

Stealth Court Nominee Meets Filibuster

WASHINGTON, DC - Democrats in the Senate continued their filibuster against White House federal bench nominee Miguel Estrada.

The New York Times reports that if no effort is made by the White House to meet the Democratic request for more information on Estrada, the filibuster will likely continue when Congress returns from its two week midwinter recess.

Democrats contend that Estrada, a 42-year-old Washington lawyer, is a radical conservative who was chosen by the Bush administration because he has no written record that illustrates the depth of his views.

New York Sen. Charles Schumer dubbed Estrada a "stealth" nominee whose views are being kept under wraps to hide an ideological agenda that could have national implications if allowed to play out in cases put before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

Senate Democratic leader Tom Daschle of South Dakota said, "It's simply not right for anyone to be asked to make a decision in the dark."

Estrada's nomination, the first to come before the Senate since Republicans took over last month, is being treated by both parties as an important test of wills in the struggle over Bush's conservative choices for the federal bench.

Democrats, who say they have at least three more votes than the 41 needed to sustain a filibuster, showed no sign of backing down in the face of an angry letter

by White House counsel Alberto Gonzales demanding an end to the filibuster.

"Based on our reading of history, we believe that you have ample information about this nominee and have had more than enough time to consider questions about his qualifications and suitability," Gonzales wrote. "We urge you to stop the unfair treatment, end the filibuster, allow an up-or-down vote and vote to confirm Mr. Estrada."

One Senate aide told The New York Times that the tone and the timing of the letter was meant to send a harsh and unqualified message to Senate Democrats about how much weight their opinions carry in the current administration.

Sen. Patrick J. Leahy of Vermont, the ranking Democrat on the Judiciary Committee, said that was unfortunate. "I regret that...the...White...House...remains recalcitrant and continues to stand in the way of a solution to this impasse," he said.

"I hope that after getting this letter off its chest, the administration will now begin to work with us," Leahy added with a smile. "If they did, we could end the stalemate they've created."

Sen. Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts said there would be no breakthrough until the Democrats got the information they were requesting. "The Senate cannot look the other way and rubber stamp a nominee like Mr. Estrada to such an important court, when we know so little about him, when what we do know about him raises so many serious questions."

Conoco-Phillips Reinstates Anti-Bias Clause

DALLAS, TX - Petroleum giant ConocoPhillips, the third largest oil and gas company in the United States, has reversed an earlier decision and has now agreed to implement a written non discrimination policy that includes protection for its Gay and Lesbian employees.

The Human Rights Campaign had announced that the 2002 merger between Phillips Petroleum and Conoco resulted in the abandonment of Conoco's written anti-bias policy.

Protests by the HRC and other Gay civil rights groups, coupled with the threat of a shareholder challenge by Gay friendly stockholders, apparently convinced the company to reinstate the workplace

guarantees.

"We applaud ConocoPhillips for acting responsibly to meet the needs of its diverse work force," said the HRC's Elizabeth Birch. "There are a lot of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual ConocoPhillips employees who will surely feel better about going to work today knowing they have the full support of management."

A written statement issued by ConocoPhillips on Wednesday, February 12, said the move was in keeping with its dedication to fairness. "The management committee has amended (effective immediately) the company's EEO policy to

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Permanent Partners Immigration Act Re-Introduced

WASHINGTON, DC - While U.S. immigration laws allow heterosexual married couples to sponsor their partners for citizenship, the laws don't permit Gay men and Lesbians to do the same for their partners because there is no legally recognized marriage for same-sex couples.

Using Valentine's Day as a backdrop, U.S. representative Jerrold Nadler (D-N.Y.) reintroduced the Permanent Partners Immigration Act in the 108th Congress, which would help countless numbers of Gay and Lesbian partners in bi-national relationships remain together.

Nadler began introducing the legislation in 2000.

He calls the bill "simply a matter of common sense and fairness."

"Why do we allow the government to tear apart committed and loving couples just because of who they love?" Nadler said. "The answer is that there is no excuse for this gratuitous cruelty, and my bill would correct that."

The most prominent feature of the legislation would allow those U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents who are in a permanent partnership to sponsor their partners for immigration purposes, just as any legal spouse would.

Currently, because there is no legally recognized marriage between Gay and Lesbian couples under the immigration law, many permanent bi-national partnerships are torn apart when one partner moves to the U.S.

Federal immigration policies may be considered a barometer of U.S. attitudes toward Gay men and Lesbians. "Homosexual" immigrants were long banned, first by being branded psychopaths, then "sex deviates."

Thanks in part to out Congressman Barney Frank, the immigration ban ended in 1990.

Still, even proponents of the bill say it is unlikely to go very far in the Republican-controlled House of Representatives. Despite this, civil-rights activists see the move as an important step in terms of talking about the challenges bi-national couples face.

"This bill provides an essential fix for U.S. immigration law which treats loving partners like legal strangers to one another. We look forward to seeing great progress in the 108th session as members recognize the terrible injustice of our current system," said Suzanne Goldberg, board of directors president of the Lesbian and Gay Immigration Rights Task Force.

The bill applies the same restrictions and enforcement standards required of straight couples.

"My bill only demands that those people in same-sex permanent partnerships receive equal treatment to those who can get legally married," Nadler added. "Not an iota more."

The Permanent Partners Immigration Act would add the phrase "or permanent partner" to those sections of the Immigration and Naturalization Act that apply to legally married couples. The bill requires that bi-national couples provide ample proof that they meet the definition of "permanent partners."

For purposes of the bill, "permanent partner" is described as "an individual 18 years of age and over who: is in a committed, intimate relationship with another individual 18 years of age and over in which both parties intend a lifelong commitment; is financially interdependent with that other individual; is not married or in a permanent partnership with anyone other than that other individual; is unable to contract with that other individual a marriage cognizable under [the Immigration and Naturalization Act]; and is not a first, second, or third degree blood relation of that other individual."

Fraudulent permanent partnerships made for the purposes of obtaining a visa are punishable with a five-year prison sentence or a \$250,000 fine.

At least 15 countries allow the Gay partners of their citizens to become permanent residents: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Israel, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

Lesbian Monkeys Challenge Darwin

LETHBRIDGE, Canada - A Canadian psychologist claims that a group of Japanese monkeys that prefer female-to-female sexual contact may prove that Darwin's theories of evolution are incorrect.

Dr. Paul Vasey, of the University of Lethbridge in Alberta, has been studying the sex lives of Japanese macaques, monkeys slightly smaller than chimpanzees, reported gfn.com.

The monkey's behavior, say Vasey, conflicts with Darwinism.

Darwin's theory of sexual selection
CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE

UPDATE

Wingspan 8th Annual FilmFest March 6-9

TUCSON - At the 8th annual Wingspan FilmFest, southern Arizona's premier showcase for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender cinema, more than 50 films that cut across social, cultural, religious and political lines will be shown.

The festival will be held March 6-9 at The Loft Cinema, 3233 E. Speedway Blvd.

The individual ticket price for each of the listed films is \$7.

For the full schedule of films and events, and for ticket information, visit the festival website at www.wingspanaz.org/FilmFest/ or call Wingspan (520) 624-1779.

Desert Voices Concert Feb 22

TUCSON - Can't get to New Orleans for Mardi Gras this year? Desert Voices will present its own version on February 22nd at the annual Cabaret Show and Silent Auction to be held at 6245 E Bellevue north of Speedway and Wilmot behind Trader Joe's).

There will be costumes, masks, music and great items for sale at the Auction, at good prices.

Ticket cost is \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door, which includes hors d'oeuvres, beer and wine. Tickets may be purchased from chorus members, at Antigone Books, or by calling (520) 791-9662.

Fourth Friday Continues On February 28

TUCSON - Wondering how to start the weekend? Want to meet and greet before the Reveille concert? Then come to Fourth Friday, held again this month at the Hotel Congress, 311 E. Congress, Friday, February 28, from 5 to 8 p.m.

Fourth Fridays is an alternate place to socialize with GBT men. Come join other men to start the weekend, greet old friends and make new ones in a relaxed gathering place. There is a cash bar, and the \$10 cover includes hors d'oeuvres and a donation to Wingspan.

For additional information, call (520) 624-1779

Openly Gay Man To Lead Tucson UCC Church

TUCSON - The First Congregational United Church of Christ in Tucson has called an openly Gay Presbyterian minister to serve as its interim pastor.

The Rev. Robert J. Moore began serving the Church last month. Moore's own denomination continues to deny leadership to its openly LGBT members, though many of its local congregations continue to defy the ban. The United Church of Christ is the only mainline Protestant denomination to unequivocally welcome LGBT persons into full participation in its life and ministry. The Church is able to call Presbyterian pastors to its pulpits through an agreement which places the two church bodies in full communion with one another.

The First Congregational Church is the oldest Protestant congregation in Tucson. Its original building was built within the walls of the Presidio, near where City Hall stands today. The congregation subsequently worshipped in two other buildings in the University neighborhood, and currently worships in rented space at the Odd Fellows Hall on Palo Verde Boulevard, one block north of Speedway. The congregation has identified itself as Open and Affirming, a designation that places it among UCC congregations which actively invite the participation of LGBT persons in its life and witness.

Celebrations are held Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m., and feature a dialog sermon in which the congregation discusses its response to the Scriptures. Visitors are welcome. Moore, who is also a clinical social worker, and an experienced pastoral counselor, is available for private sessions. Call the Church at (520) 733-92-04 for more details.

Two Positions Open At Wingspan

TUCSON - Wingspan, Southern Arizona's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Community Center, is hiring for two open staff positions.

The first is for an Advocate/Educator (30 hours/week, \$9.50-10.30/hr, DOE), to provide crisis intervention and advocacy services to LGBT victim/survivors of violence, as well as outreach and education about violence within and against the LGBT community. Some evenings, weekends, and travel required.

Please send cover letter, resumé, and list of three references to: Wingspan Domestic Violence Project, 300 E. 6th Street, Tucson, AZ 85705, or fax to 520-624-0364, or email to wsvp@wingspanaz.org. Closing Date: Friday, February 21, 2003. AA/EOE. No phone calls or email questions please.

The second position is for Development Associate (full time, health benefits, \$24,000-\$28,000, DOE), to coordinate and implement aspects of Wingspan's development plan in conjunction with the Executive Director, Board Members, and other volunteers. Duties include grant writing and reporting, as well as researching, developing, and implementing grant opportunities, corporate sponsorships, major donor and direct mail campaigns, and fund raising events.

Submit letter of interest, resumé with dates of employment, and names, addresses, and phone numbers of three references to: Wingspan, 300 E. 6th Street, Tucson, AZ 85705, or fax to (520) 624-03-64, or email to wingspan@wingspanaz.org. Open until filled. AA/EOE. For more detailed information about both positions, visit Wingspan's website: wingspanaz.org.

