Happy New Year

Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

Tucson Observer

WEEKLY OBSERVER JANUARY, 3, 2008 ISSUE 1224

Tucson Observer Archives

EDITORIAL

Another Year And We're Still Here And Queer

Revelers across the time zones are recovering, resolving and remembering as of press time but another year has passed and to paraphrase Stephen Sondheim, "we're still here, queer and informed."

As one reads this writing, either in the print in its 31st year of existence or the online version at tucsonobserver.com, marking its twelfth year of being a little bitty pissant stop on the Internet superhighway, they can be assured that this publication will continue to provide the news that affects their life as well as the lives of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered (LGBT) people in Tucson, Pima County, Arizona, the nation and the world as one of the oldest LGBT publications in Arizona and the nation.

Unlike the proverbial paycheck, which people have to wait for every two weeks, the Observer strives to keep people informed of what is happening locally, nationally and internationally on a weekly basis because one may have to wait for payday, they should not have to wait for news.

There are sites on the Internet that try to inform by updating either daily, hourly or in even a quicker time frame but resorting to wire service stories from the corporate hack media that is more concerned about Britney Spears than the lives of their readers won't cut it.

Bob Ellis, Gary Clark and Mark Kerr strive to keep the readership up to date, informed and knowledgeable first, usually prior to most other LGBT magazines, online sites or corporate television news. Importantly, the three strive to keep the readership informed, but not overwhelmed through the publication and the website by utilizing the KISS theory (Keep It Simple Stupid!).

On average, about 3,000 people visit the Observer website daily to be informed or most importantly, to get information about what is going on in their area of the world, either through the stories or the links that are on the website.

Also, the Observer's website offers something that you won't find on other LGBT sites across Arizona and the nation, history. People can go to tucsonobserver.com and learn about the history of the Tucson LGBT rights movement and they do, from across the U.S. and the globe, including Japan, the Czech Republic, Israel, Sweden, Germany, Mexico, Uganda, Brazil, Ireland, the U.K., Malaysia, Romania, Australia, Spain, Poland, Italy and France.

From the murder of Richard Heakin;

Tucson's Human Relations Ordinance being adopted in 1977;

AIDS and the formation of the Tucson AIDS Project, Shanti Foundation, the People With AIDS Coalition (PACT For Life) and the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation;

Don't Ask, Don't Tell and the federal Defense of Marriage Act;

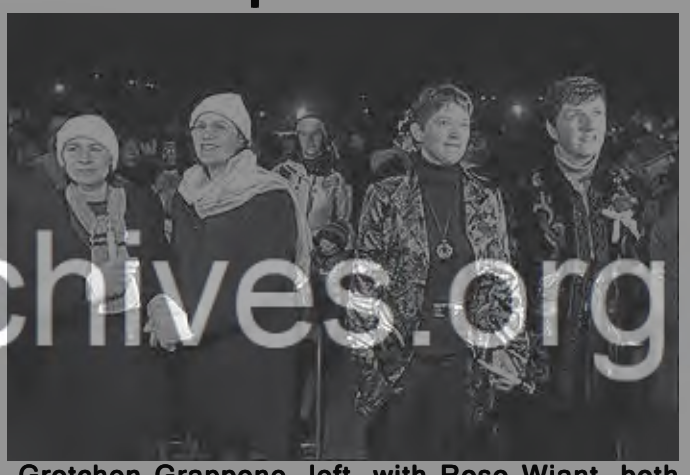
Recognizing same-sex relationships by the City of Tucson and the Pima County governments of their employees;

Tucson's Commission on GLBT Issues being formed;

Tucson's Domestic Partner registry being approved to the defeat of Proposition 107, making Arizona the first state in the nation to vote down a measure banning governmental and legal recognition of same-sex marriages, civil unions and domestic partnerships, the Observer was there and played a significant part in the history of the LGBT rights movement and will continue to do so every week.

To the readership of this publication, both in print and online, the management and staff thanks you for your support and taking the time out of your schedule to read the Observer so that you are "on the page." And, of course, to all of our loyal advertisers, some of who have been with us for many years, have made it possible for us to keep this publication a free one. The Observer expresses its great appreciation to all those business owners and professionals who continue to keep this weekly endeavor going. Thank you all.

New Year Brings New Unions In New Hampshire



Gretchen Grappone, left, with Rose Wiant, both of Concord, NH, and Wendy Waterstrat, center right with Holly Henshaw, both of Brookline, NH.

CONCORD, New Hampshire (Observer Update) - The state is becoming the fourth to legalize civil unions, and about 20 couples have decided to be the first took advantage of the new law with a late-night ceremony on the statehouse steps in Concord Monday night (December 31), reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com.

Jennifer Major of Gilmanton, who helped organize the group ceremony, said festivities took place at about 11 p.m. Monday with poetry readings and live music. The civil unions can take place when the law took effect at 12:01 a.m. Tuesday (January 1). Major and her partner, Kelley Morris, planned to be among the couples saying ''I do.''

''Every single night ... I come home from work and say, 'Guess what we're doing on Monday?' She says, 'Getting marriaged,'" Major said. Snow and freezing temperatures were forecast during the night. ''I don't have any winter coats with rhinestones and glitter, so I'm just going to dress warmly,'' she said.

At the bill signing in May, Gov. John Lynch called civil unions for same-sex couples a matter of conscience. ''How could any one of us look into the eyes of our neighbors, our friends, or our loved ones if we continued to deny them these basic legal protections?'' he said.

New Hampshire joins Vermont, Connecticut, and New Jersey in legalizing civil unions. Massachusetts is the only state that allows same-sex marriage.

The new law says civil unions will provide same-sex couples with the rights, responsibilities, and obligations of marriage, except the name.

It also says New Hampshire will recognize legal same-sex unions from other states, but a group of conservative Republicans in the legislature is working to undo that part of the law. A hearing is scheduled for January 24. The state estimated 3,500 to 4,000 civil unions will be performed in the first year.

Arizona Gays Face Growing Number Of Syphilis Cases

PHOENIX (Observer Update) - Arizona Gov. Janet Napolitano has approved a $100,000 campaign to urge Gay men to get tested for syphilis after state health officials warned the disease is reaching crisis proportions, 365Gay.com reported.

"The Gay community, especially in Maricopa County, is where the bulk of the epidemic is now," Wil Humble, the state's assistant director of public health, said in an interview. Maricopa County, which includes the city of Phoenix, is one of the worst hit said Humble. The number of cases for the first six months of 2007 was 25 times higher than it was seven years earlier he said. The majority of the cases was among men who have sex with men.

The money for the ad campaign targeting Gay men will come from the state's Health Crisis Fund. Most of the money will be spent on brochures that will be placed in Gay bars and clubs throughout the state.

Untreated syphilis can have devastating health consequences, including impairment of the ability to walk, permanent vision loss, permanent hearing loss, and brain damage. The disease is treatable with antibiotics. "Unless they know they're infected, they don't go in and get treatment," Humble said. "That means spoon feeding them the locations for clinics where they could get screened and treated."

Because syphilis is associated with unprotected sex it is regarded as an early indicator of a likely rise in HIV cases. Nationally the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said last month there has been a marked increase in syphilis and other STDs.

tucsonobserverarchives.org
Registered - Copyrighted - All Rights Reserved
A family member of the Tucson Gay Museum®©

UPDATE

Deadline To Register To Vote For Arizona Primary, January 7

By Mark R. Kerr

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Monday, January 7 is the deadline to be registered to vote for Arizona's presidential primary that will take place on Tuesday, February 5.

Unlike Arizona's usual primary that takes place in September of every even numbered year for certain federal, statewide, Arizona Legislative offices and others, for which people need only to be registered to vote to participate, Arizona's presidential preference on February 5 is a "closed" primary, meaning one must be registered with a participating political party to take part.

The online Observer at tucsonobserver.com/links.html, has links to voter registration forms. For more information or questions, go online to azsos.gov/election/county.htm. See 'Commentary' Page Five this issue.

Auditions For 'Homoneurotic II, January 12

TUCSON (Observer Update) - "Homoneurotic II (Bigger! Faster!! Harder!!!)" will hold auditions for their April production at the Cabaret space in the Temple of Music and Art downtown, Saturday, January 12, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St.

Walk-ins are fine, but appointments are preferred. Roles are available for six men, ranging from 20 - 45 and two women, age negotiable. Please bring photo/resume or just show up and they will do a quick pencil sketch.

For more information, contact Kenton Jones (520) 979-4508.

TIHAN Volunteer Training January 10

TUCSON (Observer Update) - TIHAN will conduct volunteer orientation/training 5:15 - 9:15 p.m., Thursday January 10, at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 1350 N. Arcadia Ave.

Subjects covered include HIV/AIDS 101, stigma and stereotyping, living with HIV/AIDS, interfaith responses to HIV/AIDS and an introduction to TIHAN programs. All ages, including seniors, college students and high-school teens, are encouraged to participate.

The cost is $17, which covers a light meal and printed materials.

For more information, call TIHAN at (520) 299-6647.

Wingspan Update

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Join Wingspan as we celebrate our favorite Front Porch Music tradition and welcome in the New Year with our favorite artist namoli brennet on Friday, January 11! Wingspan is thrilled to welcome back the incredibly talented namoli brennet to Front Porch Music! Tucson-based songwriter namoli brennet has honed her craft through hundreds of performances and thousands of miles on the road. . . .

Wingspan, Tucson and Southern Arizona's LGBT community center, currently has several exciting employment opportunities available: Executive Director (open until filled); Anti-Violence Project Bilingual Advocate/Educator (PT) (open until filled) and Eon Youth Outreach Specialist. Visit wingspan.org for individual job descriptions and application instructions. . . .

Volunteers are the lifeblood of Wingspan! We need you! The first step to joining our volunteer team is to attend a general orientation. These orientations last about an hour and are offered once a month here at Wingspan. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Luanne by email: luanne@wingspan.org or telephone (520) 624-1779 x119. All orientations are held at Wingspan, 425 East 7th Street. . . .

Auditions! Have you always wanted to be on stage, and help a worthy cause? VDay Tucson 2008 is holding auditions for Eve Ensler's "The Vagina Monologues" on Sunday, January 6th from 2:00- 5:00 p.m. at the Hotel Congress (in the Copper Hall) at 311 E. Congress St. This year's show benefits Wingspan Anti-Violence Project and Jewish Family and Children's Services Project L.E.A.H. (Let's End Abusive Households).

IN MEMORIAM

"My name is Candas, don't you forget it"

Mrs. Candas Doolittle passed away peacefully at the age of 64 fantastic years. She will be greatly missed in the Tucson community by many friends and family. Candas was married to David, her lovely husband and wonderful caretaker over the last several years.

What an incredible life Candas had as some of her best friends knew. She is greatly credited with having changed the female impersonators law in the state of Arizona. After being arrested for impersonating women when she was doing her shows in the 60s, she fought the state of Arizona and won after many unsuccessful attempts to allow men to wear women's clothing whether for pleasure or entertainment.

She led a very colorful life as she bartended at many of our favorite hangouts, some that are now still in operation or those others that couldn't survive.

Please say a prayer on her behalf and have a cocktail because she would have wanted it that way. That would be a V.O. with a straw and coke back. We all miss you dearly.

PATRICK MANN
Sept. 18, 1965 - Dec. 29, 2007

Patrick was a man who had many friends and a loving family. He enjoyed life, loved to smile and have a good time. Patrick will be remembered as someone who knew what he wanted and just how to get it.

He is survived by his Life Partner and Best Friend of 23 Years, Albert Bonillas. He leaves behind many friends and his four legged companion, Luci. Memorial services are being planned at this time.

OBSERVER
Observing Tucson And The Greater Arizona Community
http://www.tucsonobserver.com

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

Office Hours: 9a.m.-6p.m.
Monday thru Friday

Office Closed Thursdays

EDITOR/PUBLISHER:
Bob Ellis
ARTS & GRAPHICS:
Gary Clark
MANAGING EDITOR:
Mark Kerr
Special Events Photos:
Bill Morrow
Hunter Johnson
Horoscope:
Charlene Lichtenstein
Contributing Columnists
MARK R. KERR - LEE THORN

*

Publication of names or photos of any person or organization in the OBSERVER is not to be construed as indication of the sexual orientation of such person, organization or advertisers or any employees thereof.

Opinions that are expressed in Letters to the Editor or columns by contributors are not necessarily those of the OBSERVER, its staff or advertisers. OBSERVER assumes responsibility for its own editorial policy only.

Although OBSERVER has many fine advertisers, we do not accept responsibility for any claims made pertaining to their products and/or services.

