

Observing Tucson And  
The Greater Arizona Community

# OBSERVER

THE WEEKLY OBSERVER

JUNE 1, 1994

ISSUE 515

## Chris Brown Appointed Chief HIV/STD Officer For ADHS



TUCSON - Christopher Brown, the AIDS Program Manager with the Pima County Health Department (PCHD), has been offered and accepted the position of Chief of the Office of HIV/STD Services with the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) in Phoenix.

Chris moved from McLean, Virginia to Tucson in 1971, and has worked

with the Pima County Health Department for the past eleven years. He started with the Health Department in 1983 as a Communicable Disease Investigator with the Sexually Transmitted Disease Program.

In his early years with the Health Department, Brown became involved with HIV prevention work. In 1986 he began providing HIV counseling and testing services to clients and was promoted to Senior Communicable Disease Investigator.

In 1988, when the PCHD AIDS Section was officially created, he was again promoted to the position of AIDS Program Coordinator.

When asked if he had any parting thoughts, Chris responded, "I am very excited about my new position with ADHS and the challenges it will present. I hope to bring my knowledge and experiences from Pima County to this statewide position. However, I must say I will miss living in Tucson - I will always cherish my years in Tucson. I have learned so much about people and what it means to live with HIV."

Chris' last day with PCHD is June 10th and on June 11th he and his partner, Mark Miller, will make the actual move to Phoenix. We wish both Chris and Mark the best of luck in their new venture to the North.

## Yokohama Prepares For 10th International Conference On AIDS

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN - Preparations, including plans for cultural events, public education programs and upgraded visitor facilities, are underway in Yokohama, Japan, for the Tenth International Conference on AIDS, to be held August 7-12, 1994.

"There is a tremendous spirit of cooperation and commitment in Yokohama to make the International Conference on AIDS a success," said Hidenobu Takahide, Mayor of Yokohama. "The people of Yokohama are honored to serve as hosts for this important international meeting."

The Yokohama city government has established a conference headquarters, headed by the Deputy Mayor and staffed by municipal employees, that will support and promote the Conference, as well as educate the people of Yokohama about the Conference. The Yokohama government has also set up a welcoming committee, which includes members of the private sector, to organize cultural and other events as a way to introduce traditional Japanese culture to visitors.

Following the Conference opening

ceremonies, the local government will host a reception for Conference participants. Also, a satellite symposium in conjunction with the Conference will be held for the general public.

Non governmental organizations will host a number of events related to the Conference, including Memorial Quilt Japan, an exhibition of 500 quilts to be held at a waterfront park adjacent to the conference site.

The Yokohama Chamber of Commerce and Industry has printed 30,000 copies of an AIDS handbook for distribution to member companies and the general public, as well as a videotape for hotel employees to provide them with accurate information about AIDS. The Chamber will also provide financial support for a lounge for persons with HIV/AIDS during the Conference.

"Since the opening of Yokohama's port 135 years ago, the city has maintained a leading role in Japan's exchange with other countries," said Hidenobu Takahide, Mayor of Yokohama.

## National Study Reveals Widespread Anti-Gay Discrimination In Medicine

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In the midst of the debate on national health care reform, a national Gay and Lesbian medical association released a report revealing widespread anti-Gay discrimination in the medical profession. Entitled "Anti-Gay Discrimination in Medicine: Results of a National Survey of Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Physicians," the report documents extensive discrimination against Gay and Lesbian physicians and patients. Two thirds of the respondents, members of the American Association of Physicians for Human Rights, know of patients who have been denied medical care or given substandard care because they are Lesbian or Gay. Nearly as many (59%) report that they have been denied jobs or patient referrals, or suffered other discrimination in the medical field because they are Gay.

The report reveals in detail examples of discrimination experienced by 711 physicians and medical students. Respondents report being fired from their jobs, forced out of residency programs, denied admission to medical school, harassed and professionally shunned; many told of witnessing intentional mistreatment, physical abuse and denial of care directed towards Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual patients.

"The degree of discrimination directed at Gay and Lesbian physicians and patients alike is nothing less than shocking," said lead author Benjamin Schatz, JD, AAPHR's Executive Director. "In light of our report, it is imperative that any national health care reform legislation include a ban on discrimination based on sexual orientation."

Co-author Katherine O'Hanlan, MD, President of AAPHR, added, "Our study reveals that Gay and Lesbian patients are in a disturbing Catch 22 situation. Virtually every respondent agreed that Gay and Lesbian patients have medical concerns that might be overlooked if they don't come out to their physicians. Yet, almost two thirds of physicians respondents believe that patients risk inferior care if they do come out. These appalling statistics highlight the need for a formal effort by medical institutions to combat homophobia in medicine."

Schatz noted an additional irony. "Despite the reluctance of many heterosexual physicians to provide care to Lesbian and Gay patients, the medical establishment especially penalizes those doctors who fill in the void. Survey respondents with Gay practices reported a startling and elevated level of discrimination."

The report makes three recommendations: 1) that hospitals and medical societies educate providers about the health needs of Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual people, support openly Gay physicians, and

combat discrimination within the profession; 2) that HMOs and other managed care programs help patients identify providers who are knowledgeable about and supportive of Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual health concerns; and 3) that discrimination against healthcare workers and patients based on sexual orientation be prohibited by law.

Copies of the report are available for \$9.00 from AAPHR, 273 Church Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. Phone number (415) 255-4547.

## Experts Recommend Protections for Tests of AIDS Vaccine

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The search for a preventive HIV vaccine may depend as much upon the implementation of extensive social and behavioral research, social safeguards and collaboration among government agencies as it does on scientific breakthrough, a Washington conference concluded.

"The testing of an HIV vaccine presents unprecedented challenges, and will test our will, our creativity and our ability to reach across our differences toward a common goal," said conference organizer Derek Hodel. Hodel is the treatment issues director of AIDS Action Council.

The conference, sponsored by the Washington based AIDS Action, drew nearly 300 participants and issued a 40 page report, HIV Preventive Vaccines: Social, Ethical and Political Considerations for Domestic Efficacy Trials, with over 50 recommendations.

"For communities at greatest risk of contracting HIV, we are as desperate for a vaccine as we are for a cure," says Hodel. "Our recommendations will provide the foundation for a successful partnership among government, industry, academia and the communities most affected by HIV," Hodel said.

Thousands of volunteers of all racial and ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations and lifestyles will be needed to test prospective vaccines. Trial planners face many difficult issues. For instance, researchers must provide risk reduction counseling to participants, but that may make it more difficult to detect how well the vaccine works. On the other hand, participants may believe they are protected from HIV and might increase their risk taking. There are also concerns that trial volunteers may be subject to discrimination as a result of the continuing stigmatization of AIDS.

In the wake of continued allegations of past biomedical injustices, careful

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

# UPDATE

## 100 Players Sign Up For Tucson Softball League Meeting Monday, March 6

TUCSON - Over one hundred men and women have pre-registered to play in Tucson's Gay Softball League (TGSA). With one week of player registration to go, TGSA has the opportunity of being a league twice as large as the Phoenix League.

The kick off meeting for TGSA is set for Monday, June 6th, 7:00 p.m. at Hours. All pre-registered members are requested to attend this meeting. The meeting will be an informal and organizational meeting.

If you have not already registered you can do so at this meeting. TGSA will be collecting the \$20.00 player fee and completion of the necessary forms.

TGSA is still seeking an umpire willing to officiate all TGSA games. Games are scheduled to start on June 26th, with the first games beginning at 6:00 p.m. For more information call Dan Senglaub at (602) 622-4503.

## GAY GAMES IV & CULTURAL FESTIVAL



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## AGRA Poster Contest

PHOENIX - The Arizona Gay Rodeo Association announces the 1995 Road Runner Regional Rodeo (RRRR) poster contest to select a poster design for the January 1995 rodeo. The contest is open to anyone; membership in a rodeo association is not required.

All entries must be one 17" x 22" poster board, with a 1/4" border, and the only lettering being 1995 Road Runner Regional Rodeo. Enough room must be left on the poster for the location, dates, phone numbers, logos, etc. Posters may be black and white or color, but if in color, it must be original art work or original photograph. Place your name, address, and phone number on the upper left back of your design.

All entries must be registered by 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 14, 1994. They may be brought to the membership Meeting on this day at Charlie's, 727 West Camelback Road in Phoenix, or mailed to: AGRA POSTER CONTEST, c/o CHARLIE'S, 727 WEST CAMELBACK ROAD, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85013.

The winning design will be determined by a vote of AGRA Members at the August 14 Membership Meeting. The winning design and original art work become the sole property of the Arizona Gay Rodeo Association. All other entries will be destroyed unless other arrangements are made by the artist. Any returned entries will be at the artist's expense. The winner of the poster contest will receive \$100.00.

For more information, contact the AGRA Office at (602) 265-0618, or Clyde Mitter at (602) 234-2547.

## Minneapolis AIDS Walk Raises 1/2 Million Dollars

MINNEAPOLIS, MN (AP) - Steve Gilbertson was so afraid of being shunned for having the AIDS virus that he stayed away from the annual Minnesota AIDS Pledge Walk.

Gilbertson was afraid someone would see him and wonder if he had AIDS. But, in January, the 21 year old hemophiliac decided to finally to tell people he had contracted AIDS through a blood transfusion and to participate in the walk for the first time. He died unexpectedly in February, his father said.

As a memorial gesture, Gilbertson's parents decided to walk and raise money for the AIDS Project. The 6.25 mile walk, which began and ended Sunday, May 22, in a city park, raised \$532,000 for 20 AIDS organizations around the state.

The Gilbertsons donated \$2,000 and led a contingent of more than 100 relatives and friends, which organizers said was one of the biggest groups they've had for an individual. All wore yellow T-shirts with Steve's picture on them, and some traveled from as far as Chicago to attend.

"Physically, we know we can do this, but emotionally, it's really hard," said his father, Bill Gilbertson.

They were among 600 participants at the seventh annual walk, one of several such events held around the nation. [New York City held a pledge walk the same weekend. See accompanying story.]

## New York AIDS Walk Raises \$5 Million

NEW YORK, NY (AP) - The ninth annual AIDS Walk New York raised over \$5 million and drew 30,000 participants, organizers said.

Talk show hostess Joan Rivers and actress Rosie Perez spoke at the opening ceremony for the 10 kilometer walk, which benefits the Gay Men's Health Crisis, the nation's oldest AIDS service organization.

Gov. Mario Cuomo and Mayor Rudolph Giuliani shook hands with GMHC volunteers and AIDS walk participants, said Craig Miller, co-producer of the event.

The walk, which Miller called the largest and most successful AIDS fund raiser ever, began and ended at Central Park's Great Lawn.

It raised a total of \$5,101,031, Miller said.

## Vaccine

Continued from Page One

planning and community involvement are key to the testing of AIDS vaccines. Many of the communities most affected by the AIDS epidemic are among society's most vulnerable to discrimination, communities of poor people, Gay men, drug users and people of color.

