

Rights Pioneer Bella Abzug Dies



Civil Rights Activist Bella Abzug Dies At 77

NEW YORK, NY (NP) -- They tried to deride her for her manner and her support of Lesbian and Gay rights (even nicknamed her "Bulla Dyke-zug"), but the unstoppable Bella was in a class by herself.

Bella Abzug, the pioneering feminist who introduced the first federal bill to protect the civil rights of Gays and Lesbians in 1975, died March 31 at the age of 77 from complications after heart surgery.

She represented New York City's heavily Gay Greenwich Village in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1971 - 1976, the first Jewish woman to win election to the Congress. At age 50, she took her first Congressional campaign into a Manhattan Gay bathhouse, speaking to an audience dressed solely in towels. She said that when she proposed to amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by adding sexual orientation as a protected category, her Congressional colleagues "thought I was nuts!"

Although some version of that measure has been introduced in every subsequent Congressional session, the only Gay and Lesbian civil rights bill ever to come to the floor of either house was the weaker and narrower Employment Non-Discrimination Act, which in September 1996 was defeated by a single vote in the Senate.

Her first career as an attorney in private practice was also a lively one that included taking on red-baiting Senator Joseph McCarthy, as well as supporting

civil rights for African-Americans and women while opposing nuclear weapons and the Vietnam war. Although she lost her later campaigns for the U.S. Senate and Congress and for mayor of New York City, the dauntless progressive renowned for her flamboyant hats remained active in politics thereafter, attending the 1996 Democratic National Convention in a wheelchair.

At the time of her death, among a half-dozen high-profile commitments, she was the leader of the Women's Environment and Development Organization, which she founded in 1990 to make women more visible in government and society. She wrote a 1972 autobiography, "Bellal Ms. Abzug Goes to Washington" and the 1984 "Gender Gap: Bella Abzug's Guide to Political Power for American Women" with Mim Kelber.

Abzug's passing was mourned by the leaders of national Gay and Lesbian organizations. The Human Rights Campaign's Elizabeth Birch said, "Bella Abzug was a brave and dedicated advocate of fairness for Lesbian and Gay Americans. We all owe her an enormous debt as the pioneer who tried against enormous odds to extend civil rights protections on the basis of sexual orientation. We will carry on that work in her name. Bella Abzug was light years ahead of her time when it came to advocating for Lesbian and Gay equality."

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's Kerry Lobel said, "Bella Abzug understood that oppressions are

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'Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Just Discharge!'

WASHINGTON, DC (ON) -- A record total of 997 individuals in the armed services were discharged on the grounds of "homosexuality" in 1997.

Harassment? People just trying to get out of the military?

According to Defense Secretary William Cohen, more people are trying to get out. During a photo-op at the Pentagon, Cohen said in an interview that more people are opting out of the military by declaring they are homosexual. Cohen insisted during the interview that the military's policy on Gays and Lesbians is working properly.

"Don't ask, don't tell," which went into effect in 1994, allows Gays and Lesbians to serve in the military as long as they keep their sexual orientation private. Any mention of their orientation or engagement in sexual activity will result in punishment, usually an administrative discharge.

The policy was devised in 1993 after President Clinton tried to enact his campaign promise to ending the ban on Gays and Lesbians being allowed to serve openly in the military.

"We intend to continue to emphasize the fact that this policy should not be abused, that there should be no attempt to hunt or seek out those who are, or may be, homosexual, and that we intend to strictly enforce the 'don't ask, don't tell' policy," Cohen went on to say during the photo-op interview.

Abused? The number of individuals discharged from the armed services on the grounds of "homosexuality," have risen nearly two-thirds since 1994, the

first year of records kept on the "don't ask, don't tell" policy:

YEAR	DISCHARGED
1994	597
1995	722
1996	850
1997	997

"...But in terms of the policy itself, I think it's working," Cohen said in an interview but wouldn't elaborate any further. Cohen had ordered an internal review in response to reports from Gay and Lesbian rights groups which have shown dramatic increases in violations of "don't ask, don't tell," resulting in an increase in the number of discharges, the highest since 1986 -- when the outright ban on homosexuals in the armed services was in effect.

Working? Gay and Lesbian rights groups see it differently.

In a written statement, the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) said the report's recommendation for fixing problems underscore why the policy is not working:

"The policy is not working because commanders in the field are continuing to ask and pursue, hunting down Gay and Lesbian servicemembers unabated," said Winnie Stachelberg, HRC's political director. "The military's explanations for the dramatic increase in discharges are self-serving and disingenuous. Anti-Gay bias continues to be the core issue, and the Pentagon has done nothing to address it."

HRC pointed to a ruling by U.S. District Judge Stanley Sporkin in January, who found that the Navy went on a "search and out mission" by pursuing

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Reggie White Issues 'Apology' Over Speech

by Mark R. Kerr

GREEN BAY, WI (ON) -- He apologized...sort of.

Green Bay Packers Defense End, Reggie White, faxed a letter of apology to several news organizations which stated he may have used inappropriate examples of racial differences in remarks delivered to the Wisconsin State Assembly.

When it came to his remarks during the address about homosexuality though, White refused to apologize -- reiterating his religious beliefs.

"...But I do not apologize for the standing on God's word when it comes to sin in my life and others. My attitude is to hate the sin and love the sinner," White's letter stated.

"We are deeply disappointed and angry that Mr. White has failed to grasp that his attack against Gay people was

wrong," said David Smith, Human Rights Campaign (HRC) communications director. Smith said HRC, the largest Gay and Lesbian rights group in the country, will continue their campaign to press companies that use White as a spokesman to reconsider their arrangements.

In the address, which was to be about community service and his recent trip to Israel, White delivered a rambling address laden with racial stereotypes and harshly critical of growing social tolerance for Gay men and Lesbians.

White declared the United States had gotten away from God by allowing homosexuality to "run rampant." "Homosexuality is a sin," he said, "and the plight of Gay men and Lesbians should not be compared to that of blacks."

An ordained minister, White asserted that it was chosen "alternative lifestyle." He equated Gays and Lesbians

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UPDATE

Affirmative Action Conference April 21

PHOENIX — Arizonans for Affirmative Action will be holding their Leadership and Training Conference '98, Tuesday, April 21.

This conference will take place from noon to 5:00 P.M. at Hyatt Regency, 122 North Second Street in Phoenix.

Such topics as: history, politics and legal underpinning of Affirmative Action; working to get a Resolution from your Board of Supervisors, City Council, etc. and effective media use will be discussed.

Tucson MCC Yard Sale April 25-26

TUCSON — Spring is here so is the time to clean up your closets, empty your garage, rid of those items you collected through the years and get new ones.

Water of Life Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) of Tucson will be holding a two day yard sale on it's premises, 3269 North Mountain Avenue — Saturday, April 25, 8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. and Sunday, April 26, 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

You can participate by donating anything from your old books, CD's, clothing, furniture, etc., or rent a booth and do it yourself. An offering of \$15 per booth or 15% of your earnings whatever is higher.

You are invited to join us and shop till you drop. Volunteers appreciated before, during and after the sale. All proceeds will assist MCC in it's ministry to the Rainbow community in Southern Arizona.

For more information, call (520) 292-9151.

Xena Rocks!

PHOENIX — Do you thrill to the weekly adventures of Xena, Warrior Princess and her devoted Bard? Come meet with other Lesbian and Bi-women in the Phoenix area

who share your passion for the dynamic duo.

In April, the Xena Group will participate in two special activities:

Saturday, April 18, we'll be marching with the Lesbian Resource Project group in the Phoenix Pride Parade.

Sunday, April 26, 1:00 - 4:00 P.M., we'll be whooping it up at a Xena Fan party at Obelisk Bookstore, 24 West Camelback in Phoenix. Come watch Xena music videos, favorite subtext episodes and meet with Phoenix Xenities. Then check out some cool, new Xena merchandise, the latest Xena goodies from Creation, including CD's and books.

We're also gearing up for the Star Trek/Xena/Herc convention scheduled for Memorial Day weekend in Phoenix. For further information, call XenaFan, (602) 813-8681.

San Diego L/G Pride Extends Support To Tennessee

SAN DIEGO, CA — San Diego Lesbian and Gay Pride will lend a helping hand to the Mid-Tennessee Nashville Pride Committee through a mentoring program designed to assist smaller Pride organizations around the country.

For the next two years, San Diego Pride will share its knowledge and resources with the Nashville committee as a way of helping them expand their Pride events.

The support includes bringing in four pride representatives from Tennessee, who will work closely with San Diego Pride coordinators as they prepare for this year's July 24-26 Pride weekend.

"The visitors will be afforded hands-on experience in all aspects of our event, such as festival set-up, parade coordination, media relations and overall organization," says San Diego Pride Executive Director Mandy Schultz. Airfares and accommodations will be paid for by San Diego Pride.

In 1996, San Diego's Pride board of directors approved the mentoring program, which commits to two years at a time for each city that is "adopted." The Wichita, Kansas Pride organization was the first to receive San Diego's sponsorship.

Nashville Pride Co-Chair James Gilliam says he is excited to be working with San Diego Pride because, "it is known for producing large events and attracting large crowds." Gilliam adds that the goal is to "bring home the skills we learn in San Diego and tailor them to fit our specific needs."

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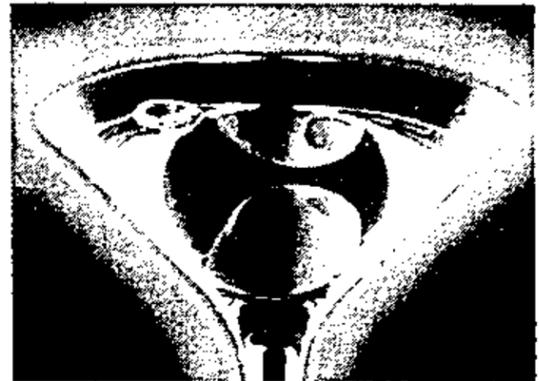
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Reggie White

Continued from Page One

to "liars, cheaters [those who are] malicious and back stabbers."

Outrage followed the address and it was expected for him to lose deals as a pitchman for products as Campbell Soup (which as a non-discrimination policy that covers sexual orientation), Nike and Edge shaving gel, as it did with pro-golfer Fuzzy Zoeller who made racial remarks aimed at Tiger Woods.

So far it hasn't.

None of his sponsors have said they're dropping him and one, the makers of Edge gel, says it's sticking by him.

However, the football star had auditioned with CBS to become a football commentator when the network starts broadcasting AFC games under the new television agreement this fall. According to news reports, White has been dropped from consideration by the network.

