

New Global AIDS Czar Gets Mixed Reaction

WASHINGTON, DC - Randall Tobias, the former pharmaceutical executive tapped by the Bush administration to run a federal program to combat AIDS in African and Caribbean countries, is an unknown to most AIDS service providers but is getting a mostly cautious welcome, reported the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com network.

Tobias, the former chairman and CEO of the Indiana-based drug company Eli Lilly and Co., has no experience working in Africa or with AIDS charities, but Bush administration officials are touting his close relationship with the president and his business skills as a sign the administration is taking the program seriously.

Tommy Thompson, secretary of Health and Human Services, was quick to praise Tobias.

"President Bush has taken yet another important step in increasing the United States' role in the global fight against HIV/AIDS by announcing his intention to create a new position with ambassadorial rank to coordinate U.S. assistance and help bring about increased contributions to the world effort from others as well," Thompson said in a statement. "Randall Tobias will bring a wealth of valuable experience to this mission, and his appointment signals once again the president's high commitment to fighting HIV/AIDS worldwide."

Most AIDS service organizations welcomed the Tobias nomination, and the speed with which the administration is getting the global funding initiative up and running.

"Gay Men's Health Crisis is pleased that the White House is moving forward on these appointments," said Ana Oliveira, executive director of the New York City-based GMHC. "We urge both Mr. Tobias and Dr. (Joseph) O'Neill (director of the Office of National AIDS Policy) to work quickly to solidify their plans for the Global AIDS Fund, given the

urgency of the AIDS pandemic."

Fred Dillon, public policy director for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and Pangeaea Global AIDS Foundation, took a similarly short but optimistic approach to discussing the Tobias nomination. "We hope that he will use his stellar management skills and knowledge of the pharmaceutical industry to guarantee that HIV treatments reach the people who need them most," he said in a statement relayed by his office to the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com Network.

Paul Zeitz, executive director of the Washington, D.C.-based Global AIDS Alliance, is much more skeptical of Tobias and is worried about a conflict of interest that may come from running the global AIDS program.

"I don't have a personal opinion of him," Zeitz told the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com Network, but he expressed concern over the appointment. "We're advocating for open competition between branded and generically manufactured drugs, so poor countries can buy drugs at fair prices. He may be trying to establish some drug purchasing arrangement that benefits the American drug industry."

Not all the concern for Tobias' nomination came from the left. The Family Research Council, which has pushed for more abstinence-only education over the use of condoms, expressed concern that Tobias would not follow their model of AIDS prevention.

"We are concerned that Mr. Tobias does not have a proven track record of supporting the effective strategies to combat AIDS," said Connie Mackey, FRC's vice president for government affairs. "The White House must ensure that Mr. Tobias follows the A-B-C (Abstain, Be faithful, or use a Condom) model to combating AIDS." The Senate still must confirm the nomination of Tobias.

Wal-Mart Announces New G/L Policy

SEATTLE, WA - Wal-Mart Stores, the nation's largest private employer, has broadened its corporate anti-bias policy to include Gay and Lesbian workers, the company announced Tuesday.

Wal-Mart spokeswoman Mona Williams said that the company implemented the changes because "It's the right thing to do for our employees. We want all of our associates to feel they are valued and treated with respect — no exceptions."

The decision was disclosed by a

Seattle Gay rights foundation that had invested in Wal-Mart and then lobbied the company for two years to make its discrimination policies more inclusive.

A spokeswoman told The New York Times on Tuesday, July 2, that Wal-Mart had already sent out letters Tuesday to its 3,500 stores, after which store managers would explain the change to its 1.5 million employees.

Along with prodding from groups, such as the Pride Foundation, the

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Marriage Amendment Divides Republicans

WASHINGTON, DC - Comments made Sunday by Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist that seemed to put the Republican party firmly behind a constitutional amendment banning Gay marriage have provoked heated internal debate within the party.

The Supreme Court decision that declared the nation's sodomy laws unconstitutional, coupled with a recent decision in Canada to permit Gay marriage, suggests the debate over Gay marriage will only grow louder. Courts in Massachusetts and New Jersey are also expected to issue rulings on laws refusing Gay couples the right to marry.

It is these developments that Frist was responding to in an interview on ABC's "This Week." But even as he backed a Congressional proposal adding a restrictive marriage definition to the U.S. Constitution, Republicans and even some conservatives were voicing their doubts.

"Regardless of how you feel about Gay marriage, I don't know that it's a good idea to put it in the Constitution," Senator John Ensign, Republican of Nevada, told The New York Times in an interview. "A rush judgment on [the marriage amendment] would be a mistake," he said.

Ken Conner of the Family Research Council said the emphasis needs to be placed on confirming conservative justices to the nation's courts, something his group has expressed every confidence in President Bush to carry out to their satisfaction. "There is nothing wrong with the Constitution," he said. "What needs to happen is the executive branch and the

legislative branch need to begin to act like a co-equal coordinate branch of government and rein in this rampant judicial activism."

The amendment, backed by a nonprofit, nonpartisan group called the Alliance for Marriage, has been introduced in the House but not in the Senate. It would define marriage as a union between a man and a woman and would "protect the definition of marriage from judicial or legislative redefinition," said Matt Daniels, the group's president.

Frist said the court, in defining a "zone of privacy," was laying the groundwork for protection of criminal activity in the home. "And I'm thinking of, whether it's prostitution or illegal commercial drug activity in the home, and to have the courts come in in this zone of privacy and begin to define it gives me some concern," he said.

Political strategists say Frist's comments were meant to provide reassurance to rattled social conservatives and that the remarks carried little political risk. The amendment would face a years-long public battle to win the necessary backing of two-thirds votes in the House and Senate and ratification by three-fourths of the states.

Gay civil rights groups pounced on Frist's comments. "We can all talk about this as a constitutional amendment," said Winnie Stachelberg, of the Human Rights Campaign, "but it's an attack on Gay families and it's an attack on Gay people's ability to have the security that every other American has, except Gay people."

Military's G/L Ban Challenged In Wake Of Sodomy Ruling

WASHINGTON, DC - Citing the precedent set by the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in the Texas sodomy case, a decorated Vietnam combat veteran filed suit with the U.S. Court of Federal Claims challenging the constitutionality of the military's antiGay "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

The challenge filed by LTC Steve Loomis, who was ousted from the Army for being Gay just eight days prior to his 20-year retirement date in 1997, also challenges the federal antisodomy statute covering the military. T

he lawsuit is based on the recent U.S. Supreme Court opinion in *Lawrence v. Texas*, which declared that the Texas sodomy statute violated the Constitution's

guarantee of the right to privacy. Loomis's suit seeks to reverse his discharge. The challenge is the first of several likely to be filed in the wake of *Lawrence*, according to the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network (SLDN), which represented Loomis during his initial discharge proceedings. "Lawrence has a direct impact on the federal sodomy statute and the military's Gay ban," said SLDN executive director C. Dixon Osburn. "Under 'don't ask, don't tell,' the federal government regularly intrudes in the most personal aspects of our lives. That is wrong, and it is time for the government to change."

When the Army discharged Loomis, a former engineer war plans officer who earned the Purple Heart in Vietnam, he

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UPDATE

Reveille's New Season Is On The Way

By Renata Tebaldi

TUCSON - Reveille Gay Men's Chorus has just completed its eighth season and is looking forward to its next - "All About Love" - beginning in August.

At its annual meeting in June, the chorus elected new board members, and the board has just elected new officers for 2003-4. They are: President Rich Muszynski; Vice-President Michael White; Secretary Michael Ryan; and, Treasurer Ed Ryan.

The Reveille board of directors also includes Rex Averett, Tom Herman, Federico Hubbard, Rose Gnerich (yes, a woman, of course), Linus Lerner and Joel Meister, Reveille's outgoing president.

The new Reveille season will bring our community more performances, more outreach, a new CD and a second annual tour to Hermosillo, Mexico to benefit HIV/AIDS prevention. The 2003-4 year will be capped by Reveille's performance at GALA 2004, the international GLBT choral festival in Montreal.

Does this sound like fun, or what? Read the companion article if you're interested in joining. Reveille also welcomes non-singers who would like to help the chorus produce concerts, publicize events, raise money, organize trips, throw parties, keep the books and be generally helpful and supportive. For more information, call the Reveille message line, (520) 617-3100.

Scam Targets Local GLBT Community

TUCSON - An individual has been calling GLBT people in Tucson to con them out of money. The person usually claims to be someone from our community, often someone well known, and to be in some sort of dire personal need. The calls often happen in the middle of the night when people may be less alert than they ordinarily would be.

Last year, several thousand dollars were scammed out of our community in an identical scam. The perpetrator has not yet been caught. Anyone receiving one of these phone calls is advised not to respond to any requests for money from anyone that you do not know personally. You should also report the details of the phone call to the police immediately.

The scam artist appears to be using the names of people known in the LGBT community, possibly those whose names

have appeared in local LGBT publications. The targets in a similar scam last November had been members of the Men's Social Network (MSN) and Prime Timers, although there have also been a number of calls that seem to be random, or targeting local LGBT business owners. On several occasions last November, the caller also exploited Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN) by falsely using their name, and those of TIHAN employees.

One person recently received a call from a man who falsely claimed to be Wingspan's Executive Director, Kent Burbank, and that he was stranded in another city, had just been beaten up, and then asked to be wired money. Mr. Burbank is, in fact, safe and healthy and incensed that someone is using his name in this manner.

The last thing we want to do is let a con artist interfere with our community resources. Community members are asked to help spread the word about this scam, and not to give any money unless you personally know the person asking, and have absolute proof that it is them.

WINGSPAN UPDATE

TUCSON - Wingspan Anti-Violence Project is hiring a 30 hours/week bilingual (English/Spanish) Advocate / Educator

Possibility of 40-hours/week (eventually).hourly rate is \$10/hr, 30 hours/week includes full benefits! To apply, please send a cover letter, resume, and three references by July 14, to Cathy Busha Director Wingspan Anti-Violence Project, 300 E. 6th St, Tucson, AZ 85705. E-mail: cathy@wingspan.org. AA/EOE. For a job description, visit the Wingspan Web site, wingspan.org. ...

