

20th World AIDS Day Marked



NEW YORK CITY (Observer Update) - Communities throughout the country are marking World AIDS Day, some; by offering free HIV testing others with vigils and still others with education programs.

This was the 20th World AIDS Day. Some 33.2 million people worldwide are living with HIV/AIDS; 2.5 million of them are children.

The Centers for Disease Control admitted this summer what many AIDS activists had believed for some time - the number of new HIV infections in the US had been underestimated. The CDC said that new HIV infections actually were 40 percent higher annually than previously had been estimated. In the U.S., the number of people with HIV/AIDS now stands at 1.1 million. At least 56,300 people in the country are infected with HIV annually. Of the new HIV infections among males, 53 percent were in men who have sex with men (MSM).

Among this group, 46 percent were white, 35 percent were black, and 19 percent were Hispanic. When age was examined among MSM aged 13 - 29 years, the number of new HIV infections in blacks (5,220) was 1.6 times the number in whites (3,330) and 2.3 times the number in Hispanics (2,300). Blacks, and Hispanics were represented disproportionately in 2006 among those with new HIV infections.

Yet despite massive education attempts, one in five people infected with the AIDS virus doesn't know it according to the CDC, even though two years ago the government urged making HIV tests as common as cholesterol checks. Eleven states that once required special consent for HIV testing have changed their laws, a key step to making an HIV test part of the standard battery that patients expect. Still, many family physicians are ill informed about the ease of today's rapid tests, which can cost as little as \$15.

No more than 100 of the nation's

5,000 emergency rooms routinely test for HIV in patients who aren't critically ill, said Dr. John Bartlett of Johns Hopkins University, who co-chaired last month's Forum for Collaborative HIV Research meeting. Yet because so many HIV patients are poor or uninsured, ERs are the health-care setting most likely to find them. With a deepening financial crisis worldwide, there are concerns HIV/AIDS funding will be cut.

"We need President-elect Obama's 'Yes We Can' approach to be applied to AIDS", said Deborah Williams, chair of the Board of the Global Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS in a statement. "We have witnessed bold and inclusive campaigning. We need that same leadership to end exclusionary practices in the US and other countries, dedicate sustainable resources to scale up treatment and other services, and involve all stakeholders in developing and implementing a truly effective global effort."

Yet there are some encouraging signs. Early results from a federal survey suggest 2.4 million more people in 2007 than in 2006 said they had been tested at some point for HIV. New York City's Health and Hospitals Corporation, the nation's largest municipal health system, has nearly tripled HIV testing - and late diagnoses dropped by about a third. New York's state Medicaid program has increased testing by 30 percent.

EDITOR'S NOTE: to read about Tucson's marking of World AIDS Day, read Wendell Hicks' (SAAF's Executive Director) letter to the editor in this week's edition.

Also in this issue you will find photographs taken at Tucson's World AIDS Day event held Monday, Dec. 1 at and around the Congress Hotel in Downtown Tucson. The photos were taken by Observer special events photographers Amanda Irvin and Bill Morrow. Enjoy.

As Judge Slams Anti-Gay Adoption Law, Civil Rights Organization Boosts Efforts To Encourage Prospective LGBT Parents

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - On the same day as a pointed court ruling against Florida's Gay adoption ban, a new awareness campaign has been launched to encourage LGBT families to consider adopting children, reported pageoneq.com.

The Human Rights Campaign Foundation has unveiled the Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Family effort as part of its "All Children - All Families" initiative, which aims to ensure that all qualified prospective parents have the opportunity to provide permanent homes to children in need, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity. HRC and coalition partners are working to increase the confidence and recognition of LGBT parents, who often feel discouraged or unwelcome by the system, and can be marginalized or overlooked altogether by child placement agencies. Some may not even be aware of the opportunities available. "This awareness campaign helps make the dreams of thousands of children come true by raising the visibility of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender-adoptive families and encourage prospective parents to learn more about the children waiting in foster care," said Ellen Kahn, Human Rights Campaign Foundation's Family Project Director, in a statement. "With over 100,000 children waiting to be adopted, we need to ensure that the LGBT community knows about the opportunity to adopt and find them agencies that truly welcome and support who they are as people."

Gay and Lesbian parents are raising 4%, about 65,500, of the nation's adopted children, more commonly in New England, the mid-Atlantic and the West Coast. The highest percentages of Gay and Lesbian adoptive parents are found in Alaska, California, Massachusetts and New Mexico. Florida is the only state with a law on the books to explicitly prohibit Gays from adopting, but in Nebraska, a 1995 Department of Social Service directive blocks Gay individuals and all unmarried couples. This month, Arkansas passed Initiative 1, which effectively meets the same ends by prohibiting all unmarried couples from fostering or adopting children. North Dakota allows child placement agencies to discriminate on moral and religious grounds, and Utah gives preference to married couples in placing children.

California, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Jersey and New York prohibit discriminating against prospective parents based on sexual orientation. Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Vermont and Washington D.C. do not factor in sexual orientation when considering the adoption of a spouse's child.

Frank Martin Gill of North Miami, Florida, has raised two brothers, ages 4 and 8, since 2004. He lodged a court challenge to the state's decades-old law preventing him from adopting them. "It is clear that sexual orientation is not a predictor of a person's ability to parent," Miami-Dade Circuit Judge Cindy Lederman said in a 53-page Tuesday ruling, finding "no rational basis" for an automatic ban based on sexual orientation. Attorneys for the state plan to appeal. A Key West judge found Florida's ban unconstitutional in September, but the ruling has had "limited legal impact." "Judge Lederman's ruling is a long-overdue recognition of the equal ability of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) people to raise happy, healthy families," said Jennifer Chrisler, Executive Director of Family Equality Council, in a statement. "Our families are members of communities in every state. We contribute at work and at school. We want only to be given the same opportunities and legal protections other families have so that we may best take care of ourselves. Florida's ban on all Gays and Lesbians adopting has long stood in the face of more than twenty-five years of social science research that shows no difference in the abilities of LGBT and straight parents."

Prop 102 Protest Held At Mormon Temple In Mesa

MESA (Observer Update) - When the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints temple in Mesa lighted its Christmas display Friday night (November 28), Clinton Bartlett and about 150 supporters showed up to protest, reported the Arizona Republic.

They're upset with the Nov. 4 passage of amendments to state constitutions in Florida, California and Arizona that block same-sex marriage. The Mormon Church urged its members to donate money and vote for the Gay-marriage ban. In Arizona, voters approved Proposition 102, which added a 20-word amendment to the state Constitution to define marriage as between one man and one woman.

The biggest donors to the Yes 4 Marriage campaign in Arizona, before the primaries, were Nancy and David LeSueur and Kathleen and Wilford Andersen, two prominent Mormon families in Mesa. Each family donated \$100,000 cash, according to campaign-finance records.

Six days after passage of Proposition 102, more than 200 supporters of the Gay community rallied at the corner of Camelback Road and Central

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UPDATE

Naomoli Brenett To Guest Star At Desert Voices Holiday Concerts

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Tucson's own nationally known singer/songwriter, Naomoli Brenett will join Desert Voices for their Holiday Concerts, December 6, 7:30 p.m. and 7, 3:00 p.m. at Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 2331 East Adams.

Special guest star Ms. Brenett will also debut a brand new Choral work in honor of Desert Voices' 20th Season. A winner of the Tucson Folk Festival songwriting competition in 2007, Ms. Brenett was the 2008 Best of Tucson award recipient for Best Performing Artist. She is also a four-time Outmusic award nominee whose music has been featured in the Advocate, Chicago Free Press, No Depression and Performing Songwriter Magazine. She has shared stages with Melissa Ferrick, Jill Sobule, Michelle Shocked, SONIA, Alix Olson, Garrison Starr and Tim Eason. She recently returned to Tucson from promoting her latest release, "Singer Shine Your Light" and now joins with Desert Voices Chorus as they open a new season with a festive Holiday presentation, "Down the Chimney", an eclectic program featuring traditional seasonal favorites as well as non-traditional, multi-cultural music.

Since it began in 1988 with a handful of people interested in forming a community chorus, Desert Voices has evolved to 50 voices strong under the artistic direction of Chris Tackett. Desert Voices remains Arizona's premier GLBTS Chorus and is committed to uniting our community through music. Each season, Desert Voices carefully designs musical programs that reflect cultural diversity and provide concerts that inspire as well as entertain. For more information, go online at desertvoices.org or call (520) 791-9662.

Reveille's 'Holidays In Hollywood' December 12 - 14

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Join Reveille for their upcoming concert, "Holidays in Hollywood," December 12 - 14 (8:00 p.m., Friday December 12 and Saturday, December 13, 3:00 p.m.,

Sunday, December 14), at Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 2331 E. Adams.

Remember when Charlie Brown and Linus discussed the meaning of Christmas while the other Peanut's characters glided on a frozen pond? Remember when little Natalie Wood discovered there really was a Santa Claus in "Miracle on 34th Street"? Remember when George Bailey was taught by the angel Clarence that his truly was "A Wonderful Life"? Or when Ebenezer Scrooge is over come with joy to learn the true meaning of Christmas? All these cherished moments from our favorite holiday movies will be lovingly brought back to life in song in Reveille Men's Chorus's holiday production "Holidays in Hollywood: A Tribute to Our Favorite Holiday Movies". Join Reveille for a musical journey that combines state-of-the-art multimedia with the incredible sound that Reveille Men's Chorus has become famous for, presented for you with glorious voices of Reveille in the perfect setting for a holiday concert, Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

For 15 years Reveille Men's Chorus has been dedicated to musical excellence, performing worldwide to promote human rights, diversity, and a world free of AIDS. Under the leadership of artistic director Linus Lerner, Reveille has garnered national and international recognition for their unique sound and for their outreach work in Southern Arizona, Northern Mexico, Canada, and Brazil. Reveille is proud to have been the first GLBT chorus to have performed in Brazil (where they opened the world's largest Gay Pride celebration in 2005) as well as in Mexico (where the choir performed concerts in Guadalajara, Puerto Vallarta and Mexico City in 2007). All proceeds raised at these concerts remained with the local HIV and GLBT organizations that sponsored the performances.

This has been an amazing year for Reveille Men's Chorus. This spring they presented their most successful concert in their 14 year history, "Dim Sum and then Some: A Foreign Affair". Reveille invited local cultural groups representing nations from around the world to perform with them and share the unique music and dance of their cultures with their audience. The Arizona Daily Star raved, "It was an exhilarating, life affirming two hour journeyLerner wanted "Dim Sum" to truly send a message of diversity and unity, which is

why he insisted his choristers perform in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Spanish and Tahitian, among other languages." Reveille also released their 4th CD of the same name which featured the international music from the concert. In July Reveille traveled to Miami, Florida where they proudly represented Tucson at the 8th GALA (Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses) Conference, getting national attention and out performing many of the big city choruses that were in attendance.

This year Reveille continues to focus on local outreach, accepting all invitations to sing, usually at no charge. So far this season they participated in Brazilian Cultural Week singing in Portuguese at a special concert of Brazilian music at the University of Arizona. Other outreach performances have included Tucson Meet Yourself, Pride In the Desert, AIDS Walk, TIHAN's Musical Potpourri, and St. Mark's Presbyterian Church. And in January Reveille has been invited to perform at a special concert in the world famous Biosphere. Tickets are \$20 at the door, \$15 in advance and seniors, \$10 students and are available online at reveillemenschorus.org, by calling (520) 304-1758, at Antigone Books, or from any Reveille member.

Museuming With Maurice Dec. 7

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Meet up in the lobby of the Tucson Museum of Art, 140 N. Main, Sunday, December 7, 1:00 p.m. for a free day at the museum and enjoy an intro and tour with retired professor of art, Maurice Grossman.

We'll explore A Place of Refuge: Maynard Dixon's Arizona, a show focusing solely on the renowned painter's depictions of Arizona subjects.

For more information, contact Penelope Starr, (520) 624-1779 Ext. 122, or E-mail: pstarr@wingspan.org.

Les Connections Is Dedicated To Connecting The Lesbian Community

TUCSON (Observer Update) - LesConnections.com, is a professional and social networking site for Lesbians and other women who love and respect women with the focus on connecting our community for social and recreational purposes, but also on promoting Lesbian-owned businesses.

