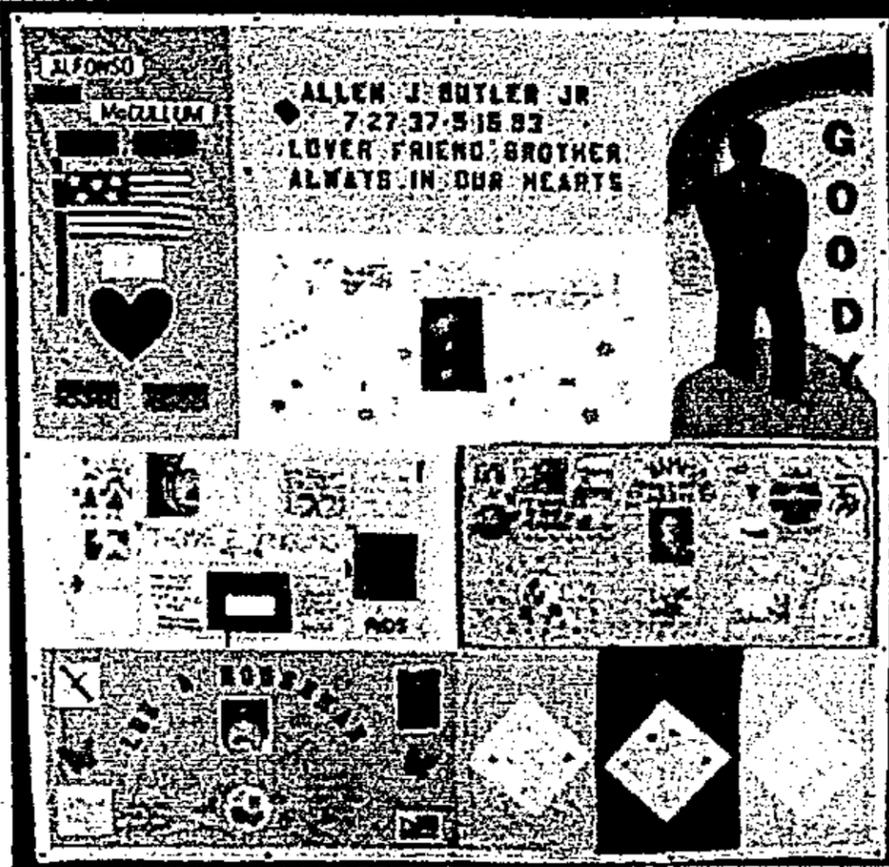


World AIDS Day In Tucson Wrap-up



TUCSON - Shown above is a file photo of one section of the NAMES Quilt. 32 panels of the national AIDS Memorial Quilt will remain on display at Catalina High Magnet School the rest of this week. Viewing hours are 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 3 and 4 and from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 5

by Mark R. Kerr

TUCSON (ON) - Several panels of the National AIDS Memorial Quilt; an interfaith service; "A Day Without Art" and; an observance marked World AIDS Day in Tucson, marking 17 years of the global AIDS epidemic.

This year's theme was, "Give Children Hope in a World with AIDS." AIDS is the sixth leading cause of death of those between the ages of 15-24.

An observance took place Sunday, November 30 at Catalina High Magnet School in Tucson. Signs were about the high school which told of the facts about the AIDS epidemic.

The observance was sponsored by the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF), Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN), the Pima County Health Department (PCHD), Wingspan, and University Medical Center's HIV Resource Program.

Anne Maley, executive director of SAAF opened the commemoration, thanking people for attending. Maley reminded the assembled crowd that World AIDS Day is not just for those who lost their battle with the disease, it is also for those people living with HIV/AIDS.

"World AIDS Day also gives hope to families, brothers, sister, fathers, mothers and friends," Maley said.

Jo Lynn Ray, a Catalina High

School student rang a musical bell 17 times, for each of the 17 years of the AIDS epidemic.

State Senator Elaine Richardson, D-Tucson, addressed the crowd next. Richardson read a card from her god-daughter, who wrote about her struggle with AIDS.

Richardson thanked Gov. Hull for the \$600,000 in funding for the AIDS Drug Assistance Programs. She called it a "shot in the arm," but much more is needed, especially with new strains of HIV virus being discovered.

Senator Richardson urged those in attendance to write Governor Hull, thanking her for the funding. She also urged those to write their state legislators asking them to approve state funding for HIV/AIDS.

According to figures, HIV/AIDS efforts in the state will face a \$1.6 million minimum shortfall in funding for the next fiscal year.

The most moving portion of the commemoration was when a teen-age girl, Lahanna, living with AIDS, talked about her life-long struggle with the disease. She urged the crowd to "join the army" in the war on AIDS.

An interfaith service followed at the Benedictine Sanctuary. According to Scott Blades, executive director of TI-

CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHTEEN

Recent U.S. Supreme Court Rulings Affecting Gays

WASHINGTON, DC (WS) - The Supreme Court let stand a ruling that San Francisco's firing of a human rights commissioner for anti-Gay remarks does not violate his constitutional free speech rights.

The justices rejected an appeal by the Rev. Eugene Lumpkin, the pastor of a Baptist church who was removed from the city's Human Rights Commission in 1993 after he advocated violence against homosexuals.

While serving as commissioner, Lumpkin during news media interviews condemned homosexuality as a sin and quoted passages in the Bible prescribing death for practicing homosexuals.

"It's sad that people have AIDS and what have you, but it says right here in the scripture that the homosexual lifestyle is an abomination against God," Lumpkin was quoted as saying in a 1993 article.

After his firing, Lumpkin sued, alleging that his rights had been violated and seeking to be reinstated and to get compensatory damages.

In his Supreme Court appeal, Lumpkin argued that government employees may not be fired solely for public statements about their personal religious beliefs because, he said, "The right to religious belief and profession is absolute."

DC Police Officer Charged In Gay Extortion; Police Chief Resigns Amid Public Uproar

by Lou Chibbaro Jr.

WASHINGTON, DC (WB) - Gay activists are asking federal prosecutors to seek the strongest possible penalty against a D.C. police lieutenant who was arrested by the FBI for attempting to extort money from men who patronized a Gay film and burlesque theater in southeast D.C.

The FBI arrested Lt. Jeffrey S. Stowe, 42, the commander of the police department's Special Investigations Section, on a charge that he threatened to contact the wives and employers of at least two married men he observed entering and leaving the Follies Theater unless the men paid him \$10,000 in "hush" money.

The FBI also charged Stowe with embezzling \$5,000 from three police department funds that he controlled as part of his responsibilities for overseeing the payment of fees to confidential witnesses and police informants.

Stowe's arrest came less than two hours after D.C. Police Chief Larry Soulsby, who is a close friend of Stowe's, resigned from office amid a public uproar

The high court denied his appeal without any comment or dissent. The justices left intact a U.S. appeals court ruling that Lumpkin has a right to state his views, but that the First Amendment does not "assure him job security when he preached homophobia while serving as a city official."

The appeals court said the First Amendment does not require the city to tolerate members of the human rights commission who make statements contrary to the panel's goal of eliminating prejudice and discrimination.

"Lumpkin's First Amendment rights may be trumped by important interests of the city he agreed to serve," the appeals court concluded in upholding a federal judge's ruling for the city.

San Francisco urged the Supreme Court to deny Lumpkin's appeal, saying there was no need to review "legal conclusions that are so obviously correct."

In another case, the Court agreed to let stand California appellate decisions in the removal of two Gay men from a county Republican committee.

Veteran political activists and openly Gay couple Paul Johnson and Kevin Wadsworth Johnson had been elected to the Republican Central Committee of El Dorado County, California as part of general elections held at public expense in

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY

over revelations about his association with Stowe. News surfaced that Soulsby and Stowe had been sharing a luxury apartment in the downtown Lansburgh apartment building and that Stowe rented the apartment under false pretenses.

According to reports, Stowe persuaded the Lansburgh management to rent him the two-bedroom furnished apartment for about half the normal rent by saying the apartment would be used for police undercover work. Soulsby, confirming that the apartment had not be used for undercover work, said he had no knowledge that Stowe misled the Lansburgh management or that Stowe had been engaging in illegal or improper activities. The FBI and the police department's Internal Affairs Division, which joined forces in investigating Stowe, gave no indication that Soulsby was linked in any way to Stowe's extortion and embezzlement activities.

Officials with the D.C. group Gay Men and Lesbians Opposing Violence (GLOV) said the Stowe extortion episode

CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE

UPDATE

Positions Available At SAAF

TUCSON -- The Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation is seeking an Outreach Worker:

Outreach Worker (3/4 time) for AIDS Prevention Collaboration. Provide HIV prevention services and recruit participants from the Gay community for HIV prevention programs.

Requires organized, out-going person with ability to interact with Gay men of all ages, with emphasis on Gay youth. Salary \$12,750-\$15,750 year, excellent benefits.

To apply for any of these positions, pick up job description and application instructions, M-F, 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M., at 151 South Tucson Boulevard, #211, or call 322-6226 to have them faxed to you. Closes 5:00 P.M., 12/10. AA/EOE.

Housing Case Manager/Dental Coordinator - for people with AIDS. Requires experience in provision of direct case management services, housing, and contract administration. BA plus 2-4 years experience in human services. Up to \$24,650/year excellent benefits. (Closes 5:00 P.M., 12/10).

Office Manager. To oversee office functions, building and equipment maintenance, supply inventory; prepare forms and newsletter. Requires educational/experience in office management; strong computer skills, including Pagemaker;

supervision; bilingual preferred. Up to \$25,000/year, excellent benefits. (Open until filled).

To apply, pick up job description and application instructions, M-F, 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M., at 151 S. Tucson Blvd., #211, or call 322-6226 to have them faxed to you. AA/EOE

Patricia Nell Warren Tucson Book Signing Dec. 4

TUCSON -- Patricia Nell Warren will be signing copies of her new book, "Billy's Boy," Thursday, December 4, 6:30 - 8:00 P.M., at the new Barnes & Noble.