Want to get more involved in Tucson's LGBT community, now that summer is here and you have more time? Have you thought about volunteering for Wingspan, but didn't know what it might involve? Here's your chance to find out in air-conditioned comfort. Wingspan will have a General Volunteer Orientation on Monday, July 28, from 6 to 8:30 p.m., at the Main Office, 300 East Sixth Street.

This Orientation is geared for new and potential Wingspan volunteers, and is open to anyone wanting to learn about Wingspan's history, organizational structure, and the myriad opportunities to volunteer. For information and an application please contact Mark English, Volunteer Programs Coordinator, at 624-1779 (ext 15), or mailto:mark@wingspan.org - or just stop by Wingspan.

Choruses Ask You To 'Cruise' Your Favorite Singers

TUCSON - The choruses of Tucson's GLBT community, Desert Voices and Reveille Gay Men's Chorus, in collaboration with CruiseOne, are offering a unique opportunity for members and supporters of the GLBT community to enjoy a fun, relaxing, and exotic cruise vacation, and the choruses will reap the benefit of your enjoyment! what's the catch?

"There is no catch," says Tim Lewis, CruiseOne agent and singing member of both choruses. "Instead of taking a weekend vacation to Las Vegas or some other land destination this Fall, take a weekend cruise to three destinations and Desert Voices and Reveille will raise money for their 2003-2004 seasons."

Recognizing the need to explore new ways to raise funds, both choruses are reaching out to the business community in an effort to find creative ways to raise funds so that their generous donors receive additional benefits for their contributions. CruiseOne answered the call with an unprecedented opportunity to assist the choruses in fund-raising, while at the same time offering their supporters a chance to relax and unwind, or rev-up and party, on an exciting cruise vacation!

On October 31, join chorus and community members for an exciting 3-night cruise aboard Royal Caribbean's ship Monarch of the Seas from Los Angeles to Ensenada, Mexico, Catalina Island, and San Diego. A portion of the cruise fare (\$20) will be donated to the chorus of your choosing, and CruiseOne will match the donation at 50% per cabin (an additional \$20). For a double occupancy cabin, your chosen chorus will receive \$60. If 10 cabins & sold for this fund raising event, a minimum of \$600 will be raised for the choruses. "Imagine the possibilities if 20, 30, or even 50 cabins are sold!" said Mae Krueger, president of Desert Voices.

Pricing for the 3-night cruise ranges from \$319.90 per person for an inside cabin, up to \$339.90 per person for an oceanview cabin. This price includes the cruise fare, port charges, taxes and fees. "There are no additional costs except, of course, any money you might want to spend for souvenirs, tours, or in the ship's casino," said Tim.

"This is an exceptional value for a 3-night cruise, considering that it includes accommodations, meals, and entertainment aboard the ship. Food is available 24 hours a day, and the gourmet meals in the ship's main restaurant are elaborately prepared and presented, and the service aboard the ship is top-notch." And Tim adds, "Not only are you getting a weekend vacation to three exciting destinations, endless meals, impeccable service, and first-rate entertainment, but our local choruses are also benefiting from your enjoyment!" The deadline to participate in the fund-raising cruise: is August 15, at which time a \$100 deposit is required, and final payment is due on September 1.

For details and information about the cruise, contact Tim Lewis by phone at 743-1622, by email at tlewis@cruiseone.com, or visit the website at www.cruiseone.com/tlewis and click on the link for the fund raiser. For information about the choruses, see their websites or contact them by phone as follows. For Desert Voices, www.desertvoices.org or (520) 791-9662. For Reveille Gay Men's Chorus www.azstarnet.com/nonprofit/reveille or (520) 617-3100.

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For Gay And Lesbian Marriage

For 200 years American society has drawn a steadily expanding circle of rights: the rights of blacks, then women, and then 18-year-olds to vote; of minorities, women, Gays, and the physically disabled to be free from discrimination; of single mothers, adoptive parents, and other nontraditional families to receive government benefits. In the 1967 case *Loving v. Virginia*, the US Supreme Court ruled that the right to marry could not be restricted by race. In 1993 the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court ruled that the right to adopt children could not be denied on the basis of sexual orientation. In 1999 the Vermont Supreme Court found that the benefits of legal marriage could not be withheld from Lesbian and Gay couples. Now seven same-sex couples have petitioned the SJC for the right to marry under civil law. Their stories of courtship and commitment are so ordinary, and their claim to equal benefits so compelling, that it seems inevitable the circle of rights will eventually widen to enfold them as well. We think the SJC should say that day has come.

The Massachusetts Constitution guarantees that "equality under the law shall not be denied or abridged because of sex, race, color, creed, or national origin." The plaintiffs in the case before the SJC believe that this declaration of rights means that the "common benefits and protections" of marriage may not be denied to couples because they are the same gender. For all the legal acrobatics offered by opponents, it is hard to see how anything other than an animus toward Gays and Lesbians prevents them from obtaining the same "benefits and protections" enjoyed by heterosexual couples.

The arguments presented by the opposition — primarily the Massachusetts attorney general, supported by several accompanying briefs — boil down to three. First, opponents argue that the state has an interest in limiting marriage to heterosexuals because such arrangements better advance the "main object" of marriage — that is, procreation and child-rearing. Aside from the insult implied to all marriages that don't include children, the SJC has already recognized that Gay parents can bear, adopt, and raise children, and the Legislature has affirmed that by passing laws about the care of children from such unions. It is a logical contortion to define the primary function of marriage as child-rearing, to allow Gay couples to perform that function, then to deny them the right to form a marriage.

Opponents also say that denying a marriage license to same-sex couples, while possibly discriminatory, is not a "sufficiently grievous" constitutional violation to require the court's interference with the legislative branch. Tell that to Hillary Goodridge, one of the plaintiffs, whose health care proxy document was little help when her partner of 15 years gave birth and she tried to see her newborn daughter in a neonatal intensive care unit. Or David Wilson, who was treated as a stranger by emergency medical personnel when his partner of 13 years suffered a fatal heart attack.

Finally, opponents say the Legislature should decide all issues dealing with marriage licenses. But the court is being asked for its opinion on a constitutional matter of fundamental rights

— its proper purview — and it should deliver such an opinion. The Legislature may be asked, as in Vermont, to sort out the specific remedy. Or the SJC could simply declare that marriages between two individuals of the same gender are legal and valid.

It is worth repeating that these are civil marriages. No one is asking any religious organization to sanctify, or even recognize, these unions.

A good model for the case before the SJC is *Loving v. Virginia*, which ruled almost 40 years ago that bans on interracial marriage are unconstitutional. It may be difficult to imagine a time when interracial marriage was considered an abomination by much of society and was specifically outlawed by many states, just as some day it will be hard to imagine that Gay couples were once ostracized simply for trying to form stable families. In *Loving*, the Supreme Court said that constitutional rights must be vindicated despite a long history of laws to the contrary. So too with the right of same-sex couples to marry.

It is true that most people still view marriage as an arrangement between a man and a woman. The traditional definition of marriage as a social institution designed to promote child-bearing and child-rearing is grounded in distinct gender roles that were not just socially but legally imposed for much of American history. But society, and the law, have already greatly expanded the definition of family, and civil marriage has been redefined as a partnership of equals. No doubt marriage between one man and one woman will continue to define the vast majority of unions. But that needn't be the

only acceptable definition.

In Massachusetts as elsewhere, the everyday reality of same-sex families is far ahead of the law. At Little League games, school plays, and Thanksgiving dinners, Gay and Lesbian couples and parents are living ordinary lives. They have made moral, emotional, and financial obligations to each other and seek only the recognition and protections a legal marriage affords. "The desire to marry is grounded in the intangibles of love, an enduring commitment and a shared journey through life," reads the plaintiff statement to the SJC. It is time to extend these rights — and responsibilities — to all Americans.

[This editorial ran in the Monday, July 8, 2003 edition of The Boston Globe.]

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Gay/Lesbian Reform Trails Public Sentiment

WASHINGTON, DC - According to many of the nation's pollsters and opinion trackers, Thursday's historic Supreme Court decision, affirming the rights of Gay and Lesbian Americans not to be branded as sexual criminals in their own homes, is reflective of sentiments held by strong majorities of their fellow Americans.

Laws criminalizing consenting sexual relations among "adult, same-sex couples" are today opposed by 82 percent of those polled - only 5 percent less than opposed regulation of sex between "adult, married, opposite-sex couples."

On the right to privacy and other issues important to Gay civil rights advocates, these pollsters say the high court was merely playing catch-up and it now falls to the nation's federal and state legislatures to follow the public's lead.

On specific matters relating to employment equality, partnership rights and even marriage, strong currents in voter sentiment are trending in ways that cause worry and even despair to religious conservatives bent on halting the Gay rights agenda in its tracks.

According to a poll summary published by The Hill, American attitudes toward nearly every aspect of Gay life have undergone dramatic change over the last 25 years. Gallup notes that in 1982 only 34 percent of Americans considered homosexuality "an acceptable alternative lifestyle," according to Gallup compared to 54 percent today.

In 1977, only 56 percent backed the notion that Gay men and women should "have equal rights in terms of job opportunities." Today, the Gallup Poll finds strong national consensus on the issue, with 88 percent backing the notion of equal employment rights for Gay Americans.

Not surprisingly, younger and better-educated people have long had more accepting attitudes toward Gay men and Lesbians. And as the nation ages, with ever higher percentages of the country attending colleges and universities, the ranks of the tolerant have swelled.

Only 44 percent of those polled in 1977 believed Gay men and women should be hired as doctors. By 2001, that figure stood at 78 percent. Over the same period, the percentage who thought Gay people should be hired as elementary school teachers jumped nearly 30 percentage points, from 27 to 56 percent of those polled.

