



Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

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Kerry Vs. Bush: It's Too Close To Call

By Mark R. Kerr

WASHINGTON, D.C. (ON) - Four years ago, the nation endured a close election involving counting ballots, who was registered and could cast a ballot and a nefarious Secretary of State, a Republican, who was in charge of the presidential election for the State of Florida.

Flashing forward to the 2004 presidential election, this year's election trouble spot turned out to be the Buckeye State, Ohio, with controversies over voter registration, absentee ballots, intimidation and challenges to people trying to cast a vote, whether provisional ballots - a part of the federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) law, passed after the 2000 debacle, will be counted.

All eyes, as of press time, are on Ohio, the state which will decide this year's election between George W. Bush and John

Kerry.

According to news reports, there are more than 600,000 absentee and provisional ballots to be counted in the state, as well as ballots cast late Tuesday, November 2, due to malfunctioning election machinery, still to be tabulated.

"The vote count in Ohio has not been completed. There are more than 250,000 remaining votes to be counted. We believe when they are, John Kerry will win Ohio," the Kerry campaign said in a statement early Wednesday, November 3, adding they are not conceding Ohio.

Ohio's Republican Secretary of State, Kenneth Blackwell, said in a press conference, early November 3, that all ballots will be counted, even if it takes "or two weeks."

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G/L Marriage Bans Approved In Ten States Court Challenges Await

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In a resounding, coast-to-coast rejection of Gay and Lesbian marriage, voters in 11 states approved constitutional amendments Tuesday, November 2, limiting marriage to one man and one woman, reported the Associated Press.

The amendments won, often by huge margins, in Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Ohio, Utah and Oregon — the one state where Gay-rights activists hoped to prevail. The bans won by a 3-to-1 margin in Kentucky and Georgia, 3-to-2 in Ohio, and 6-to-1 in Mississippi.

"This issue does not deeply divide America," said conservative activist Gary Bauer. "The country overwhelmingly rejects same-sex marriage, and our hope is that both politicians and activist judges will read these results and take them to heart."

The Ohio measure, considered the broadest of the 11 because it barred any legal status that "intends to approximate marriage," gathered equal support from men and women, blacks and whites.

In Georgia, Ohio and Mississippi, Gay-rights activists were considering court challenges of the newly approved amendments. But supporters of the bans were jubilant.

"I've said all along that this crossed party lines, color lines and socio-

economic lines," said Sadie Fields of the Georgia Christian Coalition. "The people in this state realized that we're talking about the future of our country here."

Conservatives had expected all along that the amendments would prevail in at least 10 of the states, thus demonstrating widespread public disapproval of court rulings in favor of Gay couples. National and local Gay-rights groups campaigned vigorously in Oregon, where polls had showed a close race, but they failed to prevent a sweep.

"That certainly is disappointing news that many Kentucky voters would think it's appropriate to write discrimination into our constitution," said Beth Wilson of the American Civil Liberties Union of Kentucky. "People get harmed when their relationships are not respected, and this means that relationships won't be respected."

None of the 11 states allow Gay marriage now, though officials in Portland, Ore., married more than 3,000 same-sex couples last year before a judge halted the practice. Supporters of the amendments contend the measures are needed as an extra guard against state court rulings like the one in Massachusetts a year ago that legalized same-sex marriage there.

Arizona Election Results McCain, Grijalva Win Big Proposition 200 Passes

By Mark R. Kerr

PHOENIX (ON) - Arizonans went to the polls, early or at the voting booth Tuesday, November 2 to decide whom their elected officials will be, as well as eight statewide ballot propositions.

With 93% reporting, George W. Bush won the states 10 electoral votes, by a 55-45% margin.

As expected all incumbent Members of Congress, including Senator John McCain, Congressmen Raul Grijalva and Jim Kolbe won easy reelection.

Voters had to decide eight statewide ballot propositions:

Proposition 100, that dealt with the state trust lands was defeated again, for the sixth time.

Proposition 101, requiring that citizen initiatives that require funding, list where the monies will come from, was winning.

Proposition 102, which had the support of politicians on both sides of the aisle, allowing Arizona's Universities to acquire stock failed.

Proposition 103, changing the requirements for temporary Justices of the Peace, allowing non-attorneys to serve in the post was passing.

Proposition 104, restricting the time to gather signatures for initiatives was resoundingly defeated.

Proposition 105, expanding the State Board of Education was winning.

The most controversial measure on the ballot, Proposition 200, the "Protect Arizona Now" initiative passed. A court challenge is expected to be filed shortly on this issue.

Arizonans gave a resounding thumbs down to giving Arizona's Legislators a pay raise, defeating Proposition 300.

All four Republican incumbents running for the Arizona Corporation Commission were re-elected for another four year term.

For Arizona's Legislature, both openly Gay Legislators, state Senator Ken Chevront, D-Phoenix and state Representative Robert Meza, D-Phoenix won reelection. In Pima County, Amanda Simpson's bid to be the first Transgender elected official in Arizona fell short, coming in third for the state House of Representatives from District 26 in Tucson.

In District 27, all three incumbents ran unopposed. In District 28, the Democratic team of state Senator Gabrielle Giffords, state Representatives David Bradley and Ted Downing withstood a Republican challenge. State Senator Victor Soltero will again represent District 29, defeating his Republican opponent.

Voters gave a thumbs up on judicial retainer for the judges for the respect county and state courts.

All five Pima County Supervisors won their electoral contests. Pima County Attorney Barbara LaWall, Pima County Sheriff Clarence Dupnik were reelected. Democrat Bill Staples won the contest to be the next Assessor for Pima County, defeating Bill Heusler by a 51-43% margin.

In Pima County, there were several propositions on the local ballot, three of note dealt with a proposed bond override for the Tucson Unified School District. Proposition 400 was leading, but Propositions 401 and 402 were losing. All three had to pass for the measure to be implemented.

Judy Burns, Joel Ireland and Alex Rodriguez were leading for the three seats on the Tucson Unified School District Board.

No Extortion By Alleged Boyfriend, Cipel's Lawyer Claims

TRENTON - A federal investigation has uncovered no evidence that a former aide to New Jersey governor James E. McGreevey tried to extort millions of dollars from him by threatening a sexual harassment suit, according to the aide's lawyer, Advocate.com reported.

Paul Batista, Golan Cipel's attorney, said federal officials told him that Cipel and another lawyer for his client acted properly during settlement talks in the weeks before August 12, when McGreevey announced that he is Gay, had engaged in an extramarital affair with another man, and would resign November 15. "I'm certain there's no chance they would be accused of a crime," Batista told The Philadelphia Inquirer. "As far as my job, I consider my work done."

Cipel, former state homeland security adviser, has been named by McGreevey associates as the man the governor had an affair with. Cipel has denied that he is Gay or had an affair with McGreevey and has claimed that the governor sexually harassed him. He threatened a sexual harassment suit but never filed it. FBI spokesman Steve Kodak did not comment on the investigation. But other law enforcement officials familiar with the case told the newspaper that they would not dispute Batista's statements.