This past week, the campaign to remove White as a pitchman continued. A letter was sent to the Campbell Soup Co., signed by the HRC, the Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum, and the Latino/a Gay and Lesbian Organization, asking that the company reconsider its continued use of White as a spokesman.

"We sincerely hope you will reconsider using White as a representative for your products," leaders of the three groups wrote to Campbell President and CEO Dale F. Morrison. "Given that the Campbell Soup Company, has a non-discrimination policy that covers sexual orientation, as well as race and ethnic origin, it would be inconsistent to employ as a company spokesman a man whose beliefs and public statements contradict that very policy."

In addition, they asked National Football League (NFL) Commissioner Paul Tagliabue to public censure White. "He appeared before the Wisconsin State Assembly because of his public profile as a football hero," they wrote. "The NFL has an obligation to make sure that players, including White, do not abuse their positions as professional athletes to put forward political and personal opinions that contradict the tradition of fairness that is the hallmark of the NFL."

HRC is urging its members to write to the heads of the Campbell's Soup Company, Nike, Johnson & Johnson (Edge) and the NFL to reconsider their arrangements with the football star.

David W. Johnson, Chairman Dale F. Morrison, President
Campbell Soup Company
Campbell Place
Camden, NJ 08103-1799
phone: 800.257.8443
fax: 609.342.3878
e-mail via WWW:
<http://www.campbellkitchen.com/responsel.asp>

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One Bowerman Drive
Beaverton, OR 97005-6453
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<http://info.nike.com/talk/index.jhtml>

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1265 Lombardi Ave.
Green Bay, WI, 54304
phone: 920.496.5700
e-mail via WWW:
http://www.packers.com/fans/ask_the_packers

Paul J. Tagliabue, Commissioner
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National Football League (NFL)
280 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10017
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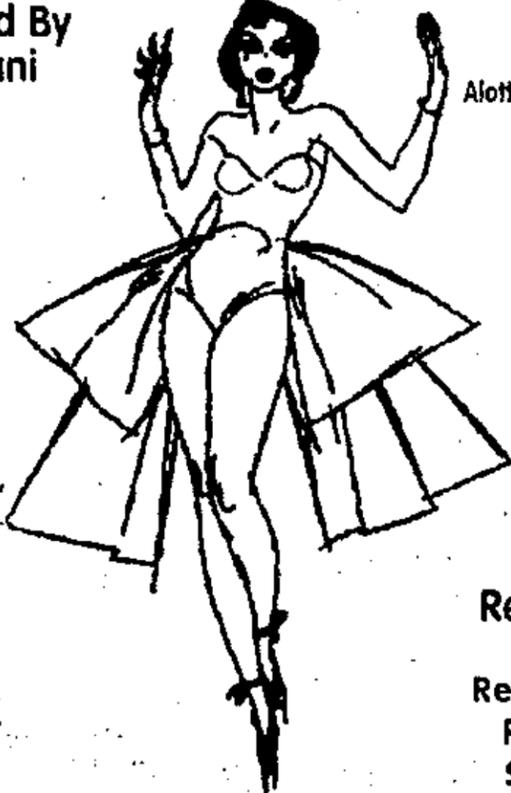
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Coretta Scott King Has A Dream Also

CHICAGO, IL (NP) — While other high-profile African-Americans deliver speeches from your worst nightmares, Martin's widow tells Lambda that she still has a dream that includes Gays and Lesbians.

Coretta Scott King, widow of the late African-American civil rights leader Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., spoke in one of a series of events celebrating this year's 25th anniversary of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund.

At a time when her niece Alveda King is being transported around the U.S. by the religious right to speak as an African-American opposing Gay and Lesbian civil rights, when the Winans sisters are travelling about similarly singing their opinion that homosexuality is "Not Natural," and especially hot on the heels of football star Reggie White's declaration before the Wisconsin state legislature that he is "offended" by any parallels drawn between the civil rights movements of African-Americans and of Gays and Lesbians, Scott King's supportive remarks stand in stark contrast.

She said, "For many years now, I have been an outspoken supporter of civil and human rights for Gay and Lesbian people. I've always felt that homophobic attitudes and policies were unjust and unworthy of a free society and must be opposed by all Americans who believe in democracy."

"I still hear people say that I should not be talking about the rights of Lesbian and Gay people and I should stick to the issue of racial justice. But I hasten to remind them that Martin Luther King Jr. said, 'Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.'"

"I appeal to everyone who believes in Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream to make room at the table of brother- and sisterhood for Lesbian and Gay people."

"Gays and Lesbians stood up for civil rights in Montgomery [and] Selma [Alabama], in Albany, Georgia, and St. Augustine, Florida, and many other campaigns of the civil rights movement. Many of these courageous men and women were fighting for my freedom at a time

when they could find few voices for their own, and I salute their contributions."

"When we allow our institutions to exclude minorities from full citizenship rights, I believe we are cooperating with evil. Homophobia is like racism and anti-Semitism and other forms of bigotry in that it seeks to deny a large group of people their humanity, their dignity and personhood."

"This sets the stage for further repression and violence that spread all too easily to victimize the next minority group."

"As Martin once said, 'We are all tied together in a single garment of destiny, an inescapable network of mutuality. I can never be what I ought to be until you are allowed to be what you ought to be.'"

King praised Lambda's work, comparing it to that of the lawyers who advanced African-American civil rights. She recommended her late husband's writings to all civil rights activists, and encouraged the Gay and Lesbian civil rights movement to look to maintaining its own diversity and to join other civil rights struggles. She also noted that the right-wing forces now working to end affirmative action are the same groups advancing homophobic causes.

Bella Abzug

Continued from Page One

connected and that they share the roots of ignorance and intolerance. And she not only understood, she acted.... As right-wing forces in our country work to extinguish democracy by attacking people of color, immigrants, women, the poor, and Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender people, and other marginalized communities, more than ever, Bella Abzug is an example and inspiration for us all. The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force calls on those in Congress and other public policy makers to live up to the example set by Bella Abzug of unyielding courage, compassion, and commitment to democracy."

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Don't call him Madam! Hormel has been canned and shelved!

The nomination of Jim Hormel to be ambassador to the ever-so-strategically important country of Luxembourg suffered another setback...perhaps a fatal one. Isn't it already dead...but we digress!

Senate Majority Leader, Trent Lott, R-MS, said he would not bring the nomination to the floor for a vote. What a shocker!

Lott is the only member of the Senate able to lift the holds placed on the nomination by four conservative, homophobic senators -- who charge Hormel would use his position to "promote the Gay agenda."

Promote in Luxembourg? Puh-leeze!

These Senators don't even know where the principality is on the map, let alone anything about the government -- which endorsed the nomination several days before the President made the announcement in October 1997! Right!

Remember, Hormel gave a lot of money to the San Francisco Public Library; smiled at the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence during a Pride Parade in San Francisco (They have footage!) and; supported the National Endowment for the Arts, according to the four phobes. He's doomed!

In defense of his "decision," like there can be, Lott said the nomination would require a lot of debate, which "would take a lot of time, and we don't have it."

Interesting, the nomination has been languishing for six months! Time?

This past week, a total of 42 Democratic Senators delivered a letter to Lott requesting a vote to be scheduled on Hormel's nomination. A waste of paper!

Senator Judiciary Committee Chair, Orrin Hatch, R-UT, who actually endorsed Hormel, said he was very disappointed with Lott's comments. "...unfortunate because (Hormel) has committed not to let his personal social views become part of his ambassadorial work," Hatch said.

POLITICS
1998 by Mark R. Kerr

"Due To Mature Subject Matter...Hell, Just Read"

Concessions? Yes! Hormel said he would resign from all Boards of G/L organizations and go to "Ethel Mermanland" without his longtime companion...just to name a couple of the major concessions he agreed to. For Luxembourg?

David Smith of the Human Rights Campaign summed it up, "Mr. Lott doesn't want to be accused of discriminating against (people) because they are Gay and that is exactly what is happening to Mr. Hormel." We don't discriminate against faggots and dykes! We're Republicans!

Poor Fife my ass...more like his ass!

This past week both Tucson daily fishwraps featured, blared, hit readers with visual pollution about the plight of poor convicted-felon, former Governor J. Fife Whitewoods III, R-How many cigarettes?

The alleged story, talking about: his worries; what's he doing -- pilfering, err managing his wife's finances; future plans -- it would be great to be a State Senator or Governor? Whitewoods will run again and be back on "top" again...after 30 months perhaps!

What was the intention? Try to drum up public sympathy for another corrupt, convicted politician! Like we don't have enough of those around!

Puh-leeze! How many convicted felons, six times over are scot-free while their overpaid mouthpieces are appealing their convictions. Yes, equal justice for WASP males with moolah! Ain't that America!

What a waste of space on sleaze!

Male sexual arousal, "Push or tackle," and no solution for school-fi-

nance! Just some of the items during the past week for the Inquisition, err Arizona Legislature.

The Legislature, in the fifth week of a three-day special session is still trying to find a court-mandated solution for the school-finance crisis. They're still looking! Uh-oh!

Tempers are frayed...to the point where Rep. Art Hamilton, D-Phoenix, the House Minority Leader alleged pushed a Republican staffer during a recess when one Rep. was being courted for her vote.

Hamilton apologized the next day. Not good enough said the Republicans. They're holding a House Ethics Committee hearing -- despite no solution for school finance. Anyone looking at the clock here?!

They can find the time for ethics and male sexual arousal! Stiffies! If you said SB 1162 (This year's dildo bill!), pass go and collect \$200!

This past week the House, when not at each other's throats, voted 27-12 to specify that male sexual arousal constitutes a "discernable turgid state...visibly swollen, bloated, inflated or distended." A hard-on? No, an amendment.

SB 1162 is the measure to give counties more power to regulate business. The proposed legislation is also known as the "cleavage regulation bill."

Cover this! "Bazooms, funbags, ney-neys, stiffies, Mr. Trouser Trout's and woodies," our world, they're not welcome here!

The debate on this "amendment" was punctuated, according to news reports, with laughter. Go figure! They can laugh at what they do...we have to live with it...or survive for that matter!

Of the two bills of concern during the hilarity -- also known as the 43rd

Session of the Arizona Legislature, SB 1037, the "good Samaritan Act," and SB 1261, which would make being tested for HIV in Arizona hazardous to one's health are still alive...unfortunately!

SB 1037, the "good Samaritan Act" is before the Senate Rules Committee and SB 1261 is still before the House Health Committee. Okay?

With the Legislature no closer to a solution to the school-finance crisis...everything else is on hold...perhaps for the rest of the session.

According the capitol sources, the Republican leadership is trying to end the session by their self-imposed 100 day deadline.

Yes, and monkeys will fly out of all our asses!

Speaking of these two measures, does the governor support them? According to Francie Noyes, Governor Hull's press secretary, she likes them! Damn!