The role of coming out as a personal and cultural statement can also not be underestimated. As recently as 1985 only 22 percent of Americans said they knew a "friend or close acquaintance that is Gay or Lesbian." By 2000, that number had more than doubled to 56 percent.

On the subject of domestic partnership rights, only 37 percent supported "allowing homosexual couples to have the same benefits as married heterosexual couples, such as health benefits, inheritance rights and Social Security survivor benefits." A similar, though not identical, question in 2003 found 62 percent supporting those rights for Gay couples.

Regarding the right to privacy affirmed by the high court on Thursday, in 1977 only 43 percent believed "homosexual relations between consenting adults" should be legal. As the AIDS crisis mushroomed in the 1980's, that number plummeted to a low of 32 percent in 1986.

Clearly, these changes hearten Gay civil rights advocates and the Democrats who support their cause. The Republican party's reflexive deference to its intolerant far right wing base, they say, will increasingly offend ever broader majorities of fair-minded voters in the United States.

Savage Fired By MSNBC

NEW YORK, NY - Gay civil rights groups applauded MSNBC's decision to cancel "Savage Nation" on Monday. The move was an apparent response to recent objections voiced by the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation and its allies over a vicious attack on a Gay caller during his July 5 MSNBC cable show.

An announcement made by Fairness & Accuracy in Reporting quotes MSNBC spokesperson Jeremy Gaines as saying, "[Savage's] comments were extremely inappropriate, and the decision was an easy one."

"Frankly, it's about time," GLAAD News Media Director Cathy Renna said of Savage's dismissal. She said the host's "latest rant made the clearest possible case for why this kind of behavior has no place on any reputable news network. MSNBC has now found itself broadcasting exactly the kind of verbal assaults GLAAD's been warning them about for the past five months.

After cutting off a self-identified Gay caller whose comments were edited out of the broadcast, Savage said, in part: "Oh, you're one of the sodomites. You should only get AIDS and die, you pig. How's that? Why don't you see if you can sue me, you pig. You got nothing better than to put me down, you piece of garbage. You have got nothing to do today, go eat a sausage and choke on it. Get trichinosis."

"To their credit," said Renna, "MSNBC and NBC News have backed up their promises to hold Savage accountable for his behavior."

Renna said Savage's "reprehensible attack" on the call-in viewer "violated even the minimal journalistic standards that had been applied to his show.



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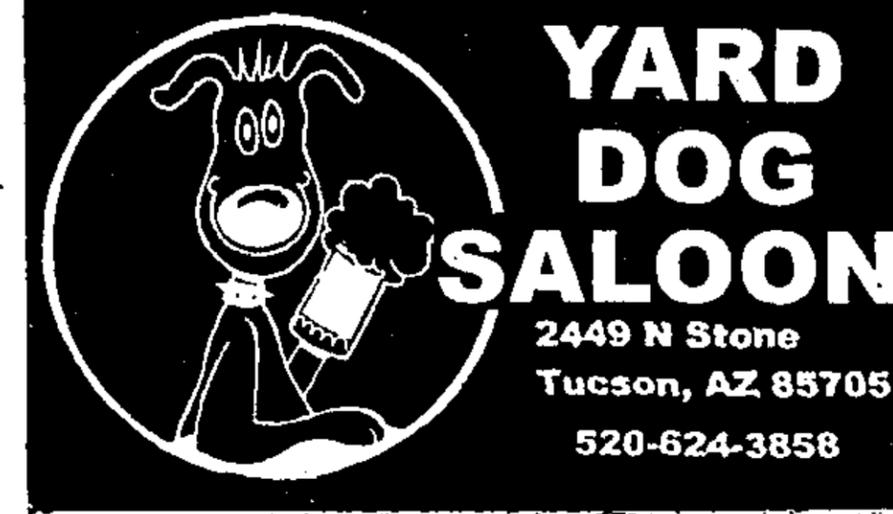
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G/L Rights Groups Brace For Backlash

WASHINGTON, DC - On the heels of the recent Supreme Court ruling that declared the nation's sodomy laws unconstitutional and placed Gay rights firmly in the country's civil rights traditions, advocacy groups around the country are bracing for a spirited backlash from organized and well-funded anti-Gay conservatives.

The New York Times reports rights groups expect fierce battles in the months ahead, over marriage particularly. Foremost on the minds of rights leaders is an expected push for the adoption of a constitutional amendment that would effectively ban Gay marriage.

Social, legal and political observers say that the country is in a period similar to what followed the Supreme Court decision in Brown v. the Board of Education, which banned school segregation. The true impact of the court's June 26 ruling in Lawrence v. Texas has yet to be felt.

William Rubenstein of the University of California at Los Angeles told The Times that activists on both sides of the Gay debate have been stirred into action by the decision, especially as it relates to marriage. "The right wing is really galvanized by this, throwing down the barricades," he said.

Meanwhile, he said, "Gay rights activists are excited and want to go the next step. On the one hand the Lawrence decision gives advocates an enormous weapon in their arsenal, and at the same time it will mobilize opponents of same-sex marriage in ways we haven't seen."

"America has hit a tipping point in which fair-minded people now support equality and inclusion for Gay people and most Americans are ready to accept marriage," Evan Wolfson of Freedom to Marry told the newspaper. "We are in a Brown v. Board of Education moment right now."

"The Supreme Court has said in the strongest possible terms that love and intimacy and family have deep constitutional protection for all Americans and that Gay people have an equal right to participate," Wolfson continued. "This gives us a tremendous tool for moving forward to end the discrimination."

"At the same time," he added, "it is important to remember what came after Brown: major legal challenges and acts of courage but also fierce resistance."

On the marriage question, legislators in seven states introduced bills that would create civil unions similar to those in Vermont and all but two, those in California and Massachusetts, died. A court decision on the marriage question is also expected in Massachusetts, and a New Jersey high court has a similar case pending.

Thirty seven states have adopted Defense of Marriage Acts, and ten more considered passage of similar bills that would ban same-sex marriages or would prohibit recognition of civil unions or domestic partnerships. Of those ten, only the Texas bill, which goes into effect next month, passed.

FDA Approves Once-A-Day HIV Drug From Gilead

NEW YORK, NY - Gilead Sciences Inc. (Nasdaq: GILD) received approval Wednesday from the Food and Drug Administration for a new once-a-day AIDS treatment drug, Emtriva. The company says the drug is aimed to compete directly with lamivudine, the most widely used AIDS drug, sold by GlaxoSmithKline PLC (NYSE: GSK) as Epivir.

Glaxo, Europe's biggest drugmaker and the world's largest maker of AIDS drugs, has had great success combining lamivudine with another drug, AZT, into a combination pill called Combivir, which is taken twice a day, gfn.com reported.

Gilead will take the same tack by combining Emtriva with its other HIV drug, Viread, a nucleotide reverse transcriptase inhibitor, but hopes to best Combivir with once-a-day dosing.

Approved by the FDA two years ago, Viread has been a popular HIV drug option, effective against drug-resistant strains of HIV while presenting relatively mild side effects, says Project Inform, a San Francisco-based AIDS advocacy group.

A single pill containing Emtriva and Viread could reach the market by 2005. But even as two separate pills, Gilead said Viread and Emtriva could compete immediately against Combivir.

"[Emtriva] provides the first real convenient alternative to Combivir," said John Milligan, chief financial officer of Gilead, which is based in Foster City, Calif.

The importance of once-a-day drug dosing has been recognized by drug makers and AIDS specialists as a vital treatment factor for HIV-infected patients, who typically have to swallow 20 to 40 pills throughout the day. Missing even one dosage could open a window to viral mutation leaving the patient with fewer treatment options.

Because of these mutations, patients often have to switch HIV drugs because the virus develops resistance to the ones they are taking.

Less than a week ago, the FDA approved a new once-a-day HIV drug from Bristol-Myers, a protease inhibitor marketed as Reyataz.

Gilead obtained Emtriva, along with two hepatitis drugs, when it acquired Triangle Pharmaceuticals Inc. (Nasdaq: VIRS), for \$464 million a few months ago.

Emtriva, which is known generically as emtricitabine, belongs to the most common category of HIV drugs called nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors. They interfere with reverse transcriptase, an enzyme the virus needs to replicate.

Emtriva is the third Gilead drug approved by the FDA in the last two years, following Viread and Hepsara, for hepatitis B. The company, which focuses on antiviral drugs, has a market valuation of about \$11 billion, the third largest in the biotech business behind Amgen and Genentech, reports The Wall Street Journal.

Gilead expects the wholesale price of Emtriva to be about \$250 a month.



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POLITICS 2003

by Mark P. Kerr

'Our Favorite Son Or Daughter?'

Overtures, albeit discreet, have been made to the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) community during presidential election years by candidates, campaigns and political organizations.

A kind word, an off-the record promise were the standard practice until 1992, when then Arkansas Governor, Bill Clinton, running for the Democratic nomination, addressed a crowd, in West Hollywood, California, of political active GLBT voters marking the first time that either a candidate or campaign had made direct overtures for support, responding in kind, with votes and contributions.

During the Clinton administration, both the President, and Vice-President Al Gore, were the first to address GLBT voters and events, while in office, and the Democratic Party made a concerted effort to include active GLBT participation and outreach, while on the Republican side, they were turning down checks, especially it's 1996 standard-bearer, Kansas Senator Bob Dole, from the Log Cabin Republicans, the Gay and Lesbian group.

More progress was made on both fronts during the past presidential election, despite Florida but now, with an uploaded set of presidential primaries in 2004, the campaign has begun in earnest, after the inevitable slew of initial fund raising completed, for the most recent filing period.

So the question has arrived for GLBT voters, "Is there a favorite candidate?"

With all that has transpired from and by the current occupant of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, that question has been answered to most part, for the Republicans but the question remains for the nine candidates with organizations, seeking to challenge in 2004.

According to GLBT officials, with political, and rights organizations in the nation's capital, all nine of the candidates are making a concerted outreach for GLBT support, contributions and votes.

