

Polls Show Potential G/L Marriage Backlash

WASHINGTON - More than half of Americans favor a law barring Gay marriage and specifying wedlock be between a man and a woman, an Associated Press poll found and reported.

The survey also found presidential candidates could face a backlash if they support Gay marriage or civil unions, which provide Gay couples the legal rights and benefits of marriage.

The poll, conducted for the AP by ICR-International Communications Research of Media, Pa., found 52 percent favor a law banning Gay marriages, while 41 percent oppose it.

About four in 10 — 41 percent — support allowing civil unions, roughly the same level found in an AP poll three years ago. But 53 percent now say they oppose civil unions, up from 46 percent in the earlier survey.

The increase came largely from people who previously were undecided, the polls suggested.

Close to half those surveyed said they would be less likely to support a presidential candidate who backs civil unions (44 percent) or Gay marriage (49 percent), while only around 10 percent said they would be more likely.

"I don't think it's a great idea, the whole idea of marriage is bringing up children," said Jim Martin, a 64-year-old engineer from Alexandria, Va. "If somebody was promoting it, I would vote against them."

The issue poses a challenge for the Democratic presidential candidates in the 2004 election. The six leading candidates say they oppose Gay marriage but are sharply critical of efforts to legally ban it, either with a law or by amending the Constitution.

Four of the six — former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean, Missouri Rep. Dick Gephardt, Florida Sen. Bob Graham and Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry — say they support civil unions. North Carolina Sen. John Edwards and Connecticut Sen. Joe Lieberman say they favor benefits for Gay partners, but say states should decide on civil unions.

President Bush has said he supports efforts to legally ban Gay marriage, but encourages tolerance of Gays and Lesbians.

In the AP poll, about one-third of people who identified themselves as Democrats and independents said they would be less likely to support a candidate who backs civil unions. Twice as many Republicans said they feel that way.

More than four in 10 Democrats support passing laws against Gay marriage, according to the poll. Two-thirds of

Republicans support passing such laws.

Gay rights have gotten increased attention since June, when the Supreme Court threw out a Texas law prohibiting Gay sex, saying such a ban violates constitutionally guaranteed privacy rights. The decision mobilized Christian conservatives, who warned it could lead to legalization of Gay marriage.

The poll found 54 percent favor a constitutional amendment that Gay marriage only be between a man and a woman, while 42 percent oppose it.

"The public clearly draws the line at Gay marriage," said Karlyn Bowman, a public opinion analyst at the American Enterprise Institute, a conservative-leaning think tank in Washington. She said it's less clear if civil unions will be a significant issue by the election in November 2004.

"There's often a bit of rethinking" on an issue "after a big development like a Supreme Court decision," she said.

At least some of those surveyed who back Gay marriage say the issue could determine how they vote in 2004.

"It might make a significant difference in whether I would support a candidate," said Jody Moore, a graduate student living in the suburbs of Los Angeles who favors Gay marriage. "It's a question of dignity."

The AP poll also suggested public attitudes vary by age. Support for civil unions and opposition to laws against Gay marriage were significantly higher among young adults and dipped progressively among older age groups. Men were more likely than women to oppose Gay marriage and support laws against it.

And residents of more rural areas were significantly more likely to favor laws against civil unions and Gay marriage.

The poll of 1,028 adults from every state but Alaska and Hawaii was conducted from Aug. 8-12 and has an error margin of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

SF Votes To Recognize Out-Of-State G/L Unions

SAN FRANCISCO - The San Francisco Board of Supervisors voted unanimously Tuesday, August 12 to recognize same-sex unions from any jurisdiction when people relocate to the Bay Area, reported gfn.com.

Supervisor Chris Daly, who co-sponsored the legislation along with colleagues Bevan Dufty and Tom Ammiano, told reporters said he was very pleased to extend the city's existing

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Arizona Court Weighs Challenge To Ban Same-Sex Marriage

PHOENIX - A state court is considering whether Arizona's ban on marriage for same-sex couples is a denial of a fundamental right or a reasonable attempt to protect children by promoting family, the Associated Press reported.

A three-judge panel on Tuesday, August 19, heard arguments on a challenge filed by two Phoenix men.

Harold Donald Standhardt and Tod Alan Keltner want the Court of Appeals to overturn Arizona's same-sex marriage ban as unconstitutional and to order a court clerk to give them a marriage license.

Michael S. Ryan, a lawyer representing Standhardt and Keltner, said it is unconstitutional for the state to deny legal protections to Gay couples that it extends to heterosexual couples.

"We're entitled to the same protections, the same benefits and the same responsibilities as any other family," Ryan argued.

Just because the state and federal constitutions do not explicitly say that same-sex marriages must be permitted does not mean there is no right for Gays to marry, Ryan said.

The constitutions' framers could not envision that some traditions during their times would be unacceptable later, Ryan said, citing overturned laws that banned interracial marriages.

"As Americans we have the right to believe differently. They don't have the right to make their belief the law," Ryan said of social conservatives who want to keep the same-sex marriage ban.

Assistant Attorney General

Mich. College Course Draws Fire

ANN ARBOR - A course called "How to be Gay: Male Homosexuality and Initiation," has reignited a culture war at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor between anti-Gay activists and proponents of academic freedom, gfn.com reported.

A so-called "family-values" lobbyist is leading public opposition to the "uncompromising political militancy" of the professor who has taught the course since 2000.

According to the course description, the class, taught by English Prof. David Halperin, will "examine the general topic of the role that initiation plays in the formation of Gay identity." Throughout the semester students will discuss topics such as Broadway musicals, drag, style, fashion and interior design.

"It does not teach students to be

Kathleen Sweeney defended the ban as constitutional.

"I don't think there is a fundamental right to same-sex marriage," she said.

Sweeney said the state is trying to protect children and support procreation by limiting marriages among opposite-sex couples. In a "fundamental difference," only those couples can procreate, she said.

An important purpose of the marriage laws is to encourage couples to avoid having children without a long-term commitment, Sweeney said.

"They serve an important societal goal," she said of the laws. "They're not aimed at homosexuals."

Because there is no fundamental right to same-sex marriage, the issue "really is something that should be left to the Legislature to determine," she said.

During his rebuttal, Ryan disputed Sweeney's argument that procreation is involved: There is nothing about recognizing opposite-sex marriages that would hinder same-sex couples, he said.

Judge John Gemmill asked Ryan whether the court could overturn the ban but leave it up to the Legislature to decide what law should replace it.

The court cannot defer too much to lawmakers because the court has the obligation to remedy any constitutional violation it finds, Ryan responded.

At the hearing's conclusion, Presiding Judge Ann Scott Timmer, said the panel would rule as soon as possible. "We know it's an important decision," she said.

homosexual," Halperin said in an interview. "Rather, it examines critically the odd notion that there are right and wrong ways to be Gay, that homosexuality is not just a sexual practice or desire but a set of specific tastes in music, movies, and other cultural forms — a notion which is shared by straight and Gay people alike."

The conservative lobbyist, Gary Glenn, says Professor Halperin and the university "are guilty of perpetrating a fraud against UM students and the people of Michigan [with] propaganda statements about so-called cultural studies and academic freedom" as they promote "queer studies" at taxpayer expense.

Glenn, president of the Michigan affiliate of the anti-Gay lobby organization, American Family Association, first

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UPDATE

Fun-Bus-Run To Phoenix Sept. 13

TUCSON - On September 13th, Tucson Knight Owls will host the "Owl Express", a Fun-Bus-Run to Phoenix. Anyone wishing to go on the run can purchase tickets at the Yard Dog Saloon or the Venture-N at a cost of \$25.00

The round-trip includes basic food and drinks on the bus and four stops at local bars in Phoenix. Smoking is permitted on the bus.

Participants will meet at the Venture-N at 12:00 noon. The bus will leave for Phoenix at 1:00 sharp!

The group will spend approximately enough time at each bar for everyone to enjoy themselves before going to the next one. The bus will depart Phoenix between midnight and 1:00 a.m. back to Tucson.

TKO invites one and all to join in on this fun trip and "leave the driving to us!" This trip is co-sponsored by the Tucson Knight Owls (TKO), Yard Dog Saloon and Venture-N.

Join Us To Sing

By Mae Krueger

TUCSON - Desert Voices creates fun, meaningful, musical shows, with a smattering of theatrics and a healthy dose of humor! This GLBT (and straight friendly!) mixed chorus is starting its 15th Season in Tucson and is currently seeking all voices, as well as non-singing volunteers for our 15th Section!

Do you love to sing? If you do, you probably understand the special feeling that is created by making music. Next Monday, August 25th, everyone is welcome to attend Desert Voices' Open Rehearsal, starting at 7:00 p.m. at the MCC Water of Life Church at 3269 N. Mountain Avenue. The group will be starting to work on music for their appearance at OutberFest, some

blending and tuning exercises and will have a short sing-along. There will be information available about the chorus and current members of the chorus to chat with. Refreshments will be served

Desert Voices is also seeking an accompanist for the season. If you are interested, please contact us immediately. You can go to our website www.desertvoices.org for more information, email us at info@desertvoices.org or call us at 791-9662

Recently we asked Desert Voices members to tell us why they sing. Mark Brady, Baritone, had this to say: "I sing because it actually really feels good to sing... physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually. Music plays an important part in my life, and I find it so cool that I can interact with it, whether it's singing in the chorus or singing along to a CD in the car! Singing is passionate, powerful, emotional and reveals truths that otherwise could not be expressed through speaking or writing. Lastly, when one sings, one gives a precious and very personal gift of him or herself to the listener."