Call 1-800-253-0883 and leave a message urging Governor Hull to reconsider her opinion on these two bad bills!

Some media mush to end: On Tuesday's broadcast of Eyewitness Snooze on Channel 4, they claimed to have a scoop that the Pure Water Coalition was launching another initiative to strengthen the Water Consumer Protection Act of 1995.

Small problem...it was announced on KTKT's Bert Lee Radio show the day before. No scoop nitwits!

In the Friday, April 3 edition of the Arizona Daily Fishwrap, (Page 8, Section B), they reported on SB 1162 with the title, "Senate defines male sexual arousal."

Wrong! It was the House that voted on this! Must've been a little excited!

Speaking of which...does this mean the state can no longer use "Arizona - The Grand Canyon State," since it would be in violation of SB 1162? A distended, exposed orifice!

So it goes for now kids!



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HOME ON THE RANGE / AGRA TUCSON

by Scott Weidamoyer

Hey Tucson! Well, I am glad to be back after taking a few weeks off to recover and recuperate from a very fun and successful Saguaro Regional Rodeo. I want to thank everyone who donated countless hours of personal time to help make this year's rodeo a success. We will soon find out how successful we were and I will let you know as soon as the final figures are tallied.

write in a nomination for any position, please feel free to do so. Even if you write in your own name, I urge the membership to give a Board Position a try. With the feedback that many others and I have received after this year's rodeo, I know that there are many of you out there with some really good ideas. Don't hide your ideas, make them a reality. A Board position isn't really the hell that everyone makes it out to be. Please make sure that you return the ballots to the correct address BY THE DUE DATES POSTED on the ballot. It is really important that all votes are received and counted.

Although there is not enough room to thank each and every person individually, and I wish I could, I want to thank the groups and committees involved in the rodeo this year. To all of the volunteers from security to the AGRA Tucson vendor table, all of our wonderful entertainers, to Old Tucson Studios staff and Management, to our contestants, judges and officials, the decorating committee, the Public Relations committee, and to anyone else that I may have forgot... THANK YOU ALL! Look for more information in weeks to come on the Volunteer Appreciation Party. As soon as I get the details, I will let you know.

Our next Board and General Membership meeting will be held on April 19th at the Stonewall/ Eagle with the Board meeting at 3:00 and General Membership meeting at 5:00 pm. Mark your calendars and join us to hear what we have to say as the 1997-98 board wraps up their terms and the new Board is announced.

That's all I really have for this week and I look forward to keeping you all posted on the happenings with AGRA Tucson in the year to come! Your questions and comments are always welcome on what you would like to see in the article. Feel free to visit the website at www.AGRATucson.com or e-mail me at AGRATucsonC&PSN.net

Until then.. Let's Rodeo!

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Unappealing Appeals

NEW YORK, NY (NP) -- The Justice Dept. will pursue an appeal of the McVeigh "don't ask" ruling against the Navy...Houston's conservative honcho has abandonment issues around the attack on the mayor's anti-discrimination order...

when he joined Houston, Texas City Councilmember Rob Todd in a legal challenge to Mayor Lee Brown's executive order prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation in city employment and in provision of city services -- even though his side is winning, Hotze has filed an appeal so that he personally can remain a player.

Government Appeals McVeigh: It's a surprise to no one, but now it's official: the Department of Justice will be filing an appeal on behalf of the Navy in the first case in which a judge ever declared that a branch of the military had violated the so-called "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy on Gays and Lesbians in uniform.

To the surprise of many, Texas District Judge Patrick Mizell blocked enforcement of Brown's order, accepting Todd and Hotze's claim that the mayor didn't actually have the authority to issue an order with respect to city employment issues, despite the fact that other mayors have done so for decades.

The case is that of Chief Petty Officer Timothy McVeigh, a decorated 17-year veteran with a spotless record who served as the top enlisted man on a fast-attack nuclear submarine -- until the Navy tried to dismiss him for homosexuality based solely on the content of an America Online profile, which they connected with McVeigh only by means of evidence federal judge Stanley Sporkin found had been obtained in violation of the Electronic Communications Privacy Act.

But Mizell also found that although Todd as a Councilmember had legal standing to bring the suit, Hotze as a private citizen did not. Hotze had claimed that Brown's action ignored his 1985 vote on a ballot initiative he'd actively supported, which repealed a similar anti-discrimination measure the City Council had passed. Because that initiative only negated the ordinance, Mizell found that the city charter did not stop the mayor from ignoring it. Had the initiative "adopted" a positive message, its authority could only be overridden by either a Council vote or another referendum.

McVeigh is still involved in the legal follow-up to that January ruling, seeking to be reinstated in something like his former job instead of the significantly lower-paid clerical work he's been kept in since, while the Navy is concerned about returning him to the "close confines" of a submarine. He's also pursuing a civil lawsuit against the Navy.

Hotze filed an appeal of his exclusion from the lawsuit, and he then held a news conference outside City Hall to insist that the initiative should have the same weight regardless of the nature of its content. The Houston city attorney agrees with Mizell that the city charter just isn't written that way.

Hotze Wants In In Houston: You can set aside any notion that conservative activist Richard Hotze was acting selflessly

When you plan a vacation, you make a number of choices — often unconsciously. One such choice is: How big a group do you want to travel with? Your decision will greatly shape your experiences.

Anonymously Big. In a group of over 75 people, you won't get to know everybody by name on a week-long vacation. (If it's over 300 people, you'll see faces at weekend that you could swear you've never seen before.) Amongst this many people, there are undoubtedly quite a few whose company you'll enjoy. But will you find them? If you're on the shy side, ask the organizer what type of opportunities will exist for breaking the ice.

Somewhat Big. In a group of 20 to 50, if you make an effort, you'll know most people by name within a few days. If you're traveling alone, you'll probably have no trouble finding others to join you for an excursion, dinner, or whatever. Unless "whatever" is a hot date — as the group gets smaller, the odds of finding that special chemistry diminish.

Small. My favorite experiences are with groups of 10 to 20. Everyone knows one another within a day, get you can sit next to someone new at dinner every evening. It's easier to make friends in a group of 15 than in 50. But again, if romance is your primary goal, the odds would improve with a bigger group.

Just below this in size, but much different in 'group dynamics, falls the awkward number of six-to-eight. This group is small enough that people may feel excluded if you don't do everything together — yet big enough that it's not always fun to do everything together. As long as you're aware of that tension, however, you can make it work out.

Very small. Just as a group of

10-to-20 works well, so do four or five — but only if you're already good friends. In such a small group, a little bad chemistry goes a long way.

Two friends. Years ago, I spent two weeks in Europe with a casual friend. Toward the end of a six-hour train ride to Barcelona, he revealed his only interest in this beautiful city: He wanted to find out if the french fries at the Barcelona McDonald's as perfect as when he'd visited five years earlier. When he had his answer (sadly, the food quality had gone downhill), he was ready to leave town. We found ourselves often going separate ways on that trip. Traveling with a friend can be fine — but discuss your goals, interests, and travel styles first. A weekend together is a good investment before you commit two scarce weeks of vacation time.

One couple. That advice goes for romantic twosomes, as well. Naturally you want to vacation with your new sweetheart. But spend a couple of three-day weekends traveling together before planning your week abroad. Discover any incompatibilities. I've seen several couples whose joint vacation outlasted their affections. It wasn't pretty, it wasn't fun, and it wasn't cheap.

Solo. Many people would never think of traveling alone. But there are three good reasons to do so. 1) You don't know anybody with a compatible schedule, destination and travel style. 2) You're looking for romance, and you're headed to a destination where you just

might find it. 3) You want to experience the culture and people of another country, a goal accomplished far more easily if you're alone. Yes, the single traveler may have moments of loneliness — but he or she also has the best chance of making some wonderful new connections.

A Gay cruise ship has been refused entry to Grand Cayman; and anecdotes of homophobic treatment in the Bahamas and Bermuda regularly filter through. So it's refreshing to report on truly Gay-friendly Caribbean island.

The tiny Dutch island of Saba, near St. Martin, has grown famous in the past decade as a scuba diving destination. I've just returned from my company's first Gay dive trip on Saba, and we could not have received a warmer welcome.

Our accommodations were at Captain's Quarters, a Gay-friendly guesthouse rate by Out & About as one of their five favorite romantic getaways. Some twenty Gay islanders and visitors showed up to greet us at an opening night reception — among them, Saba's Directors of Tourism, sporting Freedom Rings around his neck and a rainbow flag on his cap.

The handsome skipper of our dive boat, fresh out of the Scottish Navy, was straight, to the great regret of many aboard, but he accepted our compliments (and bad kilt-jokes) with good humor and grace.

Venturing Out

by Sasha Alyson

Big Groups, Small Grounds, and A Caribbean Paradise



Scene on the Isle of Saba

Saba has no beaches, so it won't be everyone's idea of paradise. But if you enjoy spectacular diving, want to learn scuba skills, or simply want a quiet and friendly getaway, check out Saba. (<http://saba-online.com>; Captain's Quarter 800-446-3010).

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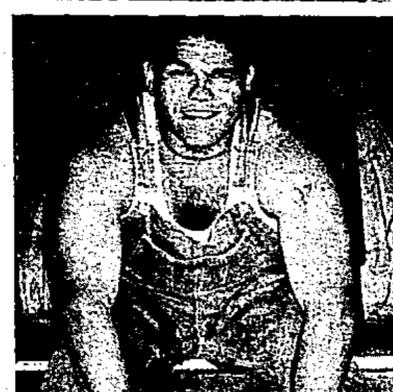
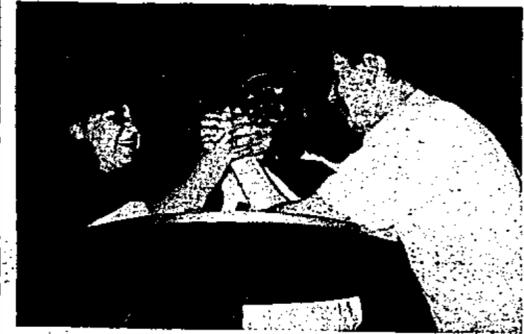
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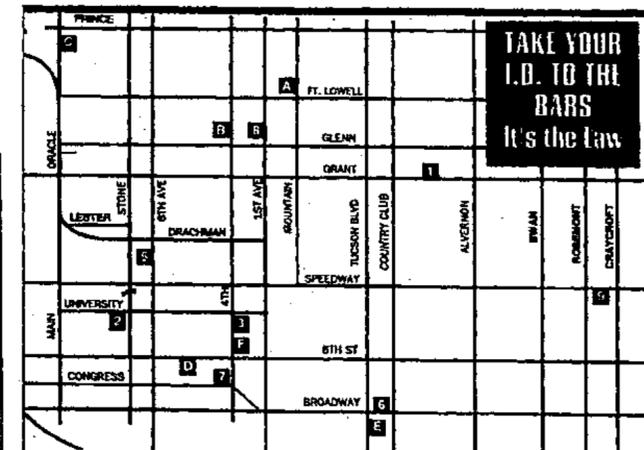
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TUCSON DIRECTORY

Our traffic copter sees a pile-up on the cosmic highway this week. The Sun conjuncts retro Mercury and rowdy Mars before colliding with sourpuss Saturn. A bonfire is lit in your heart and mind, but don't shoot off on just any old tangent cousin; Check your road map lest retro Mercury leads you brazenly off in the wrong direction. Saturn will then crack the whip. No, it's not a reward!