Conference speakers included Dr. William Paul, head of the Office of AIDS Research at the National Institutes of Health, Dr. June Osborn, former chair of the U.S. Commission on AIDS, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease head Dr. Anthony Fauci, Dr. Robert Fullilove, a community health specialist and behavioral researcher at Columbia University, and more than 40 other experts on AIDS and on bioethics.

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EDITOR & PUBLISHER: Bob Ellis  
ART & GRAPHICS: Gary Clark

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## ART ATTACK JUNE 14-18 AT 4TH AVE. SOCIAL CLUB

TUCSON - The annual, "Art Attack", sponsored by the Tucson Lesbian and Gay Alliance (TLGA), will be held at the 4th Avenue Social Club, 424 North 4th Avenue. The show, held annually during Pride Week in Tucson Picnic, opens Wednesday, June 14, 1994, at 4 p.m. with a no-host bar and artist reception at 7 p.m., will run until Sunday, June 18, 1994.

TLGA Co-Chairs, John Haase and Sandra Lightner, as well as its members, wish to extend a heart felt thanks to Margaret, owner of the 4th Avenue Social Club, who graciously donated the space for the event.

Art work for the event will be accepted at the 4th Avenue Social Club, from 4-8 p.m., Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, June 12-14, 1994.

This will be judged showing of 4

(media) categories. The categories include fine art, photography, ceramics, and painting. Ribbons will be awarded to the winners of each category with \$200.00 cash being awarded to the "Best of Show".

Contact TLGA at (602) 321-0985 ASAP to reserve space. Since this "fund raising vehicle depends entirely on the generosity of its' contributing artists, any work designated, "for sale", will include 25% commission to TLGA, which will be applied to payment of the cost of the Gay Pride Picnic, slated for October 8, 1994.

Volunteers will be needed on Wednesday morning, June 15, 1994 to set up this show. Those individuals able to assist are urged to call now, specifying their names, available time, etc., so a schedule can be worked out.

## 1994 AIDS WALK COORDINATOR SOUGHT

TUCSON - The Tucson AIDS Project, in collaboration with a Steering Committee for the AIDS Walk, is seeking a qualified person to manage this year's event, scheduled for October 22, 1994. Additional volunteers are also invited to help plan and execute the Walk.

The Coordinator position will require a full time commitment for approximately four months, starting as soon as possible, and entails overseeing the planning and execution of the walk, working with various task oriented committees, soliciting underwriting and support for the walk, developing terms of walkers throughout the community, and other duties as determined.

Final selection for the position will be made by the Tucson AIDS Project based on qualifications, interviews, and recommendations from the Walk Steering Committee. The Committee is made up of

representatives from each of the participating ASO's, TLGA, other community groups, individuals, and local business leaders. Preference may be given to a volunteer candidate who is willing and able, on a volunteer basis, to commit the time and energy necessary in organizing this community wide event.

If you would be interested in coordinating the Walk this year, either in a volunteer or paid capacity, please send a letter of interest, resume, a description of any relevant experience in managing major community fund raising events, and references to: 1994 AIDS WALK Steering Committee, c/o Tucson AIDS Project, 151 South Tucson Boulevard, Suite 252, Tucson, AZ 85716.

For more information about the Walk, how to volunteer, or about the Tucson AIDS Project, please call Dale Kuehnert at 322-6226.

## AGRA GRAND OLE OPRY JUNE 17-18

PHOENIX - AGRA will once again host the annual Grand Ole Opry at Charlie's on Friday and Saturday, June 17 and 18. Each night, we will be "on board" from 7:00 p.m. until midnight.

Not only will there be lots of entertainment both nights, this will also be the kick-off for the 1995 MR/MS/MISS AGRA Contest. To be eligible to be a contestant for this competition, one must first be an AGRA member and pay an entry fee of \$50.00. No one will be announced as a competitor until membership is verified and the \$50.00 entry fee is

received. Also, contestant fund raisers are not permitted until the entry fee has been paid. Anyone interested in becoming a Royalty Contestant should call the AGRA Office at 265-0618, and leave a message for Phil Looby, Dance & Entertainment Director.

This year's Grand Ole Opry is planned as a carnival type atmosphere with several vendors and special attractions. One special attraction will again be the infamous "dunk tank" featuring numerous personalities. The dunk tank will be open both nights; so practice those throws and be ready to aim for your favorite (or less favorite) people and watch those "Big Splashes."

Vendor space will be \$15.00 for both Saturday and Sunday. Anyone interested in a vendor space should also call the AGRA office and leave a message for Cha-Cha (Michael Jones). There will be a limited number of spaces and will be sold on a first come, first served basis. So, call early and reserve those spaces! You can provide lots of fun while making money for yourself or your organization.

Now is the time to get out those fresh "country Grand Ole Opry" clothes and come on down to Charlie's on June 17 and 18 for a special time of fun activities.

# VENTURE

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### BEER BUST WEEKEND

-----  
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**BEER BUST 9 - MIDNIGHT**

-----  
**Saturday, June 4**  
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-----  
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-----  
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## FYI

DEAR READERS:

Let me say that in reality the last 9 months have been a small chapter in VERY BIG writing.

Question Authority, Question Accountability. Be LOUD, Be PROUD, and most of all, "Stir it till it stinks, then walk away".

I'll return to this format, now and again, but now I need to rattle and roll the inner sanctums. Thank you for your being loyal readers.

Big John



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- Volunteer Opportunities
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- Children's Programs
- Financial Planning
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- Legal Referrals

- AIDS Hotline
- Young Gay Men
- Speakers Bureau
- Higher Risk Women
- YOI (Youth Outreach)
- High Risk Adolescents
- Condoms and Literature
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Adult Substance Abusers
- "Salud es Poder" (Targeting Latino Men)

### Prevention Services

## WHAT'S UP DOC???



TKO's Spring Fling run is now in the history book. As for me, I'm going to Disney World. From the beginning Friday evening, and all the way to the end off brunch Monday, saying this run was festive and interesting, is putting it mildly.

Saturday found everyone in Nogales, with a \$1 bill to buy something. That was just one of the games being played during this run and some of those purchased items, well to put it mildly, everyone got to keep their purchases. I will say that Bill, out of Albuquerque (HDS) took top prize for that contest because with his \$1, he purchased 3 different items and still had 6 cents remaining. Some of the other purchases were a place mat, a makeup kit, a ceramic owl, a burro, an earring, and similar items.

Another of the games was a coloring contest. Yes, the artist (stretching it) also got to keep their (?) finished works. And, some of the color combinations used, was different. I think that game will be another I put away for good.

The final game was jump rope, for a minute. I wish I would of had a camcorder to record this one. I just do not have the words that could describe some of those jumping rope, you would of just had to be there to see it. Some of those jumping, would you believe - no bathing suit!

Finally, the TRASH award this year went to Sadie. It wasn't for anything special. It was one of those contest that I had to make a decision because only 1 trash award could be given out. There were just too many in the running this year.

The final overall winners were, Paul (HDS) 1st place, Bill (HDS) 2nd place and Patrick (GDI) 3rd.

This year's recipient of the Graduate Club Person of the Year award went to Candi T. (DL).

Now it is time to get ready for the City of Rocks run, but I'm taking a vacation, no club business, no planning any games, and in general, just going to RELAX.

And, just for the record, I gave everyone on the run the promise of keeping my pen in my pocket. But, Friday evening, the following was overheard by me, he was standing right beside me when he said it. Stan - again - "I do have control who goes into my ass."

With that, and as you can tell, Spring Fling XIV was interesting, different, rewarding, and costly. So it is now time for me to end this short column, get it to Bob, and time for everyone on the run to dry out.



### SOME OF OUR 1994 EXCLUSIVELY GAY OFFERINGS

- June 18-25 ... Gay Games IV & Cultural Festival -NY
- July 3-10 ..... Grand Canyon Rafting
- Aug 22-29 ..... Alaska Cruise / Pied Piper

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MONDAY-JUNE 6TH  
INFORMATION MEETING FOR THE NEWLY FORMED GAY SOFTBALL LEAGUE - 7PM AT HOURS I

**PERSPECTIVE**

by Anna Quindlen

At the conclusion of the incomparable "Angels in America," a dying man named Prior Walter has the last word. Prior has seen ghosts and angels, love and betrayal, lesions blooming on his body and the deaths of many friends.

But in the end, as he speaks of AIDS, America and the human condition, some of the things that this monumental play is about, he has a kind of peace so profound that you must genuflect before its grandeur, greater than any seraphim.

"This disease will be the end of many of us," he says, "but not nearly all, and the dead be commemorated and will struggle on with the living, and we are not going away. We won't die secret deaths anymore. The world only spins forward. We will be citizens. The time has come."

The time has come. You can feel it, in a hundred little ways year after year. It is so certain and inevitable, that the next century will be a time in which it is not simply safe, but commonplace, to be openly Gay.

The countervailing forces continue to be at work. The Sweden based furniture chain IKEA garners a great deal of publicity by airing a commercial in which two men buy a table together. Tom Hanks wins an Oscar for playing a Gay man and pays public tribute to his high school drama teacher, the genuine article.

But the bishop of Brooklyn uses the bully pulpit of his position, this Easter, to reiterate his belief that homosexuality is intrinsically evil. And in the mail come two letters, one from a Gay college student who was beaten up at a bar and another from a Gay couple who say they are being harassed by neighbors.

It's repulsive to have to note that a group of protestors, taking the Lord's name in vain, held up signs reading "God Hates Fags" outside the memorial service for the writer Randy Shilts. It's wonderful to report that there were fewer than a dozen of them, and that they got lost fast.

"Would you say you are a typical homosexual?" a Mormon mother asks Prior Walter. "Me?" he croons. "Oh, I'm stereotypical." The mother asks because she has just discovered her married son is Gay. Wives, mothers, sisters, brothers, fathers, friends: The line between stereotype and reality, Gay and straight in daily life is as thin as a whisper.

Next month the novelist Robb Forman Dew will publish a book entitled "The Family Heart: A Memoir of When Our Son Came Out."

In many ways it will be a familiar story to the parents of Gay children. Ms. Dew goes over and over the questions she asked, the ones she didn't, the fears and pain she feels and feels ashamed of feeling.

Who can blame her when she blurts out: "But Steve, what about Jessica? You remember? In the seventh grade? Or Amy? You took Amy to her prom." American-dreams die hard.

But in the end, Robb Dew knows she has what she has always had: Two good and bright and wonderful sons, one straight, the other not. "Whenever it's necessary to engage in deception in order to keep a secret," she writes, "it's good bet that you are indulging in a bit of concealment that is damaging to the soul."

Anyhow, why should Steve deceive? "I'd like there to be a person I love who loves me," he tells his parents. Amen from any mother, every mother.

There are too many mothers and mothers' sons for hatred to prevail. You feel the truth of that every day, as the ice of concealment and fear continues to crack and melt.

"Angels in America" is about many, many things, from religion and politics to death and forgiveness. The most lovable character has AIDS, and so does the most detestable one, but it is no more a work of art about AIDS than "Anna Karenina" is a book about a train accident.