SAAF Opens Southside Office

TUCSON - The Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) announces the opening of a Southside satellite office on March 3 to provide services to the community.

Services available will include case management for people living with HIV/AIDS and their families, prevention programs for members of the Latino community, and anonymous HIV counseling and testing (by appointment by calling (520) 628-7223.

The office is located at 1200 E. Ajo Way, at Park, Suite 109. The office has 1700 square feet and private offices to provide confidential services. The phone number remains 628-7223 for the new office. The Southside SAAF office will be staffed Monday through Friday, 9-5. Programs may also schedule evening functions.

"I am so pleased to be opening an office on Tucson's south side," stated Anne Maley, SAAF Executive Director. "This has been an objective of ours for many years," she continued. "People living on the south side will now have easier access to case managers and prevention support. The office is also closer than our main office to the VA Medical Center and Kino Hospital, where many of our clients receive medical care."

Prevention programs that will be housed in the Southside office include Omevoca Youth Empowerment and Sexuality, an HIV, substance abuse, and unintended pregnancy prevention program for Latino youth 14-18. Omevoca YES encourages an understanding of the cultural heritage of Latinos and youth advocacy for change, particularly in the treatment of Latino youth in health care settings. The other project to be housed at the Ajo office is Salud es Poder, an HIV and substance abuse prevention program for Latino men who have sex with men.

SAAF's main office remains at 375 S. Euclid, two blocks south of Broadway. SAAF provides case management and support services to people living with HIV/AIDS and their families, seven targeted prevention programs to populations at increased risk for HIV, and volunteer opportunities for community members to be involved in the fight against AIDS.

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By Renata Tebaldi

Linus Lerner: Reveille's Boy From Ipanema:

Advance tickets are \$18, available through chorus members, Antigone's Books, or by calling Reveille at (520) 617-3100. Tickets at the door are \$20.

TUCSON - When Reveille Gay Men's Chorus presents its De Colores concert on February 28 (Be there or . . . you know), Linus Lerner, Reveille's new artistic director, will be showing his stuff for the first time in a major concert of that darling chorus.

I wanted to know Linus more intimately, so we met at a local GLBT watering spot for this exclusive interview.

RT: How would you describe the upcoming "De Colores" concert?

LL: De Colores is a concert that praises all kind of music and people. Our message in this concert is to sing to everyone, and I think we will succeed, just like the colors of the rainbow that fit so well together, in perfect harmony. We sing a repertoire of 22 songs from Gabriel Faure to Stephen Foster adding some Spanish flavor since we are taking this show to Mexico before our performance here in Tucson. The idea of the name "De Colores" came from a song that is very popular in Mexico (which we will be singing) and also, because we want to emphasize the line: "los amores de muchos colores me gustan a mi".

RT: You are from Brazil. What brought you to the UA and Tucson?

LL: I came to Tucson to pursue my DMA in orchestral conducting at the University of Arizona where I am assistant conductor of the University Symphony Orchestras and Opera.

RT: You are a very serious musician. What appealed to you about leading Reveille?

LL: I always love to work with

choirs, in particular male voices. I just like the sound of same voice choirs. I used to lead a male choir in Brazil and had a really great time doing it. When I did my audition I realized that Reveille could be a fun and interesting group to work with, not only for the singers but also for its mission, which I value and respect.

RT: You took over when Reveille was in a serious artistic crisis. How are things going now?

LL: I would say that they are going very well, and everyone seems to be happy with the progress of the group. I think we are growing not only artistically but also spiritually, and, more important than anything is that we are trying to make music the best we can. We are also happy that new members are joining the group.

RT: What are your artistic goals for Reveille?

LL: Right now is to keep going with the show and be the best we can. We are planning on a commercial CD for next year, and we are working on our trip to the GALA Chorus Festival in Montreal, Canada also for next year. My real artistic goal right now is to make them sing beautifully and to love it.

RT: What do you enjoy most about directing Reveille?

LL: It is fun to work with them and they are really willing to work hard. The group is really united like a family and everyone is doing something for the group. I love to see that.

RT: What kinds of concert programs do you like to create?

LL: It all depends. I am looking for good quality in anything they do right now. We can have a serious concert or a more relaxed one, but they need to feel pleasure in what they do.

RT: How many chorus members have proposed to you so far?

LL: None. I am just keeping it professional!

RT: Are you single?

LL: I am dating seriously right now. Let's see. . . .

RT: What's your phone number?

LL: Please ask your readers to give me a call if they would be interested in joining Reveille. They can reach me at the Reveille hotline at (520) 617-3100.

RT: May I tell you something personal, maestro?

LL: Sure, go ahead.

RT: Your Reveille president recently referred to you as the "Brazilian firecracker", and he's right!

LL: Those boys are so sweet.

RT: I'll be at your concert next week in spirit, since I live in Italy. Break a leg; I'm sure you'll be fabulous.

Conoco-Phillips

Continued from page One

include the term 'sexual orientation' to more accurately reflect this commitment."

"ConocoPhillips is and always has been deeply committed to fair and nondiscriminatory treatment for all employees."

The move leaves Exxon Mobil Corp. as the only American company to ever rescind an established sexual orientation non-discrimination policy. ExxonMobil recalled Mobil's anti-bias policy in December 1999 when the companies merged and also closed Mobil's DP benefits program to new employees.

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Helmsley Loses In Court, Must Pay \$11.2 Million

NEW YORK, NY - Hotel magnate Leona Helmsley showed no reaction Tuesday afternoon, when she was ordered to pay \$11.2 million to her former employee, Charles Bell, in a discrimination case.

A New York jury agreed with Bell that he was impermissibly subjected to a hostile environment on the job, and then fired for being Gay in violation of local labor laws. Helmsley's lawyer, Steven Eckhaus, said he will ask the judge to set aside the verdict, the Associated Press reported.

The decision brings an end to a trial that filled pages of the city's tabloids. Bell, 48, accused Helmsley of harassing him, calling him a "fag," and making him "feel like dirt." Hired to run the Park Lane by Helmsley's chief operating officer, Patrick Ward, Bell was doing fine in his six-figure job until Helmsley realized he was Gay, Bell charged.

As the tabloids reported, Helmsley first discovered that Ward, whom she appeared to consider a boyfriend of sorts, was himself Gay. Ward was fired, and later sued and settled out of court. Shortly after Ward's dismissal, Bell said his boss began treating him coldly and with suspicion, warning him

to "stay away from that Miami faggot crowd" and asking why so many Gay men were hanging around in the Park Lane. Her verbal abuse escalated, leaving him in tears. Just before Bell was fired, witnesses said Helmsley remarked: "I got rid of one fag. I can get rid of another."

When the 82-year-old "Queen of Mean" took the stand, she told a different story. Why was Bell fired? "He was on dope. I don't permit dope for any reason," she testified. "He kept crying. I thought it was strange. For five days he cried. I said: 'Is he on medication?' Then it came out he was on drugs."

During the course of the trial, Bell was also accused of falsifying his resume, giving free rooms to friends and holding a raucous New Year's Eve party, where men cavorted in the Park Lane hallway and maids later picked up unsightly debris.

Helmsley also swore that she had never used the word "fag."

"(Bodyguard) Andrew (Martinez) was lying?" her lawyer asked. "Like a rug!" she snapped.

Head Of AIDS Advisory Panel Ousted

WASHINGTON, DC - Patricia Ware, the executive director of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV and AIDS, has resigned her post following the controversy that greeted her recommendation of Jerry Thacker, an anti-Gay activist, to the panel.

In an effort to lessen the political impact of her departure, officials from the Bush administration told the Washington Post Ware was being promoted to a more senior role within the Department of Health and Human Services.

Sources close to the deliberations, however, insisted Ware was moved to avoid further embarrassment over the selection of Thacker, who has described AIDS as the "Gay plague" and homosexuality as a "death style." Thacker withdrew his nomination on Jan. 23.

Ware has ties to the previous Bush administration where she served as a conservative advisor on social policy. A long-time darling of the far right, Ware has been a leading proponent of abstinence-only sex education.

The Post quotes several sources who said Ware's support of Thacker was the last straw. Her tenure as the top staff member for the 35-person advisory panel has been marked by a series of bitter confrontations with national AIDS advocacy groups in Washington.

David Smith of the Human Rights Campaign said the administration's drive to leave its ideological stamp on the panel has destroyed its legitimacy. "This is just rearranging deck chairs on the Titanic," he said, adding the whole abstinence before marriage approach, "is not scientifically sound and ignores Gay people."

The Post says much of the controversy revolved around comments Ware made regarding the role of Gay, white men both in spreading the AIDS virus and in controlling many of the most influential AIDS organizations.

"As an out Gay man, I found Pat Ware to be on the verge of homophobic," said the Levi Strauss Foundation's Stuart Burden, who served on the council until last year. "It appeared at times that she wanted to blame the Gay community for AIDS."

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As I See It by Clark



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POLITICS 2003

by Mark R. Ken

Silence Will Equal Death

This country and the world teeters on the brink of a pointless military battle for a quick-fix that the current occupant of 1600 Pennsylvania hopes will bring him and his handlers four more years, there are more pressing problems that need some focus on: budget deficits and the result it has on the economy - or the lack thereof, as the unemployment numbers continue to rise, education and healthcare, specifically AIDS.

On the federal level, Dubya, during his State of the Union chat said he would be offering \$10 billion in new funding toward the global AIDS crisis as part of his Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, offering little information on the Plan, utilizing Enron-type accounting practices, counting funds multiple times and heaping on non-existent projections with plenty of redundancy. People must press Congress to make sure Dubya's plans, or the lack thereof, become reality.

Across the nation, the economy reels with the resulting of massive state budget deficits and programs, such as the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) is being cut or running out of money, as was the case in Nebraska and Wyoming. In Arizona, facing a \$300-plus million dollar shortfall and potential billion dollar budget shortfall for the upcoming fiscal year, cuts had been made in all state services and the fight is on to see which programs get money and which will be cut together.

As previously reported, in Governor Janet Napolitano's proposed budget, funding for healthcare programs, such as the tobacco tax money to help people living with AIDS continues, as well as the state's ADAP but on the other hand, the Republican leadership's proposed Draconian budget would cut the tobacco tax

Lesbian Monkeys

Continued from Page One

says males should compete among themselves for access to mates, or compete for the favors of choosy females. But, the macaques don't follow that pattern, says Vasey.

In a presentation to the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Vasey said that although sexual selection has been used to explain the evolution of such unusual characteristics as the brilliant tails of the male peacock and the massive antlers of the elk, the new findings suggest the theory can be applied only to a portion of the animal kingdom.

Vasey described a colony of about 120 wild macaques in the mountains near Kyoto that shows enormous diversity in sexual behavior, particularly female-female partnerships.