LesConnections are an aggregator of information about the Lesbian community and believe our mission is to positively promote the Lesbian community, both internally and externally, to enhance pride, acceptance and quality of life.

Networking across the community, both in-person and on-line, one of our main focuses but we also look to inform and enrich through our bi-monthly newsletter, "Les Communique". For more information, E-mail Linda Thomas: linda@lesconnections.com or call (808) 542-1823.

Roadrunner Regional Rodeo January 16 - 18

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



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

SAAF
Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation



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

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Monday thru Friday

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Informing the Community

The Observer

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& dance club

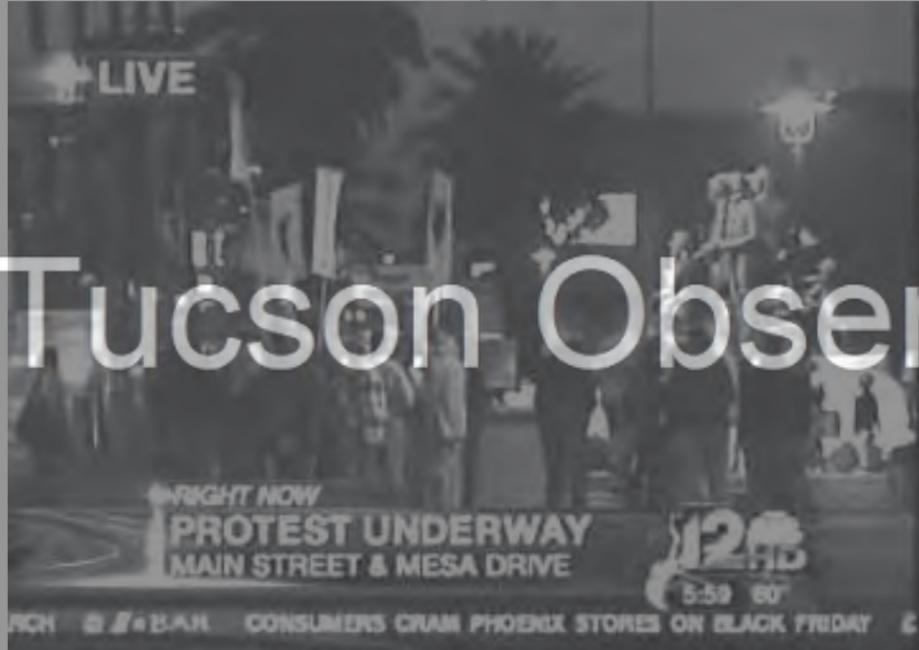
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We're changing our name,
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but we'll still have the same owners, staff,
tucsongaymuseum.org
and great service you've come to expect

at the Moon!
Don't Forget
Fridays are always
Country at the Moon



Prop 102 Protest Held At Mormon Temple In Mesa



Continued from Page One

Avenue in Phoenix. Bartlett also organized that campaign. The idea for the vigil came from friend Bobby Parker, who helped Bartlett pull the event together on short notice.

Parker, 64, came out to his Mormon family in January 2007. "I lost my family, lost my church," he said.

The demonstration was peaceful, with participants holding candles and

signs that read "Peace" and "Acceptance." Some vehicles driving by honked in support of the demonstrators, but one person threw a dirty diaper out the window at them.

The church is surprised it is being singled out by protesters, said Don Evans, a local Mormon spokesman, according to reports from the Associated Press. The amendments also were supported by the Catholic Church and various evangelical denominations.

GLAAD Announces Layoffs

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - As the nation's economic crisis deepens, Gay rights organizations are feeling the pinch. The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) announced it eliminated some staff positions last Friday (Nov. 21), reported

the Washington Blade.

GLAAD President Neil G. Giuliano said that "the reduction in force touched all departments," but did not reach "double digits." "We looked at the work we're doing and the mission we

have and we had to make a strategic plan to make reductions," he said. "Fundraising has slowed dramatically and the non-profit sector is not immune to what's going on, and sometimes we're impacted more."

Giuliano said the election impacted donations to GLAAD. "People were donating to the candidates and also gave a historic amount to fight anti-Gay ballot measures," he said. He said the reduction in donations coupled with the financial crisis meant that GLAAD had to make job cuts in order to stay within budget and prepare for 2009. The

way I look at it is that it is the responsible thing to do to protect the long-term health of the organization, and be good stewards of the revenue that donors have provided," Giuliano said.

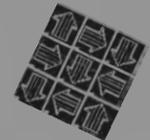
He added that he suspects GLAAD will be in a growth period again soon and could restore some jobs. "Honestly, I don't think that's happening anytime soon," Giuliano said. "I think this economic slowdown and hit to non-profits is going to last for a good year or so. I'd love to be proven wrong, but everybody really stretched themselves this last year giving to candidates and causes."

Milk Movie Buzz

In conjunction with a new film about slain San Francisco Supervisor Harvey Milk, items belonging to the Gay rights pioneer - including the suit he was wearing when he was killed - are being exhibited. The sight may be a little shocking, Paul Boneberg warned a visitor. And it was. There, removed from tissue-paper wrappings in a storage box, were the wingtip shoes, striped suit and white shirt that Gay activist and San Francisco Supervisor Harvey Milk wore Nov. 27, 1978, the day he was assassinated. Dark bloodstains remained visible around the shirt collar, and small holes - from bullets - could be seen in the suit's blue and gray material. Now the clothing and many other Milk-related items in scholarly and library archives in San Francisco are about to get more attention - as are re-creations of them in the new film biography "Milk," which stars Sean Penn as the nation's first openly Gay man elected to a major political office....

month's election, Mr. Milliner organized unsuccessful opposition to California's same-sex marriage ban, Proposition 8. Now he expects the movie, about Harvey Milk, the murdered Gay-rights crusader and San Francisco supervisor, to ignite his "Shame on 8" campaign. "It fits perfectly with the plan," Mr. Milliner said. That may be good for the movement. Whether it is also good for the movie is less clear. The convergence of "Milk," which portrays Gay-rights battles of 30 years ago, and a looming new culture war over homosexual marriage and other issues, has raised unusual expectations around Focus Features' plan to release the film. ...

The Harvey Milk biopic, Milk opened in 10th place at the box office this weekend, raking in \$1.8 million at 36 theaters nationwide. The distribution will increase to 60 theaters on Friday (Dec. 5). By comparison, Brokeback Mountain brought in \$547,425 in its opening weekend, though limited to five theaters.



TUCSON'S #1 GAY CLUB

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Saving Our History Since 1967

Linda Eder Rocks The Holidays For One Night Only!

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Songstress Linda Eder comes to the Tucson Music Hall for one night only on Tuesday, December 16, 7:30 p.m. to "Rock the Holidays" with her new country-pop sound!

"This isn't so much a departure as it is me getting back to who I really am," Linda Eder says of her new album *The Other Side of Me*, on which the celebrated vocal icon undergoes an unexpected stylistic reinvention to deliver one of the most compelling musical statements of her long and storied career. Eder has long been established as one of America's premier singers of pop standards and Broadway tunes, with a large and passionately devoted audience that's embraced her memorable albums and her dramatic live concerts. While many established artists might, at this point in their careers, feel the temptation to coast on past achievements, Eder embraces an exciting new set of creative challenges on *The Other Side of Me*, her tenth album and her Verve debut.

As its title suggests, *The Other Side of Me* finds the artist trading her established musical approach for a looser, more intimate country-pop sound that's perfectly suited to the thoughtful, introspective songs that she's chosen for the project. "This is really me getting back to my natural musical self, the person I was before Judy Garland and Barbra Streisand came into my life and I went the Broadway route," Eder asserts. "This is the kind of music that moved me as a kid, when I first started playing my guitar and learning how to write songs, so it's a natural direction for me."

"I still love the Broadway stuff," she adds, "and I don't ever intend to stop singing it. It's given me a wonderful life and a great career, and I still enjoy that music tremendously. But with those songs, it's more about playing a role, rather than being yourself. The standards call for you to be elegant, but I'm basically a blue-collar farm girl at heart. So when I'm standing up there in a gown, it's a bit like putting on a role for me. There's nothing wrong with that, and I enjoy it and I'm good at it, but it's not quite me. These new songs, and this approach to singing, is a lot more natural—and so much fun—for me."

Indeed, in many ways, *The Other Side of Me* harkens back to Eder's earliest musical roots. Born to immigrant parents in Tucson and raised in Brainerd, Minnesota, she learned to play piano and guitar during childhood, and embraced songwriting as a vehicle for self-expression in her teens. She even won a local beauty pageant at age 18, performing one of her original compositions in the contest's talent competition. Her early musical development began to take shape after she first heard Judy Garland singing in *The Wizard of Oz*. "Even at the age of eight, I was blown away by hearing this person pouring her heart out," she recalls. "I came from a very stoic Midwestern family that didn't really show their emotions all that much, so that was a revelation to me and I was really drawn to it and pursued that direction."

Eder launched her recording career in 1991 with her self-titled debut album, and soon established a vital niche as America's most popular and acclaimed new interpreter of pop standards and theatrical songs with such releases as *And So Much More*, *It's Time*, *It's No Secret Anymore*, *Christmas Stays the Same*, *Gold*, *Storybook*, *Broadway My Way* and *By Myself: The Songs of Judy Garland*. Those albums showcased Eder's abundant vocal gifts



Songstress Linda Eder

as well as her knack for delivering dramatic, emotionally resonant interpretations of familiar songs. Her talents won her a large and loyal fan base, who packed her performances at such prestigious venues as New York's Carnegie Hall, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington D.C., Chicago's Cadillac Palace Theatre, and Broadway's Gershwin Theater.

To bring the material from *The Other Side of Me* to life in concert, Eder has put together a new live stage show, in which she plays guitar and sings in the more relaxed vocal style she employs on the new album, while fronting a country-flavored seven-piece band. At the same time, she's also continuing to perform concerts of standards and Broadway material, as well as a duo show that she's been developing with concert master Michael Feinstein.

Tickets are available NOW and range in price from \$29-\$49. Buy tickets online at broadwayintucson.com, by phone with Ticketmaster at (520) 321-1000 or in person at the Tucson Convention Center Ticket Office, 260 S. Church Avenue during regular business hours (Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Sunday Noon - 4:00 p.m.). Broadway in Tucson is part of the nationally recognized Nederlander Producing Company of America. Over the course of five seasons, Broadway in Tucson has partnered with the Tucson Convention Center to bring more than 350,000 people downtown to attend Broadway's best shows, special events and concerts. For more information on Broadway in Tucson, please visit broadwayintucson.com.

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Saving Our History Since 1977

TGLBTCC Holiday Party, Dec. 18

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Join the Tucson Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Chamber of Commerce (TGLBTCC) for their annual Holiday Party to be held on Thursday, Dec 18, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. at Ain't Nobody's Bizness, 2900 East Broadway.

The Tucson Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Chamber of Commerce (TGLBTCC) is one of the Tucson metropolitan area's fastest growing chambers - and the only chamber dedicated to the GLBT business community and its allies. The TGLBTCC is also the 2nd largest chamber of it's kind in Arizona with approximately 130 member companies represented by nearly 200 people. Membership within the chamber pro-

vides powerful networking possibilities, one of the most loyal and dedicated consumer niches, various marketing and advertising opportunities, and empowerment found through interaction within Tucson's GLBT and straight allied community. The mission of the TGLBTCC is to promote the success and growth of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and allied business community in Southern Arizona through education, networking and advocacy.

Tickets are \$25 per person includes buffet catered by FEAST Restaurant and there will be Door Prizes, Raffles, Music, and Fun! You must RSVP by noon Monday, Dec. 15, by calling (520) 615-6436 or info@tucsonchamber.org.

Arizona LGBT And Allies Town Hall December 6

TEMPE (Observer Update) - As we reflect on the results of the 2008 elections, there is much to celebrate and many challenges still left to overcome in the state of Arizona. We all have been energized, and Wingspan, Equality Arizona and our statewide partners want to help put that energy to use so that we can affect change across our state and create a safer Arizona for everyone.