ARIES

MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

You are a proud Ram to be reckoned with when the Sun careens into Mercury, Mars and ultimately, Saturn. The spotlight is there for the basking if you use it wisely and judiciously. There may be a temptation to play the Gay Duce but remember what happened to Mussolini, dear. At least, let others think that they live in a democracy before you stuff the ballot box.

TAURUS

APRIL 21 - MAY 21

Proud Bulls are not counted among the most intuitive of signs but this week, as the Sun careens it's merry way into Mercury, Mars and Saturn, you feel the need to rub your crystal balls for inspiration. Don't prognosticate too loudly; some of the things you'll come up with are pretty far off the mark. It would be a shame not to live up to your billing.

GEMINI

MAY 22 - JUNE 21

Social commitments may commit you to more than you bargained for when the Sun conjuncts Mercury, Mars and Saturn. Tally up your dance card; you cannot boogie at two parties with only one tush. Although they say you can never be too thin or rich, Gay Twins shouldn't spread themselves too thin now. Saturn will have a way of reminding you however, if you forget.

CANCER

JUNE 22 - JULY 23

Pink Crabs have been clawing at that corporate ladder for so long they can just about smell the boardroom. But hold off on your grander schemes for just another week. Now, as the Sun plays bumper cars with retro Mercury, Mars and Saturn, your claws may be dropped in a pot of boiling water and feasted upon by sharks in pinstripes. Give them indigestion next week.

LEO

JULY 24 - AUGUST 23

Don't haul it to court this week, Gay Lion. The conjunction between the Sun and Mercury, Mars and Saturn will not adequately grease the wheels of justice and you may not get your tail caught in a vise. Even the usual forms of "get out of town" escape may not prevent the unescapable. What can I say except find a better use for all that grease and tend to that frisky tail.

VIRGO

AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23

Expect some static between you and lovers when the Sun pokes Mercury, Mars and Saturn. Grand schemes won't make much sense in the light of day - so keep your plans entre nous until next week. Queer Virgins think they have reached self actualization but this too shall pass; Saturn reminds you that eating a bologna sandwich before bedtime will produce such hallucinations.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23

Butting heads won't lead to compromise dear, queer Libra. As the Sun conjuncts Mercury, Mars and Saturn, partners demand more from you than you are prepared to give. Before you raise the roof, take a good step back, a deep breath and hold off on any major decision for another

HOROSCOPES

BY C. LICHTENSTEIN

week. Within that time, saner minds may prevail and you can play the happy home-maker once again.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22

If Gay Scorps feel a bit like roadkill this week, I'm not surprised. The Sun collides into Mercury, Mars and Saturn careening otherwise sane Scorpions into a maelstrom at work. There is an evil smell in the air comrade but I'm certain you will toss the rogues out, eventually. Keep your wits about this week and don't react to nonsense. Question: Are you able to recognize nonsense?

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22

It may all seem like one big tea dance as the jolly Sun hits retro Mercury and perky Mars, but Saturn, the planet of lessons also gets into the act. The chiffon begins

to chaff and the music spins out of control. Proud Archers may yearn to lambada with the best of them but wait until next week. For this week, at least, the lambada is the forbidden dance.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20

Queer Caps yearn to burst Out and breathe affirmingly free. So do it already, but don't expect accolades from Mom and Pop this week. The Sun's mosh with Mercury, Mars and Saturn almost assuredly puts a damper on your family debut but so what? You don't need permission. Don't hold up the pride parade waiting for a nod from the judges. Tell the judges where to get off.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19

Aqueerians are peacemakers but now they become piecemakers (as in little bitty

pieces) if they allow solar conjunctions to impact their judgement. Don't say what's on the tip of your tongue; let it lie until next week. Better still, let it pass and dissipate into fond memory. There will be time and opportunity to rant in the coming weeks. Goodness knows, the community will need it.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

What is it that you truly value? Don't expect to have that question answered to your satisfaction this week pink Fish. The Sun collides with retro Mercury, Mars and Saturn overturns what you believed was tried and true. Well, that is this week. Next week can bring a renewal of faith. Sometimes, though it's a good time to have a reality check...not!

For entertainment purposes only. For best results, read both your Sun sign and Ascendant. For a free ascendant calculation, 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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A Taste of the Water of Life

News from MCC Tucson

TUCSON -- Water of Life Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) will celebrate this Easter weekend with special events and worship. The weekend begins with the Good Friday worship Service, April 10, 7:00 P.M.

The traditional Sunrise worship Service begins at 7:00 A.M. Easter Sunday, April 12, on the church grounds with the church's Memorial Rose Garden in full bloom as the backdrop.

Following the sunrise service, a full complimentary breakfast will be served in the Fellowship Hall from 8:30 to 10:00 A.M. The Easter Celebration Worship Service begins in the main auditorium at 10:45 A.M., and will feature inspiring Easter music and Special Music. The church's dynamic Pastor Joyce Cook will be speaking at the Easter Celebration

worship services.

Water of Life MCC is a member congregation of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC), an international Christian community which, while open to all people, primarily serves the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered community. Founded in 1968 by the Rev. Elder Troy D. Perry, UFMCC now numbers more than 300 congregations in 19 countries worldwide.

Pastor Joyce Cook is inviting everyone to come celebrate Easter at MCC Water of Life, 3269 North Mountain. There is no admission charge; and all events are open to the public.

For more information, call the church office, (520) 292-9151 or e-mail: wateroflifemcc@pridemail.com.

A View From The Rock

A Commentary From Cornerstone Fellowship

Is it just me or have others of you noticed as well just how commercialized Easter has become?

I realize that to a non-Christian, Easter is just another holiday centered around little gifts, big hats and fancy meals. But it seems that the singing bunny rabbits selling chocolate eggs appear on the T.V. well before spring and are on more frequently as well. It all hit me the other day as I stood in line more than 15 minutes at my favorite bargain store. Everyone in line, including me, had so-called Easter goodies to purchase.

I wondered how many of those people ahead of me in line really knew the true meaning of Easter. As a Christian, I celebrate Easter because it commemorates the day Jesus Christ Rose from the dead. It is a joyful day because it is in him that I put my trust and through a relationship with him that I have the assurance of life after death.

I don't begrudge anyone for putting together cute little baskets for the kids or enjoying a delicious meal with family and friends Easter afternoon. I do those things as well. But I want people to know the real reason why Christians all around the world celebrate Easter Sunday.

I guess there's no stopping the commercialism, but I will in my own way do my best to spread the good news of Jesus Christ not only at Easter time but through-out the year.

At Cornerstone Fellowship, we offer opportunities to get to know more about Jesus through Bible studies (Wednesdays at 7:00 P.M. and Sundays at 9:00 A.M. as well as through our Sunday worship services at 10:30 A.M. Come by our church at 2902 North Geronimo or call 622-4626 for more information.

Happy Easter to you all and may the joy of Jesus' resurrection tough your lives in a very special way.

'Ellen' Notes...

ATHENS, GA (NP) -- Mr. Peabody awards "The Puppy"...mad about the new nanny and other possible career moves...ABC counts the cost....

The Emmy-winning coming out episode of the ABC sitcom "Ellen" has just added the distinguished Peabody award to its impressive collection of hardware. Thirty-two winners of the 57th George Foster Peabody Awards for broadcast excellence were selected from well over 1,000 entries by the University of Georgia's Henry W. Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communications.

Other winners included the already-canceled ABC dramatic series "Nothing Sacred" (whose Gay-priest-with-AIDS episode was never broadcast) and San Francisco Public Broadcasting System station KQED's documentary, "The Castro."

It's still not official that "Ellen" won't be back next season (although the rest of ABC's Wednesday evening lineup has already been locked in), but with the hand apparently in the process of writing on the wall, star Ellen DeGeneres' guest appearance on another sitcom is looking to some like her next career move.

DeGeneres just taped the season

finale of NBC's "Mad About You" (to be broadcast May 19), playing the Buchman's new full-time nanny in return for the favor of its Oscar/Emmy/everything-else-awarded star, Helen Hunt, having appeared in the star-studded "Ellen" finale.

The Buchmans will still need a nanny in the new season, and "Mad About You's" executive producer Vic Levin told "Variety" of DeGeneres, "We love having her here, and we'd be happy to get her back next season." "Mad About You" already has a Lesbian couple among its regular characters. A tiny irony: the co-creator of "Mad About You," Danny Jacobson, was also the original developer of "Two Guys, A Girl and a Pizza Place," which is currently occupying "Ellen's" timeslot and surpassing its ratings there.

The three male regulars on "Ellen" have already been developing alternative plans. Jeremy Piven, "Cousin Spence," is the lead in an ABC pilot for the hour-long comedy "Cupid," wherein he'll take up the little flying archer's match-making duties while retaining his familiar "acerbic" quality. David Anthony Higgins, "Java Joe," is part of the ensemble in a WB Army-comedy pilot. Steven Gilborn, "Ellen's" dad, was up for consideration as a co-star in another ABC comedy pilot, "The Kirk Franklin Show."

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The current debate of a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered (LGBT) civil rights event in Washington, D.C. in 2000 may look like a "political in-fighting" if one only takes a quick glance.

But just below the surface is one of the most important community discussions to occur in decades. Our community is in the process of redefining the movement.

If organizing for a national LGBT civil rights event in Washington proceeds on its current course, then progressive, grass-roots, democratic organizing in our community will suffer a serious injury.

The tragedy of this situation is that Human Rights Campaign's (HRC) executive director Elizabeth Birch, comedian Robin Tyler, and the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches' Troy Perry are the willing architects of this attack on Queer democracy.

Right now, Perry, Birch, and Tyler are frantically lobbying the community to support an event they decided to produce. They are trying to prop up grassroots support for an event only they had input on. Perry has just sent out a letter with "six very specific steps, very definite steps" ...to lobby congress? ... no, to lobby the president? ...no, to zap Jesse Helms?

