

● Elections Produce Historic GLBT Victories

WASHINGTON - Gay and Lesbian candidates and issues moved into uncharted territory Tuesday, November 4, claiming first-time electoral victories that included the mayor's race in Palm Springs, Calif., and a first-ever pro-Gay ballot initiative in Cleveland Heights, Ohio.

"I feel very upbeat about the results on Tuesday," said Robin Brand, vice president of campaigns and elections for the Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund, a national political organization that works to elect openly Lesbian, Gay, bisexual and Transgender candidates to public office.

"We took some real chances in the 2003 election," said Brand, "and we're in a good position going into 2004." Brand spoke to the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com Network from her Washington, D.C., office Wednesday.

In a decision described as a "landmark victory" for the GLBT movement, voters in Cleveland Heights voted overwhelmingly in favor of Issue 35, a measure establishing a domestic partner registry.

While domestic partner registries exist in more than 60 localities across the country, this is the first time a domestic partner registry -- or any other pro-Gay measure -- has ever been adopted through a ballot initiative.

"Cleveland Heights represents the future for advancing equal rights for Lesbian, Gay, bisexual and Transgender people," said Dave Fleischer of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, which lobbied on behalf of issue 35.

Voters in Palm Springs elected their first openly Gay mayor. City Councilman Ron Oden will also become the country's first openly Gay, African-American mayor. Oden defeated two-term incumbent Will Kleindienst.

"I am feeling overwhelmed with gratitude for the support this community has shown me," a tearful Oden said Tuesday night.

Two GLBT candidates were also elected to Palm Spring's City Council, which could put a Gay majority on that body, creating a major shift in power. Despite being a popular travel and retirement destination for the GLBT community, Palm Springs politics had been traditionally conservative.

In Virginia, Adam Ebbin made history by getting elected as the first openly Gay member of the Virginia House of Delegates, the oldest democratic body in the western hemisphere. The Virginia House of Delegates has been operating since 1607.

In Houston, City Councilwoman

Annise Parker will move forward to a December run-off election for city controller. Election observers say a victory by Parker would be significant because Houston is the nation's fourth-largest city, with a population of 1.9 million.

Overall, the Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund said GLBT candidates fared well. The organization said two-thirds of the 24 candidates it endorsed on the November ballot won their races.

However, Gay-friendly San Francisco missed a chance to become the nation's largest city with an openly Gay mayor.

Neither Tom Amiano, a Gay member of San Francisco's board of supervisors, nor Susan Leal, the city's Lesbian city treasurer, advanced to the December mayoral run-off.

"Even places considered strong Gay and Lesbian centers still have their work cut out for them," said Brand.

City of Tucson Election Results

TUCSON - More than 5,000 ballots were left to be counted in the November 4 Tucson general election and the tabulated was completed Sunday, November 10.

Incumbent Mayor Robert Walkup, Republican, eked out a 1,364 vote victory over his Democratic opponent, former Tucson Mayor Tom Volgy. This race was not decided until the final tabulation of votes, since Walkup had only garnered 49.5% to Volgy's 47.7%. A Libertarian candidate, Kimberly Swanson, had 2.8% after the initial tally of early votes and those from the polling day. What was outstanding were ballots to be verified and late returns of vote by mail that had come in up till 7 p.m. on election day, November 4.

As previously reported, incumbent Democratic Councilmembers Jose Ibarra and Shirley Scott were re-elected. All three ballot propositions, dealing with a pay raise for the Tucson Mayor and Council, and light rail were defeated. Turnout was at a disappointing 40% for this election.

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Gay Games Talks Collapse, Future Uncertain

CHICAGO - The future of the 2006 Gay Games was thrown up in the air on Monday, November 10, the first day of the Federation of Gay Games' (FGG) annual meeting, when officials reported to the FGG's delegates that organizers from Montreal had "walked away from the negotiating table."

Last-minute negotiations held over the weekend between the FGG and representatives from Montreal, the city picked by the FGG to host the 2006 games, fell apart, in what one FGG official called a "sad and perplexing" development.

The FGG and Montreal 2006, the organizing committee for the 2006 Gay Games, could not agree on key financial and logistical details. After the last four Gay Games lost money, the FGG has insisted that Montreal scale back the proposed number of registered athletes from 16,000 to 12,000. Montreal balked at this lower number, saying its budget is planned around a higher number of registrants.

"It looks like we're prepared to go our own separate ways," Montreal 2006 Co-President Mark Tewksbury told Outsports on Sunday, November 9. An FGG spokesman said it "was heartbreaking (for FGG directors) for it to come to this point."

What happens next is unclear.

"The options for what could happen next haven't even been discussed yet," Jake Stafford, spokesman for the FGG,

told the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com Network on Monday afternoon. "People are asking a lot of good questions about the details."

The FGG is now expected to rescind its offer to Montreal to be the host city. As of press time, FGG delegates had not voted on the matter.

The Gay Games are held every four years. Like the Olympic Games, the competition is highly coveted, because of the huge influx of tourist dollars to the host city from thousands of visiting athletes.

If Montreal is dropped, the FGG is expected to reopen bidding for Gay Games VII, to be held in either 2006 or 2007. Atlanta, Chicago and Los Angeles were the other bid cities in 2001.

"If talks really do fall apart with Montreal, of course we would entertain an offer (to host the games)," said Mark Cihlar, who helped write Chicago's bid for the 2006 games.

But Cihlar added Chicago wouldn't necessarily be "chomping at the bit" to host the games, because they have already lost two years of planning time.

Cihlar says organizers in the Windy City remain interested. "We could draw probably the largest Gay Games ever," he added.

Montreal 2006 officials have said they will go ahead with their games, called

CONTINUED ON PAGE THIRTEEN

To Archive Or Not To Archive That Is The Question!

DEAR TUCSON:

Not very long ago we passed a milestone: the 1000th edition of the Tucson Observer was published. That in itself says a lot. This publication is Arizona's oldest GLBT newspaper and is a chronicle of our community. So much of our collective history is recorded in these pages; it would be a tragedy if we were to lose it, but that could happen.

Currently there is no permanent record of it. While we have the actual papers, over time newsprint gets very brittle and fades. This is happening right now. As a professional librarian and a member of a committee that examines GLBT issues, I strongly suggest that, as a community, we need to act to preserve this paper, to save our heritage!

I have done some research in what would take and how much it would cost to save the Observer in a media format that would last indefinitely. We can get the entire paper, from 1976 to the present,

micro-filmed for less than \$5,000. The Arizona State Library has the equipment and resources to do it. Once the paper is transferred to microfilm we can produce dubs (copies) for about \$200 per set. The microfilm copies would be accessible to historians, researchers and the general public through the public library and organizations such as Wingspan and the Arizona Historical Society. Future microfilming of the paper could be done on a regular basis to add to the archive.

In the past we've come together to exert our rights and celebrate our existence, we need to do something right now. Whether it's to donate money, hold fund raisers, we must do what ever it takes to get the Tucson Observer recorded for posterity's sake. This will ensure that current, as well as, future generations of Tucsonans will be able to read and see what Tucson's GLBT scene was like during the last quarter of the 20th century and beyond.

Richard DiRusso, Public Librarian
Tucson, AZ

UPDATE

Start Off The Holiday Season With Desert Voices

TUCSON - Desert Voices upcoming Holiday show, titled "Home (Oh!) For the Holidays," is quickly approaching on December 6th at 7:30 pm and December 7th at 3:00 p.m. at The Muse - Community Arts Center, corner of 6th street and 5th Avenue, across from Wingspan.

The Holiday show will weigh in with laughter during this "Most Wonderful Time of the Year". "It's a show that's just like going home for the Holidays", says Mae Krueger, President of Desert Voices' board, and proud Alto, "only our show will be a lot more fun!"

The chorus typically pokes fun at stereotypes and raises an eyebrow at the surrounding world. But no matter what DV is up to, it always includes laughter. The program for the holiday show is diverse, unusual and loaded with fun. The chorus will explore the various permutations that the holidays can take on, from "Coming Out on Christmas Day" to "Family of Friends", cloaked within the traditional storyline of the Nutcracker. "The show is fun, and meaningful," adds musical director, Chris Tackett. "We have taken the various experiences of our members and woven them into a tale of the Holidays that will tickle your funny bone, and touch your heart."

Both the chorus members and the public likes what Desert Voices is doing this season, working under interim musical director Chris Tackett and the talented accompaniment of Namoli Brennet. The show features real people, and promises to be very funny. Get your tickets now before it is too late.

Tickets are available from Antigone's and DoTucson.com, or from any chorus member, and cost \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door. Discount tickets for Seniors and Students (with ID) are also available for \$10. Ticket holders can also get discounts from selected 4th Avenue merchants, such as the Rainbow Planet Coffee House, before or after the show. For more tickets or more information, contact Desert Voices at info@desertvoices.org, or via their website at www.desertvoices.org, or you can call (520) 791-9662.

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Your hosts are Mark and Gary and the events will take place from Noon until ??? at 2909 N. Flanwill (1 block East of Country Club and one short block North of Glenn).

There will be a dollar donation at the door (which includes the first beer on the house), food (quarter pounders and Hot Dogs with fixin's), Beer and top shelf cocktails are available but you must be twenty-one to consume alcohol and ID's are necessary. Each is available for a donation to 'Helping Hands'. There will be several raffles, card games, board games, etc. All to enjoy and raise funds for those in need.

For more information call 323-5917. Come on out and help those who need it during the holidays.

Thank you, Gary Cunningham and Mark Hopwood.

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Prevention Outreach Positions Available

TUCSON - The most interesting job that you'll ever have! Tribal Revival is a one-year pilot project to reduce the risk of HIV infection among club-going Gay and Bisexual men through an innovative substance use harm reduction program.

Seeking Health Educators - Assist in coordination of program events, educational programs and harm reduction counseling. Participate in a range of outreach and education activities.

Seeking a Marketing Specialist - Develop and coordinate visual presence of the project including media placement and evaluation. Must be proficient in PhotoShop, QuarkXpress and Illustrator. Must have previous design experience.

If this interests you, then you are invited to attend an open house, Tuesday, November 18, 6:30 p.m., at the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation, 375 South Euclid Avenue. If interested, R.S.V.P. by Monday, November 17, before 4:00 p.m., by calling Richard Clark, (520) 628-7223. You will need to bring your resume and a three professional references.

