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# OBSERVER

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WEEKLY OBSERVER

AUGUST 25, 2004

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## Tragedy That Forced Washington Woman Into G/L Marriage Fight

OLYMPIA - Lee Kandu never wanted to be a crusader for same-sex marriage. The Castle Rock, Wash., woman just wanted to file for bankruptcy protection so she could keep her house after her spouse - a woman she married in Canada - was diagnosed with terminal cancer, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com.

But her case thrust her into the national debate when a federal judge in Tacoma ruled that Lee and Ann Kandu, a lesbian couple, can not file jointly for bankruptcy protection as a married couple. Federal law, the judge ruled, defines marriage as a "legal union between one man and one woman."

Judge Paul Snyder's ruling marks the first time a federal court has upheld the constitutionality of the federal Defense of Marriage Act.

Critics and supporters of the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act agree the ruling of one bankruptcy judge probably will not have far-reaching impact. The battle over same-sex marriage is unfolding in state courts, which won't be affected by the bankruptcy court rulings.

But the decision means everything to Kandu, and she plans to appeal.

"The people who came up with the Defense of Marriage Act, basically have been punishing us for who we are," Kandu, 46, said. "I feel like we have been tried and convicted and as a punishment they are taking away our rights. It's just not fair."

Kandu spoke to The Associated Press as she drove to Portland for a doctor's appointment. Both Lee and Ann Kandu were diagnosed with cancer in October 2002: Lee has ovarian cancer and Ann, who took her partner's last name, had uterine cancer.

Surgeries, chemotherapy and prescription drugs drained their bank accounts as cancer sapped their strength. Lee Kandu, a tax preparer, missed the 2003 and 2004 tax seasons because of the illnesses.

When they married in British Columbia on Aug. 11, 2003, both thought they were recovering. But in October, Ann Kandu learned that her cancer had spread and there was nothing more the doctors could do.

That's when Lee Kandu filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy protection. She wasn't trying to make a political

statement when she identified Ann as her spouse, she said - they had long ago combined their finances, and they were trying to keep creditors at bay.

"The Defense of Marriage Act, that wasn't our reason for filing for bankruptcy," Kandu said. "I want to deal with the bank, I want to get my life on track."

Kandu represented herself, slogging through bankruptcy law books to make the case that she and Ann should be able to file for bankruptcy together. The U.S. Justice Department opposed her case, and pressed the court to uphold the Defense of Marriage Act.

On March 25, Ann Kandu died. Lee Kandu sold her office computer and remaining business assets to pay for the cremation.

In his ruling, Snyder sympathized with Kandu but said the law is clear: marriage is a union of one man and one woman. As a court of "limited jurisdiction," Snyder said, he must defer to Congress.

"There is no basis for this Court to unilaterally determine at this time that there is a fundamental right to marry someone of the same sex," Snyder wrote.

He found that the Defense of Marriage Act does not violate the equal protection clause of the Constitution by allowing members of the opposite sex to wed but not members of the same sex.

Snyder said this was the first time the Defense of Marriage Act has been tested in federal court. Although the law is eight years old, previous challenges were denied standing because the parties weren't married. Only after same-sex marriages were legalized in parts of the United States and Canada could court challenges proceed.

Opponents of same-sex marriage applauded the ruling.

"I was certainly pleased to see that this judge at any rate could understand the difference between his personal beliefs and the reasonableness of the law of marriage," said Maggie Gallagher, president of the Institute for Marriage and Public Policy.

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**Register  
&  
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## Groups Attack U.S. Plan For HIV Information

WASHINGTON, D.C - Many advocates for HIV prevention are harshly criticizing a plan that would give elected state and local officials veto power over the content of HIV prevention messages funded by the federal government, reported the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com Network.

Currently, organizations receiving federal funds for HIV prevention are required to run materials past a Program Review Panel (PRP), a group with expertise in disease prevention.

But under a new plan being considered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), that could change.

"The CDC has been operating under the same material guidelines for 12 years," said James Esseks, litigation director for the ACLU's AIDS Project, in a prepared statement. "Now, just months shy of the election, it is suggesting changes in the guidelines that could give elected officials the right to veto prevention materials and shut down HIV prevention organizations."

"Let's face it, abstinence until marriage isn't going to go over very well with Gay teens who can't marry," Esseks added, referring to the CDC's "abstinence only" emphasis currently in place in many U.S. schools.

The Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC), which depends on the CDC for money, sent a letter to the governmental organization, worried that the new guidelines would compromise the quality of the

prevention information it could publish on its Web site and other Internet portals.

"Web sites allow us to update the public on important medical and policy issues that are time-sensitive and need to be disseminated quickly in order to have the greatest impact on those who are affected by this information," wrote GMHC Executive Director Ana Oliveira.

Oliveira also raised the question about how these new guidelines would be implemented. "The simple logistical question of how these panels, with no additional resources, will be able to deal with the deluge of new materials for review in a timely fashion, has not been addressed in the proposed guidelines," she wrote.

Jason Schneider, a member of the board of directors of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (GLMA), called the new guidelines a problem of "mixed messages."

"Instead of focusing on the safety aspect of condoms, the new guidelines would inappropriately focus on their failure rate," Schneider said. "If you choose to have sex, condoms are the most effective way to prevent infection."

According to Schneider, the proposed guidelines were open to public comment until Monday, August 16.

"The CDC is going to consider these comments and come up with its decision at some later point in time, but no one knows when," he said.

## Official Says Canada Won't Fight G/L Marriage Vows

OTTAWA - As same-sex marriage battles erupt across the United States in one form or another, the war over marriage in Canada may be moving toward the mop-up stages, reported the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com Network.

Speaking to the Canadian Bar Association, Justice Minister Irwin Cotler said the federal government will no longer oppose or delay any future challenges to provincial marriage laws.

To date, same-sex marriage has been legalized by court order in the most populous provinces, including Ontario, British Columbia, Quebec and, last month, the Yukon. Although the federal government didn't actively oppose the challenge to Yukon marriage laws, as was the case in previous lawsuits, it did ask the provincial court to delay any action until the Canadian Supreme Court weighs in on the subject next year. The Yukon bench refused, and also ordered the provincial and federal governments to pay court costs.

More recently, a married lesbian couple from Toronto has contested the lack of marriage recognition in Nova Scotia. While the Atlantic coastal province does not recognize same-sex marriages, its government does not intend to contest the lawsuit. From Cotler's remarks to the law group, it appears the federal government will not interfere either, leaving the couple with an unobstructed path through the courts.

One year and two months since the ball began to roll with the legalization of same-sex marriage in Ontario, it is presumably just a matter of time before the country's highest court puts a final stamp of approval on the principles of equity that have led court after court to equalize marriage laws.

A hearing on a handful of marriage-related questions is scheduled before the high court on October 6-8, the Toronto Star reports, and the justices should release their answers in 2005. In

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# UPDATE

## Wingspan 7th Annual Dinner & Awards Ceremony, Sept. 18

TUCSON - On Saturday, September 18, more than 900 guests will gather at the Tucson Convention Center for the Wingspan Seventh Annual Benefit Dinner and Awards Ceremony; an evening of celebration, socializing, recognition, and enlightenment.

Evan Wolfson is the keynote speaker for the event. Wolfson is the Executive Director of Freedom to Marry, the Gay and non-Gay partnership working to win marriage equality nationwide.

The Godat Award honors a lifetime of service to the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) community and will be presented to Dr. Alan Storm, Assistant Superintendent for the Sunnyside School District. Among the many contributions he has made as a psychologist, school administrator, and educator, Dr. Storm founded the local chapter of GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network). Dr. Storm was also instrumental in allowing Sunnyside become the first school district in the state of Arizona to offer domestic partner benefits to all employees.

Dr. J. Kevin Carmichael, M.D., will receive the Community Ally Award, which honors an ally of the LGBT community. Dr. Carmichael is Chief of Service at El Rio Community Health Center's Special Immunology Associates, providing health care and education, mental health care, nutrition programs, and other vital services to those living with HIV/AIDS.

The Steve Hall Award is named for long-time Wingspan supporter and past board president Steve Hall, who died of AIDS related complications in 2001. This award honors outstanding contributions toward the mission, values, and work of Wingspan. This year's award recipient is David Eyde, a longtime Wingspan volunteer and past board member.

There will be a Silent Auction during the reception from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. Items up for bid include entertainment packages, restaurant certificates, jewelry, artwork and accessories for the home in a variety of price ranges. After the Awards Ceremony there will be dancing with live music provided by Big Band Express.

Tickets are on sale for \$80 per person or \$800 for a table of ten by calling (520) 624-1779 or visiting [www.wingspan.org](http://www.wingspan.org).

## Register & Vote !

## Volunteers Needed For OUToberfest

TUCSON - Volunteers are needed for OUToberFEST 2004 on October 9.

A two-hour time commitment for volunteering will get you in to the event for free, as long as you are in the Tucson Pride volunteer database prior to the event. Tucson Pride is continuing its tradition of Volunteer for Dollars, and will make a cash donation of \$8 per hour to the charity of your choice for volunteer hours worked. A few key volunteers are needed who are willing to be area managers, and make a four-hour time commitment for volunteering on the festival day.

Tucson Pride needs key volunteers who have some experience with set-up of lights and other electrical equipment. Tucson Pride will make a bonus donation to the charity of choice for these key volunteers, plus you'll have more fun and meet more people with this extended volunteer commitment! Please contact volunteer coordinator Nancy Robinett at [Nancy.Robinett@azbar.org](mailto:Nancy.Robinett@azbar.org) or, (520) 591-9435.

## T-Squares Celebrate 20th Anniversary

TUCSON - The T-Squares, Tucson's Gay and Lesbian square dance group are celebrating their 20th anniversary with a dance, Saturday, August 28, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Therapeutic Recreation Center, 1000 S. Randolph Way.

Tucson's T-Squares are a member of the International Association of Gay Squares Dance Clubs (IAGSDC), the local Square & Round Dance Association of Southern Arizona. Membership in the T-Squares is open to all square dancers, regardless of age, race, gender, religion, ethnic background, or sexual orientation.

Gay square dancing is high energy, highly stylized dancing, for which Gay square dancers chose which part they prefer to dance, the man's or the women's. In fact, many Gay square dancers learn both. The T-Squares hold classes every Tuesday evening at 2902 N. Geronimo Ave from 6:30 to 9:00 pm, and new dancer classes start Tuesday, October 26.

The T-Squares will be conducting a demonstration dance and will have an informational booth at Tucson Pride, Saturday, October 9.

## Desert Voices Open Rehearsals Aug.30 & Sept. 13

TUCSON - Desert Voices, Arizona's only GLBTS chorus, will begin its 16th season with two open rehearsals on Monday, August 30th and Monday, September 13th (no rehearsal on Labor Day) at Tucson's Water of Life MCC, located at 3269 N. Mountain Avenue, starting at 6:30 p.m.

The group's director, Chris Tackett, will conduct a swift and painless voice check to determine parts for new members, and there will be information about the chorus and a short orientation session to help new members get comfortable with the group. Plans for the season ahead include 2 shows; the Winter show titled "Naughty and Nice", December 4 and 5, and the Spring show and Silent Auction titled "Our True Colors," April 16, 2005. In addition, the group will perform at a variety of community events in Tucson. Regular rehearsals are typically every Monday evening from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Water of Life MCC address above.

If you'd like more information about the chorus, please visit their website at [www.desertvoices.org](http://www.desertvoices.org). If you plan to come to the open rehearsals, call their office at (520) 791-9662.