*

Permission to reprint (except for separately copyrighted material) is granted when credit is given to the OBSERVER.

*

Informing the Community
The Observer

Tucson Observer Archives
tucsonobserverarchives.org
Recorded - Copyrighted - All Rights Reserved
A family history of the Tucson Gay Museum®©

Federal, State Tax Laws Gouge Gay And Lesbian Couples

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - Federal and state tax laws routinely gouge Gay and Lesbian couples in a variety of ways, via inequities in the estate tax, income tax, inheritance tax or gift tax, gfn.com. And when it comes to other important financial issues, like housing, or bequeathing estates, or nursing home care, Gay and Lesbian couples must use contract law as the flimsy, threadbare cover to protect their relationships. A rundown of how Gay and Lesbian couples get hurt:

Houses. A Gay and Lesbian partner whose spouse dies often sees their home going to a family member, as they have no rights to the house. But titling the house as "joint tenants with rights of survivorship" could guarantee a smooth transition to the surviving partner. Doing so can create tax problems. The IRS will count 100% of the value of the house in the taxable estate of the deceased, unless the surviving partner can prove their contribution, says Jennifer Hatch, managing partner of Christopher Street Financial, a New York firm specializing in financial advice for Gay and Lesbian couples.

Employee benefits. Gay and Lesbian couples have to pay income taxes on the value of the employer benefits they get from their partner, such as health care coverage, something straight couples never have to pay. And Gay and Lesbian couples' compensation packages, when the value of fringe benefits is added in, are usually less than the compensation of a married person doing the same job.

Tax planning. When it comes to Gay and Lesbian couples, the gift tax is the gift that keeps on giving–to the government. Say you and your partner live together, and to do things right, you add her to the deed to your house. Did you know that you must then report the value of half of the house on your taxes? Uncle Sam says you made a gift under the law. Ditto for adding your partner to your bank or brokerage accounts. The IRS says those transactions are gifts that must be reported if they amount to more than $11,000 in a year. A married couple is seen as a single economic unit, so they can transfer anything between them, while same-sex couples are seen as business partners, so all transactions are deemed taxable business deals, says Hatch.

Estate Taxes. The "unlimited marital deduction" lets one spouse pass on as much money as he or she wants to the other, free of estate tax. But because Uncle Sam doesn't recognize same-sex marriage, Gay and Lesbian couples can't use this deduction, so they get hit with a big tax bill. And Gay and Lesbian couples have to pay extra to take out life-insurance policies on each other in order to fix the problem.

Life insurance. Gay and Lesbian couples may have to fight to establish their right to buy life insurance on each other, if the insurance company challenges the partner's insurable interest. Gay and Lesbian couples need this life insurance to reduce the estate tax hit, because if their estates are large enough, they are taxed twice–upon each partner's death, Hatch says.

Inheritance Taxes. Some states, including New Jersey and Connecticut, have an inheritance tax for certain "types" of beneficiaries. While straight spouses are exempt, an "unrelated" partner could pay more than 15% of everything inherited.

Social Security. Gay and Lesbian people cannot claim Social Security benefits through their partner's employment, according to tax law, whereas even divorced straight people will receive higher payments based on their spouses' contribution to the system, says Hatch.

Retirement Accounts. Gay and Lesbian people cannot roll over their partner's retirement account into their own, but must start taking taxable distributions soon after their partner's death. However, a surviving straight spouse can let the investments compound until mandatory withdrawals at age 70.

Death. Yes Gay and Lesbian people still get hurt even when leaving for the great beyond. When their partners die, Gay and Lesbian couples must prove their ownership of every item in the house or face a tax bill or even total loss of the items to their partner's next of kin. When a partner dies, Gay and Lesbian people often receive no death benefit or continuation of the decedent's pension, though many cities and states including New York City and New York State as well as some corporations allow pension continuation for a partner, Hatch says.

Rape, Hate Crime Charges In Attack On Illinois Gay Man

CICERO, Illinois - An Illinois man has been charged with sexual assault and a hate crime in an attack on a Gay man, reported 365Gay.com. Police in Cicero, southwest of Chicago, say that Filipe Rivera, 43, confessed in a videotaped interview with detectives.

Rivera is alleged to have told police that he hates Gays and the victim got what he deserved after coming on to him. Police said that the two men were at a party earlier in the evening and had exchanged words. After causing a disturbance Rivera was asked to leave the party but allegedly waited out of site for the victim to leave and followed him home. The victim was attacked as he entered the building. He was beaten and then raped with a metal broom handle.

During the sexual assault the victim was allegedly subjected to what a police spokesperson described as "sexually oriented derogatory comments." He was found unconscious and bleeding in a stairwell by a neighbor who called police. The victim was treated at hospital and released. Rivera then went to the home of his mother. The woman already had a restraining order against her son and called police after he allegedly told her about the assault.

During taped questioning by investigators Rivera said he raped the victim "because he hates faggots, and this is what they get." At a brief court appearance bond was set at $350,000 plus an additional $50,000 for a probation violation. If convicted of the rape Rivera could face up to 30 years behind bars plus an additional five years on the hate crime charge.

Tucson Observer Archives
tucsonobserverarchives.com
Registered - Copyrighted - All Rights Reserved
A family member of the Tucson Gay Museum®©

Arizona Wildfire Tryout Jan. 5

TUCSON - The Arizona Wildfire is seeking Athletes, Coaches, Interns, and Volunteers for the 2008 Season!

The Arizona Wildfire is seeking women athletes to play women's professional full contact football. They will teach you everything you need to know about playing football and will get you in the best shape you have ever been in your life! Make lots of new friendships that will last a life time. Practices start in January and games start in April and the team travels on the weekends for games. You still keep your day job! The Wildfire practice nights and weekends and all women 18 plus are welcome.

The last tryout will be held Saturday Jan 05, 2008, 2:30 p.m. registration with tryouts starting at 3:00 p.m, at Sunnyside High School practice football field, 1725 East Bilby, entrance is directly on South Campbell. There is a one time $35 Registration (cash only) and please be sure to wear proper attire for exercise (cleats, if you have them, and water/Gatorade). Don't forget you must have the following before you will be allowed to play: Proof of health insurance (photocopy) and Photo ID (photocopy).

If you have any questions, please feel free to E-mail us at azwildfirefootball@yahoo.com visit us at azwildfirefootball.com or call (520) 289-2141. For additional information on the NWFA, check their web site at womensfootballcentral.com.

Filmmaker Zeffirelli: 'I'm Homosexual But I'm Not Gay'

ROME, Italy - Famed Italian director Franco Zeffirelli admits he has had sexual relations with men but his devout Catholic beliefs prevent him from supporting Gay marriage or adoption.

Legendary Italian filmmaker Franco Zeffirelli confesses in his autobiography, "I am homosexual but I am not Gay, a word I hate and which is offensive and obscene." In an interview with the publication Forum Libertas, the director responsible for classic films like "Jesus of Nazareth," "Romeo & Juliet" and "Brother Sun, Sister Moon" said he accepts the Vatican's opposition to Gay marriage and adoption by Gay couples.

Zeffirelli, 74, whose real name is Gianfranco Corsi, is a devout Catholic and wrote in his memoir that that he had been "always discreet in his sexuality" and added that "only 10 years ago," he acknowledged in San Francisco that he had "experiences with men." The famed Italian director, born in Florence in 1923, has no official Vatican position but is considered an advisor to Pope Benedict XVI on the image of the church. He praised the pope for "restoring order in the doctrine and the liturgy," and for "not tolerating lawlawlessness or the deplorable representation of the sacred."

German Pole Vaulter Retires, Plans To Change Gender

BERLIN, Germany - Yvonne Buschbaum, a German track and field athlete who took sixth place in the women's pole vault at the 2000 Sydney Olympics, has announced that she is retiring from track and field and change her gender.

"I feel as if I am a man and have to live my life in the body of a woman," Buschbaum said in a statement on her web site. "I am aware of the fact that transsexuality is a fringe issue, and I do not want to be responsible for it remaining on the fringe."

Although gender reassignment will likely involve Buschbaum taking hormones that are on the World Anti-Doping Agency's list of banned substances, Buschbaum says she has not taken any performance-enhancing drugs during her athletic career.

TELL OUR ADVERTISERS
YOU SAW THEIR AD IN THE OBSERVER

Tucson Observer Archives
tucsonobserverarchives.org
Reproduced courtesy of - All Rights Reserved
A family member of the Tucson Gay Museum ©

Woody's
Visit our Back Pocket Patio Bar —
Tucson's Alternative
Check out the Back Pocket Grille
Serving Lunch, Dinner and Snacks Everyday 11am-10pm
Enjoy Tucson's Newest Dance/Video Lounge
The W
Playing Wednesday Thru Saturday 9:30-CL
Every Friday Night enjoy the sounds of
Simon Crown 6-9pm
Wednesdays are Service Industry Day all Day
With $1.00 off drinks except
Schnapps and Draft
Saturday January 5th Post New Year's Eve Party
Tuesday January 8th Movie Night with your
Favorite movies and Popcorn
Wednesday January 9th Thermal Underwear Night
Watch UA Basketball on our LCD TVs
Tucson's Best All Day Party
Every Sunday
Patio Bar opens at 2pm
Beer Bust 2-7pm
Karaoke with Michael D 9pm
3710 N. Oracle Road 292.6702
WWW.myspace.com/4mywoodys
WWW.mywoodysaz.com
DISCOVER MasterCard VISA

COLORS
SUNDAY BRUNCH
DRAG SHOWS
LIVE MUSIC
KARAOKE
FREE INTERNET
HAPPY HOUR 4-7
OPEN MIC NIGHT EVERY WED
5305 E. Speedway
520.323.1840
WWW.COLORSTUCSON.COM
Open: Tues.Wed.Thurs. & Sat. 4pm-10pm Fri. 4pm-12am Sun. 10am-10pm
A family member of the Tucson Gay Museum

El Torero RESTAURANT
MICHAEL & BRADFORD HULTQUIST
MEXICAN SCANDINAVIANS
Proprietors
WE SERVE WONDERFUL MEXICAN FOOD
SELECTED WINES & BEER
231 E. 26th St. Tucson, Arizona
Open every day except Tuesday 622-9534

COMMENTARY. . . .

Arizona's Presidential Preference Election

By F. Ann Rodriguez

The 2008 Presidential Preference Election is rapidly approaching us here in Arizona on February 5, 2008. However, I wonder if the 134,000 in Pima County or the 755,000 in the state that are registered Independents or No Party Designated, realize unless their registration is changed to either the Republican or Democratic Party, they can not or will not have a vote in the Arizona Presidential Preference Election.

This is the first time in eight years that there has not been a sitting President or Vice-President seeking the office of President of the United States. This Election is very important as this is the beginning of the long political process for Presidential candidates to achieve the goal of being the successful candidate to represent their political party for the 2008 November General Election. This is the first step for you as a voter to have a say in this process.

Although the Holiday season is still upon us and many people will be paying less attention to an election occurring in February, now is the time to check to determine if you are eligible to vote in the Presidential Preference Election. The voter registration deadline is less than a week after New Year's Day.

Only two political parties will be participating in the Presidential Preference Election on February 5, 2008, the Democratic Party and the Republican Party. The Libertarian Party has opted not to participate in the election and no other political party qualifies in Arizona. In order to participate, you must be registered to vote as a member of either the Republican or Democratic Party. "Wait a minute," you say. "Independents and No Party Designated have a right to vote in partisan primary elections. As a voter registered as an Independent or No Party Designated, I should be entitled to vote in the Presidential Preference Election."

When the initiative that created Arizona's open primary law was drafted–the initiative that the citizens of the State of Arizona voted and approved–it did not include the Presidential Preference Election.

A voter who chooses to register as an Independent or No Party Designated can vote in our state Primary Election held in September. However, the election that will be held on February 5, 2008 is not a "primary" election under Arizona State law. It is a "preference" election. A "primary" election is a "winner-take-all" election.

In a preference election, the candidates are vying for delegates to the political party convention. Each Presidential candidate receiving a percentage of the votes will win one or more delegates, with the largest share going to the candidate who receives the most votes.

While these distinctions may seem subtle, this is the requirement in Arizona State law that the Recorder's Offices in Arizona are required to apply. If you are not registered as a member of the Democratic or Republican Party, you simply will not be eligible to vote in the Presidential Preference Election on February 5, 2008.