Next week, July 15, the Human Rights Campaign, the Washington D.C.-based GLBT rights organization will be hosting a forum for the nine Democratic candidates, addressing GLBT issues and concern and all the candidates will be in attendance.

Recently, the National Stonewall Democrats, the GLBT group affiliated with the national party, held an event, which all the candidates sent their openly GLBT staff members to speak about the upcoming campaign and the importance for the community to participate.

One of these candidates is former Vermont Governor, Howard Dean, fresh off his Internet fund raising prowess, raising more than \$7-million, and the recent victory in the moveon.org Internet primary, where more than 300,000 members participated (more than the Iowa, New Hampshire and South Carolina primaries combined), casting their votes for their choice with Dean garnering more than 45% of those vote.

As governor, Dean signed the state's civil union proposal, making the state the first to formally recognize same-sex unions, something that has garnered him a lot of publicity and favorable reviews by GLBT political activists but the question remains, "Is there a favorite candidate?"

If one looks at Arizona, and it's four openly Gay Democratic elected officials, the answer is "maybe not yet."

State Senator Ken Chevront and state Representative Wally Straughn, both of Phoenix are supporting North Carolina Senator John Edwards. State Representatives Jack Jackson Jr., of Window Rock, and Robert Meza of Phoenix are supporting Connecticut Senator Joseph Lieberman, the 2000 Democratic Vice Presidential candidate.

Most GLBT political pundits state that the community shouldn't put it's "eggs in one basket" but should participate in the process, especially in lieu of the recent Supreme Court decision in the sodomy case and the rumored retirements from that bench, naming just one of the many recent examples.

On Saturday, June 12, former Vermont Governor Dean will be touring the state, in Flagstaff, Phoenix and Tucson, bringing his message to the Grand Canyon State:

In Flagstaff, Dean will be at the Flagstaff-Coconino Democratic Party Annual Picnic, Fort Tuthill State Park, 11:30 a.m. to noon.

Dean will be in Tucson, 2:15 to 3 p.m., at the Tucson Marriott, University Park, 880 East Second Street.

At 5:00 p.m., Dean will be at the Arizona Democratic Party Annual Volunteer Awards Dinner, in the Mountain Preserve Reception Center, 1431 E. Dunlap in Phoenix. (For more information about this event, E-mail: bleiniger@azdem.org.)

If you can't make these events, which will be the first of many visits by Dean, according to Hunter Allen, press spokesperson for the Dean campaign, visit his Web site at www.deanforamerica.com.

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AIDS Groups Warn Bush Of 'Censorship'

WASHINGTON, DC - More than 150 HIV/AIDS organizations and other advocacy groups sent an open letter to President George W. Bush blasting the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for threatening to withhold money from agencies that pursue HIV prevention in ways the Republican administration believes promotes sex.

"Increasingly, federal agencies are making politically motivated decisions intent on dismantling or discrediting programs and funding initiatives targeted at those communities most at risk of infection: people of color and Gay and Bisexual men," states the letter, dated June 20 but mailed on Monday. "This trend is not acceptable and works against not just the health and safety of at-risk groups, but the health and safety of all citizens."

At the eye of the storm is the Stop AIDS Project, a San Francisco-based prevention organization that may lose its \$600,000 in federal funding if they fail to stop three workshops the CDC claims have titles or content that encourage sexual activity. That amounts to a third of the agency's \$1.8 million annual operating budget, the bulk of which is fronted by the City of San Francisco.

Stop AIDS officials insist they won't halt the workshops.

The threat comes just months after a federal probe reviewed Stop AIDS' operations and cleared the agency of violating federal laws or local obscenity standards. The three workshops in question include programs that offer advice on relations with male prostitutes, oral sex and anal intercourse. One is called "Bootylicious."

CDC spokeswoman Kathy Harben hadn't seen the letter but she defended the agency's notice to Stop AIDS of its concern about the workshops.

"The CDC is very aware that federal law states that appropriate use of funds for HIV prevention may include frank discussion of risk behaviors," Harben said. "The concern is to ensure that these materials or discussions are not directly promoting sexual activity."

Harben said no decision on pulling Stop AIDS' funding has been made.

Stop AIDS spokeswoman Shana Naomi Krochmal said the organization is gratified that so many HIV/AIDS groups have signed onto the letter to support their efforts.

"People understand that there's a larger role that politics is being allowed to play in science and in public health," Krochmal said. "People around the country recognize that what's happening here in San Francisco with Stop AIDS is a dangerous precedent for people doing HIV/AIDS prevention everywhere."

The 15-page letter, which includes 10 pages listing the signatories, also attacks Bush for failing to provide adequate funding for domestic efforts to combat the epidemic.

"The HIV epidemic is growing in America every day, while federal resources to fight it are not keeping pace," the letter reads. "If the government does not fully fund federal AIDS programs, there is only one sure result: The American taxpayer will see both costs of treatment and the death toll rise dramatically."

The signatories included some of the nation's biggest HIV/AIDS groups, including New York's Gay Men's Health Crisis and Houston's Montrose Clinic, and represented agencies in 34 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Bangladesh and Indonesia.

The letter also praised some of Bush's HIV/AIDS initiatives. The president on Wednesday, July 2, appointed a global AIDS ambassador, former drug industry leader Randall Tobias, who will be charged with carrying out Bush's \$15 billion initiative to combat AIDS abroad. Tobias, a top GOP fund-raiser, is a former chairman and CEO of Eli Lilly & Co., a major pharmaceutical corporation.

"As leaders of national, regional and local organizations committed to ending the human suffering caused by AIDS, we are appreciative of the focus you and your administration have placed on the global AIDS pandemic," the letter said. "Your recognition of the importance of fighting HIV/AIDS is to be commended."

White House Straddles Marriage Issue

WASHINGTON, DC - Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist's endorsement of a constitutional amendment that would deny equality in marriage to Gay and Lesbian Americans has thrust the Republican party into a potentially divisive internal debate.

Asked the president's thoughts on Frist's remarks, spokesman Ari Fleischer sidestepped the question, telling reporters Bush had had no contact with Frist on the issue and reiterated continued White House support for the Defense of Marriage Act.

"The president believes that marriage is an institution between a man and a woman," Fleischer said. "We have a law on the books right now that passed with massive, overwhelming bipartisan majorities in 1996. The president supports that legislation and that's where he stands right now."

When asked whether the president supported a constitutional amendment that would write in the definition as a union between a man and a woman into the federal constitution, he ducked again, saying the

issue was "a question in the legal realm."

In an interview on ABC's "This Week," Frist indicated the issue of Gay marriage would be a fertile one for Republicans entering the 2004 election campaign. Most of the country's conservatives were apoplectic over Thursday's Supreme Court sodomy ruling which was seen as a broad endorsement of Gay civil rights.

Drawing on Antonin Scalia's blistering dissent, conservatives charge that the court's endorsement of constitutional equality for Gay and Lesbian Americans will lead the court to an inevitable endorsement of their right to legally marry.

Political strategists say the president's reluctance to back the anti-Gay amendment is more one of strategy than any sympathy for Gay civil rights. It is far easier, they say, for the president to change the nature of the courts than it is for him to back a controversial change to the U.S. constitution.

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There is steamy planetary action as we welcome July. Planets heat up in Cancer and then in Leo. But keep a watchful eye out for Mars which butts shocking Uranus through most of the month and then retrogrades on the 29th. Actions definitely speak louder and prouder than words! Kaboom!

But all work and no play makes for a very dull summer. Thank goodness there is a planetary march into lusty Leo mid-month. You are thrust into the social swim so pack your bathing cap and dive in. Retro Mars screws up your work projects anyway....

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22

Proud Scorps cannot be reined in or tied down, as much as one would try. This July promises a bevy of interesting adventures (no names please!) across a range of exotic locations. Make your tracks before the planets shift into Leo in mid-month and you are parachuted into the corporate arena. Ready to make a name for yourself? Does it have more than four letters?

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22

There is something exciting about these planets in Cancer. Gay Archers are suddenly ready, raring and roasty hot. What a change of pace! But make hay while the sun shines, cousin; by mid-July the planets shift and so do you. Travel awaits those who plan ahead. Do so immediately; Mars retrogrades on the 29th and upends home projects. Escape while escaping is good!

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20

Relationships take up more of your attention in early July as the planets hover in emotional Cancer. Pink Caps can reinforce relationships or seek new ones, as they wish. By mid-July, the planets move into Leo and heat up partnerships to a sexual boil. Poke the beehive and see who gets bitten. Retrograde Mars will make any move landscape changing. You have been warned!

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19

Even though the summer beckons, Aquarians are content to take care of the nitty gritty rather than play. July offers you a great opportunity to buckle down and become more task oriented before the planets move on into Leo mid-month. After that you are drawn to creating and maintaining relationships. Can you buy love? Retro Mars pulls out your checkbook.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

Toss your troubles to the four winds, at least in early July when planets in Cancer make life too fun and giddy for any serious application. Good. Guppies need a break! Enjoy it while you can. Planets edge into Leo mid-month and turn up the speed on your treadmill and grindstone. Work it and get it out of the way. You do want to make a good first impression, don't you?

ARIES
MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

No sooner do you comfortably nest in the bosom of your home than the planets deliver a party to your door. July is replete with fun, fancy and frolic for all proud Rams who can muster the energy. But as you get the party train on track, be sure to steer clear of retro Mars at the end of the month who is vying for a new direction. Which way is up comrade? Do you really care??

TAURUS
APRIL 21 - MAY 21

Queer Bulls can't help but roar out the good news but will it come out as a squeak? There are many planets hovering in Cancer in early July and, as they trek into Leo, you may find yourself embroiled in family affairs. Is there a friend in sight? Perhaps, but with retro Mars conjuncting Uranus, you find that compadres spark a few unwanted changes. Dig in your hooves.

