Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

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New Miss Gay Tucson Crowned

By Jerry Diaz

TUCSON (ON) — "I bring you the illusion of . . ."

That was the order of the night as Tucson held its yearly search for Miss Gay Tucson. The event, held again at the Holiday Inn Palo Verde was one of glamour, poise, talent and all the trimmings which would make any pageant jealous of its outcome.

The room which held the event was almost at capacity as fans, family, visitors, guests and even some stragglers came in to witness the five contestants give it their all for the coveted crown.

Competition began with a fashion parade as all parties showed off extreme wares. The contestants walked onto the stage and posed as the judges gave marks on all the amazing work done by the participants and their respective sponsors. After that there was the ever glamorous evening gown competition.

Each of the five contestants showed the allure of female impersonation at its best as each was worthy of the fanciest ball. The five contestants were: Adrienne Alexander, Deora Le Blanc, Faith Michaels, Bunny Fu Fu, and Tori Steele. Once again the look on the judges faces was one of a hard job ahead in obtaining a leader in such a close competition.

The pace went into a fever pitch as the main competition got under way. This reporter had the luxury of being able to witness the contestants getting ready and one can not fathom doing all that work. Assistants, contestants, dressers, hair stylists and the like were scurrying around on last minute touches to present what turned out to be a very professional and entertaining show.

After a few numbers from previous crown holders, talent and question competitions got underway. Each contestant showed his stuff and was more than efficient at the microphone. As previously mentioned, judging this event was not a walk in the park.

With the tabulations being counted, the buzz was all around. each person had her or his own view as to who should wear the crown. That just goes to show that the competition was not a one sided event.

The illusion known as Tori Steele walked away with the crown. Tori also won the talent competition. Of all the participants, Tori was definitely the one who had the poise and out and out class to take the title in a contest of the closest magnitude I have seen in a long while. Tori is the first African-American to take the Tucson title. Bunny Fu Fu was first alternate.

Several persons were surprised at the outcome, but few were disappointed as each impersonator gave it his best. A very special thank you goes out to Miss Gay Tucson 1998-99, Victoria DuPris, who has represented Tucson very well with showmanship and quiet thunder. Thanks to Larry Moore and his dedicated staff of hard working do-gooders. This reporter had to jump over them enough times at this event and it showed me how to work hard and have fun at it. Thank you for making this an "event" and not a chore.

A good time was had by all. Congratulations to our new Miss Gay Tucson 1999-2000 and to all the contestants for a great evening. Till next year!!

Photos of this year's pageant may be found on page twelve of this issue of Observer. Photos are by Jerry Diaz.

Genetic Origins Of Homosexuality Questioned By New Study

TORONTO, Canada (WS) — That numerous attempts by Canadian researchers to duplicate experiments identifying a Gay gene had failed, further complicating the discussion about the origins of sexual orientation.

A team of scientists at the University of Western Ontario in Canada has found no evidence of a "Gay gene" refuting the findings of studies published in 1993 and 1995 by Dean Hamer, a geneticist at the National Cancer Institute. These widely circulated accounts claimed to pinpoint a specific genetic marker on the X chromosome which was interpreted by Hamer as an indicator of male homosexuality.

Experts in behavioral genetics say the new report, which appears in the journal Science, does not necessarily invalidate the notion that genes influence sexual orientation. Nor do the new results completely rule out the possibility that a gene or genes for homosexuality lie on the chromosome in question, the X-chromosome.

The failure to replicate results, however, casts a wide measure of doubt on Hamer's findings.

Whether genes play a part in sexual orientation has long been a hot button topic for people who support or oppose Gay rights. If Gay men and Lesbians are biologically predisposed to homosexuality, say some rights advocates, the conservative contention about a "lifestyle choice" is crippled. Many feel this makes for a stronger case against discrimination.

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State House Votes To Repeal Sodomy, Cohabitation Statutes

By Mark R. Kerr

PHOENIX (ON) — Arizona's House of Representatives voted April 22 to repeal Arizona's archaic laws dealing with sodomy and cohabitation, while expanding the protections under the state's domestic violence laws to include same-gender couples who live together.

SB 1396 as amended was approved by voice vote when the bill was before the House Committee of the Whole (COW). The series of votes was seen as a joint victory for amendment authors openly Gay state Representatives Ken Cheuvront, D-Phoenix, and Steve May, R-Phoenix, who called it "a great day for freedom in Arizona."

Cheuvront and May offered three amendments to SB 1396, a bill dealing with the state's criminal code. The three proposed amendments would repeal state laws dealing with "open and notorious cohabitation or adultery," "crimes against nature" and "lewd and lascivious acts." Repeal would only remove sanctions against behavior that is private, noncommercial and consensual.

According to Cheuvront, under these archaic laws "most sex in Arizona is illegal," including private consensual acts of intimacy between heterosexual couples, even if married. He added that these laws (under which violations are misdemeanors) had not been enforced in more than 30 years. The three amendments also included a proposal to expand protections under the state's domestic violence laws to same-sex couples who live together.

Conservative members of the House, led by the anti-Gay Representative Karen Johnson, R-Mesa, challenged the three amendments and were defeated by voice vote and division of the House.

A roll call vote was then called on three parliamentary motions offered by opponents of the amendments.

Representative Mike Gardner, R-Tempe, made a motion to remove Cheuvront's amendment from the bill; that motion failed by a 29 - 25 vote.

Representatives Jean McGrath, R-Glendale, and Laura Knaperek, R-Tempe, offered motions to remove May's amendments; both motions were defeated, by votes of 28 - 28 and 29 - 26 respectively.

"The votes show that we have a majority in the Legislature who supports getting rid of the state's archaic laws," Cheuvront said.

Johnson, who had during this session offered bills banning both Gay and Lesbian adoptions and the extension of medical benefits to the domestic partners of government employees, called the House votes "a dangerous, cultural shift in our society," and "another statement that will move us away from objective standards of right and wrong."

Gay and Lesbian rights supporters in the state were elated over the House vote.

Bill MacDonald, Co-Chair of the Arizona Human Rights Fund (AHRF), in a written statement said, "This vote is clear evidence that the majority of the House of Representatives agrees with AHRF's long-standing position that government has no business policing the private lives and the private conduct of consenting adults.

AHRF Co-Chair Amelia Craig Cramer added, "It would seem that the members of the legislature are coming to understand that these archaic laws represent an intrusion on the right to privacy, provided by the Arizona State Constitution, that there is no compelling state interest for these laws and that they serve no legitimate governmental interest."

SB 1396 awaits its third reading in the state House and if approved, it goes to the state Senate for its decision on the proposed changes. If the Senate votes to concur with the amendments, the bill will then go to final consideration in both chambers.

However if, as state capital sources expect, the Senate refuses to go along with the amendments, the measure will go before a House/Senate conference committee.

Scientists Take Step Closer To AIDS Vaccine

ATLANTA, GA (DT) — A DNA vaccine that can protect monkeys against AIDS marks another step forward in the quest to create an effective human vaccine.

Discovery of the vaccine, a blend of DNA from human and monkey immunodeficiency viruses, was reported by Dr Harriet Robinson, of the Yerkes Regional Primate Research Center in the May issue of Nature Medicine. She said, "This holds promise for the development of a vaccine capable of seriously reducing viral replication and thus stemming the transmission of AIDS."

The study found that effective vaccination involved two steps: "priming" the body's protective immune system with the DNA vaccine, consisting of genes (DNA) taken from human and monkey immunodeficiency viruses; and followed 46 and 66 weeks later with "booster" immunizations with the same genes inserted in a pox virus. Dr Robinson found that inocula-

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UPDATE

POZ Life Expo Tour In Phoenix May 21

PHOENIX — The POZ Life Expo Tour will be once again visiting Phoenix on May 21, at the St. Joseph's Hospital Campus.

Now in its fourth year, the POZ Life Expo Tour is a gathering of doctors, pharmaceutical companies, nutritional companies and others who offer products and services that are vital to the health of people living with HIV. Local, non-profit AIDS organizations and community groups to set up information tables at the Expo to inform the community on the array of services they provide. At a typical Expo, people with HIV are able to get free health screenings, free product samples and free advice and information, all in a supportive and empowering environment.

The 1999 POZ Life Expo Tour will be visiting: Miami, Philadelphia, Phoenix, New York City, Seattle, St. Louis, San Diego, San Francisco, Dallas and New Orleans.

Job Opening At TIHAN

TUCSON — The Tucson Interfaith HIV/-AIDS Network (TIHAN) seeks a half-time administrative assistant to oversee the functioning of the office.

Preferred background in office administration, and experience working with volunteers. Strong computer skills necessary. Twenty hours a week, with flexible hours, $7.50 an hour.

Call (520) 299-6647 to have a job description mailed/faxed. Submit resume and list of three references to TIHAN, 4625 East River Road, Tucson, Arizona, 85718. AA/EOE

New Spiritual Group Forming

TUCSON — Several Tucson faith communities have formed a new group, called Rainbow Interfaith Communities.

One of the new groups first endeavors is a spiritual celebration at Rincon Congregational Church on May 8. 5:30 P.M.

For more information, call the Rincon Congregational Church, (520) 745-6237 or Doris Morris, (520) 750-0626.

Save The Date And Practice Laughing Now!

TUCSON — On Saturday, May 22, 7:30 P.M., the Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN) presents an Invisible Theater premiere, preview performance of, "Labor Pains," a comedy "in nine months."

He's Italian, Gay and she's Jewish, and straight . . . but how will they raise their child?

Tickets are available now, for $20, including dessert and coffee reception with the cast after the performance. For more information, call the TIHAN office (520) 299-6647.

Wingspan Volunteers Needed

TUCSON — Wingspan, Tucson's Gay, Lesbian, and Transgender Community Center, has openings for volunteers.

Friendly, helpful, and responsible men and women are needed to answer phones and greet visitors to the center. A variety of two-hour shifts are available Monday through Saturday, 11:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.

You can make a difference in your community. For further information call the Center at (520) 624-1779 or come by at 300 E 6th Street.

Share Bears Report For March

TUCSON — The following is the financial report for the Share Bears for March

Contributions	$220.04
Prior Balance	$790.28
Total Available	$1.010.32
How Money Was Granted	
Transportation	$16.00
Personal Needs	$100.00
Total Spent	$116.00
Two Clients Served	
Carried Forward	$894.32

Thanks so much for your support.

It's Not Too Late For Training! Join The TIHAN Team And Make A Difference

TUCSON — Baseball players may have finished their training and headed North for the season, but you still have time to attend spring training, TIHAN's spring training of volunteers.

TIHAN (Tucson Interfaith HIV/-AIDS Network), provides training for volunteers interested in helping people living with HIV/AIDS. Opportunities range from CareTeams (friendly, visits, errands, transportation, emotional support) to newsletter help, office support, public speaking, assistance with fund raising events, information booths and more.

Interested in exploring volunteer opportunities with TIHAN? Then attend one of two volunteer orientation sessions: Wednesday, May 12, 7:00 - 8:30 P.M. Thursday, May 18, 7:00 - 8:30 P.M.

