

COMMENTARY...

Darkness Cannot Drive Out Darkness, Only Light Can Do That

By Faisal Alam

As the Second Anniversary of September 11th approaches, it is hard to imagine that there was a world before 9/11/01. Everything we talk about these days somehow relates back to the atrocious attacks on the United States on that fateful day. We all remember where we were and what we were doing. We remember the horrific sight of the World Trade Center collapsing from the sunny skies down to the dark ground, wondering where our loved ones were and if any one we knew had died. At the end of it all, we lost almost 2,800 people and the way we look at the world had changed forever.

As I reflect upon how much the world has changed since September 11, 2001, my mind has trouble thinking about all that has happened both in the United States and around the world. It would be too simple to go on and on about the number of countries that passed anti-terrorism laws, or to talk about the number of people that the United States has detained or deported since 9/11. It is also too simple to speak about the 1,700 percent increase in hate crimes against Muslims and those that were perceived to be Muslim from the year 2000 to 2001. But what is not too simple to discuss is the way that our lives have changed and how most of us perceive the world that we live in today.

The year 2003 marked the 40th Anniversary of the 1963 March on Washington. Thousands of people gathered in Washington DC to protest the state of the economy, the number of people unemployed, the lack of social welfare and the war in Vietnam. While a lot changed after this historic march, including the passage of the historic civil rights act and the subsequent women's rights and Gay rights movement, today it seems as though nothing has changed after more than 40 years. The civil rights that were enacted seem to have disappeared virtually overnight. Our economy is in a state of flux, we have one of the highest unemployment rates in our history and the state of our social welfare system is in tatters.

For queer Muslims in the United States, the attacks on September 11th brought a keen awareness of what it means to be Muslim in this country. Many queer Muslims had a sudden reawakening of their Muslim identities and for the first time they began to understand that their identity, their culture and their heritage was under attack. From the mainstream 'Gay and Lesbian' press that accused Muslims of being barbarians to the editors of these papers who called on queer Muslim activists to go back to where they came

from, the virulent verbal and written attacks against the queer Muslim community in the US from the wider LGBT world, was atrocious. Furthermore, while many of us were comforted by the valuable blue booklet that gives us the right to be a citizen of the United States, too many people within the queer Muslim community, the queer Arab community and the queer South Asian community, were haunted by the threats hurled from the Justice Department. Countless others were verbally and physically assaulted because of their name, their skin color, and what they chose to wear. We may never know the full extent of what has happened in the United States to immigrants, people of color, poor people and religious minorities; but we know one thing for sure. Nothing will ever be the same.

As the anniversary of September 11th approaches, I also can't help but reflect upon the world that we live in today and the death and destruction that our government continues to perpetuate to innocent civilians abroad.

Every day the US media churns out statistics and news about the US occupation of Iraq and Afghanistan. But not once since September 11, 2001, have we once heard about the number of civilians killed in both countries. Estimates put the death toll in Iraq alone between 5,000 10,000 people. In the previous Gulf war, more than a decade ago, the United States military killed 3,500 civilians, and subsequently stopped keeping track of civilian deaths. Every day we hear about another US military casualty, but not once have we heard about the extent of the collateral damage that our government has caused.

The late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once said, A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual death. While Dr. King was referring to the war in Vietnam, his belief that social welfare was more important than military might, still echoes true today.

As a resident of Washington DC, the capital of the United States and arguably the most powerful city in the world, I am astounded at the number of homeless men, women and children in this city alone. Nationally, in the United States almost 13% of our population or 35 million people live in poverty. Of these 35 million people, almost 12 million are children, accounting for almost 17% of all children in this country. More than 30% of people who call America their home do not have basic health insurance.

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Wingspan Dinner Tickets Still Available

TUCSON - Pull out your party clothes! Here's your chance to support Wingspan's important mission, recognize the individuals who help build a better LGBT community in Southern Arizona, and have a blast at the same time!

Wingspan's 6th Annual Benefit Dinner takes place Saturday, September 13 at the Tucson Convention Center, and will include a Silent Auction, Awards Ceremony, a fabulous three-course dinner, and presentations by Lorri Jean, CEO of the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Center... and comedian Greg Walloch!

The 2003 Godat Award will be given, posthumously, to Alexander John Goodrum. The Godat Award recognizes an individual who has given a lifetime of outstanding contributions to Tucson's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender communities.

Rev. David Wilkinson, Senior Minister at St. Francis in the Foothills United Methodist Church, is this year's recipient of the Community Ally Award. The Community Ally Award recognizes a

straight ally who has shown outstanding support to southern Arizona's LGBT community.

The 2003 Hall Award will be presented this year to Lavina E. Tomer. The Hall Award is named after long-time Wingspan supporter, Stephen Hall, who died of AIDS-related complications in September 2001. The Award recognizes an individual who best embodies Steve Hall's commitment and dedication toward advancing the mission, values and work of Wingspan.

The no-host Reception begins at 5:30 p.m., and the Dinner starts at 7:00 p.m. Individual tickets (cash bar reception, dinner, and awards ceremony) are \$75. A Reserved Table (for ten people, with recognition of you as a table host) is \$750. You can also donate individual tickets (\$75) or a table (\$750) for youth, Wingspan volunteers, or others who would otherwise be unable to attend.

To purchase tickets, please call (520)624-1779 between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Sept. 11 Victim's Partner Speaks To Senate Hearing On G/L Marriage

WASHINGTON - Keith Bradkowski, who lost his partner of 11 years, Jeff Collman, in the September 11 attacks, on Thursday, September 4, told the Senate Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on the Constitution how the continued support of the 1996 anti-Gay Defense of Marriage Act, or DOMA, serves as a damaging platform, denying him the rights and legal protections most American heterosexual couples possess, reported gfi.com.

"After his death, I was faced not only with my grief over losing Jeff - who was indeed my better half - but with the painful task of proving the authenticity of our relationship over and over again. With no marriage license to prove our relationship existed, even something as fundamental as obtaining his death certificate became a monumental task," said Bradkowski.

"It is heart wrenching that our own government does not protect its citizens equally, Gay and straight, simply because they are Americans."

The hearing, "What is Needed to Defend the Bipartisan Defense of Marriage Act of 1996?" was called by Sen. John

Cornyn (R-Texas), who heads the Senate Judiciary Committee's subcommittee on the Constitution Civil Rights and Property Rights.

The agenda of the meeting was, in part, to gather information on whether or not DOMA would falter under court challenges and if the court should move forward with the proposed Federal Marriage Amendment, to permanently define marriage in the United States as being between one man, and one woman.

The passing of FMA would be the first time the constitution has been amended to deny rights to a single group of Americans, and only the 18th time an amendment would be made to the U.S. Constitution.

Six witnesses testified in total at the hearing, four of whom support permanently banning Gay couples from attaining the rights of civil marriage: Rev. Dr. Ray Alexander Hammond, Pastor, Bethel AME Church; Maggie Gallagher, President of the Institute for Marriage and Public Policy; Gregory S. Coleman of Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP; and Michael P.

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UPDATE

Come For Breakfast, Stay For Phoenix

TUCSON - The Yard Dog Saloon will be hosting its monthly benefit breakfast on Saturday, September 13.

There is a menu chosen by the Yard Dog's own Merlin. There is an added incentive for attending this month's breakfast. All patrons that morning will receive a stub that could make for a very long Saturday. There will be a drawing held which will give a couple of lucky winners passes to the TKO bus trip that day. The bus leaves the Venture-N just after Noon, and includes beverage, food and a round trip to some of Phoenix's GLBT establishments.

Tickets for the bus trip are still available as of press time, but the chance to win is too good to pass up. So come for breakfast for a good cause, and possibly stay to join the party to Phoenix. Once again, breakfast starts at 10 a.m. sharp at the Yard Dog, so be there, and you could be in Phoenix that afternoon!

Turnabout For TIHAN Sept. 21

TUCSON - The seventh annual "Turnabout for TIHAN" benefit show, Sunday, September 21, 5:30 to 9 p.m., Inn Suites Hotel, 475 N. Granada, will be one of the most creative fund raising events of the year. With the theme "Studio 53 1/2: The Last Days of Disco," this year's show promises to continue the wild hilarity that Turnabout is known for.

Under the leadership of M.A.V. clous Productions, the staff of Tucson's LGBT bars are doing their annual "turn-about" from male to female (or female to male) and put on a show to raise money to support the programs and services of the Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN).

Having obtained pledges from their friends and family, the staff don their finest dresses, wigs, and makeup and put on a wild performance, raising thousands of dollars for a great cause.

There will be a buffet at 5:30 p.m. and the show starts at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are now on sale (\$12.50 in advance or \$15.00 at the door), and are available at the TIHAN office and local Gay bars. Call (520) 299-6647 for more information.

Namoli Brennet At Bentley's Sept. 13

TUCSON - Namoli Brennet performs at Bentley's House of Coffee, 1730 E. Speedway, Saturday, September 13, 9 to 11 p.m., as part of their ongoing Women's Coffee House series.

Local performer Namoli has been stirring up quite a buzz, and not just because of the espresso drinks! Brennet's poetic, introspective lyrics and emotional vocal delivery have wowed fans in San Francisco, Portland and Philadelphia. Come hear what the big queer fuss is all about!

