Observing Tucson And The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

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Election 2002:

Four Lead While Southern Arizona's Voice Is Silenced

By Mark R. Kerr

TUCSON (ON) - Arizonans, a total of 45% of the eligible electorate, as well as citizens across the country went to the polls Tuesday, November 5, to decide who will serve in political posts from the federal to the local levels, with most of the outcomes of the races being determined and then there is the Grand Canyon State.

With a plethora of ballots still to be reviewed and verified by elections' officials, the outcome in many key races across Arizona was still up in the air as of press time, pending the final tally.

Republican Congressman Jim Kolbe was comfortably ahead in his bid for a tenth term in office and former Democratic Pima County Supervisor, Raul Grijalva, has swept to victory for the U.S. House in Arizona's new seventh Congressional District.

In the contest for Arizona's statewide offices, Arizona Attorney General, Janet Napolitano, a Democrat, was ahead of former Republican Congressman, Matt Salmon, for Governor.

Former Maricopa County Supervisor and state legislator, Republican Jan Brewer was ahead in the race for Secretary of State.

Former Democratic Phoenix Mayor, Terry Goddard, had a clear lead in his race to succeed Janet Napolitano and the state's top law enforcement official.

State Senator David Petersen, Republican from Mesa, was narrowly leading Tucson state Senator, Democrat Ruth Solomon, for the post of state Treasurer.

Tom Horne, the Republican candidate for Superintendent of Public Instruction was leading, by a small margin, state Senator Jay Blanchard, the Democratic nominee to see who will be in charge of the state's school system. Blanchard, who had voted to repeal the state's archaic laws may have cost himself important support and votes with a verbal gaffe over the past weekend at the Clinton political rally, October 31, asking voters if they wanted their schools to be "like those in Mississippi, Louisiana and Arkansas," the last state being the home of the nation's 42nd President, causing an audible gasp from the audience.

For Arizona's state Legislature, if trends hold, will send four openly Gay individuals to serve in the upcoming session, starting in January 2003.

Current state Representative Ken Cheuvront, D-Phoenix, won his bid to serve in Arizona's upper chamber, the Senate. In the Arizona House, Democrats Wally Straughn and Robert Meza will be joining Democrat Jack Jackson Jr., when the session convenes. Ed Poelstra, the openly Gay incumbent Republican was defeated in his bid for a second term.

State election officials expected to have the final tabulations done by next week and The Observer will have the results from those and other races as well.

Syphilis Rises In U.S. - Gay Men Cited

WASHINGTON, DC - Reported U.S. cases of syphilis are rising for the first time since 1990, apparently because of a growing outbreak among Gay men.

American health officials hoped to finally conquer syphilis during this decade. But federal statistics released today show that cases of the sexually transmitted disease are rising for the first time since 1990, apparently because of a growing outbreak among Gay men.

The number of reported syphilis cases in the United States grew to 6,103 cases in 2001, an increase of 2.1 percent over the previous year, the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention reported. The numbers may actually be higher because some doctors don't notify the government about their patients with the disease.

The syphilis rate among the general population remains extremely low, but Gay men appear to be at special risk, even though nobody tracks the sexual orientation of patients on a national level.

Cases among women are dropping while they are rising among men, and there have been outbreaks of syphilis among Gay men in Chicago, Los Angeles, Miami, New York City, San Francisco and Seattle.

In San Francisco alone, the number of syphilis cases is expected to grow to 500 this year from just 10 in 1998, said Dr. Jeffrey Klausner, director of STD Prevention & Control Services for the city's Department of Public Health.

While doctors can usually knock out syphilis with an antibiotic like penicillin, the disease can cause a variety of problems even in otherwise healthy people, Klausner said. Ten people in the city have suffered from serious visual and hearing loss because of the disease, reported the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com network.

"It can be a serious infection with

CONTINUED ON PAGE SIXTEEN

Gay Games VI Open In Sydney

SYDNEY, Australia - The weeklong event called the Gay Games began Saturday, November 2, in Sydney, with thousands of Lesbian and Gay men on hand to compete in 31 different sports and 11 cultural competitions.

Protected by drum-tight security and buoyed by a festive mood, almost 40,000 cheering spectators and proud athletes from around the world kicked off Gay Games VI in grand style.

Games co-chair Peter Bailey said men and women, aged 18 years to almost 80, from 83 countries are taking part in the Games, which are held every four years. It is the first time the Gay Games have visited the Southern Hemisphere.

Although the games have been beset by enormous financial deficits and a shortage of corporate sponsors, they are expected to pour millions of dollars into the city.

They have also presented a huge security challenge to a nation reeling from the Oct. 12 terrorist bombings in Bali that killed 180 people, many of them Australians. Security was exceedingly tight, and police with bomb-sniffing dogs patrolled the city and the predominantly Gay neighborhoods around Oxford Street.

But any fears about terrorism were cast aside Saturday at the opening ceremonies, when the enthusiastic crowd heard the reading of a letter written by Mark Bingham of San Francisco, the Gay rugby player killed on Sept. 11, 2001, when American Airlines Flight 93 crashed in rural Pennsylvania.

Bingham wrote the letter to his teammates after they were accepted into a straight league, said Gay Games co-president Roberto Mentacci, noting that it showed how Gay athletes are building bridges to others.

"We have the chance to be role models for other Gay folks," Bingham wrote. "Let's go win a few games and change a few minds."

For results and more information, go to http://www.sydney2002.org.au.

Vatican Considers Policy On Gay Priests

VATICAN CITY - Amid widespread opposition, the Vatican said that it is working on draft guidelines for dealing with Gay candidates for the priesthood.

The brief statement from the Vatican's press office did not indicate what the final stance would be toward Gay seminarians, the Associated Press reported. Church officials also stressed that the document is still in its early stages and will probably be published next year, reported the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com network.

But anonymous sources have told other news outlets that the current draft version recommends that seminaries ban homosexual students.

The issue has reportedly been under consideration for years, but this year's sex abuse scandal in the U.S. Catholic Church -- which some church leaders have blamed on Gay priests -- put the matter on the fast track.

While some church officials advocate such a ban, there is plenty of resistance within American Catholic circles.

In an editorial last week, the Jesuit magazine America declared that "scapegoating healthy and celibate Gay priests" is not an appropriate response to the sex abuse crisis.

"Preventing the ordination of Gay men would deprive the church of many productive, hard-working and dedicated ministers and would, moreover, ignore the promptings of the Holy Spirit, who has called these men to holy orders," wrote the Rev. Thomas Reese, editor-in-chief of America.

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia, however, has been weeding out Gay seminary candidates for the past 13 years.

New Ways Ministry (NWM), a Washington, D.C.-based group that serves Gay and Lesbian Catholics, sent a letter this month to all U.S. bishops, urging them to oppose the Vatican's proposed ban, which is "causing great consternation in our Church."

"Such a policy will force Gay priests and Gay/Lesbian church personnel to live in further secrecy, shame and fear -- certainly not an opportune context for Christian ministry," wrote NWM's executive director, Francis DeBernardo.

In an e-mail message to the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com Network, DeBernardo noted that banning Gay priests and seminarians also poses "major theological and pastoral problems."

UPDATE

Transgender Day Of Remembrance November 20

TUCSON - On Wednesday, November 20, Tucson community members will gather for a candlelight vigil to remember those Transgender people who have been killed due to anti-Transgender hatred or prejudice.

The candlelight vigil and service of remembrance will begin at 6:00 pm at Catalina Park, located at 4th Avenue and 2nd Street. Following the vigil, there will be a silent march down 4th Avenue, ending with a reception at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th Street.

The National Day of Remembrance recognizes and remembers Transgender people who have been killed due to anti-Transgender hatred or prejudice. It is an acknowledgment of the bigotry and intolerance that still exists in our country and even our community.

The event is held in November to honor Rita Hester, whose murder on November 28, 1998 kicked off the "Remembering Our Dead" web project and a San Francisco candlelight vigil in 1999. Rita Hester's murder — like most anti-Transgender murder cases — has yet to be solved.

According to the National Day of Remembrance web site (www.gender.org/remember/day/), over the last decade, more than one person per month has died due to Transgender-based hate or prejudice, regardless of any other factors in their lives. This trend shows no sign of abating — there have been 25 reported deaths since the last Day of Remembrance. For more information, visit Wingspan's web site, www.wingspanaz.org or call (520) 624-1779. The event is sponsored by the Southern Arizona Gender Alliance (SAGA) and Wingspan.

Bicycle Drive Underway For Kids Xmas Present

TUCSON (ON) - A drive for bicycles, in fixable condition, has been announced by the owners of the Venture-N and the Yard Dog Saloon.

Jim Dondson and Ray Gregg are seeking any size and style bicycles to fix up and given to underprivileged children, December 15, in the Balboa Neighborhood area, where the Yard Dog is located.

People wanting to donate a bicycle should bring them to the Venture-N for refurbishing. More information about this effort in next week's Observer.

Orient Yourself To Volunteer At Wingspan Nov. 19

TUCSON - Do you want to learn more about the history and organization of Wingspan? Interested in helping people in your own LGBT community? Here's your chance! Wingspan will hold a free General Volunteer Orientation on Tuesday, November 19, from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m., and is open to anyone interested in learning more about Wingspan, and about the opportunities to volunteer at your LGBT community center.

Wingspan is especially seeking qualified volunteers to help with the library, front desk, and administrative office, as well as with data entry into our soon-to-be-completed computerized database of community referral information. Internship opportunities are also available. Potential volunteers are encouraged to complete an application and interview before the 19th if possible. If you're not sure whether or not volunteering at Wingspan is for you, this Orientation is a great way to find out.

Training sessions specific to the Front Desk position are also held periodically. These trainings help Front Desk volunteers develop active listening and basic crisis intervention skills, and enable volunteers to provide community resource information to people who call or come into the center. Additional "on-the-job" training can begin any time.

For more volunteer information, please contact Wingspan's Volunteer Programs Coordinator, Mark English, at (520) 624-1779 or mark@wingspanaz.org. For an application, just call or drop by Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St.

'Creating Change' Forum Nov. 12

TUCSON (ON) - A forum on the Creating Change conference will take place Tuesday, November 12, 7:00 p.m., at Wingspan, 300 East Sixth Street.

Now in its fifteenth year, the Creating Change Conference comes to the Pacific Northwest and Portland, Oregon for the first time. Creating Change is the country's most unique and stimulating gathering of the political movement for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender justice, freedom and equality. Conference attendees choose from more than 100 sessions on a vast array of topics important to our movement and communities. Staff members from Wingspan and QueerVoice will be in attendance for this important event and will be reporting back on it at the forum.

For more information, call Wingspan (520) 624-1779, or visit their website, wingspanaz.org.

GMHP Seeking Outreach Specialist

TUCSON - The Southern AZ AIDS Foundation seeks (SAAF) full time (very flexible hours, including nights & weekends) Outreach Specialist for Gay Men's Health Project (GMHP) - a community-based prevention program for Gay men 21 and over who frequent Gay bars.

Responsible for volunteer recruitment and distribution/maintenance of prevention materials. Salary between $20K and $25K with excellent benefits.

Submit letter of interest, resume and 3 professional references to Director of Admin. Support, SAAF, 375 S. Euclid Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85719, email to admin@saaf.org or visit www.saaf.org. AA/EOE.

Sheep Homosexuality Linked To Brain Form

ORLANDO, FL - The brains of sheep who engage exclusively in same-sex mating habits are different than those of other sheep, a team of U.S. researchers said.

The researchers, from Oregon Health & Science University, said the findings are similar to what scientists have already seen in the differing brain structures of Gay and straight men.

"We are not trying to explain human sexuality by this study," lead researcher Charles Roselli told Reuters. "Whether this is a big component of what contributes in humans, that's still debatable."

Roselli, a physiology and pharmacology professor, noted that earlier studies showed the preoptic area of the hypothalamus in heterosexual male brains was larger than that found in Gay men's brains. (The Gay subjects died of AIDS, however, and the disease or its treatment could have affected their brains.)

The sheep brains were found to have similar differences, reported the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com network.

"In a sense, we confirmed what had been found in humans," Roselli said.

The study focused on 27 sheep -- 10 ewes, nine rams that mated only with other rams and eight rams that only mated with ewes.

SAAF
Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation

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Bush Moves On Federal Judiciary

WASHINGTON, DC - George W. Bush's effort to reshape the federal judiciary kicked into high gear when he proposed a "new process" that he said would speed confirmation of his judicial nominees.