TIHAN Seeks Volunteers

TUCSON - Do you have the "volunteer blahs"? Feeling uninspired and restless? Do you want to be a part of "something" but don't know what that something is? We have a few ideas...

The Director of Education for TIHAN, is working on identifying volunteers who are interested in being involved with speaking/presentation events as well as staffing information booths for TIHAN. Training will be provided, and your involvement will only require one or two hours a month at your convenience, and TIHAN will help arrange the presentation and work with you to build the message. And you won't have to do it alone—two or three speakers often work together at the

same event. Be part of a TIHAN speaker team!

These volunteer opportunities are great ways to get out and meet other people while helping spread the word about TIHAN, educate others, and recruit volunteers to support those affected by HIV/AIDS. What a great feeling to know that you are a resource for others in our community, and to know that you are doing your part to help. Create the hope we need in our society today. These are amazing ways to give of yourself and to share your own passion and spirit.

For more information, call TIHAN, (520) 299-6647.

T.K.O 50/50 Raffle

TUCSON - Congratulations to Bill Finley, the winner of the August 50/50 Raffle (\$100.00) sponsored by the Tucson Knight Owls (TKO). Tickets for the next drawing are now on sale, with proceeds going to help purchase dinners for needy Tucson families during the upcoming Holiday season.

The drawings will be monthly through October. Tickets are \$1/00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Look for the TKO Raffle Sign in the local bars. Show your support for this worthwhile cause and help make the Christmas season a little brighter for those in need.

SF Votes

Continued from Page One

domestic partnership benefits to new residents of the city.

The supervisors were praised for their decisions by local groups, in the face of conservative groups from around the country pushing for a constitutional amendment to ban recognition of same-sex marriages.

"This ordinance pushes a little bit in the other direction," Daly commented.

San Francisco is known for having one of the strongest domestic-partner laws in the country. The city prohibits discrimination in employee benefits and public accommodations based on marital and domestic-partner status and in most cases requires City contractors provide domestic-partner benefits equal to those offered to spouses of their employees.

Absent for the 8-0 vote were Supervisors Aaron Peskin, Gerardo Sandoval and Tony Hall. But an aide for Hall, often the most conservative voice on the board, said his boss had endorsed the measure in committee.

In order for the ordinance to take full effect, it needs to receive one more vote and the mayor's signature.

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22 Gay/Straight Alliances Help GLBT Students Cope

TUCSON - Brandy Hightower misses her mom.

To hear her tell it, she lost her two years ago. That's when the 16-year-old told her mother she liked girls.

"You know how parents say, 'You can trust me — tell me anything,'" said Hightower, a brown ponytail curling down her back. "Well, I believed her."

After a week of the silent treatment, Brandy said, her mom, who declined to comment for this story, simply pretended it didn't happen, the Arizona Daily Star reported.

"The way she sees it, it's OK if someone's Gay, because it's their parent's fault," said the Tucson Accelerated High School student. "Well, she doesn't want it to be her fault. She spends a lot of time doing the 'where did I go wrong?' thing."

Hightower, like a growing number of teens nationwide, is looking for a place to belong in high school.

The number of school-sanctioned clubs for Gay students 25 years ago was long enough to hide it called Gay-Straight Alliances, or GSAs 25 years ago was long enough to hide it has risen from 900 to nearly 1,800 nationwide in the past two years.

"Kids are coming out younger and younger than they used to," said Stephen Russell, a sociologist at the University of California at Davis, who recently received a \$300,000 government grant to study adolescent sexual orientation. "The fact that GSAs are growing in Arizona and Tucson

and across the country demonstrates that the number of students identifying with same-sex sexuality is growing and, in some cases, exploding."

In studies published in the '80s, the average age was 18. A decade ago, it was 16. Now, 12-year-olds are coming out, Russell said.

The first GSAs formed in 1989 to combat hostility and violence at Concord, Mass., high schools. The goal was to give Gay students a safe haven, solidarity and a forum for challenging homophobia in their schools, according to the Gay Lesbian and Straight Education Network, or GLSEN.

Since 2001, Tucson's alliances have jumped from six to 22.

Organizers say the clubs exist to provide support and foster understanding. "Families, schools, faith communities and peer group friendships are the developmental settings where kids learn how to be adults," Russell said. "Study after study confirms that high schools in our country are not a supportive environment for Gay, Lesbian and Transgendered young people. Many parents and faith communities struggle with them, too, but the fundamental issue is that young people need to be supported."

On the surface, at least, Americans seem more tolerant of homosexuality than ever before.

Nielsen families have embraced Gay characters on the mega-popular "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy," "Will & Grace," "Six Feet Under" and "Sex and the City."

Such characters appear everywhere, from MTV (Christina Aguilera's "Beautiful" video) to soaps (Erica Kane's Lesbian daughter on "All My Children").

But while Gay culture is more acknowledged by pop-culture aficionados, it is far from universally accepted.

Tucsonan Josh Young, 16, was rechristened "Fag" by his buddies when he came out three years ago.

"My family was cool with it, but my friends at the time weren't," said the spiky-haired blond, an arm draped around his boyfriend, Yelsin Rugamas, 15, while the couple relaxed at Eon: The Lounge Youth Center. "They turned on me, but I have better friends now who don't judge me."

He puts on a brave face, but Young's experiences hurt. This confident, articulate teen refuses to name his high school for fear of "homophobe" backlash.

Degradation is disturbingly common in a setting that offers a captive audience for burgeoning bigots, said Kent Burbank, executive director of Wingspan, Southern Arizona's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community center.

"It's staggering — 98 percent hear 'faggot,' 'queer' and 'dyke' yelled at them every single day," said Burbank, referencing citywide GLSEN surveys. "These kids cannot get an education, and nobody in the school system is stopping it. Kids will be kids, but if these names were being thrown at other groups, it would not be tolerated."

Susan Denis recently retired after 20 years as a high school English teacher and guidance counselor. The last five years of her career she was a sponsor for GSAs at Catalina Foothills and Flowing Wells high schools.

Denis, who is straight, said GSAs are critically important not only to Gay teens, but also for heterosexual students, who make up the majority.

"And even more so to the students who choose to stay closeted, who don't actively participate or attend meetings," Denis said. "I heard from them in private that the very existence of clubs saved their lives. They felt validated and like they counted. It's that silent group that I'm most worried about."

Gay teens are three times more likely to experience violence or be threatened with a weapon in schools, according to 2002 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance studies conducted by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

They are four times as likely to attempt suicide and twice as likely to suffer homelessness, pregnancy and drug addiction, the studies found.

GSA meetings resound with talk of crushes, homework and teachers. Some teens come just for a place to eat lunch without threats. For others, GSAs are the only school outlet for developing leadership skills.

"They really empower young folks
CONTINUED ON PAGE NINE

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ABA Endorses Second-Parent Adoptions

SAN FRANCISCO - The American Bar Association (ABA) passed a resolution in support of joint and second-parent adoptions on a voice vote late Tuesday, August 12, during the organization's annual convention, reported the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com network.

The largest legal group in the country was already on record in support of the right of single Gays and Lesbians to adopt. Tuesday's resolution also put the ABA imprimatur on "the establishment of legal parent-child relationships through joint adoptions, and second-parent adoptions by unmarried persons who are functioning as a child's parents, when such adoptions are in the best interests of the child."

National Center for Lesbian Rights attorney Courtney Joslin, co-chair of the committee that recommended the policy, said the resolution's easy passage was generally the result of a great deal of effort over the last few years by committee members and others who laid the groundwork. "It's incredibly important to children to have the ABA on record as supporting second-parent adoptions," she said. "It will be extremely helpful that the ABA can now take an official position on this issue."

Second-parent adoptions, said Joslin, are critical to ensure that children get the legal benefits and protections they need from both their parents, including the right to support from a second parent, the right to inherit from him or her and the right to a second parent's pension or Social Security benefits.

The ABA vote comes eight days after a ruling by the California Supreme Court, making clear that the Golden State's second-parent adoption procedures are lawful and can continue. Those procedures have been used informally for 20 years, but they were briefly threatened by a rogue state appellate court decision in the fall of 2001. The high court justices set that ruling aside pending their Aug. 4 decision.

Family rights activists are now anticipating a ruling from the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit, which will decide the fate of Florida's ban on single Gay and Lesbian adoptive parents. Argued in March, the American Civil Liberties Union recently filed a supplementary brief with the federal appellate court, suggesting that the U.S. Supreme Court's opinion in Lawrence vs. Texas weakens Florida's case beyond legal redemption. A ruling in the case is expected at any time.

Gov. Davis Supports Partner Rights Bill

SACRAMENTO - California Gov. Gray Davis said on Saturday, August 16, that he will - if given the chance - sign a bill granting same-sex domestic partners many of the same rights as married couples in the state, reported the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com

The landmark legislation, known as the Domestic Partners Rights and Responsibilities Act of 2003 or AB 205, has already been approved by the state Assembly. The Senate Appropriations Committee will vote on the measure next Monday, August 25, and the full Senate could debate it at the end of next week.