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UPDATE

Kate Clinton In Tucson Nov. 21

TUCSON - Kate Clinton will be performing Sunday, November 21, 2:00 p.m., at The Muse Community Arts Center, 516 N. 5th Ave., for a benefit for Wingspan.

Kate Clinton has been a prolific performer, writer, and activist in the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community for more than 20 years. She has performed as a standup comic throughout the country, and recently released her 7th and latest comedy collection, titled "The Marrying Kind."

A sought-after commentator, she has appeared on many national talk shows, including Good Morning America, Nightline, The Rosie O'Donnell Show, and Entertainment Tonight. As an actor, Clinton starred in Eve Ensler's smash hit The Vagina Monologues and in The Rocky Horror Show on Broadway.

In addition, her writing has been featured in The New York Times. Clinton published her first book, Don't Get Me Started, in 1998, and she has monthly columns in The Progressive and The Advocate.

Doors will open at 1:00 p.m. since this is one performance you won't want to miss! Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, and are now on sale at Antigone Books. For more information about Kate Clinton, check out <http://www.kateclinton.com> For More Information about the Tucson show, contact Kristen

Cornerstone's Celebration Weekend Nov. 5-7

TUCSON - Cornerstone Fellowship is pleased to announce its Celebration Weekend, November 5, 6 and 7, for members and friends of the GLBT community.

Pastor Fred Pattison of Olive Tree Ministries will be teaching a workshop on "End Time Events" beginning Friday, November 5, 7:00 p.m. and concluding Saturday, November 6, 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Pastor Fred began preaching as a teenager in the 1940's. He is the former pastor of Casa de Cristo church in Phoenix. Pastor Fred's focus is upon reaching out to those people who have often been disenfranchised by institutional Christianity.

Reverends Dennis and Evelyn Schave will be present to minister on Sunday, November 7. Dennis Schave has been in Christ's service for over 35 years. He has worked as a professional counselor for over 25 years. During most of those years he also served as pastor of a local church with his wife Evelyn. Dennis, who considers his major calling to be that of teacher, will be teaching Bible study at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday,

Reverend Evelyn Schave will give the Sunday morning message at 10:30 a.m. She has worked in the service of the Lord for over 50 years, already preaching at the age of eight. Evelyn considers her main calling as evangelist. She has traveled extensively throughout the U.S., Canada, and Mexico. Evelyn has also ministered in Tanzania, East Africa, and most recently in Uganda. Evelyn and Dennis have been sharing the love of Jesus Christ in the Gay and Lesbian community since 1989. All are invited to attend. Cornerstone Fellowship is located at 2902 N. Geronimo.

Day Of Remembrance November 20

TUCSON - The Southern Arizona Gender Alliance (SAGA) will be sponsoring Tucson's observance of the National Transgender Day of Remembrance on Saturday, November 20, 6:30 p.m. at Catalina Park (N. 4th Avenue).

There will be a candlelight ceremony at the park followed by a march down Fourth Avenue and a reception at Wingspan.

The Day of Remembrance is an annual event commemorating the lives of Transgender people who were murdered because of their gender identities. The event is held in November to honor Rita Hester, whose murder in 1998 led to the "Remembering Our Dead" web project (<http://www.gender.org/remember>). Since then, the event has grown to encompass memorials in dozens of cities across the world.

G/L Great American Smoke out Nov. 18

TUCSON - The GLBT community has the highest rate of smoking than any other minority population. Typically held on the third Thursday in November, the Gay American Smoke Out was created to coincide with the American Cancer Society's Great American Smoke Out.

Please join Wingspan on Thursday, November 18, 6:00 p.m. to learn about the risks of tobacco use, to gather resources, and to challenge yourself to quit smoking.

For more information, contact Cathy Hammer, (520) 624.1779 x25, Wingspan Health and Wellness Program Coordinator, or visit <http://www.wingspan.org> for more information

Prescott Pride Center 4th Anniversary Celebration Nov. 6

PRESCOTT - Did you realize that the Prescott Pride Center, 111 Josephine St., has been serving the community for four years? Join in as we celebrate this extraordinary accomplishment, Saturday, November 6, 2 to 4 p.m.

The Pride Center is hosting a free anniversary Open House with hors d'oeuvres, live music, and anniversary cake.

At 3 pm, the Center will have a short ceremony to formally recognize our committed volunteers and board members, along with a quick walk down memory lane to look back at the Pride Center's remarkable history. After the ceremony, join in for a celebratory sparkling cider toast, followed by music and mingling. The Pride Center hopes you'll help us commemorate this important community milestone!

If you've volunteered 20 hours or more for the Pride Center over the last year, please be sure to attend this event, since they will be handing out appreciation certificates and giving special recognition to those of you who have made a commitment to actively serve our community!

For more information, please call us at (928) 445-8800 or email us at contact@prescottpridecenter.com.

Desert Voices Is Building Bridges

TUCSON - Desert Voices, Tucson's GLBT and Supportive Others Chorus, has taken on a season mission and theme of Building Bridges in the community.

"In memory of former member, Mary Webber, a lifetime human rights activist who passed away last year from lung cancer, the chorus is making a concerted effort to reach out in to the community, offering our voices to community events where our songs might make a greater impact," said member and Board President, Mae Krueger. "It is our hope to raise our voices in the community to help change the world in a positive manner."

Letters to community organizations were sent out and the chorus hopes to fulfill their mission by singing for a variety of events throughout the year. The group already has plans to sing at the Day of Remembrance sponsored by the Southern Arizona Gender Alliance on November 20, as well as for a fashion show being sponsored by the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation in March of next year. As many events as possible will be accommodated by the group, based on availability of singing members and their own concert schedule.

The group will be holding their annual yard sale fundraiser, November 6, 2004, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., 4412 E. Holmes (near 5th and Columbus, watch for the signs). In order for the group to offer their voices to other community members, they must raise funds to pay for music, the services of their director and accompanist, rehearsal space and so forth. The 40+ member chorus invites community members to come out to the yard sale and support their mission. Donations of items for the yard sale (or cash!) are still being accepted and can be made by calling the Desert Voices office at (520)791-9662.

Desert Voices will present their Winter concert, "Naughty....Or Nice?", on Saturday, December 4, 7:30 p.m. at The Muse Community Arts Center, 516 N. 5th Avenue, with a second performance on Sunday, December 5, 2 p.m. (same location). To hear this amazing group in concert, tickets may be purchased from Antigone Books, 411 N 4th Avenue, Desert Pride, 611 N. 4th Ave., or by calling the Desert Voices office at (520)791-9662. More information about the chorus, their activities and the upcoming show can also be found at www.desertvoices.org.

Kerry Vs. Bush Continued from Page One

Despite the projections and calls by the corporate media, in states such as Florida, which has more than 2,000,000 early and provisional ballots still to be tabulated in the Sunshine State, this election is too close to call.