So check your most recent voter registration card. If it does not say "DEM" or "REP" and you want to vote in the Presidential Preference Election, you need to submit a new registration form and designate the party of the candidate you want to support. While you are checking your voter registration card for your party affiliation, you should also check to make certain that your address is correct and if not, update that information at the same time.

If you have an Arizona driver's license or identification card issued by the Motor Vehicle Division after October 1, 1996, you can submit your registration form online at servicearizona.com. If you want to submit a regular voter registration form, you can obtain a form at the Recorder's Office, at any library, Post Office, Motor Vehicle Division Office, most city and town halls, headquarters for any political party, or you can download one from the Recorder's website, recorder.pima.gov. If you live outside Pima County, voter forms are also available at these same locations in your county and you can also use servicearizona.com. Contact your local County Recorder's Office for additional information.

After the Presidential Preference Election is over, and it is your desire to go back to Independent or No Party Designated, just complete a new voter registration form and submit it to the Recorder's office or go online. If you have any questions, please call 740-4330.

The deadline for registering to vote in the Presidential Preference Election is January 7, 2008. If you want to vote for the candidate of your choice, make certain you qualify and that your voice is heard.

(F. Ann Rodriguez is the Pima County Recorder.)

KXCI COMMUNITY RADIO
Request Line
622-5924
KXCI.ORG
91.3 FM TUCSON

Tucson Observer Archives
tucsonobserver.com
Registered - Copyrighted All Rights Reserved

Favorite Books Of The New Queerlenium

The GLBT Services Committee was established in 1997 to better serve southern Arizona's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender library users. It seeks to fulfill this mission by creating exciting programs such as GLBT author visits, and through participation at various outreach events such as OUToberFEST and Tucson's annual Pride Parade.

On a daily basis they review, order and make GLBT materials available for all PCPL users, regardless of age, location or sexual orientation.

The Pima County Public Library's (PCPL) GLBT Services Committee is dedicated to upholding the library's Mission Statement as well as the Library Users Bill of Rights for all of our customers.

PCPL is one of the few public libraries in the country to have an established GLBT Services Committee. I's an exciting time for GLBT-themed publishing.

More and more books reflecting the strength, experience and vision of GLBT people appear on the shelves of book stores and libraries. The Pima County Public Library's GLBT Services Committee are proud to offer our favorite recent books that are by and about GLBT people. We hope this offering inspires you to read one or more of these marvelous books

You're Not From Around Here, Are You? A Lesbian in Small-town America by Louise A. Blum (University of Wisconsin Press). Blum and her partner, after deciding to have a baby through artificial insemination, experienced a backlash of hatred from the residents of their small Pennsylvania town. The author describes the ups-and-downs of her pregnancy, the struggles and joys of her relationship with her partner, and the intensely vulnerable experience of being the object of a town's homophobia–all in a supple, bracing, emotionally direct prose that is all the more moving for its essential honesty. (Chris Dashiell)

For more information, visit your local Pima County library or go online to tppl.org/community/glbt/index.cfm.

WILLS TRUSTS POWERS OF ATTORNEY
Laura G. Schoenfeld PLLC
PROTECTING OUR FAMILIES
520.514.8383
845 S. Craycroft Rd. • Tucson AZ 85711
lgs@tucsonlaw.us
PROBATE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS

HUNTER'S
Mobile Hair Care
Don't leave the house. We come to you!
Hunter Johnson (520) 240-1153
E-Mail: hairbyhunter@cox.net
Licensed and Insured Large line of Products

POLITICS 2007

by Mark R. Kerr

Why Not A Republican?

As of press time, voters across the state of Iowa and in the state of New Hampshire will go to their caucus meetings and polls and cast ballots for their choices to be the Republican and Democratic party standard bearers, beginning the front loaded 2008 presidential primary election campaign. In Iowa, New Hampshire and the other 48 states in a relative short period time, LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) people registered to vote will also cast their votes in the presidential primaries but the question is, why not a Republican? It is quite simple, none of the current eight major candidates running to be the Republican nominee for President are supportive of LGBT citizens in any way, shape, form.

Former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee is not in favor of legislation protecting the rights of workers against discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity; adding sexual orientation to the state's anti-discrimination law; more funding for HIV/AIDS programs or research; expanding Arkansas' hate crimes law to include sexual orientation or gender identity; Gays and Lesbians (either single or couples) adopting children; second parent adoptions; same-sex marriages, civil unions or domestic partnerships; Gays and Lesbians serving openly in the armed services. Governor Mike Huckabee supports adding an amendment to the U.S. Constitution banning governmental and legal recognition of same-sex marriages, civil unions and domestic partnerships. When asked about his views on Gays and Lesbians, "I don't know whether people are born that way. People who are Gay say that they're born that way. But one thing I know, that the behavior one practices is a choice." Huckabee has also compared homosexuality to necrophilia in statements and writings.

Willard "Multiple Choice Mitt" Romney, the former Governor of Massachusetts, opposes proposed, federal Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), "I don't see the need for new or special legislation. My experience over the past several years as governor has convinced me that ENDA would be an overly broad law that would open a litigation floodgate and unfairly penalize employers at the hands of activist judges," he said. "Multiple Choice Mitt" opposes HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and practically any LGBT government program. Since as Governor he signed a budget that had funding reductions that hit just about every LGBT and AIDS-related initiative receiving state funding. Romney also vetoed the creation of a new legislative Commission on Gay and Lesbian Youth, cut all of the Safe Schools funding in the Department of Education (DOE), cut all of the Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project (GMDVP) funding from the Department of Public Health (DPH), cut more than $700,000 in HIV/AIDS funding and cut funding to the LGBT Aging Project."

"Don't Ask, Don't Tell" would not be rescinded if Romney should become president. Federal hate crimes laws with protections for sexual orientation and gender identity are another issue that "Multiple Choice" Mitt isn't in favor of either. In 2003, Romney vetoed a bill funding hate crimes prevention, after which he impounded money previously approved by his predecessor for a bullying prevention program. Romney vaporized all hate crimes prevention funding within his first year in office. Civil unions, domestic partnerships and same-sex marriage are all opposed by Romney, since he claims to be a champion for "traditional marriage." Romney has expressed his support to add an amendment to the U.S. Constitution barring governmental and legal recognition of same-sex relationships. Gays and Lesbians, either single or in a relationship shouldn't be allowed to adopt, according to "Multiple Choice" Mitt, children "need a father and a mother."

Texas Congressman Ron Paul - According to the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), in the most recent Session of Congress (the 109th), Paul only voted favorably on one of five potential votes (the proposed Federal Marriage Amendment). In the two Sessions prior (108th and 107th), HRC reports that Paul received a rating of 25% and 0% respectively. On the issue of hate crimes legislation, Paul had voted against bills to expand current federal law to include sexual orientation and gender identity, and has expressed his opposition to the concept of a hate crimes law. Paul expressed his support for and would continue "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," the policy prohibiting open Gays and Lesbians from serving their country in the armed services. Same-sex marriage is an issue Paul does not support but he opposes any amendment to the U.S. Constitution on the issue. On the other hand, Paul voted in favor of the Defense of Marriage Act in 1996 and co-sponsored the Marriage Protection Act, which would have barred judges from hearing cases pertaining to the constitutionality of the Defense of Marriage Act. In 2005, Paul introduced the We the People Act, which would have removed from the jurisdiction of federal courts "any claim based upon the right of privacy, including any such claim related to any issue of sexual practices, orientation, or reproduction" and "any claim based upon equal protection of the laws to the extent such claim is based upon the right to marry without regard to sex or sexual orientation." If made law, these provisions would allow states to either prohibit or allow same-sex sexual practices and same-sex marriage. Binational same-sex couples would not have an open door in a Ron Paul administration since he is opposed to the Uniting American Families Act, the proposed federal legislation that would give committed, binational same-sex couples the same rights as opposite sex couples in regard to immigration. Same-sex adoption is another issue Paul is opposed to since he voted to ban Gay and Lesbians adoptions in the District of Columbia in 1999. Ron Paul is not and has not been a cosponsor of the Early Treatment for HIV/AIDS act.

Arizona Senator John McCain opposes governmental and legal recognition of same-sex marriage, civil unions and domestic partnerships, when he expressed his unconditional support for Arizona's Proposition 107 in 2006. McCain opposes the lifting of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," the federal law prohibiting open Lesbians and Gays from serving in the military. On the proposed, federal Employment Non-Discrimination Act, Senator McCain opposes the measure. When it comes to expanding current federal statutes on hate crimes to cover sexual orientation and gender identity, McCain is not in favor of this premise, through legislation entitled "the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act." Arizona's Senator has expressed his opposition to the proposed federal legislation, the Early Treatment for HIV/AIDS Act, that if passed and signed into

Continued Next Page

Tucson Observer Archives
tucsonobserve
Registered & Copyrighted - All Rights Reserved
A family member of the Tucson Gay Museum

Why Not A Republican?

Continued from Page Six

law, would will help eliminate barriers to early drug therapy and comprehensive care for people living with HIV by giving states the option to allow HIV positive people with low incomes to qualify for Medicaid coverage earlier in the course of their infection. McCain voted against the proposed Federal Marriage Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 2004. According to the Human Rights Campaign, McCain's voting record for the recent, 109th Congress was 14%, 25% during the 108th Congress and 14% for the 107th session of Congress.

Former Tennessee Senator, Grandpa Freddie Dalton Thompson. On several occasions during his time in the U.S. Senate, Thompson voted against expanding current federal hate crimes statutes to include sexual orientation or gender identity. Freddie voted in favor of the federal Defense of Marriage Act, codifying that marriage will be recognized by the federal government as consisting of "one man and one woman." A proposal to protect the employment rights of individuals from discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity, known as the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) got a thumbs down from Thompson.

California Congressman Duncan Hunter is no friend either, voting the wrong way on issues of concern to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) and HIV/AIDS communities, including: federal funding for HIV/AIDS research and educational programs; expanding the groups covered under federal hate crimes laws; establishing federal protections against discrimination in employment, also known as the Employment Non-Discrimination Act; adoption by Gays and Lesbians (in the District of Columbia); adding an amendment to the U.S. Constitution prohibiting governmental or legal recognition of same-sex marriages, civil unions and domestic partnerships and ending federal funding for schools that offer medically accurate information to LGBT students and those requesting it. The National Abortion Rights Action League and the Human Rights Campaign gave Congressman Duncan Hunter a zero for his voting record on their issues.

Alan Keyes has ultraconservative, anti-choice, xenophobic, racist, homophobic views. "Homosexuals are not haunted by the prospect or possibility of procreation – because they're simply not capable of it. I think this is pretty obvious, isn't it? That means that an incestuous situation could easily arise in our society; it's more than likely to arise – not to mention every other kind of incestuous complication." - Keyes on Lesbian couples having children through artificial insemination. Gay marriage will cause the destruction of civilizations," equating the "homosexual agenda" as "totalitarianism," claiming "Hitler and his supporters were Satanists and homosexuals, leading to the notion that is involved in homosexuality, the unbridled sort of satisfaction of human passions leads to totalitarianism, Nazism, and communism." Gay and Lesbian couples don't have sex, Keyes declared, adding that "It's not entirely clear to me you can call them sexual, because in point of fact, sex is no part of what they do. Real sexuality is about the distinction between male and female, as expressed in the body and its differences." During the 2004 elections, Keyes called Dick Cheney's Lesbian daughter hedonistic and disowned his own daughter Maya, when she came out of the closet in the same year.

Then there is former New York Mayor, three-time marital loser and televangelist Pat Robertson's favorite, Rudy Giuliani, who has disavowed his pro-LGBT statements and record, faster than he dumped his second wife, (announcing it before a television press conference prior to telling #2, Donna Hanover). Smirking Rudy, version 2008, is against same-sex marriage - calling for a federal, constitutional amendment, civil unions, domestic partnerships, hate crimes laws, adoption by Gays and Lesbians, HIV/AIDS funding and homosexuals serving openly in the military. To sum him up, take his appearance on the corporate hack media program, "Meet the Press," when New York's most famous cross-dressing Mayor called homosexuality "sinful" and goes against his "faith."

So why not a Republican? When a Republican wants the votes of the LGBT community, speaks to the LGBT community, such as the LOGO Presidential Forum and has a positive record on issues of concern (either through voting or enactment of measures), then voters should consider such candidates but for those who would use citizens of this country as a wedge issue, as what has gone in during the current GOP Presidential campaign, then they should not be considered when an LGBT voter goes into the polling place and cast their vote because the community believes in the Republican principle of no taxation without representation.