No. Troy Perry is asking you to lobby the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) and the National Black Lesbian and Gay Leadership Forum to support the Millennium March! What's wrong with that? In Troy Perry's plea for help, he says, "If you are a contributor, member or supporter of these organizations, be sure to mention that too." That

Viewpoint

by Billy Hileman

Millennium March! Who Cares

is sickening.

The Millennium March is about money. It is not about whether 2000 is a good year to rally in Washington. It is not about ENDA, or domestic partnership, or about Lesbians and Gays in the military. Right now there is only one organization in our community with the resources to support a huge national action in Washington. And there is only one organization that has vowed to have one-million members by the 2000, HRC.

Never before has one of our organizations been in a position to unilaterally call for a March on Washington (MOW). The Millennium March is a test of HRC's new power. It is a test whether the community will allow HRC to circumvent the progressive, grassroots, democratic principles that were the basis of the three previous marches and the heart of our movement.

At the end of Perry's letter, he writes, "History's greatest movements have been grassroots movements. And history's greatest leaders have been those who heeded the call of their grassroots members."

But, there has been no call, HRC and UFMCC didn't allow the forum for a call. And now that people are voicing their concern about the process, Birch, Tyler and Perry are putting a call out to the grass-roots instead of the other way around.

In March of 1991, the executive directors of NGLTF and HRC, Urvasi Vaid and Tim McFeeley hosted a meeting in Washington, D.C. for activists to discuss a third march on Washington. Minneapolis City Councilmember Brian Coyle had pushed the idea at the 1990 Creating Change Conference. During the March '91 meeting, and a second national meeting in May, dozens of proposals and concerns were discussed by hundreds of activists.

Proposals for marches in 1992 and 1993 were discussed. Bi-annual MOW's with a permanent committee; 52 regional marches: states, DC and Puerto Rico; and a MOW before every presidential election were all proposed. Stonewall 25 organizers pleaded that no national action take place before 1994. A call for inclusion of youth in the organizing was made and a request to be aware of the dates of the many women's music festivals was voiced. Native American Gays and Lesbians explained that they could not participate in the fall of 1992 - the 500th anniversary of the survival of indigenous cultures. And that is a very small example.

In 1998, all that expression and creativity has been silenced in one meeting between Perry, Birch, and Tyler. They want to control the timing, message, and money associated with the Millennium March. They may achieve that. But in the process, they'll lose the movement. Arrogance is not the word. Only sheer con-

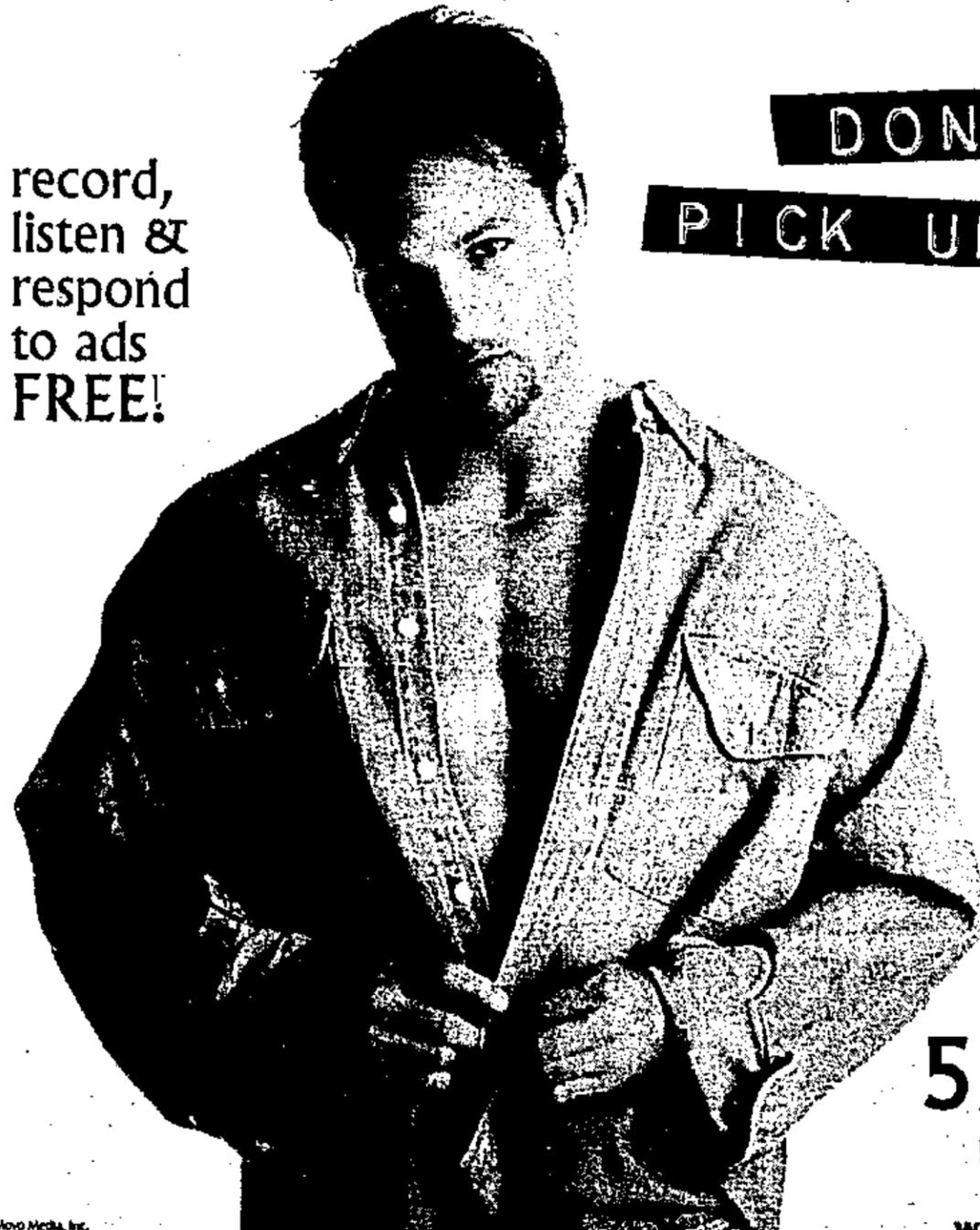
tempt for democracy can describe their organizing style.

Several national leaders authored letters distributed at the 1991 meeting explaining why a march before 1994 was misguided. Where are their voices now? Some of the very same people have privately expressed their concerns about the Millennium March, but won't do so publicly. Why? They're afraid that in the year 2000, they'll be on the outside looking in. There shouldn't be an outside. Organizing a national civil rights event without a grassroots "call" is exclusive no matter how much multicultural rhetoric they try to pour over it.

But its worse than that. Birch is smart enough to know that Barney Frank is right when he says that big marches do nothing politically for the community. All that stuff about the political benefits of being in Washington before the election is a lie. Birch wants her Millennium March so she can get her one-million members and the associated loot. Grassroots democracy might produce 50 state marches. Big hummer for Birch.

In an recent Out magazine article, Birch responds to her critics by saying, "Imagine what you would have done if three years ago you woke up and found that someone had handed you the movement, ...I'll bet that you would have made most of the decisions I made." It's time to wake up again. It's not your movement. We can help.

[Billy Hileman is a Pittsburgh based activist and was one of the four national co-chairs for the 1993 March on Washington]



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UPDATE

Dallas MCC Cathedral Target Of Internet Bomb Threat

DALLAS, TX -- The Cathedral of Hope Metropolitan Community Church in Dallas, the world's largest predominantly Gay and Lesbian congregation, has been the target of a bomb threat posted on the Internet.

The threat, received by a Dallas newspaper, is being investigated by the FBI.

The Rev. Mike Piazza, senior pastor of the congregation, said the church would continue to operate normally. "Our stance is that we need to release this information so our members know [and] can make their choice. We're going to have services, but people have a right to know what they are coming to," he said.

Piazza also noted that last year's bombing of an Atlanta Gay bar and more recent bomb attacks on abortion clinics have forced the church to view all threats with concern.

The threats have affected attendance, but all services were held as scheduled.

The Internet threat contained condemnations of homosexuals and claimed, "You think Oklahoma City was bad, wait until you see this."

The Rev. Troy D. Perry, Moderator of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, the parent denomination of Cathedral of Hope MCC, noted: "We strongly condemn these threats to our constitutional rights to worship and free assembly. Over the past 30 years, more than 20 Metropolitan Community Church congregations have been targets of the hate crimes of arson or firebombing, and many more have faced threats to both worshippers and property."

"I call upon all people of goodwill to uphold the Rev. Mike Piazza and the congregation of Cathedral of Hope Metropolitan Community Church with their love and prayers during this time," Perry added. "I salute the church for keeping its doors open to Gay, Lesbian,

Bisexual and Transgendered persons. The Scriptures declare that 'perfect love casts out fear.' Through their boldness and love, our members and friends in Dallas are communicating the message that we don't have to be afraid anymore."

Scouts Recruit In Oregon Schools

PORTLAND, OR (NP) -- An atheist Oregon mom wants to know why, if the courts say that the Boy Scouts can require belief in God, they can still behave like a secular service in schools.

With the exception of a recent New Jersey appellate court ruling, the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) has successfully claimed a right to discriminate against Gays and atheists as a private club able to require its members to be "morally straight" and affirm a "duty to God" -- but while generally not viewed as a "public accommodation" itself, the group has nonetheless enjoyed a level of access to government-run facilities generally reserved for secular organizations.

That's the level at which the city of Chicago recently parted ways with BSA's use of its public schools in an out-of-court settlement, and atheist Nancy Powell has been pursuing a similar approach since her son came home from his Portland, Oregon elementary school wearing a BSA recruitment wristband attached to him by school personnel in 1996.

After working her way up the ladder through her school and school district, Powell filed a complaint with the state superintendent of education charging that by helping BSA recruitment, the school was illegally engaged in religious proselytizing -- a violation punishable by withdrawal of state funds. In late March, she received a response which denied that the BSA literature foisted on her son is religious, denied that BSA itself is primarily religious, denied that school staff involvement was inappropriate, and denied that religious involvement in schools is forbidden absolutely.