## Learn About AZ Ballot Propositions August 31

TUCSON - Arizonans will be faced with many important decisions this November. These decisions will shape the future of Arizona for decades. It is vitally important that voters hear more than rhetoric, so we know what we are voting on.

On Tuesday, August 31, 5:30 p.m. at Wingspan, 300 E Sixth Street, The Arizona Advocacy Network in collaboration with Wingspan and the Arizona Human Rights Fund/Foundation will present a forum to discuss the significant ballot measures that Arizonans will be voting on this November. The forum will educate voters, provide informative materials, and answer questions about the 2004 ballot measures (pending petition and court challenges):

Proposition 200 - the "Protect Arizona Now Initiative", Proposition 100 - dealing with state trust land exchanges, Proposition 101 - affects the initiative process by mandating funding for ballot expenditures, Proposition 104 - affects the initiative process by moving up the deadline to file petitions, Proposition 102 - technology transfer for educational institutions, Proposition 103 - qualifications for justices of the peace pro tems, Proposition 105 - changing the membership of the State Board of Education, Proposition 300 - pay increases for state legislators.

The forum is free and open to the public. Learn about the ballot propositions, 5:30 pm at Wingspan on Tuesday, August 31. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, call Wingspan (520) 624-1779.

## Lesbian Wins Silver Medal At Olympics

ATHENS - Amelie Mauresmo, an openly Lesbian athlete from France, won a silver medal on Saturday, August 21 in the women's singles tennis tournament at the Olympics.

Mauresmo lost to Justine Henin-Hardenne of Belgium in the championship match, 6-3, 6-3. Henin-Hardenne is currently the top-ranked player in women's tennis.

"[Henin-Hardenne] started very, very strongly," Mauresmo told the press after the match. "She didn't give me a chance to play my game."

Earlier in the week, Mauresmo developed a skin rash that hindered her enough that she pulled out of the doubles competition.

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♥ Want to do something positive with your leisure time?

♥ Interested in helping people while learning about HIV/AIDS issues?



If so, the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation wants you to consider becoming a volunteer!

Volunteer orientations are open to all those interested and are held once a month at our main office, located at 375 South Euclid Avenue.

Sign up today!

Contact Jess Pabón at 628-7223 or [jpabon@saaf.org](mailto:jpabon@saaf.org)



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(520) 622-7176 (Voice)

Office Hours: 9a.m.-6p.m.M-F

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Observer on the World Wide Web : <http://www.tucsonobserver.com>

E-Mail: [info@tucsonobserver.com](mailto:info@tucsonobserver.com)

**EDITOR/PUBLISHER:**

**Bob Ellis**

**ARTS & GRAPHICS:**

**Gary Clark**

**MANAGING EDITOR:**

**Mark Kerr**

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COMMENTARY . . .

by Senator Robert C. Byrd

**Defending Liberty**

The Constitution of the United States of America is sheer genius captured on parchment. The delicate balance of authority — the system of checks and balances and separation of powers — has served as the foundation for our liberties, providing for the flexibility needed to accommodate two centuries of change and growth while also inspiring people around the world to strive for liberty.

The Constitution is designed, as Chief Justice John Marshall observed, “to endure for ages to come.” But our national charter is being threatened as never before by reckless disregard for its wisdom.

Especially since Sept. 11, 2001, I have viewed with increasing alarm the erosion of the people’s liberties at the hand of an overreaching executive and a less than vigilant Congress. This White House wraps itself in the garb of patriotism while running roughshod over the very ideals for which the first American patriots sacrificed. A concentrated, manipulative and ruthless grasp for power by an arrogant executive which eschews the need to answer questions, seek counsel or build consensus is a dangerous phenomenon, especially in these troubled times.

This Bush administration preys on fear, twists the truth and relies on extreme secrecy in an unprecedented display of contempt for the American people.

Let President Bush speak for

himself. “I’m the commander,” he told journalist Bob Woodward for the book, *Bush at War*. “See, I don’t need to explain — I do not need to explain why I say things. That’s the interesting thing about being the president. Maybe somebody needs to explain to me why they say something, but I don’t feel like I owe anybody an explanation.”

In this country, the people are sovereign. The first three words of the preamble to the Constitution are “We the people.” The people are always owed an explanation by those who serve them. For any public servant to believe otherwise is arrogant in the extreme and can be costly at home and abroad.

Consider the cornerstone of Mr. Bush’s foreign policy — the doctrine of pre-emption, the first-strike war. This doctrine is unconstitutional. It cuts the people’s representatives — the Congress — completely out of decisions to send Americans to fight and die.

Look to Iraq, the first testing ground for this radical doctrine. America is not safer because of Mr. Bush’s war.

Instead, we have forged a cauldron of contempt for America, a dangerous brew that may have poisoned efforts at peace throughout the Middle East and, indeed, the world, while giving rise to generations of young people who now hate America for its aggression and for shameful debacles like the horrors at Abu Ghraib. We have

squandered the goodwill of the world. Such has been the price of the Bush doctrine of pre-emption.

A weak Congress buckled in its vote to authorize force in Iraq. The country was misled by an administration that waved the bloody shirt of 9/11 then subtly shifted the blame to Saddam Hussein, despite the fact that there exists no demonstrable link between the two.

The White House propaganda machine convinced the country and Congress that it was unpatriotic to question the president; that it was damaging to our troops to question the war; and that it now serves no purpose to rehash the events that took us to war. But we must learn from an examination of the sad mistakes that have been made. Nearly 1,000 Americans have died in Iraq. No president must ever again be granted such license with our troops and our treasure.

Each generation of Americans has the responsibility to renew the framer’s legacy, and to make this nation shine as a lasting beacon of hope for the world. “Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty.” We must reacquire ourselves with the Constitution and forge new links with our history. Congress must reinvigorate its defense of the people’s liberties. Amid the sound and fury of election-year politics, all of us must take a long, hard look at the kind of country we want to leave to our children.

[Senator Robert Byrd (D) is the Senior Senator for West Virginia.]

**America’s Best G/L College**

NEW YORK - What’s the most Gay positive college in the country? That question was asked of 110,000 students at 357 of the nation’s top schools, 365Gay.com reported.

The survey, by The Princeton Review, gives the honor to Eugene Lange College in New York City. Each year the Review polls students on everything from what’s the best party school, to the most difficult to get into.

That Lange was regarded as the most friendly to Gays is not a surprise to students at the college. A stone’s throw from the Stonewall Inn, the home of modern Gay liberation, Eugene Lange prides itself on its diversity. The college is the undergraduate, liberal arts division of the New School University.

It grew out of a highly progressive Freshman Year Program developed at the New School in 1973. The school was originally recognized as the Seminar College, reflecting the style of teaching adopted by its faculty. In 1985, it was renamed Eugene Lang College, following a generous endowment from philanthropist Eugene Lang and his family.

With a small enrolment, only 730 students, Eugene Lange offers intensive programs with majors in the arts, performing arts, media, design, and the humanities.

It has a student/faculty ratio of 10:1, one of the best in the nation.

The toughest college to get into, according to the Review poll, is the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The best bargain for tuition is New College of Florida at Sarasota. And, the biggest party school in the country is the State University of New York at Albany.

**<< TUCSON’S HOTTEST GAY NIGHTCLUB**

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# Kerry Calls For Firefighter Fund Named For Gay 9-11 Hero

BOSTON - Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry is proposing a fund to hire 100,000 new firefighters across America and name the fund after Father Mychal Judge the Gay chaplain to the New York City Fire Department who died administering the last rights to a fallen comrade on 9-11, 365Gay.com reported.

Kerry announced the plan in a speech before the International Association of Fire Fighters Convention in Boston.

"When John Edwards and I are in the White House, we're going to fund the FIRE Act and the SAFER Act," Kerry said.

"We're going to create the Father Mychal Judge fund to hire 100,000 new firefighters all across America. And we're going to be an Administration that stands with labor.

"Let us never forget that every single one of the firefighters who went up the stairs of those burning towers, and through the doors of that warehouse in Worcester all of them were members of organized labor. They believed in the right to organize, the right to overtime pay, the right to have a Secretary of Labor who comes from labor. And we do too. Those are our values, and we're going to live and lead by them every day that we're in the White House. And that's how we're going to get the job done."

In addition to his duties as chaplain to the New York Fire Department, Fr. Judge was a leader in Dignity, the organization of Gay Catholics, and a parish priest.

He fought often with New York's

## Cherokee Nation Puts Skids On Lesbian Marriage

TULSA - About a month after a Lesbian couple successfully filed for a tribal marriage application, the Cherokee National Tribal Council voted to clearly define marriage as between a man and a woman, 365Gay.com reported.

Principal Chief Chad Smith has indicated he will sign the measure.

The change to tribal marriage law would not affect Kathy Reynolds and Dawn McKinley, who were married last month in a Cherokee ceremony. Cherokee Nation laws are not retroactive.

homophobic Cardinal O'Connor, and a friend once observed that if conservative groups gave him money he would pass it along anonymously to Gay groups in the city.

In the in the early 1980s, Judge was one of the first members of the clergy to minister to young Gay men with AIDS, conducting their funeral Masses and consoling their partners and family members. He opened the doors of St. Francis of Assisi Church when Dignity, a Gay Catholic organization, needed a home for its AIDS ministry, and he later ran an aids program at St. Francis.

Within minutes of the attack on the first tower of the World Trade Center Father Mike was on the scene. When the tower collapsed, trapping firefighters he went through the debris giving comfort to the dying.

As he gave the Last Rites to one firefighter the second tower fell on top of him.

Kerry has been a severe critic of the Bush administration for cutting back on federal funding for police and firefighters in the wake of 9-11.

"The way I see it, all of you are full-time heroes," told convention delegates, "and you deserve nothing less than America's full-time support.

"That's why, for nineteen years in the Senate, I've fought for better equipment and training, for tracking technology and workplace protections. I sponsored the Federal Presumptive Disability legislation, because when federal firefighters get sick because of their job, they deserve our help."

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Your continued support & feedback are greatly appreciated!

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**COMMENTARY . . .**

**These Charges Are False**

It's one thing for the presidential campaign to get nasty but quite another for it to engage in fabrication.

The technique President Bush is using against John F. Kerry was perfected by his father against Michael Dukakis in 1988, though its roots go back at least to Sen. Joseph McCarthy. It is: Bring a charge, however bogus. Make the charge simple: Dukakis "vetoed the Pledge of Allegiance"; Bill Clinton "raised taxes 128 times"; "there are [pick a number] Communists in the State Department." But make sure the supporting details are complicated and blurry enough to prevent easy refutation.

Then sit back and let the media do your work for you. Journalists have to report the charges, usually feel obliged to report the rebuttal, and often even attempt an analysis or assessment. But the canons of the profession prevent most journalists from saying outright: These charges are false. As a result, the voters are left with a general sense that there is some controversy over Dukakis' patriotism or Kerry's service in Vietnam. And they have been distracted from thinking about real issues (like the war going on now) by these laboratory concoctions.

It must be infuriating to the victims of this process to be given conflicting advice about how to deal with it from the same campaign press corps that keeps it going. The press has been telling Kerry: (a) Don't let charges sit around unanswered; and (b) stick to your issues: Don't let the other guy choose the turf.

At the moment, Kerry is being punished by the media for taking advice (b) and failing to take advice (a). There was plenty of talk on TV about what Kerry's failure to strike back said about whether he had the backbone for the job of president — and even when he did strike back, he was accused of not doing it soon enough. But what does Bush's acquiescence in the use of this issue say about whether he has the simple decency

for the job of president?