The orientations, which are free of charge, involve an overview of TIHAN and its volunteer needs. These orientations are followed by a one-day, training program, which will be held Saturday, May 22.

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.

For more information, or to sign up for an orientation, please call TIHAN, (520) 299-6647. Volunteers are needed to join the TIHAN team and make a difference.

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Man Deemed A 'Battered Wife' For Trial

NEW YORK, NY (NYT) — John Stagno was a controlling and jealous boyfriend who threatened his live-in partner with a knife and a bottle, and kept the only key to their Crown Heights apartment, according to papers filed by a lawyer in Brooklyn Supreme Court.

So when Stagno, 32, brandished a bottle in December 1997 and his partner fought back, stabbing him to death, it seemed like a classic case of "battered-wife syndrome," the partner's lawyer has argued. Except that the partner, John Pickett, 33, is a man.

In a ruling that lawyers say is unprecedented, a Brooklyn justice, John M. Leventhal, said Pickett could use the battered-wife argument to bolster his claim that he killed Stagno in self-defense. Prosecutors, who have charged him with second-degree murder, had opposed the battered-wife claim.

In the early '90s, the battered-wife argument was used in a Florida case involving two Lesbians, Pickett's lawyer, Arthur Aidala, said. But he said he knew of no case involving two men in which the defense had been used.

Aidala said that, despite Pickett's sex, he suffered from low self-esteem and emotional dependency, classic elements of battered-wife syndrome.

"He was trying to muster up the strength and energy to leave," Aidala said. "But where does a Gay, black, HIV-positive man turn for help?"

When Pickett first moved in with Stagno in early 1997, Aidala said, his client had a job at K-Mart. But he said Stagno, who was unemployed, controlled the couple's finances and gave Pickett a daily allowance of 50 cents.

After Stagno, in a jealous rage, attacked a male K-Mart employee with whom Pickett spoke, Pickett was fired. As his dependency and isolation deepened, apparently the abuse escalated. In August of 1997, Stagno slashed Pickett's hand with a knife during a fight. Though Pickett called the police, officers played down the incident and arrested both men, said Aidala.

In an effort to end the relationship, Pickett approached the Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence project and met with a counselor there, Aidala said. But on December 5, after Pickett announced that he was leaving, Stagno threatened him with a bottle and a knife, Aidala said. Pickett then stabbed Stagno twice in the chest, killing him.

Pickett is being held at the Rikers Island Detention Center. Jury selection is expected to this week.

Jones' Show Was For Pairing

PONTIAC, MI (NP) — The talkshow's top boss says they just wanted to "fix people up" with, not get them killed by, their "secret admirers," but did they also do some "fixing up" of documents in a cover-up?

Ed Glavin, executive producer of "The Jenny Jones Show," testified that the intention of the "same-sex crushes" edition taped in March 1995 was to "fix people up with other people." Jonathan Schmitz killed his "secret admirer" Gay Scott Amedure three days after they appeared in that taping, and Amedure's family is suing the show, its producer Telepictures and its distributor Warner Brothers for $50-million in Oakland County, Michigan Circuit Court, charging the show drove the mentally unstable Schmitz to violence.

Schmitz' 1996 conviction for second-degree murder was overturned last year on a technicality, and he is now in jail awaiting an August retrial. Amedure's attorney Geoffrey Fieger continued to hammer Glavin for the show's handling of its guests and to charge that producers had attempted a cover-up after the murder.

Fieger charged that producers had deceived Schmitz as to who his admirer might be and set him up to be embarrassed. Glavin insisted that producers had a protocol which ensured that guests were made aware that their "secret admirers" could be of either gender. He described Schmitz calling the show and answering the question, "What would you do if it isn't a woman?" saying, "I'm into it [appearing on the show], but I'll say thanks, but no thanks. It would be a disappointment. Don't worry, I'll be okay." Glavin said, "If Jon truly didn't want this, I don't think he would have called us back and said he would come on the show." Glavin said, "It's clear he knew the show was a surprise, that his secret crush could be a man or a woman. He acknowledged that he could be embarrassed."

Glavin also noted that one woman who was considered for the show but not chosen for it had said that she didn't want to appear if her "secret admirer" was one of her ex-boyfriends. To show that the producer realized the set-up for the taping would be embarrassing for Schmitz, Fieger at one point asked Glavin to describe one of his own sexual fantasies about his wife, as Amedure had been asked on camera to describe his fantasies about Schmitz; Glavin, of course, refused.

Fieger again went over the show's screening of guests, which he charges was irresponsible in failing to inquire into Schmitz' history of mental illness. "Why would I ask someone if they're mentally ill?" Glavin asked. Unlike producer Karen Campbell, who had testified that she "wouldn't change a thing" if she had the chance to set up the taping all over again, Glavin said he would not have had Schmitz on the show knowing of his mental illness. He said the show could not perform a psychiatric screening on every potential guest, but that they were sometimes rejected for strange statements or behaviors.

Continuing his efforts to paint the show as greedy, Feiger asked, "You don't check up on your guests' welfare, do you? Because there's no money to be made." Glavin defended the show's failure to provide any follow-up counseling for Schmitz on the grounds that he didn't appear to need it.

Fieger further cast doubt on producers' honesty. He was incredulous that the author of a memo recording Schmitz' objections to appearing if the "secret admirer" were a man remains unknown. Charging that a cover-up of potentially incriminating material was attempted after the murder, Feiger noted that both handwritten and typewritten records of the interviews exist for all the guests on the March 6, 1995 tape except for Schmitz, Amedure and their mutual acquaintance Donna Riley. Glavin denied that any tapes, documents or information had been withheld.

Hate Crimes Bills Have Mixed Results In NC and MO; Job Rights and G/L Rights Measures Advance In LA and CA

RALEIGH, NC (NP) — North Carolina's House of Representatives voted 58 - 48 against the Matthew Shepard Memorial Act, which would have amended the state's existing hate crimes law by adding sexual orientation, sex, disability, and age as bases for bias motivation leading to harsher penalties for criminal convictions; the current categories are race, color, religion, nationality, or country of origin.

It would also have increased the penalties for all categories of hate crimes. Ten Democrats joined 48 Republicans to defeat the measure, while two Republicans joined 46 Democrats in its support; fourteen Representatives did not vote. African-American lawmakers were notable for their support of the bill, with several speaking up to identify their personal experiences of hate with those of people in the proposed additional categories. A companion measure is still pending in the state Senate.

Equality North Carolina's M.K. Cullen told reporters that, "It was close enough that had more people chosen to vote their conscience and their heart ... this bill could have made North Carolina history. I actually find it ironic that people fear discrimination at the ballot box [enough] to vote against this bill."

That sexual orientation was the sticking point for some opponents was made crystal clear by Representative Zeno Edwards, D-Beaufort, who told co-sponsor Representative Paul Luebke, D-Durham, in debate that, "You do realize that many of us could support 90% of this bill. You do realize that sexual orientation is a deep-founded conviction of many of us who cannot support this bill."

Luebke responded, "I can respect your opinion on that, but I can only say we're all God's children, and none of us should be a victim of hate." Luebke also countered a currently popular opposition argument, saying, "I want to make clear this is a bill against criminal acts, not your thoughts. With free speech, you may not only think it, you may speak it. This bill is not about free speech; it's about criminal actions."

The bill's other co-sponsor, Representative Verla Insko, D-Orange, said that, "Hate crimes are acts of terrorism directed toward groups that we value less." She also described hate crimes as victimizing not only the individual experiencing the attack, but also the community. She said, "By passing this bill, North Carolina will make a statement that it will not tolerate hate crimes."

The Louisiana state Senate's Labor and Industrial Affairs Committee voted 3 - 2 in support of civil rights protections from employment discrimination based on sexual orientation. The measure sponsored by Senator Paulette Irons (D-New Orleans) will next be considered on the Senate floor. Its passage is the top legislative target for the Louisiana Electorate of Gays and Lesbians, whose activities in its support included posting billboards.

Among those testifying in support of the bill were union leaders AFL-CIO President Red Bourg and former LABI president Ed Steimel, who argued that all capable workers should have an even chance to do a job without harassment or discrimination. Some business representatives testified against the bill on the grounds that it would make employers more vulnerable to lawsuits.

Preaching dramatically against the bill was New Orleans talk show host and minister Grant Storm, who believes that those with religious convictions against homosexuality should not have to employ Gays and Lesbians. He said, "There are many who feel that lifestyle is an immoral lifestyle, is a lifestyle that is not a good example for our children. It sets a precedent when we make a special class for people's sexual orientation because then the argument will be made, if they have a right to employment, then why don't they have a right to marry? Why don't they have a right to adopt children?"

A civil rights bill and three domestic partners bills all have advanced in the Democratic-dominated California Assembly. All will be considered in the Appropriations Committee of their house of origin before the end of May.

The civil rights bill AB 1001 (Villaraigosa), which would provide the same protections from discrimination based on sexual orientation which are now provided to other protected categories, passed its second committee, Assembly Labor and Employment, by a 6 - 3 party line vote. Although California has prohibited sexual orientation discrimination in employment and housing since 1991, because of a series of political compromises it does so through different processes and departments than other protected categories, and other categories are additionally protected from discrimination in public accommodations and credit. The California Alliance for Pride and Equality sponsors this bill.

AB 107 (Knox) would enable the state and local governments to offer health coverage to employees' domestic partners by modifying the Public Employees' Medical and Hospital Care Act. It passed its first committee, Assembly Public Employees, Retirement and Social Security Committee, by a 5 - 2 party line vote.

SB 75 (Murray) would create a domestic partnership registry in the Secretary of State's office, and would give registered partners hospital visitation, conservatorship and inheritance rights. It passed its first committee, Senate Judiciary, by a 6 - 3 party line vote. This bill is also sponsored by the California Alliance for Pride and Equality.

SB 118 (Hayden) would extend the existing Family Rights Act to allow workers to take family care or unpaid medical leaves-of-absence to tend to an ailing domestic partner, sibling, or grandparent, as well as the current provisions to care for a spouse, parent or child. It passed its first committee, Senate Industrial Relations, by a 4 - 1 party line vote; two other Republican committee members did not vote.

The Missouri state capitol saw its first-ever rally for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender rights last month, and while it didn't win the demonstrators who went to Jefferson City an anti-discrimination measure, it's helped to advance a hate crimes bill.

The Missouri state Senate gave final approval by a vote of 20-14 to SB 328, which would amend the state's existing Ethnic Intimidation Act to add sexual orientation, gender (including Transgendered people) and disabilities as bases for bias motivation that allow judges and

Continued on Page Seventeen

VENTURE-N

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POLITICS 1999

by Mark R. Kerr

'This Is Why I Write This!'

Do you think the local morning and afternoon daily fishwraps could ever get it right, when it comes to Gay and Lesbian issues?

On April 22, the Arizona House of Representatives voted to repeal Arizona's "archaic" laws, dealing with cohabitation and sodomy, while expanding the protections under the state's domestic violence laws to include same-gender couples who live together.