Bush, expressing frustration over what he called the Democratic controlled Senate's "lousy record" on confirmations, proposed a bold new timetable he wants Senate leaders to commit to that he says will result in the swift replacement of retiring judges on the federal bench.

"This comprehensive plan calls for a clean start, proposing reasonable and common sense agreements from everyone involved in the judicial confirmation process, including the president," White House press secretary Ari Fleischer told reporters.

Senate Judiciary Chairman Patrick Leahy, Democrat of Vermont, complained that the White House has chosen to "politicize" the judicial selection process to "create a partisan campaign issue."

"Meaningful consultation, ideological balance and a depoliticizing of the judicial nomination process are all matters I remain willing to discuss," Leahy said. "We have accomplished a good deal already. We could accomplish much more working more closely together.

During former-President Bill Clinton's tenure, the Republican-led Congress was so successful in blocking nominations through inaction that, by the time Clinton left office, the Senate had failed to act on some 44 judicial nominees put forward by the administration. Many were appellate court nominees who had been waiting on confirmation for many years.

Some 36 slots had no nominees put forward at all as the process became more and more bogged down. Combined with vacancies resulting from retirement and death, there are now some 100 vacant federal judgeships waiting to be filled -- nearly one-eighth of the federal judiciary.

In 1997, Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, when asked if Senate Republicans were deliberately slowing down the confirmation process, grinned and said "Sounds like a good idea to me..." Federal judges, he declared, were "the top of the list" of the most unpopular people in the country. "When I go home, nobody says, 'Please give us some more federal judges.'"

Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina told National Public Radio in April of 2001, "We haven't had a hearing on getting a judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the 4th circuit in eight years. North Carolina," he said, "which is the largest state in the fourth circuit, has no representation on the federal bench at all."

Sen. Edwards related how the Democrats put forward the nomination of a moderate, middle of the road, highly respected, African-American judge who wasn't even granted the courtesy of a hearing. "It's just an outrage that somebody that well qualified couldn't even get a hearing. We're not now just going to flip it and have the president and others just push through people who they think represent their view," he said. "There has to be balance."

Preventing the courts from being skewed further to the right is of profound importance to the Gay and Lesbian community. The legality of domestic partnerships, workplace protections, the reach of civil rights laws, family law relating to adoption and custody rights, hate crimes laws, marriage rights -- virtually the entire body of the Gay civil rights agenda -- are shaped by the federal courts.

New York Senator Charles Schumer said last year the White House had a choice. "They can work with us to get a good portion of what they want," he said, "but they will have to consult with us and moderate their appointments. I don't expect them to pick liberal Democrats, but I also don't want there to be an unstated litmus test where every judge that comes out is of the Scalia-Thomas school.

"Or they can continually try to nominate judges that meet their hard-right ideological test and try to roll us," Sen. Schumer said. "It seems right now their view is 'my way or no way.'"

Exit Poll Group Drops G/L Query

NEW YORK, NY - Gay political organizations Empire State Pride Agenda and the Human Rights Campaign say they determined this week that Voter News Service, the national exit-polling service owned by five television networks and the Associated Press, will not be including a question about sexual orientation in exit polling it plans for.

Both organizations released statements calling on VNS to reinstate its long-standing practice of asking voters on Election Day about their sexual orientation.

"This is profoundly disturbing," said Matt Foreman, executive director of the Empire State Pride Agenda, New York State's largest Lesbian and Gay civil rights organization. "This has long been the sole means by which the Lesbian and Gay community can communicate the size and power of the Gay vote to elected representatives and the general public. After years of being invisible, these statistics have helped us demonstrate that we exist as a key voting bloc."

"I hope this omission is simply an oversight," said Elizabeth Birch, executive director of the Washington, D.C.-based Human Rights Campaign. "But whatever the reasons, this decision will negatively impact millions of Americans and offer an incomplete and inaccurate picture of the electorate."

On a national level, VNS has consistently shown that those who self-identify as Lesbians and Gay men make up at least 4% of Election Day voters. Both HRC and the Pride Agenda maintain that the actual number is much greater, as many Gay people are unwilling to disclose their sexual orientation when asked.

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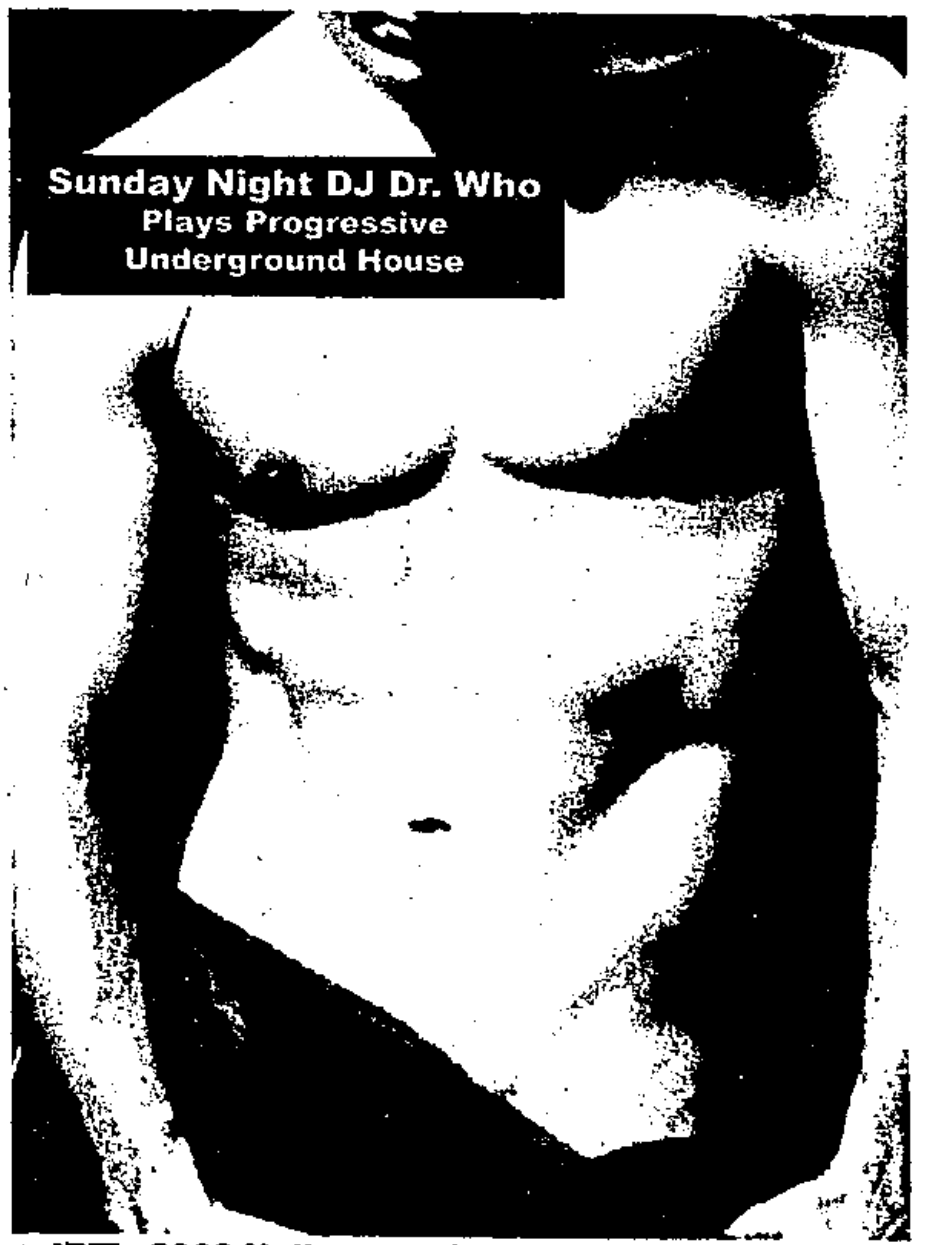

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Generous Artists Ensure Success for AIDS Festival of Life Benefit

TUCSON - More than one hundred local artists have donated art to this year's Jerôme Beillard Festival for Life to benefit AIDS services at the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF). Festival for Life is a live and silent auction featuring fine art from locally and nationally recognized artists, designer holiday trees, wreaths, menorahs, unique gift items, trips, celebrity collectibles, and Paper Prayers.

Festival for Life takes place Sunday, November 24, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m., at the Marriott University Park Hotel, 880 E. 2nd Street. The event is hosted by Lupita Murillo of KVOA and Allen Kath of Skyview Traffic. Long Realty is the Platinum Sponsor of the event.

This year's auction features art from such well-known artists as Owen Williams, Gail Marcus-Orlen, Kevin Osborn, Gary Auerbach, Aryen Hart, Deezie Manning Catron, Dan Budnik, and Judith D'Agostino. Internationally known glass artist Tom Philabaum has partnered with florist Kalyn Stith to create a stunning designer tree decorated with unique, hand-blown glass ornaments. A second designer tree has been prepared by Ron McBain.

"Artists have been so generous to this event for many years. We are grateful to have such a beautiful variety of art pieces at all price levels this year," stated Anne Maley, Executive Director of SAAF. "Artists feel particularly touched by the AIDS epidemic and are involved at every level of putting Festival for Life together."

This year's auction includes a fashion show of celebrity clothing and accessory items with items from Whoopi Goldberg, Matt Lauer, Kerri Strug, and cast members of "Queer as Folk," as well as items from local celebrities including Janet Napolitano, Jim Kolbe, Barbara LaWall, and Beth Walkup.

Other auction items include a Pastiche chef-prepared, wine-paired dinner for six in the home of the winning bidder, a Canyon Ranch spa renewal day for two, a trip for two to Seattle, a two-night stay at the Sheraton El Conquistador, and a signed script from "ER."

Proceeds from the Jerôme Beillard Festival for Life benefit services for people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS and prevention programs to reduce the rate of HIV infection.

The event includes hors d'oeuvres, entertainment, and a no-host bar. Tickets are $30 in advance and $35 at the door and can be purchased by calling (520) 628-72-23.

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Army Fires Arabic Linquists for Being Gay

MONTEREY, CA - Despite a shortage of qualified Arabic linguists in the intelligence and defense fields, the Army has fired a significant number of trained language specialists from the military's Defense Language Institute, or DLI because they are Gay.

Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, or SLDN, a legal and advocacy support group for Gay military workers, has assisted in the cases of seven Arabic speakers trained at DLI, including Private First Class Patricia Ramirez. Ramirez recently acknowledged her sexual orientation in a letter to her command.

The DLI command originally informed Ramirez in writing that, despite her sexual orientation, she was being retained in the Army and should continue to report for duty.

Within weeks of that announcement, however, SLDN reports that DLI officials had apparently reopened Ramirez's case and were illegally questioning service members on base to obtain information about homosexual conduct. Additional service members at DLI were reportedly threatened with disciplinary action if they did not cooperate with the command's renewed investigation of Ramirez.

Shortly thereafter, Ramirez was informed that, despite DLI's earlier promises to allow her career to continue, she was being fired under the military's Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy.

Ramirez indicated to her command that, if the Army would allow openly Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual military personnel to serve without prejudice, she would be happy to continue serving. "The truth is that I would like very much like to complete language training and serve my country," Ramirez wrote.

"The command at DLI should have closed this case when it told PFC Ramirez to continue with her career," said SLDN Executive Director C. Dixon Osburn. "Brave, patriotic Americans should not be fired in the name of federally sanctioned discrimination. That is blatantly un-American."

Officials within the intelligence communities have spoken publicly about the impact a shortage of Arabic linguists has had on the nation's fight against terrorism.

A recent report from the House of Representatives noted that, "the GAO reported a significant shortfall in linguists. After the 9-11 attacks, this shortfall actually increased slightly. A long-term linguist and analyst hiring strategy is required."

England Launches Gay Dating TV Channel

LONDON, UK - England's first dedicated Gay TV dating channel, TDC2, from the Euro Digital Corp., started Friday, November 1.

TDC 2 is the Gay little brother of The Dating Channel, which was launched in November 2000, reported Gay.com UK.

TDC2 is fully interactive, giving viewers the chance to contact each other, and the channel, in a number of ways. The channel is presenter-based, and set to kick-off with video profiles of Gay singles, who'll be contactable via voice and text messaging.

A TV chat-room will enable viewers to see their text messages appearing on screen within minutes of the message being sent. Viewers can also hold private text chats with each other, all without having to reveal their personal phone numbers. Audience members can also log on to the dedicated TDC2.co.uk Web site to view online profiles and get full details on the channel.