It is a brilliant, brilliant play about love and the human condition at a time when our understanding of what it means to be human and loving has, thankfully, expanded. The world only spins forward. The time has come.

[This is a reprint of article from the Arizona Daily Star.]

**Home On The Range With AGRA-Tucson**

by RY

Even though the 1995 Saguaro Regional Rodeo and the 1995 Road Runner Regional Rodeo are both more than a half a year away, AGRA is in full swing preparing for them. Both Tucson and Phoenix AGRA are very busy planning fund raisers and other various activities to help fund and promote the 1995 AGRA Rodeos. A tremendous amount of work goes into planning and hosting a rodeo and AGRA is hard at work to make the upcoming rodeos the best yet.

Don't forget the 1995 Mr/Ms-Miss AGRA Royalty Contest and the 1995 Road Runner Regional Rodeo Poster Contest. To compete for Mr/Ms/Miss AGRA you must be an AGRA member. The Poster Contest is open to everyone, with the winning entry receiving a \$100 prize. Anyone interested in either contest please call the AGRA Office at 323-0805 for complete rules and information.

There will be an Executive Board Meeting for the AGRA Tucson Chapter on Sunday, June 5. Please call Bob Janssen

or the AGRA Office for time and location.

Tucson will host the AGRA State Meetings on Sunday, June 12. Meetings will take place at Venture-N with State Board Meeting at 3 pm and State General Membership Meeting following at 5 pm. All members are encouraged to attend.

Congratulations to all participants in the San Francisco and Oklahoma City Rodeos.

**GAY GAMES IV & CULTURAL FESTIVAL**

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# Double Mischief

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by Wendy Caster

## To Cane Or Not To Cane

I paid minimal attention to the "should-the-American-kid-in-Singapore-be-caned" controversy. I assumed that my friends all agreed that mutilating someone's buttocks is not an appropriate response to petty crime and that we all looked down on those people who found it

a great idea to cane someone.

Then a crabby friend announced that she thought caning a wonderful idea and that she wished the U.S. used it. Another friend, a usually gentle man, turned out to support caning too!

I was chastised to realize that people I love and respect supported caning, so I tried to think about it with a more open mind. But I still insist they are wrong, wrong, wrong.

Caning is torture, not punishment. Descriptions of previous canings include pieces of buttocks flying through the air. People being caned often faint and/or go into shock, but they are revived so that they don't miss a second of suffering. Does vandalism really require such a vicious response?

Another friend said that people

should respect the laws of other countries. But did this kid understand the law? Did he have any say in whether he lived in Singapore in the first place? And could any of us promise that, if destiny dragged us to some homophobic country (like, say, Alabama), we would follow the law and stop making love with our sweeties?

Some people argue that Singapore's strict rules result in crime free streets. However, a number of newspaper articles have disputed that myth. But even if Singapore were perfectly crime-free, would the price of having a violent government be worth it? If the punishment for vandalism is caning, what must the punishment for homosexuality be?

I've been on the wrong end of a lot of crime. When I lived in New York, I was mugged twice and my apartment was robbed. In San Diego, my six year old car has been broken into four or five times. My old neighborhood had many drug dealers, and if their clients lacked money, they stopped by my car and stole something. Neighbors used to joke that, when we bought car radios, we didn't bother to have them installed: we just handed them to the first stranger who passed them by. Now I live in an ostensibly "good" neighborhood, but graffiti, broken windows, and stolen car radios are a fact of life. And I admit that, when I discovered that my favorite jacket had been taken from my car, thoughts of tearing the crooks limb from limb danced merrily in my brain.

But I cannot support caning, in Singapore or in the U.S.

When considering what powers to give to governments, decisions mustn't be based on emotion. Yes, we want the bad guys punished, but a government with too much power inevitably turns more destructive than all of the bad guys put together, as in Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union. Even our supposedly benign U.S. government has wiretapped, abused, maligned, and fed radium to innocent people. Do we really want governments to preach violence as a reasonable response to things we don't like? It's bad enough that countries go to war against other countries; should we really support them attacking their own citizens?

And who would most governments abuse? Would the white collar criminals, even if their machinations ruined other people's pension plans, ever be caned? Would the people who make "business decisions" to leave out a safety measure in a product to save money ever be caned?

It's more likely that prostitutes would be caned (but when their punishment was done, they would still face the pressures and lack of opportunities that put them out on the street in the first place). And casual marijuana smokers would be caned. And, the way things are going, cigarette smokers would be caned.

The anger of crime victims is real, and no one can blame them for wanting simple solutions. But violence doesn't work. It begets anger, fear, hatred and, frequently, more violence. I was hit often and occasionally beaten when I was a kid, sometimes by hand, sometimes with a belt, sometimes with a shoe, but I can't remember ever changing a behavior because I got hit. I became a nervous wreck. I lived in fear. But when I was hit, I never thought, "Oh, I've learned my lesson. I'm never going to do that again." Instead, I thought about my father, "I hate him. I hope he dies. I believe that I am a (mostly) law abiding person although I was hit."

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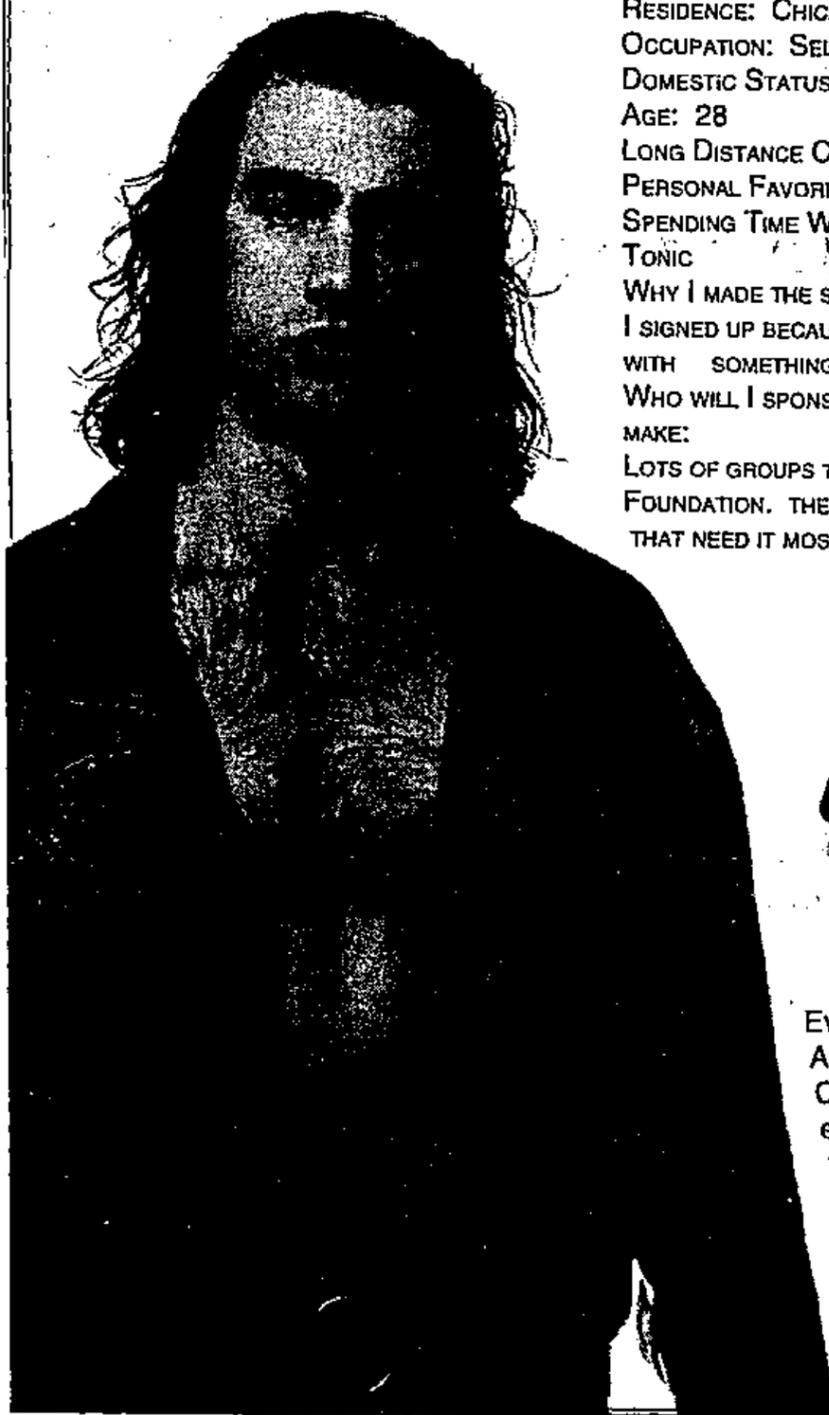
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As I write this, I am eagerly awaiting Steven's return from a trip to Toronto for his sister's engagement party. He and his extended family (or *mishpoche*, if you prefer) have gathered to celebrate and to meet Sherry's intended, David, a man she has never touched.

Since returning from a yeshiva in Israel, Sherry has been strictly religiously observant, which precludes touching a man to whom she is not married. They've never even held hands.

Many of the family are not nearly as Orthodox as Sherry, her husband-to-be, or her twin brother John. There are no problems with the disparity of observance for the most part, but a gathering of this size is bound to have a glitch or two. As a nostalgic treat for guests from Montreal, a dessert of ice cream sandwiches made with waffles had been planned. However, there was a disagreement over the kosher certification of the waffles, so they couldn't be served. A woman at the party realized, to her horror, that she had unthinkingly kissed the groom-to-be when about to leave, which was a grave breach of religious law and decorum.

Steven was told repeatedly by family friends that he will be the next to marry. His mother (too quickly and too cheerily) insisted that no, his younger brother John will be next.

In August there will be a series of elaborately kosher parties around their very Orthodox wedding. All present will partake in an ancient and deeply moving ritual, completely unlike the water torture of a Catholic nuptial Mass. Then the glass will be smashed under the groom's heel and the bride will be carried on a chair; old songs will be sung and speeches will be made. The bride and groom, it is presumed, will touch each other

## At The Closet Door

© 1994

by Frank Hartigan

### Tying The Knot

afterwards; their house will be *glatt kosher* and Sherry will never show her hair again, except to her husband.

Sherry and David will begin creating a family; the in-laws will begin asking about grandchildren. Their lives will intertwine, with the beatific families looking on and doing all they can to help them.

Such traditions, though beautiful, sometimes seem brittle and anachronistic to me. Maybe it's because I'm not religious. Maybe it's because I love another man, and am thus excluded from such rituals (of whatever faith). The family (and society) deny my life with Steven rather than call attention to it. I am forbidden to declare and celebrate my love for the person I hold most dear. Our creation of a family is viewed as a shameful aberration or a secret embarrassment, not to be spoken of at all in front of guests, and only when unavoidable among the family.