SB 1396 as amended was approved by voice-vote when the bill was before the House Committee of the Whole (COW). The series of votes was seen as a joint victory for amendment author's openly Gay state Representatives Ken Cheuvront, D-Phoenix, and Steve May, R-Phoenix, who called it "a great day for freedom in Arizona."

Cheuvront and May offered three amendments to SB 1396, a bill dealing with the state's criminal code.

The three proposed amendments would repeal state laws dealing with "open and notorious cohabitation or adultery," "crimes against nature" and "lewd and lascivious acts." Their amendments also included a proposal to expand protections under the state's domestic violence laws to same-sex couples who live together.

If you read the "breeder" version of events though, the vote was nothing but a misnomer, the bill "will never make it to the final stage," and the "celebrations could be short-lived."

So now do you think the local morning and afternoon daily fishwraps will ever get it right, when it comes to Gay and Lesbian issues?

Even if SB 1396 does not make it to the "final stage," or more importantly, Governor Hull's desk, the community has achieved a big victory with this vote, through many things which the breeder press overlooked, including:

That a full debate on the House floor took place on the proposed amendments to SB 1396, which were given to House members the day before. No quickie, parliamentary procedures or surprise floor amendments as in years past.

As state Representative Ken Cheuvront said, "the votes show that we have a majority in the Legislature who supports getting rid of the state's archaic laws."

The votes did, all nine of them. Conservative members of the House, led by state Representative Karen Johnson, R-Mesa, challenged the three amendments by calling for a voice vote, a division of the House and then a roll-call vote. They lost, by margin of 29-25, 28-28 and 29-26 respectively.

More than a dozen Republicans, including House Majority Leader, Lori Daniels, voted to uphold the three amendments.

Despite the mainstream postmortems, SB 1396 awaits its third reading in the state House and if approved, it goes to the state Senate for its decision on the proposed changes.

If the Senate votes to concur with the amendments, the bill will then go to final consideration in both chambers. Though if the Senate refuses to go along with the amendments, the measure will go before a House/Senate conference committee.

Will the local morning and afternoon daily fishwraps ever get it right, when it comes to Gay and Lesbian issues? Like they have before?! . . .

In 1996, a state court in Hawaii, ruled that three same-sex couples should have the right to marry and have it recognized by the state. A tidal wave of activity by conservative, Republican legislators followed, in more than two-dozen state capitals, to prohibit recognition of such marriages from the Aloha state.

Arizona was no exception. Led by current state House Speaker, Jeff Groscost, R-Mesa, the state Legislature passed their version of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), despite statutes already defining marriage as between "a man and woman." Many legislators stated, on the record, that Gays and Lesbians should not have "special rights," when it comes to marriages.

Flash forward to 1999. Gays and Lesbians, especially those with the "political runs," may get "special rights" when it comes to their lovers, life-partners or significant others, thanks to the same Arizona Legislature. How?

Through SB 1314. The proposed legislation deals primarily with campaign reform, making sure candidates can collect a salary from contributions sent to them. This being the Arizona Legislature, funny business will happen, and this bill is no exception.

An amendment was attached to SB 1314 that would prevent the married spouses of candidates from making contributions to said campaigns. Domestic partners, lovers, life mates are not listed in the bill, so Gay and Lesbian candidates could get money from their honeys. If this isn't a reason for the community to rise up and take over . . . but we digress.

State Representative Steve May and the Arizona Human Rights Funds, according to sources, are opposed to this amendment, and rightfully so. Gays and Lesbians should get equal rights, not special rights. If "married" spouses can't give, neither should Gay and Lesbian spouses. Equality forever! Special rights never!

As of press time, SB 1314 awaits third reading by the state House. Talk about a cheesy ending but would we expect anything more from the Arizona Legislature? . . .

So it goes for now kids!

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Reveille Gay Men's Chorus Season Finale An 'ExtrABBAganza'

TUCSON — Twenty-five years ago this month two married couples from Sweden won the Eurovision Song Contest with a jumpy tune they called "Waterloo." It marked the beginning of a string of recorded hits by ABBA that in total outsold the Beatles in Europe.

Although only one of ABBA's hits achieved the coveted No. 1 position on U.S. charts ("Dancing Queen" topped the Billboard Hot 100 in November 1976), their unique sound produced numerous hits that made it into the U.S. Top 20.

In honor of this pop-music phenomenon, Reveille Gay Men's Chorus of Tucson will present "extrABBAganza" June 5-6 in the Proscenium Theatre of Pima Community College's Center for the Arts at 2202 W. Anklam Road.

The choral compilation of ABBA hits was arranged by David Maddux of Seattle and first performed to sold-out houses by the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus. The program includes "Take a Chance on Me," "S.O.S," "The Winner Takes It All," "Fernando," "Knowing You, Knowing Me," "Waterloo," "Mamma Mia," and, of course, "Dancing Queen."

Lyrics take on a special meaning when the chorus spoofs "When I Kissed the Teacher" and "Does Your Mother Know That You're Out." The four members of the Swedish group lent their first initials to form the famous name: Anni Frid Lyngstad, Benny Andersson, Bjorn Ulvaeus and Agnetha Fultskog. Their marriages didn't last through the decade of their fame but their music did. The two men did all the songwriting and the women the lead singing. Andersson and Ulvaeus are now writing for Broadway productions.

They drew from the Beach Boys, Phil Spector, the Kingston Trio and skiffle music in their ABBA compositions and, while ABBA sold millions of records in the 1970s, they became the brunt of jokes among hard rock devotees. But even though ABBA stopped performing in 1982, a collection of their greatest hits released on Polydor Records in 1992 has sold 15 million copies and continues to sell between one and two million more copies each year.

RGMC's "extrABBAganza" will be directed by James Gall in performances at 8:00 P.M., June 5 and at 3:00 P.M, June 6. Tickets are $10 in advance from any RGMC member or at Antigone Books, 411 N. 4th Avenue, Desert Pride, 300 E. 6th Street, and the Tucson Trunk, River and Craycroft. Reservations may also be phoned into 617-3100. Admission at the door will be $12 ($10 seniors and students; $8.50 for children 12 and under). Both performances are festival-style seating (except for season ticket holders) and are wheelchair accessible and sign interpreted.

Reveille Gay Men's Chorus, Inc. is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) community arts organization.

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Gay-Led Student Hunger Strike In Third Week;
One Striker Hospitalized

PITTSBURGH, PA (PPG) — A hunger striker protesting the University of Pittsburgh's hostile stance to Gay and Lesbian civil rights fell ill and was taken to a nearby hospital.

Robin Moll, 24, a University Senior, was transported by ambulance about 5:00 P.M. from the Cathedral of Learning first-floor commons room, where the protesters have been staffing a table to draw attention to their cause. She was given fluids in the emergency room and later released.

The fast has gone on for 12 days with both sides stalemated.

The strikers want a public forum with the trustees to discuss the university's challenge of a Pittsburgh municipal law that prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation. The school filed the challenge in defending itself against a former employee's complaint with the city that the University had denied her health benefits for her Lesbian partner.

Connolly said the board will not bend to the demand.

The Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees met for approximately 90-minutes privately followed by a ten-minute session open to the public. Only Board members were allowed to speak during the public portion and all ignored the presence of ten hunger strikers waiting for action.

Trustees Chairman J. Wray Connolly had offered to meet privately with two of the strikers if the group as a whole would end its fast. They said the fast would continue until a promise for public hearings was made. Connolly withdrew the offer. "I'm disappointed, certainly. I don't think anybody wins in a situation like this," Connolly said.

Strikers say the lack of public input into the Board of Trustees' meeting illustrates their lack of public accountability and interaction. "The Board is essentially self-selecting; members are not publicly responsible, and are not involved in the day to day activities of the University. However, they make decisions that affect the entire university community and beyond," said a written statement released by the protestors.

"A handful of Board members are responsible for taking discriminatory actions and magnifying those actions by attacking a civil rights ordinance," the statement read. "We encourage Chancellor Nordenberg and the members of the Board of Trustees use their power to call an emergency meeting of the Board to create the forum where students, faculty, staff, media, and community members can voice their concerns about domestic partner benefits and the impact of the University's policy.

"This is an emergency," the statement concluded. "The actions of a few members of the Board ignore the health of hunger strikers, show contempt for the entire university community, and threaten decades of civil rights progress."

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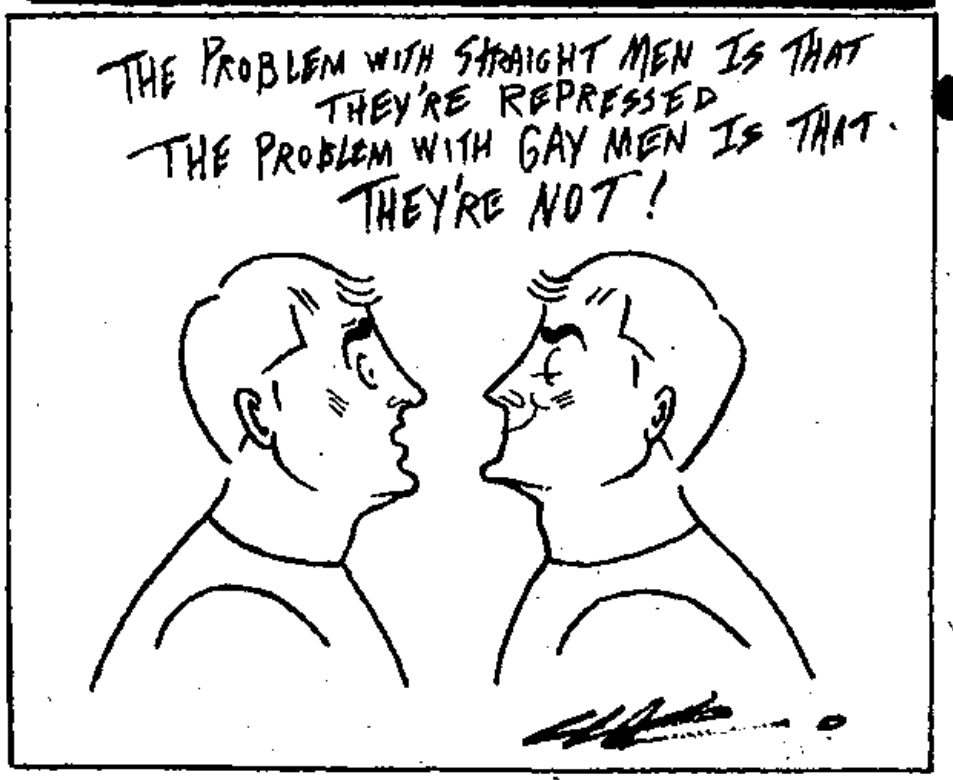
AS I SEE IT..... BY CLARK



TAURUS HOROSCOPES

BY C. LICHTENSTEIN

The Sun moves from blazing Aries to placid Taurus, and so must we. Do you suddenly feel like stopping to smell the roses or lounging over that one extra cup of coffee or taking that long luxurious massage in the middle of the afternoon? Whatever it is, it's worth doing well, cousin; lie back and revel in it.