Through a statewide collaboration, Equality Arizona, Wingspan, Prescott Pride Center and The Amancio Project would like to invite you to a day-long town hall, Saturday, December 6, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Arizona State University, Life Science Building - A, Room 191 University Drive and Mill Avenue, which

will provide a safe space in which to debrief about the 2008 elections, nationally and locally, as well as create a pathway to future work throughout Arizona which ensures that the upcoming legislative session will be one of change and equality.

Featured will be guest speakers; breakout groups on specific equality topics; political analysis workshops; community organizing training and much more. Please sign up today (online at eqfed.org/ahrf/events/townhall08/details.tcl) to be a part of this important day. Let's take our anger and excitement created by this year's elections and put that energy into advancing LGBT civil rights in Arizona. For more information, go online to equalityarizona.org, or call (602) 650-0900.

Gay Group To Crash Florida Governor Charlie Crist's Wedding



Gov. Charlie Crist and Wife

ST. PETERSBURG, Florida (Observer Update) - Florida Governor Charlie Crist is getting married next month and the Gay group Impact Florida plans to be there to peacefully protest the recent passage of Amendment 2, which bans same-sex marriage in the state, and the governor's endorsement of it:

The Suncoast News reports: "The group Impact-Florida has called on its members to gather in pink T-shirts outside First United Methodist Church of St. Petersburg on Dec.12 to "congratulate" Crist and Rome while their wedding takes place inside. The demonstration

will continue outside the wedding reception at the Renaissance Vinoy Resort in downtown St. Petersburg. 'After the positive congratulatory observance, there will be a candlelight vigil close to the [Vinoy] in downtown St. Pete to mourn the loss of Gays right to get married,' the group's Web site states, referring to a Gay marriage ban that passed by ballot initiative in November. Crist endorsed Amendment 2 prior to its passage by 61.9 percent of state voters; it needed 60 percent to become part of the state Constitution."

Said Impact Florida spokesperson Lorna Bracewell to GaySoFla: "Our objective will be to celebrate the Governor's fundamental right to marry. The demonstration will be peaceful and respectful. Governor Crist, an outspoken proponent of Amendment 2, is getting married. He is exercising the same fundamental right millions of Floridians are now denied because of the passage of Amendment 2. Perhaps it will inspire him and the many Floridians that voted for Amendment 2 to rethink their positions on the question of what constitutes a marriage."

Rosie Live D.O.A.

NEW YORK CITY (Observer Update) - Liza Minnelli ending the opening number seated in host Rosie O'Donnell's lap and a much-talked about strip tease from 30 Rock star Jane Krakowski couldn't help the one-off Rosie Live limp across the finish line. The out Lesbian's much publicized variety show landed with a thud Wednesday night (November 26) to dismal ratings, advocate.com reported.

Just five million people watched Rosie sing and interact with a slew of star

including Clay Aiken, Ne-Yo, Gloria Estefan and Alec Baldwin. NBC tested the how the night before Thanksgiving to see if fans of the outspoken O'Donnell were interested in the variety show format.

They weren't. After dismal reviews and lackluster ratings, O'Donnell announced herself in a blog that there wouldn't be a second show. She wrote: "there will b no moreno ratings?bad reviews yet still - a thrill 4 me" Whether it was O'Donnell or the

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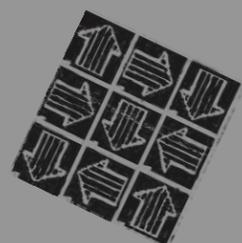
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ROMMEL'S PHOTOGRAPHY

format that kept audiences away remains to be seen. The Osbournes will test out the format next year with a similar special, scheduled to air on Fox.



POLITICS 2008

by Mark R. Kerr

Do They Practice What They've Preached And Been Taught'

As previously reported, a review (and publication of businesses and individuals) of the campaign finance reports for the proponents (yesformarriage.com) of Proposition 102 (AZSOS 102062008) - the proposed and now state constitutional amendment defining marriage as a union between one man and one woman, had commenced, joining economic boycott efforts that were had begun in Florida and California, where two other amendments were on their general election ballots.

Proponents of these measures decried this move to list those who believe that all citizens of these states and this country don't deserve equal rights under the law and constitution, adding that what if they published a list of those who gave money to fight these measures for which this reporter says to go for it and lets show those who do and those who don't support "equal justice under the law." So with that, continuing on, more individuals and businesses (focusing again week on Tucson so that the community, just like the Wingspan campaign in 2006, can get to "Know Your Neighbor.") who gave contributions, monetary, in kind or otherwise or who conducted transactions with the proponents of Proposition 102 in Arizona because LGBT consumers have the right to refuse service as well to businesses and individuals, since those people don't follow their churches teachings, specifically the "Golden Rule," "Do unto others as you would like done onto you."

Tucsonans and those who own businesses in the Old Pueblo who contributed: Chad and Wendi Lee Anderson, Tucson, AZ, 85745 (Engineer - Raytheon), 8/25/08, \$5,000. David and Sherida Anderson, Tucson, AZ, 85741 (Engineer), 8/25/08, \$750. Anonymous, Tucson, AZ, 85741, 8/25/08, \$1,000 (Several Donations Totaling \$2,000). Anthony and Karolyn Bach, Tucson, AZ, 85741, 8/25/08, \$1,250. Timothy and Denese Beam, Tucson, AZ, 85748, \$1,000. Delane Bell, Tucson, AZ, 85748, 8/25/08, \$1,000. Susan and Kevin Brown, Tucson, AZ, 85743, 8/25/08, \$500. Michael and Jacqueline Broyles, Tucson, AZ, 85741 (Engineer - Raytheon), \$250. Randy and Jeanmarie Cook, Tucson, AZ, 85741, 8/25/08, \$750. Timothy and Megan Gardner, Tucson, AZ, 85741, 8/25/08, \$750. Elmer Grubbs, Tucson, AZ, 85741, 8/25/08, \$500. Gary and Susan Hainsworth, Tucson, AZ, 8/25/08, \$2,000. R. Blake Isaacson, Tucson, AZ (Engineer - Raytheon), 85748, 8/25/08, \$1,000. Richard and Annette Jensen, Tucson, AZ, 85748, 8/25/08, \$1,000. Zane and Susan Kartchner, Tucson, AZ, 85743, 8/25/08, \$4,000. Dianna and Merlin Larson, Tucson, AZ, 85742, 8/25/08, (Total \$2,500). Jared Minch, Tucson, AZ, 85710 (IBM), 8/25/08, \$500.

David and Debra Spalding, Tucson, AZ, 85755 (Dentist), 8/25/08, \$2,000. Dr. Dana and Kathy Staggs, Vail, AZ, 85641, 8/25/08, \$1,000. Garth and Jana Swensen, Tucson, AZ, 85746, \$1,500. Thomas and Jennifer Utley, Tucson, AZ, 85743 (Program Manager - Raytheon), 8/25/08, \$500. Eugene Wagner, Tucson, AZ, 85746, (TEP), 8/25/08, \$100. Dennis and Debb Weitzell, Tucson, AZ, 85741, 8/25/08, \$2,000. Clinton Whetton, Tucson, AZ, 85730, 8/25/08, \$1,000. Glenn and Sheri Wilcock, Tucson, AZ, 85747 (Software Engineer - IBM), \$1,000. Michelle Anderson, Tucson, AZ, 85745, 8/26/08, \$500. Max Angle, Tucson, AZ, 85750, 8/26/08, \$250. Machell Bartlett, Tucson, AZ, 85748, 8/

26/08, \$1,000. Clint (and Jennifer) Bell, Tucson, AZ, 85747 (Clint - Mechanical Engineer - Raytheon), 8/26/08 (Total \$1,000). Steven Bentley, Tucson, AZ, 85710, \$1,000. Edward Brown, Tucson, AZ, 85718, 8/26/08, \$5,000. Theresa Brown, Tucson, AZ, 85748 (Owner - Charter School), 8/26/08, \$1,000. Todd Brown, Tucson, AZ, 85748, (Executive Director - Eastpointe, Inc.), 8/26/08, \$1,000. Miley Clark, Tucson, AZ, 85743, 8/26/08, \$500. Harold Dennison, Tucson, AZ, 85749, 8/26/08, \$1,000. Bert Dover, Tucson, AZ, 85716, 8/26/08, \$3,000. Kay Downey, Tucson, AZ, 85739, 8/26/08, \$1,000. Dr. H. Dennis Dray, Sierra Vista, AZ, 85635, 8/26/08, \$1,000. Gilbert Ercanbrack, Tucson, AZ, 8/26/08, \$750. Meridon Figueroa, Tucson, AZ, 8/26/08, \$3,000. Peggy Gibson, Tucson, AZ, 85730, 8/26/08, \$1,000. William David Hamill Jr., Tucson, AZ, 85748, 8/26/08, \$1,000. Harold Humphreys, Tucson, AZ, 85741, 8/26/08, \$1,000. Randy Hunt, Tucson, AZ, 85741, 8/26/08, \$500. Aimee and Bryan Kemp, Tucson, AZ, 8/26/08, (Total - \$1,000). Brian Larsen, Tucson, AZ, 85710, 8/26/08, \$1,000. Scott Larson, Tucson, AZ, 85741, 8/26/08, \$1,000. James Meyer, Tucson, AZ, 85730, 8/26/08, \$1,000. Paul Mott, Tucson, AZ, 85710, 8/26/08, \$1,000. Kevin Nelson (Director of Facilities for Carondelet Health Network) and his wife, Sherri, Tucson, AZ, 85730, 8/26/08, (Total - \$1,000). Amber and husband David (David - Engineer - Raytheon) Omer, Tucson, AZ, 85756, 8/26/08, (Total - \$300). Nelson Thomas, Tucson, AZ, 85718, 8/26/08, \$2,500.

Monroe Tyler, Tucson, AZ, 85747, 8/26/08, \$5,000. John Walker, Tucson, AZ, 85750, 8/26/08, \$1,000. Donna (and Kimber) Webb, Tucson, AZ, 85750, 8/26/08 (Donna - UMC Nurse, Kimer - Retired), (Total - \$1,000). Alisa Webster, Tucson, AZ, 85743, 8/26/08, \$250. Rex Williams, Tucson, AZ, 85712, 8/26/08, \$3,000. Carolyn Wing, Tucson, AZ, 85745, 8/26/08, \$500. Martha Affleck, Tucson, AZ, 85745, 8/26/08, \$500. Cathleen and Kevin Boerup, Tucson, AZ, 85715 (Owners - US Press and Graphics), 8/27/08, (Total - \$5,000). Amy Breton, Tucson, AZ, 85705, 8/27/08, \$500. Glenn Daw, Tucson, AZ, 85748, 8/27/08, \$250. Robert Foote MD, Tucson, AZ, 85704, (Doctor - Center for Neurosciences), 8/27/08, (Two donations during period totaling \$5,100). R. Richard Gomez, Tucson, AZ, 85750, 8/27/08, \$1,000. Amber and Jonathan Hobson, Tucson, AZ, 85757, (Amber listed as a hygienist for Ray Harrell DDS and Jonathan is listed as a Sales Representative for Nestle USA), 8/27/08 (Total - \$500.) Robert Lamb, Tucson, AZ, 85713, 8/27/08, \$500. Jasmine Spear, Tucson, AZ, 85750, 8/27/08, \$1,000. Peter Toone, Tucson, AZ, 85748, 8/27/08, \$1,000. Sally Traynor, Tucson, AZ, 85749, 8/27/08, \$1,000. Melvin Waldron, Tucson, AZ, 85745, 8/27/08, \$1,000. Glen Williams, Tucson, AZ, 85750, (Pilot Instructor - CAE USA), 8/27/08, \$1,500. Helen Williams, Tucson, AZ, 85750, 8/27/08, \$1,500. Dennis Allen, Tucson, AZ, 85743, 8/28/08, \$500. Darrell Armstrong, Tucson, AZ, 85750, 8/28/08, \$2,000. Gerald Bishop, Tucson, AZ, 85741, 8/28/08, \$2,000. James Cooley, Tucson, AZ, 85757, 8/28/08, \$500. Nate and Jill Crook, Tucson, AZ, 85742, 8/28/08, (Nate listed as an Exercise Physiologist - Stone Canyon), (Total - \$500). Alice Dewitt, Tucson, AZ, 85741, 8/28/08, \$750. Jennifer Dewitt, Tucson, AZ, 85747, 8/28/08, \$1,000.