Day Of Remembrance November 20

TUCSON - Tucson's observance of the National Transgender Day of Remembrance, will consist of a candlelight ceremony at the park will be followed by a march down 4th Avenue and a reception at Wingspan.

This event is sponsored by the Southern Arizona Gender Alliance.

The Day of Remembrance is an annual event commemorating the violent deaths of Transgender people over the past year. This year we have already recorded the murders of 29 of our sisters and brothers across the U.S. - a dramatic increase over the 18 we mourned at last year's Day of Remembrance.

For more information, call (520) 624-1779.

Civil Marriage - Families and Fairness Town Hall Nov. 19

TUCSON - The Arizona Human Rights Fund (AHRF), American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), Human Rights Campaign (HRC), and Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund will hold a town hall meeting, Wednesday, November 19, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., at the Radisson City Center, 181 West Broadway, to discuss the issues affecting civil marriages around the U.S. and in Arizona.

The event will be moderated by Ernesto Portillo Jr., from the Arizona Daily Star. The panelists will include Amelia Craig Cramer, AZ ACLU, Ronald Bogard, AHRF, Bo Shuff, HRC, and Chuck Wolfe, Executive Director of the Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund.

"The state of Arizona does not recognize our families," said Kristen Felan, Southern Arizona staff person for AHRF, a statewide Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) political organization. "This town hall will discuss the unequal treatment GLBT people receive from state and federal laws and regulations. These inequities cost us thousands of dollars at tax time, reduce our childcare options and limit our healthcare decision making."

Panelists will offer insights regarding civil marriage equality in Arizona and across the US, and offer tools for community members to become involved in the fight for LGBT equality. Free and open to the public. For more information please contact Kristen Felan by phone at (520) 245-9009, or by email at kfelan@ahrf.org.

Double Elimination Pool Tourny Gets Underway

TUCSON - Wayne Steele is directing a double elimination Pool Tournament each Saturday and Sunday at the November Bar and Grill.

The sixteen player field gets underway at 5:00 p.m. sharp both days.

Winners in last Sunday's tourny were Mario \$30; Rosa \$20 and Chad \$10.

Interested pool players should sign up ahead of time before the field gets full.

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To the GLBT Community:

Thanks from Desert Voices for making our Yard Sale fund raiser this past weekend a great success.

With the donations we received from community members, we were able to raise over \$1200 over the weekend that can be used to fund singer scholarships and help with production costs for our upcoming Holiday Show.

Thank you also to the many community members who came out and shopped the sale!

Mae Krueger
Desert Voices
Tucson, AZ

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Critics Blast CBS For Buckling Under Pressure On The Reagan Miniseries

NEW YORK - Anybody who wants to see the television miniseries *The Reagans* will now have to pay for it.

After taking *The Reagans* off its schedule in the face of political pressure, CBS said Tuesday, November 4, it would license the film to Showtime, a corporate cousin and pay cable network with about one fifth of CBS's audience. "A free broadcast network, available to all over the public airwaves, has different standards than media the public must pay to view," CBS said in a statement. "We do, however, recognize and respect the filmmakers' right to have their voice heard and their film seen."

CBS's decision was applauded by fans of the former president, who were worried the film, scheduled to air November 16 and November 18, would distort Ronald Reagan's legacy. "They had to take a look at their own product to find out, in fact, that it was biased, not in favor of Ronald Reagan, didn't show a balanced view of my father, and therefore they pulled it," Michael Reagan, the former president's son, said on CBS's *The Early Show* Wednesday. Yet critics disgusted by the furor over a movie virtually no one has seen—part of a trend of preemptive strikes on controversial entertainment projects—said a dangerous precedent has been set. "If the decision not to air *The Reagans* was made in response to political pressure, it will have a chilling effect on future creative efforts in this genre," said Herb Sargent, president of the Writers

Guild of America, East. "Even under the threat of advertiser boycott, networks must not allow special interest groups to dictate programming."

CBS said it was not bowing to political pressure but that it was concerned about balance when the movie it ordered as a love story about Ronald and Nancy Reagan turned out politically pointed. CBS had expected the movie to be an important part of its November ratings "sweeps" programming and now has a hole in its schedule. The network didn't say Tuesday what will replace *The Reagans*. The miniseries became a hot topic on talk radio and the TV news networks. The chairman of the Republican National Committee wrote to CBS president Leslie Moonves, asking for historians to review the movie, and the conservative Media Research Center asked advertisers to consider boycotting the film. Brent Bozell, founder of the Media Research Center, scoffed at the notion that CBS was stifling free speech. "There is no such thing as creative license to invent falsehoods about people," Bozell said. "I don't care who you are. You don't have that right."

In a portion of the script published in *The New York Times* last month, Reagan was depicted as uncaring and judgmental toward people with AIDS. "They that live in sin shall die in sin," Reagan's character tells his wife as she begs him to help PWAs. Supporters of the former president, who suffers from Alzheimer's disease, said there's no

evidence he said that. "I think that they probably could have gotten great ratings on this had they done it correctly, not putting words in my father's mouth," Michael Reagan said on *The Early Show*. "I think what they did was, they took away the compassion of my father and really the heart of my dad." There also was a concern about its depiction of Nancy Reagan. The former president's son, a radio talk show host, said he had seen eight minutes of movie highlights and that Nancy Reagan was depicted as basically running the White House. "Showing it on Showtime, where people pay to see it, doesn't really change the product," Michael Reagan said. "It's still a lousy product."

Out producers Neil Meron and Craig Zadan (Chicago, *It's All Relative*) noted that CBS had approved their script in advance. While disappointed by CBS's decision, they said they were pleased Showtime would air the miniseries. Showtime and CBS are both owned by Viacom, which is anxiously awaiting federal action on rules to restrict ownership of local TV stations. Failure to enact such changes could cost Viacom millions of dollars, said Jeff Chester, head of the Center for Digital Democracy, a communications lobbying group. Viacom needs help from Republicans in the White House and Congress who might not like seeing Reagan portrayed negatively, Chester said. "They made a business decision," he said. "In doing so, they clearly caved in to the political pressure."

It's not likely CBS faced much pressure from advertisers, said Brad Adgate, analyst for Horizon Media, an ad-buying company. Some advertisers might have been scared by the controversy, but many would have been attracted by the prospect of big ratings, he said. Ironically, CBS's decision came two days after the network's 75th anniversary special, which included a skit by the Smothers Brothers poking fun at CBS for firing them more than 30 years ago because of their political content. Another precedent came in 1979, when CBS pulled a comedy series about a black congressman after complaints by some actual black politicians who had seen a screening, said TV historian Tim Brooks. CBS faced pre-broadcast pressure earlier this year from Jewish groups concerned about its miniseries about Adolf Hitler. After some changes were made to the screenplay, the Hitler miniseries aired in May to middling ratings.

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G/L Sex Cannot Be Adultery, Court Says

CONCORD - If a married woman has sex with another woman, is that adultery? The New Hampshire Supreme Court on Friday, November 7, said no, the Associated Press reported.

The court was asked to review a divorce case in which a husband accused his wife of adultery after she had a sexual relationship with another woman.

Robin Mayer of Brownsville, Vt., was named in the divorce proceedings of David and Sian Blanchflower of Hanover, N.H.

After a Lebanon Family Court judge determined Mayer and Sian Blanchflower's relationship did constitute adultery, Mayer appealed to the Supreme Court, arguing that Gay sex doesn't qualify as adultery under the state's divorce law.

"The Lebanon Family Court is attempting to overturn several centuries of the accepted definition of adultery, which is heterosexual sexual intercourse," wrote Mayer, who represented herself in the appeal.

Three of the five Supreme Court judges agreed with Mayer's position, but two — generally considered the more conservative judges — did not.

Part of the problem is that adultery is not defined in New Hampshire's divorce laws.

Looking at a dictionary and old case law, the court determined that the definition of adultery requires sexual intercourse. The judges point to a Webster's dictionary definition that mentions intercourse and an 1878 case that refers to adultery as "intercourse from which spurious issue may arise."

Marcus Hurn, a professor at Franklin Pierce Law Center, was surprised that conservative judges David Brock, the chief justice, and John Broderick wrote the dissenting opinion. While there's nothing legally improper about the majority opinion, Hurn disagreed with it.

"I think the majority opinion is unintentionally trivializing same-sex relations and violating modern notions of

the sanctity of marriage," he said.

A sexual relationship, whether heterosexual or homosexual, is "exactly an equivalent betrayal and that, I think, is the ordinary meaning most people would give."

But the majority did not want New Hampshire courts to step onto the slippery slope of defining what sexual behavior might amount to adultery if acts outside intercourse were included.

"This standard would permit a hundred different judges ... to decide just what individual acts are so sexually intimate as to meet the definition," the opinion reads.

The judges who disagreed said adultery should be defined more broadly to include other intimate extramarital sexual activity.

"(A) relationship is adulterous because it occurs outside of marriage and involves intimate sexual activity, not because it involves only one particular sex act," Brock and Broderick wrote.

They point to other states, including Georgia, Florida and South Carolina, which have defined adultery in broader terms to include Gay sex.

David Blanchflower said he had no comment on the ruling. Sian Blanchflower and Mayer did not return messages seeking comment Friday.

Jennifer Levi, who submitted a brief to the court from the Boston-based Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders, said she was satisfied with the court's decision. In states that define adultery in narrow terms, New Hampshire's ruling "is reflective of the majority approach," she said.

But what impressed her, she said, was the language of the ruling. "The most notable thing about the decision is its respectful attitude to homosexual relationships," she said.

The court was clearly not dismissing Gay relationships — just ruling on a definition, she said.

Marsha Stevens In Concert At Cornerstone Fellowship

TUCSON - Born again Lesbian Evangelist, Marsha Stevens, will perform her original music during a concert on Saturday, November 15, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship. There is no admission fee for the concert. A free will love offering will be collected to support her ministry.

Marsha Stevens is the famed composer of "For Those Tears I Died (Come to the Water), a standard of Christian hymnals since 1972. Since coming out as a Lesbian and experiencing the rejection and scorn of a homophobic society - most fiercely expressed by the church she so devoutly served - she has focused her talents on evangelizing the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered community through her gospel music.

Highly respected throughout the

Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC), she is the first lay recipient of the prestigious Purple Grass Award for excellence as an evangelist. She has recorded eleven solo albums and a concert video on her independent BALM (Born Again Lesbian Music) label and she performs over 120 concerts a year.