ARIES
MARCH 21 - APRIL 20
Proud Rams turn a beady eye towards their finances when the Sun enters luxurious Taurus. Does money buy happiness? I suppose it depends upon what makes you truly happy dear, queer friend. Of course, this fabulous energy enables you to make the right financial decisions so even if money doesn't buy you happiness, it can at least afford you your expensive do dads.

TAURUS
APRIL 21 - MAY 21
If you yearn for new beginnings and interesting encounters, the opportunities are boundless with the Sun in your own sign. Gay Bulls are in their prime this time of year so trot it all Out while the planetary energy is ripe. Show the world what you can do in your old magnanimous Gay way by getting in front of a crowd and pressing the flesh. Ahem . . . I mean handshakes...

GEMINI
MAY 22 - JUNE 21
They say that actions speak louder and prouder than words, but now, with the Sun in Taurus, it is the unspoken, hidden thoughts that provide the powerful oomph. Proud Twins can rip open and empty their wretched closets with a glorious and zesty flourish. Heck, it's about time cousin! And while your carting out the psychic debris, try updating your wardrobe as well.

CANCER
JUNE 22 - JULY 23
It's all well and good to feel part of a group, but don't allow the hot Sun in Taurus to singe your better judgement. Is the tune that the social circle plays on your top ten list? If not, it may be best to cart your carcass off to another dance. Even reticent pink Crabs have important opinions and there is nothing wrong with giving folks an earful of them every so often.

LEO
JULY 24 - AUGUST 23
If your career is more of a burden than a joy, the Sun in Taurus can be a welcomed friend of influence. Proud Lions live for the sheer applause of it all and there has not been much of that lately in the critical old corporation. Now however, you can feel the swell of appreciation from the most unlikely of sources. Grab it while you can; tomorrow the bastards are sure to forget!

VIRGO
AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23
Gay Virgins may hanker to travel during the Taurean Sun and good thing too; There is no better time to escape to parts unknown to recharge your batteries. If purse strings are tight and you can't travel far, try expanding your horizons closer to home by sampling an array of new things; food, films and even folks. Just as long as you get out of your old moldy routine.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23
The sensuous Sun in Taurus heats up your passion from a slow simmer to a steady boil. Gay Libras can use their innate charm to great sexual advantage now. Waste no time; Survey the vista, choose your prey carefully and go in for the kill. Who knows who you will snare? If that one is too small, throw it back and try again; the Sun in Taurus gives second chances.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22
Even single minded proud Scorps feel the need to join with a significant other during the Sun in Taurus. Maybe it's because you're feeling so unusually warm and cuddly with that bullish energy swirling around. Examine your current relationship and see if it's providing you with the affirmation that you so desperately need. If so, lucky you! If not, seek and ye shall find.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22
Independent Gay Archers like to call their own shots at work, but now with Sun in Taurus, you may be pushed into assembly line drudgeries. Still, mindless tasks have their pluses; you never have to take work home or worry about it over the weekend. Take advantage of the simplicity of your day and use this time to plan a corporate coup d'etat. Take only gorgeous prisoners.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20
It doesn't get better than this for Gay Goats. The Sun in Taurus enlivens an otherwise dull existence with sparks of creativity, luck, fun and dare I say, romance. But this doesn't mean that you should sit at home and wait for a delivery. It means that you have to get off your butt and look for it. Don't squander this fabulous energy imagining what could be. Go Out and be it.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19
Aqueerians can use the warm Sun in Taurus to open up the line of communication with family members. Why not build a few bridges while you feel so beneficent and forgiving? Don't compromise on your life, however. As kind as you feel, you don't want to defer your own happiness because of the idiotic values of others. The idea to is make them adjust to you, not vice versa.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20
If words could move mountains, we should all tread carefully around proud Fish when the Sun enters Taurus. All this bullish energy unearths your deeply buried eloquence and diplomacy so don't waste it on nonsense, cousin. I strongly urge you to take up the rainbow cause in a big way and get the word Out loud, proud and queer. If not now, when? If not you, then who?

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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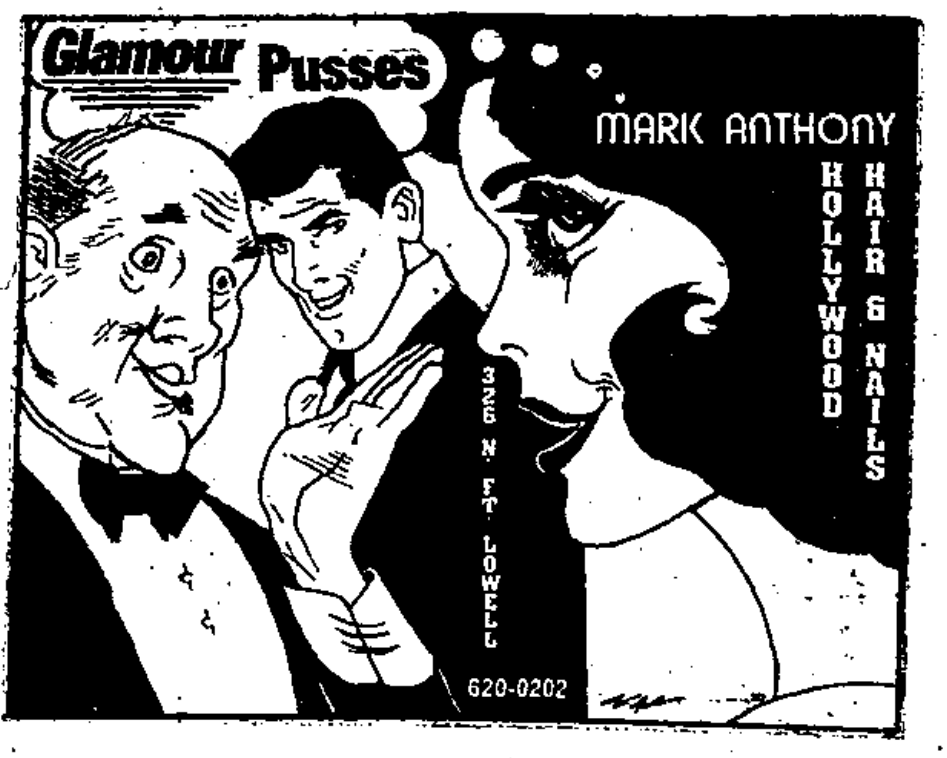

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Desert Vision by Rev. Louis F. Kavar, PhD

Carlos: A Man I'll Remember

Carlos is someone I'll remember for a long time. When I met him, he had just turned thirty. He was a fun, outgoing Puerto Rican Gay man who had been living in Miami for five or six years. Like many men in South Beach, Carlos had a gym-toned body that quickly turned heads. What struck me most about Carlos was his inviting smile and the glint in his eyes.

Carlos was manager of one of the fashion stores in South Beach. He knew many people and introduced me to several celebrities, including European royalty who spent time in Miami Beach. Carlos helped me to break into a social circle that, in many ways, was larger than life.

Carlos was one of the members of the congregation of MCC South Beach whom I particularly enjoyed. His initiative helped get the church started and through his contacts assured the success of several fund raising efforts. He was enthusiastic, charming, and dedicated. It was important to him to have a church where he could not only feel at home, as well as grow spiritually and use his talents to help others.

I was surprised when I found out that Carlos was HIV positive. Well, I was mostly surprised at how I found out.

In addition to serving as pastor of MCC South Beach, I was also chaplain for the HIV/AIDS unit of one of the South Beach hospitals. Carlos had been out of church a couple of Sundays and I hadn't seen him around the community. I called him one evening to check in to see if everything was okay. He answered, sounding weak. As we talked, he told me that he had just been released that day from the hospital.

I had no idea he had been hospitalized. I wished I had known because I would have wanted to visit him. He continued, "I didn't want you to know. I didn't want to talk to you about this." Not knowing what to say, I fumbled. As politely as I could, I tried to assure him that I didn't want to intrude, but I wanted to be supportive. I said if he didn't want to talk about what was going on, we could talk about something else. He said no to that option. With a deep sigh, he admitted he just had wanted to avoid the conversation. He had AIDS and had just been a patient at the hospital where I served as chaplain. I was more confused. "You weren't on the HIV unit," I said. And he wasn't. Carlos arranged through his doctor to be admitted to a different floor. In fact, for several months, he'd been scheduling appointments when he knew I would not be in the hospital or out-patient clinic. He was ashamed of having AIDS and didn't want me to know.

My heart sank. Having worked with people with HIV/AIDS since the day when the illness was called GRID, I've tried to be very conscious of welcoming and respecting those living with HIV. Yet, the stigma is very real. Sometimes that stigma is internalized with other issues and becomes a shame. To be honest, I sometimes believe that the stigma and shame are worse than the physical illness.

Overtime, Carlos and I talked, and prayed, and cried. He was clear that he didn't want anyone in the church to know. I respected his decision even though there were times I knew others in the church would have been a great support to him. Because of his shame, Carlos eventually stopped attending church. He told me he felt as he was lying by attending church and not being open about his health. He had always encouraged others to share such things, but it was something he could not do himself.

About a year after I learned that Carlos had HIV/AIDS, a new class of drugs became available: protease inhibitors. Since then, many other drugs have been introduced which have transformed the care of people with HIV/AIDS. The new drugs were a great help for Carlos and provided him with a new lease on life.

Carlos was a good man who reached out to others and did what he could to contribute to the community. I knew he liked to party and that he was no stranger to drugs like Special K and Ecstasy. It was South Beach and drugs seemed as common to be as bottled water. What did surprise me was the decision Carlos made about sex: to have lots of it and to have it unprotected. Carlos was the first person I really knew who was into bare-back sex. I knew with the introduction of new HIV/AIDS drugs, bare-back sex was becoming popular among the circuit crowd. My initial perception was that was that bare-back sex happened after the drug-crazed partying of the circuit, that it just sort of happened. I assumed that guys were swept up in the moment and did it without thinking. I hadn't really considered that people I liked, respected, and thought well of would intentionally choose to have unprotected anal sex, especially knowing that they were HIV positive. Until one day Carlos and I were sitting along the beach sipping ice tea and he laid it on the line with me.

Next week, I'll tell you more about Carlos and what I learned about bare-back sex.

[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.]

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Time: 8:30PM - 1:00AM

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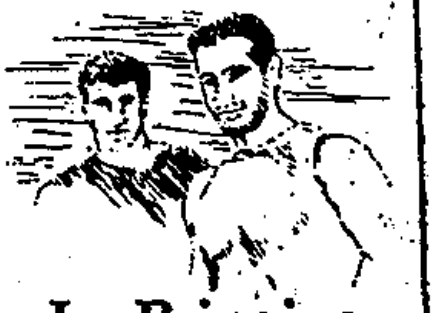
Is Bringing Men Together

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EDITOR:

Thank you for the coverage of the GLB Veterans Memorial. Tucson is very lucky to have a publication like the Observer with immediate coverage of breaking news, not only in print - but also on the Internet.