Coreen and James Gubler, Tucson, AZ, 85747 (James - Engineer - Boeing), 8/28/08, (Total - \$1,000). Chris-

Continued on Page Seven

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Martin Gill and his partner, licensed foster parents in Florida, were planning to move, so they told a state child-placement official it wasn't a good time to take in two needy boys. They put out the welcome mat, though, after the official begged them to give baby "James" and his four-year-old brother, "John," a special Christmas. James had a terrible ear infection, and his medicine was spoiled. John had such awful ringworm that he looked bald.

Traumatized and silent, little John had been his infant brother's caretaker. One of the first orders of business for his new foster parents was teaching him that it was their job — not his — to change James' diapers. "Those kids were taking care of each other," Gill recalls. "... And when they came to live with us, (John) wanted to push me out of the way to do these things."

When the children couldn't return to their biological relatives, Gill and his partner focused on giving James and John a loving, permanent family. But what should have been a happy ending for the brothers — now

COMMENTARY...
by Deb Price

Remove State Bans On G/L Adoption

ages 4 and 8 and thriving — is instead a legal limbo: A Florida law, passed in 1977 during Anita Bryant's anti-Gay crusade, prohibits Gay people from adopting. With the American Civil Liberties Union's help, the boys' foster parents are challenging the law as a violation of the state Constitution. Last week, after a four-day trial that included expert testimony on the healthiness of children raised in Gay-headed families, a Florida circuit court judge wisely struck the ban down. (Read ruling at aclu.org.)

Judge Cindy Lederman concluded, "(R)eports and studies find that there are no differences in the parenting of homosexuals or the adjustment of their children. ... (T)he issue is so far beyond dispute that it would be irrational to hold otherwise; the best interests of children are not preserved by prohibiting homosexual adoption." Sadly, the state government is appealing. In this case's background is the anti-Gay industry's fight with the

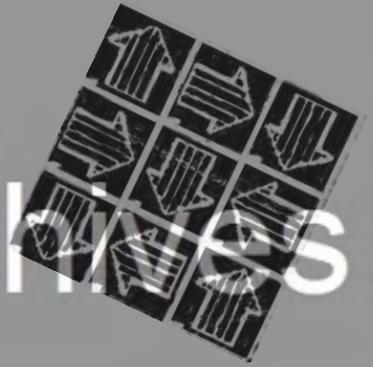
professional world — from the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry to the Child Welfare League of America.

Judges need to rule based on the scientific consensus that children raised by Gay parents are at least as well adjusted as other kids. Despite that consensus, Mississippi bars Gay couples from adopting, Utah bans cohabitating couples from adopting, and Arkansas bars cohabitating couples from fostering or adopting. Florida, which bars all Gays from adopting, is the most restrictive.

But in many states without such restrictions, such as Michigan, the best interests of children aren't always protected because family court judges can be reluctant to extend equal parenting rights to a Gay couple. In 2006, in Florida alone, 165 children aged out of the foster care system without having ever been adopted. Read that sentence again. Judges and

lawmakers need to step up for neglected children. Everyone deserves to grow up in a loving home.

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



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POLITICS

Continued from Page Six

tine Harline, Tucson, AZ, 85741, 8/28/08, \$750. Peggy Lee, Tucson, AZ, 85749, 8/28/08, \$2,000. Owen Mortensen, Tucson, AZ, 85711, (Software Developer - IMV Limited), 8/28/08, \$5,000. Naomi Neely, Tucson, AZ, 85741, 8/28/08, \$500. Michael Paull, Tucson, AZ, 85705, 8/28/08, \$1,000. Vicki Pershing, Tucson, AZ, 85745, 8/28/08, \$1,000. Michael and Margaret Summerhays, Oro Valley, AZ, 85737 (Michael listed as a Finance Manager for Raytheon), 8/28/08 (Total - \$3,000). Greg Thompson, Tucson, AZ, 85749, 8/28/08, \$450. Kristian Thorpe, Tucson, AZ, 85750, 8/28/08, \$4,000. Aubry Wilkes, Tucson, AZ, 85730, 8/28/08, \$1,000. Jill Wilson, Tucson, AZ, 85743, 8/28/08 (Accountant - Self), \$3,000. Leon and Staci Boerup, Tucson, AZ, 85747, 8/29/08 (Owner - Laser Xperts), (Total - \$3,000). Mary Lee Call, Tucson, AZ, 85750, 8/29/08, \$2,000. Brett Dennis, Tucson, AZ, 85747, 8/29/08, \$500. Barbara Goodman, Tucson, AZ, 85739, 8/29/08, \$5,000. Todd A. Johnson, Tucson, AZ, 85748, 8/29/08 (Software Executive - Columbia Ultimate), \$500. Jolina McCook, Tucson, AZ, 85739, 8/29/08, \$1,000. Chris Monson, Tucson, AZ, 85750, 8/29/08 (Real Estate Developer), \$6,000. Karl Nielsen, Tucson, AZ, 85710, 8/29/08 (Software Engineer - IBM), \$1,000. Hillary and David Parry, Tucson, AZ, 85743, 8/29/08 (Doctor - David), (Total - \$2,750). Mindy Powell, Tucson, AZ, 85748, 8/29/08 (Physician - Specialists in Dermatology), \$500. David and Jayne Rogers, Tucson, AZ, 85750, 8/29/08 (Total - \$7,500). Randy Smith, Tucson, AZ, 85710, 8/29/08, \$1,000. Elaine Thueson, Tucson, AZ, 85715, 8/29/08, \$500. Eugene Toone, Tucson, AZ, 85750, 8/29/08, \$5,000. Dean Underwood, Tucson, AZ, 85750, 8/29/08, \$5,000. Dan Watanabe, Tucson, AZ, 85750, 8/29/08 (Worldwide Product Manager - IBM), \$2,000. Matilde Whitney, Tucson, AZ, 85750, 8/29/08, \$1,000.

This is just a microcosm of them and more will be following in subsequent editions, since this was not just a statewide initiative so more will be following and remember, as consumers, we have the right to refuse service to anyone as well. For those interested in even more details, the reports can be found online at azsos.gov/cfs/PublicReports/2008/F751795F-624D-4502-83C4-FD8E16844FC8.pdf, azsos.gov/cfs/PublicReports/2008/1660B06E-2440-4978-8490-1308210055EA.pdf, azsos.gov/cfs/PublicReports/2008/F13C4158-61AE-4EF7-A8BD-6B85801F0145.pdf. For more information online about the ongoing economic boycott go to equalityboycott.com.

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Much Ado About Nothing

by Jack Melichar

HAIR comes to Tucson! Boys and girls, I don't mean going to my friend Scotty's salon and watch him cut and snip. I'm talking about the American Tribal Love Rock Musical that made its Broadway debut on April 29, 1968, and is being produced in Tucson by The Arizona Theatre Company.

In order for this musical to make any sense, it is necessary to recall what was happening in the 60's. A president had been assassinated, as had his brother RFK, and the civil rights leader, Martin Luther King Jr. A very unpopular war was being waged in Viet Nam, there were riots in the streets and on college campuses, and veterans of the war were protesting in Washington: "Hey, Hey LBJ, how many kids did you kill today?" or "1,2,3,4, we don't want your F***ing war!" It was an era when "Make love not war," became the slogan for a new generation of Americans. "Flower power" became a new watchword. There were so many recreational drugs available that one didn't know where to start (and, unfortunately) many didn't no when to stop. The counter culture was here big time.

Born of this mess, was HAIR. It was a startling musical that set not only Broadway and New York, but, indeed the entire nation on its ear. Whoever would have thought that staid Broadway would be the setting for a musical that featured rock music - real rock, not the Tin Pan Alley - spoof kind? And to add

insult to injury to the blue hairs, it had nudity, albeit brief and dimly lit, but nudity nonetheless. Who could resist such temptation? While the musical did not produce the immediate revolution in Broadway music that the critics had predicted, it did run nearly 2,000 performances, and was the beginning of a transformation in the musical styles of the Broadway score.

I would like to add a little aside here. I was living in New York when Hair hit, and I learned that, in addition to the regular fee paid the actors, they were given \$150 per performance to shed their accouterments. I was interested, nay thrilled, to imagine making \$150 for taking off my clothes - something I tend to do every night. So I auditioned. I was deeply insulted when I was offered \$250 - to keep my clothes ON! My pride had been sorely injured and I turned the part down. Now, if you believe that tale, I have a wonderful bridge I want to sell you - cheap. You can put a toll on it and make lots of money. Give me a call.

There, children, that's your history lesson for the week. I am certain had I announced it to be a history lesson, you wouldn't have read the article. GOTCHA! Hair opens December 5 and runs through December 20 at the Temple of Music and Art, 343 S Scott. For ticket information, call 622-2823 or go online to ARIZONATHEATRE.ORG. Next week, I will have a review - good lord willin' and the creek don't rise.

rsletterslettersletters

Dear Community:

With Thanksgiving just celebrated and the holiday season upon us, it's important that I share with you that we are truly thankful for the wonderful people we live with, work with, and are supported by. I speak for the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF), the clients served here, SAAF's Board of Directors and staff when I say thank you for helping to provide a compassionate response to HIV/AIDS in this great community.

On Monday, December 1, Tucson observed the 20th Annual World AIDS Day event along with thousands of other communities across our nation. This event was spearheaded by a group of collaborative agencies and organizations, including SAAF, and a very dedicated group of volunteers with a mission to remind the community on the importance of remembering and supporting those living with HIV/AIDS and the leadership that we all can take in helping to prevent new HIV infections.

I send my heartfelt thanks to the people who shared their powerful and personal stories on Monday, December 1. Know that you educated many, many people. Thank you to everyone who helped put this event together. It truly was a community event and a wonderful afternoon and evening of education and observance.

As one person who spoke said, the closet for those of us living with HIV/AIDS has gotten much bigger and affects many. We all need to take action in getting tested and educated about HIV- so true, yet sometimes so hard. Those first steps of getting tested can be very frightening. I ask you to please listen to this message. Get tested. And, know that SAAF is here to help you walk through any fears this brings. For now, prevention and education are our only cure and we must take this seriously.

If you are unsure of the work that SAAF does, how you can get tested, or

would to learn more on how you can make a difference in the daily lives of many people, please call me to get more information or for a personal tour of SAAF. I promise you that each time I give a tour of SAAF, people are amazed at how much is done in our own community because of the leadership inspired by this community decades ago that continues today. Please let us show you how important this work is and how you can help.

I hope to meet many of you soon. In the meantime, as the holiday season approaches, I send my best wishes to you and your families.

Wendell Hicks,
Executive Director - Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) Tucson, AZ

CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE

EDITOR -

I decided to organize a toy drive as a special way to honor and celebrate the life of my sister, Jacalyn. Jacalyn was the most generous person I have ever know. She also had a special place in her heart to every child she ever met. I know that nothing that would make her happier than to bring a smile to the face of a child. She truly understood that the "Joy" of the Holiday season was in giving of yourself. When I think of Jacalyn and how she lived her life, I am inspired to be a better, more generous person.

I have also decided to become part of this toy drive to celebrate my sister's birthday, Sunday, December 7. I will be collecting toys for our Tucson Ronald McDonald House on the patio at IBT's 616 N. 4th Avenue from 4:00 to 7:30 p.m. There will also be Karaoke and treats to celebrate the holiday season. Hope to see you there.

James Doligale aka Tazz. 406-1414

COMMENTARY....

by King Daevid MacKenzie

Some People Who Make Very Little Noise

Fifteen years ago, I sent the following post (which I've slightly modified for publishing here) to the rec.radio.broadcasting Usenet newsgroup, when the late Bill Pfeiffer was moderating it. He liked the post enough to repost it himself a couple of weeks later. Some details have become antiquated since then, considering the ChumpChannelisation of terrestrial radio, but the essence still stands. I hope you find it to be worth another think.

Back in 1965, Robert and Thomas Dunker of Gauntlet Press in Hermosa Beach, California, began publishing an annual magazine with a name that decorum prohibits announcing here. The closest I can come is the compound word "Horsespit," which is just one consonant away from reality. Its slogan was "The Offensive Review," so you can imagine to which level of profanity it aspired.