Whether the Bush campaign is tied to the Swift boat campaign in the technical, legal sense that triggers the wrath of the campaign-spending reform law is not a very interesting question. The ridiculously named Swift Boat Veterans for Truth is being funded by conservative groups that interlock with Bush's world in various ways, just as MoveOn.org, which is running nasty ads about Bush's avoidance of service in Vietnam, is part of Kerry's general milieu.

More important, either man could shut down the groups working on his behalf if he wanted to. Kerry has denounced the MoveOn ads, with what degree of sincerity we can't know. Bush on Monday (August 23) — finally — called for all ads by independent groups on both sides to be halted. He also said Kerry had "served admirably" in Vietnam. But he declined an invitation to condemn the Swift boat effort.

In both cases, the candidates are the reason the groups are in business. There is an important difference, though, between the side campaign being run for Kerry and the one for Bush. The pro-Kerry campaign is nasty and personal. The pro-Bush campaign is nasty, personal and false.

No informed person can seriously believe that Kerry fabricated evidence to win his military medals in Vietnam. His main accuser has been exposed as having said the opposite at the time, 35 years ago. Kerry is backed by almost all those who witnessed the events in question, as well as by documentation. His accusers have no evidence except their own dubious word.

Not limited by the conventions of our colleagues in the newsroom, we can say it outright: These charges against John Kerry are false. Or at least, there is no good evidence that they are true. George Bush, if he were a man of principle, would say the same thing.

[The above was an editorial in the Los Angeles Times that ran in their August 24 edition of their paper.]

**Bush Twins To Attend A Gay Wedding?**

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In what is likely to be a major embarrassment for President Bush, his twin daughters have reportedly agreed to attend a Gay wedding in nearby Laytonsville, Maryland, 365Gay.com reported.

The wedding is that of their beautician Erwin Gomez and his partner James Packard. Although not recognized by law, the two, who also wed in San Francisco when it was legal there, will exchange vows and rings and hold a reception for friends at their Laytonsville home.

Gomez works at the Elizabeth Arden shop in Chevy Chase.

The New York Daily News reports that Gomez gave the First Daughters invitations to next month's affair when the girls came in for their weekly eyebrow waxing and they accepted.

"I gave them the party invitation, and they said, 'That sounds great, we'd love to come - it sounds like a lot of fun,'" Gomez told the News.

"The way they reacted, they were very open-minded."

Jenna and Barbara Bush may be

looking forward to the nuptials but Dad may have something to say. The President has been one of the main opponents of same-sex marriage.

Despite his admiration for the twins, Gomez has little time for the President or his views on Gay marriage.

"I think it's wrong - he has no right to touch that," he told the News. "He's trying to change the freedom of America. ... History is repeating itself, just like blacks and Jews were discriminated against."

A White House spokesperson for the twins, Susan Whitson, told the paper: "At this point I cannot confirm that the twins are attending. I only comment on official campaign activities."

**Safe Sex**



**Is Bringing Men Together**



# Howl at the Moon

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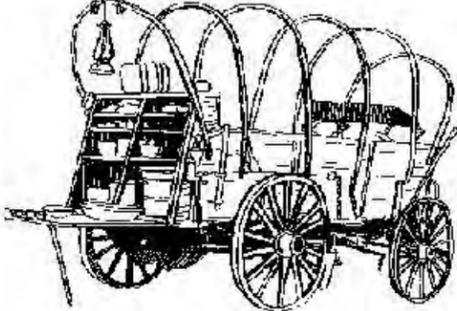
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## AIDS Patients Caught In Middle Of Battle

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Insurers and drug makers are battling over how the government should set rules for insurers to use in deciding which medicines to cover in the Medicare prescription drug program, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com.

Neither group was happy with a proposal released Thursday that could form the basis of lists of drugs that would be covered when the Medicare drug benefit begins in 2006.

Guidelines issued by United States Pharmacopeia, a nonprofit company charged by Congress with developing the proposal, listed 146 classes of drugs that should be covered in Medicare. The broad categories include antidepressants, HIV/AIDS drugs, medicines to lower cholesterol and anti-inflammatories.

The proposal is likely to undergo changes in coming months, as the Bush administration decides how to insure access to medicines while also controlling costs.

"The outcome of this process is important because it could determine whether or not seniors get access to the drugs they take," said Tricia Neuman, a Medicare expert with the nonpartisan Kaiser Family Foundation.

Medicare chief Mark McClellan declined to endorse the proposed guidelines, saying they represent a first step in making sure "beneficiaries have access to medically necessary drugs at the lowest possible cost."

But with billions of dollars at stake, drug companies and insurers are working to influence the way the drug lists are drawn.

Pharmaceutical manufacturers are seeking as many categories as possible to insure that costly blockbuster drugs, heavily used by older Americans on Medicare, will be covered.

The proposal "would set back treatment for conditions including but not limited to diabetes, asthma, heart disease, depression, migraine, epilepsy and gastrointestinal conditions," said a statement issued by the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, the industry's trade group.

For anti-arthritic drugs, cholesterol reducers and antidepressants, the guidelines would lump together best-selling brand-name drugs with older medicines, potentially allowing insurers to meet government requirements by choosing to cover the older drugs.

However, insurers and pharmacy benefit managers want fewer, more broadly drawn classes of medicines to give them more leverage in negotiations with drug companies. The benefit managers administer drug plans for employers and are expected to have a similar role under Medicare drug plans.

"If embraced, such an approach ... could have the unintended consequence of increasing costs and jeopardizing a workable Medicare prescription drug benefit for seniors," said Mark Merritt, president of the Pharmaceutical Care Management Association, the benefit managers' lobbying arm.

USP is accepting public comments on the proposal until Sept. 17, and has scheduled a public meeting in for Aug. 27 in Baltimore.

## Court Rules Against Suit To Block Vote On G/L Marriage

NEW ORLEANS - A proposed amendment to the Louisiana constitution outlawing same-sex marriage and civil unions can appear on Louisiana's September 18 ballot, according to a Tuesday (August 24) ruling by the state fourth circuit court of appeal.

It was the second victory in as many days for supporters of the amendment. The first circuit court of appeal in Baton Rouge had already ruled on Monday that the measure should appear on the ballot.

John Rawls, attorney for G/L rights supporters who filed the suit, said he was disappointed in the ruling, which will be appealed to the state supreme court.

Monday's first circuit ruling said a lawsuit seeking to block the measure from appearing on the September 18 ballot was "premature" because state law allows an election challenge only after the election occurs. The ruling came the same day the fourth circuit judges heard arguments in the case. The "defense of marriage" amendment is sponsored by state representative Steve Scalise, a Jefferson Parish Republican, and the legislature overwhelmingly approved it earlier this year. It would also prevent state officials and courts from recognizing out-of-state marriages and civil unions between same-sex couples.

Several lawsuits were filed against the state over the proposed amendment, arguing that such a ban would illegally strip unmarried couples of their right to enter into legal contracts over wills and child custody. Opponents also say the amendment was illegally adopted by the legislature in violation of laws that require an amendment to have

a single purpose. By including a ban on civil unions, the amendment denies a clear vote for people who oppose G/L marriage but favor government recognition of civil unions, opponents of the amendment have argued.

G/L marriage itself was not at issue in Monday's appellate hearings. The judges questioned lawyers on three points: whether the September 18 election is technically statewide, as required for votes on constitutional amendments; whether it deals with only one issue, as required; and whether it can be legally challenged before the election occurs.

In its ruling, the first circuit agreed with Roy Mongrue, a lawyer for the state who made arguments before both courts. If judges prevent the measure from going to the voters, they would be usurping the role of the legislature, said Mongrue, an assistant attorney general. "There's no need to stop this election," Mongrue told the five-judge panel in New Orleans. "These plaintiffs clearly don't have a right to stop this process."

Both sides agreed that the state constitution does not address whether an amendment can be challenged before the voters have a chance to vote on it.

Rawls said the judges should order the amendment taken off the ballots because, if passed, it would jeopardize legal contracts between unmarried couples, whether or not they're homosexual. Calling the amendment "illegal," Rawls said it is the judges' responsibility to block the vote. "The people of Louisiana have expectations of a clean, legal ballot," he said. "This amendment would take away rights that are inalienable and inviolate."

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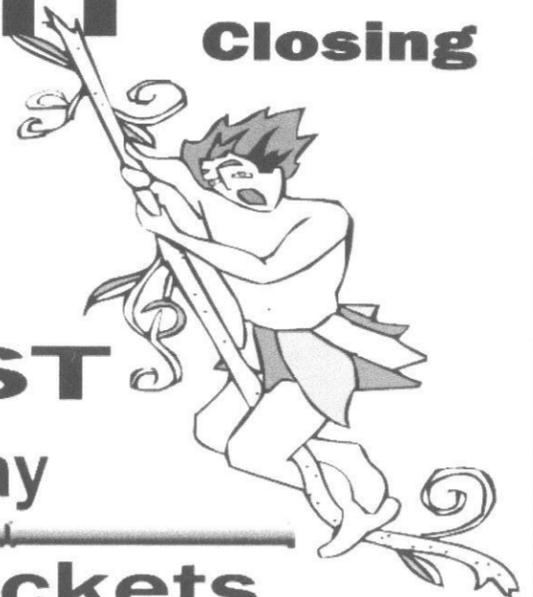
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# Gay Congressional Hopeful Puts Campaign On Hold

WILTON MANORS - A Gay candidate's race for Congress is in limbo after he revealed he is suffering from fatigue and will not campaign until he undergoes medical testing, reported the Gay.com/PlanetOut.com Network.

Jim Stork, the former mayor of the Florida city of Wilton Manors, has launched a robust campaign this year to unseat 12-term U.S. Rep. Clay Shaw, R-Fort Lauderdale.

The 37-year-old bakery owner raised over \$1 million for his campaign and earned valuable face time during the Democratic National Convention in Boston. The South Florida Sun-Sentinel reported Stork was named one of the most handsome candidates on the upcoming ballot by various media outlets.

But according to press reports, Stork announced he was suspending his race for Congress and halting his fund-raising efforts.

To quell rumors that he was dropping out entirely, Stork e-mailed his supporters.

"Dear Friend, I realize that in the past few days you may have heard some rumors that I have decided to leave the race for U.S. Congress in District 22. I wanted to write to you personally and let you know that those rumors are untrue. I am currently undergoing some medical tests and will be in touch as soon as I know more. Right now, I am simply looking forward to putting these health issues behind me and moving forward. I'll see you out on the trail!"

## Nepal Releases Jailed Gays

KATHMANDU - 39 members of a Gay civil rights organization have been released from a Nepal jail where they had been held since August 9, 365Gay.com reported.

New York-based Human Rights Watch said Monday that the men were released on bail Friday following an international outcry.

The men are members of the Blue Diamond Society, Nepal's only LGBT rights group. They were swept up in a series of raids on August 9. A senior police spokesperson said the men were indulging in illegal activities.

The men's only crime appears to be advocating civil rights for Gays and educating the Gay population in the tiny

Meg Reeve, voter registration coordinator for the Stork campaign, told the PlanetOut Network that Stork had recently contracted a "flu-pneumonia thing" on the campaign trail and was worn out.

"He didn't stop to take care of himself and he never fully recuperated," she said. "He hasn't been himself, and so he needed to find out what was wrong."

Stork's campaign spokeswoman, Meghan Scott, told the press Stork's health problems are "not AIDS-related." Stork, Scott said, is HIV (news - web sites)-negative.

Brian Winfield, communications director for Equality Florida, said he was not "real sure" about the problems Stork is facing. "The only information we have is that his campaign is moving forward."

