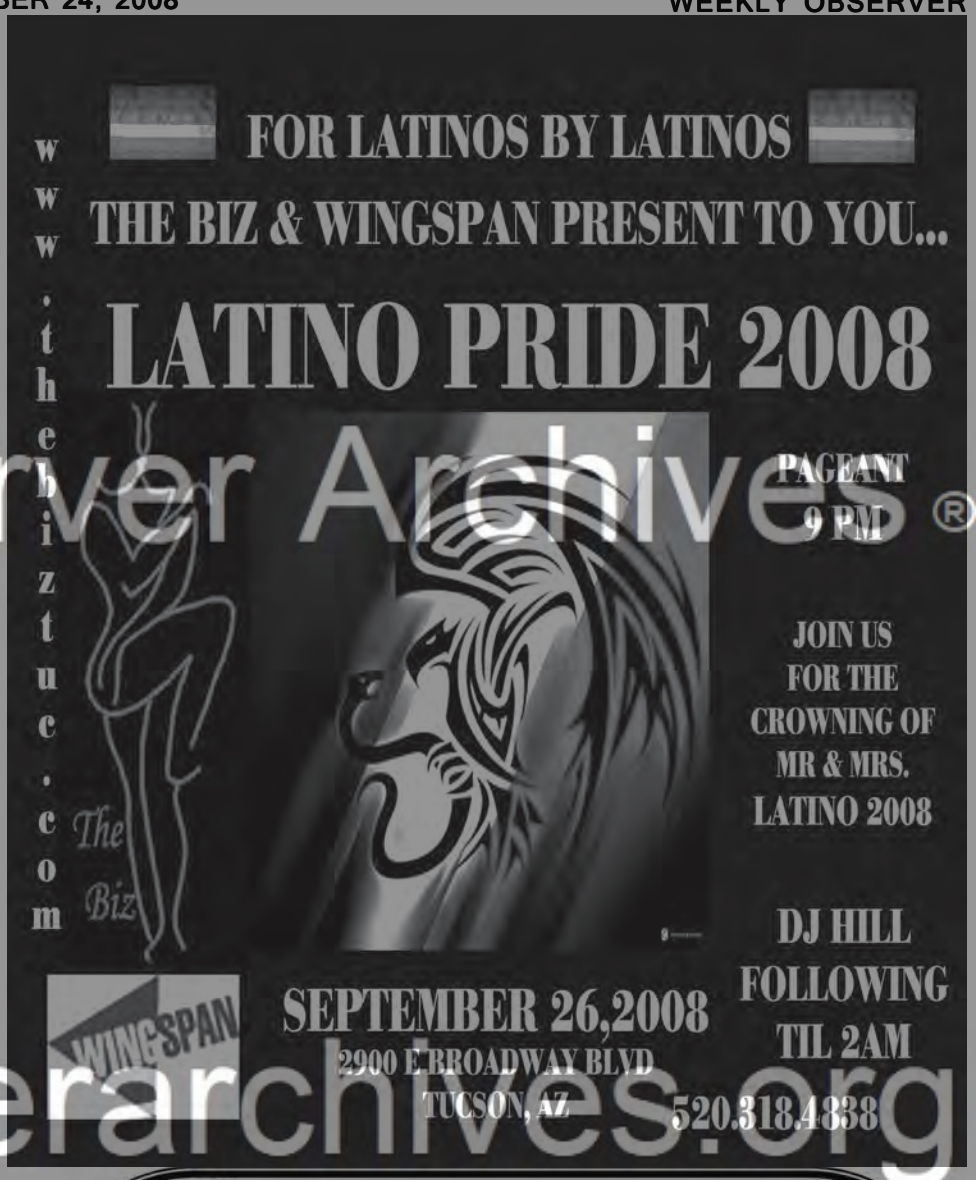

POLITICS 2008

by Mark R. Kerr

Voting For The General Election

On Saturday, voting for the 2008 Presidential election started, ostensibly in the Commonwealth of Virginia, which began their early voting on Saturday, September 19 for the election scheduled to take place on November 4.

Thirty-six of the 50 states and the District of Columbia offer its citizens the chance to cast their ballots early for the election and more than one out of every three-registered voter will cast their ballot early this time, a record.

With that in mind and ballots being sent out or people going to their election's office to mark their ballots, the campaigns have changed their strategy to get every potential vote.

That is the case for Arizona, which offers early voting for registered citizens for the primary and starting Thursday, October 2, for the upcoming general election.

Despite one of the nominees of a major political party for President being from the Grand Canyon State, there are many other races and ballot measures of note that make it important for all Arizonans to exercise their right and vote in this election.

For LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) and straight supportive Arizonans, it is Proposition 102, the second attempt in as many years to define marriage, demonize Gays and Lesbians, and ensure that the Republican base turns out at the polls.

To defeat this heinous measure, placed on the ballot by the Republican controlled Arizona Legislature, despite state law and court precedent, everyone must cast a ballot against Proposition 102, but to do so again as was done in 2006 - the first time in 28 ballot measures in the United States, all eligible Arizonans must be registered to do so.

If one is not registered to vote, they have until Monday, October 6, before midnight on that day, to fill out the voter registration form and have it into the Pima County Recorder's office.

For those people's convenience, registering to vote online is available and easy to do, by going to servicearizona.com/webapp/evoter/ and fill out the form, one can be registered to vote and get their voter card shortly thereafter.

F. Ann Rodriguez, the Pima County Recorder, the office in charge of the ballots and voter registration information, has a permanent early voting list for people wanting to cast their ballots early or at home by mail.

As was the election in 2006, so shall be in 2008 for Pima County in regard to Proposition 102. In 2006, Pima County voters rejected the marriage amendment on that year's ballot (known as Proposition 107) by such a wide margin that it was key to defeating the ballot measure.

If people cast their ballots in the negative on this year's marriage amendment, Proposition 102, in the same amount (percentage), the second such measure will go down to defeat for the second time in as many elections.

To request an early ballot or to get on the permanent vote by mail list, either call (520) 740-4330 or go online to recorder.pima.gov/earlyreq.aspx and fill out the online form.

During her speech, Judy Shepard said how sorry she was that there was another measure on the ballot in Arizona but everyone must talk to the friends, neighbors, family, coworkers and acquaintances about it, how the vote affects them to have the biggest impact, "by telling their story."

Prior to that though, everyone in the LGBT, HIV/AIDS and straight supportive communities need to be registered to vote and then have cast their votes early to "tell their story," because one vote can and will make a difference.

