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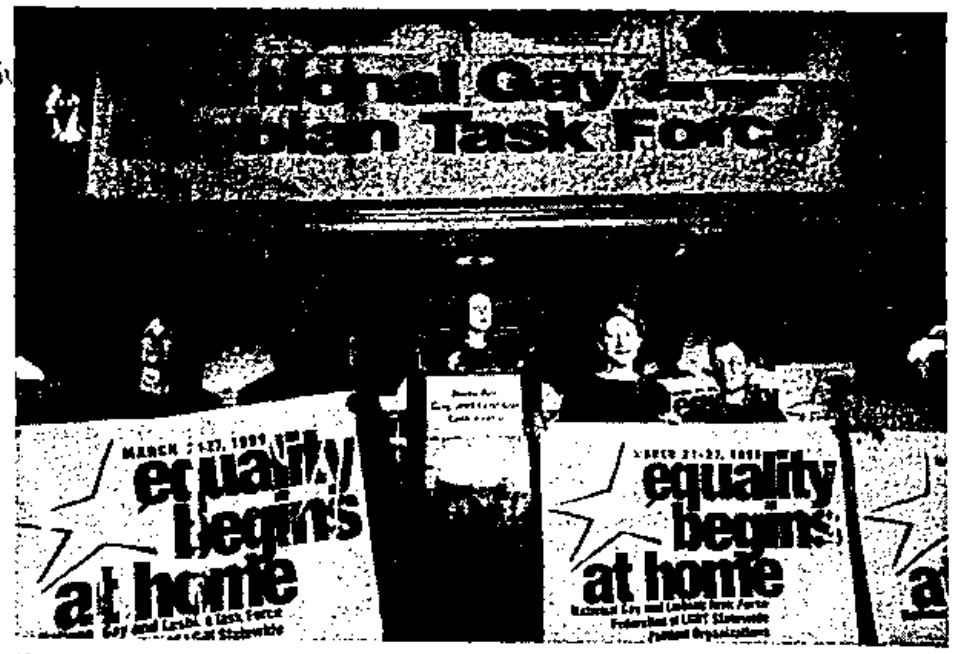
THE WEEKLY OBSERVER | FEBRUARY 3,1999 | ISSUE 759

Tens Of Thousands To Descend On State Capitols To Declare, 'Equality Begins At Home'



WASHINGTON, DC - Kerry Lobel, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Executive Director at the podium. Holding an EBAH banner in the left foreground are National Organization for Women President Patricia Ireland and Massachusetts state Legislator Byron Rushing.

WASHINGTON, DC — In the 30th anniversary year of the Stonewall rebellion - the birth of the modern Gay rights movement — thousands of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender people will launch an unprecedented national week of action for equality. Equality Begins at Home, slated for the week of March 21-27, is a major initiative to push state lawmakers to support a platform of equality. Planning for these by local activists is well under way.

From Montana to Maine, Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender people will come out and speak up in simultaneous events nationwide, most of which will take place at state capitols. These actions will, among other things, build support for laws that counter hate violence, ban employment discrimination, provide for safe schools for all students, ensure the right to adopt and become foster parents, and address health issues including HIV/AIDS.

Equality Begins at Home is coordinated by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and organized by the Federation of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Statewide Political Organizations. As part of its coordinating efforts, the Task Force provided Federation member groups $5,000 each to support their Equality Begins at Home organizing efforts and hired a national coordinator for the event. Dozens of national organizations have signed on in support of this week of action.

"Equality Begins at Home is not an end point but a beginning point. We are going to make our statewide organizations stronger, mobilize more people, register more voters, and demand greater accountability from our state legislators and policy makers," stated Kerry Lobel, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force executive director. "It is this organizing at the state level that will ultimately counter the hostility and gridlock we have come to know from our nations' capital," she added.

Never before in the history of the Gay rights movement has there been a coordinated political campaign of actions in all 50 states as well as the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Equality Begins at Home represents a new phase of the movement - a focus on state organizing and legislatures. The vast majority of debates and decisions about Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender equality occur in state legislatures. Equality Begins at Home will bolster the infrastructure of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender movement within the states -- where the heart of the struggle for equality lies - and lead to greater success in the overall struggle for equality.

Each state organization will develop events to highlight priority issues:

In California, activists will focus on defeating an anti-Gay ballot measure to be put before voters next year. Events will include a rally and youth lobby day.

In New Hampshire, activists will hold a rally at the state capitol to focus attention on the need to repeal a state law banning Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender people from adopting children.

In Nebraska, organizers will target workplace discrimination. They will hold a lobby day and circulate a "Workplace Fairness Petition" to business owners throughout the state.

"The battleground for equality has moved to the states, and so have we," said Paula Ettelbrick, Equality Begins at Home national coordinator. "We are throwing down the gauntlet and demanding that state officials resist the right wing's efforts to deny us our basic rights as citizens," Ettelbrick added.

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First Ever National Week Of Action For GLBT Equality

Arizona DP Benefits Ban Loses First Round; ADAP Faces Budget Axe; HIV 'Accident Victims' Bill To Be Heard

By Mark R. Kerr

PHOENIX (ON) — Just another week for the Arizona Legislature: The domestic partners benefits ban is defeated twice in one committee, but resurrected in another committee. . . . Arizona's AIDS Drug Assistance Program could face the budget ax. . . . A proposal to force mandatory HIV testing or the release of HIV medical information of an accident victim to a third party will be heard this week by a committee.

The domestic partners benefits ban is defeated twice in one committee, but resurrected in another committee: Arizona state Representative Karen Johnson's, R-Mesa, HB 2523, would forbid any government entity in the state from, "providing health and accident coverage for domestic partners of its employees."

Only the governments of the City of Tucson and Pima County offer extended medical benefits to the domestic partners of their employees.

Representative Johnson said in an interview that, the City of Tucson's policy of offering medical and dental benefits to same-sex domestic partners of their employees "is discriminatory." She added that, in her opinion, "homosexuals are some of the more wealthy people in the state. They don't have families to take care of and they can afford it."

When asked in the same interview about unmarried couples, same-sex or heterosexual, Representative Johnson said, "it's their free agency to choose if they want to cohabit or not, be it against the law or not. You have the free agency to choose murder or not, but I certainly wouldn't think it's incumbent upon the state to reward that type of behavior."

Representative Johnson's legislation was assigned to the House Banking & Insurance Committee. The Vice-Chair of the committee is state Representative Steve May, R-Phoenix, the only openly Gay Republican state legislator in the country.

HB 2523 was heard Monday, February 1, before the Committee and was defeated by a 4-1-1 vote. Representatives Binder, Pickens, Brotherton and May voted no, Representative Debora Brimhall, chair of the committee, voted yes. Representative Jim Weiers voted present.

Representative May then asked for reconsideration of HB 2523. He was using the parliamentary procedure where if a proposal is killed twice before a committee, it cannot be heard again before that committee during the current legislative session. Another vote was taken and the bill was defeated again, by a 5-1 vote. Representatives Binder, Pickens, Brotherton, Weiers and May voted no. Representative Debora Brimhall voted yes again.

"I'm pleased in the wisdom of the House Banking & Insurance Committee on their votes. It [HB 2523] deserves to be defeated," commented Amelia Craig Cramer of the Arizona Human Rights Fund. "The community owes their thanks to Steve May for his persuasive efforts to get his colleagues to see this [HB 2523] is a bad bill."

Before the celebrations by opponents of Johnson's measure could start, they received some startling news. On Monday, February 1, Representative Johnson gutted another bill she had sponsored, HB 2524, which dealt with marriage blood tests and inserted the language, banning domestic partner benefits, into the new bill. HB

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY

UPDATE

'Lesbian Looks' 7th Annual Film & Video Series Feb. 12

TUCSON — The seventh annual Lesbian Looks Film and Video Series will present three free evenings of screenings on the U of A campus. The series kicks off Friday, February 12, with two award-winning documentaries.

Kathryn Beranich's "After The Second Date," is a hilarious and thought provoking exploration of love, sex and dating in the 90's. Fourteen New York City Lesbians take a candid, no-holds-barred look at relationships. Winner of the 1998 Audience Choice Award at the Cineffable Film Festival in Paris.

TREYF ("unkosher" in Yiddish) is an unorthodox documentary by and about two Jewish Lesbians who met and fell in love at a Passover Seder. Alisa Lebow and Cynthia Madansky's 1998 film examines the Jewish identity of their upbringings and its impact on their lives. Opening night reception follows the screening. Location TBA.

The series continues February 19, with a eclectic collection of shorts, and concludes on Saturday, February 27, with five short films about romantic relationships.

All screenings begin at 7:30 P.M. in the newly remodeled Modern Language Auditorium. For more information, call Beverly Seckinger, (520) 621-1239 or check out our website at http://w3.arizona.edu/~lgbcom/lgbfilm.htm.

Lesbian Looks is presented by the U of A Committee on Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Studies, with support from the College of Fine Arts, Diversity Action Council, Media Arts, Anthropology, English, Comparative Cultural and Literary Studies, Women's Studies, German Studies, Women's Resource Center, University Teaching Center and Pan Left Productions.

Gay West Planning Meeting February 9

TUCSON — Gay West III will be held at Old Tucson Studios on June 26. The planning for this event will begin Tuesday, February 9, 6:00 P.M. at Wingspan.

Gay West is a popular Pride Week event and fund raiser for several non-profit organizations that serve the Gay community.

Areas of responsibility include marketing and advertising, entertainment, ticket sales, obtaining sponsorships, negotiation, public relations and general coordination and logistical support.

New ideas are welcome! New events and activities help keep it fresh! All are welcome to join in the planning and implementation of this major Pride Week event. Come and help your community have a great time, and raise money that will help our community! See you there!

Call Bruce at (520) 881-3748 or E-mail: wingspan@azstarnet.com for more information.

Positive Voices; You Can Make A Difference

TUCSON — The Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN) is looking for people directly affected by HIV and AIDS in their lives — as a person living with HIV/AIDS, or someone whose family member or friend is living with or has died from HIV/AIDS.

Volunteers are needed to: speak to individuals and small groups within congregations about HIV/AIDS; and, speak with clergy and visit with faith communities not yet involved in providing HIV awareness and support.

Reach out to faith communities to help them understand the reality of AIDS in teams of two or three. Training and support will be provided.

To share your voice, or for more information, please contact Richard Stark, (520) 299-6647 or E-mail at voice@tihan.org.

Come Dance The Night Away February 13

TUCSON — Water of Life MCC is hosting the second annual Valentine's Dance Saturday, February 13, 8: 00 P.M. to midnight.

All of you who love to dance should not miss this one! Local singer Sabra Faulk will take you from romantic slow songs to rock and roll to country-western and back again. Later in the evening, Jess Hawk Oakenstar will make a special appearance.

Goodies and nonalcoholic beverages will be served. Instant photos of you and your honey on this special night will be available if you so desire. Tickets are $5, and are available at Antigone Books and Water of Life MCC, 3269 North Mountain Avenue, (520) 292-9151.

British Tourist Authority Publishes Gay Guide

LONDON, UK — The British Tourist Authority (BTA) has announced the ground breaking publication of its first tourism guide written and designed for American Gay and Lesbian travelers.

The 20-page color brochure, entitled "Britain, You Don't Know the Half of it!" was mailed to 75,000 self-identified Gay and Lesbian households nationwide.

This ground breaking publication represents BTA's further commitment to reach out to the U.S. Gay and Lesbian consumer segment. The brochure is also being promoted in Out Magazine and The Advocate.

Britain, You Don't Know the Half of It! blends traditional and contemporary themes with comprehensive information about popular tourist destinations, and places of interest to Gay and Lesbian travelers in England, Scotland and Wales.

"We believe that throughout Britain, there exists a warmth and welcomeness unmatched by any other European destination," said Robert Titley, BTA Director of Communications.

Anyone wanting to receive a free copy of the brochure can call, toll free, (877) UK-RAINBOW. The British Tourist Authority is the official government body responsible for promoting tourism to Britain, with offices worldwide, including three in the United States.

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Office Hours: 9a.m.- 6p.m. M-F

Computer FAX (520)792-8382

Electronic Observer on the World Wide Web:
http://bonzo.com/observer
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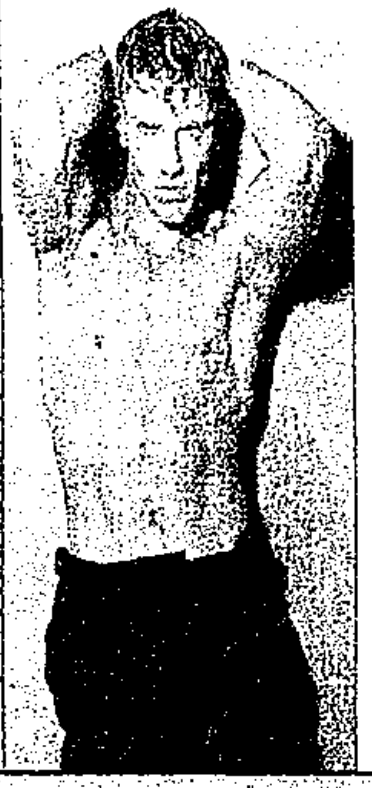

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IN FLIGHT..... WINGSPAN

by Rich Muszynski

Community Building

I learned how to volunteer by watching my parents when I was a kid. Growing up in the Catholic enclaves of the South side of Chicago, community life revolved around the parish. My mother was thoroughly devoted to the priests, nuns, church, school, and people of St. Daniel the Prophet Parish. My father, by extension through my mother, followed suit. They were constantly serving on some church committee, helping out on some fund raising project, or working with the nuns at the school. Being young lads, my younger brother and I were almost always dragged along on these various activities. Without realizing it at the time, I learned about all the planning, hard work, and behind the scenes efforts that are needed to keep an organization, and in this particular case, a church community, humming along.