In a statement, Senator John Edwards, the Democratic nominee for Vice President, at Kerry's Headquarters in Boston, to supporters, he said that John Kerry and he made a promise to the America people that "every vote would count and will be counted."

With that, it could take up to 11 days to count provisional ballots in Ohio, Florida and other states as well.

As of press time, Senator John Kerry has 225 electoral votes and President George W. Bush has 222 electoral votes.

Ohio, Florida, Wisconsin, Iowa, Michigan, Nevada and New Mexico were still tabulating their early votes and ballots cast on November 2, as well as provisional ballots.

♥ 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



P.O. BOX 50733,
TUCSON, AZ 85703
(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

EDITOR/PUBLISHER:

Bob Ellis

ARTS & GRAPHICS:

Gary Clark

MANAGING EDITOR:

Mark Kerr

Special Events Photos:

Bill Morrow

Amanda Irvine

Horoscope:

Charlene Lichtenstein

Contributing Columnists

MARK R. KERR - LEE THORN
JERRY DIAZ

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Informing the Community
The Observer

COMMENTARY . . .

Parents Know No One 'Chooses' To Be Gay

By Cynthia Tucker

Because Dick Cheney and his wife, Lynne, managed to change the conversation about homosexuality to a contentious discussion of whether John Kerry smeared their daughter, there was little public discussion about the original question during that third debate: Do you believe homosexuality is a choice?

If you want to condemn Gays to hell, it helps to believe they have chosen a "lifestyle" based "simply on the premise of selfish hedonism," as Alan Keyes, the GOP candidate for Senate in Illinois, recently said of the Cheneys' Lesbian daughter, Mary. (Interestingly, the Cheneys uttered not one word in public condemnation of Keyes. Could it be because Keyes is a Republican?) For people like Keyes, homosexuality has to be viewed as a choice. Otherwise, it couldn't be a sin.

Science tends to dispute the reactionary Keyes. Researchers theorize that sexual orientation is determined by a complex interplay of factors, including environment, genes and hormones, and is determined so early in a child's formation that it cannot be considered a "choice." (Contrary to conventional wisdom, there has always been homosexuality in the animal kingdom, too.)

But there is a group of folks in a position to know even better than scientists: parents of Gay and Lesbian children. Many of them have struggled to understand and to support and love their children, no matter what. They have worried about the bigotry their sons and daughters face every day. And they know their children would never have chosen to belong to the most despised group in

America.

The Cheneys — ultraconservatives though they are — surely cannot believe their daughter "chose" to be Gay.

"It took a lot of time and a lot of reading" for Frances Cunningham to become comfortable with her daughter's homosexuality. "When she told me, I think I would have been more prepared for her to tell me she had two heads or three feet," she said. But, looking back, "I know this has always been part of her."

Cunningham now says she has not only deep love but also admiration for her daughter, Kecia, a city commissioner in the Atlanta suburb of Decatur and one of a handful of black Georgia elected officials who are openly Gay.

Said Craig Washington, a black Gay activist, "I think it was more difficult for my father. ... I think there is a particular challenge to a black man when his son presents as Gay. I think they first think, 'Well, what did I do wrong?' But gradually he came to accept my sexuality as not a failure or a flaw but just as fact."

Having his parents' support, Washington said, is "a blessing. ... I think in a lot of ways they demonstrate what it is to love someone beyond their comfort ... to love somebody even when they haven't turned out to be what they expected."

Unlike the Cheneys, who remain among the royalty of reactionary politics, many parents who publicly demonstrate their love for Gay or Lesbian children find themselves alienated from family, friends

and community. That is especially true for black families, given the vile homophobia rampant in black America.

It's because of fears of alienation that E. asked that her name not be used, even as she spoke of her love and support for her son. "Not all of our family members know. ... His father still has a very hard time with this. He just doesn't want to hear about it."

Indeed, she says, her son could not at first acknowledge his sexual orientation even to her, denying that he was Gay each time she asked. "Finally, I said, 'If you can't tell your mother, who could you tell?'"

As she has sought to learn more, E. said, she has heard young black adults who are Gay or Lesbian speak of their fears of living openly, of being rejected by their parents, aunts and uncles. "That made me think we're just not embracing our children," she said.

Homophobia is the last acceptable prejudice in America. And its perpetrators comfort themselves with the thought that they are simply castigating a group of sinful sexual bohemians — instead of mocking and vilifying the lives of people who happen to love someone of the same sex. The bigots' self-justification doesn't make their bigotry any less cruel. It never has.

[Cynthia Tucker is a columnist for the Atlanta Journal-Constitution and this commentary was reprinted from the October 26 edition of the Albany-Times (N.Y.) Union.]

Ashcroft Intervenes In G/L Marriage Suit

SANTA ANA - A couple seeking to overturn government bans on same sex marriages will have to contend with the legal weight of the federal government, the Associated Press reported on 365Gay.com.

The U.S. Department of Justice has asked to intervene in a lawsuit filed by Christopher Hammer and Arthur Smelt that claims federal and state bans on same-sex marriage are unconstitutional.

A Department of Justice attorney filed a motion Tuesday, October 26, to intervene in response to an Oct. 14 invitation from U.S. District Court Judge Gary Taylor.

Hammer and Smelt, both 45, of Mission Viejo are the first couple to file a suit challenging marriage laws in federal court in California. Other challenges have been filed in state courts.

Hammer and Smelt want an order requiring Orange County to issue them a marriage license on the basis that the laws against same-sex marriage violate the due process and equal protection clauses of the 14th Amendment. Their goal is to take the case to the Supreme Court.

Similar suits have been filed in federal court in Florida and Washington state.



TUCSON'S HOTTEST GAY NIGHTCLUB



this week:

SATURDAY @ 8:30PM THE "Fu Fu Revue"

Drag Survivor



10:30PM til 2AM: HOT DANCE

hosted by Bunny Fu-Fu

THURSDAYS 10PM til 2AM

Underwear Night

Party with Men in their underwear and Go-Go Dancers

Top 40 all request with DJ Mike Lopez
\$1.75 Long Islands, \$1.00 Shot Specials

SUNDAY

11AM Troy's Recovery Bar & Bloody Mary Buffet

4:00PM Karaoke on the Patio with Michael D.

5:30PM Benefit Bar-B-Que/Beer Bust
\$5 for 5 - 16oz Bud or Bud Light Draft and a Burger
(chicken & veggie burger also available)7:30PM-2AM: DANCE with
DJ MIKE LOPEZ

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Saturday, November 13
Breakfast by Nick
10:00 a.m. Noon
Benefit for Balboa Heights
Community Center
TKO Car Wash
9:30 a.m. To ????