Theatre Review

by Jack Melichar

Much Ado About Nothing

The Arizona Theatre Company opened its 2008-2009 season last week, and it's great to have them back, and it promises to be a tremendous season - with shows like HAIR, A RAISIN IN THE SUN, KING HENRY V and BEETHOVEN, AS I KNEW HIM, to mention a few.

The first play this year is Tony-nominated ENCHANTED APRIL, a tale of love, longing and reawakening to life's simple pleasures.

As the play opens, we are transported to London - dreary and damp - typical London weather. Quite frankly, I was not enchanted by ENCHANTED APRIL'S first act. It seemed to drag, for me at least. I kept hoping they would hurry up! However, to be perfectly candid, I must admit that part of my lack of enthusiasm could very well have been caused by the medication I have been on for high blood pressure - I haven't been enthusiastic about very much. The friend that I was with liked it, and I must defer to him. So much for the marvels of modern drugs. Then, it occurred to me that act one's basic objective is to introduce the audience to the characters, and set the stage for the rest of the play, and it did that very well.

The play was saved, again for me and my induced lethargy, by act two where we find ourselves in Mezzago, Italy - sunny and scented with cinnamon breezes. I especially enjoyed the performances of Patricia Kilgarriff as Mrs Graves and Lynne Soffer as Costanza - both very amusing old ladies. Of course, the explosion in the bathroom with smoke coming from the second floor was just plain funny (but I have a twisted sense of humor). I would also like to thank Kent Dorsey for spectacular set designs, the kind I have come to expect from ATC.

The play was, all in all, a good night of theatre and two hours of wonderful entertainment. Don't take any pills for high blood pressure, and enjoy! It is playing at the Temple of Arts and Music until October 4. For ticket information, call (520) 622-2823.

More Fun and Games In The Old Pueblo !!!

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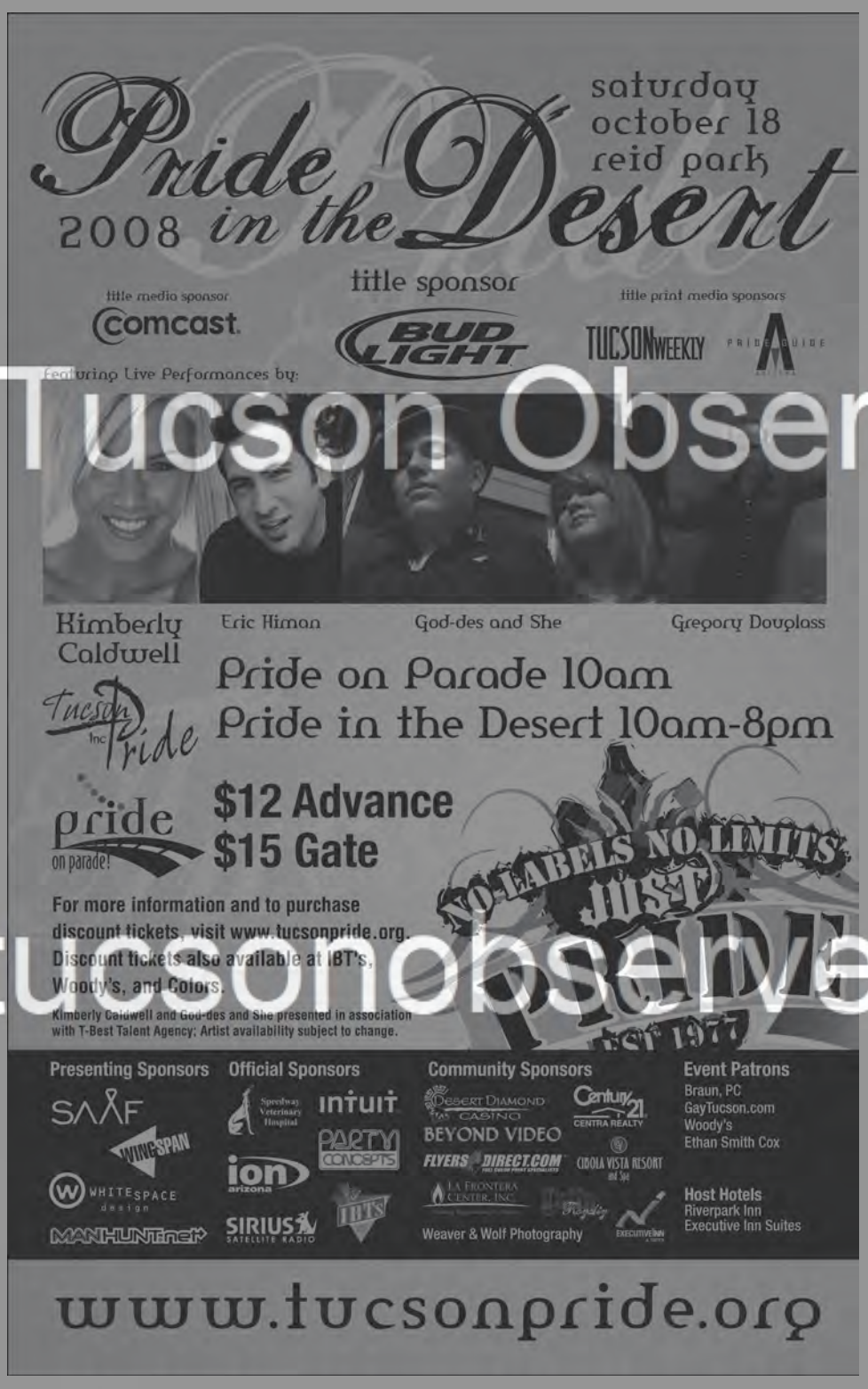

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Brad Pitt Donates $100,000 To Fight Prop. 8, Other Stars Don't

HOLLYWOOD, California (Observer Update) - Brad Pitt has donated $100,000 to fight California's November ballot initiative that would overturn the state Supreme Court decision legalizing same-sex marriage. It's the first time voters will be asked to ban same-sex marriage in a state where Gay couples already have won the right to wed. Same-sex marriage is legal in Massachusetts and California. It's the first time voters will be asked to decide the issue in either California or Massachusetts – the states where Gays have won the right to wed.

"Because no one has the right to deny another their life, even though they disagree with it, because everyone has the right to live the life they so desire if it doesn't harm another and because discrimination has no place in America, my vote will be for equality and against Proposition 8," Pitt said.