The face of TDC2 will be Purple Radio presenter, Cristo Foufas. Viewers will be able to interact with him through their mobile phones.

TDC2 will be on Sky Digital channel 688, 8:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. daily.

COMMENTARY

Amazing Grace

By Monica Taher

Gwen was laid out in a beautiful black dress, impeccably made up. Her nails were perfectly polished. She looked beautiful. When the family allowed media in and cameras surrounded the casket in the Chapel of the Roses, Gwen's grandmother cried out and fainted. It was just too much. Last week my colleague Loren Javier and I were in Newark, Calif., to support the community and the family of Gwen Araujo, a 17-year-old Latina Transgender teen who was brutally murdered in early October. We arrived expecting that, among other things, we'd be helping to shield the mourners at Gwen's service from a protest by notorious hatemonger Fred Phelps and his band of picketers. Phelps had threatened to protest at the funeral, and media from all over the country were there to cover the event. Hundreds came to the church that day (though not Phelps, whose clan instead paraded its "God Hates Fags" and "Eddie in Hell" signs outside the grieving family's home the night before). Gwen's relatives and friends carried flowers. Some of Gwen's former classmates wore t-shirts with Gwen's picture and the words, "We really love you underneath it all" - lyrics from No Doubt singer Gwen Stefani's latest song. Back when she was going by the name Eddie, Gwen adopted her name in homage to her musical heroine. And in one of many acts of compassion that day, Stefani had called Sylvia Guerrero, Gwen's mom, to offer her condolences.

It was attorney Gloria Allred, hired to represent the family, who had invited and escorted us into the church. And later, as we walked out together, Gloria dropped her professional veneer and began to cry. She hugged me for the longest time, saying, "Thank you, thank you for the work you do." I was so overwhelmed, I couldn't respond. The outpouring of love and compassion for Gwen and her family was remarkable. Even in a moment of horrific grief, a palpable sense of hope quietly transformed us. That ability to turn tragedy into hope is something I have seen time and again as the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community has struggled to understand the hatred, intolerance and violence that is so often directed against us.

Our community's search for answers and understanding amid tragedy was apparent during the days following Gwen's funeral as community leaders, organizations and individuals gathered throughout the Bay Area to honor Gwen's life and memory. Groups like AGUILAS; the Community United Against Violence; the San Francisco Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center; GLAAD; El Proyecto ContraSIDA Por Vida; the Transgender Resource and Neighborhood Space; and many others from different backgrounds and histories came together to do what we always do at times like these -- speak, cry, honor, pray and work together in hope that it won't happen again. At Gwen's funeral, students from Newark Memorial High School's production of "The Laramie Project" came to support the family. Dressed in their angel costumes, they lined the sidewalk as Gwen's casket was carried into the church. Afterward, they gathered in a circle to join hands and sing "Amazing Grace" -- and slowly, people in the crowd began to sing with them. I looked around and saw Latino, African-American, Asian, Caucasian, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, heterosexual, old and young people singing together.

The experience reminded me that in too many cases, when tragedy strikes, we're not always there for one another. When Matthew Shepard was murdered, the LGBT community stood united in its grief and outrage. Yet others attacks have not connected us in the same way. When Chicana Lesbian Juana Vega or Colombian Gay activist Eddie Garzón or African American MTF Transgender woman Tyra Hunter or openly Gay Two-Spirit teenager Fred Martinez were murdered, fewer people took notice – despite the work of our community to focus attention on their lives and the intolerance that fueled their deaths.

Make no mistake about it: anti-Gay and anti-trans harassment and hate-violence are realities that many in our community face each and every day, whether the nation takes notice or not. And the solidarity and outpouring of support we've seen in response to Gwen's murder tells me that it's up to each of us – whether we're community leaders or allies, media professionals or high school students – to tell our stories. Because that's the only way things are going to change. I hope I never lose my sense of horror at terrible, heinous crimes like Gwen's murder. But I am glad to know that tragedy and mourning are not the only outcomes of such crimes. They can empower and bring a community together. On November 20th, the LGBT community will commemorate the Transgender Day of Remembrance in different cities around the country. This day has been set aside to memorialize those who were killed because of transphobic hatred or prejudice.

I'll be there on that day, along with hundreds of others. But I look forward to a day when hate-motivated violence is just a footnote in history books -- not the headline in today's newspaper. That's what I and so many others work for every day - so that people like Gwen can live their lives freely and without fear.

[Monica Taher is the Western Regional Media Manager for the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD).]

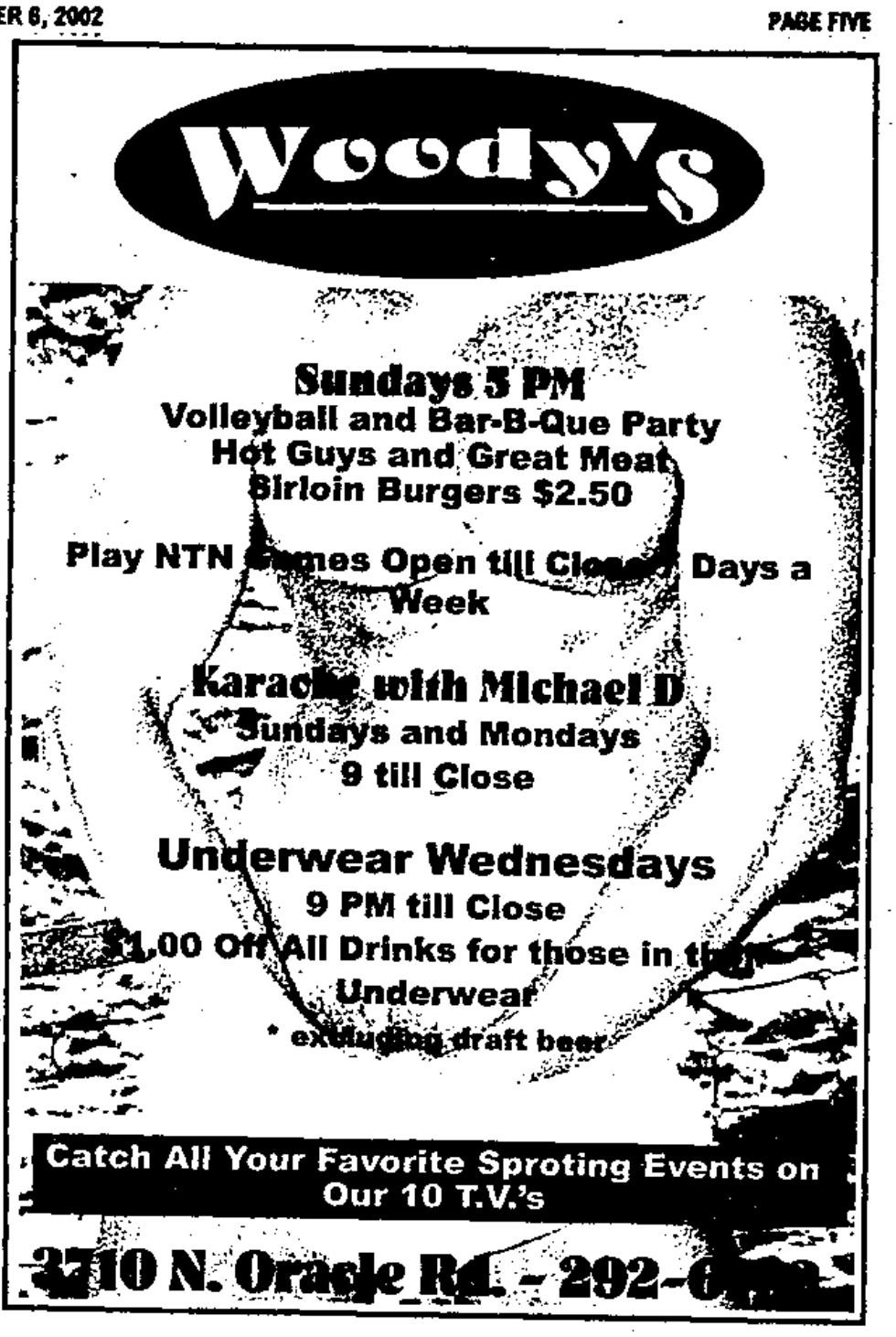
West Hollywood Man Beats Back Attackers

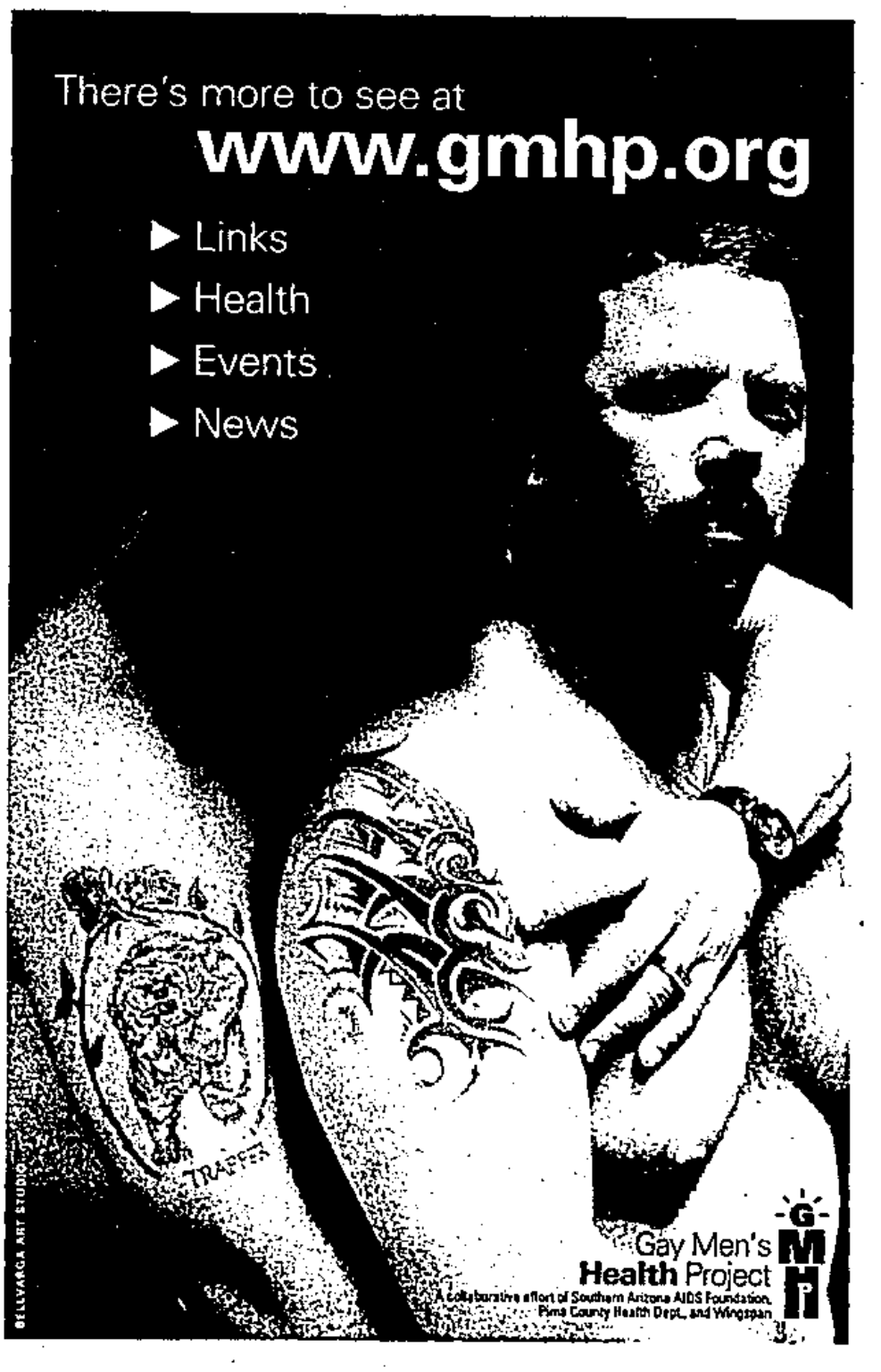
WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA - A Gay man turned the tables on two potential attackers when he stood up to their anti-Gay epithets and fought back as they tried to assault him, reported the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com network.

