



Observing Tucson And  
The Greater Arizona Community

# OBSERVER

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THE WEEKLY OBSERVER

MAY 12, 2004

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## Court Rulings Favor GLBT Adoptive Parents

SAN FRANCISCO - A federal district court judge ruled Monday, May 3, that a lawsuit against Adoption.com can proceed, based on arguments the Internet-based adoption service discriminated against Rich and Michael Butler, a same-sex couple from San Jose, reported the [Gay.com/PlanetOut.com](http://Gay.com/PlanetOut.com) network.

Meanwhile, an appeals court in Washington state ruled a nonbiological mother should be given visitation rights with her daughter after the mother's relationship with the biological mother ended.

Adoption.com permits prospective adoptive parents to post their personal profiles in hopes of connecting with potential birth mothers. The site will not, however, permit same-sex couples to post their profiles. In 2002, Adoption.com refused to accept the Butlers' application.

Adoption.com is the largest adoption-related Internet business in the United States.

The Butlers filed a lawsuit challenging the policy under California law, which prohibits businesses from discriminating on the basis of sexual orientation. On Monday, federal district court judge Phyllis Hamilton ruled the lawsuit can proceed to trial.

"We are relieved that we will have a chance to hold Adoption.com accountable for violating California law by discriminating against Gay and Lesbian couples," read a statement from Rich Butler. "Same-sex couples are just as capable of providing good homes for children as different-sex couples."

The Butlers are represented by the National Center for Lesbian Rights and the law firm of Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP.

"We're thrilled that this judgment was made in favor of recognizing [GLBT] families, especially adoptive families," said Beth Teper, executive director of Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere (COLAGE), an advocacy group for children of GLBT parents.

Teper told the PlanetOut Network she hopes other adoption agencies will take this as a strong message and think twice about discriminating against GLBT prospective parents.

In the Washington case, plaintiff Sue Ellen Carvin won visitation rights to see her daughter, even though she is not the biological mother. Carvin lived with her former partner for 12 years. During that time they decided to have a child together, with her partner giving birth to their

daughter, and Carvin staying at home to serve as the primary caregiver.

When the child was almost six years old, the couple separated. Her ex-partner eventually cut off all contact between Carvin and the child.

Teper praised the ruling in Carvin's favor, noting that COLAGE had filed an amicus curiae (friend of the court) brief on her behalf.

"Children have a legal right to a relationship with whichever adults have planned their birth and intended to raise them," she said.

Other states that have recognized visitation rights for nonbiological parents in same-sex relationships include Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Wisconsin.

## CDC Accused Of Purposely Undercounting HIV Cases

WASHINGTON, DC - A decision by the Centers for Disease Control only to count cases of HIV from states which record the patients names has resulted in a serious undercount that could impact on the funds some states receive from the federal government, reported [365Gay.com](http://365Gay.com).

Fifteen 15 key Democrats in Congress are calling on CDC Director Dr. Julie Gerberding to include statistics from states which assign identification numbers rather than using patients names.

Two of the states, California and Massachusetts have high rates of HIV, but the CDC does not include them in the national statistics. Twelve other states and the District of Columbia also use identification markers other than names to ensure patient privacy.

But, the undercounts could have a profound effect on the money states receive the Ryan White CARE Act.

The Department of Health and Human Services is looking at using CDC data on HIV in determining how much states will receive in federal funding. At present, the funding is tied to the number of cases of full blown AIDS. HHS is expected to announce this summer if it will switch to the new formula.

AIDS care providers have been pressing the federal government to make the switch.

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## Mass. G/L/ Marriage Foes File Hasty Motion

BOSTON - Conservative groups trying to fight the onset of same-sex marriages in Massachusetts next week are trying increasingly desperate measures, reported the [Gay.com/PlanetOut.com](http://Gay.com/PlanetOut.com) network.

On Friday, May 7, the state's Supreme Judicial Court unanimously rejected a last-ditch effort to derail same-sex marriage, illustrating that even the minority justices on the court may be losing patience. In that motion, 13 conservative lawmakers had argued that the high court lacked jurisdiction over the subject of marriage, but all seven justices noted that this motion had already been advanced and dismissed.

On Monday, May 10, an individual represented by the conservative Liberty Counsel filed a motion in federal court, claiming that the Massachusetts high court violated an obscure provision of the U.S. Constitution, the "Republican Guarantee Clause." The motion asks the court for a temporary restraining order and a preliminary injunction against enforcement of the order to legalize same-sex marriages effective May 17.

According to the highly unusual legal exposition, the Republican Guarantee Clause protects "the right of a state's citizens to structure their government as

they see fit." As far as the Constitution is concerned, the clause (Article IV, Section 4) guarantees to each state "a republican form of government," and protects each state from "invasion" and "domestic violence."

One GLBT legal analyst told the PlanetOut Network that he had never seen the rarely invoked clause employed in a Gay rights case, and, in fact, had not encountered the clause since his law school days. It's hard to imagine, he noted, that the clause could provide a federal claim that could undermine the authority of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court to pass judgment on state marriage law.

For good measure, the petitioner, Catholic Action League Vice President Robert Largess, tossed in the theory that the high court lacked subject matter jurisdiction over the definition of marriage. That was the same strategy that failed last Friday.

In an Associated Press dispatch, Boston attorney Shari Levitan characterized the ploy as a "Hail Mary pass," adding that at this stage "people are willing to go to the mat with any argument to push their claim."

As a result, other untenable motions and petitions could hit the state and federal courts in this final week.

### COMMENTARY . . .

#### 'We Call . . .'

[The following was the multi-faith blessing of the U.S. Holocaust was delivered at the Tucson opening of the Nazi Persecution Of Homosexuals 1933-1945 at the Jewish Community center, May 3.]

family to bring forth and lift up those who witness with their lives that cruelty and intolerance must be resisted and condemned.

"As we stand in the presence of these reminders of a horror too great for words to adequately describe, we could be silent.

"And we call upon the memory of those whose bodies were broken by and whose spirits endured the oppression and torture we find recorded in this exhibition.

"But silence is what allowed this horror to happen, so silence cannot now be our response.

"We witness that it is in their memory and in our remembering that we will find the power to resist oppression wherever it happens.

"Therefore we call out, each in our own tradition and with our own voices.

"In the name of all that is holy and sacred, and with the witness of all who stand here today, we call forth from silence into action a new time, a new world, a new way.

"We call out for courage to find words in order to describe injustice, even when it is beyond the capacity of our words.

"We call forth from silence into words that which is holy and sacred to each of us and in each of us.

"We call on all that is holy and sacred.

"We call forth that we will live peaceably and compassionately from this moment on, wherever we journey from this place.

"And as we stand here, we call upon each of our traditions to witness to the fact that scapegoating and demonizing our brothers and sisters has always been wrong and remains wrong today.

"Let it be thus, within us and among us forever."

"We call upon the whole human

# UPDATE

## AIDS Candlelight Memorial May 16

TUCSON - On Sunday May 16, Tucson and Southern Arizona will join communities from all over the globe in celebration of the International AIDS Candlelight Memorial.

The Tucson AIDS Candlelight Memorial will be held at Jacomé Plaza outside the entrance to Downtown Tucson-Pima Library on the corner of Stone and Pennington. We will gather just west of the huge red sculpture.

The event is based on these simple principles: to honor and remember the 28 million people lost to AIDS; to support the 42 million people living with HIV/AIDS. This year's theme is "Turning Remembrance into Action."

This family friendly celebration includes children's activities starting at 6pm with special memorial quilt viewing, an Interfaith Service, starting at 6:30pm, followed by a secular Candlelight Vigil at 7pm.

The Interfaith Service will consist of music, prayers and readings, while the Vigil will include music, guest speakers, a candle procession from Jacomé Plaza to El Presidio Park, and an opportunity for people to honor the memory of loved ones who have died of AIDS.

Families, friends and individuals are welcome to come for either one or both parts of the Memorial, and are encouraged to bring a picture or memento to add to the Remembrance table.

The event is sponsored by the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF), Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN) and Wingspan.

For more information, call Mike at SAAF, (520) 628-7443, ext. 247.

## Wingspan Community Forum On Profiling June 1

TUCSON - Whether a homeless person seen as lazy and a drain on society, a Muslim suspected of being un-American, a Gay man assumed to be cruising for sex, or an African American woman denied a home loan, "profiling" is as American as apple pie.

Profiling is when those highest up in the power hierarchy make those outside that social group into the "other." This mechanism of power and control increasingly affects more and more of those further down the ladder.

Stereotypes that play on people's fears, morality, and prejudices allow profiling to continue without question.

In this community forum, we draw together speakers from various communities to address the "why's," the "what's," and the consequences of profiling.

If civil rights are high on your list of concerns, please join this community forum for this important and interesting Community Forum, June 1, 6 to 8 p.m. at Wingspan's main office, 300 East Sixth Street.

## Special Cornerstone Meetings May 21-23

TUCSON - Cornerstone Christian Fellowship announces a series of special meetings with noted pastor, teacher, author and community member, Reverend Fred Pattison. Pastor Fred will be speaking Friday, Saturday and Sunday, May 21st, 22nd and 23rd, at the church, located at 2902 North Geronimo (the northeast corner of Geronimo and Laguna). Everyone. (This includes you), is welcome to attend.

Pastor Fred will be speaking on "There's that Four Letter Word, Again" Friday Evening at 7:00 p.m. On Saturday at 7:00 p.m., his message will be "A Day That Changed America". This special weekend will end Sunday, May 23rd as Pastor Fred addresses the timely question, "Did the Religious Guy Get It?", at 10:30 a.m.

Gifted musician, worship leader and community member Bryon Wiley will accompany Fred on Saturday and Sunday.

Pastor Fred is former pastor of Faith Baptist Church of Tucson and retired as pastor of Casa de Cristo, a nondenominational church for the community in Phoenix. Fred founded, and currently staffs, Olive Tree Ministries and Strawberry Mountain Views in an effort to support Christians in our community, and is overseeing the establishment and growth of Olive Tree Christian Fellowship in Phoenix as Presbyter-Shepherd.