SPORTS

Desert Coyotes Bowling League Standings

	Won	Lost	Pct
Tres Amigos	11.0	5.0	.688
Gay Caballeros	11.0	5.0	.688
Triple T	10.0	6.0	.625
Helen	10.0	6.0	.625
Triple Dickys	9.0	7.0	.563
Erratica II	9.0	7.0	.563
Six	8.0	8.0	.500
Buddies	8.0	8.0	.500
Prickly Pears	7.0	9.0	.437
Smokin Bears	7.0	9.0	.437
Weeblovs	7.0	9.0	.437
The D's	7.0	9.0	.437
3 Hole Hookers	6.0	10.0	.375
Ft Lng HtDogs	2.0	14.0	.125

Lambda Lizards Bowling League Standings

	Won	Lost	Pct
Miracles...	22.0	14.0	.611
The Denim Men	20.0	16.0	.556
Gays & Dolls	16.0	20.0	.444
We Suck Good!	14.0	22.0	.389

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Non-Bar Calendar

Groups / Clubs / Organizations

THURSDAY, APRIL 9

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Our Topic of Discussion for April will be "The Highs & Lows of Being Gay." What makes you happiest about being gay? What's the toughest part? Think about it and join us for a night of lively conversation. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-9565.

FRIDAY, APRIL 10

Good Friday Services at Cornerstone Fellowship 6:00 p.m.

Good Friday Worship Service at MCC at 7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11

Sedar at Cornerstone Fellowship. Tickets available at the door for \$4.50. 6:00 p.m.

Cronies Social Club monthly meeting at 7:00 p.m. at MCC Church, 3269 N. Mountain. Pot Luck Dinner, Visitors welcome.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join your gay brothers for the video presentation of "In & Out." Watch Kevin Kline show you what being a man is all about in this delicious farce about a teacher outed by his student at the Oscars. For directions and reservations, please call Les at 690-9565.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12

Resurrection Sunrise Service at 6:00 a.m. in the Memorial Garden at Cornerstone Fellowship. Potluck Breakfast / movie at 7:30 a.m. Resurrection Celebration at 10:30 a.m.

7:00 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service at MCC in the rose garden on the church grounds of MCC. Complimentary breakfast will be served in the Fellowship Hall from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. Easter Celebration Service 10:45 a.m. featuring inspiring Easter music and special music.

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 2:00 p.m. Have Easter Dinner with your family-your gay family of choice, that is. Every holiday, MSN has a potluck dinner so you can spend the day amongst family and friends. The dinner begins at 2:00, and we'll offer puzzles and games later in the day. Leftovers will be brought out again at 6:00 for anyone who would like to snack, or join us at that time for dinner. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-9565.

2. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join the group for the annual showing of "Priest." This searing drama is about a priest struggling with his homosexuality and other questions. For directions and reservations, please call Les at 690-9565.

TUESDAY, APRIL 14

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. A fun evening devoted to British comedy series. Three episodes from your favorite series: "Absolutely Fabulous," "Fawlty Towers," and "Keeping Up Appearances." This event is on the east side of town. For directions and reservations, please call Loren at 733-0072.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us for a night of all things Greek, as we hold Dinner Out at the Marathon Greek Restaurant. This "mom & pop" restaurant offers some of the best Greek food in town. For reservations and directions, please call Bill at 546-7539.

FRIDAY, APRIL 17

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Our monthly Pizza Party will take place at Les & Jerry's home. Simply bring \$4.00 and join in for a fun evening of food and good conversation. Salad and dessert are also served. Vegetarian pizza offered as well. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-9565. Please note: reservations should be made by Friday, April 17 at noon so we can order the proper number of pizzas.

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us for a video presentation of "My Fellow Americans." This comedy stars James Garner & Jack Lemmon as two ex-presidents on the run. The gay element to this movie is small, but pivotal. This is being shown by Bill, one of the group's east-side boys. For reservations and directions, please call Bill at 546-7539.

SUNDAY, APRIL 19

5:00 to 7:00 p.m. the Men's Massage Group meets monthly on the 3rd Sunday. It is a great way to meet new men safely in a unique way. No experience is necessary. Just the need for nurturing touch, the ability to relate to others. It is non-sexual and a lot of fun. Fee. Call in advance to reserve a space. Call Marc at 881-4582.

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, APRIL 20

Cronies Social Club mid-month dinner at Mountain View Restaurant 6:30 p.m. Call Bob at 887-5457 for RSVP. Visitors always welcome.

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, APRIL 22

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 1:00 p.m. Join the guys for a relaxed Lunch Out as we eat at the Tash's de Yubac. Come early to shop, then join us for a great lunch at Tash's. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry W. at 298-7415.

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. A night is devoted to getting out the MSN newsletters. It's a fun way to help the organization and get to know the MSN guys. Dessert and door prizes are provided. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-9565.

Bar Calendar

Of Upcoming Events

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8

IBT'S - 9:00 p.m. The Love Company presents "Puttin' On The Lips" hosted by Felice Renard with Victoria Du Puis.

THURSDAY, APRIL 9

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Salud Es Poder, Proyecto de Salud Para Nombres Latinos - Presenta "Fuerza Latina" Travesti Show 10:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11

GRADUATE - TKO Beer Bust from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. then The Norman Tabernacle Choir Presents an MPS Society Fundraiser for Woody Tufts "A Pre-Easter Sunset Service" the Annual Graduate Easter Bonnet and Basket Contest plus a show that will feature the Norman Tabernacle Choir in all their beauty, hosted by Aviva Diamond and assisted by Electra Bleu. Cash prizes for most beautiful bonnet, most original and most tacky bonnet and best basket. The show begins at 7:00 p.m. Sharp!

HOURS - Easter Weekend Party starts here tonight with a Western Shirt Contest. Put on your best shirt for prizes and surprises.

NEON MOON - A Night Of Enchantment show presented by Miss Lani and featuring Alotta Whoremones, Fall e Renard, Regina Reed with Miss Lani. Hosted by Larry Moore. With special guests, Mr. Gay Albuquerque, Casario; Miss Gay Albuquerque, Danielle Steele; Pageant Title Owner Joseph Michael; Mr. Gay Southwest '98, Raphael Lucas; and former Mr. Gay Albuquerque's Bill Wendt and Michael Preuss and Miss Lani Taylor. Reservations requested. \$2 cover.

VENTURE-N - Bears Beer Bust 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. on the patio. Easter Egg Coloring here day and night. Try your artistic talents out.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12

HOURS - Easter Bunny Balloon Pop for specials and prizes plus HOURS Easter BBQ on the patio.

IBT'S - Annual Easter Party Egg hunt starts at noon and runs until the egg is all found. The Benefit Bar-b-cue and 16oz Beer Bust runs from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. and benefits the Millennium Theatre. Male Box Nite starts at 9:00 p.m. Join the male box party and a chance to win a VCR.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Brunch and other surprises 2:00 p.m. Benefit show for Sabrina Crawford candidate for Miss Gay Tucson '98 starts at 10:00 p.m.

VENTURE-N - Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Breakfast hosted by John and Jason. Get here early and join in the fun.

MONDAY, APRIL 13

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - It's tax night at the Biz. Checks and Balances will be here to answer any tax questions you may have. They will also calculate your 1040 form for \$15.00. No cover. 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15

IBT'S - 9:00 p.m. The Girlie Show with an all-star cast featuring Lucinda Holliday, Mr. Kenneth Blake, Felice Renard and Aja Simone.

FRIDAY, APRIL 17

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Back by overwhelming demand, Nancy and Hippo Shake!! Last month they packed the house. Come early. Music starts at 7:00 p.m. and goes until 10:00 p.m. Cover for the show. Dancing later.

FRI. SAT. SUN. APRIL 24-25-26

12th Anniversary Celebration at the Cornerstone Fellowship with the ministry of Rev. Joan Wakeford.

FRIDAY, APRIL 24

The new Men's Relationship Group meets at 7:00 p.m. The purpose is to explore the dynamics of what a good relationship consists of for men with men. It will last 2 hours. Refreshments and fun. Call in advance to reserve a space. \$5 fee. Call Marc: 681-4582.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us as we have a Game Night devoted to all sorts of games. Play a favorite card game or board game—the choice is yours. If you have a favorite you'd like to play, bring it along, but there will be plenty of games from which to choose. For reservations and directions, please call Les or Jerry at 690-9565.

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

The first annual White Elephant and Yard Sale at the MCC Church building 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. 3269 N. Mountain between Prince and Ft. Lowell.

La Cocina Restaurant at Old Town Artisans and IBT's will host a Benefit Dinner and Auction for the Southern Arizona AIDS Association with some fantastic entertainment. Cocktails from 6-7 p.m. Dinner at 7:00 p.m. with the auction to follow. \$25.00 per person. Limited seating. Tickets must be purchased by April 19th and are available at SAAF, IBT's and Tucson Trunk. Old Town Artisans is located at 186 N. Meyer in downtown Tucson. For more information call SAAF at 322-6226.

13th Annual Miss Gay Tucson American Pageant at the Holiday Inn (Tucson) 4550 S. Palo Verde. Presented by Holiday Headliners the pre-judging begins at 5:00 p.m. with the pageant starting at 7:00 p.m. Special appearances by Miss Gay America 1995, Patti La Piaz Safe; Miss Gay Arizona America 1997, Virginia Sacrifice and Mr. Kenneth Blake the reigning Miss Gay Tucson America 1997. Tickets are \$13 in advance or \$15 at the door. Reservations are required. For tickets or more information call Larry Moore 327-1578.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Retro TV returns again! This time out, join us for an episode of "The Mary Tyler Moore Show," an episode of "Doctor, Doctor" (where a doctor is spending an unusual amount of time talking around with a gay man!), and "The Charles Pierce First Annual Farewell Show." This last show features the extraordinary talents of Mr. Pierce as he does his famous female impersonations—and Ditta Davis is not to be missed. For reservations and directions, please call Les at 690-9565.

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

White Elephant and Yard Sale at MCC Church, 3269 N. Mountain from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. 292-9151 for more information or donations.

Daily Bar 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 1pm. \$2 Bloody Marys & \$1.50 Screwdrivers till 9pm. Country music & dancing with FREE country dance instruction 7pm.

IBT's - Open Noon to 1 am. Happy Hour noon-8pm, \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 Well. Small B-B-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. \$1.75 pitchers 75¢ a glass. Food Buffet 3pm. Pool Tossing 2pm w/Zipperman. Karaoke Night 9-close hosted by Billy Dee. Stoney's opens at 9pm with hot dance music with DJ Raymond.

VENTURE-N - Open 10 a.m. Backside Beer Bust 3-8pm 50¢ draft. 301 Dart Tournament 5pm \$3 entry fee. Bart Burgers 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. Absolutely Fabulous at 9:30pm with \$2.25 Shot and \$3 Absolut drinks.

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

HOURS - Closed Mondays.

IBT's - Open noon. Martini Monday all day all call martinis \$2.50. Happy Hour noon-8pm, \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 well. 8pm to midnight, \$1.50/32oz 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. Party with Rob in the evening. Doc's Dart Tossing 8pm in the Eagle. 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 pot matched. \$1 longnecks all night for tournament players. 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 3pm. Happy Hour 3-8pm. \$1.50 well or domestic beer. Draft Beer Nite 8-close. \$2 small \$4 large pitchers.