GEMINI
MAY 22 - JUNE 21

Cash in on your good fortune early in July when the planets find a way to pay your bills. But don't go crazy on the charge card; by mid-month your interests veer to putting out fires in your career. Pink Twins should not take any professional action unless absolutely necessary. Mars retrogrades and makes your best moves deep potholes. Oops!! Retirement anyone??

CANCER
JUNE 22 - JULY 23

How do you like all this wonderful attention rainbow Crab? There are five planets dancing in your sign this July and you cannot help but be charming and charismatic. So woo the pants off of em while you can and celebrate when the planets swerve into Leo. You turn your attention to the bottom line so it makes dollars and sense. Can money buy happiness? Let's find out!

LEO
JULY 24 - AUGUST 23

There are quite a few planets transiting Cancer in early July and proud Lions may feel quite a bit intuitive. But before you bank too much on your profound insights, the planets move into your own sign and you are pushed into center stage. You will be far too busy meeting and greeting to get caught up in your solitary thoughts. Good thing too; You should be Out and about, cousin.

VIRGO
AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23

Queer Virgins are popularity plus this July as far flung friends find you. Haul out the drinks and chips and have a Gay old time. But as the month edges forward, you may find yourself more philosophical and spiritual. Planets in Leo suggest that there may be more to life than just a good time. Forgetaboutit bud; enjoy your summer and contemplate your navel in the fall.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23

July turns your attention to professional goals. Gay Libras are poised and ready for success as many planets cluster in Cancer.

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BECOME A VOLUNTEER

What Makes Our Town Tick?

Calabazamusic@yahoo.com

By Jerry D.

Hello readers! Back in 1979, Tucson was just beginning to form itself as a city not only worth visiting, but a place to call home too. The GLBT scene was minimal, with only three bars in town to cater to the community. It was at that time that a group of 30 people started what is now known as the Tucson Knight Owls (TKO). The organization celebrated its 24th anniversary last weekend at their permanent home, the Yard Dog Saloon.

I had an opportunity to talk to some of the members after their monthly meeting. The meetings are held on the first Saturday of the month, with attendance from both current members and those who wish to join also. The monthly meetings have not changed much in the history of TKO. The officers conduct the meeting and there is a beer bust to raise funds immediately after.

Of the original group that started out as the P.S. Club, (TKO came a couple of months after the forming of the club) Doc is the only remaining charter member. The group numbers 22 at the present time, with a couple of new entries present at the last meeting. Doc was asked about what he has seen in the past and what he hopes to see in the future of TKO. "I see nothing but good things ahead" he says with his warming smile. "We have a good group here who is willing to work, and that is what keeps the club going".

TKO's lifeblood is in the efforts made by its members. Part of the membership is the requirement that time be spent in one form or another to help the club

not only survive, but strive to be as much a part of the community as it was in its inception. Organizations who benefit from the work include TIHAN and the Balboa Kids organization. Trips, known as "Runs" are held numerous times a year to help raise funds for the charitable groups.

I asked Jorge, one of TKO's newest members what drew him to the group and what he gets out of it. "I get the satisfaction of a real brotherhood" he answered. If you are wondering, TKO is not a men-only club. Female members are inducted just as the guys and are welcome at any time. Jorge feels it is an honor to belong to one of the oldest standing organizations in Arizona, and he loves the new friends he has made since his joining a year ago.

The members of TKO embody a sense of pride and labor that most of us strive for in our daily lives. With their efforts, other groups have formed and succeeded here in Tucson, using the same work ethic. If you want to see what hard work, good friendship and dedication look like at its best, come to one of the beer busts held at the Yard Dog. TKO's original intentions still ring true in its modern membership. A group who want to help and have fun all at the same time.

From what I witnessed during the birthday celebration, I can only agree with Doc that only good things are on the horizon for TKO. My thanks to Ray and the Yard Dog staff for letting me sit in on the monthly meeting and the chance to talk to the members of TKO. Have a good week and remember to register to vote!

NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE

by Lee Thorn

Literary Tucson

Here's a quixotic notion: What if you wanted to read a contemporary novel set in Tucson and written by a Tucsonan? What if you didn't want it to be a mystery novel or a romantic novel? What if you wanted what Larry King might call "a novel novel"?

I'm not sure if any such animal exists at this exact point in time, but shouldn't it? What I'm getting at is whether or not a town like Tucson - that's 300 years old, that's had a university for over 100 years, that currently boasts almost a million residents - should have its own distinctive literary tradition. Shouldn't we be able to walk into a bookstore and find a wide selection of books by Tucsonans including works of fiction, non-fiction and poetry?

And, more generally, what does it take, in terms of critical mass, for a city to develop its own literary tradition? What must that mass consist of? Is it sheer population, number of writers, number of readers, some combination of the three?

If you go into a massive chain bookstore like Borders and check their "local interest" section, you find a ton of books on southwestern cooking, another ton on southwestern photography, and a somewhat smaller assortment of books by Barbara Kingsolver. I'm not familiar with Kingsolver's work, but I now know that she's the reigning star of Tucson literature. Perhaps that's as it should be.

But I found Border's "local interest" section disappointing. There had to be more. I went to the main library and asked the reference librarian for a book on

Tucson's literary tradition. I may have just run into an incompetent librarian, but the fact is that he spent an awful long time looking things up on his computer and came up empty.

How could this be? Tucson has been home to lots of famous writers. It's packed with writers today. So why haven't we coalesced into a literary tradition, or several rival literary traditions?

My theory, somewhat tentative at this stage, is that we're the victims of cultural imperialism. Whatever literary grapes that we grow in Tucson get bottled in places like New York. If our grapes don't please the editors in those far-off places, they don't get bottled at all. Tucson writers who "make it" get their credibility from New York and are chosen for their national marketability. And thus we contribute our narrow stream to the homogenized flow of mass culture.

I'd guess that if Tucson were an island nation with our size, history, demographics, and no connection to New York, we'd have our own publishing industry and our own rich literary tradition. New York is the great national bottler and, inevitably, the great national filter as well.

None of this involves any evil conspiracies or foul play of any sort. It involves the economics of traditional publishing and a very old Tucson habit of mind that might be called willing aesthetic subservience.

But my failed quest for literary

CONTINUED ON PAGE THIRTEEN

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IMPRESSIONS



A View From The Rock

by Joy L. Childress, USA A Commentary From Cornerstone Fellowship

On Balance In Your Life

Many psychologists and counselors rattle on about having a "balanced life". I am in agreement on that issue. However, there are pitfalls in leading a balanced life. It all depends on "what the individual sees as a balanced life".

I am pretty much involved in the worship team at Cornerstone Fellowship Church. I love it, and I could be involved in it 24/7!! I can sing, dance, wave banners, and praise and worship God in whatever way He leads me to do so. I was telling my friend of 25 or more years about how I love the worship team and the chance to serve Jesus in this way. Her comment was that I should balance out my life by joining the Tucson Civic Chorus or something on that order. Years ago, I did sing in the Tucson Civic Chorus. I've been there and done that. It never gave me the thrills that I have today, singing and worshipping Jesus with all my heart, soul, and mind. Later, after this discussion with my friend, I pondered the idea of "a balanced life".

My friend thought that I might be going overboard on "church" stuff, so she took it upon herself to "enlighten" me about living a balanced life. I don't mind her telling me how to live my life; that really isn't the crux of what she was trying to communicate with me. I can regard her advice as something to help me and follow it; or I can regard her advice as something that would be negative for me right now and not follow it.

I appreciate her concern; but she really wasn't talking to me about me. She was really talking about herself: for she does not have Jesus in her life, and without Jesus, no one can live a truly balanced, healthy life. Jesus came to teach us how to

live; He died for us so we could be forgiven and live forever with Him in eternity.

I fully believe that my friend was reacting out of the uncomfortable position that she doesn't have what I have--Jesus Christ. So, to help her feel more comfortable with herself, she tried to get me to do other things beside "church things". Whenever I talk to her about Jesus, she becomes uncomfortable and wants to "save" me from being "unbalanced". It is her way of pushing God out of her life. I have a great burden for her that some day she will see her need for Jesus and ask Him to be her Savior and Friend. She is a very dear friend of mine, and I would give anything to see her come to Jesus.

The other day I went to her house for a visit before she left for Texas to see her boyfriend. When I was getting ready to leave, I asked her if I could pray with her for her safe journey. She surprised me by saying, "Yes". So, I prayed with her and for her. After the "amen", I looked up and she was crying. God touched her heart in that moment, and I pray that her awareness of the tenderness of Jesus will grow and bring her to a knowledge of Jesus Christ. I hope you have that same knowledge and walk with Him in close companionship each day. Jesus Christ is the only One who can truly provide a balanced life for each of us

Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.....Matthew 4:4b

For in Him we live and move and have our being.....Act 17:28a

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.....Philippians 1:21

Gay/Lesbian Rights Divided Along Generational Lines

NEW YORK, NY - The biggest divide over Gay rights in America today may not be along political parties or religious factions, but among generations, reports The Christian Science Monitor.

In a recent Gallup poll, 72 percent of those aged 18-29 agreed same-sex relations should be legal, compared with only 39 percent of those aged 65 and older. Most Americans don't believe same-sex couples should be able to marry, yet 59 percent of incoming college freshmen support same-sex marriage, according to the latest survey by the Higher Education Research Institute.

On the general matter of Gay relations, opinion has been shifting among older as well as younger generations: The latest Gallup poll found that six in 10 Americans agree Gay sex should be legal (up from a low of 32 percent in 1986), and 88 percent oppose discrimination against Gay men and Lesbians.

As more Americans have first-hand experience with a Gay or Lesbian person, tolerance, if not full acceptance, is taking root, says The Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network, or GLSEN. Much to the chagrin of religious conservatives, tolerance is being promoted in schools around the country. GLSEN lists over 1,700 Gay-straight alliances - school-approved clubs with meetings conducted on school grounds - in small towns and big cities, from Georgia to Utah.

"More and more people begin to recognize that LGBT [Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender] people are part of their communities," says Eliza Byard of GLSEN. "They've grown up with them. They've had them in classes. It would be very hard to convince that generation of people that there's a legitimate reason their classmates shouldn't have the same rights they do."