As I grew older, I realized with increasing horror, how this community regarded me and all Gay people like me. So upon completion of high school, I happily bid adieu to Catholic communities, and pursued communities that were much healthier for me, including the university community, the mental health community, and most importantly, the GLBT community. Being involved in Wingspan, I'm sometimes struck with the oddity of how similar the community building endeavors are between St. Daniel's Parish and Wingspan. Please forgive the religious analogies, but both communities welcome new members (through baptisms or coming out support groups), provide education (through sermons and the parish school or through Wingspan's library and group meetings), activities at school or Wingspan's library and group meetings), activities at school or Wingspan's Youth Group), depict meaningful experiences in artwork (through stained glass windows or Wingspan's art gallery), comfort the sick and needy (through pastoral ministry or referrals to GLBT services at Wingspan or elsewhere in Tucson), and provide support for each other (through church services or Wingspan activities). I suppose the list could continue, and ultimately it illustrates the universal needs that people everywhere satisfy in community interaction.

Perhaps naively, I sometimes think how it must be easier to do volunteer work in a community based on a common faith. However, I feel enriched by the experiences of being in a community that is as wonderfully diverse as the GLBT community, with our accompanying common faith in freedom to love whom we choose. Wingspan might be more efficient if we were more "singular," but no where near as fun or stimulating. Wingspan is here to meet the needs of pagans, Wiccans, Christians, Muslims and Jews. Men, women and Transgendered people. Log Cabin Republicans and liberal Democrats. Young and old, rich and poor. Black, brown and white. Even straight and Gay. To address the needs of such a wide diversity requires coalition building and cooperation with other communities and organizations. It's exciting to watch this process enfold at Wingspan. The Mayor's Task Force on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Issues is an example of the coalition building going on in our community. Who knows? Maybe one day Wingspan will be having a dialogue with the Archdiocese of Tucson.

If you would like to volunteer to be part of the community building going on at Wingspan, please call us at (520) 624-1779. One of our volunteers will be happy to tell you more about what is going on at Wingspan. We could always use more ideas and input about what services we should be offering to our diverse community.

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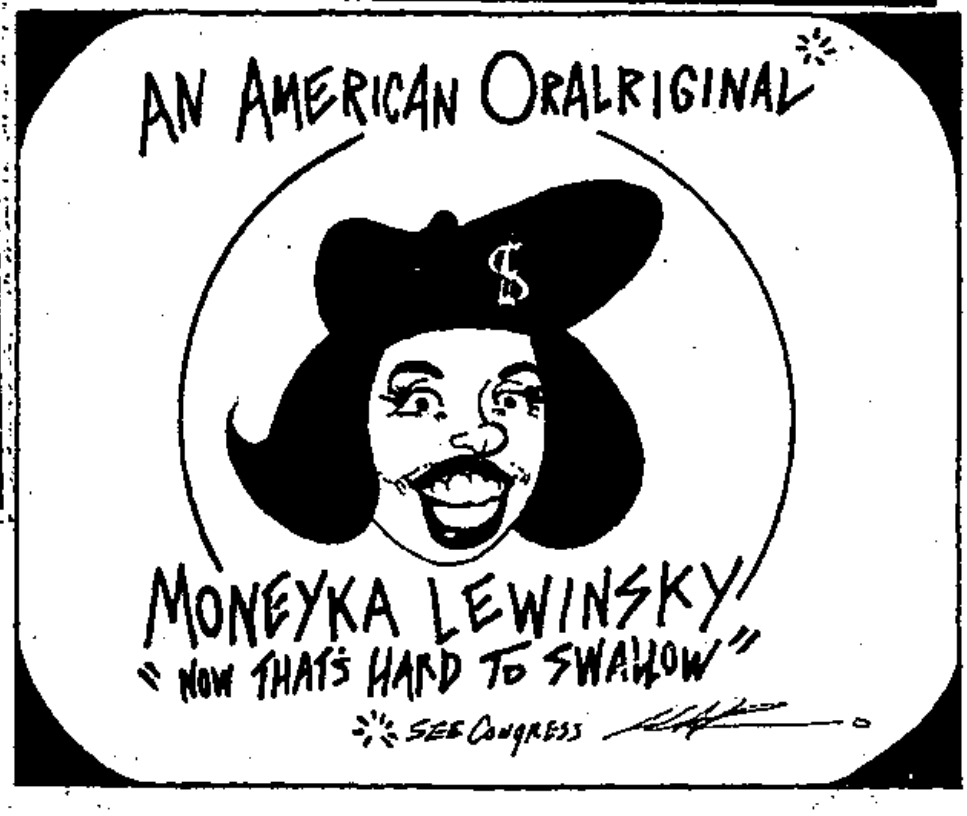
FREE Valentines in the February 10th issue of the Observer. Get them in by Feb. 8th. Limit four to a person. Leave your Valentine messages at any of Tucson's Gay bars, or at Antigone Books, Rainbow Planet Coffee House or S.A.A.F., or send directly to the Observer at any of the addresses on Page two. Join the fun. Hundreds do every year. But this is the final week to get them in!

AS I SEE IT..... BY CLARK



Desert Players To Present 'Light Up The Sky'

TUCSON - Appearing in the cast of Desert Players Theatre production of "Light Up The Sky" are LtoR, Elin Brown, Heather Lee McIntyre and Ina Shivach. The play opens Feb. 12. See story below.

TUCSON — Desert Players Theatre will be performing Moss Hart's comedy, "Light Up The Sky" in February at the Tucson Center for the Performing Arts, 408 South Sixth Avenue.

Moss Hart's comedy takes the audience on a bumpy road backstage to look at what happens when a cast of a wide diverse group of characters are pushed to the boiling point. Not to mention these characters are about to open a Broadway show.

This hysterical comedy will be performed February 12-13, 19-20, 8:00 P.M., and matinee performances February 14 & 21, 2:00 P.M. Tickets can be purchased one hour before curtain for the prices of $8. General admission and $7 for student/senior/military or group.

For reservations or more information, call (520) 733-0733.

Desert Players Theatre is already gearing up for their next production. On February 13, noon to 3:30 P.M., auditions will be held for the show "Lend Me A Tenor," with call backs between 4:00 and 6:00 P.M. the same day.

The cast for the show calls for four men and four women, ages ranging from 20 to 60 years old. Actors auditioning for two lead male roles will be asked to sing a song of their choice a capella. Cold readings will be taken from the script for auditioners. Photos and resumes are requested but not required. The auditions will be held at the Tucson Center for the Performing Arts, 408 South Sixth Avenue.

For more information, call (520) 733-0733.

TIHAN Seeking Volunteers

TUCSON — Volunteers are needed to join the Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN) team and make a difference. Congregational volunteers are need to assist with a variety of options through TIHAN.

Volunteer opportunities range from CareTeams (friendly visits, errands, emotional support) to newsletter help, office support, public speaking, assistance with fund raising events, information booths and more. If interested, TIHAN will find the right opportunity for you.

Volunteer orientation sessions will be held, Thursday, February 18 and Wednesday, February 24, 7:00 to 8:30 P.M. An overview of TIHAN and its volunteer needs will be addressed during these sessions. Attendance at one of these two orientations is required prior to the actual training. The training session will be held Saturday, February 27, 8:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. There is a $15 registration fee for the training session (to cover materials and lunch). All sessions will be held at St. Cyril Catholic Church, 4725 East Pima.

Over the past four years, TIHAN volunteers have contributed over 15,000 hours of direct service to people living with HIV/AIDS in our community. Our volunteers come from many congregations throughout Tucson, and are a wonderfully diverse group. What we all have in common is a sense of compassion, a desire to help people in need, and a commitment to break down the fears, misunderstandings, and myths related to HIV/AIDS.

To sign up for an orientation, or for more information, call the TIHAN office,. (520) 299-6647.

Sex Workshops For Women To Be Offered

TUCSON — Merryl Sloane, a dynamic speaker and teacher who has been leading sexuality classes and seminars since 1992, will present a series of three workshops for women called "Joyous Sexual Expression" at the Zenith Center of Transformative Arts, 330 E. 7th Street, Thursdays, February 11, 18 and 25, 7:00 to 8:30 P.M..

There is a sliding scale fee of $5 to $25 for each class.

Merryl will blend a combination of written self-discovery exercises, open discussion, lots of information (from the basic to the exotic) and candid answers to questions into an accepting, upbeat, fun presentation. A self-described "evangelist for great sex," she believes there is no such thing as a stupid question and that humor is essential: "If I can't laugh, I don't want to play." Nonjudgmental, knowledgeable, and practically unshockable, Merryl has run workshops, led discussions, and presented programs in a variety of settings, to groups as large as several hundred. A workshop participant from Muncie, Indiana, said, "There's room for questions, there's openness, and there's acceptance from Merryl." A workshop participant from Baltimore, Maryland, said, "The class gave me tons of self-confidence."

When asked what motivates her, Merryl replied, "I believe we are blessed with limitless imaginations, responsive bodies and spirits that crave celebration. We all deserve to have the greatest, most joyous sex we can. Accurate information about our adult sexuality enhances enjoyment and reduces dissatisfaction. My mottos are: No judgments. No shoulds. No expectations."

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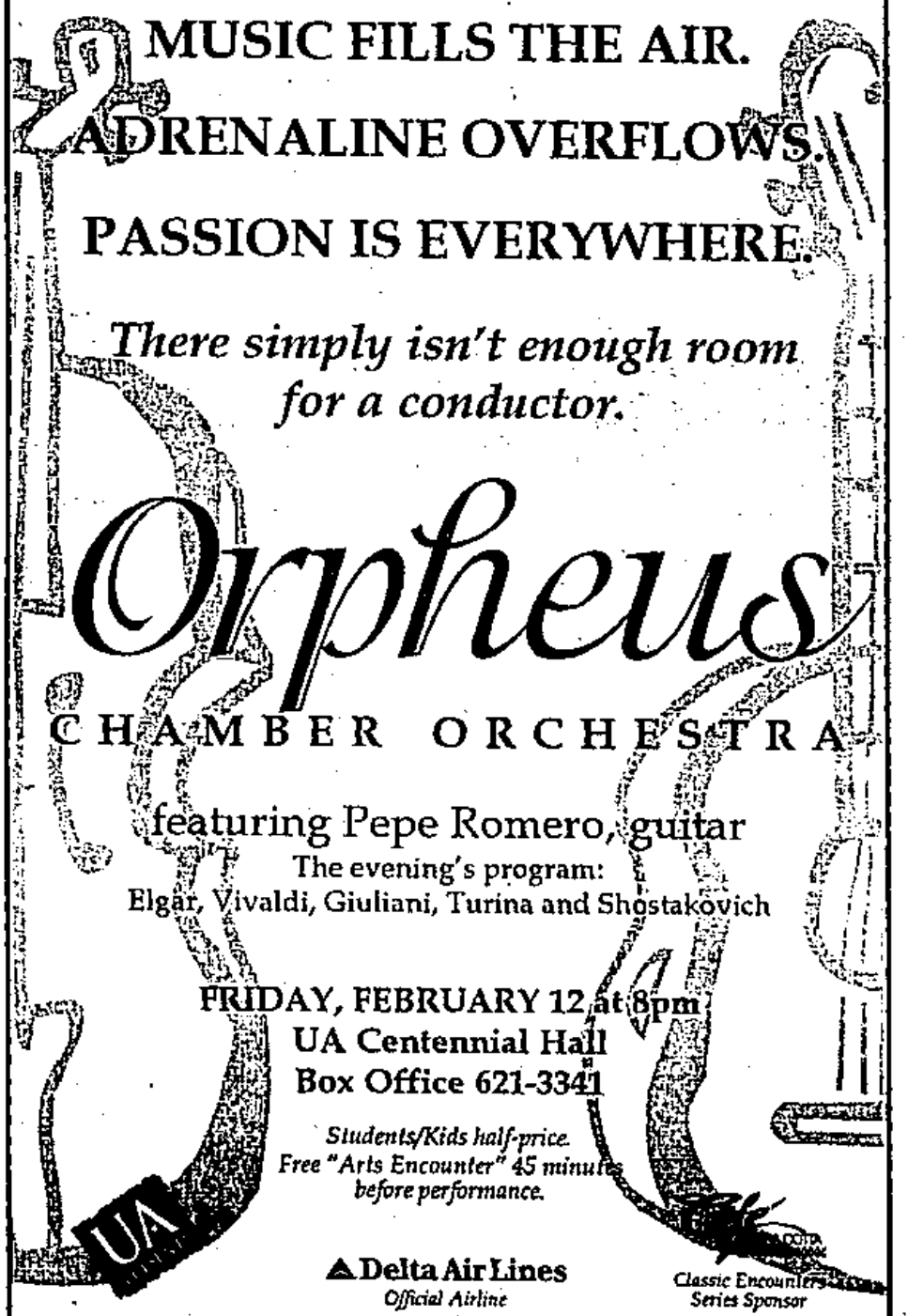

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POLITICS 1999

by Mark R. Kaye

"All In Favor . . . . ."

