

## Janee Starr Named Miss Gay Tucson 2005



TUCSON - The Miss Gay Tucson-America Pageant was held this past Sunday, February 29 at the Holiday Inn Palo Verde. David Dawson's 3D Productions presented an exceptional evening of entertainment and pageantry. He is to be commended for the smoothly run evening which was his first as promoter for the Miss Gay Tucson Pageant.

Four contestants vied for the coveted title - Heather Boa, Venecia, Kimi-San Du Mi and Janee Starr. After going through the competition which included - evening gown, on-stage question and talent, the judges awarded the title to Miss Gay Tucson-America Janee Starr. Venecia was first runner-up. Congratulations to all the contestants and entertainers who made this evening a most memorable one.

## Observer Archive Funding Getting Underway

by Natalie Perry

Over the past 25 years, "The Observer" has, week-after-week, observed, documented and advertised functions, activities and celebrations for all of us, individuals and groups in the GLBT community. "The Observer" is the record of the history of GLBT Tucson.

It is time to preserve this history somewhere other than on paper, and to preserve it so that anyone can retrieve it.

The Tucson Public Library has

offered to archive our history, where anyone will be able to access any part of it, at any time. But this project does not come without cost. It will cost between \$3,500 and \$5,000 to create these archives.

We are requesting that you, your group or organization become an "archive supporter" by contributing any amount that is comfortable for you. No contribution is too small.

As our contribution, we will hold

CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX

## G/L Conservatives Plan To Battle Bush

WASHINGTON - Gay conservatives are so angered by President George W. Bush's support of an amendment to the U.S. Constitution banning same-sex marriage that they are launching their own protest in swing states that are key to Bush's reelection bid, including Missouri, New Hampshire, New Mexico, and Ohio, the Los Angeles Times reports.

The Gay political group Log Cabin Republicans is considering a grassroots voter campaign to be broadcast on television and radio that would cater to conservatives, moderates, and independents. Their message? The White House is "playing politics" with the Constitution. "A constitutional amendment is a call to arms for Gay conservatives," Patrick Guerriero, Log Cabin's executive director, which is planning its annual convention in Palm Springs in April, told the newspaper. "A lot of Gay conservatives who have been extraordinarily loyal will not remain silent. This is a breach."

Guerriero recently visited Missouri and Ohio to assess the political climate and talk to activists. In the past year he has

traveled to 26 states and 87 cities to prepare for the largest presence ever of Gay conservatives and their allies at the Republican national convention, which will be in New York this year. "The feeling is, if you want a cultural war, you'll get it," he told the Times. "We don't want history to record that we stood silent when our president and our party tried to write discrimination into the U.S. Constitution."

Some Gay conservatives who work in the Bush administration or who hold political office say they feel a special sense of betrayal. They remember when Bush met with them and when vice presidential candidate Dick Cheney—who has an openly Lesbian daughter—talked of leaving this issue to the states.

"The day word came out that he was going to support a constitutional amendment, my phone was ringing off the hook, with straight Republican friends saying, 'He just lost my vote,'" Rebecca Maestri, a Lesbian activist who works on Iraqi redevelopment issues for the U.S. Agency for International Development, told the Times.

## U.S. Bill Seeks Aid For Early HIV Treatment

WASHINGTON - Touted as a life-saving bill for poor people with HIV, the Early Treatment for HIV Act (ETHA) was reintroduced in Congress Thursday, February 26, with wide bipartisan support, reported the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com network.

Introduced by Rep. Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and Jim Leach, R-Ohio, and backed by 70 members of Congress, the bill allows states to offer Medicaid benefits and treatment to people with HIV who have not been diagnosed with AIDS.

"This bill is tremendously important," said Paul Feldman, public affairs director of the National Association of People with AIDS.

"Currently poor people with HIV are denied access to Medicaid care and treatment until they become sick enough to access it when they receive an AIDS diagnosis," Feldman told the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com Network. "This is a cruel irony that winds up costing the government more money," he said.

"People living with HIV and AIDS should not live with fear and anxiety about whether they will have access to life-saving medical care, medications and support services," said Fred Dillon, policy director at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, in a prepared statement.

ETHA has been introduced to both houses of Congress before but has not had sufficient bipartisan support to become law. This year may be different, Feldman said, because of a national study about the bill's potential impact. ETHA could reduce the death rates of people with HIV on Medicaid by as much as 60 percent, as well as slowing disease progression and improving their overall health, according to a study by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC).

Approximately 900,000 Americans have HIV, and 40,000 more test HIV-positive each year, according to figures from the National Institutes of Health. The PwC study estimated that, if every state participated, ETHA would provide health benefits to 30,000 people with HIV.

"No one should die on a waiting list for access to treatment, which is currently what is happening in this country," said Bill Arnold, executive director of the Title II Community AIDS National Network.

"While we must intensify our prevention efforts, including education about behavioral risk and research for a vaccine, we must also respond to the growing demand for HIV care," said Pelosi. The bill is widely supported by medical experts, AIDS advocates and the pharmaceutical industry.

# UPDATE

## IN MEMORIAM

### Pride Logo Contest

TUCSON - Everyone Under the Sun - Theme for Pride in 2004 Tucson Pride announces an art contest for a logo illustrating the Pride theme, "Everyone Under the Sun." The art contest will be open until March 5. The TPI board will select the winning artwork on March 9. TPI will award \$100.00 to the winning artist.

Artwork may be presented in any media and must be mailed to Tucson Pride, P.O. Box 40301, Tucson AZ 85717. Sender must put "Attention: Logo Contest" somewhere on the envelope. Artwork received by email will not be considered. The artist must include their name, address and a contact number or email address on the back side of the artwork. The artist may include the theme and/or OUToberFEST 2004 in their presentation but it is not required. Entries will not be returned. Artists need to take into consideration that the logo will be used for advertising in both black and white and color ads, posters, flyers, Pride Guides, etc. Artwork may include up to 6 colors.

For additional information, call the PrideLine at (520) 622-3200.

### Single Lesbian Support Group

TUCSON - Come and share with other single Lesbians about the ups and downs of being single - taking turns, listening and respecting each other, and exploring topics that relate to single life.

Meetings are the first and third Sundays of each month, from 3-5pm at the Wingspan Annex, 739 N. 4th Ave.

E-mail Claire at <mailto:clairce4@juno.com> or call (520) 990-9213 (weekends only) for more information.

### Vagina Monologues At UA March 5-7

TUCSON - See "The Vagina Monologues" by Eve Ensler, in this student-run benefit production in the Social Sciences Building, Room 100, at the University of Arizona on March 5, 6, and 7.

Show times are 8pm all three days (doors open at 7 p.m.). General Admission is \$8 at the Door.

All proceeds benefit the UA Oasis Center For Sexual Assault And Relationship Violence.

### Wingspan Volunteer Orientation March 9

TUCSON - Want to be more involved in Tucson's LGBT community? Have you thought about volunteering for Wingspan, but didn't know what it might involve? Here's your chance to find out. A Volunteer Orientation will take place at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th Street, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 9.

Wingspan is especially interested in outgoing, reliable volunteers to help staff the Front Desk, to help with the AIDS Candlelight Memorial Committee, and to join Wingspan's Community Forum Committee, among many other volunteer opportunities.

This orientation is geared for new and potential Wingspan volunteers, and is open to anyone wanting to learn about Wingspan's history, organizational structure, and the many opportunities to volunteer. It's also a chance to see the 13-minute video documentary about Wingspan's history by Wingspan FilmFest coordinator Liz Burden that screened at the Sixth Annual Wingspan Benefit Dinner.

The Orientation is a full two-and-a-half hours long (with a break!). You must attend the entire Orientation if you plan to pursue volunteering with Wingspan. Whether you want to volunteer intermittently, on a regular basis, or for a specific project or committee, Wingspan can accommodate most levels of commitment.

To continue Wingspan's commitment to diversity, the organization strongly urges people of color, Lesbian and bi women, Gay and bi men, people with disabilities, bilingual folks, transmen and transwomen, sign language interpreters, people living with HIV/AIDS, youth, older adults, and straight allies to volunteer.

Drop by Wingspan for a volunteer application, or contact Mark, Wingspan's Volunteer Programs Coordinator, at 624-1779 ext 15, or <mailto:mark@wingspan.org>, and he can email you one.



### Mary Webber

Mary (Savage) Webber, 66, of Tucson peacefully passed over to a new world of health and wholeness on Thursday, February 26, surrounded by her beloved husband, sisters, children and grandchildren, at TMC's Hospice Center, after a ten month battle against lung cancer.

She is survived by her loving husband of 45 years, William; daughters Laurie (Warren) Williams and Nancy (Ken) Webber-Graff, both of Tucson; son Billy (Dustielyn) Savage, of Thousand Oaks, CA; sisters Nancy (Edward) Petrie, of East Hampton, NY, and Dorie Moore of Vero Beach, FL; grandchildren Justin, Heather, Brady, Riley, and Shelby, nieces and nephews, and her beloved dog, Buddy.

Mary and her husband Bill were strong supporters of the LGBT community and actively involved with Desert Voices. Mary had such an impact on Desert Voices and was so eager to help in any fight for right and justice. The GLBT community will miss her.

Mary was born in Port Chester, NY, and raised in Mamaroneck, NY. She graduated from the Cornell University School of Nursing with B.S. and R.N. degrees, and received an M.S.W. degree from Webster University in St. Louis, where she embarked on a lifelong career as a social activist. The Webbers moved to Tucson in 1998 to spend their retirement years enjoying the joys of grandparenthood.

Her memorial service was held on Sunday, February 29. The family wishes to thank her doctors, nurses and the staff of TMC's Hospice Unit for their assistance, hard work and support. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her name to: Arizona Oncology Associates, 2625 N. Craycroft, Suite 200, Tucson, AZ 85712.