Davis made the announcement just two months before voters in California will decide his political fate in a recall election, and advocates for Gay rights hailed his support as brave.

In a statement on Monday, August 18, Assemblyman Paul Koretz, D-West

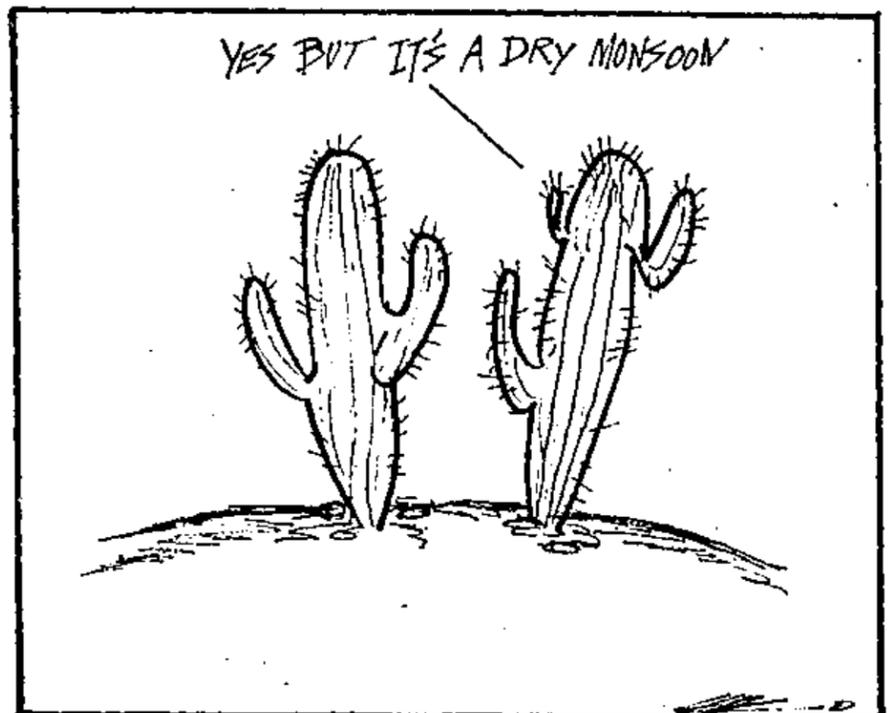
Hollywood, said, "Gov. Davis has shown courageous leadership by supporting Assemblymember Jackie Goldberg's hard-fought effort to protect Gay and Lesbian families."

Goldberg, D-Los Angeles, put forth the measure with other openly Gay state lawmakers after a proposal to establish Vermont-style civil unions stalled last year. AB 205, however, could have much of the same effect for California's more than 20,000 registered domestic partners.

"By announcing his support for AB 205, and his intention to sign it into law upon passage by the California Legislature, the governor has affirmed his strong support for family values by recognizing that all families deserve equal recognition," said Geoffrey Kors, executive director of Equality California, which sponsored the bill.

As I See It

by Clark



Help Pick Tucson's Team Name

TUCSON - Jim Tiggas, managing partner for the franchise that will begin play in the new women's softball league, in the summer 2004, said he wants to have a nickname for the team before an owners' meeting in mid-September, the Arizona Daily Star reported.

E-mail ideas to sports@azstarnet.com through Saturday, Aug. 23. E-mail as many names as you would like. All suggestions will be submitted to Tiggas, who will pick five finalists. The final step will begin Aug. 25. At that time, readers can log on to StarNet and vote for their favorite among the five finalists. Only one vote per household will be accepted. The nickname with the most votes at 6 p.m. on Aug. 31 will become the name of the team, Tiggas said.

An announcement of the winning selection will appear in the Sept. 2 Star sports section and on StarNet. The choice is subject to approval by Major League Baseball, which is the developmental partner of National Pro Fastpitch, Tiggas said. In other news ... the National Pro Fastpitch softball team coming to Tucson next summer is close to securing a home field.

Tiggas said negotiations with officials at Ili Corbett are in the final stage. Tiggas anticipates paperwork being drafted later, reported the Arizona Daily Star.

"We haven't finalized negotiations yet but they've gone so well, I don't expect a bump in the road," Tiggas said.

Tiggas added that the lease could be presented to the city council for approval as early as mid-September.

Judging from an Arizona Daily Star and StarNet contest to choose the name of the professional softball team, interest is high.

Meanwhile, there is a slight change in the franchise's ownership group.

Jane Madden dropped out last week due to family issues, Tiggas said. The group now consists of Tiggas, 46, and his son Matt, 24.

In 2002, the Tiggas' started the Tucson Invitational Games, a national college tournament. They expect a 90-team field this spring.

But up next for the Tiggas' is rolling out season ticket packages, once a lease has been signed and the team name chosen by the public through StarNet.

Jim Tiggas said general admission seats will start at \$1 in a season ticket package.

"There are 28 home games so it would cost you \$28" for the season, Jim Tiggas said.

There are seven franchises committed to playing next season. In addition to Tucson, initial funding has been met by ownership groups in Houston; Sacramento, Calif.; Denver; New York; Boston; and Akron, Ohio. There is interest from groups in Oklahoma City and Cincinnati, Jim Tiggas said.

The season schedule should be finalized during the owners' meeting next month. The first season is expected to begin in June and run through Labor Day.

On Oct. 20, the owners will be in New York City for a Women's Sports Foundation banquet where the league will be recognized.

NPF's headquarters is located in Denver. It has operated since 1997, formerly under the names Women's Pro Fastpitch and Women's Pro Softball League.

Mich. College Course Draws Fire

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criticized the "How to be Gay" courses three years ago. In 2000, the Michigan state legislature fell four votes short of passing a measure to cut off all government funds for the courses.

Last week, he renewed his crusade against the classes, urging Gov. Jennifer M. Granholm, the state's legislature and the university's Board of Regents to "stop letting homosexual activists use our tax dollars to subsidize this militant political agenda."

In a course description on the university's Web site, Halperin says: "Just because you happen to be a Gay man doesn't mean that you don't have to learn how to become one. Gay men do some of that learning on their own, but often we learn how to be Gay from others."

The alleged emphasis on "initiation" into homosexuality is one of the issues that anger Glenn and other conservatives.

"We don't know what [Mr. Halperin] does in the classroom," the state AFA president says in an interview. "It is outrageous that Michigan taxpayers are forced to pay for a class whose stated purpose is to 'experiment' with the 'initiation' of young men into a self-destructive homosexual lifestyle."

Students who have taken the course, however, disagree with Glenn's assessment.

School of Social Work alum Jim Toy said, "Public protest against this ... is predictable, and sadly, it is understandable. I have counseled many on their sexual orientation and they face myths and hateful messages concerning what is expected of them. This class counters those messages and provides support to the students," he added.

Robert M. Owen, the university's associate dean for undergraduate education in the College of Literature, Science and the Arts, also defends Halperin's course.

"This course is not about encouraging people to become Gay, but about how individuals in our society create meaning and beliefs about Gay culture from literature and the arts," Owen said in a prepared statement. Such a course helps students who plan to enter careers in law, social work or other fields where they will "encounter a large and very diverse clientele."

Owen said public criticism of the class stems largely from "the title of the course. 'The interpretation of that title is very troubling for some people.'"

The course is part of the university's "genuine search for intellectually interesting and sometimes provocative subject matters," the associate dean said. "The historic freedom granted to pursue this search is one of the hallmarks of higher education."

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POLITICS 2003

by Mark R. Kerr

'Vote Reality Over Myth'

Arizona's Republican Party (GOP) is a desperate lot: leading in the number of registered voters in the state; only two of ten seats in Congress held by Democrats - of which the two are in the U.S. House of Representatives; solid majorities in both chambers of Arizona's Legislature; and, holding all but two statewide political offices but the most popular politician, according to several recent polls isn't a Republican.

Janet Napolitano, Arizona's new Democratic Governor is getting high marks by Arizona voters for her performance so far as the state's chief executive and the Republicans aren't happy - fuming, fussing and trying to pin the blame for anything on Napolitano, who before winning the 2002 gubernatorial election served as Arizona's Attorney General.

Eight plus months into her term, and having previously failed to do so on various matters on numerous other occasions, the Grand Canyon Republicans are at it yet again, this time, trying to blame Napolitano for allegedly moving and allocated \$3-million in the budget for Arizona's Presidential Primary during this economic crisis, that was caused by Arizona's Legislative Republicans and the alt-fuels fiasco of 1998.

Blame for Arizona's budget mess notwithstanding, those desperate Republicans are still trying to play politics with Napolitano over the primary and the mainstream press have publicized this lie about it with Tucson's morning daily rag and it's intrepid political reporter, formerly a failed food critic for the local afternoon daily, playing it to the hilt in an article which ran the week of August 14, something that just isn't so.