The same day I read of the Love And Justice plaintiffs dropping their appeal, Steven told me that a bill legalizing same-sex marriage had passed the first of three readings in the Ontario legislature. We joked about beating his brother to the altar on the Canadian side of Niagara Falls, but beneath my joking I felt longing and bitterness.

I grew up in a household of women where marriage was The Prize. Among my older-sisters' contemporaries,

marriage or the convent were pretty much the only choices. In either case, women were valued only if delivered intact. White dresses (whether for brides of men or brides of Christ) were only for virgins, no matter what may have been whispered around town. Every cultural message to girls was aimed at the Big Wedding you got if you picked the right Mystery Date and kept your virtue in one piece.

When I was in ninth grade, my high school had only been co-ed for three years. The nuns were still unused to having boys around; sometimes they talked about us as if we weren't in the room. Through a scheduling fluke, or an unspoken acknowledgment that I was already "one of the girls", I was the only male in my Religion class (or Social Ethics, or whatever they were currently calling Catholic Indoctrination) that year, so I actually got to hear their dating lessons practically unobserved.

They advised that teenagers go out in groups to avoid the temptation to Do It. Only when a girl met the right (Catholic) boy could kissing or other, more secret intimacies be considered. Some of the nuns tacitly tolerated the idea of a little chaste above-the-waist petting after the engagement was announced. The more Victorian nuns, on the other hand, could not even bring themselves to use the word "kissing," instead saying "osculation" while looking as if the word tasted bad. Knowing what I know now, I wonder if some of the good sisters were perhaps disgusted not by the thought of

kissing, but by the idea of kissing boys.

Catholic boys, on the other hand, were expected to chase relentlessly after sex and sow the required wild oats, or risk their reputations as All-American macho he-men. Only those (like me) with a declared leaning toward the priesthood were partly let off the hook.

The nuns told us about sex in fifth grade, but they only presented it as something married people did. They never even mentioned sex before marriage. Church teaching forbade any realistic instruction in birth control. Occasionally a high-school girl (like my best friend Bernadette) would disappear for a year and come back looking much older. Others risked a newly-legal abortion and never missed a football game.

Despite all this instruction, I was left with my dream of being in love with a man, wondering why nobody ever talked about that. The priesthood was mostly a ruse to get people to leave me alone. I wanted to grow up, fall in love, and get married. What faggot wouldn't love ritualized parties featuring kitchenware?

The nuns were supposed to be married to Jesus, but I didn't think the priests would like it if I felt that way. Besides, my Mystery Date fantasies were developing into an interest in a bridegroom who was more, well, corporeal.

After I came out, I angrily denounced marriage as the vestige of a patriarchal system for regulating the ownership of women. I thought that queers who wanted to mimic straight marriage were hobbled by an archaic consciousness. We were going to build

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY

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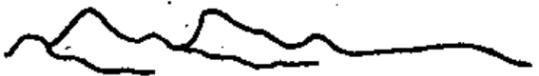
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**POLITICS '94** by Mark Kerr

Politically, it has been a slow news week, not much to report, but here we go anyway:

Last week, this column reported on the so-called Tucson Education Association "endorsement" of gubernatorial candidate Terry Goddard for the 1994 Governor's contest. Well, we have an update on this developing story.

This reporter had the opportunity to interview Kathy Ramage-White, President of TEA, about the endorsement process and why the Johnson and Basha campaigns were left out of the "process"; no phone calls, no requests for interviews, etc.

Ramage-White stated, "this was the first time TEA-PAC had made an endorsement in a statewide race. That TEA conducted a survey of members about the candidates; conducted discussions with TEA members who had run for political office, and reviewed materials about the candidates."

About the endorsement, Ramage-White said, "Goddard has the TUSD Bond; with his attendance of Bonillas, Vail schools and Rincon High." His support of the ACE Initiative was "politically dangerous, and was risky."

Well what about the Chair of the ACE Initiative, none other than gubernatorial candidate Eddie Basha. Wasn't his position "risky"?

What about Johnson and Basha's plan for improving the quality of education in the state. What about Basha work on the Arizona Board of Regents. What about TEA's state organization, the AEA,

who uses questionnaire and an interview to endorse a candidate.

Teachers stress the importance of hard work and following through on assignments. Unfortunately, TEA does not practice what they preach and if this was graded. The "endorsement" would merit a failing grade, "F."

In the cheesy news department, the last of the Democratic gubernatorial candidates, Paul Johnson, had their southern Arizona headquarters opening this past week. Over 100 persons attended the party and had the opportunity to meet the candidate.

It's 29 days and counting! The filing deadline for nominating petitions for elected office is June 30. Guess what! The District 13 Democrats still don't have a candidate to run against incumbent Republican State Senator, Patti Noland. People, you're running out of time!

Lastly, Justice of the Peace Felipe Lundin (D-JP 2) will have a challenger in the September primary election. That person, none other than former Democratic State Representative, Eleanor Schorr. This should be an interesting contest!

And so it goes!

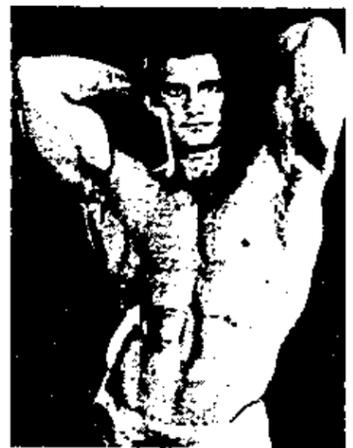


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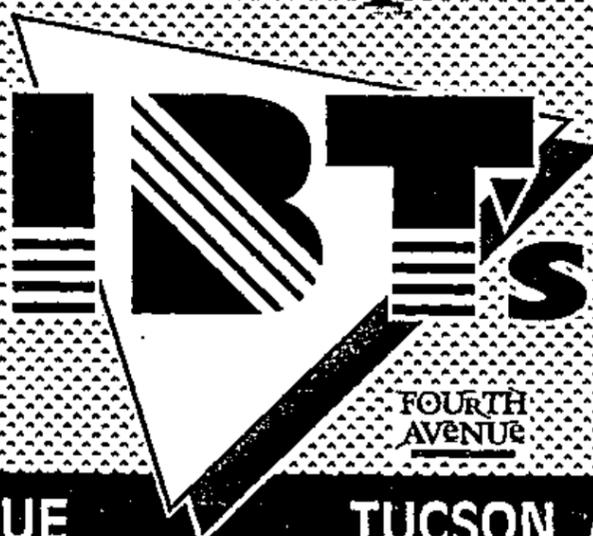
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# CALENDAR of upcoming events

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1

**IBT'S - Tonight!** The Glamazons - The Next Generation. Showtime 9:00 p.m. Starring Miss Gay Tucson, Blaze Dante and featuring Helena, Bubbles, and special guests.

## THURSDAY, JUNE 2

**VENTURE-N** - Bears of the Old Pueblo will have a general meeting here beginning at 7:00 p.m. followed by a Beer Bust from 9:00 to midnight.

## SATURDAY, JUNE 4

**VENTURE-N** - Desert Leathermen will hold their monthly Beer Bust here from 3:00 until 7:00 p.m. and will feature Fried Chicken with all the trimmings. Yca Party!

## SUNDAY, JUNE 5

**IBT'S** - Benefit Beer Bust and Bar-B-Que from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. with all proceeds going to benefit PACT for Life. Also Tea Dance from 4 to 8 p.m. with DJ Craig.

## SUNDAY, JUNE 12

**IBT'S** - Kick off Pride Week at IBT's with their big annual Beach Party. Watch for details.

## TUESDAY, JUNE 14

**GRADUATE** - A benefit Beer Bust from 4:00 until 10:00 p.m. with proceeds going to TLGA to defray costs of Pride activities this year including the bib picnic. Complimentary Hors D'Oeuvres will also be served.

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# Non-Bar CALENDAR

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1

Shanti Foundation, 602 N. 4th Ave., offers a free eight-week grief group for individuals who have lost a loved one. Meetings are from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. To register or for more information call 622-7107

## THURSDAY, JUNE 2

Gay Nineties Productions, producers of "The Q Word" Tucson's new live Gay talk and entertainment show which begins airing July 7th on channel 64, will be conducting an open production meeting to show tapes of previously produced video insert materials, tell a little about the production and its goals, sign on newcomers who would like to get involved with the program, explain to the Gay community organizations how the weekly show can be used to run public service announcements of events and activities as well as to answer questions and allow for input and feedback into the production of this program. The meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room at Tucson Community Cable Corp., 1124 E. Broadway. for more info call 882-2075.

## SATURDAY, JUNE 4

"How To Deal With Personality Differences in Gay & Lesbian Relationships" will be the topic of a workshop presented by Bill Harrison. The workshop for Lesbians and Gay men is based on the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator. 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at St. Francis Church, River and Swan. The fee is \$50 per person or \$95 per couple. All materials and refreshment breaks are included. Advance registration is strongly recommended to assure your place. The workshop is sponsored by the Reconciling Congregation Program, St. Francis United Methodist Church. To register call 577-3481.

Gay and Lesbian Hiking Club hike to the Chiricahua Mountains and Fly Peak. Meet promptly at 6 a.m. to carpool 115 miles to the starting point. The total hike will be 8-10 miles with a 1,200 ft. elevation gain. If you choose not to drive, please be prepared to pay \$4 to the carpool driver. Bring plenty of water, enough food to last for a day of rigorous hiking and clothes appropriate for all possible weather conditions. To obtain directions to the carpool meeting location, please call pager number 446-3711 and leave your number followed by the # sign or write Les McAllan, P.O. Box 42532, Tucson, AZ 85733-2532.

## MONDAY, JUNE 6

Organizational meeting for the Tucson Gay Softball Association will take place at Hours, 3455 E. Grant at 7:00 p.m. You may register to play at any of the local bars or at this meeting. TGSA will be collecting the \$20 player fees and completion of the necessary forms. TGSA Board also is inviting the bar owners to attend the meeting.

## FRIDAY-SUNDAY, JUNE 10,11,12

Shanti Foundation provides support to people living with AIDS and other life-threatening illnesses. Volunteers are needed to act as buddies, counselors and to work in the office. For information on their next training June 10-11-12 and 18, call 622-7107.

## MONDAY, JUNE 13

In honor and celebration of Lesbian and Gay Pride, everyone is invited to share an evening of music, poetry, dance and drama from 7 to 10 p.m. at the 4th Avenue Social Club, 424 N. 4th Avenue. The event is hosted by Meikil Berry and will feature performances by poets Vicki Gaubeca, Cynthia Gaver, Debra Pierce; vocalist Anne English; dancers Gregory Colburn and SoZanne SaVape; drama by Renee Berry and the Teen Theatre.

## THURSDAY THRU SATURDAY, JUNE 16-18

In celebration of Lesbian/Gay Pride Week 1994, the annual Art Attack will take place these three days. It is a judged art show featuring fine art, photography, sculpture, painting, etc. Deadline for submissions is June 5th. The art show will take place at the 4th Avenue Social Club, 424 N. 4th Avenue and is sponsored by Tucson Lesbian/Gay Alliance (TLGA). There will be cash prizes awarded to winners.