If Stork left the campaign before Sept. 15, Gov. Jeb Bush would be legally obligated to schedule a Democratic primary in order to find another Democratic nominee. After the Sept. 15 deadline, the state Democratic Party would forego the primary and pick a nominee.

LGBT activists are concerned that without Stork, Shaw will win another term. When faced with legislation favoring GLBT equality, Shaw only voted for the measures 33 percent of the time, according to the Human Rights Campaign.

kingdom between China and India about AIDS.

Human Rights Watch said that no trial date has been set and the specific charges appear vague. It said that it will continue to monitor the situation.

At the time of the arrests Sapana Pradhan Malla, a spokesperson for Blue Diamond, said the roundup was meant to harass the Gay community. The jail in which the Gay men were held for more than two weeks is described by international groups as "deplorable" and "filthy" with little ventilation and no room to exercise.

Last month, police forcefully  
Continued on Page Ten

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**POLITICS 2004**  
by Mark R. Kerr

**“Bush Urgest Kerry To Condemn Attack Ads”**

Oh poor, poor Bob Dole - he really lost the 1996 presidential contest to Clinton, his checks for the Pepsi commercials have now run out, he's been replaced as a spokesperson for "stiffy" pills, he is now become the "pol-ho" for CNN's Larry King Live and his wife, Liddy, has become the "Stepford Senator" from North Carolina and now has her picture on milk cartons. "Have you seen me?" People of Charlotte, Raleigh and points across the Tar-Heel state responded by saying, "who?"

Good old, really old, Bob, got into the 2004 presidential campaign fray, during the Not-So-Swift Boat fiasco, by stating to more than one mainstream media hack that Senator John Kerry's three Purple-Hearts may have been awarded fraudulently since according to Dole, the wounds were "superficial" - didn't see any blood, and according to Bob, Kerry should release all of his medical records and records pertaining to the incidents with the Swift Boats.

Poor Bob - Kerry released them all, April 23, 2004, for which they're on Kerry's Web site and back Kerry up.

This past week in the Old Pueblo, during the Not-So-Swift Boat mud-fight, Arizona Congressman Jim Kolbe got into the act, albeit locally with much smaller ratings, with only KGUN 9 giving him any air-play, saying that both sides of the story need to be heard.

Guess what Jimbo, the so-called "Swift Boat Veterans" had their turn, for which the military records, thorough research done by the mainstream media, accounts given by Vietnam Veterans who, unlike the "Swift Boat Veterans," were there, two military reports from two individuals who appeared in the "Swift Boat" commercial, and the editorials, especially the one done by the reporter William Rood, who was also there, of the Chicago Tribune all back Kerry up!

Then there's Dubya, who denied having any connection to the "Swift Boat" 527, despite having one "Swiftie," Ken Cordier on a veteran's steering committee for the campaign and Benjamin Ginsburg, a lawyer for the campaign who has been given legal advice to the "Swifties," fliers for a "Swiftie" boat event at the Florida state headquarters for the Bush-Cheney campaign, as well as the numerous connections to Dubya, his father and Karl Rove, including the "Swift Boat Sugar Daddy," Bob Perry, who is funding this group and hosting a fund raiser in New York during the Republican National Convention.

On Monday, August 23, Dubya condemned the "Swiftie" ad and all 527's, stating he was glad he signed the McCain-Feingold campaign finance bill which was supposed to have dealt with this but really couldn't have since the loophole allowing 527 groups wasn't dealt with in the bill.

Dubya's hypocrisy runs amuck as usual and the mainstream media are blowing it yet again.

As the American Prospect reported, what about the Bush-Cheney 2000, Inc.-Recount Fund, a 527 created during the 2000 Florida vote count controversy or the Republican's For Clean Air, a group which ran a commercial slamming Arizona Senator John McCain's presidential campaign which are still in existence?

How about Progress for America, another 527 which was declared a good place for Republicans to give money by GOP Chair Ed Gillespie and Dubya Campaign Chair, Marc Racicot, the Prospect reported?

As the blog-meister Atrios reports, what about the National Federation of Republican Women, which has Laura and Dubya on their cover of their magazine, "Republican Woman," or the \$10,000 donation by the Republican National Committee to GOPAC, another 527? Does Dubya hate the Republican Governor's Association, the second largest 527 in the country, according to the Federal Election Commission?

If Dubya is really against the 527's, as the American Prospect and other sources so rightly put it, someone should tell his minions but adding, the mainstream media should be informed of this too, such as CNN, who had the August 23 article about the "Swifties" entitled, "Bush Urges Kerry to Condemn Attack Ads," or the Associated Press, which had the story appearing on the 8/24 edition of Tucson's morning fish-wrap entitled, "Bush: Halt Swift Boat Vet's Ad," for which Dubya did no such thing.

We've had enough of the Bush-wacking, especially with the Republican gathering in Madison Square Garden starting August 30 through September 2, when they will plan their next war, praise the Dubya-Satan ticket and shout "Heil Halliburton!" Get involved in the process and defend America by defeating Dubya, yet again in November.

In Tucson, on Saturday, August 28, the Stonewall Democrats of Southern Arizona will be hosting a pool party, for more information or to reserve a spot, call Steve Cody, (520) 664-2076. On Sunday, August 29, Mark Kvale of the Arizona Stonewall Democrats - the state coordinator with the Kerry-Edwards LGBT outreach

will be at IBT's, 616 North Fourth Avenue during the Sunday beer bust. Register to vote, request an early ballot, and have a beer, burger, a button or bumperstick too! On August 31, voters can learn about everything they want to know about the upcoming November general election ballot propositions but are afraid to ask, at Wingspan, 300 East Sixth Street, starting at 5:30 p.m. To get involved with the Kerry Campaign in Pima County, call (520) 326-3716, or go online to volunteer at johnkerry.com.

**Canada**

Continued from Page One

theory, the Parliament will then take a free vote on the legalization of same-sex marriage, which, barring complications, will result in a national marriage policy rather than a provincial patchwork.

Cotler said that the Supreme Court process was important for those opposed to same-sex marriage, so "it could never be said in this country that they never had the chance to debate the whole question."

Gay marriage activists at Egale Canada called on Cotler to make his remarks more official, and push for the immediate legalization of same-sex marriage in Parliament.

"Instead of simply not opposing these court actions," said Egale Executive Director Gilles Marchildon in a statement, "why does he not energetically advocate in favor of the legislation drafted by his own government? If he did so, there might not be a need for the court actions to begin with."

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## Gay Viagra Use Fueling AIDS Health Official Says

SAN FRANCISCO - The recreational use of Viagra among Gay men not only promotes unsafe sex and is helping to fuel rising rates of HIV/AIDS but also can lead to other physical problems which can allow the disease to enter the body more easily San Francisco's Department of Public Health said Monday, August 23, 365Gay.com reported.

The Department wants the federal government to force the maker of Viagra, Pfizer, to place a warning on the drug's labels.

The Department of Public Health has formally petitioned the FDA to reevaluate Viagra usage and safety.

Jeffrey Klausner, director of sexually transmitted disease prevention in San Francisco said that because of the increased duration of erection there is increased blood flow which can increase the physical risk of getting an STD or HIV.

San Francisco's Stop AIDS Project, one of the largest AIDS awareness programs in the country, says that one of every three Gay men its staff interviewed on the street said they used Viagra.

The drug, meant to combat impotency has become a popular party drug in most major cities.

In the past few years the number of new cases of HIV/AIDS among men who have sex with men has increased dramatically.

Pfizer, the drug's manufacturer, said it would oppose any change in labeling.

Last year Pfizer had sales of \$1.9 billion for Viagra.

# UPDATE

## Hate Groups Target NY G/L Marriage Town

NEW PALTZ - An increased visibility of hate groups has raised the concerns of residents of New Paltz, New York, a tiny village in the Hudson Valley north of Manhattan made famous when it began allowing same-sex couples to marry earlier this year, 365Gay.com reported.

Neo-Nazi groups and extreme Christian fundamentalist groups have targeted the area over the summer, in what mayor Jason West sees as a reaction to his decision to marry Gay and Lesbian couples.

"White Power" graffiti is proliferating and neo-Nazi literature has been distributed to areas homes West says. Members of skinhead groups have been highly visible in the village this summer.

A group of New Paltz residents has formed the Anti-Racist Alliance and is reaching out to other activist groups to come up with non-violent ways to deal with the neo-Nazis.

Meanwhile, the Christian Coalition of New York is warning that it intends to buy billboard space on roads leading into the town denouncing homosexuality.

The billboards will feature a black-and-white photograph of Stephen Bennett, who claims to have been Gay before a religious conversion enabled him to become straight. His wife and two children also are in the photo, which carries the caption, "Wonderful husband. Loving father. Former homosexual. Jesus Christ changes lives."

The coalition has been raising

funds to pay for the ads.

James Fallarino, spokesman for the New Paltz Equality Initiative, which has organized more than 100 same-sex weddings in New Paltz, said he doubts the billboard will have much impact.

"All people have a right to profess their beliefs, just as we do," Fallarino said. "But I don't think it's going to change anybody's mind. I think they're wasting their money."

Mayor West began marrying same-sex couples in February but was later served with an injunction stopping him from performing more Gay unions. His place was taken by two Unitarian ministers. West and the ministers were charged with violating state law but the charges were later dismissed in court.

## Children Of Lesbian Must Be Adopted By Lesbian Family Court Told

LONDON - Social workers have told a British court that two children must only be adopted by a Lesbian couple because their birth mother was in a same-sex relationship, 365Gay.com reported.

Social services workers at Greenwich Council in South-East London told the court that the children should immediately be returned to the same "environment" that they experienced as infants.

For the past year the young boy and girl have been living with heterosexual foster parents. The reason the children came into the care of the council has not been revealed.

Social workers told a Family Proceedings Court judge that the situation is similar to that of a child of black or Jewish parents who should be adopted into a family of the child's racial or cultural background.

Court was told that at least two Lesbian couples are prepared to take the children.

An application by the straight foster care couple who have been looking after the children is being fought by the social survives agency, a division of the borough council.

The judge in the case has not indicated when a ruling might come. Meanwhile, conservatives accuse the child protection workers of political correctness gone wrong.

Hugh McKinney of the National Family Campaign said: "It is an insult to decent, caring heterosexual parents throughout the country who would like to adopt."

Britain has seen an explosion in Gay adoption since it became legal 18 months ago. In some parts of the country, rates have reached one in six of adoptions.

## Ohio G/L Marriage Amendment Faces Court Challenge

COLUMBUS - Plans to ask voters to approve amending the Ohio state constitution to ban same-sex marriage are being challenged in court, 365Gay.com reported.

A lawyer for a coalition of mainly Gay civil rights groups said that after reviewing petitions from four rural counties he has found "numerous errors."

Donald McTigue examined petitions certified in Marion, Morrow, Fulton and Sandusky counties and found paperwork showing how much petitioners Continued on Page Ten

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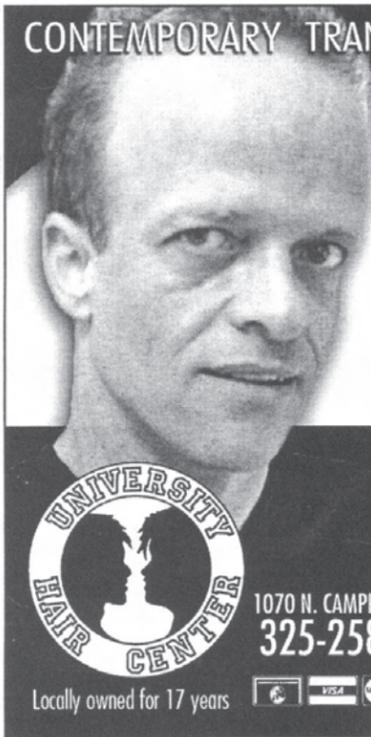
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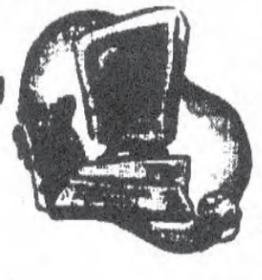
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## Cherokee Nation

Continued from Page Four

said. "This will be a black eye on the Cherokee Nation. Even the state of Oklahoma doesn't allow same-sex marriage."