### UA Pride Alliance Update

TUCSON - Does your car look like a dusty leopard after the rains last week? Stop by the Circle K gas station on the NE corner of Park Ave. & Speedway this Sunday, March 7, between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., and students from the UA's Pride Alliance will wash it for you for a donation.

This is a fund raising event to help with the cost of UA students who are going to the GenderPac conference in Washington, D.C. in April. It's a great way to support GLBT youth activism... and get a clean car out of the deal! ...

Join the UA's Pride Alliance for Cosmic Bowling on Tuesday night, March 9, from 9:30pm to 12:30am at Golden Pin Lanes, 1010 West Miracle Mile, and is open to anyone. The cost of this glow-in-the-dark event is \$9 for unlimited bowling and shoe rental.

For more information, call the Pride Alliance at (520) 621-7585, or email Matthew J. Adams at [mailto:mjadams@u.arizona.edu](mailto:mailto:mjadams@u.arizona.edu).

The Pride Alliance is part of the student government (ASUA) at the University of Arizona that serves as a resource center for GLBT students, staff, faculty, and allies.



## Walk In Wednesday



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# An Important Open Letter . . . . .

DEAR MAYOR WALKUP AND CITY COUNCIL, POLICE CHIEF RICHARD MIRANDA, AND ASSISTANT CHIEF ROBERTO VILLASEÑOR:

Wingspan, Southern Arizona's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Community Center, is dismayed to learn that the Tucson Police Department is planning to resume plainclothes enforcement against violators of laws pertaining to public sexual indecency.

Wingspan collaborated, over a several month period, with the GLBT Commission, the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation, the Arizona Human Rights Fund and the Pima County Health Department in working with Assistant Chief Villaseñor when he first proposed resuming undercover, plainclothes enforcement in June of 2003.

During those conversations, we repeatedly requested to see documentation of the extent of this problem and justification of the need to resort to plainclothes enforcement. To my knowledge, we never received adequate documentation other than anecdotal evidence. In November 2003, Assistant Chief Villaseñor assured us that the problem had gone away (even though we never saw evidence that there was a substantial problem to begin with) and that plainclothes enforcement would be unnecessary.

Less than 3 months later, we receive, through the Commission, a notification from the Assistant Chief that he had changed his mind. We are frustrated and angered by this abrupt

turnaround with little justification and no opportunity to provide input or feedback.

Wingspan neither condemns nor condones people having sex in public places such as parks. However, for many reasons, Wingspan strongly condemns the use of undercover police officers.

Despite assurances from the Tucson Police Department that Gay men will not be specifically targeted in such raids, history has taught us that this simply is not true. Whenever law enforcement decided to crack down on sex in public spaces, Gay men are always disproportionately affected. The police department readily admits that beat officers have a tremendous amount of discretion in deciding if to arrest, when to arrest and what charges to file.

As a community, we know that the officer who gives a wink and a nod to the heterosexual couple having sex in their car, may throw the book at two Gay men having sex in the bushes. A recent case illustrates this all too well. Two young Gay men (not lovers) in our youth program were recently arrested at Greasewood Park on trespassing charges and are now doing community service. They were sitting in their car, with the seats back, 10 minutes after the park had closed. While the police officers shooed everyone else out of the park, they held these two, effeminate young Gay men for over 20 minutes and interrogated them, insinuating that they were engaged in sexual activity - even though they were fully clothed and are not lovers. After harassing them for 20 minutes, the officer cited them with trespassing, even though others were allowed to go free.

If targeting of Gay men already happens with uniformed officers, we are deeply concerned about the depths it will reach with plainclothes officers. The use of plainclothes enforcement also raises the very real and very ugly possibility for entrapment. As you are aware, entrapment is an illegal practice to bait or entice a person to break the law, often occurring in the context of "sting" operations where police may engage in or observe a situation while pretending not to be a law enforcement officer.

As other cities have reported, opportunities for abuse, harassment and other police misconduct are rampant during undercover operations targeting Gay men. Just as it is not illegal to meet someone in a bar and invite them home for sex, it is not illegal for a Gay man to solicit sex from another consenting adult man, as long as the sex act does not occur in the park. However, undercover officers, who specifically put themselves in situations where they will engage with Gay men, are often so repulsed by being propositioned by a Gay man, that they file charges even if no sexual activity occurred. How can TPD assure the community that these men, who are not engaging in public sex but only looking to take someone home, will not also be arrested?

Wingspan opposes any and all entrapment operations, particularly when they are used as a weapon of intimidation and harassment, toward the selective and unfair targeting, arresting, prosecution and punishment of Gay men.

Additionally, given that the February 3rd 2004 edition of the Arizona Daily Star reported that Tucson needs to

hire more than 340 new police officers just to keep up with the current call load, according to Police Chief Richard Miranda, a plainclothes sting targeting Gay men represents a gross misallocation of Tucson resources. Tucson is already facing a \$26 million projected budget shortfall next fiscal year.

Perhaps a better use of law enforcement's limited resources would be to provide additional police officers in the Fourth Avenue area, where violent crimes against Gay men are known to have occurred—one resulting in the death of Philip Walsted in June 2002 and another in the beating of Mark Fontes just last month. Although we in no way blame the Tucson Police Department (TPD) for these crimes, decisions about where limited resources are spent do speak volumes.

We know and appreciate that TPD wants a good working relationship with the LGBT community. Please know that by targeting Gay men using undercover police officers, you jeopardize the good will and trust that has been built. We want to continue to enjoy a healthy and productive relationship with TPD and hope that this decision will be reconsidered.

Sincerely,  
Kent Burbank  
Executive Director - Wingspan



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**G/L Marriage Fight Rages In Arizona**

PHOENIX - The battle over same-sex marriages roared through Arizona February 29, just as it did through much of the rest of the nation, reported the Arizona Republic.

Massachusetts, where judges effectively cleared the way for Gay marriages.

But just what practical effect will it all have?

Since then, four states have enacted amendments to their constitutions banning Gay marriages, and nearly two dozen others, including Michigan and Georgia, are considering similar changes.

It's unlikely that life in Arizona will change much, at least in the near future.

A Phoenix couple has filed suit in the Arizona Supreme Court to overturn the state law defining marriage as between one man and one woman.

Sending an official "postcard" to federal lawmakers urging them to consider changing the U.S. Constitution to bar same-sex marriage will have no practical consequences in Arizona. The state already outlaws such unions.

"Amending the state's Constitution isn't enough," said Rep. Warde Nichols, R-Chandler and sponsor of the House postcard. "Same-sex marriage is morally wrong and it would destroy family values."

But most observers agree the Arizona legislative measure adds fuel to the debate sweeping the country and will likely play a role in determining who returns to the Legislature next year.

Mark Kvale, chairman of the Arizona Stonewall Democrats, said it is wrong to change the U.S. Constitution to deny rights to a group of people. That would send a chilling message around the globe, he added.

This week, Arizona conservative lawmakers scored a significant victory when the House tentatively approved (final approval on March 2) the postcard. The vote took place hours after a vociferous rally by several hundred Gays, Lesbians and their supporters, who pledged to oust the legislators from office.

"The issue isn't about same-sex marriage," he said. "It's about changing the Constitution, the one document that's viewed throughout the world as a symbol of freedom."

"The resolution itself is largely symbolic," said Rep. Robert Meza, D-Phoenix, who is Gay. "But the measure is a political tool. It divides the public during an election year."

Kvale said sponsors of the postcard decided against putting the same-sex marriage ban in the Arizona Constitution because it would not meet the public's test. Residents, he said, wouldn't want the state to end up with a "black eye" like the one it got during the debate over whether to honor the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday.

Since a victory in the House has happened (Tuesday, March 2) opponents are counting on moderate Republican senators to defeat a companion measure in that chamber.

"They will go for what they can get," Kvale said of the lawmakers pushing for the postcard. "Reasonable people know this is redundant."

Sen. Mark Anderson, R-Mesa and main sponsor of the Senate postcard, denied that the measure is a political tool. He acknowledged it won't be easy to convince the majority of his colleagues to support it.

Still, many people believe that in the long run, the sanctity of marriage is at risk and any action, symbolic or not, is essential.

"It will be a close vote," Anderson said. "We believe marriage is between a man and a woman."

"People are happiest in a traditional marriage," said Cathi Herrod of the Center for Arizona Policy.

In 1996, the Arizona Legislature approved a law banning Gay marriages, but there is nothing in the state Constitution prohibiting the unions.

"The only way to prevent activist courts from dictating marriage laws onto the states is by changing the U.S. Constitution."

Anderson and his counterparts in the House said they pursued the postcard instead of trying to change the Arizona Constitution because the state would still be vulnerable to whims of judges.