## SUNDAY, JUNE 19

Share your social and political suggestions, questions and concerns. Meet candidates from statewide political races at your 'Political Forum' from 4 to 6 p.m. at the 4th Avenue Social Club, 424 N. 4th Ave. This is a free, no host bar, food provided event. Sponsored by Arizona Lambda Democratic Caucus and the Tucson Lesbian & Gay Alliance (TLGA) and is a part of the Pride Week events locally. Meet and question Arizona's primary Democratic Pro-Human Rights Candidates including gubernatorial candidate Terry Goddard among others.

Gay/Lesbian Hiking Club hike to the Mt. Lemmon Wilderness of Rocks. Meet promptly at 7 a.m. to carpool 34 miles to the starting point. The total hike will be 11 miles with a 1,500 ft. elevation gain. If you choose not to drive, please be prepared to pay \$3 to the carpool driver. Bring plenty of water, enough food to last for a day of rigorous hiking, and clothes appropriate for all possible weather conditions. To obtain directions to the carpool meeting location please call pager number 446-3711 and leave your number followed by the # sign or write Les McAllan, P.O. Box 42532, Tucson, AZ 85733-2532.

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22

One-In-Ten Theatre and Repertory Company, Tucson's premiere Gay and Lesbian theatre group will open it's 6th season tonight with the play "Hopeful Romantic". For more information, 770-9279.

# Tucson CALENDAR

## sunday

CLUB 2520 - Open Noon. Salad Bar and Western Steak Fry 4 to 7 pm. AGR A C/W Dancing and Beer Bust 5-8, all you can drink \$3. C/W and Progressive Dance Music 8 to 1.

EAGLE - Opens at 10am with special prices on Bloody Marys all day. 3pm Pool Tournament with Beer Bust.

GRADUATE - Happy Hour 4-8 pm, all well \$1.25 Draft 75c Schnapps 75c

HOURS - Bloody Marys and Scrws \$1.25 til 7 pm. Country/Western dance instruction 6-8 pm. Country Dance Music 8 to 1.

IBT's - Open noon to 1 am. Happy Hour 4-8 pm, \$1.25 domestic beer and well. Benefit B-B-Q and Beer Bust for community organizations 3-6. Tea Dance 4-8. Rock 'n Roll dancing later

STONEWALL - Opens at 4pm with pool tournament. T-Dance begins at 4; Disco dancing 8 to close.

VENTURE-N - Open 10 a.m. 301 Dart Tournament 4 pm, \$3 entry fee. Cash prizes. Patio Bar Beer Bust 3-7 pm, B-B-Q 5-7 pm.

## monday

CLUB 2520 - Open 3pm. 99c Happy Hour 4 to 8pm. \$1.25 well 6-1 + Moose Madness "Buckets". C/W dancing and Progressive Dance Music begins at 9pm.

EAGLE - Happy Hour in the Eagle 10am to 7pm with \$1.50 Well and Domestic Beer. Uniform Nite, drink specials to those in uniform.

GRADUATE - Happy Hour 4-8pm all well \$1.25 Draft 75c Schnapps 75c Bring in your VHS movie and they'll play it. (No porno please!)

HOURS - Open Noon. Happy Hour 12 to 7pm - Well and Domestic Beer \$1.25. 50c Draft Beer 7 to close.

IBT's - Open noon. Happy Hour 4-8pm, \$1.25 domestic beer and well. 8pm to midnight, 50c draft beer. Mellow Jazz Mondays with Pete from 9 to 1

STONEWALL - Opens at 8pm for dancing. Enjoy midnight specials.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am to 1am. Patio Bar opens at 7pm

## tuesday

CLUB 2520 - Open 3pm. 99c Happy Hour 4 to 8pm. \$1.25 Well and Domestic Beer 8 to close. \$2.50 pitcher of beer and get a free sub sandwich 8-10. T-Squares Advanced Group 7pm. Country/Western dancing and Truck Disco Black Light Party begins at 9 pm.

EAGLE - Happy Hour 10am to 7pm. Leather Nite, drink specials to everyone wearing leather.

GRADUATE - Happy Hour 4-8pm, all well \$1.25, Draft 75c Schnapps 75c

HOURS - Happy Hour 12 to 7pm Well or Domestic Beer \$1.25. Schnapps 75c 7pm to close

IBT's - Open noon. Happy Hour 4-8 pm, \$1.25 domestic beer & well. 9 pm to 11pm, 2 for 1 on well and domestic beer.

STONEWALL - The Fabrics Revue Show at 9:30 plus Midnight specials.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am to 1am. Patio Bar opens at 7 pm

## wednesday

CLUB 2520 - Open 3pm. 99c Happy Hour 4 to 8pm. 50c off on everything from 8pm to close. Drink Specials all day. ID required. C/W dance lessons with Edgar 7:30-9:30

CLUB CONGRESS - Rod Parrow's "Queer Extravaganza" here from 8 pm to 1 am, featuring voguing dancers.

EAGLE - Happy Hour 10am to 7pm. Bowler's Nite, drink specials to bowlers all night.

GRADUATE - Happy Hour 4-8pm, all well \$1.25 Draft 75c Schnapps 75c

HOURS - Happy Hour 12 to 7pm, Well or Domestic Beer \$1.25. 50c off all call drinks 7 to close. Disco dance music 8-1.

IBT's - Open Noon to 1am. Happy Hour 4 to 8pm, \$1.25 domestic beer & well. \$1.50 Bud Product Special 9 pm to close. (Specials do not apply during shows)

STONEWALL - Opens at 8pm. Sales Nite. Corona and Margarita specials.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am to 1am. Power Hour 5-6 \$1 Longguicks & Well. Patio bar opens 7pm. Bare Chest Nite from 7pm. Happy Hour prices for "upstairs naked" men.

## thursday

CLUB 2520 - Open 3pm. 99c Happy Hour 4 to 8pm. Mca's Nite - 50c draft beer 9pm to 1am. C/W & Progressive Dance Music begins at 9 pm. Dart Tournament 8pm. Bar matches pot.

EAGLE - Happy Hour 10am-7pm. Country Nite, drink specials to those in western attire.

GRADUATE - Happy Hour 4-8pm, all well \$1.25 Draft 75c Schnapps 75c

HOURS - Happy Hour 12 to 7pm, Well or Domestic Beer \$1.25. Heineken or Corona \$2.00 9pm to 1am. Country/Western dancing 9 to 1.

IBT's - Open noon to 1am. Happy Hour 4-8 pm \$1.25 domestic beer and well. Underwear Nite 10 to 1 - via a pair of Calvin Klein underwear. \$1.25 Well and Domestic Beer to those in their underwear.

STONEWALL - Open 8pm. Male Erotic Dancers 10pm, Midnight specials

VENTURE-N - Open 6am to 1am. Power Hour 5-6 \$1 longguicks and well. Patio Bar opens at 7pm. Leather Nite 8 to midnight. Special prices for men in leather. Pool Tournament 7pm, \$3 entry fee.

## friday

CLUB 2520 - Open 3pm. 99c Happy Hour 4 to 8pm. (well and domestic beer). C/W dancing and Progressive Dance Music begins at 8pm.

EAGLE - Happy Hour 10am-7pm; Hot Horn d'Oeuvres 6pm

GRADUATE - Happy Hour 4-8pm, all well \$1.25 draft 75c Schnapps 75c

HOURS - Happy Hour 12-7pm well or domestic beer \$1.25. Dance 9-1

IBT's - Open noon. Happy Hour 4-8pm \$1.25 domestic beer and well. GoGo dancers 10pm. Patio Bar with Loucy 9-1. Dance Party 9 to 1 with DJ David Z.

STONEWALL - Opens 8pm. Karaoke hosted by Crash at 9pm.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am to 1am. Power Hour 5-6 \$1 longguicks & well. Patio Bar opens 7pm.

## saturday

CLUB 2520 - Open Noon. C/W dancing and Progressive Dance Music begins at 8pm.

EAGLE - Open at 10am. All day special on screwdrivers and canned beer until 8pm.

GRADUATE - Happy Hour 4-8pm, all well drinks \$1.25 draft 75c Schnapps 75c. Pool Tournament 2pm, \$3 entry fee, pot matched.

HOURS - Open Noon. Strawberry & Banana Delights, Pilsa Colada \$3. Dancing 8-1.

IBT's - Open noon to 1 am. Happy Hour noon to 8 pm \$1.25 domestic beer and well. Patio Bar with Loucy 9-1. Dance 9 to 1 with DJ David Z. and Go Go dancers begin at 10pm.

STONEWALL - Open at 8pm. Sales and Dance Music.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am to 1am. Patio bar opens at 7pm.

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# Say You Saw It In The OBSERVER

## News From MCC/Tucson

by Rev. Sharon West

June has begun unfolding today. Where in the world did nearly half the year fly to! Based on experience, Tucson's bearable pre-summer nights will soon give way to sticky sunless heat from dusk to dawn; and from dawn to dusk we'll compare the latest reported temperature and compare it to years "Back when" it was hotter/cooler. May as well sit back and enjoy our natural tourist attraction weather.

Be sure to join us this Saturday, June 4th, at 1:00 p.m. and indulge your creativity making dazzling banners to carry June 25th during the March for Jesus. You may want to carry one yourself and join the 10,000+ Christians marching for our Lord Jesus! Pastor Nita will provide lots of great art supplies and ideas. Don't miss the fun!

Next Tuesday, June 7th, there will be no weekly 7 p.m. Bible Study of Jesus and his times due to our monthly Board of Directors meeting being held at 6:30 p.m. This thought provoking exciting Bible Study resumes June 14th. See you then.

Starting June 5th, our usual 6:30 p.m. Sunday Worship Service will be suspended for the hot summer. Our Wednesday night 7 p.m. Worship Service will continue as usual. Read our ad for all worship times.

By the way Dads, get ready to celebrate Father's Day with us June 19th.

## A View From The Rock

A Commentary From Cornerstone Fellowship

Have you ever wondered just what Cornerstone Fellowship is all about? Today, I am going to interview a member, Ima Christian, and try to ask her all the questions you might ask if you had the opportunity.

VFR: Ima, just how long have you been going to Cornerstone?

IMA: Well, I started going there about a year ago.

VFR: And why did you go the first time?

IMA: My lover and I really wanted to worship God in a place where we could be ourselves, you know, where we wouldn't have to pretend to be just roommates! But after the first time we went, we kept going back because we realized that the people there really love God and believe his word, and try to live the way God wants them to. And they all seemed to love and accept me and my lover from the very first day.

VFR: But didn't they try to, you know, change you? Didn't they tell you that the Bible says that homosexuals will go to hell?

IMA: Of course not! Most of the people who go there are Gay or Lesbian, including the pastor. And every so often one of the elders conducts a seminar explaining the truth about what the Bible does and does not say about homosexuality. In fact, I think this column ran a series of articles about it a short time ago.

VFR: That's interesting! I thought everyone who believed that the Bible is God's word condemned us! But I have another question. Ima, is it true that Cornerstone is just a woman's church, that no men go there, and that the women there hate men?