Faster than the engagement of Dennis Rodman to Carmen Electra, the Tucson Mayor and Council gave the final nod to the proposal to update the language, strengthening investigatory and enforcement capabilities and increase the penalties in the city's 21-year-old anti discrimination ordinance with quickie comments and no opposition.

"All in favor . . . ," the mayor said, and the rest was for the ages, since the breeder print press gave this about as much coverage as what time when the sun would rise and set. The television news bimbettes didn't even give it a mention, to no one's surprise.

Despite that, what gains that have been made: strengthening the anti discrimination ordinance (enforced or otherwise), a municipal hate crimes ordinance, HIV/-AIDS funding, and domestic partner benefits for Gay and Lesbian county and city employees, are being threatened by the Grand Inquisition, er Arizona Legislature in the "Evil City to the North." An update:

Will there be a check in the mail for ADAP? Governor Jane Hull proposed in her budget that a little more than $1.7 million from the state's tobacco tax health care fund be earmarked for the states AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP). The Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) has proposed only $1 million for ADAP; a spokesperson for JLBC stated the committee believes that the state can reduce its contribution to the program due to Arizona's increased funding (more than $4.0 million) from the federal Ryan White Care Act.

JLBC's proposal would leave little room for ADAP to have any contingency funds in case of increased cost for medications or numbers of clients. According to state health officials, close to $400,000 a month (from federal and state funds) is spent on ADAP.

The House Appropriations Committee met this past week and approved the JLBC proposal. "We were disappointed in the committee's decision but we are hopeful that it can be renegotiated in the Senate and with the governor's help," David Hoover, president of the Arizona AIDS Policy Alliance, said.

Francie Noyes, Governor Jane Hull's press secretary, said the Governor is continuing her efforts to get the $1.7 million ADAP allocation in her proposed budget approved by the Legislature. . . .

A proposal to force mandatory HIV testing or the release of HIV medical information of an accident victim to a third party will be heard this week by a committee. A bill, HB 2496, forcing mandatory HIV testing or the release of confidential HIV information on individuals hurt in accidents in which a "significant exposure" of blood has taken place and helped by public safety employees (paramedics, police, fire-fighters), was introduced in the Arizona House.

HB 2496's primary proponents are the state's fire-fighters unions. Questions have arisen over the vagueness in the legislation dealing with what happens to the records after the third party has obtained them. HB 2496 has been assigned to the House Health Committee, which will hear the bill Wednesday, February 3.

Another dealing with HIV is HB 2495. This measure would change the state definition of HIV and exposure to be the same as the new Center's for Disease Control (CDC) definitions. A small problem. According to state Representative Herschella Horton, D-Tucson, the CDC hasn't changed their definitions. HB 2495 has been assigned to the House Health Committee, which has given the measure a hearing date as of press time. . . .

Arizona state Representative Karen Johnson's, R-Mesa, HB 2523, would forbid any government entity in the state from, "providing health and accident coverage for domestic partners of its employees." Only the governments of the City of Tucson and Pima County offer extended medical benefits to the domestic partners of their employees.

Representative Johnson's legislation was assigned to the House Banking & Insurance Committee. The Vice-Chair of the committee is state Representative Steve May, R-Phoenix, the only openly Gay Republican state legislator in the country.

HB 2523 was heard Monday, February 1, before the Committee and was defeated by a 4-1-1 vote. Representatives Binder, Pickens, Brotherton and May voted no. Representative Debora Brimhall, chair of the committee, voted yes. Representative Jim Weiers voted present.

Representative May then asked for reconsideration of HB 2523. He was using the parliamentary procedure where if a proposal is killed twice before a committee, it cannot be heard again before that committee during the current legislative session. Another vote was taken and the bill was defeated again, by a 5-1 vote. Representatives Binder, Pickens, Brotherton, Weiers and May voted no. Representative Debora Brimhall voted yes again.

Before the celebrations by opponents of Johnson's measure could start, they received some startling news. On Monday, February 1, Representative Johnson gutted another bill she had sponsored, HB 2524, which dealt with marriage blood tests and inserted the language, banning domestic partner benefits, into the new bill. HB 2524 was reread, on February 1, and assigned to the House Government Reform Committee, who will consider the new bill, Wednesday, February 3. . . .

Still on the Legislative "burner" is state Representative Linda Gray's HB 2051, which would ban from public schools, Gay and Lesbian support groups. HB 2051 would call for school districts to ban a student organization that would promote a "specific sexual orientation," "sexual activity of any kind" or "criminal activity."

HB 2051 was to be heard before the state House Government Reform Committee, but the bill was taken off the committee's agenda by Gray herself, according to Capitol sources. So is the proposal dead? Not according to Capitol sources, who stated Gray will resurrect her proposal, but with a different "face." Sources stated the new proposal would: require all students to get written parental permission before joining a club or group; require all groups to promote abstinence, and; prohibit advertising and promotions by any student club or group.

CONTINUED ON PAGE SIXTEEN

TLGA Receives A Grant To Help LGBT Non-Profit Groups

The allocation committee of the Community Foundation of Southern Arizona has awarded the Tucson Lesbian/Gay Alliance a "Gay/Lesbian Issues" grant from the Amazon Foundation for $1,000.

This grant will be used by TLGA to give scholarships to Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered non profit groups and organizations in Tucson and Southern Arizona so that they can participate in OUToberFEST '99.

Applications of one page will be accepted and reviewed by TLGA at: POB 40301, Tucson, AZ 85717-0301, from February 1 till September 1. Awards for fees and services will be separate. Fees will be awarded first, (February 1 till September 1), and if funds for still available services will be awarded.

Scholarships for 30% to 80% of groups costs will be awarded on a first come, first serve basis to qualified groups in according with the following rules: 1) Groups must be non profit in orientation. 2) Groups must serve the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered. 3) Groups must show financial need to receive scholarships.

Valid applications will include the following information: 1) The name, postal address and a contact phone number of the organization and person(s) applying for the scholarship. 2) A mission statement outlining the organization or groups purpose and how they serve the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and or Transgendered community in Southern Arizona and what they would like to do at OUToberFEST '99 (distribute information, raise funds, entertainment, etc.). 3) A simple budget from 1998 showing that financial help is necessary for the applicant to participate in OUToberFEST '99. 4) An itemized list of what the applicant would like from TLGA in their award separated into fees and services. Fees and services will be awarded separately; fees include booth space rental fees and related insurance premiums. Services include electric service, tables and chairs.

Liability insurance is required for all exhibitors at OUToberFEST '99. Applicants who don't have insurance can purchase "Day of the Event Insurance" through Casswood Insurance Agency. Thirty to eighty percent of the cost of this insurance can be awarded. Applications should include a request for aid in this area.

Booth and Insurance Fees: Non Profit Information-Only Booth, $50; Non Profit Fund Raising Booth, $75; Information-Only Booth liability insurance fee, $25; Fund Raising Booth liability insurance fee, $50.

Service Fees: Tables, $10 each; Chairs, $2 each; Electricity (1 Outlet 110v 15 amp), $10.

Interested parties who need information and/or help decoding these requirements are invited to call TLGA, (520) 622-3200, and leave a message for Tom Maza with your organization and contact persons name along with a return phone number and Tom will return your call.

Play safe and be proud!

Mayor and Council Approve Changes To Tucson Anti-Discrimination Ordinance

Compiled from Observer Staff Reports

TUCSON (ON) — During their regular weekly meeting, Monday, February 1, the Tucson Mayor and Council gave final approval to a proposal updating the language, enhancing the enforcement capabilities and increasing the penalties in the city's anti discrimination ordinance.

The proposed changes, which were approved by a unanimous vote, came from the Mayor's Task Force on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Issues. Some of which include:

changing the term "sexual or affectional preference" to "sexual orientation";

increasing the minimum civil fine for violations, from $50 to $300;

requiring employers to post notices informing their workers of their anti discrimination rights and remedies, and;

adding gender identity to the list of protected categories in the ordinance.

The Task Force was formed by Tucson Mayor George Miller. During an address at the University of Arizona candlelight vigil for the murdered Gay University of Wyoming student, Matthew Shepard, Miller called for the formation of a committee. "The City of Tucson should play a bigger role regarding Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender issues and concerns," he said to the assembled crowd on the University Mall.

Tucson was one of the first cities in the country to adopt an anti discrimination ordinance, in February 1977. The anti discrimination ordinance includes Gays and Lesbians, then using the term, "sexual or affectional preference." Gay and Lesbian Tucsonans rallied the Mayor and Council to approve an ordinance after a recent, brutal murder of a young, Gay man. Richard Heakin, a 21-year-old college student visiting Tucson, was murdered outside a local Gay bar by four male high school students, who later received probation for the crime.

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TUESDAY
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PAOLINE'S WORLD
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NOON - 7 P.M.
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9- close
NEXT TRAVESTI SHOW
THURSDAY
FEB. 4 TH
10:30 P.M.

INTERNATIONAL
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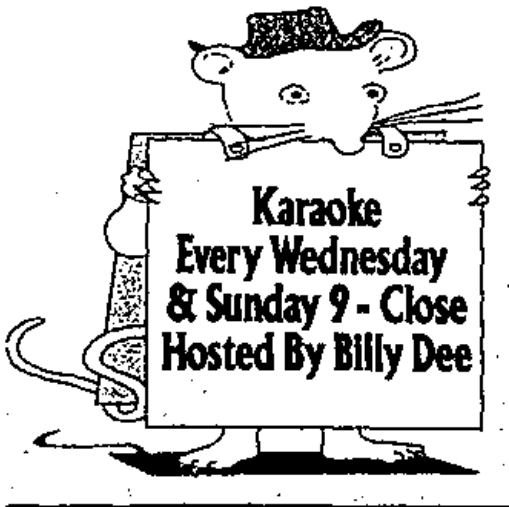
WEDNESDAYS
9 - CLOSE
DJ EDUARDO



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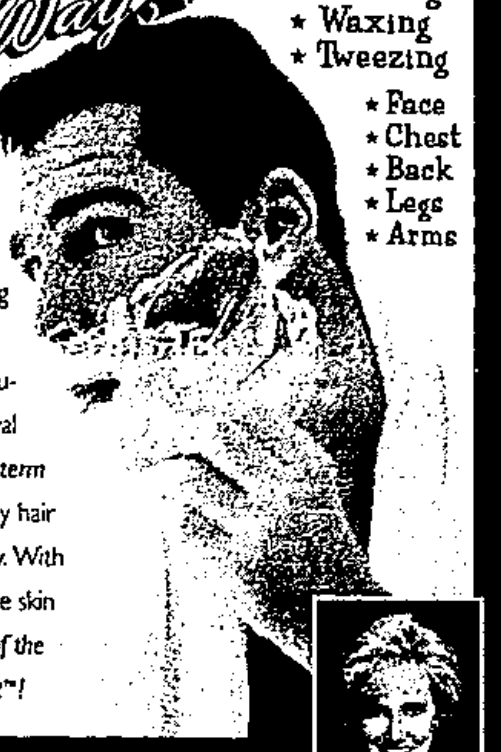

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CAROL MARQUEZ M.D.

Desert Vision

by Rev Louis F. Haver, PhD

Relationships: The Topic Of Discussion

Relationships. There's probably no other topic discussed more among Gay and Lesbian people. Those who are single seem to always be looking for the perfect mate. Those in a relationship wonder why it's not all they hoped for. Whether one is single or involved with someone else, relationships occupy the minds of many Gay and Lesbian people.

Why do we spend so much time and energy dealing with relationships? There are those who would suggest that non-Gay people are just as pre-occupied with the dating and mating game. I don't think that's true. Most heterosexual folks enter a relationship early in life and, once married, focus on a variety of life pursuits including family life and career. The marriage may fall apart. One or the other member of the couple may be interested in improving the quality of the relationship. But most heterosexual couples just live their lives without a great deal of on-going discussion about the quality of their marriages.

If anything, among heterosexual couples marriage is somewhat taken for granted. For us, it is different. Relationships take on a particular role among Gay and Lesbian people.

We've been told for generations that coupled relationships among Gay and Lesbian people just don't last. That's one of the many homophobic messages society teaches us. While few of us consciously believe that our relationships can't last, the message from society is subtly internalized in our subconscious and simmers away quietly. The subconscious internalizing of society's values has a very real impact on our lives.

The truth is that relationships among same-gendered and mixed-gendered couples can be both long-term and life enriching. At the same time, the social roles of men and women in our culture have resulted in men and women having different abilities in relationships. Among couples who make it past the first year of dating to some type of formal commitment, male couples average about four years together; heterosexual couples about seven years; and female couples average about twelve years together. While these numbers represent "averages," in reality there are male couples, female couples, and heterosexual couples make life-long commitments and live rich full lives together. However, no couple escapes hard times. In fact, studies of each type of couples also show that they go through a natural set of stages, balancing the dynamics of intimacy and distance in a variety of ways over time. That's normal and natural and a sign of growth.