Contrary to Darwin's idea, females frequently will reject pursuing males for the favors of their same-sex partner. In fact, Vasey said that if a male tries to break up a pair of females - essentially giving one the choice between him or her partner - the female will choose the other female 92.5 percent of the time.

"If females are choosing female sexual partners over male reproductive partners," he said, "that suggests a pretty fundamental revision of sexual selection theory."

funds, as well as funding for Arizona ADAP.

If the GOP leadership's proposal was adopted, according to Sam Ritchie of the Arizona AIDS Policy Alliance (AZA-PA), "the end of ADAP would put tremendous pressure on the public health system across Arizona. County Health Departments and AIDS Service Organizations would be forced to make difficult decisions about what additional medication assistance could be provided, who would be eligible, and what other services would be cut to pay for it." More than 1,000 Arizonans, living with HIV/AIDS, get their medications through the program, leading productive lives and contributing to society but if the funding is eliminated, it would be "Social Darwinism," to see who would survive.

Protests against the possible Dubya war took place, a large, loud and collective voice was heard about the possibility of military conflict. Another loud and collective voice must rise on the state level about AIDS and funding and let your legislators know to support ADAP when those battles happen. Call (800) 352-8404 and leave a message to support AIDS funding and ADAP. If you know your state representatives, you can get their contact info at: <http://www.az-leg.state.az.us/MemberRoster.asp> ...

In other legislative news, SB 1142, which would have provided "medically accurate and scientifically correct" information about sex, and sexually transmitted diseases, such as AIDS, died on a 4-4 vote by the Senate Education Committee. Proponents of the measure in the Legislature have vowed to resurrect the bill in another form.

Among the macaques, he continued, "We've got females that are competing for males with other females, we've got males that are being choosy, males that are sexually coercing females ... we've got females sexually harassing males that don't want to copulate with them, we've got females that have sex with each other, we've got females that are competing with males for other females, we have females that are mounting males."

Vasey said it is clear the females are deriving sexual pleasure when they mount other females. In some positions, he said, a female will rub her clitoris against her partner's back, while in others, "it's common for females to masturbate with their tails" where there is no direct genital contact.

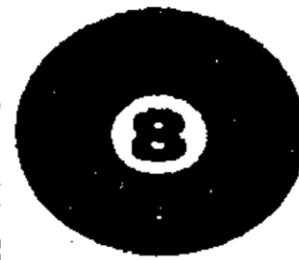
"The traditional evolutionary theory says you do things in order to reproduce," he said, "so why would you do all this non-reproductive sex?"

"That's a really compelling evolutionary puzzle."

"If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music which he hears, however measured or far away."

- Henry David Thoreau

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ON THE HUNT

BY HUNTER JOHNSON

As I have stated in several of my past articles it is important for us to come together as a community and support each other.

Well, I have learned that a very unique business in our community is going to close it's doors at the end of the year if we as a community don't give it our support.

This business is the Desert Pride Store. I have been informed by the owners that they intend to close at the end of the year, so I've been out talking to people and getting their feed back about this issue and I have had many responses from our community members. Some are unaware that a business like this existed in our town, the location is not a good one and other's claimed the prices in the store were too high..

I know that the owners have given a great deal to our community over the years that they have been in business and have relied on the uniqueness of their store's merchandise to receive our support as a Gay community. I myself don't know of another store in Tucson that carries the items that they do at Desert Pride.

So, what does it mean if we don't start supporting Desert Pride over the remainder of the year? If Desert Pride closes there doors I see many of us taking

more trips to Phoenix to purchase the same items that Desert Pride already carries, or we will go online and pay shipping charges. With those options we end up paying more for the same items.

I am not going to go into what all Desert Pride sells, I'll leave it up to you to go and check it out for yourself!!!

All I have to say is something needs to change. Are we, as a Gay community, going to sit back and watch a fun store like Desert Pride go out of business, or are we going to save something unique? All I ask is that our community members go into this shop and check it out, buy a card or a sticker, show some support and maybe, just maybe, we can save this business.

Other alternatives could be that I can appeal to them to lower their prices on many of the unique items they have for sale. Maybe the bars could allow Desert Pride to place items for sale within their establishments. Just some ideas to save this business from closing by giving more support from the Gay community.

Maybe you, in our Gay community, can give the owners of Desert Pride some of your feedback on what you want....

I hate to see more of our community fade away!!!!!!

DESERT WORLD

As I mentioned last week, I'm changing to a somewhat more ladylike surname. Hopefully this week the change will finally make it to the masthead.

Please forgive me if you've heard this before; I don't think many people have. During May of 2001 I finally got enough courage to wear a skirt for the first time at a San Diego Transfamily meeting. Finding the idea a bit scary, I wore pants to the Oasis Salon, where the gathering was to take place, and changed into my skirt in the ladies room. While putting on my makeup I realized I'd left my necklace in my car. Peeking out the back door and seeing no one in the parking lot, I cautiously stepped out. As I approached my car I heard a very male voice, "Excuse me, can I say something to you?" I looked over to see a van full of extremely macho-looking Chicanos. I nodded wordlessly, calculating the distance to the back door of the Oasis while estimating how fast I could run in high heels.

worker Heather Watkins may also be speaking on her experiences working with Transgenderists. The Glitz ends with a brunch Sunday morning. For more info visit <http://glitzball.tgharmony.org>. You can register online at glitzball@tgharmony.org. Though we get a discount on rooms, some of us (like me!) still can't afford to stay over in the hotel. So I'm driving up early Saturday morning, and then coming home that same night. I'll have room for three people in my car if you need a ride. Maybe those of us who are planning to go to Phoenix can meet at Rainbow Planet Coffeehouse on Fourth Avenue next Monday at 7 p.m. to plot our expedition. That's our monthly girl-talk night anyway, so it's a good time for it. Meanwhile, write me at desertwordsmith@yahoo.com. Take care, Sweetie!

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"You're beautiful!" said the man.

Latino culture does seem to have clear ideas about who's a "he" and who's a "she." But my experience around Hispanics has generally been that if I dress and act like a lady I can expect to be treated as one. I wish I could say the same for all ethnic groups. This Thursday, the 20th, I plan to attend the 6 p.m. forum at Wingspan on Latino/a GLBT issues, and maybe I'll see if I've had an accurate impression. If you read this in time I hope you'll join us.

"Putin' on the Glitz" is coming to Phoenix on the weekend of the 28th. It will be at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 2532 W. Peoria Avenue. It starts with a social gathering Friday night at 7 p.m. Then there are talks and seminars all day Saturday, followed by dancing and celebrating Saturday night. Evelyn, whom I know from the San Diego Transfamily (see above), will be one of the speakers. Our own Tucson social

Check Your Records

laws should top the list.

Oh what a friend we have in ARS 39-1211

That's the Arizona public records law, a statute that makes public records available to the public. The beauty part is that it really means John Q. Public. You don't have to be a lawyer. You don't have to be a journalist. You don't have to be anybody.

The theory behind the law, a lovely theory really, is that the government is supposed to be working for the public so the public ought to be able to check up on what the government is doing. But this law is more than lofty theory; it comes with a nice sharp set of teeth, to wit, "If you (the record keeper) act arbitrarily, capriciously or in bad faith in denying access to a public record, the court may award legal costs, including attorney's fees, to the requester."

The law generally works like magic, even on bureaucrats who can sometimes forget that the records they keep while doing their jobs are not their own personal property. Just at this moment, however, the City of Tucson is attempting to thwart the workings of this magnificent law by agreeing with the lawyers for a certain celebrity that the audio record of her arrest for drunk driving should not be disclosed to the public.

And why shouldn't it be? Well, thanks to ARS 39-1211, anybody who wants

to can go down to the courthouse and read exactly how our celebrity's lawyers argue that her audio should disappear. They say that she "was unaware that the private conversation she had with the police officer was being taped. Clearly that cannot be a public record and therefore the entire portion of the ride and the private and unofficial conversation with the police officer should be redacted."

They can't cite any Arizona case law in support of this argument because there isn't any. How could there be? If awareness of being taped were a requirement for the tape's being a public record, someone who broke into a public building to vandalize it and got caught by a security camera could claim the tape was private because he didn't realize that the camera was there.

The bit about the "unofficial conversation" with the police officer is equally far-fetched. Next time you get arrested for drunk driving tell the officer that you'd like to have an unofficial conversation with him and see if he doesn't die laughing.

As it happens, there actually are some privacy exceptions to the public records law, even if unawareness of being taped isn't one of them. The case law is scanty but what there is drastically favors the public's right to know over most privacy claims.

Consider the case of Carlson v. Pima County (141 Ariz. 487) wherein a jail inmate sued the sheriff for releasing a report that accused the inmate of forcible oral sex with another inmate. The sheriff's duty to comply with the public records law trumped Mr. Carlson's claimed right of privacy.

Thanks to the City's malfeasance in the current situation, we don't know what transpired during our celebrity's "unofficial" interaction with the police. Charity impels us to assume that the conduct in question was not more needful of privacy than that of Mr. Carlson.

In this post-OJ -- for that matter post-Martha Stewart -- era, the public has a vital interest in knowing that everyone is treated equally under law, including celebrities. Of all the records that ought NOT to be suppressed, the records of cops interacting with celebrities suspected of breaking

The relevant City officials have declined my repeated invitations to explain the peculiar position they've taken in this case. You always hear and read journalists saying this, as if we were somehow personally owed an explanation for every official action we don't like. Granted the fact that we are not owed those explanations, it's curious that we never seem to have any trouble getting public officials to answer questions about actions they've taken when they're proud of those actions.

The City's falling to its knees before a celebrity faster than a politician could do it at a fund-raiser may not be something our officials are particularly proud of.

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

La Conexión Latina

Salud es Poder

Ventajas y desventajas

Hoy día tengo amigos que les da miedo, pánico, terror, etc. el solo hecho de pensar en hacerse la prueba del HIV. "Por algo ha de ser", les digo. "No se han portado muy bien que digamos", y pues es difícil tratar de convencerlos de que se hagan dicho examen. Me siento a su lado, me armo de paciencia y les explico de las grandes ventajas de hacerse la prueba del HIV. "Lo peor que les puede pasar es que estén infectados, y de ser así el saberlo es una ventaja muy grande ya que hay medicamentos muy eficaces los cuales pueden empezar a tomar para que el virus de la inmunodeficiencia no se replique de una manera tan rápida en sus cuerpos y acabe con sus vidas en un tris-tras". No es bueno andar con la duda pues parece que es un cuchillito de madera que no nos deja ni dormir. En caso de que salieran positivos al VIH, es importante empezar a cuidarse no desvelándose, no fumando, no drogándose (en caso de que lo hagan), alimentándose bien, haciendo ejercicio, no ingiriendo alcohol, en fin llevando una vida sana. Eso ayuda mucho al sistema inmune y una de las cosas más importantes incluye que no infectarán a nadie más, pues siempre tomarán las precauciones necesarias.