Bryon Wiley is a gifted musician. He attended Moody Bible Institute as a Music major. He is the former Minister of Praise and Worship at Casa de Cristo, and is currently the worship leader at Olive Tree Christian Fellowship in Phoenix.

For more information please feel free to call at (520) 622-4626.

## Community Potluck May 15

TUCSON - A community potluck and celebration, "Separate is not Equal!" will take place Saturday, May 15, 5 to 7 p.m. at Wingspan's main office, 300 East Sixth Street.

This celebration is for two momentous events that took place on May 17, according to a press release. On that day in 1954 was the U.S. Supreme Court decision on Brown v. Board of Education, ordering the end to segregation in the nation's public schools. In Massachusetts, the state Supreme Court of Massachusetts has ordered the state to marry same-sex couples on Monday, May 17.

According to local organizers, this event is in conjunction with over 15 other events happening around the United States. For more information, call Wingspan (520) 624-1779, or go online to [doutantend.com](http://doutantend.com).

## Last Week For G/L Holocaust Exhibit

TUCSON - Nazi Persecution Of Homosexuals 1933-1945 on display through May 16 at the Tucson Jewish Community Center, 3800 E. River Road.

Hours for the exhibit are Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., closed Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday, May 16. On the closing day,

two special showings of "Paragraph 175" will be shown at 2 and 4 p.m. Twenty community groups will have tables at the last day of the exhibit in Tucson.

For more information, call Wingspan (520) 624-1779 or go online to [wingspan.org](http://wingspan.org).

## RGMC Concert May 21

TUCSON - TUCSON - Please join Reveille and guest artist Susan Artemis at 8:00 p.m. on Friday, May 21st and Saturday, May 22nd for the spring performance titled "All About Love".

All About Love will be dedicated to the memory of Jerry Curl, a friend, hero, mentor, and guiding light to countless numbers of people, and to love at large as the most powerful, unifying and constructive feeling humanity is capable of.

Reveille will sign at University of Arizona's Crowder Hall, located at the Music Building.

Tickets are available at Antigone's Books (411 N. Fourth Ave.), at Desert Pride (611 N. Fourth Ave.), from a Reveille chorister, and by phone at (520) 617-3100.

## UofA Study Needs Gay Male Couples

TUCSON - Students from the University of Arizona Family Studies and Human Development program are trying to recruit Gay and Lesbian couples to participate in an on-line study, which examines the relationship between positive and negative emotions and their impact on sexual and other aspects of relationships.

"We believe that this project will greatly add to the sparse body of research on daily processes in Gay and Lesbian relationship research. Although, we are recruiting both Gay and Lesbian couples, we have a greater shortage of male couples at the current time. To be able to make accurate statements about the relationship processes in both Gay and Lesbian couples we greatly need male couples to participate.

"This does not mean that we are no longer interested in recruiting participants in Lesbian relationships, however we have had more success in getting these couples to participate in the past and, now need to focus on the recruitment of male couples."

In order to be eligible for this study, participants must currently be in a Gay or Lesbian relationship, and over the age of 18. Both partners must be willing to participate in the study, which requires about 25 minutes of time to fill out an initial questionnaire, then about 7-10 minutes per day for 14 days to fill out daily questionnaires.

At the end of the study, participants will receive \$20 per person (\$40 per couple) for their time and effort.

This project is approved by the U of A Human Subjects Committee, and the approval can be made available by request.

For more information, or to participate, email [Desire2@emil.arizona.edu](mailto:Desire2@emil.arizona.edu) or phone Brian at (520) 626-1199



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For more information, call Ethan or Mike at 628-7223.



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Informing the Community  
**The Observer**

# Lesbian New Moms Look To Marriage On Mother's Day

OAKLAND - They hope for the right to marry -- someday, for the sake of their infant twins. Today, however, two Lesbian couples on opposite sides of America are savoring the here-and-now joys of their first Mother's Day as mothers, reported the Associated Press.

"We're going to wake up as late as we can, and take our day really slow and just appreciate the experience so far and the experiences yet to come," said Rebecca Rodriguez of Oakland, Calif. "We're so grateful to have two children in our lives."

Rodriguez' partner, Yvonne Day, gave birth Jan. 18 to twins Benicio and Adela, more than two years after first trying to become pregnant through artificial insemination.

St. Petersburg, Fla., partners Mica Garretson and Shannon Anderson tried even longer -- more than three years -- and persevered even after a miscarriage by Garretson. She delivered redheaded twins Abbie and Bo on March 17.

"We're so excited having Mother's Day," Anderson said. "We had to have a budget -- otherwise we'd go overboard buying gifts for each other because we're finally moms."

Both couples said their decision to have children was not directly linked to the fast-moving national developments regarding same-sex marriage.

Yet the four new mothers echoed the views of fertility experts and parenting counselors across the country -- that the marriage debate has provided Lesbian and

Gay would-be parents with both long-term optimism about their chances and a keener sense of short-term challenges.

Betsy Cairo runs Cryogram Colorado, a sperm bank in Loveland, Colo., that has served a steadily increasing number of Lesbian couples.

"We certainly have more women coming forward, being candid about their sexuality, looking for a Gay-friendly environment," she said. "We're getting calls from Texas, Louisiana, Bible Belt states, saying, 'Hey, do you know a physician who works with same-sex couples?'"

Cairo guessed that most of these couples would decide to have children regardless of how the marriage debate unfolds.

"What marriage would do for them is make all of it easier," she said. "They have to go through so much pre-birth legal stuff now -- that's a huge burden."

Even in Massachusetts, on the verge of authorizing same-sex marriage, many couples are tentative because of political uncertainty, said Liz Coolidge. She coordinates Lesbian and Gay family and parenting services at Boston's Fenway Community Health Center, which two decades ago was among the first places in the nation to help Lesbians and other single women bear children.

"If people want to have kids, they're going ahead and doing it anyway," said Coolidge. "Marriage could make things much stronger for their families -- but couples have a lot of questions about the

legal implications."

At the Broadway United Methodist Church in Chicago, the Rev. Gregory Dell serves as consultant to a prospective-parents group that consists largely of Lesbian couples.

"The number of same-sex couples now considering parenthood has at least tripled in the past few years," he said. "What I'm hearing from them is, 'There's another part of our relationship that we want to explore -- how well we work together as parents.'"

He said Lesbian prospective mothers have the same yearnings and worries as heterosexual women, but complicated by three distinct factors: choosing among the varied methods for having a child, resolving legal uncertainties, and wondering how their new, no-father families will be viewed by relatives and acquaintances.

"These couples discover fairly quickly there's no way they are afforded the same protections as a straight couple," Dell said. "It's a very unjust system in my mind, but a hard-nosed reality that they have to sort through."

Dr. Mark Sanchez is co-director of the Florida Fertility Institute in Clearwater, Fla., and helped Mica Garretson become pregnant. Because Florida law prohibits Gays and Lesbians from adopting, he advises same-sex couples to consult with an attorney on how best to ensure that both partners have the strongest possible legal ties to their children.

"Sometimes one woman provides eggs for fertilization, and the other carries the baby," Sanchez said. "Florida law recognizes only the woman who delivers as the parent, even though the other woman is the genetic parent, and that can become a sticky situation."

Garretson, 36, and Anderson, 38, have been partners for 11 years. They had a "holy union" ceremony at their church in Kansas City, Mo., six years ago, moved to Florida two years later and soon began efforts to have a child.

Initially, Anderson hoped to bear the child, but her insurance did not cover in-vitro fertilization. Garretson was covered, became a client of the Florida Fertility Institute, and bore Abbie and Bo on St. Patrick's Day.

They consider their family as valid as any, even though Florida law bars Anderson from becoming the twins' legal adoptive mother. They have talked about getting married in Canada -- or Massachusetts if it decides to accommodate out-of-state couples -- not to put a stamp of approval on their own partnership but because of the potential legal benefits for their children.

"We always wanted to have a family," Anderson said. "People kept telling us we were crazy. But it's the greatest thing -- it's everything we thought, plus more."

"There are times when it hasn't quite hit us that we're really moms," said Garretson, a computer software consultant. "Then you pick them up, and they actually

CONTINUED ON PAGE THIRTEEN

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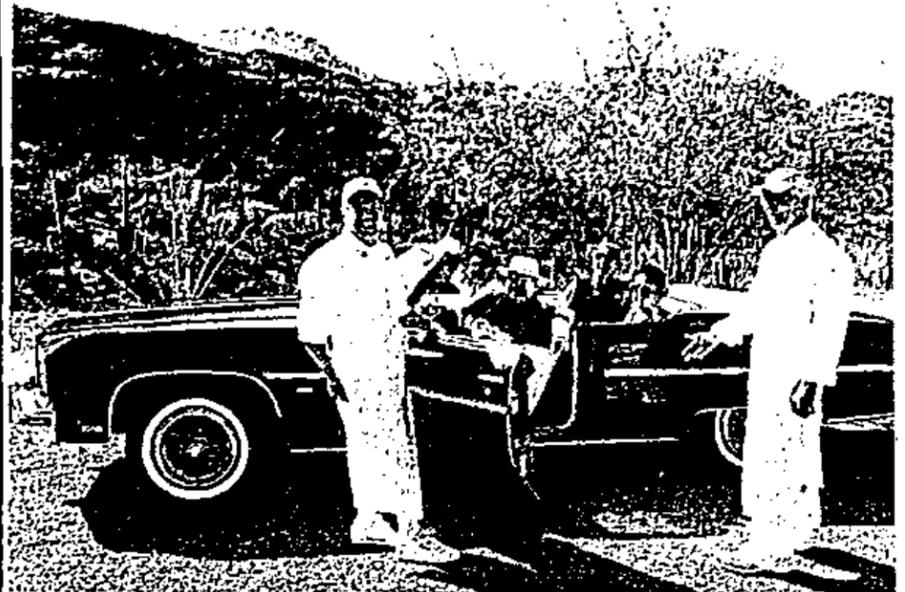


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## Congratulations, Orn



TUCSON - It was a big day in the life of Orn Sells Huntington. On Sunday, May 2, Orn celebrated his 85<sup>th</sup> birthday in a day full of activities and sentimental moments. The day started with a brunch at La Zarzuela Bed and Breakfast in the Tucson Mountains. With his lifetime partner beside him, Orn drove to the event in a 1975 Chevrolet Caprice shown above. The classic belongs to Will Arehart and Michael Yeoman sitting in the back seat.