The new store is located at 5130 East Broadway, between Rosemont and Williams Center Boulevard behind Chili's Restaurant.

"Billy's Boy," is the third of a "Gay family dynasty," according to Warren. Her best seller "Front Runner," was the first of the series and was followed by "Harlan's Race."

Ruby Moon Productions Fund Raiser Dec. 5

TUCSON -- Ruby Moon will be hosting a formal cocktail party as a fund raiser for filming of a documentary film Silver Linings: Exploring Our Lesbian & Gay Elders, Friday, December 5.

The fund raiser will take place at 8:00 P.M., Dillinger House Bed & Breakfast. The film is being sponsored and supported by the Arizona Media Arts

Center, a non-profit organization that helps independent film makers produce films shot in Arizona.

A portion of the documentary will be shown at the fund raiser.

Reveille Mens Chorus Holiday Concert Dec. 8

TUCSON -- Southern Arizona's premier choral group, Reveille Gay Men's Chorus (RGMC), will present their annual holiday concert, "A Season For Loving," Saturday, December 6, 8:00 P.M., at Grace St. Paul Episcopal Church, 2331 East Adams.

Included will be a silent auction of items donated by area artists, businesses, and individuals.

The 40-member group will perform many traditional and contemporary holiday favorites as well as time-honored selections from around the world. Artistic Director, James H. Gall, says of the concert, "There will be something for everyone, including a light-hearted take-off on 'The Nutcracker.'"

This concert is the first of three major performances scheduled for the 1997-98 season. On March 14-15, at Pima Community College West Campus, Reveille will present "Prayers For Bobby" to bring community awareness to the tragedy of suicides among Gay teens and young adults. Then, on May 30, RGMC will usher in the Summer of '98 with "SSSteam Heat," a high-tech, high-touch show at the Temple of Music and Art.

Advance tickets for "A Season For Loving" are \$10 and available at Antigone Books, Girlfriends, Rainbow Planet, Tucson Trunk, and Unique on Central. Tickets are \$12 at the door, or save a total of \$9 for all three shows by purchasing a \$30 season ticket at the door.

Raffle tickets for "A Double Deck of Dinners" will also be available through intermission. The winner of the raffle will receive 52 dinners for two...or a complimentary dinner every week for a full year! For ticket outlets and more information, call the RGMC hotline, 617-3100.

Reveille Gay Men's Chorus is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) membership-based community arts organization whose mission is to operate a choral arts organization composed of Gay-supportive men singing together in public performances.

"Reveille is proud to be a part of Tucson's musical community. Though our members are of diverse backgrounds, professions and interests, we are in many ways a family, united in the pride we take in our singing and our being Gay. As we sing, we hope that our audiences can also share in the unity and joy expressed through the common language of music," said Alan McLaughlin, president of the RGMC board of directors.

Artist Ru In Bisbee

BISBEE -- View the diverse painting styles of James Ru at 55 Main Gallery in Old Bisbee, Arizona, through January 31.

The show, entitled "From Realism to Abstraction and Back Again," presents forty new paintings by R. Set in the beautiful upstairs gallery of 55 Main, the show represents the many painting skills of James R. He is as comfortable with abstract expressionism as he is with super-realism; which makes his show entertaining and fresh.

James Ru was the First Place winner of the Wingspan Gallery Jured Art Show in October 1997.



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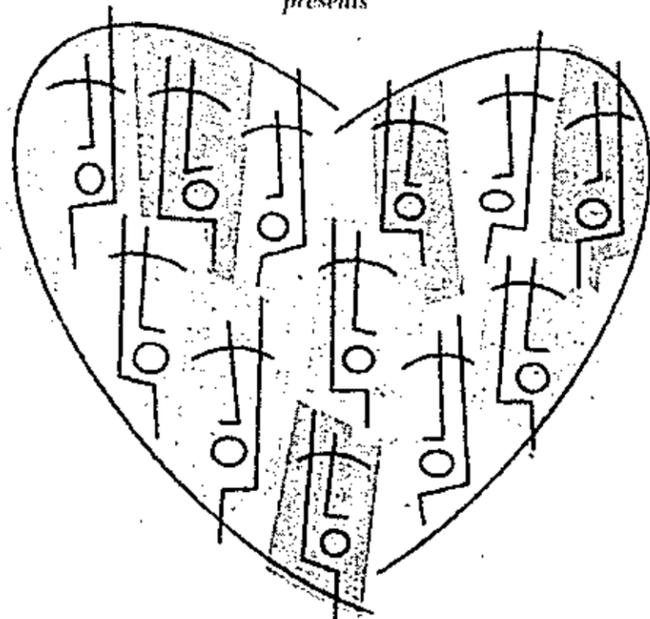
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Wingspan Artist Of The Month For December

TUCSON — David E. Franck's photograph exhibition entitled "Fractured Glamour" will be featured at the Wingspan Art Gallery for the month of December.

Franck has chosen to work in black and white because of its stark, stripped-down representation of the world. Through the addition of color and the juxtaposition of incongruous images in a more subdued and subtle manner. The deliberate alterations and imperfections of the finished pieces are designed to draw the viewer in for closer inspection and contemplation. It is not his intention to influence the viewer with a personal agenda, or provoke a predetermined reaction.

Franck is a New York artist first begun pursuing photography as a child growing up in New England. A self-taught artist, he went on to receive a

degree in film studies from the University of Massachusetts. After college he moved to Boston working as a photographer. His work has appeared in numerous publications and has been shown in New York, Boston, the Midwest, most recently the Southwest.

There will be a reception for the artist on December 6, 7:00 - 9:00 P.M., at the Wingspan Gallery, 300 East Sixth Street. Light refreshments will be served and the public is cordially invited. Gallery hours are Monday - Saturday, 11:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M., closed Sundays.

A percentage of any sales will be donated by David Franck to the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF). For more information, contact Bob McMahon, 903-1800, or at Wingspan, 624-1779.

Desert Voices 'One December Night' Dec.13-14

TUCSON — Desert Voices (DVs), Tucson's Premier Gay and Lesbian will be presenting their winter program, "One December Night," December 13-14, at the Pima Community College Proscenium Theatre.

The chorus will be joined by the ORTS Theater of Dance as well as handbells, marimba and strings as they sing various selections celebrating the season.

Much of the music will be far from the average holiday season. Keith Koster, DVs Artistic Director stated:

"As the Music Committee and I researched repertoire for the season we wanted to create a program that was entirely different from the season before. Last year, with The Child Within, we presented a mostly secular concert based on holiday songs we learned as children watching television. We recognized it was time to select music more challenging and of higher quality.

"I was intrigued with the idea of performing some music with string accompaniment. While we contemplated several works, including Vivaldi's 'Gloria,' we chose Libby Larsen's Ringletanze. This set of six carols comes most from English and French traditions, from the eleventh to the eighteenth centuries. The melodies of each dance tune originate from secular sources. The sacred came much later. My two favorite musical eras are the Renaissance and twentieth century music. I like the idea of combining music of bygone eras and updating them with twen-

tieth century harmonies!"

Snow, a suite by Tom Fettke, includes five quick movements, which will be interpreted by ORTS Theatre of Dance exhilarating trapeze work.

The women of Desert Voices will also perform Songs of the Light, by Imant Ramish, Canada's finest choral composer. This work describes constellations as defined by first nation peoples.

The curtain will rise for "One December Night," Saturday, December 13, 8:00 P.M. On Sunday, December 14, the curtain will rise at 3:00 P.M.

Tickets for this inspirational performance are \$12 for adults and \$10 for seniors, students and children. Tickets are available at: Antigone Books, Tucson Trunk and The Allergy and Vacuum Store.

You may order tickets using your Visa/MasterCard by called the Desert Voices offices, 791-9662.

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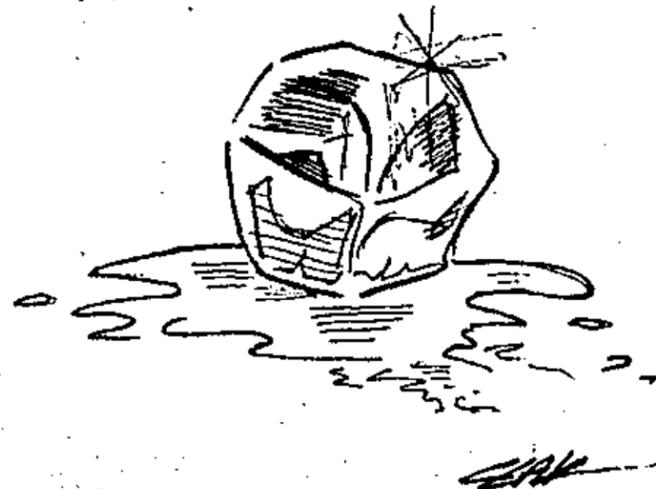
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D.C. Police Officer Charged In Gay Extortion Plot; Police Chief Resigns Amid Public Uproar

Continued from Page One

would likely worsen what activists have said has been a year of strained relations between Gays and police due to Soulsby's so-called "zero-tolerance" crackdown on various city businesses. Gay bar owners have complained that police and city inspectors have been using the zero-tolerance program, aimed at fighting crime, as an excuse to harass and intimidate Gay businesses.

"We can't lose sight of the fact that this whole episode victimizes a whole community," said GLOV Executive Director Sharen Shaw Johnson, in discussing the extortion attempt by Stowe.

"It will have a flash-freezing effect on Gay people who are victims of any crimes, including hate crimes," said Johnson. "Will they now be afraid to report a crime to the police? These are the issues we must now grapple with."

Craig Howell, an official with the Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance, said the one silver lining that may have come from the extortion flap and Soulsby's resignation was the decision by Mayor Marion Barry to name Assistant Police Chief Sonya Proctor as the acting police chief.

Officials with GLOV and GLAA have said they and other Gay groups have had an excellent working relationship with Proctor, who has held a variety of police management posts. Among those posts was commander of the Department's Third District, which includes Dupont Circle and other neighborhoods where large numbers of Gay people live.