"(Namoli Brennet's) Boy in a Dress has become one of my favorite recent discs by a queer artist." Gregg Shapiro, *Windy City Times*

"Brennet...serenades sweetly while challenging comfort zones of gender and beyond." Robin Renee, *Philadelphia Gay News*

Antigone Books Event Sept. 28

TUCSON - Please join Antigone's, 411 N. Fourth Avenue, for an event Friday, September 26 at 7 p.m.

Join in for an evening of fabulous Gay literature with Trebor Healey and Felice Picano, co-sponsored by The Men's Social Network. Trebor Healey will read from his new novel, *Through It Came Bright Colors* (Southern Tier, \$19.95).

This compelling tale of crisis around a family illness is also a bittersweet story of love and the search for honesty. Healey's rich, lyrical prose provides a unique and intimate look at one Gay man's struggle to live openly, to love and to be loved free from shame and guilt.

Also reading that night is Felice Picano, the award winning author of 19 books. He will read from and discuss his newest work, which includes the memoirs *Ambidextrous* and *Men Who Loved Me*, and an expanded new edition of *The Joy of Gay Sex*. Picano was a founding member of the legendary Violet Quill Club, and co-founder of the Gay Presses of New York.

Refreshments will be served. The reading will be followed by a question and answer period. For more information, call (520) 792-3715.

GLBT Commission Meeting Sept. 16

TUCSON - On Tuesday, September 16, 5:30 p.m., the monthly meeting of the City of Tucson Commission on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) issues will hold their monthly meeting at the Conference Room, EOO Building, 100 N. Stone.

Tucson's proposed domestic partners registry will be one of the main topics discussed by Commission members. At a special meeting, held Tuesday, September 2, the Commission approved a final draft of the proposal, along with the subsequent paperwork, recommend fee, which will be presented to Tucson's Mayor and Council for consideration.

For more information about the Commission, call the Tucson City Clerk's office, (520) 791-4213.

Miss Gay Hispanidad Sept. 20

TUCSON - The Eighth Annual Miss Gay Hispanidad Pageant will take place, Saturday, September 20, 7 to 11 p.m., Inn Suites Ballroom, 475 N. Granada.

This event helps bring the Tucson Latino GLBT community together, focusing on awareness and prevention of HIV/AIDS through outreach activities and educational trainings. Pageant contestants demonstrate talent in performing arts as well as knowledge and awareness of HIV/AIDS in their communities. Staff and volunteers are preparing to crown their new queen to help voice awareness and prevention among their peers.

The winner volunteers for the project and helps recruit members to serve as peer educators. Salud es Poder staff hope that community members gain knowledge to empower themselves to educate and promote awareness of HIV/AIDS. Dinner will be served from 7 to 8 p.m. with opening ceremonies to begin at 8:30 p.m.

For more information, call Salud Es Poder, (520) 628-7223.

Lus Alfaro Performs Sept. 12

TUCSON - A free performance by Luis Alfaro, an openly Gay Chicano whose work centers on Gay Latino identity issues, presented by the University of Arizona Mexican American Studies & Research Center, Friday September 12, noon to 1:30 p.m., Room 150, Harvill Building, U of A Campus.

Luis Alfaro works in plays, poetry, short stories, performance and journalism. A Chicano, born and raised in downtown Los Angeles, he is the recipient of a MacArthur Foundation, "Genius" Fellowship. He is a resident artist at the Mark Taper Forum, where he is co-director of the Latino Theatre Initiative. He was a visiting artist at The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. and has toured his work throughout the United States, England and Mexico. His film, *Chicanismo*, was Emmy-nominated and won Best Experimental Film at San Antonio's CineFestival.

Luis Alfaro will be promoting his play *Electricidad [An American Tragedy]* that will premiere at the Borderlands Theater in Tucson, on September 17-28, 2003. The play won the prestigious "New American Play" award from the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

Tucson Pride Seeking Volunteers

TUCSON - Tucson Pride, Inc., Southern Arizona's pride event organizer, is looking for volunteers to help at this year's OUToberFEST, October 11, 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Reid Park in Tucson.

Admission to the event will be \$5.00, but a two-hour time commitment for volunteering will get you into the event for free, as long as you are in their volunteer database prior to the event. Additionally - Tucson Pride, Inc is continuing its tradition of "Volunteer for Dollars": Tucson Pride will make a cash donation of \$8.00 per hour to the charity of your choice for your volunteer hours worked. This is a great opportunity to designate the charity of your choice for dollars, as well as contribute to Tucson Pride's mission of promoting and producing Southern Arizona's largest GLBT annual festival.

Tucson Pride hopes to find a few "key volunteers" who are willing to be area managers, and make a four-hour time commitment for volunteering on the festival day. Tucson Pride will make a bonus donation to the charity of choice for these key volunteers - and you'll have more fun and meet more people with this extended volunteer commitment!

Please contact Tucson Pride volunteer coordinator Nancy Robinett, (520) 591-9345 or E-mail: nancy.robinett@azbar.org.



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The Observer

AROUND THE GAY USA.....

**Massachusetts Senate Leader
Eyes G/L Civil Unions**

**GLBT High School
Opens To Cheers And Jeers**

NEW YORK - A controversial public high school for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender students opened in New York on Monday, September 8, with both supporters and protestors mobilized outside the building.

About 100 students are enrolled in the Harvey Milk High School, which is the first of its kind in the United States. Each teen applied for admission, which is granted not on the basis of sexual orientation but on experiences of harassment that may put the student at risk of dropping out.

Nearly 200 supporters of the school cheered on Monday as the students arrived for classes, CNN reported. Leading a group of nearly 10 protestors was Fred Phelps, an anti-Gay minister from Kansas who has picketed at the funerals of Gay men.

The school grew out of a 20-year, two-classroom program sponsored by the Hetrick-Martin Institute (HMI), an agency that serves GLBT youth. Last year the city's Board of Education voted to expand the program, which is now bankrolled jointly by the city and HMI, Reuters reported.

Named for the San Francisco politician who was assassinated in 1978, the Harvey Milk school has been a lightning rod for controversy since city officials announced its opening in July.

Last month, Bronx state Sen. Ruben Diaz joined forces with Liberty Counsel, a Florida-based conservative legal group, to file a lawsuit against the school for discriminating on the basis of sexual orientation.

School officials and advocates for Gay youth say the school is necessary because increasingly dangerous harassment is threatening the education of GLBT students.

"This is a good short-term move so the kids already in the system can get an education," Jason Lamont, spokesman for the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN), said last July. "But long-term the country needs to address more directly the issue of verbal and physical violence in schools against GLBT youth. Creating separate schools is not the long-term answer."

A member of Harvey Milk's family told the New York Post the late politician would have opposed the school because it appears to promote segregation.

BOSTON- Massachusetts could legalize civil unions for same-sex couples under legislation being drafted by leaders of the state's Democrat-controlled Senate, The Boston Globe reported on Sunday, September 7.

Robert Travaglini, president of the state Senate, told the Globe he and his colleagues were preparing a bill that would allow Gay and Lesbian couples to enter civil unions - contracts that essentially provide most of the rights and protections of marriage but under a different name.

Word of the possible legislative push comes as the state's highest court mulls a lawsuit brought by several Gay and Lesbian couples seeking the right to marry in Massachusetts, reported Reuters.

Gays and Lesbians do not have the legal right to marry in the United States. One state, Vermont, offers civil unions to same-sex couples, and the Globe said California Gov. Gray Davis is expected to approve a civil union bill later this month that is more limited than Vermont's statute.

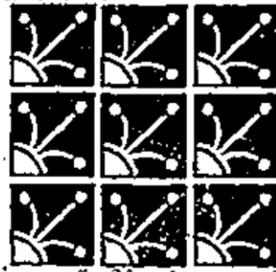
Debate over the issue has intensified since Canada took steps to legalize Gay marriage and the U.S. Supreme Court struck down state sodomy laws earlier this year.

Travaglini, a Roman Catholic, told the Globe that his religious faith prevents him from supporting the right of Gays and Lesbians to marry, but that his advocacy of "civil rights" and "fairness" would allow him to support civil unions for same-sex couples.

Travaglini said he would not introduce the legislation until the state's highest court - the Supreme Judicial Court - rules on the Gay marriage case.

Legal experts have said it is possible the court will reject the claim outright, openly declare that same-sex marriages are legal and valid, or pass the issue to the state legislature to sort out.

Any civil union bill introduced in Massachusetts could face an uphill battle, however. Both Gov. Mitt Romney, a moderate Republican, and House Speaker Tom Finneran, a conservative Democrat, are opposed to such measures, the Globe said.



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Desert Voices Update

Desert Voices is Tucson's LBTG/SATB chorus, mixing up men and women, Gays and straights, creams and nougats, all to sing and make beautiful music together. This chorus of fine folks has been around for 15 seasons here in Tucson, putting on shows that speak to the heart of the community. With shows that are hilariously funny and touchingly poignant. Desert Voices puts words and music to our everyday lives.

our office, (520) 791-9662, for more information.

What makes Desert Voices and their members unique is that they are men and women who want to sing with men and women. There is something very beautiful in the combination of the high octaves mixed with the low octaves. And there is also something very special about singing together, that helps us grow and understand one another.