PHOTO: Pamshouseblend.com

Insurance & Financial Services Representative
• Auto • Home • Life • Business
• 529 Plans • IRAs • Retirement Planning • Health Insurance
FARMERS INSURANCE GROUP
Symbol of Superior Service
FARMERS
Authorized Broker
BlueCross BlueShield of Arizona
ASSURANT Health
Tim Brown
www.pimainsurance.com
Office: 520.322.3924 • Cell: 520.548.9377

Douglas J. Newman, P.C.
ATTORNEY AT LAW
Corporations · Limited Liability Companies · General Business
Wills · Trusts · Estate & Estate Tax Planning · Probate
2650 North Country Club Road · Tucson, Arizona 85716
Phone 520-325-2053 · Fax 520-325-2274 · dougnewmanlaw.com

Keep yourself in a healthy balance –
know your status!
Free anonymous and confidential HIV testing and syphilis screening.
Brought to you by the Pima County Health Department and the Gay Men's Health Project.
GMHP Gay Men's Health Project
628-7223 · www.gmhp.org
Gay Men's Health Project is a collaborative effort of Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF), Pima County Health Dept. and Wingspan.

tucsonobserverarchives.org
Tucson Observer Archives
Registered - Copyrighted - All Rights Reserved
A family member of the Tucson Gay Museum®©

KEN ELDER
REALTOR®
www.longrealty.com/kene
LONG REALTY COMPANY
DIRECT (520) 918-4830
FAX (520) 296-6093
TOLL FREE (800) 279-5664
EMAIL kene@longrealty.com
6410 E TANQUE VERDE • TUCSON, AZ 85715

Relax. You've got the Combo Policy Package from MetLife Auto & Home.®

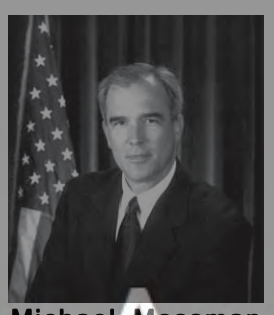
If you want convenience, coverage, and money-saving discounts on your auto and home insurance, then MetLife Auto & Home's Combo Policy Package is for you! One annual package, one bill, one effective date—plus a multi-policy discount that saves you money! Call today to learn more about our Combo Policy Package.

AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE®
All your protection under one roof®
Just East of Columbus on Broadway
4319 EAST BROADWAY BLVD.
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85711
Office: 520-323-0017
Fax: 520-323-0366
E-Mail: ktrank@amfam.com
24-Hour Claims Reporting: 800-374-1111
©2005 American Family Mutual Insurance Co. and its Subsidiaries
Home Office - Madison, WI 53783 07497 09/05

GET YOUR PHOTOS TAKEN BY AMANDA
FINEST QUALITYF
FAIREST PRICES
(520) 358-9810
BY APPOINTMENT

Tucson Observer Archives
tucsonobserverarchives.org
A family member of the Tucson Gay Museum
Registered - Copyrighted - All Rights Reserved

Federal Judge Blocks Oregon Domestic Partnership Law


Michael Mossman

PORTLAND, Oregon (Observer Update) - A federal judge Friday (December 28) blocked Oregon's new domestic partnership law for Gays and Lesbians from taking effect next week, allowing opponents to continue their efforts to try to get voters to overturn the law.

The surprise ruling comes four days before the law would allow Gay and Lesbian couples to gain most of the same legal benefits of marriage. Couples across Oregon were planning to show up at county offices Wednesday to register as partners.

But U.S. District Judge Michael Mosman ruled that they will have to wait. He set a February 1 hearing to decide a lawsuit challenging the state's methods for verifying signatures on a November 2008 referendum.

Mosman said attorneys for opponents showed that the rights of voters may have been violated if their signatures were wrongly rejected. Setting the next hearing in a month reduces the harm to people who would be affected by the new law, he said.

Supporters of the new law were stunned at the judge's decision.

"It's unfortunate that families are once again bearing the brunt of this ongoing struggle," said Jeana Frazzini, executive director of Basic Rights Oregon. "This is a long term movement for equality in Oregon. ... In this case, I still believe we will prevail."

In a survey on its Web site, Basic Rights Oregon counted 526 couples who said they planned to register for domestic partnerships. Multnomah County was bracing for as many as 200 couples seeking domestic partnerships.

The ruling does not affect another state law going into effect next week that bans discrimination against Gay and Lesbian residents in work, housing and public places.

Opponents are a group that opposes Gay and Lesbian rights and fought against the law during the Legislature earlier this year, calling it an attempt to thwart the 2004 statewide vote that rejected Gay and Lesbian marriage.

Gay Health Group Given Grant To Fight Meth Use

NEW YORK CITY (Observer Update) - Gay Men's Health Crisis, the world's oldest HIV/AIDS organization, has been awarded $303,000 in federal funds to fight the growing role of crystal methamphetamine use in the HIV/AIDS epidemic on a national level.

Studies have shown rising rates of crystal meth use among Gay men and men who have sex with men over the last few years. Various studies show a clear link between crystal meth use and unsafe sex.

In a 2004 study conducted by the National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors and the National Coalition of STD Directors, crystal meth users were more than twice as likely to be HIV infected, nearly twice as likely to contract gonorrhea, and five times as likely as non-crystal users to be diagnosed with syphilis.

Though crystal meth is most commonly smoked, injection use is on the rise. This is disturbing because of the increased potential for HIV transmission through shared needles, said Dr. Marjorie J. Hill, GMHC's Chief Executive Officer.

Hill said that GMHC views its first-ever federal appropriation as a unique and unprecedented opportunity in the agency's work to reach out to individuals who are struggling with crystal meth use and provide them with the information and tools to help them prevent becoming infected with HIV and other STIs.

"HIV diagnoses among men who have sex with men in the United States are up 13% since 2001. In New York City, infections among young MSM are up by one third.

Crystal meth is one factor fueling this rise in HIV infections among Gay men," said Janet Weinberg, Senior Managing Director of Development and Legislative Funding.

"This funding will allow us to warn people of the risks of crystal meth before they start using and to get users into treatment."

The legislation also flat-funded domestic abstinence-only-until-marriage education at $176 million for Fiscal Year 2008. The administration had sought an additional $28 million for the program.

"We're disappointed that this omnibus bill still contains millions for harmful and ineffective abstinence-only-until-marriage education and still contains the restriction banning the use of federal funds for syringe exchange," said Sean Cahill, Managing Director for Public Policy, Research and Community Health at GMHC.

Ending the violence.

Wingspan launches the Anti-Violence Project – a community initiative to assist lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender victims of discrimination, domestic violence, sexual assault and hate crimes.

Call the Anti-Violence Project 24-Hour Crisis Line at 624-0348, or toll-free 1-800-553-9387.

WINGSPAN
Southern Arizona's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community Center
www.wingspan.org

TUCSON RESOURCES - TUCSON RESOURCES - TUCSON RESOURCES

Tucson Observer Archives

BARKLEY MORTGAGE
Bringing Families Home
Steve Barreto
Loan Officer
7225 N. Oracle
Suite 112
Tucson, AZ 85704
Cell: (520) 548-2381
Direct: (520) 382-6433
Fax: (520) 797-3800
sbarreto@barkleymortgage.com

Transitions Counseling Tucson
David Daniell, MA, MSW, LCSW
Individual Adult Psychotherapy
6367 E Tanque Verde, Ste 100 Tucson, AZ 85715
Office: (520) 780-7687 www.DavidDLCSW.com
Fax: (866) 827-3910 DavidDLCSW@hotmail.com

4400 Hair Salon
Greg Yedding
Hair Designer / Stylist
520-322-5858
azspyder@msn.com
4400 E. Broadway Suite 106
Tucson, Az 85711

BCR
Best Choice Realty Co.
Steve Melton
Owner / Broker
Office: (520) 670-9000
Cell: 248-6232
Residence: 722-6373
1523 E. Broadway Tucson, AZ 85719

Antigone Books
• progressive
• independent
• fabulous
20% off any one rainbow item, LGBT novel or LGBT DVD.
We have books, cards, gifts, and things to make you laugh.
411 N. 4th Ave. • 792-3715 • antigonebooks.com

Presidio
Hair and Nail Salon
Ed Thibeault
985 N. Alvernon
Tucson, AZ 85711
(520) 321-9626

DUI SR-22
MIKE PIERCE INSURANCE
FREE QUOTES
888-8888
AUTO, LIFE, HOME, MEDICAL
COMMERCIAL, PROPERTIES, CONTRACTORS BONDINGS

ANDREW LOCKHART
Certified Personal Trainer
* Private Workout Studio
* No Membership Fees or Contracts
* Affordable
*FREE Initial Consultation and Training Session
520-909-4649

TWIST & SHOUT
RECORDS AND CDS
5741 E. SPEEDWAY
TUCSON, AZ 85712
PHONE: (520) 290-6600
OPEN
MON-SAT 10AM - 6PM
SUN 12 NOON - 6PM
CLASSIC DISCO, DANCE, POP, ROCK, C&W

IN BALANCE
Eric Cuestas-Thompson, LMSW, LISAC, CADAC
6151 East Grant Road • Tucson, Arizona 85712
OFFICE: 520-722-9631 • CELL: 520-272-4650
PSYCHOTHERAPY FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES & ADULTS

A. Michael Hutchins, Ph.D.
Counseling - Psychotherapy - Consulting
6812 North Oracle Rd. Suite 100
Tucson, Arizona 85704 520-797-2117

Charles Weasner
REALTOR® GRI
(520) 906-8103
Steve Redmond
REALTOR®
(520) 548-2096
Uptown, Downtown, ALL around the Valley!
LONG REALTY COMPANY
TucsonFoothillsLiving.com

RICH MUSZYNSKI Ph.D.
LICENSED PSYCHOLOGIST
4440 N. Campbell At River Rd.
P.O. Box 65840
Tucson, AZ 85728
Phone: 906-7048
Fax: 299-0712

Speedway Veterinary Hospital, Inc
Kayla R. Boyer, DVM
Small Animal Veterinarian
(520) 321-4235
3736 E. Speedway Blvd., Tucson, AZ 85716
www.speedwayvet.com

TUCSON GLBT
Chamber Of Commerce
Inclusive ▼ Engaged ▼ Professional
520 615-6436
P.O. Box 13312
Tucson, AZ 85732
info@tucsonglbtchamber.org
www.tucsonglbtchamber.org

tucsonobserverarchives.org

Registered - Copyrighted - All Rights Reserved

Queen Honors McKellen

Ian McKellen

LONDON (Observer Update) - Openly Gay actor and LGBT rights activist Ian McKellen has been awarded one of Britain's highest honors. In the Queen's New Year's honors list McKellen was named a Companion of Honor.

The order has only 65 members. It was founded by George V to recognize leaders in the arts, science and industry. In announcing the honor the palace hailed McKellen for his work as both an actor and a human rights activist. Best known for his role as Gandalf in the Lord of the Rings, McKellen also was a founding member of the British LGBT rights group Stonewall.

"I am honored to join an Order which includes such distinguished practitioners in the arts. It is particularly pleasing that 'equality' is included in my citation." It is not McKellen's first royal honor. The Royal Shakespeare Company actor was knighted by the Queen in 1990. At the time he described himself as "one of the very few openly Gay knights".

A family member of the Tucson Gay Museum®©

DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE

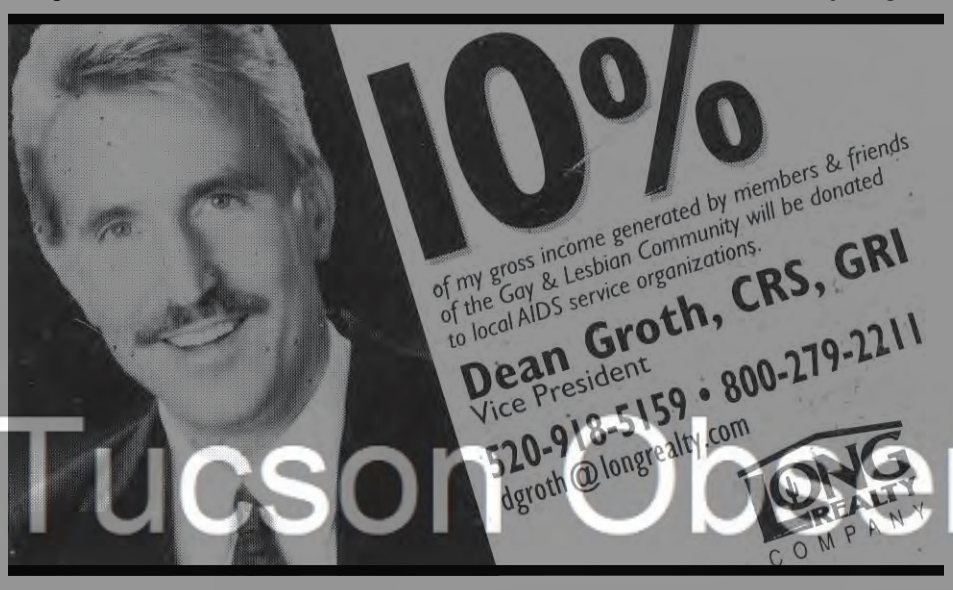
Gay Man To Become NJ Mayor

NEPTUNE, New Jersey (Observer Update) - New Jersey's getting some Gay history for the New Year when. Neptune Township Committeeman Randy Bishop's set to become the Garden State's third openly Gay mayor.