In other news on Proposition 8, marriage equality is on the chopping block in November, but the California Secretary of State's Campaign Finance website indicates that many A-List celebrities like Ellen DeGeneres have not contributed to the fight against Prop 8, the constitutional amendment that "eliminate[s] right of same sex couples to marry." Also missing (as of Sept. 10) from the rolls were: Rosie O'Donnell, whose Feb. 27, 2004, marriage to Kelli Carpenter was nullified; Sir Elton John, who tied the civil partnership knot with partner David Furnish in England; rock star Melissa Etheridge, whose domestic partnership/wedding to actress Tammy Lynn Michaels Sept. 22, 2003, was celebrated in In Style magazine. Other producers and directors not on the list include Paul Colichman (here!TV) Greg Berlanti (Brothers & Sisters), Marc Cherry (Desperate Housewives), Bryan Singer (Superman Returns), Joel Schumacher (Batman & Robin), and Gus Van Sant, though Bruce Cohen, who produced Milk, directed by Van Sant, was recently married and did contribute. Max Muchnick (Will & Grace) also contributed, as did David Geffen, partner in DreamWorks, who gave $50,000, and Bryan Lourd, managing partner of Creative Artists Agency who contributed $5,000.

Spain To Exhume Executed Gay Poets Body

MADRID, Spain (Observer Update) - Federico Garcia Lorca's family won't oppose the opening of a mass grave where his body is believed to have been dumped after Franco supporters allegedly executed the poet and playwright at the outbreak of Spain's Civil War, a leading daily said, 365Gay.com reported.

"We will not oppose it," Laura Garcia Lorca, the poet's niece, was quoted as saying by El Pais. "Although we would prefer it weren't done, we respect the wishes of the other parties involved." No one at the Federico Garcia Lorca Foundation was immediately available to comment, but the center said it would release a statement later in the day. Relatives of two other men believed to be buried in the same grave asked National Court judge Baltasar Garzon to order the grave opened. The request is part of a surging nationwide movement to give proper burial to the thousands of people known to have been killed by supporters of late dictator Gen. Francisco Franco and buried in mass graves.

But Lorca's family have long preferred to let the matter rest, leaving one of the 1936-39 war's most intriguing mysteries - the whereabouts of the poet's body - unresolved. Investigations indicate the poet, who was open about his homosexuality, was shot along with a school teacher named Dioscoro Galindo Gonzalez and two labor union activists - Francisco Galadi and Juan Arcolla - on Aug. 18, 1936, near the Viznar mountain gorge in his native province of Granada in the south.

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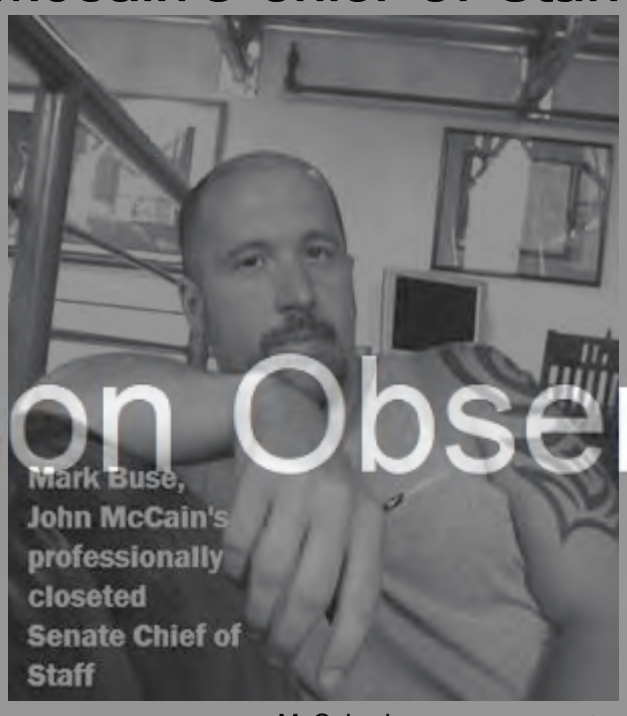
John McCain's Chief Of Staff Outed, Wins Roy Cohn Award

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - (Editors Note: Mike Rogers of BlogActive, one of the great muckrakers and journalists has done it again with his annual Roy Cohn award. Roger's is one of the great ones who does a service to the LGBT community.)



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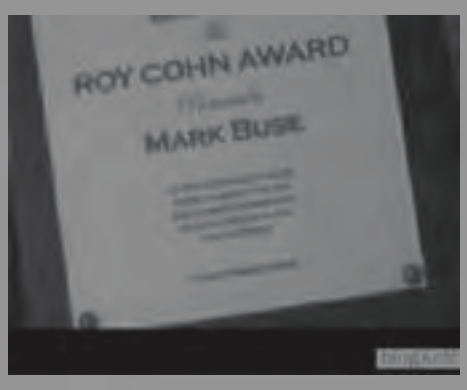
When the first source on today's (September 19) Roy Cohn Award recipient came forward approximately six months ago, he and I decided to wait and see where the presidential election went and how this person's boss performed. Dismally.

First a multiple choice question: Which nominee for President of the United States is homophobic and has a gay chief of staff at his Senate office in Washington, DC? A. John McCain. B. Barack Obama

If you guessed "B," you're in the wrong spot. You belong here. If you guessed "A," congratulations, you passed with flying colors. Mark Buse is not just a Chief of Staff for a homophobic United States Senator, but he is helping that Senator get elected to the White House.



Does Mark Buse fit the Barney Frank rule? Without a doubt. While McCain voted against the Federal Marriage Amendment, he supports amending state constitutions defining marriage as between a man and a woman. McCain knows our country needs everyone who wants to serve in the military and he knows that DADT is wrong, yet he swings to the right on repealing it.

Worst of all, and a demonstration of his inability to act rationally and with the country's best interests at heart, he picked someone who, if she becomes president (very likely), will be the most homophobic in American history.

With that in mind, and after confirming the information with two other sources, I decided it was time to present Buse the Roy Cohn Award for working against the interests of the lesbian and gay community while living as a gay man.

So, when the source an I talked again, I got some details. The main source (I have since confirmed the story with two others and Mike Signorile has the ex-boyfriend on the record) talked to me about how he met Buse at a number of gay parties, including one at Buse's house. Parties at the Buse residence, according to the source, would sometime become sexual in nature as the evening went on. The source told me, Ironically, that Buse and his partner of over ten years had a sling hanging in, of all places, the closet. (And Buse's screenames on AIM? dupontpig2008 and dccouple2play!)

Mike Signorile has more details on this than you can imagine! A huge article INCLUDING Buse's ex-boyfriend ON THE RECORD! (Posted at the Observer Blog, tucsonobserver.blogspot.com)

My source, who did not know if Buse and his partner had an open relationship had a brief sexual encounter with Buse alone. The source, due to work considerations must remain anonymous.