The Gay Music Guide rates two of her releases as among the top 20 albums of 1995 and 1996. In 2002 the Encyclopedia of Contemporary Christian Music was published and covers Ms. Stevens' ministry work in depth. In 2003 her song "Jesus Wept" was the Stonewall Society genre award recipient. Considered shocking by some and comforting to others, she performs "The Body of Christ Has AIDS" and "Love is The Only Law", as well as many other selections that express her distinct Christian views.

New Human Rights Campaign Leader Talks About Group's Future

BOSTON - A day after Massachusetts State Sen. Cheryl Jacques announced she will be leaving to direct the nation's largest GLBT political organization, the Human Rights Campaign, Jacques spoke with reporters about her family, her new position and her plans to advance Gay rights in America, reported the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com network.

One of her top priorities, Jacques said, is to help "America fulfill her promise of fairness and equality to each and every citizen."

"Every single American has so much to give, including our GLBT Americans," Jacques said. "America is strong when she includes everyone."

Jacques will assume leadership at HRC when Executive Director Elizabeth Birch steps down in January. Birch has been at the helm of the organization for eight years. Jacques said she looks forward to "climbing up on the shoulders of a giant, Elizabeth Birch, and helping HRC soar to new heights."

Jacques comes to the organization after serving 11 years in the Massachusetts Senate. In her first run for office in 1992, Jacques defeated the highest ranking and most conservative Republican in the Massachusetts Legislature, Minority Leader David Locke. Locke had been a lawmaker for 32 years, and Jacques was just 29 years old at the time of her election. Few people thought she could win.

She spoke with pride about her "incredibly successful legislative agenda" in the Massachusetts Senate, including expanding hate crimes legislation to include sexual orientation, passing safe school initiatives to protect GLBT students, and spearheading the defeat of a campaign to change the Massachusetts Constitution to ban same-sex marriages.

Jacques said her bipartisan approach to civil rights and other GLBT

issues has been "the secret to my success in passing very controversial, very meaningful pieces of legislation."

"Civil rights is not a partisan issue," she said. "That's why we can win the hearts and minds of all elected officials regardless of which party they're connected to."

"The most important tool in our arsenal of appealing to the hearts and minds of Americans is living our lives openly and honestly," Jacques said.

Jacques was taken to task by one reporter for her failure to openly identify herself as a Lesbian until eight years after her election. "How did you justify staying in the closet when Gay rights were under assault for all those years?" the reporter asked.

"I was there on the front lines fighting for Gay rights," Jacques answered. "I knew I was doing everything in my professional power to help the GLBT movement and its cause," she said, "I was, in fact, a leader."

"Every one of us has to find our way to the courageous ending of living our life openly and honestly," she added.

Addressing criticism directed at HRC for its failure to include Transgender people in its political agenda, Jacques said: "I understand (Transgender people) have the hardest battles and, frankly, they need us by their side the most. ... I enthusiastically look forward to working with all of our allies ... to address their concerns every step of the way."

Jacques will be joined in Washington, D.C., by her partner of five years, Jennifer Chrisler, and their twin sons, Thomas and Timothy.

"Jenn is incredibly excited," Jacques said. "They, as a family, have been a complete partner in my professional life."

N.J. Court Nixes Marriage Suit; Appeal Next

NEWARK - Lambda Legal Defense said that "in weeks" it plans to appeal a New Jersey court's dismissal of its lawsuit to make same-sex unions legally recognized in New Jersey, reported the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com network reported.

"We'll be moving quickly," David Buckel, a Lambda senior staff attorney, told the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com Network. "We're on a fast-track now."

On Wednesday, November 5, Superior Court Judge Linda Feinberg dismissed Lambda's lawsuit, saying there is nothing in the state Constitution that guarantees same-sex unions as a right. According to the Associated Press, she then appealed to state lawmakers to give Gay couples some of the rights they are asking for.

"The court commends the Legislature to carefully examine and consider the expanded rights afforded to same-sex couples in other jurisdictions," her opinion read.

Lambda Legal, the same organization that helped bring down the

sodomy laws earlier this year, sued the state of New Jersey in June 2002 on behalf of seven couples who have all been in committed relationships for at least 10 years. Four of the couples have children.

"One thing we disagreed with is that marriage can only be about different-sex couples," Buckel explained.

"Beyond that," he added, "If you really look at it, marriage is about strengthening families, and that's what our families want to do."

Although Buckel said that Lambda plans to take this case all the way to the state Supreme Court, its next step will be a middle-tier appellate court.

"Everybody involved knew this was headed to the higher courts," he added.

Conservatives have been following this case and one in Massachusetts, where the state high court is expected to issue a ruling soon on same-sex marriages. Anxiety over a possible pro-Gay ruling has fueled efforts to pass a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage.

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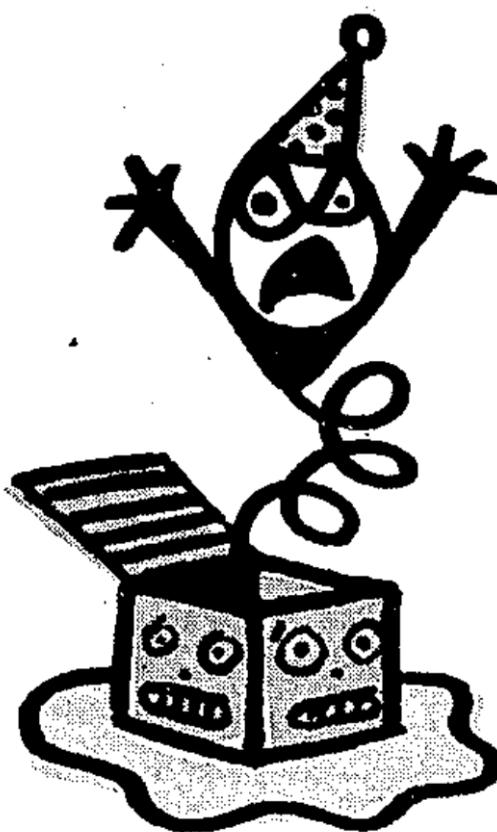
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POLITICS 2003
 by Mark R. Kerr

**So Where Do They Really Stand?
 Wesley Clark**

Wesley Clark, the former NATO Commander, is the last in this series on where the Democratic presidential candidates stand on issues of concern to Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) citizens.

Clark entered the race for the 2004 Democratic nomination for President on September 17, two months after the Human Rights Campaign had compiled their questionnaire and responses by the nine Democratic candidates, at that time.

With that, the following is compiled from Clark's Web site, news outlets, the Human Rights Campaign, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, articles and statements made by Clark on the issues so far, as of press time.

Clark supports the concept of civil unions for same-sex couples with equal rights and benefits.

"I think everybody deserves the right to serve," Clark responded to a question about Gays and Lesbians in the military, during the Rock the Vote Debate, held in Boston, November 4. "When I'm president I'm going to make sure that we treat every man, woman and child in America with dignity and respect." Clark said the military leaders need to review the policy of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell."

Clark expressed support for the Supreme Court decision this year in the

case, Lawrence v. Texas which declared sodomy laws unconstitutional. He also criticized Bush for his statement after the decision that "Gays are sinners."

During an address at New England College in Henniker, New Hampshire, Clark was asked whether he supports the proposed Federal Marriage Amendment being pushed by the Republicans, for which he expressed his opposition to the proposed Amendment.

Since Clark's bid is less than two months old, he hasn't taken positions or made statements on hate crimes legislation, adoption, or on HIV/AIDS but it is expected that positions papers/policy statements will be forthcoming but a statement he made on a recent radio interview can tell GLBT voters a lot:

"I respect Gay people just like I respect everyone else. I mean, people are people and you gotta treat every person with respect and you gotta admire them for what they are and for what they believe and for what they contribute."

On other issues of note: Clark is pro-choice; supports health insurance for all citizens but not in the single-payer format; and didn't support the Iraq conflict or what the U.S. is doing after Bush's pronouncement that the "mission has been accomplished."

For more information visit his Web site: clark04.com.

THE BOOK REPORT

[Fanny: A Fiction by Edmund White, Ecco, c2003. Reviewed by Terry Nordbrock, Tucson-Pima Public Library.]

Edmund White, considered by many to be America's foremost Gay writer of fiction, forays into new territory with this work of historical fiction. Fanny is a faux memoir about two women, real people who knew each other in life and who influenced early America, but who are now long-forgotten.

Fanny Wright (1795-1852) was a feminist who worked to abolish marriage, an anti-slavery activist, and advocate for the working class, founded a utopian community in Nashoba, Tennessee. Mrs. Frances Trollope (1780-1863), mother of the novelist Anthony Trollope, followed Wright to America, and later wrote the scathingly funny critique, Domestic Manners of the Americans.

In the novel, an elderly Trollope writes a biography of Fanny Wright, describing the time period after Wright invites Trollope to America to live in the

utopian community she founded in Nashoba, Tennessee. Trollope arrives but finds Wright more concerned with causes than with people. Their friendship goes awry and devolves into a rivalry, then a catfight. Trollope is left to fend for herself and her children. But the misadventure is not all bad - at Nashoba, Trollope gets to have a very satisfying affair with a freed slave named Cudjo. In the novel and in life Trollope gets the last laugh as her writing career takes off while Wright is mocked as an extremist.

Fanny succeeds in making the characters and times come alive, but for those of you who want to cut straight to the funny part, you may prefer to check out Trollope's Domestic Manners of the Americans from the University of Arizona library instead.

[Call the Library's InfoLine at (520) 791-4010 to reserve a copy, or reserve it yourself with our online catalog at www.tppi.org. If you'd like to read past reviews, visit the GLBT Services Committee webpage at <http://www.tppi.org/gbl>.]

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Bush To MCC: Praise and Prejudice

Call it a mixed-message at best. Or maybe politics at worst. During the same week that U.S. President George W. Bush endorsed the anti-Gay Marriage Protection Week, he sent enthusiastic 35th anniversary congratulations to the predominantly Gay and Lesbian Metropolitan Community Churches (MCC), a group that performs more than 6000 same-sex weddings annually, MCC reported in a press release.

Metropolitan Community Churches is one of the world's largest Gay organizations, and was founded by openly Gay Rev. Dr. Troy D. Perry in 1968. Today, MCC provides almost 300 local churches for its 43,000 members and adherents in 22 countries.