The upcoming season promises to be very special. The chorus will be presenting a Holiday concert. December 6 and 8, centered on the Holidays we all remember as children. But wait! Some of those children were more Gay than happy! And those are the kids we are singing about. For all the little girls who never got that catcher's mitt and the boys still longing for an E-Z Bake Over, we are looking at the Holidays in a different light.

The chorus has started formal rehearsals and new singers are welcome to join through Monday, September 29. Rehearsals are held every Monday at MCC Water of Life Church, 3269 N. Mountain Ave., (just North of Fort Lowell). All singers are needed are welcome. Please visit our Web site, desertvoices.org, or call

And on April 3, 2004, Desert Voices will present their second concert of the season, currently with a "working" theme of "Growing Up Gay in America", a topic that is changing as we live. Mixed in between will be a few community performances (last year we sang at the AIDS Vigil, in May, at Himmel Park, and at IBM, for their Annual Diversity Event in June). The chorus will start their season by singing at OUToberFEST on October 11 at the DeMeester Center in Reid Park. Come see what all the fun is about!

California Bill Pleases Vermont Civil Union Lawmaker

MONTPELIER - Vermont state representative William Lippert is proud to have helped create Vermont's first-in-the-nation law recognizing the relationships of same-sex couples. And now he is happy to have California following Vermont's lead, even if the bill it just adopted stops a little short of where he'd like it to be. The California assembly gave final approval this past week to a law that would grant Gay and Lesbian couples nearly all of the rights, benefits, and responsibilities of marriage. Gov. Gray Davis has said he will sign it into law.

offering—in law—mutual recognition."

California's action is "of tremendous significance for the Gay and Lesbian population in the country simply by the unique place that California holds in our national politics and in the politics of the national Gay and Lesbian community," said Lippert, one of the authors of Vermont's 2000 law.

There are a couple of key differences between the California and Vermont initiatives:

Couples in Vermont file their state income taxes jointly, as married heterosexual couples do. That provision was deleted in California, in large measure because of the budget mess confronting the state.

Lippert, a Democrat from the Burlington area, believes Vermont helped set the stage for California's action. "I think we set a standard of coming so close to marriage that I'd like to think that has helped California go way beyond their initial efforts to simply have a list of certain rights, but not all rights," Lippert said, adding that he is especially pleased that the California bill requires the state to recognize similar laws in other states. "I think it's of tremendous significance for our national Gay and Lesbian community that we would have two jurisdictions

Vermont civil unions must be solemnized or certified in a ceremony overseen by a member of the clergy, a judge, or a justice of the peace. That was left out of California's domestic-partnership bill to make clear that the partnership was not intended to be marriage. When California's law goes into effect on January 1, 2005, couples will merely need to file notarized paperwork with the secretary of state, much as they do now under the state's more limited domestic-partnership registry.

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

- Henry David Thoreau

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Marines Jail Gay Objector For Being AWOL

NEWORLEANS - On Saturday, September 6, a jury of four Marines in New Orleans found a Gay reservist who missed 47 days of duty without permission during the Iraq war guilty of unauthorized absence and recommended a sentence of six months in prison, the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com network reported.

The lawyer for Lance Cpl. Stephen Funk said Sunday he will ask for a shorter sentence from the Marine commander in charge of approving or reducing the jury's recommendation. Attorney Steve Collier told the Associated Press that the prison time, a reduction in rank to private, a two-thirds reduction in pay and a bad conduct discharge that would strip Funk of his benefits are "a bit harsh for the crime."

Collier said he is hoping for a regular discharge and a prison sentence of just 47 days instead. Lt. Gen. Dennis M. McCarthy, commander of the Marine Reserves, will make that decision.

Funk, 21, was charged with "shirking important duty" when he didn't show up in February for his San Jose, Calif.-based unit's assignment in San Diego to load ships and cargo planes headed for the Middle East. Funk argued he was a conscientious objector and that the military was making an example out of him for attending anti-war rallies. Funk also came out as Gay during his duty absence.

Funk was joined by 27 other Marines who claimed conscientious objector status and were sent to New Orleans for processing. Military officials say none of the other Marines were prosecuted like Funk because they still reported for duty as objectors. Of those, 16 have received conscientious objector status from the Marines, five were denied, and the remaining cases are pending.

Collier said he believes Funk will be sent to a military prison on Monday, September 8 and would receive his discharge after he serves his sentence.

Navratilova Loses In U.S. Open

FLUSHING MEADOWS - Veteran tennis champion Martina Navratilova played in her 24th U.S. Open final on Sunday, September 7, but she and her doubles partner, Svetlana Kuznetsova, were unable to keep up the winning momentum that propelled them to the championship match.

The second-seeded team of Virginia Ruano Pascual and Paola Suarez defeated the fourth-seeded Navratilova-Kuznetsova pair in two sets, 6-2, 6-3, the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com network reported.

The crowd in Arthur Ashe Stadium reportedly cheered Navratilova's every point, hoping to see her add a 16th U.S. Open title to her resume. She already has four singles, nine women's doubles and

two mixed doubles titles. At 46, she would have become the oldest female champion at the tournament. That record is still held by Margaret Osborne du Pont, who was 42 when she won the mixed doubles title in 1960, the New York Times reported.

"We could have played better. It was not our best performance," Navratilova said after the match. "I felt like a little kid, 'Hey, I'm in a Grand Slam final,' and then I played like a little kid."

In July, the Lesbian tennis star became the oldest woman victor at Wimbledon, when she won the mixed doubles championship with her partner Leander Paes.

Darkness Cannot Drive Out Darkness

Continued from Page One

Looking at the state of the US today and the world in general, I'm more pessimistic than I have ever been before. I'm also furious at the amount of damage that has been done by the current administration. In the midst of this anger and frustration, I try to hold on to the few threads of hope that are left. I hold on to the support and love for my friends, my colleagues and my boyfriend, who believe in the beloved community that Dr. King spoke of. The power of humanity to overcome its hatred and its violence must supercede if we are to create a just and peaceful world that so many of us envision. I believe in the words of Dr. King when he said, I still believe that one day mankind will bow before the altars of God and be crowned triumphant over war and bloodshed, and nonviolent redemptive goodwill will proclaim the rule of the land.

Together as people of conscience, people that believe in the power of peace and the justice of human rights, we must overcome the state of terror that we are living in today. Violence and military might only perpetuates the cycle of death and destruction. Shock and awe only creates more hatred towards our country and only erodes further the values upon which our country was founded. We must also create a government that takes care of the social necessities of its citizens (and non-citizens), regardless of their income, their social status, their immigration status, their race, gender, sexual preference, their religious and political beliefs, or their sex.

We must overcome our prejudices and humble ourselves in light of the power that we have in the world today. Those that use power to oppress and conquer others are surely doomed to destruction, but those that use their power for the betterment of humanity will indeed succeed in creating a peaceful world.

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. believed that Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that. We must join hands and eradicate the darkness that has enveloped our world. We must demand government responsibility to counter the social welfare challenges facing our country. And we must stand up and claim the inalienable rights that belong to us as citizens of this world.

As we reflect upon the tragic events of September 11th and as we remember those that we lost, we must also reflect upon the great responsibility we have as a country.

Together we can create change. We can end the destruction that our government is causing around the world. And together, we can create a world that is rooted in peace and justice, a world that truly reflects the dream of a beloved community.

[Faisal] Alam is a 26 year old, queer Muslim activist of Pakistani descent. He is the founder & director of Al-Fatiha Foundation, a US-based organization dedicated to queer Muslims.]

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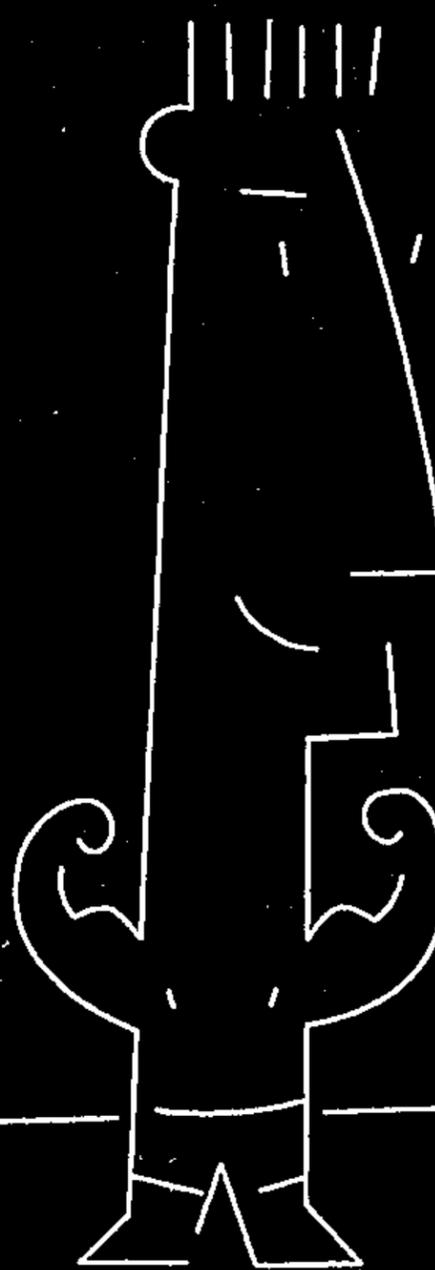
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NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE

by Lee Thorn

How Long Terrorism?