Here is my delivering the award to Buse's office on Friday (he wasn't there...well they said he wasn't, but the guy at the desk seemed to be emailing him back and forth at his desk):

TAKE ACTION! Does the McCain campaign truly support LGBT Americans? Let's see when FOCUS ON THE FAMILY weighs in. TAKE ACTION

and CALL FOCUS ON THE FAMILY and THANK THEM FOR SUPPORTING JOHN MCCAIN even though he has gay Americans in high places on his staff, including his Chief of Staff. You can reach FOF at 1-800-A-FAMILY (1-800-232-6459)! Call and thank them today.

got pride?

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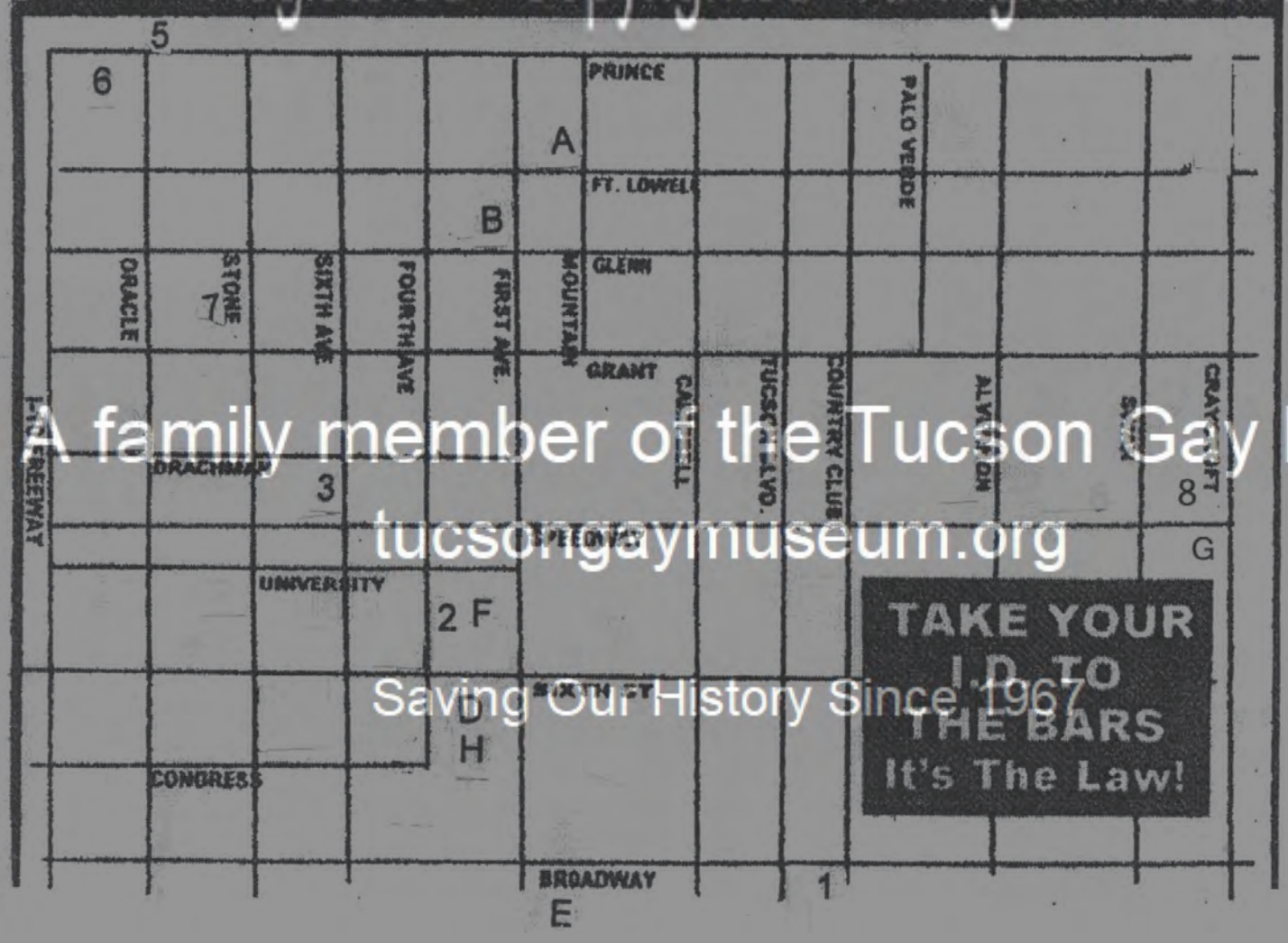

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3. VENTURE-N
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5. WOODY'S
   3710 N. Oracle Rd, 292-6702
6. HOWL AT THE MOON
   915 W. Prince Rd. 293-7339
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   2449 N. Stone, 624-3858
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B. CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP
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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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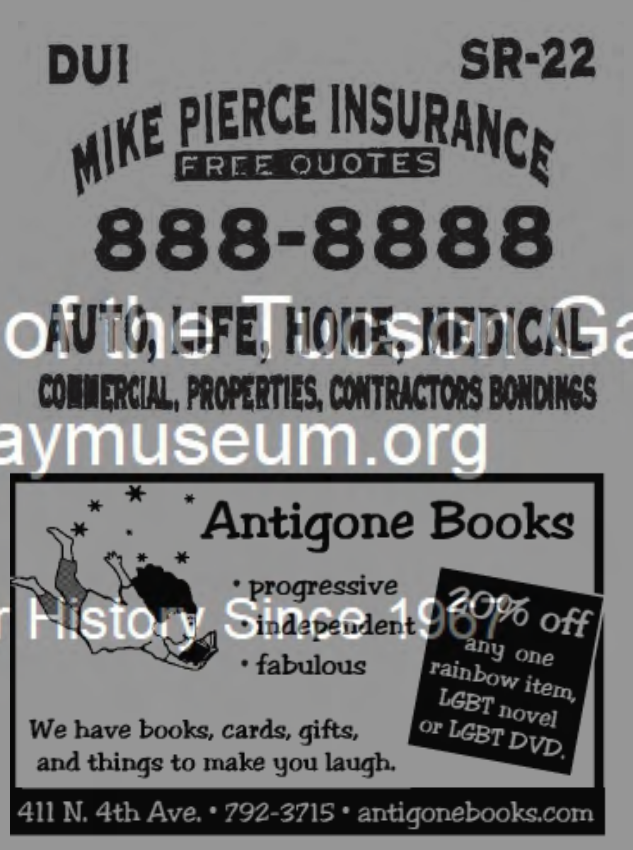

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Fueled By Petrol

by Jimmy Petrol

The New Bees

i

As even those of you who get the news from "news" magazines have doubtless heard, the "bees" have up and gone. Of course, they're dead. What killed them is as yet unknown. The probability is that the poor devils finally couldn't adapt to the environment being too hot, too toxic, too smoggy and too full of pesticides. There are a lot of species biting it these days...we loose an astonishing number of species of little critters every year now. Just Google "lost biodiversity" if you want to get a handle on the scope of the death that stalks the planet.