Viacom Tables G/L Cable Network

SAN FRANCISCO, CA - PlanetOut.com reports that Outlet, the proposed Gay and Lesbian cable network that was to be backed by Showtime and MTV, has been put on indefinite hold.

In November, after a network memo was leaked on the Web, Viacom confirmed that the channel was being prepped for a second-quarter 2003 launch. Now, however, Showtime says in a statement that "due to the current economic climate, the timetable has been slowed down for the development of a new network dedicated to programming to the Gay and Lesbian audience. We will keep the media informed of new developments."

The proposed network was to have included new and existing Gay-themed films, TV series, news, and documentaries. But while Viacom has relaunched TNN as Spike TV, in May the company slashed staff at its Comedy Central channel by 20% and at Showtime by 10%.

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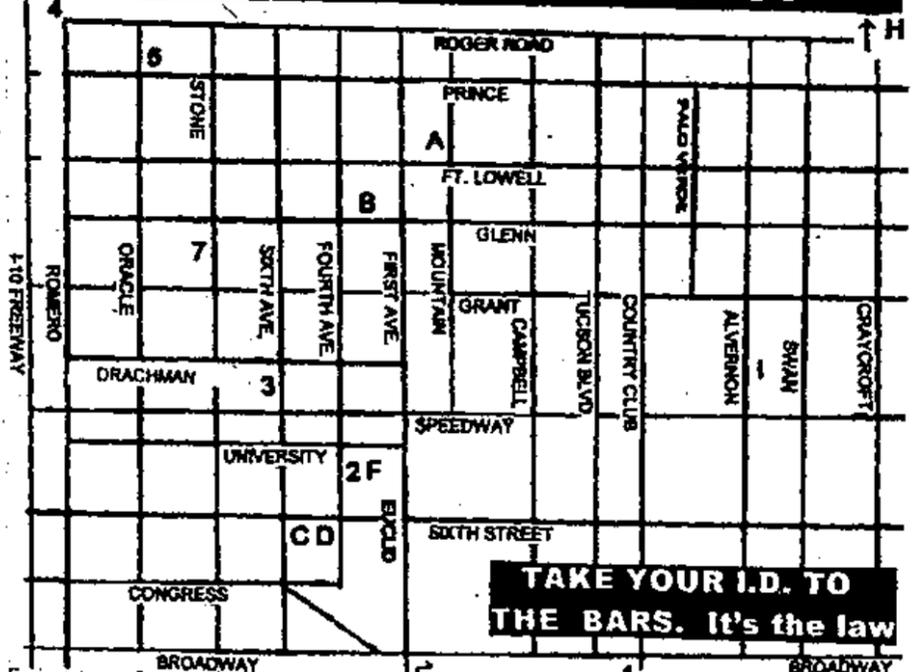


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- 2. IBT'S: 616 N. 4th Ave. 882-3053
- 3. VENTURE-N: 1239 N. 6th Ave. 882-8224
- 4. NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL: 4001 N. Romero Road - 407-8622
- 5. WOODY'S - 3710 N. Oracle Road, 292-8702
- 7. YARD DOG - 2449 N. Stone, 624-3858

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YOU HAVE QUESTIONS?
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DR. X HAS ANSWERS.

Dear Dr. X,
 I became interested in someone who was HIV positive (I'm negative) but he refuses to become involved with anyone unless they're also positive. Wouldn't he be more at risk with someone positive instead of someone negative? Of course, I'm also thinking of the risk to me. What should I be concerned about and do you know what the chances are of condom failure and accidental infections?

Signed, HIV+ Not An Issue

Dear HIV+ Not An Issue,
 I admire the thought you are putting into this situation. I have a feeling the reason he doesn't want to get involved with a negative person is he needs someone who is going through the same thing and understands the range of emotions he is going through, or he may not want to take the chance of accidentally infecting his partner. There are rumors of super-infections between positive people, but the major majority of people in the field of HIV/AIDS seem to believe that once you become positive you cannot become re-infected with a different strain of the virus. Other than HIV you are at risk for a lot of other STD's such as Hepatitis or Gonorrhea. To answer your question about condom breakage and failure, the most common reason for condom breakage is human error. Make sure your using fresh condoms and enough water based lube and that you put it on the right way. Just remember your basics and play

safe and you should have no problems. I also want to remind you that HIV is not curable,

Dear Dr. X

Most of my friends are cutting edge and into getting tattooed, pierced and branded. It all looks real cool now while we are young but what if any are the long-term effects? Could you also give me some basics on what to look for? My friends have been giving me conflicting information.

Signed, Body Art

Dear Body Art,

I read an article the other day that had a cartoon in which a 90 yr. old grandmother was dressed like Britney Spears talking to her great grand children. I had to laugh because it's true. What are we thinking about when we get tattooed pierced or branded? I guess times change and when we get older it will probably be normal for a grandfather to have a 2-gauge earring and a pierced septum, or a 90 r. old woman with a navel ring and a butterfly tattoo on her ankle. Even Dr. X thought long and hard before getting his tats and piercing because tats, like herpes last forever. If you do decide to go for it, go to a reputable shop. Decide beforehand what you want. Listen to what the piercer/tattooist is saying to you. Make sure the needles are new and sterile and never, ever get pierced by a gun. You can contract Hepatitis C from used ink and un-sterile/used equipment. Most if not all quality shops will explain their safety procedures to you. If you feel uncomfortable don't do it. Most imp

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Notes From The For Real Side
 Continued from Page Nine

Tucson did lead me to two exciting discoveries. First, the bookstore that had far more Tucson authors than any other I visited turned out to be one of the smallest stores in terms of floor space. Reader's Oasis at 3400 E. Speedway. I already knew about the place because of the respectable size of its poetry section, but I hadn't previously noticed its Tucson writers section.

The second discovery of my failed quest, and one that even a Tucson bookseller found difficult to believe, was that the famous old curmudgeon Edward Abbey wrote poetry! Who would have imagined the self-described "barbarian" doing that? A posthumous collection of his poems is called "Earth Apples". The bad news is that nobody seems to have a copy except for the main library and theirs doesn't circulate.

Would someone please start a publishing house called TUCSON WRITERS so we can forget about New York until they come crawling to us to beg for some of our very special salsa? Otherwise we'll likely continue to be homogenized out of existence till the end of time.

And let it be written, ages and ages hence, that the Revolution Against Media Consolidation began in the Great City of Tucson.

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NON-BAR CALENDAR

GROUPS / CLUBS / ORGANIZATIONS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9

Tucson Prime Timers - Lunch/Buffer - 12:30 p.m., LaFuente, 1749 N. Oracle Rd.

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Bruce for Canasta. If you don't know how to play, we'll be glad to teach you. For reservations and directions, please call Bruce at 743-3890.

Tucson Prime Timers - Video Night - 7:00 p.m. Non pornographic movies with Gay themes are shown. Phone: 740-0620

THURSDAY, JULY 10

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 10:00 a.m. Join Karol for a morning of miniature golf. For reservations and directions, please call Karol at 744-9017.

7:00 TO 10:00 P.M. THE Men's Relationship Group meets includes a video on tantra. A great way to meet new men and make friends. Fee. Call Marc 881-4582.

FRIDAY, JULY 11

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join the guys of MSN for Hearts Night-a fun card game (and we teach if you don't know how to play). For directions and reservations, please call Karol at 744-9017.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Michael for an Opera Lecture on the castrati. For directions and reservations, please call Michael at 797-5623.

SATURDAY, JULY 12

3-D Productions presents Miss Gay Arizona-America at the Holiday Inn Palo Verde, 4550 S. Palo Verde. General Admission tickets are \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door. VIP Admission is \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. Call 631-4502 to purchase advance tickets. Or come to IBT's on Wednesdays between 8:30 - 11:00 p.m. Pre-Judging starts at 5:30 p.m. with the pageant beginning at 7:00 p.m. For more information see their ad in this issue of Observer.

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. We are showing of 3 episodes of "Queer As Folk". For reservations and directions, please call Jerry or Les at 690-9565.

#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.

Tucson Prime Timers - Food & Drinks - 5:00 p.m. Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd.

SUNDAY, JULY 13

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 3:00 p.m. Art & Jeff invite you to join them for Dinner & A Movie. They provide the main dish, and they ask you to bring a side dish to share. The film is the Danish classic: "You Are Not Alone". For reservations and directions, please call Jeff or Art at 762-9135.

MONDAY, JULY 14

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 6:00 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 591-2828.

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

TUESDAY, JULY 15

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.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16

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

Tucson Prime Timers - Video Night - 7:00 p.m. Non pornographic movies with Gay themes are shown. Phone: 740-0620

FRIDAY, JULY 18

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Jerry & Les as they host Pizza Night at their home. For only \$5, you get pizza, salad, drinks and desserts. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry or Les at 690-9565.

SATURDAY, JULY 19

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:30 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. Karol 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 Karol at 744-9017.

Tucson Prime Timers - Lunch/Business Meeting - Noon - Home Town Buffet, 5101 N. Oracle Rd.

Tucson Prime Timers - Food & Drinks - 5:00 p.m. Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd.



WEDNESDAY, JULY 9

IBT'S - 9:00 p.m., The 'DivaLicious' Show hosted by Lucinda Holliday and starring Mr. Kenneth Blake, Bunny FuFu and Samantha White.

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - New - Every Wednesday Karaoke Nite beginning at 6:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, JULY 11

IBT'S - Jazz on the patio tonight features guest vocalist John Ronstadt 6-9 p.m. At 8:00 p.m., the Miss Gay Arizona-America Pre-Pageant Show. Starring Lucinda Holliday, Chane Jordan, Mr. Kenneth Blake, Angela Dodd, Barbra Seville and Miss Gay America 1995 Patti La Piaz Safe.

SATURDAY, JULY 12

YARD DOG SALOON - Breakfast by Little Dave served from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 pm. Dancing on the patio to music by DJ starts at 9:00 pm.