The state of Oklahoma does not recognize marriages for same-sex couples but does honor marriages recorded by the Cherokees. The tribe handles only a few marriages a year.

State voters will decide in November whether to amend the constitution to strengthen the ban on Gay marriage.

## Lesbian Wins Silver

Continued from Page Two

The Olympic silver medal is one of the high points in Mauresmo's career. According to the Olympics Web site, the French athlete has only made it to one Grand Slam final, finishing as the runner-up in the 1999 Australian Open.

Another elite Lesbian tennis player, Martina Navratilova, was knocked out of the women's doubles tournament last week with her partner Lisa Raymond, one step short of the medal round.

On Saturday two Gay Olympians from the United States won bronze medals in the equestrian team dressage competition. Six-time Olympian Robert Dover and Guenter Seidel were part of the four-person U.S. team that finished behind Germany and the Netherlands, respectively.

## Nepal Releases

Continued from Page Seven

dispersed a crowd of Gays who had marched on the Parliament building to deliver a petition for civil rights to the Prime Minister. (story)

The arrests also brought the condemnation of the United Nations AIDS organization UNAIDS. UNAIDS said it "fully supports" the work of the Blue Diamond Society, and conveyed its concern over the detentions to the Government of Nepal.

The organization called on the authorities to allow Blue Diamond to continue to provide HIV services in an atmosphere free from fear and intimidation where the human rights of all are respected.

## Ohio G/L Marriage

Continued from Page Nine

were paid was improperly filed in addition to improper changes in the number of signatures witnessed by each petitioner.

"We have only seen four counties, but if those four are indicative of the rest, this petition has problems in terms of making it to the ballot," McTigue told the Cincinnati Enquirer. "I don't see how all the errors can be addressed before the November election."

Opponents of the amendment say they believe they can tie the issue up in court long enough to prevent it from getting on the ballot.

The Ohio Campaign to Protect Marriage collected 391,000 signatures, enough to place the amendment on the ballot, but if McTigue is able to have some of those names removed or prove the process was either severely flawed the measure could die in court.

The proposed amendment would define in the Ohio constitution the definition of marriage as between a man and a woman and prevent the state from recognizing civil unions or providing any domestic partner benefits. If endorsed by voters it would eliminate domestic-partner benefits currently offered by four state

universities.

David Langdon, the Cincinnati-area attorney who wrote the amendment, said he has a team of lawyers around the state ready to defend the proposal

"We're not out to prevent them from a fair day in court," he told the Enquirer. "But we're going to make sure they don't purposely stall."

In a related issue, supporters of a ballot initiative to remove an amendment to the city of Cincinnati's charter have won a key round.

The charter amendment forbids the city from passing any local laws based on sexual orientation.

A judge had rejected a request from repeal opponents that sought a temporary restraining order to keep the repeal off the Nov. 2 ballot.

Although Hamilton County Common Pleas Judge Mark Schweikert denied the request for a temporary restraining order, he set a hearing on the underlying issues for Aug. 30.

## Out Of State G/L Couples To Appeal Ruling

BOSTON - A court ruling upholding a 1913 Massachusetts law being used to bar same-sex couples from marrying will be appealed the lawyer for eight of the couples involved said Thursday, August 19, 365Gay.com reported.

The case was originally filed on behalf of the eight Gay and Lesbian couples from across New England and New York. Five of the couples received marriage licenses and were wed only to be told later their marriages were void. The other three couples were denied licenses altogether.

Together with a suit by 13 city and town clerks challenging the same law, the couples and the clerks sought a preliminary injunction barring the Commonwealth from enforcing the 1913 Law pending a final decision in the lawsuit.

The decision by Suffolk Superior Court Judge Carol S. Ball denies the couples' and the clerks' request for immediate relief but makes no final determination on the merits of the pending lawsuits.

Michele Granda, an attorney with Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders, said the couples would immediately appeal the ruling to the State Appeals court, to try to get enforcement of the law stopped and to take down the "fence of discrimination" around the state's borders.

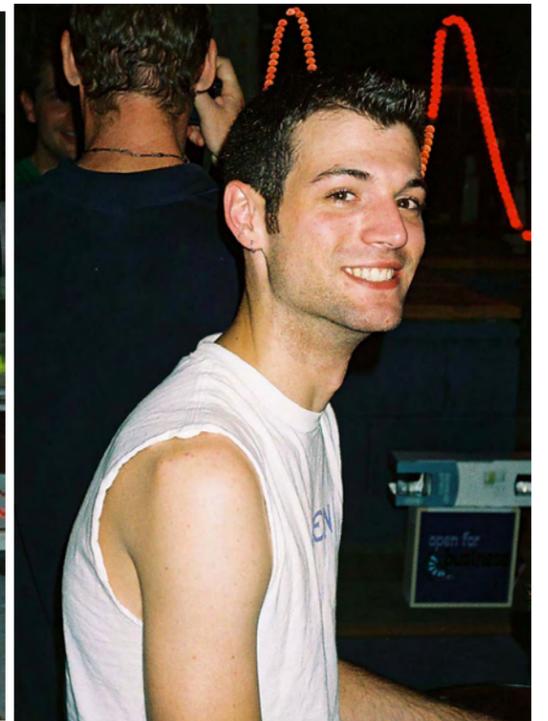
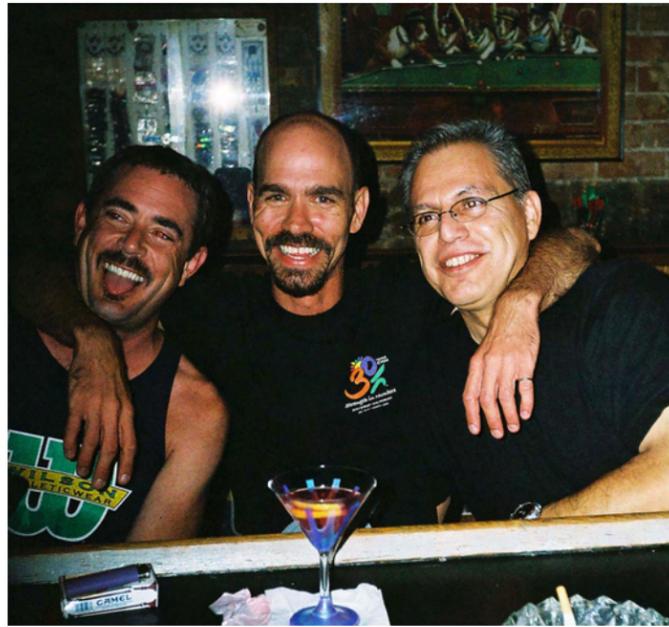
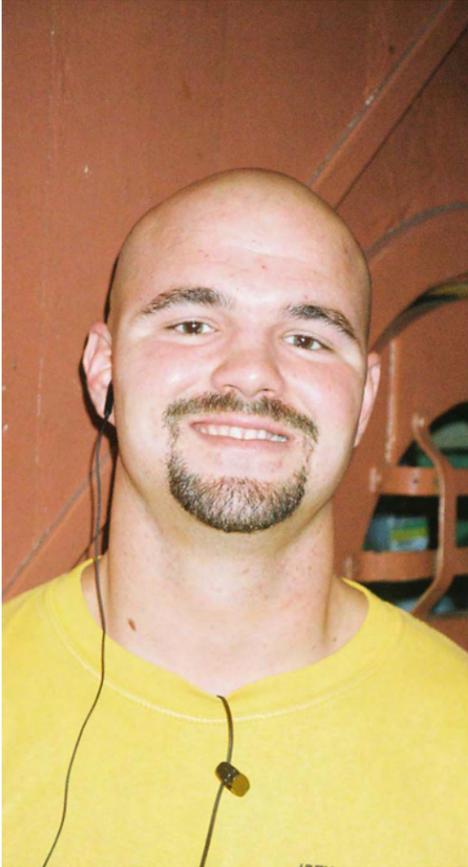
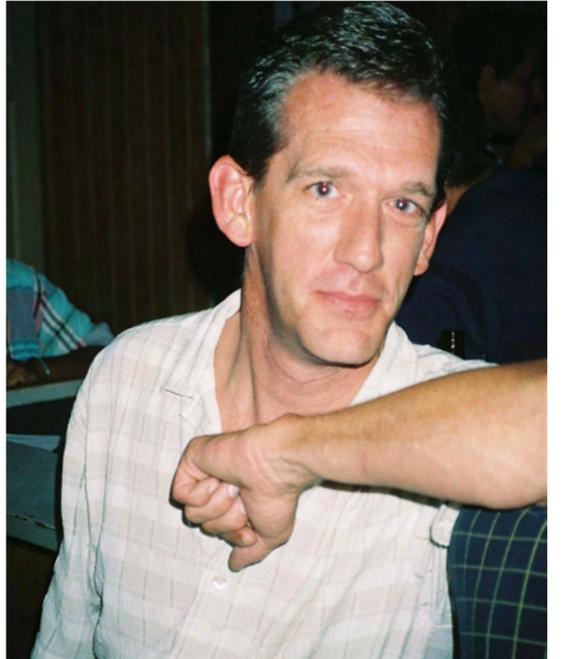
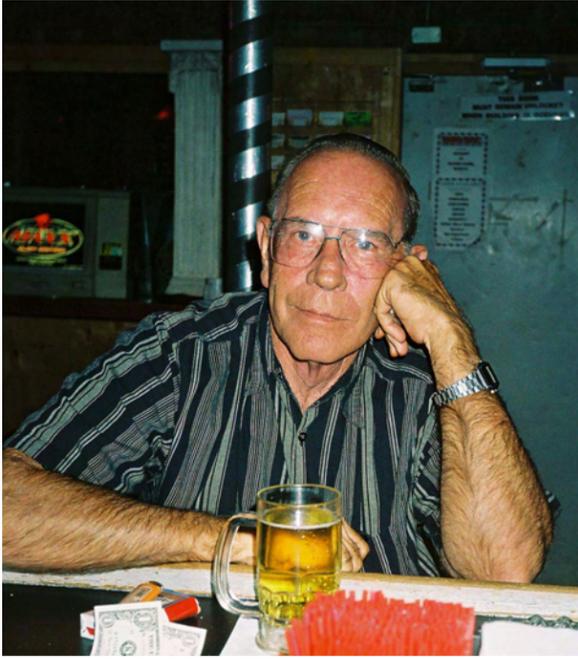
"Gays and Lesbians are being denied marriage rights simply because they're Gay and Lesbian," Granda said.

Same-sex marriage became legal in Massachusetts in May in a landmark ruling by the state's highest court, but Gov. Mitt Romney (R) an opponent of Gay marriage invoked the old law which had been created when interracial marriage was legal in the state but not in most other states.

Judge Ball ruled that the law was not discriminatory, despite a concern that it violates the spirit of the same-sex marriage decision.