I believe that because we've lived with the cultural belief that Gay relationships don't last, being in a relationship takes on particular importance among Gay and Lesbian people. Being in a long term relationship is sort of a mark of success for Gay and Lesbian people. In a fundamental way, being in a long term relationship is saying to society, "Look! I've done it! I can live my life fully as a Gay/Lesbian person!" We may say these this consciously. Instead, it's part of a subconscious response to the mis-information society has given us about being Gay and Lesbian.

When a Gay or Lesbian couple openly raise children, that's taking even a bolder step. It's not only making a statement about marriage but one about family. In recent years, we've witnessed in state after state how volatile the definitions of marriage and family can be in our society. It is clear that the majority of people in American society disapprove of our relationships and family life.

I support couples working toward long term relationships both as a therapist and as a minister who performs "Gay weddings." However, I am aware of the unique pressures Lesbian and Gay couples face. One dimension of this pressure is the need to make it work. Gay and Lesbian people often expect more from their relationships than do heterosexual couples. In the end, their expectations often lead to a greater disappointments when the life partner turns out to be a mere mortal with very real limitations.

Over the next several weeks, I am going to depart from my more usual reflections about spiritual development and focus on the topic of relationships. It is my hope to present a variety of ideas and perspectives about relationships to enable you to think about relationships differently. My

CONTINUED ON PAGE SIXTEEN

A benefit for QueerVoice and Wingspan

Girls Just Wanna Have Fun II!!!!!

Special Appearances by
Janee Starl
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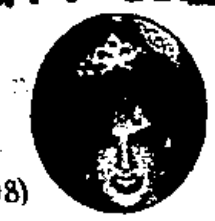
(Mr. Gay Teen Tucson 1998)



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QueerVoice is a program of SAAF, Pima County Health Departmnt and Wingspan
For more info call 322-6226 or visit our website at www.saaf.org

Wingspan is Tucson's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Community Center
For more info call 624-1779 or visit our website at www.azstarnet.com/public/nonprofit/wingspan

HOROSCOPES

BY C. LICHTENSTEIN

Prepare for February as it launches with Sun in humanitarian Aqueerius. We forge ahead, seeking truth and justice. But don't expect just a Valentines handshake mid-month, kids. By then the Sun enters romantic Pisces and love conquers all. Make my Valentine lavender - not red.

ARIES
MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

Outer directed Rams get the jump on other signs in February by concentrating on friendships and self-improvement. Listen to the opinions of compadres and bask in affirming group efforts for Valentine's Day. Welcome all views, not matter how strange and consider all sides. After the 20th, you'll be hailed as a great Gay conciliator and spiritual advisor. Crystal ball anyone?

TAURUS
APRIL 21 - MAY 21

Career inroads are possible in early February if you're politically astute. You may even find a valentine tucked under your mouse pad from a secret, pin-stripped admirer. But move your corporate chess pieces before the 20th, Gay Bull. After that, pals become more important to your self worth. You'll still need that paycheck but you'll spend it somewhere more affirming.

GEMINI
MAY 22 - JUNE 21

February will be an exciting month for proud Twins with a queer sense of adventure. Pack your bags and hit the open road before the 20th; Your path is strewn with delightful surprises thanks to Uranus and Neptune. Even your valentines are unusual and exotic. But as the month moves on, so will you. Get serious, in your career, cousin, and strike while the iron is hot. Ouch!

CANCER
JUNE 22 - JULY 23

Feisty Gay Crabs feel their oats this valentines month when their sexual energy is on high boil. Enjoy the steamy interlude and try to channel this impressive go-getting energy into more areas of your life as the month progresses. After the 20th your claws get itchy for new sights and sounds. Gather your most impressive valentines and explore parts unknown, and very well known.

LEO
JULY 24 - AUGUST 23

Romance is taken to new levels this valentines month as the affirming Sun, flirtatious Mercury, zesty Uranus and romantic Neptune add a little zip into relationships. Gay Lions thrive with a soul-mate and can make partners very happy and fulfilled. You become feistier as the month progresses. After the 20th Lions will be hot to trot. Let's hope you have a lover to trot with.

VIRGO
AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23

Serviceable Gay Virgos are in their element in early February as work becomes much busier than usual. Do what needs to be done before the 20th. After that, you will be more interested in delving into relationships. Plan a valentine's diversion that includes a significant other. All work and no play makes queer Virgins drones instead of queen bees.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23

Gay Libras become queen of clubs in February. Travel to Party, USA and send a postcard. Romance is in the air with feisty Sun, giddy Mercury, zippy Uranus and sentimental Neptune. Sample each of your many valentines before the 20th. After that, you'll be content to gaze at yourself in the mirror as you tone and buff. My advice: Exercise with a bosom buddy or a Slim Jim.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22

Closeted Scorps are destined for a breath of fresh air this February. Family dreck hits the fan, but you'll do what needs to be done to inspire and reunite, for now. After the 20th, once the dust has settled, you be able to enjoy yourself and apply your talents to something wildly artistic and creative. Inspired Scorp; Attempt to write that great American Gay novel.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22

Proud Archers are never shy about asking for what they want. Now, if you ask loud and queer, you may even get what you demand. (How about demanding a prideful valentine?) Fan the air all you want before the 20th. After that, you'll be content to quietly cocoon at home with a few special souls. Plan a few affirming get-togethers and don't make demands.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20

There are many planets hovering in your fiscal house in early February which means that practical Gay Caps can begin to get their finances in order before tax season. In addition, you'll be especially generous to your valentines. But tally up the totals and pour the champagne before the 20th. After that, you'll prefer talk to action. Alas, it takes more than gas to create heat.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19

Aqueerians can enjoy a burst of attention in early February with the sassy Sun, zesty Mercury, electric Uranus and dreamy Neptune all sitting in their own sign. Gather your rosebuds and valentines while you can cousin; After the 20th, life begins to make more dollars and cents. They say you can't buy love, but I tend to disagree. Prove the experts wrong!

PISCES
FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

If your closet door bursts open in early February, thank the Sun, Mercury, Neptune and Uranus for the liberation. Pink Fish are awash in affirmation and good Gay cheer for most of the month and take their confidence to the public after the 20th. Launch new projects, follow a new idea to its logical conclusion, meet new people, revisit old valentines.

For entertainment purposes only. For best results, read both your Sun sign and Ascendant.. For a free calculation of your ascendant, send birth date, time, place name of this publication and SASE to: LICHTENSTEIN, P.O.B. 1726, Old Chelsea Station, NY, 10011.

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WEDNESDAY
DIG THOSE LATIN RYTHYMS DURING SALSA MORNING, 6 AM 'TIL NOON
PUT ON YOUR TWO-STEPPIN' BOOTS AND JOIN JAKE ON THE PATIO FOR COUNTRY & WESTERN NIGHT
THURSDAY
DON YOUR HIDE FOR LEATHER NIGHT
AND OUR POOL TOURNAMENT.
HAPPY HOUR EATS, FRIDAY 5 PM - ?
SATURDAY AFTERNOON JOIN THE DESERT LEATHERMEN AT THEIR BEER BUST, 3 – 7 PM
SUNDAY BEER BUST, 3 – 7 PM
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622-8848
311 EAST CONGRESS
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6:00 PM TO 9:00 PM

THE BIZ
318-4838
2900 EAST BROADWAY BLVD
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17 1999
6:00 PM TO 9:00 PM

RAINBOW PLANET
620-1770
606 NORTH FOURTH AVENUE
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3 1999
6:00 PM TO 9:00 PM

STONEWALL/EAGLE
624-8805
2921 NORTH FIRST AVENUE
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17 1999
6:00 PM TO 9:00 PM

THE GRADUATE
622-9233
23 WEST UNIVERSITY STREET
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31 1999
6:00 PM TO 9:00 PM

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DEPARTMENT IS CURRENTLY USING ORASURE® THE
ISTERED ORALLY. ORASURE® IS EASIER, PAINLESS
EVIOUS TESTING METHODS. IF YOU HAVE ANY
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Rodeo Romance '99

A fundraiser for the Tucson Community hosted by AGRA

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STONEWALL/ EAGLE
COUNTRY WESTERN ALL NIGHT
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TICKETS ARE$5.00 EA. AND ALL PROFITS GO TO THE ORGANIZATION THAT YOU BUY YOUR TICKET FROM
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FOR TICKET SALES INFO!

AGRA TUCSON CHAPTER

FREE Valentines in the February 10th issue of the Observer. Get them in by Feb. 8th. Limit four to a person. Leave your Valentine messages at any of Tucson's Gay bars, or at Antigone Books, Rainbow Planet Coffee House or S.A.A.F., or send directly to the Observer at any of the addresses on Page two. Join the fun. Hundreds do every year. But this is the final week to get them in!

LETTERS

DEAR BOB:

As 1998 came to a close and 1999 began, I realized that there was a very special individual who runs a larger organization that deserved a large note of appreciation for his support. The Gay Men's Health project was designed to focus on Gay men who frequent Gay bars, however couldn't achieve our objectives without help and support from many areas of the community. I thought you might like to know exactly what was accomplished by GMHP in 1998.

HIV Counseling and Testing was extremely successful in 1998. GMHP tested over 100 people more in 1998 than 1997, a 60% increase. This program is critical because it brings counseling and testing to the places where people hang out. More importantly, by bringing the test to the bars, we reach people that we may not have reached otherwise. In addition to the bars, counseling and testing was offered at World AIDS Day, National Coming Out Day, OUToberFEST and Gay West II. Testing at these locations increased 45% over 1997.

The Condom Brigade distributed over 12,000 condom packets in 1998. The importance of having condoms available where people connect cannot be stated strongly enough. Thank you so much for making space available to display and distribute condom packets and for helping to keep the condoms bins stocked.

The Gay Men's Discussion Group began meeting in September at the Emerald City Grill on Fourth Avenue. This group meets twice monthly and gives Gay men the chance to come together, share ideas, and talk about issues important in the Gay community. Giving men the chance to talk with their peers is also an crucial step in the prevention of HIV.

GMHP hosted three community forums addressing issues that face Gay men. The forum on Community Diversity looked at the various sub-cultures that comprise the larger community and how they relate to each other. "What's So Wrong With A One Night Stand" examined the stigma and attitudes surrounding casual sex/one night stands. The final community forum focused on the issues and questions concerning Post Exposure Prevention, and Tucson's response to this important new prevention possibility.

Project staff spoke with hundreds of Gay men in one-on-one outreach about safer sex, relationships, community involvement, volunteerism and self-esteem. Project staff were also present at almost every major community event.

Looking back, it was a very busy, yet extremely productive year for the Gay Men's Health Project. Many of these programs could not exist without the support of community leaders.

Thank you so much for all that you do for GMHP. The project could not exist or succeed without your support and cooperation.

Sincerely,
Mike Henry
Coordinator,
Gay Men's Health Project

EDITOR:

I would like to comment on the article about radio stations.

The reason the Rainbow Radio has not been heard is because it has been off the air. I tried to get in back on the air but I can not run it alone. When I started it, I had 25 volunteers, but within a couple of weeks, they all disappeared. When they find out there is work involved, they gave up. I guess the only thing they wanted is the glory.

The station is just sitting there, gathering dust. I have about $1,000 invested.

Oh well, I guess I wasted my money on a dream.

Bob
Rainbow Radio

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***That's an ORDER!**

PRIDE LAW CENTER MONTHLY LECTURE SERIES

The Pride Law Center is proud to present a monthly lecture series for the public's enjoyment and information. Many attorneys in the community have generously volunteered their time to participate. Each lecture will include a time for questions and answers from the audience.

All lectures will begin at 6:00 p.m. and will take place at the UofA College of Law at Speedway at Mountain, Room 139.

▼ ▼ ▼ ▼

Wednesday, February 17
"UPDATE ON CASE LAW REGARDING SEXUAL IDENTITY 1889-99"
by Dan Hoskan, Esq.
WATCH FOR FUTURE DATES IN THIS LECTURE SERIES

FREE VALENTINES IN THE FEB 10 OBSERVER!
DEADLINE FEBRUARY 8

NEWS FROM WATER OF LIFE MCC

Rev. Joyce Cook Ordination Service At MCC Saturday, February 6

TUCSON — The Rev. Joyce Cook, Pastor of Water of Life Metropolitan Community Church (MCC), will be ordained to te professional Christian Ministry of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches at a special service of worship Saturday, February 6, 7:00 P.M., at the church, 3269 North Mountain Avenue.

The Rev. Elder Darlene Garner of MCC headquarters in West Hollywood, California and the Rev. Bradley Wishon, pastor of Gentle Shepherd MCC in Phoenix will officiate. Other MCC Clergy who will be participating in the ordination service include the Southwest District Coordinator, the Rev. Donald Pederson of Oxnard, California, Gentle Shepherd MCC Staff pastor, the Rev. Rick Schisler, and local Tucson clergy, the Rev. Lynn Hallett.