All things considered, it is a bit of luck that the bee populations have been decimated now, while we still have a viable replacement species that can be nurtured and brought into even greater numbers than the old bees. They are less efficient in the actual pollination of plants, but that is nothing compared to the job the dead bees are doing; their plants-per-bee ratio is higher, but the two bees left just can't keep up and the humans will be getting hungrier quite soon.

So in this hour of great need, we here at the Think-Tank (well, in the hot-tub) have decided to champion the Africanized Bee, or Killer Bee if you prefer. What we have to have here is a solid understanding of what is going to happen if we don't get a bunch of bees in the air and pollinating food-crops soon; everyone outside the gated communities is going to get real hungry. With this in mind, it is easy to see that the Africanized bee must be given protected status.

To do this, we want to form a non-profit group to lobby the gov'ment on behalf of this hardy little critter that has come to us in the nick of time. We want to make it illegal to kill any bees, since we are just about out of them. The upshot is that there will be a random sting here and there. The talking-heads will get to do a piece every month or so about some human that got too far away from the pack, was too slow, too stupid or too ornery and got itself stung to death. There will be lots of talk about the menace of the Killer Bees, with experts from local "institutions" giving tips on how to avoid a similar fate. There will be pet clinics like the ones they have now to teach stupid dogs that snakes are unhealthy. There will be special bee-anti-venom kits on the shelf at Walgreens. We will have "smart" lawyers running around the country with poor, stupid people who happen to be allergic to bee stings rustling up every hive they can find to poke a stick at and getting the bastards stung so the lawyers can file suit. There will be every conceivable protestation that these bees are just too dangerous to have flying around stinging perfectly innocent people. But there will also be food for the rest of us.

While the pundits proclaim that even one human life lost to the bees is too many, we will be chomping down on the corn on the cob. Where once the only people to die providing us with vegetables were the Mexicans in the fields, we will have a new, more egalitarian process which will work very much like the lottery that sent so many to Viet Nam; when your number comes up, it's up. Run. This new process will spread the risks of agriculture more evenly through the population. The people who maintain the lush, Eastern-style gardens here in the desert will be favorite hosts to bee populations and will have to be careful when lolling around the water-features. Snowbirds who flock to Arizona to golf will have to keep a sharp eye out for the hard-working and heavily unionized Africanized Bee. No longer will death by dehydration, sunstroke and overwork be the only casualties of our vegetable fields; the general population can enjoy the risk as well.

What we need here at Petrol Central are a few high-minded individuals to sign onto the application for non-profit status so we can get busy collecting money and using it to influence the legislature. If you hurry, we can get some lobbying in before the end of the current administration, which condones sleeping with government officials. But hurry. This is not an idea that has come to anybody else; get in on it early, become the CEO or whatnot of the non-profit, get yourself on Letterman and save the food supply while you're at it.

You can help by contacting Jimmy at: Jpetroulisx@yahoo.com.

U.S. Immigration Law Sends Some Same-Sex Couples Into Exile

CARRBORO, N.C. (Observer Update) - They had planned the move for years, though not willingly. Tamara Fetters and Noreen Fagan, who recently moved with their two teenaged sons from Carrboro to Ottawa, Canada, were forced to make a cruel choice: live together in another country, far from friends, families and the lives they've built, or separately, by entering into a stressful long-distance relationship or splitting up for good.

Like thousands of other Gay and Lesbian couples in this country, and countless more abroad, they were caught in a little-known intersection of two controversial public policy issues: Gay rights and immigration. Though U.S. immigration policies purportedly are based on the principle of family unification, they do not recognize bi-national same-sex couples as families.

That means American citizens who are Gay don't have the same rights as other citizens to sponsor their foreign partners or families for immigration. The current law leaves couples like Fetters and Fagan, and their family with no choice but to leave the United States.

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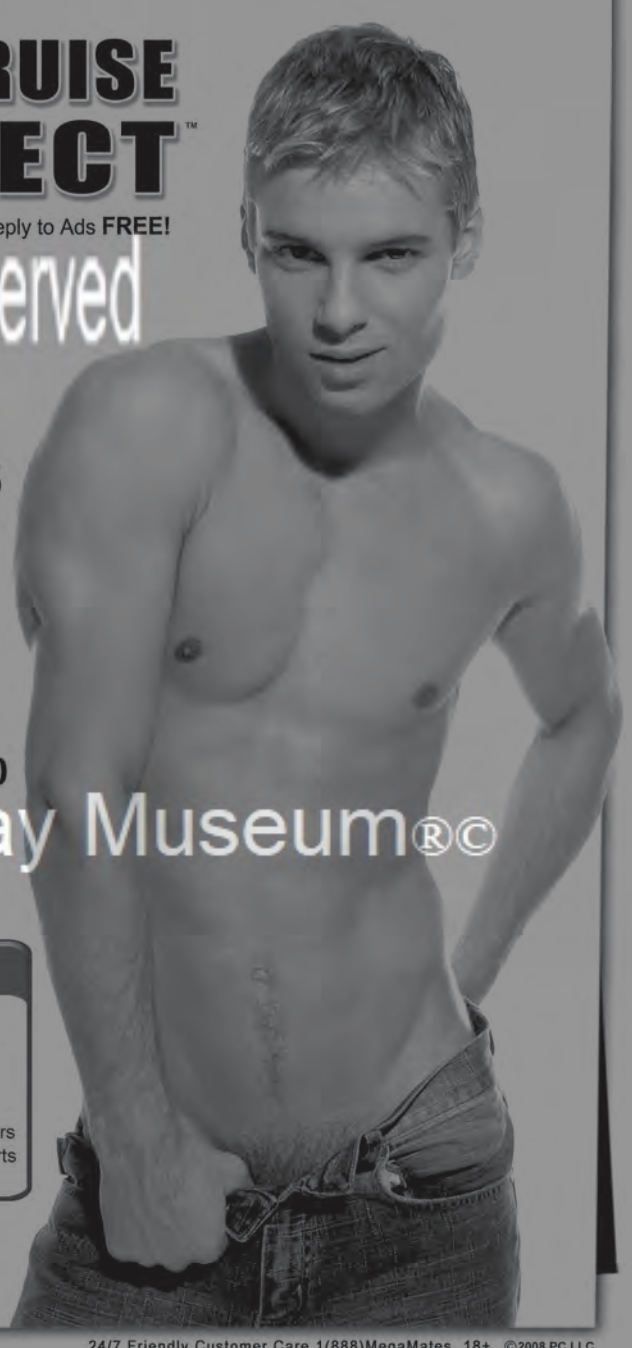
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HOROSCOPES

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In this highly political season, the Sun enters Libra and enables us to charm our way through practically anything. Will you use these suave talents for good or for evil? Let's see in November.