THROWBACK TO THE 50'S

Johnson and other activists said they are especially concerned that a police official such as Stowe would target Gay people for extortion at a time when large numbers of Gays have played an open and highly public role in civic affairs.

"This is a throwback to the 19-50s," said GLOV President Darryl Cooper. "We want the authorities to push [Stowe's prosecution] very hard and to make an example of him."

In a 19-page criminal complaint, the FBI states that it opened its investigation into Stowe on Sept. 9, 1997, when one of the men targeted by Stowe contacted "federal law enforcement officers" to

report the blackmail scheme. The FBI complaint alleges that, beginning in early September, Stowe sought out Gay men for an extortion scheme by observing men entering and leaving the Follies.

The complaint says Stowe used the license numbers of the cars belonging to two of the men to obtain their identities. It says Stowe also used police department computers to obtain more background information on the men, including information showing that they were married, the status of their personal finances, and the name and location of their place of work.

Then, using a false name of "David Smith," he called at least one of the men whom the FBI lists as "Victim #1."

"The male caller told Victim #1 that he had photographs of Victim #1 at the Follies Theater," the FBI complaint states. "The male caller said that he knew everything about Victim #1. He said that he knew where Victim #1 lived and that he knew Victim #1 was married. He then stated Victim's #1's home telephone number in Virginia as further indication that he knew personal information about Victim #1."

The complaint states that the caller, whom the FBI alleges is Stowe, told Victim #1 he would "disclose the photographs to Victim #1's employer, wife, friends, and neighbors unless Victim #1 paid the male caller \$10,000 by Friday, Sept. 12."

At the instruction of the FBI, Victim #1 made arrangements to make a partial payment of \$5,000 at a commercial mail box company on the 1700 block of M St., NW. However, Stowe never showed up to pick up the package that Victim #1 sent to the mailbox. According to the FBI complaint, FBI agents later learned that Stowe used police detectives under his command to contact the FBI and find out whether FBI agents were using surveillance on the mailbox where he expected to pick up his "hush" money.

The FBI unknowingly disclosed to the detectives that they were, in fact, monitoring the mailbox as part of an extortion probe. Stowe never approached the mailbox store to pick up the package.

The FBI complaint also notes that

an "analysis of Stowe's primary bank account indicates that from May 1995 until August 1997 Stowe and his wife consistently expended more money each month than their combined net salaries." The complaint adds that "Stowe's account was maintained in a positive balance largely due to unexplained deposits of money."

One informed law enforcement source said the unexplained deposits came to "much more" than the \$5,000 which Stowe has been charged with embezzling. Thus, according to the law enforcement source, authorities believe Stowe may have obtained large sums of money through other, yet-to-be-discovered extortion schemes against Gay men.

Because of this, both the FBI and GLOV are asking others who may have been victimized in an extortion effort to come forward to either GLOV or the FBI. GLOV has said it will seek to protect the identities of potential victims.

[Lou Chibbaro Jr. is a reporter for the Washington Blade, from which this article is reprinted.]

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POLITICS

1997

by Mark R. Kerr

"I Just Don't Recognize Them With Their Clothes On!"

Don't ask. Don't tell. Do confuse! As one of her last acts as secretary of the Air Force, now-retired, Sheila Widnall issued an anti-discrimination policy, stating in writing that the Air Force would discriminate against civilian employees based on sexual orientation.

The Air Force "joins" the Navy, which also established in writing that it will not discriminate against civilian employees based on sexual orientation.

Yes, Gays and Lesbians will take over the gift shop; the barber shop (Hair Salon); the Base Exchange; the gym; bowling alley (love them balls!); movie theater (show some Judy Garland flicks!) and; culminating in the take over the Commissary. Oh-boy!

Ludicrous? Hypocritical?

Consider the following: an administration is spending millions of tax-dollars defending a discriminatory policy (Don't ask, don't tell) keeping Gays and Lesbians, who wish to serve their country, out of the armed forces.

Written memorandums, [by the armed services], were issued which "prohibit" discrimination based on sexual orientation for employees who work on the military facilities. Following orders, like Don't ask, Don't tell?

Both serve their country with only difference being the uniforms they wear. The number of discharges under "don't ask..." is higher than when the complete ban on homosexuals serving in the military was in effect. Witch-hunts still prevail throughout the four branches of the military.

Add the fact that civilian employees who work for on military bases, usually have the military as their supervisors. With all that, wouldn't witch-hunts prevail here too? Following orders?

Talk about "trying to burn the candle at both ends." ...

Is the other check in the mail? The AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) provides care and life-saving medications to people living with HIV/AIDS.

In Arizona, that may not be the case come the new year.

As the Observer first reported statewide, the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) faced close to a \$1 million-shortfall in funding for this current fiscal year.

Expanded client lists, the cost protease inhibitors and multiple-drug therapies were the cause of the funding crisis.

Arizona's new Republican Governor, Jane Hull, learning of the health crisis, directed her staff to find monies, up to \$600,000 within the state's tobacco tax surplus to alleviate the crisis.

After legislative bungling; attempting to borrow against next year's federal ADAP allocation for the state (Can we say loan?); and more critical time passing, Hull finally issued an executive order, declaring a "health crisis," and allocating up to \$600,000 from the emergency tobacco tax health care fund.

Crisis over? Not quite. What of the other \$300,000? Good question!

Capitol sources stated that Governor Hull was yet again attempting to borrow \$300,000 from next year's federal ADAP allocations. Problems? If you said yes, pass go and collect \$200!

ADAP is run by the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). HRSA lacks the legislative authority to allocate early

funding to state ADAP Programs. Can we say act of Congress?

HRSA can though "loan" the money, with strings attached.

The \$300,000 would be deducted from the state's ADAP funding for the next fiscal year, creating another budget shortfall. (Yes, robbing Peter to pay Paul!)

The state would be required to pay back the loan, with state monies, not federal.

Interesting. Since the governor's executive order was the first funding the state has ever provided in the seventeen years of the epidemic. Where would Jane come up with the scratch?

Not that route, according to sources within state government. ADHS has formally requested this week for Governor Hull to issue another executive order allocating \$330,000 from the emergency tobacco tax health care fund. Negotiations are ongoing, according to capitol sources.

The clock is ticking: ADHS has enough funding to go through to mid-January.

After that? Capping enrollment, moving clients to Patient Assistance Programs, taking protease inhibitors off the formularies and going to drug companies, along with 36 other state ADAP programs, begging for help.

So is the other check in the mail?

Gore and Gays 2000. During a keynote address to the Tennessee Democrats, a rare species these days, Vice President Al Gore said, "I do not believe that God intended them to suffer persecution and discrimination throughout their lives on earth...He did not intend them to be mistreated."

This belief, "leads me to the conclusion that legal discrimination against them should not be encouraged and is wrong."

Gore compared public reactions to sitcom character "Ellen's" coming out to responses regarding the 1967 film, "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner."

I didn't know Tipper let him watch such movies! ...

So it goes for now kids!

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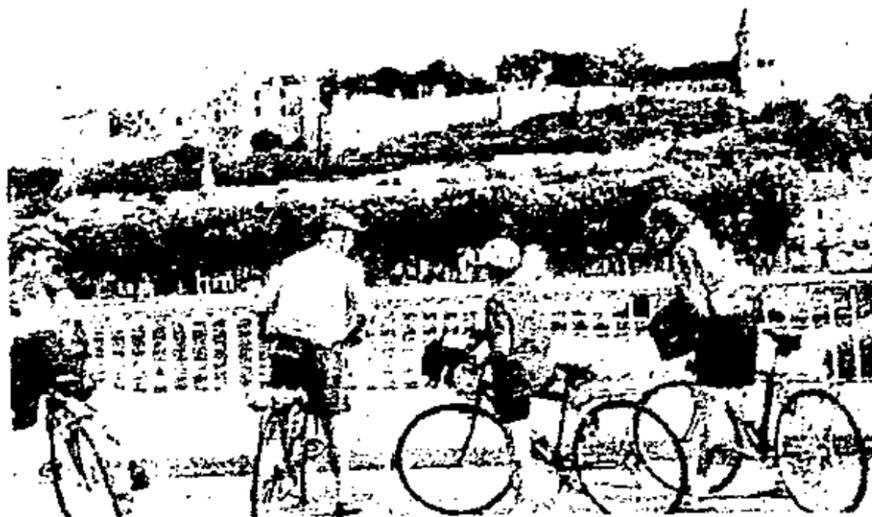
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Venturing Out. . . *By Sasha Alyson*

**Pros and Cons Of
An All Gay Vacation**



Whenever you plan a vacation, the process involves more decisions than you might realize. Some of these choices are made consciously; others may be resolved without your ever realizing that you had a choice.

Will you travel by yourself, or with a friend? Independently, or with a group? A big group or a small one? Go back to a favorite spot, or visit a place you've never been?

Do you want total relaxation, with no challenges and no stress; or something more active? Will you choose a destination where you speak the local language, and therefore can interact with the locals; or one with a language barrier, offering more new experiences, but more limited interaction?

If going as a couple, do you look forward to meeting other people, or do you primarily want time together? If single, are you seeking to maximize your odds of a little romance?

For Lesbians and Gay men, there's one more choice. Do you prefer to be amidst other Gay people (i.e., on Gay or Lesbian tour, or in a Gay resort town), or is a straight environment just fine? . . .

I asked a number of Gay and Lesbian travelers whether they would prefer a Gay or non-Gay group. Many were open to either, depending on circumstances.

Among those open to a non-Gay environment, three reasons were voiced repeatedly:

Attitude. Several individuals found too much "attitude," or aloofness, on Gay groups. Yet a larger number said it had never been an issue. (As I note below, the "comfort" of a Gay trip was the top reason given by people who preferred that option.) My conclusion: Gay attitude does exist, but it's often in the eyes of the beholder. If you frequently feel you're "getting attitude" in Gay situations, you'll probably feel the same way on a Gay trip. If it hasn't been a concern before, it's not going to become one now.