In his letter dated October 14, 2003, to MCC Los Angeles, the founding congregation of Metropolitan Community Churches, President Bush wrote. "By encouraging the celebration of faith and sharing of God's love and boundless mercy, churches like yours put hope in people's hearts and a sense of purpose in their lives. This milestone provides an opportunity to reflect on your years of service and to rejoice in God's faithfulness to your congregation."

The letter was written during the anti-Gay "Marriage Protection Week," an effort endorsed by President Bush and organized by such Religious Right leaders as Jerry Falwell, Dr. James Dobson, the Southern Baptist Convention and the American Family Association to deny equality under the law to Gays and Lesbians. In his proclamation endorsing "Marriage Protection Week," President Bush wrote, "Marriage is a sacred institution, and its protection is essential to the continued strength of our society. Marriage Protection Week provides an opportunity to focus our efforts on preserving the sanctity of marriage and on

building strong and healthy marriages in America."

Rev. Troy Perry, human rights activist and Founder of Metropolitan Community Churches, expressed alarm at President Bush's proclamation in support of "Marriage Protection Week," which was designed "to preserve the sacred institution of marriage" by denying the right to marry to Gays, Lesbians, Bisexual and Transgender people.

Of President Bush's proclamation, Perry said, "President Bush was wrong in his endorsement of a week dedicated to denying equal rights to Gays and Lesbians. And while we appreciate the sentiments he expressed on MCC's anniversary, the President has sent a very mixed message that makes his effusive praise of MCC's 35th anniversary all the more puzzling."

President Bush's letter to MCC Los Angeles left Rev. Neil Thomas, senior pastor of Metropolitan Community Church of Los Angeles, baffled.

"How does one denounce the right of Gays and Lesbians to marry in their churches and suggest they are incapable of having healthy marriages in one moment, and in the next rejoice in God's faithfulness to a Gay and Lesbian congregation that performs such same-sex marriages?" Rev. Thomas asked.

One does when they also believe: Iraq had weapons of mass destruction; the subsequent invasion, or mission as that banner said on the aircraft carrier during that photo op "was accomplished" despite the fact more soldiers have died after his declaration; and, tax cuts are helping the economy and the unemployed, just to name a few of the many fallacies that the current occupant at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue believes.

COMMENTARY

Episcopal Church Takes Leadership Role On Gays

The Episcopal Church proved Sunday, November 2, that it practices what it preaches.

The church, which celebrates compassion and inclusiveness as two of its central tenets, consecrated the Rev. V. Gene Robinson as the next bishop of New Hampshire. Robinson became the first openly Gay prelate in the Episcopal Church USA over the objections of the more conservative branch of the church.

In the process, the Episcopal Church assumes a leadership role in bringing churches around the world into the 21st century by recognizing Gay men and Lesbians as equals in all aspects of congregational life.

The Episcopal Church is one of 38 self-governing national churches within the Anglican Communion, which claims 77 million members worldwide.

This isn't the first time the American branch of the church has taken a controversial leadership role within the church.

In 1976, it set off a similar furor by voting to permit the ordination of women.

Subsequently, in 1989, the Rev. Barbara Harris was consecrated as the first female suffragan bishop. In both instances, the conservative wing threatened to split from the church. But in both cases, reason prevailed, and today, some 20 percent of ordained priests in the Episcopal Church are women.

Robinson's foes are utilizing biblical references to homosexuality to justify their objections. But as the Rev. Ernest Cockrell, rector of Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church of Saratoga points out, the Bible also gives its stamp of approval to slavery and using women as chattel, hardly acceptable in today's world.

The uproar today doesn't seem to be rattling Robinson, who is eminently qualified for the position. Recalling that "Peter and Paul fought like cats and dogs in the early Church," he urges people of all faiths to ask if we are "a people in a community, or is it 'us' vs. 'them'?"

To which we say, amen.

[This was an editorial published in the San Jose [CA] Mercury-News, Tuesday, November 4.]

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More often than not, great breakthroughs occur through earth shaking serendipity. But when shocking Uranus traveled retrograde for these past 6 months, the risks seemed greater than the rewards. Reap those languishing rewards as Uranus redirects this week, kids. Who knows what new surprises are in store. Hey, want to supersize it?

ARIES

MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

Life may have delivered a series of unpleasant revelations about certain compadres. How often in the past months have you found yourself yearning to be somewhere else rather than with the usual gang of idiots? Rainbow Rams now find the spark of genius in their current circles or seek the electric charms of new flames. Just how much voltage do you need for your monster?

TAURUS

APRIL 21 - MAY 21

Even the most agile queer Bull might have tripped up professionally when explosive Uranus retrograded. If you found yourself stepping in dirty piles of your own making, it is time to brush off your tap shoes and try, try again. Uranus redirects and you find that even though things are still fairly unpredictable, the buffalo chips will at least fall around you rather than on you.

GEMINI

MAY 22 - JUNE 21

Retrograde Uranus may have made travel more trouble than pleasure. Now, as Uranus redirects, pink Twins still find a plethora of surprises but of a much more pleasant sort. Is there something more for you out there? Absolutely! Much more than you ever expect. Continue to postpone lawsuits however; Uranus raises quite a few objections if you try to rest your case.

CANCER

JUNE 22 - JULY 23

Sirens lured hapless sailors to their deaths. Be warned: Impetuous Uranus calls to you in a sweetly seductive voice but I suggest that you tie yourself to the mast and resist. Sexual liaisons during this entire Uranus transit can bring madness-prone pink Crabs to the brink of insanity. Don't lose your head for just another pretty face. Did I say head? I meant mind.

LEO

JULY 24 - AUGUST 23

There is nothing selfish about wanting your own way when it has become a personal quest. The problem comes in when you make petty demands as a test of leverage in a relationship. Proud Lions risk tipping over the scales for something less than monumental. Crazy Uranus may redirect but that just means that the falling anvil misses your tail. It will still fall if pushed.

VIRGO

AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23

Let's agree to call a moratorium on exercise, dieting and anything Atkins. Winter is coming and we can certainly use those extra love handles. Resistance is futile anyway; Uranus redirects and continues to toss a few unexpected and delectable morsels your way. Queer Virgos are usually paragons of strength but Uranus reduces you to mush... topped with whipped cream.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23

Some of us play the violin exceptionally well while others are relegated to rear stage tambourine tapping. Whatever your level of talent, the current redirection of Uranus demands that you attend to it with relish. A little hot sauce couldn't hurt either, queer Libra, as romantic possibilities seem to seep out of every platonic opportunity. Don't forget the lobster bib, lover.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22

How many times will you arrange and rearrange the furniture, proud Scorp? Restless Uranus has retrograded and redirected and still things look in disarray and transitory. The temptation is to keep moving things around until they form a sensible, stable composition. But that ain't gonna happen now. Resign yourself to constant change and haphazardness for the time being.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22

Queer Archers manage to rearrange the landscape with a few choice words. Charming you are not, especially when Uranus was retrograde. Now, as the crazy old sod redirects, you may find that your words are as incendiary as usual but with more beneficially impactful results. Thinking of nailing your personal manifesto to the wall? Don't hit your thumb.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20

Gay Caps can sometimes be described as thrifty. Let's face facts, they can be described as downright cheap. But I suspect that your fiscal safety net looks a bit moth eaten since spendthrift Uranus retrograded and pillaged your bank account. Uranus redirects but does not halt its reckless spending pattern. Hold on tight darling. The next few months will be quite a thrill.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19

There is more than enough excitement going on in your chart with the crazy dance of Uranus in your own sign. Aquarians usually make rather unusual first impressions and decide to totally revamp their look on a whim. Normally that would mean a new haircut or wardrobe but Uranus pours on the greasepaint and the feathers now. Be proud as a peacock, pal. Nice tail.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

The lesson to be learned is to clean out your closet before wilde Uranus does it for you. Surprises and deeply repressed secrets hit the daylight as retro Uranus redirects. While Guppies would prefer to hide behind their comfortable fig leaf, the planets strip them naked and every pimple is magnified and paraded before the judges. Are you a 2, a 10 or a ruler, cousin?

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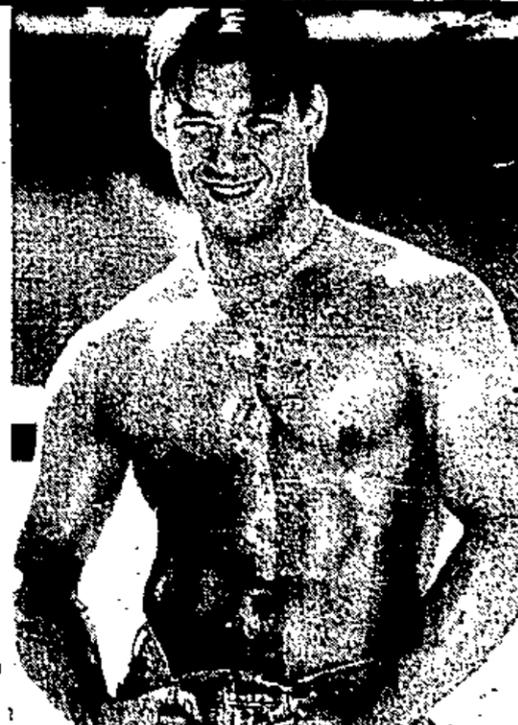
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NOTES FROM THE NOT-REAL SIDE

by Lee Thorn

Political Softball

As is my custom with most Tucson political contests, I've been trying to avoid watching this latest one. The truth is I'm embarrassed for both sides. Make that all three sides.

And it's not that I'm knocking the Old Pueblo. We are a fine city of countless virtues, but we produce a sorry class of local politicians who would be a source of amusement for the entire country if only the country knew about them.

There were two campaign snippets that I was exposed to despite my best efforts, a TV commercial for Walkup and a part of a TV debate with all three candidates.

In the commercial Mr. Walkup says something like, "I'm Bob Walkup. Please vote for me." After four years as our mayor, he apparently feels that he's such a political nonentity that he has to tell us his name. Worse than that, his name is the only basis he gives us on which to vote for him.

Not that Bob Walkup is a terrible name. It's probably better for political purposes than, say, Stinkum Pew.

In the TV debate we learned that all three candidates are running for mayor because they love our community. Heartwarming. And we learned that at least two out of three were asked to run by other people. Doubly heartwarming. And we learned that one of the campaigns, a very naughty one, has said untrue things about one of the candidates. Makes you want to cry, probably from uncontrollable laughter.