Anderson and others believe it could just be a matter of time until courts intervene in Arizona as they did recently in

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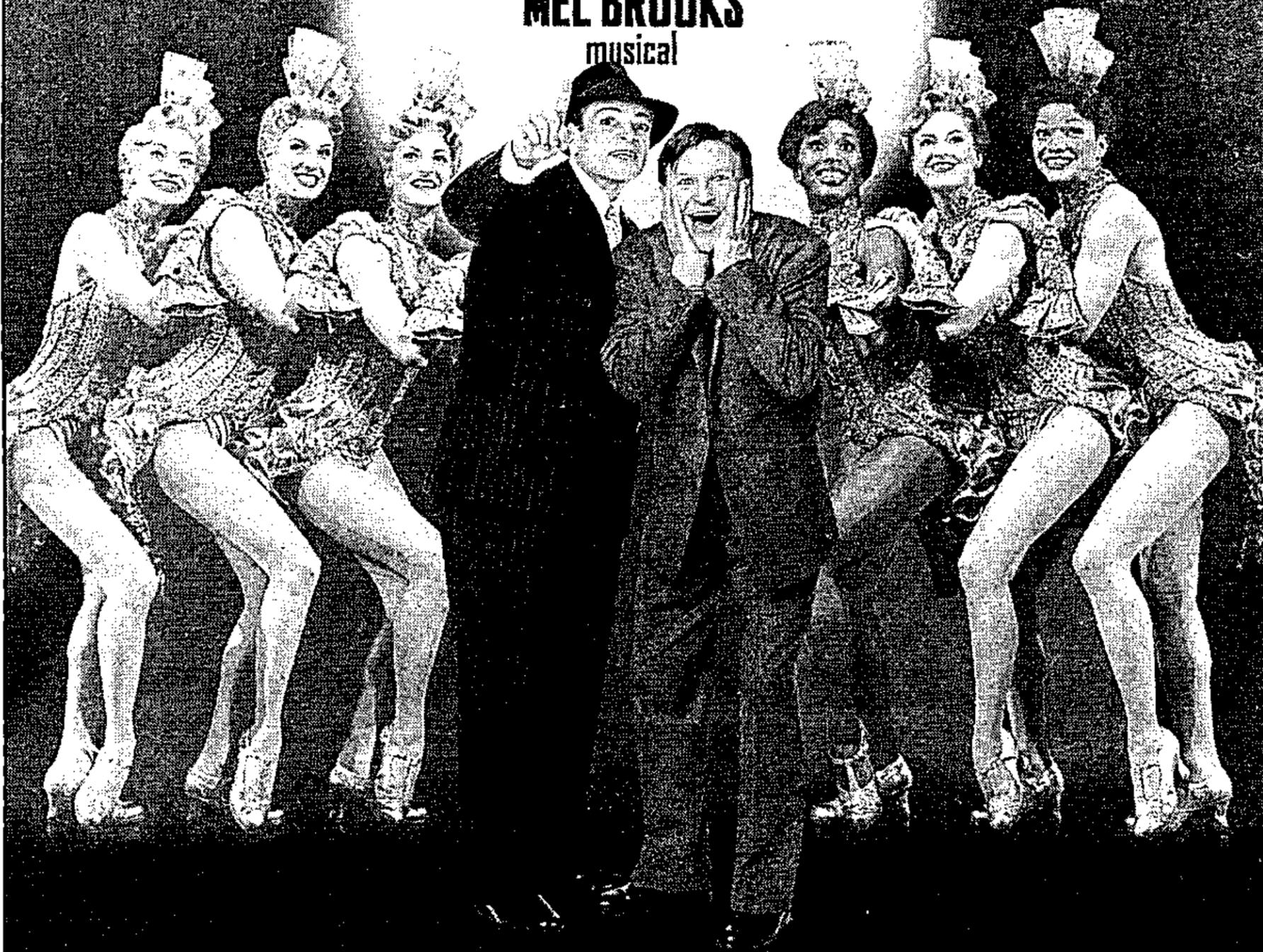
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# Yard Dog's Jailhouse Party Raises Funds For Neighborhood Children



Jim Dondson of the Venture-N had a difficult time staying out of 'jail'. Each time he would raise his 'bail money', the judge would increase the bail and back in he would go, as you can see from the above photo. It wasn't all that bad though. In this jail you could drink behind bars.



'Judge' Mabelleon was busy all afternoon sentencing several well-known members of the community but it was all in good fun and raising money for the Balboa Heights Children. Even though some of the fines were rather large, all of the proceeds went to a very worthy cause.

And now for a word from Ray Gregg, instigator of the infamous Jail House Party:

"I'd like to thank everyone who helped make the Jail House Party a success last Sunday, February 29, at the Yard Dog Saloon.

"We were able to raise \$700.88 and the entire proceeds will go to the Balboa Heights Neighborhood Association to assist in sending the children in the area to summer camp.

"I also wish to thank our

"prisoners", Jim Dondson (Big Jim), David Wallace, "Bucky" Lucarelli, "Doc" Hayes, Mark Tollefson, Robert Petty, Bob Ellis, Gary Clark, John "Fuzzy" Fessell, Tom Tanner and Joe Yurovich. Without your friends (and enemies), we would not have been able to raise this amount. A special thanks to Darryl Williams, a.k.a. "Judge Mabelleon" for presiding over the court.

"Finally, our patrons of the Yard Dog Saloon, thank you for your continued support in our many fund raising efforts. You've been wonderful these past three years."

Ray Gregg, Yard Dog Saloon

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## Observer Archive Funding Getting Underway

Continued from Page One

a fund raiser at IBT's, on April 10, 7:30 p.m., presenting "The Norman Tabernacle Choir: Show of Shows", an upbeat and fun evening of entertainment. That night we hope to raise as much as \$2,000 towards this historically important project. All "archive supporters" will be announced at this event.

Please help us preserve and give the gift of history of GLBT Tucson to all those who come after us, by making a donation to this cause, now. Please make checks payable to "Observer Archive

Fund," and mail them to P.O. Box 5002, Tucson, AZ 85703.

Gratefully,  
 Willie Gradillas, Harry Lewis, Dave Locke, Tim Barth, Natalie Perry, Dave Huff, Frank Schepis, Larry Moore, Tom Novakowski, Gary Adams, Bruce Lundquist, Ajia Simone, Nancy Norman-Anaya, Troy

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# Wingspan FilmFest 2004 March 4 - 7

TUCSON - The Wingspan FilmFest 2004 is slated to take to the screen March 4-7 at The Loft Cinema, 3233 E. Speedway Blvd. This 9th annual festival—showcasing the best in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender film—has an international selection of documentaries, features, and shorts.

The full schedule is available online at [www.wingspan.org/filmfest](http://www.wingspan.org/filmfest).

Laramie Inside Out, the newest work by local documentary filmmaker Beverly Seckinger, opens the fest. The film explores reactions to the Matthew Shepard murder in Laramie, WY, from an insider's perspective.

"As a Lesbian filmmaker who grew up in Laramie, I felt compelled to go back and investigate how the climate for Gays and Lesbians might have changed since my own, closeted college years at the University of Wyoming in the 1970s," says Seckinger. "I met a remarkable variety of people, Gay and straight, who belied both my adolescent fears of disclosure, and the simplistic descriptions of Laramie as a redneck no-queers-land. All of them have been deeply affected by Matthew's murder, and moved to social action in ways they could not have anticipated. Laramie Inside Out follows their stories throughout the year following Matthew's attack, and traces my own path toward homecoming."

"It seems that documentary is 'the thing' to do in LGBT filmmaking," says Linda Dols, Festival Committee Co-Chair.

"We have a very strong set of documentary films again this year, on topics ranging from women's music (Radical Harmonies) to the first transsexual in the New Zealand government (Georgie Girl) to famous Lesbian comedians (Laughing Matters). And filmmaker David Weissman will be at the fest to discuss the making of his documentary, The Cockettes."

There are also superb narrative films in store. Eating Out, a sexy comedy filmed locally (and co-produced by Tucsonan Michael Shoel), will also be shown opening night. The other feature films for men are international in flavor; festival Committee Co-Chair Jay Moman urges audiences to "get ready for a European invasion." Nine Dead Gay Guys (England) is a rowdy, campy romp of a murder mystery as only the British can do it, Bulgarian Lovers (Spain) follows an edgy love triangle, and You'll Get Over It (France) tells the story of one young man's coming out and growing up.

This year's women's programming includes a set of entertaining shorts, Lesbians in Love, ranging from secret agent chicks to a spoof of Sex in the City to a locally filmed comedy. There's also European flavor: The Women's feature, Do I Love You? (England) follows Marina as she tries to answer that simple question.

The FilmFest is supported by the Arizona Commission on the Arts with funding from the State of Arizona and the National Endowment for the Arts, and by the Tucson/Pima Arts Council.

## Supreme Court Lets Co-Parent Ruling Stand

WASHINGTON - The US Supreme Court Monday, March 1, declined to hear a custody case involving two California Lesbians battling over the custody of their child, reported 365Gay.com.

The case involved a woman, known only in court papers as Sharon S. who tried to prevent her former partner from adopting a child the two women were raising together. Sharon S. was the birth mother and had conceived through artificial insemination. The partner, identified in court documents only as Annette, was in the process of adopting the child when the women's relationship ended.

After the breakup Sharon S. went to court to block the adoption from going through arguing that second parent adoptions were never legal in the first place. When the appeals court agreed it sent shockwaves through the Gay community in California.

Then in a 6-1 decision the California Supreme Court reversed the ruling.

Writing for the majority, Justice Werdegar held that "second parent adoptions offer the possibility of obtaining the security and advantages of two parents for some of California's neediest children."

The decision was hailed by same-sex couples raising children throughout the state. There are approximately 10,000 second-parent adoptions in California. The ruling was made by the same court which will rule on the validity of San Francisco's Gay marriages.

After her rejection by the state high court Sharon S. appealed to the US Supreme Court.

John Dodd, the birth mother's lawyer, said her constitutional rights will be violated if an unrelated person is allowed to adopt her child over her objections.

"This case carries serious public consequences," Dodd told justices in a filing.

Attorney Charles Bird, who represented Annette, said Sharon had consented to joint custody with his client and did not withdraw her support in time.

As is the practice of the US Supreme Court it did not explain why it decided not to take up the case.

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**POLITICS 2004**

by Mark R. Kerr

**Got Ideals?**

During a press conference, Friday, February 27, at the White House with German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, the current "Occupier and Thief" Dubya, reiterated is support to codify discrimination into the U.S. Constitution on the subject of marriage.

According to the AWOL National Guard member, who blathered on, saying "the institution of marriage was being changed by courts," and that a "constitutional process was the best way" to handle the controversy but paraphrasing the MasterCard commercial, "getting money and votes from right-wing, homophobic bigots: priceless."