Aparte, en la actualidad hay programas de ayuda muy buenos (un ejemplo: Salud es Poder) con los cuales pueden asesorarse y recibir una atención de calidad para su bienestar tanto físico como psicológico. Ahí les explican a detalle lo que el virus hace en su cuerpo y como lo pueden atacar. También explican porque el

estado de animo es muy importante para la salud. En fin, enseñan mucho acerca del VIH-SIDA. Eso poco a poco los va sensibilizando a tal grado que se aprende a vivir con el virus de una manera "normal", es decir, como el resto de la gente. También los orientan acerca de asesorías y atención médica que son elementales en esta enfermedad ya que no hay cura. Eso sí, se debe tener mucho cuidado en saber a quien se le dice de la enfermedad, eso queda a conciencia de cada paciente ya que a veces puede salir contraproducente.

En cuanto al hecho de salir negativo, que bien, se quita la duda y se respira mejor, se cuidan mas, ya que valoran más la salud. Es posible que se vuelvan mas precavidos e incluso hay quienes se meten de voluntarios para luchar contra esta epidemia. Se informan más a detalle, respetan a los que están infectados y los ayudan de una manera más humana. Es por eso que yo digo, "el hacerse la prueba del HIV es una gran ventaja, pero bueno esa es una decisión muy personal, yo te exhorto a que te la hagas, es gratuita y rápida, y así te quitas la duda".

Este artículo es una contribución anónima y le agradecemos mucho su participación a nuestro voluntario. En Salud es Poder ofrecemos la prueba del VIH todos los jueves de las 9 a las 12 de la noche en el club nocturno Escándalo, 4696 Sur de la Avenida 12th. También puedes hablarnos a la oficina y hacer una cita, el teléfono es (520) 628-7223, o por correo electrónico a salud@saa.org.

Thanks to all for a Fun Year
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HOROSCOPES

For those of us who cannot get enough, blame the flame on Venus, Mercury and the Sun which all shift signs and lead us to new, sweet and succulent directions. Okay, so maybe they aren't all that succulent, but we can certainly dream!

great deal to accomplish and less than a month to make it happen. So what is on your wish list, Gay Libra? Is it bigger than a breadbox and comes in boxers? Take 'em off, lover!

ARIES

MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

Gay Rams have to beat off all their admirers with a stick now (and some like it that way...). Venus heightens your professional charisma, Mercury charms your friends and the Sun has you hunting for a higher meaning. Your presence is demanded at every sizzling hot spot in town but yet you feel unfulfilled. Is that all there is? Yes, yes, yes you lucky, ungrateful thing!

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22

Proud Scorps accelerate into the fast lane as the Sun in Pisces revs your party hearty engines. But as you dance the night away, there appears to be a nagging thought; wouldn't it be nice to be home snuggled in your bed? Try to accommodate the range of urges when cuddly Venus and creative Mercury get into the act. How about partying the night away... in bed?

TAURUS

APRIL 21 - MAY 21

A wandering heart finds its destination when Venus brings adventure and a certain exotic stranger into your orbit. Explore your Outer limits, even if it is in inches. Life seems pretty good queer Bull, until of course compadres get into the act; Mercury and the Sun provide an opening for any mouth with an opinion. Discussion time is over, pal; do what you want to do.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22

Will you renovate or detonate when the Sun enters Pisces? Gay Archers turn a beady eye to their surroundings. You will never get the Good Housekeeping seal of approval, but now your rank tank is a bit too much for even you. Never fear, cousin; Mercury and Venus provide the grease for your grindstone. Turn that hovel into a hot pink palace and hone your entertaining skills.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20

While you have never easily feigned the gift of gab, the Sun now moves into Pisces and makes you gracious and glib. What a change of pace! Pink Caps are even suave enough now to smoothly capitalize on all their new exciting liaisons. That will certainly get your juices flowing! But be kind to those you bilk, kid; The planets will soon move on and payback will be a bitch.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19

Humanist Aqueerians are now willing to part with precious things that they truly value for the sake of world karma. Blame the drain on Mercury which gives idealistic concepts much more credit than they are worth. Before you toss your pearls before swine, wait until the Sun shines a light into the dark corners. Has sackcloth become a fashion statement? Perhaps not.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

The Sun in your own sign literally catapults you into the center of all the action. But as the adoring hordes demand more and more of your time and energy, Guppies may feel an urge to pull back and conserve their energies for more one-to-ones. Venus makes you more alluring than usual in certain social circles. Let's hope they are not the ones wearing pocket protectors and qiana.

VIRGO

AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23

Sun enters Pisces and makes you more optimistic about even the most taxing relationships. How much are you willing to accept from partners? Maybe more than usual since Mercury energizes your imagination and Venus turns you on to some wilde pastimes. But when do you finally cut bait Gay Virgin? Perhaps when you find yourself pining for late nights at the office.

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LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23

Take any idea to the nth degree when Mercury recharges your imagination and the Sun optimizes your network. Venus and Mercury let it be known that you have a

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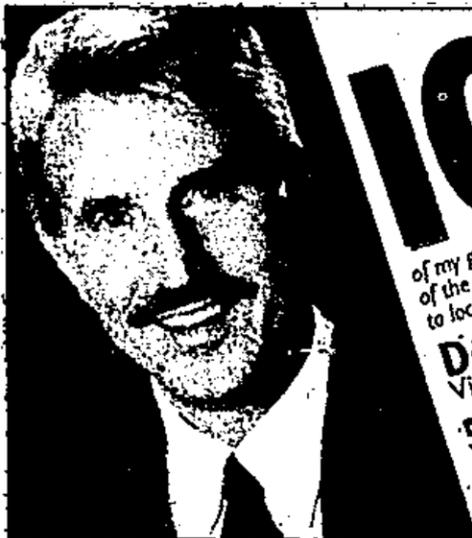


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Happy Anniversary Yard Dog

Hello readers! Somehow I managed to survive the weekend with all that was included. Those of you who have lived long enough in the Old Pueblo know that it can seem like feast or famine when it comes to events in town. It seems like we have to create the party some weekends, while others are so busy we cannot get to all that is available. This last weekend definitely fits in the feast category, and I use the word "feast" in more than one context. With the Gem Show winding down, Valentine's Day landing on a Friday, and our three visiting baseball teams getting into town, there was something for everyone in town this weekend.

I chose to play true fan and attend an event that lasted all weekend long. It has been a while since it took three days for me to complete a party, so it brought back memories of my military days. (I did not go to college, so the Navy was my frat house.) The event that took priority for me this weekend was the anniversary party held at one of our local establishments, The Yard Dog. It was three days of fun, food, friends and frenzy (no, I am not on an "F" kick here). Each day brought something different and entertaining in the celebration. I decided to be a total part of it for more than just true coverage in the journalism sense.

Friday, along with all those celebrating the day of love, Yard Dog patrons were treated to a London broil dinner that could hold a candle to any restaurant in town. Forget the reservations, the long waits and elevated prices for the holiday.

This dinner was affordable, easy to get a plate of, and tasty as no other. The patrons stood and sat elbow to elbow as the party got into full swing. The bar was adorned in reds for the day of love; but the decorations were also there for the entire weekend festival.

Saturday started with a breakfast created by the employees. How they were able to make such a good meal after working so hard the night before is a testament of how much they wanted to show the patrons their appreciation for another great year. I attended the breakfast and then returned in the evening for the annual Mr. and Mrs. Yard Dog contest. This is a pageant mixed with a talent show wrapped in a gong show. Comedy was the order of the evening with contestants using the dog theme to present their "beauty" and try to win the coveted spot on the wall of the bar. Once again the crowd was wall to wall, with the back patio serving as the stage and theatre for the event. After the contest, patrons remained to celebrate a champagne toast that resembled a new year's celebration.

Sunday came (how I made it this far, I will never know) and once again breakfast was served. The meal was again prepared by the staff, who did not show a sign of fatigue after working all day Saturday into Sunday. The celebration slowly came to its close with most of the patrons I witnessed all weekend there, and memories of the short history of the bar being ex-

pressed along with patrons visiting from out of town. The atmosphere of family was at its most visible, and it was only fitting with all that was going on around the world on the very same weekend.

When Friday came and I knew where I would be for the weekend, I found myself missing my original home. There in the biggest city in the world were protesters on Saturday, expressing their concerns, feelings, and views concerning what seems like an inevitable war to come. How I would have loved to be there and scream and march. I have been a beacon of protest ever since this president has made it priority one to send our troops into an unknown situation. As I sat each day at the Yard Dog, though, the sight of what I was not only witness, but participant, was what I was yearning. There each day, were all sorts of people. The young sitting with the old, male and female (at their discretion of course), and all races conceivable. This is what I would have been involved in had I flown to New York this weekend. I am glad I did not miss the party here.

Happy anniversary to the Yard Dog. I know I will get yelled at for missing a name or two, but the entire staff deserves kudos for one of the best celebrations I have seen in a long time. Ray and his crew, including Merlin, Rick, Darrell, Rick (the other), Rusty, Bob, Rob and the others, well done! I hope to be there for your coming anniversary parties. Be aware, though you do not hear it as much as you should, that

you are a model of the community that all of us strive to live in. If you have not experienced the little bar that once housed bikers and folks most of us would be scared of, please do. The atmosphere and staff will give you total reason to make it one of your favorite bars too. Have a good week!

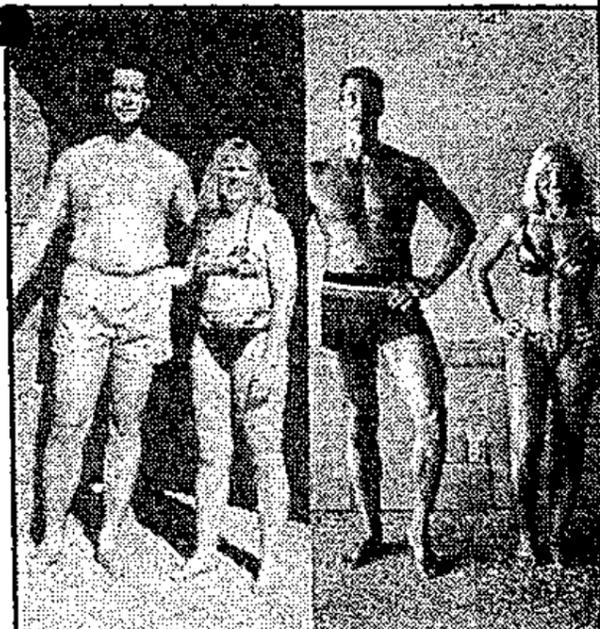
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ToledoDeJaneiro	37.0	26.0
3-4 Buddocks Luv	35.0	28.0
Sofa King Sleazy	34.0	29.0
Mama's Boys	33.0	30.0
2 Dicks No Peter	32.0	31.0
Aces Over Queens	30.0	33.0
Team Sux	30.0	33.0
The Nutz	30.0	33.0
Itchy Balls	29.0	34.0
Public Trough	25.0	38.0
Pseudovirgins	18.0	45.0

SEASON ACHIEVEMENTS

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- High Series Scratch - Erick J., 749; JoAnn S., 609; ToledoDeJaneiro, 1842.
- High Game Scratch - Erick J., 300; Heather H., 229; ToledoDeJaneiro, 674.
- High Series Handicap - Jason B., 782; JoAnn S., 753; Sofa King Sleazy, 2143.
- High Game Handicap - Michael H., 312; Heather H., 283; Mama's Boys, 788.