It was while watching the debate that I realized that someone who's grown up in Tucson may never has seen a serious municipal election campaign, one that wasn't a pathetic joke. For anyone in that boat, I'd like to give you an idea of what a campaign might sound like in a town the size of Tucson that didn't happen to be Tucson. I'm going to have to make up some of my "facts" for illustrative purposes. If you're a very observant Tucsonan, you'll probably be able to guess which of my "facts" are phony.

A serious Tucson mayor's commercial might sound something like this: "When I ran for mayor four years ago, I promised to bring jobs to Tucson, to fight

crime and to improve transportation. Since then Tucson has had a net gain of 10,000 high-paying jobs mostly in clean industries; our crime rate has dropped by ten percent, and our average commuting time to work has dropped by seven minutes. The data supporting these claims can be accessed at mayor.com."

My "facts" may be a little too rosy, but after four years in office a mayor should be able to come up with some factual reasons to base his appeal to the voter on besides the fact that he doesn't have a terrible name.

A serious challenger for the job of mayor might say something like this: "Tourism, one of Tucson's historical economic mainstays, is down in part because of a 1950s-style municipal extortion racket that the mayor pretends not to know about despite that fact that hundreds of travel agencies across the country do.

"The mayor and council devised a ten-year plan for the City that commits the City government to absolutely nothing. They could lock their doors and go home for ten years and they still wouldn't fall short of a single aspect of this wonderful plan.

"But that's not the worst of it. The worst of it is that the plan does nothing to give any direction to new building. The builders are completely free to do anything they want. Ten years from now Tucson will look like whatever the developers want it to look like.

"The City has had to pay civil judgments because of excessive force used by our police but it steadfastly refuses to professionalize the job. The starting pay at TPD exceeds that of TUSD. There is no reason why we could not immediately require, with no increase in City expenditures, that all applicants to the department have college degrees in relevant fields."

One could go on and on, but Tucson politicians would rather compete in the realm of who can be most heartwarming.

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

Harvey Milk Students Arrested For Robbery

NEW YORK - Five teens who attend a New York high school for GLBT students were arrested on Thursday, November 6, for a string of robberies, during which they pretended to be female prostitutes pretending to be undercover cops.

Wearing wigs and makeup, the teens posed as hookers in an area of Manhattan's West Village where sex soliciting is common, Reuters reported. After meeting a potential client, the teens would flash fake police badges, sometimes handcuff the men, and then strip them of their wallets and cash.

Detective Thomas Kuchma of the New York Police Department told the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com Network that five reported robberies occurred on four different nights, starting on Oct. 5.

Kuchma identified the suspects using male names and did not specify whether any of the individuals are Transgender. They have been charged with robbery and impersonation of a police officer.

The teens, ages 16 and 17, attend Harvey Milk High School, the first U.S. public high school for GLBT students. The school opened this year and has 170 students, according to Newsday.

Repeated calls on Friday to the Hetrick Martin Institute, which houses the high school, were not returned.



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GOP Sees '04 Issue In Gay/Lesbian Marriage

WASHINGTON - Republican strategists are planning to make Gay marriage an issue in the 2004 political race if the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court rules that same-sex couples can legally wed in the Commonwealth, a decision as eagerly awaited in the capital as in the Bay State, reported the Boston Globe.

The court could make Massachusetts the first state to allow Gay and Lesbian marriages -- which other states eventually might have to honor, opponents say.

Under pressure from social conservatives who want President Bush to campaign against Gay marriage in 2004, GOP officials say they are studying battleground states where same-sex unions could be a wedge issue in national and state races, and they are weighing endorsement of a proposed federal constitutional amendment sanctioning only heterosexual marriage.

At the same time, conservative groups are raising money to spend on campaigns next year, assembling volunteers to press candidates to oppose Gay marriage, and organizing petition drives and ballot initiatives in favor of the constitutional amendment.

President Bush has not endorsed the proposed amendment, but he said in July that "I believe marriage is between a man and a woman. And I think we ought to codify that one way or another." Gay marriage could be tricky terrain for the White House, torn between the president's important base of religious conservatives and suburban swing voters who are more tolerant of Gay rights. "I hope this will not be a major thing in the campaign," a senior White House official said.

Ed Gillespie, chairman of the Republican National Committee, has told several groups that GOP lawyers are assessing how a Massachusetts court ruling in favor of Gay marriage would affect other states and the federal government. He expects the party to take a position on the constitutional amendment after a decision in *Goodridge v. Department of Public Health*.

"My sense is that all these things are being considered and weighed and will be brought to a decision point, when and if the Massachusetts Supreme Court rules," Gillespie recently told reporters. He added that "it wouldn't surprise me" if the Republican Party platform addressed Gay marriage "in some form or fashion."

In a report released in July, the Senate's Republican Policy Committee concluded that armed with a favorable ruling in Massachusetts, "homosexual-friendly lawyers" will sue and succeed in striking down the federal Defense of Marriage Act, which defines marriage as a legal union between a man and a woman and gives states the right to refuse to recognize Gay marriages performed in other states. In addition, 37 states have laws that allow them to deny the legal and financial benefits of marriage to Gay couples.

On March 4, justices of the state's highest court heard arguments in the *Goodridge* case, which was brought by seven same-sex couples who sued the state Department of Public Health for denying them marriage licenses. The high-profile decision could come any day, SJC

spokeswoman Charlotte Whiting said Tuesday.

The closely watched case is energizing both defenders and opponents of Gay rights. Yesterday in Boston, Gay rights activists, along with plaintiffs in the *Goodridge* case, launched a national campaign highlighting how same-sex couples in long-term relationships without marriage licenses are denied legal protections and medical and pension benefits. A full-page ad in the *Globe* yesterday depicted two women and asked, "Why Are 'Pro-Family' Groups Attacking This Devoted Couple?"

"I'm skeptical that Republicans can make this an issue, but I see the push for a constitutional amendment as a direct attack on the Massachusetts families in this case," said Mary Bonauto, a lawyer for the *Goodridge* plaintiffs and a spokeswoman for the Boston-based Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders, a sponsor of the ad campaign.

None of the leading Democratic candidates support Gay marriage, but all are wooing Gay and Lesbian activists and young voters with promises to fight a constitutional amendment, endorse civil unions, and expand domestic benefits to same-sex couples. At Tuesday night's "Rock the Vote" debate at Faneuil Hall, Howard Dean pointed out that as Vermont's governor he signed the nation's first same-sex union legislation, and retired Army General Wesley K. Clark said that he supports the right of Gays to serve in the military and that as president he would review the Pentagon's "don't ask, don't tell" policy. A recent ABC News poll found that 51 percent of respondents under 35 support same-sex marriage, but a majority overall -- 55 percent -- said they do not. As a group, women are more supportive than men of Gay rights, but are more opposed to Gay marriage, said Celinda Lake, a Democratic pollster. A ruling for Gay marriage in Massachusetts could create a political backlash that Republicans might try to direct against Dean or John F. Kerry, one of 14 Senate Democrats who voted against the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act, Lake said.

The fact that it could happen in a court in Massachusetts -- tagged by some Republican leaders as a liberal outpost -- raises the temperature around the issue to the boiling point, said Patrick C. Guerriero, a former state lawmaker and Melrose mayor who now heads the Log Cabin Republicans, a group that promotes Gay rights in the party.

"While polls may indicate it would be a smart move to use Gay marriage as a wedge issue... what we learned in 1992 is that allowing conservatives like Gary Bauer, Pat Buchanan, and Pat Robertson to push their creepy social agenda will only hurt Republicans," Guerriero said. But Sandy Rios, president of Concerned Women for America, said social conservative groups like hers are "absolutely determined" to make opposition to same-sex marriage and the support of a constitutional ban a "litmus test" for candidates in 2004. She criticized Republicans for being slow to politicize the issue and called on Bush to stand up to "moral terrorists."

"Republicans aren't quite ready to take the plunge, so it is our job to push them off the cliff," said Rios, who predicts an SJC ruling allowing Gay marriage could lead to "sexual chaos" and a breakdown in



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American family life.

Conservative activist Paul Weyrich said that White House officials have assured him the president will endorse the constitutional ban on Gay marriage when a court decision is handed down. "There will be momentum -- it makes perfect sense politically," said Weyrich, who heads the Free Congress Foundation.

At the NoGaymarriage.com website, the conservative American Family Association is raising funds and has collected more than 728,000 signatures supporting the Federal Marriage Amendment. The website warns that "homosexual marriage will soon be a reality" because the Massachusetts high court "is expected" to rule in favor of the Gay couples.

In New Jersey, a Superior Court judge Wednesday dismissed a lawsuit brought by seven Gay couples on grounds that the state constitution did not guarantee their right to marry. The judge urged the state legislature to expand legal rights to same-sex partners, while attorneys for the couples said they would appeal to the New Jersey Supreme Court.

Anticipating a similar SJC ruling, a group of Democrats in the Massachusetts House is trying to write a compromise bill that could greatly expand Gay couples' rights and affirm civil unions, but not marriage, for them. But Gay activists say marriages, not civil unions, are essential to guarantee same-sex couples equal rights.

The GOP's Gillespie seems intent to make legal acknowledgment of Gay relationships an issue, even if Massachusetts stops short of granting marriage rights.

"I have a hard time distinguishing between civil unions and Gay marriage," Gillespie said.



A View From The Rock
by Joy L. Childress A Commentary From Cornerstone Fellowship

**Do I Have To Face Life Alone?
Is This All There Is?
Am I Good Enough?**

Have you ever wondered- why? Why is it that only women write for this article? Well, I have been wondering that myself. I have been wondering about a lot of things lately. Like, is there more to life than this cold, steel bar stool and this warm, diluted cocktail? Do I have to face life alone? Is this all there is? Or my favorite, Am I good enough?

Trust me, I know what it feels like to sit alone in some smokey bar and watch life pass you by. I know what it's like to watch other people fall in love; while you're too afraid to fall in love, for fear of contracting AID's. Scarey part is, I really am this person. I came to the realization while sitting in the hospital, recovering from triple by-pass. The way I was going, I was going to die alone, bitter and no one to blame but myself. I allowed my fears to overcome me, consume me. I allowed them to cripple me to the point that I became very isolated. I knew I had to make a change.