Rev. Cook has been examined by the Board of Ordained Ministry and has been certified for ordination, having completed all academic and experiential requirements for ordination in MCC. A long time member of the UFMCC, she has been active at MCC in Las Vegas, Nevada, at MCC Long Beach, California; and since 1991, has held active membership at Gentle Shepherd Metropolitan Community Church in Phoenix. Rev. Cook accepted the pastoral call of Water of Life MCC in Tucson in February 1997, while completing the requirements for ordination.

Rev. Cook received her Associate of Arts degree from Mesa Arizona Community College and her Bachelor of Social Work degree (Summa Cum Laude) from Arizona State University (ASU). While enrolled at ASU, Joyce served as the Chair of the Agenda Committee of the National Campus Outreach Opportunity League, planning and organizing conferences and League activities. She also served one year as the Co-Chair of the ASU campus Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual organization, "Lambda League." She has also completed all requirements for Certification in Chemical Dependency at the University of Miami Florida, and has previously worked in rehabilitation and recovery service programs. Rev. Cook has been enrolled at the Claremont School of Theology, and is continuing her post-graduate academic work.

A native of Arizona, with grandparents who resided in Bisbee and Phoenix, Joyce was reared in Sacramento, California. She served in the U.S. Navy from 1977 until 1995. From 1985 until 1991, she resided in Florida, California and Nevada, before returning to Arizona. Joyce has eighteen-and-a-half years of sobriety, which she notes is "only due to the grace of God," and she continues to be actively involved in her recovery program.

Since Rev. Cook assumed the pastorate of the Water of Life MCC two years, the congregation has experienced unprecedented growth. Visible evidence of that growth is that the church now offers two worship services on Sundays, 9:15 A.M. and 11:15 A.M., to accommodate the crowds, and recently expanded the parking lot to assure adequate parking space for all. Her dynamic and energetic leadership style has evoked a total revitalization of the twenty-eight year old congregation in Tucson.

Water of Life Metropolitan Community is located at 3269 North Mountain Avenue (between Ft. Lowell and Prince Roads), is a member congregation of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. The congregation of Water of Life MCC is pleased to invite everyone to this special worship service of Ordination for their Pastor, and to the regular Sunday morning worship services each week. Excitement is in the air and you're invited!

For more information, call the church office, (520) 292-9151 or E-mail: wolmcc@aol.com.

A View From The Rock

A Commentary From Cornerstone Fellowship

Our Pastor has preached these past few weeks on the topic of unity. In her messages she has reminded us that forgiveness is a key in the healing of any hurt, misunderstanding or argument that has taken place. Forgiveness offered, especially when not deserved, will do more to dissolve a hurt and produce a place for healing than anything.

I am reminded of times in my own life when I was wronged by another person. I felt angry, hurt, and disillusioned. But I also remember what happened inside me when I offered the other person, the offender, forgiveness. I felt peaceful, compassionate, and as if a huge weight had been lifted off my back. It left me not only feeling better but actually wanting to get to know the other person better. I was then freed to look more objectively at the person and better realize why he or she had been so hurtful to me.

Forgiveness is such an important ingredient in the Christian's life. After all, who are we but people who have been granted forgiveness by Jesus Christ. We are the offenders and he the offended and yet his hand of forgiveness has been stretched out to us able to erase all our sins.

Jesus continues to reach out. He is reaching out to every person. All you have to do is grab ahold. Ask Jesus to come into your life and make himself real to you. Then you can ask for the forgiveness He so much wants to give. Unlike we humans though, Jesus will never go back on his word, nor offer forgiveness only to bring up the offenses at a later date.

Why not get right with God today and then begin to offer forgiveness to those that have harmed you? What a world we would live in if we all would do that, peace for our souls and peace with our neighbors.

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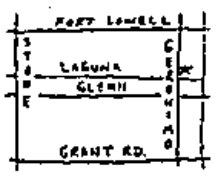

Adult Sunday School - 9:00 AM
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Wednesday Bible Study - 7:00 PM
"Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." *Romans 8:1*

Water of Life Metropolitan Community Church

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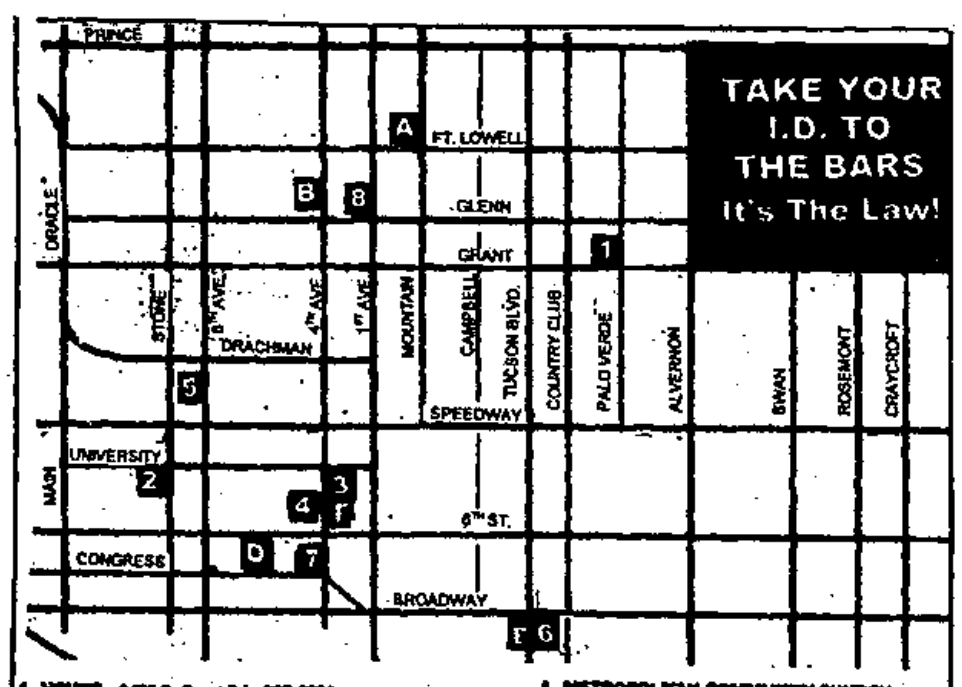

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GO IN GOOD HEALTH

by Rev. Andrew Brooks

Hi! It's me, the local bear who used to write "Go in Good Health." Well, I'm back, bigger and better than before. Did we all have a nice holiday, and a happy new year? I hope so. Well, your dear Endora (that's my nickname, and I like it) is back to wave her magic wand of healing over this Queer old town again. I am going to start writing on holistic healing again, from time to time, at least one a month from now on, to share some new insights with you all.

I think over something that we all do every year, since a lot of us still try to make some New Year's resolutions. I know a lot of us resolve to lose those then pounds, or to get that new job, or break that bad habit, or whatever. Why not try to think of New Year's Resolutions as I do - As my list of New Year's Evolutions instead. Let me explain. I think the ideal of self-improvement is a worthy cause. So that's what I am working on. Here is my New Year's list:

1) To become a more grounded and centered, and focused on my life path, as a writer, and to help people by writing positive, uplifting things. To spend my time working to better my life and to help improve the lives of others.

2) To refrain, as much as possible, from becoming involved in negativity. To not become involved in drama, to steer clear of toxic gossip, rumors and half-truths. If two of my friends are repeating things said and things are getting twisted out of context, I will try to sit them both down and resolve it all for the highest good of all involved. If I think someone is bad-mouthing someone or trying to manipulate a situation, I will tell them not to involve me, and that I do not want to engage in rumor-mongering. The best way to get out of a bad situation is not to create one in the first place.

3) To be a force for good in the Gay community, sharing, caring, and helping others, whenever and wherever I can. To not become involved in Gay politics unless it is a cause I truly stand behind. Too much time is spent fighting over how to proceed with a good cause, when the work done is far more vital.

4) To improve my self-image, and not allow negative thinking or the prejudice or criticisms of others to influence me at all. To rise above prejudice and scorn, and walk through life, knowing and loving and accepting myself just the way I am. (That's a big one right there!)

5) To find a worthy humanitarian cause to donate money to. (For example, this year I am going to send all the money I can to the campaign to free Tibet from Chinese communist rule. This conquered nation needs support from the world if it is to ever break free of foreign domination.) There are so many good causes, it is hard to pick just one!

6) Last, but not least, to find true love in my life. Not to settle for second best, or just sex when love is what I need. To recognize the difference between a passing fancy and the real thing. To give love and receive love freely, without expectations or unrealistic demands to find a "perfect" lover.

This is all part of a process of self-discovery and healing my inner child, and reclaiming my personal power. We give out power away in so many small ways, letting other's hurt, anger intimidate us, and we need to let go of negative feelings. Holding in anger, fear, doubt, worry, sadness, or the need for revenge against someone who has wronged us will only drain and frustrate us.

Healing our inner child is very important. No matter what religion you follow, we need to feel loved and nurtured, by God (or Goddess), and by others as well. Far too many of us had horrible childhoods, and grew up in homes where we were expected to be something we were not, are not, and will never be: straight, and we know others may not accept us as Gay.

How many of us actually grew up with loving, accepting parents who support our dreams and hopes, not projecting their dreams that they did not fulfill on us instead? If you have those kind of parents, Goddess bless them! How wonderful! How many of us have parents and family who tried to pressure us to be straight, to conform, to try to fit into a world we don't quite conform to? And how many of us had parents who were angry, bitter, or emotionally dysfunctional?

Abuse and parental mistreatment of children leaves that child with emotional scars that can take a lifetime to heal. We need to reach inside ourselves and heal those wounds, to love ourselves, to accept ourselves and be free of the pain and the hurt from our pasts. That goes for the hurts caused by our ex-boyfriends or girlfriends or lovers.

Yes, being cheated on, lied to, and used for your money, your good looks, your body, or being manipulated, hurt, or verbally or mentally (or even physically) abused feels rotten. It is sad that a lot of Gay men have had bad relationships, where one partner is abusing the love and the relationship for selfish ends. That never helps us feed good. But when we finally walk away, we need to let it go.

Yes, get mad, and let it out. Yes, release the hurt, and cry when you need to cry. But then, let go and walk away. Drop it emotionally, mentally and physically. Don't dwell on what might have been. Look to the future, not the past. Reach inside and feel that inner child needing a hug, and love and pamper yourself a bit.

And if you are the type who screws up your relationships, examine why. Work on changing that. What have you got to lose?

I welcome feedback!
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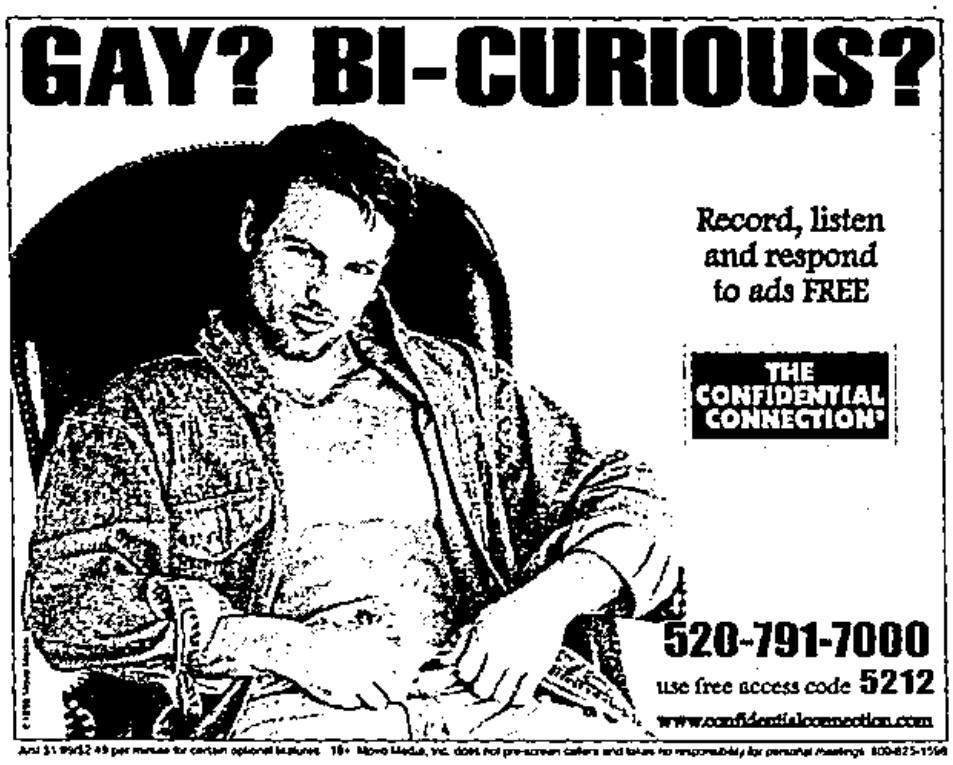

Politics

Continued from Page Six

Openly Gay state Representative, Ken Cheuvront, D-Phoenix, said the proposal would "accomplish nothing but hurt all students." "The Republicans in this state are trying to macro-manage all levels of life, from the bedroom and now to the schools," he added.

Amelia Craig Cramer of the Arizona Human Rights Fund, said the new proposal by Gray would prevent Gay and Lesbian kids from being able to join a support club or group, since most are not out to their parents. She added that it would negate the ability of all students to have any club or support group on their campus.