When asked the inevitable follow-up question during the very scripted event, Dubya came out and announced his public support for the Federal Marriage Amendment, banning same-sex marriage, the recognition of such unions, and barring civil unions and domestic partnerships.

Marriage between a man and a woman is the ideal, according to Dubya and that it is his job as president, he said, to "drive policy toward the ideal."

Reaction from Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Rights groups was swift, justifiably criticizing Dubya for his bigotry and his political pandering in his attempt to get elected but what gets this reporter is this "ideal" Dubya is striving to "drive policy toward."

Perhaps Dubya's "ideal" is:

his brother Neil, who was part of a Savings and Loan scandal in the early 1990's and is now in a major divorce case, charged with adultery and supposedly fathered a child out of wedlock,

former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, who asked an ex-wife for a divorce just after she had major cancer surgery,

Britney Spears and her 55-hour fiasco,

Rudy Giuliani, the former New York Mayor and "hero" who was having an affair and left his wife and son,

maybe Liza Minelli and David Gest, or

perhaps from Arizona, Karen Johnson, the five-time matrimonial loser, state Representative, homophobe and hypocrite.

Despite having an out and open Lesbian daughter, the Evil Overlord, the power behind the throne, Dick Cheney came out of seclusion to announce his support for the amendment, despite statements in 2000 in which he said the matter should be left to the states.

Aren't these just wonderful ideals to strive for, hypocrisy, prejudice and pandering? It's the American Way!

These ideals are practiced in Arizona, where the Arizona House of Representatives, Tuesday, March 2, voted to state their public approval on the Federal Marriage Amendment (HCM 2004) by a vote of 41-19 and the bill now goes to the state Senate for consideration, and hopefully defeat.

and quite embarrassed of the behavior from the cheering section that was clearly in support of Venecia. Their rude action (boo's!) and their verbally abusive comments (all in Spanish) were uncalled for and completely disrespectful to Janee, Venecia and the pageant staff.

Unfortunately, even more disheartening to me was when I noticed that these activities were instigated by three Latin Queens of whom I thought deserved the same respect and admiration as Janee and Venecia. These "girls" were former Miss Gay Hispanidad, America, the current Miss Gay Hispanidad, Lizette and yes, Venecia's assistant, Suzette! Of all of the members to respectfully our Latin Community, these girls sure have let us down and owe many people an apology!

If I may, I would like to congratulate Miss Gay Tucson 2005, Janee Star and Miss Gay Tucson 2005 1<sup>st</sup> Alternate Venecia! You ladies sure did impress me on Sunday night. I am excited to see you both at Miss Gay Arizona! Secondly, I would like to sincerely apologize for the inappropriate behavior and unsportsman-like conduct that everyone experience on Sunday. Please let it be known that this behavior does not reflect the value and views of all of us in the Gay Latin Community!

Atentamente,  
Gloria Ruiz



**ERS - LETTERS - LETTE  
RS - LETTERS - LETTER**

EDITOR:

Good morning Tucson! My name is Gloria Ruiz. I am a native Tucsonan and long time patron to the Tucson Drag Show Scene. I write today to inform you and Tucson's Gay community of the disheartening and unpleasant experience I had this past weekend while attending the Miss Gay Tucson Pageant.

The pageant itself was wonderful! I am guessing there was a turnout of nearly 250 people. Along with the amazing talents of Lucinda, Veronica and Bunny, there were five contestants who kept me entertained all night long. Much to my surprise, one of them being Janee Star. I knew she was Miss Gay Tucson in 2003 so why was she allowed to run again? I reviewed the Miss Gay America Pageant rules on their Web site and it was clear to me why. If a pageant has changed ownership of Lucinda. Now that David Dawson owns the pageant, this entitles her to run again.

In the end it was Janee Star as winner and Venecia as 1<sup>st</sup> Alternate. This is where the pageant became quite unpleasant. As a Mexican-American female and an active member in the Gay Latino Community, I was very disappointed

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## Newsome Accuses Bush Of Political Showmanship

SAN FRANCISCO - Mayor Gavin Newsome has accused President Bush of political showmanship and discrimination because of the Social Security Administration's decision to not accept any marriage licenses from San Francisco--Gay or straight--until the same-sex marriage issue is resolved.

Newsome addressed a huge crowd at his first town hall meeting on Saturday, February 28, 52 days after taking office and a little more than two weeks after he authorized city officials to grant marriage licenses to same-sex couples. Such meetings typically draw only a few dozen people, but nearly 1,000 gathered for Saturday's town hall in the city's predominantly Gay Castro district. Some in the crowd carried signs reading "Thank You, Mayor" and "Gavin, Our Hero."

The Social Security Administration announced Friday that it has told its offices nationwide not to accept marriage certificates from San Francisco as proof of identification for newlyweds

looking to make name changes on Social Security cards. Newsome called the move "political and retaliatory." "The president is not only now discriminating against Gay couples, he's discriminating against straight people," he said. Newsome also said his administration looks forward to arguing the constitutionality of same-sex marriage before the California supreme court. The high court on Friday declined a request by Attorney General Bill Lockyer to immediately shut down San Francisco's Gay weddings. More than 3,400 such ceremonies have been performed since the city began issuing the licenses February 12. The justices told the city and a conservative group that opposes Gay marriage to file new legal briefs by March 5 in response to the attorney general's petition. Earlier, lower-court judges also declined to immediately end the same-sex marriages. "Not only did two lower-court judges...determine there is no irreparable harm being done, now the supreme court said the same thing," Newsome said.

## S.F. Mayor Under Police Guard

SAN FRANCISCO - Mayor Gavin Newsome is under 24 hour police protection following a number of death threats in recent days, reported 365Gay.com.

The protection includes both uniformed and plainclothes officers.

Television station KPIX reports that up to three bodyguards now surround Newsome at any one time.

The threats began shortly after the mayor ordered the city clerk to begin issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples on February 12th, but have significantly increased over the past week, after President George W. Bush announced his support for a constitutional amendment to ban same-sex marriage.

Police officials call the threats "credible".

On Saturday, February 28, Newsome accused Bush of political showmanship and discrimination after the Social Security Administration has instructed its offices nationwide not to accept any marriage certificates from San Francisco as proof of identification. The directive affects licenses issued to straight and Gay couples alike.

"He is now discriminating against San Franciscans Gay and straight," the mayor told a town hall meeting.

Since San Francisco began issuing marriage licenses to Gay and Lesbian couples, some 3,500 couples have married. Two right wing groups have mounted lawsuits challenging the mayor's actions. Lower courts have refused to grant them an injunction. The California Supreme Court on Friday also refused to grant a restraining order against the mayor in a motion brought by the state Attorney General. The high court ordered all sides in the Gay marriage issue to present legal briefs on Friday.

Newsome vows to continue issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples until he is ordered by the courts to stop.

Police decline to comment on the extent of the security detail assigned to the mayor or on reports Newsome is wearing a bullet proof vest when he appears in public. Police also won't say if they have any

suspects in the death threats.

In 1978 San Francisco's first Gay Supervisor, Harvey Milk was murdered with Mayor George Moscone in San Francisco City Hall. Their killer was a disgruntled former Supervisor, Dan White.

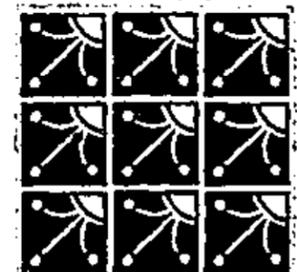
## N.Y. Mayor Faces Charges For Marrying Gays and Lesbians

ALBANY - Four days after presiding over a slew of same sex marriages in his quaint Hudson Valley village, the mayor of New Paltz today was charged with 19 violations of New York's domestic relations law, injecting the debate over Gay marriages in the state with increasing drama and urgency, New York Newsday reported online.

Jason West, 26-year-old Green Party mayor, was ordered to appear in court Wednesday, March 3, to answer charges that he broke state law by solemnizing about two dozen weddings without a marriage license, according to New Paltz police and West's lawyer.

Chief Raymond Zappone said he and a lieutenant from the town police served a 19-count summons to West and that the mayor faces up a \$500 fine and a year in jail for his actions which have attracted international attention and brought the fight over Gay marriages squarely into New York.

The actions come as West is planning to hold more ceremonies this weekend and with other officials around the state considering similar actions. It also coincides with increasing pressure on State Attorney General Eliot Spitzer, who last week refused a call by the governor to prevent and nullify the marriages, to step in and issue some clarifying words on the complex legal issues at play.



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# Miss Gay Tucson America 2005 Pageant



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**SATURN** redirects and we have a certain spring in our step. Boing! Although we still have a bit of work ahead of us, authentic opportunities begin to present themselves. Apply the axle grease and beware of low ceilings, comrades.

## ARIES

**MARCH 21 - APRIL 20**

Here you are waist deep in a slew of messy drudgery that never seems to go away. If it isn't a mud creep through the house, it is a rampage of ugly relatives chowing down like locusts. Thank goodness for Saturn direct which enables all Gay Rams to do what needs to get done at home. While you still may nurse your raw paws at the end of the day, your effort pays off...eventually.

## TAURUS

**APRIL 21 - MAY 21**

Your greatest, most monumental ideas have been gathering dust while Saturn retrogrades. Now that the old sod has redirected, it is time to accelerate full speed ahead at all costs. Ignore the naysayers and doubting Toms. All they do is use valuable time that you will need to strategize and implement. Rumor has it that queer Bulls know a thing or two. Now it is time to prove it.

## GEMINI

**MAY 22 - JUNE 21**

What is it about pink Twins and money? They are either cheap to a fault or spend with such reckless abandon that they almost guarantee fiscal struggle. Get serious about your dough when Saturn redirects. Not only can you learn a valuable lesson about investing and pacing, you may even plant a few penny acorns that grow to mighty money oaks. Can you spare a few leaves?