So, change I did. I knew in my heart, that my relationship with God had been put on the back burner. I understood why this relationship was put there, it is because it's not cool to be Gay and Christian, let alone a dragqueen! People look at you differently because they have fed into the game that one can't be Gay and Christian. I too fed into that game, so much so that I have spent the past 17 years

looking for the one right path to spiritual enlightenment. Guess what? I never found it, in any of the many beliefs that I tried to fit into. Why? Because I let fear reside in my heart and never developed a personal relationship with God.

It's not about being religious, nor how many go to your church. It is about your personal relationship with God. This past weekend, I came to the understanding that it is not about anyone's gender or sexual orientation but about your personal relationship with HIM! I also came to the understanding that I have been freed from the bondage of fear! I boldly proclaim that I am the Son of the Great King- Jesus Christ!

I understand that the church I attend is not for everyone, but I hope and pray that you too can find that personal relationship with God. I personally pray for everyone who is sitting alone and afraid, on some cold bar stool, in some smokey bar, sipping on that warm cocktail. I pray that you will hunger for the Truth and that His Truth will set you free.

One final thought - Through Knowledge comes Understanding, and Through Understanding comes Peace! Take the first step today - ask God to reside in your heart.

In Christ Love, Brian Fox
aka Alotta W.

SAAF UPDATE
SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION

By Anne Malcy

On Sunday November 23, SAAF will be holding the 15th Annual Jérôme Beillard Festival For Life! The Hilton El Conquistador is this year's location for this phenomenal live and silent art auction. From 4 p.m.-7 p.m., the El Conquistador will be transformed into an opportunity to find amazing works of art and great gifts. Works by such notable and distinguished artists like Lynn Taber, Tom Baril, David Unger, Allan Mardon and Gail Marcus-Orlen and many others will be available. It is a fabulous event.

Festival For Life is named after Jérôme Beillard. Jérôme and his partner Robert Markley started Festival in 1988. Jérôme was the Executive Director of People With AIDS Coalition (PACT); one of the three AIDS services organizations that merged in 1997 to become SAAF. In

1995 just before Jérôme's death, the PACT Board voted to name the event in honor of him and his contributions to the community. Since then, the event has continued to grow to the point that we had to find the largest venue possible for us-The El Conquistador.

I knew Jérôme and respected highly his commitment to people living with HIV/AIDS. His determination and compassion were evident in everything he did. As we get closer to this year's event, I can remember Jérôme's conviction. It can be summed up in the PACT Mission Statement, excerpted from the Denver Principles:

We are your sons and daughters, your mothers and fathers. Your brothers and sisters, your husbands and wives, your friends, your lovers. We condemn attempts to label us as "victims," which implies passivity, helplessness and dependence upon others. We are People with AIDS. We will not be victimized. We have the right to be fulfilled and productive and to be treated with respect, dignity, and understanding through the process of our lives.

The 15th Annual Jérôme Beillard Festival For Life is a holiday event representative of Jérôme's enthusiasm. Join us Sunday November 23, from 4:00 -7:00 p.m. at the Hilton El Conquistador, 10000 N. Oracle as we honor a memory and experience an exciting event! Advance tickets for \$45 are available at (520) 628-7223 (ask for Gail). Tickets at the door are \$50.00.

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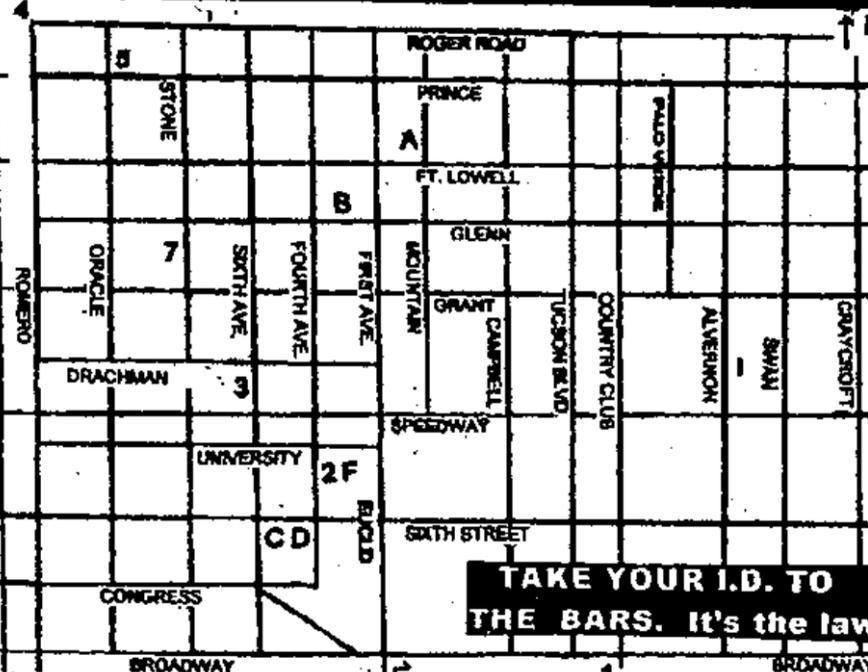
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Sunday School: 9:00 A.M.
Praise and Worship Service: 10:30 A.M.
Wednesday Bible Study: 6:00 P.M.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life."
John 3:16
You can be GLBT and a Christian. God loves you just as you are.

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Dear Dr. X

I am dating this guy who I totally love. He's handsome, nice, funny, and secure. But, there is something bothering me: my whole life seems to revolve around him. We only eat at the restaurants he likes, we only hang out with his friends, etc. I don't want to sound like I'm complaining, but it seems like I'm losing my identity.

Signed Worried

Dear Dr. X

I'm a 28 yr. old guy and I have a problem. I'm in love with my best friend's boyfriend. They are not right for each other! My friend tells me that they're not getting along. I also know for a fact that my friend has cheated on him. He doesn't deserve it. I would treat him so much better than him. Should I break them up and make him happy?

Signed, Mr. Right

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Dear Worried

You shouldn't have to feel this way. This could be the start of a very controlling relationship. I know you don't want to hear the term domestic violence but you need to realize that DV is based on power and control. Many people don't realize that you don't have to be hit to be in a DV situation. Some examples include one partner controlling all the money, One partner making all the decisions. This situation can escalate very slowly and you won't see it until it's too late. My advice is to be more assertive and to have some free time for you. Hang out with some friends, go to dinner with your family or friends. If he supports your efforts in this, things are probably OK—if he is upset by these actions, you may be at the beginning of a power/control issue and should seek help immediately. The good folks over at the Wingspan Anti-Violence Project can help you. Their number is (520) 624-1779. Keep me posted.

Dear Mr. Right,

Hello! How old are you? This is not high school! You need to act your age! You cannot go and break them up! It's not for you to decide if your friend is dating the right person. Also, the fact that you like him is clouding your perceptions. Having gotten that out of my system, here's my advice: continue being friends to both of them. While this isn't going to necessarily get this guy to fall for you, it will get him to know you and consider you a friend. I wouldn't get involved in your friends cheating either. If they do break up, I would suggest not getting in the middle of it. I would also make it clear to your friend that you are still going to be friends with both of them. Take it slow and try not to step on either one's feet. But I have to be honest with you; this is going to be difficult for you. It will be very hard not to be in the middle and end up being the backstabbing friend. Good luck!

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[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]

Gay Games

Continued from Page One

"Rendez-Vous Montreal 2006," even if they are not sanctioned by the FGG. The organization has removed all references of the FGG from its Web site.

Montreal 2006 has already booked sporting facilities and has contracted with the Canadian Broadcasting Company to televise the games nationally.

If Montreal proceeds with its plans and the Gay Games are held separately in another city, Gay athletes might have to choose between the two competing events. Because of the lost planning time, the Gay Games might also be delayed one year until 2007.

The FGG's five-day annual meeting was planned around the expectation that the FGG and Montreal 2006 would have reached a contract agreement by this time. Now the FGG delegates must decide on an alternative.

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NON-BAR CALENDAR

GROUPS / CLUBS / ORGANIZATIONS

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 6:00 p.m. The Triangle Tribe/Circle of Men is a support group that helps you deal with yourself and your relationships with others. For directions and reservations, please call Tom at 591-2828.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Bruce for Canasta. If you don't know how to play, we'll be glad to teach you. For reservations and directions, please call Bruce at 743-3690.

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

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 1:00 p.m. Join us for Lunch Out at Guillermo's Double L. For reservations and directions, please call Jim or Don at 299-5727.

7:00 - 9:30 p.m. the Men's Relationships Group meets. Includes a video on tantra. A great way to meet new men and learn about the ancient art of tantric sexuality. Call Marc 881-4582 to reserve a place.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Water of Life Metropolitan Community Church, Tucson's premier GLBT Church, will be holding their first-ever fund raising event. Entertainment by Tucson's Gay Men's Chorus, delicious desserts, and the ever-popular silent auction. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. at 3269 N. Mountain Ave. Tickets are \$25 and are available at Antigone Books, Wingspan and Water of Life MCC. For more information call the church at 5220-292-9151.

Holly Near and Cris Williamson in the Peace & Love Tour at 8:00 p.m. at the Berger Center for the Performing Arts, 1200 W. Speedway. Tickets available at Antigone Books, CD City and Blue Coyote Productions hotline 696-1612. \$22 advance / \$25 at the door. Be a part of this historic event as two of women's music pioneers unite forces for an evening of inspiration, joy and unabashed entertainment.

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.

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 8:30 a.m. Join Jack for a morning of Volleyball. This is played for fun, and you'll get to know some nice guys as you play. For details and directions, please call Jack at 881-5733.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Karol hosts Pinochle Night. If you don't know how to play, but would like to learn, this is the place. For more information, please call Karol at 744-9017.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17

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

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

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

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Perry hosts Bridge Night. If you don't know how to play, they'll teach you and it's a very relaxed atmosphere. For reservations and directions, please call Perry at 321-4387.

Bar Calendar

Of Upcoming Events

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

IBT's - The DivaLicious Show at 9:00 p.m. Hosted by Lucinda Holliday and starring Bunny FuFu, Janeé Starr and Miss Saigon.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

IBT's - Party line-up includes Troy's Recovery Bar from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. \$1.75 Bloody Marys, Screwdrivers or Mimosas. Karaoke Party with Michael D. on the patio from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.; Benefit Bar-B-Que / Beer Bust from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. This weeks proceeds go to Gay Men's Health Project (GMHP). 8:30 p.m. it's a special Fund Raising Show for GMHP. Show stars Lady Ashley, Miss Saigon and Josie P. Katt and a special guest.