→→→→**TUESDAYS**←←←←
9:00 a.m. Dart Tourney
 →→→→**WEDNESDAYS**←←←←
7:30 p.m. Dart Tournament
 →→→→**THURSDAYS**←←←←
Boots & Briefs
 →→→→**FRIDAYS**←←←←
Military & Yellow Ribbon
 →→→→**SATURDAYS**←←←←
Recess Drinking Party
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Polls Show Military Views Shift Toward Gays And Lesbians

PHILADELPHIA - Half of all junior enlisted service members in the U.S. military believe Gays and Lesbians should be allowed to enlist and serve, according to a new survey, reported the PlanetOut Network.

The soldiers' views represent a significant drop in support for the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy, which bans openly Gay personnel. Two similar surveys taken in 1992 found that only 16 percent of male service members thought Gay people should be allowed to serve.

The University of Pennsylvania's National Annenberg Election Survey also found that those who support allowing Gays to serve openly do so because they believe sexual orientation is unrelated to job performance.

The Annenberg poll follows a recent report from the Urban Institute estimating there are 65,000 U.S. Gay and Lesbian military personnel.

"Despite the military's Gay ban, service members have seen firsthand the contributions of Lesbian and Gay Americans," said Sharra E. Greer, director of law and policy for the Servicemembers Legal Defense Net-

work (SLDN). "Heterosexual service members serve alongside Lesbian and Gay colleagues every day, and they are increasingly comfortable doing so."

A report issued last month detailed experiences from dozens of Gay and Lesbian soldiers serving in military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, including the account of one Gay soldier who helped rescue Jessica Lynch, a prisoner of war in Iraq.

Among civilians, Annenberg reports 67 percent support allowing Gays in the military. Presidential candidate Sen. John Kerry has said he would work to change "don't ask, don't tell" if elected.

The survey also found that 16 percent believed Lesbian and Gay service members were "bad for morale," and 12 percent said they were "bad for teamwork" — two justifications that military leaders have used to support the Gay ban.

"The American people and, increasingly, our men and women in uniform, realize the disservice 'don't ask, don't tell' exacts on our nation," Greer said. "Congress must also act now to recognize the contribution of Lesbian and Gay Americans and repeal the ban once and for all."

Rare STD May Put Gay Men At Risk

ATLANTA - The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) warned Gay and Bisexual American men on Thursday, October 28, that a rare sexually transmitted disease spreading in Europe could be coming to the United States, the PlanetOut Network reported.

The first recorded outbreak of Lymphogranuloma venereum (LGV) among men who have sex with men took place in Rotterdam, Amsterdam, in December 2003. It has spread to Antwerp and Paris. It now has appeared in Belgium, Sweden and Great Britain.

The infection is caused by specific strains of chlamydia, which causes genital ulcers, swollen lymph glands and flu-like symptoms.

But unlike chlamydia, LGV has caused people infected in the Netherlands to develop gastrointestinal bleeding, as well as inflammation of the rectum and colon. If ignored, LGV can make those infected more vulnerable to hepatitis C and HIV. In rare cases, LGV can be fatal.

Dutch authorities believe a large number of the infected took part in sex parties and unprotected anal intercourse before getting sick. Many were also infected with HIV, Reuters news service reported.

"We expect it's a question of time before we see cases appearing here," Dr. Stuart Berman told Reuters. Berman, the chief of the epidemiology and surveillance branch in the CDC's division of STD prevention, described the outbreaks in Europe as "an early warning."

While LGV can be cured with a three-week course of antibiotics, it could be difficult to stop an American outbreak from spreading, because the disease is so rare and often misdiagnosed.

Dr. Ken Haller, board member and former president of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (GLMA), said LGV symptoms can "appear anywhere from three to 30 days after it's

transmitted. The thing is the lesion can be inside the urethra or the rectum, so it could be undetectable."

Haller said LGV is transmitted sexually, although he did admit that it could be transmitted through kissing, since chlamydia could be spread that way as well.

"If you do have any burning when you urinate or discomfort during a bowel movement, or swelling in the groin, you should see your doctor and you should bring up the possibility of LGV," Haller said. "Because it's just not on their radar."

Norway Reports Outbreak Of Hepatitis A Among Gay Men

OSLO - The Norwegian Department of Infectious Diseases has reported an outbreak of sexually transmitted hepatitis A among Gay men in the country, Advocate.com reported.

One hundred fifty cases have been reported in the country from January 1 through October 18, up from 52 cases during the same period in 2003. About 46% of the cases were determined to be due to sexual transmission between Gay men; 51 of the 69 cases among Gay men were reported in Oslo.

Health officials began offering free hepatitis A vaccinations to Gay men in Oslo and Bergen this summer, which some officials say has helped slow the STD's spread. There also has been a public health campaign in Gay venues in Oslo about the STD. Similar outbreaks of hepatitis A have been reported in Denmark, Sweden, and the United Kingdom this year. U.K. health officials also have reported outbreaks of the STDs shigellosis and lymphogranuloma venereum—a rare form of chlamydia—among Gay men this year.

CARD ADS IN THE RESOURCE SECTION OF THE OBSERVER GET RESULTS

Schools In Two States Targeted For Ill Treatment Of LGBT Students

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The ACLU is battling school districts in two states alleging they are systematically targeting LGBT students for abuse, 365Gay.com reported.

In Missouri, the ACLU has come to the defense of a high school junior who was sent home twice from school for wearing t-shirts bearing Gay pride messages. The principal cited concerns that other students may be offended by the shirts worn by Brad Mathewson.

"This school allows its students to freely express their views on Gay and Lesbian rights - but only if they're on the anti-Gay side of the issue," said Jolie Justus, a member of the legal panel for the ACLU of Kansas and Western Missouri, noting that bumperstickers in favor of Missouri's recently-passed anti-Gay marriage constitutional amendment are ubiquitous in the school's hallways and parking lot. She added, "This is a classic case of censorship. Brad Mathewson has the same Constitutional right to political speech and expression that the Supreme Court says all students have."

Mathewson was sent to the principal's office by his homeroom teacher on October 20 after she spotted his t-shirt. The shirt bears the name of the GSA at his old high school in Fayetteville, Arkansas (FHS Gay-Straight Alliance), a pink triangle, and the words, "Make a Difference!" When an assistant principal saw it, he told Mathewson to go home and change shirts because someone might be offended by it. Although Mathewson pointed out the anti-Gay marriage stickers seen throughout the school, his concerns were ignored. Mathewson was again disciplined when he came to school on October 27 wearing a t-shirt featuring a rainbow and the phrase, "I'm Gay and I'm proud."

In a letter sent to the school, the ACLU of Kansas and Western Missouri pointed to the school's dress code policy, which only states that students' clothing must be "free of obscene or suggestive markings, advertisements of tobacco, alcoholic beverages, drugs, and/or other products deemed inappropriate by school officials." The ACLU goes on to demand that officials remove any mention of the incident from Mathewson's records and allow him to wear the shirts without fear of punishment.