Bishop, who was sworn in at noon Tuesday (January 1) for his second three-year term on the committee, is expected to be picked as mayor for 2003. When that happens, Bishop will be one of two openly Gay mayors serving this year in New Jersey, and one of only three in the state's history. The list of openly Gay mayors in New Jersey is short: Democrat Gina Genovese became the state's first openly Gay mayor in 2005 when she was chosen for the position by the Republican majority on the Long Hill Township Committee. She no longer holds the office. As in Long Hill, Neptune's mayor is chosen by the Township Committee. In November, Tim Eustace, a 10-year member of the Maywood Borough Council, became the state's first openly Gay mayor elected by popular vote.

Randy Bishop

Current Neptune Mayor James Manning Jr., who also won re-election this year, said Bishop does not follow a "Gay agenda" in his policy decisions. "Randy approaches everything as a caring "person,'" Manning wrote in an e-mail. "His lifestyle has nothing to do with him leading the township."



HOROSCOPES

© 2007 Madam Lichtenstein

Get your stars aligned for a happy and successful 2008 by navigating the heavens strategically and carefully. Retro Mars through the 30th makes you a bull in a china shop but Jupiter and Pluto eventually make any erroneous move a brilliant stroke. Forge ahead but watch for breakage.

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)

2008 brings massive personal change and perhaps even a great career opportunity. How can you harness and direct this grand limo ride, proud Ram? Focus ... and focus some more. Then let it rip. There will be no stopping you once you set your course of action. Of course, sometimes just getting going takes some get up and go. There is plenty of time to be lazy in retirement.

TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)

Are you in a funk? Don't spend too much time warming your couch cushion queer Bull. This is the time to expand your world view any way you can - plan extensive travel, expand to a new course of study, pick up an unusual hobby or even cruise a new social scene. Life is passing you by. Bite the apple, peel the banana, inspire your tastebuds.

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)

Most of 2008 can be spent greasing your assorted wheels. Not only can you attract to pick of the litter, you can also manage to get into some pretty feisty trash. Which dumpster will you dive into for your jollies in 2008, sexy pink Twin? Try to be choosy and think about future happiness rather than a current jolt. Sparks fly with a quick match but go for the slow ember.

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)

You spend much of your time in 2008 examining, improving, seeking or settling in relationships of all sorts. Connection will be key whether in business or pleasure, Gay Crab, so don't crawl into your shell and wait for someone to knock. The interesting thing is that current seemingly solid relationships can change dramatically. When to hold and when to fold is the question.

LEO (JULY 24 - AUGUST 23)

As much as you yearn to dump your responsibilities and be the ultimate free spirit in 2008, it seems that at least planetarily all roads will lead to some form of work. Oh goody. Proud Lions may be swamped in detail, responsibilities and tiny tasks that can sap your energy ... if you allow. The karmic lesson that you need to learn is graceful balance. Or maybe just balance.

VIRGO (AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23)

Shy, restrained queer Virgins will have a rollicking 2008, whether they want to of not! The planets conspire to bring the good times to your door if you refuse to venture out. So enjoy your time as a party magnet and use it to expand your idea of creativity and fun. Who knew that food painting on pets could be so inspiring? Certainly not me!

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23)

Family patterns need to be changed and you are the one to do it, proud Libra. Not only does 2008 require more of your attention to home and hearth, it may also require you to dredge up family issues that need to be dealt with once and for all. Expect some stress before the calm but it will all be for the best. If you are looking to move, this is the year to pack and haul.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22)

As political as you are, 2008 brings you ample opportunity to express your opinion and make a few waves. Gay Scorps will call 'em as they see 'em, much to the consternation of others. But why not try to pour a little sugar on your more acid comments. If you have absolutely nothing nice to say, hire a good public relations firm. Ahem.

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22)

2008 can upend your money situation. Gay Archers never seem to budget and are even less interested in managing finances for their future security. This can go on only so long. The time is now for a careful consideration of your portfolio, your career path and your overall fiscal health. Keep your eye on the bottom line in all major (and minor) purchases or marry wealthy.

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20)

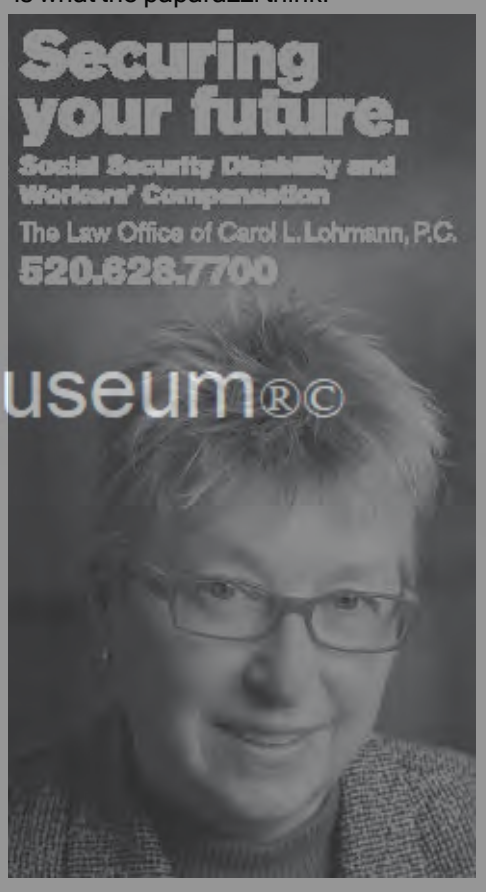
Not only will you capture the attention of the general rabble in 2008, you can use your new found notoriety to plant a few new pet projects so they can grow and build. Pink Caps can be very ambitious but might prefer to work their magic behind the scenes. This year there will be no hiding in the shadows. Get ready for your close-up and smile!

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19)

Give your intuition room to roam in 2008. Aqueerians can capture the moment and take any tiny, behind the scenes opportunity to new heights of importance. Pick your moments wisely. There will be almost too many temptations through the year. It would be a shame to aim for Tahiti only to find yourself in Toledo. Then again....

PISCES (FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20)

Guppies become a social force all through 2008 and why not? Expand and gather up all the interesting people that you know and milk the scene. Not only are you especially charming and fun, you are also the one with the ample resources and creativity to turn any minor soiree into an international gala. Or at least that is what the paparazzi think.



Tucson Observer Archives
tucsonobserverarchives.org
Registered Copyrighted All Rights Reserved
A family member of the Tucson Gay Museum®©

Scottsdale Subject Of LGBT Bias Complaint Becomes Gay Bar

SCOTTSDALE (Observer Update) - The room was crowded, the music was high energy and the liquor flowed for the opening Friday night (December 28) of Scottsdale's newest Gay club, reported 365Gay.com.

The debut of Club Forbidden ordinarily would not have attracted statewide media attention except that this was the same club and owner that only months ago were the subject of an investigation by the Attorney General's office for discrimination against transsexuals. "It was time for a change," said owner Tom Anderson.

Last month Anderson settled a discrimination complaint filed by Michele de LaFreniere, a Trans woman who had been ejected last year for using the women's bathroom when the club was known as Anderson's Fifth Estate. LaFreniere, who happens be the chair Scottsdale's Human Relations Commission, said at the time she was told by Anderson "I don't want your business or your kind here."

Anderson did not dispute that he barred Transsexual women from using the women's washroom. He claimed that female patrons were "freaking out" and threatening to take their business elsewhere. He also said he could not allow Transsexuals to use the men's room because the Transwomen were "at risk of getting beat up".

LaFreniere filed a complaint with the Attorney General's office which began an investigation. LaFreniere and Anderson finally met face to face at meeting arranged by Equality Arizona after Anderson after the club owner agreed to turn one of the bar's bathrooms into a unisex facility. "I have a better understanding of [LaFreniere's] position and she has a better understanding of mine," Anderson said following the meeting. But it led to Anderson taking a hard look at Scottsdale's Gay community and his own bottom line.

For 20 years Anderson's Fifth Estate had been a mainstay on the city's club list - specializing first in disco and then when that lost favor reinventing itself as a rock venue. But as newer and swankier clubs opened Anderson's became stuck in a time warp and by the time LaFreniere filed her complaint the club by some accounts was on life support.

Scottsdale's Gay community on the other hand was becoming more visible and with only one club in town, BS West, Anderson saw an opportunity. "Times change," Anderson told the Arizona Republic, "and it's time to change." The 5,500-square-foot club in the Old Town area has been redone with a fresh coat of paint, new couches and banquets, and a more extensive wine and martini list.

Owner Tom Anderson (R) with co-owner brother Ted

Michele deLaFreniere

Tucson Observer Archives

Pope Benedict XVI Condemns Pro-Gay Spanish Government; Attacks G/L Families

MADRID, Spain (Observer Update) - The city's Plaza de Colon and surrounding areas were host to people from throughout the country to hear speakers, including Pope Benedict XVI, condemn the Spanish government, led by Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero, for its 2005 affirmation of marriage rights for same-sex couples and easing of the divorce process.

"These atheist, irreligious governments want to make us believe that our life has no meaning," said event organizer and Catholic activist Kiko Arguello, "and that isn't true."

According to the Pope, such measures threaten the "traditional family," and therefore, humanity. During the Sunday Angelus prayer, the Pope said that the family is based on "the indissoluble union of man and woman," and "the place in which human life is sheltered and protected from its beginning until its natural end." "It is worthwhile to work for the family and marriage," he continued, via live video link, "because it is worthwhile to work for the human being, the most precious being created by God."

Attendance estimates range anywhere from 150,000 to 2 million. Predominantly Catholic Spain has undergone a liberalization in the decades since the death of dictator General Francisco Franco. Under Franco's rule, homosexuality was criminalized, and Gays were imprisoned, tortured and sometimes executed. Franco died in 1975, but homosexuality remained a crime in Spain until 1979, with homosexuality-related convictions staying on citizens' records until 2001.

In other news, Pope Benedict XVI in his first public address of 2008 to the faithful called same-sex marriage a threat to world peace. The leader of the world's 1.1 billion Roman Catholics called for support of traditional families made up of a union between a man and a woman and he condemned what he called attempts to undermine the traditional family unit. "I wanted to shed light on the direct relationship that exists between the family and peace in the world," the Pope said. "The family is the primary agent of peace and the negation or even the restriction of rights of the family ... threatens the very foundations of peace." It was his second attack on same-sex couples in three days.

tucsonobserverarchives

A family member of the Tucson Gay Museum®©

NON-BAR CALENDAR

Thursday, January 3
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Triangle Tribe-A Men's Circle. According to a recent study, very few people have as many close friends as they would like. Are you as connected with other men as you want to be? Do you get the support you need for issues in your life? Do you wish you had more meaningful friendships and relationships with other men? Join like-minded men at Wingspan to share feelings, thoughts and ideas in a safe, respectful space. For the same experience with both straight and gay men, join us at the regular Circle of Men meetings. Call Tom at 591-2828 for dates and times.

Friday, January 4
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Join Merlin and Lee for an evening of Charades. Come out and totally enjoy putting your acting/miming and pantomime skills to the test. For directions and reservations [(a limited space event, please plan ahead and phone early)], place a telephone call to Lee and Merlin, your gracious yet competitive emcees and moderators, at 207-5336.

Tucson Prime Timers Cocktails – 5:30 – - 7:00, Colors, 5305 E. Speedway

Saturday, January 5
The Arizona Wildfire, women's professional full-contact football team holds their last tryout today at 2:30 p.m. Call 289-2141 for more info.

#1 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 8:30a.m. Join Robert for a morning of Volleyball. This is played for fun, and you'll get to know some nice guys as you play. Two great ways to work on your game! For details and directions, please call Robert at 400-1376.