Inserted on page 11 of the first issue, amongst some primitively sexual humour, angry political satire and cartoons so surreal and biting that one suspects even the Los Angeles Free Press would have rejected them, was the anonymous piece below:

SOME PEOPLE WHO MAKE VERY LITTLE NOISE

The pretty girl with deformed feet who sits at home with her aging parents and gets quietly drunk at night. Then waits until they have fallen asleep and cries and cries.

The thirty-five year old fat woman whose husband won't take her anyplace and who pours out all her heart's love on her little dog, the only one in the world who loves her.

The middle-aged man who looks up from his work and sees a pretty blonde teenager sitting close to her boyfriend in a car and remembers that he was always afraid of girls when he was young.

The young married man whose wife is holding some unnamed grudge and won't sleep with him.

The kid who was a star halfback on his small high school team and who was injured in his first college scrimmage but continues to play because he is afraid to tell the coach.

The plain 31-year-old sales clerk who has a pair of newlyweds come into the store and keep looking at each other, while she waits with hungry hopeless eyes.

(Missing, but you can easily add, was: The 47-year-old man who foregoes companionship because he cannot bring himself to emerge from his closet.)

Of course, this describes a good part of the radio audience; those with such paralysing fears and sorrows about the world around them that they are only able to relate to whatever little section of reality they can through US in the broadcasting business. I'm also certain this describes a helluva lot of US, too: I'm convinced at least a third of us are in this business because it allows us to make contact with potentially millions of people at one time without having to look any of them straight in the eye.

I bring this up today because this is the time of year, the one month out of the twelve, where we pay lip service to

the socially disadvantaged. We conduct God-only-knows-how-many local Toys for Tots campaigns, food drives and bell ringings at every business center imaginable. We seem to play more songs about positive family relationships, reconciliation and peace on Earth between Thanksgiving and New Years Day than any other stretch of the calendar. We claim to shed a tear or two over the umpteenth local TV run of IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE and A CHRISTMAS CAROL.

Question here is—why does it seem that on January 2 we begin thinking of these folks described above only when "Eleanor Rigby" pops up in the oldies rotation, if even then?

Surely it can't be only because we can't effectively build a promotion like this around some other time of year—can it?

Of course, IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE is now run only a couple of times a year on terrestrial television, and I can't recall the last time I heard a commercial radio station play "Eleanor Rigby" when I wasn't the disc jockey playing it. But the remainder stands fairly solidly today. And, since I like to think this paper attracts an audience that's much smarter than the average bear — is there really anything left to say?

(King Daevid MacKenzie is a longtime broadcaster for many radio and TV stations in Chicago, Winnipeg, Wisconsin and Arizona, including contributing commentaries for "LesBiGay Radio" on WSBS and WCFJ in Chicago.)

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Boy George On Male Escort: I Certainly Wasn't Going To Kill Him'

LONDON, UK (Observer Update) - Jurors heard that Boy George chained male model/escort Auden Carlsen to his bed because he thought Carlsen had stolen photos from his computer to use on his website:

"I absolutely admit I had him in the handcuffs, so he wouldn't go anywhere while I checked the computer. I certainly wasn't going to kill him, that's hardly going to do my career any good is it?" he told police. O'Dowd, 47, met Norwegian male escort Auden Carlsen over the Internet and the pair arranged to meet for a pornographic photo shoot...Carlsen has accused O'Dowd of chaining him up on their second meeting at the singer's east London flat and beating him with a chain.

O'Dowd admitted to police that he had hit Carlsen before, but only through choice. 'You can't spank anyone if they don't want you to,' he said,



Boy George

asserting that on the occasion in question he had not punched or assaulted the escort. 'Those are



Model/Escort Auden Carlsen

serious handcuffs, there was no reason to beat him up when I'd put him in those,' he said. 'I was just so angry. It

wasn't about me doing anything, I just wanted to make sure he did not leave my house."

Obama Pledges To Expand Domestic AIDS Plan

CHICAGO, Illinois (Observer Update) - President-elect Barack Obama said Monday (December 1) he would continue the international HIV/AIDS strategy and expand domestic efforts to fight the virus, advocate.com reported. "We must also recommit ourselves to addressing the AIDS crisis here in the United States, with a strong national strategy of education, prevention, and treatment, focusing on those communities at greatest risk," Obama said in a video address to the Saddleback Civil Forum on Global Health. "This strategy must be based on the best available science, and built on the foundation of a strong health care system."

The Obama administration plans to implement national strategies to decrease the rate of HIV transmission, including establishing a universal

health care system, targeting minority communities, and supporting the Ryan White CARE Act. The plan also calls for comprehensive, age-appropriate sexual education, in contrast to Bush policies that withdrew funding from organizations that did not teach abstinence-only education. Globally, Obama said the federal government will provide at least \$50 billion by 2013 to fight AIDS around the world, at least doubling the number of people who are treated for the virus. He also promised to push for distribution of less-expensive generic drugs and invest in other nations' infrastructure problems that increase the rate of transmission like water conditions, and debt reduction.

Obama said, however, that the battle against the epidemic could not

be fought simply with more funding or with government intervention. "We must do our part," he said. "This year's slogan, 'Stop AIDS, Keep the Promise' is a timely one. In the Apostle Paul's message to the Corinthians, he asked, 'If the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will go to battle?'"

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Obama Appointments To Cabinet, Transition Team Good Sign For LGBT Community

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - Some of President-elect Barack Obama's early cabinet and staff appointments have good track records on LGBT issues, reported Lisa Keen of Bay Windows. The appointments are rolling out steadily now for the Obama administration. In some cases they have come in the form of actual announced appointments and in others they have been leaks to the media about presumably certain appointments. But so far, most sound like good news for the LGBT community.

Seven openly LGBT people are part of the transition team that is helping to prepare the president-elect to take charge of the federal government beginning January 20. Interestingly, five of them are former appointees of President Bill Clinton. The three appointments of greatest interest have been for Secretary of Health and Human Services, U.S. Attorney General, and the White House domestic policy adviser.

Former U.S. Senator Tom Daschle, a long-time friend to the LGBT community, has been tapped to head HHS, though his appointment has not been formally announced. Daschle represented South Dakota in the U.S. Senate and, while considered friendly

to Gay causes, did not score well on his last "scorecard" with the Human Rights Campaign. He earned only a 63 (out of a possible 100) in his last two years in the Senate. Daschle declined a request to co-sponsor the Early Treatment for HIV Act of 2003. According to HRC, the bill would have enabled people with HIV to receive Medicaid and would have enabled people with HIV and low incomes to receive state aid under the category of "categorically needy." He also declined a request to add sexual orientation to his Senate office non-discrimination policy, even though an earlier scorecard showed he did and in the scorecard for the previous two-year session, Daschle earned a 100 percent score.

In recent days, the Obama campaign's transition website has stated that, "In the first year of his presidency, Barack Obama will develop and begin to implement a comprehensive national HIV/AIDS strategy that includes all federal agencies." And Daschle, a senior fellow with the Center for American Progress, a liberal think tank headed by Obama's transition chief John Podesta, is presumably onboard with that plan. President-elect Obama is reportedly planning to appoint former Deputy Attorney General (under Bill Clinton) Eric Holder as his U.S. Attorney

General. Tracey Conaty, who for many years headed up a group documenting and seeking to prevent LGBT-related hate crimes in Washington, D.C., said Holder "clearly cared about the issue of hate crimes." "He was smart and informed about the law," said Conaty. "He was also very respectful, and you got the impression that he took these meetings with community folks seriously."

Though the position gets far less attention than cabinet positions, White House domestic policy adviser is a critical office to the LGBT community. The adviser makes recommendations to the president on a wide range of domestic issues, including many that can be of specific interest to Gays. The position became notorious under President Reagan, when he appointed ultra-conservative activist Gary Bauer to the spot. To that position, President-elect Obama has named Melody Barnes, a former top aide to U.S. Senator Ted Kennedy, one of the most pro-Gay members of Congress in history. "She's smart, sharp, solid - she totally gets the Gay and HIV issues," says Chai Feldblum, who worked with Kennedy in the drafting of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). "I worked with her a lot in Kennedy's office. I'm more excited about this appointment than just about anything."

Most familiar among the seven openly LGBT people serving on the transition team is Roberta Achtenberg, who served as assistant secretary in the Department of Housing and Urban Development under Clinton. Achtenberg garnered more attention than most assistant secretaries when then-Senator Jesse Helms referred to her as "that damn Lesbian" and tried to block her confirmation.

Others on the transition team include Michael Guest, former Clinton ambassador to Romania; Fred Hochberg, former Clinton Small Business Administration leader; Elaine Kaplan, who headed Clinton's Office of Special Counsel; Thomas Soto, who was appointed by Clinton to serve on an international commission involved in conservation efforts with Mexico; Rick Stamberger, president of an online Gay news collection website called SmartBrief; and Brad Kiley, a deputy assistant for administration at the Clinton White House. Kiley is one of 13 members of the transition team's senior staff, serving as one of two directors of operations. He, along with Soto and Stamberger, are among 21 people on the "Executive Office of the President" team.

Achtenberg is one of 12 people on the HHS transition advisory team. Guest is one of 11 people on the Department of State segment of the "National Security Team." Kaplan is one of 10 people on the "Government Operations Team." Hochberg is one of 20 on the "Economics and International Trade Team."

While the others served under President Clinton, Stamberger was a White House fellow under then-Vice President George H.W. Bush, during the Reagan administration. The seven openly Gay appointees are among about 300 people named to help the Obama administration prepare to take the reins of the government starting January 20.

Gay leaders have taken note of the Obama transition website's inclusion of the President-elect commitment's to Gay civil rights issues. The Human Rights Campaign called it

an "encouraging sign." Meanwhile, the Gay and Lesbian Leadership Institute reports having received more than 1,300 applications from LGBT people interested in seeking an appointment with the Obama administration. Spokesperson Denis Dison says the Institute groups are putting together their own "review teams" to examine the applications and "tease out applicants who are qualified." Dison says the Obama transition team is "aware of the project."

Testing Opportunities Missed

NEW YORK CITY (Observer Update) - Two years after the government urged making HIV tests as common as cholesterol checks, there are small gains but still one in five people infected with the AIDS virus doesn't know it, scientists said, advocate.com reported. Eleven states that once required special consent for HIV antibody testing have changed their laws, a key step to making an HIV test part of the standard battery that patients expect.

But HIV specialists meeting November 20 said other barriers include physician confusion about the ease of today's rapid tests, which can cost as little as \$15 - although many patients seem to accept them. No more than 100 of the nation's 5,000 emergency rooms routinely test for HIV in patients who aren't critically ill, said Dr. John Bartlett of Johns Hopkins University, who cochaired the Forum for Collaborative HIV Research meeting. Yet because so many HIV patients are poor or uninsured, ERs are the health care setting most likely to find them. And while every pregnant woman is supposed to be tested so that steps can be taken to protect her unborn baby, about 40% aren't, he added.

"Those are what we call missed opportunities," Bartlett said. Today, the test is "much better, it's much easier, it's much cheaper. The treatment is really great now." Just over 1.1 million Americans are estimated to have HIV and 232,000 don't know it, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The CDC for years recommended routine testing mainly for people at high-risk, such as injection-drug users. Then, finally, came drugs potent enough to keep HIV patients healthy for years, postponing the slide into advanced AIDS. Yet nearly half of new infections still were being discovered too late for patients to benefit. Not to mention that people who don't know they're infected unwittingly spread the virus.

So in September 2006 the CDC recommended routine testing for everyone ages 13 to 64, whether they think they're at risk for HIV or not. There is no nationwide data yet on the new guidelines' impact, the CDC's Dr. Bernard Branson said and studies presented suggest that more than 80% of emergency-room patients were amenable to an HIV test while most ER workers opposed testing them. Why? Presumably because ERs are so busy and there's confusion about how much HIV counseling is needed.

But Bartlett demonstrated how to quickly give people a chance to either opt out or request counseling: "Mr. Jones, you're going to have a cholesterol test, a blood count, and an HIV test - and by the way, we do the HIV test on everybody because that's what the CDC has recommended. Is there any part of this that you want more information about or you don't want to have?"