Orn was born May 4, 1919 in Columbus, Ohio, a descendant of one of Ohio's pioneer families who migrated to Franklinton, Ohio from Philadelphia in 1797. He was raised and educated in Columbus. In 1942 he went to Hollywood and appeared in over 200 motion pictures until 1952, playing mostly in bit and dancing parts. The motion picture that is most seen on televisions today that he was in is "The Harvey Girls", made in 1946 at MGM. He played the role of "Jim".

He retired from show business and entered banking as an auditor, from which he retired after 25 years. In 1991 he was given the "Gold Torch Award" for his work with the Human Rights Campaign in Central Ohio District, and was named by the Stonewall Committee as one of the 20 most influential persons of the Gay community of the past 20 years in Central Ohio.

After a most exciting life, Orn retired to Tucson in 1995, and has enjoyed a wonderful retirement with his lifetime partner Ernest D. De La Vara.

Over a hundred guests helped Orn celebrate his 85<sup>th</sup> with live music, entertainment, food and libations at a garden party Sunday afternoon and evening given by Ernest at their home. It was a perfect ending of a perfect day for a perfect gentleman. Congratulations Orn.!

## Howl at the Moon

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Deluxe Nachos <del>\$6.00</del> <b>\$3.00</b> Add shredded beef or grilled chicken	
Quesadilla <del>\$3.50</del> <b>\$1.75</b> Flour tortilla with melted cheese, green chilies, sour cream, and fresh Pico de Gallo.	
Add grilled chicken or shredded beef <del>\$5.00</del> <b>\$2.50</b>	
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Jalapeno Poppers <del>\$4.00</del> <b>\$2.00</b> Jalapenos stuffed with cream cheese, breaded and deep-fried	
Beer-battered Onion Rings <del>\$3.75</del> <b>\$1.75</b>	
Mushrooms or Zucchini (or Combo) <del>\$4.00</del> <b>\$2.00</b> Beer-battered and served with ranch dressing	

## Texas School Allows Same-Sex Prom Date

AUSTIN - A Texas high school has suspended its policy of refusing to allow students to bring same-sex dates to the prom, reported the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com network.

Earlier this week Lago Vista High School was threatened with a suit after 16 year old Sherrell Ingram learned she would not be able to bring her best friend, another girl, to the prom.

Civil rights group People for the American Way Foundation told the school that the rule is illegal under a federal law which bans any federally funded education program from discriminating on the basis of a person's sex and that it violates the constitutional rights of the school's Gay and Lesbian students.

PFAWF gave the school until Friday, May 7, to rescind the regulation.

Later Friday afternoon the school said it would suspend the policy.

Legal counsel for the Lago Vista Independent School District stated that while the District does not agree with PFAWF's analysis of the legal issues, the District will "suspend the prom attendance guidelines for the remainder of this year until the District has an opportunity to further evaluate its role in the sponsorship of school social activities."

The teenager was overjoyed with the result.

"I'm delighted with this result," said her mother Ginger White. "Now Sherrell can concentrate on other pressing issues, like finding a pair of shoes to match her prom dress."

"Sherrell and her mom are an example for all of us," said PFAWF lawyer Judith E. Schaeffer.

"They saw an injustice and they took a stand. We couldn't be more pleased for them, and for the students of Lago Vista High. This is a victory for all the students, and for common sense and tolerance," Schaeffer said.

## CBA

### COMMUNITY BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Tucson's Only Gay & Lesbian Business Networking Organization... [www.ns4b.com/cba](http://www.ns4b.com/cba)

The largest G&L business networking group in AZ, with monthly networking meetings, Out & About mixers, a membership directory and a quarterly newsletter. Get connected! Call 615-6436.

## Iraq Prisoner Charges U.S. Soldiers Forced Him Into Gay Sex Acts

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In the latest allegations of abuse of Iraqi prisoners at the hands of American soldiers, a victim says he was forced to strip naked and pose in sex acts with other male inmates.

The charges, which also include claims that some men were sodomized with various objects, have reignited concerns about rampant homophobia in the U.S. military and angered Gay rights groups. Detainee Idhia al-Shweiri said the ordeal was worse than the torture he endured as a prisoner under Saddam Hussein. "They wanted us to feel as though we were women, the way women feel, and this is the worst insult, to feel like a woman," he said.

Allegations of mistreatment at Abu Ghraib prison in Baghdad exploded across the world this week after CBS's 60 Minutes II broadcast images allegedly showing Iraqis stripped naked, hooded, and being tormented by their U.S. captors. An internal U.S. Army report found that Iraqi detainees were subjected to "sadistic, blatant, and wanton criminal abuses," according to The New Yorker magazine.

Al-Shweiri said American soldiers asked him to remove his clothes only once and for about 15 minutes. "I thought they wanted me to change into the red prison uniform, so I took off my clothes, down to my underwear. Then he asked me to take off my underwear. I started arguing with him, but in the end he made me take off my underwear," al-Shweiri said.

He and six other prisoners—all hooded—had to face the wall and bend over a little as they put their hands on the wall. They made us stand in a way that I am ashamed to describe. They came to look at us as we stood there. They knew this would humiliate us," he said, adding that he was not sodomized. "They were trying to humiliate us, break our pride. We are men. It's OK if they beat me. Beatings don't hurt us, it's just a blow. But no one would want their manhood to be shattered," he said.

Mahdi Bray, executive director of the Muslim American Society, told the Southern Voice newspaper that such acts are "no different than the concept of sex between two people who are not married," recognizing that homosexuality is a sin in Muslim culture. "The viewings of [simulated] homosexual acts, piling people on top of one another would be viewed as tremendously outrageous and shameful to the greater Muslim population."

Aaron Belkin, director of the Center for the Study of Sexual Minorities in the Military at the University of California, Santa Barbara, told the newspaper that "the events reflect the most base, paranoid, or extreme elements of military homophobia. There are many different layers to homophobia--Gays and straights can't trust one another. Gays are rapists, homosexuality is a mental illness--but these instances of torture in Iraq represent the most extreme, fringe paranoid elements of homophobia, that to be Gay is to be subhuman."

The [London] Daily Mirror has published a front-page picture of a British soldier apparently urinating on a hooded prisoner. The newspaper said it had been given the pictures by serving soldiers from the Queen's Lancashire Regiment. For months, human rights groups and former prisoners had complained of mistreatment at detention centers. But their protests were widely dismissed as politically motivated

until the U.S. command started an investigation in January. Six American soldiers are now facing court-martial.

America's top general, Richard Myers, has maintained there was no "systematic abuse" and that the actions of "just a handful" have unfairly tainted all American forces. However, Amnesty International said it has uncovered a "pattern of torture" of Iraqi prisoners by coalition troops and called for an independent investigation into the claims of abuse. Dan Senor, spokesman for the Coalition Provisional Authority, said the U.S. investigation will be full and aggressive. "Careers will be ended, and criminal charges are going to be leveled," he told CNN.

### GLBT Foe Pete Knight Dies

SAN FRANCISCO - The most vocal opponent of Gay issues in the California legislature, Sen. Pete Knight has died of leukemia. He was 74.

Knight is the man who spearheaded Prop 22 defining marriage as a union between a man and a woman. Voters endorsed the proposition in 2000, 365Gay.com reported.

Last year he attempted to block California domestic partner law from taking effect in. When San Francisco began issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples earlier this year, Knight formed the Proposition 22 Legal Defense and Education Fund.

The group is one of several conservative organizations involved in legal battles over the weddings.

Knight's communications director, David Oroscio, said the senator died Friday night at City of Hope National Medical Center in Duarte.

Only two days earlier Oroscio announced that Knight was suffering from acute myelogenous leukemia and would be absent from the senate for the remainder of the session.

Despite being the state's most vocal foe of Gay rights Knight is the father of a Gay son.

In March, David Knight married his long time partner Joseph A. Lazzaro Jr in a simple ceremony at San Francisco city hall. No members of the Knight family attended.

Sen. Knight's brother, also Gay, died of AIDS in 1997.

A former Air Force test pilot Knight served as mayor of Palmdale and was elected to the Legislature in 1992 and then to the Senate in 1996. Because of term limits he would not have eligible to seek re-election.

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

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**POLITICS 2004**

by Mark R. Kerr

**'Involvement'**

In a conversation on an unrelated matter, a community activist made a wonderful observation to this reporter, in lieu of the Holocaust Memorial exhibit in Tucson, comparing our current government to the government in Germany in 1933, and how they started to marginalize "undesirables" such as Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) citizens, naming one of many brutalized during the Third Reich.

Indeed, but GLBT citizens still has an opportunity to do something about it, even during this election year when issues of concern are being bandied about like a football, by getting involved in the process.

From registering to vote, contributing or volunteer time to a political campaign - involvement can happen on any level for each individual but activity has to take place, time is running out and as witnessed, GLBT people, working, taxpaying members of society are being marginalized for the sake of a vote, sowing the seeds of hatred for the continuation of power.

Any individual who reads this column and publication, either in print or online, should be registered to vote and exercising that right on a regular basis.

In Arizona, political offices, such as your local County Recorder's office naming one of many, libraries, the Department of Motor Vehicles have the actual forms, as well as community centers, such as Wingspan, Tucson's GLBT community center but if one can't access the form from these outlets, a person can register to vote online at [az.gov/webapp/evoter/](http://az.gov/webapp/evoter/), which is also a bilingual Web site.

For those individuals outside the Grand Canyon State, one can register online as well at [ssl.capwiz.com/congressorg/e4/nvra/](http://ssl.capwiz.com/congressorg/e4/nvra/) but for those in North Dakota (which has same day registration), Wyoming and New Hampshire (particular state law), one needs to check with their local elections office.