People are asking how long the war on terrorism is going to take and how much it's going to cost. If we compare it with two very similar enterprises — the Cold War and the War on Drugs - we might reasonably guess that the length will be in excess of 50 years and the cost will be expressed in figures generally reserved for cartoons and astronomy texts.

In all three wars - Terror, Cold, Drug- you have an entity that is extremely well funded and well organized. In all three this controlling entity thinks it's gotten ahold of some Absolute Truth. In all three the truth-driven entity feels compelled to share its Absolute Truth with a very substantial segment of the human species whether that segment wants to share it or not.

Let's remember that the Communists weren't mad at us. When Khrushchev said, "Your grandchildren will live under Communism," or words to that effect, he didn't mean it as a bad thing. He meant that they'd be better off under Communism. He wanted to save us from capitalism so we'd be happier.

When Communism failed to deliver the goods economically, when five-year plan after five-year plan fell short, rationalizations had to be cooked up for the elites and flat-out lies had to be fed to the masses. Communism was the Absolute Truth; the simple fact that it didn't work just had to be avoided.

Even after the collapse of the system, with all its brutality and falsity laid bare, there are still plenty of Russian Communists pining for the good old days that never were. Absolute Truth has no problem revising history.

Like the Communists, the terrorists want to impose their Absolute Truth on a big chunk of the world. It's a Truth that's supposed to protect the people from secularism and sin, to make everyone holier and happier. And no fact occurring in the actual world is going to make them question their Absolute Truth.

There are millions of people who sympathize with the terrorists around the world and tens of thousands who have been trained to one degree or another to advance the cause.

Americans who think we can help ourselves by simply becoming less arrogant and obnoxious are missing the point of the terrorist Absolute Truth that we're confronting. My inexpert guess is that we won't begin to make serious inroads against the opposition until we figure out a way to

shut down their schools for the indoctrination of young children.

The War on Drugs has been raging since the 1960s. Unlike the Cold War, it shows no signs of slowing down. It's based on the belief that some recreational drugs are absolutely evil and that it's better to lock people up for decades than it is to let them dabble in them, one of the many ironies being that the people thus "saved" will probably do more dope in prison than they were doing outside it.

There's nothing that could happen in the real world that would change the convictions of the true believers. When Nixon had a blue-ribbon marijuana commission that found the drug to be essentially harmless, he simply decided to ignore their report. And of course drug czars regularly announce that they're winning the War on Drugs although all the available evidence points in the opposite direction.

So how do these long long wars ever end? Many argue that the Cold War ended only because we outspent the Soviets so overwhelmingly in the area of defense that they had to throw in the towel. There's a kind of poetic appeal to that theory: Capitalists win by outspending opponent.

If my theory is right, there may not be many people alive today who are going to be around to see how the War on Terrorism ends.

And we spend so much on the War on Drugs - cops, prisons, rehab programs, military adventures in Columbia - that we probably can't afford to let it end. Just letting all the druggies out of prison would probably bump unemployment up enough to cause a depression, or at least a recession.

[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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POLITICS 2003

by Mark R. Kerr

**So, Where Do They Really Stand?
Dick Gephardt**

When the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), a Washington D.C. based Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender rights organization held their historic 2004 Presidential Candidate Forum, for which all the announced candidates for the Democratic Presidential nomination appeared, participated and weathered a storm of solid questioning, from Sam Donaldson of ABC, HRC simultaneously released the responses the nine Democratic candidates made to their questionnaire, covering a wide array of issues, covering GLBT rights, and topics and subjects dealing with HIV/AIDS.

Over the next several weeks, this column will feature the responses and non-responses the nine announced candidates made to the HRC questionnaire, in run up to Arizona's Presidential Primary, which will take place on February 3, 2004. Candidate's responses will appear in no order based on preference by this writer or the publication but rest assured, all nine will get equal time. According to the HRC questionnaire, they were asked whether they were in support or opposition, and given a place to make additional comments if they so felt it necessary. First is former U.S. House Democratic Leader, U.S. Representative Richard Gephardt of Missouri.

In 36 states, no laws protect Americans from employment discrimination based on sexual orientation, like the federal laws that exist on race, religion, sex, national origin, age or disability. As president, would you support and work for passage of a federal bill that would prohibit job discrimination based on sexual orientation?

GEPHARDT: Support. Comments: I have fought to pass ENDA, joining the legislation as a cosponsor four times. I believe that equal protection under the law should be extended to all Americans, and I will work to make ENDA the law.

As president, would you support and work for passage of a federal bill that outlawed discrimination in the workplace based on gender identity and expression?

GEPHARDT: Support. Comments: As president, I would ensure gender identity is included in any federal measure designed to outlaw discrimination in the workplace.

Currently federal hate crime laws do not cover sexual orientation or gender identity and expression. Would you support the inclusion of protections based on sexual orientation and gender identity to the law passed in 1968 which covers the categories of race, religion and national origin?

GEPHARDT: Support. Comments: I have consistently supported legislation to provide federal, state and local law enforcement officials with increased authority and resources to investigate hate crimes. As Democratic Leader, I led the fight to pass federal hate crimes legislation in the House. We won a significant victory despite staunch opposition from the Republican majority. I will continue this fight until federal hate crimes laws protect Gays and Lesbians.

New treatments have improved the quality of life for those living with HIV/AIDS, but those treatments are

expensive, and not available to everyone who needs them. As president, would you support: Increased funding for the Ryan White CARE Act?

GEPHARDT: Support. Comments: I have been a champion of increased funding for HIV/AIDS research initiatives, including the Ryan White CARE Act.

Increased funding for HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and research?

GEPHARDT: Support. Comments: I have and will continue to lead the fight for more resources for those who are battling HIV/AIDS.

Allowing low-income Americans better access to treatment through the Early Treatment for HIV Act (ETHA)?

GEPHARDT: Support. Comments: I have been a cosponsor of this legislation and have led the fight for its passage. I strongly believe that early treatment for HIV infection saves lives and reduces health care costs

Comprehensive and age-appropriate sex education for America's students that includes science-based prevention methods?

GEPHARDT: Support. Comments: I support comprehensive sex-education programs and prevention efforts vital to ending the spread of sexually transmitted diseases.

Currently, no state recognizes any legal form of marriage for same sex couples. Do you believe the civil institution of marriage (with absolutely no requirements imposed on religious institutions) should be made legally available to two committed adults of the same sex?

GEPHARDT: Oppose. Comments: I oppose civil marriages for same-sex couples.

If you do not believe that civil marriage for same-sex couples should be made available to same-sex couples on the same basis as opposite sex couples, is there any legal construct you do embrace that would extend legal recognition to same sex couples?

GEPHARDT: Comments: I support civil unions for same-sex couples. I believe civil unions are the best way to provide legal recognition to the relationships of same-sex couples and guarantee their rights.

If a state has taken the steps to recognize same sex couples (and their families) for purposes of state-based benefits, rights, privileges and responsibilities, should the federal government recognize the state's legal recognition of such couples and families for purposes of federal benefits and tax treatment?

GEPHARDT: Support. Comments: I support federal government recognition of state recognized benefits for same-sex couples.

Gay and Lesbian Americans pay
CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHT

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POLITICS

federal taxes. According to a 1997 GAO study requested by Judiciary Chairman Henry Hyde, there are over 1000 benefits, rights and privileges provided to married couples and their families in federal law. Same-sex couples cannot access such benefits, rights and privileges because same sex couples are not allowed to marry in any state in the union. Do you support extending federal benefits, rights, privileges and responsibilities to same-sex couples (and their children) provided the partnership meets certain federal standards of commitment and mutuality of interest?

GEPHARDT: Support. Comments: I support extending federal benefits to same-sex couples.

Specifically, do you support the expansion of the Family and Medical Leave Act to cover domestic partners and their children?

GEPHARDT: Support. Comments: I support expanding the Family and Medical Leave act to include domestic partners so they are not punished should they need to take time from work to care for a loved one.

Do you support modifying the

CONTINUED FROM PAGE SEVEN

Social Security System to pay survivor benefits to the same-sex partners of Gay and Lesbian people?

GEPHARDT: Support. Comments: I believe the families of Gays and Lesbians who contribute to Social Security throughout their working lives should be afforded the same benefits that the families of heterosexual Americans receive upon the death of a spouse.

Do you support fair and equal tax treatment of same sex couples on the same basis as married couples?

GEPHARDT: Support. Comments: I believe the same tax treatment should be provided to same sex couples as married couples

Many Gay and Lesbian people serve in the federal government but do not receive the same health insurance and other employee benefits of married couples. Do you support domestic partner coverage for Gay and Lesbian employees of the civilian federal workforce?

GEPHARDT: Support. Comments: I support domestic partner coverage for Gay and Lesbian employees of the federal government. I am a cosponsor of H.R. 2426, the Domestic Partnership and Obligation Act, legislation to provide the same benefits to domestic partners of federal employees as are provided the spouses of federal employees. This would make the federal government a model for equality.

While 47 states allow Gay and Lesbian people to adopt children, some legislators are pushing to prohibit capable, committed adults from adopting because of their sexual orientation. As president would you support giving appropriate judicial authorities the full authority to make decisions on adoption based on the best interest of the child, without bans based solely on sexual orientation?