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Obama Team Denies It Will Delay 'Don't Ask' Repeal

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - A member of Barack Obama's transition team is denying media reports that the president-elect has decided to delay efforts to repeal "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" until 2010, reported the Washington Blade. An Obama transition team spokesperson, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, said the decision on how to approach repealing "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," which prohibits Gays from serving openly in the military, would be made after more experts have joined the Obama administration.

"These decisions will not be made before the full national security team is in place," the spokesperson said. The Washington Times reported last week that two people who have advised Obama's transition team said the president-elect "will not move for months, and perhaps not until 2010" to repeal the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law, which Congress passed in 1993. Ending the ban was one of Obama's campaign promises, although he said before his election that he would get the military on board with eliminating the law before taking action.

The Times article also quotes Aubrey Sarvis, executive director of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, saying that he thinks 2009 "is about foundation building and reaching consensus" and that he has held "informal discussions" with the Obama transition team on how the administration should proceed with the issue. Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.), said repealing "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" may be further off and told the Blade earlier this month that "once Iraq is over," Congress can eliminate the law.

But not everyone familiar with the issue has said that repealing the ban on open service would come later rather than sooner. Rep. Ellen Tauscher (D-Calif.), the lead sponsor of legislation that would repeal "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" told CNN earlier this month that the administration would approve of such a bill next year. "The key here is to get bills that pass the House and the Senate, that we can get to President-elect Obama to sign, and I think that we can do that, certainly, the first year of the administration," she said.

Retired Army Col. Stewart Bornhoft, who is Gay and a former commander in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, said changing the law would require both "passion and preparation." "Clearly, the passion for change is there," he said. "But it requires proper preparation for the [Defense Department] to declare that they can implement open service successfully."

However, Bornhoft said repealing "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" should be attainable in the next Congress. "Whether that's the first or second half of that period should be determined by the progress within the Pentagon's thinking rather than an arbitrary calendar date," he said.

Heather Sarver, a Lesbian and former Russian linguist for the Air Force who was discharged under "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" in 2003, said she understands "the need to build support" for legislation repealing the law, but said "everyone who cares about this issue should hold specific members of Congress accountable for their support

of the bill." "What I fear is that Democrats have stated that they support repealing [the ban] in order to appease their Gay constituents and to say they support Gay issues without being in support of Gay marriage," she said. "If they are sincere, then they will schedule meetings with other members of Congress and garner their support for repeal."

Sarver said if lawmakers do not work on building support, their opposition to "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" in the election will be seen as "nothing more than a political chess move." A Washington Post poll this summer found that 75 percent of Americans support allowing Gays to serve openly, compared to 45 percent in 1993.

Jury: Officer Killed Gay KY. Student

COLUMBIA, Missouri (Observer Update) - A former Columbia police officer was convicted of first-degree murder in the death of a Gay college student from Kentucky with whom he had an affair.

The jury, brought in from Clay County, Mo., deliberated nine hours before convicting Steven Rios of slashing Jesse Valencia's throat last

June. Valencia, 23, of Danville, was attending the University of Missouri-Columbia. Rios, 28, was also convicted of armed criminal action and faces a mandatory sentence of life without parole for the murder conviction.

The jury recommended a 10-year term for armed criminal action. Formal sentencing was set for July 5.

Birmingham Mayor Arrested



BIRMINGHAM, Alabama (Observer Update) - Birmingham mayor Larry Langford was arrested by federal authorities on questions about county

bond funds and the mayor's own personal finances. The exact charges are under court seal, but according to The Birmingham News:

"Langford, LaPierre and Montgomery investment banker Bill Blount are accused in a U.S. Securities and

Exchange Commission lawsuit of not disclosing \$156,000 in payments to Langford. The SEC has accused Blount of paying Langford through LaPierre as part of a plan to secure Jefferson County financial business when Langford was Jefferson County Commission president."

Langford made national news earlier this year as well when he refused to issue a parade permit to the Birmingham Gay Pride Parade, in addition to refusing any use of public property for the parade. At the time Langford said, "I don't think I'm intolerant, I just don't condone the lifestyle. Your personal lifestyle should be nobody's issue but yours. It's not a civil rights issue, it's a personal choice issue," queerty.com reported.

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by Jimmy Petrol

Tucson Shifts Building Inspection Focus

Times are tough all over, especially in job sectors that were staffed-up to meet the demands of the housing boom. Now there are few new houses to inspect and the Tucson Building Department is left with little to do. The City of Tucson has been busy thinking outside the box and has found a clever way to maintain its staffing levels; they have found some dusty old regulations to enforce and are busy as little bees doing it.

For businesses, there are building codes that are (ostensibly) meant to protect the public from risk and injury that could arise from patronizing businesses that are housed in sub-standard buildings. Each kind of business has a different set of standards, with schools and hospitals being more or less fire-proof and restaurant made to have cooking and food handling facilities to keep salmonella at bay.

As America's standard of living has risen, the building code has imposed higher and higher standards on all types of buildings. Small offices and stores that were fine a few years ago are now code-washouts. However, one of the most onerous requirements to be put on small businesses in the recent past has nothing to do with the building code or public safety. It is rather the result of city planners that have neglected to evaluate existing business conditions properly. One of the most obvious results is a stalled, vacant downtown.

The new hot-agenda item for the Tucson Building Department is to close down all the rest of the businesses that remain in the older city core. The deal-breaker for small business is a requirement for off-street parking. This may be fine in sub-urban areas where new commercial buildings are built on newly developed land that has parking in mind from the outset. But in the city center, the buildings are there and the parking is not. To close businesses, especially now, because the parking is on the public street is absurd; what is the street parking for?

An example of this sudden turn in enforcement...for twenty-five years, a local computer-repair-recycler has been toiling away doing the "green" thing just outside of the quasi-trendy Rio-Nuevo boundaries. The area is home to a

variety of different kinds of businesses, most housed in buildings that are older. The thing that is common to most of these business-buildings, just like the downtown area's buildings, is that there is little, if any, off-street parking. There is plenty of curb-side parking, the area being typically depressed just like most of the city core. Nobody is there, the curb-side parking is unused. Now the business is closed, hapless victim of the new city focus on businesses operating "illegally". While the city had new-building permits to administer, these hundreds of businesses provided safe, valuable services to the community. Now that the city has little to do, these micro-business owners have found themselves staring at a city inspector, suddenly aghast at the conditions of the building and the lack of parking.

Another thing that has happened in other cities, whose goal it is to promote business' success in their city cores where adequate parking was never designed into the matrix, is different from Tucson. Rather than close businesses which have no land in front of the building to park cars, the cities, like Portland, Oregon, have constructed municipal parking lots and allowed the streets to fill with parked cars.

Taking the parking burden off the back of very small, quaint and interesting businesses in areas which have stood developed for nearly a century is the surest path to a thriving downtown/city core. The City of Tucson has taken the opposite tack and unreasonably requires business which cannot provide parking to close.

Portland makes an annual profit on the parking garages that dot its thriving downtown. Multi-story lots are clean and well lit and provide safe, convenient parking for the thousands of tiny storefront-businesses which make Portland so vibrant. The little deli that makes the best pastrami in town? Still open and dishing out the sandwiches, thanks to city planning that puts the parking problem where it belongs: on the city's plate.

Rather than spend amazing amounts of Rio-Nuevo money to build another campus for the U of A, while allowing the city core to lie suffocating under the poorly-conceived parking ordinance, the City could take a look at Portland and get a clue. Building one parking garage downtown won't do; the City must take existing business areas as they come, parking or no parking...when the streets are lined with cars patronizing little Tucson businesses, the city's pockets will be lined with golden sales tax revenues.

Southwest offers flights to the dizzily-city from prices that have gone as low as fifty-bucks each way. Surely the city planners that are so good at thinking outside the box can afford a little outing for the sake of Tucsonians who yearn for success in our downtown, not larger and more suburb-like campuses.

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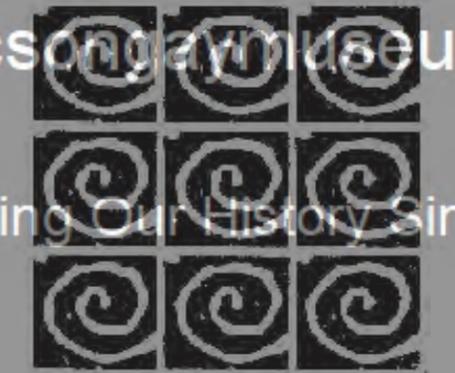


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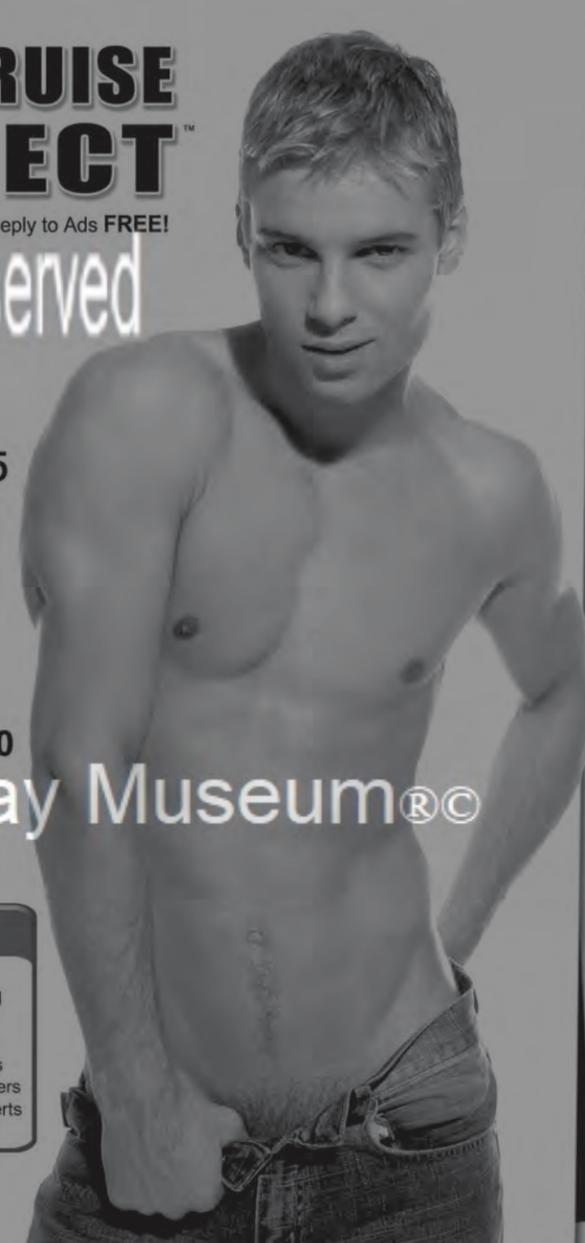
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Raise your temperature as December gets underway and shocking Uranus redirects. It is not only the time to shake up the landscape, it is also time to grab your gifts and give some goodies away. Ho ho ho.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22)
When is enough, enough? It may be hard to tell. Gay Scorps hop on the party train and become fun-filled, feisty and foul mouthed. Enjoy every over-the-top minute but know how to pace yourself so you don't become dissipated. There will be opportunities to make your opinions known in no uncertain terms. Will you be naughty or nice? Don't lie to Santa.

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)
Generate attention in your career and gather your professional rosebuds proud Ram. Not only can you highlight your good points to those in power in surprisingly effective ways, you also consolidate your position in time for the new year. Excitement brews with a secret admirer. Who can it be? Hang the mistletoe and see who wanders by...

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22)
There is a light at the end of the fiscal tunnel this December for Gay Archers who know how to save and invest. Don't be surprised if family members come to the fiscal rescue or if you discover a cache hidden away at home. Before you remove the floorboards in search of booty, remember that money cannot buy everything. Then again, it does buy nice champagne...

TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)
Queer Bulls take a fling with a friend this December when your wildest fantasies find an appreciative audience and your hot maneuvers steer you in the right direction. Travel far afield and get into mischief with a couple of merry elves. Compadres provide happy surprises that bolster your confidence. Let's hope those surprises come wrapped from Tiffany. Ahem.