In California, the ACLU has filed a lawsuit on behalf of Gay and Lesbian students at Washington Preparatory High School in Los Angeles who claim they were sexually harassed by students, teachers, security guards and administrators.

At a news conference, the ACLU's Cathrine Lhamon said that "teachers are calling the kids sinners, teachers are calling the kids unholy, teachers are calling the kids faggots, teachers are telling the kids it's not OK to be Gay."

One student said he and his boyfriend were caught kissing on the South Los Angeles campus and a security guard and an administrator ridiculed them.

The student also said heterosexual couples kissing on campus were not subject to the treatment he and his boyfriend received. A student identifying herself as Bisexual said a teacher "outed" her to her parents, causing her embarrassment and humiliation, and told her homosexuals will go to hell.

She said she was hurt because she is a religious person.

Kevin Reed, a lawyer who represents the Los Angeles Unified School District, called the allegations "absolutely incorrect." Reed said the district has conducted 170 tolerance-based training sessions, including three at Washington Preparatory.

He said LAUSD has been at the forefront of protecting students.

'Lesbian Shorts' Plays November 5 - 6 - 7

TUCSON - The Bloody Unicorn Theatre Company, in conjunction with Old Pueblo Playwrights, presents "Lesbian Shorts - A Festival Of Original One-Act Plays With A Sapphic Slant". The Festival will present the world premieres of three new one-acts, including plays by local, award-winning authors, along with bellydance performances and other surprises.

All of the works will be presented each night, as a single bill. Performances of the Festival will take place Friday through Sunday, November 5-7, at 7:30 PM on Friday and at both 2:30 PM and 7:30 PM on Saturday and Sunday. The show will be at the Cabaret Theater, upstairs in the Temple of Music and Art, 330 S. Scott Ave. Tickets are \$13 and can be reserved by calling (520) 990-3628 or e-mailing kyraroc@yahoo.com. Group discounts are available for parties of eight or more.

"Lesbian Shorts" includes both comedies and dramas, each with a lesbian relationship as a central feature. 'Toys', by local playwright Adrienne Perry, is a comedy about misunderstanding, sexual frustration, and experimentation in bed. In the drama 'Matchbox Songs and Gypsy Hymns', by Sarah Pariseau, a pair of high-schoolers who share a love of The Rolling Stones edge towards the possibility that they might share something more. 'Vamp', by local author Ry Herman, is a vinyl-clad supernatural romantic comedy containing more than you thought you wanted to know about monsters, meteors, and imaginary friends. Entertainment between the plays will be provided by the dancers of Midriff Crisis, Tucson's leading tribal bellydance troupe.

Adrienne Perry and Ry Herman are both members of Old Pueblo Playwrights, which is co-producing the event along with the Bloody Unicorn Theater. Sarah Pariseau is a Rhode Island teenager whose play was selected by the Festival Board out of a stack of hundreds being considered.

Ry Herman, also the Artistic Director of the Festival, says that "This is really a wonderful opportunity for some great playwrights to have their work showcased. I've been wanting to produce Adrienne's play for years, and when we found Sarah's play - which is really an amazing piece, it's very hard to believe she's still in high school - the idea for the Festival started to come together. If it goes well, we're thinking of making it an annual Festival, maybe with a different theme each year. Right now, there aren't enough venues for new plays, and there's a lot of work out there that deserves to be seen."

The Bloody Unicorn Theater Company was created six years ago, although as a producing organization it has frequently performed under different stage names. It has always, however, been consistent in presenting excellent, original works by local playwrights; every work produced by the company has been a world premiere, and many of the productions have won awards and critical acclaim. Old Pueblo Playwrights is a Southern Arizona organization that offers authors workshops, feedback, and festivals such as the Play-In-A-Day Competition and the acclaimed annual OPP Staged Readings Series.

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Back in 1906, a leading American theologian published a best-selling book justifying discrimination against African Americans, saying they were creatures of uncontrollable "sensuality." Similar racist theones were spouted by politicians like the notorious "Pitchfork" Ben Tillman who toured the country under the banner, "Negro equality in politics means social equality, mongrelization, hellfire and damnation!" Belief in the innate immorality of black people, buttressed by selected scriptural references, formed the basis for slavery, segregation and lynchings.

Now come the homophobes, spouting the same hate-filled rhetoric about a different minority group. "Homosexuality is immoral, unscriptural and unhealthy," we are told. It is a "sin," like theft and drunkenness, according to Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott.

The Pitchfork Tillmans of today warn that the "homosexual lobby" wants to bring about the destruction of the American family. Just like their racist antecedents, they are trying to whip up hatred and intolerance in order to build public support for anti-gay laws.

Sure, they can try to hide behind morality, but we all know a bigot when we see one. Think about it.

Ira Glasser
Executive Director of the American Civil Liberties Union
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Fundamentalists Vow To Bring Down G/L Friendly P&G

CINCINNATI - Two powerful conservative groups say they'll extend indefinitely an election-related boycott of Procter & Gamble Co., contending that the consumer products giant is too supportive of Gay rights and urging customers to stop buying Crest, Tide and Pampers, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com.

P&G, while proud of its reputation for recruiting and supporting a diverse work force, says boycott organizers have deliberately distorted the company's positions by suggesting incorrectly that P&G has endorsed same-sex marriage.

According to the Mississippi-based American Family Association, more than 287,000 people have signed onto the boycott since the AFA and the Christian ministry Focus on the Family announced the campaign in mid-September. They asked supporters to stop buying P&G's top-selling brands of toothpaste, detergent and disposable diapers.

The boycott was sparked by P&G's support of a campaign in its home city of Cincinnati for a ballot measure to repeal Article 12, a 1993 city charter amendment prohibiting Gay-rights laws. A P&G executive has taken leave to run the repeal campaign, and the company - according to spokesman Doug Shelton - has donated \$40,000 to the effort. Voters decide the issue next Tuesday.

The repeal campaign has numerous mainstream backers - Cincinnati's mayor, its Chamber of Commerce, the local Roman Catholic archbishop and several major corporations, including Federated Department Stores Inc., owner of Macy's. They believe Article 12, the only ban of its kind in the nation, has tarnished the city's image and driven away business.

Only P&G was singled out for a boycott, however, because it has a high profile nationally.

"Companies with a large consumer base should be in the business of offering quality products," said Randy Sharp, the AFA's director of special projects. "When they become politically involved in an agenda opposed by a majority of the American people, they're alienating their consumers."

A boycott Web site run by the AFA asserts that P&G "supports homosexual marriage." However, Shelton said the company has never made such an endorsement, nor has it taken any position on a statewide ballot measure in Ohio that would ban same-sex measure.

"We're not going to change our position on the repeal - we believe Article 12 is bad economic policy for Cincinnati," Shelton said. "Everything else is something we need to manage, to converse with our consumers who call us, and talk to them about what's the truth and what isn't."

Sharp defended the claim that P&G supports Gay marriage.