Variety. Tina, who waits tables in a predominantly Gay restaurant, said quite simply, "I needed to get away from where everybody's Gay. It's refreshing to see other types of lives." She goes on biking tours which — unlike bus tours — draw a higher percentage of younger people.

Cost. "I looked at a Gay trip to

Egypt and a similar one with a regular tour company. The straight company charged \$700 less," reports Matthew. "I went with them and had a great time." Not everyone reports such price differences, and it's tricky to be sure you're comparing similar trips. RSVP cruises, for example, may cost a bit more than others, but the entertainment is typically better. Do compare; but don't assume Gay trips will cost more. . . .

As for those who preferred a vacation with a Gay and Lesbian group, four factors stood out:

Comfort level. Jim told me, "When I was more closeted, I preferred Gay trips because I didn't have to watch what I said. I'm now out to everybody, and I still prefer Gay groups. It's just more comfortable." That word "comfort" came up often in my interviews.

New friends. "I've never made long-term friendships from the straight trips I've been on, whereas I have several good friends I met on Gay trips," says my officemate Strider. Others made the same observation.

Romance. Whether you're looking for sex or love, or both at once (You optimist!) the benefits of a Gay or Lesbian group are obvious. In addition, look for trips with activities that serve as ice-breakers. "I got to know fewer people on a cruise with 700 people than when I went to China with 25," says Ellen. "The China trip's tour director understood group dynamics, and how to get people to interact. I'm still in touch with many of them."

Age. "I took a mainline bus tour in Switzerland. Half the people were retired married couples, and most of the others were single straight women," recalls Marc. "I never really connected to any of them. "Some mainstream tours draw a younger crowd, but for many, the breakdown that Marc experienced is typical. Ask blunt questions (but without revealing what answer you're hoping for) of a tour company before making a decision. . . .

Send questions or comments about Gay travel to Sasha Alyson, Alyson Adventures, POB 180179, Boston, MA 02-118.



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Life Is A Drag

By Elise Barbara Fox

Felice Renard is more than a high energy performer. She's witty. On stage, with an elfin grin, Felice pinpointed the irony of "a bunch of drag queens raising money for a bunch of leathermen." It's no stretch to realize we're polar opposites. But diversity is the strength of any family.

The place is Hours and I realize how nice that parquet oak dance floor flanked by wall-high mirrors can showcase performers. I brought a bottle of shampoo. It was one of the non-perishable donations sought by the Arizona Desert Leathermen for their benefit show last Sunday.

Larry Moore (a.k.a. Lucinda but in boy "drag") was emcee and his ad-libs were charming. "I've got leather pumps," he told the Leathermen. He spots Rosa, a gorgeous queen in the audience dressed to the nines in a red leather skirt and jacket ensemble, and hauls her onto the stage. She should be the next "Miss Venture-N," he quips.

More Larry-created amusement in a moment. Flashback. I'm getting ready to go to the show. My TV is on, tuned to "Touched by An Angel." Intriguing script about how a family deals with AIDS.

"What is an angel from God doing on the side of a queer," asks the father of a son dying of the immune system disorder.

Monica, visiting angel: "Nothing made by God is queer."

I hate to dissent: try the "Alice in Wonderland", farce at the State Capitol. Many of you read the Tucson Citizen. It was a great Thanksgiving Day headline: "State may review Gay foster-parent policy." The straight world now knows what Mark Kerr told you recently. Gov. Jane Dee Hull wants to review a policy that allows Gay or Lesbian couples to be foster parents. I presume, since she's running for a full term, that she doesn't want to anger Rep. Karen Johnson, R-Mesa. Down the rabbit hole Karen. You, too, can be the Mad Hatter. I know what Mark labeled the governor. I'm going to refine it. The executive and legislative branches in Arizona: Tweedle-Dee and Tweedle-Dum.

Did you like the slimy things in "Alien Resurrection?" Pale comparison to the "Jabberwocky" in the Alice's sequel: "Through the Looking Glass." The monster beats us down with nonsensical words. Yes, the claws of this beast snatch away our rights.

Yes, I believe in Santa Claus — in "Miracle on 34th Street": hope, optimism and vision are what define humanity. We could use some miracles.

Do you remember "Wind in the Willows?" Our elected people seem to want to play the role of Toad of Toad Hall. Or perhaps they've forgotten that Golden Book: Toodle, the little switch engine that wanted to play in the daisy patch. Only trouble: our Legislature loves to play in constitutional poison ivy.

This stuff is troubling. Vanilla Star lifts my spirits. She's wearing glittering gowns with sparkly earrings, matching bracelets and cute strappy, stilettos. I'd never seen her perform before. She's absolutely elegant. I imagine her gliding down a staircase with decorative banisters just as Madonna did in "Evita."

I took the holiday weekend as an opportunity to watch a video I'd never seen before: the contemporary version of The Bard's "Romeo and Juliet." I visualize Victoria du Puis as Juliet: tender, sensual, a person with character. If you'd seen her doing a "diva" in a slinky catsuit at Hours, you'd understand. (If you didn't see the movie, visualize 20th century Los Angeles divided between the Houses of Montague and Capulet, ruled by a Prince who has cop cars and helicopters.)

Realization: Leathermen really care about what happens to this country; I mourn their losses. Many that I saw at Hours could easily have done parts in this remake of a classic that speaks to our commitment — nay, our love — for one another.

The video shuts off; we're back to local TV — Xena, Warrior Princess." All I can say about that in comparison to retinkered Shakespeare: nice torches, pretty woods.

My time is better spent with Larry: he presents Holly Lane, a live vocalist who could front for any country band I know. Larry calls her "fabulous." And Mystique gives me blue snowflakes. Very appropriate.

You know what Hours does: country. I'm blue because commitments prevented me from going to TCC to see the Reba McEntire show. At \$42, a bargain considering she travels with 10 tour buses and 18 semi-trucks to haul around staging and hand equipment.

Larry is back on stage: he introduces "one of our favorite dead people, Judy Garland." How can she be dead when she's been reincarnated? It's a medley. Felice glides through the audience to the tune of "Over the Rainbow."

I'll try my best, my friends. You know the Yellow Brick Road is haunted by unimaginable perils.

No one need tell me. I know the message. The great American educator Horace Mann: "Be ashamed to die until you have won some victory for humanity." 1998, down the rabbit hole, one more time. This really is "El Nino" Wonderland. Bad stuff rains upon us. Do we have the courage to stop it?

[I hope you sister drag girls who perform on stage appreciate this; writing is no more easy than performing; this is my fifth draft of this thing since the show in which you starred. Could you write and file this in 2-1/2 hours? I have a duty: to you the readers — and of course the editor. Catholics know of the confessional. These public prints are mine. On my epitaph, inscribe this line: citizen.]

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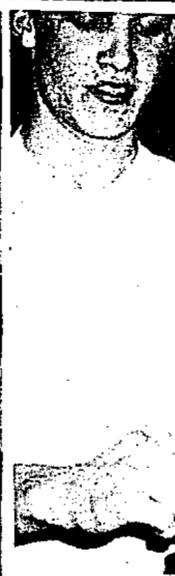
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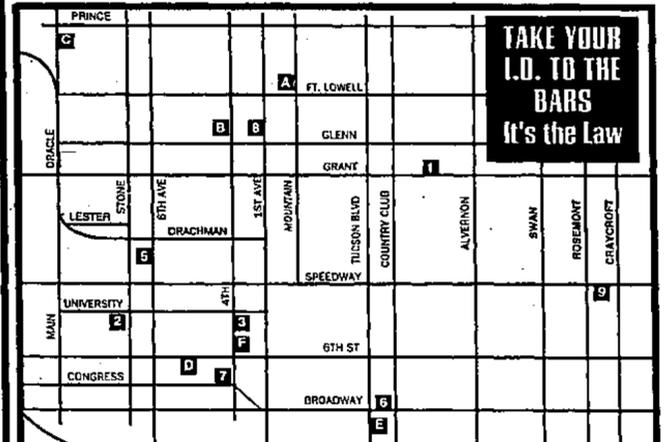
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Study Finds Increased Need For Educational Materials Targeting Oral Sex For Gay Men

Contradictory prevention messages addressed to the Gay male community lead to a significant number of Gay men to believe that the risk of HIV transmission during oral sex is higher than it actually is, reports a study published in the current issue of the Journal of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (GLMA).

The study found that many Gay and Bisexual men have heightened anxiety about oral sex—even though few cases of HIV transmission through oral sex have been documented.

"What surprised us is that men who are anxious about oral sex took part in sexual activities that are widely known to be high-risk," said Seth C. Kalichman, PhD, the study's lead author. "The survey makes it clear that men are making decisions about when to use condoms based on what they believe is safe and underscores the need for specific HIV prevention messages that target specific behaviors. Our data does not support the belief that telling men oral sex is safer than anal sex will make them abandon safer sex altogether."

"Oral Sex Anxiety, Oral Sex Behavior, and HIV Risk Perceptions Among Gay and Bisexual Men" found that nearly one third of the 348 Gay and Bisexual men who completed an anonymous survey at a Gay pride festival in Atlanta were "oral-sex anxious," and that significantly more "oral-sex anxious" men use condoms during oral sex than "non-anxious" men.

The men's attitudes about oral sex were not related to whether they identify as Gay or Bisexual, are in a relationship, are HIV positive or negative, or how often they undergo HIV testing.

Yet in other areas of their sexuality, these men's choices were quite similar. Fully half (50%) of the "non-anxious" men reported engaging in anal sex without condom within the previous six months. Similarly—and what researchers did not expect—half (49%) of the "anxious" men also reported engaged in anal sex without a condom within the same time period.

Kalichman believes that the concerns expressed by the Gay and Bisexual men he surveyed are linked to the mixed prevention messages on oral sex circulating in the Gay male community.

In 1996, to address the confusion surrounding oral sex and to improve the overall sexual health of Gay men, the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association began advocating for the creation of HIV prevention messages that underscore that oral sex is significantly safer than anal sex and classify oral sex as "low risk."