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20)
Gay Caps have the gift of gab this December. Your surprising observations and opinions put you in good stead with new acquaintances and can change hearts and minds. Don't waste your time daydreaming and wasting precious time. Launch new projects and spread yourself thin. Before you know it you will operate on a new level. Basement or penthouse...?

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)
How much fun can a pink Twin have without laughing? The planets pop your cork this December. Spray the champagne around and don't slip on the puddles, especially around the office. You have a rare opportunity to demonstrate your considerable abilities to bosses as Uranus turns up the heat and stirs your pot. Hmmm. So what is really cooking??

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19)
Aqueerians are given a surprising opportunity to make extra cash this December. Turn a sow's ear into a financial silk purse. Long held values are examined and dissected before the new year. Toss out what is no longer affirming and confidence building. There is a lot of activity going on behind the scenes. Secrets will be revealed, especially if you dress as a naked elf.

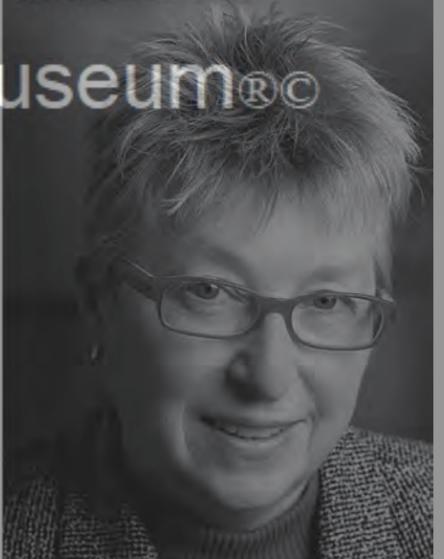
CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)
Gay Crabs are happiest when ensconced in a relationship. Thank your lucky stars this December when the fates conspire to make a match. If you're already spoken for, use the time before Christmas to solidify and cocoon. If you're still trawling, try casting your net farther afield. Or send out a search party with the emphasis on party. New Years ain't that far off.

PISCES (FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20)
Guppies are pushed Out into the limelight this December. Are you ready or not? You manage to make an unusual first impression. (Maybe it's the red and green outfit...?) Strive for personal fulfillment by expanding your range and diving into new social pools. Before you know it you will have a bevy of new friends ready to roast their chestnuts before your open fire.

LEO (JULY 24 - AUGUST 23)
December offers all proud Lions a wilde and heart leaping lovefest. You are zesty and ready for anything. Find ways to sweep lovers off their feet and feast while the cosmos cooks. Life heats up in others ways as well; Later in the month you will need to attend to all sorts of pesky details at work. But of course your ample end of year bonus makes it all worth it....

VIRGO (AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23)
Queer Virgins are up to their old tricks in December when a cavalcade of parties finds space on your dance card. Join the conga line and celebrate. Not only will you rub elbows with the A list, you might also cement current loving relationships or start new, delightful ones. This year you will hang more than one stocking by the fireplace. What or who will fill it?

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LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23)
Repair any frayed family lines in December. The fates encourage proud Libras to make an attempt at harmony and good cheer both at home and at work. No matter how you decide to make your good intentions known, you'll be satisfied by the results. The new year brings a fresh affirming breeze .. and a bunch of presents by a certain jolly gent.

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for more information at 591-2828

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, December 12,13,14
Join Reveille men's chorus for their concert, "Holidays in Hollywood" at Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 2331 E. Adams. Tickets are \$20 at the door, \$15 in advance and Seniors \$10. For more ticket information call (520)304-11758.

Saturday December 13th
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Shuffle over for Floating Pinochle every Saturday of the month except for first Saturday. Contact Marvin at 745-0304 for directions and information.

Sunday December 14th
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 6:30p.m. Dinner Out at Zinburger Restaurant. For reservations and directions, contact Thom 908-6160, e-mail thomsepals@hotmail.com .

Monday, December 15th
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: Men's Book Club 6:30p.m. Meet Stephen and the group monthly for dinner and discussion of an agreed upon work of gay fiction. Currently, the group meets the 3rd Monday. Contact Stephen at 241-7854 to add yourself to their e-mail list.

Tuesday, December 16th
Songstress Linda Eder comes to the Tucson Music Hall for one night only at 7:30 p.m. to "Rock The Holidays" with her new country-pop sound. Tickets are available now and range in price from \$29-\$49. Buy tickets online at broadwayintucson.com, by phone with Ticketmaster (520)321-1000 or in person at the Tucson Convention Center, 260 S. Church Ave.

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

Thursday, December 18th
Join the Tucson Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Chamber of Commerce (TGLBTCC) for their annual Holiday Party to be held from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Ain't Nonbody's Bizness, 2900 E. Broadway.

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

Men's Social Network: Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed. 7:00pm Join the guys for a game of Bridge. For more information and directions contact Ike at 207-6264

Saturday, December 20th
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Shuffle over for Floating Pinochle every Saturday of the month except for first Saturday. Contact Steve at 664-2076 for directions and information.

Men's Social Network. Pizza night at Pizzazz restaurant. This is open to men of all ages and is a pay as you order event. For more information and directions call Thom at 908-6160

Sunday, December 21st
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 6:30p.m. Dinner Out at Kettle's. For reservations and directions, contact Thom 908-6160, e-mail thomsepals@hotmail.com.

NON-BAR CALENDAR

Wednesday, December 3rd
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m.
Hand and Foot with Bruce at 743-3890.

Thursday December 4th
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, Triangle Tribe. Call Tom for more information

Men's Social Network. Bridge Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m.
Contact Ike at 207-6264 for location and directions

Friday, December 5th
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Join Merlin and Lee for an evening of Charades. Come out and totally enjoy putting your acting/miming and pantomime skills to the test! For directions and reservations [(a limited space event, please plan ahead and phone early)], place a telephone call to Lee and Merlin, your gracious yet competitive emcees and moderators, at 207-5336.

Saturday, December 6th
A statewide collaboration, Equality Arizona, Wingspan, Prescott Pride Center and the Amancio Project invite you to a day-long Town Hall from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Arizona State University, Life Science Bldg-A Room 191. For more info call (602)650-0900.

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

your friends at MSN.

Saturday & Sunday, December 6 & 7
Desert Voices Chorus celebrates the opening of their 20th season with concerts at Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 2331 E. Adams. 7:30 p.m. on Saturday and 3:00 p.m. on Sunday. Tucson's nationally known singer/songwriter, Namoli Brenett, will join Desert Voices for this concert.

Sunday, December 7
Meet in the lobby of the Tucson Museum of Art, 140 N. Main at 1:00 p.m. for a free day at the museum and enjoy an into and tour with retired professor of art, Maurice Grossman

Reveille Men's Chorus will sing during the Sunday morning worship service at St. Mark's Presbyterian Church, 3809 E. third Street at 11:00 a.m.

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 6:30p.m. Dinner Out at the Golden Corral. For reservations and directions, contact Thom 908-6160, e-mail thomsepals@hotmail.com .

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

Wednesday, December 10th
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Hand and Foot with Marv and Steve 745-0304.

Thursday, December 11th
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, 7:00 pm Triangle Tribe. Call Tom

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

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World AIDS Day 2008 In Tucson

Ten Most Important AIDS Stories Of 2008



NEW YORK CITY (Observer Update) - Monday, Dec. 1, is the 20th anniversary of World AIDS Day, an international day of reflection around the epidemic, which is still uncured, reported 365Gay.com.

About 33 million worldwide have HIV - thousands remain unaware that they have the virus. Worldwide, World AIDS Day is marked by conferences, sporting events, galas, and grassroots and government-sponsored outreach programs - we remember it with our annual list of the most important HIV/AIDS stories of the year.

As the World AIDS Campaign announced, "whilst we have come a long ways since 1988, there is still much more to be done."

1. International AIDS Conference in Mexico City - The 17th annual International AIDS conference convened in Mexico City this past August. More than 23,000 prominent figures in the plight towards AIDS research, treatment, education, and awareness gathered in Mexico City in August to share their findings from the past year. The attendees addressed worldwide issues from women and children with AIDS, to HIV and transgender persons, prisoners, and refugees. AIDS 2008 International Chair and IAS President Dr. Pedro Cahn declared in his closing speech that, "this conference has given out a message of hope for all people living with HIV and AIDS."

2. CDC reports AIDS spreading faster than anticipated - Also in August, a special HIV/AIDS issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association published its findings on estimates for new HIV infections in the United States. The latest report, which compiled data from 2002-2006, showed that prior estimates of new infections were low. The rate by which new viruses are spreading is actually 40 percent higher than previously believed, representing about 56,000 new cases of HIV in 2006. The article noted that people in their 30s accounted for the most new infections and that 73 percent were men. The report also found that men who have sex with men represented 53 percent of all new cases.

3. Part of the U.S. HIV travel ban lifted - Congress voted in July to expand PEPFAR, the Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, to provide an additional \$48 billion dollars for the fight against AIDS, mainly in sub-Saharan Africa. Perhaps even more poignantly, the bill also repealed the part of the travel ban preventing the free movement of HIV-positive people into the U.S. for 20 years. In a radio address on July 26, President Bush spoke to the nation about the new legislation, declaring that, "fighting disease is one part of America's larger commitment to help struggling nations build more hopeful futures of freedom."

4. Call for a national AIDS strategy - More than 100 organizations from around the country have banded together to press President-elect Barack Obama to formulate a comprehensive national policy to address the AIDS crisis. Krishna Stone, spokeswoman for the Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC), believes that this coming together of forces is due to a growing "let's look at what's going on in our own backyard" mentality, instead of focusing all strategy on Africa. The U.S. to date has no national strategy for fighting AIDS here at home.

6. Bono joins Starbucks to help AIDS victims - U2 star Bono made a surprise visit to a Starbucks managerial meeting this past October - surprising even his band members - as part of his

continued efforts to raise money for The Global Fund, which provides support to help fight AIDS and other illnesses. Starting in January 2009, the peppermint mocha twist, gingersnap latte, and espresso truffle will all be "red" beverages, with some of the profits allocated to help purchase anti-retroviral drugs and other necessities for those lacking the means to access proper HIV treatment.

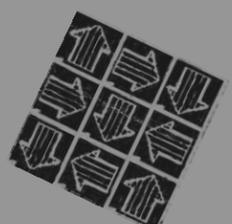
7. Rapid HIV testing in an ER boosts diagnoses, screening - The Emergency Department at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit conducted a study with alarming results. They found that one in 50 people screened with new rapid-test HIV equipment were positive. Researchers hope to inspire others to do HIV screening in their emergency departments, saying that this method, which is not widely practiced, will expose cases that would otherwise remain unknown. Indira Brar, M.D., lead author of the study, reported, "we know that people are more likely to modify risk behaviors and less likely to transmit or acquire infection if they know whether they are HIV positive or not. By offering more testing resources, as our study reflected, we can boost ways to diagnose infections and accelerate progress in reducing the HIV epidemic."

8. Nobel Prize for Medicine awarded to discoverers of HIV - Françoise Barre-Sinoussi and Luc Montagnier were awarded the 2008 Nobel Prize in medicine this October for discovering the HIV virus. The two French scientists uncovered the virus in 1981 by studying lymph nodes from patients with similar symptoms. They were able to isolate viral cells by 1984. AIDS now affects an estimated 1% of the global population. The award was shared with Harald zur Hausen, who discovered HPV.

9. Internet-based "living" AIDS quilt launched in New Orleans - A virtual, interactive "living quilt" was launched on the web recently in an attempt to increase awareness around the spread of AIDS among women, particularly minorities, in the South. Two New Orleans-based groups - the Southern AIDS Coalition and the National Minority Quality Forum's Test for Life campaign - headed up this effort to "empower, encourage, and educate." The quilt has different images of different women, including patients, doctors, assistants, and related others from the community. Visitors to the site can click on each image to read more about the person and watch a video about her individual story.

10. Doctors say marrow transplant may have cured AIDS - A 42-year old man living with AIDS underwent a bone marrow transplant normally used to treat cancer that may have rendered his HIV positive status negative. The patient, an American taking up residence in Berlin, had been living with the disease for 10 years when he agreed to try this aggressive treatment option. He stopped taking his normal medications and was subject to intense radiation to kill infected cells in his bone marrow - a procedure that kills 20-30% of patients - after which they replaced his virus-ridden bone marrow with the 1 in 62 marrow that has tested HIV-resistant. It's not certain whether the virus will come back, but he's tested negative for 20 months now and doctors are hopeful that he will remain virus-free.