#2 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. We invite you to join us for our monthly Pot Luck Dinner and to get to know the members of MSN. It's a nice, safe setting, meet new men, and greet friends. Reservations are not necessary. Bring your favorite dish to share. If you don't cook, bring restaurant, deli, or grocery pre-cooked food. Call Steve at 745-0304 for location and directions.

Sunday, January 6
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 6:30p.m. Thom and/or Ken host Dinner Out at one of Tucson's Ultra-Fabulous Buffets. For reservations and directions, contact Thom 623-2941, e-mail thomsepals@hotmail.com , or Ken at 294-6606. Please contact Thom or Ken by Sunday at Noon to facilitate reservations. Price is usually under $10. Check the Yahoo on-line calendar for the scheduled place. The venue is rotated to include all parts of town, and may occasionally be held at a full-service menu restaurant.

Tucson Prime Timers Brunch – 11:30 am – 2 pm, Colors, 5305 E. Speedway

Monday, January 7
Deadline to be registered to vote for Arizona's presidential primary that will take place on Tuesday, Feb. 5. This is a "closed primary" meaning one must be registered with a participating political party to take part.

Tucson Prime Timers Lunch – 12:30 P.M., The Wildcat House, 1800 N. Stone Ave.

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed. Check MSN online calendar for today's events. www.groups.yahoo.com/group/menssocialnetwork/

Tuesday, January 8
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Play bridge with Jim! Call for info at 790-8735.

Wednesday, January 9
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00pm Hand and Foot hosted by Marv & Steve. Call Marv at 745-0304.

Thursday, January 10
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Triangle Tribe-A Men's Circle. According to a recent study, very few people have as many close friends as they would like. Are you as connected with other men as you want to be? Do you get the support you need for issues in your life? Do you wish you had more meaningful friendships and relationships with other men? Join like- minded men at Wingspan to share feelings, thoughts and ideas in a safe, respectful space. For the same experience with both straight and gay men, join us at the regular Circle of Men meetings. Call Tom at 591-2828 for dates and times.

TIHAN will conduct Volunteer Orientation/Training from 5:15 to 9:15 p.m. at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 1350 N. Arcadia Ave. Call (520)299-6647 for additional information and to sign up to begin your volunteer journey.

Friday, January 11
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed. Check MSN online calendar for today's events. www.groups.yahoo.com/group/menssocialnetwork/

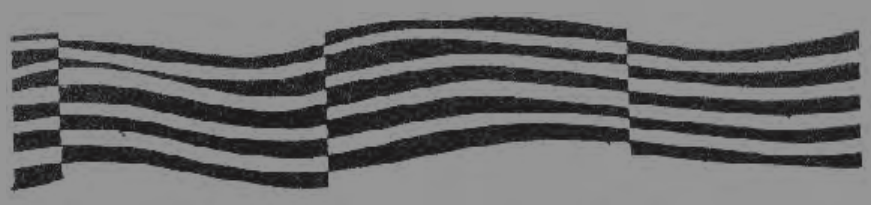
Tucson Prime Timers Cocktails – 5:30 PM, Colors, 5305 E. Speedway

Saturday, January 12
"Homoneurotic II will hold auditions for their April production at the Cabaret space in the Temple of Music and Art downtown. 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. At Wingspan, 425 E. 7th Street.

#1Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 1:00p.m. Meet Lee and Merlin at Crave Espresso Bar on Broadway for the MSN 'coffee night during the day' revival! Enjoy basic or elaborate coffee beverages, pastries baked fresh every morning, and talk things over! Crave is in the same strip mall as Dandy Dime where the 31 flavors used to be. Check the Crave website for prices and complete menu: www.craveespressobar.com Need direction in Life? Call Merlin or Lee for details and directions at 207-5336.

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

Tucson Prime Timers Business Meeting – 11 AM, Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St.



Tucson Observer Archives
tucsonobserverarchives.org
Registered - Controlled - All Rights Reserved
A family member of the Tucson Gay Museum®©

Lesbian TV Character Inspires $1 Million Donation To Breast Cancer Research

LOS ANGELES, California - It truly is the season for giving, and to honor that tradition, a fan of the popular show The L Word has donated $1 million to the Dr. Susan Love Research Foundation in the name of some the show's most prolific stars, Gaywired.com reported. Actress Erin Daniels who portrays a Gay breast cancer victim on the series inspired the anonymous donation.

Erin Daniels as Dana Fairbanks

The L Word, which is set mostly in the trendy world of Los Angeles, centers around the lives of a group of Lesbian friends and was developed after the overwhelming success of the Showtime drama Queer as Folk. Slated for its fifth season to begin in 2008, the show stars Jennifer Beals, Katherine Moennig, Pam Grier and Leisha Hailey. Daniels played Dana Fairbanks, Hailey's lover on the show, who discovered she had breast cancer in season three and eventually died of heart failure. The generous donor recognized the realism and truth the actress brought to the breast cancer story line and made the largest private donation to the Foundation ever.

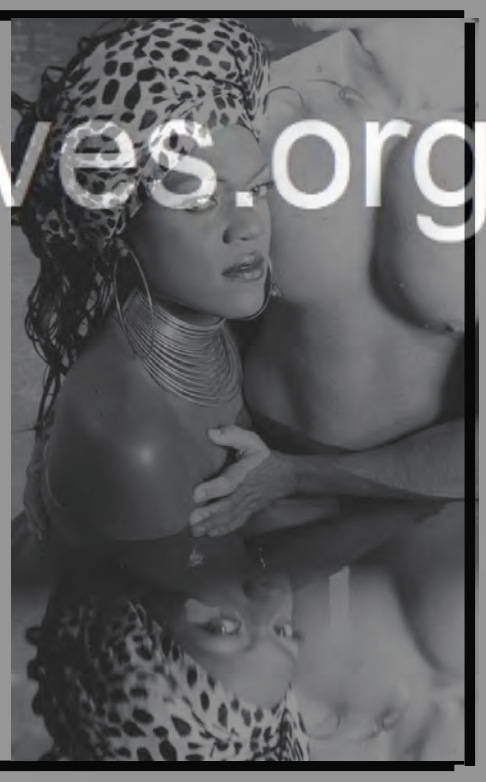
The $1 million gift will be used to establish The Erin Daniels and Leisha Hailey Fund for Breast Cancer and all donations will be given to the Love Research Foundation. "There are very few times in a woman's life where she feels she's been lucky enough to be part of something that will change lives," Daniels said in a press release.

"This is one of those times. I am overwhelmed that my portrayal of Dana's story has inspired such an act of kindness and generosity, and elated to be part of it. I am thankful that so many women will be given hope due to Dr. Love's program."

In addition to that generosity, the anonymous donor intends to match dollar for dollar every donation made to the fund, which supports research aimed to end breast cancer in our lifetime. "It is an honor that our breast cancer story line touched someone in such a tremendous way that she so generously gave to such a tragic illness, Hailey told the Advocate. For more information about the Foundation, or to make a donation visit: dslrf.org.

WATER OF LIFE
Metropolitan Community Church
Reverend Gale Rawson, Pastor
Our Mission . . .
Discover God's Love In All People
Sunday Service - 10:15 AM
Fellowship Thursdays - 7:00 PM
3269 North Mountain Avenue
Tucson AZ 85719
(Just North of Ft. Lowell)
292-9151
www.wolmcc.org

Ahead of Style
A Hair and Nail Salon
Owner
Ajia Simone
426 East 9th Street
Tucson, Arizona
624-8400

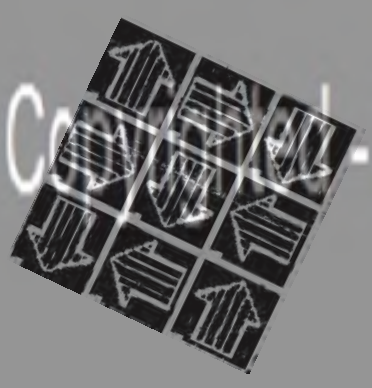


Cher And Chastity Pitch 'Coming Out' Reality TV Show

LOS ANGELES, California - Cher and Lesbian daughter Chastity Bono are about to turn themselves into the latest reality TV stars.

Their somewhat unlikely thesis has them starring as 'celebrity counsellors' to those struggling to find the courage to admit to their parents that they are Gay. And it is a subject about which they have bitter experience.

When Cher discovered the then teenage Chastity was a Lesbian, she threw a tantrum and booked her daughter into therapy in a bid to 'cure' her. They have decided to christen the reality TV show, "Coming Out With Cher And Chas." The pair believe they are on to a winner and have been setting up meetings with the major networks.



ON-SITE COMPUTER REPAIR
Mighty Mouse Computer Consulting, Inc.
WE FIX PCs AND MACs!
Repair - Maintenance - Networking - Upgrades- Webhosting - Web design
Computer running slow?
Popups?
Virus?
Adware or Spyware?
New hardware?
Want to share your internet connection?
(520) 312-2630
We'll save you time, money and frustration!
We come to you!
A+ Certified
7 years experience!

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE 25¢ PER WORD, $5.00 MINIMUM
CLASSIFIED ADS WILL NOT BE TAKEN BY PHONE

SERVICES

MALE CAREGIVER / COMPANION available for live-in position. I have excellent references, fingerprint clearance card. C.P.R. certificate, first aid certificate, massage license, driver's license, excellent driver. I can also cook and clean. I am looking for a gentleman who needs help with daily activities. Disabled veterans welcome also. Serious calls please. No phone sex. Donald, 928-779-0321 1224

AFFORDABLE COMPUTER SERVICES: For home or business, we come to you with friendly, economical, quality installation, instruction and service. Setup and configuration, as well as networking, virus removal and updates. Call Carl @ 977-2572 and get a free quote. 1224

ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS
Let me keep your clothes fitting properly and in good repair. Experienced - Economical - Prompt. Merle Hudson, (520)888-7264 in Tucson. 1235

TELL OUR ADVERTISERS
YOU SAW THEIR AD IN THE OBSERVER

Tucson Observer Archives
tucsonobserverarchives.org
Registered - Copyrighted - All Rights Reserved
A family member of the Tucson Gay Museum®©

DAILY BAR CALENDAR

SUNDAY

THE BIZ - Open 3pm-2am; $2 Pitchers til 10pm and Rotating Shot Specials all night;. Latino Explosion 9pm with DJ Hill. Beer Bust 5-10pm

COLORS - Open 10am - 10pm Champagne Brunch 10am - 2pm with choice of complimentary mimosa, Bloody Mary or Screwdriver included. Happy Hour 4-7pm $3.50 Skyy Cocktails, $2.75 Domestics and well. Appetizers ½ price 4-6. Brunch served until 2pm. Full menu served until 10;m. Nightly dinner specials.

HOWL AT THE MOON - 10am. Starting 9/9. NFL package here. Wear an NFL team t-shirt or jersey and get 50¢ off your drink. Smirnoff Vodkas $2.50 all day. Free Texas Hold-'Em Poker Tournaments at 3 and 6 pm. Play for points and prizes - no cash involved. $1 hot dogs, $2 chili dogs during game. SIN Nite Drink Discounts for Service Industry employees with ID or payroll receipt. Latin Dance Music 8:30 to close.

IBT's -Troy's Recovery Bar noon-4pm. 4-7:30 Karaoke on the patio. Benefit B-B-Q for the Pride Parade 5:30-7:30 and dance with DJ Mike Lopez 9pm to close.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio open 3pm. $2.00 Bloody Marys or Screws til 3pm Patio Beer Bust 3-7.Burger BBQ 5-7. Selection of burger meats to choose from. $3 proceeds go to Pet Watch (helping HIV/AIDS clients with their veterinary bills).

WOODY'S - Open 11am.Happy Hour 11am-8pm (excl spec events); Brunch 11:30am-2:30pm; Back Pocket Patio Bar 2pm til 2am. Beer Bust 2-7pm; Bar-B-Que 5-9pm; Karaoke with Michael D. 9p.m.; DJ Jeff in the Back Pocket 9pm; Drag Bingo every other Sunday 8-9pm Watch for special events.

YARD DOG - Open 10am - 2am. Patio Bar opens at 7pm.

MONDAY

THE BIZ - Open 3pm-10pm; Drink what you want with ½ priced Happy Hour. Poke-Her Monday! Free card lessons 5pm. Free Texas Hold-'em Tourney at 6pm; Prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd Places. Happy Hour pricing.