The coverage of the Legislators recent vote is especially impressive with the immediate coverage. Can we say Daily Observer?

Thanks for the coverage,
Wally Straughn
GLBVA
Phoenix

EDITOR:

Hello Tucson! OUToberFEST is about six months away, so it's that time again. Time to announce who's running for the title of King and Queen of Gay Pride 1999.

The Red Team this year will be Billy D. and Alotta Whoremoans. You can look for both of us at the Stone wall/Eagle. Billy D. is there every Wednesday and Sunday for Karaoke, check it out! We have a lot plants, such as: six shows, one yard sale and one car wash. Look for the schedule, which will be posted at the Stonewall or get on the mailing list and they will send you a schedule.

So now that its official and all, who's your King and Queen of Gay Pride 1999 - Billy D. and Alotta Whoremoans! They're red hot, hot, hot!

AN OPEN LETTER TO OUR HIV/AIDS COMMUNITY:

On behalf of the Planning Committee of Poz Cafe (a group made up of primarily of HIV+ persons), I would like to convey to you a decision made at the April 15 Poz Cafe.

The HIV+ participants at Poz Cafe, after discussion on the issue, made a decision by consensus that each HIV+ person be permitted to have one guest accompany them if they choose.

This decision was made based on comments and feedback from participants who want to be able to bring along a partner/spouse, friend, volunteer, etc. Each person will be allowed to bring only one guest, and that guest will be reminded of confidentiality concerns.

I would like to thank members of the community and the Poz Cafe Planning Team and participants for your honest feedback to further improve upon this successful project.

If you are HIV+ and would like to join us for our monthly lunch and social time, please call (520) 299-6647 and RSVP for the next edition of Poz Cafe, which will be held on Thursday, May 18. And let us know if you want to bring a friend!

With love,
Scott Blades
Director TIHAN

EDITOR:

Wow! What a week this has been. A great big thank you to everyone who came out on a Wednesday night to cheer me on - thank you from the bottom of my heart.

It really means a lot to me to see so many of my friends support me in my quest for the title - Miss Gay West Coast NCC 1999. A special thanks to all the Queens, who at the last moment, cam to my benefit show and helped raise $100. To Alyssa De Sade, Dani Bordello, Misti Malone, Lea Perron and Tami Caprice, thank you for being there, especially for your friendship and hard work. Good job girls!

To David and his staff at the Stonewall/Eagle, thank you for believing in me and all the support you continued to give me. Thanks everyone!

Now to all the Queens who were in the pageant, congratulations and a job well done.

Now, let's cut the crap, so as not to let any rumors fly. I feel that the wrong person was crowned, and I'm demanding to see all score sheets, and a recount is in order. I'm waiting for there arrival. Sorry Deora, I cannot, will not accept you as Miss West Coast Regents 1999. You know it, I know it, and Tucson knows it should of been me. I will discover the truth and claim what is rightfully mine. I don't mean to be a bitch, but some things just don't add up. I'll keep you posted, until next time.

The real NCC Miss West
Coast Regents 1999,
Alotta Whoremoans

[The opinions in this letter were those of the writer and not necessarily those of the management and staff of The Observer.]

EDITOR:

This letter is in reference to the Miss West Coast Regents NCC pageant, and the letter pertaining to the pageant from Alotta Whoremoans.

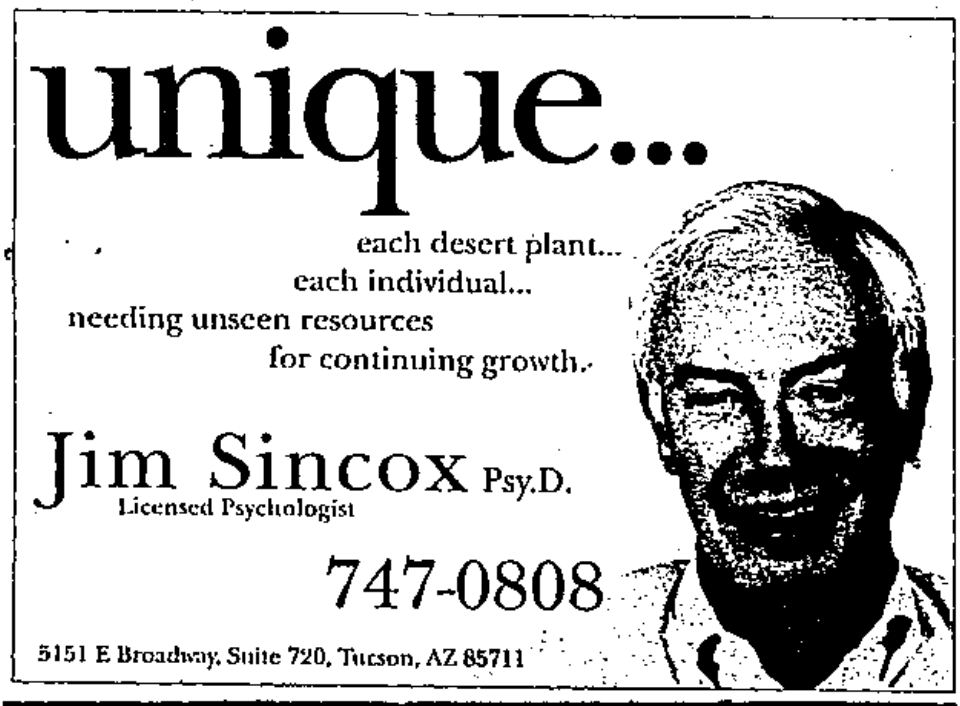
It is not often in my office that I am forced to take action such as this, but in this case, some action is warranted. Miss Whoremoans, while I certainly understand your disappointment in not winning the title of Miss West Coast Regents, I cannot condone your decision to write this letter.

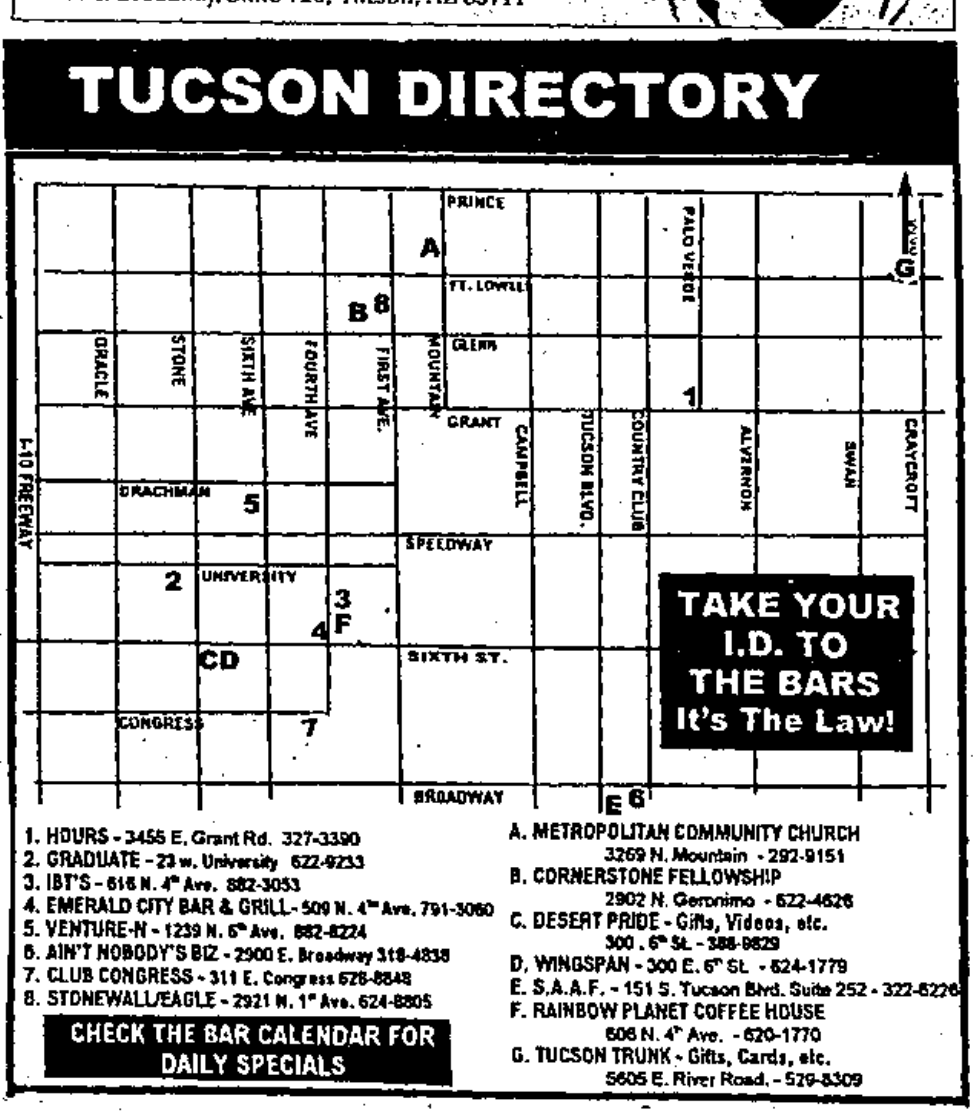
Put simply, you did not win. You competed very well, and should be proud of yourself. I have always believed that a pageant does not necessarily have only one winner, and that any contestants with the nerve to compete, and the maturity to learn and grow as a part of the pageant process, is a winner by any definition. It is my opinion that the only losers in a pageant are those contestants who can find nothing to do afterwards but "bitch" and complain. Unfortunately, Miss Whoremoans, you have apparently decided to number yourself among the losers. No one put you in that number, you've done it to yourself.

And to Deora LaBlanc, who won the pageant Wednesday night, I simply want you to know that you have the complete support of the entire National Capitol Cities Pageantry system. We here at NCC pageantry are very happy to have you aboard, and couldn't be prouder or your performance Wednesday night.

Any contestant with a question about the results of this or any NCC pageant may contact Jalissa Michaels, national pageant promoter.

Sincerely,
Marshall Eric Taylor
aka Felice Renard
Miss West Coast
International NCC
Tucson Director, National
Capitol Cities Pageantry





Miss Gay Tucson America 99

...it doesn't only happen in the movies

Guest Ministers Visit MCC Tucson

TUCSON — April has been a busy month at Water of Life MCC. On April 17-18, the Rev. Nori Rost from Pikes Peak MCC in Colorado Springs, Colorado came to Tucson and brought her healing message.

Cadash, a music ministry group from MCC Long Beach visited the local church during that same weekend and blessed the congregation with their unique, uplifting, energizing music. The weekend featured a special Saturday evening healing service, as well as lively Sunday morning worship services. Rev. Rost known for her thoughtful, liberating messages was welcomed to Tucson by a very enthusiastic and appreciative audience.