Two wonderful groups, MoveOn.org, [moveon.org](http://moveon.org), and America Coming Together, [americacomingtogether.com/](http://americacomingtogether.com/), are mobilizing people to take part in the upcoming national election and oust Dubya but they need volunteers and contributions to help counter the Republican fund raising juggernaut. Senator John Kerry, the presumptive Democratic nominee for President's Web site, [johnkerry.com](http://johnkerry.com).

Arizona will be a battleground state in the upcoming national election but other races for political office from Congressional to the various local posts up for consideration should not be overlooked because all aspects of government can affect the day to day lives of citizens, including the GLBT community so those candidates supportive of issues of concern need assistance in the upcoming months and will be featured in this column and publication.

Democratic Congressman Raul Grijalva, CD-7, who is running for re-election, Grijalva has been, when serving on the Pima County Board of Supervisors through his first term in Washington D.C., an advocate for GLBT rights and issues, who stands with the community and hasn't "sold us down the river" for political

expediency like other elected officials have, as reported in this column. Grijalva is in the process of gathering signatures, walking precincts and registering voters. For more information, call the Tucson campaign office, located at 2008 E. Broadway, (520) 629-4050 to volunteer, donate or to answer your questions.

As witnessed and reported, the Arizona Legislature, controlled by radical right-wingnut homophobic Republicans, has repeatedly assaulting the basic rights of citizens, especially GLBT Arizonans. All 90 seats (60 in the Arizona House, 30 in the Arizona Senate) are up in this election year and there are many open-minded, intelligent, progressive individuals who are seeking seats, one of which, as reported, is Amanda Simpson, who is running for the Democratic nomination for the State House of Representatives from Legislative District 26, which makes up Northwest Tucson and Pima County. Simpson, a former member of the Arizona Human Rights Fund Board and who currently serves on the City of Tucson Commission on GLBT Issues, is looking for volunteers who can gather signatures within Legislative District 26 this month to qualify for the September primary election ballot. To volunteer, call the campaign (520) 742-9199, or E-mail at [amanda4az@col.com](mailto:amanda4az@col.com).

Serving on a school board, from a school district to a community college district can be a thankless task and when open-minded, progressive individuals serve, in a nonpartisan, unpaid position for the betterment of the future, the youth, including GLBT students, we as a community should be thankful, and one of the individuals is Richard Fimbres, who serves on the Pima Community College Board from District 2 (which encompassed Supervisorial District 2). Fimbres is also in the process of gathering signatures for the general election ballot, since as reported, the post is nonpartisan, thus no primary election. Call (520) 481-4953 or E-mail: [fimbres@aol.com](mailto:fimbres@aol.com).

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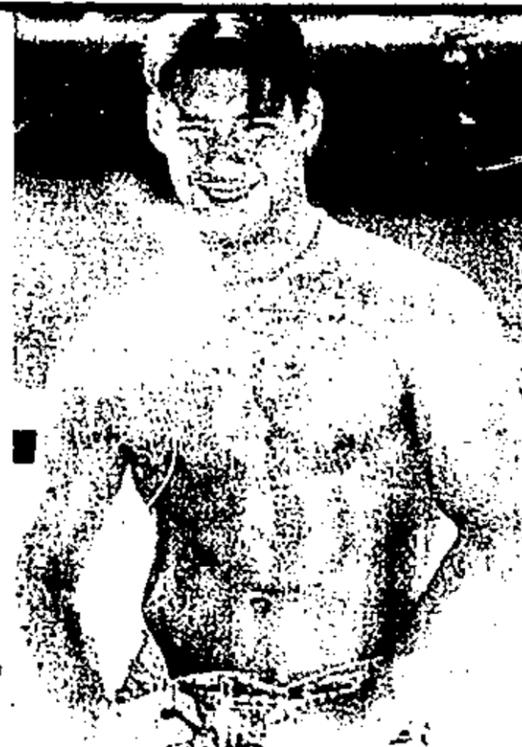
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**AROUND THE GAY USA.**

**Gay Couple's Nightmare**

SECACUS - It seemed like the perfect house for Peter de Vries, 55, and Timothy Carter, 45. Granted it was right beside a fire hall and they'd probably be woken up by the sirens as the firefighters responded to a blaze, but how many fires could there be in the quiet neighborhood of the New Jersey town they reasoned, reported 365Gay.com.

What they hadn't counted on was the anti-Gay attitude at the the North End Firehouse.

In a civil rights complaint the couple says they have been the victims of a two-year harassment campaign.

Six firefighters are being investigated under the state's anti-bias laws by local, county and state law enforcement officials.

The complaint says that the couple was subjected to frequent anti-Gay taunts and epithets and that the fire hall was often the scene of drunken parties.

After one party, a drunken brawl took place outside the Gay couple's house and allegedly led to threats of violence.

"These guys were all over the house, trying to pull down that fence and trying to bust out those windows, shouting 'We're gonna to kill you, we're gonna to kill you.'" said Carter.

"It was like a lynch mob. I never saw anything like it."

One man told the couple to get out of town. "He said they didn't want any 'village faggots' in our town." He said others threatened to kill their dogs and chanted "homo, homo" and an assortment of obscenities," Carter said.

Carter feared for de Vries' health, saying de Vries had undergone a recent heart operation.

"If these charges are true, it does not matter if the two people are Gay. They should not be harassed, and this kind of behavior will not be tolerated," said Town Attorney Frank Leanza. "The Police Department is doing a very thorough investigation. Everyone who has any information about what happened that night or events leading up to it will be interviewed."

**County That Wanted To Jail G/L Citizens Holds First Pride Day**

DAYTON - Less than two months after Rhea county officials caused a national stir when they passed a motion seeking state approval to arrest Gays the county held its first Pride celebration, reported 365Gay.com.

More than 40 people gathered at Dayton's City Point Park for a picnic and speeches. Gays and Lesbians were joined by straight members of the county who opposed the county commission's attempt at banning Gays from the county.

The crowd was smaller than anticipated. Organizers had hoped several thousand people would show up. Still, for a first pride event, they said they considered it a success.

More than 40 police officers including the local riot squad were standing by in case of trouble after a group of conservative Christians said they would demonstrate on the weekend. Friday, only a handful of protestors picketed the event.

One, protestor, carrying a cross, refused to stay out of the park and was led away by police. Officers said several others in the group were also arrested.

In March the Rhea County Commission voted to seek the approval of the Tennessee attorney general to arrest all Gays in the community on charges of crimes against nature.

Less than a week later, after the county got national attention and drew criticism from across the country the commissioners rescinded their vote.

It wasn't the first time the rural county 30 miles north of Chattanooga made national headlines. The Dayton courthouse was the scene of the "Scopes Monkey Trial" in 1925 where high school teacher John T. Scopes was convicted of teaching evolution and fined \$100. The conviction was later overturned. But, the story later became the award winning movie "Inherit The Wind."

**CDC Accused**

Continued from Page One

With new AIDS drugs people are remaining HIV-positive longer before developing full blown AIDS. By using the HIV numbers states could receive more money. But, if states which do not count names are not included they could actually lose money.

In a letter to Gerberding the 15 members of Congress including Massachusetts Sen. Ted Kennedy and Sens. Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer of California say the CDC data is skewed.

"CDC's refusal to accept and utilize code-based data presents an inaccurate picture of the nation's epidemic and, in doing so, undermines the national effort to win the battle against HIV/AIDS," the letter says.

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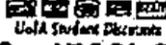
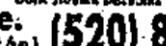
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## U.S. Leaders Decry Egypt's Anti-Gay Abuses

WASHINGTON - On Thursday, May 6, U.S. Rep. Steve Rothman, D-N.J., sent a letter urging Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to eliminate all abuses against gay men, reported 365Gay.com.

Rothman co-authored the letter with Reps. Barney Frank, D-Mass., and Tom Lantos, D-Calif., and 41 other members of Congress, both Republicans and Democrats, signed it.

"We regard the repression, entrapment and torture of individuals based on their real or perceived sexual orientation to be clear human rights violations," Rothman and his colleagues wrote.

The lawmakers cited a 144-page Human Rights Watch report released on March 1, 2004, which detailed testimonies of men accused of being homosexuals.

The men in the report claimed they were bound, suspended in painful positions, burned with cigarettes, submerged in ice-cold water and subjected to electrical shocks on their limbs and genitals.

Addressing President Mubarak, the letter continued: "We sincerely hope Egypt will abide by the requirements of the treaties signed and laws in place, and that you personally will speak out against and work to prevent any future incidents of

torture, including the torture of homosexual men."

Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International and other organizations have been documenting torture in Egypt for more than a decade.

One of the most infamous abuses against suspected gay men occurred in May 2001, when Egyptian police arrested more than 50 men on the Queen Boat, a floating nightclub in the Nile. Egypt sentenced 23 men to prison terms because they were found guilty of practicing "sexual immorality," a euphemism for homosexuality. A total of 52 men were on trial and detained for several months; 29 were acquitted.

Rep. Rothman hopes the letter will convince the Egyptian government to change. He is one of five Democrats on the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, which awards foreign aid.

"Having representatives of the U.S. government send this kind of letter has to have some pull," explained Rothman's press secretary, Jeff Lieberman.

"Whether the Egyptian government is going to do anything is a possibility. It's worth seeing if President Mubarak is going to do anything," Lieberman said.

## Lambda Wants Iowa 'Divorce' Case Tossed

DES MOINES - On Monday, May 10, Lambda Legal asked Iowa's Supreme Court to reject the efforts of anti-Gay groups to insert themselves into a case in which two Iowa women are trying to terminate their civil union.

In August of 2003, Kimberly Jean Brown and Jennifer Sue Perez of Sioux City, Iowa, filed papers to dissolve the civil union they had received the year before in Vermont.

On Nov. 14, 2003, Woodbury County District Court Judge Jeffrey Neary granted the women a divorce, saying he did not immediately notice the case involved a same-sex couple.

But after discovering the nature of the relationship, Judge Neary claimed the divorce was still legal under the Constitution's "full faith and credit" clause, which requires states to recognize the laws of other states.

In December, a group of state legislators, a U.S. representative and a northwest Iowa church sued, claiming the judge lacked the proper authority and had recognized a marriage where one could not legally exist.