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)

Re-value and reassess any one-to-one relationship. You can now easily charm those who can do the most for you in life. Even loving partners are more accepting of your pecadillios. Any of your less than stellar behavior is forgiven and forgotten. For those Gay Rams still on the hoof, you can run with the fast crowd and win. Just be sure you are roaming in the right herd.

TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)

Your day to day job seems to go more smoothly this week so get to work! And this effort can mean a variety of things - your actual job or exercise and diet or even deep psychological ponderings and revelations. Queer Bulls toss out any psychological baggage that lowers their confidence. Forget that self flagellation, unless of course you like it that way. Ahem.

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)

Luck is on your side in whatever direction you decide to turn. Use it to your advantage. Your passion for fun, creativity and romance with a special someone is highlighted. So take your latest squeeze by the hand and demonstrate why pink Twins are soooo flirty and delightful. And your creativity hits a high note this time of year, even if you can't sing.

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)

Sun in Libra helps you get your house in order. May I suggest a little "spring cleaning" in autumn? There is opportunity for you to conquer any lingering home based project with verve and efficiency no matter how messy it is. Gay Crabs can more easily deal with family issues now too. Be your dear queer self and let others adjust. You may be surprised at how smoothly it goes.

LEO (JULY 24 - AUGUST 23)

Proud Lions are more talkative than usual. Why not use this time to take a cause one step forward? You communicate well and have the artistic flair and diplomacy to draw people's attention and win their hearts and minds. Get involved in great movements and reach out to friends and neighbors for help. If you take it to the streets you will have followers.

VIRGO (AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23)

Money issues come into focus. Queer Virgos have a clearer sense of what fiscal responsibility means and even consider saving for a rainy day. The most important thing is to do careful research into what is and is not feasible. Think about your long term goals and toss out what no longer gets you there. Oh heck - just make several million in the market and retire!

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23)

Stand back world; Proud Libra is taking center stage. You have so much confidence that it seeps out in a variety of ways. Meet (with a capital "ME") and press the flesh. Not only are you able to get your point across, you make inroads into any personal project. This is the time to make an excellent first impression. No, not in the living room couch cushions. Get going!

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22)

Queer Scorps entertain an enticing psychic thought or two this week. Polish up your crystal ball and see what and who you see. Good things come from your gut reactions, especially if you are helping out others in the process. While you are at it, help yourself. Unlock and open your closet. Step out into the fresh air. Freedom at last! Ain't life grand?

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22)

Friends and social groups are even more important to you than usual now. Surround yourself with affirming friends, Gay Archer. Compadres are there for you and vice versa as you fit well into the group dynamic. Make the most of this time - the friendships that you forge now have long term benefits and bring you to a new social level. Err is that higher or lower....?

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20)

Pink Caps can finally see the professional playing field clearly and accurately. Thank the stars for this light on your corporate path and for pointing out the better strategic opportunities. Play the politico while your charm sizzles and climb one more rung on the corporate ladder. Remember to be kind and generous to those of us that you step on on your way up. Ouch.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19)

Aqueerians happily plan an exciting vacation in the coming months. Will you try something exotic or relaxing? Maybe a combination of both. And try some judicial balance in any long lingering legal fights or entanglements. You are more willing to compromise and be diplomatic. Not only can you reach an accord you can also rest your case... How about in Paris!

PISCES (FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20)

Your sexual drive is whipped into a frenzy this week. Guppies can't resist adding a few nuts and hot sauce to their sundae. You are in the drivers seat so rev your engines and start moving. Prepare for a romance that has the legs (among other parts) to go the distance through the winter. Look below the surface though and don't just settle for a pretty face. Sigh.

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

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Woman Whose Dogs Mauled Lesbian Neighbor Gets 15 to Life

SAN FRANCISCO, California (Observer Update) - A woman whose dogs viciously attacked and killed her neighbor in the hallway of their apartment building seven years ago was sentenced Monday (September 22) to 15 years to life in prison, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com.

Marjorie Knoller

Marjorie Knoller was convicted of second-degree murder in the 2001 mauling death of Dianne Whipple, but a judge later reduced the charge to involuntary manslaughter and sentenced her in 2002 to a four-year prison term. But the California Supreme Court last year said the trial judge was wrong and sent the case back. Last month, Superior Court Judge Charlotte Woolard reinstated the murder conviction, for which Knoller was sentenced. The case is the California's first murder conviction connected to a dog mauling, prosecutors say.

The case turned into a tabloid sensation because of the viciousness of the attack - the dogs tore all of Whipple's clothing from her body and left her with more than 70 bites - and the seemingly cavalier attitudes of Knoller and her law partner and husband, Robert Noel, who blamed Whipple for the attack. The couple also said they were keeping the canines on behalf of a white supremacist accused of running an attack dog ring from his state prison cell. The couple eventually adopted the prisoner, Paul "Cornfed" Schneider, as their son.

Knoller, who has served three years in prison, will have to serve 12 more years before she can apply for parole. In denying Knoller's plea for probation, Woolard noted that Knoller didn't call 911 or otherwise try to help Whipple during the 10-minute attack. The judge said Knoller knew the dogs were dangerous, ignored numerous warnings to train them and hasn't expressed remorse for the attack. "She has blamed the victim and has held her dogs in higher regard than humans," Woolard said.

Whipple's partner, Sharon Smith, addressed Knoller before she was led off to jail. Smith called Knoller's relationship with the two dogs and the prisoner "perverted" and expressed satisfaction with the lengthy prison sentence. "It is very hard to find forgiveness for someone who doesn't accept responsibility," Smith said.

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NON-BAR CALENDAR

Wednesday, September 24
#1 Men's Social Network Bed and Breakfast tour of the Royal Elizabeth Bed and Breakfast at 204 S. Scott Ave at 11am then lunch at the Congress Hotel. For more information call Lee or Merlin no later than Monday September 22nd at 207-5336 for reservations.
#2 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Hand and Foot with Lee and Merlin at 207-5336.