"This study lends credence to the hope that if we can help Gay men understand the relative risk levels of different sexual activities they will make choices that are more likely to keep them healthy," said GLMA Executive Director Ben Schatz. "Informing Gay men that oral sex is low risk allows them to enhance their sexual intimacy, and it may encourage them to take fewer risks with other sexual behaviors, such as anal sex."

[The Gay and Lesbian Medical Association is an organization of nearly 2,000 Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgendered medical students and their supporters in all 50 states and 12 countries. Founded in 1981, GLMA works to combat homophobia within the medical profession and in society at large to promote quality health care for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgendered patients.]

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Archivist Jim Kepner Dies

LOS ANGELES, CA (NP) — The activist, historian, lecturer and pack-rat extraordinaire leaves behind the ultimate monument to the life he led in the Gay and Lesbian archive he built from scratch.

There's hardly a work of Gay and Lesbian history since 1950 that doesn't owe some debt to Jim Kepner, whose boundless curiosity on the subject and pack-rat habits evolved into true scholarship and birthed the International Lesbian and Gay Archives.

The archives begun in 1942, long stored in his home but now the core of an enviable collection at the University of Southern California, are the legacy left to the world Gay and Lesbian community by the long-time activist, who died at the age of 74 following surgery for a perforated intestine.

Born in Texas, by the early 1940's Kepner was working in San Francisco as a railroad clerk and discovering just how hard it was to find books in libraries or stores that would feed his appetite for knowledge of the Gay and Lesbian past.

Like Harry Hay and some other notable contemporaries, Kepner's political baptism began in the Left; he worked as a reporter for the Communist Party newspaper "The Daily Worker" following World War II, only to be booted from the New York City Party when his sexual orientation became known.

In 1951, he landed in Los Angel-

es and some of the earliest meetings of the pioneering Gay Mattachine Society. He co-founded Los Angeles' educational Gay and Lesbian ONE Institute, taught classes there, and was an editor and contributor to its landmark publications "ONE Magazine" (which had to beat an obscenity charge in the U.S. Supreme Court to go through the mail) and "ONE Institute Quarterly." The Quarterly, believed to be the U.S.' first scholarly journal devoted to homosexuality, was called by anthropologist Walter Williams "the prototype to all our [Gay and Lesbian] academic publications today."

In 1971, Kepner named his collection the Western Gay Archives and made it accessible to researchers. In 1979, it finally moved out of his home and into a Hollywood storefront, incorporated as the National Gay Archives. In 1986, it became the Natalie Barney/Edward Carpenter Library of the International Gay & Lesbian Archives (IGLA) and moved to West Hollywood.

In 1994, IGLA merged with ONE Inc. and in 1995 the collection moved to USC, to the disappointment of curators at Stanford University, the University of California at Los Angeles, and the University of California at Santa Barbara. Newspaper reports stated that it now includes some 22,000 books, over 100,000 newspaper and magazine articles dating back to 1906, letters, photos, videos, sound recordings, and items including matchbooks

CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHTEEN

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¿Que Tal?, Saludandoles un poco cansado del pasado fin de semana "largo" por el pretexto de Día de Acción de Gracias y realmente la gozamos al máximo con mucha comida y disfrutamos de algunas agradables visitas de finas y muy apreciables amigos que tenemos en algunas ciudades de nuestro Estado de Sonora; entre los esos visitantes estuvieron: el Prfr. Cosme Rojas de Santa Ana, "el Sr. de Cámara" Octavio Barceló de Granados, el Ing. Enrique Lucero de Hermosillo, y tantas otras grandes personalidades que hicieron lo bonito del "día del turkey"...

Salud es Poder se encargó de celebrar el Día Mundial del SIDA con un gran programa a cargo de Fuerza Latina que no cabe la menor duda, sigue mejorando cada día su calidad artística, pero el detalle de la puntualidad les quita muchos puntos, los integrantes del grupo tienen que tomar en cuenta que la mayoría de la gente que realmente les gusta y disfruta de sus interpretaciones siguen dando quejas sobre ese detalle: Así es que esperamos tomen cartas del asunto y se puede corregir ese detalle con un poco de esfuerzo y responsabilidad.... Sobre todo si esos programas son en días previos a días laborables...

El grupo de Teatro "La Capilla" tubo su única presentación el día viernes 28 de noviembre con la obra del señor Mario M Zatarain: "La leyenda del Tiradito" con una magnífica actuación de todo el grupo en general, donde se pudo apreciar algo de danza, y sobre todo historia del famoso lugar de "El tiradito" de uno de los barrios más viejos de este Antiguo Presidio... Esperamos la invitación para la siguiente puesta en escena...

Cambiando de tema, tal vez usted apreciable lector recuerda que en ediciones pasadas comenté sobre los experimentos con placebo en mujeres etíopes infectadas con VIH... Pues resulta que el estudio cuyo inicio está previsto para finales de febrero y será financiado por los Institutos Nacionales de Salud (NIH), La Universidad de John Hopkins decidió no utilizar placebo... El estudio tenía por objeto determinar si un régimen de zidovudina (AZT) más corto que el ACTG 076 es más efectivo que el placebo para reducir la tasa de transmisión perinatal del

VIH. Según la Escuela de Salud Pública de la Universidad de John Hopkins, la decisión de no utilizar placebo está relacionada con la polémica sobre la validez ética de otros estudios similares que se están realizando actualmente en varios países del tercer mundo. Los investigadores están esperando los resultados de un estudio similar que está realizándose en Tailandia. Si los resultados de este estudio son favorables, el uso del placebo ya no tendrá sentido... Se entiende que la secretaria de Salud de EE UU, el director de NIH y el director de CDC recibieron una gran cantidad de cartas de protesta por esos "Experimentos Inmorales" ...

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

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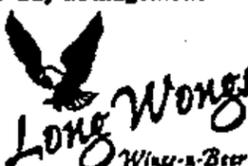
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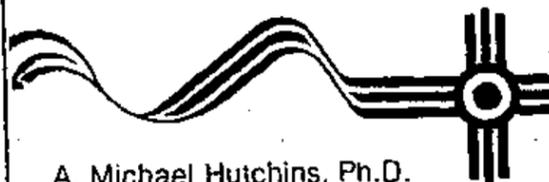
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Lights In The Dark

by Rich Muszynski

Last December, when I was singing with Desert Voices, Tucson's Gay and Lesbian chorus, we performed a version of "Silent Night" in English, Spanish, and Tohono. My Polish-American, English speaking tongue had a hard time wrapping itself around the syllables and sounds of different languages. As the concert approached, frustration grew as we struggled with proper pronunciation. The beauty of the song in final performance was worth the effort, however. Singing in a different language, with a different ear and voice, reminded me that GLBT experience extends throughout all cultural and racial groups.

Driving west on Sixth street, my eye now catches the rainbow flags hung on the outside wall of Wingspan. Their flapping is particularly impressive on a windy day. Our community has adopted the rainbow as a symbol of our presence in every culture around the world. I wonder how often I'm able to see all the colors of the rainbow. I ask myself if the issues important to me and the European-American colors are of equal importance to the Hispanic, Native, African, and Asian-American colors of our rainbow. How often does our community address issues of importance to the non-European

GLBT community, such as immigration, English-only laws, racist discrimination in the workplace, adequate housing and jobs on the reservations, neighborhood violence, culturally relevant educational experiences, police harassment of people of color, cultural genocide, and the insidious nature of everyday racism?

In this time of the winter solstice, cultures all over the world turn to symbols of light to brighten the literal and figurative darkness. It is fitting to contemplate the meaning of our GLBT rainbow symbol at this time of the year, when we wish for peace on earth and good will to all men and women. How can the GLBT community add to that peace and good will? Given that our community does extend through all cultures, do we have a unique perspective to give to the world in the area of race relations? As we drive by Wingspan's rainbow flags and don our rainbow colors in the coming year, let us open our eyes to see all the colors of the people in our beautiful multi-hued community. Let us ask ourselves what role Wingspan can play to brighten all the colors of our rainbow.

To all of Tucson, from Wingspan, happy holidays! Deck the halls with splashes of purple, blue, green, yellow, orange and red!

A View From The Rock

A Comentary From Cornerstone Fellowship

This past Thursday our country celebrated Thanksgiving Day. During our Wednesday night Bible study the members of our church were asked to list the things for which they were thankful. Many of them listed things such as friends, family, jobs, homes-all the material possessions which we should rightfully thank God for, since his word tells us that even our abilities to provide for ourselves come from God. However, several people listed rather unusual things they were thankful for-things like trials and problems and disappointments!

Why would anyone be thankful for things which do not seem, at least to the world, to be blessings? And how can anyone be thankful for things which cause them pain?

The answer lies in how a person views problems. As Christians, we believe that difficulties come into our lives because of God's design. You see, one of the reasons that God leaves us here on earth after we accept Jesus Christ as our savior is so that we can become like Jesus. The Apostle Paul told the Roman Christians, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to

his purpose. For those God-foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son..." (Romans 8:28, 29a)

What makes you change the way you do something? If it gives you the results you want, you never change. But if you have problems, then you look for a better way to accomplish your desired end. If Christians act in a way that does not please God and there is no negative result, they will continue acting in that way and there will be no change in their lives. They will never become more like Jesus.

Another way of looking at problems in a Christian's life is to realize that God may be acting as the Heavenly Father and applying discipline to that Christian. Scripture says, "My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes everyone he accepts as a son." (Hebrews 12:5b 6) Just as our earthly fathers were to discipline us out of love, in order that we might learn the right way to live, so our Heavenly Father disciplines us out of love, to help us "...be conformed to the likeness of his Son..."

Not all problems, troubles, trials, or pain come to us because God sends them, but as Christians we know that God is always with us during them all, and that is something to be thankful for!