Granda said she is confident the 1913 law eventually will be overturned, pointing out that the couples in the original case which legalized Gay marriage in Massachusetts lost at the trial court level and won on appeal.

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Let's get down to business as the Sun ambles into serious Virgo. Put your nose to the grindstone - You will never be as productive as you are right now. There seems to be more than enough to do to keep those idle hands from poking into the devils playground. Darn it.

**ARIES (MAR. 21 - APR. 20)**  
Is your swimsuit getting a bit tight? Summer spread becomes your manifest destiny and now, as the Sun shines in practical Virgo, the urge to buff your stuff intensifies. Thank goodness you have vast reserves of combustible energy. Gay Rams embark on the battle of the bulge. That is all well and good as long as certain bulges remain as big and beautiful as possible.

**TAURUS (APR. 21 - MAY 21)**  
Go out and create a scene when the Sun enters Virgo. Queer Bulls are bursting with creative inspiration and are poised and ready to launch a few ideas that will hit a collective nerve. Dare to dream, baby. Be a trendsetter and allow yourself to take some calculated risks. If they succeed you will soar to heights never imagined. If you lay an egg, at least you will have lunch.

**GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)**  
Happy is the pink Twin who creates a comfortable environment at home. Sun in Virgo demands that you spruce up your surroundings. Should you renovate or simply move some furniture around? Gather a few kindred souls together for a fab confab and share the love over a home cooked meal. Too lazy to cook? Turn up the temperature anyway and see who comes to a boil.

**CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)**  
Even recalcitrant Gay Crabs become absolutely mouthy when Sun chomps into Virgo. You are brimming with opinions and need to spread your word... among other things. But time is short, bubble. Don't wait until the moment has passed before you speak Out. There is nothing sadder (and more embarrassing) than to talk to an empty room. Stop when you hear an echo.

**LEO (JULY 24 - AUG. 23)**  
If your finances suddenly take a turn for the better, give a line of credit to the Sun in practical Virgo. If you have carefully plotted and planned, your investments pay off. You may even find a dime or two on the street. But don't spend all your swag at once, Gay Lion. In a couple of weeks, you find yourself playing the role of "well-endowed benefactor". Well, at least the latter....

**VIRGO (AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23)**  
This is your time of year to shine, queer Virgin. The Sun in your own sign gives you boatloads of charisma and charm. Start piling it on where it counts - among those who do not know you very well and among those who you would like to get to know (much) better. Hurry and make your appearance before your star fades and you become just another quark in the cosmos.

**LIBRA (SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)**  
Why are you sitting around waiting for life to happen? Sun in Virgo commands you to get off your ass and ratchet up the good Gay karma with various charitable acts of kindness. There is too much to do and not enough time to do it. Proud Libras think that they can slide by and no one will notice. Wrong, buster. All eyes are now upon you. Don't wear white spandex.

**SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)**  
There is something magical about you this week, queer Scorp. Sun glides into Virgo and you emanate a gravitational pull around others. Friends and acquaintances can't get enough of you so be generous

with your time. Is it your sparkling personality? Is it your sharp, humorous wit? Is it your caring tenderness? No, no and absolutely no. It is obviously the power of your magic wand.

**SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)**  
If you've been clawing and scratching your way to the top, give your paws a rest this week when Sun enters Virgo. Gay Archers are generally optimistic souls but recently you have begun to doubt your career prospects. Shame on you, ye of little faith. Things will now fall into place on their own. The opportunity for real advancement is within reach. But watch what you grab.

**CAPRICORN (DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)**  
How adventurous are you pink Cap? Sun advances into Virgo and sets you on a course of self-improvement, education and expansion. This means that every corner brings something (or someone) new, surprising and enlightening. Viva la difference! Don't stay home and contemplate your navel. Invite a few interesting and exotic strangers over and contemplate theirs.

**AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)**  
Aqueerians feel feisty and are ready to go and get it in any way possible. What a nice change of pace! Blame all this shimmy shaking rock and roll on Sun in earthy Virgo. You jump into the drivers seat and gaily bounce through the bumper cars of romance, jostling for position. Don't stop short unless you intend to create a pile up. Will you wind up on top or bottom?

**PISCES (FEB. 20 - MAR. 20)**  
Relationships become the be all end all for you when the Sun enters Virgo. Guppies yearn to cocoon and be part of a pair. Check out your situation; If you are currently swimming in a particular school, keep those fins aflutter. If you are in search of a new safety net, dive into a new pool of opportunity. Will you hook a rainbow trout? Only if you pack the right bait.

**Zanzibar G/L Sex Ban Becomes Official**

**ZANZIBAR** - The ban on Gay and Lesbian sex on the island of Zanzibar went into effect last week, after the president added his signature to the proposal, Gay.com UK reported.

The new law, introduced in March of this year with parliamentary backing in April, could punish those men found to be guilty of having sex with up to 25 years in prison. Lesbians could see 7 years in jail for having sex.

It is thought that the law was originally proposed after the island, situated in the Indian Ocean, moved toward a more hard-line religious stance

In the past, the government has been accused of paying too much notice to extreme Islamic leaders and drawing up laws after coming under pressure from religious groups.

President Amani Karume signed the bill into law late last week, to the support of its backers. However it has caused international condemnation for the island, with civil rights groups hitting out at its anti-Gay stance.

Additionally, U.K. activist Peter Tatchell called for a boycott of the island, which is a semi-autonomous part of Tanzania, from both straight and Gay travelers. "I think Gay people should be extremely careful if they go to countries like Zanzibar, and the safest policy is not to go there at all," he said in April.

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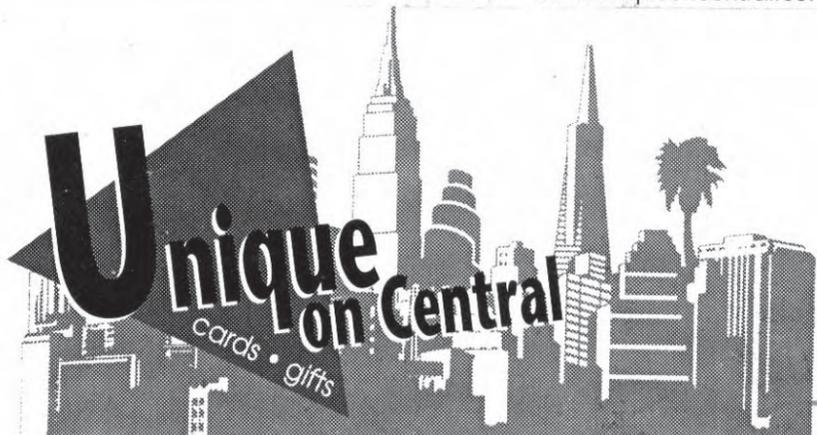
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**NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE**

by Lee Thorn

**No Politics**

A few weeks ago I went AWOL from presidential campaign coverage to indulge in some literary musings. I'm stepping out to do the same again, this time offering two new excuses.

The first is that the reader has probably already made up his mind about the coming election. Realistically speaking, if you haven't figured out whose ox has been gored over the last four years, and gored with the regularity of a metronome, someone else has been paying your bills and I say, "Good for you. Enjoy it while it lasts."

My second excuse is that I can rely on my fellow scribblers to keep the coverage up.

And so I turn away from the frenetic political race and toward the cool calm business of academic poetry, hoping to say things that will engage the businessman within you as well as the poet.

The biggest complaint one hears from non-academic poets concerns academic poets pretending that they're the only game in town, that non-academic poetry doesn't even exist. From a business point of view, this complaint has always struck me as somewhat naive. The poetry professors are simply practicing a business strategy as old as the art of advertising itself: If you can get away with it, and for as long as you can get away with it, pretend that your competition doesn't exist.

Non-academic poets consistently mock the resolutely bourgeois tone of academic poetry. Again, from a business point of view, the poetry professors are simply recognizing and playing to their audience, namely the moms of undergraduates. You don't stick your thumb in the eye of the lovely parents who pay the tuitions that pay your salary. Hence, you don't write or foster poetry that will confuse, frighten or offend the moms.

Non-academic poets complain that the professors shun confessional, political and sexual poetry. This is simply an extension of audience awareness. If Billy comes home from his university for vacation and his poetry notebook falls out of his book bag and mom, without any evil intent, pages through it, she will not be pleased to find poems wherein Billy declares himself an atheist, discovers Karl Marx and has his first homosexual experience. Sincere academic poets will argue that even if academic poetry is a business and even if its client is the bourgeoisie and even if it pretends that non-academic poetry doesn't exist, it is still theoretically possible for academic poetry to produce serious art that rises above these limitations. They will argue that Shakespeare had restrictions on what he could write, that he certainly couldn't afford to annoy the monarch, but that those restrictions may have produced an aesthetic discipline that actually improved his work.

Looking at Shakespeare and then looking at modern academic poetry, one can only conclude that the monarch was far less restrictive than the moms are.

The work of the poetry professors is as dull as dishwater because the middle class, for all its wonderful virtues, is not particularly receptive to art, at least not until the artists who've produced it have been dead for several decades.

The whole notion of how social class relates to art has always interested me. The most believable paradigm I ever saw on the subject was drawn by a sociologist who had the familiar pyramid with the upper class at the apex, etc. Completely outside the pyramid there was a tiny circle with the words "artists and intellectuals" inside it. The sociologist's point was that artists and intellectuals don't really fit into any class.

It's a highly debatable point. We've all read bios of scientists and artists who were perfectly at home in the middle class, socially conventional to a tee. The reason that the pyramid and the ball concept makes sense to me is that, when and if class loyalty conflict with intellectual or artistic truth, the intellectual or artist is going to turn his back on class.

The bottom line is that the poetry profs are doing nothing more sinister than protecting their gig. Anyone interested in more substantial poetry can consult "The International Directory of Little Magazines And Small Presses" to find the names and addresses and peculiarities of hundreds of publications having no interest whatever in servicing the bourgeoisie. You'll find publications saying they "want stuff that'll make our ears bleed." Hardly sounds like Mom's cup of tea.

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

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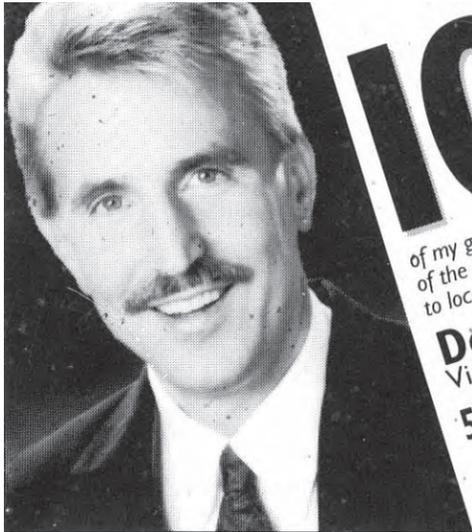
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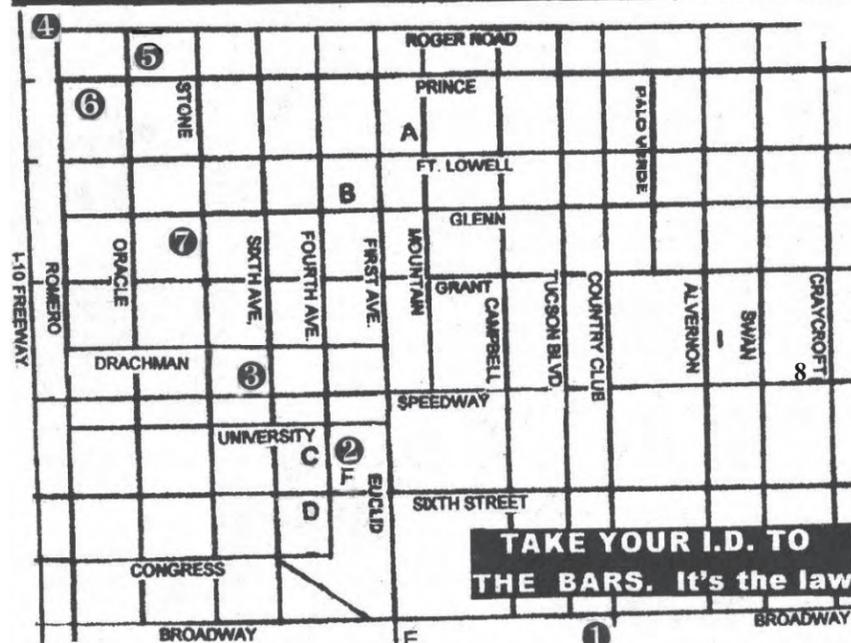
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## Bad Review Is A Drag, But Not Defamation Judge Rules

NEW YORK - A New York City judge Thursday, August 19 tossed out a defamation lawsuit brought against the Zagat Restaurant Guide by a Manhattan cabaret-restaurant featuring waiters in drag, 365Gay.com reported.