Thursday, September 25
#1 Men's Social Network. Open to men of all ages. Bridge Join your MSN friends for a night of fun and cards. Call Jim at 790-8735.
#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 26
Tucson Prime Timers invites you to join us for dinner and live music at the positively delicious Piazza Gavi Restaurant, 5415 N. Kolb Road. RSVP John at 298-6727

Saturday, September 27
Tucson Prime Timers invites you to join us for Drinks and Grub at 6:30 p.m., Woody's,3710 N. Oracle Road.

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

Sunday. September 28
Tucson Prime Timers invites you to Sunday Brunch at 11a.m.Cup Café in the historic Hotel Congress. RSVP Ray 578-8045 or www.tucsonprimetimers.org

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

Monday, September 29
#1 Tucson Prime Timers invites you to Bowl with us at 10:30a.m.Golden Pin Lanes 1010 West Miracle Mile www.tucsonprimetimers.org
#2 Tucson Prime Timers invites you to our drop-in lunch at 12:30p.m. Wildcat House 1801 North Stone Avenue www.tucsonprimetimers.org

Wednesday, October 1
Tucson Prime Timers invites you to join them for a 1:00 pm. Luncheon at Claim Jumper Restaurant, 3761 E, Broadway - RSVP John or Ed at 298-6727 or on website: www.tucsonprimetimers.org

Thursday, October 2
Tucson Prime Timers invites you to join them for bowling at 1:30 p.m. at Golden Pin Lanes, 1010West Miracle Mile.

Friday, October 3
Tucson Prime Timers invites you to join them for dinner at Delectables Restaurant, 533 N. 4th Avenue. RSVP Clem at 885-1270 or www.tucsonprimetimers.org

Saturday, October 7
Tucson Prime Timers invites you to joion them for Drinks & Grub, 6:30 p.m. at Woody's Bar, 3710 N. Oracle Rd.

Sunday, October 5
Tucson Prime Timers invites you to join them for Sunday Brunch at 1:00 p.m. at Ghini's Café, 1803 E. Prince Road. RSVP Dennis at 883-8257 or on website: www.tucsonprimetimers.org

Monday, October 6
#1 -Tucson Prime Timers invites you to join them for Bowling at 10:30 a.m. at Golden Pin Lanes, 1010 West Miracle Mile.
#2 - Tucson Prime Timers invites you to their weekly drop-in luncheon, 12:30 p.m. at Wildcat House, 1801 N. Stone Ave.

Wednesday, October 7
Tucson Prime Timers invites you to join them for a 1:00 p.m. luncheon at La Cocina, 201 N. Court Avenue. RSVP John or Ed at 298-6727 or on their website: www.tucsonprimetimers.org

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NOTICES - COMMUNITY - NOTICES

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP for Lesbians, Bisexuals, Trans, Queer, Women. Meets Mondays (6:00 - 7:30pm) at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th Street, Tucson, AZ 85701. For more info, pleases contact Brenda Casey, LMSW 520-694-0247 or bcassey@umcaz.edu

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,

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-2am. Patio Bar open 3pm. Beer Bust $2.25/pitcher, 3-7pm. Burger BBQ, 5-7pm, $3 proceeds to Petwatch (Helping HIVAIDS 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-2am. Dart Tournament, 7pm $3 entry fee/Pot Match.

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

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

WEDNESDAY

THE BIZ - Open 3pm-2am. Happy Hour ALL Day til 8pm. Wild Wednesdays. DJ Hill Spins til 2am. This is an 18 and over event..

COLORS - Open 4-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, $3.50 Skyy cocktails, $2.75 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-2am. Beer Bust, 8pm-11pm $2.50/Pitcher.

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-2am..

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-2am Patio Bar Open 7pm-2m Cuervo Margaritas $3 ea., 4-8pm.

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.

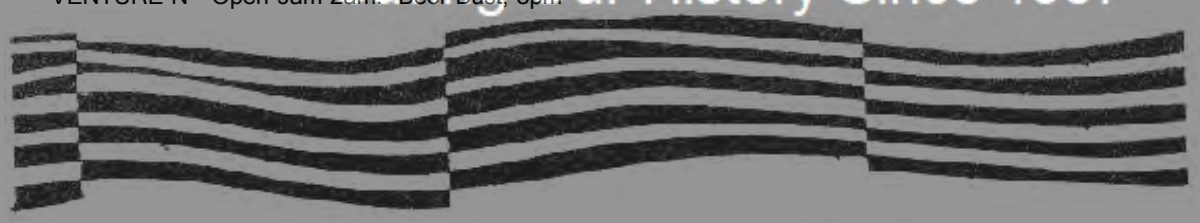
COLORS - Open 4pm-10pm, Happy Hour 4-7pm, $3.50 Skyy cocktails, $2.75 Domestics and Well, ½ price appetizers 4-6. Pianist/Vocalist Marilyn Harris 6:30-9:30. Full menu served until 10. Nightly dinner specials.

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-2am. Patio Bar open 7pm-2am. Beer Bust $2.25/Pitcher. 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

Friday, September 26
THE BIZ - The Biz and Wingspan present Latino Pride 2008 - for Latinos by Latinos. 9:00 p.m. Join the crowd for the crowning of Mr. and Mrs. Latino 2008. DJ Hill will be spinning the sounds until 2:00 a.m.

Saturday, September 27
HOWL AT THE MOON - Drag Show presented by "Miss Native Americans", including Knokache and Samora Dehuni. A fabulous night of entertainment! 9:00 pm til closing.

WOODY'S - Mark your calendars for this month's Wet Party "Guys Gone Wild" featuring adult entertainment star Noah Lawler. Woody's Dancers, Pinky Vodka Promotion 10 p.m. and Bud Light Twister Party at 11 p.m.

Sunday, September 28
HOWL AT THE MOON - "Tucson's Got Talent" weekly show with hosts Lucinda Holliday and Tempest du Jour. What's your talent? Sing, dance, drag, comedy,...whatever it is, come out and compete for prizes and to move on to the next level! Winners selected by audience applause and judges scoring. Starts at 9:30 pm.

Saturday, October 4
HOWL AT THE MOON - Seniors' Tea Dance 4 - 8 pm Drink and food specials plus lots of favorite oldies to keep you dancing!

Costas Admits NBC Missed Gay Gold Medalist's Story

Gay Gold Medalist Matthew Mitcham

NEW YORK CITY (Observer Update) - On August 23rd at the 2008 Beijing Olympics, Australian diver Matthew Mitcham, the only out Gay male athlete at those games, won Olympic gold in men's platform diving.