SUNDAY, JULY 13

IBT'S - Party line-up includes Troy's Recovery Bar 11:00 a.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 TIHAN. 8:00 p.m. 'Puttin' on the Lips' Lipyanc Contest host ed by Janea Starr. 9:30 p.m. Host dance music with DJ T.C. Wildman.,

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Southwest LeatherSir and LeatherBoy Beer Bust 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. hosted by Colorado LeatherBoy 2003 Ruben and friends. A fundraiser to send Ruben to Southwest LeatherSir and LeatherBoy Contest being held in Phoenix August 1-3.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16

IBT'S - 9:00 p.m., The 'DivaLicious' Show hosted by Lucinda Holliday and starring Mr. Kenneth Blake, Samantha White and Bunny FuFu.

SUNDAY, JULY 20

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 10:00 a.m. Join Karol for a morning of miniature golf. For reservations and directions, please call Karol at 744-9017.

MONDAY, JULY 21

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 6:00 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 591-2828.

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

TUESDAY, JULY 22

#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 Peter for Bridge Night. If you don't know how to play, the guys are willing to teach you. For directions and reservations, please call Peter at 615-8974.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23

Tucson Prime Timers - Breakfast - 9:00 a.m. The Egg Connection, SE corner on Ft. Lowell & Country Club

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.

Tucson Prime Timers - Video Night - 7:00 p.m. Non pornographic movies with Gay themes are shown. Phone: 740-0620

THURSDAY, JULY 24

#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 Bill at 546-7539.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:30 p.m. Bill shows "Europa, Europa", the incredible, true story of a young German Jewish boy who eludes the Nazis and Russians. For reservations and directions, please call Bill at 546-7539.

7:00 TO 10:00 p.m. The Men's Relationship Group meets includes a video on tantra. A great way to meet new men and make friends. Fee. Call Marc 881-4582.

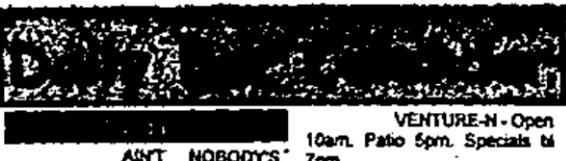
SATURDAY, JULY 26

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Marv hosts 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.

Tucson Prime Timers - Food & Drinks - 5:00 p.m. Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd.

SUNDAY, JULY 27

3-6 p.m. Tantra Workshop. A better approach to sex. Discover a safe/enjoyable sex approach for fun and relationships. Call Marc 881-4582.



AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Open 2pm. Beer Bust 5-10, \$1.25 pitchers Bud or Bud Light. Latin Music with DJ Hill 9pm to close. Drink & Shot specials all night.

IBT's - 10am-8pm \$1.75 Bloody's, Screws or Mimosas. Sangria Party \$2.50 from 4-1 Benefit B-B-Q and Beer Bust for community organizations 5:30-8pm. Karaoke with Michael D. on the patio 4:30-7:30. 8:30 shows or special events or Hi energy dancing w/DJ T.C. Wildman. 9-close. All drink specials not available during special events.

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Bar opens at noon. 10 oz Miller High Life draft 75¢ all day. From 12-6 Bloody Marys \$1.50. Drag Show (last Sunday of the month)

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio open 3pm. Daily special til 7pm. Patio Beer bust 3-7. Burger Bar-B-Que 5-7. (Donation only).

WOODY'S - Open 11am. \$1.50 Bloody Marys, screwdrivers, Mimosas. Happy Hour 11am-8pm \$2 well or domestic beer. Patio Bar open 5-close. Pick-up Beach Volleyball games 5-7. \$2.50 sirloin burger w/salad 5-9pm. Karaoke with Michael D. 9pm

YARD DOG - Open Sundays 10am - 1am. Bloody Marys or Screwdrivers \$1.75 from 10am - 1pm. 50¢ off any Rum 1pm-7pm. Dinner and live jazz 5-8pm. Kennel open daily at 5pm

Monday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Open 2pm. Happy Hour Two-For-One domestics and well 2-7pm. Free pool 8-10pm. 50¢ cups draft Bud & Bud Light 8pm to close.

IBT's - Open 11am. Happy Hours 11am-8pm, \$2 domestic beer and well. 4-9pm. Undie Mondie-Happy Hour prices for those in their undies 9pm-close. Queer As Folk shown beginning at 8pm. Hot Dancing follows with Johnny DJ. All drink specials not available during special events.

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open Noon. Happy Hour 4-7pm. \$1.75 Domestic Beer. Free Pool 8pm to close. \$1.50 Jellos & Mimosas 6pm to close.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio 5pm. Daily specials til 7pm. 4-8 \$2.25 Martinis

WOODY'S - Open Noon. \$2 well or domestic beer til 8pm. Karaoke w/Michael D. 9-11

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am. 50¢ off any Scotch until 7pm. Kennel open 5pm.

Tuesday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Open 2pm. Happy Hour Two-For-One domestic beer & well 2-7pm. Pooltournament 7:30pm. \$3 entry, bar matches pot. Country music 9pm to close. \$2 bottled Bud products 8 to close.

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

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Bar Opens noon. Happy Hour 4-7pm. \$1.75 domestic beers & \$2 all wells. Ladies Night 9-close \$1 Kamakazi, Jellos. 70s/80s music

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio 5pm. Daily specials til 7pm. Spaghetti Nite 6-8

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 at 5pm.

Wednesday

AIN'T 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 8-1.

IBT's - Open 11am. Happy Hours 11am-8pm, \$2 domestic beer and well. 9pm 'Diva-Licious' show w/Lucinda Holliday and guests. HiNRG Dancing with DJ-Q. All drink specials not available during special events.

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open noon-1am Happy Hour 4-7pm. plus drink specials. Shrimp Fry Dinner 5-8pm \$5.99. Karaoke 8pm-close.

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

WOODY'S - Open Noon. \$2 well or domestic beer til 8pm. Volleyball games start 7pm. Underwear- fetish- leather nite w/Gary and Chris along with GMHP. \$1 off any drink or bottled beer. (Excludes draft & schnapps) for all in leather or underwear.

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am. 50¢ off any Vodka until 7pm. Kennel open daily at 5pm.

Thursday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2-7pm with 2-4-1 domestic beer and well. Karaoke 9-close, \$2 Kamikazees and \$1 Hot Sex.

IBT's - 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 noon-8pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm. 10oz Sirloin Steak w/potato & salad 5:30-8pm, \$6.99

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 Ass drinks. Top scores on NTN 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 5pm.

Friday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2-7pm with 2-4-1 domestic beer and well. Music with DJ Hill 9pm - close. Shot and drink specials all night. No cover.

IBT's - Open 11am. Happy Hours 11am-8pm, \$2 domestic beer and well. Live Jazz on the patio with the Susan 6-9pm. Patio Bar 5-1pm. Dance Party with DJ T.C. Wildman 9 to 1. All drink specials not available during special events.

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open 10:30am-1am. Happy Hour 4-7pm. Fish or Shrimp Dinner \$5.99 11am-8pm. Country Western Dance with Libby 8pm-closing.

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 5pm.

Saturday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Open at 2pm. Pool Tournament 6:30pm \$3 entry. Bar matches pot. \$2 pitchers for pool players. DJ Hill 9pm-close. Drink & Shot Specials all night.

IBT's - 10am-5pm \$4 Martinis and Daquiris. 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-1am. Grill open 1-7pm. Margaritas \$3 8pm-close. Latino Nite. Beer Bust (1st Saturday of the Month) Drag Show (last Saturday of month). Free SAAF HIV testing.

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

WOODY'S - Open 11am \$2 well or domestic beer. Til 8pm. Happy Hour 4-9pm. \$1.75 well or domestocs. Patio Bar opens 5pm. 5-9pm Filet 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



NOTICES

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 299-6647.

ANONYMOUS HIV COUNSELING AND TESTING is available through the Pima County Health Department at sites throughout Tucson. Very Gay Friendly. For more information or to make an appointment call 781-7676.

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, 1438 N. Campbell across from University Hospital. For more info. Call Anabel at 325-0892

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

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

OUTLOUD! Tucson's premiere Local Lesbian and Gay Radio Show, broadcast every Sunday from 7-8 pm on 91.3 FM, Community Radio KXCI.

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. every month. All meetings take place at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. Call 624-1779 for more info. SAGA Email@aol.com http://members.aol.com/sageemail

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP FOR ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLES. Not a dating club. Discreet. Meetings every Monday evening. Call for more info. APEX (Arizona Power Exchange) 502-415-1123. 24-hr multi-choice message including information, calendar and location.

AA Meeting with HIV/AIDS focus, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., Wingspan Annex, 739 N. 4th Ave. 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 690-8565 for information and a newsletter. Check the Non-Bar Calendar in the Observer.

CARE TEAMS ARE AVAILABLE to offer support to people living with HIV/AIDS. The Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network offers trained, compassionate and committed volunteers to provide services including friendly visits, light housekeeping, assistance with meals, shopping, errands, transportation and companionship for medical appointments, and respite care for primary care givers. No judgement or proselytizing - we are here to be of service. For information call Scott at 299-6647.

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

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

THE MEN'S MASSAGE GROUP meets the 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 881-4592 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 615-6438 for more info.

TUCSON PRIDE, INC. (Formerly Tucson Lesbian and Gay Alliance - TLGA) meets on the second Tuesday at 845 S. Craycroft Road at 6pm. Tucson 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.

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

GAY OR BI-SEXUAL MEN in relationships with women. Need friends you can talk to? Weekly support group meets Wednesdays 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Licensed psychologist facilitator. Call 745-6977 in Tucson for more information. Strictly confidential.

WINGSPAN - Tucson's Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Community Center, 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.