IBT's - Open noon. Happy Hour Noon-8 pm, \$1.75 domestic beer & \$1.50 well. 9 pm to close 2for1 well & M&W Lbs. Fetish Night, dress in your fetish and get special drink prices 9-1. High Energy Dance with David Z.

NEON MOON - Happy Hour 4-7pm. Karaoke with Billy Dee. \$1.00 off drinks to singers.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Happy Hour till 8pm. M&W & M&W Lbs \$1.75 Cuervo Gold \$2 after 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. Neon Kam's \$2. Schnapps \$1 a all nite. Alternative music w/Sophistic 9pm-1.

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

HOURS - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3-8pm \$1.50 well or domestic beer. Import Night \$2.25 8pm-1am.

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

NEON MOON - Happy Hour 4-7. 2 for 1 from 7-10. Liquoration 7 to 10 pm.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Happy Hour till 8pm. Karaoke Nite: 9 to close w/Billy Dee. Stoney's opens at 9:00 p.m. Dance w/Rayman.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am Draft Beer 75¢ 6am-8pm. Cuervo Gold \$2 all day/night. 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 times)

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

HOURS - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3-8pm \$1.50 well or domestic beer. 75¢ Schnapps 8pm to close. \$2 Cuervo shots and country/western dance at 8pm.

IBT's - Open noon to 1am. Happy Hour noon-8 pm \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 well. Underwear Nite. \$1.50 Well and \$1.75 Domestic Beer to show 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 till 8pm. Latino Dance Party w/Eduardo at the Stonewall which opens at 9pm.

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. Latin Happy Hour 5:30 - 7 free food. Dance music 8pm-1am. Shot specials all nite.

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

HOURS - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3-8pm \$1.50 well and domestic beer. Country Western Music and Dancing 8pm to 1am.

IBT's - Open noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 well. ... Patio Bar 9-1. Dance Party 8 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 with Billy Dee.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Happy Hour till 8pm. Food Buffet 6pm. Wear a Stonewall/Eagle T-shirt and receive 1/2 price all night. DJ Raymond 9pm.

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

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 1pm. Small Pitchers \$2 & FREE pool 2-5. Zone on the big screen with pot luck at 6pm. Country Western Music all night.

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

NEON MOON - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 4-7. Saturday Night Party & dance!

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open noon. Happy Hour till 8pm. Free Pool all day. Stonewall opens at 9pm. Hot sounds with Raymond.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Bitches & Bagns w/\$1 Bloody Marys 6am-noon. Happy Hour Prices 6am-8pm. Backside open 5pm-close. Tuff Stuff Tool opens at 8:30pm.

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE .25 PER WORD \$5.00 MINIMUM.



CLASSIFIEDS



CLASSIFIED ADS MUST BE MAILED, NO PHONE ADS.

NOTICES

NOTICES

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION (SAAF), 151 S. Tucson Blvd., Suite 211 (The Broadmeor 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. 322-8228. AIDS Hotline: 328-AIDS. VOLUNTEERS WELCOME.

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.

FRONT RUNNERS OF TUCSON meet for fun runs Tuesdays at 6 p.m. Group meets in front of the Himsel Park Library (East side), and Sundays at various times and places. For more information call Mitch at 328-3555

DESERT VOICES, Tucson's Gay & Lesbian Chorus rehearses Monday evenings from 8:30 to 9:30 pm at Armory Park Senior Center, 229 S. 6th Ave. Call 781-0462.

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 575-8860 or write P.O. Box 36794, Tucson, AZ 85740-6264. All replies confidential.

Join the LESBIAN & GAY PUBLIC AWARENESS PROJECT. In Tucson with Awareness Project, 3081 N. Campbell Ave. #345, Tucson, AZ 85719.

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.

AA Meeting with HIV/AIDS focus, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., MCC Church, 3288 N. Mountain. All alcoholics welcome.

YOUNG AND GAY?

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

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 690-9545 for information and a newsletter. Check the Noo-Bar Calendar in the Observer.

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 857-7493 and leave your name and phone number. Monthly meetings are held on the 2nd Sunday, 4-6 p.m. at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St.

SOFTBALL - For info on the Tucson Greater Softball Association T.G.S.A., please contact Mary 778-9979 or Betty 318-3415.

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 - 9 am - 5 pm Mon. - Fri.

CARE TEAMS ARE AVAILABLE to offer support to people living with HIV/AIDS. The Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network offers trained, compassionate and committed volunteers to provide services including friendly visits, light housekeeping, assistance with meals, shopping, errands, transportation and companionship for medical appointments, and respite care for primary care givers. No judgement or proselytizing - we are here to be of service. For information call Scott at 299-3063.

AIDS HOTLINE - 328-AIDS. Hours M-F, 9:00 am to 10:00 pm. Information, counseling, HIV-related services, Tucson.

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 322-8228.

GAY OR BI-SEXUAL MEN in relationships with women. Need friends you can talk to? Weekly support group meets Wednesdays 8:30 - 8:00 pm. Licensed psychologist facilitator. Call 745-8977 in Tucson for more information. Strictly confidential.

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

WINGSPAN - Tucson's Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Community Center, 300 E. 6th St., offers support groups / info line / social events / library / meeting space. Volunteer Opportunities. Board meetings every 2nd Sunday (open to all), 8:00 p.m. Information 624-1779.

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 861-4542 for more information or sign up.

SUPPORT GROUP: Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals meet weekly for open discussions in a loving, supportive atmosphere. Meetings Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:30 pm at St. Francis in the foothills Church, Swan and River Road, Room 43. Call the church at Davey at 886-1288 or Brian at 882-4726 for information.

THE JOHN HANTEN MEMORIAL GROUP, a Catholic support group for Gays and Lesbians, meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at Santa Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 1946 E. Lee St. at 7:30 p.m. For more information call the parish office at 327-6815 or Jane Parri at 328-8577.

LICENKING CLIMB for women of all ages and backgrounds of life. Hike with other women. Listings in Rhythmic Journal available at Antelope Books, 411 N. 4th Ave.

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

CAMELBACK BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION (CBPA) OF PHOENIX. For information and membership write: CBPA at P.O. Box 2497, Phoenix, AZ 85061.

TUCSDM LESBIAN/GAY ALLIANCE (TLGA) meets on the second Tuesday at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th Street at 7pm. For more information call 822-3299.

LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP addressing a full spectrum of issues, problems and questions. Meetings 2nd & 4th Wednesday 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. 624-1779.

LEARN TO BE A LISTENING FRIEND. Unique Hospital Volunteer Program teaches listening skills to Volunteers who provide a safe/compassionate environment to stroke patients. Training every 6 weeks. 884-7863.

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

TIHAN, a coalition of churches and synagogues committed to providing a compassionate response to the HIV crisis, provides HIV education in congregational settings, volunteer Care Teams to support HIV+ persons, a referral network of HIV-sensitive clergy, and interfaith services of healing and hope. For more information call 298-8647.

RECREATIONAL VOLLEYBALL every Saturday 3 to 5 pm at St. Francis in the Foothills for anyone who likes to play and have a blast call Davey 886-1288 for more info.

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 787-3118 for more information and a membership bio.

ARIZONA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION (AGRA) TUCSON CHAPTER. Interested? Call 323-0605 or write AGRA/Tucson, P.O. Box 48894, Tucson, AZ 85717.

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

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.

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 791-7876.

GAY COWBOY CLUB - Nationwide Personal Ads. Advertisers welcome too. Send stamp for information: Mavericks, Box 8543, Santa Fe, NM 87504.

CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 3rd Monday at St. Pius X Catholic Church, 1800 N. Camino Pio Decroix in the Rho Room at 7:00 p.m. For more info call Ernie 721-2093 or Anne Marie at the Parish office 885-3573.

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 64-G, Cortaro, AZ 85642.

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, 3288 N. Mountain. Hotline: (520)328-2211

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

NORTHWEST CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 4th Monday at St. Odella'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.

COCHISE COUNTY LESBIANS AND GAYS. P.O. Box 814, Bisbee, AZ 85603 / (802)432-5591. Rap Group, Youth Group, Social and Political Events.

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 (evettan@ix.netcom.com)

SUPPORT GROUP FOR MEN IN SAME SEX RELATIONSHIPS who have ever been physically, verbally or sexually abused, is now forming. Call Randy Oberhoff, Ph.D. at 678-8827 for more

AZtykes is a new email list for Lesbians living in Arizona. For information mail tykes@ohover.com and request guidelines.

BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO - a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, Call the Bears Hotline (520)327-1820 or write P.O. Box 43919, Tucson, AZ 85735-9110, or come to our general meetings the second Friday of every month. Location listed on our hotline.

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.

LAMBDA CAR CLUB, a social organization of Gays and Lesbians who share interest, information and fellowship involving collectible vehicles. Call 288-9454.

THEATER / DINNER / ETC! Non-Smoking Lesbian Network meets every 3rd Saturday night of each month. If you'd like to meet women 35+ (flexible) and socialize in a smoke-free environment 883-3785 before 10:00 p.m. The group dines out and attends shows or movies. Now in their 15th year! (1st in Tucson).

LESBIAN AND GAY AL-ANON - Affected by someone's drinking? Meeting every Tuesday 8:45 to 9:45 p.m. at Lambda Center, 2045 E. Thomas, Phoenix. EHO 591-8856 or Ron 868-2384.

"EVOLVER" a transgendered Support Group open to all T.V.'s, C.O.'s, T.O.'s & T.R.'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 864-6541.

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)371-1122

SCUBA DIVING CLUB. For information call digital pager 291-9682.

CRONES SOCIAL GROUP. A Social group for Gay men who enjoy the fellowship of their peers. Call Marie at 868-7294.

TRANSGENDER ISSUES: Southern Arizona Gender Alliance (SAGA) meets on first Mondays for informal discussion of transgender topics. Hosted by Desert Rays. For information call Cory at 628-8659 or send email to: moonblyte@earthlink.net.

T-SQUARES Lesbian and Gay square dance club meets every Tuesday from 8:30-9:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2962 N. Germaine (near 1st Ave. and Laguna). Open to all. Call Liz at 325-9468 or Ray at 749-5247.

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP FOR ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLES. Not a dating club. Discreet. Meetings every Monday evening. Call for more info. APEX (Arizona Power Exchange) 882-415-1123. 24-hr multi-choice message including information, calendar and location.