The Rev. Rick Schisler, Associate Pastor of Gentle Shepard MCC in Phoenix was the guest of Water of Life MCC on April 25. An enthusiastic and receptive congregation greeted Rev. Schisler and his partner, Victor Ramirez. Rev. Schisler enlightened and entertained the members, friends and visitors to Water of Life with an insightful sermon on the search for a meaningful relationship, both with our Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered brothers and sisters, as well as with God. Many in the congregation said they were truly blessed by Rev. Schisler's visit, and hope that he can return when his schedule permits.

Water of Life Metropolitan Community Church, located at 3269 N. Mountain Avenue between Fort Lowell and Prince Roads, is a member congregation of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. Founded in December 1970 with continuous service for more than twenty-eight years, Water of Life MCC of Tucson is one of the early congregations of the UFMCC.

The congregation of Water of Life MCC was pleased to have Rev. Rost, Chadash, and Rev. Schisler as our guests. Water of Life MCC's Pastor, the Reverend Joyce Cook, extends an open invitation for everyone to join us for exciting times like these every Sunday at the regular 9:15 A.M. or 11:15 A.M. worship services. For additional information, please call the church office at 520/292-9151, or email WOLMCC@aol.com.

Man About Town by Jerry Diaz

Our city is one with a many hidden treasures just waiting to be explored, discovered and conquered. The reason I am bothering you with this is simple. I can't for the life of me fathom how anyone could sit in their home or other domicile and complain about there being nothing to do, especially on the weekend.

So for those who have doubt, I will attempt to go over the events of my very hectic weekend. Over the period spanning Saturday and Sunday, I was able to: Got to the Mariachi Festival over at Armory Park (Good Food and Music). I attended the Bob Marley Festival (a good cause and again awesome music).I ate at three of our finest eating establishments. Also on the agenda was a baseball game (Go Sidewinders!), a session for a piercing (go ahead ask me where), and oh yeah, there was this pageant over at the Holiday Inn I had the pleasure of attending.

If you are wondering about the cost of all the gallivanting I got to do, I spent less than $100 dollars all weekend, including meals and taxi rides! The point (you like how I always seem to get to that don't you) is this. Those of you who have not had the opportunity to live or visit a gigantic metropolis (no, not Phoenix) are more apt to appreciate that we here in the Old Pueblo have all the fixings of a big city without the extremism that get folks like me to go running from the asphalt jungles to the loveliness of the cacti and flora.

We must, as a community, learn to take all that is given to us and still have the notion to prevent that which will turn us into a boomtown. How does one go about doing this?, you ask (or maybe you don't, who knows). We have to support all that is cultural and give our hand in passing the word to all who might be interested. If we have a steady flow of support for all our arts and entertainment venues, better ones will come.

So, next time you're sitting around wondering what to do, and your not in the mood for reading the many publications (including this one) which can inform you of all the events and goings on, give me a holler. I'm sure I can find something you like to do at a reasonable cost. Then again, you can always go hide in the desert. That does the trick for me sometimes.

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April 25 - Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.
Morning Worship Service with Reverend Thompson, 10:30 a.m.
Children's Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.
Potluck Luncheon to follow service

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NIAID Awards MACS Centers Five-Year Grants

WASHINGTON, DC (WS) — The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) has awarded five-year grants to continue the work of the Multicenter AIDS Cohort Study (MACS), the largest continually followed group of HIV-infected or at-risk individuals in the world.

Approximately $6 million in first-year funding will be distributed among MACS research centers at The Johns Hopkins University; the University of Pittsburgh; Northwestern University; and the University of California at Los Angeles.

"We're delighted to continue supporting the MACS," says Anthony S. Fauci, M.D., director of NIAID. "This study has been instrumental in advancing our understanding of the pathogenesis and natural history of HIV disease, and thus has important implications for therapy."

The MACS has enrolled more than 5,600 individuals since 1984. Currently, there are 1,775 active enrollees, of which about 38 percent are HIV-positive. A total of 1,237 MACS volunteers have died of AIDS.

MACS data have contributed to nearly 700 publications in medical and scientific journals. The study's collection of clinical specimens spans most of the history of the HIV epidemic, from uninfected individuals of the early 1980s to long-term nonprogressors – people who remain healthy 10 years or more after becoming infected with HIV – today. Its size and longevity have uniquely positioned the MACS to answer questions that other studies could not easily approach.

"In its 15 years, the MACS has amassed a wealth of clinical information and biological specimens," says Jack Killen, M.D., director of the Division of AIDS at NIAID. "Together with the huge databases to which they are linked, these specimens provide the general scientific community with an invaluable research resource for multidisciplinary investigation." The availability of MACS specimens has led to research collaborations with more than 100 investigators outside the MACS.

The idea for the MACS evolved in the early 1980s, before anyone knew what caused AIDS, which, at that time, primarily affected homosexual men. With the hope of discovering the disease's cause, NIAID launched a multicenter effort to enroll volunteers at risk for developing AIDS. When the discovery of HIV and its subsequent link to AIDS occurred shortly thereafter, the focus of the study shifted toward investigating how the disease progresses and how to prevent it.

The MACS originally was composed of clinical research centers at the institutions mentioned above and at the University of California at Berkeley. The Berkeley center left the MACS in 1988 to pursue an independent NIAID-funded investigation, the San Francisco Men's Health Study.

MACS volunteers are evaluated every six months. Volunteer visits include an interviewer-administered questionnaire, a physical examination, and the collection of blood samples for analysis of the immune system and to monitor volunteers' HIV status.

"It's really comforting to have been a part of this research from the beginning," says Louis Hughes, Jr., a Baltimore resident who enrolled in the MACS at the Johns Hopkins University site in 1984. "It's been a bittersweet struggle, but to see the progress from knowing so little about HIV/AIDS to where we are today when people with HIV are living longer, better lives is very exciting." Mr. Hughes, who is HIV-negative, notes that he has lost many friends to AIDS. "But I know that other friends of mine are benefitting from this research," he adds.

The MACS has played a crucial role in HIV/AIDS research over the past 15 years. One of the first major MACS breakthroughs came in 1988, when John P. Phair, M.D., and colleagues at Northwestern University reported that HIV-infected individuals' risk of contracting Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia (PCP) dramatically increased once their CD4+ T-cell levels dropped below 200 cells per cubic millimeter (mm3) of blood. This discovery provided a rational basis for initiating treatment to prevent PCP once T-cell levels dropped below that threshold.

In early 1990, the MACS underwent a fundamental change in focus. "Until that time, the MACS had largely focused on questions of clinical outcome," explains Carl Dieffenbach, Ph.D., associate director of the Basic Science Program in NIAID's Division of AIDS. "We started asking, 'What features of the interaction between HIV and the person it infects might explain variations in disease progression?'" To address this question, the MACS brought together teams of virologists, immunologists and epidemiologists.

"We knew we had to conduct these studies under the same roof with the same patients at the same time," says Dr. Dieffenbach. "The MACS really took the lead in organizing combined studies that united these various scientific disciplines within a study group."

Another groundbreaking discovery came in 1996, when John W. Mellors, M.D., and other MACS researchers from the University of Pittsburgh reported that viral load was the single most important indicator of HIV disease progression. Previously, physicians had used CD4+ T-cell counts as the primary determinant in treatment decisions.

More recently, MACS data have expanded knowledge of how differences in the genes that encode HIV co-receptors -- the molecular handles on immune system cells to which the virus attaches itself -- make individuals resistant to HIV infection or affect HIV disease progression. Analyses of cohort data have also contributed vital information to understanding AIDS-associated opportunistic infections, cancers and neurological disorders. Ongoing MACS research is examining the emergence of drug resistance to highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART), as well as the metabolic side effects HAART produces in some individuals.

"In the coming years, we are confident that MACS will keep providing critical information as we pursue the best ways to treat, manage or prevent HIV infection," says Dr. Fauci. "There is no other study of its kind in the world, and it is important that we continue to support this vital multicenter effort."

NIAID is a component of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). NIAID conducts and supports research to prevent, diagnose and treat illnesses such as HIV disease and other sexually transmitted diseases, tuberculosis, malaria, asthma and allergies. NIH is an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

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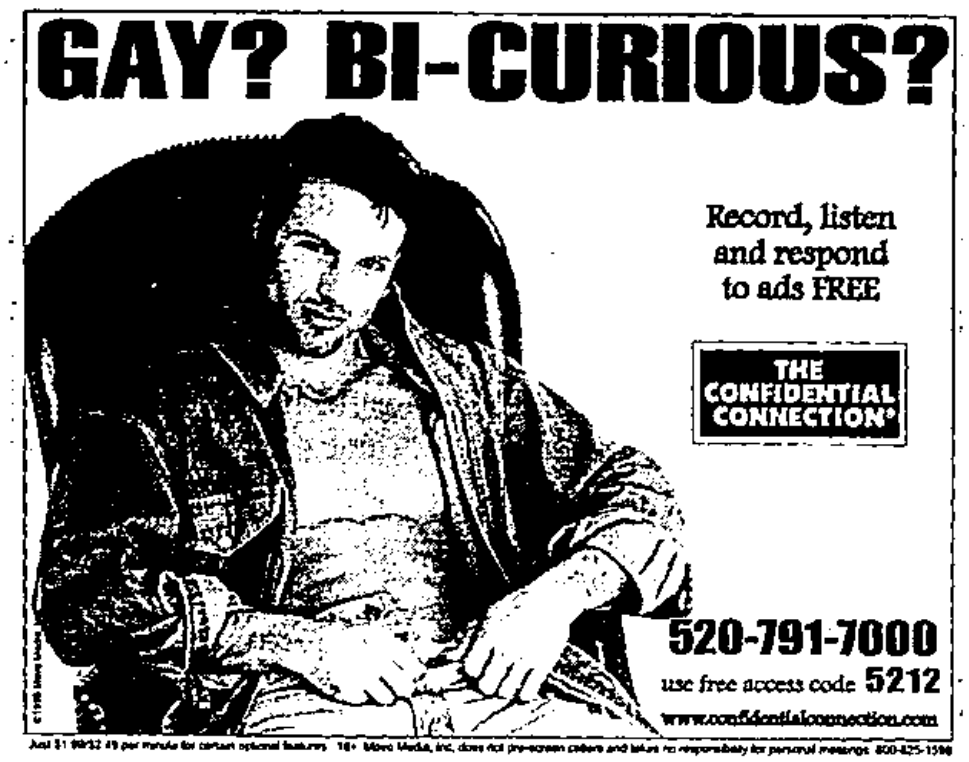

Entertainment Briefs. . . .

The Gay Spanish director will get his first shot at the Palme D'Or, and the festival will close with an "Ideal" role for the Gay actor that's driving critics Wilde.

The prestigious Cannes Film Festival has announced the main lineup for its 52nd event, to be held May 12 - 23. The Palme D'Or competition includes for the first time an offering from openly Gay Spanish director Pedro Almodovar, with a gender-bending cast of characters. Closing the festival will be Oliver Parker's adaptation of open Gay Oscar Wilde's "An Ideal Husband," with open Gay Rupert Everett in its most Wildean role. Also showing will be Ron Howard's "EdTV," with open Lesbian Ellen DeGeneres in a key role as the producer of the eponymous TV show.