BEFORE AFTER

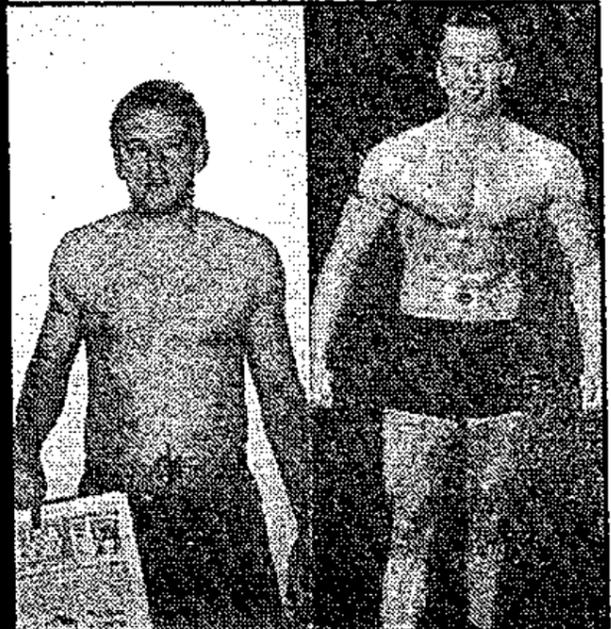
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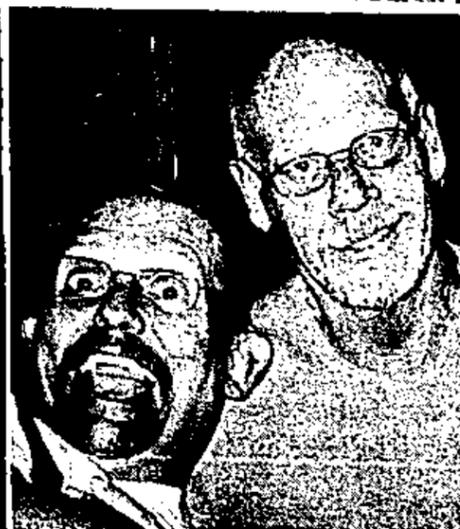
I have worked out on and off all of my life, but I've never seen the results I got while working out with Jeremy. When I started, I weighed 137 pounds and had 29.4% body fat. After 12 weeks, I weighed 117 with 16% body fat. My energy level has skyrocketed. My family, friends and even the people I worked with noticed the difference. You'll never believe it, but at 47 years of age I'm going to start modeling.

- BL

After being diagnosed with polymyalgia, I was put on steroids and pain pills. I had been in constant pain for over two years, so I was skeptical on beginning a strength program. Jeremy tailored an exercise routine with special emphasis on the joints which were most sore. Within 12 weeks I quit taking pain pills and have quadrupled my strength and flexibility levels. I would be proud to endorse Jeremy's program to anyone.

- LR

A C E L E B R A T I O N



SAAF UPDATE

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION

By Anne Maley

The year 2002 was another busy one for SAAF. I want to thank all of you who participated in our fall events. Thanks to you, AIDS WALK raised \$215,000 and Festival raised more than \$77,000 for services for people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS.

This year Casa Gloriosa, TIHAN, and SAAF combined efforts to reach out to clients over the holiday season. The Giving Together Project included a special family day, where children made crafts and shopped for their parents while parents shopped for their children. The Giving Together Holiday Party on January 4 brought together clients and volunteers affiliated with all three agencies in celebration with music, dancing, a buffet dinner, and raffles. I want to thank all the volunteers and staff from the three agencies who made this such a joyous event for people living with HIV/AIDS and their families. Because of the collaborative efforts, we were able to serve twice as many clients as in past years.

SAAF's recently approved audit (for fiscal year ending June 30, 2002) reflects the expansion of SAAF's services. The audit shows total expenses for the year of \$3,886,177, 89% of which went to programs. Of program expenses, 54% supported Client Services, and 43% supported Prevention Services. The audit is available from SAAF's receptionist during business hours. Please feel free to get a copy or call me with any questions.

SAAF is pleased to announce the opening on February 24 of its Southside office. Located at 1200 E. Ajo Way, Suite 109, SAAF's Southside office will provide case management for people living with HIV/AIDS; prevention outreach for Omeyocan Youth Empowerment and Sexuality for Latino youth and for Salud es Poder for Latino men who have sex with men; and anonymous HIV testing and counseling. Southside staff can be accessed through SAAF's main phone number, 628-7223. HIV testing is by appointment. The office will be staffed Monday through Friday, 9-5.

SAAF's expansion to the south side of Tucson brings services and outreach closer to many of SAAF's clients and targeted communities for prevention efforts. It is also closer than the main office for clients who receive medical care at Kino Hospital or the VA Medical Center.

We are gearing up for our major community events. If you are interested in assisting with the coordination of AIDS WALK or Festival for Life, please call us. We need the creativity and commitment of many community members. And we are currently recruiting for wrestlers and volunteers for Jell-O Wrestling on May 4.

I hope you can join us for Genderbender 4, a fundraiser for Gay Men's Health Project's Condom Brigade, on Sunday, March 9th, 8 pm, at IBT's. Come watch the bears go under the mascara and emerge furry and fierce to entertain you.

A View From The Rock

By Joy L. Childress

Unfairness of Life, Part 2

I just had to write some more on the unfairness of life, because of what happened to me recently. I belong to a closed, "by invitation only", support group.

The group is by invitation only because we deal with very sensitive issues that not everybody would understand. And because of this, we have become a close family, so to speak. The counselor for our group communicated to me this week that one of our group members had just died. What a shock!! This is unfair! This woman was only 34 years old! None of us expect to die that young. This reminds me of my partner's oldest son who died as suddenly and as unexpectedly as this woman did. And he was only 28 years old! Neither one of these young people was doing evil or harming others so badly as to warrant death at such an early age.

The good die young, and the bad live and just keep on corrupting the world! "This is so unfair", I cry out. And I ask God, "Why, God, why did you take these two beautiful, sensitive, young people before they really had a chance to grow and to mature and to experience all the good things that You could have given them?" And I, also, ask, "Why, God, why do you let people live who are corrupt and harm others; and why do you let them continue in their corruption? Why do You let the evil ones live on to wreck havoc with themselves and others, and you take the ones who are doing no harm to others? Why, God, why?" I once again cry out, "Where is

the justice in this?"

In Isaiah 30:18, we are told that "The Lord is a God of justice". "All right, but, where, O God, is Your justice in something like this?" I whine. In Ecclesiastes 3:1-2, we are told that "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die." But, why God, do you take people who are at such a young age? And in 2 Samuel 22:31, we are told, "As for God, His way is perfect". Now, this verse stops me cold from sobbing out my grief at the injustice of it. I am told that His way is perfect. In His eyes and in His way, it was just and timely to take these two young people when He did. I trust that; I trust His justice, I trust His way, and I trust His time clock; for HIS way is perfect. You, too can learn to trust in God through Jesus Christ for the mysteries of life that are a result of God's perfect way.

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side. Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain. Leave to your God to order and provide; In every change, He faithful will remain. Be still, my soul: your best, your heavenly Friend Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end. Be still, my soul: your God will undertake. To guide the future, as He has the past. Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake: All now mysterious shall be bright at last. Be still, my soul: the waves and winds shall know His voice Who ruled them while He dwelt below. - Katarina von Schlegel. "Yes, be still my soul", I whisper.

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John 3:16

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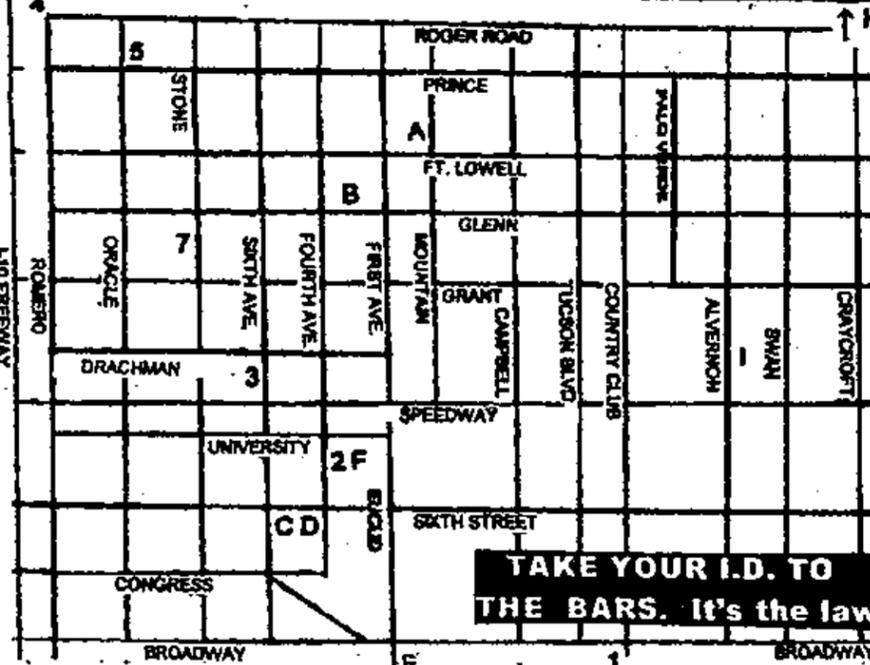
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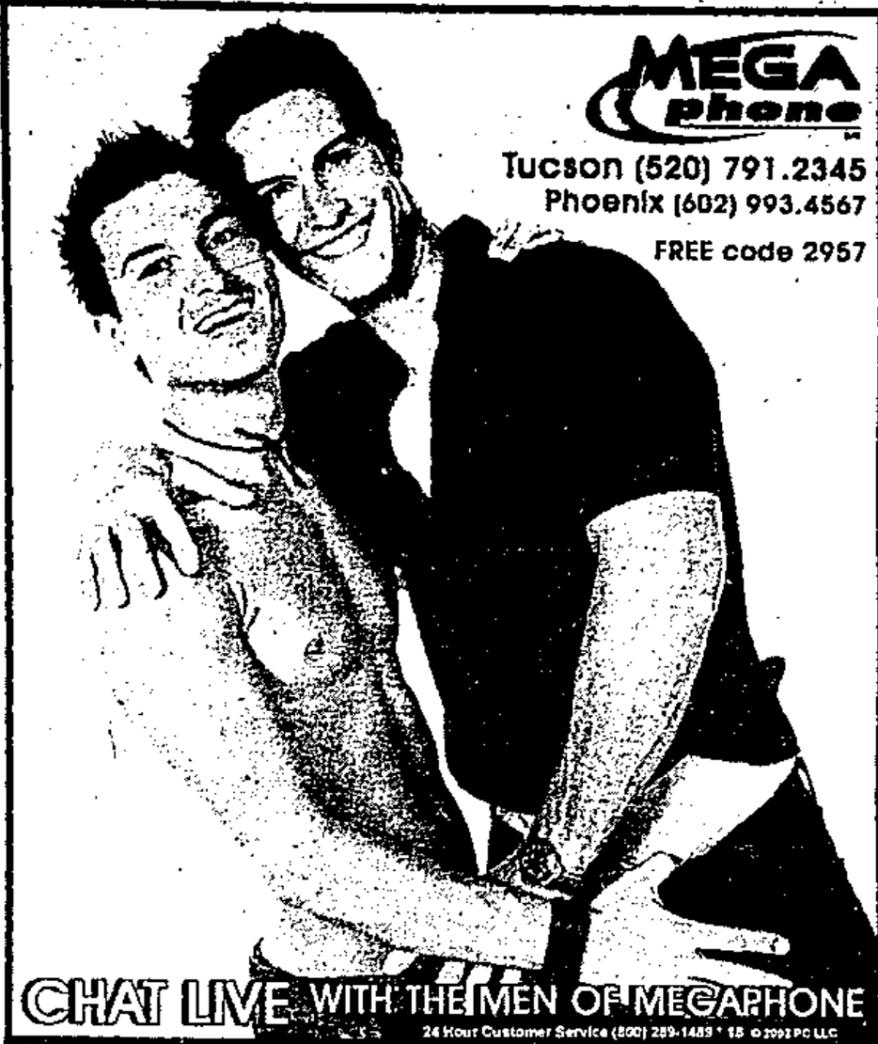
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"YOU HAVE QUESTIONS?"
Ask Dr. X
"DR. X HAS ANSWERS."