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

LEARN THE RHYTHMS AND CULTURE OF GUINEA & MALI, WEST AFRICA in a relaxed atmosphere. Beginning and intermediate classes now forming. Registration is ongoing. Classes are \$12 per class or \$38 for 3 1/2 paid in advance. Call Martin Klumbach at 296-9258 for more information.

MALE MEN: Long-haired Gay male social network. Photo, 3 IRC's to join. Box 251, Station B, Ottawa, CANADA, K1P6C4

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

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

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.

HOUSING/FOR RENT

FURNISHED APARTMENT Attached to home but entirely separate. Own bath, microwave, etc. Centrally located near Reid Park. Studio apartment with separate entrance. Use of washer/dryer and large brick-paved yard. \$300/mo. Utilities included. Available now. Call Mitch at 323-8863 717

VARIOUS CENTRAL TUCSON LOCATIONS. 1 and 2 bedroom apartments from \$325 - \$495. Clean, private, quiet. Many extras. Mention this Observer ad. 885-8822. 718

ROOMMATES

WANTED: MALE HOUSEMATE FOR HOME SOUTH OF BROADWAY. Off Country Club. \$300/mo. + 1/2 utilities. Call Doug at 785-2981. 718

ROOMMATE WANTED FOR 2 BEDROOM APARTMENT near Ahrens and Speedway. \$200/mo. CALL Steve Wed. -Sun. 4:00 to 9:00 p.m. 681-7508 718

GRANDSTONIE AREA ROOMMATE NEEDED, M/F, needed to share a 2br/2ba house on a quiet street with lg. fenced back yard. Prefer HS, with a job. Respond to Noval@primenet.com or page Phillip at 703-8919 718

REAL ESTATE

CENTRAL BRICK BUNGALOW that has been well maintained. \$84,800. Both Jones, 977-8272 Coldwell Banker Success Realtors. 715

PRIVATE COMPOUND OR RACING BUSINESS. 2 commercial zoned properties OVER 1 ACRE. First has 3 bedroom, 3 bath adobe with 109' of Stone Avenue frontage, 5 blocks south of the Tucson Mall. Second property next door has large metal barn for antiques or other retail. A real sleeper! Priced for quick sale at \$185,000. By owner 283-2939. 715

THIS IS NOT YOUR TYPICAL affordable subdivision. Very clean and crisp CC and R's. Lots start from a low of \$27,000. Age restricted. Both Jones 977-8272 Coldwell Banker Success 715

JUST YOU, WILDLIFE AND AWESOME VIEWS. At the base of Picoon Peaks. Reduced 20K. 1800 Sq. Ft. custom home plus 400 sq. ft. Bonus Room! With pool on horse property. Jacuzzi and Chef's Kitchen. 5 miles past Rocking H to Pinal Hill. 17861 Gila Monster Way. Call Lucy 847-3770. Courtesy to Brokers. 715

THIS RAMBLING HACIENDA STYLE BRICK HOME in Bisman could use minor fluff. Built in 1852, 2150 sq. ft., 3br/2ba. Very large lot with pool. \$188,000. Call Both Jones 977-8272 Coldwell Banker Success. 715

GORGEOUS, BEAUTIFUL, ABSOLUTELY CHARMING 3bed/2ba home in San Clemente. Hardwood and Sahlin tiled floors. Oasis backyard. Mission tile roof. \$149,000. Both Jones 977-8272 Coldwell Banker Success. 715

PERSONALS

LOCAL TALENT AUDITIONS. Wanted male models for nude photography. Call for audition appointment. 449-8522. 718

CYBER CRUISE - Meet Arizona Gay men and women as well as people all over the U.S. Gay owned. www.mervo.com 722

ATTENTION - ATTENTION - ATTENTION Si eres hombre que tiene sexo con otros hombres y quieres expandir tu exterior y apoyar los programas para Los Latinos, llama para una entrevista extrínseca confidencial al 322-8228 y pregunta por Ernesto. 715

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 322-8228 and ask for Ernie. 715

EMPLOYMENT

FRIDAY & SATURDAY DJ NEEDED AT THE BIZ. Must know the music, beat mix and have an outgoing personality. Men and women apply. 2900 E. Broadway or page 557-6832 for more info.

SERVICES

LET ME PAMPER YOU with a full body Swedish Massage in a quiet, relaxed atmosphere. \$35 for a full hour. Discount for new clients. Ralph 883-7498 718

CAREGIVER / COMPANION. MALE C.N.A. with all current licenses and excellent refs available for live-in position. Able to travel. Rates starting at \$140 per day. For interview call Christopher at 733-8180. 715

IT'S TAX TIME AGAIN!! Need help in preparing or filling out your income tax return? Call Jan at 325-5256 and let me do your worrying. 715

COME RELAX WITH ME. THE NURTURING TOUCH OF ESALÉN MASSAGE combined with the healing strokes of Hawaiian Lomi Lomi. Strong, gentle hands provide relaxation. Seven days a week, day or night. Call Glens 907-2551 in/out. 717

MASSAGE THERAPIST 13 YEARS EXPERIENCE. Catering to your needs. Specializing in pain relief (musculoskeletal), Swedish. Legitimate. Licensed. Call Torrance, 628-9999. 716

A MAN'S MASSAGE. Sensual and stress relieving. Full body massage in a private setting. Full Hour \$35. When only the best will do, call Rick at 295-1792. 718

ATTRACTIVE YOUNG MAN offers very relaxing, sensuous, one-hour massage at a very reasonable rate. Days, evenings, and weekends. Michael, 785-5462 717

PROFESSIONAL QUALITY MASSAGE! 17 YEARS OF HEALING HANDS. Strong, gentle touch. DEEP RELAXATION. GUARANTEED to feel better. Legitimate. Marc Haberstein, LMT, 881-4582. 718

CATERING TO YOUR EVERY NEED - Theme Parties, GR Baskets, Specialty Cakes, Intimate Dinners, Menu Planning. We also make Red Chile and Green Corn Tamales (oh so good, yum.) Call Becky or Craig at Masterpiece Catering 622-4232. 720

ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS Let me keep your clothes fitting properly and in good repair. Experienced - Economical - Prompt. Mr. Merle Hudson, 888-7294 in Tucson. 717

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'Just Discharge

Continued from Page One

Senior Chief Petty Officer Timothy McVeigh. The Navy pursued McVeigh after learning the word "Gay" was in his personal American Online profile.

"We think they are not following their own rules," said Dixon Osburn, executive director of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network in an interview. "We think there is a huge amount of harassment going on. Commanders are asking questions they are not supposed to be asking."

According to its annual report, the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network states that service members reported a total of 563 violations, instances where they were asked about their sexual orientation or were harassed in violation of "don't ask, don't tell." This is up nearly 25% percent from 1996 when a total of 443 incidents were reported.

"A lack of commitment to the policy by military and civilian authorities and no specific instructions on the limits of investigations are cited for the reasons behind the violations, according to the report. However, the Pentagon will issue additional guidelines for investigations when it releases their review of "don't ask, don't tell" expected later this month.

"Lying cannot be the cornerstone of any U.S. policy. We need a policy that respects performance, ability, commitment and privacy," Stachelberg said.

Diocese Courts Gays

SAN BERNARDINO, CA (WS) -- The local Catholic diocese is aggressively courting Gay men and Lesbians, which marks a dramatic turnaround for the church, which has for years condemned the "Gay lifestyle" as the surest route to eternal damnation.

"We are telling them they are totally welcome," said the Rev. Howard Lincoln, spokesman for the diocese and a priest at Saint Catherine of Siena Church in Rialto, Calif. "All forms of prejudice are a fundamental act of disobedience against the Lord, who creates us. It is profane to assume God values the souls of homosexuals less than heterosexuals."

The diocese, which includes Riverside and San Bernardino counties, set up a special committee in February to examine the needs of homosexuals and now wants to establish a permanent office of Gay and Lesbian affairs. "We think there are Gay people sitting in our pews suffering in silence who don't feel part of the congregation," said Joan Gonzales, chairwoman of the diocese's newly formed ad hoc committee on ministry to Gays and Lesbians. "We want to open the doors to everyone. We want support groups for Gays and Lesbians. But we are going to go slowly," she said.

A committee member, the Rev. Patrick Kirsch of Our Lady of the Snows in Phelan, Calif., said, "If we don't reach out, we are alienating a whole population." The change came in September, when the National Conference of Catholic Bishops released a lengthy statement saying people don't generally choose their sexuality but are given it by God. "By itself, therefore, a homosexual orientation cannot be considered sinful, for morality presumes a freedom to choose," the statement said. The bishops called for compassion and love for homosexuals along with an end to stereotyping.

UPDATE**NYC Knifing Considered Possible Bias Crime**

NEW YORK, NY (WS) -- Three teenagers made anti-Gay remarks to a group of people in the Greenwich Village section of New York City, and one teenager stabbed a 21-year-old man, police said.

But Capt. Barbara Sicilia, commander of the bias-crime unit, said police do not believe the teenagers came into the area to harass Gays. The incident began when the teenagers--an 18-year-old man and two girls, ages 14 and 15--walked by a group of people near Christopher and Hudson streets about 1:15 a.m.

"An anti-Gay remark was made, just in passing--we're talking about juveniles. The victim took offense to it, had some words," a police official said. When the victim approached the teenagers, the male attempted to defend the girl, and a fight started. "There was an initial punch thrown by the [assailant]. He missed the victim. The victim returned the punch, and then the knife came out," the police

official said, adding that the weapon was a hunting knife. The incident was "bias-sparked" but has not yet been categorized as a bias crime, the police reported.

11th Annual Reno Gannon Memorial Jell-o Wrestling Extravaganza & Auction Sunday, May 17

TUCSON -- The community is cordially invited to attend the Eleventh Annual Reno Gannon Memorial Jell-O Wrestling Extravaganza/Raffle and Auction.

This annual event will take place, Sunday, May 17, 4:00 P.M. at the Graduate, 23 West University.

All proceeds from the event will benefit the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF).

For more information, to receive your Wrestler Registration Packet or to volunteer to help at the event or donate a prize for the raffle and auction, please contact Matthew, 322-6226. See you at the Jell-O-Wrestling!

**Workers' Compensation
Social Security Disability**

Carol E. Pollock
ATTORNEY AT LAW

(520) 622-2833

Tretschok McNamara Patten & Lohmann
2343 E. Broadway #200, Tucson, AZ 85719

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and IBT's

BENEFIT DINNER & AUCTION

FOR

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1998

Cocktails 6-7pm Dinner 7pm

Auction to Follow

Fantastic Entertainment

\$25.00 per Person

Limited Seating - Tickets Must Be Purchased by April 19th

Available at Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation, Tucson Trunk and IBT's

Reserved Tables Available With Minimum Purchase of 4 Dinner Tickets

For Information Call SAAF at 322-6226



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