You all had Dads, whether you've been one personally or not. God himself is the most important Father you and I will ever have; and that's cause to celebrate!

What does "sovereignty" really mean, and what does it have to do with you and I? It is "supremacy in independent authority, rule, and/or power; the power to govern without any external control". God is sovereign, therefore, nothing happens purely by chance. A chance event would be totally outside of God's sovereign will. If there is one maverick molecule in the universe running around free of God's sovereignty, then there would be no guarantee of any promise. God ever made will come to pass. That single molecule may be the very thing that disrupts God's eternal plan. It follows, if God is not sovereign, then God is not God; a non-sovereign God is no God at all, but a titular sort of king who reigns but does not rule. God is sovereign! We have "free will" but our free will is limited always by God's free will. It is a subordinate free will, while God's free will is sovereign. We can rejoice that God is sovereign over everything that happens to us. That does not cancel yours nor my free will and responsibility. (Paraphrased from: Sproul, R.C. Surprised by Suffering.)

Thought For The Week: Knowing about God just isn't the same as knowing God.

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# Casa Luna

A BED AND BREAKFAST RESORT

refrigerator that says, "Christians have more fun" and I really believe it! Cornerstone has social activities almost every month and many of them are open to the community. A couple of weeks ago we had a barbecue and movie night and had a really great time. And we had two teams that bowled in the league this year. No, I don't go to the bars, but then, I didn't go before I was a Christian. I think if you asked most people at Cornerstone they would tell you it was up to you and God what you did for entertainment.

VFR: Thanks so much for talking with us, Ima. If we have any more questions about Cornerstone, how can we find out the answers?

IMA: The best way is to come visit some Sunday morning or Wednesday evening and see for yourself! Anyone there would be glad to talk with you and try to answer all your questions!

IMA: I have a magnet on my



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From The **POOP SHEET**

by Ace London

**CHANNEL CHANGE**

"Throw the bouquets while people can still smell them" Dad always used to say. Well, I recently was invited to Denver by the group of Gays and Lesbians who work at Coors. They provided me a lectern with an open invitation to their co-workers, P-FLAG, MCC, and the general public to come and think about Understanding Alternative Lifestyles.

Their efforts showed me how Gays and Lesbians in the workplace of a large Corporation might make their lives count more because of their honesty. Ms. Wright, Coors R&D, told me she even came out of the closet at work to Bill Coors himself after she read the Foreward he wrote in my autobiography published August '93. This has also shown me how important it is for straight bosses to come out of their closets as Gay rights supporters. By the way, if you want to use Visa/MC to order the book, its (800) 356-9315.

Many kudos to the Coors L.A.G.-E.R. group who are helping to educate without being obnoxious. That's the Coors Lesbian & Gay Employee Resource group.

Another group deserving kudos is the GLSU at U.N.R. where I recently spoke at their sponsored event open to the public. The GLSU has the largest Student Union on the UNR campus. They're highly respected for their G/L activities but also for Community & University labors.

As a teacher/lecturer, I find great joy and inspiration from the College/University audiences and am looking forward to the Fall semester with probable meetings coming up at the University of South Dakota, Kent State University, and State University of New York at Brockport. Keep up your good labors all you studs and studettes!

Well, that's it from the Poop Sheet.

Well kiss ma' grits and butter ma' buns! Maybe you already are one, and, maybe you've been there more than once, but, if you've never been one, you could be one! Yes, you could become a "fairy godfather" or "fairy godmother", maybe this year!

How is this possible, you say? Let's look at what a "godparent" is. Noah says it's "a person who sponsors a child, and assumes responsibility for its faith." The title of "godparent" usually becomes a reality at a ritual such as "baptism". So you say: Am I going to sponsor. A Child? Well, maybe.

Of course it will take a bit of creative juice flowing on your part, but, since all that exists in physical reality first existed in a mind somewhere; well, maybe we can help create a physical reality for our national Gay and Lesbian community; making it a stronger and better community.

How might this happen, you say. Well, what if there were 25 million Gays and Lesbians, all unashamedly out of their closets, exhibiting love toward one another and toward the straight community? That would most certainly make an impact, wouldn't it?!

Having been involved in the field of Psychology in past years. I honestly do not believe that "outing" a brother or sister is a healthy act on our part. Most folks would not be psychologically capable of coping with a surprise trauma of this nature. It could wreck their lives, being unprepared to bare their souls. However, I also am well aware of the Effects of Suffocation they have chosen by remaining in their closets.

It's been two decades now since I exited my closet. Over the years I've run into folks who knew me and "just knew" I was also "one of the group". They could have outed me! The thought keeps going through my mind: might I have been able to make a more graceful exit from my closet if one of them had become my "fairy godfather" or "fairy godmother"? What if someone had cared enough to give me advice, support and encouragement; is someone had loved me into the light of my reality!? Maybe we can start a "Fairy Godparents Club"!?

We all surely know at least one person in the closet. We could start a bold communication with them, one on one. Find out why they have decided to stay in their closet; what are their fears. Remembering always it is not our role to play God; our role is that of someone who cares for a fellow traveler who is self-suffocating and maybe just needs a sounding board and helping hand. Remembering that a person in their closet is really a child to reality and honesty. Remembering they are good people who are used to living a lie; a lie which may have taken them years to build, to build the intricate facade which keeps their secret hidden. Remembering that graceful exits for closets may demand the arm of a loved one.

If you think this is a good idea and would like to become involved in getting something started, write me in care of your Editor who will forward the mail on. If you are as swamped with work as I am, we'll both be saying "how in the hell am I going to have time to take another task?" But as the old times used to say: "If you want something to get done, give the task to a busy person."

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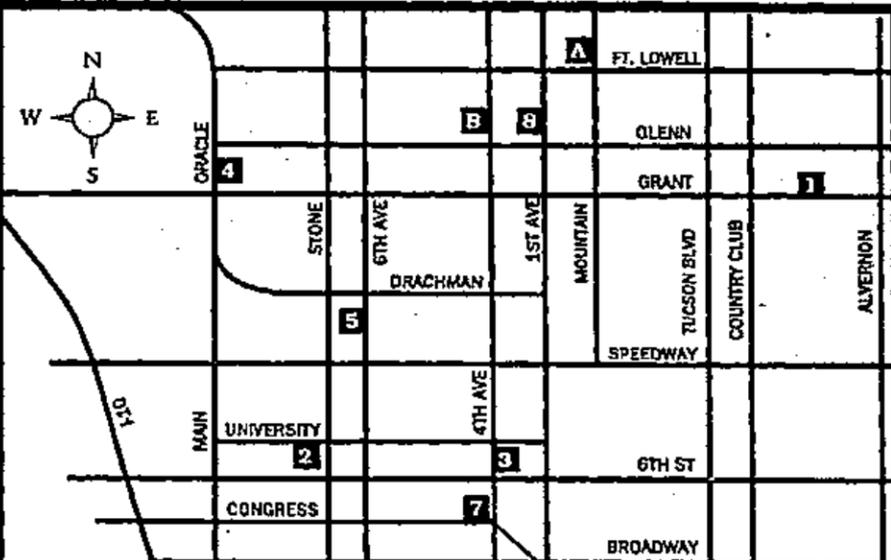
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- 5. VENTURE-N - 1239 N. 6th Ave. - 882-8224
- 7. CLUB CONGRESS - 311 E. Congress - 622-8848
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## Conservatively Speaking

by Marvin Liebman

### The Politics Of Hate, And Of Courage

In recent years, it is a rare event indeed for an American politician, of either major party, to take a stand based solely on principle and conviction rather than on whatever expediency is required to keep or win a well-paying government job with all the power and perks of office. Such a rare event occurred last month at a Human Rights Campaign Fund leadership conference in Washington, D.C., when U.S. Senator Charles S. (Chuck) Robb (D-VA) appeared to express his appreciation for a contribution of \$10,000. He went far beyond just saying thanks.

Robb, running a tough and close race for re-election against radical extremists in his own and in the Republican Party, "...gave his strongest endorsement even to homosexual rights, saying he will speak out on the issue even if it jeopardizes his re-election campaign. (He) condemned the 'fundamental unfairness' of anti-Gay discrimination and called efforts to end it 'the last front of the true civil rights struggle'. He promised that 'we're going to get it right in the very near future.'" (Washington Post, May 10, 1994)

There was no reason for Chuck Robb to stick out his political neck other than deep personal conviction. Ten thousand dollars is a lot of money but relatively insignificant in a campaign costing millions. His major opposition will most likely be the front running nominee of the

Virginia Republican Party, Oliver L. North - public liar, hypocritical opportunist, and proudly bigoted against Gays, Lesbians, and most likely every other minority group different from his white bread, phony Norman Rockwell hero image, bought and paid for by direct mail professionals who raise millions of hard earned dollars from all too many impoverished and frightened Americans.

Is there a choice for those in the Virginia electorate, who still value honor and decency? Is there even a question in the minds of Gay men and Lesbians? For me, there are no questions and only one choice, Charles S. Robb, like North, also a Vietnam Veteran.

I have worked on the campaigns of, and voted for, Republicans for most of my professional life, with only one exception in 1992, Bill Clinton. I voted for him because I was repelled by the moral weakness and hypocrisy of the Republican Party, and its candidate, as epitomized by the loathsome GOP National Convention in Houston. In retrospect, I would still have voted against the Republicans, even though Bill Clinton has reneged on too many campaign promises to the Gay and Lesbian community and to the nation.

Again, I find myself in the same position. I am a conservative Republican who finds himself supporting Senator

Chuck Robb, a liberal Democrat. Why this contradiction? It is because I am a Gay man. Any politician, Republican or Democrat, who speaks out of us, who stands against bigotry and hatred, is my candidate. Even though we may differ on economic and other issues, we stand together in support of common humanity and the Constitutional civil rights of all Americans. That is the most important! Our country can survive Democrats in the Senate and even Bill Clinton in the White House. It cannot survive the bigotry, fear and hatred that has become the prime weapon of the radical extremists of the right, whether they be Democrat or Republican.

To the radical right, Gay men and Lesbians have replaced the Jews and Negroes of the past as their targets. We have become the communists of the 90's, objects of fear and loathing. We are now the corrupters, of the media, the schools, the family, every "value" the professional extremists can think up on which they can raise money. Today, Gay men and Lesbians are the targets, stereotyped fuel for their fund raising machines, all in the name of God.

Any friend of these radical extremists is our enemy. Anyone opposed to their ugly campaigns of hatred and bigotry is our friend. It has become that simple. The danger posed to our community is that critical. They promote raw hatred of each and every one of us. They proclaim their fundamentalists beliefs as religious gospel. The penalty for sodomy is death, they say. Do they really want us dead? Probably. We need all the real friends we can get. Those who stand with us against hate are deserving of all the support we can give them. Chuck Robb is one of those courageous few.