Flash back in 1996, actually 1995, then Republican Governor Fife Symington, and the Republican dominated Arizona Legislature ram-rodged a measure through, allocating funding for a presidential primary, scheduled for February of 1996, so Arizona could play a more prominent role on the national scene, so the Republicans said but it was really to help then Republican Texas Senator Phil Gramm's White House bid, that ended up burning out long before the Arizona primary and after raising \$20-million for the bid. Money couldn't turn that Texas sow into a silk purse indeed!

Arizona's Democrats complained about the date, citing their party's national rules prohibiting them for participating and the Republicans said, basically "tough." So, Arizona's presidential primary was held in February 1996 and February 2000, for the Republicans and Arizona's Democrats held their cheap caucuses during these elections, a little latter in the political calendar.

Now with the "Occupier and Thief" installed at 1600 Pennsylvania, Arizona's GOP want the voters to forget about past history, a familiar pattern, going down the same path as "Dubya" and those alleged "Iraqi Weapons-Of-Mass-Destruction," and have good old Janet take the fall for the "extravagance" of holding a presidential primary on February 3, 2004 when it isn't the case since it was the Republicans who created the presidential primary and the 2004 election, fourth on the political calendar, will spotlight for the first time, the Democrats.

Arizona's new Governor made sure that the election will take place and it is up to voters in the state to take part by casting their ballots in their respective party's presidential primary, contested or otherwise, since this election is important, as all elections are, especially to Gay, Lesbian Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) voters, with important matters and issues of concern that will be up for consideration.

Another upcoming election, on the current calendar this year, is the City of Tucson primary election, Tuesday, September 9, where the posts of Mayor and three Council seats: in Ward's One, Two and Four are up for consideration.

Tucson's primary election will only have one contested race, for the Democratic nomination in Ward Two where incumbent Councilmember Carol West is being challenged, by Lianda Ludwig and this publication, in a later edition, will make their recommendation known in the race, as well as other races in which the candidates, or incumbents didn't support GLBT Tucsonans and a non-vote is in order, as an act of protest.

Endorsements, recommendations aside, the important issue about Tucson's primary is participation, something registered Tucson GLBT voters must do, to show the rest of the Old Pueblo that we do indeed care about the city, pending issues and do go to the ballot box to register our collective support or displeasure by exercising our constitutional rights and casting a vote because all elections are important and do play a part, or will have an effect on our individual and the lives of all GLBT Tucsonans.

For more information about the upcoming Tucson primary election, call the City Clerk's Office, (520) 791-4213. Online, go to: ci.tucson.az.us/clerk/ and click on the links. Further information about the Arizona presidential primary will be forthcoming.

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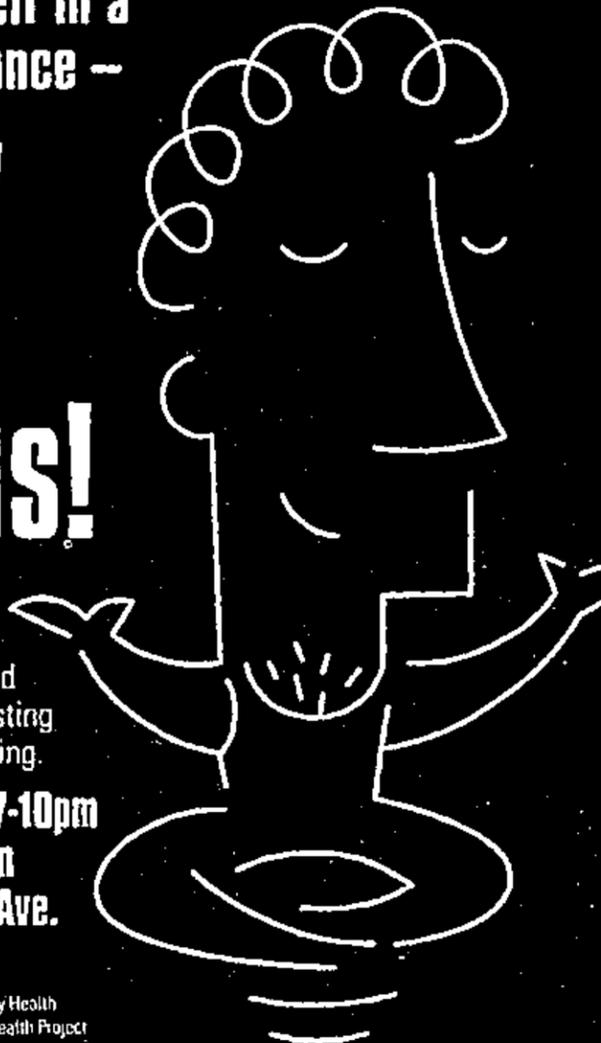
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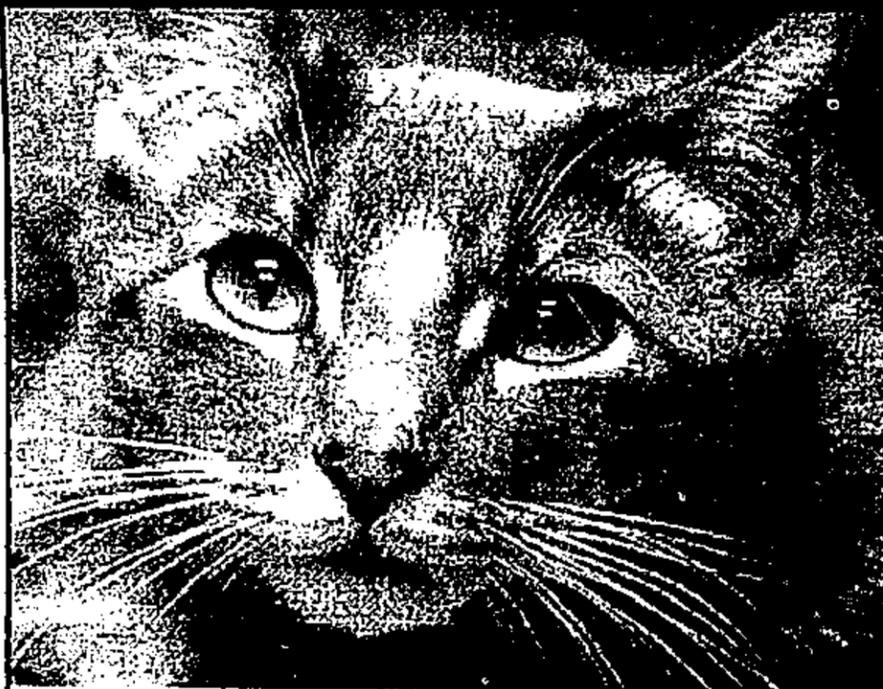
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Expect a world of change when lucky Jupiter shines its magnificence in Virgo for the next two years. Jupiter expands and enriches so plant your seeds in fertile soil and watch things sprout. Anyone we know?

ARIES

MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

It has been all fun and games for the past two years and now, as Jupiter makes its move into Virgo, Proud Rams can get to work and finally get things done. Of course, since Jupiter is into "expansion" you may find that exercise alone won't do the trick. Stay away from sweet things and you may find that the tricks come more easily.

TAURUS

APRIL 21 - MAY 21

Practical queer Bulls are often loathe to gamble away their hard earned loot but now as lucky Jupiter rolls into Virgo, you may find yourself taking more calculated risks. My suggestion is to use the next two years to tap into your artistic Gay muse and make some magic. For those less creative types, it can also be a good time to expand your social circle into a bouncing ball.

GEMINI

MAY 22 - JUNE 21

Your humble shack is due for an overhaul and you are due for some enrichment when Jupiter glides into Virgo. Cramped and closeted pink Twins need not feel hemmed in any longer. Get rid of what doesn't work for you and seek a change of venue and perspective. Expansion is the name of the game, cousin so break out of your straight jacket and break out the champagne.

CANCER

JUNE 22 - JULY 23

Shy Gay Crabs need to get Out of their shells when gregarious Jupiter jumps into earthy Virgo. Your thoughts, theories, ideas and speech will take you far if you apply the energy and maintain the volume and intensity. For the next two years you are your best press agent. Get Out there and make a noise or two. Pack your spellcheck and your personal noisemaker.

LEO

JULY 24 - AUGUST 23

Money comes to you more easily when generous Jupiter deposits into practical Virgo for the next two years. But money is also spent more freely with Jupiter's wilde, uninhibited ways. Proud Lions make it and break it in happy abandon! Please try to save something for a rainy day though, compadre; you never know when a little drip will rain on your pride parade.

VIRGO

AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23

Make hay while the sun shines and when Jupiter shines in your own sign. Queer Virgins are popularity plus for the next couple of years and should try to make the most of it before their natural glam is gone. Begin new projects, meet new people and take a new look and approach on old sticky problems. Let's just say that your time has come... as well as a few of your admirers.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23

Nothing, no one, no where and no how can stop you now. Gay Libras have a secret weapon. Shhh - it is Jupiter in Virgo and it is your protective armor against hidden enemies and assorted gremlins who seek to undo and overturn your good deeds. You have two sublime years of cosmic, karmic opportunity. Don't waste it on dreck, no matter how attractively stacked they are.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22

Proud Scorps are tossed into the social swirl when jolly Jupiter jumps into Virgo. Suddenly you are catapulted to the top of the A list and your presence is demanded all over town and at all of the hot spots. You set the scene on fire with your burning personality. It may be too, too much for secretive and secluded Scorpions. Are you in over your head? Do you really care?