What is on your list of thanksgivings? If you can't think of anything else, you can be thankful that you are alive and that if you have not yet accepted Jesus as your savior, God is giving you another chance right now to do that! Let us know if we can introduce you to Jesus, the One Who fills our lives with thankfulness, not just during Thanksgiving, but every day of the year!

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CALENDAR of upcoming events

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3

IBTS - Male Box Nite and Sissy Bingo. Win prizes and play Post Office and meet your future partner.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4

IBTS - The last Underwear Nite of the season. Check your pants check out your buddy. Next week, Dec. 11 All new surprise Party to show your stuff.

NEON MOON - Starting tonight and every Thursday from now on will be Amateur Strip and Dance Contests. 3 songs for each person. Strip down to Boxers or Jockeys. Prizes to winners.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5

NEON MOON - Dance to the live band The Mollys who will be playing at this East Side Gay Show Club.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

IBTS - 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. Benefit Beer Bust and Bar-B-Que - proceeds to go to Millennium Theatre Company. 9:00 p.m. to closing at the "Torn, Tattered and Tattooed Party". Win \$100 for best costume. Drink specials for those wearing torn and tattered 50's or Tattoos.

GRADUATE - Annual Benefit for "Rudy's Kids" - raises money for toys for the children in the Arizona Children's Home at Christmas. 8:00 p.m. The show is hosted by Christina De Alexis and stars Misti Malone, Shaundriana, Crystal Abrams, Selena and Jody, with special guests Maya Erection, Norma Desmond and, of course, Chris Kringle. Raffle, prizes and surprises.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9

VENTURE-N - It's the Sixth (6th) Anniversary for the Venture. Make plans to celebrate with Jim and the staff of V-N. It's Party Time!

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10

IBTS - The Girlie Show featuring Miss Gay Arizona, Virginia Sacrifice with Victoria DuPuis, Felice Renard and Phaedra.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13 & 14

IBTS - Fourth Avenue Winter Street Fair will take place and you know what that means! Shows Saturday at 3:00 p.m. and Sunday at 3:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. Starring Celia Puty, Lucinda Holliday, Divina, Felice Renard, Aja Simone, Mr. Kenneth Blake, Regina, Angelica West and Gilda Falale. There is a \$1.00 cover charge for the two 3:00 p.m. shows. No cover for the 9:00 p.m. Sunday show.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20

STONEWALL/EAGLE - AGRA's Holiday Hayride through Winterhaven and then return to enjoy a fabulous show.

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Non-Bar CALENDAR

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5

Men's Relationship Meeting at 7:00 p.m. Call Marc at 681-4582 for information and sign up. Fee.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

Reville Gay Men's Chorus will present their annual holiday show, "A Season For Loving" featuring the hilarious Tchaikovsky spoof: "Hudcracker: Men In Tights" starting at 8:00 p.m. at Grace St. Paul Episcopal Church, 2331 E. Adams. Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door. (\$10 students/seniors). Last chance to purchase "Double Deck of Dinners" raffle tickets. Winner will be drawn after intermission. Tickets are available at Antigone Books, Girlfriends Coffee House, Rainbow Planet Coffee House, Tucson Trunk and Unique On Central. Call 617-3100 for reservations. Sign interpreted and wheelchair accessible.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

Desert Voices concert "One December Night" will take place beginning at 8:00 p.m. at the Pima Community College Proscenium Theatre. Experience a celebration of cultures through classical holiday music including exhilarating trapeze work by the Oris Theatre of Dance. Adult tickets are \$12 (Seniors and students \$10). Available at Antigone Books, Tucson Trunk and the Allergy Vacuum Store. Call 791-9662 for more information.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

Desert Voices concert "One December Night" will take place beginning at 3:00 p.m. at the Pima Community College Proscenium Theatre. Experience a celebration of cultures through classical holiday music including exhilarating trapeze work by the Oris Theatre of Dance. Adult tickets are \$12 (Seniors and students \$10). Available at Antigone Books, Tucson Trunk and the Allergy Vacuum Store. Call 791-9662 for more information.

The last Men's Massage Group of 1997 begins at 6:00 p.m. This is a safe and good place to meet other men. No experience necessary. Call Marc at 881-4582 for information and registration.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19

Men's Relationship Meeting at 7:00 p.m. Call Marc at 881-4582 for information and sign up. Fee.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3

1. **Men's Social Network** (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Investment Club meeting. Bring your investment ideas and desires to help shape a group dedicated to investing a minimum of \$20 per month. For reservations and directions, please call (evenings please) Loren at 733-0072.

2. **Men's Social Network** (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. A Study Group will discuss a section from the recent bestseller "Conversations with God." You're encouraged to read the book first. For reservations and directions, please call Justin or Gary at 792-4224.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 8:30 p.m. MSN welcomes renowned author Patricia Nell Warren back to Tucson for her signing of copies of "Billy's Boy" at the new Barnes & Noble on Broadway. For details, please call Jerry at 690-9565.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join MSN for our monthly Potluck and Social Gathering. You're invited to come and share your favorite dish with the 100+ men who come to our monthly gathering. Join us at 33 Ochoa Street (downtown's Scottish Rite Hall). For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-9565.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Bridge night. Bridge for men who may want to refresh their bridge skills; table talk playing. For reservations and directions, please call Jim at 790-8735.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. A Study Group will discuss a section from the recent bestseller "Conversations with God." You're encouraged to read the book first. For reservations and directions, please call Justin or Gary at 792-4224.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. The Book Club will be discussing "Stranger Among Friends" by David Mixer about his days as a gay man in the Clinton administration. Even if you don't read the book, we encourage all book lovers to attend. For reservations and directions, please call Steve at 388-4849.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Beginners Bridge Night. Bridge lessons for men who want to learn how to play bridge, that is. For reservations and directions, please call Perry at 321-4387.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. A fun evening devoted to British comedy series. This first night will be a potpourri of episodes which could be "Absolutely Fabulous," "Fawlty Towers," or some other great comedy. For directions and reservations, please call Loren at 733-0072.

Tucson CALENDAR

Sunday

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

GRADUATE - Happy Hour 4-8 pm all well \$1.25 Draft 75¢ Schnapps 75¢. Drink specials do not apply during special events.

HOURS - Open Noon. Bloody Marys \$1.75 til 7 pm. Pool Tournament 4pm. Country/Western dance instruction 6-8 pm. Country Dance Music 8 to 1.

IBTS - Open Noon to 1 am. Happy Hour noon-8pm, \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 Well. Benefit 8-8-Q and Beer Bust for community organizations 4:30-7:00pm. Hi energy dancing 9pm to close. All drink specials not available during special events.

NEON MOON - Open 2pm. Party with Stan. Complimentary hot dogs.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open noon. Beer Bust 2-7pm \$1.25 Pitchers, 50¢ a glass. Free hamburgers 4-7 Pool Turney with Zipperman. Karaoke Night, drink specials to singers.

VENTURE-N - Open 10 a.m. Backside Beer Bust 3-8pm 50¢ draft. 301 Dart Tournament 5pm \$3 entry fee. Best Burger 5-7, Tuff Stuff Tool 4-11pm.

Monday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Happy Hour 2-7 2for1 well and domestic beer. Free pool 2-4. Bar/Restaurant Appreciation Night. \$1.00 off on all drinks 8-12.

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

HOURS - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2 to 7pm - Well and Domestic Beer \$1.50. 50¢ Draft Beer 7 to close.

IBTS - Open noon. Happy Hour noon-8pm, \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 well. 8pm to midnight, \$1.50/\$2oz pitchers. Retro 80s Dance 9pm-1am. All drink specials not available during special events.

NEON MOON - Open 4pm. Happy hour 4-7. Drink specials to pool and dart players.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Monday Night Football on the big screen., and Doc's Darts at 8:30. Free pool all day.

VENTURE-N - Draft Beer 75¢ 6am-8pm. Happy Hour Prices 6am-8pm.

Tuesday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7 pm 2for1 well and domestic long necks. 2-7 p.m. Pool Tournament 7:30 potmatched. Hot dance music. All night for tournament players. Boys Night Out 9pm to closing. Hot dance music.

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

HOURS - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2 to 7pm Well or Domestic Beer \$1.50. Schnapps 75¢ 7pm to close. Karaoke 9pm.

IBTS - Open noon. Happy Hour Noon-8 pm, \$1.75 domestic beer & \$1.50 well. 9pm to close. 2for1 well/ M&E Lite, High Energy Dance with David Z.

NEON MOON - Happy Hour 4-7pm. Karaoke with Billy D. \$1 off drinks to singers.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Happy Hour til 8pm.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am to 1am. Draft Beer 75¢ 6am-8pm. Happy Hour prices 6am-8pm.

Wednesday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7. 2for1 well or domestic beer. \$1.25 pitchers from 9 to midnight. Alternative music w/Stephanie 9pm-1.

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

HOURS - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2 to 7pm, Well or Domestic Beer \$1.50. 50¢ off all call drinks 7 to close. Feb. 19 New Pool Tournament Begins 6pm

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

NEON MOON - Happy Hour 4-7. 2for1 7-10. Retro Dance Music all evening.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Happy Hour til 8pm. Karaoke Nite: Drink specials to singers. Stonewall opens at 9:00 p.m.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am Draft Beer 75¢ 6am-8pm. Cuervo Gold \$2 a daynight. Happy Hour Prices 6am-8pm. Backside open 5pm-close. Tuff Stuff Tool open 8:30pm.

Thursday

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

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

HOURS - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2 to 7pm, Well or Domestic Beer \$1.50. Corona \$2.00 9pm to 1am. Country/Western dancing 8 to 1.

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

NEON MOON - Open 4pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm. Drink specials to pool and dart players.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Happy Hour til 8pm. Latino Nite.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am Draft Beer 75¢ 6am-8pm. Pool Tournament 7pm \$3 entry fee. Happy Hour prices for Men in Leather 8pm to close. Backside open 5pm-close. Tuff Stuff Tool open 8:30pm

Friday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7. 2for1 well or domestic beer. Free pool 2-4. Complimentary Hors d'oeuvres. Hi energy dance music 8:30 to close. Drink specials every 1/2 hour.