Dear Dr. X,
 I need to be in a relationship, I need to have a man in my life at all times. I love relationships but they all seem to end and go bad so soon. After they end I go crazy and can't handle it until I meet another guy. It also seems that the guys I "click" with seem to end up as sexual relationships not romantic ones.

Needy, Needy

Dear Needy, Needy,
 I have a feeling your problem is that you are not taking the time to get to know these guys before you fall for them. I will admit it's a fantasy to find Mr. Right and live happily ever after, but life is not always going to comply with your dreams. I think you need to figure out what is it that you are looking for and concentrate on that. If you meet a guy who asks you out on a date before he gets you into bed, he is probably more interested in you as a person and not a notch on his belt. As a wise old man once told me...ok it was a drunken 26 yr. old at IBT's "People shouldn't get into relationships until they are comfortable being by themselves!" When I heard this, it shocked me and made me look at my own relationships and dating history. My suggestion is to date yourself for a while and find your inner happiness. Once you get to a point where you are comfortable with yourself, then start looking for a relationship. When you do find someone you're interested in, I would suggest going on a few dates before you fall head over heels

with him. If, and when, your relationship ends, keep your cool, look forward and take some time for yourself.

Dear Dr. X,
 I just turned 30 and I am still confused about my sexual preference. I have had a few homosexual experiences, but I have always had girlfriends. I almost got married until I freaked out. Lately I have been buying some Gay magazines and I even rented a Gay video. My question is should I ignore these feelings or should I try to pursue my growing interest in men?

Gay?
 Dear Gay?,
 If you haven't noticed honey I'm an out and proud Gay male so guess what I'm gonna suggest? I say dive into the pool and get your hair wet. I know some Gay men hate the term bi-sexual but hey if the shoe fits. There is a lot of pressure in our society to announce your preference but it seems like you have been fulfilling your need when you need to. At your age you are still young enough to decide what you want out of life. I have met quite a few men who didn't come out until they were in their late thirties. These men had wives, children and lives and they gave up a lot to be who they wanted to be. I guess you need to decide for yourself. There is no pressure and you still have time to figure out your preferences. One word of advice, if you decide to get married, please get married for the right reasons. Pressure from your family and friends are the quickest way to end a relationship. Good luck

[Send your questions to Dr. X at gmhp@saaf.org or mail them to SAAF/GMHP, 375 S. Euclid, Tucson, AZ 85719. You can also check out Dr. X online at www.gmhp.org.]

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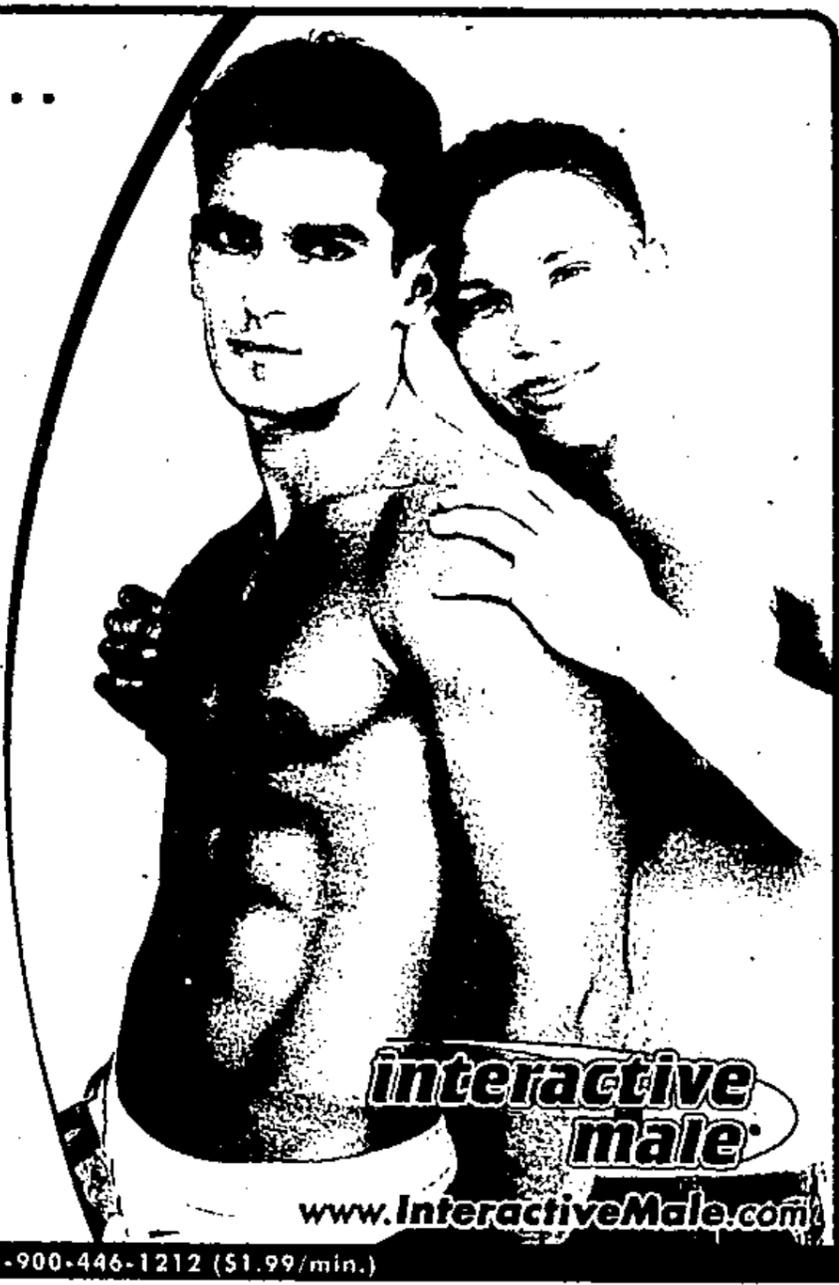
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NON-BAR CALENDAR

GROUPS / GUYS / ORGANIZATIONS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Karl for Canasta. If you don't know how to play, we'll be glad to teach you. For reservations and directions, please call Karl at 744-9017.

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20

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

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:30 p.m. Jerry & Les show the film "The Eyes of Tammy Faye" - a look at the televangelist and her rather interesting life. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry or Les at 690-9565.

Fellowship Group starts at 7:00 p.m. at the Water of Life MCC. All are invited to come and your expand your relationship with God. You need not be a church member to participate. For more information, call (520) 292-9131.

Forum on GLBT issues in the Latino/a community, 8:00 p.m., Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Bruce as he hosts Pizza Night. For only \$5, you get pizza, salad, drinks and desserts. For reservations and directions, please call Bruce at 743-3890.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Big Benefit for Desert Voices "UnMasked!!" Mardi Gras Cabaret and Silent Auction, 7:00 p.m. at 6245 E. Bellevue (behind Trader Joe's at Wilcox and Speedway). Tickets \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Available from any Desert Voices member, Antigone Bookstore on 4th Ave. or by calling 791-9682. Intrigue, glamour, outrageous costumes, stunning dives of all persuasions, beads, trinkets and more!!

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Bill will host a video of showing of Josh Groban - a rising young star on the music scene. For more reservations and directions, please call Bill at 546-7539.

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

Native American Sweat Lodge Ceremony for women (genetic and trans), 3:00 P.M. Kulstar@hotmail.com

#1. Tucson Prime Timers Day trip to Renaissance Festival, Meet at Mirv's in Tucson Mall at 8 a.m. for 8:30 departure. Leave Apache Junction at 3 p.m. Joe Kelly is the organizer, questions, call: 762-5851. http://www.royalfaires.com/ARIZONA/ert_tickets_&_map.htm

#1. Tucson Prime Timers Food & Drink 5 p.m., Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd.

New member Orientation at Desert Dominion, 4 p.m.; party 8 p.m. www.desertdominion.org

"Sweet, Sand & Suds" a road cycling, mountain biking, trail funning and trail hiking event will take place today beginning at 9:00 a.m. at McDowell Mountain Park in Phoenix. The event is presented by the Arizona Dust Devils Cycling Club, a Gay and Lesbian non-profit social-cycling group which promotes partnering for road cycling, mountain biking, triathlons and racing. The group has members in Phoenix and Tucson. For more information costs and complete schedule e-mail jocomm@aol.com

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Tantra Workshop - a new/old approach to sex. Discover a safe/better sex approach for fun and relationships. Call Marc 881-4582.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 8:00 p.m. The Triangle Tribe is a support group that helps you deal with yourself and your relationships with others. For directions and reservations, please call Tom at 318-1850.