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22

Professional Gay Archers can manifest their corporate destiny when Jupiter enters Virgo. It seems as if you can do no wrong and all the lucky breaks fall your way. Perhaps that is true, pardner, but also keep in mind that as Jupiter expands your opportunities, it also focuses more attention on you. Play fair and receive rewards. Play dirty and do the clean-up.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20

Expansive Jupiter moves into Virgo and tickles your travel bug and innate curiosity. It is an excellent time to expand your perspective by taking courses, a much needed vacation or a embarking on a complete change of scenery. Pink Caps are destined to look beyond their borders to see what is cooking in the next galaxy for the next two years. Let's hope it is not kimchee.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19

Aqueerians are not usually known for their sexual allure but now, as Jupiter makes its move into Virgo, so should you. For the next couple of years you will be packing a pistol and may unload it a few times into a willing victim. But all power and no passion will leave you in a cool and dissipated state. I guess that's what happens when opportunities come too easily.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

Do I hear wedding bells? Jupiter moves into Virgo and increases your opportunities for marital bliss, at least for the next two years. Wise Guppies should use this time to take stock of their relationships and seek to improve or implode. Single rainbow fish can spawn if they swim in a large school. That means that you cannot hide under your rock. Come out and seek your mate!



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What Makes Our Town Tick?

Calabazamusic@yahoo.com By Jerry D.

The 'What If' Factor

Hello readers! In one of the few moments I had this past week to sit and relax (those of you who know my schedule know how hard that is), I found myself in the middle of yet another political discussion. There are still people out there who support the current administration and their acts to make our country the God-fearing nation that they think it should be. I am finding though that the foundation of their support is slowly converting into a quicksand that no doubt will aid in convincing them of the perils we face with a second term under the Bush banner. There was one statement that solidified that observation and brings the material for my article this week.

In defense of our current Commander In Chief, one patron was quick to bring in what I like to call the "what if" factor. The conversation centered around the events that followed the attacks on September 11th, 2001. The majority of those debating had no rebuttal to the president's handling of our country in such a time of sorrow and fear. What did divide the group though was of course the aftermath. One of the few Bush backers was quick to bring up that if Al Gore had won the election, we would certainly be in a worse predicament than the one we are in now.

I am finding that the dwindling number of supporters for this cabinet are having a harder and harder time stating their case to the voters destined to remove the entire lot from the White House. Using the "what if" factor is fast becoming their only shield against the growing number of faults and incorrect decisions since the September 11th attacks. Those who use such theory go as far as painting a picture of this country under siege and losing its defense and shores if Gore would have been the nation's leader when the World Trade Center was brought down. The speak of a world where we are its whipping boy and visions of conquering not seen since the days of the Huns.

I for one do not use the "what if" factor in any theory regarding our situations. The past is the past and it will always be that. Using thinking of that nature should be reserved to crime investigation and fictional writing. Those who are left to use "what if" as their defense for what is in the now, are simply fooling themselves into their conviction for their choices. I have mentioned before in this article that I do not blame anyone who voted for Bush in the last election. In fact I welcome them with open arms, as long as they are willing to admit they see the same suffering and woes I do right now.

Whoever was the head of our country on that awful day faced a challenge none of us would ever wish for. I am sure they would have done the same as Bush did in keeping our country from the chaotic turmoil some feared would have occurred. The majority of us handled it with the typical psychological pattern of grief. Fear, followed by sadness, leading into denial, with a push of anger and rage were all represented for that day. I am sure the president had the same pattern, with of course the incredible burden of shouldering it for the entire nation.

If you are still determined to back Bush in the coming election, by all means do so. Our country was founded on conviction and forward vision. Please do not look for alternative excuses though to justify your vote. That will only cloud the issue even more. If we truly look at the options and in the end see the one we feel is going to lead us forward, then we are exercising the rights given to us all those years ago by the creators of our constitution. I am sure they did not sit around and think "what if" King George had taken the taxes away.

Please remember we have a primary coming up here in the Old Pueblo. If you missed the registration deadline, please register anyway for the coming Mayoral and Council election in November. Only our vote will clear the clouds of the "what if" factor. Have a great week!

NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE

by Lee Thorn

Reliable Sources

Two statements in an ARIZONA DAILY STAR editorial of July 27th titled "Unnecessary prison" recently caught my eye. The first: "an overwhelming percentage of women in Arizona prisons are first-time, nonviolent offenders." The second: "Schriro made her reputation by reducing the recidivism rate from 34 percent to 19 percent in Missouri."

If I didn't happen to have some background in corrections and criminology, these two claims would probably have escaped my notice. But having that background made the first claim seem ambiguous and the second sensational.

I immediately wrote a note to the editorial page editor asking for the sources of the two claims and enclosing a stamped self-addressed envelope for his reply. I also wrote a note to Dora Schriro, the new head of Arizona's Department of Corrections, and asked her if she was aware that she'd reduced Missouri's recidivism rate so dramatically.

The ambiguity of the first STAR claim lies in who you count as a "first-time offender." Such offenders are often given

probation, which means that they don't have to go to jail if they follow certain rules and do not commit any new crimes.

Everyone is going to agree to call someone without a prior conviction who does not get probation a first-time offender. But should someone who gets probation and then violates it and goes to prison be considered a first-timer? And should someone who gets probation and commits a new crime while on probation be considered a first-timer if the new crime isn't brought to trial because the person is already subject to prison for probation violation?

We have three very different situations here and the statistics will change significantly depending on who gets put into our first-timer category. And that brings us back to the question of where the STAR got its statistics.

What makes the second STAR claim sensational to anyone who's worked in corrections is the prevalence of recidivism rates in the low thirties. I should

CONTINUED ON PAGE ELEVEN

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22 Gay/Straight Alliances Help GLBT Students Cope

Continued from Page Three

to lead healthy, active, engaged lives in their communities," Burbank said. "These kids wanna make changes—not just in the LGBT world but with animal-rights and border issues. They are just passionate about issues, period."

Still, some opponents argue that clubs dealing with homosexuality are simply forums for sexual behavior and should be banned from schools.

"Homosexuality creates health problems and is contrary to the laws of nature and nature's God, to coin a phrase from the Declaration of Independence," said attorney Len Munsil, president of the Arizona Center for Policy, a conservative action organization. "Encouraging them in a sexual direction while they're still minors is not a good thing."

Munsil said the prospect of sexually confused teens having contact with adult homosexuals should disturb parents.

Local teens like Hightower and Young are not surprised by such criticisms. "We still have Christian demonstrators up in our face about it, but it's a new generation, and no one is afraid anymore," Young said.

"Yeah, it hasn't gotten easier. People have just become more daring," Hightower added.

The opposition, however, has made some school administrators squeamish about supporting Gay-straight alliances.

In one prominent 1995 Salt Lake City case, a board of education barred all after-school clubs not directly related to the curriculum rather than allow a Gay-straight alliance to meet. After a five-year court battle, the board was forced to relent.

The American Civil Liberties Union filed lawsuits this year in Kentucky and Texas after two schools blocked student efforts to form GSAs. The ACLU accused administrators of violating students' civil rights by ignoring requests outright, requiring special rules such as parental notification and banning all clubs.

"These baseless excuses to avoid the law just hurt the students who are already struggling to find acceptance in a hostile environment," said Tamara Lange, a staff attorney with the ACLU's Lesbian and Gay Rights Project. "Through our litigation, we hope educators will come to understand that GSAs make schools safer for all students."

Members of Gay-straight clubs said their main intent is to destigmatize homosexuality.

In the past few months alone, Tucson teens marched in celebration of the U.S. Supreme Court decision striking down "unconstitutional" sodomy laws, handed out safe-sex pamphlets at Gay West 7, participated in Tucson's annual Pride Parade and took self-defense classes conducted by a Gay man with a black belt.

Armed with support and validation, many GSA teens consider themselves activists for equal access to the rites of high school life.

In 1980, Rhode Island teen Aaron Fricke fought the U.S. District Court for the right to bring his boyfriend to a school dance.

Today, it's common to see Gay guys and gals in tuxes and gowns—or vice versa—at proms, said Russell Sabella, president of the Virginia-based American School Counselors Association.

"There is less fear of retribution, because we're doing a better job of making schools a safe environment for all students," said Sabella, admitting they had a long way to go. "The increase in Gay-straight alliances, and appreciating diversity, is probably an effect of the school shootings. We're focused more on violence in all forms, including harassment and bullying, to help protect all students." At this stage, with GSAs in all four corners of the city, a school in Tucson without a GSA is considered backward, Denis said.

"When our kids started telling their stories, some teachers approached me afterward in tears, ashamed to admit they had actually used stereotypes in class themselves," Denis said. "Parents who once berated me for sponsoring their kids in GSAs have come back and apologized to me. Hatred is no longer the last acceptable prejudice."

Even with liberation on the horizon, Hightower still has one last goal: "I would like to talk to my mom about something besides math."

ERS - LETTERS - LETTERS - LETTERS - LETTER

I want to take this opportunity to share our thanks to Darren Clark and Damn Fabulous Productions for the "Spark" benefit at the Vaudeville Cabaret to benefit the work of the Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN).