COLORS - Open 4-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7. $3.50 Skyy Cocktails, $2.75 well & domestics. Appetizers ½ price 4-6m. Full menu served until 10pm.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open 3pm. Happy Hour all day & night with $2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. $3.50 sm. Pitcher/$5.50 lg. Watch MNF here! $1.00 hot dogs during game. Free Texas Hold-Em Poker tourney at 6 & 8:30, Play for points and prizes. No cash involved.

IBT's -Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, DJ Craig Carter 10pm-2am $1.50 well vodka drinks, All drink specials not available during special events.

VENTURE-N - Open 9am. Patio 6pm. Free pool til 4pm. $2.75 Skyy Martinis 4-8pm..

WOODY'S - Open Noon til 2am. Happy Hour Noon-8pm (excl spec events) Karaoke with Michael D. 9pm

YARD DOG - Open daily 8am. 50¢ off any Top Shelf Rum until 8pm. Beer Bust 4-8pm. Patio Bar opens 7pm

TUESDAY

THE BIZ - Half-Price Happy Hour 3-8pm. Karaoke 8pm-12am with 2 for 1 drinks.

COLORS - Open 4-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7 $3.50 Skyy cocktails, $2.75 Domestics and well and ½ price appetizers 4-6. Full menu served until 10pm.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, $2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints.$3.50 sm. Pitcher/$5.50 lg. Pitcher. $2.50 well margaritas and tequila. 75¢ off call tequilas. Free Texas Hold-Em Poker for women only at 6:00 p.m. Play for points and prizes - no cash involved. $2 u-call-it drink special 9pm to midnight (some restrictions apply).

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, Tropical Tuesdays $2.50 Tropical drinks and DJ Craig Carter playing Retro Music 70's, 80's and 90's 9pm-close.

VENTURE-N - Open 9am. Patio 7pm. Free Pool til 4pm. Spaghetti Nite (2nd Tuesday every month $2.00).

WOODY'S - Open Noon til 2am. Happy Hour Noon-8pm (excl spec events). Havana Night with Woody's own Specialty Mojitos, Caprioskas and Martinis.

YARD DOG - Open daily 8am.50¢ off any Top Shelf Tequila until 8pm Dart Tourney at 9am. Beer Bust 4-8pm. Patio Bar Opens 7pm.

WEDNESDAY

THE BIZ - Open 3pm-2am; Drink what You Want with ½ priced Happy Hour 3-8pm; 18 to Party, 21 to Drink! 18 & Over Night w/DJHill at 9pm! Rotating Shot Specials all night. Patio Bar opens @ 10:30pm.

COLORS - Open 4-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, $3.50 Skyy cocktails, $2.75 Domestics and ½ price appetizers 4-6. Full menu served until 10pm. Nightly dinner specials. Every Wednesday is "Cabaret Open Mic Night". Sign up at 6:30 - Show starts at 7. MC: Cabaret Diva Liz McMahon. Music Director: Marilyn Harris.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, $2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints, $3.50 sm. Pitcher/$5.50 lg. Pitchers. $5.00 Jager Bombs and Long Island Ice Tea. Free Texas Hold-'Em Poker Tournaments at 6 & 8:30 pm Play for points & Prizes. No cash involved.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, "Diva-Licious" show 9pm w/ Bunny Fu Fu& Friends. After show dance with DJ Q til 2am,

VENTURE-N - Open 9am. Patio 7pm. Free Pool til 4pm. $2.75 Cuervo Margaritas 4-8pm

WOODY'S - Open Noon til 2am; Service Industry Day - $1 off all drinks except schnapps and draft. Happy Hour Noon-8pm (excl Spec Events); Chili Dog Buffet 5-9pm; Underwear/Fetish/Leather Party 9-close - $1 off all drinks for those who participate (50¢ off draught/ schnapps) Back Pocket Patio Bar open 9pm-close.

YARD DOG - Open daily 8am.50¢ off any Top Shelf Vodka until 8pm Beer Bust 4-8pm. Patio Bar Opens 7pm. Dart Tourney 8pm.

THURSDAY

THE BIZ - Open3pm-2am; Drink What You Want with ½ priced Happy Hour 3-8pm; 'Thirsty Thursday' with Tori Steele & Friends! Drag show now ts at 10pm with Tori Steele, China Colliins and guests. $2 Pitchers and Rotating Shot Specials. Followed by DJ Hill til 2am.

COLORS - Open 4pm-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm,$3.50 Skyy cocktails, $2.75 Domestics and Well and ½ price appetizers. Full menu served until 10. Nightly dinner specials.. .

HOWL AT THE MOON - Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, $2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints, $3.50 sm. Pitcher/$5.50 lg.. Pitcher. Mexican Beers $2.50 all Iday, all night. Karaoke starts at 9 p.m.

IBT's -Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, Boyz Nite Out with your Bartenders & GoGo Boys dancing in their undies and DJ Mike Lopez spinning Top 40 & All request $1.75 Long Islands and $1.50 Tequila shots 10pm-2am.

VENTURE-N - Open 9am. Patio open 7pm. Free Pool til 4pm. Pool Tourney 7pm. $3 entry. Special prices for players. Steak Nite (3rd Thursday during summer). Bring your own or get it here $6.00.

WOODY'S - Open Noon-2am; Happy Hour Noon-8pm (excl Spec Events); Free Pool all day. Nacho Chip Buffet 5-9pm; $1 PBRs Longnecks and $2 Tecate Longnecks; Back Pocket Bar open 8-close.

YARD DOG - Open daily 8am.50¢ off any Top Shelf Bourbon til 8pm. Beer Bust 4-8pm. Patio Bar opens 7pm.

FRIDAY

THE BIZ - Open 3pm-2am; Drink What You Want with ½ priced Happy Hour 3-8pm; Rotating weeks Latin or Hip Hop Music with DJ Hill at 9pm. Rotating Shot Specials all night! Patio Bar opens at 10:30pm

COLORS - Open 4pm-midnight. Happy Hour 4-7pm, $3.50 Skyy cocktails, $2.75 Domestics and Well and ½ price appetizers. Finlandia martinis $5.50 open to close! Full menu served until 10. "Hot Jazz, Cool Martinis" with Susan Artemis & Craig Faltin 6:30 to 9:30. "Guys & Dolls" drag show hosted by Lucinda Holliday at 10pm. Nightly dinner specials. Drink specials during the drag show.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, $2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. $3.,50 Sm. Pitcher/$5.50 lg. Pitcher. $2.50 Smirnoff Ice. Triple Black, Green Apple and Raspberry Twisters. Free Country dance lessons at 7:30p.m. DJ Pat plays classic country 8:30 to close..

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, 9pm Hot Dance with DJ Mike Lopez outside on the patio and DJ Raynman spinning club music inside.9pm-2am.

VENTURE-N - Open 9am. Patio open 7pm. Free Pool til 4pm.

WOODY'S - Open Noon-2am; Happy Hour Noon-8pm (excl spec events)Enjoy the sounds of Simon Crown 6-9 p.m.; Martini Happy Hour 5-8pm-$1 off all call Martinis; Back Pocket Patio Bar open 8-close. Watch for special events.

YARD DOG - Open daily 8am.50¢ off any Top Shelf Gin until 8pm. Beer Bust 4-8pm. Patio Bar Opens 7pm

SATURDAY

THE BIZ - $2.00 U-Call-Its til 11pm. Saturday night dance party with DJ Hill9pm. Patio Bar opens at 10:30pm.

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

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 2pm. Happy Hour 2-8pm, $2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. $3.50 sm. Pitcher/$5.50 lg. $4.50 cheeseburger & fries.$2.50 Captain Morgan or Malibu Rum all day, all night. Check our calendar for the Saturday Night Special Entertainment.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, 5-8pm karaoke and Teryaki Kabobs on the patio. 8:30pm Show time w/ Ajia Simone or Janee Star. DJ Q spinning Club Music inside and Mike Lopez spinning on the patio 10pm to close..

VENTURE-N - Open 9am. Patio Bar open 3pm. Patio Beer Bust 3-7pm.

WOODY'S - Open 10am-2am; Happy Hour 10am-8pm (excl spec events); Steak/Fish Dinner in the Back Pocket 5-9pm. Back Pocket Patio Bar open 5-close. Live Jazz with Arthur Migliazza in the Back Pocket 6-9pm; DJ Jeff in the Back Pocket 9-close. Watch for special events.

YARD DOG - Open daily 8am. Beer Bust 4-8pm. $1.25 glass, $2.25 pitcher. Patio Bar Opens 7pm.

Mighty Mouse Says

By Mike Pollack

Here are five ways to back up your data that is currently on your computer:

1. USB Flash Drives – These are inexpensive and available at any office supply store. They are great for backing up documents or files you work on regularly. You use them the same way you would a floppy drive.

2. CD and DVD Writers/Re-Writers – These are great for archiving files that you want to keep, but don't change too often, or you want to keep historical changes to. CDs and DVDs require some extra steps to write data to them. They can be very inexpensive if you buy a large spindle of discs. You do need to have a CDRW or DVDRW drive to use these.

3. External Hard Drives – These have really come down in price recently. Drives usually start at $80. These are the best option if you'd like to have your backup done on a timer or if you have a very large amount of data to backup. We've started setting these up for a lot of clients, so that they know their data is being backed up without having to remember to do it!

4. Additional Hard Drives – You can get a second hard drive installed with a RAID card, which would allow your computer to "mirror" your hard drive constantly. Essentially, you'd have two identical hard drives. If one fails, you just unplug the bad one and you're up and running again!

5. Online Storage – This can be a great solution for people who want timed backups and want to make sure a copy of their vital data is kept off-site in case of theft or fire. We usually recommend this in addition to one of the other backup methods. Here is a link to reviews of various services by PC World magazine: pcworld.com/article/id,121970-page,1/article.html

(For your computer needs, questions or to have your problems solved, Mighty Mouse Computer Consulting will save your day. For more information, call Mike at (520) 312-2630, E-mail: mike@mmcci.com or go online to www.mmcci.com/ .)

BAR CALENDAR Of Upcoming Events

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3
WOODY'S - Super Bowl Party.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5
HOWL AT THE MOON - Birthday Benefit Show for Vivika d'Angelo. 9:00 p.m. Celebrate Vivikas birthday with an extraordinary cast - Tori Steele, Ms. Leading,. Ana Rexia, Angel, Somora Dehuni, Veronica Chase, China Collins. Mama Whore Tense and Jasmine Bouvier.

WOODY'S - Post New Year's Eve Party

TUESDAY, JANUARY 8
WOODY'S - Movie Night with your favorite movies and popcorn.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9
WOODY'S - Thermal Underwear Night.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17
VENTURE-N - Anniversary Party for the Venture. Watch for more info.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26
IBT'S - Janet Jackson CD Release Party

Tucson Observer Archives
tucsonobserverarchives.org
- Copyrighted - All Rights Reserved
A family member of the Tucson Gay Museum®©

NOTICES - COMMUNITY - NOTICES

TUCSON KNIGHT OWLS (T.K.O) Openly invites new members to our monthly meetings which occur on the first Saturday of every month at 12:00 pm., followed by a beer bust from 2pm to 6pm., at our home bar the Yard Dog saloon.

HALLELUJAH RECOVERY DRUG & ALCOHOL 12-STEP. Every Thursday 5:30-6:30pm at Cornerstone Fellowship, 2902 N. Geronimo. 622-4626.

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

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

P.F.L.A.G. - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays - is a support group available to anyone who has a son, daughter or friend who is Gay. Call 360-3795 or write P.O. Box 36264, Tucson, AZ 85740-6264. All replies confidential.

GLBT-friendly AL-ANON group meets Saturdays at 11am at Unitarian Universalist Church, 4831 E. 22nd Street, Tucson.

YOUNG AND GAY?
GLBT Youth 23 and under, meet every Saturday in Tucson for sharing, support and information. Meetings are held at 425 E. 7th 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 (TPT) activities. Meetings luncheons and dinners are held monthly. For dates, times and information call 298-6727, leave name and phone number. Tucsonpt@primetimersww,org

TUCSON INFORMATION AND REFERRAL For Information on human service organizations, health and mental health services, financial and government assistance, emergency services such as food and shelter, education, etc. Call Information and Referral 325_2111 _ 7am_7pm M-F - 9am-5pm weekend and holidays.

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

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

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

GET NAKED with TNTucson MEN! We're a social and recreational club. Have you ever longed to camp, swim, hike or play with others who enjoy the same, dropping all the masks and pretensions? We;re for you! TNTucsonMEN@nethere.com, P.O. Box 12176, Tucson 85792 or call 514-9894

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

BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO – a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, Call the Bears Hotline (520)790-5775 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910 of visit our website at www.botop.com All are welcome to our general meetings/potlucks on the 2nd Friday of every month, at 3202 E. 1st St. (the "Ward 6" Office Bldg.) Just south of Speedway & East of Country Club. PotLuck Dinner begins at 6:30 and the monthly meeting follows at 7:15 p.m.