Almodovar's 13th film is "All About My Mother" (Todo Sobre Mi Madre), which opened in Madrid last week, and like much of his best work it centers on a group of women friends. Almodovar says that it has strong elements of autobiography, although the son in the plotline dies early in the film. A would-be novelist who's a fan of Gay writer Truman Capote, he is hit by a car as he runs unthinkingly to obtain the autograph of an actress in a production of Gay Tennessee Williams' "Streetcar Named Desire" (and parallels with this work are thematic in the film).

This moves his mother to try to track down his father, who has become a transvestite sex worker known as Lola La Pionera. She also hooks up with an old friend who's a transsexual. "Variety's" Jonathan Holland says that "the emotional tone is predominantly dark and confrontational, with death, pain and disease always just around the corner. But thanks to a sweetly-paced and genuinely witty script, the picture doesn't become depressing as it focuses on the characters' stoic resilience and good humor."

Two "London Times" critics, James Christopher and Tom Shone, fell all over themselves praising Everett's work in "An Ideal Husband," even though Christopher was vastly more charmed by the film overall than Shone, calling it "an update deserving of an Oscar." Everett's role as Lord Goring is Wilde's alter-ego, all but drooling bon mots. The farcical plot of the play, considerably streamlined for film, revolves around what Christopher calls "sleaze in high places and power-plays between the sexes," giving it a truly contemporary feel despite its period setting.

Shone describes Goring as "a man whose Wildean dedication to the hard graft of party-going is compromised only by his equally fierce determination to spend all day in bed." Christopher says, "He hides his loyalties and his tolerance under airy nothings. Flashing looks of camp alarm, dead panning lusty socialites, or glaring at himself in mirrors, he contrives to seem as useless and self-centered as he is comically saintly. 'To love oneself is the beginning of a lifelong romance,' he declares." Slone says of Everett as Goring, "You can't take your eyes off him. Mind you, neither can he, but his narcissism is so absolute as to be absolutely absorbing — like a black hole, only funnier," and concludes that, "If only Oscar had lived to clap his eyes on the boy [Everett]. He'd have gone Wilde."

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	Won	Lost	Pct
Eat at Ed's	19.0	5.0	.791
It's In Da Hole	18.0	6.0	.750
Cocktails for 17	16.0	8.0	.667
Looney Toones	14.5	9.5	.604
Two	14.0	10.0	.583
Pretty Balls	13.0	11.0	.542
Damn It II	13.0	11.0	.542
Tres Amigos	13.0	11.0	.542
Erratica II	12.0	12.0	.500
Miracles Happen	12.0	12.0	.500
Just Blown It	11.5	12.5	.479
Curious George	11.0	13.0	.458
FourKneeCatorz	9.0	15.0	.375
Three Way	9.0	15.0	.375
Poppin Fresh	9.0	15.0	.375
CCFTFTH	8.0	16.0	.333
Low Ballers	7.0	17.0	.292

First Quarter Champions - Looney Toones. **Second Quarter Champions** - Four-Knee-Catorz. **Third Quarter Champions** - Tres Amigos.

SEASON ACHIEVEMENTS

High Average - Heather H., 163; Ken M., 197; Just Blown It, 509.

High Series Scratch - Just Blown It, 1755; Ken M., 728; Heather H., 566.

High Game Scratch - Fran K., 223; Jeffrey T., 277; Just Blown It, 641.

High Series Handicap - Ken M., 743; Fran K., 689; Just Blown It/Four-Knee-Catorz, 2019.

High Game Handicap - Kevin D., 288; Fran K., 269; Miracles Happen, 752.

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Scientists Take Step Closer To AIDS Vaccine

Continued from Page One

tion through the skin was a better way to introduce the vaccine than administration with a "gene gun", which bombards cells with DNA-coated gold beads.

The vaccine successfully contained the virus during a 62-week period, in which infection was attempted three times. Levels of the virus in the blood of animals which had been vaccinated were negligible. Unvaccinated monkeys which were infected had viral loads of up to one billion.

Among the AIDS vaccines that have previously been tested in macaque monkeys, only live viruses, with their potential risks for causing disease, were able to protect the animals.

Genetic Origins

Continued from Page One

Hamer's 1993 study found that in 40 pairs of Gay brothers, 33 had the same set of DNA sequences in a region of the chromosome called Xq28. Attempting to replicate those findings, Ontario neurologist George Rice examined the DNA of 52 pairs of Gay brothers, and found that their Xq28 sequences were no more similar than what might be expected from sheer chance.

"What we have here is a scientific controversy," Michael Bailey, a Northwestern University psychologist who has studied homosexuality in twins said. The latest research effort "is a good study and it certainly raises questions about whether Hamer was right, but I don't think it proves him wrong either."

Because both studies were relatively small, and because specific genes are difficult to find. "A definitive study would entail substantially larger numbers of people." said Bailey.

Dr. Kenneth Kendler, professor of psychiatry at Virginia Commonwealth University, echoed this sentiment, stating that none of the studies so far was large enough for scientists to reach a firm present on the X-chromosome.

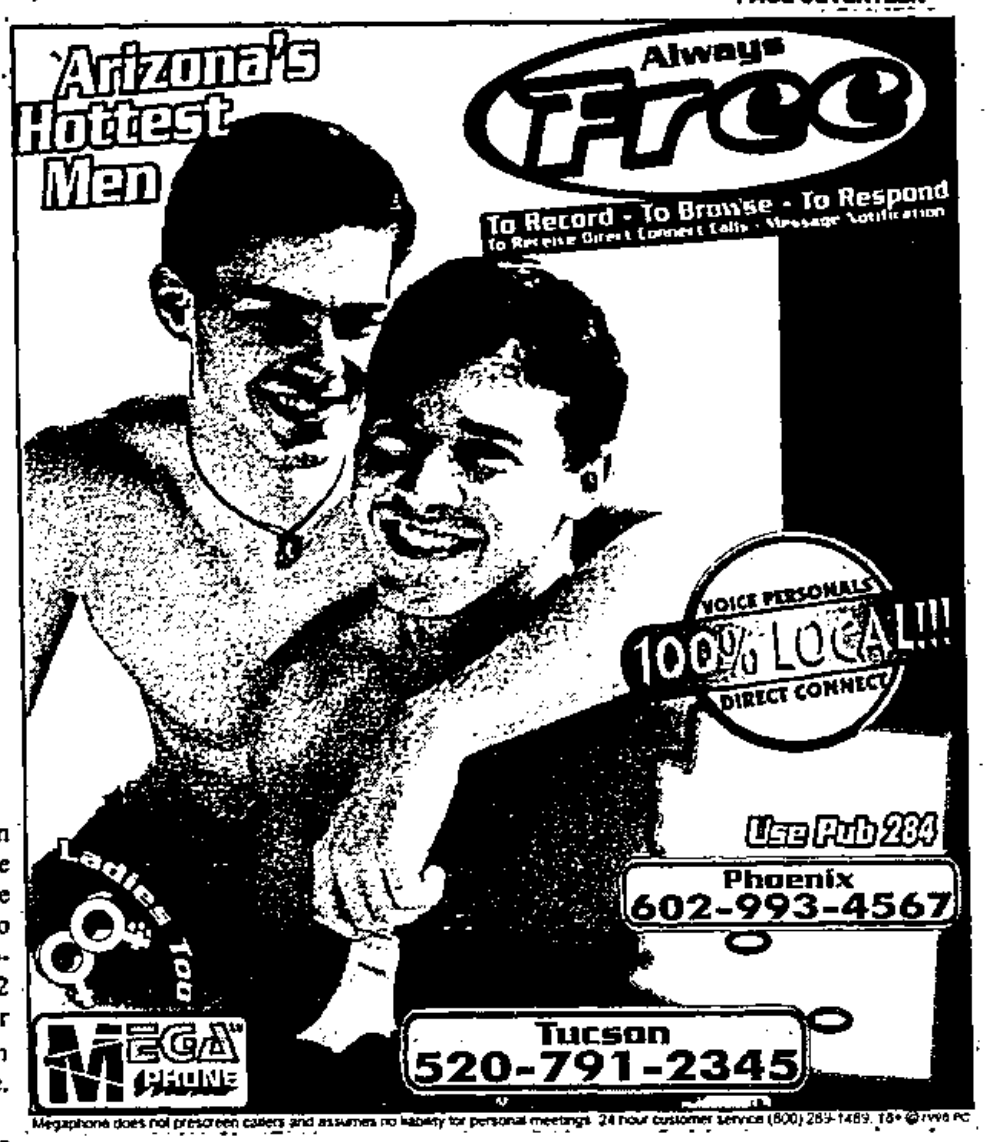
"There are now three reports that produce data relevant to this question," Kendler said, "one strongly positive, one modestly positive and one strongly negative. Does this new report show conclusively that there is no evidence? No, that is too strong."

Hate Crimes Bills Have Mixed Results

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FIVE

juries to apply harsher sentences. The current law covers race, color, religion, and national origin. The bill would also expand the law to clarify the bias as being based on the victim's "actual, presumed or perceived" membership in a protected category, and would also rename the law as the Criminal Intimidation Act. A state House version of the measure is currently pending in committee.

Sponsor Senator William "Lacy" Clay, Junior, D-St. Louis, read on the floor a detailed account of the death of African-American James Byrd, Jr., who was dragged behind a truck by white supremacists. Opponent Senator Steve Ehlman, R-St. Charles, put a new twist on the argument that all victims should be treated equally, recalling historical laws that imposed different penalties based on whether victims were commoners or members of the nobility.



Non-Bar Calendar

Groups / Clubs / Organizations

THURSDAY, APRIL 29

12:30 p.m. Tucson Prime Timers luncheon at ELLE Restaurant, 3046 E. Broadway (SW corner Country Club) Call 584-0280 for details.

Cronies Social club Dinner at the Black Angus, 5075 N. Oracle. 7:00 p.m. Call Leo at 624-6788 if you plan to attend. All men are welcome.

FRIDAY, APRIL 30

Rainbow Families, Tucson's Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual parents network has a Kite Flying Picnic at 5:00 p.m. Meet on the SW corner of Himmel Park. Bring your kite, an entree for yourself (a hot grill will be available to BBQ your dinner) and a side dish to share. All Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual parents, partners and their family members are welcome. Bring the kids. Call Craig at 318-9348 for more information.

8:30 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Queer Voice Youth Program "Millennium Prom '99" at the Santa Rita Clarion Hotel at 88 E. Broadway (on the corner of Broadway and Scott downtown). For more information call Mike or Arthur 322-6226. Advance tickets $15.00 (or $20.00 for two) at the door $20 single, $25 couple. Sponsored by Queer Voice a program of the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation, Wingspan and the Pima County Health Department. Tickets are available at SAAF, Wingspan, Rainbow Planet, and Antigone's.

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 to choose from. reservations and directions, please call Les or Jerry at 321-4387.