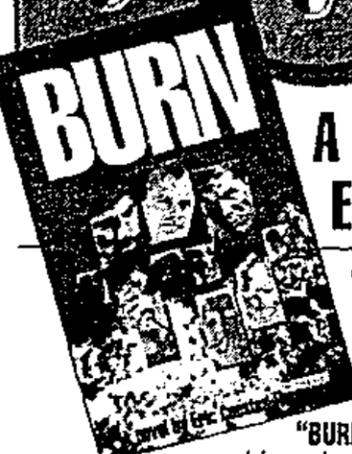
This was one of the most unique benefits that has ever been done for TIHAN, and this night of cabaret-style entertainment raised an impressive \$1,500 to support TIHAN's work. From opera singers standing on the bar belting out arias to drag performers creating haikus on demand to jazz guitar and accordion players and performance art and bingo and rock bands, this was a wild and innovative event that really did succeed in its mission of bringing a downtown "spark" to the doldrums of a hot Tucson summer!

I want to thank performers Alotta Whoremans, Butoh, Jared McKinley, Amy Street, Al Foul, Amor, Monte Workman, Serge and Gary Bear, Brett Boyce, Kate Ramlow, Matt Mitchell, Vikki Dempsey, Petra den Bogter, and DJ Butta Fly. Additionally, Darren did a great job on soliciting locals artist to donate items for the silent auction, and thank yous are due to artists Matt Cotten, Carlin Dakar, Robert Flynt, Ada Lanier, Olivier Mosset, Ken Short, and Dougie Weber.

Our thanks also go to Bob and Gary from the Observer, Noel and Kevin—the owners of Vaudeville—and all their staff, Gary Patch, TIHAN volunteers Jessica and Kellie and Adrian and Tyler, Spork Press and its team of writers, Joan Schuman and the Tucson Weekly, Tom, and everyone who came out and experienced this wild event.

To Darren and friends at downtown's Vaudeville and Damn Fabulous Productions, TIHAN sends you a huge thank you for the "spark" and for the services that you will allow us to provide in our community because of this benefit show! With gratitude,

Scott Blades Executive Director
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About the Author:
Eric Cuestas-Thompson is a bilingual therapist in private practice in Tucson, specializing in the treatment of trauma, sexual compulsion, anger management and relationship issues.



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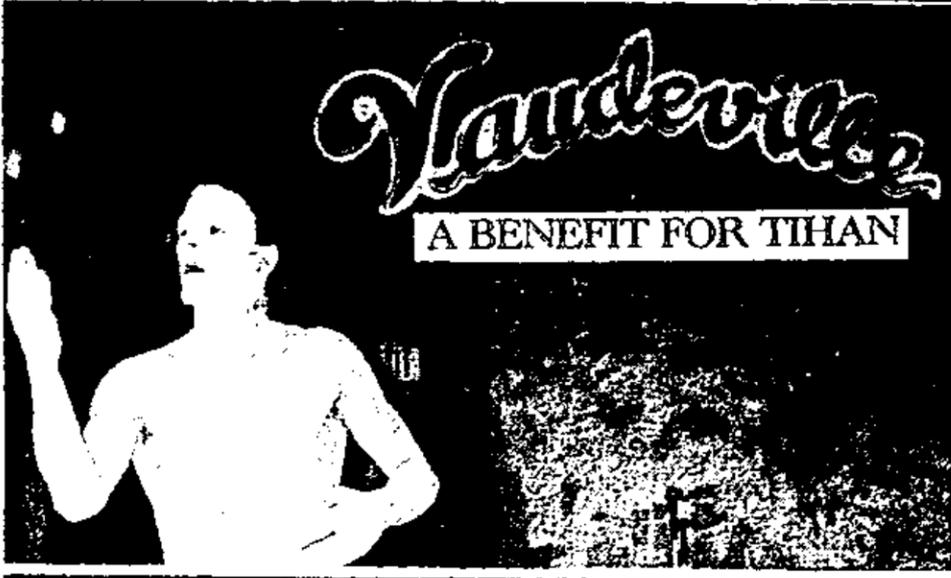
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A View From The Rock

by Joy L. Childress A Commentary From Cornerstone Fellowship

Long Term Relationships Vs. Short Term Relationships Vs. Over-nighters

Have you ever wondered why the straight world and the straight main-line churches oppose homosexuality so much, other than the fact that they are scared of the possibility that each of them may have inclinations toward homosexuality that they don't want to admit and other than the fact that they always claim the Bible condemns the life-style.

There is another reason that I believe the straight world looks down on our community. Our community is known for promiscuous behavior, and that picture of nothing but sex in the life-style is splashed all over the media. And that is what the straight world retains in their memory of homosexuality--it is nothing but lustful appetites gone awry. Yes, I contend that a lot of our community's behavior is based on sexual appetites. But then so are a lot of straight people's behavior based on lust and promiscuity. But, the straight world is unwilling to look at themselves in this area and confront their own appetites, so they point fingers at the Gay community and condemn us for such "outrageous, sinful behavior that will send us all to hell".

Many in the straight community are really ill-informed as to what and who we really are. We live and breathe, eat, shop, tend to basic needs, etc., just like they do. But they see only the promiscuity and not the whole picture. I'm talking now about commitment. What our straight friends see is the one-night stand and the short-term relationship that lasts only while the sex is good and hasn't worn off yet. Then they see how we bounce from one sexual partner to another. I want to present a different kind of picture of our community that the world could see. I am thinking of long-term, committed relationships in the Gay community. I know that there are many such relationships in our community; but there needs to be more so that the straight community can see love and devotion in action. There are so many more advantages to a long-term relationship as compared to going from one to another and never

settling down to a commitment. I was in a long-term commitment for 26 years until my partner died almost 5 months ago. Not only do I miss her, but I miss the relationship itself and the commitment that it required. Of course, there is a lot of work and communication to keep a relationship going and growing. But that is the fun of it all and the challenge that makes life so wonderful and interesting. And, of course, there is also a lot of give-and-take and determination that is involved to make it work. But, you know what? I wouldn't trade all of that work and communication for a million short-term and/or one-night stands!

There are just too many advantages to living, laughing, working, growing, communicating together that make the long-term relationship so wonderful and fulfilling. I urge you to try committing to the "in-it-for-the-long-haul" type of relationship. Not only for fulfillment and growth in your own life, but, also, for the straight community to see that we, too, can love and mature for many years in our relationships. I believe it would change people's minds about what and who we are. God does honor the love and work that goes into keeping the vows between two Lesbians who love each other or between two Gays who love each other. If Jesus Christ is the Center of your relationship, the blessings are compounded a thousand-fold, and your rewards in the relationship are great and mighty. Try it, you just might like it! Following is excellent advice for the long-term relationship:

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues, put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. - Colossians 3:12-14

NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE

by Lee Thorn

CONTINUED FROM PAGE EIGHT say as an aside that journalists often report recidivism rates to be much higher because they make the statistical error of assuming that a prison population at any one point in time is statistically reflective of all the people who've been through the prison over time. But the fact is that across many types of institutions for several decades the low thirties has been a frustratingly stable recidivism rate that has given the lie to any number of revolutionary innovations in the field of corrections.

If Dora Schriro or anybody else had really reduced a state's recidivism rate from 34 percent to 19 percent they'd begin her canonization procedure forthwith, which brings us back to the question of where the STAR got its statistics.

After about ten days of not hearing from the STAR or from Schriro, I decided to call the Missouri Department of Corrections to see if they were aware of the miracle that had allegedly been worked in their midst. The person I talked to there declined to go on record but said that he wasn't aware of any data that would support

the claim.

Armed with that information, I got someone who works on the STAR editorial page on the phone and asked him about the sources for what I felt were clearly problematic statements. He told me, without missing a beat, that the sources for both of the editorial page statements that I was questioning were news stories that had run in the STAR. So what could I say? I mean I guess that settles that.

It's like you're having an argument with a guy in a bar. The guy is trying to tell you that 85% of the people currently living in Poland are ethnically French. You've never been to Poland, but you're still a little dubious. You ask, "How do you know that?"

He looks surprised, perhaps a little hurt. He says, "What do you mean, How do I know that? Didn't I say the exact same thing sitting on this exact same bar stool just last week?"