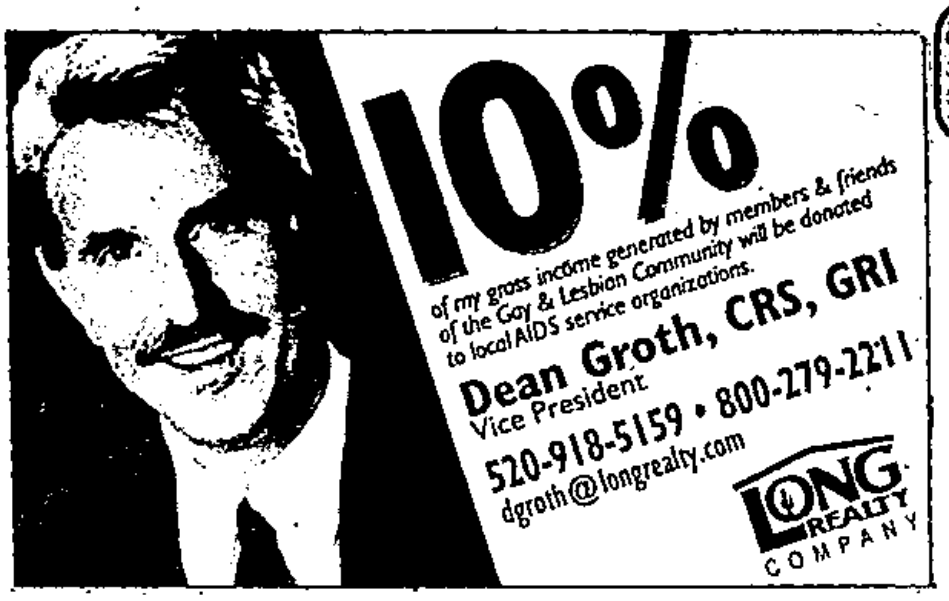
On the morning of Friday, October 25, two men, Fidel Serrano, 23, and Martin Hernandez, 21, were arrested for battery and the commission of a hate crime, after they tried to attack a Gay man outside a West Hollywood bar on Santa Monica Boulevard. The man, who has not been identified, fought back when Serrano and Hernandez jumped from their car and began hitting him in the face and head with their hands. In a surprise move, the victim struck Serrano, knocking him to the ground.

Serrano and Hernandez jumped back in their car and tried to flee, but were stopped by Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputies less than a block from the attack. Passersby who been harassed by the two men earlier in the evening had called police, so the deputies were already on the lookout for their car.

"Our community fought back and defended itself," openly Gay Sheriff's Deputy Don Mueller told the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com Network. "The Sheriff's Depart-







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POLITICS 2002

by Mark R. Kerr

'Election Day'

Writing a political column for a weekly publication, such as this, going to press on election night is probably the one of the worst things to do since in many cases, this reporter's included, attempts, usually in vain are made to come up with some purportedly different angle on the topic, making sure it doesn't end up being similar to the article covering the election results, and usually ends up just being the same but thank the heavens for Arizona elections, since with the outlying counties still to be tabulated and the "to be verified" ballots to be reviewed, we're not going to really know who won, if that term can be used, until next week's edition due to deadlines.

Political activity culminated, marking another season of campaigning. This season was marked by negativity taking precedent over the facts and most importantly, the political record. Gloss prevailed in many cases, in Arizona and across the nation.

So with all that bile over substance, the electorate tried to turn to the national media, print, Internet and television, for their news and most importantly, information on the political races, candidates, important issues and pertinent points on the respective ballot propositions, and got fed line by these "Stepford Wives," owned by Time-Warner, Viacom, GE, Gannett or Pulitzer, naming five of the few conglomerates controlling the national media and thanks to the public's "MTV thirty second attention span" they continue to get away with it.

But wait, isn't there a way to get the important details and facts still? Maybe not, since local outlets, such as newspapers and television weren't much help either, since they've apparently forgotten their purpose, reporting what happens for the public in a manner to allow them to render an opinion but who has one of those these days, just look at sales of SUV's.

Case in point, the Arizona Daily Star, who published the letter from the man who murdered the three UA college professors and then apologized the next day, announcing that they regretted doing that and then proclaiming in their Sunday, November 3 editorial that voters could proudly take the Star's list of recommendations for the political offices and leaving off a contested statewide race, State Mine Inspector, and when called on it by this reporter, stated the editorial board couldn't make a decision on it. Can we say they missed it? Nope, since it just didn't matter since it isn't important! To Hell it isn't! It's a political contest, part of an election, something that it supposed to be the fabric of this country!

Let us not forget about the local television media, most of these jokers are just trying to move on from the 71st rated market to a better job, better pay and most importantly, more air time! Regurgitation and filing dead air is the name of the game for the purported purveyors of all things important on the Tucson's idiot box channels. "How will being Arizona Attorney General be different than Mayor of Phoenix," Jennifer Reardon of KVOA-La-Dee-Dah's Eyewitless Snooze blathered at Terry Goddard, the only candidate whose election can be called on the night it was held, a novelty. Just one of the many Emmy-awarding winning moments that we suffered through in this campaign season.

Indeed, this article, column, or more aptly called, a major rant, is different from the article on the results, or the lack there of, in this week's edition. Plain and simple, the economy is in the crapper, people are losing their jobs and what was decided from this billion-dollar election, the last of its kind?

Not much but wait, Britney said something important on AOHell, let's go online and look and then go to a chatroom! Yahoo!

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

GENDER PRIDE BY JONI K. MAUSSE

J'Noel Gardiner did everything right. By the time she got married, she'd had her surgery and had legally been a woman for four years. Unfortunately her husband died unexpectedly in 1999, without a will. His son by a previous marriage then sued to gain his father's entire inheritance, on the basis that J'Noel had been born male. Amazingly, the Kansas Supreme Court agreed with him; they said that even though J'Noel had been married as a woman, and had been legally female for many years, she was "male for purposes of marriage."

J'Noel appealed to the U. S. Supreme Court. And what did the Supremes have to say to this widow whose grief at losing her husband was being compounded by being cheated out of his entire estate? Why, nothing; they turned their back on her and refused to consider her case. Maybe they prefer to spend their time overturning popular elections and choosing our political leaders for us.

There must be Lesbian transsexuals in Kansas. One of them ought to sue for the right to marry her girlfriend, since she's "male for purposes of marriage. To be consistent the Kansas Supreme Court ought to recognize such a Lesbian marriage. I doubt if they will, though. I think they really want to deny that transpeople have any legal rights at all.

Many transsexuals are in same-sex marriages that preceded their transition. They're rightly fearful that in the name of "defense of marriage" their marriages may be invalidated. Yet no one thought that even our heterosexual marriages might come under attack. So much for "family values."

The marriage issue is important to all GLBT people. Perhaps some gay people will in the end decide that marriage isn't for them, as many heterosexuals have. But straight couples are given a choice whether or not they want to be legally married. Until Queer people, all of us, are offered the same option, it's ludicrous to say we have equal rights.

While we're talking about getting the government off our backs, how about getting it out of our pants? Is it anyone's business but mine what is or isn't in my panties? If marriage is a human right, then it must be available to any two consenting adults, regardless of sex, gender, or previous status.

Wednesday, November 20 will be the Day of Remembrance for transpeople who have been victims of hate crimes. The candlelight vigil will be at 6:00 p.m. Meanwhile the Desert Girlz meet at 7:00 p.m. at Wingspan on Monday, November 11. The Desert Boyz meet on November 19, same time and place. Visit www.sagatucson.org for information. People are still needed to help with the AT Work project for equal employment rights: anzonaamanda@aol .com.

There will be Native American sweat lodge ceremonies for men, including transmen, on November 9 and December 7. For women, genetic and trans, the ceremony will be on November 23. Call (520) 690-0546 for information. You can reach me at jonikmausse@yahoo. com.

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¿Qué te ofrece Salud es Poder?

Salud es Poder es un proyecto de prevención del VHI/SIDA de la Fundación del SIDA del Sur de Arizona (SAAF por sus siglas en inglés). Salud es Poder es uno de los programas de prevención de más antigüedad dentro de SAAF. El trabajo del "Proyecto", como es conocido Salud es Poder dentro de la comunidad, enfoca su trabajo a los hombres latinos que tienen sexo con otros hombres y el campo de acción abarca Tucson, la zona metropolitana de Nogales y en algunas ocaciones Hermosillo, Sonora. Actualmente el Proyecto cuanta con tres personas de tiempo completo, Ernie Pérez, Rafael Vega y José Muñoz. Ernie es el gerente del Proyecto aportando ya más de diez años de experiencia, Rafal es especialista en abuso de sustancias y VIH y José es especialista en alcance y reclutamiento. Sin embargo, el Proyecto no puede hacer su trabajo sin tu participación y es ahí donde puedes encontrar lo que Salud es Poder te puede ofrecer.

La tarea principal de Salud es Poder es establecer programas de prevención de VIH y abuso de sustancias (drogas). Para esto, Salud es Poder patrocina una noche gay en el club nocturno Escándalo en el sur de la ciudad. Dentro del marco de esta noche gay, el proyecto pone una mesa de información sobre diversos temas de salud, reparte paquetes de sexo seguro, hace pruebas del VIH y sus trabajadores estan abiertos a cualquier tipo de preguntas sobre el VIH y uso de sustancias. En el marco de un show travesti en español, el Proyecto también busca acercarse a la comunidad con eventos especiales, como fiestas de aniversario, reconocimientos a los voluntarios así como graduacciones de las personas que han tomado alguno de los diversos entrenamientos que el Salud es Poder ofrece entre otras cosas. En Salud es Poder creemos que la mejor forma de acercarse a la comunidad es ofreciendo eventos sociales y bilingües y eso es lo que hacemos.

Salud es Poder también ofrece varios entrenaminetos sobre sexo seguro como forma de prevenir la infección del VIH. Estos entrenamientos son Compañero Líder Comunitario y Promesa Comunitaria. En estos entrenamientos que siempre son gratis y con los cuales puedes recibir un incentivo ya sea monetario o en especie, aprenderás diversos temas relacionados a la sexualidad gay, prevención de VIH y factores culturales que afectan tu forma de vida entre otros temas. Otra forma de participar en Salud es Poder es a travéz de ser voluntario del Proyecto. Como voluntario te comprometes a ayudar al Proyecto en los eventos especiales y a cambio de esto recibiras una tarjeta que te permite la entrada los jueves al Escándalo a mitad de precio, fiestas de reconocimiento y sobre todo la oportunidad de colaborar con tu participacón a la lucha para detener al VIH/SIDA en el Sur de Arizona y Norte de Sonora. Te invitamos a pertenecer hoy mismo al grupo de voluntarios y líderes del Proyecto. Para más información, alguna queja o sugerencia llama a Salud es Poder al teléfono (520) 628-7223 o por correo electrónico a salud@saaf.org

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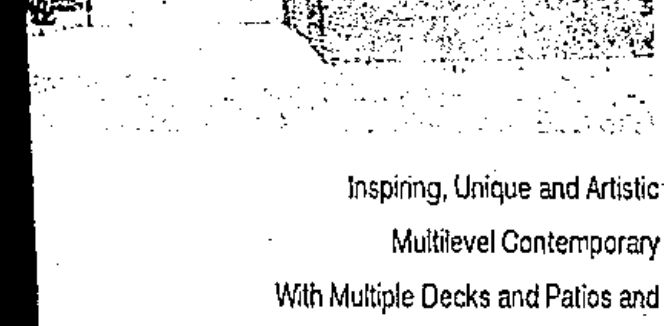
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NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE

by Lee Thorn

SNIPERS

There's a special sadness that attaches to the victims of the Washington DC area snipers, these victims who were randomly cut down while doing the mundane business of everyday living. Perhaps the sadness is special because there's nothing one can say in mitigation.

When a mountain climber falls to his death, his friends often say that he died doing what he loved. When a fireman dies in the line of duty, his friends say that he died a hero. But these victims died doing the things that we all do nearly every day, things so routine that half their thoughts were probably elsewhere, planning that night's dinner, remembering a conversation from earlier in the day, or maybe just daydreaming.

The special sadness of their deaths has a persistence that one willingly indulges. We're not in any hurry to be done with it. Let us be sad awhile.

Apart from the primacy and validity of our sadness, there are the lessons to be learned, the first of which is a repeat lesson from 9-11: We cannot fight terrorism on defense. It looks like these shooter were not connected to international terrorism, but there's no reason in principle why they couldn't have been.

In 9-11 an operation that might have cost one or two hundred thousand dollars to mount resulted in billions of dollars in damages. International terrorists could mount an operation like that of the DC shooters for thousands of dollars; the cost will be in the millions.

What we are calling "homeland security" may be a delusion that we simply can't afford. Our homeland is what the military calls a "target rich environment." The problem is that it's so rich in targets that we can't afford to protect them. In fact we can't afford to make more than a token effort to protect them.