Tucson Prime Timers Lunch at 12:30 p.m., Wildcat House, 1800 N. Stone Ave.

Desert Girtz (MTF) meet at Rainbow Planet Coffee House, 806 N. 4th Ave. 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

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

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Tom for Bridge Night. If you don't know how to play, the guys are willing to teach you. For directions and reservations, please call Tom at 326-8198.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. The Canasta Club meets to play this fun card game. If you don't know how to play, we'll teach you. For directions and reservations, please call Marv at 745-0304.

NON-BAR CALENDAR

GROUPS / GUYS / ORGANIZATIONS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

IBTS - 9:00 p.m. the "Divelicious Show" hosted by Lucinda Holiday and starring Faith Michaels, Ajia Simone, Teri Akki and Miss Saigon.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20

AINT NOBODY'S BIZ - Budweiser Promo here with \$1.50 bottles of Bud and Bud Light from 10:00 to 11:00 p.m. No cover. \$1.00 Hot Sex shots and \$2.00 Kamikazi shots from 8:00 p.m. to closing.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21

IBTS - It's all about Rodney here this weekend. Tonight is Rodney's Birthday for instance.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

IBTS - Rodney's Weekend continues and tonight is his last night to tend bar. Come on by and tip him one more time!

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

IBTS - Rodney's Going Away Party this evening from 4:00 to 9:00 p.m. Stop in and wish him well on his move to Seattle. Other goings on today includes Dennis' Recovery Bar from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. \$1.75 Bloody Marys, Screwdrivers or Mimosas. Karaoke Party with Michael D. on the patio from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., Benefit Bar-B-Que / Beer Bust from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. This weeks proceeds go to the UofA Pride Alliance. 9:00 p.m. It's a special Benefit Show (the UofA Pride Alliance starring Janee Starr, Veronica Hallowell, Faith Michaels and Teri Akki.

VENTURE-N - A 50/50 Raffle will be held here to day in support of 'Pet Watch'.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

IBTS - 9:00 p.m. the "Divelicious Show" hosted by Lucinda Holiday and starring Stella Virgin, Chantelle Douglas and Nikk Knolls

TUESDAY, MARCH 4

IBTS - Mardi Gras Party. Baubles, Bangles, Beads, Coins, Masks. And decadence. It gets outrageous.

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

IBTS - Gay Men's Health Project "Gender Bender" Fund Raiser. Watch for details.

MARCH 21 - 22 - 23

IBTS - 4th Avenue Spring Street Fair

#1. Tucson Prime Timers Lunch - Noon, ShoGun Japanese Restaurant & Sushi Bar, 5036 N. Oracle Rd. (NE corner @ River). Reservations: Call Don @ 622-1835

#2. Tucson Prime Timers Video Night - 7 p.m., non pornographic movies with Gay themes are shown. Phone: 740-0620

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27

7:00 - 9:30 p.m. the Men's Relationships Group meets that includes a video on tantra. Call Marc at 881-4582 to reserve a place.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 8:00 p.m. The men of MSN join their brothers for a Reveille Concert of "De Colores" at Grace St. Paul. For more information, please call Dave at 745-9059.

SATURDAY, MARCH 1

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

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join us for our monthly Padlock and Social Gathering where we invite you to have dinner and get to know the nice guys of MSN. It's a nice, safe setting in which to meet new men and greet old friends. For directions, please call Jerry at 690-9565.

SUNDAY, MARCH 2

REME DE LA Do Hair & Fashion Show to benefit SAAF, featuring local salons and boutiques. At the Rialto Theater, 318 E. Congress. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and the show begins at 7:00 p.m. \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. Call SAAF 628-7223 for more info.

MONDAY, MARCH 3

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 8:00 p.m. The Triangle Tribe is a support group that helps you deal with yourself and your relationships with others. For directions and reservations, please call Tom at 318-1850.

TUESDAY, MARCH 4

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

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. The investment group, Tucson Stockmen, meets. Currently there is one opening available. For information, please call Carl at 331-4238.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Marv for Canasta. If you don't know how to play, we'll be glad to teach you. For reservations and directions, please call Marv at 745-0304.

Daily Bar Calendar

Dancing with DJ-Q. All drink specials not available during special events.

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open 11am. Grill open 11-8:30pm. Happy Hour 3-5. Shrimp Fry Dinner 5:30-8pm \$5.99. Karaoke with Mistle & Blew 8pm-close.

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

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

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am. 50% off any Vodka until 7pm. Kennel open daily at 6pm.

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

IBTS - Open 11am. Happy Hours 11am-8pm. \$2 domestic beer and well. 4-9. HI NRG video dancing with Johnny DJ 9-1 All drink specials not available during special events.

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open noon. Grill open 11-8:30pm. Happy Hour 3-5pm. BBQ Steak w/potato&saat 5:30-8pm, \$6.99. Techno 9pm-close.

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

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

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am. 50% off any Bourbon til 7pm. Kennel open daily at 6pm.

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YARD DOG - Open daily 6am. 50% off any Scotch until 7pm. Kennel open daily at 6pm.

AINT NOBODY'S BIZ - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2-7pm with 2-4-1 domestic beer & well 2-7pm. Pool Journey 7:30pm. \$3 entry, bar matches pot. Country music 9pm to close. \$2 bottled Bud products 8pm to close.

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

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open 11am. Happy Hour 4-5. Chicken BBQ Dinner \$5.99 - 5:30-8:30pm. Top 40 and Disco dance 8pm-close

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

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

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am. 50% off any Tequila until 7pm. Kennel open daily at 6pm.

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

IBTS - Open 11am. Happy Hours 11am-8pm, \$2 domestic beer and well. 9pm "Divelicious" show w/Lucinda Holiday and guests. HNRG

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open noon. Grill open 11-8:30pm. Happy Hour 3-5. Fish or Shrimp Dinner \$5.99 11am-8:30pm. Country/Western. Dance with Libby 8:30pm-12:30am.

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

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

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am. 50% off any Gin until 7pm. Kennel open daily at 6pm.

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

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

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open noon. Grill open 11-8:30pm. Latino Nite. Free Show 11:30rd Sat. 10:30pm. Drag HIV testing by SAAF.

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

WOODY'S - Open Noon. \$2 well or domestic beer. Trivia 8pm. Happy Hour 4-9pm. \$1.75 well or domestics. Patio Bar opens 5pm. 5-9pm Fleet Mignon or Swordfish BBQ with all the trimmings \$5.

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am. Beer Bust 3-7pm. 75¢ glass, \$2.25 pitcher. 50% off any Rum 1pm to 7pm. Kennel open 5pm

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

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NOTICES

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

GAY OR BI-SEXUAL MEN in relationships with women. Need friends you can talk to? Weekly support group meets Wednesdays 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Licensed psychologist facilitator. Call 743-6877 in Tucson for more information. Strictly confidential.

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

RAINBOW SUPPORT GROUP: LGBT and supportive friends meet for open discussions in a loving, supportive atmosphere. Support meetings are the 2nd and 4th Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:00 pm at St. Francis in the foothills Church, Swan and River Road, Room 42. The 3rd Thursdays of the month, the group will meet at 7:30pm at Rainbow Planet Coffeehouse (600 North 4th Ave.) as a social outing. For more information call the church at 299-9063 and ask for a contact person.

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

GREATER PHOENIX GAY & LESBIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (GPGCC) P.O. BOX 2007, Phoenix, AZ 85001-2007. E-mail: webmaster@gpgcc.org or call (602)225-8444.

SOURCES UNLIMITED, a Lesbian & Gay referral service. Business and individual listings are free of charge. All information available to anyone just simply by asking. 322-5855. Leave message. TucsonSources@aol.com

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

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

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

AA Meeting with HIV/AIDS focus, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., MCC Church, 3289 N. Mountain. All alcoholics welcome.

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

CARE TEAMS ARE AVAILABLE to offer support to people living with HIV/AIDS. The Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network offers trained, compassionate and committed volunteers to provide services including friendly visits, light housekeeping, assistance with meals, shopping, errands, transportation and companionship for medical appointments, and respite care for primary care givers. No judgement or proselytizing - we are here to be of service. For information call Scott at 299-5647.

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT SPORTS TEAMS and updates on Gay Games 2002, contact TEAMARIZONA at their website: tsamarizona.org

ARE YOU GAY OR BISEXUAL AND UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE? The Gay Young Men's Project is now looking for volunteers for the project. We need people who want to help create a positive social change for young Gay men as well as reduce the risk for HIV infection. For more information please call 826-7223.

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

COMMUNITY BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (CBA), Tucson's Gay and Lesbian business networking group holds regular meetings the third Thursday of every month. Call 615-8436 for more info.

TUCSON PRIDE, INC. (Formerly Tucson Lesbian and Gay Alliance - TLGA) meets on the second Tuesday at 845 S. Craycroft Road at 7pm. Tucson Pride produces Pride events: Pride Week, Gay West and OUToberFEST. Inquiries about support groups and individual needs should be directed to Wingspan and other local agencies listed here. For more information call 622-3200 or visit the TPI website at www.tucsonpride.com

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

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION (SAAF), 375 S. EUCLID. 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. 826-SAAF (7223). World wide web: http://www.saaaf.org. VOLUNTEERS WELCOME.

LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP. Involving discussion, support and activities. Designed to support each other. Meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of each month from 6:30 to 8pm. Alternate Saturdays the group meets for social activities. For info call Dorian Easty. 862-7723 Facilitator.

P.F.L.A.G. - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays - is a support group available to anyone who has a son, daughter or friend who is Gay. Call 575-8960 or write P.O. Box 36264, Tucson, AZ 85740-6264. All replies confidential.

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE .25 PER WORD \$5.00 MINIMUM



CLASSIFIEDS



CLASSIFIED ADS MUST BE MAILED NO PHONE ADS

NOTICES

BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO - a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, Call the Bears Hotline (520)790-8775 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910 of visit our website at www.bolop.com All are welcome to our general meetings/poducks on the 2nd Friday of every month, 7pm at Sentinel Bldg. On the City of Tucson Resource Campus, 310 N. Commerce Park Loop on Sonita St. between St. Marys and Congress.

LAMBDA CAR CLUB, a social organization of Gays and Lesbians who share interest, information and fellowship involving all cars and trucks. New Southern Arizona Region now in Tucson. Call the Hotline at 688-6541

LESBIAN AND GAY AL-ANON - Affected by someone's drinking? Meeting every Tuesday 8:45 to 9:45 p.m. at Lambda Center, 2940 E. Thomas, Phoenix. Elise 581-8850 or Ron 968-2364.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE GROUP - Outreach to Gay and Lesbian people in Arizona. Meets monthly. Write to P.O. Box 693, Phoenix, AZ 85001 or call Eddy Walters, (602)371-1102

CRONIES SOCIAL GROUP. A Social group for Gay men who enjoy the fellowship of their peers. Call Leo at 824-6788.