GEPHARDT: Support. Comments: I support equal adoption rights. The focus must always be on giving the children who are waiting to be adopted the opportunity of stability in a permanent and loving family. To achieve this goal it is important to widen the pool of potential adopters to find suitable parents for children who are waiting to be adopted.

Would you support the Permanent Partners Immigration Act (H.R. 832) which would enable an American citizen to petition for immigration sponsorship for a same-sex partner, and the INS would treat the relationships between opposite and same-sex couples in the same manner under the immigration code?

GEPHARDT: Support. Comments: I am a cosponsor of H.R. 832, the Permanent Partners Immigration Act because I believe the measure helps end discrimination in our immigration laws.

Would you support a congressional repeal of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy which would allow Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual soldiers the right to serve openly in the military as is currently the policy in nearly every NATO country?

GEPHARDT: Support. Comments: Sexual Orientation should not be a bar to military service. I believe the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy has been a failure, and I support its elimination. Gays and Lesbians have served with valor in our armed services, and they will continue to do so under my administration.

For more information, go online to dickgephardt2004.com.

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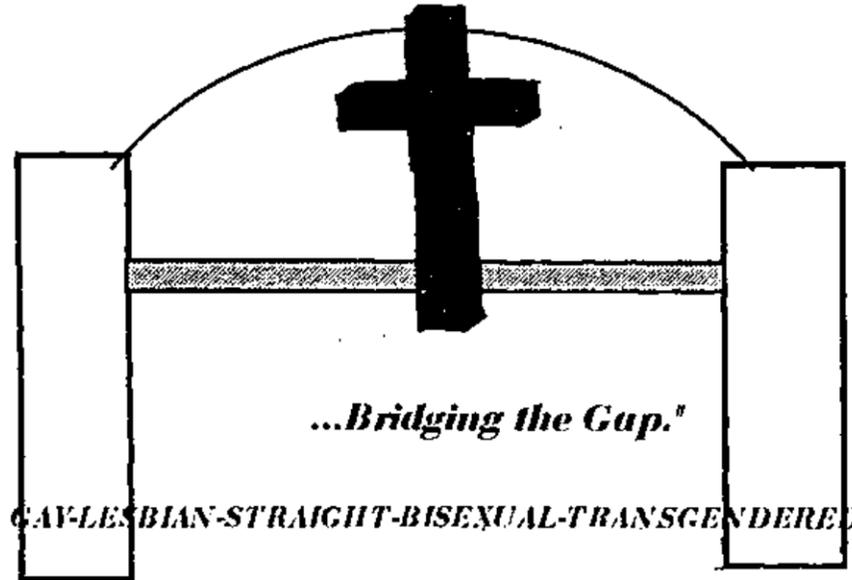
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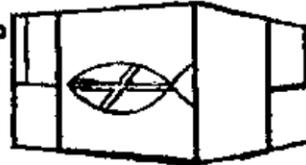
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"Christ - The Cornerstone for ALL"

A View From The Rock

by Joy L. Childress

A Commentary From Cornerstone Fellowship

A Warm Welcome to All Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered People

This week I decided (or that is God decided) to write about something special that is going to happen at Cornerstone Fellowship Church September 19-21, 2003.

Many of our community never go to church because they have heard the message that God condemns them: so, why go to church? Many in our community don't even go to churches where our community is welcomed, because they feel it is a trap to lure them in, in order to change their "ways". And many in our community who have come from Baptist, Church of Christ, Assembly of God, Charismatic, Apostolic churches are afraid to come to Cornerstone Fellowship because Cornerstone is Evangelical and Charismatic, and it reminds them too much of their backgrounds and the condemnation that was bestowed upon them.

I want to tell you now that Cornerstone does not condemn our life-style, nor is it a trap to get you to change our life-style. Everyone in our congregation is Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, or Transgendered. The pastor is Gay, also, and yet, he preaches the Word of God and is anointed by God. This church does not condemn or judge or pass on prejudice or manipulate. It is a church where Jesus Christ's love and saving grace is preached. At times I am dismayed at our community's willingness to believe the lies of the mainstream Evangelical churches that preach condemnation towards us. They are lies, lies, lies!! You can go to church and worship God and receive the love and salvation of Jesus Christ just as anyone else

can. For this reason, I want to invite you to our church for special meetings.

On Friday, September 19, at 7:00 p.m., Saturday, September 20, at 7:00 p.m., Sunday, September 21 at 10:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., we will be having a special speaker. He is Pastor Chuck Breckenridge of Diversity Christian Fellowship, Tulsa, Oklahoma. He is Gay himself and is in a Gay relationship. He is a singer, a song writer, a pianist, and a preacher. I have heard him preach when I was at a conference in Dallas, TX. He is a powerful speaker with a great sense of humor. He plays the piano with ease and grace and knowledge of music. I know that you would enjoy hearing him both speak, sing, and play. If you don't like preaching, then come just to listen to his music. He is a gifted musician!

Cornerstone Fellowship is located at 2902 North Geronimo, between Grant and Fort Lowell. Call (520) 622-4626 if you need directions. I invite you all to come and hear how much you are loved by God. Do not believe the lies of mainstream evangelicals!

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. - Romans 8:1

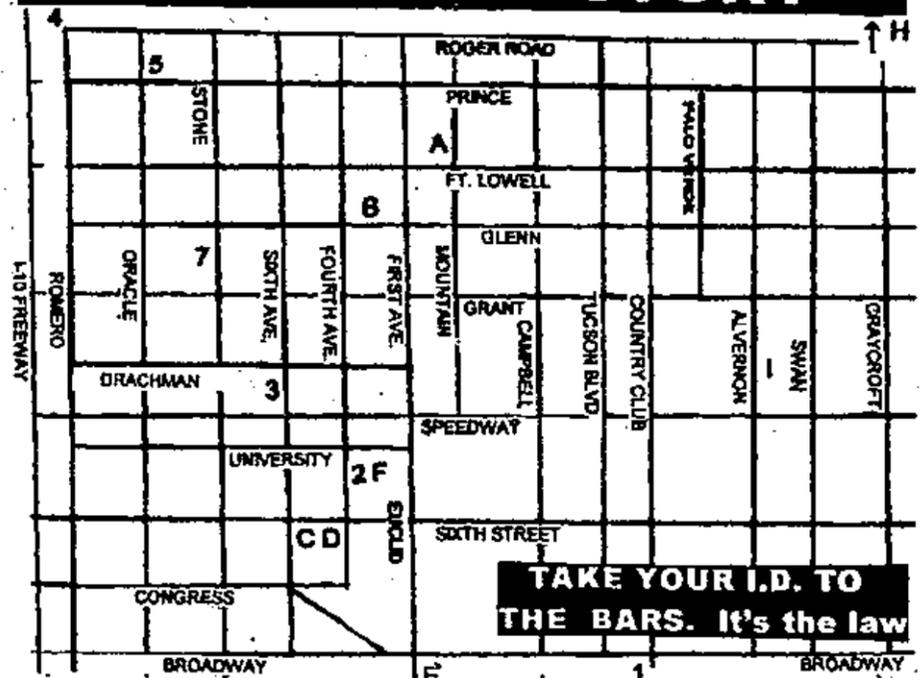
Sept. 11 Victim

Continued from Page One

Farris Chairman & General Counsel of the Home School Legal Defense Association and President and Professor of Government of Patrick Henry College.

Bradkowski and Dale Carpenter, a professor at the University of Minnesota Law School, were the only two invited to offer a rebuttal to the creation of FMA.

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Carpenter told the subcommittee FMA goes marriages," said Carpenter. against the conservative principle of federalism.

"The FMA would impose a single, nationwide definition of marriage as the union of one man and one woman. It would prohibit state courts or even state legislatures from authorizing same-sex

In a written statement, Elizabeth Birch, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign, said: "The so-called Federal Marriage Amendment would take a giant step backward in our national evolution..."

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light of day so you can cut them down to size. In fact, anything hidden or repressed is forced out into the open. Good thing too, Gay Libra. Why not step Out into the light of day and show your true pride colors? And remember, these colors don't run!

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22
Friendships are the source of surprising awakenings when the open Sun conjuncts expressive Jupiter. Proud Scorps now have a rare and all too brief opportunity to meet unusual and enlightening folks or can ascend to the leadership of an extraordinarily elite social circle. Whatever the fates offer you, make the magic last by fortifying these platonic bonds. Will you use silk scarfs?

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22
Gay Archers learn early in the corporate game that slow and steady wins the race. Now however, when Jupiter and the Sun conjunct, you get a significant leg up on the competition. Why ask why dear, queer friend? Take full advantage of the situation and assume your rightful place in the gallery of powerful corporate stuffed shirts. Who knows what else will get stuffed?

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20
Is it too much of a good thing for travel hearty pink Cap? The Jupiter / Sun conjunction may make you feel like a hostage on a merry go round with trip after trip and no time to recoup or catch your breath. Gather your rosebuds now and rest easy later, cousin. You will soon happily relax and recall what you have gained from these seemingly nonsensical, far flung enterprises.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19
Aqueerians receive a major sexual zetz during the Jupiter / Sun tete a tete. For those still closeted, the planets may give you a no holds barred outing. (If so, good for you!) For the rest, this planetary transit may prove to be a defining moment of who you are and who you want to become. Don't be surprised if the corks pop and you swallow more than your fair share of champagne.