The only affordable way to win the war on terrorism is going to be to take it to the home court of the terrorists. We stand a far better chance of being able to pay for several conventional wars in foreign countries than we have of being able to pay for terrorist attacks at home.

Forget about the math. Do the arithmetic. How much could one guy with one rifle and a box of bullets cost a metro area? The cost ratio is one dollar to several million. It's a ratio that no nation can sustain.

The other DC lesson is not a repeat of 9-11 – it's a new one: We cannot afford to let our emotions trump our intellect. In the DC metro area we had one team of shooters and several million potential targets. The chance of any given person getting shot on any given day was about the same as the chance of his winning the lottery. A rational assessment of the risk would have led to a refusal to close anything, cancel anything or change any schedules. An emotional assessment of the risk led to a lot of unnecessary, ineffective and costly dislocations of daily life.

What we've hopefully learned is that reacting with our emotions instead of our intellects kicks the costs of terrorism right through the roof This promises to be a long long war. We've got to start being cost conscious. That means we've got to start telling the Chicken Littles among us that the sky isn't falling and, even if it were, throwing money at the clouds isn't going to help the situation.

One hopeful sign was the responsibility shown by the media. They lacked restraint in harmless ways and showed it in what was important. On the harmless side, they put on all these experts who were about as expert as your snoozing hound. On the responsible side, they recognized, explicitly in many cases, that it was more important to stop the killing than it was to provide entertaining coverage of it.

It's too early to fully assess how the cops did. All those who were clamoring for the FBI to take the lead must have very short memories indeed. Judging the results at first blush, we may be lucky that the Bureau stayed in the background. At least that permitted Wen Ho Lee to rest easy.

[Thorn welcomes comments, suggestions for future columns, and tips on local skulduggery that ought to be exposed. Write to Box 85571, Tucson, AZ 85754.

WHAT MAKES OUR TOWN TICK?

(calabazamusic@yahoo.com) By Jerry D.

'Freedom For Our Children'

Hello readers!. I hope you all exercised your right to its fullest and voted yesterday. Too many times you will hear the cry of "its does not matter". There have been too many instances in history that will not only prove that wrong, but show that not caring leads to far worst circumstances. It is the primary function of the media to give light in places no one else will shed it. I hope everyone was informed in their decision, or at least convinced of the issue, no matter what the source.

I was caught in the middle of a discussion the other day and it gave me thought to this weeks article. At one of our local establishments, a circle of about 5 gentlemen participated in a forum that would make any talk show host jealous. In the span of about 1 hour, these folks were able to discuss a range of topics as wide as our cultures. From the situation in Iraq to the verdict on Wynonna Ryder, the comments and opinions shot out at a blinding rate. All of this and the circle of speakers never lost the beat on the drinks in front of them at the bar.

I am sure that when this country was in its infancy, there were similar discussions held. I can imagine in Philadelphia, around 1774, the level of fervor must have been just as intense. You can just see our founding fathers (women were I am sure in their own circles) sitting with their ale hitting their points. Human beings are few as species that can communicate in a binary manner, and we do take it to the ultimate level when we discuss topics that are close to the heart.

The discussion at the bar the other day was nothing more than a celebration of our freedom. We were all able to discuss, agree and sometimes disagree at the topics at hand. There are countries where such a situation would result in punishment. Anyone who has had the chance to visit one of these places will never complain about this countries freedoms. Our discussion was just a short extension of what those subjects were talking about in secret so long ago. Law has a funny way of being comprehended differently by everyone. Freedom on the other hand, is universally understood.

Long ago, a group of people decided to break away from what they felt was suppression and form their own solution in the form of a government. Now I know all of us learned all this already in grade school, but if we decide to forget or neglect that

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HOROSCOPES

BY C. LICHTENSTEIN

The Sun "conjuncts" chatty Mercury and flirty retro Venus this week. Our love missives become love bombs. The Sun's influence can make us erudite or (more likely) have us place a smelly foot directly in mouth. Before we add foot fetish to our list of love styles, read ahead to see how the Sun, Mercury and Venus clash sets the stage.

ARIES
MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

Oh what a tangled web we weave when the Sun conjuncts unsettled Venus and flinty Mercury. Proud Rams can foul up an otherwise delightful fling if they descend into their innate bully, pully tendencies with lovers. Lovers may play hard to get and hard to hold rather than just plain hard. Use your mouth for more stimulating pursuits than whining about your hard luck.

TAURUS
APRIL 21 - MAY 21

When there's no more to be said to partners, you'll utter one last inappropriate word. Pray for a sound of silence when the Sun conjuncts Mercury and Venus. Queer Bulls must tread carefully in relationships now when social niceties may be desirable but difficult. This can also be a time of personal revelations about partnerships. Don't make any final decisions this week.

GEMINI
MAY 22 - JUNE 21

Pink Twins find themselves worked down to a nubby stub this week with relatively little recognition or reward. Others notice, but their observations get lost in the static of Sun conjunct Venus and Mercury. Avoid wasting your time on less than important projects this week while the real time bombs tick away. Prioritize before they scrape you off the sidewalk.

CANCER
JUNE 22 - JULY 23

Fun may be much more trouble than it's worth when the Sun faces off with nervous Mercury and retro Venus. Behind every wildly Gay time is a stern moral lesson. Goody. Gay Crabs ache to tap their Gay muse and let loose creatively, but instead of profiterols they'll have to settle for a dish of lukewarm tapioca. There's always next week to become the diva of your desires.

LEO
JULY 24 - AUGUST 23

Proud Lions may even enjoy the raucous conjunction between their ruling Sun, retro Venus and chatty Mercury. Careful consideration on any family or home related matters may come into the fore this week so put on your thinking cap and give it your best. Speak queerly and carefully so you are not misunderstood. Open a few closet doors and toss out the ancestral debris.

VIRGO
AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23

The cries for "Speech! speech!" are heard. Will you heed the call? If so, prepare your notes carefully and let some other hack write the copy. Queer Virgins are best served by relying on others to put words in their mouths this week. But read and review before you bleat; you may inadvertently grab a copy of the latest Wildmon screed. What a scene that would cause!

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23

The bears are running Wall Street and Gay Libras think they are hunting bear. Of course, with the Sun conjuncting Mercury and retro Venus this week, your call to your broker may get transferred to personnel. Avoid any nasty legal entanglements by yelling "I want to buy some Playboy" to the unidentified voice on the other end. Of course, you could also get very lucky.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22

Gay Scorps find themselves in the unenviable position of being the center of attention this week when the Sun slams Mercury and retro Venus. Listen to a little sage advice and try not to boss the social course or become Gay Duce. Of course, typical Scorps don't often take advice. If you're typical, you can make a solid first impression at this time. Don't forget to flush.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22

Cosmic debris from your closet swirls in front of you when the Sun conjuncts Mercury and retrograde Venus. Queer Archers can take a shovel to these pieces of trash now despite the painful memories that may emerge. Things may be said that cannot be stopped or returned but, in the final analysis, a miserable roadblock to affirmation is smashed. Plow through, cousin!

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20

Gay Caps pride themselves on being socially adept and unremittingly polite. Now, as the Sun faces off with Mercury and retrograde Venus, you could find yourself in a string of one way conversations. (so don't wait for answers...) Pals may be turned off by your idle chit chatter, but try to be patient and forgiving. Use the optimistic Sunny tour de force to keep your sunny side up.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19

Your best ideas may not receive the attention they deserve when the Sun conjuncts zesty Mercury and Venus. Don't despair Aqueerian; the planets are telling you to be a bit more discerning with those whom you share your best sparks of genius. Sometimes you have been known to toss perfectly lovely pearls before abject swine. Live and learn, friend; Conquer 'em tomorrow.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

Planning for a much awaited vacation may not be in your best interest this week, Guppie. Wait until the conjunction between the Sun, retro Venus and impatient Mercury passes before you plunk down your hard earned dough on a reservation. Otherwise you could be booking the cruise to hell. Next week however, it's a different story; pack a toothbrush and get cruising!

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Morning Worship Service - 10:30 am
Wednesday Night Bible Study - 6:00 pm

"For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."
John 3:16

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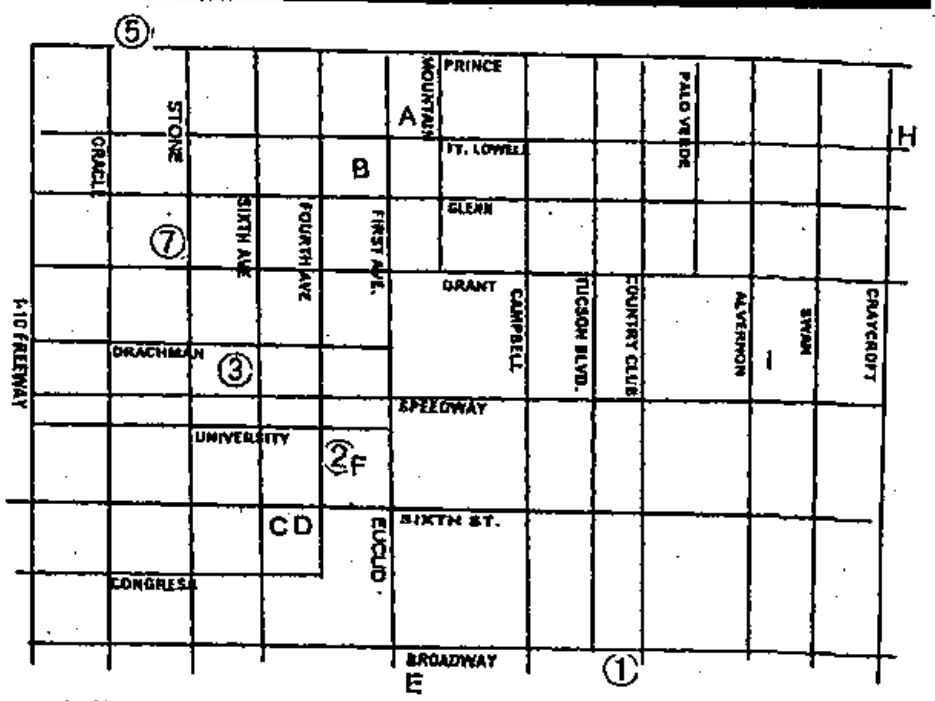

1. AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - 2900 E. Broadway 318-4838
2. IBT'S - 616 N. 4th Ave. 882-3053
3. VENTURE-N - 1239 N. 6th Ave. 882-8224
5. WOODY'S - 3710 N. Oracle Road, 292-6702
7. YARD DOG - 2449 N. Stone, 624-3858

A. METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH
3269 N. Mountain - 292-9151
B. CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP
2902 N. Geronimo - 622-4626
C. DESERT PRIDE - Gifts, Videos, etc.
300 . 6th St. - 388-9829
D. WINGSPAN - 300 E. 6th St. - 624-1779
E. S.A.A.F. - 375 S. Euclid Ave. - 628-7223
F. RAINBOW PLANET COFFEE HOUSE
606 N. 4th Ave. - 620-1770
H. TUCSON TRUNK - Gifts, Cards, etc.
5605 E. River Road. - 529-5309
I. TIHAN -Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network
492 N. Alvernon, 299-6647

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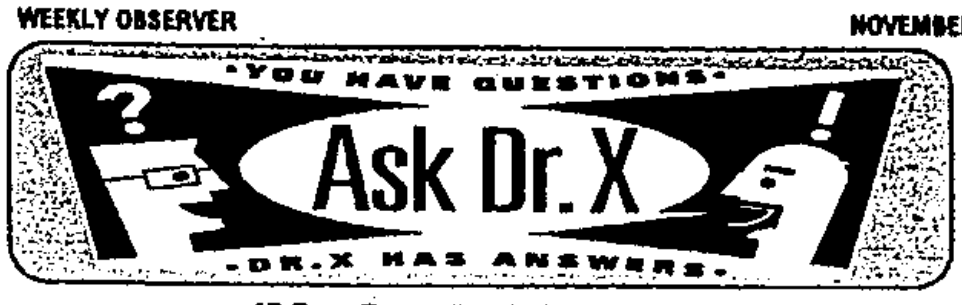

'My So-Called Life'

As a quiet observer, I tried to figure out what was expected of me in this new reality that I had walked into. Was this the place that I belonged? My wrists were not limp enough and I certainly was far too tall for drag. Besides, I never could master the attitude and sneered lip of those prominent drag queens of the time. Each time I attempted major attitude by throwing my head back with my nose high in the sky, my nose would bleed or my neck would go out, so I guess that one's out!