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

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John 3:16



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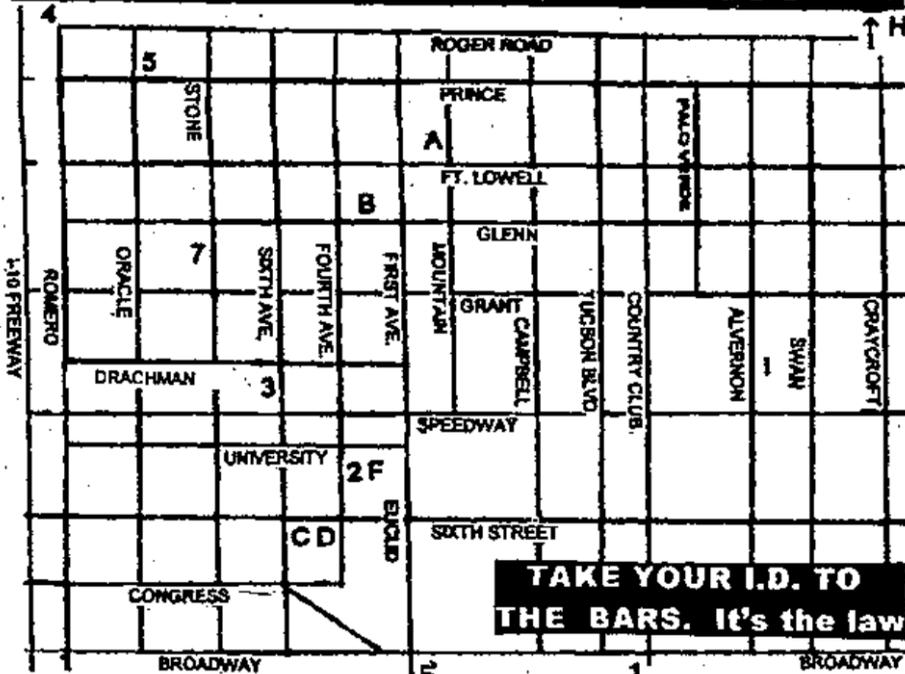
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 - 3. VENTURE-N: 1239 N. 6th Ave. 882-8224
 - 4. NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL: 4001 N. Romero Road - 407-9622
 - 5. WOODY'S - 3710 N. Oracle Road, 292-6702
 - 7. YARD DOG - 2449 N. Stone, 624-3858

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YOU HAVE QUESTIONS?

Ask Dr. X

DR. X HAS ANSWERS.

Dear Dr. X:

After years of knowing I was born in the wrong body, I recently began making the change from female to male. It has been scary sometimes, but also exciting. I feel fortunate to have started my transition here in Tucson, especially because of groups like TGNET Arizona and SAGA. I found it was easier to be a guy online through TGNET Arizona. Once I was more confident, I started going to SAGA meetings in person, and the support I have gotten has been amazing. Ok, enough of the shameless plugs, the real reason I am writing to you is because my love life has been pretty much non-existent since I started transition. I used to date men, but the dynamic never felt right as a woman. The more I am becoming a guy, the more I am realizing that I am still attracted to men, and have started identifying as a Gay man. I'm not really ready for a serious relationship, but would like to date, or at least try flirting a little. I just don't know how to meet other guys. Any suggestions?

New Gay Guy

Dear New Gay Guy:

Congratulations on this exciting and scary life change! The eternal question every Gay man seems to ask is "Where do I meet men?" The first question I have for you is what type of man are you attracted to? Is he hairy or smooth? A homebody or the outdoors type? Older or younger? The

list can go on and on. One of the biggest problems is that we want to meet men but have no idea what type of man we are interested in. That is a good starting point. Once you have an idea of the type of man you want, see if there are any groups in town that cater to these types of guys or bars where they may hang out. This is a great way to not just meet potential guys to date, but to also form some new friendships and a great way to feel comfortable in a new group. Tucson has several groups for Gay men such as Bears of the Old Pueblo, Men's Social Network (MSN), T-Squares (Gay square dance club), and several others. I have found that one of the easiest ways to flirt with men is if you can find a common interest to start the conversation. This is a great icebreaker and can get a great conversation going. It could also lead to hanging out, getting to know each other better and possibly a date. Good luck and let me know how things go.

Dear Readers:

Dr. X made a mistake and needs to clear things up. Last week one of our readers submitted a letter and in it stated, "The second problem is I have had an AIDS diagnosis for a few months, but this may be temporary." I never really commented on this issue and have received several questions/comments regarding this. It is true that once your t-cell count drops below 200 you officially have an AIDS diagnosis, and this diagnosis is forever. Most people with HIV/AIDS will have t-cell counts that range from below or above 200 over the course of their illness depending on their health and the drug regime they are taking. So, even if your t-cell count has been below 200, but lately your body is reacting well to the drugs and goes above 200 you will still have that AIDS diagnosis. Also, a person's viral load can range from undetectable to varying levels depending on the drugs. If your viral load is undetectable this does not mean you are no longer infected. All it means is that the drugs you are taking for HIV are working. You also need to know that if you are HIV+ and have an undetectable viral load that you can still infect someone. This is a scary rumor that has been going around that we wanted to nip in the bud. You may also want to know that a person who is not infected with HIV will have a t-cell count ranging from 800 - 1200. I hope this clears things up.

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

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NON-BAR CALENDAR

GROUPS / CLUBS / ORGANIZATIONS

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20

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 744-9917.

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

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21

#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 "P.S. Your Cat is Dead", a comedy about a man who's had a very bad week and a tied up burglar in his kitchen. For reservations and directions, please call Bill at 546-7539.

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

FRIDAY, AUGUST 22

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Bruce for a Game Night and Pool Party at his home. All board and card games will be available for play, and you can also enjoy the pool. For reservations and directions, please call Bruce at 743-3890.

Tucson Prime Timers Dinner - 6:00 p.m. Maxim's Chinese Restaurant, 6440 E. Broadway

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:30 a.m. Arlan hosts a Road Trip to the Patagonia area, with side trips to ghost towns and a food stop. Space is limited. For more information and reservations, please call Arlan at 323-7414.

#2. 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, AUGUST 24

Tantra Workshop 3-6 p.m. A new approach to sex. Discover a safe/better sex approach for fun and relationship. Call Marc a 1881-4582.

MONDAY, AUGUST 25

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, AUGUST 26

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join the men of MSN for an evening out at Rainbow Planet. This is a chance to have a cup of coffee and chat with the men of MSN.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Michael hosts Bridge Night. If you don't know how to play, they'll teach you and it's a very relaxed atmosphere. For reservations and directions, please call Michael at 326-3555.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27

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

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

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29

Meet Tucson author Eric Cuestas-Thompson at Wingspan from 7:00 to 9:00 tonight where he will read from his novel "Burn". The story is a "non-stop adrenaline descent into madness, sexual compulsion and moral conflicts. There is never a dull moment in this thrill-ride novel leading to a stunning climax," said film maker Patrick McGuinn. Refreshments will be served. Wingspan is located at 300 E. 6th St.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Bill for an evening of Pinochle. If you don't know how to play, the guys will teach you in a relaxed atmosphere. For directions, please call Bill at 297-3569.

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

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

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.

Bar Calendar

Of Upcoming Events

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20

IBTS - The DivaLicious Show hosted by Lucinda Holliday and starring Samantha White, Lady Ashley and Janee Starr.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23

VENTURE-N - Jungle Party 6:00 to close. Contest at 11:00 p.m. Free Loincloths. Jungle Juice Specials. Live DJ; Contest at 11:00 p.m.

WOODY'S - Special Beer Bust and Hot Dogs benefit for Coed Naked Softball Team. 3:00 - 7:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

IBTS - Party line-up includes Troy's Recovery Bar from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. \$1.75 Bloody Marys, Screwdrivers or Mimosas. 3:00 p.m. to close. Sangria Party \$2.50. 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 GMHP. 8:00 p.m. it's a special Fundraising Show for Gay Men's Health Project. Show stars Bunny Janee Starr, Teri Akki, Veronica Halliwell, Miss Saigon and Special Guest Josie P. Kat

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27

IBTS - 9:00 p.m. The 'Divalicious' Show starring Faith Michaels, Veronica Halliwell, Tabitha Lovall and Teri Akki.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

VENTURE-N - Steak Night 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. \$5.00. Your meat or theirs. They provide the sides.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Hip Hop Friday and Shot Specials every half hour, \$1 Hot Sex Shots or Puckers all night! @ DJ Hill 9:00 to close.

YARD DOG - Memorial Day Weekend begins here with a "Back to School Party" lasting all weekend! Homework assignment given Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Get your grades on Monday.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 - LABOR DAY

IBTS - Winding up Memorial Day Weekend with their traditional "Monday Morning Madness". Watch for the gory details....

YARD DOG - Get your Back To School Party grades here at 6:00 p.m. A Bar-B-Que Dinner is also being served at 6:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join the men of MSN for an evening out at Rainbow Planet. This is a chance to have a cup of coffee and chat with the men of MSN.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. The Canasta Club meets to play this fun card game. If you don't know how to play, we'll teach you. For directions and reservations, please call Marty at 722-8531.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

#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. Join us for our monthly Potluck and Social Gathering where we invite you to have dinner and get to know the nice guys of MSN. It's a nice, safe setting in which to meet new men and greet old friends. For directions, please call Jerry at 690-9565.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

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.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Wingspan's 6th Annual Benefit Dinner. Tucson Community Center. Phone 624-1779 for reservations and more information. www.wingspan.org.

Daily Bar Calendar

Sunday

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.

IBTS - Open Noon \$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.

IBTS - Open Noon. Happy Hours 11am-8pm, \$2 domestic beer and well. 4-9pm "Theme Dance Nite" 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 7pm Karaoke w/Michael D. 9-1

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. Pool tourney 7:30pm. \$3 entry, bar matches pot. Country music 9pm to close. \$2 bottled Bud products 8 to close.