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

HOURS - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2-7pm well or domestic beer \$1.50. Dance Music Mix 9-1am.

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

NEON MOON - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 4-7. Country/Western Dance Party 8pm to close.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Happy Hour til 8pm. Hors d'oeuvres 5pm. Wear a Stonewall/Eagle T-shirt and 1/2 price all night.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Draft Beer 75¢ Bar 6am-8pm. Happy Hour Prices 6am-8pm. Backside open 5pm-close. Tuff Stuff Tool opens at 8:30pm.

Saturday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Hi energy dance music from 8:30pm to 1am. Drink specials every 1/2 hour.

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

HOURS - Open Noon. Strawberry & Banana Daiquiris. Pita Coladas \$3. Dance Music Mix 9-1.

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

NEON MOON - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 4-7. Star Traxx 9:00 p.m. \$2 Cover for the show only.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open noon. Happy Hour til 8pm. Free Pool all day.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. \$Kches & Bagels w/31 Bloody Marys 6am-noon. Happy Hour Prices 6am-8pm. Backside open 5pm-close. Tuff Stuff Tool opens at 8:30pm.

What gifts do you expect to receive from Santa this December? For those who fear unwrapping a piece of coal, take heart; with all these planets in practical, political Capricorn, you'll have old Santa eating out of your hand by mid-month. This week, let's see where you can score a few points or a few tricks in the new month.

ARIES

MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

While proud Rams are not known for their subtle touch, you become a career diplomat this December. Even a few gaffs here and there (thanks to renegade Mercury) result in political advances and prescient coups. Avoid the temptation to act first and explain later though; there is nothing as unseemly as getting caught with your fishnet stockings up and pants down.

TAURUS

APRIL 21 - MAY 21

Practical Gay Bulls become even more so in December when many planets transit through Capricorn. The urge is to stay nested in the safety of the tried and true but more can be accomplished by stepping out into the vast unknown and letting life's experiences take you on a marvelous journey. Itchy hooves need to be scratched. How about scratching them in Maui?

GEMINI

MAY 22 - JUNE 21

Lust is as hot as fuzzy animal slippers when victorian Capricorn rules in December. Proud Twins are not the most passionate of signs unless one is into intellectual stimulation. Despite this, the month brings more activity than usual in areas where the deeper one goes, the better. Hint: Some people get a kick out of pajamas with feet, but most prefer leather peekaboos.

CANCER

JUNE 22 - JULY 23

Practical capricornic energy dominates the landscape this December and Gay Crabs are forced to face relationship issues head on. Are you giving too much or too little? It's time to tally up the score and see who is ahead. For those ragged claws who are still scuttling across the floors of silent seas, take this time to map out your route to fulfillment and follow it. Hello sailor!

LEO

JULY 24 - AUGUST 23

The bad news is that Capricorn turns up the speed at work. The good news is that Capricorn turns up the speed at work. Regal proud Lions will be working the assembly line like any other mangy schlub this December, but hey, won't you be productive! The secret is to write down all instructions so no one understands. Loud, bellowing roars just won't do the trick.

VIRGO

AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23

Gay Virgos are in their element with all these planets in Capricorn this December. Although your idea of fun is not as stimulating as those of other folks, you'll manage to have quite a blast this holiday season, probably culminating in a little too much to eat or drink. Try not to fall into the canapes dear queer friend. The food stains would be a killer to remove.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23

The focus will be on family issues this December when all these planets in Capricorn turn up the stress level for you. Don't be surprised if communications go awry initially (thanks to Mercury). Queer Libras reach a wall, but walls can be

surmounted with pride, application and gumption. The most important thing is to be true to yourself, bad hairstyle notwithstanding.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22

December is the month to sit quietly and keep your opinions to yourself. Conspiracy theories abound based on very little reality. Blame it on Mercury if you must, queer Scorp, but also give a little credit to your overactive imagination. This is the perfect time to gather kindred souls together for a delightful, unencumbered evening of mirth and camaraderie. Don't discuss politics.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22

Gay Archers are not the most practical of folks as December will prove. Finances can take some twists and turns so read

contracts and bills carefully to insure that more is not less. As Pluto moves in to conjunct your Sun (ouch!), expect a radical upheaval in the most important part of your life sometime in the next year. Unfortunately your appearance is not one of those areas.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20

All the personal planets in your own signs tunes up your life like an orchestra this December. While Mercury (communications) needs extra time to get in step, most of the other players are ready and raring to play. Gay Goats can make impact first impressions, although I advise listening rather than speaking as a rule for most of the month. Who knows, you may learn something.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19

Aqueerians receive a few lucky breaks this December especially if they display their

rainbow colors proudly. Maybe you'll find yourself wedged next to the celebrity du jour at a club. Maybe you'll stumble into the epicenter of power at work. Make each opportunity an opportunity of a lifetime but don't foul it up by stringing mistletoe on a wire and wearing it over your head.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

Friends can be a blessing or baggage for December. Expect a certain level of disharmony and miscommunication for most of the month, thanks to retro Mercury. All is not lost however. Proud Fish may need the chance to swim on their own for a while and experience new schools of thought. Volunteering for a great Gay cause has great Gay impact so dive right in.

For entertainment purposes only.

For best results, read both your Sun sign and Ascendant. For a free calculation of your ascendant, send birth date, time, place, name of this publication and s.a.s.e. to: Lichtenstein, POB 1726, Old Chelsea Station, NY 10011.

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World AIDS Day In Tucson Wrap-up

Continued from Page One

HAN, "It is one of our most important events of the year." He added, "The monastery is a place of hope and faith, of compassion and healing, and is the perfect setting for us to join together for World AIDS Day.

On Monday, opening ceremonies took place at Catalina High Magnet School of the displaying 32 panels of the National AIDS memorial quilt. Of which, five were of Tucsonans who lost their battle to AIDS.

The Quilt, which now covers 25 football fields, has more than 43,000 names. The Quilt got started in 1987 when Cleve Jones painted the name of his best friend, Marvin Feldman, onto a 3-foot-by-6-foot piece of cloth.

Cleve and a group of friends and volunteers formed the NAMES Project in San Francisco.

The public is invited to view the quilt, from 9:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M. through tomorrow. On Friday, from 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Local galleries and art venues commemorated World AIDS Day with "A Day Without Art."

University of Arizona Centennial Hall draped their hall of artwork. The University of Arizona Center for Creative Photography darkened their galleries and displayed only two works depicting the press coverage of Princess Diana, who had a strong commitment to AIDS services.

AIDS FACTS

One million people in the U.S. are infected with HIV.

Seven-thousand new HIV infections worldwide each day.

A new case of AIDS is reported in the U.S., every three minutes.

Four-to-seven thousand people are living with HIV/AIDS in Pima County.

A total of 5,259 people have been diagnosed with AIDS in Arizona. Of which, 1,209 of those were in Pima County.

In Arizona, 387 women have been diagnosed with AIDS.

Jim Kepner

Continued from Page Twelve

front Gay bars and a set of pink motorcycle leathers.

As well as assisting the efforts of Gay and Lesbian historians from Jonathan Katz ("Gay American History") onward, Kepner published his own works of history, including "Becoming a People: A 4,000 Year Chronology of Gay and Lesbian History" and the new release "Rough News - Daring Views: 1950's Pioneer Gay Press Journalism."

Reveille Auditions Dec. 9

TUCSON - The Reveille Gay Men's Chorus will be holding auditions for the second half of it's '97-'98 season, Tuesday, December 9, 7:00 - 8:30 P.M., at the Water of Life-MCC, 3269 North Mountain Avenue.

The chorus will be adding singers in all sections; no preparation is needed for the audition.

To schedule a specific time that evening, or if you have a conflict with that date and wish to schedule an audition at another time, or just have questions, call Jim Gall, Artistic Director, 881-1369.

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

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

BEARS OF THE OLD PUERTO - a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, Call the Bears Hotline (520)327-1620 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910, or come to our general meetings the second Friday of every month. Location listed on our hotline.

LAMBDA CAR CLUB, A social organization of Gays and Lesbians who share interest, information and fellowship involving collectible vehicles. Call 298-9454.

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

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

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

T-SQUARES Lesbian and Gay square dance club meets every Tuesday from 6:30-9:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 M. Geronimo (near 1st Ave. and Laguna). Open to All. Call Jeff or Art (520)762-9135.

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

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

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

"AT EASE AGAIN", a men's discussion group meets at Wingspan at 7 p.m. every Tuesday, 300 E. 6th St.

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

DESERT VOICES, Tucson's Gay & Lesbian Chorus rehearses Monday evenings from 6:30 to 9:30pm at Armory Park Senior Center, 220 S. 6th Ave. Call 791-9562.

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

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

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

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

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

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

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION (SAAF), 151 S. Tucson Blvd., Suite 211 (The Broadmoor Building). Office Hours 9am to 5pm, Monday through Friday. Direct services and emotional support for persons with and affected by HIV. Anonymous HIV testing and support groups available. Prevention education programs. 322-6226. AIDS Hotline: 326-AIDS. VOLUNTEERS WELCOME.

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

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

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

YOUNG AND GAY

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

The TUCSON Chapter of PRIME TIMERS INTERNATIONAL invites Gay or Bisexual men over 30 years old to join and share Prime Timers fellowship. We welcome mature men who are or wish to be involved in Gay community activities, issues and organizations. Call 687-7493 and leave your name and phone number. Monthly meetings are held on the 3rd Sunday, 4-6 p.m. at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St.

TUCSON GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

For information on human service organizations, health and mental health services, financial and government assistance, emergency services such as food and shelter, education, etc. Call information and Referral 881-1794 - 8 am - 5 pm Mon. - Fri.

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

GAY OR BI-SEXUAL MEN in relationships with women. Need friends you can talk to? Weekly support group meets Wednesdays 8:30 - 9:00 pm. Licensed psychologist facilitator. Call 745-6977 in Tucson for more information. Strictly confidential.