I would like to take this opportunity to also write briefly about the Human Rights Campaign Fund. In the past, I have criticized the HRCF as being too "establishment," too fearful of change. However, like it or not, the HRCF is our establishment organization, the largest, the best financed, and the most widely recognized. It is because of this that it can provide the most comfortable platform for the Chuck Robbs to speak out for us. For this, all Gay men and Lesbians must be grateful. If it did nothing else but provide such a platform, the HRCF would have sufficient value. And so, for providing Chuck Robb and others with a platform, I salute my friends and comrades of the Human Rights Campaign Fund.

I urge all who read this to provide whatever support you are able to keep Charles S. Robb in the Senate of the United States. If you live in Virginia, offer your services as volunteers and contribute to his campaign. Wherever you vote, send him your most generous contribution: Robb for Senate, P.O. Box 1994, McLean, VA 22101-1994. It will be an investment in our future and in our lives.

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## LEATHER BITS by Desert Leathermen

Have you noticed the contented grin on the face of virtually every Desert Leatherman the past month? Those Cheshire cat smiles were installed in Las Vegas the first weekend in May at the 13th Annual "Hell on Heels" sponsored by the Satyricon's Motorcycle Club. The event is a weekend long party with a multitude of planned activities, meals, games, cocktail parties, road trips, culminating in a blow-out stage show that only Vegas leather queers could pull off. But perhaps its not the organized activities that make you go "mmm". Several hundred leathermen representing dozens of clubs from all parts of the U.S. (even Canada) converged on the neon mecca on the prowl for fun and frolic. Frankly, there were more hot men there than you could shake your stick at, but that didn't stop some from trying their best to do so. It's more than just good clean fun, though. "Hell on Heels" is the Satyricon's largest yearly fund raising activity and the group has generated many thousands of dollars for the Nevada AIDS Project. Every year it comes at the end of April/beginning of May and lots of men work their social calendars around it. All are welcome, no club affiliation is required. Just ask any DL or TALL member for more graphic details.

Good news: the Leather Shop at the Venture-N has thrown its doors wide open again! The new butt-tique is called Pegasus, and although the current selection of goodies is modest, the proprietor, Rex, promises big things (doesn't he always!). Once all the stock has rolled in, the shop will offer everything from racy greeting cards to the finest in leather toys and

apparel. Custom fabrication will also be available. Stop in and check it out as it grows and evolves.

So, why is there such a fascination with leather? It is a very powerful stimulus for most everyone (whether they admit it or not). Yet, if you ask ten different people why, you'll get ten different reasons. Is it the musky man scent of cowhide that's the turn-on, or the soft smoothness that is at the same time tough and enduring. What does "leather" evoke in your mind: the sweaty chaps clinging to the legs of a tall lean cowboy or the saddle nuzzling his buttocks? The World War II bomber jacket encasing the butch torso of a cocky flying ace? The soft like a tongue gloves that form the second skin on the meaty hands of that hunky body builder as he pumps out set after set of mind blowing bench presses? The greasy boots and shiny motorcycle jacket of the biker as he cruises past with that throbbing machine between his legs? Or does it just bring back the memory of the first time you had man to man sex in the Mercedes with the leather interior? Point is, leather is a very personal thing. But you won't know just what it does for you until you open up to it. Take the time to smell it, feel it, put it on your body and make it a part of you. Or put it on your playmate. Granted it's too hot to don full motorcycle regalia, but try an arm band or shorts or whatever strikes you. Just try!

Speaking of hot, it's definitely summer in the "Baked Apple." The upside is no more Winnebagos or 25 MPH in the left lane little blue haired ladies

clogging up the streets. Down-side is the college campuses are deserted, Reddington is full of nothing but rocks and the bars are ho-hum. You gotta work hard at making your own fun this time of year. But one place you don't have to work is at DL's monthly beer bust. Sit back, relax. We'll feed you 50 cent draft beers and

offer you a menu of fried chicken, pasta salad and brownies. As always, beer bust participants will be rubbed the right way with complimentary back massages. So come on down to the patio of the Venture-N this Saturday, June 4, from 3-7 p.m. We'll do the work, you'll have the fun.



### From Russia With Love

Twenty-year-old Yaroslav Mogutin (right) and 41-year-old Robert Filippini found Moscow's Wedding Palace a rather inhospitable climate for their attempted wedding. The couple was told that Russian law forbids two men from marrying and were refused a license. The men later exchanged rings in a private ceremony and planned to honeymoon in Europe.

PHOTO: SERGI KARPUKHIN (AP)

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# San Francisco Catholic Charities Denies Disclosure Imperiling AIDS Funds

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (AP) - Catholic Charities' refusal to disclose the number of homosexuals on its board is threatening \$1.5 million the agency receives from San Francisco each year for AIDS projects.

A city Health Commission rule, passed four years ago, allows contracts only with agencies whose staff and board are "representative of the target population" with respect to sexual orientation, gender or race.

Catholic Charities, which as provided AIDS services in San Francisco since 1986, runs Peter Claver Community, a 32 bed residential program for homeless AIDS patients. A survey it conducted in order to receive federal funds identified 70 percent of Claver's clients as Gay men.

But Catholic Charities has refused to ask its 31 board members about their sexual orientation. "To ask about something so private as sexuality is wrong," said Arthur Hudson, the agency's chief executive officer.

The agency has a formal policy of

non-discrimination, which includes sexual orientation, and says it shares the city's goal of diversity. Hudson sent a letter to the city last December saying, "We assume that Gays and Lesbians do, in fact, sit on our board."

That didn't satisfy Melinda Paras, the Health Commission's budget chairperson. At her request, the commission has delayed for at least two weeks its approval of the Peter Claver Community's next six month \$320,000 contract with the city.

"One of the reasons you want a diverse board together is because you want insights into the concerns and problems of the population you're serving," Paras said.

She said the city didn't want the names, just the numbers of self identified homosexuals on the board. No quota is required, Paras said, but if the answer was zero, "we'd say, 'Please work on improving this.'"

"Don't you think that if you have a target population of 70 percent Gay men and you wanted to serve their needs, you'd want to have someone on the board who was sensitive to their needs?" asked Arthur Jackson, the commission's chairperson.

But Hudson said if 10 percent of the board members, for example, were identified as Gay, "there would be some people saying we need more. It's almost a race without a finish line."

# Parents of Dallas Activist Fighting Dead Son's Will

DALLAS, TX (AP) - An AIDS fighting, Gay rights foundation could lose to legal fees much of the bequest of an activist who died of the disease, officials said.

Rand Brown, 34, who died January 30, bequeathed much of his \$146,000 estate to the Foundation for Human Understanding.

But his parents, Robert and Joan Brown, are challenging the will. They contend their son lacked the mental capacity to draw up the document and that he was unduly influenced.

Although the Browns have indicated through their attorney that they do not object to their son's bequest to the foundation, its officials say it may only get a fraction of the money because of the litigation.

Brown's parents have repeatedly said they have no objection with the foundation being a beneficiary, said the foundation's attorney, John Bergner.

Their apparent objection is with Marilyn Gordon, the executor of Brown's estate, who care for Brown in his final months, he said.

John Thomas, the foundation's executive director, said part of the estate could be eaten up by legal fees and other expenses before the August 9 trial.

Gordon was to get Brown's Ford Explorer and some personal effects, while other family and friends were to inherit

property, the attorney said.

A temporary executor has been appointed by the court.

Gordon said she does not want the cause the family more pain but won't roll over because she knows Brown's wishes.

The Browns could not be reached for comment, and their attorney's declined comment.

When he died, Brown was on the board of the foundation, an umbrella group that includes the AIDS Resource Center, the Nelson-Tebedo Community Clinic for AIDS Research and the Dallas Gay and Lesbian Community Center.

Gay and Lesbian rights advocates said the challenge reflects situations they've seen before: parents having a hard time accepting their adult children's wishes, especially when those adult children are Gay and die of AIDS.

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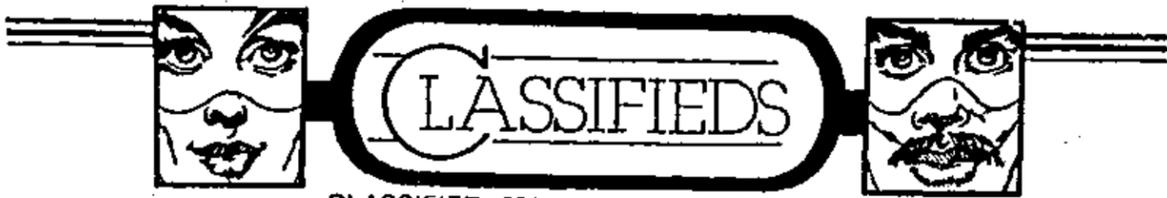
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**Notices**

**FRONT RUNNERS OF TUCSON** meet for fun run Tuesdays at 6 p.m. Group meets in front of the Historical Park Library (East side), and Saturdays at various times and places. For more information call Mitch at 326-3553.

**FACT** - People with AIDS Coalition of Tucson, 801 W. Congress. Office hours 8 to 5 M-F (8-7 Wed); Support Group meets every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. Call 770-1710 for info.

**SHANTI FOUNDATION OF TUCSON**  
Help us help others in giving emotional support to persons with life-threatening illnesses and their families, friends. Contact us Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 622-7107. VOLUNTEERS WELCOME.

**P.P.L.A.G.** - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays - is a support group available to anyone who has a son, daughter or friend who is Gay. Call 575-8660 or write P.O. Box 36264, Tucson, AZ 85740-6264. All replies confidential.

**Chap De La Paloma Apostolic Church**, 225 W. Flores, Tucson. Worship Services Sundays at 11 am & 6:30 pm. Wednesday & Saturday Bible Studies 7 pm. Tuesday, women's Rap Group 7 pm. Coming out issues couple counseling provided. For appointment Pastor S. Lewis for info 323-6835.

**ARE YOU GAY OR LESBIAN** and someone else's drinking is getting to you. Call information and referral about Al-Anon 790-1922 in Tucson info about special groups for Gays and Lesbians.

**OLD PUEBLO BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION**  
For meeting dates and locations or membership information call 795-6055 or write: OP, P.O. Box 44033, Tucson, AZ 85733

**SORORITY** - A support group for male & female Transsexuals, Transvestites and Gay cross-dressers. Family oriented. Meets at 8 pm 2nd Saturday of each month. Call: 293-3456. NOT A DATING SERVICE.

**YOUNG AND GAY?**  
Lesbian and Gay youths 23 and under, meet every Saturday in Tucson for sharing, support and information. Meetings are held at 422 N. 4th Avenue from 3 to 5 pm. You are not alone. For more info call Wispapan, 624-1779.

**WOMYN'S THIRD FRIDAY COFFEE HOUSE** meets third Friday of each month at Unitarian Universalist Church 4831 E. 21st Street. \$2 at door (more if you eat, less if not).

**ARE YOU A GAY MAN 40 OR OLDER?** Do you enjoy the companionship of your peers? Call Creatives 884-7264 in Tucson.

**TUCSON AIDS PROJECT (TAP)**, 151 S. Tucson Blvd., Suite 252 (The Broadmead Center Bldg.). Direct services for persons with and affected by HIV/AIDS. Prevention education program. Business hours, M-F, 8-5. 322-6226. AIDS Hotline: 326-AIDS.

**GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL IN TUCSON**  
Call information and referral 841-1794 - 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon. - Fri.

**GAY OR LESBIAN AND HAVE A DRINKING PROBLEM?**  
Call A.A. 624-4183. 24-Hour Hotline. Call for info about Gay and Lesbian meetings in Tucson.

**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 Tuesdays 6:30 - 7:30 pm. Licensed psychologist facilitator. Call 884-0476 Tucson. Strictly confidential.

**WINGSPAN** - Tucson's Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Community Center, 422 N. 4th Ave., offers support groups / info line / social events / library / meeting space. Volunteer Opportunities. Board meetings every 2nd Sunday (open to all), 6:00 p.m. Information 624-1779.

**GAY SUPPORT GROUP:** Lesbians and Gay men meet weekly for open discussion in a loving, supportive atmosphere. Meetings Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:30 pm at St. Francis in the Park Church, 5750 and River Road. Call the church at 299-9063 for information.

**LIGHTEN HIKING CLUB** for women of all ages and backgrounds of life. Hike with other women. 795-3610.

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

**LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP** addressing a full spectrum of issues, problems and situations. Meetings 2nd & 4th Wednesday 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Wispapan, 422 N. 4th Ave. 624-1779.

**TEN PERCENT** meets every Wednesday on the UofA campus in the Student Union room 281 at 6 p.m. All Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual members of the community are invited.

**ATTENTION ALL NUDDISTS!** Arizona Nude Dudes or ANDES/Tucson for short, is a Gay men's nudist group. We hold local activities each month and have connections to Gay men's nudist groups across the country. For further information please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to ANDES/Tucson, P.O. Box 64044, Tucson, AZ 85728-4044. For faster reply please include phone number.

**MALR, FEMALE, BISEXUAL SUPPORT GROUP.** Info: Steve, 323-8436 or Wispapan, 624-1779.

**FRIENDSHIP HOUSE**, a group living facility for people living with HIV/AIDS. Private rooms with shared kitchen and living area. Free cable. For more info call Paul, 622-1437. Contributions accepted for direct patient services.

**TAKE SQUARE DANCE LESSONS** for fun at Club 2520. Beginners "Basic Classes start every Fall. Watch "T-Squares" dance every Tuesday, 7-9 p.m., 2520 N. Oracle. G&L benefit performance requests encouraged! Disc: 745-9212.

**SUN COUNTRY NATURALISTS:** Social Nudist Club for men and women. Write to: Sun Country Naturalists, P.O. Box 43772, Tucson, AZ 85733-3772

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

**GAY & LESBIAN HIKING CLUB.** Persons interested in desert and mountain hiking and backpacking experiences which average 8 miles or more are encouraged to join. Hikers must be willing to create a drug/alcohol-free, environmentally friendly experience. For information about hikes, call pager number 446-3711 and leave your number followed by a # sign or write: Les McAllen, P.O. Box 42532, Tucson, AZ 85733-2532.

**MALE MEN:** People network for long-haired Gay guys! To join, send photo, self description, 2 IRC's. Box 231, Station B, Ottawa, CANADA, K1P6C4

**RESTORATION FELLOWSHIP CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF ALL LATTER DAY SAINTS - SOUTHWEST** - Don't give up your religious beliefs and principles. Be with brothers and sisters of RLDS, LDS Mormon faith. For more information call 325-7668 or 1-800-755-2928. Sacrament Meetings Sundays 1-2 (local after). Monday's Family home evening 7-9 p.m. All welcome. Bring a friend.

**UofA FACULTY AND STAFF** for Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Equity meet on the fourth Monday of each month for a Brown Bag Lunch from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the Student Union, Room 283 or 285. Open to UofA faculty and staff concerned about Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual issues.

**ARIZONA/SONORA PROYECTO, S.I.D.A. - AIDS INFO LINE 842-3913.** Also seeking volunteers who are bilingual (Spanish/English) and are interested in presenting information about AIDS to Spanish groups in Arizona and Sonora, Mexico. Early Intervention Center, 801 West Congress, Tucson, AZ 85745. 770-1314.

**Notices**

**ARIZONA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION (AGRA) TUCSON CHAPTER.** Interested? Call 323-0805 or write AGRA/Tucson, P.O. Box 40294, Tucson, AZ 85717.

**AMERICAN GAY & LESBIAN ATHLETISTS** advocating state/church separation. Monthly meetings and support for the non-religious. Write: 3003 N. Central Ave., Suite 123, Box 211, Phoenix, AZ 85017-2903. "Educating Our Community Since 1983".

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

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

**ATTENTION ALL NUDDISTS** - Tucson Tamers is a nudist group open to all - Nude activities scheduled both indoor and outdoors. Not "Gay Only", but Gays are welcome and invited to join. For further information send SASE to: Tucson Tamers, P.O. Box 84-D, Cortaro, AZ 85622.

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

**\*QUEER BUDGE\***, Budge's Lesbian and Gay Alliance, has a general meeting every 3rd Sunday at 7 p.m. at the YWCA in Bisbee.

**PRESCOTT GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL & QUESTIONING SUPPORT GROUP** now forming. Are you lonely? Scared? Confused? Need Friendship? Support? Please write to us. We will respond to all in confidentiality. We're here for you... don't be alone! For students and the community. YAG, Box 8663, 3100 North Willow Creek Road, Prescott, AZ 86301-3720.

**GAY MEN'S THERAPY GROUP.** This ongoing therapy group, facilitated by a licensed psychologist, provides a safe place to work on interpersonal blocks and self-esteem issues. Membership will be limited to 8-10 people. Call Randy Oberhoff, Ph.D. 623-3390

**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, write PO Box 41141, Tucson AZ 85717 or come to our general meetings the first Thursday of every month at 7:30 pm on the Ventura-N patio.

**GAY AND LESBIAN OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS.** Stop binging, purging and overeating. Get a life! Call 793-3488 / 290-1739. Come to a meeting. Meetings are held every Tuesday from 7 to 8:30 pm at Healthy Bites, 1001 N. Wilcox.

**TUCSON ROOMMATE LOCATOR SERVICE**  
Men and women both welcome. Office 624-8265.

**\*LAMBDA CAR CLUB, Grand Canyon Region\*** for information about membership or activities call Bill James 622-3828 Tucson.

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

**JOHN USI PLGC, Presbyterians for Lesbian & Gay Concerns**, is a national organization of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Tucson chapter formed in May 1993; PLGC de Orio. We invite all Presbyterians to join us at our meeting on the 4th Sundays of each month at St. Mark's Presbyterian Church, 3809 E. 3rd St. Tucson in Geneva Hall. For more details contact Nancy Brown, 327-1293.

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

Catholic Church established to meet the spiritual and liturgical needs of Gays and Lesbians. Same gender marriages incrementally allowed. Has a male and female non-celibate priesthood. If interested, please contact Fr. Denis Martel, St. Ambrose Church, 500 Dorcas St., New Orleans, LA 70115 or call (504)895-4742 or fax (504)895-2004. Vocation and membership inquiries welcomed.

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**ROOMMATE WANTED TO SHARE** 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Air conditioning, fully furnished. Prefer BGIM. \$350/mo. Includes utilities. No pets. No drugs. Wilcox/Broadway area. Call Sunny 571-0930. 515

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**SECURITY PERSONS WANTED.** Contact Club 2520 in per. w. 2520 N. Oracle, Tucson

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**Closet Door**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE SEVEN

Gay families in communes, love freely, and advance our liberation. Radical queer theory taught us that the desire to partake in decadent bourgeois ceremony betrayed a lack of self-acceptance and love of one's queer self.

Fortunately, I now listen more to my conscience and my heart than any sort of political theorist. The struggle for the right of queers to marry has been reshaping my thinking. It was easy to disdain marriage when I could not allow myself the hope of attaining such a union.

Marriage is a commitment to share two lives, not a mechanism for enforcing the laws of inheritance and thus requiring reproduction. A loving marriage is not something we must deny ourselves. As in every other instance, though, society will not acknowledge this right unless and until we claim it. We have to re-create the idea of marriage to include ourselves.

We have to stand up, declare our love, and say that this ritual, this social acknowledgement, belong to us too.

It's time for me to claim my right to something I've wanted all my life. I've found the right man. I'll pass on the white dress, but I want to put on my best clothes, get up in front of everybody we know, tell him how much I love him, and agree to share our lives. Then I want to get presents, have a huge party, and spend a week or two in my husband's arms.

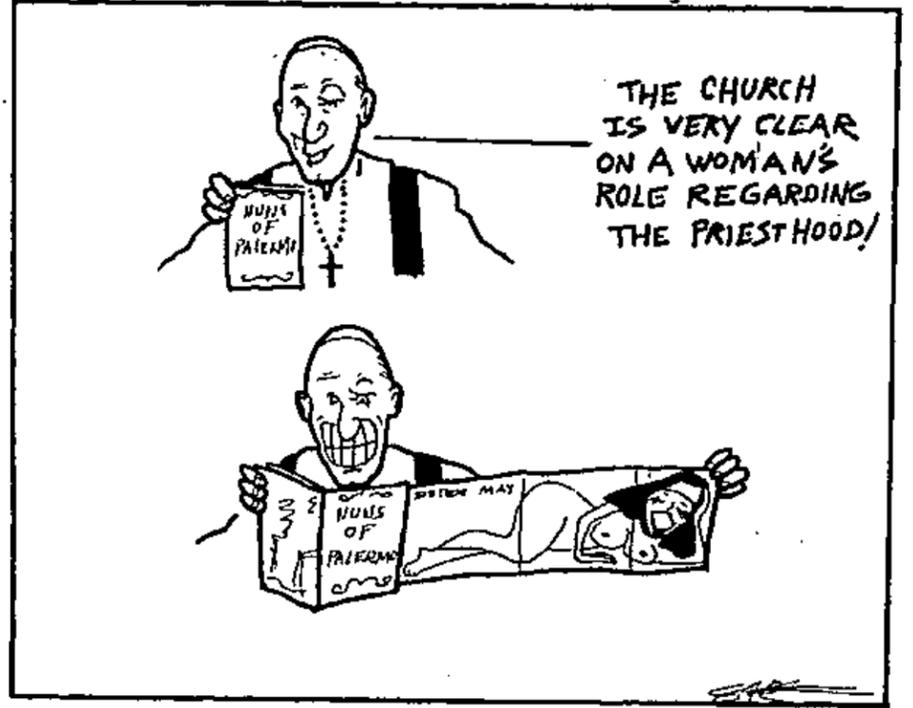
So here goes:

Steven, I love you more than I ever thought it possible for me to love. You, lover, are the man of my dreams; I want us to be together for the rest of our lives. I don't care if family, religion, or government acknowledge my love for you. Your agreement is all I seek.

Will you marry me?

*As I See It....*

*by Clark*



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