Judge Neary amended his decree, citing that Iowa law allowed him to dissolve both the unions of married couples and nonmarried couples.

The same group of conservatives amended their paperwork in February, arguing district courts did not have jurisdiction in a matter involving civil unions.

Later in February Iowa's Supreme Court said it would hear arguments in the case, provided the conservatives suing explain how they were personally affected by the lower court's ruling.

According to Lambda Legal the plaintiffs filed their brief on April 8, arguing the termination of a same-sex union affected them because they were married. The legislators in the case claimed they were affected because they were responsible for Iowa's laws, while a pastor claimed he was affected because he gives marriage counseling.

Lambda Legal does not believe those are strong enough reasons to sue.

"Having anti-Gay opinions doesn't give you the right to insert yourself in other people's lives," said Camilla Taylor, a Lambda Legal staff attorney.

"These legislators are trying to insinuate themselves in the case, even though their interest is only political. They're using these women's painful legal matter for their own political goals."

"Iowa law is clear that the courts have the authority to end relationships. Courts in Iowa do not discriminate between married couples and non-married couples. You can still go to a court and get assistance," she said.

Lambda Legal is now waiting for Iowa's highest court to make its next move. The next action could range from scheduling oral arguments, ruling on the substance of the legislators' claims, to dismissing the case, thus letting the lower court's ruling stand.

**Advertising Doesn't Cost... It Pays!**

**NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE**

by Lee Thorn

**The Education Beat**

I'd like to see Tucson have a good school system. I don't have kids in school, but I know that a good school system is supposed to indicate a high quality of community life. Further, high quality life is supposed to attract businesses that pay high wages. Who wouldn't like to see some good jobs popping up in the Old Pueblo?

So when I see a headline saying, "TUSD: Paz out. Pfeuffer in," I wonder what's going on and whether any scrap of hope can be had from it.

Why did TUSD tie the proverbial can to their superintendent's behind? According to the article, the TUSD board president explained it this way: "The board members felt they had given him a charge... to improve the communication with the board and the board didn't feel there was enough progress on that."

Holy Moly! That's so vague it doesn't even qualify as an evasion. Could it mean that he didn't show up for board meetings he'd been ordered to attend? Could it mean that he didn't file reports he was supposed to file? Was his demeanor at board meetings uncommunicative? Maybe he refused to return board members' phone calls.

He didn't "improve his communication" enough. At least we know that he couldn't have exceeded the board in the vagueness of his communications.

But then the article pins it down for us. "Most noticeably, the... board admonished Paz for informing his leadership team of top administrators first when he identified 17 underperforming schools in 2001."

We've gone here from the impossibly vague to the surrealistically implausible. I mean, HELLO! It's well into 2004 and they're firing him "most noticeably" for something he did in 2001?!

They're supposedly firing him for telling his top administrators something before he told it to the board? Wouldn't that be the normal thing to do? Your top administrators are probably right down the hall. The board is scattered all over the place and only gets together for occasional meetings. This being the case, wouldn't you expect the administrators to get the word before the board?

More to the point, what difference could that possibly make to the issue at hand? The man is either communicating effectively with his board or he isn't. What and when he communicates to his administrators would seem irrelevant.

There's no indication in the article that he withheld information from the board. There's no indication that by withholding information he prevented the board from taking some brilliant action.

Where is the graft, cigar-chomping editor who should have told the reporters who put this on his desk. "Kids, you can't expect our readers to buy this pap. Go and find out why they fired this guy and don't come back until you do. If you can't get it on the record, get it off the record, but find out what the hell happened?"

Of course this may not be possible. There's such a thing as stonewalling.

Public officials can and often do refuse to level with reporters. When that happens on a matter of as much importance as the governance of TUSD, a very big deal in terms of dollars and in terms of consequences, when officials in a case like this simply refuse to get real, that refusal itself becomes a newsworthy story. But if the reporters and, more appalling, their editors are satisfied with a failure to "improve his communication" enough, then the issue of what's really going on never even arises.

Aside from simply not getting the story, the article had some other major problems. It says that Paz cited his accomplishments as "improved test scores, lowered dropout rates, increased attendance, increased tax donations and partnerships with community and business, and an increase in teacher salaries..."

Very impressive but the article doesn't bother to tell us whether these claims are true or, if they are, whether Paz has any basis for taking the credit for them. Anybody can claim anything. Reporters are supposed to check claims out, not just transcribe them.

The piece did seem to have a few things nailed down: "He wore black trousers and a black shirt with a tropical flower pattern. Paz had planned to wear a blue suit and a dark blue tie, but switched at the last minute at his wife's suggestion."

Merely.

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

**9/11 Fund Pays Lesbian Partner**

NEW YORK - The fund established to award compensation to the families of those killed in the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist atrocities has agreed to pay another surviving same-sex partner of a victim, the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com network reported.

The Victim Compensation Fund agreed this week to award money to Nancy Walsh, who lost her partner Carol Flyzik in the attacks. The couple's youngest child, who is recognized legally as Walsh's, also received compensation.

The award amount was not disclosed.

Flyzik was traveling on a business trip when her plane was hijacked and flown into New York's World Trade Center.

The award is the first time that a same-sex couple without a will have been compensated. Previously, a Lesbian survivor received compensation in January 2003, but she had written her partner into her will.

Walsh praised the decision on Thursday, May 6.

"I was recognized as her partner, and that was the right thing to do," Walsh, 53, told the Reuters news agency.

"You fall in love with a person and not a particular sex as far as I'm concerned, and my loss is just as much as anyone else's loss. Gay or straight or whatever," she added.

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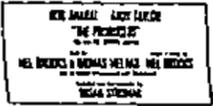


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**AROUND THE GAY WORLD . . . . .**

**Canadian Immigration Rejects  
Case Of Mexican Gay Man**

OTTAWA - The Canadian Immigration and Refugee Board rejected the asylum case of a Mexican Gay man, stating that he is not "visibly effeminate" and therefore not vulnerable to persecution in his homeland of Mexico, reports The [Toronto] Globe and Mail in 365Gay.com.

The 30-year-old business graduate, Fernando Enrique Rivera, who immigrated to Canada four years ago, believes the IRB's decision shows a stereotypical understanding of homosexuality. Last month the federal court upheld the IRB ruling, and now Rivera could be deported if his final appeal, a humanitarian and compassionate review, fails.

"I know some Gay refugees who put on lipstick and dressed effeminately because they thought it would help their case. But that is not who I am," Rivera told The Globe and Mail on Tuesday. "You don't choose to be Gay. It's not like being a vegetarian. It's a very complex thing."

Rivera feared he would lose his job as a statistician with Puerto Vallarta's police force if his manager found out about his sexuality. He said a Lesbian coworker

was fired after her sexual orientation was revealed.

The IRB is struggling to process an overflow in claims filed on the basis of sexual orientation. In the past three years roughly 2,500 people from 75 countries have sought refuge in Canada. Nearly 25% of them are from Mexico, a seemingly Gay-friendly country with an annual Gay pride parade, Gay politicians, and legislative changes protecting homosexuals.

However, Rivera says conditions for Gays in Mexico are not as favorable as they may appear. The country's strong machismo culture and traditional family values forced him to hide his sexuality. Rivera said he fled the country after he was repeatedly the victim of police extortion. He thought Canada would offer him a haven and that he would not have to pretend to be effeminate to improve his chances with the refugee process.

"I believed in the system, and I still do," Rivera said. "Canada is an open society with so much diversity. I can't go back to Mexico to lead a life of deception. I want to be in a society that accepts me the way I am."

**New Zealand Counts  
LGBT Community**

WELLINGTON - Researchers at New Zealand's Massey University are embarking a comprehensive survey of the country's Gay and Lesbian community that could be the most extensive LGBT study ever undertaken in the world, 365Gay.com reported.

"Lavender Islands: A Portrait of the Whole Family" is a major research undertaking by a team of academics from across various disciplines including business, social work and nursing.

Three-thousand members of Gay and Lesbian communities around the country are expected to participate in the wide ranging questionnaire.

"This research will be of great value in shaping public policy. It will help the Gay community themselves and social scientists to understand an array of important issues, including identity, relationships and family structures and economic choices," said Dr Mark

Henrickson, the project leader.

Henrickson said that previous research into Gay and Lesbian communities has been mostly problem focused, looking at health and social problems.

"The time has come for us to begin to get a broader understanding of the Lesbian and Gay communities throughout the country," he said.

The extensive questionnaire was prepared with the help of Gay community leaders.

The survey will look at Gay identity and self-definition, relationships and children, migration, education and career, income and spending, politics, recreation and leisure, retirement, spirituality and religion.

It will also examine including sexual behavior, sexual attraction, sexual fantasies and emotional attraction.

**Hundreds March For G/L Rights  
In Poland**

KRAKOW - Approximately 800 Gay rights activists marched through the southern Polish city Friday, May 7, appealing for greater understanding in the predominantly Roman Catholic country. But the march was met by about 200 counter demonstrators, many with shaven heads, who threw stones, eggs, and firecrackers at the demonstrators, chanting "Down with Gays!" and "Let's kick the homosexuals out of Krakow."

Police officers with guns and dogs kept the two groups apart, firing tear gas and shooting rubber bullets into the air when they were pelted with stones. No injuries or arrests were reported. Opposition to the march, held in the picturesque city where Pope John Paul II once served as bishop, highlights the difficulties homosexuals face in finding acceptance in conservative Poland.

Marcher Ilona Salczynska said that although Poland joined the European Union last weekend, the country still has far to go in achieving Western standards of tolerance. "We are only partly in Europe," the 23-year-old student said. "But although so many people are protesting this march, we are here. We are a little bit scared, but we are marching, and there are a lot of us."

Uproar over the march began weeks ago when news surfaced that an activist group, Campaign Against Homophobia, planned to hold the demonstration for Sunday, the day of an annual procession through the city in honor of St. Stanislaw, Poland's patron saint. The organization rescheduled the march for Friday, but conservative political parties and church groups still appealed for its ban—a stance rejected by city officials.