IBTS - Open Noon. Happy Hours 11am-8pm, \$2 domestic beer and well. 4-9pm. Tee's & Tattoo Nite, wear an 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 7pm Bartender Calls til drink specials.

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. 80s retro music 9pm - close. \$1.25 pitchers of Bud/Bud Light or \$1 Tequila shots 8-1.

IBTS - Open Noon. 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 7pm. Free Hot Dog Buffet 5-11pm. Underwear-lebish-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.

IBTS - Open Noon. 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 7pm. 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.

IBTS - Open Noon. Happy Hours 11am-8pm, \$2 domestic beer and well. Live Jazz on the patio with the Susan 6-9pm. Patio Bar 5-1pm. GOGO Boys and 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 & Pat 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 7pm. Martini Party - Well Martinis \$2.00 4-8pm. Call Martinis \$3 from 4-8pm. Complimentary Shrimp Cocktail 4-8pm. 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.

IBTS - 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 \$3.69pm-close. Latin 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 7pm. Patio Bar opens 5pm. 5-9pm Steak or Mahi Mahi 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

Informing The Community



NOTICES

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.saafof.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. 887-7123 Facilitator.

F.F.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 881-1791 - 8 am - 5 pm Mon - Fri.

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

GAY OR BI-SEXUAL MEN in relationships with women. Need friends you can talk to? Weekly support group meets Wednesdays 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.

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

GREATER PHOENIX GAY & LESBIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (GPGLCC) P.O. BOX 2091, Phoenix, AZ 85001-2091. E-mail: webmaster@gpglcc.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. Admirers welcome too. Send stamp for information: Mavencicks, Box 9543, Santa Fe, NM 87504

ATTENTION ALL NUDDISTS - 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

BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO - a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, Call the Bears Hotline (520)790-5775 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910 of visit our website at www.btop.com All are welcome to our general meetings/poofucks on the 2nd Friday of every month, 7pm at Seminole 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. Ellie 581-8850 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 325-9466 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 325-1737.

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE .25 PER WORD \$5.00 MINIMUM



CLASSIFIEDS



CLASSIFIED ADS MUST BE MAILED NO PHONE ADS

NOTICES

DESERT VOICES, Tucson's Gay & Lesbian Chorus. Want to join? E-mail: www.desertvoices.org or call 791-9662.

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

AA Meeting with HIV/AIDS focus, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., Wingspan Annex, 739 N. 4th Ave. All alcoholics welcome.

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

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

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT SPORTS TEAMS and updates on Gay Games 2002, contact TEAM ARIZONA 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 MENS 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 887-4582 for more information or sign up.

COMMUNITY BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (CBA), Tucson's Gay and Lesbian business networking group holds regular meetings the third Thursday of every month. Call 615-6436 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 OUTtoberFEST. 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 TPJ 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 694-7061.

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 791-7676.

GRACE GROUP - CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 2nd and 4th Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the Madonna Hall at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 1436 N. Campbell across from University Hospital. For more info, Call Anabel at 325-0892

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 tyan@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. Deezert Girls (MTF) Meets 2nd Monday at 7pm. Deezert Boys meets 3rd Tuesday at 7pm. of every month. All meetings take place at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. Call 624-1779 for more info. SAGAE-mail@aol.com <http://members.aol.com/sagameil>

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP FOR ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLES. Not a dating club. Discreet. Meetings every Monday evening. Call for more info. APEX (Arizona Power Exchange) 602-415-1123. 24-hr multi-choice message including information, calendar and location.

ARIZONA AIDS POLICY ALLIANCE (AZAPA) seeks to educate legislators and citizens about sound AIDS policy. For more information write AZAPA, 6523 N. 14th St., #112, Phoenix, AZ 85014 or call 602-379-4805.

HALLELUJAH RECOVERY DRUG & ALCOHOL 12-STEP. Every Thursday 3:30-6:30pm at Cornerstone Fellowship, 1902 N. Geronimo. 622-4636.

NOTICES

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)792-6424

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 Mirra 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 SS 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)742-7893 or go to our web site <http://www.tgssoftball.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.tucson.org write: LC, 7014 E. Golf Links Road, PMD 212, Tucson, AZ 85730.

ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIPS: Confidential individual or group support for Gay, Bisexual or Trans men who are victims/survivors of domestic violence. For more information call 624-0148 (24-hour line)

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

TGN Arizona. The central source for news and information for, by and about the TS, TG, and Gender-varient communities of Arizona. Website URL: <http://www.tgnarizona.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 85733-1045

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

THE MANTO MAN Social/Erotic education club is the tantric men's group that offers passionate friendships, fun activities and sex education. Marc 881-4582

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.

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE CLINIC provided daily by the Pima County Health Department. Gay friendly. Confidential. Treatment and Medication too! Any questions? Call 624-8272

PERSONALS

Do you want good sex and more? Join the Man-to-Man Club. Call 881-4582 for details. 996

HOUSING/FOR RENT

SMALL COMPLEX: 2 BEDROOM DUPLEX available Sept 7th. Large pool, BBQ. No lease. \$525/mo. Plus elect. & gas. Call Jo Ann 326-1934. 997

APARTMENT, 1BR., 1BA. 4 blocks from UofA. Exceptionally clean. \$500/mo. includes utilities. No pets. 409-8327 997

4th Ave/32nd St. - 2br/1ba house. Newly remodeled plus new carpeting. \$500/mo. 465-3179 995

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1 BEDROOM GRANT/FAIRVIEW AREA. All tile floors. Washer, completely remodeled. \$450/mo. 325-1574. 995

PRINCE NEAR COUNTRY CLUB. Studio apartment. Secluded 4-Plex. 325-1574 995

VERY LARGE 3 BEDROOM, 3 BATH PLUS DEN. Prince near Country Club. Secluded. \$900/mo. 325-1574

BEAUTIFUL 3 BEDROOM/2 BATH HOUSE. Large walled front and rear yard. Exceptional neighborhood. W/D. Available August 1. \$980/mo. 631-8519. 995

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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

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ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS

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Pro Gay Scout Troop Loses Charter

SEBASTOPOL - A Boy Scout troop in Sebastopol, Calif., has lost its charter in a battle over Gay rights.

The Boy Scouts of America pulled the charter because the troop refused to drop an antidiscrimination statement that runs counter to the BSA national policy barring Gay members and troop leaders.

Bev Buswell, adviser to the 16-member troop known as Venture Crew 488, said her application to have the charter renewed was denied because it included a statement pledging that the troop would not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, or sexual orientation.

"The policies of the Boy Scouts of America are not pick-and-choose," said Ralph Voelker, who takes over Friday as executive of the Redwood Empire Boy Scout Council, a four-county jurisdiction that includes Sebastopol.

Three years ago the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the Boy Scouts is a private organization and has the right to bar Gays as members and scout leaders. Critics, including Buswell, say Scouting's opposition to homosexuality is dictated by conservative national leadership and by churches that sponsor more than half of Scout troops and packs.

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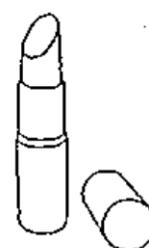
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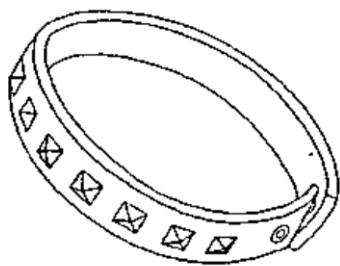
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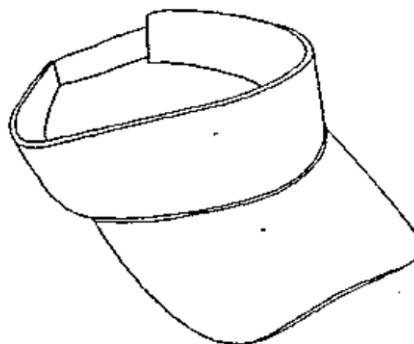
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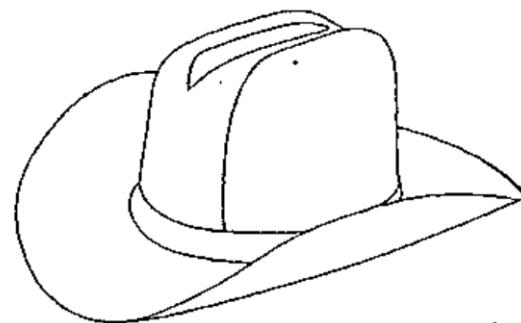
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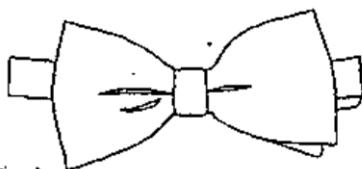
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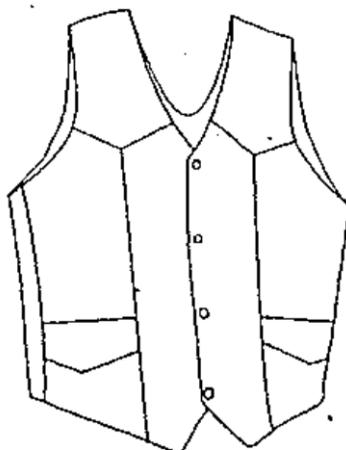
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