PHOTOS: Bill Morrow



Gay Rights In A Post Modern World

NEW YORK CITY (Observer Update) - Gay is the new black, say the protest signs and magazine covers, casting the Gay marriage battle as the last frontier of equal rights for all, reported the Associated Press in analysis for 365Gay.com.

Gay marriage is not a civil right, opponents counter, insisting that minority status comes from who you are rather than what you do. The Gay rights movement entered a new era when Barack Obama was elected the first black president the same day that voters in Arizona California and Florida passed referendums to prevent Gays and Lesbians from marrying and Arkansans said no to adoptions by same-sex couples.

Racism was defanged by Obama's triumph, leaving Gays as perhaps the last group of Americans claiming that their basic rights are being systematically denied. "Black people are equal now, and Gay people aren't," said Emil Wilbekin, a black Gay man and the editor of Giant magazine. "I always have this discussion with my friends: What's worse, being a black man or a black Gay man?" "Civil rights have come much further than Gay rights," he said. "A lot of people in the Gay community have been condemned for their lifestyle and promiscuity and drugs and sex, so it's odd that when they want to conform and model themselves after straight people and have the same rights for marriage and domestic partnership and adoption, they're being blocked."

In a cover story for the Advocate magazine titled "Gay is the New Black," Michael Joseph Gross wrote, "These past few years we've made so much progress that we'd begun to think everybody saw us as we see ourselves. Suddenly we were faced with the reality that a majority of voters don't like us, don't think we're normal, don't believe our lives and loves count as much or are worth as much as theirs." Yet even some Gay leaders are reluctant to directly tie their fight to the African-American legacy. They acknowledge significant differences in the experiences of Gays and blacks, ranging from slavery to the relative affluence of white Gay men to the choice made by some Gays to conceal their sexual orientation, which is not an option for those with darker skin.

"I believe we are very much in a modern-day civil rights struggle," said Joe Solmonese, president of the Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest Gay rights organization. "We liken some of the experiences that we have had and will have to the (black) civil rights struggle. We also are enormously respectful of the differences," he said. "What we are best served doing is when we take lessons from the civil rights experience and apply them to our work."

Complicating the issue is the domination of minority politics by blacks and Latinos, who can be less than friendly to Gay issues. In the vote on Proposition 8 in California, which repealed Gay marriage, about 70 percent of blacks favored the ban, according to an exit poll; Latinos' close vote may have favored it, though the poll's small sample left some uncertainty. In Florida, 71 percent of blacks and 64 percent of Latinos favored a similar ban. Opposition to Gay rights often has a religious basis, and blacks and Latinos are more churchgoing than society at large. Twenty-six percent of blacks attend religious services more than once per week, compared with 16 percent of Latinos and 14 percent of whites, according to a 2007 survey by the Pew

Forum on Religion and Public Life.

"I do not consider (Gays) to be a minority in legal and adjudicated terms, the same way people who only like to eat broccoli with butter aren't a minority," said the Rev. Samuel Rodriguez, president of the National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference. "We can't categorize things according to behavior. It's based on ethnicity, on who we are rather than what we do." "Who am I to say that you weren't born that way... (but) sexual activity, what you do, who you sleep with, is your business," Rodriguez said. "That's between you, your lover, and the good God Almighty in heaven. I don't want to know. Let's leave sexual activity in the bedroom. The government shouldn't be legislating what we do behind closed doors between two consenting adults. And to compare it to the African-American struggle, to me that's an abomination."

So is Gay the new black, or did the election define a new and unique set of Gay challenges? "The Gay fight for marriage has its own integrity, its own background," said Andrew Cherlin, a professor of sociology and public policy at Johns Hopkins University. "The experience of blacks in the United States is very different. ... I don't think it helps the fight for equality to make that claim." Cherlin says that fight began in the 1980s when the AIDS epidemic unfolded. Gay partners had few rights to help their ailing loved ones, visit them in hospitals or inherit their property, which led to the push for civil unions.

Today, only Connecticut and Massachusetts permit Gay marriage, and a few states allow civil unions or domestic partnerships that grant some rights of marriage. Galvanized by the stinging Nov. 4 defeat in liberal California, the marriage movement is now as much symbolic as practical. "There was a shift in the '90s, from rights to the symbolism of being married," Cherlin said. "This is not primarily a battle about rights now. If it was, all you'd be hearing about is domestic partnerships. Now it's at two levels simultaneously. One is the level of rights; the second is the level of symbols."

One symbol that some see missing from the Gay rights movement is a figurehead. There are famous people who are out and proud, such as Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., or Ellen DeGeneres. But "we don't have our Martin Luther King or Malcolm X or Barack Obama," Wilbekin said. Yet the nature of activism has changed since the days when King proposed the idea of a mass march on Washington. The recent nationwide Gay protests were instigated by a Seattle blogger who set up a Web page three days after the California vote. And in some ways, Gays see Obama himself as a symbol of Gay progress - even though he opposes Gay marriage.

Obama is in favor of civil unions, and during his victory speech, when he included Gays in his description of America, it made them feel part of the historic racial milestone. Solmonese said that the election defeats of Nov. 4 have inspired a level of Gay activism not seen since the early days of the AIDS epidemic. "That is buoyed by equal parts anger and rage about Proposition 8," he said, "but also hope and inspiration about doing something that for a long time we didn't think possible - like electing Barack Obama as our president."

World AIDS Day 2008 In Tucson



PHOTOS: Amanda Irvin

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, please 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.

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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?
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TUCSON INFORMATION AND REFERRAL
For Information on human service organizations, health and mental health services, financial and government assistance, emergency services such as food and shelter, education, etc. Call Information and Referral 325-2111 - 7am-7pm M-F - 9am-5pm weekend and holidays.

WINGSPAN - Tucson's Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Community Center, 425 E. 7th St., offers support groups / info line / social events / library / meeting space. Volunteer Opportunities. Board meetings every 2nd Thursday (open to all), 6:00 p.m. Information 624-1779.

GREATER PHOENIX GAY & LESBIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (GPGCLCC) P.O. BOX 2097, Phoenix, AZ 85001-2097. E-mail: webmaster@gpgclcc.org or call (602)225-8444.

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

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

BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO - a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, Call the Bears Hotline (520)790-5775 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910 or visit our website at www.botop.com All are welcome to our general meetings/potlucks on the 2nd Friday of every month, at 3202 E. 1st St. (the "Ward 6" Office Bldg.) Just south of Speedway & East of Country Club. PoiLuck 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 20 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 caregivers. 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)624-1779x26 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 Megan at Wingspan, 624-1779, ext. 116. Services are free.

MEN'S HIKING CLUB - A peer-run MEN's outdoor club for hiking, biking, camping, boating etc, is now up and running in the Tucson area. To join, go to SAGE-Tucson-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. See you on the trails.

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

THE BROTHERS OF THE COMPASSIONATE WAY. Pagan spiritual group for gay, bisexual, transgendered men. Box 41623, Tucson, NA MEETING WITH GLBT FOCUS meets Mondays, 6:30pm at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th Street. This is an open meeting of Narcotics Anonymous - all are welcome. For more info call Bernie W.: 406-0740



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DAILY BAR CALENDAR

BAR CALENDAR Of Upcoming Events

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

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open 11am. 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 HIV/AIDS clients with their Veterinary bills).

WOODY'S - Open 11am-2am. Peter's Build Your Own Bloody Mary Bar 11am-2pm. Happy Hour 11am-8pm (excluding special events). Full Menu Kitchen open 11am-8pm. Back Pocket Patio Bar 2pm-2am. Beer Bust 2pm-7pm. Karaoke with Michael D 9pm-Close. Drag Bingo every other Sunday 8-9pm. Check our Ad for Special Events or Parties

YARD DOG - Open 10am - 2am. Mimosas & Bloody Mary Bar (Build your own)

MONDAY

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

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

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3.50 sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg.. Pitcher. 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 musica latino! Todos los viernes por la noche, la musica comienza a las 9. Shot specials cada nora!!

COLORS - Open 4pm-midnight. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3.50 Skyy cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and Well and 1/2 price appetizers. Finlandia martinis \$5.50 open to close! Full menu served until 10. "Hot Jazz, Cool Martinis" with Susan Artemis & Craig Faltin 6:30 to 9:30. "Guys & Dolls" drag show hosted by Lucinda Holliday at 10pm. Nightly dinner specials. Drink specials during the drag show.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. \$3.50 Sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg. Pitcher. \$2.75 All Mexican Beers and Dos XX Amber. 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 Domestic and Well, 1/2 price appetizers 4-6. Pianist/Vocalist Marilyn Harris 6:30-9:30. Full menu served until 10. Nightly dinner specials.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 2pm. Happy Hour 2-8pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. \$3.50 sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg. 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 open 11am-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.

Friday, December 5

WOODY'S - Now appearing in the lounge every Friday from 6 to 9 p.m. Susan Artemis will be playing and singing. This Friday there is a special preview Party for "Milk" the movie with complimentary tickets and give-aways.

Saturday, December 6

WOODY'S - Special fundraiser for the Holiday Food Fund to help those in need; Hosted by Lucinda Holliday. With Bunny FuFu, Janee Starr, Veronica Chase, Tori Steele, China Collins, Diva, Lady Ashley and Johnny D. A great evening of entertainment for a good cause.

Wednesday, December 10

VENTURE-N - New here is the Wednesday Night Dart Tournament. Sign-up at 7:00 p.m. \$3.00 entry. Drink specials for players.

Thursday, December 11

IBT'S - 5th Annual Party Monster Ball. 10:00 p.m. until closing. Prize for the most fabulous.

Friday, Saturday & Sunday, December 12-13-14

IBT's - Winter 4th Avenue Street Fair with shows hosted by Bunny FuFu and Janee Starr with very special guests. Friday show time is 9:00 p.m.-Saturday and Sunday at 2:00 p.m. Karaoke Saturday from 5 to 8 p.m. And Sunday from 5:00 p.m. to closing.

Saturday, December 13

HOWL AT THE MOON - TMI is Back!

WOODY'S - Join the great going away party for Bartender Ryan. Drop by to share memories and fun times with Ryan.

YARD DOG SALOON - Kick-off party with the Tucson Leather Committee welcoming the new Arizona Leather Sir and Boy. Watch for more details.

New York City Dedicates Long-Awited AIDS Memorial



NEW YORK CITY (Observer Update) - On Sunday (Nov. 30), a monument to over 81,000 New Yorkers lost to AIDS was dedicated in Hudson River Park, reported pageoneq.com. The memorial, at Pier 49 on the Hudson River Walk, is also meant to give tribute to those working against HIV in the scientific community as well as the caregivers, friends and family of those who have lived with HIV.

"We also wish to pay tribute to those who have educated our city's community about AIDS," said Lawrence Swehla of the AIDS Monument Committee. "It was our hope that the memorial would foster a continuing dialogue about AIDS, as well as give our community a focal point for our collective grief."

The memorial is a 42-foot long, 2-foot tall granite bench with the inscription: "I can sail without wind, I can row without oars, but I cannot part from my friend without tears." New York Governor David Paterson, in a statement, called the monument "a testimonial to beloved fellow human beings who have battled AIDS." "It is an enduring reminder," he said, "of all we have achieved, and have yet to achieve, as we work towards the goal of eradicating HIV/AIDS in our lifetimes."



LINDA EDER

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ROCKS THE HOLIDAYS!
with a brand new pop-country sound

ONE NIGHT ONLY!

DECEMBER 16 AT 7:30PM * TUCSON MUSIC HALL

Don't miss this intimate night of Linda's holiday favorites! Vocal icon Linda Eder is coming to Tucson for one night only to **Rock the Holidays** in a reinvented style. Having just released her 10th album since 1991 in September, *The Other Side of Me* shows Linda's musical style has recently shifted towards contemporary rock. Reverting back to her country roots, Linda's new tracks and style offers a looser, more intimate country-pop sound that truly comes from her heart.

tucsonobserverarchives.org

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