What about state Representative Gray's purported new proposal being in violation of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution? Cramer commented that it could be a tough, legal battle, since the court has ruled in previous cases that having "age appropriate restrictions" on free speech was legal.

Another question has arisen over the state Representative Gray's purported new proposal. Would the ban on promotion or advertising by a support club or group, conflicts with the requirement of all student support clubs and groups to promote abstinence? . . .

So it goes for now kids!

Desert Vision

Continued from Page Eight

goal is not to provide a working model to help you make it all work but to provide you with some things to consider in your relationships. As with my musings on spirituality, I hope that this discussion of relationships gives you a clearer sense of vision for your life here in the desert.

[The Rev. Louis F. Kavar, Ph.D., is a counselor and spiritual director in private practice in Tucson. He can be contacted at 290-1591 or by e-mail at LouKavar@aol.com.]

SPORTS

DESERT COYOTES
BOWLING LEAGUE
STANDINGS - THIRD QUARTER

	Won	Lost	Pct
FourKneeCatorz	4.0	0.0	1.000
Tres Amigos	4.0	0.0	1.000
Two	3.0	1.0	.750
Helen	3.0	1.0	.750
Low Ballers	3.0	1.0	.750
Damn It !!	3.0	1.0	.750
Poppin Fresh	3.0	1.0	.750
Looney Toones	3.0	1.0	.750
It's In Da Hole	2.0	2.0	.500
Three Way	2.0	2.0	.500
Miracles Happen	1.0	3.0	.250
Curious George	1.0	3.0	.250
Just Throw It	1.0	3.0	.250
Pretty Balls	1.0	3.0	.250
Erratica III	1.0	3.0	.250
Cocktails for 17	1.0	3.0	.250
Ooops	0.0	4.0	.000
Eat At Ed's	0.0	4.0	.000

First Quarter Champions - Looney Toones. Second Quarter Champions- Four-Knee-Catorz.

High Average - Just Throw It, 509; Ken M., 199; Heather H., 157.

High Series Scratch - Ken M., 728; Heather H., 542; Just Throw It, 1755.

High Game Scratch - Fran K., 223; Ken M., 267; Just Throw It, 641.

High Series Handicap - Heather H., 677; Ken M., 743; Just Throw It/Four-Knee-Catorz, 2019.

High Game Handicap - Brad H., 285; Fran K., 269; Miracles Happen, 752.

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Columna Abierta - by Dr. Eleazar Garcia

¿Que' tal?, cómo se encuentra apreciable lector? Deseandole lo mejor de lo mejor, yo Un poco cansado al regreso de mi viaje por las comunidades del Rio Sonora, donde se pudo apreciar el gran interes que tiene esa gente de apoyar y recibir a los visitantes sobre todo, quienes de verdad le hacen sentir "en su casa" a las personas que por una *razón* u otra tenemos la oportunidad de disfrutar de esos pueblos y sus riquezas.. desde luego de su gente bonita! .. En esta ocación el viaje fué en relación a un proyecto que estamos realizando en compañia del CIAD A.C. de Hermosillo sobre salud reproductiva enfatizando la prevención sobre cáncer cervicouterino, ya les hablaré' sobre los detalles y las acciones a llevarse a cabo. sobre la marcha; el caso filé que se aprovechó la oportunidad y nos dimos un "viaje relampago" a las oficinas de la Secretaria de Salud del Estado donde saludamos a viejos y grandes amigos/colegas que siguen firmes a la mencionada dependecia y que a la vez estarán trabajando de una manera u otra en el proyecto... Y lo que si les puedo ir adelantando es el ***Primer Foro Comunitano sobre "Unidad Familiar, Juventud Sana"***, que será' el dia 19 de marzo en Ures. Sonora ya les daré detalles e información cuando este *más* cercana la fecha...

Dentro de las actividades de Salud es Poder es el entrenamiento que se estará llevando a cabo los fines de semana en Nogales Sonora, ya se tienen reclutadas algunas personas interesadas en participar y a la vez se le hace la invitación para que asista, y aprenda sobre prevención, información y demás temas que incluye estos entrenamientos. Si necesita información por favor comunicarse con Ernie, y/o Jorge (322-6226) o con Adriana Romero a Juntos Unidos al (520) 761-4412 en Nogales Arizona.

En: *Noticias Breves en Salud:* Una investigación de 12 años de la Universidad Federal de Rio de Janeiro y la Universidad de Vanderbilt (EE UU) concluyó que el consumo *moderado* (cuatro cafés al dia) tiene efectos benéficos contra la depresión. el tabaquismo, el alcoholismo y la drogadicción. El Dr. Darcy Lima afirma que los componentes del café pueden evitar las crisis depresivas. La investigación indica que los compuestos del café llamados ácidos clorogénicos se descomponen al tostarse en cinco componentes que los cientificos consideran de efecto antagonista de los opiaceos. inhibiendo el exceso de encefalinas, neurotransmisores ligados a la sensación de placer que se fijan en determinados receptores neuronales. El café mantiene también estable el nivel de la dopamina. relacionada con la depresión. Esta es la primera vez que se comprueba la acción sobre el sistema límbico, región del cerebro donde se originan las emociones y la sensación de placer.

Además: Un estudio del Instituto de Medicina Preventiva de Copenhage confirma que beber hasta seis copas de vino a la semana protege contra el derrame cerebral, y que beber en exceso puede provocarlo. El vino contiene nutrientes que inhiben la formación de placas de aterona de arteriosclerosis, responsable de los infartos y accidentes cerebrovasculares. Por el contrario, quienes beben una cantidad similar de cerveza o licor NO reducen en absoluto el riesgo. El estudio, publicado en la revista *Stroke,* analizó también qué ocurria en personas que tenian otros factores de riesgo como diabetes, colesterol elevado y obesidad. En los tres grupos se demostró que el vino tiene también un efecto beneficioso.

Por hoy, es todo, le esperamos la semana siguiente D.M.

[ED NOTE: Due to some computer malfunctions, there may be some mistakes in the translation of Dr. Garcia's column column this week. Observer apologizes for any inconvenience]

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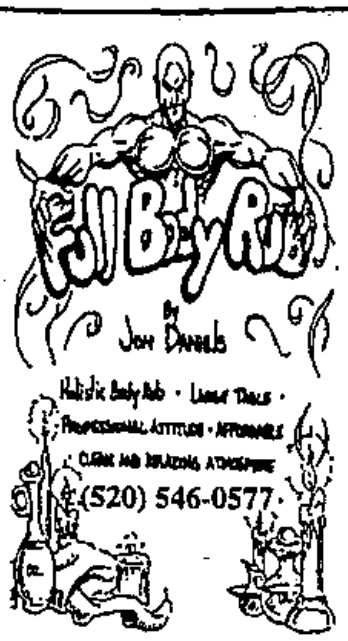

FREE VALENTINES IN THE FEBRUARY 10TH ISSUE OF THE OBSERVER.
Leave your Valentine messages at any of Tucson's Gay Bars, or at Antigone Books, Rainbow Planet Coffee House or S.A.A.F., or send directly to the Observer at any of the addresses on page two.
LIMIT FOUR (4) MESSAGES PER PERSON

Non-Bar Calendar

Groups / Clubs / Organizations

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 6:00 p.m. Join us for the MSN premiere of "Billy's Hollywood Screen Kiss". This sweet comedy stars Sean Hayes (of "Will & Grace) as a young man looking for love. For reservations and directions, call Les at 690-9565.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Water of Life Metropolitan Community Church invites everyone to celebrate the ordination of their pastor, he Reverend Jpouce Lynn Cook at 7:00 p.m. The Rev. Elder Darlene Garner and The Rev. BradleyWishon will be officiating. A reception will follow the ceremony. 3269 N. Mountain, 292-9151.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us for our monthly potluck as we sit down to eat with some of the nicest gay guys in town (like you!). You're invited to come and share your favorite dish with the men who come to our monthly gathering. Join us at 6801 N. Oracle (Casas Adobes Congregational Church). Please call Jerry at 690-9565 for directions and any questions you may have.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 10:00 a.m. Join Patrick for a Hike Planning Session, as he gives directions and ideas for upcoming MSN hikes. If you're interested in sharing your ideas, please call Patrick at 615-1887. Pastries, juice, and coffee will be served.

2. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 4-6 p.m. The Triangle Tribe, an awareness group, meets to learn and use communication and relationship skills toward developing feelings of trust, love, acceptance and brotherhood. For reservations and directions, please call Tom at 318-1650.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Bridge night. Bridge for men who want to refresh their bridge skills (or just have fun); table talk playing. For reservations and directions, please call Mitch at 326-3555.

2. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. The Book Club will be discussing "The Promise of Rest" by Reynolds Price. Even if you don't read the selection, we encourage all book lovers to attend. For reservations and directions, please call Steve at 388-4849.

WEDNESDAY. FEBRUARY 10

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us for Dinner Out as we visit the Great American Cattle Company on Speedway. Please phone in your reservation to Bill as soon as possible so we can notify the restaurant of the number of men attending. For directions and reservations, please contact Bill at 546-7539.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join Jerry and Les for Game Night. Play a favorite card game or board game—the choice is yours. If you have a favorite you'd like to play, bring it along, but there will be plenty of games from which to choose. For reservations and directions, please call Les or Jerry at 321-4387.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 13

Water of Life MCC is hosting the second annual Valentine's Dance beginning at 8:00 p.m. until Midnight. All who love to dance should not miss this. Local singer Sabra Faulk will take you from romantic slow songs to rock and roll, country/western and back again. Later in the evening another Tucsonan, Jess Hawk Oakenstar will make a special appearance. Goodies and non-alcoholic beverages will be served. Instant photos of you and your honey on this special night will be available if you so desire. Tickets are $5.00 and are available at Antigone Books and Water of Life MCC, 3269 N. Mountain Ave. 292-9151.

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 10:00 a.m. Join Steve as he takes us on another "Inside Tucson" tour with an exclusive tour of the Arizona State Museum. For reservations, please call Steve at 887-1140.

2. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Bill hosts the 2nd MSN Singles Party. Looking to meet new men outside of a bar? Here's your chance to meet some of the single guys of MSN, and other non-members such as yourself. You're asked to bring a snack/appetizer/hors d'oeuvre to share with others. For directions and reservations, please call Bill at 546-7539.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 4-6 p.m. The Triangle Tribe, an awareness group, meets to learn and use communication and relationship skills toward developing feelings of trust, love, acceptance and brotherhood. For reservations and directions, please call Tom at 318-1650.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Pride Law Center Monthly Lecture Series tonight at 6:00 p.m. at the UofA College Of Law at Speedway & Mountain, Room 139. Tonights talk "Update On Case Law Regarding Sexual Identity 1998-99", will be presented by Dan Haslam, Esq. The next lecture will take place on Wednesday, March 17.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Retro TV returns with "The Avengers" and 2 episodes of "The Mary Tyler Moore Show". The episodes will feature "first and last" themes. For reservations and directions, please call Les at 690-9565.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Our monthly Pizza Party will take be held at Les & Jerry's home. Simply bring $4.00 and join in for a fun evening of food and good conversation. Salad and dessert are also served. Vegetarian pizza offered as well. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-9565. Please note: reservations should be made by Thursday, February 17 at noon so we can order the proper number of pizzas (but we do order a couple of extra pizzas just in case this isn't read until the day of the event).

Bar Calendar

Of Upcoming Events

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

IBT'S - 9:00 P.. "The Girlie Show" hosted by Lucinda Holliday and featuring Naomi Knight, Kristin, Faith and Crystal Mae Rogers.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Latin Dance Party with DJ Eduardo 9:00 p.m. to closing. Fueza Latina Travesti Show 10:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

IBT'S - Sunday Benefit Bar-B-Que and 16oz Beer Bust from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. will benefit AGRA. Karaoke on the Patio with Billy D from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Then at 9:00 p.m., it's time for "Naughty Bodies" AGAIN. Back by popular demand, this male revue from Phoenix features Hot Men & Hot Bodies!!! If you missed them last time. You better get here early for a good view!

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Paoline's World Famous Spaghetti. 7:00 to 77 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

IBT'S - Puttin' On The Lips lipsinc contest for amateurs. $50 first place prize. Hosted by Victoria DuPuis and Bunny Fulu.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11

IBT'S - 8:00 p.m. - It's "The Rudy De la Mor Show!" Spend an hilarious evening with Rudy's award-winning act from Los Angeles.

SATURDAY,FEBRUARY 13

STONEWALL/EAGLE - A.G.R.A. Rodeo Romance. A fundraiser for the Tucson Comunity. Country/Western all night. Entertainment by Tucson's finest live and Memorex performers. Tickets are $5.00 and all profits go to the organization you got your ticket from.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

IBT'S - Big Valentine's Day Party and special show. Be Here!

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Second Annual "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun" show in the Stonewall. Two shows: 2:00 p.m. Teen Show. All performers under 21 all ages welcome. (No alcoholic beverages will be served on the Stonewall side during this 2:00 p.m. show. 9:00 p.m. Adult Show featuring Christina de Alexis, Faith, Jody, Bunny Furlu, Alotta Whoremoans, Regina Reid, Alyssa DeSade, Dani Bordello. (Alcoholic beveraqges will be served during this 9:00 p.m. show).