LESBIAN AND GAY AL-ANON - Affected by someone's drinking? Meeting every Tuesday 8:45 to 9:45 p.m. at Lambda Center, 2940 E. Thomas, Phoenix. Ellie 581-8850 or Ronn 968-2384.

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

CRONIES SOCIAL GROUP. A Social group for Gay men who enjoy the fellowship of their peers. Call Leo at 624-6768.

T-SQUARES Lesbian and Gay Square Dance Club, dances Tuesdays. from 6:30-9 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N. Geronimo (Northwest of 1st Ave. and Glenn). No experience, no partner required! For more info contact David at 325-6739, or visit www.azgaydance.org

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

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

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

DESERT VOICES, Tucson's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Straight Chorus, has been singing songs of pride, hope and laughter for 19 seasons. Check out our website at www.desertvoices.org, or call (520)791-9662 for information about upcoming concerts or how to join.

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

AA Meeting with HIV/AIDS focus, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., Wingspan Annex, 425 E. 7th Street. All alcoholics welcome.

MEN'S SOCIAL NETWORK: Social organization for men of all ages. Building an extended Gay family in Tucson. Monthly social potluck gatherings the first Saturday of each month and almost weekly social activities. Call 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, contact TEAM ARIZONA at their website: teamarizona.org

ARE YOU GAY OR BISEXUAL AND UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE? The Gay Young Men's Project is now looking for volunteers for the project. We need people who want to help create a positive social change for young Gay men as well as reduce the risk for HIV infection. For more information please call 628-7223.

THE MEN'S MASSAGE GROUP meets the 2nd 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.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GLBT, Tucson's Gay and Lesbian business networking group holds regular meetings the third Thursday of every month. Call 615-6436 for more info. www.tucsonglbtchamber.org

TUCSON PRIDE, INC. (Formerly Tucson Lesbian and Gay Alliance - TLGA) meets on the second Wednesday at 845 S. Craycroft Road at 6pm. Tucson Pride events: Pride Week, Gay West and

Pride Weekend. 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 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.

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

SMART (Self Management And Recovery Training) a free non-12-step self-help alternative for people working to overcome addictive and other emotional problems meets in Tucson Monday thru Thursdays at different locations. For more information about SMART, contact Jennifer at 838-3975.

THIS WAY OUT, 1/2 hour national GLBT show. 4:30 p.m. daily on 91.3 FM, Community Radio KXCI.

THEATER / DINNER / MOVIES / ETC! Nonsmoking Lesbian Network meets every month. If you'd like to meet women 50+ (flexible) and socialize in a smoke-free environment, please call or email: 888-8010 'til 9pm, or joycesmth1@aol.com. The group dines OUT! and attends shows, movies, comedy events, etc. Now in our 23rd year, 7th in Tucson.

SOUTHERN ARIZONA GENDER ALLIANCE (SAGA). The Southwest's largest transgender and gender-diversity advocacy organization. Speakers and panelists available. General meetings monthly on the 1st Mondays at 7pm; Dezert Girlz (MTF Support) meets 2nd Mondays at 7pm; Dezert Boyz (FTM Support) meets 3rd Tuesdays at 7pm. Also serving partners, youth, intersex, service providers and allies. Call (520)624-1779 x26 for more info.

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

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

DESERT DOMINION, whose focus is providing information and education for people interested in the BDSM lifestyle, meets monthly for group discussion and social events. Visit our web site http://www.desertdominion.org or call (520)792-6424

SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS. Starting this February, the Tucson Rape crisis Center will be providing free confidential group services for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender survivors of all manner of sexual assault. Interested persons please call Mirto Stone, MSW, at 327-1171 (if unavailable leave message) .

BROTHERS OF THE COMPASSIONATE WAY. Pagan spiritual group for gay, bisexual, transgendered men. Box 41623, Tucson, AZ 85717.

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, 425 E.7th Street. 743-4800.

SAA (Sex Addicts Anonymous) has 5 meetings a week in Tucson. People who wish to stop their compulsive sexual behavior, please call (520) 745-0775 for current information.

TUCSON GREATER SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION. Interested? Call Kelly Quinn, (520)906-0669 and or Mona Garcia 256-8728.

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

REVEILLE MEN'S CHORUS rehearses Thursday evenings 7-10pm at the Historic Y, corner of University Blvd. And 5th Ave. Join us!! Call 304-1758 for more info.

"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

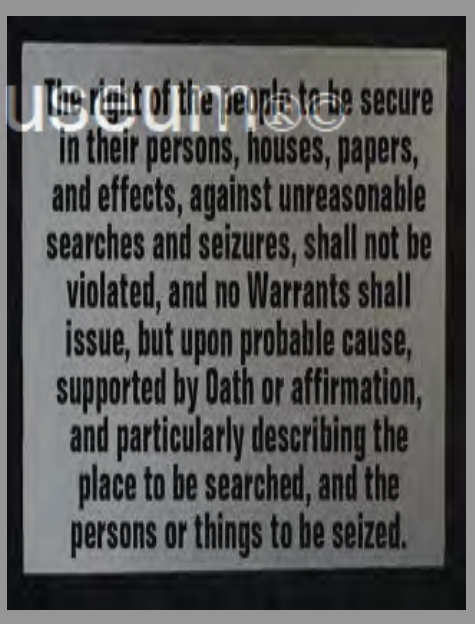
THE MAN TO MAN Social/erotic education club is the tantric men's group that offers passionate friendships, fun activities and real Tantric sex education. Marc 881-4582

LGBT Buddhist Meditation Group. Join us for two 20 minute silent sitting meditations, and reading from Buddhist Spiritual text and discussion. Bring a friend and a pillow or cushion. Takes place every Sunday from 10-11:30AM at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St. Donations accepted. Contact Maurice Grossman for more info. 323-2293.

LGBT SUPPORT GROUP FOR VICTIM/SURVIVORS OF Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Hate Crimes, Bias Acts, Harassment. Call Lori at Wingspan, 624-1779, ext. 20. Services are free.

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

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



Tucson Observer Archives
tucsonobserverarchives.org
Archived Copyrighted - All Rights Reserved
Archive Member of the Tucson Gay Museum

A LGBT Overview Of 2007's Memorable Remarks

TucsonObserver Archives

tucsonobserverarchives.org

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - Many statements and remarks were spoken during 2007, some of which were LGBT related, reported the Washington Blade.

"I am not a hero, I am not special in any regard. I am simply doing what a good person of principle and conscience should do, which is making people aware that Gay people don't just look like Jack from 'Will & Grace,' and that they don't want to jump your bones every occasion, and that some are camp, and some are butch, and that's we're different, and useful and we are here." John Amaechi, becoming the first NBA player, active or retired, to announce he is Gay (ESPN, Feb. 11)

"K.T. is my life partner. K.T. stands for Kathy Travis. We're going on seven years. I have never been with a man in my whole life. I'm still a 55-year-old virgin." Financial guru Suze Orman announcing she would like to get married so her Lesbian partner can avoid paying estate taxes when Orman dies (New York Times Magazine, Feb. 25)

"I was going to have a few comments on the other Democratic presidential candidate, John Edwards, but it turns out you have to go into rehab if you use the word 'faggot,' so I – so kind of an impasse, can't really talk about Edwards." Author and pundit Ann Coulter, speaking at a national gathering of conservatives (CSPAN, March 2)

"I believe homosexual acts between two individuals is immoral and that we should not condone immoral acts. I do not believe the United States is well served by a policy that says it is OK to be immoral in any way." Gen. Peter Pace, former chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, outlining his support of the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy (Chicago Tribune, March 12)

"Never once in my 54 years have I ever once heard a Gay or Lesbian person who's politically active say one thing about anything that was not about them. They don't care about minimum wage, they don't care about any other group other than their own self because you know, some people say being Gay and Lesbian is a totally narcissistic thing and sometimes I wonder. I've never heard any of them say anything except for 'accept me 'cause I'm Gay.' It's just, it's screwed … I don't give a damn who anybody has sex with, as long as they're not underage and an animal. I don't give a damn, it's none of my damn business. I'm just sick of all the divisiveness, it's not getting any of us anywhere." Comedian Roseanne Barr, while co-hosting a California radio show (April 6)

"He's very interested in what being Gay is because so many of our friends are Gay. When talking around your child you have to think very carefully and you have to be prudent about your choice of words. You talk about people looking for happiness and fulfillment in their lives, and how all families are different and look different. You're forced to really consider your answers. You're forced to think a lot about what you're saying and how you're saying it – even the tone." Actress Sarah Jessica Parker on talking to her 4-year-old son, James, who has been asking questions about what "Gay" means (azcentral.com, May 24)

"Words have power. The power to express love, happiness and joy. They also have the power to heal. When you use words that demean a person because of their sexual orientation, race or gender, you send a message of hate … We have the power to heal and change the world by the words we use." Actor Isaiah Washington's public service announcement on ABC, part of his attempt to make amends for his slur against a fellow "Grey's Anatomy" star (Associated Press, May 28)

"Those comments were from just one guy, and John Waters blew them right out of the water. There is nothing Gay in this movie. I'm not playing a Gay man. Scientology is not homophobic in any way, in fact it's one of the more tolerant faiths. Anyone's accepted." John Travolta addressing complaints by Washington Blade editor Kevin Naff that he should not have played a role in "Hairspray" (The Times, June 30)

"The majority no longer wanted the covering. For some, they said they were environmentally conscious and wanted to cut down on waste. For others, it was more of an out-and-proud issue." Michael Phelps, the publisher of The Advocate, explaining that the magazine would no longer be sent in a wrapper unless requested by the subscriber (New York Times, July 9)

"You know when we lost everything, it was the Gay people who came to my rescue and I will always love them for that." Tammy Faye Messner in an appearance on Larry King Live shortly before her death (July 19)

"Thankfully, it wasn't scandal, which would have been the worst. I'm not very scandalous. It sort of happened in a way that allowed me to make a statement, and squelch rumors, that was a pro-active affirmation, without it becoming a big, giant deal." Gay actor Neil Patrick Harris on what it was like to publicly come out (Los Angeles Times, Aug. 12)

"Merv Griffin was Gay … Why should that be so uncomfortable to contemplate? Why is it so difficult to write? Why are we still so jittery even about raising the issue in purportedly liberal-minded Hollywood, in 2007? … How tremendously sad that a man of Merv's considerable gifts, of his gregarious nature and social dexterity, would feel compelled to endure such a stealthy double-life … He certainly didn't owe us any explanation, but you might conclude he owed it to himself to remove the suffocating veil he'd long been forced to hide behind." Writer Ray Richmond, memorializing TV icon Merv Griffin (Hollywood Reporter, Aug. 17)

"I think it's a choice." New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson, while participating in a Democratic presidential debate on Gay issues, responding to Lesbian rocker Melissa Etheridge's question of whether Richardson thinks "a homosexual is born that way, or do you think that around seventh grade, we go, 'Ooo, I want to be Gay.'" (LOGO, Aug. 9)

"You know, I'm Hispanic. I felt the sting as a kid of being stereotyped. And I apologize, but I meant no harm when I said that." Richardson, clarifying his remarks, after being criticized by Gay activists and organizations (Washington Blade, Aug. 17)

"At 1216 hours, Craig tapped his right foot … Craig tapped his toes several times and moved his foot closer to my foot … The presence of others did not seem to deter Craig as he moved his right foot so that it touched the side of my left foot … At 1217 hours, I saw Craig swipe his hand under the stall divider … At about 1219 hours, I held my police identification in my right hand down by the floor so that Craig could see it … Craig responded, 'No!'" Police report filed by Minneapolis Airport Officer Dave Karsnia (The Smoking Gun, Aug. 28)

"I am not Gay, I never have been Gay." Sen. Larry Craig (R-Idaho) responding to news about his arrest for soliciting sex in an airport bathroom (Fox News, Aug. 28)

"These events have provided an important opportunity for us to confront a difficult fact: There are good, decent, moral people in this country who do not yet embrace their Gay brothers and sisters as full members of our shared community. We will not secure full equality for all LGBT Americans until we learn how to address that deep disagreement and move beyond it." Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.), responding to criticism he received for scheduling an appearance by "ex-Gay" gospel singer Donnie McClurkin at a South Carolina event for Obama's presidential campaign (Washington Blade, Nov. 16)