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

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE .25 PER WORD \$8.00 MINIMUM CLASSIFIED ADS MUST BE MAILED NO PHONE ADS

NOTICES

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

DESERT DOMINION, whose focus is providing information and education for people interested in the BDSM lifestyle, meets monthly for group discussion and social events. Visit our web site http://www.desertdominion.org or call (520)762-6424

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

AAPSP - ARIZONA ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY PROFESSIONALS: a confidential organization committed to providing support and networking for all Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual public safety professionals in Arizona. Membership open to Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters, Probation, Parole and Corrections Officers and civilians working within these agencies. Website: AAPSP.org or e-mail: AAPSP@aol.com or call Dave (520)745-9059 (Tucson) or Kim (602)534-6219 (Phoenix)

GLSEN - Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network meets first Thursday of every month at 4:30pm at Wingspan, 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. Fiedler 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 5 meetings a week in Tucson. People who wish to stop their compulsive sexual behavior, please call (520) 745-0775 for current information.

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

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

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 (606 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 2097, Phoenix, AZ 85001-2097. 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. 322-5655. 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

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)

REVEILLE GAY MEN'S CHORUS rehearses Tuesdays 7-10pm at MCC Church, 3269 N. Mountain. Have any history/experience singing? Join us!! Call 617-3100 for more info.

TGNetArizona: The central source for news and information for, by and about the TS, TG, and Gender-varient communities of Arizona. Website URL: http://www.tgnetarizona.org - e-mail address: aigoodrum@uswest.net.org

"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

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

NOTICES

HALLELUJAH RECOVERY DRUG & ALCOHOL 12-STEP. Every Thursday 5:30-6:30pm at Cornerstone Fellowship, 2902 N. Geronimo. 622-4628.

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE CLINIC provided daily by the Pima County Health Department. Gay friendly. Confidential. Treatment and Medication too! Any questions? Call 624-6272

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

LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP. Involving discussion, support and activities. Designed to support each other. Meets 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month from 6:30 to 8pm. Alternate Saturdays the group meets for social activities. For info call Dorian Easty. 882-7723 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 575-8660 or write P.O. Box 36264, Tucson, AZ 85740-6264. All replies confidential.

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 615-3491, 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 881-1794 - 8 am - 5 pm Mon. - Fri.

BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO - a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer the company). For more info, call the Bears Hotline (520)790-5775 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910 or visit our website at www.betop.com All are welcome to our general meetings/potlucks on the 2nd Friday of every month, 7pm at Sentinel Bldg. On the City of Tucson Resource Campus, 310 N. Commerce Park Loop on Bonita 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 888-5541

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. Elkie 581-8950 or Ronn 968-2384.

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

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

T-SQUARES Lesbian and Gay square dance club meets every Tuesday from 6:30-9:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N. 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 889-7298.

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

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

DESERT VOICES, Tucson's Gay & Lesbian Chorus. Want to join? E-mail: www.desertvoices.org or call 791-9682.

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

GLBT Buddhist meditation group meets Sundays from 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. at the Wingspan annex space, 739 N. 4th Ave. Please be willing to sit for two twenty minute sessions in silence. All are welcome.

THE MAN TO MAN SOCIAL/EROTIC EDUCATION CLUB is the tantic men's group that offers passionate friendships, fun activities, and sex education. Marc - 681-4582

ROOMMATES

ROOM FOR RENT. A quiet room in our private home on the far east side. \$150/mo. Includes utilities, Call Brian 661-3051 or Charles 982-4023. 993

MIDTOWN - SMALL COMPLEX. 2 bedroom duplex. Large pool, Small back yard. Available about July 10. No lease. \$525 plus Gas and Elec. Call 326-1934. 990

HOUSE FOR RENT. City & Mountain views. 2 bedroom and computer room. Security system, W/D, close to downtown, St. Mary's and UA. \$600/mo. First-Last-Dep. 624-1369. 990

HISTORIC, CHARMING, 2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 900 sq. ft. end unit townhouse. Stone fireplace, flagstone floors, washer-dryer, private large walled yard. Includes an additional 576 square foot studio and office with separate entrance. Perfect for artist or home business. Broadway/Wilmot area. \$900/mo. 219-9925. 988

LOOKING FOR GAY ROOMMATE. Room available Aug. 1st. On the far Eastside. \$300 + 1/3 utilities. Family room w/vaulted ceilings, open kitchen and large backyard. YOU MUST BE A NS & Drug free. Car required. For an Appt. call 248-1756 or email @ mranalittle@cox.net 990

GWM LOOKING FOR ROOMMATE from 22 to 30 y/o. 5 minutes from UA, on bus line. Walk to shopping. Large studio \$163/mo. + \$150 deposit. Full house privileges. Call 520-401-1642 anytime. Available now. Only nice, serious people please. 988

LOOKING FOR GM ROOMMATE. 5 MINUTES FROM TUCSON MALL in Foothills area. Very nice large home. \$350/mo. All utilities included, full house privileges. 293-1478 or 861-3557 anytime after Friday, June 5. 987

EMPLOYMENT

ATTENTION 4th AVENUE UNIVERSITY AREA HAIR DRESSERS & MANICURISTS WANTED. Lowest booth rental around. All new salon. 4th Avenue locale. 2 private suites and other stations available. Call 990-8600. 987

SERVICES

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FULL BODY SWEDISH MASSAGE FOR MEN. Best rates in Tucson! Try the rest. Compare the value! 7 days. \$30/hour. 327-3135. 996

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EXPERIENCE A TOTALLY RELAXING or deep-tissue massage by a trained, caring male therapist. In-home, hotel or resort. Often at a moments notice. (520) 730-7968. 996

ENJOY A NICE TOUCH. Attractive man offers a sensuous, relaxing massage. 10am - 8pm. 745-0231 or 891-7859 995

LET ME PAMPER YOU! With a Full Body Swedish Massage in a quiet, relaxed atmosphere. \$35 for a full hour. Ralph (520) 883-7496 995

TENSE? STRESSED OUT? Relax for an hour with a full body rub by Frank. Private studio, off-street parking. (520)548-7019 days, evenings. 968

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ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS Let me keep your clothes fitting properly and in good repair. Experienced - Economical - Prompt. Merle Hudson, (520)888-7264 in Tucson. 997



Wal-Mart Announces New G/L Policy

Continued from Page One

spokeswoman said several Gay employees wrote senior management about six weeks ago to say they would "continue to feel excluded" unless Wal-Mart changed its policies.

With the change announced by Wal-Mart, 9 of the 10 largest Fortune 500 companies now have rules barring discrimination against Gay employees, according to the Human Rights Campaign.

The exception is the Exxon Mobil Corporation, which was created in 1999 after Exxon acquired Mobil, and then revoked a Mobil policy that provided medical benefits to partners of Gay employees, as well as a policy that included sexual orientation as a category of prohibited discrimination.

Wal-Mart said it currently had no plans to extend medical benefits to domestic partners.

Though no one directly linked the company decision to the Thursday's Supreme Court ruling against the country's sodomy laws, it certainly didn't hurt.

"A major argument against equal benefits, against fair treatment of employees, has been taken away," said Kevin Cathcart of Lambda Legal. "And so even within corporations it's a very different dialogue today, a very different dialogue."

There is no federal law prohibiting discrimination in the workplace on the basis of sexual orientation, but 13 states, the District of Columbia and several hundred towns, cities and counties have such legal protections in place for public and private employees.

Wal-Mart's new policy reads in part: "We affirm our commitment and pledge our support to equal opportunity employment for all qualified persons, regardless of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, disability or status as a veteran or sexual orientation."

Military's G/L Ban

Continued from Page One

lost his retirement pension worth an estimated \$1 million. Each of the Army officers sitting on the discharge board that determined Loomis's fate called homosexuality a "sickness" or said they had "no tolerance" for it, according to SLDN. The board based its discharge on a videotape seized during an arson investigation. An arsonist set fire to Loomis's home in 1996. Civilian authorities investigating the arson found the videotape, which depicts Loomis in private consensual adult sexual activity, and handed it over to Army officials. The Army used the videotape as the basis for the discharge. Loomis later lost an appeal for reinstatement.

The U.S. Supreme Court has not ruled on the constitutionality of the military's sodomy statute or "don't ask, don't tell," but four appellate courts have upheld the policy. "The legal landscape has changed since the earlier courts' rulings," Osburn said. "Those decisions were based in part on a view that the state could regulate private consensual sexual conduct under Bowers v. Hardwick," an earlier Supreme Court opinion upholding Georgia's sodomy statute that the current court has now overruled.

4TH ANNUAL TUCSON SIDEWINDERS BASEBALL BENEFIT FOR TIHAN



6:30PM SUNDAY JULY 20, 2003
VS. EDMONTON TRAPPERS
AT THE TUCSON ELECTRIC PARK

Advance tickets \$30.00 per person
(of which \$15.00 is a donation to TIHAN)
Tickets can be purchased in advance by mailing check payable to:

TIHAN 492 N. Alvernon Way, Tucson, Arizona 85711
or by calling TIHAN, (Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network) at 299-6647
or Dave Locke at 326-1952.

After July 18, 2003, tickets will be \$35.00 per person.
Price includes: Game, luxury air-conditioned sky box, hamburgers/hotdogs, all the fixings and a cash bar.
There will also be a 50/50 drawing.



Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____
of tickets _____ Price per ticket _____



Make check payable to:
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492 N. Alvernon Way
Tucson, AZ 85711



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Barbra Seville
Miss Gay Arizona 2000



Angela Dodd
Miss Gay Arizona 2002

Saturday, July 12, 2003

7:00pm*

DATE: SATURDAY
JULY 12, 2003
TIME: 7:00 pm
(Prejudging @ 5:30)

PLACE: HOLIDAY INN
PALO VERDE
4550 S. Palo Verde
Hotel Phone: 746-1161

TICKETS PRICES:
General Admission-
\$12.00 (\$15 @ door)
VIP Admission -
\$20.00 (\$25 @ door)

CALL (520) 631-4502
To Purchase Advance Tickets!!!
Or come to IBT's on Wednesdays
Between 8:30 - 11:00pm