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

SUPPORT GROUP: Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals meet weekly for open discussions in a loving, supportive atmosphere. Meetings Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:30 pm at St. Francis in the Foothills Church, Swan and River Road, Room 32. Call the church at 299-9083 for information.

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

NOTICES

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 education. Meetings 2nd & 4th Wednesday 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. 624-1779.

L.D.S., EX-L.D.S., GAY LESBIAN, BISEXUAL SUPPORT GROUP. Meetings 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 7pm. 320-1319 for information.

RECREATIONAL VOLLEYBALL every Sunday 3 to 5 pm at St. Francis in The Foothills for anyone who likes to play and have a blast call Davey 888-1208 for more info.

ARIZONA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION (AGRA) TUCSON CHAPTER. Interested? Call 323-0805 or write AGRA/Tucson, P.O. Box 40894, Tucson, AZ 85717.

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

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

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

"EVOLVERE" a transgendered Support Group open to all T.V.'s, C.D.'s, T.G.'s & T.S.'s. Dedicated to all our brothers and sisters. Offering our help and support in every way we can. Meetings held on 4th Saturday of each month at 2 p.m. Call 834-0541.

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

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

GAY VOLLEYBALL ON SATURDAYS. Competitive play. BB or better players only. Grass court Northwest corner Himmel Park 10:00 a.m. Check it out!

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

THE JOHN HANTEN MEMORIAL GROUP, a Catholic support group for Gays and Lesbians, meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 1948 E. Lee St. at 7:30 p.m. For more information call the parish office at 327-6015 or Jane Perri at 326-8577.

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

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

LEARN TO BE A LISTENING FRIEND. Unique Hospital Volunteer Program teaches listening skills to Volunteers who provide a safe/compassionate environment to at-risk patients. Training every 6 weeks. 694-7963.

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

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

LESBIAN/GAY/BI OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Saturdays noon-1pm in UMC Dining Room "F". 325-6676 or 670-1954.

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

CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 3rd Monday at St. Pius X Catholic Church, 1800 N. Camino Pio Decimo in the Kino Room at 7:00 p.m. For more info call Ernie 721-2003 or Anna Marie at the Parish office 885-3573.

COCAINE ANONYMOUS

"The Fruits Of Sobriety" particularly for Gays and Lesbians (but everyone is welcome) meets every Tuesday night at 7:30 p.m. at the MCC Church, 3269 N. Mountain. Hotline: (520)326-2211

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

SMART (Self Management And Recovery Training) a free non-12-step self-help alternative for people working to overcome addictive and other emotional problems meets in Tucson Monday thru Thursdays at different locations. For more information about SMART, contact Brenda at 884-9920, Ext. 448 or Emmett 322-6057 (vvaNen@t.netcom.com)

FACE TO FACE - HIV+ Social Organization. Meet new friends. Call Dale at 320-9106 for information.

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

OUTLOUD! Tucson's premiere Local Lesbian and Gay Radio Show, broadcast each 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 8:30pm on 91.3 FM, Community Radio KXCI. This show alternates with "This Way Out", a nationally syndicated Lesbian and Gay radio show.

PERSONALS

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ATTENTION - ATTENTION - ATTENTION Si eres hombre que tiene sexo con otros hombres y quieres ayudarnos a extender y apoyar los programas para Los Latinos, llama para una entrevista estrictamente confidencial al 322-6226 y pregunta por Ernesto. 698

If you are a Latino man who is having sex with other men and you want to help us to support and expand our programs for Latinos, call for a confidential interview at 322-6226 and ask for Ernesto. 698

GAY CHAT HOT LOCKER ROOM J/O ACTION PHONE SEX FOR THE GAY 90'S JOIN IN OR JUST EAVESDROP 1-900-745-0622 MORE ACTION AT 1-900-745-2045 GAY SEX SAMPLES 1-800-714-4863 \$2.49/MIN - WWW.XAPEX.NET - 18+ YRS

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TUCSON BLVD. & ELM: 1 bedroom guest house for rent. Available at the end of November. \$57/mo. Includes all utilities and more. Please call for details 327-9199. 698.

VARIOUS CENTRAL TUCSON LOCATIONS. 1 and 2 bedroom apartments from \$325 - \$495. Clean, private, quiet. Many extras. Mention this Observer ad. 685-6022. 699

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EMPLOYMENT

Accepting applications for Bartender. Stonewall/Eagle, 2921 N. 1st Ave. Apply in person, see Jeff. 699

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Recent U.S. Supreme Court Rulings Affecting Gays

Continued from Page One

1992 and 1994.

In 1993, they were sworn in by the Registrar of Voters, a public official, with the same oath of allegiance to the state and federal constitutions which public officials make. In what the couple claim is a violation of its own by-laws, the Committee held a secret meeting without notifying them or allowing them to respond, ousted them, and appointed two replacements in the absence of both the elected officials empowered to fill empty slots. The Committee then would not allow them to be sworn in in 1995, despite their having been re-elected.

The Committee's stated reason for removing them was that they had violated a rule against members supporting political opponents when they rented their ranch out for a Democratic Party fund raiser — but two other Committee members retain their seats despite one having repeatedly rented out sites for Democratic fund raisers and the other having had a letter published in a newspaper which openly endorsed a Democratic candidate while criticizing a Republican one.

Remarks had been made both during and outside of Committee meetings about "getting rid of the faggots" and "we've got to get rid of those queers," leading the Johnson's to believe that their unfair treatment was specifically based on their sexual orientation.

The Committee denies that it discriminated against the Johnson's, but its brief held that even if it had, it was free to do so. The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in May unanimously upheld a trial court's decision that the Johnson's had no standing to sue because the Committee's actions were those of private citizens, exempt from civil rights laws.

State courts had also refused their case. Federal appellate Judge Stephen Trott wrote that, "The Supreme Court [of the United States] has held that, absent a compelling state interest, political parties are entitled to organize themselves, conduct their affairs, and select their leaders in the manner they think best, without any interference from the state."

That opinion is final now that the high court has declined to review it, effectively authorizing political parties to discriminate at will. . . .

The Supreme Court also announced it will use the case of a Maine dentist who refused to treat an HIV-positive woman in his office to help clarify federal discrimination protections under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

In November 1996, the U.S. 1st Circuit Court of Appeals in Boston upheld a lower court decision which held that dentist Randon Bragdon violated federal law in refusing to fill Sidney Abbott's filling owing to her HIV status.

Bragdon told Abbott he had a written policy saying he did not treat people with infectious diseases except in hospital settings and that she would have to bear any additional costs imposed by the hospital. Abbott filed suit two months later.

The American Dental Association, which states as official policy that it is unethical for dentists to withhold treatment from patients with AIDS or HIV, filed a brief siding with Bragdon. It said the disabilities act should apply only to people physically impaired or debilitated by the

disease. The organization urged the justices to clarify dentists' legal obligations in such circumstances.

The Americans with Disabilities Act bans discrimination against disabled people in employment, government services, public accommodations, and other services. Lower courts have split on whether asymptomatic people who test positive for HIV are considered disabled under the 1992 law.

Abbott's lawyer, Bennett Klein of Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders said, "This is a matter of basic civil rights. People with HIV need medical care, including dental care." A statement from the group said that without strong legal protections, the medical needs of nearly 1 million Americans with HIV will be jeopardized.

Catherine Haassens, a legal expert on the disabilities act with Lambda Legal Defense Funds said Bragdon was hiding behind a technicality to avoid treating a person with a potentially fatal infectious disease. "The issue is that people with HIV need medical care. And to withhold it is not only unconscionable, it is also illegal."

Two Arizona AIDS Organizations To Receive Grants From Macy's West

SAN FRANCISCO, CA -- In commemoration of World AIDS Day, Macy's West, in conjunction with the Federated Stores Foundation, announced that the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation and Phoenix Body Positive received grants from the Passport Fund.

The two agencies were among 44 organizations in six states to receive grants totalling \$400,000.

Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) in Tucson incorporates services formerly provided by the People With AIDS Coalition of Tucson (PACT), the Shanti Foundation and the Tucson AIDS Project. Streamlining AIDS services for their community is the goal of this collaboration.

The Passport Fund Grant, \$7,500, will assist SAAF in effectively consolidating services as a result of the recent merger in July 1997. The scope of services includes more than 800 clients living with HIV and AIDS and prevention services to over 15,000 clients annually. Services are comprehensive and include support services, case management, prevention education and targeted educational outreach programs.

Phoenix Body Positive is an organization created by and for people with HIV and AIDS. Its mission is to provide the community with the knowledge, resources and collective strength necessary for individuals to live long and well with HIV. Their \$15,000 grant will support and expand clinical trial efforts offer new treatment options to their clients under careful monitoring by medical professionals.

The Passport Fund is endowed by Macy's annual Passport fall fashion show, a highly successful HIV/AIDS fund raiser held in San Francisco and Los Angeles in September. Since becoming an AIDS benefit in 1988, the Passport extravaganza has contributed \$6.2 million to the cause.

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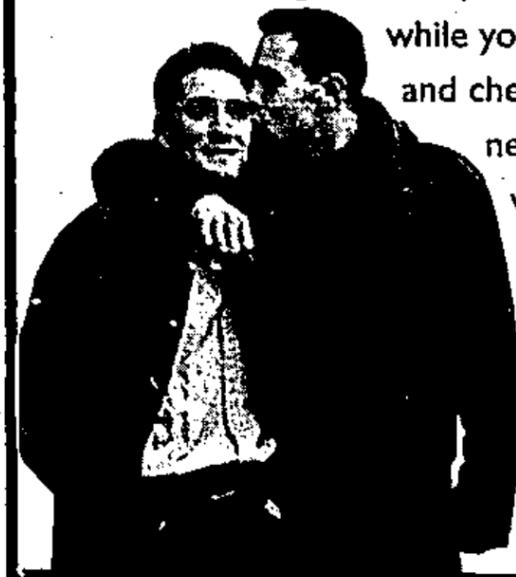
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