CANCER

JUNE 22 - JULY 23
Events conspire to make mountains out of molehills during the Jupiter/Sun conjunction. Just when you thought you were a charmer, the planets agitate and steamroll your opinions over a few footloose toes. Let's hope folks are fast enough to get out of your way in time! Pick and choose your words as carefully as you can dear, queer Crab. Then watch the fireworks! Ouch!

LEO

JULY 24 - AUGUST 23
Free wheeling and high living proud Lions are lured by greedy gremlins during the Jupiter/Sun conjunction. The lure of easy money is so tempting that you risk all to capture it. But easy wealth is a fallacy as you well know and there is the risk that you may lose more than you gain. There is no substitute for hard work and careful planning. Try to get someone to do it for you.

VIRGO

AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23
The Jupiter/Sun conjunction in your own sign has you bursting on the stage as a supernova... or super diva. Anything you do now has immense impact on your public persona and how you appear to others. Proud Virgins long to muster the troops and lead them to salvation. Your bugle is ready and you can sound the charge of the pink brigade. Can it play Sondheim?

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23
Although you may not feel like fighting hidden enemies now, the Jupiter / Sun conjunction forces the bastards out into the

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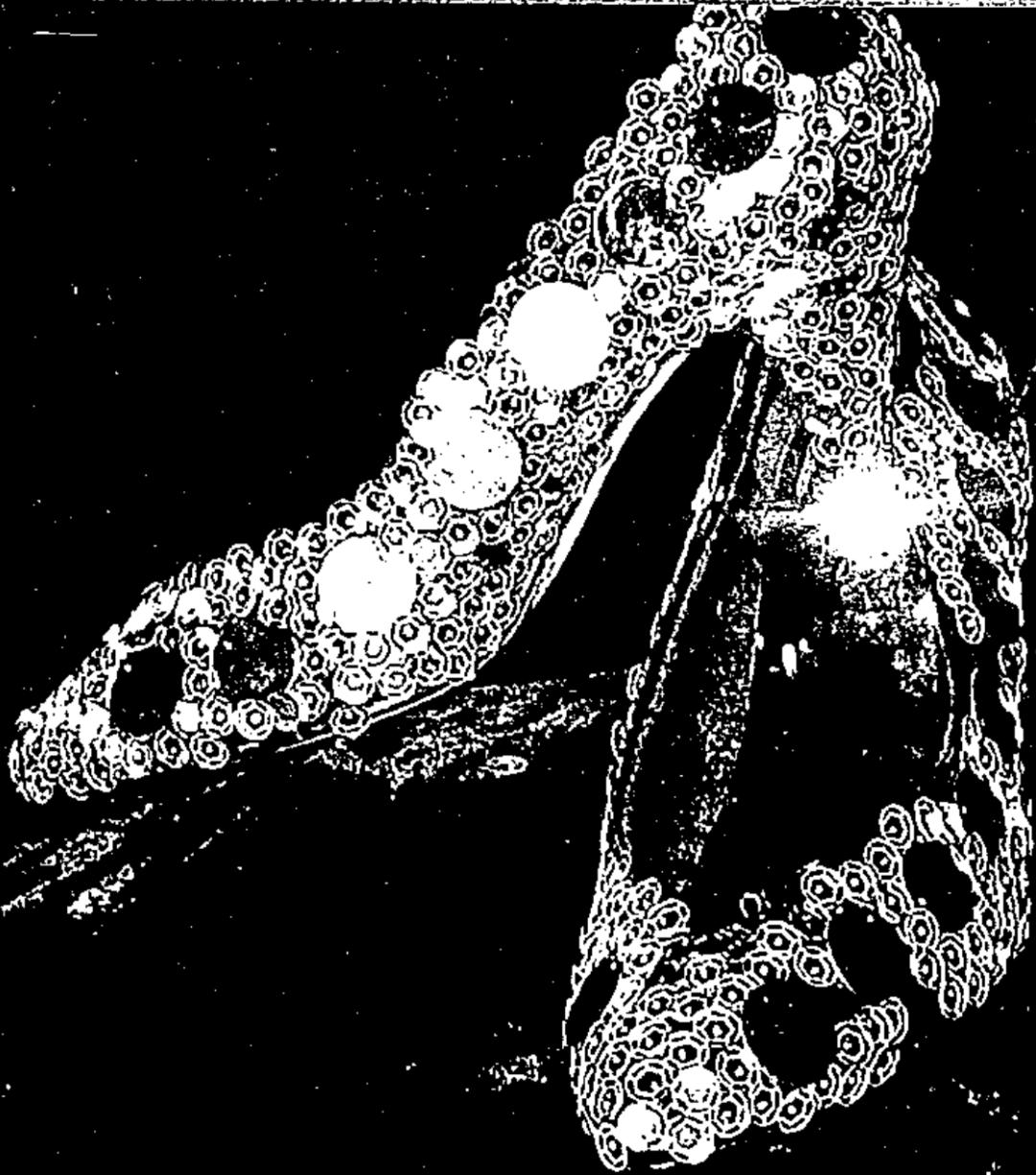
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YOU HAVE QUESTIONS?

Ask Dr. X

DR. X HAS ANSWERS.

Dear Dr. X,
My friends call me a major pothead. It's true I smoke everyday and have bong and other stuff but I really don't think I'm addicted. I mean its just pot. I know lots of people that do harder drugs and aren't addicted so how can I be? Pot mellows me out and I get way more creative to do my art. Do you think smoking every day is bad?

Signed, Reefer Madness
Dear Reefer Madness,

After getting your letter I had to sit and do a little research on just what are the dangers of Marijuana. I know all the basics: the impaired judgment, the paranoia, and of course, the munchies! But I also realize that in this day and age Pot is looked at as a non-threatening drug. I have friends that I would consider major potheads, and they still manage to lead functional lives and keep their jobs with no problem. After doing more research, I have come to the conclusion that the major problem with Marijuana is that it is illegal. That being said, Dr X went and got a second opinion. Then a third, then a fourth...etc. The question that kept coming up is "Is it disrupting your life?" Just like all substances, when you get to the point where it disrupts your job, your friends, and your life, it's become a problem. If you feel like any of these parts of your life are being disrupted, you might want to think about making some changes. Let me know what you decide.

Dear Dr. X,
Recently, one of my friends found out that he has testicular cancer. It really shocked and scared me. We are both in our late twenties, and I thought that it only happens to older men. I am really scared now that I might get it, and was wondering what I should do? Can I prevent this from happening to me?

Signed, Touchy Subject
Dear Touchy Subject,

I'm really sorry to hear about your friend. Unfortunately testicular cancer is a young mans disease. White men between the ages of 14-35 are at the most risk for the disease. If it's caught soon enough there is a 90% recovery rate. There are many factors for contracting testicular cancer such as family history, or an undescended testicle. As far as prevention from testicular cancer you need to check your testicles for any lumps or soreness at least once a month. You can also add a little spice to your relationship by having your partner check your testicles for you and vice versa. I had a female friend who noticed a lump in her boyfriend testicles and alerted him to his cancer. If you do find something or suspect something is wrong get yourself to your doctor and have it checked out.

[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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What Makes Our Town Tick

by Jerry Diaz

Thanks For Reminding Me

Hello readers! I want to start this week's article by sending my deepest sympathies to the family and friends of Mama Reyna. Mama Reyna and I go way back to the days of Rumorz and she will be missed dearly. There are several benefits being held in the coming week to raise money for her funeral and burial. If you knew her, or knew of her, please try to attend one of these events.

Our nation's leader took some time this past weekend to state his case again for our involvement in Iraq and the entire Middle East. This time around he even put an amount on a bill this country is destined to have to pay for a long time.

At the heart of his speech was the mention of the anniversary of September 11th. Mr. Bush made sure that the date was brought up no less than twice in his speech. The timing of the televised speech was of course without some thinking on the part of the Bush Cabinet. After all, the re-election is almost based on a foundation of that horrible day.

We as a country could all agree that we were all attacked on that September morning. The military action immediately following was a popular move, as Afghanistan was the home of the terrorist faction that caused the attacks. The actions taken after that overthrow are of course where the American people began to

CONTINUED ON PAGE FIFTEEN

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NON-BAR CALENDAR GROUPS / CLUBS / ORGANIZATIONS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

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

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Local Gay Musical Group - BMT - Curt Beall, Tom Maza and Rey Tester - performing tonight and every Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. at Rainbow Planet Coffee House, 606 N. 4th Ave. 620-1770. No Cover

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

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

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

UA Presents Eugenia León direct from Mexico City. Her voice has captivated people from around the world. Now it will captivate you. 8:00 p.m. Al UA Centennial Hall. 621-3341 for more info.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

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

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Local Gay Musical Group - BMT - Curt Beall, Tom Maza and Rey Tester - performing tonight and every Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. at Rainbow Planet Coffee House, 606 N. 4th Ave. 620-1770. No Cover

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

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

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

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

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

3:30-6:00 p.m. The Men's Group Massage. A great way to meet new men and make friends. Fee. Call Marc at 881-4582 for information and to reserve a place.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

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

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Local Gay Musical Group - BMT - Curt Beall, Tom Maza and Rey Tester - performing tonight and every Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. at Rainbow Planet Coffee House, 606 N. 4th Ave. 620-1770. No Cover

Bar Calendar Of Upcoming Events

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

IBT'S - 9:00 p.m. The "Divalicious" Show starring Bunny FuFu, Veronica Halliwell, Janee Starr and Tori Steele.