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Mamma Reyna's Special Birthday Show. Doors open to the Stonewall at 8:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

IBT'S - Gigantic Mardi Gras Party! Watch for it!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 a.m. MSN has its third yard sale, as Dm & Ernie offer their home as the site of this bargain hunter's delight. If you'd like space to sell you stuff, please call Ernie at 884-0375 for details. If you'd like to stop by and shop for bargains, join us at 1250 E. Blacklidge (at the corner of Blacklidge & Tucson). For more information, please call Ernie at 884-0375.

2. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 10:15 a.m. Join Will (a retired ethno-botanist) as he leads a nature hike through the Sabino Basin. You'll learn about the various flora of the region as Will shares his knowledge with us. Space is limited. Please call Will at 298-9454, for reservations and details.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 4-6 p.m. The Triangle Tribe, an awareness group, meets to learn and use communication and relationship skills toward developing feelings of trust, love, acceptance and brotherhood. For reservations and directions, please call Tom at 318-1650.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. A night is devoted to getting out the MSN newsletters. It's a fun way to help the organization and get to know the MSN guys. Dessert and door prizes are provided. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-9565.

2. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 8:00 p.m. We offer a multiplex tonight! You have a choice of two movies: "Maurice" or "Beautiful Thing". Both movies feature two young men discovering their gay natures, and how they deal with it. Join us for one or both of these events (but you don't have to help with the newsletter). For reservations & directions, please call Les at 690-9565.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Bridge night. Bridge for men who want to refresh their bridge skills (or just have fun); table talk playing. For reservations and directions, please call Mitch at 326-3555.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us for our monthly Classic Cinema. We'll showcase an older movie, along with a cartoon and a short. Tonight's feature is "Mister Roberts" starring Henry Fonda, Jack Lemmon, and James Cagney. For directions and reservations, please call Les at 690-9565.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). TBA Our monthly hike will be held somewhere hikeable today. For details, please call Ron at 327-1052.

2. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 4-6 p.m. The Triangle Tribe, an awareness group, meets to learn and use communication and relationship skills toward developing feelings of trust, love, acceptance and brotherhood. For reservations and directions, please call Tom at 318-1650.

Daily Bar Calendar

Sunday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Beer Bust 5-10, $1.25 pitchers. Latin Music 9-1. Shot specials all night.

GRADUATE - Sunday Beer Bust and Food Bag 4-7pm. 50¢, $1.50 small pitchers. BBQ Beef Sandwich with Cheese & Potato Salad $1.50. Drink Specials do not apply during special events.

HOURS - Open 1pm. $2 Bloody Marys & $1.50 Screwdrivers til 8pm. Country music & dancing.

IBT's - Open Noon to 1 am. Happy Hour noon-8pm, $1.75 domestic beer and $1.50 Well. Benefit B-B-Q and Beer Bust for community organizations 4:30-7:00pm. Karaoke with Billy Dee on the patio 4:30-7:30. Hi energy dancing 9pm to close. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open Noon. Daily drink specials. Beer Bust & Happy Hour 'til 7pm. BBQ 2-6. Hot dance music. Snack Bar opens at noon

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio open 3pm. Patio Beer Bust 3-7pm 50¢ draft. 301 Dart Tournament 5pm $3 entry fee (pot matched). Bass Burgers 5-7pm Hides Leather Goods opens at 7pm.

Monday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Happy Hour 2-7. Free pool 2-4. 9-Ball tournament 6pm, $3 entry, pot matched. Monday Night Football - 3 screens. $2.00 Cuervo Gold all nite.

GRADUATE - Open 9am. Happy Hour 4-8pm all well $1.50 Draft $1.75 Domestic. Karaoke with Billy Dee 9pm-close. Drink specials do not apply during special events.

HOURS - Closed Mondays.

IBT's - Open noon. Martini Monday all day all call martinis's $2.50. Happy Hour noon-8pm, $1.75 domestic beer and $1.50 well. 8pm to midnight, $1.50/32oz pitchers. Extreme dance with DJ Michael 9pm-1am. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open Noon Daily drink specials. Happy Hour 'til 7pm. Party with Chuck in the evening. Doc's Dart Tourney 8pm in the Eagle. Free pool all day and night. Snack Bar opens at noon.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. $1.75 Well drinks and Longnecks 6am-12:30pm

Tuesday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7 pm. Free Pool 2-4pm. Pool Tournament 7:30 pot matched. $1 longnecks for pool players. '70s/'80s dance music 9-1. Shot specials all night.

GRADUATE - Open 9am. Happy Hour 4-8pm all well $1.50. Domestic $1.75. Drink specials do not apply during special events.

HOURS - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3-8pm. $1.50 well or domestic beer. Draft Beer Nite 8-close. $2 small/$4 large pitchers.

IBT's - Open noon. Happy Hour Noon-8 pm, $1.75 domestic beer & $1.50 well. 9 pm to close $1.75 well. Wear an IBT's T-shirt get happy hour prices 9 to close, or buy an IBT's T-shirt for $5 and get a complimentary drink. Extreme Dance with DJ Michael 9pm to closing.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open Noon Daily drink specials. Happy Hour til 7pm. Eight Ball pool tourney, warm-up 6pm, play begins 7pm. Latin Dance Party w/ DJ Eduardo 9pm - 1am. Snack bar opens at noon.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. $1.75 Well drinks and longnecks 6am - 12:30pm.

Wednesday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7. Free Pool 2-4. $1.25 pitchers 8-midnight. Dance music with DJ Robyn 9pm-1am. Shot specials all night

GRADUATE - Open 9am. Happy Hour 4-8pm all well $1.50; Domestic $1.75. 9 Ball Single Elimination Pool Tourney. 7pm, Pot matched. Drink specials do not apply during special events.

HOURS - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3-8pm $1.50 well or domestic beer. Import Night $2.25 8pm-1am

IBT's - Open Noon to 1 am. Happy Hour Noon to 8pm, $1.75 domestic beer & $1.50 well. Mystery Night. $1.75 Bud Product Special 9 pm to close. Dance with David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open Noon Daily Drink Specials. Happy Hour til 7pm. Karaoke Nite: 9 to close w/Billy Dee in the Eagle. Stonewall opens at 9pm. Hottest dance music in town. Snack bar opens at Noon.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. $1.75 Well drinks and Longnecks 6am-12:30 pm, Cuervo Gold $2 and Cuervo 1800 $2.25 Open to close.

Thursday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7, 2for1 well or domestic beer. Free pool 2-4. Karaoke 8:30 pm to close. (New time)

GRADUATE - Open 9am. Happy Hour 4-8pm all Well $1.50, Domestic $1.75. 301 Dart Tournament 7:30pm. Double Elimination. Pot Matched. Drink specials do not apply during special events.

HOURS - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3-8pm $1.50 well or domestic beer. 75¢ Schnapps 8pm to close. $2 Cuervo shots and country/western dance at 9pm

IBT's - Open noon to 1am. Happy Hour noon-8 pm $1.75 domestic beer and $1.50 well. Underwear Nite. $1.50 Well and $1.75 Domestic Beer to those in their underwear (pant check available). Hi energy dancing 9-close with DJ David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open Noon Daily drink specials. Happy Hour til 7pm. Latin Dance Party w/Eduardo in the Stonewall 9pm to close. Biweekly Travesti Show 10:30pm. Snackbar opens at Noon.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am $1.75 Well Drinks & Longnecks 6am-12:30pm Patio Bar open 8pm. Feathers Bottles $1.75 from 9pm-midnight. Day prices for men in leather 7pm to close. Pool Tournament 7pm-ish. $3 entry (Pot Matched). Hides Leather shop opens at 8:30

Friday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7. Free pool 2-4. 5:30 - 7 free food. Top 40 dance music 9-1 w/ DJ Hill.

GRADUATE - Open 9am. Happy Hour 4-8pm, all well $1.50/ domestic $1.75. Drink specials do not apply during special events.

HOURS - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3-8pm $1.50 well and domestic beer. Country Western Music and Dancing 9pm to 1am.

IBT's - Open noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm $1.75 domestic beer and $1.50 well. Live Jazz on the patio with the Dukes of York 5-8pm. Patio Bar 9-1. Dance Party 9 to 1 with DJ David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open Noon Daily drink specials. Happy Hour til 7pm. T.G.I.F. Free snacks 4:30-8pm The hottest dance music in town 9pm to close in the Stonewall. Snack Bar opens at Noon.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. $1.75 Well drinks and Longnecks 6am-12:30 Snacks served at 5pm. Patio Bar open 5pm. Hides Leather Store opens at 8:30pm.

Saturday

AIN'T NOBODYS BIZNESS - Hi energy dance music from 8:30pm to 1am. Drink specials every ½ hour.

GRADUATE - Open 9am. Happy Hour 4-8pm, all well drinks $1.50/domestic $1.75. 8 Ball Pool Tournament 2pm, Double Elimination, pot matched. Drink specials do not apply during special events.

HOURS - Open 1pm. Small Pitchers $2 & FREE pool 2-5. Country Western Music all night.

IBT's - Open Noon to 1am. Happy Hour noon to 8pm $1.75 domestic beer and $1.50 well. Patio Bar 9-1. Dance 9 to 1 with DJ David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open noon. Daily drink specials. Beer Bust & Happy Hour til 7pm. Free Pool noon to 7pm. Stonewall opens 9pm. The hottest dance music in town. Snack Bar opens at noon.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Patio Bar open at 3pm. Patio Beer Bust with 50¢ draft 3-7pm. Hides Leather Store opens at 8:30pm. Partnership Cricket Tournament 8:30pm $3 entry (Pot Matched).

CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE .25 PER WORD $5.00 MINIMUM

CLASSIFIED ADS MUST BE MAILED, NO PHONE ADS.

NOTICES

COCHISE COUNTY LESBIANS AND GAYS. P.O. Box 818, Bisbee, AZ 85603 / (602)432-5591. Rap Group, Youth Group, Social and Political Events.

SUPPORT GROUP FOR MEN IN SAME SEX RELATIONSHIPS who have ever been physically, verbally or sexually abused, is now forming. Call Randy Oberhoff, Ph.D. at 570-0027 for more

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)327-1620 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910, or come to our general meetings the second Friday of every month. Location listed on our hotline.

LAMBDA CAR CLUB, a social organization of Gays and Lesbians who share interest, information and fellowship involving all cars and trucks. Now Southern Arizona Region now in Tucson. Call the HOTline for info at 888-5541

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 Rona 968-2584.

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

CRONIES SOCIAL GROUP. A Social group for Gay men who enjoy the fellowship of their peers. Call Merle at 888-7264.

T-SQUARES Lesbian and Gay square dance club meets every Tuesday from 6:30-9:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2002 N. Geronimo (near 1st Ave. and Laguna). Open to All. Call Liz at 325-9456 or Ray at 749-5247.

LIGHTNING LIGHTING will provide lighting for AIDS and related benefits at no charge. For more info call Adrienne at 889-7298.

MANE MEN: Long-haired Gay male penpal network. Photo, 3 IRC's to join. Box 231, Station B, Ottawa, CANADA, K1P6C4

GAY & LESBIAN SPIRITUALITY GROUP of St. Phillips in the Hills Episcopal Church meets first and third Mondays. Call David, 323-7943 for more information.

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 Chorus rehearses Monday evenings from 6:30 to 9:30pm at Armory Park Senior Center, 220 S. 6th Ave. Call 791-9662.

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., MCC Church, 3269 N. Mountain. 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 Jerry at 690-9565 for information and a newsletter. Check the Non-Bar Calendar in the Observer.

SOFTBALL - For info on the Tucson Greater Softball Association T.G.S.A., please contact. Mary 770-9979 or Bertie 318-3415.

CARE TEAMS ARE AVAILABLE to offer support to people living with HIV/AIDS. The Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network offers trained, compassionate and committed volunteers to provide services including friendly visits, light housekeeping, assistance with meals, shopping, errands, transportation and companionship for medical appointments, and respite care for primary care givers. No judgement or proselytizing - we are here to be of service. For information call Scott at 299-9063.

ARE YOU GAY OR BISEXUAL AND UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE? The Gay Young Men's Project is now looking for volunteers for the project. We need people who want to help create a positive social change for young Gay men as well as reduce the risk for HIV infection. For more information please call 322-6226.

"EVOLVERE" a transgendered Support Group open to all T.V.'s, C.D.'s, T.G.'s & T.S.'s. Dedicated to all our brothers and sisters. Offering our help and support in every way we can. Meetings held at Wingspan on 4th Saturday of each month at 6:30 p.m. 748-0497.

SCUBA DIVING CLUB. For information call digital pager 291-9602.

BISEXUAL INFORMATION/SUPPORT GROUP for women and men. Meetings 1st & 3rd Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. 624-1779.

GAY VOLLEYBALL ON SATURDAYS. Competitive play. Intermediate or better players only. Grass court Northwest corner Himmel Park 11 a.m. Check it out!

THE MEN'S MASSAGE GROUP meets the 3rd Sunday of each month. It is a good way to meet other men of all ages, safely, and with the art of nurturing touch. There is a fee. You must sign up in advance to participate. Call Marc at 881-4582 for more information or sign up.

COMMUNITY BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (CBA), Tucson's Gay and Lesbian business networking group holds regular meetings the third Thursday of every month. Call Greg Hollman 577-8333 for more info.