## CANCER

**JUNE 22 - JULY 23**

Don't let a few social gaffs cramp your style, Gay Crab. The past few months may have had more than its fair share of missteps, especially among unfamiliar audiences. Forget first impressions, kiddo, folks have short memories. We are now entering a new dimension. Saturn redirects this week and enables you to try, try again. Keep trying and don't be trying.

## LEO

**JULY 24 - AUGUST 23**

You left your flank exposed and hidden enemies have been having a field day poking you in your soft underbelly whenever they pleased. While this may sound delightful, it has in fact prevented you from realizing some substantial personal gains. Go for blood this week as Saturn redirects and makes you a force with whom to be reckoned. Poke them back, proud Lion.

## VIRGO

**AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23**

If pals have been getting on your nerves, try to forgive and forget when Saturn redirects this week. Queer Virgins are known for their politeness and caring (as well as their uncompromising and often snitty attitude). Accept the fact that there are two sides to every argument. (No - not your side and the wrong side.) It is time to take an objective look at old grievances. You may be right anyway.

## LIBRA

**SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23**

Corporate life has been a game of chutes and ladders for quite a long time. It is not surprising therefore that many Gay Libras expect that each baby step forward can result in a giant step backwards. Chin up, baby; Simon says that those slippery days are over thanks to Saturn. Every exertion pays off incrementally. How much are you willing to exert? And with whom?

## SCORPIO

**OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 23**

Don't close off your mind when Saturn redirects. This is the time to expand your horizons and see how much new stimuli can ... well ... stimulate. Proud Scorps can benefit from either a last minute trip or a new approach to an old routine. Cruise the internet or a new neighborhood bar. Anything that you can do to get out of your old skin and into a new one will tickle you pink.

## SAGITTARIUS

**NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22**

Have you been off your mark, Gay Archer? Are you feeling stale as yesterday's toast? There is still life in the old body yet now that Saturn redirects. Treat yourself to a day of relaxation and meditation to make both your inner and outer surfaces smooth and silky. Passion and vitality will soon return and you will regain your reputation as the bucking bronco once more. Yahoo!

## CAPRICORN

**DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20**

Every annoying aspect of a particular relationship has begun to take its toll on you. How much tauris can a pink Cap endure before the situation is deemed unsolvable and unsatisfying? Wait wait wait until Saturn redirects before you make any final decision on a partnership or act on any snitty whim. You may realize that it is suddenly worth all the effort after all.

## AQUARIUS

**JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19**

There is some very interesting office scuttle snaking its way across the floor. Some of it concerns you, Aquarius. Whose ragged claws will pinch you on the ankle and try to drag you down? Fight back as Saturn redirects. Half efforts and general laziness are gathering dust in your "in box". Tackle it all with enthusiasm until it shifts to your "out box". All the way Out, partner!

## PISCES

**FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20**

It is a sad commentary on the current state of Guppies nowadays. They seem to lack a certain creative spark, a mental zing that sets them above every other knuckle scuffed lout. Plug in and shine this week, cousin. Your brain drain has stopped thanks to direct Saturn. They say genius is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration. Be outrageously fabulous now-no sweat!

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**News . . . From Around The World**  
**New Report Details Torture  
 Of Gays In Egypt**

CAIRO - Egyptian authorities have entrapped, arrested, and tortured hundreds of men suspected of engaging in consensual Gay sex, a New York-based human rights group claimed in a report released Monday, March 1 that demands an end to such actions.

Human Rights Watch urged Egypt to repeal legislation allowing the prosecution of consensual homosexual relations--covered under the country's debauchery laws--and permitting police surveillance and entrapment. In a 144-page report titled "In a Time of Torture: The Assault on Justice in Egypt's Crackdown on Homosexual Conduct," Human Rights Watch documents what it describes as Egyptian government repression of Gay men. It condemned the practice of police agents surfing the Internet and answering personals placed by men seeking men, then arranging meetings with them and arresting them. Gen. Ahmed Shehab, who oversees Internet-related crimes for the Interior Ministry, said he had not yet seen the report and was unable to comment on it. However, vice officials in the past have acknowledged the practice of answering Internet personals by Gay men and praised it for getting results.

At a press conference to launch the report on Monday, Human Rights Watch and Egyptian rights groups accused the government of ignoring its own declarations to the United Nations and the European Union that homosexuality is legal. "The speaker of the People's Assembly states in a letter to the European Parliament that there are no laws which discriminate against homosexuality or homosexual conduct in Egypt," said Scott Long, HRW's director for Gay and Lesbian issues. "The police at Abideen police station [in Cairo] clearly have a different opinion because they are going out and they are arresting men who are doing nothing, who are accused of nothing but consensual, private, homosexual conduct."

Islam prohibits homosexuality, and it is also taboo in conservative Egypt. Although the Egyptian penal code does not

refer to homosexuality, prosecutors have detained and prosecuted Gay men on the charge of "debauchery." In 2001, 52 men stood trial for "the habitual practice of debauchery." Twenty-three were convicted and sentenced to up to five years in prison. The rest were acquitted. The report said HRW "knows the names of 179 men whose cases under the law against 'debauchery' were brought before prosecutors since the beginning of 2001." It notes that hundreds of others have been harassed, arrested, and often tortured but not charged. The rights group interviewed 63 men last year who had been arrested for homosexuality. They spoke of being whipped, bound, suspended in painful positions, splashed with ice-cold water, burned with cigarettes, and shocked with electricity to the limbs, genitals, or tongue, according to the report. "The government," said HRW executive director Kenneth Roth, "has found it advantageous to demonize this group of people as a way of diverting attention from other problems."

Gen. Assem Omran, the Egyptian police official in charge of vice, whose department was specifically mentioned in the report, declined to comment. Egyptian officials have long pointed to cultural differences to defend the government against foreign criticism over its treatment of Gays and Lesbians. On Monday, however, five Egyptian human rights organizations added their backing to the HRW report. Aida Seif el-Dawla, who represented two of the Egyptian groups at the press conference, acknowledged that some local groups had been slow to speak out on the issue of police harassment of Gay men because of the sensitivity of the issue. "This was not a human rights attitude, this was a political attitude," said el-Dawla, who runs the el-Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence. Roth attacked the government on the broader issue of torture of all types of detainees. He accused prosecutors of failing to act against police officers who abuse people in custody, granting them a "policy of impunity." "There is clearly systematic torture," Roth said. "We don't have evidence that it is ordered from above, but it is clearly tolerated from above."

**Pope Defends Straight Marriage**

VATICAN CITY - Pope John Paul II called Thursday, February 26, for the support of the "authentic" Christian family, which he defined as based on marriage between men and women. The pope did not specifically mention his opposition to Gay marriage, but his speech to parish priests in Rome made clear he considers matrimony a bond between a man and a woman.

Recalling his years as a cleric in his native Poland, John Paul said, "I learned some time ago, when I was in Krakow, to live close to couples, to families. I also closely followed the path that led two persons, a man and a woman,

to create a family and, with marriage, to become spouses and parents, with all the consequences we know so well."

"Our theme is the family," he told the priests. "Family means: 'And He created them man and woman.'" The pope urged the priests to teach young people "to understand and appreciate the real meaning of love and to prepare themselves to form authentic Christian families." The Vatican has been waging a global campaign against moves to grant legal recognition to Gay couples, calling it an issue of "natural moral law."

**Saudi Authorities Investigate Gay Wedding**

MEDINA - Saudi investigators are grilling some 50 people, mostly expatriates, for allegedly attending a Gay wedding, Agence France-Presse reports.

The suspects deny they were attending a Gay marriage, which is prohibited in Saudi Arabia, saying they took part in a ceremony to mark the wedding of a Chadian friend, Arab News

said. But investigators say that invitations to the February 25 ceremony indicated it was a Gay function and point to the suspicious behavior of guests, who fled the venue at the sight of police cars, some leaving their vehicles behind.

Police raided a rest house where the ceremony was under way after a tip-off  
 CONTINUED ON PAGE FIFTEEN

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# Charlize Theron Snags Best Actress; Lord Of The Rings Rules Oscars

LOS ANGELES - Hollywood bowed to an army of hobbits and a pair of convicts on Sunda, February 29 as The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King won a record-tying 11 Oscars, including best picture, while Sean Penn and Charlize Theron nabbed top acting prizes for killer performances.

In addition, the Academy Awards made Sofia Coppola, the daughter of Godfather director Francis Ford Coppola, an offer she couldn't refuse—an Oscar for best original screenplay for Lost in Translation.

Of particular interest to Gay and Lesbian audiences were the wins for Theron, as Lesbian multiple murderer Aileen Wuornos in Monster, and for animated-short director Adam Elliot (Harvie Krumpet), who thanked his boyfriend from the podium.

The 3 1/2-hour-plus show televised around the world held no surprises and seemed to sag whenever host Billy Crystal wandered offstage so that the Academy could hand out awards to what seemed to be an endless army of people from New Zealand or who worked for people from New Zealand.

The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King, the conclusion to the fantasy trilogy based on the books by J.R.R. Tolkien and directed by New Zealander Peter Jackson, won all 11 awards for which it was nominated. That tally tied the record for most Oscars for a single movie shared by two other epics, 1959's Ben-Hur and 1997's Titanic, not bad for a film that almost did not get made when Disney's Miramax films wanted to fire Jackson or have another studio take over the project. Time Warner Inc.'s New Line Cinema stepped in and saved the day for Jackson on their way to taking in nearly \$3 billion at the global box office.