T-SQUARES Lesbian and Gay square dance club meets every Tuesday from 8:30-9:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902N. Geronimo (near 1st Ave. and Laguna). Open to All. Call Liz at 325-9468 or Ray at 749-5247.

LIGHTNING LIGHTING will provide lighting for AIDS and related benefits at no charge. For more info call Adrienne at 899-7298.

COME EXPLORE YOUR SPIRITUALITY! St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church offers a variety of Gay and Lesbian groups and services for the spiritually minded. Come meet the Family! For more information call Debbie 579-8927 or David 323-7943.

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

DESERT VOICES, Tucson's Gay & Lesbian Chorus rehearses Monday evenings from 6:30 to 9:30pm at Amory Park Senior Center, 220 S. 6th Ave. Call 781-9962.

Join the LESBIAN & GAY PUBLIC AWARENESS PROJECT. In Tucson write Awareness Project, 368 N. Campbell Ave. #365, Tucson, AZ 85718.

HALLELUJAH RECOVERY DRUG & ALCOHOL 12-STEP. Every Thursday 5:30-8:30pm at Cornerstone Fellowship, 2902 N. Geronimo. 822-4828.

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE CLINIC provided daily by the Pima County Health Department. Gay friendly. Confidential. Treatment and Medication too! Any questions? Call 824-8272

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

YOUNG AND GAY?

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

The TUCSON Chapter of PRIME TIMERS WORLDWIDE invites Gay or Bisexual men and their admirers to join and share Prime Timers fellowship. We welcome mature men (and admirers) who wish to become involved with planned and future Prime Timers activities. Meetings luncheons and dinners are held monthly. For dates, times and information call 890-4813, leave name and phone number.

TUCSON GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL. For information on human service organizations, health and mental health services, financial and government assistance, emergency services such as food and shelter, education, etc. Call Information and Referral 861-1764 - 8 am - 5 pm Mon. - Fri.

AAPSP - ARIZONA ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY PROFESSIONALS: a confidential organization committed to providing support and networking for all Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual public safety professionals in Arizona. Membership open to Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters, Probation, Parole and Corrections Officers and civilians working within these agencies. Website: AAPSP.org or e-mail: AAPSP@aol.com or call Dave (520)745-9059 (Tucson) or Kim (602)534-8210 (Phoenix)

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

TUCSON CATHOLIC GAY & LESBIAN FAMILY MINISTRY. Currently meeting the 4th Monday of every month at St. Peter & Paul Church, Madonna Hall 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Fr. Flecker in attendance every meeting and willing to speak one on one. Reaching out to Parents and Families. For more info call Doc or Barbara 293-6624.

SAA (Sex Addicts Anonymous) has 8 meetings a week in Tucson. People who wish to stop their compulsive sexual behavior, please call (520)570-1225 for current information.

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

NOTICES

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

REVELLE GAY MEN'S CHORUS rehearses Tuesdays 7-10pm at MCC Church, 3289 N. Mountain. Have any history/experience singing? Join us! Call 617-3100 for more info.

TGNH Arizona: The central source for news and information for, by and about the TG, TG, and Gender-varied communities of Arizona. Website URL: http://www.tgnh.org - e-mail address: sigmodum@tgnh.net

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

PASSAGES MENTALK - Discussion group and more. For men in their 30s, 40s and late 20s. A great way to meet people. Meeting 3rd Tuesday of each month at Wingspan 7-9pm. Call 780-6361 for more information.

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

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

TUCSON INTERFAITH HIV/AIDS NETWORK (TIHAN), a coalition of faith communities committed to a compassionate response to HIV/AIDS, provides HIV education in congregational settings, volunteer Care Teams to support HIV+ persons, a referral network of HIV-sensitive clergy, and interfaith services of healing and hope. For more information call 299-8647.

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

GRACE GROUP - CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 2nd and 4th Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the Madonna Hall at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 1436 N. Campbell across from University Hospital. For more info. Call Anabel at 325-8892

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

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

OUTLOUD! Tucson's premiere Local Lesbian and Gay Radio Show, broadcast every Wednesday at 8:03 pm on 91.3 FM, Community Radio KOXL. The show "This Way Out", a nationally syndicated Lesbian and Gay radio show is aired at 5:30 pm every Wednesday.

THEATER / DINNER / ETC! Non-Smoking Lesbian Network meets every 3rd Saturday night of each month. If you'd like to meet women 35+ (flexible) and socialize in a smoke-free environment 888-8010 before 10:00 p.m. The group dines out and attends shows or movies. Now in their 16th year! (2nd in Tucson).

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

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP FOR ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLES. Not a dating club. Discreet. Meetings every Monday evening. Call for more info. APEX (Arizona Power Exchange) 602-416-1123. 24-hr multi-choice message including information, calendar and location.

ARIZONA AIDS POLICY ALLIANCE (AZAPA) seeks to educate legislators and citizens about sound AIDS policy. For more information write AZAPA, 8523 N. 14th St., #112, Phoenix, AZ 85014 or call 802-279-4805.

DESERT DOMINION TUCSON'S 100% CONSENSUAL, Pan-Fetish, Pan-Sexual, Informational, Educational, Safe Space for the B&D, S&M, D&S and TV community. For more info call (520)792-8424 or http://www.desertdominion.org

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

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

PERSONALS

GWM, MIDDLE-AGE, LOOKING for relationship. 731-8152. 972

CASH FOR YOUR PORN! Buy-Sell-Trade. Private Collector seeks GAY MALE videos (VHS/DVD). Magazines, Books, Art, Toys, Leather Gear, Costumes/Uniforms, Fetish equipment and other items of Gay interest. Free local pickup. Complete discretion. Evenings and weekends by appointment only. Current to Classic - All conditions. Call John at 327-3135. 971

HOUSING/FOR RENT

MIDTOWN, SMALL COMPLEX, CUTE 1 bedroom cottage. Covered front and back porches. Small fenced yard. Pool - BBQ. \$425/mo. + gas and electric 326-1934 972

ACCOMMODATION NEEDED FEBRUARY 2004. Two non-smoking European mineral dealers wish to rent 3-5 bedroom house or apartment for mineral show 2004, but arrange February this year. Claus.Hedegaard@yahoo.dk 970

SERVICES

COMPUTER GUY. I hold a Bachelors degree in Information Technology, and a Masters of Science in Computer Information Systems, and have taught at Pima Community College. I am available late afternoon and evening weekdays for tutoring, troubleshooting and repair. Scott 548-1210. 972

M/HPNOTIST - Teach Hypno, Reduce Stress and Tantric Hypno. Weight Solutions and Stop Smoking. Herbs Coral Calcium Supreme. 393-0029, www.2bee.com/hypnosis. Metaphysical orb_bob 968

EXPERIENCE A TOTALLY RELAXING or deep-tissue massage by a trained, caring male therapist. In-home, hotel or resort. Ask about college student special. (520)730-7988. 968

H/TEC PARALEGAL SERVICE: Bankruptcy \$155 ● Divorce \$155 ● Wills \$75 ● Living Trusts \$399 ● House Calls. (520)498-4771 or Pager: 218-0218

END BACK PAIN. The back solution, massage and bodywork. 15 years experience. Tension Erasure - Stress Reduction - Relax for Health. Abe 294-4810 974

FULL BODY ORIENTAL MASSAGE. Experience the difference. By Appointment only. 10.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m. Call Danny Chong (520)270-8288 967

LET ME PAMPER YOU! With a Full Body Swedish Massage in a quiet, relaxed atmosphere. \$35 for a full hour. Ralph (520) 883-7498 975

ENJOY A NICE TOUCH. Attractive man offers a sensual, relaxing massage. 10am - 6pm. 745-0231 or 891-7859 968

TENSE? STRESSED OUT? Relax for an hour with a full body rub by Frank. Private studio, off-street parking. (520)271-3660 days, evenings. 972

PERFECT CHOICE: Have yourself an expert holistic tantra massage. Treat yourself to a Major tune-up. 21 years of quality experience. Marc - 681-4582 Licensed. 971

HEAVEN SENT ME. Experience a massage steeped in rich tradition combining ancient, sacred and intimate healing techniques. Strong, yet gentle hands work with your complete comfort in mind. In 8 Out, Days & Evenings, sometimes at a moment's notice. Call Glen, CMT (520)907-2551 for the touch you so richly deserve. Experienced, professional, and kind... not bad looking either! 971

ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS Let me keep your clothes fitting properly and in good repair. Experienced - Economical - Prompt. Merle Hudson, (520)888-7264 in Tucson. 970

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WINGSPAN

FilmFest

March 06-09

The Loft Cinema

3233 E Speedway Blvd

Tucson, Arizona

wingspanaz.org/FilmFest



Southern Arizona's LGBT Film Festival Highlights:

Family Fundamentals

Thursday, 8:00pm

This documentary focuses on three conservative Christian families whose fundamentalist beliefs are at odds with their children's homosexuality. The film examines America's contempt for homosexuality and its effects on family, culture, and the nation's political landscape.

The Trip

Friday, 8:15pm

From polyester to parachute pants, Anita Bryant to Ronald Reagan, the 11-year romance of two young men is at the center of this film. Beginning in 1973 Los Angeles and ending in 1984 Mexico, *The Trip* tells the story of Alan and Tommy, whose lives parallel the political and cultural upheaval of the times.

A Family Affair

Saturday, 8:30pm

Rachel Rosen flees New York City after another breakup with her girlfriend, Reggie. Rachel's parents are adamant to see her settle down with a nice girl. Determined to find "Ms. Rightowitz," Rachel goes on several bad blind dates. Her mother sets her up with Christine; soon Rachel and Christine are a pair. But does Rachel carry a torch for Reggie? The course of true love doesn't always run straight.

Ruthie and Connie:

Every Room in the House

Sunday, 6:00pm

They're Jewish, they're grandmothers, and they're lesbians. Ruth Berman and Connie Kurtz first met in 1959; both were married and raising young children. Then, in 1974, something incredible happened: they fell in love. Struggling with homophobia — society's and their own — Ruth and Connie decided to leave their marriages for each other. This documentary tells their story.

Purchase Passes

Three different passes are available for advance purchase at The Loft Cinema and on line at wingspan.org/FilmFest

\$65 All Festival Pass

(good for all events)

\$35 Feature Pass

(good for all \$7 feature films)

\$15 Opening Night Pass

(good for all opening night events)

Location

All programs are at The Loft Cinema
3233 E Speedway Blvd
Tucson, Arizona

Sponsorship & Support This event is supported by the Arizona Commission on the Arts with funding from the State of Arizona and the National Endowment for the Arts