WOODY'S - Sunday Brunches are back. 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Eggs with a meal du jour side plus Bloody Mary, Mimosa or Screwdriver \$5.00.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - The Biz welcomes back DJ Jocelyn and Garage Monday. DJ Jocelyn spins the latest garage music from 9:00 to midnight. Great drink specials. No Cover.

WOODY'S - Free anonymous and confidential HIV testing and syphilis screening 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. Brought to you by the Pima County Health Department and the Gay Men's Health Project.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

IBT'S - 9:00 p.m. A special 'DivaLicious' Sipw "A Night From Broadway" hosted by Lucinda Holliday and starring Diana Flair, Veronica Hallwell and Stella Virgin.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, NOV. 22 & 23

IBT'S - Aqua Party., Watch for details!!!

THURSDAY, NOV. 27 - THANKSGIVING

VENTURE-N - Open 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 a.m. Today. Turkey Dinner Pot Luck begins at 1:00 p.m. Jim is preparing the turkey. Bring a side dish and dessert.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 6:00 p.m. The Triangle Tribe/Circle of Men is a support group that helps you deal with yourself and your relationships with others. For directions and reservations, please call Tom at 591-2828.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. The Canasta Club meets to play this fun card game. If you don't know how to play, we'll teach you. For directions and reservations, please call Karol at 744-9017.

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

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join us as we get out our monthly 10-page newsletter. It's simple, and you get a chance to meet new guys as we assemble the newsletter. The work goes quickly, and is usually done with 30 minutes. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry or Les at 690-9565.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:30 p.m. Join us for the MSN Premiere of "I Love You Baby", a Spanish comedy about a man trying to win back his ex-boyfriend. For reservations and directions, please call Les or Jerry at 690-9565.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Holly Near and Cris Williamson in the Peace & Love Tour at 8:00 p.m. at the Berger Center for the Performing Arts, 1200 W. Speedway. Tickets available at Antigone Books, CD City and Blue Coyote Productions hotline 696-1612. \$22 advance / \$25 at the door. Be a part of this historic event as two of women's music pioneers unite forces for an evening of inspiration, joy and unabashed entertainment.

NOVEMBER 15 - DECEMBER 21

Live Theatre Workshop presents "Bullshot Crummond". In 1930s England, all is not calm and tranquil. The evil villain, Otto Von Brunno and his seductive mistress have kidnapped Professor Fenton in hopes of stealing his formula for making synthetic diamonds. Enter the hero detective, Hugh "Bullshot" Crummond. Car chases, plane crashes, sword fights, intrigue and romance! A wild ride you won't want to miss! Thurs., Fri., Sat., 7:30; Sunday matinee only 3:00 p.m. Tickets range from \$14 - \$12. 5317 E. Speedway, 327-4242.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

The Arizona Friends of Chamber Music presents their 2nd concert of their 56th season. The Pacifica String Quartet will perform at 8:00 pm. In the Leo Rich Theater at the Tucson Convention Center. General Admission tickets are \$20. Student tickets are \$8. The public can contact the AFMC at 520-577-3769 for visit their web site at www.ArizonaChamberMusic.org for more information.

NOVEMBER 24 - DECEMBER 14

+Invisible Theatre presents "Later Life" at 1400 n. First Avenue (at Drachman). It's another penetrating and yet funny look at modern life penned by one of the most prolific and produced playwrights in America, A.R. Gurney. After meeting briefly 30 years prior, Austin and Ruhl, who lead very divergent lives, meet again at a cocktail party. Austin is a privileged and conservative banker who has never strayed from Boston. For reservations call 882-9721 Tues-Fri 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Daily Bar Calendar

Sunday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Open 2pm. Beer Bust 5-10, \$1.25 pitchers Bud or Bud Light. Live 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 - Open Noon. Bloody Marys \$2.00 w/ 3pm. Steak & Shrimp Dinner \$6.99. 5-9pm. Karaoke w/Jerry D 7:30 to close. Free pool all day.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio open 3pm. \$1.75 Bloody Marys or Screws til 3pm. Patio Beer Bust 3-7. Burger BBQ 5-7. Selection of burger meals to choose from. \$2 proceeds go to Pet Watch (helping HIV/AIDS clients with their veterinary bills).

WOODY'S - Open 11am Sunday Brunch 11:30 - 2:30. Eggs and meat du jour plus BMS, Mims or Screws \$5. \$1.50 Bloody Marys, screwdrivers, Mimosas; Happy Hour 11am-8pm \$2 well or domestic beer. 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 Hour Noon-7pm, Theme Dance Nite with Johnny DJ. All drink specials not available during special events.

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open Noon Happy Hour 4-7pm. Ladies Nite. Free Pool 8pm to close.

VENTURE-N - Open 8am. Patio 6pm. Free pool til 4pm. Draft Special 12-4pm. \$2.75 Skyy Martinis 4-8. Monday Nite Football. Free Hot Dogs.

WOODY'S - Open Noon. \$2 well or domestic beer til 7pm Karaoke w/Michael D. 9-11. YARD DOG - Open daily 6am. 50¢ off any Scotch until 7pm. Kennel open 5pm.

Tuesday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Open 2pm. Happy Hour Two-For-One domestic beer & well 2-7pm. 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 Hour Noon-7pm. 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 - Open Noon. Happy Hour 4-7pm. \$1 Kamakazi, Jellos. Ladies Nite.

VENTURE-N - Open 8am. Patio 6pm. Free Pool til 4pm. Draft Special 12-4.

WOODY'S - Open Noon. \$2 well or domestic til 7pm. Bartender Calls it 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 Shorby or Senna 9pm - close. \$1.25 pitchers of Bud/Bud Light or \$1 Tequila shots 8-1.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hours Noon-7pm, 9pm "Diva-Licious" show w/Lucinda Holliday and guests. HNRG 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 w/Jerry D 7:30pm-close.

VENTURE-N - Open 8am. Patio 6pm. Free Pool til

4pm. Draft Special 12-4pm. \$2.75 Cuervo Margaritas 4-8pm. 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 BIZNESS - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2-7pm with 2-4-1 domestic beer and well. Karaoke 9-close. \$2 Kamikazees and \$1 Hot Sex.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hours Noon-7pm. HNRG video dancing with Johnny DJ 8-11 All drink specials not available during special events.

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open noon. Grill open noon-8pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm.

VENTURE-N - Open 8am. Patio open 6pm. Free Pool til 4pm. Draft Special 12-4pm. Pool Tourney 7pm. \$3 entry (Pot Matched) Special prices for players.

WOODY'S - Open Noon. \$2 well or domestic beer til 7pm. Free Pool 8 to close. Volleyball Court is Open. See bartender.

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

Friday

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

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hours Noon-7pm, Live Jazz on the patio with the Susan 6-9pm. Patio Bar 5-1pm. GOGO Boys and Dance Party with DJ T.C. Wildman 9 to 1. All drink specials not available during special events.

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

VENTURE-N - Open 8am. Patio open 6pm. Free Pool til 4pm. Draft Special 1-4pm. DJ 9pm to close.

WOODY'S - Open Noon. \$2 well or domestic beer til 7pm. Martini Party - Well Martinis \$2.00 4-8pm. Call Martinis \$3 from 4-8pm. Complimentary Shrimp Cocktail 4-8pm. Patio Bar Open 7pm - midnight.

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

Saturday

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

IBT's - 10am-5pm \$4 Martinis and Daquiris. Happy Hours Noon-7pm. Dance Party 9-11 w/DJ-Q. All drink specials not available during special events.

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open noon. Grill open 1-7pm. Margaritas \$3 6pm-close. Latino Nite. Dancing w/Dr. Carlos. Free SAAF HIV testing.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio Bar open 3pm. Patio Beer Bust 3-7pm. DJ 9-11.

WOODY'S - Open 11am \$2 well or domestic beer. Til 7pm. Patio Bar opens 5pm. 5-9pm Steak or Mahi Mahi BBQ with all the trimmings \$5.

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

Arts & Entertainment

NOW PLAYING THROUGH NOVEMBER 15

Gallery Four Ten, 410 E. Fr. Lowell presents the second show of the season "Sprouts". Photography, sculpture, paintings, watercolors, ceramics, collages, painted furniture and wall hangings. Gallery hours are Wednesday through Saturday 11:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. or by appointment. Call 520-740-1947 for more information.

NOW PLAYING THROUGH NOVEMBER 16

Green Thursday Theatre Project presents "Anger Box" from the author of The Eight Reindeer Monologues. "Anger Box" is a rant about everything that is wrong with the world today - from sex to politics to God. Performed as a series of monologues, Anger Box is provocative, shocking, irrational, stinging and really, really funny. Directed by Samantha K. Wyler. Cabaret Theatre at the Temple of Music and Art, 330 S. Scott.

NOW PLAYING THROUGH DECEMBER 7

Live Theatre Workshop presents Robin Hood adapted by Jeremy Thompson with original music by Michael Martinez and Jay Everett. Journey to the enchanting and musical world of Sherwood Forest during the reign of King Richard the Lionhearted. The Sheriff of Nottingham has an evil plot to destroy Robin Hood, the only man who can save the kingdom from ruin in the absence of the beloved king. With daring duels and unrequited love, the audience will discover that the hero is not always who they think it is, and sometimes, all it takes to become a hero, is a little help from your friends. Playing Sundays only at 1:00 pm. Live Theatre Workshop, 5317 E. Speedway. Tickets \$7 for adults, \$5 for children 18 & under. 327-4242 for info.

NOVEMBER 13 - 14 - 15

The Watercolor Guild of Southern Arizona will have a three-day showing of selected artworks at L'art Pour L'art courtyard on the Southwest corner of Oracle and Ina Roads at the Casas Adobes Plaza. The event will include live painting demonstrations and portrait renderings.



NOTICES

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-various 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

GUY'S 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

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

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

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

TUCSON PRIDE, INC. (Formerly Tucson Lesbian and Gay Alliance - TLGA) meets on the second Tuesday at 845 S. Craycroft Road at 6pm. Tucson Pride events: Pride Week, Gay West and OUToberFEST. Inquiries about support groups and individual needs should be directed to Wingspan and other local agencies listed here. For more information call 622-3200 or visit the TPI website at www.tucsonpride.com

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

TUCSON INTERFAITH HIV/AIDS NETWORK (TIHAN), a coalition of faith communities committed to a compassionate response to HIV/AIDS, provides HIV education in congregational settings, volunteer Care Teams to support HIV+ persons, a referral network of HIV-sensitive clergy, and interfaith services of healing and hope. For more information call 299-6647.