The more I tried to find my way, the more I realized that I was not alone. So many men were trying to figure out which path they were supposed to take, afraid they would choose the wrong one. I saw others sitting on the side lines exhausted from trying to figure out the answer to that same million-dollar question. They had given up the madness. I saw the emptiness in their eyes that made them void of any sense of self, empty vessels and lost hopes.

Along my journey, I ventured into RingGold Alley in San Francisco and a bar called Boot Camp. The bartenders were pillars of gods from the Greek era with 3% body fat, wearing nothing but leather G-strings, boots, and big metal chains around their necks. This totally helped to glorify the 225 lbs. of solid muscle they flaunted behind their bushy mustaches. Their hairy chests, which were the size of a small mountain range, dripped of sweat and your saliva. If you tipped enough, you too could climb the mountain of muscle and slide down its slopes with your tongue. As you looked around, you could see and hear leather slings snapping against its metal chains as body parts of one went into body parts of another. Parts that were never meant to venture, but did. The smell of sweat, lube, cigarette smoke, and urine-stained bathtub stuck to your skin like very bad cologne you never wanted to try.

I stumbled into some land mines called "relationships." I was the king of bad judgment and in denial of reality. So now, with more than my share of emotional/mental scrapes, scars and bruises, but spending many hours at the local gym, it was time to do things for myself, to forge my own reality (so I thought). To be continued...

SPORTS

DESERT COYOTES LEAGUE STANDINGS

	Won	Lost
Sofa King Sleazy	39.0	17.0
3-4 Buddocks Luv	32.0	24.0
Public Trough	32.0	24.0
2 Dicks No Peter	30.0	26.0
Itchy Balls	30.0	26.0
The Nutz	30.0	26.0
Aces Over Queens	28.0	28.0
One Is Two Ain't	27.0	29.0
ToledoDeJaneiro	24.0	32.0
Pseudovirgins	24.0	32.0
Mama's Boys	21.0	35.0
Team Sex	19.0	37.0

SEASON ACHIEVEMENTS

High Average: Erick J., 207; JoAnn S., 168; ToledoDeJaneiro, 562.

High Series Scratch: Erick J., 749; Heather H., 572; ToledoDeJaneiro, 1795.

High Game Scratch: Erick J., 300; Heather H., 229; Mama's Boys, 663.

High Series Handicap: Jason B., 782; Heather H., 734; 2 Dicks No Peter, 2073.

High Game Handicap: Erick J., 309; Heather H., 283; Mama's Boys, 788.

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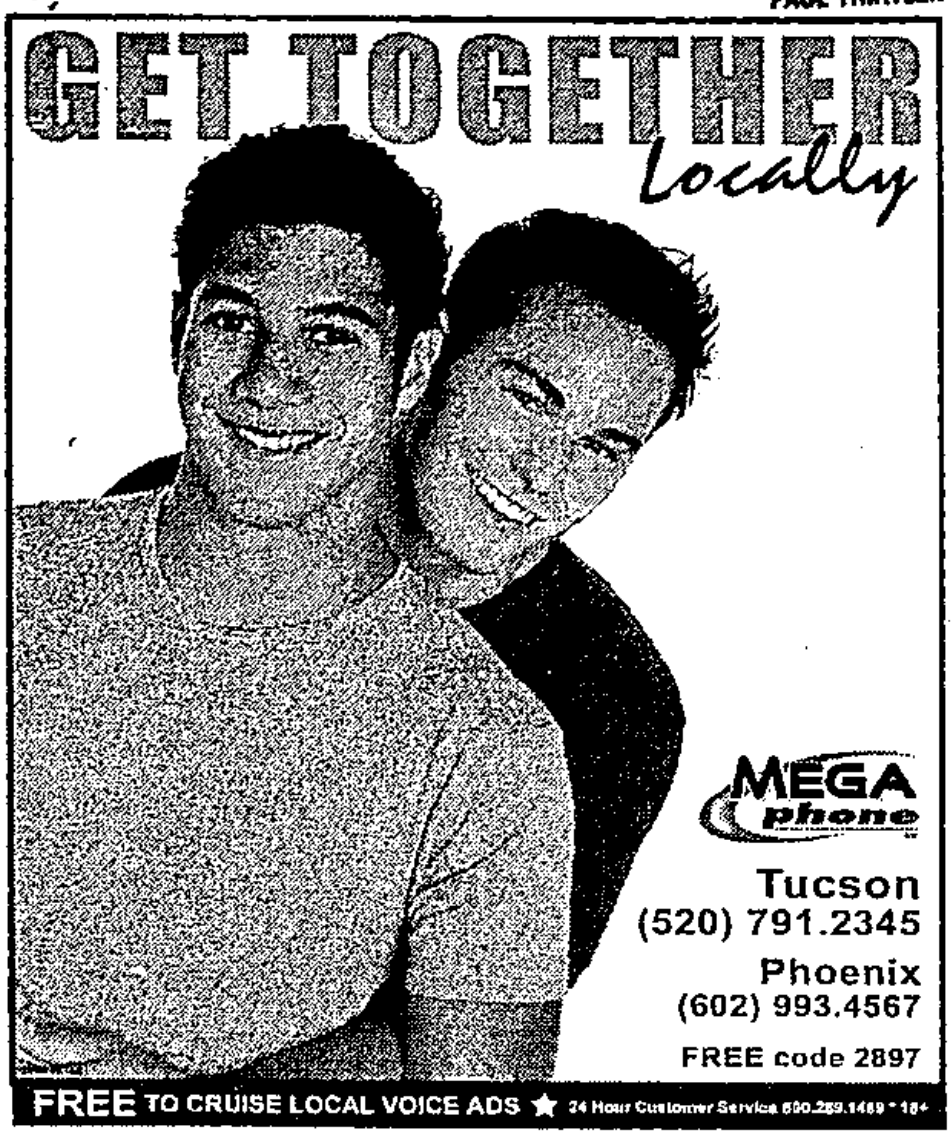

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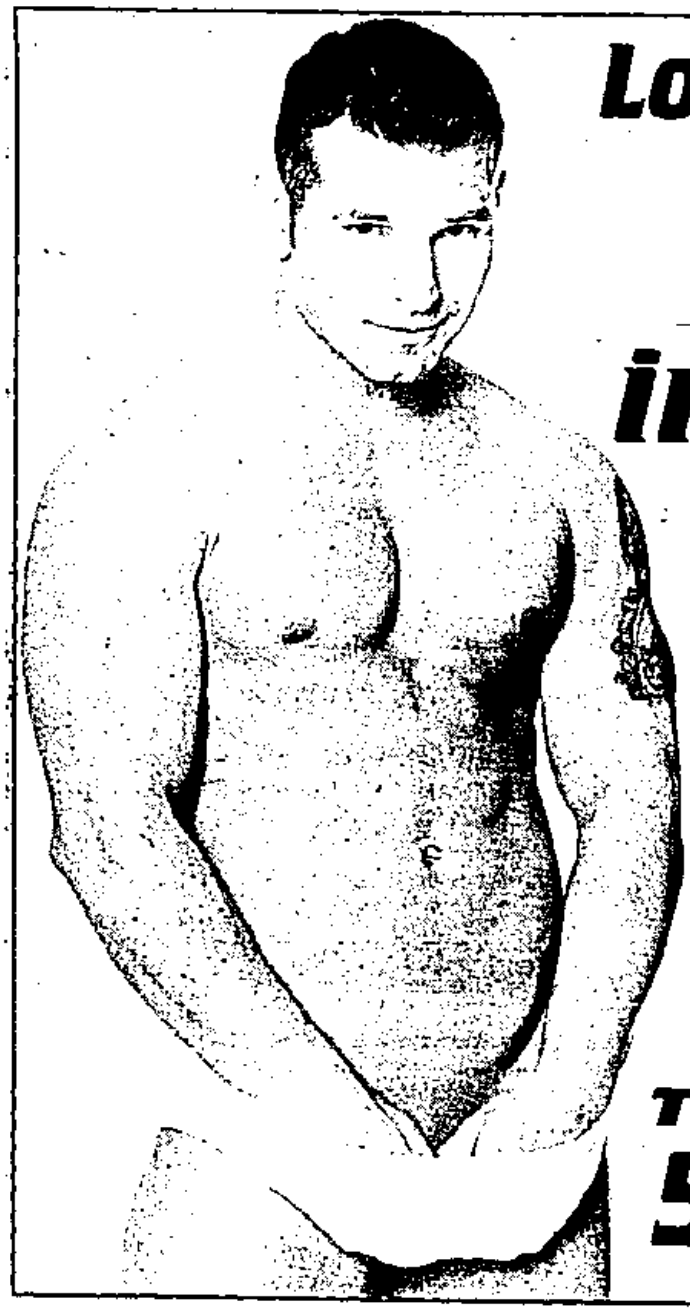
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NON-BAR CALENDAR
GROUPS / CLUBS / ORGANIZATIONS

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6
Tucson Prime Timers, Video Night - 7:00 P.m. Non pornographic movies with Gay themes are shown. Phone: 740-0620 - David Eyde

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Marty for MSN's new Canasta Club. If you don't know how to play, we'll be glad to teach you. For reservations and directions, please call Marty at 722-8531.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7
A Men's Fellowship Group starts at 7:00 p.m. at the Water of Life MCC. All men are invited to come and your expand your relationship with God. You need not be a church member to participate. For more information call (520) 292-9151

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8
Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. T. Jay hosts Hearts Night-an evening devoted to an old favorite card game. For reservations and directions, please call T. Jay at 881-7919.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9
Tucson Prime Timers, Food & Drinks- 5:00 P.m. Woody's 3710 N. Oracle Rd., N. of Prince Rd. Phone: 622-1835

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 9:00 a.m. Join Jack for a morning of tennis. For directions, please call Jack at 881-5733.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 1:00 p.m. Jay hosts a fascinating tour of the Titan Missile Museum. For reservations and more information, please call Jay at 624-5304.

#3. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Marv will host Pinochle Night. If you don't know how to play, but would like to learn, this is the place. For more information, please call Marv at 745-0304.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10
Tucson Prime Timers, Dinner — 6:00 P.m. Maxims, 6940 E. Broadway & Kolb.

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 2:00 p.m. Terry hosts an afternoon devoted to the card game Uno. For directions and reservations, please call Terry at 577-2396.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11
Tucson Prime Timers, Lunch - 1:00 P.m. The Wildcat House, 1800 N. Stone Ave., S. of Grant Rd. Phone: 622-1835

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 6:00 p.m. The Triangle Tribe is a support group that helps you deal with yourself and your relationships with others. For directions and reservations, please call Tom at 318-1650.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12
#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Chris for an evening out at Rainbow Planet. This is a chance to have a cup of coffee and chat with the men of MSN. For directions or more info, please call Chris at 304-5814.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Perry hosts Bridge Night. If you're a beginner or an old pro, this is the place to meet for an evening of bridge for fun. For reservations and directions, please call Perry at 321-4387.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13
Tucson Prime Timers, Video Night - 7:00 P.m. Non pornographic movies with Gay themes are shown. Phone: 740-0620 - David Eyde

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join the guys for a Dinner Out at one of the best and most authentic Asian restaurants. Jorge invites you to join him at the Golden Phoenix. For reservations and directions, please call Jorge at 218-5856.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. The Canasta Club meets to play this fun card game. If you don't know how to play, we'll teach you. For directions and reservations, please call Karol at 744-9017.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14
A Men's Fellowship Group starts at 7:00 p.m. at the Water of Life MCC. All men are invited to come and your expand your relationship with God. You need not be a church member to participate. For more information call (520) 292-9151.

9:30 p.m. The Men's Relationship Group meets that includes a video on tantra. A great way to meet new men and make friends. Have some clean fun. Fee. Call Marc 881-4582 to reserve a place.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15
Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Jerry & Les as they host Pizza Night. For only $5, you get pizza, salad, drinks and desserts. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry or Les at 690-9565.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16
#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 9:00 a.m. Join Jack for a morning of Volleyball. This is played for fun, and you'll get to know some nice guys as you play. For details and directions, please call Jack at 881-5733.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Bill will host Pinochle Night. If you don't know how to play, but would like to learn, this is the place. For more information, please call Bill at 297-3569.