"It's now official. There is nobody left in New Zealand to thank," Crystal joked after Rings won its fifth statuette of the night. It was the first time in Oscar history that a fantasy film had won the top prize, and that distinction was not lost on

Jackson. "I'm so honored, touched, and relieved that the...members of the Academy supported us and have seen past the trolls and the wizards and hobbits and are recognizing fantasy this year. Fantasy is a word that hopefully the five-second delay won't do anything with," he said, referring to a tape delay imposed on the show for the first time.

ABC imposed the delay as a safeguard against unscripted obscenity in reaction Janet Jackson's breast-baring Super Bowl performance. They should have been so lucky. Jackson might have livened things up on a night devoid of surprises or controversy.

Hollywood put on its best behavior and spread the prizes among first-time nominees and some oft-snubbed favorites. Penn won for the first time in four nominations, and Theron won on her first try. An actor known for his explosive power, Penn was rewarded for his portrayal of a hoodlum out for revenge after his daughter is killed in Clint Eastwood's tragedy Mystic River. Also winning for the first time were Tim Robbins, who was named best supporting actor for Mystic River, and Renée Zellweger, who received a best supporting actress Oscar for Cold Mountain. Theron won for her performance in Monster, and that Oscar is likely to change her career. The South African-born former model said she took the risky role, in part, to force Hollywood to take her seriously as an actress.

One of the most unscripted moments of the night came when famed documentary maker Errol Morris won for The Fog of War and bluntly said, "I'd like to thank the Academy for finally recognizing my films." Then drawing a parallel between the Vietnam War and the current conflict in Iraq, he said, "I fear we're going down a rabbit hole once again." Said Crystal on hearing that, "I can't wait for his tax audit—scary times."

Penn, who was widely criticized for going to Iraq before the war, was understated in his acceptance speech but did manage to get one line about the fog of war: "If there's one thing that actors know—other than there weren't any WMDs [weapons of mass destruction]—it's that there's no such thing as best in acting."

## Saudi Authorities

Continued from Page Fourteen

from the Commission for the Promotion of Virtue and Prevention of Vice, or religious police, the paper said. One of the two Chadians involved told police that he was "rehearsing for his legal marriage," which was due to take place two days later.

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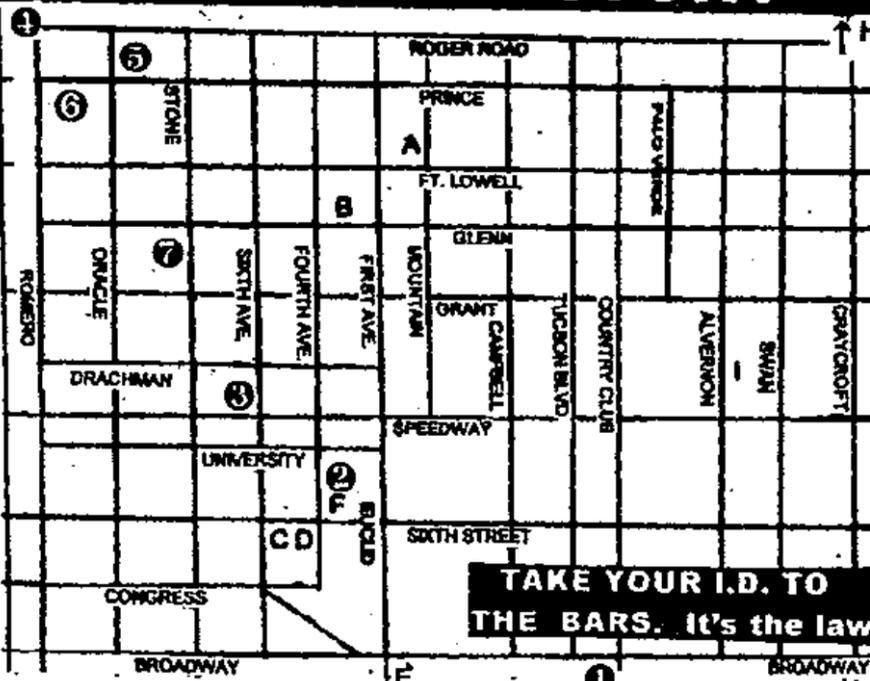
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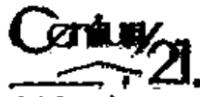
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## NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE

by Lee Thorn

### Should Wildcats Prowl?

I just got a copy of "Wildcat Alumni", a kind of newsletter that goes to people who have worked for the University of Arizona's student newspaper, "The Daily Wildcat." I've always thought them kind to include me on their mailing list in view of the fact that I only wrote about dozen pieces for them before getting fired.

I was a grad student who wanted to write some art criticism. They fired me for breaking "journalistic conventions." That's not surprising considering that the only journalistic convention I know of concerning art criticism is that the critic shouldn't be having sex with or taking money from the artists whose work he's passing judgment on.

Anyway, getting the "Wildcat Alumni" got me thinking about "The Daily Wildcat" and college newspapers in general. The medium has always presented a vast range of possibilities.

Looking back through the mists of time I see the college newspaper of the University of Colorado during the Vietnam war publishing an anti-war essay of several thousand words that included a colorful denunciation of Senator Barry Goldwater. It called him a "mountebank," among other things, and I remember it because I had to look the word up. Spectacularly, unbelievably for a college paper, the essay and the ensuing brouhaha it caused actually got a brief mention on the network TV nightly news.

The range of opinion on what a college newspaper should be is awesome. A liberal arts dean once told me that he thought a college paper should be "a breezy, newsy, little campus bulletin." A former "Daily Wildcat" editor once told me he wanted the paper to be "the primary news source for our readers."

At least once in its history "The Wildcat" scooped the "Arizona Daily Star" and everybody else in town, TV and radio included, on a major local news story. I don't remember what the story was about, but I do remember that the campus and Tucson buzzed about the scoop for a couple of days.

When I wonder about what "The Wildcat" could be in today's Tucson, I'm struck by the flexibility it seems to have and be the news vacuum it could begin to fill.

First the vacuum. The local mainstream media have given up a traditional role that American local media have often played, the role of keeping local officials honest. They've decided that they can reduce the cost of producing their product by refraining from asking their everyday news sources embarrassing questions.

The most egregious example of this abdication in recent years involved the case of a Pima County jailer killing an inmate wherein the Medical Examiner ruled the death a homicide and there was a willing eyewitness to the infliction of the fatal blow. In separate interviews, I asked a TV report and a print reporter who were covering the story, "Did you ever ask the prosecutor why she didn't indict anyone?" Both reporters said they never asked that question!

As to flexibility, when I picked up a copy of "The Wildcat" the other day just to see what they were up to, I found that the issue I happened to snag had about 15 pieces on the university, five national pieces, one state piece, a campus police blotter, nothing at all on Tucson and no arts reporting. This content fairly screams flexibility. Obviously no one is depending on the paper to be his primary news source. Outside of the campus cops, no one appears to be tied to a beat.

The paper may be in a position to do some serious Tucson reporting, going beyond the statements of public officials and finding out what's really happening. This kind of reporting involves learning how to use public records and, most important of all, learning to summon the courage to ask public officials questions that they don't want to be asked and that they've gotten used to not being asked in the Old Pueblo.

Whereas daily news sources can punish mainstream reporters who are working fixed beats with fixed deadlines by simply slowing down their responses to requests for information, a college newspaper report can say, "I've got all the time in the world and I'm happy to spend it on your little corner of officialdom."

Once upon a time the great joy of journalism was that you got to find out the truth, and then you got to tell the truth. Of course you made everybody mad as Hell and on occasion you even made them put some of the cookies back into the cookie jar.

## Special Bar Events

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3**  
**IBTS - 9:00 p.m.** The DivaLicious Show hosted by Lucinda Holliday and starring Janee Starr, Stephanie and the return of Samantha White.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 6**  
**NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Westside Follies** performs at 9:00 p.m. starring Alotta Whoremans, Heather Boa, Crystal Abrahms and Toni Steele with a special performance by Miss National Cities 2003, Regina Hazella

**SUNDAY, MARCH 7**  
**HOWL AT THE MOON - Watch the Arizona Men's basketball team** as it plays ASU at 2:00 p.m.

**IBTS Party** line-up includes Troy's Recovery Bar from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. \$1.75 Bloody Marys, Screwdrivers or Mimosas. Karaoke Party with Michael D. on the patio from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., Benefit Bar-B-Que / Beer Bust from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. This weeks proceeds go to GMHP. 8:00 p.m. it's a special Benefit Show for Janee Starr, candidate for Miss Copper State-America. Show stars Janee, Bunny FuFu, Teri Akki, Veronica Halliwell, Angelique Houston and Mister Fister. 9:30 p.m. Guest DJ Dave Bruhns from the Boom in Phoenix.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10**  
**IBTS - 9:00 P.M.** The DivaLicious Show hosted by Lucinda Holliday and starring Lady Ashley, Vernica Halliwell and Teri Akki.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17**  
**IBTS - Traditional St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef and Cabbage Feast.**

**VENTURE-n - Celebrate St. Pat's Day here with Jim and the gang,** and featuring Richard Villa "CD Party". Shows at 8:00 and 9:00 p.m.

**FRI-SAT-SUN, MARCH 19-20-21**  
**IBTS - Your headquarters for the 4th Avenue Spring Street Fair.**

**VENTURE-N - Three-Day celebration during the Hydes of March!**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 20**  
**YARD DOG SALOON - Toga Party III.** Food and Contest. Be Prepared! Be very prepared!

## Non-Bar Calendar

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3**  
**Tucson Prime Timers Breakfast - 9:00AM** The Egg Connection, 3114 E. Ft. Lowell Rd.