Zagat, considered the bible of restaurant guides, gave Lucky Cheng's a low grade for its food. Lucky Cheng's then sued Zagat for \$10 million alleging libel and negligence.

State Supreme Court Justice Diane Lebedeff in dismissing the suit said that Zagat was within its rights when it gave the restaurant a poor rating.

"While this restaurant owner believes it has 'hit the sweet spot' with its menu and food choices, the Zagat reviewers suggest the menu selection misses the mark a bit, notwithstanding that the establishment as a whole offers an entertaining and engaging evening," the judge wrote. "This disagreement over taste and fashion is not the stuff of defamation."

Nevertheless, Lebedeff said that the lawsuit raised an issue of first impression because of Zagat's unique method of relying upon anonymous consumer comments to build its ratings

and reviews.

She noted that free speech protections in the state Constitution are even stronger than in the First Amendment, ensuring that "every citizen may freely speak, write and publish ... sentiments on all subjects."

Lucky Cheng's lawyer, Ravi Ivan Sharma, said his clients are considering an appeal.

"I still believe and my client still firmly believes that Zagat, because they're so huge, does affect restaurant owners if they make mistakes," he said.

The restaurant's owners said Lucky Cheng's had lost about \$30,000 a week since Oct. 14, 2003, when the 2004 Zagat guide was published.

One comment printed in the guide says, "God knows 'you don't go for the food' at this East Village-Asian Eclectic."

"Rather, you go to 'gawk' at the 'hilarious cross-dressing' staff who 'tell dirty jokes,' perform 'impromptu floor shows' and 'offer lap dances for dessert,'" the guide says. "Weary well-wishers suggest they 'freshen up the menu — and their makeup.'"

## Police Continue Investigating Delaware Gay Bashing

REHOBOTH BEACH - Police are continuing to investigate what appears to be a Gay bashing of three Gay men in the resort town in the early hours of August 7, Advocate.com reported.

One of the victims, 23-year-old Matt Beierschmitt, was featured on MTV's documentary program True Life: I'm Coming Out as well as on the cover of The Advocate in 2002.

In an e-mail to Advocate.com, Beierschmitt said he and two friends—Lawrence Franchetti, 26, and Will Hiley, 30—were exiting a club when three men approached them, allegedly calling them "Taliban" and "faggots." "They followed us to our car, and while [we] were inside, they kicked it," he said. "We got out to talk to them, and they apologized for their one friend's drunken behavior."

However, when the three turned to go back to their car, "someone pushed me from behind, and that is the last thing I remember before I woke up spitting up blood," Beierschmitt said. "My friends turned around to see me lying on the ground. I was taken away in an ambulance." Hiley was allegedly struck with a lead pipe.

According to the Delaware Coast Press, one of the men, Vincenzo Didomenicis, was arrested. The other two men were unidentified. Rehoboth police chief Keith Banks told the newspaper that he has put a detective on the case to follow up on the incident. After the investigation is closed, Banks will make a decision about whether the issue constitutes a hate crime. "We take assaults and fights very seriously," Banks told the paper. "It's better to slow down and dot i's and cross t's."

Beierschmitt said his jaw was broken in two places and will remain wired shut four to five weeks. He has contacted the Gay rights advocacy group Lambda Legal for advice on filing a civil lawsuit.

The newspaper reported that Rehoboth commissioner Mark Aguirre questioned Banks about the investigation at Monday night's regular meeting of the Rehoboth city commissioners. Aguirre said Tuesday, "I want to make sure that those involved in causing this incident are not given a slap on the wrist. I understand that before a deeper investigation [is conducted] the perpetrator needed to be charged with disorderly conduct, but what went on here goes beyond disorderly conduct and should be at least aggravated assault," he said.



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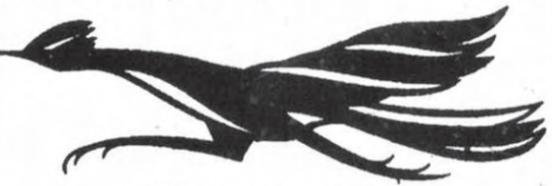
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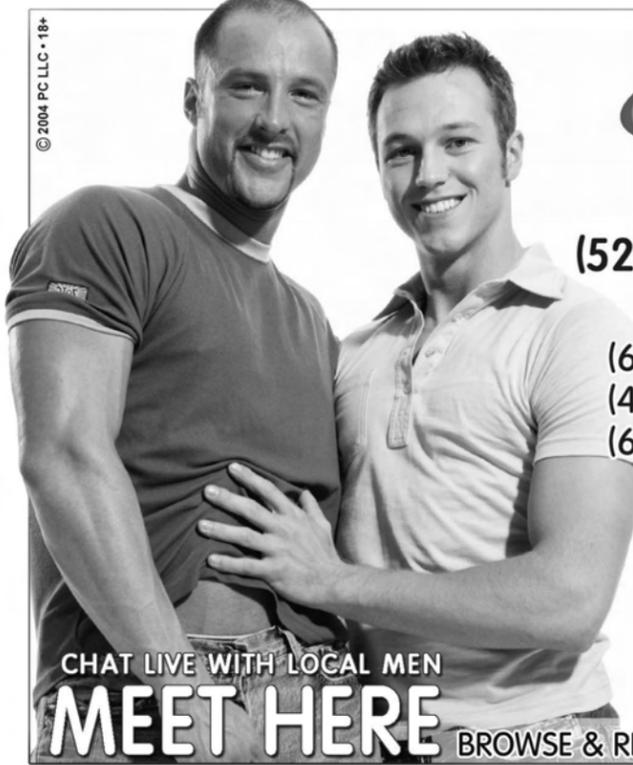


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Dear Dr. X,

Sometimes I have a problem getting an erection and/or keeping it. Is Viagra safe? How does it work? Are there any other options?

Signed Limp Biscuit

Dear LB,

Erectile dysfunction is a serious problem and can be very damaging to ones self-esteem. Most men will have times when they can't get or keep an erection and older men may take longer to get an erection. These are all normal events. Problems are often the result of other diseases (both physical and/or mental) or the medications used to treat them. Getting and maintaining an erection is a complex process. It depends on sexual feelings, healthy arteries and veins, a healthy nervous system and normal hormones. You should see your doctor and get a checkup right away if you are having erection problems. Viagra is a very serious solution and not to be treated like picking up a pack of gum. Viagra does NOT treat the underlying causes of erection problems. A chemical called cGMP causes arteries in the penis to widen and increase blood flow causing an erection. After a man cums an enzyme is produced that causes the penis to get soft. Viagra inhibits that

enzyme and creates more cGMP. This makes it so that an erection is more likely to occur and to last longer. You should also NEVER mix poppers and Viagra. Both cause a condition known as vasodilation, which means that your blood pressure drops and blood vessels open up wide. Combining the two can cause you to get very lightheaded, have a fatal drop in blood pressure and possibly cause a heart attack. Hope this helps.

Dear Dr. X,

Where do you get off saying that open relationships are "seldom successful"? What's your evidence?! Just because you couldn't make it work doesn't mean many other Gay men don't exist wonderfully in open relationships. I am in an open relationship and it has worked for over ten years now. It has been difficult to manage at times, but it has increased the quantity and quality of sex-related communication between my spouse and I. If it is your opinion that open relationships rarely work, then fine. Just please state that it is your opinion, and not fact.

Sincerely,

Openly pissed

Dear OP,

It was not my intention to piss you off and I apologize for any misunderstanding. I was talking from my own experience and from conversations I have had with friends and should have made that clear. It was my opinion, not anything based in fact. It was our combined opinions that make me think that open relationships do not work. However, I need to hear from men like you who are in open relationships that do work. Dr. X is always open to learning (it is a continual process until we die). What would be interesting for our readers and myself is to hear more of how you and your partner make it work. Do you have a contract? What are your rules or guidelines? Would you define yourself as being emotionally monogamous but sexually open? Answers to these and other questions would help those struggling with this same issue to see how they could make it work. I do agree that people can be totally committed to one another and want to be a couple, but that sex has become boring and predictable. Perhaps opening it up would help make sex exciting again? I want to know more and hope you will write again to let me see your side. Thanks!

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

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## BAR CALENDAR Of Upcoming Events

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 27

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - It's the Crystal Cabaret every Friday with Crystal Abrahms, Bunny FuFu and Janee Starr. Tonight watch the Miss Gay Latina Crowning of Kimi San Du-Mi.

VENTURE-N - 7:00 p.m. to closing "Jungle Party!". Free Loin Cloths, Body Painting booth, Costume Contest. First Prize 2 day/2 night hotel stay. \$1 Jello Shots. Don't miss this fun time at V-N.

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 28

IBT'S - 8:30 p.m. "The FuFu Revue" Week 9 of Drag Survivor hosted by Bunny FuFu. This week's contestants are Veronica Halliwell, Janee Starr and Heather Boa.

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

IBT'S - Party line-up includes Troy's Recovery Bar from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. \$1.75 Bloody Marys, Screwdrivers or Mimosas. Karaoke Party with Michael D. on the patio from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., Benefit Bar-B-Que / Beer Bust from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. This weeks proceeds go to Gay Men's Health Project. At 7:30 p.m. it's The Bud Light Team Promo. Play Jenga and win great prizes. 9:00 p.m. High energy Dance with DJ Q..

### WEDNESDAY, September 1

IBT'S - 9:00 P.M. The "DivaLicious" Show hosted by Lucinda Holliday and starring Venecia, Vera Las Vegas and Heather Boa.

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 (Labor Day)

IBT'S - Mark your calendars - "Monday Morning Madness"!!!!

YARD DOG - It's Back To School Time. Come in and get your examination papers!

## NON-BAR CALENDAR Groups / Clubs /

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25

Desert Coyote Bowling League meeting at 7:00 p.m. at Santa Cruz Lanes, 3665 S. 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue (16<sup>th</sup> and Ajo). 622-2186. For more information call Santa Cruz Lanes or call Dan at 404-3591.

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Terry for Canasta. If you don't know how to play, we'll be glad to teach you. For reservations and directions, please call Terry at 577-2396.

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

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 26

Men'S Social Network: Dinner Out at El Sabroso Mexican Grille. Call Les at 690-9565 for Reservations (due by Thursday, August 19) and Directions.