VENTURE-N - Full Moon Party! Drink Specials 9 to close.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

VENTURE-N - DJ Larry's Birthday Party. Larry spins music 9:00 to close. Drink special.

WOODY'S - 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. A Parking Lot Garage Sale and Car Wash to benefit Tucson's candidates for Miss Gay America Bunny FuFu and Veronica Halliwell.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

IBT'S - Party line-up includes Troy's Recovery Bar from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. \$1.75 Bloody Mary Buffet, Screwdrivers or Mimosas. Karaoke Party with Michael D. on the patio from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., Benefit Bar-B-Que / Beer Bust from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. This week's proceeds go to Revelite Gay Men's Chorus. 8:00 p.m. Sissy Bingo with Aija Simone and Lucinda Holliday. 9:00 p.m. "Pullin' On The Lips" Lipsync Contest hosted by Janee Starr.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

IBT'S - Special Memorial 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. for Mamma Reyna and Benefit Show for Mamma's burial at 8:00 p.m. Hosted by Lucinda Holliday. Starring Bunny FuFu, Diana Flair, Sache, Chantelle Douglas, Lady Ashley and Miss Siagon.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

YARD DOG - Another special from the Dawg - Village People Contest begins at 9:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Memoir Writing Workshop. Author Trebor Healey will be teaching a free workshop on fictional vs. non-fictional memoir writing. He will also focus on how to approach the process of expressing creatively the watershed moments of our lives; whether they are emotional, erotic, interpersonal or spiritual. Trebor is the author of the novel *Through It Came Bright Colors* and has taught writing workshops with Discovery Gay Men's Retreats, LYRIC (Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center), and at the Grasshopper Palace in San Francisco. Sponsored by the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Committee of the Tucson-Pima Public Library. Joel D. Valdez Main Library, Lower Level Meeting Room, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Author Reading and Book Discussion with Reception. Authors Trebor Healey and Felice Picano will be reading from and discussing their latest works and offering a question and answer period. Mr. Healey is the author of *Through It Came Bright Colors*, and Mr. Picano's numerous novels and books include his recently reprinted memoir trilogy, *Ambidextrous: The Secret Lives of Children; Men Who Loved Me; and A House on the Ocean*, *A House on the Bay*, as well as the newly revised edition of *The Joy of Gay Sex*. Sponsored by the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Committee of the Tucson-Pima Public Library. There will be a reception hosted by The Guy's Book Club after the discussion. Joel D. Valdez Main Library, Lower Level Meeting Room, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

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

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11

OUToberFEST - Tucson's "Part in the Park" - Reid Park 10:00 a.m. -

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.

IBT'S - Open Noon \$1.75 Bloodys, 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 2pm. Bloody Marys \$2.00. Free pool all day.

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

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

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

Monday

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

IBT'S - Open 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 2pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm. Free Pool 8pm 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.

IBT'S - Open Noon. Happy Hours 11am-8pm. \$2 domestic beer and well 4-9pm. Bare Chest Nite - Bare it and get happy hour prices from 9 to close. Progressive/Retro '80s dance with DJ Q. 9 to close

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Bar Opens 2pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm. \$1 Kamakazi, Jellos.

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. Hip Hop or Dance w/DJ Sharty or Sena 9pm - close. \$1.25 pitchers of Bud/Bud Light or \$1 Tequila shots 8-1.

IBT'S - 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-fetish-leather nite w/Gary and Chris along with GMHP. \$1 off any drink or bottled

beer (Excludes draft & schnapps) for all in leather or underwear.

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

Thursday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BUSINESS - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2-7pm with 2-4-1 domestic beer and well. Karaoke 8-close. \$2 Kamakazees and \$1 Hot Sex.

IBT'S - 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, \$8.99.

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 BUSINESS - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2-7pm with 2-4-1 domestic beer and well. Music with DJ Hill 9pm - close. Shot and drink specials all night. No cover.

IBT'S - Open Noon. Happy Hours 11am-8pm. \$2 domestic beer and well. Live Jazz on the patio with the Susan 6-9pm. Patio Bar 5-7pm. 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 Martini's \$2.00 4-8pm. Call Martini's \$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 BUSINESS - Open at 2pm. Pool Tournament 6:30pm \$3 entry. Bar matches pot. \$2 pitchers for pool players. DJ Hill 9pm-close. Drink & Shot Specials all night.

IBT'S - 10am-5pm \$4 Martinis and Daquans. 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 6pm-close. Latino Nite. Dancing w/Dr. Carlos. Free SAAFF 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. 5-8pm 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

Arts & Entertainment

NOW SHOWING THRU SEPTEMBER 28

Live Theatre Workshop presents "Cash Flow" by D.B. Giles. A hilarious comedy about a publishing firm on the brink of financial ruin. The round table discussion between the top three executives centers around their ideas on how to save the company. The son of the former president, Elliott Gallagher (cliff Madison) wants to bring in a questionable investor, the company treasurer Marty Blasingame (John McRosstie), wants to file bankruptcy, and the veteran sales manager Casey McDermott (Bruce Bieszki) suggests they hire an arsonist (Tony Eckstat) to burn the building down. One glimmer of hope lies in the inventive educational program designed by the editorial chief Carolyn McNeil (Maria Fletcher). But where to get the money to develop it? Does the answer lie in corruption or destruction? A laugh out loud romp with a surprise ending. Show times are Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m., Sunday matinee 3:00 p.m. only. Tickets range from \$14 - \$12. Call 327-4242 for reservations and information about 2003-2004 season ticket packets.

NOW PLAYING THRU SEPTEMBER 14

"Rumors" a play by Neil Simon, presented by the Arizona Repertory Theatre and directed by Samantha K. Wyer. Evening performances Sept. 3-6 and 11-13 at 7:30 p.m. Matinees: Sept 7, 13 & 14 at 1:30 p.m. Marroney Theatre on the UA Campus located at the southeast corner of Park Ave. and Speedway Blvd. General admission \$22 with discounts for seniors, students and employees. Tickets available through the UA Fine Arts Box Office, 621-1162. Check out the web site <http://www.UATheatre.org>

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Direct from Mexico City, UA Presents Eugenia León - The Voice! Its passion, its artistry and its versatility have won accolades worldwide, from New York, Los Angeles, Paris, Sao Paulo, Buenos Aires and Lisbon. Now it will captivate you! 8:00 p.m. at UA Centennial Hall. Call (520)621-3341 or www.upresents.org.

Julio Iglesias live at the Desert Diamond Casino Entertainment Center Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Tickets \$38-\$48 and \$60 in advance. \$43-\$53-\$65 day of show! For concert information call 1-866-DDC-WINS or www.DesertDiamondCasino.com

Gallery Four Ten presents "Roots" featuring artists Bob Bergier, Lydia D'Amico, Maurice Grossman, Judith Manner, Darin Schoeny, Jorge Vergel and Richard Zelans. Opening reception this evening from 5:00 to 9:00 pm. Gallery Hours are Wednesday through Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. or by Appointment. 520-740-1947.

SEPTEMBER 15 - OCTOBER 5

The Invisible Theatre Season Opener "Having Our Say: The Delaney Sisters' First 100 Years." \$16 Preview Mon. 9/15 7:30 p.m. \$20 Tues., Weds., Thurs., Sun. 7:30 p.m. \$22 Fri., Sat., 8:00 p.m. And Sat & Sun. 2:00 p.m. For reservations call 882-9721 10am - 4pm. Invisible Theatre, 1400 N. First Avenue (at Drachman). Two unforgettable pioneering African-American sisters, 103-year-old Sadie and 101-year-old Bessie Delaney, take us on a remarkable journey through the 20th century of our nation's history. The play is an invitation to visit with the Delaney Sisters as they relive their memories of the past, their secrets of the present and their hopes for the future.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

The Allman Brothers Band in concert at AVA Casino Del Sol. Show starts at 7:00 p.m. Gates open at 6:00 p.m. Tickets on sale now. TicketMaster 321-1000.

SEPTEMBER 17 - 28

Borderlands Theater presents the world premiere of a new play, "Electricidad (An American Tragedy), by Luis Alfaro at the Pima Community College Center for the Arts, Proscenium Theatre, 2202 W. Anklam Road. Set in a Tucson barrio, Electricidad is a Chicano take on Sophocles' Electra written in Spanglish. This heartbreaking and humorous saga explores the confines between love, murder, grief and revenge. A mother and a daughter square off against each other at all costs and change the course of their family and community forever. Thursdays-Fridays-Saturdays 7:30 p.m. Sundays 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. For reservations call (520)882-7406.

NOTICES

LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP. Involving discussion, support and activities. Designed to support each other. Meets 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month from 6:30 to 8pm. Alternate Saturdays the group meets for social activities. For info call Dorian Easty, 882-7723 Facilitator.

P.F.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 GLOBE 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?

GLHF 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.

GREATER PHOENIX GAY & LESBIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (GPGCC) P.O. BOX 2097, Phoenix, AZ 85001-2097. E-mail: webmaster@gpgcc.org or call (602)225-8444.