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# HOROSCOPES

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Start your engines, compadres. Mars speeds into emotional Cancer and life rockets upward and outward. We can succeed at anything and everything, at least we believe that we can. Repeat the mantra and lock and load, comrade. Do I hear a sizzle and a pop?

## ARIES

**MARCH 21 - APRIL 20**

Apparently there are a few things that you would like to get off your chest and now that Mars moves into Cancer you cannot contain yourself any longer. Proud Rams make any excuse to get the family together and will mend or bend a few fences in the process. You will have your say no matter what the outcome. Spruce up your surroundings to get ready for the hordes.

## TAURUS

**APRIL 21 - MAY 21**

Gay Bulls are full of themselves when Mars enters Cancer. You think that you are quite the intellectual and manage to mouth off your opinions at every opportunity. A mighty wind blows, a dust storm ensues. What you may find once the air has cleared is that it didn't matter whether you were right or wrong. What really matters is that you said it loud, proud and queer.

## GEMINI

**MAY 22 - JUNE 21**

Keep a watchful eye on your bottom line, pink Twin. Mars dips into Cancer and your need exceeds your capacity. There are so many alluring goodies that catch your eye that you are tempted to spend fast, feckless and furiously. But before you whip out the wallet be sure that the object of your desire can deliver on its purported promise. Will you wind up with trash? Will you care?

## CANCER

**JUNE 22 - JULY 23**

Mars edges into your own sign and prods you into taking a more active role in implementing your long dormant plans. There are no more "what ifs" and "oh wells", queer Crab. Those stale excuses will no longer do. There is a short window of opportunity so get going. You sparkle and shine around others and can start a few social fires. Is it hot in here or is it you? Nice ash.

## LEO

**JULY 24 - AUGUST 23**

There is a great deal of secretive activity going on behind the scenes. Much of it has to do with unresolved issues that you preferred to push under the rug. Keep an ear to the ground, proud Lion. One of two scenarios appears to be in the cards. Either your hidden enemies are finally vanquished by Mars in Cancer or they rise up for one last attempted coup. Prepare the guillotine, DeFarge.

## VIRGO

**AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23**

What is it about Mars in Cancer that accelerates all queer Virgins into overdrive? Your social swirl whips up into a lather and your dance card fills to overflowing. Friends come to you from all corners, from every nook and cranny, front under every

rock, or so it seems. Can you dance at two parties with only one tush? Lather up, cousin. You will certainly try.

## LIBRA

**SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23**

Gay Libras find themselves imbued with ambition and zest when Mars enters Cancer. This is the time to put your best professional foot forward and see how well you can impress those in charge. Confidence and calculated risks make the difference between sitting among the upper class and sulking in steerage. Have a great idea? Float it and see who gets carried away.

## SCORPIO

**OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22**

Itchy feet must be scratched while Mars tickles Cancer. Proud Scorps feel confined by the usual and staid. They must break out and escape, damn the cost. Choose some unusual destinations now and see if there are some interesting distractions afoot. If money is tight, expand your international reach with a combination of food, wine and exotic company... virtual or otherwise.

## SAGITTARIUS

**NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22**

Your sexual appetite is piqued while Mars pokes Cancer. The most uninspired Gay Archer now gets an urge to merge. You have great stamina and are primed for a marathon rather than a short sprint. But try to be a bit discriminating. There is the off chance that the short term jolly can evolve into something much more serious. Or are you just into getting your jollies? Ho, ho, ho.

## CAPRICORN

**DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20**

There is something going on in your relationships when Mars enters Cancer. Do you feel more of an emotional connection or are you finding that the ties now bind? Pink Caps wander into a crossroad of their own making and feel that changes need to be made immediately. There may be something that you say that brings understanding to a new level. Will that be higher or lower?

## AQUARIUS

**JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19**

Are you taking vitamins? Are you exercising? It may seem that way even to lazy bones. Slothful Aquerians feel robust and primed for action when Mars advances into Cancer. Use this burst of energy to get a number of long standing tasks out of the way and prepare for new ones. At least if you are going to be a rat on a treadmill you might as well use it as aerobic fitness.

## PISCES

**FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20**

Your bosom swells with pride and good thing too. Find numerous ways to have fun and let your emotions run "wilde" while Mars sits in Cancer. Guppies are giddy and fun loving and now your giddiness and sense of fun knows no bounds (unless, of course, you are into it...). There is the chance that you will overdo but do you really care? Recuperate next month.

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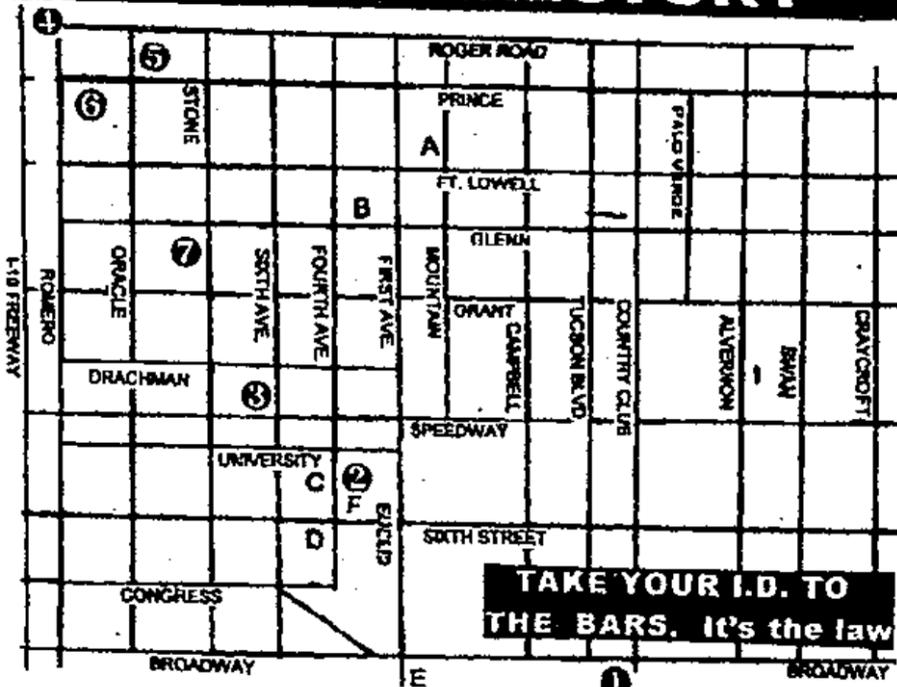
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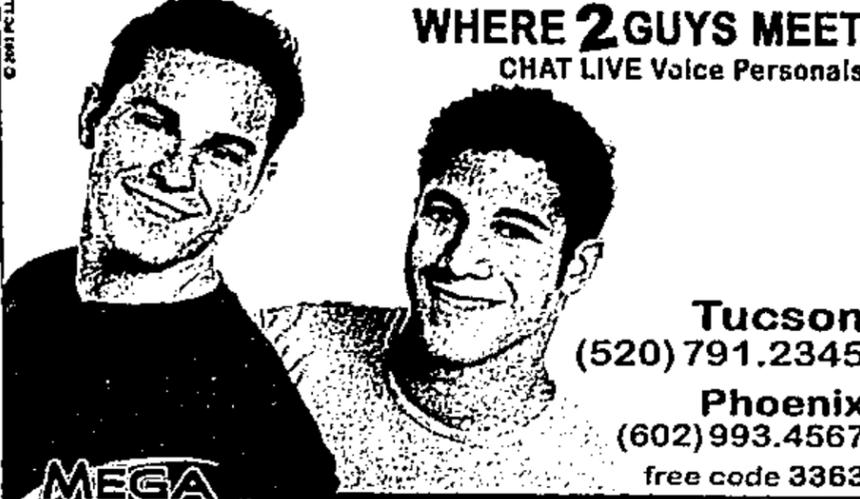
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## Tony Nods Honor GLBT Artists And Themes

NEW YORK - The Tony Awards is poised to maintain its unofficial reputation as the Gayest awards show on television, reported the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com network.

The 2004 nominations, announced Monday, feature some of the most famous openly Gay artists in theater and recognize portrayals of a flamboyant songwriter, a conflicted Gay puppet and a Transgender museum owner, among others.

"I Am My Own Wife," which explores the controversial true story of a Transgender gramophone collector who survived Nazi and communist repression, received nods for best play, best actor and best director. Wearing a simple black dress and a string of pearls, actor Jefferson Mays portrays all of the more than 30 characters in the drama.

Last month, Gay playwright Doug Wright won the Pulitzer Prize for creating the play.

Well-known Gay artists dominate the musical categories, with Steven Sondheim's "Assassins," directed by Joe Mantello, picking up seven nominations. "Caroline, or Change," with a book by Tony Kushner and directed by George C. Wolfe, received six nominations.

"Avenue Q," an innovative musical that blends human and puppet characters, also received six nominations. One of the show's storylines looks at two male puppet housemates who fall in love.

Two musicals about flamboyant Gay artists were also recognized. "The Boy from Oz," starring Hugh Jackman as the entertainer Peter Allen who died of AIDS, earned five nominations. The Rosie O'Donnell-produced "Taboo," starring Boy George as the Gay performance artist Leigh Bowery, got four nods, including best costumes. The show closed earlier this year.

The musical "Wicked," an imaginative prequel to "The Wizard of Oz," based on the book by Gregory Maguire, scored 10 nominations, more than any other show.

Stephen Macias, entertainment media director for the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD), applauded the nominations, noting that the theater community excels at focusing on artists' creativity, not sexual orientations.

"This year's GLBT-friendly nominations are consistent with the open arms that Broadway has always had for members of our community," he told the PlanetOut Network. "If you examine the subject material, the actors and the producers who are nominated this year, you will see our community brilliantly represented as well as supported by our straight allies."

To be eligible for a Tony, a show must be produced in Manhattan's major theater district in a house that seats 500 or more people.

The awards, presented annually by the American Theatre Wing and the League of American Theaters and Producers, will be handed out June 6 in a live telecast on CBS. Jackman will host the ceremony for the second year in a row.