SATURDAY, MAY 1

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us for our monthly Potluck & Social Gathering 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 such as yourself. 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, MAY 2

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 5-7 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, MAY 4

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. The Book Club will be discussing "Blue Heaven" by Joe Keenan. 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.

THURSDAY MAY 6

Gays and Lesbians United (GLU) the information exchange supper meeting will be held at the Southern Arizona AIDS fonodation at 6:00 p.m. 151 S. Tucson Blvd. All Gay, Lesbian and AIDS groups are welcome. RSVP to David at 323-7943.

FRIDAY, MAY 7

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 6:30 p.m. Join us for a Topic of Discussion on the video "Out of the Past"-about gay life in earlier times and our fight for rights in today's world. For reservations and directions, call Jerry or Les at 690-9565.

SATURDAY MAY 8

5:00 P.M. 'Cafe Chat' at Rainbow Planet Coffee House on 4th Ave. Hosted by Queer Voice, a youth program of SAF, Wingspan and Pima County Health Dept. For more info. Call Mike P. or Arthur at 322-6226.

SUNDAY, MAY 9

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 5-7 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.

2. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 5-7 p.m. Gordon offers a free session on "Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction Techniques". You're invited to join in on this mini-workshop and discover ways of easing your life. For reservations and directions, please call Gordon at 321-9509.

MONDAY, MAY 10

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us for a Multiplex Night at the movies. In one room we'll offer a showing of "Star Wars" to get you ready for the "Phantom Menace" coming soon. At the same time, we'll be showing "The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert" with Guy Pearce and Terence Stamp. We don't really have to tell you what either of them is about, do we? For reservations and directions, please call Les or Jerry at 690-9565.

TUESDAY, MAY 11

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 Dan at 327-5755.

2. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Gordon offers Yoga classes to help you stretch you muscles and clear your mind. For directions and more information, please call Gordon at 321-9509.

FRIDAY, MAY 14

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, May 15 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, APRIL 28

IBT'S - Special Girlie Show featuring the NEW Miss Gay Tucson America. Also starring Lucinda Holliday and Miss Gay America 1995 Patti Le Plae Safe with special guests. Showtime 9:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 2

IBT'S - 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. Benefit Bar-B-Que and Beer Bust to benefit Arizona Angels softball team plus karaoke on the patio until 7:30 p.m. Then at 9:00 p.m. a special show for Arizona Angels, featuring Ajia Simone, Victoria Du Puis, Bunny FU FU, Deora Le Blanc and special talent cameos by team members plus your chance to win a 50/50 raffle.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - "Studio 54" Theme Night. Show 10:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, MAY 4-5-6

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Cinco de Mayo Festival. Thursday, Fuerza Latina Travesti Show. 10:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Cinco de Mayo celebration with live music by Pasioft Final from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m. Cover. $2 Tequiza 9 to midnight.
IBT'S - 9:00 P.M. Girlie Show and Put in' On The Lips lip zinc contest all in one. To be a contestant call Lucinda at 327-1576. $50 first prize.

THURSDAY, MAY 6

IBT'S - Rudy de la Mor makes a triumphant return to the Old Pueblo. Don't miss this outrageous and hilarious very entertainer.

SUNDAY, MAY 9

IBT'S - 4:30 - 7:00 Benefit Bar-B-Que and Beer Bust to benefit Reveille Gay Men's Chorus.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - "Desert La Cage" female impersonator show starring Miss Crystal Abrams. Showtime 10:00 p.m.

MONDAY, MAY 10

STONEWALL/EAGLE - "The Jewel Box Revue" starring Miss Tammy Caprice. Showtime 10:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Desert Coyotes Bowling League Awards event with a very special show 8:00 p.m. "Red Team" debut starring former Miss H.I.T.T. Aloha Whoremoans.

SUNDAY, MAY 16

GRADUATE - 12th ANNUAL RENO GANNON JELL-O WRESTLING FOR SAAF. Watch for more details and save this Sunday for a full day of fun.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Stonewall/Eagle will open today at 5:00 p.m. Join us at the Graduate for the 12th annual Jell-O Wrestling extravaganza.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Retro Rock 'n Roll Party. Watch for details.

SATURDAY, MAY 15

16th International AIDS Candlelight Memorial. For more information call Wingspan 624-1779

Rainbow Families, Tucson's Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Parents Network holds a rap and discussion group evry third Saturday of the month. Check it out today at 4:00 p.m. at St. Francis In The Foothills Church, Room 31, at the NW corner of River and Swan. All Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual parents, partners and family members are welcome. Call Craig at 318-9348 for more information.

Queer Voice Youth Program 'Boyz 'n Girlz Nite Out' For directions call Mike at 798-0151.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join the MSN for a night out at the theater as we go see "Love! Valour! Compassion!" Group discount tickets for MSN will be $8. For more information, please call Les at 690-9565.

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Daily Bar Calendar

Sunday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Beer Bust 5-10, $1.25 pitchers. Latin Music with DJ Hill 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 open til midnight

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

Monday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Happy Hour Two-For-One 2-7. Free pool 2-4. $1.50 Wells 8-midnight.

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-6pm, $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 10am Daily drink specials. Happy Hour 'til 7pm. Party with Chuck in the evening. Free pool all day and night. Snack Bar open til midnight

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

Tuesday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour Two-For-One 2-7. Pool tourney 7:30pm. $3 entry, pot matched. $1 longnecks for pool players. Funky disco w/DJ Starskee & DJ Butta Fly 9-1.

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, Karaoke Night 9pm.

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 10am 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 open til midnight

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

Wednesday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour Two-For-One 2-7. Free Pool 2-4. $1.50 Longnecks 8-midnight. Dance music with DJ Stephanie 9pm-1am.

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 1am. 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 10am 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 open til midnight

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 Free pool 2-4. Karaoke with Melissa 9pm to close. Wiersamy cowgirls & $2.50 Tequila Rose.

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 10am Daily drink specials. Happy Hour til 7pm. Latin Dance Party w/Eduardo in the Stonewall 9pm to close. Biweekly Travesti Show 10:30pm. Snack Bar open til midnight

VENTURE-N - Open 6am $1.75 Well Drinks & Longnecks 6am-12:30pm Patio Bar open 5pm. Feature 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 Two-For-One 2-7. Free pool 2-4. Free food at 5:30pm. Dance music 9-1 w/ DJ Hill. Drink specials every 1/2 hour

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 Susan & Tracey 5:30-8:30pm. Patio Bar 9-1. Dance Party 9 to 1 with DJ David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 10am 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 open til midnight

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 - Open at 2pm. Drink specials all day. Pool Tournament 5:30pm $3 entry. Pot matched. Dance music w/DJ Hill 9-close. Drink specials every half 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 open til midnight

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

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 36264, Tucson, AZ 85740-6264. 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 Davey at 888-1208 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 7097, 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 323-0805 or write AGRATucson, 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

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. New 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, 2640 E. Thomas, Phoenix. Ellie 581-8850 or Renn 968-2384.

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

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, 2902 N. Geronimo (near 1st Ave. and Laguna). Open to All. Call Liz at 325-9466 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. Philips 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.

NOTICES

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 4pm for spring & summer

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 325-6678 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 791-7676.

GRACE GROUP - CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 2nd Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the Madonna Hall at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 1436 N. Campbell across from University Hospital. For more info. Call Eddie Betrano 888-4595 or Cheri Jacobs 323-9066.

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 884-9920, Ext.448 or Emmett 322-6057 (evelten@ix.netcom.com)

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 every Wednesday at 6:00 pm on 91.3 FM, Community Radio KXCI. The show "This Way Out", a nationally syndicated Lesbian and Gay radio show is aired at 5:30 pm every Wednesday.

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 16th year! (2nd in Tucson).

TRANSGENDER ISSUES: Southern Arizona Gender Alliance (SAGA) meets on first Mondays for informal discussion of transgender topics. Hosted by Desert Boyz. 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.

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

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 Mirta Stone, MSW, at 327-1171 (if unavailable leave message with phone number.

GLSEN - Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network meets first Thursday of every month at 4:30pm at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th Street. 743-4800.

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 these agencies. Website: AAPSP.org or e-mail: AAPSP@aol.com or call Dave (520)745-9059 (Tucson) or Kim (602)534-6219 (Phoenix)

GAY, LESBIAN & BISEXUAL VETERANS meet at Wingspan every fourth Monday at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome. For more info call Miguel Guzman, 889-4078 or pager 446-5125.

TUCSON CATHOLIC GAY & LESBIAN FAMILY MINISTRY. Currently meeting the 4th Monday of every month at SS Peter & Paul Church, Madonna Hall 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Fr. Fiedler in attendance every meeting and willing to speak one on one. Reading list in Parents and Families. For more info call Doc or Barbara 293-6624.

WOMEN'S OUT OF THE CLOSET GROUP. Welcome to women in all stages of the coming-out process. We are here to support the Lesbians, Bisexuals and straight women of all races, religious and ages. Meeting times are the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month, 1:30 - 3:30pm at Wingspan at 300 E. 6th St. 624-1779. Call Wendy Bailey at 235-1893 after 5pm for more information.

PERSONALS

Do you live north of Grant and west of campbell? GM, just an ordinary nice guy, late Mid over 40, who is just an ordinary nice boy, looking for new friends. Write P.O. Box 77602, Tucson, AZ 85703-7602 770

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.move.com 770

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 extrictamente confidencial al 322-6226 y pregunta por Ernesto. 770

If you are a Latino man who is having sex with other men and you want to help us to support and expand our programs for Latinos, call for a confidential interview at 322-6226 and ask for Ernie. 770

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AVAILABLE MAY 15, 1 BEDROOM ADOBE HOUSE with hardwood floors and fenced yard. Alvernon/Speedway area. Shown by appointment. Call Bill 795-8581

FIFTH WHEEL TRAILER FOR RENT. First & Roger area. $300/mo. Includes all utilities plus cable. 888-6908 771.

1 BEDROOM APARTMENT. Cable and Utilities furnished. $400/mo. $100 dep. 888-6908. 771

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. 772

ROOMMATES

HOUSEMATE WANTED: 2 bedroom duplex near UofA by older gentleman. $285 includes utilities except phone. First/last, N/S, W&D. Need housemate, not a sex partner. 903-1600. 771.

EMPLOYMENT

WANTED ASAP UNTIL MAY 18: 2 TO 4 HOURS A DAY ASSISTANCE TO PWA. Laundry, dishes, food shopping, etc. Excellent cash pay for someone with HIV or disability. Call Mark Landsfeld 795-6737. 770

ODD JOBS - HANDYMAN. Coolers, electrical, plumbing, carpet, painting, etc. Call Victor, 887-2519. 770.

DESERT PRIDE LLC is now accepting applications for P/T and Full Time work. Please submit resume in person at our store located at 300 E. 6th St, next to Wingspan. Computer competence in Microsoft Word and Excel required. 773

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PROFESSIONAL DEEP RELAXATION! Enjoy quality tantric massage including breathwork with 17 years experience in a powerful therapeutic session. Experience wonderfully, gentle healing hands. Legitimate. Call Marc, LMT, 881-4582. 767

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