"They may not come right out and say it," he said. "But it's quite clear and apparent that Procter & Gamble is seeking to support the homosexual agenda, and the number-one goal of the homosexual agenda is Gay marriage, so I don't think it's a stretch to say they support Gay marriage."

Both Shelton and the company's critics said it was too early to gauge the financial impact of the boycott, which is intended to last far beyond Election Day.

"A good consumer boycott takes two to four years to be felt," Sharp said.

Focus on the Family's vice president for public policy, Tom Minnery, said the boycott was worthwhile even if it didn't inflict serious financial damage.

"We don't measure the success by decline in sales - we measure it by the rise in controversy," he said. "P&G has traditionally stood for conservative values, and their turnabout is shocking to us. They have a lot of mending fences to do with Americans."

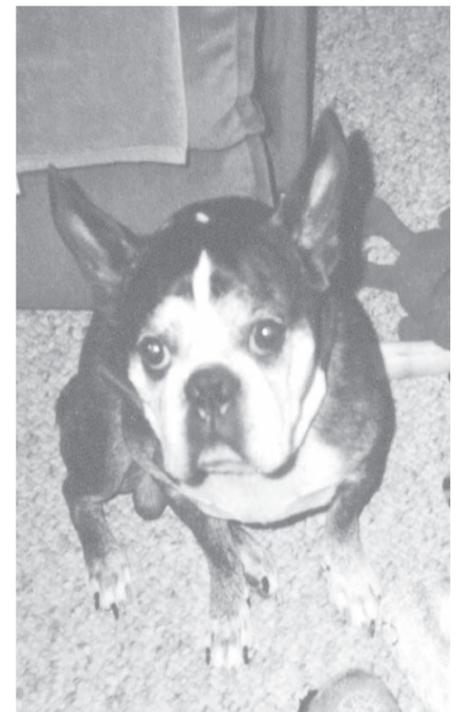
Laura Randall, a spokeswoman for the coalition seeking to repeal Article 12, said many corporations were part of the effort, "but for some reason, the Christian right is out to get Procter & Gamble."

The boycott organizers have compiled a list of P&G policies and actions which they denounce - including such relatively common corporate practices as offering domestic partnership benefits.

However, one of the conservatives' grievances concerns a 4-year-old advertisement that the company indeed regrets commissioning. The ad was for P&G's Downy anti-wrinkle treatment, and was illustrated by an out-of-focus photo of two men in bed, their clothes scattered on the floor.

"We freely admit it was a mistake," Shelton said. "Even if the ad had featured heterosexuals, it never should have run - it was in violation of our advertising guidelines."

In Loving Memory



Corky Robinson, age 11½, passed into eternal rest on Oct. 25, 2004. He was a loyal friend and son. Corky was the type that would always be there when you needed someone to talk to. He will be greatly missed by all of his family and his many friends.

Surviving are his two dads, Dave and Bob, Grandma Patsy and Aunt Zelda; two brothers Kaleb and Bailey. He is also survived by many friends who all had their lives touched by him.

G/L Marriage Foes Want Court To Pay Legal Fees

SAN FRANCISCO - The Alliance Defense Fund, a Christian advocacy law group from Arizona, is asking the California Supreme Court to award it \$229,000 in fees and costs to reimburse the litigation efforts that led to the blocking of San Francisco's Gay marriages, the Associated Press reported on 365Gay.com.

The group was the first party to request the justices block San Francisco from issuing any more same-sex marriage licenses. The court halted the wedding spree in March, after 4,000 licenses were issued.

In August, the court ruled San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom abused his powers when issuing the licenses in violation of a 1997 state law defining marriage between a man and woman. The court also voided all the marriages.

That decision prompted the city of San Francisco, and Gay and Lesbian couples denied marriage licenses to sue in state court. Among other things, they allege the 1997 marriage law violates the California Constitution's equal protection clause.

A hearing on the merits of that case is Dec. 22 in San Francisco County Superior Court. The Alliance Defense Fund and California Attorney General Bill Lockyer are defending the law.

In 1997, the justices approved \$2.6 million in fees and costs to the American Civil Liberties Union and other groups that successfully persuaded the high court to overturn legislation demanding minors get their parents consent to get an abortion.

Lambda Files Appeal On Gay Asylum Case

SAN FRANCISCO - Lambda Legal filed briefs Tuesday, October 26, in a Gay asylum case before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit. The LGBT advocates are appealing an unfavorable immigration court ruling that Lambda characterizes as "deeply disturbing and misguided."

The ruling, by an immigration judge in Los Angeles, essentially said that Jorge Soto Vega did not look particularly Gay, and that in theory he could safely return to Mexico if he moved to a new part of the country and acted straight, the PlanetOut Network reported.

Soto Vega was seeking asylum in the United States based on a long pattern of abuse and harassment from family members and authorities in the Tuxpan and Guadalajara areas of Mexico. According to the National Center for Lesbian Rights, Soto Vega was beaten up throughout his school years and attacked by homophobic police officers.

He moved to the United States roughly 15 years ago, and lived in Los Angeles where he and his partner ran a flower shop. But in 2001, Lambda Legal says, Soto Vega was caught sneaking back into the country after attending his mother's funeral in Mexico, and his entanglement with U.S. immigration began in earnest.

Soto Vega, now 35, filed for asylum in July of 2002, and arrived before the Los Angeles court in early 2003. There, despite expert testimony as to the psychological impact of the treatment he would face if he returned to Mexico, a judge refused his asylum application from the bench.

Soto Vega's sexual orientation "would not be obvious ... unless he made that obvious himself," said the judge, who noted that the man was not stereotypically Gay based on "his dress, his manner, his demeanor, his gestures, his voice or anything of that nature." As such, the judge determined that Soto Vega lacked a reasonable fear of persecution and could be returned to Mexico under U.S. law.

"We grant people asylum in America because their countries have told them they have to change who they are in order to be safe," said Lambda's Jon Davidson in a statement. "The basic premise of asylum is in question when an immigration judge recognizes that a man is being persecuted and sends him back to his country telling him to disguise the very characteristic that leads to persecution and makes him eligible for asylum."

The National Center for Lesbian Rights and the ACLU of Southern California are "friends of the court" in this case.

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London Gay Bashing Spree Leaves One Dead, 4 Injured

LONDON - A man who survived the terrorist bombing of a London Gay bar in 1999 was murdered on the weekend of Halloween- part of a series of attacks on Gay men along the South Bank, 365Gay.com reported.

David Morley, 37, suffered serious head injuries in the attack. He died in hospital several hours later.

Police are searching for two teens in connection with the murder and attacks that left at least four other Gay men injured.

The beatings all took place within sight of the Royal Festival Hall.

An autopsy showed that Morley died as a result of the beating.

Investigators have a detailed description of the two attackers, provided by other victims. One youth was white, the

other black. Police say they were accompanied by two teenaged girls who stole property from the victims as they were being beaten.

Detective Chief Inspector Nick Scola, the lead investigator in the case, said Morley had been punched and kicked, suffering 40 distinct bruises.