Yet during NBC's two evening's worth of platform diving coverage, neither Mitcham's status as the only out Gay male athlete, nor his moving personal story was ever mentioned. Bob Costas, NBC Primetime Host for the Beijing Olympics, said Mitcham's story was overlooked. "It was just something that wasn't on my radar screen to be perfectly honest. But had it been, I would have thought it was a worthwhile thing to mention," Costas said.

"Why it wasn't mentioned by the people covering the event, that's up to them to answer. There's lots of different dynamics, in all these things. So I'm not being critical of them for not mentioning it. But I think - generally speaking - especially if the guy is out..."

Mark Foley Gets Off

Mark Foley with Page

PALM BEACH, Florida (Observer Update) - Former U.S. Rep. Mark Foley isn't expected to face charges after a lengthy investigation into his lurid messages to underage congressional pages, two federal law enforcement officials said, reported the Associated Press.

The officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the case, said the results of a state investigation would be announced Friday. They said neither state nor federal charges were expected, although an FBI investigation has not been closed yet. Foley resigned in 2006 after being confronted with the e-mails and instant messages he sent to male pages. He has since been under investigation by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and the FBI.

Foley's attorney, David Roth, has acknowledged that Foley sent the messages to the teenagers, but has maintained that the Florida Republican never had inappropriate contact with minors.

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Saving Our History Since 1967

COMMENTARY. . . .

by Wayne Besen

Log Cabin Should Disband

Until now, I have always thought there was a place for the Log Cabin Republicans within the GLBT movement. There was a need for a group that could advocate from inside the belly of the beast and do the dirty work that few intellectually honest people wanted to do. The logic behind this organization was that it made more sense to fight for the soul of the Republican Party than run away and support the Democrats – which members of this organization have traditionally disagreed with on fiscal and national security matters.

However, the rationale for this organization has significantly eroded, as the GOP has shown itself to be corrupt, inept and incapable of good governance. It has become the party of cronyism, debt and diabolical deceit, while securing its power by enthusiastically pandering to its anti-Gay base.

With the stock market plummeting, the real estate bubble bursting, the deficit exploding and gas prices breaking new records – largely thanks to Republican deregulation of markets and failure to explore alternative energy sources - the myth of Republican economic responsibility has been fatally punctured.

Log Cabin Republicans also justify their party choice on grounds of national security. But, in eight years of mostly Republican rule, America has grown weaker. Our military is stretched thin, we are still bogged down in the bloody money pit of Iraq, Russia is resurgent, and Osama remains free in the same lawless Pakistani border where Al-Qaeda is plotting. Indeed, the 9-11 attacks took place with Republicans in power, including a president who failed to take seriously reports that an attack on America was imminent.

Based on this abominable record, Gay Republicans can no longer say that their party's performance on other matters overrides its unyielding opposition to GLBT equality. Between the sullying of America's reputation abroad and the divisiveness on social issues at home, there is no reason that securing GLBT rights should not be the primary focus of Log Cabin Republicans. The choice they present between our equality and the safety and prosperity of this nation has proven itself false.

The final logic for Log Cabin was that it could create "Big Tent" Republicanism by nurturing friendly Republicans who could transform the party. Unfortunately, this election cycle shows that instead of changing the GOP, it is the "supportive" politicians who reinvent themselves to appeal to social conservatives.

Instead of standing on principle, ambitious Log Cabin favorites – such as Mitt Romney and Rudy Giuliani – made crass conversions and bowed to anti-Gay zealots that an earlier incarnation of John McCain called "agents of intolerance." We even had a sophisticated actor, Fred Thompson, who surely must socialize with Gay people in Hollywood, act like he just fell off a turnip truck in overalls.

The truth is, Republican politicians who are pro-Gay have no future in the GOP. If they did, former Massachusetts Gov. William Weld would have been a rising star. The most famous moderate – Arnold Schwarzenegger – has his presidential ambitions chastened by the U.S. Constitution, thus allowing him a degree of autonomy. However, those who want to be president will pander to the preachers.

The Log Cabin experiment to remake the GOP has faltered and they should consider closing shop. At times, it has been a noble project, particularly under the principled leadership of Patrick Guerriero, who refused to endorse Bush in 2004 after the president pushed for the Federal Marriage Amendment.

It is obvious, however, that this organization has outlived its usefulness and has been soundly defeated by much larger, wealthier and influential anti-Gay forces. The party is now rotten to the core and thrives on homophobic bigotry, anti-immigrant sentiment, small-minded populism and foolishly mocking our foreign allies at the expense of our long-term national security (remember freedom fries?).

Exactly where does a Gay Republican fit into this intolerant scenario?

Log Cabin's tragic endorsement of John McCain exhibits an obdurate denial of his anti-Gay record and a stubborn unwillingness to admit that their one-time hero is now hopeless. McCain's VP choice, Sarah Palin, a favorite of the fundamentalist fringe, should have lead to a reevaluation, if not reversal of their endorsement. Like Palin, they didn't blink, and are shamefully in cahoots with destructive forces that would deny GLBT people the most basic rights.

The only chance for Gay Republicans to be legitimate players in the GOP is to have the party suffer a string of crushing losses. The defeats have to be so painful and substantial, that they lead to realignment, where the role of social conservatives is significantly diminished. Clearly, the Log Cabin Republicans can only save their party by helping to defeat it.

Both parties agree that this is the election of "change." Log Cabin can take the lead by changing its endorsement of McCain before they further harm the Gay and lesbian community. Their suicidal tendency to help a party that despises them is the pink elephant in the room that needs to be discussed. If they can't reform the GOP – and there is no evidence that they can – it may be time to disband.

(Wayne Besen is a author, columnist and founder of truthwinsout.org. This column is reprinted from 365Gay.com.)

Italy Refuses To Prosecute Comic For Pope Gay Joke

ROME, Italy (Observer Update) - Italy's Justice Minister has rejected a call to prosecute stand-up comic Sabina Guzzanti for telling an audience that Benedict XVI would "go to hell and be pursued by two big, Gay and very active devils."

Benedict is known for his vocal opposition to LGBT rights and same-sex marriage. Guzzanti was appearing at an anti-politics rally in Rome last July. It is a criminal offense in Italy to "offend the honor" of the Pope or the Italian president, under a Fascist-era law, 365Gay.com reported.

The Rome city prosecutor, Giovanni Ferrara, asked Federal Justice Minister Angelino Alfano for permission to start criminal proceedings against Guzzanti. Ferrara said that Guzzanti's comments went beyond satire. If convicted, Guzzanti could have been imprisoned for up to five years.

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You cannot vote on Prop. 102 or for any of the candidates if you're not registered!
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