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

**THURSDAY - SUNDAY, MARCH 4 - 7**  
 The annual Wingspan Film Fest 2004, Southern Arizona's LGBT Film Festival. All film showing at the Loft Cinema, 3233 E. Speedway. [www.wingspan.org/FilmFest](http://www.wingspan.org/FilmFest) for discount tickets in advance, and the complete Film Fest schedule. See the Wingspan ad in this week's Observer for more information.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 6**  
**FREE SHOW!** "Hearts Are Wild," a western comedy musical, written by Jerry & Cindy Diaz of Calabaza Productions, will be showing in Tombstone on Saturday, March 6, at 8:00pm. Admission is free. Seating is limited. Reservations are required. Call (520) 457-3648 to RSVP.

**Tucson Prime Timers Food & Drinks - 5:00 P.M.** Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd.

**MONDAY, MARCH 8**  
**Tucson Prime Timers Lunch - 12:30 P.M.** The Wildcat House, 1800 N. Stone Ave.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10**  
**Tucson Prime Timers Video Night - 7:00 P.M.** Non pornographic movies with Gay themes are shown. Phone: 740-0620

**THURSDAY, MARCH 11**  
**Tucson Prime Timers Dinner - 6:00 PM,** China Star of Tucson, 4790 E. Grant Rd.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 13**  
**Tucson Prime Timers Food & Drinks - 5:00 P.M.** Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd.

**MONDAY, MARCH 15**  
**Tucson Prime Timers Lunch - 12:30 P.M.** The Wildcat House, 1800 N. Stone Ave.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17**  
**Tucson Prime Timers Video Night - 7:00 P.M.** Non pornographic movies with Gay themes are shown. Phone: 740-0620

**SATURDAY, MARCH 20**  
**Tucson Prime Timers Lunch/Business Meeting - Noon** Home Town Buffet, 5101 N. Oracle Rd.

**Tucson Prime Timers Food & Drinks - 5:00 P.M.** Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd.

**MONDAY, MARCH 22**  
**Tucson Prime Timers Lunch - 12:30 P.M.** The Wildcat House, 1800 N. Stone Ave.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24**  
**Tucson Prime Timers Lunch - 1:00 PM,** Dakota Cafe, 6541 E. Tanque Verde Rd.

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

**SATURDAY, MARCH 27**  
**Tucson Prime Timers Food & Drinks - 5:00 P.M.** Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd.

**MONDAY, MARCH 29**  
**Tucson Prime Timers Lunch - 12:30 P.M.** The Wildcat House, 1800 N. Stone Ave.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31**  
**Tucson Prime Timers Video Night - 7:00 P.M.** Non pornographic movies with Gay themes are shown. Phone: 740-0620

## Arts & Entertainment

**NOW PLAYING THRU MARCH 21**  
**Live Theatre Workshop** presents London's West End longest running Christie Mystery "The Mousetrap" by Agatha Christie. The story is about a group of strangers stranded in a boarding house in the middle of a snow storm. Mollie and Giles Ralston (Lisa Bodden and Brian Wees) have inherited an old boarding house and decide to re-open it anew. Now enter six guests, one of whom will be murdered and one who is the murderer. The show runs Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinee at 3:00 p.m. Tickets range from \$12 - \$14. Performances are at the Live Theatre Workshop, 5317 E. Speedway. For reservations 327-4242.

**NOW PLAYING THRU MARCH 7**  
**The Arizona Friends of Chamber Music,** which has brought internationally renowned chamber music group to perform in Tucson for over 50 years, announce the eleventh Tucson Winter Chamber Music Festival. The American Record Guide has called this world-class event "one of the best and most adventurous [festivals] in the U.S. Among this Festival's outstanding offerings are three commissioned World Premieres. The Klichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio, one of the world's finest ensembles, will join Peter Rejto, an internationally acclaimed cellist and the Festival's Artistic Director, and nine other accomplished musicians. Individual Festival general admission concert tickets are \$20 and student tickets are \$8. For additional information the public can call the AFCM at 577-3769 or visit their web site at [www.ArizonaChamberMusic.org](http://www.ArizonaChamberMusic.org). All concerts and open rehearsals, except for the Gala Dinner Concert, will be held at the Tucson Convention Center's Leo Rich Theater. Sunday concerts will begin at 3:00 p.m. Evening concerts begin at 8:00 p.m. Each concert will be preceded by a 20 minute introduction by Tucson Music Critic James Reel.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3**  
**Metallica with special guest Godsmack "Madly in Anger with the World Tour"** will be at TCC Arena. Tickets on sale and available at TicketMaster 321-1000 and all TicketMaster outlets.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 11**  
**Desert Diamond Casino** presents Lou Rawls in concert. Call the Diamond Center Box Office at (520)393-2799. Must be 21 to enter the gaming areas.

**TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17 & 17**  
**UA Presents the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater** in two distinctive performances that honor the past, celebrate the present and reach fearlessly for the future. 7:30 p.m. at Centennial Hall. Call 621-3341

**SUNDAY, MARCH 21**  
**Arizona Friends of Chamber Music** present the third concert in their Piano and Friends Sunday Matinee Series. Cellist Daniel Lee will perform at 3:00 p.m. at the Leo Rich Theater at the Tucson Convention Center. General admission tickets are \$20. Student tickets are \$8. Recipient of a 2001 Avery Fisher Career Grant, 23-year-old American cellist Daniel Lee is a rare virtuoso. Once a student of Mstislav Rostropovich, Mr. Lee made his orchestral debut in 1990 with the Northwest Chamber Orchestra. He won acclaim as a soloist with the Philadelphia Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra, Seattle Symphony, Knoxville Symphony, New York Chamber Symphony, California Symphony Orchestra, Seoul Festival Orchestra, Queen's Hall Orchestra in London and other ensembles in the United States and around the world. For more information call the AFCM at 577-379.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24**  
**UA Presents Israel's leading modern dance ensemble - Batsheva Dance Company of Israel in 'Deca dance'.** An experimental ensemble, rooted in the technique of Martha Graham, then enhanced by the genius of its artistic director, Israeli dancer/choreographer Ohad Naharin. Centennial Hall, 7:30 p.m. Call 621-3341.

**MARCH 27 THRU MAY 2**  
**Live Theatre Workshop** presents one of Neil Simon's most beloved plays "Barefoot in the Park". Showtimes are Thursday, Friday and Saturdays at 7:30 with Sunday matinees at 3:00 p.m. Tickets \$14 - \$12. For reservations call 327-4242

**MAY 26 - JUNE 6**  
**Winner of the most Tony Awards in Broadway history - "The Producers"** is coming to Tucson and tickets will go on sale this Sunday, March 7. So get in line early and get your to this sensational Mel Brooks musical that stars Bob Amaral and Andy Taylor in the leading roles. For ticket information call 621-3341.

## Daily Bar Calendar

**Sunday**

**HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 10:30 am.** Kitchen open 11am-8pm. Smirnoff Sunday \$2 Smirnoff drinks (Bloody Mary, Screwdriver, Greyhound, Sea Breeze, etc.). Country Dance 3-8pm. Disco tea dance 9-close

**IBTs - Open Noon \$1.75 Bloody Marys, 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. 6:30 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 1pm.** Pool Tournament w/Chad 5pm. Steak & Shrimp Dinner w/baked potato & Salad only \$6.99 from 5-8:30pm. Taste Tim's best Boody Mary in town \$2 from 1-5pm.

**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 meal du jour plus BMs, Mms or Screws \$5. \$1.50 Bloody Marys, screwdrivers, Mimosas; Happy Hour 11am-8pm \$2 well or domestic beer Patio Bar open 5-close. Pick-up Beach Volleyball games 5-7. \$2.50 sirloin burger w/salad 5-9pm. Karaoke with Michael D. 9pm

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

**Monday**

**HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3pm.** Happy Hour 3-7, \$2 well, domestic pints & longnecks. Kitchen open 3-8pm. Special from 7 to close \$2 well rum, 50¢ off call rums. Rockin' to Oldies Night

**IBTs - Open Noon.** Happy Hour Noon-7pm. Theme Dance Nite with Johnny DJ. All drink specials not available during special events.

**NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open 1pm.** Happy Hour 4-7pm. Free Pool all day. \$3 small pitchers 10pm-Midnight.

**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. 9-1

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

**Tuesday**

**HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3pm.** Happy Hour 3-7, \$2 well, domestic pints & longnecks. Kitchen open 3-8pm. \$2 well tequilas. 50¢ off call tequilas. Karaoke 7:30-11pm with Calabaza Cabeza Karaoke.

**IBTs - 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 1pm.** Happy 4-7pm. \$2.50 Jack Daniels shots 10pm-Midnight.

**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**

**HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3pm.** Happy Hour 3-7, \$2 well, domestic pints & longnecks. Kitchen open 3-8pm. Special prices on draft beers from 7-close. Free pool all night. Country music dancing 7-close

**IBTs - Open Noon.** Happy Hours Noon-7pm. 9pm "Diva-Licious" show w/Lucinda Holliday and guests. HiNRG Dancing with DJ-Q. All drink specials not available during special events.

**NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open 1pm.** Happy Hour 4-7pm. Karaoke 8pm-Midnight.

**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**

**HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3pm.** Happy Hour 3-7, \$2 well, domestic pints & longnecks. Kitchen open 3-8pm. \$2 Mexican beers all night. Chef's Special Tacos. 80s, 90s & Salsa 7pm-close.

**IBTs - Open Noon.** Happy Hours Noon-7pm. Hi NRG video dancing with Johnny DJ 9-1 All drink specials not available during special events.

**NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open 1pm.** Happy Hour 4-7pm.

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

**HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3pm.** Happy Hour 3-7, \$2 well, domestic pints & longnecks. Kitchen open 3-8pm. Beginner country dance lessons 7:30-9:30. Current and Classic Country from 8:30 to close. Reverse Happy Hour 11:30 - close with 50¢ off all drinks.