"Clearly this was a series of violent attacks. All the victims were returning home from evenings out and the assaults on them were violent and random," Scola said.

In 1999 Morley survived the nail bombing of the Admiral Duncan pub in London. Morley was a bartender at the Gay bar and escaped with minor burns. Three people were killed and 73 injured in the attack. A skinhead and self proclaimed fascist was later arrested and convicted in the attack.

UPDATE

Chicago Mayor BackPedals On Marriage Petition

CHICAGO - Mayor Richard Daley said he didn't read a pro-Gay marriage petition before signing it at a Gay event on Wednesday, October 27, and now says he doesn't fully back what the petition calls for, Advocate.com reported.

The petition, presented to Daley by the Chicago Anti-Bashing Network as he made his way through the crowd during the annual Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame celebration at the Cultural Center, demanded that Cook County clerk David Orr defy state law and "immediately issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples." Daley says he signed the petition without reading the fine print. The Chicago Anti-Bashing Network then faxed press releases to media outlets touting the mayor's apparent position, which would have been broader than previously stated.

"I walked out and said, 'I'll sign anything.' I just put my name down.... They asked me to sign it. I'm for Gay marriage, so I have no problem with that.... You know what my position has been on it," Daley told the Chicago Sun Times. Asked if he wants Orr to start issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples, Daley said, "That's up to him. I don't know if he can do it legally. That would [have to be done] statewide."

Andy Thayer, a spokesman for the Chicago Anti-Bashing Network, ridiculed the mayor for claiming he hadn't read the petition before signing his name. "He's an attorney and he doesn't read what he signs? That's amusing. Sail on, oh, ship of state. It's like a three- or four-sentence petition. I would hope that, in this day and age, politicians read what they sign," Thayer told the Sun-Times. Thayer said Daley was well aware that the language of the petition went far beyond Daley's public position on the issue of Gay marriage. That's why he sent out the release.

Germany Expands Rights For Gay & Lesbian Couples

BERLIN - German lawmakers Friday, October 29, expanded the rights of same-sex couples, allowing registered domestic partners to adopt the other's child and bringing rules on splitting up and alimony in line with those for heterosexual marriages, Advocate.com reported.

Parliament's lower house passed the changes drafted by Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder's center-left government over the objections of opposition conservatives. "This is a good day for Gays and Lesbians," Greens lawmaker Volker Beck told his colleagues. "We are making another step on the long road to equal rights."

The new law stops short of giving Gays and Lesbians who are legally recognized as couples under Germany's domestic-partnership law full rights to adopt children. But if one of the partners has a child or brings one into the partnership, the other partner now can legally adopt the child if neither parent objects. Before registering their partnership, Gay couples will be able to get engaged as heterosexuals do, a step that grants certain legal rights in Germany, such as the right not to testify against one's partner in court. Laws on separation, divorce, alimony, and division of assets are also being extended to Gay couples.

Although Germany does not permit Gay marriage, about 5,000 Gay couples have registered domestic partnerships in Germany under a law, pushed through by Schroeder's government, that took effect on August 1, 2001. Many in Germany's main opposition Christian Democratic bloc remain bitterly opposed to increasingly granting Gay couples the same rights as married heterosexuals. The opposition's main reason for voting against

the changes was a fear that they opened the door to giving Gay couples full adoption rights, Christian Democratic lawmaker Daniela Raab said Friday. The new adoption law "is an ideological aberration and shows a completely wrong understanding of values," said Christean Wagner, the justice minister of conservative-ruled Hesse state.

Anti-G/L EU Official To Step Aside

ROME - Italian conservative and papal confidant Rocco Buttiglione, under attack for calling homosexuality sinful, said Saturday, October 30, he was abandoning efforts to become European Union justice commissioner, a bid that has prevented the new EU executive from taking office, the Associated press reported on 365Gay.com.

Buttiglione defended his religious beliefs, however, insisting they would never have colored his EU politics.

Premier Silvio Berlusconi said late Friday that Buttiglione would remain as European affairs minister in his conservative government.

With the new commission virtually doomed to rejection by the European Parliament if Buttiglione remained part of it, the new EU top executive, Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso, earlier in the week withdrew all 25 nominees, one for each EU member, to buy time for a way out of the impasse.

The European Parliament must approve all 25 commissioners before the commission, which runs the EU's everyday affairs, can begin work. The commission was to have taken office on Monday.

During a confirmation hearing earlier this month, Buttiglione told the justice and home affairs committee that he considered homosexuality "a sin" and that marriage existed "to allow women to have children and to have the protection of a male."

"I am ready to step aside, to resign (from the bid), to favour the path of the Barroso commission, which I wish every success," Buttiglione told a news conference Saturday.

The flap over Buttiglione provided an embarrassing backdrop to elaborate EU ceremonies Friday in Rome for the signing of the union's proposed new constitution.

Buttiglione's decision was greeted with "great respect" by the head of the Christian Democrats in the European Parliament, Hans-Gert Poettering, who had supported the Italian.



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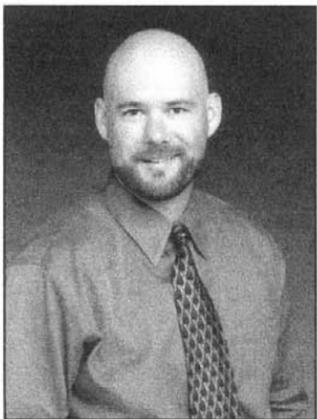
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Safe Sex



Scientists Discover Enzyme Crucial To HIV Replication

NEW YORK - Scientists have discovered that a cellular enzyme helps ferry HIV genetic instructions out of the cell nucleus where they can then be translated into proteins to begin their most destructive work, 365Gay.com reported.

The cellular enzyme represents a potential new target for developing improved HIV drugs, say the researchers from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of the National Institutes of Health, and the McGill University AIDS Center.

Kuan-Teh Jeang, M.D., Ph.D., of NIAID led the research team reporting their discovery in the November issue of Cell. "This finding provides new insights into a crucial step in HIV replication," says Anthony S. Fauci, M.D., director of NIAID. "The discovery also provides an attractive target for drug development which, if successful, might in time give us a completely new type of HIV drug that circumvents the problem of drug resistance."

Dr. Jeang's team found evidence that the virus co-opts an enzyme produced by human cells to transport HIV's genetic material out of the cell nucleus. Once out of the nucleus, these messenger RNAs begin directing the cell to create and assemble new virus particles.

The process of how HIV genetic material—a long unedited strand of RNA—exits the cell nucleus has long puzzled scientists. Human cells cut, edit and splice RNA before it can leave the nucleus, but somehow HIV subverts that process and exports from the nucleus the long version of RNA that encodes instructions for making new viral particles.