### Lesbian New Moms

Continued from Page Three

smile at you, and you realize what a miracle it is."

Like their counterparts in Florida, Rodriguez, 31, and Day, 28, are in no rush to legalize what they already consider to be a committed marriage. What they do want are legal and financial protections for their twins, comparable to those afforded any other children.

"What's disheartening is all the backlash to Gay marriage, the homophobia that's coming out of Washington," said Rodriguez, who works at a youth health center. "My way to deal with that is concentrate on my family, live day to day. When the government decides to recognize us, fine."

The two Oakland women have been partners for eight years, and sensed all along that they would become parents together. After months of false starts, Day, a graphic designer, became pregnant with sperm from an anonymous donor -- selected because he shared Rodriguez' Latino background.

The high point of motherhood so far? Day concurred with Garretson: "When they smile. ... That's the best."



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# Atlas Details U.S. G/L Couple Status

NEW YORK - The first detailed geographic and demographic statistical portrait of U.S. Gay and Lesbian families, released confirms and challenges perceived wisdom concerning the distribution and urban density of Gay and Lesbian populations, reported the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com network.

"The Gay and Lesbian Atlas," by Gary Gates and Jason Ost and published by The Urban Institute, mines 2000 U.S. Census data on the characteristics of almost 600,000 "unmarried partners."

Provincetown, Mass., and Guerneville, Calif., top the list of towns with the highest concentration of same-sex couples, predictably, but so do Wilton Manors, Fla. (No. 3), and the Atlanta suburb North Druid Hills (No. 10).

Lesbian couples favor Santa Rosa, Calif., Burlington, Vt. (No. 6) and Corvallis, Ore. (No. 9)

The top five states with the most same-sex couples over 55 are, in order, Vermont, Florida, New Mexico, North Dakota and Maine.

"It doesn't match what you see on the surface," said the Valley AIDS Council's Bob Smith in McAllen, a city with 15,000 migrant workers. "In a machismo culture to be dominant in a same-sex relationship is not viewed as homosexual."

Of Smith's 700 clients, only 38 percent identify as Gay.

"It's not like Houston or any other city with an out Gay population. It's a hidden culture. We have four to five Gay bars, but if you don't know it's a Gay bar, then you don't know," he said.

"A major motivator for this book is that despite intense policy debate about domestic partners and Gays in the military, there is an amazing lack of empirical research and concrete examples to inform the debate," said the survey's co-author, Gary Gates.

"For example, people ask how would introducing same sex marriage affect the institution of marriage. In the census it shows that even if all the same sex couples marry, that's only one in 100 married couples, less than one percent," he said.

However, one in four same-sex couples is raising children, and 96 percent of counties report at least one of these couples raising kids.

"For decades people at Gay rights rallies have said, 'We are everywhere.' This census proves that for the first time," added Gates.

## Special Bar Events

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 12

IBT'S - 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., a Celebration of Life for our friend Rodger Sweet. Bring pictures and memories on the patio. 9:00 p.m. the DivaLicious Show hosted by Lucinda Holliday and starring Bunny FuFu, Crystal Abrams and Samantha White.

### SATURDAY, MAY 15

IBT'S - 8:30 P.M. An Evening With Ajja Simone with special guest Bunny FuFu. A fun-filled evening of comedy and music.

### SUNDAY, MAY 16

IBT'S - Party line-up includes Troy's Recovery Bar from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. \$1.75 Bloody Marys, Screwdrivers or Mimosas. Karaoke Party with Michael D. on the patio from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., Benefit Bar-B-Que / Beer Bust from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. This weeks proceeds go to PFLAG. 9:00 P.M. Guest DJ Eric Van de Belle

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

IBT'S - The DivaLicious Show hosted by Bunny FuFu and starring Terri Akki, Samantha White and Lady Ashley.

WOODY'S - "School's Out" - the summer Toga Party. One of Woody's most popular Parties is back.

### SATURDAY, MAY 22

IBT'S - The FuFu Drag Survivor Contest II.

YARD DOG - Luau IV. Watch for details...

### THURSDAY, MAY 27

VENTURE-N - Start Your Memorial Day Weekend with Steak Night 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Bring your favorite meat or buy a steak here. They will cook it and provide the side dishes.

### MONDAY, MAY 31

IBT'S - 11:00 a.m. Memorial Day Monday Morning Madness. Yes, it all begins at 11 a.m. !!!!

# Non-Bar Calendar

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 12

Tucson Prime Timers Breakfast - 9:00 a.m. Egg Connection, 3114 E. Ft. Lowell @ Country Club.

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

## SATURDAY, MAY 15

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, MAY 17

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

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

Tucson Prime Timers Lunch - Noon, Hidden Valley Inn, 4825 N. Sabino Canyon Rd.

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

## SATURDAY, MAY 22

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

## MONDAY, MAY 24

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

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 26

Tucson Prime Timers Lunch - 1:00 p.m. Guadalajara Grill, 1730 N. Prince Rd. (so. Side near Campbell)

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

## SATURDAY, MAY 29

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

## MONDAY, MAY 31

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

# Arts & Entertainment

## NOW SHOWING THRU MAY 16

The traveling exhibit from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum: Nazi Persecution of Homosexuals 1933-1945 on display at the Jewish Community Center at 3800 E. River Road.

## MAY 12 THRU 23

Arizona Onstage Productions presents Stephen Sondheim's "Assassins" at the University of Arizona Laboratory Theatre (SE corner of Park Ave. & Speedway). 8:00 p.m. (3:00 p.m. Sundays). Tickets range - \$12-\$20. Thursday, May 13 performances a benefit for TIHAN features a champagne and dessert reception and tickets for this special event \$30 or four for \$180. The reception begins at 7:00 p.m. with the show beginning at 8:00 p.m. and a party with the cast after the show.

## THURSDAY, MAY 13

Comedian Louie Anderson performing at Desert Diamond Casino Diamond Center. Call 393-2799.

## MONDAY, MAY 24

The Eagles, live in concert with their 'Farewell 1' tour at the Tucson Convention Center 8:00 p.m. Tickets are now on sale and will be sold out surely. Tickets are available at TicketMaster or the TCC Box Office 520-321-1000.

## MAY 26 - JUNE 6

Winner of the most Tony Awards in Broadway history - "The Producers" is coming to Tucson and tickets are now on sale. So get in line early and get yours to this sensational Mel Brooks musical that stars Bob Amaral and Andy Taylor in the leading roles. For ticket information call 621-3341.

## THURSDAY, JUNE 10

Comedian Sinbad performing at Desert Diamond Casino Diamond Center. Call 393-2799.

## FRIDAY, JULY 16

Comedian Rich Little performing at Desert Diamond Casino Diamond Center. Call 393-2799.

**Got A News Tip?**  
**Call The**  
**WEEKLY OBSERVER**  
**(520) 622-7176**  
**Or FAX Us At**  
**(520) 792-8382**

# 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 music and dancing from 7-close.

**IBT'S** - Open Noon \$1.75 Bloody's, Screws or Mimosas. Sangria Party \$2.50 from 4-1 Benefit B-B-Q and Beer Bust for community organizations 5:30-6pm Karaoke with Michael D. on the patio 4:30-7:30. 8:30 shows or special events or Hi energy dancing w/DJ T.C. Wildman. 9-close. All drink specials not available during special events.

**NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL** - Open 1pm. Free Pool all day. Pool Tournament with Chad 5-7pm. Surf & Turf w/baked potato & salad \$8.99

**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 meats 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, Mims 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 sit-in 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 3-8, \$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.

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

**NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL** - Open 1pm. Free Pool all day. \$3 small pitchers. Pajama Party w/Sabrina in Lingene

**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 3-8, \$2 well, domestic pints & longnecks. Kitchen open 3-8pm. \$2 well tequilas. 50¢ off call tequilas. Karaoke 8-11:30pm with Calabaza Cabeza Karaoke.

**IBT'S** - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-7pm. Bare Chest Nite. Bare it and get happy hour prices from 9 to close. Progressive/Retro '80s dance with DJ D. 9 to close

**NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL** - Open 1pm. In House Karaoke. **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 II 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 3-8, \$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

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

**NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL** - Open 1pm. Karaoke w/Kimberly 8pm-Midnight. Shrimp Fry \$5.99

**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-leather-mt 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 3-8, \$2 well, domestic pints & longnecks. Kitchen open 3-8pm. \$2 Mexican beers all night. Chef's Special Tacos. Free Salsa lessons with Teresa 7:30-8:30pm. Dance & Salsa music from 8:30 to closing.

**IBT'S** - Open Noon. Happy Hours Noon-7pm. HiNRG video dancing with Johnny DJ 9-1 All drink specials not available during special events.

**NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL** - Open 1pm. Latino Night.

**VENTURE-N** - Open 8am. Patio open 6pm. Free Pool til 4pm. Draft Special 12-4pm. Pool Tourney 7pm \$3 entry (Pool 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 3-8 \$2 well, domestic pints & longnecks. Kitchen open 3-8pm. Beginner country dance lessons 7:30-8:30. Current and Classic Country from 8:30 to close. Reverse Happy Hour 11:30 - close with 50¢ off all drinks.

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

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

**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 (pool matched). Current & Classic Country from 8:30 to close. DJ calls shot specials. Reverse Happy Hour 11:30-close with 50¢ off all drinks.

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

**NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL** - Open 1pm. Steak Dinner with Fries and Salad \$5.99 5-8 p.m. Super Disco Dance Music 8:30 p.m. to close.

**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 Maki Maki 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

PFLAG - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays - is a support group available to anyone who has a son, daughter or friend who is Gay. Call 375-8660 or write P.O. Box 36264, Tucson, AZ 85740-6264. All replies confidential.

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

YOUNG AND GAY?

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

The TUCSON Chapter of PRIME TIMERS WORLDWIDE invites Gay or Bisexual men and their admirers to join and share Prime Timers fellowship. We welcome mature men (and admirers) who wish to become involved with planned and future Prime Timers (PTT) activities. Meetings, luncheons and dinners are held monthly. For dates, times and information call 887-3743, leave name and phone number. Tucsonpt@primetimersww.org

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. Heard meetings every 2nd Thursday (open to all), 6:00 p.m. Information 624-1779.