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

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

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

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

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 or visit our website at www.btop.com. All age welcome to our general meetings/pool/pubs on the 2nd Friday of every month, 7pm at Sentinel Bldg. On the City of Tucson Resource Campus, 310 N. Commerce Park Loop on Bonita St. between St. Marys and Congress.

LAMBDA CAR CLUB, a social organization of Gays and Lesbians who share interest, information and fellowship involving all cars and trucks. New Southern Arizona Region now in Tucson. Call the Hotline at 888-5541.

LESBIAN AND GAY AL-ANON - Affected by someone's drinking? Meeting every Tuesday 8:45 to 9:45 p.m. at Lambda Center, 2910 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. Gerommo (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 Adneene at 889-7295.

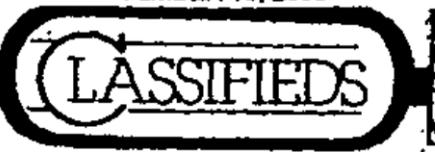
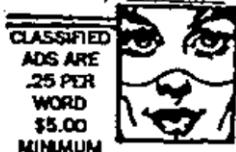
COME EXPLORE YOUR SPIRITUALITY! St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church offers a variety of Gay and Lesbian groups and services for the spiritually minded. Come meet the Family! For more information call Debbie 579-9827 or David 323-7943.

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 323-4737.

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.



NOTICES

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 699-9165 for information and a newsletter. Check the Non-Har 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 881-4582 for more information or sign up.

COMMUNITY BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (CBA), Tucson's Gay and Lesbian business networking group holds regular meetings the third Thursday of every month. Call 615-6136 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 TPI website at www.tucsonpride.com

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

TUCSON INTERFAITH HIV/AIDS NETWORK (ITHAN), 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.

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

GLIFLOID! 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. Decent Girls (MFF) Meets 2nd Monday at 7pm. Decent 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/sagaemail

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 602-279-4805.

DESERT DOMINION, whose focus is providing information and education for people interested in the BDSM lifestyle, meets monthly for group discussion and social events. Visit our website 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 Mirto Stone, MSW, at 327-1171 (if unavailable leave message with phone number).

NOTICES

HAJELWAH RECOVERY DRUG & ALCOHOL 12-STEP. Every Thursday 5:30-6:30pm at Cornerstone Fellowship, 2902 N. Gerommo. 622-4526

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

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

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)743-9059 (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)742-7895 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, PMB 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 624-0348 (24-hour line)

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

TGNArizona: The central source for news and information for, by and about the TS, TG, and Gender-savant 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 85733-4045

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

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

GLHF 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

HOUSING/FOR RENT

ROOMS FOR RENT. Speedway/1st Ave. Starting at \$75/wk. Includes all utilities. Furnished. Refrigerator in each room. Total of four baths. Share kitchen. Brian. 270-1425. 999

3+ BGR, 2 BATH HOUSE - Winterhaven area. Gorgeous natural woodwork, Tile floors, air conditioned. Yard. Pets OK. Extra storage. Fenced Yard. \$900/mo. Brian 270-1425. 999

2 BR. APARTMENT. Remodeled. Tile floors. Near Pima/Country Club. Fenced yard. Pets OK. W/D hookup. \$450/mo. + gas and elec. Brian 270-1425. 999

WANTED

SEMI-RETIRED GENTLEMAN WILL HOUSE and/or PET SIT. Northwest, North, North Central area. Also Oro Valley. Loves animals. Call 293-2029 998

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DO YOU WANT JUST A CAR OR DO YOU WANT A MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS? 98 Mercury Grand Marquis LS, 58k. All power, great condition. No sales tax. \$9995 total cost. 888-7264 997

1991 FORD TAURUS 88,000 MILES. Excellent condition. Trans 5 years old. A/C 2 years old. \$3,000 OBO 624-3883 997

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HEAVEN SENT ME. Experience a massage steeped in rich tradition combining ancient, intimate, sacred healing techniques. The strong, gentle hands of a humble angel work with your complete comfort in mind. In & Out, Days & Evenings, sometimes at a moment's notice. Call Glen, GMT 907-2551 for the touch you so richly deserve. Experienced, intuitive, athletic and kind. 997.

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FULL BODY SWEDISH MASSAGE FOR MEN. Best rates in Tucson! Try the rest. Compare the value! 7 days. \$30/hour. 327-3135. 1004

COMPUTERS EXTRAORDINAIRE: Your old system giving you trouble? Upgrade it for a reasonable price, or allow us to tailor make a system just for you. For home or business, we come to you with friendly, quality installation, instruction and service. Call Carl today @ 977-2572 and get a free quote! 1008

EXPERIENCE A TOTALLY RELAXING or deep-tissue massage by a trained, caring male therapist. In-home, hotel or resort. Often at a moment's notice. (520) 730-7966. 1004

ENJOY A NICE TOUCH Attractive man offers a sensuous, relaxing massage 10am - 8pm. 745-0231 or 891-7859 899...

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

TENSE? STRESSED OUT? Relax for an hour with a full body rub by Frank. Private studio, off-street parking. 548-7019 days, evenings. 1004

HAVE A TRUE TANTRIC MASSAGE. Have an ecstatic experience. Feel Alive! 22 years of quality professional experience. Marc - 881-4582 Licensed. 1002

ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS Let me keep your clothes fitting properly and in good repair. Experienced - Economical - Prompt. Merle Hudson, (520)888-7264 in Tucson. 1002

What Makes Our Town Tick

by Jerry Diaz.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE THIRTEEN become divided.

The invasion of Iraq, for whatever reason, took a turn that needed validation. The American people were confused as to why invade a country that did not seem to be a threat, much less a non-vital part of the overall picture for terrorism. Still, Mr. Bush pressed on and now we find ourselves inheriting a legacy that will take more than my lifetime to repair, right or not. When Bush takes to the airwaves to defend his plan, I simply see it as validation for his part. When he uses the anniversary of the biggest attack on U. S. soil as its foundation, I find myself upset at his thinking.

The campaign to re-elect Bush is unfortunately going to be based on September 11th and nothing else. I can not see the economy bouncing back that fast. The capture of the former Iraq president will not truly justify the entire war effort. The minds behind the World Trade Center attacks could be found dead before the election, and that still might not convince the voters.

In the first week of September 2004, in the heart of New York City, the Republican convention will be held. It was moved to the fall where it usually takes place in August. It was moved to New York City, where the Democrats usually have the right of way. It is simply another chance for the administration to remind us of Bush's brief shining moment. I truly hope that the constant reminding of such a tragedy is not a convincing seed in the minds of voters.

The next chance to exercise your voting right is coming soon, so please register to vote as soon as you can. You can make up your own mind, without all the grim reminders. Have a great week!

Let's go out!

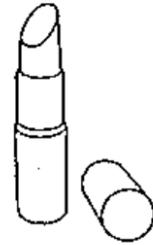
**Wingspan's
6th Annual
Benefit Dinner
13 September 2003**

**Telephone 624.1779
www.wingspan.org**

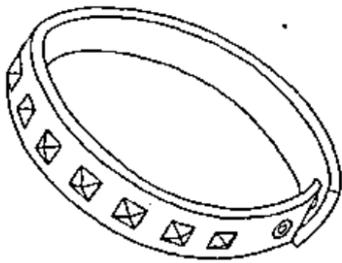
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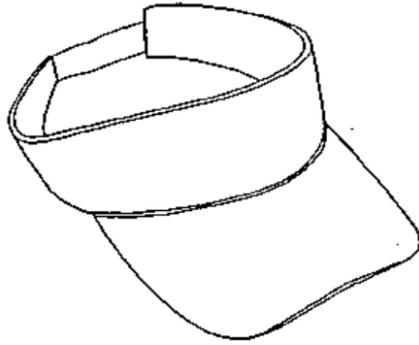
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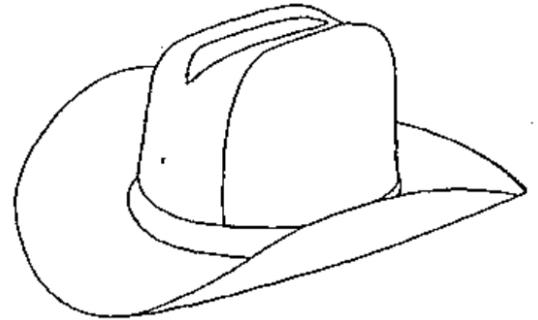
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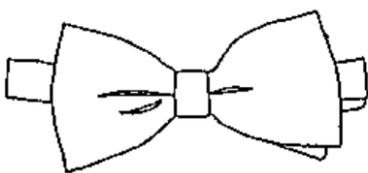
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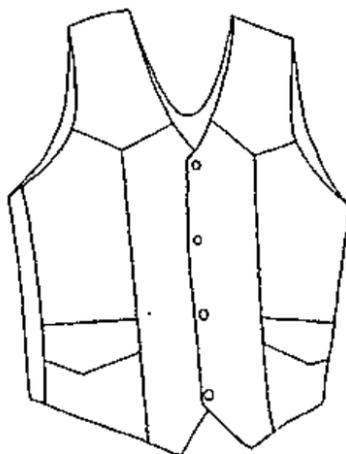
Boi



Country



Classic



Daddy



Glam