TUCSON LESBIAN/GAY ALLIANCE (TLGA) meets on the second Tuesday at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th Street at 7pm. For more information call 622-3200.

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.

TIHAN, a coalition of churches and synagogues committed to providing a compassionate response to the HIV crisis, provides HIV education in congregational settings, volunteer CareTeams to support HIV+ persons, a referral network of HIV-sensitive clergy, and interfaith services of healing and hope. For more information call 299-6647.

THIRTYsomething Society - an exclusive society for single Gay and Bi men in or near their thirties. A social society that offers monthly activities including a monthly outing away from Tucson. Call 797-3116 for more information and a membership bio.

LESBIAN/GAY/BI-SEXUAL OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Saturdays noon-1pm new location Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. Contacts 325-6676 or 327-4293.

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 791-7678.

NORTHWEST CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 4th Monday at St. Odilia's Catholic Church, 7570 N. Paseo Del Norte in the Parish Hall Conference Room (Bldg. North of the Church) at 7:30 p.m. For more info call Mary 297-9602 or Sr. Joan 742-8900.

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 Brenda at 884-8920, Ext.448 or Emmett 322-6057 (evolver@ix.netcom.com)

NOTICES

AZdykes is a new email list for Lesbians living in Arizona. For information mail tyan@theriver.com and request guidelines.

OUTLOUD! Tucson's premiere Local Lesbian and Gay Radio Show, broadcast each 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm on 91.3 FM, Community Radio KXCI. This show alternates with "This Way Out", a nationally syndicated Lesbian and Gay radio show.

THEATER / DINNER / ETC! Non-Smoking Lesbian Network meets every 3rd Saturday night of each month. If you'd like to meet women 35+ (flexible) and socialize in a smoke-free environment 888-8010 before 10:00 p.m. The group dines out and attends shows or movies. Now in their 10th year! (2nd in Tucson).

TRANSGENDER ISSUES: Southern Arizona Gender Alliance (SAGA) meets on first Mondays for informal discussion of transgender topics. Hosted by Desert Boys. For information call Gary at 628-8659 or send email to: monkeydyke@earthling.net.

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.

GAY MORMON, EX-MORMON. New support and discussion group. For information call 529-4580

ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIPS. Individual or group support for Gay, Bisexual and Trans men who are victims/survivors in same-sex relationships. Group meets Tuesdays 7 to 8:30pm at a confidential location. For information or appointment call 218-2827. Wingspan Domestic Violence Project.

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION (SAAF), 151 S. Tucson Blvd., Suite 211 (The Broadmoor Building). Office Hours 8am to 5pm, Monday through Friday. Direct services and emotional support for persons with and affected by HIV. Anonymous HIV testing and support groups available. Prevention education programs. 322-6226. AIDS Hotline: 326-AIDS. World wide web: http://www.saaf.org. VOLUNTEERS WELCOME.

FRONT RUNNERS OF TUCSON meet for fun runs Tuesdays at 6 p.m. Group meets in front of the Himmel Park Library (East side), and Sundays at various times and places. For more information call Mitch at 326-3555

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 575-8660 or write P.O. Box 35264, Tucson, AZ 85740-5264. All replies confidential.

ARE YOU GAY OR LESBIAN and someone else's drinking is getting to you. Call information and Referral about Al-Anon 881-1794 in Tucson info about special groups for Gays and Lesbians.

YOUNG AND GAY?

Lesbian and Gay youths 23 and under, meet every Saturday in Tucson for sharing, support and information. Meetings are held at 300 E. 6th Street from 3 to 5 pm. You are not alone. For more info call Wingspan, 624-1779.

The TUCSON Chapter of PRIME TIMERS INTERNATIONAL invites Gay or Bisexual men and their admirers to join and share Prime Timers fellowship. We welcome mature men (and admirers) who wish to become involved with planned and future Prime Timers activities. Meetings luncheons and dinners are held monthly. For dates, times and information call 584-0280, leave name and phone number.

TUCSON GAY 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 881-1794 - 8 am - 5 pm Mon. - Fri.

AIDS HOTLINE - 326-AIDS. Hours M-F, 9:00 am to 10:00 pm. Information, counseling, HIV-related services, Tucson.

GAY OR BI-SEXUAL MEN in relationships with women. Need friends you can talk to? Weekly support group meets Wednesdays 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Licensed psychologist facilitator. Call 745-6977 in Tucson for more information. Strictly confidential.

WINGSPAN - Tucson's Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Community Center, 300 E. 6th St., offers support groups / info line / social events / library / meeting space. Volunteer Opportunities. Board meetings every 2nd Sunday (open to all), 6:00 p.m. Information 624-1779.

SUPPORT GROUP: Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals meet weekly for open discussions in a loving, supportive atmosphere. Meetings Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:30 pm at St. Francis in the Foothills Church, Swan and River Road. Room 43. Call the church at Darrey at 886-1208 or Brian at 882-4726 for information.

LICHEN HIKING CLUB for women of all ages and backgrounds of life. Hike with other women. Listings in Rubyfruit Journal available at Antigone Books, 411 N. 4th Ave.

CAMELBACK BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION (CBPA) OF PHOENIX. For information and membership write: CBPA at P.O. Box 2097, Phoenix, AZ 85001.

LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP addressing a full spectrum of issues, problems and situations. Meetings 2nd & 4th Wednesday 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. 624-1779.

ARIZONA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION (AGRA) TUCSON CHAPTER. Interested? Call 323-0605 or write AGRA/Tucson, P.O. Box 40894, Tucson, AZ 85717.

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.

GAY COWBOY CLUB - Nationwide Personal Ads. Admirers welcome too. Send stamp for information: Mavericks, Box 9543, Santa Fe, NM 87504.

ATTENTION ALL NUDISTS - Tucson Tanners is a nudist group open to all -- Nude activities scheduled both indoor and outdoors. Not "Gay Only", but Gays are welcome and invited to join. For further information send SASE to: Tucson Tanners, P.O. Box 84-G, Cortaro, AZ 85652.

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

TUCSON'S 100% CONSENSUAL, Pan-Fetish, Pan-Sexual, Informational Safe Space for the B&D, S&M, D&S and TV community. Call us at (520)617-4661, e-mail us at http://www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/Heights/5086

TUCSON'S RAINBOW RADIO is now on the air. Operating on 100.1 Mhz Stereo FM. Hours of operation 3:00 p.m. to Midnight. Join us for services to the Tucson Gay and Lesbian Community.

LOG CABIN REPUBLICANS OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA. Local chapter of the nation's largest Gay and Lesbian Republican organization. Meets the first Tuesday evening of each month. For information, call Patrick at 615-1887.

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 Mirte Steen, MSW, at 327-1171 (if unavailable leave message with phone number.

NOTICES

AAPSP - ARIZONA ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY PROFESSIONALS - a confidential organization committed to providing support and networking for all Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual public safety professionals in Arizona. Membership open to Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters, Probation, Parole and corrections Officers and civilians working within the agencies. Website: http://members.aol.com/AAPSP or e-mail: AAPSP@aol.com or call Dave (520)745-9058 (Tucson) or Kim (602)534-6219 (Phoenix)

PERSONALS

NUDE MALE MODELS. Do you need pics for Internet? For your boyfriend? Just for the hell of it? Amateur photographer seeks attractive young men to photograph. Male couples welcome. Call 624-2090. 752.

www.gaysexlive.com - Hot live models / www.marinestuds.com - Real Marines www.gay-chat.com - Live chat / www.studmail.com - Free e-mail account www.malecards.com - Free Postcards / (800)363-7883 Talk Live with men 18+ 784

CYBER CRUISE - Meet Arizona Gay men and women as well as people all over the U.S. Gay owned. www.mave.com 765

ATTENTION - ATTENTION - ATTENTION

Si eres hombre que tiene sexo con otros hombres y quieres ayudarnos a extender y apoyar los programas para Los Latinos, llama para una entrevista estrictamente confidencial al 322-6226 y pregunta por Ernesto. 760

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2 BEDROOM 1 BATH HOUSE WITH FENCED FRONT AND BACK YARD. Laundry facility. Extra large split level living room, large tiled kitchen. $550/mo. Water and gas included. 628-8725. Please leave message. 760

VARIOUS CENTRAL TUCSON LOCATIONS. Large 1 and 2 bedroom apartments unfurnished. Clean, private, quiet. Many extras. Mention this Observer ad for special $99 first-month-move-in special. 577-6570. 763

ROOMMATES

ROOMMATE TO SHARE 2 BEDROOM DUPLEX NEAR EUCLID North of Speedway. $225/mo. + 1/2 utilities. Washer & dryer. Call 903-1800 759

ROOMMATE WANTED TO SHARE 2 bedroom apartment near Alvernon and Speedway. $250/mo. + 1/2 utilities. Call 327-6372. 759.

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COWBOYS: Close-in 1.2 acre, '94 DW with addition, 1750 sq. ft. 3 bdr, 2 ba, pool, ramada, sheds, barn, hookups for 2nd M.H. FSBO $92,500. 578-8840 758

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LET ME PAMPER YOU! With a Full Body Swedish massage in a quiet, relaxed atmosphere. $35 for a full hour. Ralph, 883-7496. 761

HOLOTROPIC BREATHWORK™ is a powerful method of self-exploration and personal transformation. Developed by Stanislav Grof, a psychiatrist with 40 years experience in non-ordinary states of consciousness. Holotropic Breathwork™ mediates access to all levels of the human psyche and can be used as an adjunct to any avenue that enhances one's personal growth. Monthly workshops and private sessions are now available by GROF trained facilitator. For more information contact Glenn Wilson, CHBP, 907-2551, or Breathglen@aol.com 755..

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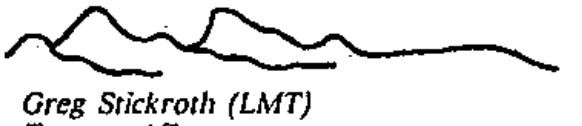

Greg Stickroth (LMT)
Tucson, AZ
(520) 469-0522

Tens Of Thousands To Descend On State Capitols

Continued from Page One

WASHINGTON, DC - Paula Ettelbrick, 'Equality Begins At Home' National Coordinator.

Continued from Page One

Equality Begins at Home is part of a campaign to counter the growing muscle of the right wing and its anti-Gay attacks. In the last few years, the right has passed dozens of anti-Gay laws in dozens of states. In addition, 1998 was one of the most vicious years in recent memory. Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott likened homosexuality to kleptomania and sex addiction. Congress introduced a number of mean-spirited anti-Gay measures. Right-wing groups launched a major advertising campaign attacking Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender people. In addition, voters approved anti-Gay ballot measures in Alaska; Hawaii; Fayetteville, Arkansas; Fort Collins, Colorado; and Ogunquit, Maine.

"Our demands are simple and in line with basic American values: the right to be safe, to have a family, to hold a job, and to participate fully as citizens. It's exactly what every American wants and deserves," said Gina Reiss, co-chair of the Federation of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Statewide Political Organizations and executive director of New Jersey Lesbian and Gay Coalition.

A list of Equality Begins at Home contacts in each state is attached. For a calendar of events or for more information, please view our web site at http://www.equalitybeginsathome.org or contact NGLTF communications director Tracey Conaty at (202) 332-6483 ext. 3303 or Federation co-chair Gina Reiss at (732) 828-6772.

Arizona DP Benefits Ban Loses First Round;

Continued from Page One

2524 was reread, on February 1, and assigned to the House Government Reform Committee, who will consider the new bill, Wednesday, February 3.

* * * * *

Arizona's AIDS Drug Assistance Program could face the budget ax: How much will the check in the mail be for the state's AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)? Governor Jane Hull proposed in her budget that a little more than $1.7 million from the state's tobacco tax health care fund be earmarked for ADAP. The Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) has proposed only $1 million for ADAP; a spokesperson for JLBC stated the committee believes that the state can reduce its contribution to the program due to Arizona's increased funding (more than $4.0 million) from the federal Ryan White Care Act.

JLBC's proposal would leave little room for ADAP to have any contingency funds in case of increased cost for medications or numbers of clients. According to state health officials, close to $400,000 a month (from federal and state funds) is spent on ADAP.

The House Appropriations Committee met this past week and approved the JLBC proposal. "We were disappointed in the committee's decision but we are hopeful that it can be renegotiated in the Senate and with the governor's help," David Hoover, president of the Arizona AIDS Policy Alliance, said.

Francie Noyes, Governor Jane Hull's press secretary, said the Governor is continuing her efforts to get the $1.7 million ADAP allocation in her proposed budget approved by the Legislature.

* * * * *

A proposal to force mandatory HIV testing or the release of HIV medical information of an accident victim to a third party will be heard this week by a committee. A bill, HB 2496, forcing mandatory HIV testing or the release of confidential HIV information on individuals hurt in accidents in which a "significant exposure" of blood has taken place and helped by public safety employees (paramedics, police, fire-fighters), was introduced in the Arizona House.

HB 2496's primary proponents are the state's fire-fighters unions. Questions have arisen over the vagueness in the legislation dealing with what happens to the records after the third party has obtained them.

Workers' Compensation
Social Security
Disability

Gregg L. Tolmann
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