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 27

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

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 28

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Marv hosts Pinochle Night. If you don't know how to play, but would like to learn, this is the place. For more information, please call Marv at 745-0304.

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

### MONDAY, AUGUST 30

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

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 31

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join the men of MSN for an evening out at Rainbow Planet. This is a chance to have a cup of coffee and chat with the men of MSN. For more information, please contact Ray at 247-2716.

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

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

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

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

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

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

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

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

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

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

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

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

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

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

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

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

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

# We're Trying Our Best To Get Everyone Registered, To Get Involved, And Participate In The Upcoming National Election. There Are A Lot of Issues That Affect You! Let's Roll!

## DAILY BAR CALENDAR

### SUNDAY

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 10:30 am. Chuckwagon Breakfast 10:30 am - 1:30 pm, includes Bloody Mary or Mimosa. \$2 Smirnoff Sunday. DJ Jake playing country favorites 8:30 pm to close.

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

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open 4pm. Free Pool all day. Pool Tournament 5:30pm. \$1.50 Hamburgers / \$1.00 Ten Ounce. Draft. Drink Specials available.

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 meat 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 sirloin burger w/salad 5-9pm. Karaoke with Michael D. 9pm

YARD DOG - Open Sundays 10am - 1am. Bloody Marys or Screwdrivers \$1.75 from 10am - 3pm.

### MONDAY

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3 sm pitchers, \$5 lg pitchers. Monday Munchies 3 - 8 pm with reduced prices on appetizers. Pool Tournament 6:30 pm - \$3 entry fee, bar matches pot. Draught Beer Specials for players.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-7pm, All drink specials not available during special events.

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open 1pm. Happy Hour 4-7. Free Pool all day. Drink Specials Available.

VENTURE-N - Open 8am. Patio 6pm. Free pool til 4pm. \$2.75 Skyy Martinis 4-8. 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. Beer Bust 3-7pm.

### TUESDAY

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3 sm pitchers, \$5 lg pitchers. Tequila Tuesday: \$2.00 well margaritas, 50¢ off call tequilas. Karaoke with Calabaza Cabeza Karaoke 8 - 11:30 pm

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

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open 1pm. Karaoke with Smiling Julie. Drink. Drink Specials available. Happy Hour 4-7.

VENTURE-N - Open 8am. Patio 6pm. Free Pool til 4pm. WOODY'S - Open Noon. \$2 well or domestic til 7pm. Bartender Calls It drink specials..

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am. 50¢ off any Tequila until 7pm. Beer Bust 3-7pm.

### WEDNESDAY

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3 sm pitchers, \$5 lg pitchers. Free Pool all day. Draught Beer Specials all day. Beginning couples dance lessons with Amanda 7:30 - 8:30 pm. Country DJ Jake plays 8:30 - close

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

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open 1pm. Happy Hour 4-7 Karaoke w/Kim 8pm-12am. Drink Specials all night. Kitchen open until midnight for finger foods.

VENTURE-N - Open 8am. Patio 6pm. Free Pool til 4pm. Draft Special 12-4pm. \$2.75 Cuervo Margaritas 4-8pm

WOODY'S - Open Noon. \$2 well or domestic beer til 7pm. Free Hot Dog Buffet 5-11pm. Underwear- fetish- leather nite w/Gary and Chris along with GMHP. \$1 off any drink or bottled beer. (Excludes draft & schnapps) for all in leather or underwear.

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am. 50¢ off any Vodka until 7pm. Beer Bust 3-7pm.

### THURSDAY

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3 sm pitchers, \$5 lg pitchers. \$2.00 Mexican Beers all day. Karaoke with David Z from 8 to midnight.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hours Noon-7pm, DJ 9-1 All drink specials not available during special events.

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open 1pm. Happy Hour 4-7. Kitchen closes 8:30 p.m. Drink specials available.

VENTURE-N - Open 8am. Patio open 6pm. Free Pool til 4pm. Pool Tourny 7pm. \$3 entry. Special prices for players. Steak Nite (4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month). Bring your own or get it here \$5.

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. Beer Bust 3-7pm.

### FRIDAY

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3 sm pitchers, \$5 lg pitchers. Line Dance Lessons 7:30 to 8:30 pm. .

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 & Shrimp Fry Noon to 8:30pm only \$5.99. Happy Hour 4-7. Drag Show every Friday with Crystal Abrahms and Bunny FuFu and guests. Disco dancing with DJ Paul after the show.

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

WOODY'S - Open Noon. \$2 well or domestic beer til 7pm. Martini Party - Well Martini's \$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. Beer Bust 3-7pm. Kennel open 9pm.

### SATURDAY

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 10:30 am. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3 sm pitchers, \$5 lg pitchers. \$3.00 Cheese Burger & Fries all day. Country DJ with the best in country dance music 8:30 to close

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

NOVEMBER BAR & GRILL - Open 1pm. Latino Night 1st & 2nd Saturday every month w/DJ Eduardo 8:30-close Drink specials available. Latino Drag Show every 2nd Saturday. 3rd & 4th Saturdays Super Disco Mix with DJ Bing Bing.

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

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

YARD DOG - Open daily 6am. Beer Bust 3-7pm. 75¢ glass, \$2.25 pitcher. 50¢ off any Rum 1pm to 7pm. Beer Bust 3-7pm. Kennel Open 9pm.

**NOTICES**

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

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

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

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

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

**YOUNG AND GAY?**

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

The TUCSON Chapter of PRIME TIMERS WORLDWIDE invites Gay or Bisexual men and their admirers to join and share Prime Timers fellowship. We welcome mature men (and admirers) who wish to become involved with planned and future Prime Timers (TPT) activities. Meetings luncheons and dinners are held monthly. For dates, times and information call 529-2269, leave name and phone number. Tucsonpt@primetimerswww.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. Board meetings every 2nd Thursday (open to all), 6:00 p.m. Information 624-1779.

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

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

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

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

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

BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO - a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, Call the Bears Hotline (520)790-5775 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910 of visit our website at [www.botop.com](http://www.botop.com) All are welcome to our general meetings/potlucks on the 2nd Friday of every month, 7pm at Sentinel Bldg. On the City of Tucson Resource Campus, 310 N. Commerce Park Loop on Bonita St. between St. Marys and Congress.

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

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

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

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

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

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



**NOTICES**

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](http://www.desertvoices.org) or call 791-9662.

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

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

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

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

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT SPORTS TEAMS and updates on Gay Games 2002, contact TEAM ARIZONA at their website: [teamarizona.org](http://teamarizona.org)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

AZdykes is a new email list for Lesbians living in Arizona. For information mail [tyan@theriver.com](mailto:tyan@theriver.com) and request guidelines.

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

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

**NOTICES**

SOUTHERN ARIZONA GENDER ALLIANCE (SAGA). The Southwest's largest transgender and gender-variant advocacy organization. Speakers and panelists available. General meetings monthly on the 1st Mondays at 7pm; Dezerz Girlz MTF Support) meets 2nd Mondays at 7pm; Dezerz Boyz (FTM Support) meets 3rd Tuesdays at 7pm. Also serving partners, youth, intersex, service providers and allies. Call (520)867-0083 for more info.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

TUCSON GREATER SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION. Interested? Call Kelly Quinn, (520)906-0669 and or Mona Garcia 256-8728.

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.lctucson.org](http://www.lctucson.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)

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

"OUT ON THE TRAILS - EQUESTRIAN FUN!" Rider Club forming. Looking for women and men to ride together on the trails of Southern Arizona. Must have own horse, truck and trailer. For more info write: "Out On The Trails" P.O. Box 44045, Tucson, AZ 85733-4045

**LIKE TO READ?**

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

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

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

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

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

TNTucsonMEN, a nudist Gay men's club. We are a social and recreational group. By the way, the TN means Totally Naked! Drop an e-mail at [TNTucsonMen@nethere.com](mailto:TNTucsonMen@nethere.com)

**HOUSING/FOR RENT**

ONE BEDROOM ADOBE HOUSE. Living room, dining room, bedroom, kitchen, bath. Hardwood floors, fenced yard. Speedway/Alvernon area. Call Bill for appointment to see 795-8881

**EMPLOYMENT**

HOUSEKEEPER NEEDED for private residence.. Located on the far east side of Tucson. 1-2 days a week. Must be bondable. Phone (520)731-1811 1049

MALE MODELS NEEDED. MVS Productions in Tucson is seeking slim to athletic build 18+ uninhibited men for calendars, greeting cards, magazines and web-site content. Models start at \$30 per hour. 520-603-4903, email: [mvsproductions@aol.com](mailto:mvsproductions@aol.com) website: [www.MaleVisionS.com](http://www.MaleVisionS.com) 1051

OFFICE ASSISTANT - Part-time AM and PM positions available. Multitask, attention to details, good customer service and data entry skills are a must. Office located at Tucson Estates. We offer competitive wages plus transportation allowance. Call 883-8600 for more information. 1048

**SERVICES**

WE WANT YOUR BODY TO COME INTO OUR SALON! Crazy sale for new clients, now through September 10th, to introduce you to our services. Full Pedicure \$20 (normally \$30); Manicure \$10 (normally \$15); One-Tone Acrylic Set \$19 (normally \$25). Nail Huetopia at Ahead of Style Hair & Nail Salon, 426 E. 9th St., Tucson, Az. 624-8400. Natasha 360-1720 or Janet 808-7355. 1050

FULL BODY SWEDISH MASSAGE FOR MEN. Best rates in Tucson! Speedway and Swan area. IN and OUT calls. 7 days. 548-6314 1050

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. 1056

ENJOY A NICE TOUCH. Attractive man offers a sensuous, relaxing massage. Summer Special \$30.00 10am - 8p.m. 745-0231 1045..

COMPUTERS EXTRAORDINAIRE: Your old system giving you trouble? Upgrade it for a reasonable price, or allow us to tailor make a system just for you. For home or business, we come to you with friendly, quality installation, instruction and service. Call Carl today @ 977-2572 and get a free quote! 1050

END BACK PAIN. The back solution, massage and bodywork. 15 years experience. Tension Erasure - Stress Reduction - Relax for Health. Abe 294-4810 1050

BASIC THAI, DEEP TISSUE OR RELAXING MASSAGE by a trained, caring male. Often at a moments notice. First Time Discount! (520) 730-7966. 1056

TENSE? STRESSED OUT? Relax for an hour with a full body rub by Frank. Private studio, off-street parking. 548-7019 days, evenings. 1053

HAVE A HEALTHY TANTRIC MASSAGE. Enjoy the quality of 22 years professional experience. Call Marc - 881-4582 from 1 to 9 p.m. 1048.

ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS Let me keep your clothes fitting properly and in good repair. Experienced -- Economical -- Prompt. Merle Hudson, (520)888-7264 in Tucson. 1050

**Details Cleaning**



**No Job Too Small...Free Estimates**

**Mike & Steve (520)514-1614**

**Weekly Bi-Weekly One Time**

**Our Name Says It All References Upon Request**

**HATE IS NOT A FAMILY VALUE**

**DESERT PRIDE - Your store for Gay Pride and more!**

**611 N. Fourth Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85705** (Across from IBT's, Next to Magpies. Come See Us!) **(520)388-9829**

**Southern Arizona's  
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual,  
and Transgender  
Community Center**

A decorative graphic consisting of a dotted line forming a circular path with several grey footprints and arrowheads pointing in the direction of the path, suggesting a dance or movement.

**Let's dance!**

**7th Annual Benefit Dinner  
Saturday, September 18  
Tucson Convention Center**

**For tickets call 624.1779  
[www.wingspan.org](http://www.wingspan.org)**