**IBTs - 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

**NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open Noon.** Happy Hour 4-7pm. Fish Fry \$5.99 all you can eat. Shrimp Fry \$5.99. R&B/Hip Hop/Super Disco 8:30 - close with DJ Shorty.

**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**

**HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 10:30 am.** Kitchen open 11am-8pm. Pool Tournament 3pm (sign-up begins at 2). \$3 entry fee (pot matched). Current & Classic Country from 8:30 to close. DJ calls shot specials. Reverse Happy Hour 11:30-close with 50¢ off all drinks.

**IBTs - 10am-5pm \$4 Martinis and Daquiris.** Happy Hours Noon-7pm. Dance Party 9-1 w/DJ-Q. All drink specials not available during special events.

**NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open 1pm.** Latino Nite 8pm-close w/DJ Jeff. Drink Specials.

**VENTURE-N - Open 10am.** Patio Bar open 3pm. Patio Beer Bust 3-7pm. DJ 9-1.

**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

**NOTICES**

**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 2007, contact TEAM ARIZONA at their website: teamarizona.org

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

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

**COMMUNITY BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (CBA)**, Tucson's Gay and Lesbian business networking group holds regular meetings the third Thursday of every month. Call 615-6436 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 GUToberFEST. 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 tyann@theriver.com and request guidelines.

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

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

**TGNetArizona**: The central source for news and information for, by and about the TS, TG, and Gender-varient communities of Arizona. Website URL: http://www.tgnetarizona.org

**"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

**LIKE TO READ?**

The Guys Book Club (IGBC) invites new members to join them. The group meets once a month, on the 3rd Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at Maggie's Pizza on 4th Avenue to discuss the Gay-themed book read by members the previous month.

**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 a.m. at the Wingspan annex space, 739 N. 4th Ave. Please be willing to sit for two twenty minute sessions in silence. All are welcome.

**HALLELUJAH RECOVERY DRUG & ALCOHOL 12-STEP**. Every Thursday 3:30-6:30pm 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.

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

CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED ADS MUST BE MAILED, NO PHONE ADS

**NOTICES**

**P.F.L.A.G. - Partners and Friends of Lesbians and Gays** - is a support group available to anyone who has a son, daughter or friend who is Gay. Call 575-8660 or write P.O. Box 36264, Tucson, AZ 85740-6264. All replies confidential.

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

**YOUNG AND GAY?**

**GLBT Youth 21 and under**, meet every Saturday in Tucson for sharing, support and information. Meetings are held at 300 E. 6th Street from 3 to 4:30 pm. You are not alone. For more info call Wingspan, 624-1779.

The **TUCSON Chapter of PRIME TIMERS WORLDWIDE** invites Gay or Bisexual men and their admirers to join and share Prime Timers fellowship. We welcome mature men (and admirers) who wish to become involved with planned and future Prime Timers activities. Meetings luncheons and dinners are held monthly. For dates, times and information call 615-3491, leave name and phone number.

**TUCSON GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL**

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

**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 85001-7097. 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. 379-9020

**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 Bear Hotline (520)790-5775 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910 of visit our website at www.beotop.com All are welcome to our general meetings/potlucks on the 2nd Friday of every month, 7pm at Sentinel Bldg. On the City of Tucson Resource Campus, 310 N. Commerce Park Loop on Bonita St. between St. Marys and Congress.

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

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

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

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

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

**LIGHTNING LIGHTING** will provide lighting for AIDS and related benefits at no charge. For more info call Admire 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.

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

**NOTICES**

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

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

**SOUTHERN ARIZONA GENDER ALLIANCE (SAGA)**. Meetings on the 1st Monday, 7pm. Desert Girlz (MTF) Meets 2nd Monday at 7pm. Desert Boyz meets 3rd Tuesday at 7pm. of every month. All meetings take place at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. Call 624-1779 for more info. 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 602-219-4805.

**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 Mirto Stone, MSW, at 327-1171 (if unavailable leave message with phone number).

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

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

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

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

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

**GWM**, seeking motivated work out partner in NW home gym with shower. Aerobic and anaerobic. Call Mike at 370-5029. 1027

**MEN'S RELATIONSHIP RECOVERY & IMPROVEMENT**. Thursdays 7-9:30pm beginning Feb. 19. Sponsored by the Man to Man Network. Keys to better relationships, support for men recovering from end of relationships. Call Marc at 881-4582 to sign up. 1024

**SERVICES**

**HELLO TUCSON!** 28 y.o. Grad Student, attractive, experienced hands on for full stress release. Please call Joe at 235-0037 1028

**END BACK PAIN**. The back solution, massage and bodywork. 15 years experience. Tension Erasure - Stress Reduction - Relax for Health. Abe 294-4810 1024

**FULL BODY SWEDISH MASSAGE FOR MEN**. Best rates in Tucson! Speedway and Swan area. IN and OUT CALLS. 7 days. \$30/hour, 548-6314 1022

**SACRED HEALING TOUCH**. Be smoothed, touched and nurtured by strong, yet gentle hands. 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. 1020....

**SERVICES**

**FULL BODY SWEDISH MASSAGE FOR MEN**. Best rates in Tucson! Speedway/Swan area. IN and OUT calls. 7 days. \$30/hour. 548-6314. 1023

**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! 1028

**EXPERIENCE A BASIC THAI, DEEP TISSUE OR RELAXING MASSAGE** by a trained, caring male. In-home, hotel or resort. Often at a moment's notice. (520) 730-7068. 1035

**TENSE? STRESSED OUT?** Relax for an hour with a full body rub by Frank. Private studio, off-street parking. 548-7019 days, evenings. 1028

**HAVE A SWEET TANTRIC MASSAGE**. It is FANTASTIC! 22 years of quality professional experience. Call Marc - 881-4582 from 1 to 9 p.m. Licensed. 1024

**ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS**

Let me keep your clothes fitting properly and in good repair. Experienced - Economical - Prompt. Mette Hudson, (520)888-7284 in Tucson. 1025



**Flowers  
Everywhere For  
Same-Sex  
Newlyweds**

**SAN FRANCISCO** - Florists in the city have been overwhelmed by orders from people as far away as Australia who are paying for flowers to be delivered randomly to the Gay and Lesbian couples getting married at City Hall. The requests from same-sex marriage supporters have come from some surprising places: Minneapolis; Atlanta; Kalamazoo, Mich; even Hong Kong, reported the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com network.

"It has just exploded, skyrocketed, spread like wildfire," said Him Phan, owner of Flowers by the Bay, whose shop has processed more than 200 orders. "We've been bombarded with phone calls, and we knew we couldn't handle it alone, so I've been calling other florists in San Francisco, asking, 'Please, guys, help!'"

Michael Ritz, co-owner of Church Street Flowers in the city's Castro district, has taken many requests by e-mail for bundles of red roses, hyacinths, irises, and daffodils and delivered them to City Hall, where more than 3,200 same-sex couples have wed so far. "To the Happy Couple," read cards from the Church of Minnehaha in Minnesota. "Straight but not narrow-minded," said one from Atlanta. "Love you in Norway," wrote one distant well-wisher.

The flower deliveries seem to have started last week after two Gay coworkers in Minneapolis, Greg Scanlan and Timothy Holtz, each decided to send a bouquet to a random couple as a way of supporting the same-sex unions. They telephoned Phan's shop, which has a rainbow flag on its Web site, and asked that the flowers be delivered to any of the couples waiting for their marriage licenses. "I wish I was there," Scanlan said. "That's the only hard part-being this far away. I'd love to be there delivering flowers."

The men then sent an e-mail to friends and family encouraging others to send flowers to the happy couples in San Francisco, and their message was quickly forwarded and written up in Web logs around the globe.



# FilmFest



# 2004

# Southern

# Arizona's

# LGBT



# Film

# Festival.

# C'mon



# out and watch...

March 04-07  
The Loft Cinema  
3233 East Speedway  
Tucson, Arizona

[www.wingspan.org/FilmFest](http://www.wingspan.org/FilmFest)  
for discount tickets in  
advance, and the complete  
FilmFest schedule

## Film Highlights

More than 40 films will be shown at this year's festival. Please visit our website for full descriptions and schedules, and to purchase discount tickets in advance.

### Laramie Inside Out

Thursday, March 04, 7:00 pm

The festival opens with this diary/ documentary by Tucsonan Beverly Seckinger. *Laramie Inside Out* explores the aftermath of Matthew Shepard's 1998 gay-bashing murder in Seckinger's hometown of Laramie, Wyoming. Seckinger will be at the screening to talk about the making of the film.



### Eating Out

Thursday, March 04, 9:00 pm

When Caleb falls for Gwen, a seemingly unattainable girl, his roommate Kyle offers this valuable advice: The best way to a girl's heart is through her gay best friend. *Eating Out* was produced by Tucsonan Michael Shoel and Danielle Probst, and filmed right here in the Old Pueblo.



### Bulgarian Lovers

Friday, March 05, 8:00 pm

*Bulgarian Lovers* is a story of love between a middle-aged Spanish gay man and a younger "straight" Bulgarian hunk. (Spanish with English subtitles)



### Flashback: The Films of David Weissman

Saturday, March 06, 5:45 pm

Through clips and conversation, producer/director/ screenwriter David Weissman (*The Cockettes*, *Evolution*, *Family Man*) will discuss the inspirations behind the irreverent humor of his short films, the making of the documentary *The Cockettes*, and the state of LGBT filmmaking today.

### Do I Love You?

Saturday, March 06, 8:00 pm

Marina, a 30-something in a good relationship with girlfriend Romy, asks a simple question — do I love you? — but finds the answer is not so simple.



### Out Abroad: Documentary Shorts

Sunday, March 07, 6:00 pm

For LGBT people worldwide, lack of acceptance and inequality are facts of life. These shorts tell the stories of struggles for LGBT rights in Central and South America, Africa, and Asia.