Bar Calendar
of Upcoming Events

FRI-SAT-SUN-MON, NOV. 8-9-10-11
VENTURE-N - It's "Pet Watch" weekend here. Activities all weekend will raise funds for Pet Watch. Pet Watch provides veterinary care for pets of PWAs in our community. Plus on Saturday the bar will open at 6:00 a.m.!!!

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8
AINT NOBODYS' BIZ - Latin Night with DJ Hill. Music from 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. No Cover. $1.50 Tequila Shots and $2.50 Tequila Sunrise. Drink specials every half hour.

IBT'S - Halloween video will be shown on the big screen at 6:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10
IBT'S - Party line-up includes Sean and Dennis' Recovery Bar from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. $1.75 Bloody Marys, Screwdrivers or Mimosas. Sangria Special every Sunday. Karaoke with Michael D. on the patio from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., Benefit Bar-B-Que / Beer Bust from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. This weeks proceeds go to TIHAN. Then at 9:00 p.m., a special Sunday show hosted by Lucinda Holliday starring Ajia Simone, Chanti Jordan and Lady Ashley. After the show dance with IBT's new DJ Dr. Who playing progressive - underground and house. Party! Halloween Videos shown on the big screen at 6:00 P.M..

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11
IBT'S - Halloween Video will be shown on the big screen t 6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13
IBT'S - 9:00 p.m. "DivaLicious" Show hosted by Lucinda Holliday and starring Janee Starr, Bunny FuFu and Diana Flair.

#3. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Bill hosts the continuing saga of the Fisher family in "Six Feet Under". For reservations and directions, please call Bill at 546-7539.

Tucson Prime Timers, Lunch/Business Meeting - 12:00 Noon Home Town Buffet, 5101 N. Oracle Rd., N. of River Rd. Phone: 622-1835

Tucson Prime Timers, Food & Drinks - 5:00 P.m. Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd., N. of Oracle Rd. Phone: 622-1835

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17
3:45 - 6:00 p.m. The Men's Massage Group meets. A great way to meet new men and make friends. Fee. Call Marc 881-4582.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18
Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 6:00 p.m. The Triangle Tribe is a support group that helps you deal with yourself and your relationships with others. For directions and reservations, please call Tom at 318-1650.

Tucson Prime Timers, Lunch - 1:00 P.m. The Wildcat House, 1800 N. Stone Ave., S. of Grant Rd. Phone: 622-1835

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19
Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Chris for an evening out at Rainbow Planet. This is a chance to have a cup of coffee and chat with the men of MSN. For directions or more info, please call Chris at 304-5814.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20
Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. The Canasta Club meets to play this fun card game. If you don't know how to play, we'll teach you. For directions and reservations, please call Karol at 744-9017.

Tucson Prime Timers, Video Night - 7:00 P.m. Non pornographic movies with Gay themes are shown. Phone: 740-0620 - David Eyde

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22
#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join us as we get out our monthly 10-page newsletter. It simple, and you get a chance to meet new guys as we assemble the newsletter. The work goes quickly, and is usually done with 45 minutes. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-9565.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:30 p.m. Jerry & Les host the continuing saga of the Fisher family in "Six Feet Under". For reservations and directions, please call Jerry or Les at 690-9565.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23
#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 9:00 a.m. Join Jack for a morning of tennis. For directions, please call Jack at 881-5733.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 9:00 a.m. Bill hosts a hike to the top of Wasson Peak in the Tucson Mountains. This would be a moderate to difficult hike. For reservations, directions on where to meet, and more information, please call Bill at 297-3569.

#3. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Karol will host Pinochle Night. If you don't know how to play, but would like to learn, this is the place. For more information, please call Karol at 744-9017.

1. Tucson Prime Timers, Breakfast — 9:00 A.m. Blue Willow, 2616 N. Campbell Ave.

2. Tucson Prime Timers, Food & Drinks - 5:00 P.m. Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd., N. of Prince Rd. Phone: 622-1835

Daily Bar Calendar

Sunday
AINT NOBODY'S BIZ - Open 2pm. Beer Bust 5-10, $1.25 pitchers Bud or Bud Light. Latin Music with DJ Hill 9pm to close. Drink & Shot specials all night.

IBT's - - 10am-8pm $1.75 Bloodys, Screws or Mimosas.. Sangria Party $2.50 from 4-1 Benefit B-B-Q and Beer Bust for community organizations 5:30-8pm. Karaoke with Michael D. on the patio 4:30-7:30. 6:30 shows or special events or Hi energy dancing w/DJ Dr. Who. (Call for details). All drink specials not available during special events.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio open 3pm. Daily special til 7pm. Patio Beer bust 3-7. Burger Bar-B-Que 5-7. (Donation only).

WOODY'S - Open 11am. $1.50 Bloody Marys, screwdrivers, Mimosas; Happy Hour 11am-8pm $2 well or domestic beer Patio Bar open 5-close. Pick-up Volleyball games 5-7. $2.50 sirloin burger or chicken 5-9pm. Karaoke with Michael D. 9pm

YARD DOG - Open Sundays 10am - 1am. Bloody Marys or Screwdrivers $1.75 from 10am - 1pm. 50¢ off any Rum 1pm-7pm. Dinner and live jazz 5-8pm. Kennel open daily at 5pm.

Monday
AINT NOBODY'S BIZ - Open 2pm. Happy Hour Two-For-One domestics and well 2-7pm. Free pool 8-10pm. 50¢ cups draft Bud & Bud Light 6pm to close.

IBT's - Open 11am. Happy Hours 11am-8pm, $2 domestic beer and well. 4-9pm. Hot dance with DJ Rayman Undie Mondie- Happy Hour prices for those in their undies 9pm-close. Queer As Folk shown beginning at 8pm. All drink specials not available during special events.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio 5pm. Daily specials til 7pm

WOODY'S - Open Noon. $2 well or domestic beer til 8pm. Karaoke w/Michael D. 9pm to close.

YARD DOG - Open daily 8am. 50¢ off any Scotch until 7pm. Kennel open daily at 5pm.

Tuesday
AINT NOBODYS BIZ - Open 2pm. Happy Hour Two-For-One domestic beer & well 2-7pm. Pool tourney 7:30pm. $3 entry, bar matches pot. Country music 9pm to close. $2 bottled Bud products 8pm to close.

IBT's - Open 11am. Happy Hours 11am-8pm, $2 domestic beer and well. 4-9pm. Tee's & Tattoo Nite, wear an IBT's T-shirt or IBT tattoo get happy hour prices 9 to close, or buy an IBT's T-shirt for $5 and get a complimentary drink. House Hi-Nergy Dance 9pm to close W/DJ-Q

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio 5pm. Daily specials til 7pm.

WOODY'S - Open Noon. $2 well or domestic til 8pm. Tropical drink specials 8 to close. $3 zombies, Jungle Juice, Mai Tai's .

YARD DOG - Open daily 8am. 50¢ off any Tequila until 7pm Kennel open daily at 5pm.

Wednesday
AINT NOBODY'S BIZ - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2-4-1 domestic beer and well from 2-7pm. 90s retro music 9pm - close. $1.25 pitchers of Bud/Bud Light or $1 Tequila shots 8pm to close.

IBT's - Open 11am. Happy Hours 11am-8pm, $2 domestic beer and well. 9pm "Diva-Licious" show w/Lucinda Holliday and guests. HiNRG Dancing with DJ-Q. All drink specials not available during special events.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio 5pm. Daily specials til 7pm.

WOODY'S - Open Noon. $2 well or domestic beer til 8pm. Volleyball games start 7pm. Underwear- fetish- leather nite with Michael $1 off your favorite drink. Chili dogs or bowls $1.

YARD DOG - Open daily 8am. 50¢ off any Vodka until 7pm Kennel open daily at 5pm.

Thursday
AINT NOBODY'S BIZNESS -Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2-7pm with 2-4-1 domestic beer and well. Karaoke 9-close, with $2 Kamikazees and $1 Hot Sex.

IBT's - Open 11am. Happy Hours 11am-8pm, $2 domestic beer and well. 4-9. Retro 80s Dance w/Jonathan Hi NRG dancing 9-1 All drink specials not available during special events.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio open 5pm. Daily special til 7pm. Pool Tournament 7pm. 3 entry. (Special prices for players).

WOODY'S - Open Noon. $2 well or domestic beer til 8pm. Trivia Thursday 8pm-close plus 50¢ off all Big Ass drinks. Top scores on NTN game wins special prizes. Free Pool 8 to close. Volleyball Court is Open. See bartender.

YARD DOG - Open daily 8am. 50¢ off any Bourbon til 7pm. Kennel open daily at 5pm.

Friday
AINT NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2-7pm with 2-4-1 domestic beer and well. Music with DJ Hill 9pm - close. Shot and drink specials all night. No cover.

IBT's - Open 11am. Happy Hours 11am-8pm, $2 domestic beer and well. Live Jazz on the patio with the Susan 6-9pm. Patio Bar 5-1pm. Dance Party 9 to 1. All drink specials not available during special events.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio open 5pm. Daily special til 7pm. Happy Hour Buffet 5-7pm.

WOODY'S - Open Noon. $2 well or domestic beer til 8pm. Martini Party - Well Martini's $2.00 all day. Call Martinis $3 from 4pm to close. Volleyball Court is Open. Patio Bar Open 7pm - midnight.

YARD DOG - Open daily 8am. 50¢ off any Gin until 7pm. Kennel open daily at 5pm.

Saturday
AINT NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Open at 2pm. Pool Tournament 6:30pm $3 entry. Bar matches pot. $2 pitchers for pool players. DJ Hill 9pm-close. Drink & Shot Specials all night.

IBT's - 10am-8pm $2 domestic beer and well. Dance Party 9-1 w/DJ-Q. All drink specials not available during special events.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio Bar open at 3pm. Daily special til 7pm. Patio Beer Bust 3-7pm.

WOODY'S - Open 11am $2 well or domestic beer. Til 8pm. Happy Hour 4-9pm. $1.75 well or domestics. Patio Bar opens 5pm. 5-9pm Filet Mignon or Swordfish BBQ with all the trimmings $5.

YARD DOG - Open daily 8am. Beer Bust 3-7pm. 75¢ glass, $2.25 pitcher. 50¢ off any Rum 1pm to 7pm. Kennel open 5pm

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NOTICES

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION (SAAF), 375 S. EUCLID. Office Hours 8am to 5pm, Monday through Friday. Direct services and emotional support for persons with and effected by HIV. Anonymous HIV testing and support groups available. Prevention education programs. 628-SAAF (7223). World wide web http://www.saaf.org. VOLUNTEERS WELCOME.

LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP. Involving discussion, support and activities. Designed to support each other. Meets 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month from 6:30 to 8pm. Alternate Saturdays the group meets for social activities. For info call Dorian Easly. 682-7723 Facilitator.

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.

TUCSON GLBT AL-ANON GROUP meets Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th Street. Call 624-1779 for more information.

YOUNG AND GAY?
GLBT Youth 23 and under, meet every Saturday in Tucson for sharing, support and information. Meetings are held at 300 E. 6th Street from 3 to 4:30 pm. You are not alone. For more info call Wingspan, 624-1779.

The TUCSON Chapter of PRIME TIMERS WORLDWIDE 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 690-4613, 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 Thursday (open to all), 6:00 p.m. Information 624-1779.

RAINBOW SUPPORT GROUP: LGBT and supportive friends - meet for open discussions in a loving, supportive atmosphere. Support meetings are the 2nd and 4th Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:00 pm at St. Francis in the Foothills Church, Swan and River Road, Room 42. The 3rd Thursdays of the month, the group will meet at 7:30pm at Rainbow Planet Coffeehouse (606 North 4th Ave.) as a social outing. For more information call the church at 299-9063 and ask for a contact person.

HIKE & BIKE DYKES. Meets 2nd Monday at 7pm. Call 327-7239 for info.

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

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

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. 578-9020

BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO -- a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, Call the Bears Hotline (520)790-5775 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910 or visit our website at www.botop.com All are welcome to our general meetings/potlucks on the 2nd Friday of every month, 7pm at Sentinel Bldg. On the City of Tucson Resource Campus, 310 N. Commerce Park Loop on Bonita St. between St. Marys and Congress.

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 at 888-5541

LESBIAN AND GAY AL-ANON - Affected by someone's drinking? Meeting every Tuesday 8:45 to 9:45 p.m. at Lambda Center, 2940 E. Thomas, Phoenix. Exit 581-8850 or Room 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 Leo at 624-6788.

GUYS BOOK CLUB meets 4th Tuesday of each month at 7pm, Rainbow Plane: Coffee House, 606 N. 4th Ave.

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.