GREATER PHOENIX GAY & LESBIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (GPGLCC) P.O. BOX 2097, Phoenix, AZ 85001-2097. E-mail: webmaster@gpglcc.org or -tel (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, Corozo, AZ 85652.

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

BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO - a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, call the Bears Hotline (520)790-5773 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910 or visit our website at www.betop.com All are welcome to our general meetings/porkluks 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 Adrienne at 889-7298.

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

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

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

Join the LESBIAN & GAY PUBLIC AWARENESS PROJECT. In Tucson Write Awareness Project, 3661 N. Campbell Ave. #361, Tucson, AZ 85719.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SOUTHERN ARIZONA GENDER ALLIANCE (SAGA). Meetings on the 1st Monday, 7pm. Dezen Girls (MTF) Meets 2nd Monday at 7pm. Dezen Boys meets 3rd Tuesday at 7pm. of every month. All meetings take place at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. Call 624-1779 for more info. SAGA@mail@aol.com http://members.aol.com/sagaimail

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

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

DESERT DOMINION, whose focus is providing information and education for people interested in the BDSM lifestyle, meets monthly for group discussion and social events. Visit our website http://www.desertdominion.org or call (520)792-6424

SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS. Starting this February, the Tucson Rape Crisis Center will be providing free confidential group services for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender survivors of all manner of sexual assault. Interested persons please call Miro 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)334-6219 (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.tgasofootball.org

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

ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIPS: Confidential individual or group support for Gay, Bisexual or Trans men who are victims/survivors of domestic violence. For more information call 624-0348 (24-hour line)

NOTICES

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 (TIIAN), 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 Anahela 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

AZilykes is a new email list for Lesbians living in Arizona. For information mail tyan@thriver.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.

TGNatArizona: The central source for news and information for, by and about the TS, TG, and Gender-various communities of Arizona. Website URL: http://www.tgnatizona.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 44015, Tucson, AZ 85733-4015

LIKE TO READ? The Guys Book Club (GBC) 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 Magpie's Pizzeria 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 5:30-6:30pm at Cornerstone Fellowship, 2902 N. Geronimo. 622-4626.

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

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION (SAAF), 373 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 (7233). World wide web: http://www.saaaf.org. VOLUNTEERS WELCOME.

LGBT SUPPORT GROUP FOR VICTIMS/SURVIVORS OF Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Hate Crimes, Bias Acts, Harassment. Call Lori at Wingspan, 624-1779, ext. 20. Services are free.

NEW TUCSON SOBRIETY SUPPORT GROUP Secular Organizations for Sobriety - Sundays 8 (11) - 9:30 p.m. at 739 N. 4th Avenue. Contacts Rick R. 520-792-2064 or Gary S. 520-323-1969. More information at www.secularhumanism.org/sow. This group is an alternative to 12-step programs.

GLBT CHRISTIAN TELEVISION. Cathedral of Hope is on the air in your city and county cable connections via Access Tucson. Check it out. Sundays at NOON and Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m. on Channel 74 via Cox Cable and Comcast Cable. Cathedral of Hope is the largest GLBT church in the world and check out their website too www.cathedralofhope.com.

HOUSING/FOR RENT

2 BEDROOM HOUSE WITH FIREPLACE, covered deck and patio. Fenced yard and greenhouse attached. Located in Speedway/Alvernon area. Rent \$550/mo. \$100 deposit. Shown by appointment. 795-4481 ask for Bill. 1033

LARGE, BRIGHT ROOM FOR RENT. Eastside, off-street parking, near bus line #8, laundry-mat, shopping center, restaurants - must be employed, references. \$300/monthly. 885-2157. 1033

ROOMMATES

MEN'S RESIDENCE. Spacious rooms available in Central Estate. All utilities, laundry, kitchen, heated pool. Must see! From \$195 monthly. 327-3133 1036

WANTED

DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NEEDED AROUND HOUSE. Multitown area. Hours and compensation negotiable. Please call 884-0312. Leave message if no answer. 1035

EMPLOYMENT

LOOKING FOR PRIVATE DUTY NURSING. Call Robert 429-5383. 1034

FOR SALE

ESTATE SALE OF RODGER SWEET. Saturday, May 15, 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. All proceeds go to Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) 541 E. Jacinto. 1034

'98 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS LS. Loaded, excellent condition. 61k. No sales tax. Below Blue Book. 888-7264 1033

SERVICES

SENSUOUS FULL BODY MASSAGE. 8-year experienced veteran. Satisfaction assured. Best deal in Tucson \$35/hour. Evenings and weekends. John 327-3135 1036

FULL BODY SWEDISH MASSAGE FOR MEN. Best rates in Tucson! Speedway and Swan area. IN and OUT calls. 7 days. 548-6314 1040

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. 1035

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## GLBT Pittsburgh Not Exactly Like What You See on 'Queer As Folk'

PITTSBURGH - The fourth season of the Showtime series *Queer as Folk* is under way, chronicling the lives of Gays and Lesbians living in the Steel City, the Associated Press reported.

But there's no bustling downtown Gay community with nightclubs and businesses in the real Pittsburgh, and the show's street scenes are really filmed in Toronto. Though the show has a following in Pittsburgh--Monday nights at the South Side restaurant Tuscani are *Queer as Folk* nights--many Gay and Lesbian Pittsburghers say the real Gay community is more subdued, even hidden. "There are a lot more closeted people in this area. Most times I just hear people say, 'Wow, that is so not Pittsburgh,'" said John Doughty, 32, a Pittsburgh resident who is Gay. Tom Stewart, 42, who moved to Pittsburgh from San Diego in 2002, described Pittsburgh's Gay community as "being close to nonexistent." He said he doesn't feel accepted everywhere he goes and wouldn't, for example, wear a Gay T-shirt in certain neighborhoods.

Jeff Howells, managing editor of *Out*, Pittsburgh's Gay newspaper, said he believes Pittsburgh, a city of about 350,000 people, is Gay-friendly for its small size. In June the Gay community will celebrate 30 years of Gay pride with a week of activities, including a parade and ball. The event has grown every year. "But still, in a lot of ways, we're not a city in which any of the Gay bars have windows," Howells said. Officials with Showtime didn't immediately return a call for comment Monday. But they have previously said that they chose the city

because the original *Queer as Folk* was based in the blue-collar town of Manchester, England, and they were looking for something comparable in the United States. Show officials have said they weren't trying to accurately reflect Pittsburgh's Gay community.

The city was built on the steel industry, and the image of the tough, blue-collar steelworker remains. Meanwhile, its heroes have typically been strong, macho sportsmen, such as the Pittsburgh Steelers. Some Gays say that history leaves little room for them. "It's definitely a shot and a beer town," Doughty said. Dinah Denmark, 41, who serves on the board of directors for the Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Pittsburgh, said she's seen recent momentum in the city's Gay community. More than ever, the city's various groups--the Lambda Foundation; the Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network; and the Gay and Lesbian Neighborhood Development Association, among others--are starting to work together. "I think there are a lot of Gay people in Pittsburgh just as there are a lot of Gay people in a lot of American cities. I would love to see more people out and active in Pittsburgh," Denmark said. She believes the cooperation reflects a national momentum concerning Gay issues, and not any effect from the TV show. Denmark said the city has many things to overcome, including the inability of Gays to marry there, the lack of domestic-partner benefits at the University of Pittsburgh, and conservative lawmakers representing them in Congress. "We're just at a very critical juncture at our community. There's a lot of

momentum and a lot of backlash," she said.

Eric Miller, who started [www.queeraspittsburgh.com](http://www.queeraspittsburgh.com), grew up in Altoona, Pa., and lived in San Francisco before moving to Pittsburgh about a year ago. He recently founded a chapter of Marriage Equality and said he wants to see the community take advantage of the free publicity it gets on the TV show to attract people there. He believes *Queer as Folk* has affected Gays in the city. "It's probably gotten Pittsburgh to think a lot about itself," Miller said. Some visitors, though, blame the show for creating an image of the city that isn't true. Byron Beck, 40, of Portland, Ore., attended a conference in Pittsburgh last summer for the Association of Alternative Newspapers. A special sections editor for *Willamette Week* who writes a column called *Queer Window*, Beck was surprised when the city didn't live up to what was portrayed in the show. "I thought it was a beautiful city, a tight-knit community of really cool people," Beck said. But the Gay scene was "a big huge disappointment," he said. "The idea that I was a businessman traveling away from my boyfriend, you can't live the fantasy in Pittsburgh. No way," said Beck, who visited some bars on Liberty Avenue. "I wouldn't say [the city's Gay community] is in the closet, but I would say it's definitely down the hall. It's around the corner. It's in the back room. It's not very exposed."

### G/L Internet Provider To Go Public

SAN FRANCISCO - PlanetOut Inc., an online media company that operates

Internet sites geared to Gay men and Lesbians, has announced plans to go public in the near future.

In documents filed with Securities and Exchange Commission, the San Francisco-based company said it hopes to raise up to \$75 million with an initial public offering of stock that would trade on the Nasdaq Stock Market under the symbol "LGBT," an acronym for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender.

PlanetOut, which operates *Gay.com* and three other Gay- and Lesbian-oriented Web sites that have more than 3.3 million active users worldwide, has been somewhat of a success story amid the ruins wrought by the bursting of the dot-com bubble four years ago. Still small by corporate standards, it had revenues last year of \$19 million, compared with the \$962 million brought in by Internet search engine Google, which revealed plans for its own long-awaited stock market debut Thursday, May 6.

The company has increasingly moved toward profitability, ending 2003 with a loss of \$752,000 and its first profitable quarters compared with the \$7.9 million worth of red ink it spilled the year before. Rising advertising revenue and income from its subscription-based personals service gave PlanetOut record fourth-quarter revenue.

PlanetOut did not specify what its stock would sell for but said the IPO would begin "as soon as practicable" after its plans receive regulatory approval. The company said it will offer all of its shares in the IPO, which will be managed by UBS Investment Bank and WR Hambrecht.

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