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

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

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

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

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

HALLELUJAH RECOVERY DRUG & ALCOHOL 12-STEP. Every Thursday 5:30-6:30pm at Cornerstone Fellowship, 2902 N. Geronimo 622-4626.

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

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

P.F.L.A.G. - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays - is a support group available to anyone who has a son, daughter or friend who is Gay. Call 325-8660 or write P.O. Box 36264, Tucson, AZ 85740-6264. All replies confidential.

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



CLASSIFIEDS



CLASSIFIED ADS MUST BE MAILED, NO PHONE ADS

NOTICES

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

YOUNG AND GAY?

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

The **TUCSON Chapter of PRIME TIMERS WORLDWIDE** invites Gay or Bisexual men and their admirers to join and share Prime Timers fellowship. We welcome mature men (and admirers) who wish to become involved with planned and future Prime Timers activities. Meetings luncheons and dinners are held monthly. For dates, times and information call 615-3493, leave name and phone number.

TUCSON GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

For information on human service organizations, health and mental health services, financial and government assistance, emergency services such as food and shelter, education, etc. Call Information and Referral 881-1794 - 8 am - 5 pm Mon - Fri.

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

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

LESBIAN AND GAY AL-ANON - Affected by someone's drinking? Meeting every Tuesday 8:45 to 9:45 p.m. at Lambda Center, 2940 E. Thomas, Phoenix. Ellic 581-8850 or Room 968-2384.

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

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

T-SQUARES Lesbian and Gay square dance club meets every Tuesday from 6:30-9:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N. Geronimo (near 1st Ave. and Laguna). Open to All. Call Liz at 325-9466 or Ray at 749-5247.

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

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

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

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.

MEN'S SOCIAL NETWORK: Social organization for men of all ages. Building an extended Gay family in Tucson. Monthly social potluck gatherings the first Saturday of each month and almost weekly social activities. Call Jerry at 690-9563 for information and a newsletter. Check the Non-Bar Calendar in the Observer.

NOTICES

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

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

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 web site <http://www.desertdominion.org> or call (520)792-6424

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

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

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

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

SAA (Sex Addicts Anonymous) has 5 meetings a week in Tucson. People who wish to stop their compulsive sexual behavior, please call (520) 745-0775 for current information.

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

LUTHERANS CONCERNED - Tucson chapter for Gay/Lesbian Lutherans meets 3rd Sunday, 6:30 p.m. each month at Santa Cruz Lutheran Church, 6809 S. Cardinal Ave. For information visit www.lutucson.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)

PERSONALS

LOOKING FOR A WORKOUT PARTNER. In shape man looking for same to meet 2 or 3 times a week. Can offer accommodations - massage. Call 745-0231 Reed. 1011

HOUSING/FOR RENT

AFFORDABLE RENTALS, ROOMS, APARTMENTS OR HOUSES! Starting at \$265/mo! Must see. Central units, good areas. John, 327-3135 1008

CUTE 1 BEDROOM COTTAGE. Small complex. Large covered porches. Pool - BBQ. \$425/mo. + gas and elec Pima/Swan area. (520)326-1934. 1009

ROOMMATES

HOME TO SHARE WITH 35 YEAR OLD GWM. Private entrance. Foothills area, just north of Tucson Mall. Beautiful views of city. House keeper included. UofA student or 77, very clean, very open. \$375/mo. Call 283-3940 or 861-3557. 1009

EMPLOYMENT

SMALL LANDSCAPE COMPANY SEEKING WORKERS. Salary based on experience. Call 7am - 2pm. 304-6969 1011

FOR SALE

TAG SALE/PICNIC FUNDRAISER SATURDAY AND SUNDAYS THRU DEC. 13. Noon-777. Donations for Beer, hamburgers and hot dogs, etc. Must be 21. Raffle. Music. Many household items, computer items, fine art, etc. Call Mark or Gay 323-5917 or come by 2909 N. Flaming (one block East of Country Club & one short block North of Glenn) Look for the flag 1010

SERVICES

GREG'S HOUSE AND WINDOW CLEANING SERVICE. Also light hauling. Thorough and dependable. 623-9811. 1011

ENJOY A NICE TOUCH. Attractive man offers a sensuous, relaxing massage. 10am - 8pm. 745-0231 or 891-7859 1011

LET ME PAMPER YOU! With a Full Body Swedish Massage in a quiet, relaxed atmosphere. \$35 for a full hour. Ralph (520) 883-7496 1020

RELIEVE TENSION AND STRESS. Experience a dual massage by two handsome, vinle, clean, safe, discreet, drug free, All American Men. Hourly. You will not be disappointed. Please call Mark or Joe, (520)235-0037. 1009

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, CMT 907-2551 for the touch you so richly deserve. Experienced, intuitive, athletic and kind. 1005.

END BACK PAIN. The back solution, massage and bodywork. 15 years experience. Tension Erasure - Stress Reduction - Relax for Health. Abe 294-4810 1007

FULL BODY MASSAGE FOR MEN. \$30/hour. Experienced hands. Exceptional value! 327-3135 or 548-6314. \$25 New Customer Special - Outcalls Negotiable. 1014

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 moments notice. (520) 730-7966. 1023

TENSE? STRESSED OUT? Relax for an hour with a full body rub by Frank. Private studio, off-street parking. 548-7019 days, evenings. 1012

HAVE A GLORIOUS TANTRIC MASSAGE. It is eclectic. Call ahead. 22 years of quality professional experience. Marc - 881-4582 Licensed. 1012

ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS. Let me keep your clothes fitting properly and in good repair. Experienced -- Economical -- Prompt. Merle Hudson, (520)888-7284 in Tucson. 1015

Water of Life MCC Announces Fund Raiser

TUCSON - Water of Life MCC (Metropolitan Community Church) will be holding its first ever fund raising event on Saturday, November 15, 6:30 p.m.

Entertainment will be provided by Reveille, Tucson's Gay Men's Chorus. An array of delectable desserts will be available for you to enjoy as well as a silent auction for those interested in getting a head start on their holiday shopping.

Water of Life MCC has been a spiritual presence in Tucson for 30 years providing it's GLBT residents with a place for worship, fellowship, and comfort. Come and be a part of this special evening. See old friends. Meet new ones. Tickets are \$25.00 and are available at Antigone Books, Wingspan, & Water of Life MCC.

Water of Life MCC is located at 3269 North Mountain Avenue, between Prince and Ft. Lowell Roads. All are cordially invited to attend services every Sunday at 10:15 a.m. For more information, call the church office, (520) 292-9151.



News . . . From Around The World

GOP Senator Hits Back In Clark Controversy

WASHINGTON - Published reports claim all military promotions are on hold in the Senate because of the controversy over how a military general managed a base where one soldier died in an apparent anti-Gay hate crime, reported the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com network.

On Thursday, November 6, the Associated Press cited anonymous Senate sources as saying an unnamed Republican senator had put all nominations on hold after an unnamed Democratic senator put on hold the nomination of Major General (MG) Robert Clark to lieutenant general, the Army's second-highest rank.

Last month a Senate panel voted to endorse the general's promotion and scheduled it for a vote by the full Senate.

As of press time the Pentagon had yet to comment on the impasse.

The controversy over Clark's nomination stems from what happened in July 1999, when he was in charge of Fort Campbell in Kentucky. Two soldiers at that base killed Pfc. Barry Winchell by bludgeoning him with a baseball bat because they believed Winchell was Gay.

Winchell's parents and organizations like Servicemembers Legal Defense Network (SLDN) opposed Clark's nomination, claiming he fostered the anti-Gay climate that played a role in Winchell's death.

"The current hold on MG Clark's nomination is a clear indication that senators continue to share our concerns about his promotion," said C. Dixon Osburn, SLDN executive director, in a prepared statement on Friday.

Human Rights Campaign (HRC) Political Director Winnie Stachelberg shared similar thoughts in a conversation with the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com Network.

"I think this is a reflection of the seriousness in which the senators on both sides take their responsibility," she said.

When asked if this action sounded like more tit-for-tat politics than bipartisan accord, she responded: "I think there is a nonpartisan concern raised about (Clark's) record. I think Republicans and Democrats were concerned about the environment for Gays and Lesbians and others at Fort Campbell."

"I think Democrats doing one thing and Republicans doing the other is the nature of the Capitol," she said.

As for Clark's future, "past putting a hold on him, it is too early to say what will happen," Stachelberg added.

Jailed Gay Uzbek Writer Speaks Of Torture

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan - The Gay Uzbek journalist currently held in prison for challenging the government spoke to reporters for the first time on Monday, November 3.

Ruslan Sharipov spoke of how he was forced into confessing to charges of sodomy and of having sex with minors when prison guards tortured him, 365Gay.com reported.

He says he is innocent, and the case against him was politically motivated - a view supported by many human rights groups.

They claim the government was looking to silence Sharipov, and used topical charges, such as pedophilia, so as to distract other countries and organizations from getting involved.

Speaking to reporters from his cell, Sharipov said prison guards forced him to write a suicide note and threatened to kill him unless he pleaded guilty to the charges against him.

They then forced him to dismiss his lawyers and friends from the courtroom, so that they could sentence him easily.

Belgian G/L Weddings Prove Popular

BRUSSELS, Belgium - In the six months since Belgium became the second country in the world to legalize same-sex marriage 139 Gay couples have tied the knot, reported 365Gay.com.

The figure was released by the Flemish LGBT group Holebi. It based its figure on the number of registered weddings up to September in six Belgian cities

The country's second city and Flanders capital Antwerp tops the Gay

wedding league with 64 celebrations, ahead of Ghent on 32, Bruges and Liege on 15, Brussels on 11 and Charleroi on two. About two-thirds of the couples were men.

Over the period, the Gay unions represented some 4.7 percent of the weddings carried out in the six cities, the civil rights group said.

Gay couples now enjoy most of the same rights as heterosexual married partners, apart from those related to adoption - meaning that in a Lesbian couple the biological mother would remain legally a single parent.

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There's No Place Like Home...

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