COME EXPLORE YOUR SPIRITUALITY! St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church offers a variety of Gay and Lesbian groups and services for the spiritually minded. Come meet the Phamily! For more information call Debbie 579-9827 or David 323-7943.

LESBIAN/GAY WRITERS: Workshop at 7:00 p.m. third Wednesday of every month. Read and critique current projects. Network and support. For info call 325-4737.

DESERT VOICES, Tucson's Gay & Lesbian Chorus rehearses Monday evenings from 6:30 to 9:30pm at Armory Park Senior Center, 220 S. 6th Ave. Call 791-9662.

Join the LESBIAN & GAY PUBLIC AWARENESS PROJECT. In Tucson write Awareness Project, 3661 N. Campbell Ave. #365, Tucson, AZ 85719.

AA Meeting with HIV/AIDS focus, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., MCC Church, 3269 N. Mountain. All alcoholics welcome.

MEN'S SOCIAL NETWORK Social organization for men of all ages. Building an extended Gay family in Tucson. Monthly social potluck gatherings the first Saturday of each month and almost weekly social activities. Call Jerry at 690-9565 for information and a newsletter. Check the Non-Bar Calendar in the Observer.

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 299-6647.

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT SPORTS TEAMS and updates on Gay Games 2002, contract TEAM ARIZONA at their website: teamarizona.org

ARE YOU GAY OR BISEXUAL AND UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE? The Gay Young Man'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 628-7223.

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 615-6436 for more info.

TUCSON PRIDE, INC. (Formerly Tucson Lesbian and Gay Alliance - TLGA) meets on the second Tuesday at 645 S. Craycroft Road at 7pm. Tucson Pride produces Pride events: Pride Week, Gay West and OUTOberFEST. Inquiries about support groups and individual needs should be directed to Wingspan and other local agencies listed here. For more information call 622-3200 or visit the TPI website at www.tucsonpride.com

LEARN TO BE A LISTENING FRIEND Unique Hospital Volunteer Program teaches listening skills to Volunteers who provide a safe/compassionate environment to at-risk patients. Training every 6 weeks. 694-7063.

TUCSON GREATER SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION. Interested? Call Kelly Quinn, (520)742-7895 or go to our web site http://www.tgsasoftball.org

TUCSON INTERFAITH HIV/AIDS NETWORK (TIHAN), a coalition of faith communities committed to a compassionate response to HIV/AIDS, 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.

LESBIAN/GAY/BI-SEXUAL OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Saturdays 1 to 2pm new location Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. Contacts 325-6676 or 327-4293.

ANONYMOUS HIV COUNSELING AND TESTING is available through the Pima County Health Department at sites throughout Tucson, Very Gay Friendly. For more information or to make an appointment call 791-7676.

GRACE GROUP - CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 2nd and 4th Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the Madonna Hall at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 1430 N. Campbell across from University Hospital. For more info. Call Anabel at 325-0892

SMART (Self Management And Recovery Training) a free non-12-step self-help alternative for people working to overcome addictive and other emotional problems meets in Tucson Monday thru Thursdays at different locations. For more information about SMART, contact Jennifer at 792-4607, Ext 398

SENIORRAP, a discussion group for older LGBTs, meets from 3 to 5pm on the last Sunday of every month at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. For more info call 640-0620

NOTICES

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE CLINIC provided daily by the Pima County Health Department. Gay friendly. Confidential. Treatment and Medication too! Any questions? Call 624-8272

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

OUTLOUD! Tucson's premiere Local Lesbian and Gay Radio Show, broadcast every Wednesday at 6:03 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 888-6010 before 10:00 p.m. The group dines out and attends shows or movies. Now in their 16th year! (2nd in Tucson).

SOUTHERN ARIZONA GENDER ALLIANCE (SAGA). Meetings on the 1st Monday, 7pm. Dezert Girlz (MTF) Meets 2nd Monday at 7pm. Dezert Boyz meets 3rd Tuesday at 7pm. of every month. All meetings take place at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. Call 624-1779 for more info. SAGAEmail@aol.com http://members.aol.com/sagaemail

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP FOR ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLES. Not a dating club. Discreet. Meetings every Monday evening. Call for more info. APEX (Arizona Power Exchange) 602-415-1123, 24-hr multi-choice message including information, calendar and location.

ARIZONA AIDS POLICY ALLIANCE (AZAPA) seeks to educate legislators and citizens about sound AIDS policy. For more information write AZAPA, 6523 N. 14th St., #112, Phoenix, AZ 85014 or call 602-279-4805.

DESERT DOMINION TUCSON'S 100% CONSENSUAL, Pan-Fetish, Pan-Sexual, Informational, Educational. Safe Space for the B&D, S&M, D&S and TV community. For more info call (520)792-6424 or http://www.desertdominion.org

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

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)

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

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. Reaching out to Parents and Families. For more info call Doc or Barbara 293-6624.

SAA (Sex Addicts Anonymous) has 5 meetings a week in Tucson. People who wish to stop their compulsive sexual behavior, please call (520)570-1225 for current information.

LUTHERANS CONCERNED -- Tucson chapter for Gay/Lesbian Lutherans meets 3rd Sunday, 6:30 p.m. each month at Santa Cruz Lutheran Church, 6809 S. Cardinal Ave. For information visit www.lctucson.org write: LC, 7014 E. Golf Links Road, PMB 212, Tucson, AZ 85730.

ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIPS: Confidential individual or group support for Gay, Bisexual or Trans men who are victims/survivors of domestic violence. For more information call 624-0348 (24-hour line)

REVEILLE GAY MEN'S CHORUS rehearses Tuesdays 7-10pm at MCC Church, 3269 N. Mountain. Have any history/ experience singing? Join us!! Call 617-3100 for more info.

TGNetArizona: The central source for news and information for, by and about the TS, TG, and Gender-variant communities of Arizona. Website URL: http://www.tgnetarizona.org - e-mail address: algoodrum@uswest.net org

"OUT ON THE TRAILS" - EQUESTRIAN FUN!
Rider Club forming. Looking for women and men to ride together on the trails of Southern Arizona. Must have own horse, truck and trailer. For more info write: "Out On The Trails" P.O. Box 44045, Tucson, AZ 85733-4045

PASSAGES MENTALK - Discussion group and more. For men in their 30s, 40s and late 20s. A great way to meet people. Meeting 3rd Tuesday of each month at Wingspan 7-9pm. Call 760-8714 for more information.

SUPPORT GROUP FOR RECOVERING ADDICTS AND ALCOHOLICS. Group meets every Saturday 7-8pm in Cornerstone Fellowship hall, 2902 N. Geronimo. 622-4626 or 750-6404.

SOUTHERN ARIZONA STONEWALL DEMOCRATS meet 3rd Monday of each month 7pm at 4639 E. First Street. Call Jesse 743-4320 or Maurice 323-2293. All LGBT Democrats and supporters welcome. TucsonStonewall@aol.com

PERSONALS

FREE GAY KITTENS!!! See them at http://groups.msn.com/tucsonkittys or call 882-8675 965

The MAN-TO-MAN Social/Erotic education CLUB is the tantric men's group that offers passionate friendships & fun activities. Marc 881-4582 958

HOUSING/FOR RENT

2 BEDROOM HOUSE UNFURNISHED, 1,200 SQ. FT. Private. Saltillo, Arizona Room, H/W's, lovely yard, pet ok, 10x20 shed. Grant/Alvernon. $725/mo. 331-9114 955

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LARGE GAY/MALE HOUSEHOLD TO SHARE
Central - Grant/Alvernon area. HUGE studios from $345. Must see! ALL utilities included. FREE use of laundry, cable, pool, dishwasher. PRIVATE patios. 327-3135. No pets, no smokers, please. FLEXIBLE lease terms 960

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Gay Political Donor Faces Fraud Charges

CHARLOTTE, NC - Andrew Reyes, an openly Gay former Democratic Party chairman in North Carolina who had been missing for over a year, is now in custody, facing charges of stealing $3.6 million from a client.

Reyes made his first appearance in U.S. District Court, and he faces up to eight years in prison if convicted. He was transferred from a California prison, where he had been held since his arrest on October 3 while entering the country from Mexico.

Attorney James Wyatt said he would seek a bond hearing for Reyes, 36, and that his client would plead innocent to the 15 counts of bank fraud, reported the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com network.

Wyatt told U.S. Magistrate H. Brent McKnight that his client, a former accountant and political donor, was suffering "very severe, catastrophic personal problems and was on the verge of a nervous breakdown" when he fled Charlotte in May 2001.

Reyes sold his house and car in Charlotte before leaving the city on May 4, 2001. Authorities traced him to Eagle Pass, Texas; Chula Vista, Calif.; and Tijuana, Mexico before his arrest this month.

Prior to his nearly 18-month disappearance, Reyes had signature authority over a checking account of a wealthy, now-deceased client, according to his indictment records.

"Using that authority he ... diverted over $3.6 million from accounts of his client to accounts he controlled, and those diversions were unauthorized," U.S. Attorney Bob Conrad told the Charlotte Observer.

The alleged embezzling occurred between 1998 and 2000, during which time Reyes gained stature as a major political donor and -- as Mecklenburg County Democratic chairman -- became Charlotte's first openly Gay political figure.

Earlier this month Republican leaders made an issue of Reyes' political donations, which total $421,000, mostly to Democratic candidates and causes.

Pat McCrory, Republican mayor of Charlotte, reportedly put the $1,000 he received from Reyes in an escrow account until authorities determine where the money should go.

"In politics, perception is reality," Mary Kay Ulsamer, Mecklenburg County GOP chair, told the Observer. "And in the court of public opinion, there's an awful lot of evidence that says this money was not his."

West Hollywood Man

Continued from Page Five

The victim required no medical attention. Serrano and Hernandez were booked in West Hollywood and are currently being held on $101,000 bail each.

Last month LAPD officers arrested two other men wanted in connection to a series of hate-related assaults in nearby Hollywood. On Oct. 13, Ever Wilfredo Rivera and Selvin Orlando Campos, both 19, were taken into custody after a Gay man and a Transgender woman contacted police and told them they had been attacked.

According to the Los Angeles Police Department's LGBT community relations officer, Stacey Simmons, the Oct. 13 incidents also resulted in quick arrests because victims immediately called 911 to report what happened. As part of the LAPD investigation, a total of seven victims may come forward to help build a stronger case against Rivera and Campos.

"We don't care about immigration status," Simmons said, noting that many Transgender women in Hollywood who are victims of crime tend to be monolingual and undocumented, and fear going to the police. "We say, 'Don't be the perfect victim.'"

ment, as part of this community, responded quick enough to catch these violent suspects before they hurt somebody else."

For Mueller, the speed at which witnesses to hate incidents called the police made all the difference in catching the attackers. "This is exactly what we've been encouraging people to do," he added.

Serrano had to go to the hospital to be treated for wounds from the fight. "He got three staples in his head," Mueller noted.

Syphilis Rises

Continued from Page One

complications for some people," Klausner said. "We can't predict who those people are going to be, so it's important to prevent it and treat early."

The most common initial symptom is a painless sore or ulcer in the mouth, on the penis or around the anus, Klausner said. "It's painless and goes away after a week, so most people don't think it's syphilis."

Four to six weeks later, infected people will develop a rash along with other symptoms like fatigue, weakness and swollen glands. "Many people think that's the flu," he said.

Symptoms can disappear for years or even decades, but the disease often lies in wait and creates problems in the bones, the blood vessels or the brain, he said.

Among Gay men, syphilis can be transmitted through both anal and oral sex. "We've seen people with ulcers on their tongue, on their lip, inside of their mouth," Klausner said. "Oral sex can definitely transmit it."

What Makes Our Town Tick

Continued from Page Ten

fact, freedom is never going to be a reality to you. You will rarely see me waving a flag at any issue. I will be the first to mention the reasons that this country is on a path that can not be good.

That voice I hold though is made possible by the laws set long ago, and I exercise that freedom more than any other except for voting. So I took on the propositions, the candidates, and the issues. I went into that voting booth thinking of the architects of this right and thanked them when I exited. I remembered that there have been situations where my vote was not allowed, and times where it made such a difference I regretted it. My vote is one, but its mine, and no one could make it any different.

I look forward to the future. Not at what candidate is going to run or win. Not to what proposition is going to make what changes. Not even to what laws might be repealed that will make our lives more livable. I look to my daughter, and to one day be able to go to her first election. Of all the things I look forward to as a parent, her voting for the first time is actually one of the forecasts that I know will be good, for the both of us. Have a good week!