Scientists knew that HIV makes a protein called Rev to help skirt the prohibition on transporting the lengthy, unedited version of RNA from the nucleus. They also knew that HIV commandeers a human protein known as CRM1 to aid in this process. Rev and CRM1 together, however, are insufficient to explain how HIV flouts the molecular machinery that cuts and splices RNA before it leaves the nucleus.

"Unspliced RNA is like an unwieldy ball of yarn," explains Dr. Jeang. "We found that the virus also uses a human

enzyme known as DDX3 to straighten its RNA before threading it through a small pore in the nucleus." The team's experiments offer the first evidence that HIV uses DDX3 in the complex process that moves its RNA out of the nucleus. They also demonstrated that DDX3, a human RNA helicase enzyme, is essential to this process. RNA helicases are enzymes that untwist RNA molecules.

The researchers now plan to look for inhibitors, small molecules that could either lock or gum up DDX3's ability to straighten a twisted strand of RNA. Although it would take many years to develop, in the best scenario, an inhibitor for DDX3 could effectively block HIV replication. Researchers would need to find a balance between a potential inhibitor's action in shutting down viral replication and any detriment it might cause to human cells.

In the past decade, two classes of HIV inhibitor drugs, protease inhibitors and reverse transcriptase inhibitors, have greatly extended the lives of HIV-positive individuals. While these drugs target HIV enzymes, a DDX3 inhibitor would target a cellular enzyme. The researchers see a great therapeutic advantage to blocking a cellular enzyme rather than a viral enzyme.

"Unlike viral enzymes, cellular enzymes can not mutate to escape from drugs," says Dr. Jeang. The problem of drug resistance that occurs with protease and reverse transcriptase inhibitors might thus be eliminated with a successful DDX3 inhibitor.

No Extortion

Continued from Page One

William Lawler, a lawyer representing the governor, disagreed with Batista's conclusion. "There's clearly evidence of extortion," Lawler said. "It's up to the government to evaluate how the evidence fits into a total picture." State senator Raymond Lesniak, a McGreevey confidant, said Cipel's lawyers did not offer facts or proof of damages during the settlement talks but instead "just wanted money.... It was extortion thinly disguised as a lawsuit. This whole thing is ridiculous."

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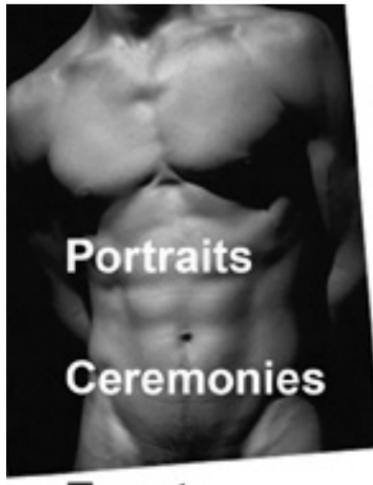




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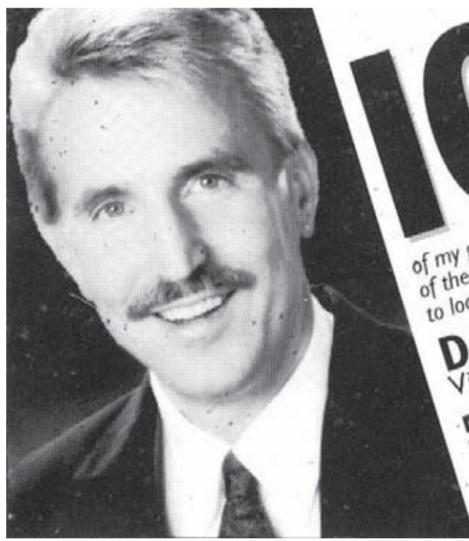
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NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE

by Lee Thorn

Save The TIMES

I worry about THE NEW YORK TIMES. I don't read it, but I worry. Its major gaffs somehow get brought to my attention and I ask myself, "Is it possible to become such a grand institution, such an icon in your field of endeavor, that your actual performance ceases to matter?"

Consider Muhammad Ali at the point when he started to believe his own hype and showed up for a fight so out of shape that he got repeatedly and extendedly hammered while he lay helpless on the ropes. Nobody said he got creamed because he was out of shape. They all said he'd invented a new strategy, the "rope a dope." They're still saying that, even as the Champ shuffles through life with Parkinson-like symptoms.

Getting back to THE TIMES, you'll remember that one of their reporters was recently caught making up dozens of his stories and that the paper had serious problems acknowledging its obvious editing and fact checking lapses. At roughly the same time, in a completely unrelated matter, their ethicist came on TV and made an ethical argument that wouldn't pass muster in any Ethics 101 class.

Just when scores of American pundits were pummeling Bill Bennett from pillar to post for his gambling, this benighted ethicist claimed that the mere fact that Bennett stopped gambling showed that he agreed with his critics' arguments against it. As two seconds of reflection will reveal, sometimes when you're taking a severe beating you stop doing whatever it is that is causing the beating without respect to any philosophical insights you may or may not be enjoying while the beating is in progress.

It's not just the bad reporting, the bad editing, the bad fact checking, the playing dumb, the sloppy ethical argument of their house ethicist. If all that weren't bad enough, it now seems that their book reviews are slipping. I refer to Walter Kim's review in the Oct. 10th issue of the new book of Kerouac diaries.

The American literary establishment, for mysterious and unfathomable reasons, has always needed Jack Kerouac to be a heterosexual bumpkin. The Kim piece in part continues this tradition by evading the nature of Kerouac's relationships with Allen Ginsburg and Gore Vidal. Kim has Kerouac "knocking around the jazzy New York streets with.. Ginsburg" and "attending the Ballet Russe with.. Vidal."

If we are to believe the writing of Ginsburg and Vidal, the former was Kerouac's occasional sex partner over a period of some years and the latter experienced a one-night stand with Kerouac wherein he placed his penis in Jack's anus and felt a most satisfying emission.

Forgive my being so graphic about it, but one grows weary of 50 years of evasions. It's perfectly possible to write interestingly about Kerouac's work without mentioning his sex life, but please don't hand us "knocking around" with Ginsburg or going to the ballet with Vidal.

What's never written about Kerouac's work -- or if it is I've yet to see it -- is that he was really two different artists who had little in common with

each other, the breathlessly exuberant adolescent of ON THE ROAD and the epicurean sophisticate of MEXICO CITY BLUES and his poetry generally.

Each new generation of adolescents falls in love with the Kerouac of ROAD when it sees that everything mundane is actually amazing, that everybody's a genius, that sex has just been invented, that everybody's beautiful, and that love will save the world.

I don't intend to demean children's literature. It is what it is. There are and will be adolescents. Why not give them a book that matches their mood?

On the other hand, Kerouac was a very serious and original poet, as serious and original as it gets. His poetry is of a level of sophistication that makes it fairly inaccessible to all but serious students of the art. It is based in part on a familiarity with classical Chinese poetry from the 700s and Japanese poetry of 1650-1830. It's also based in part on the poet's familiarity with and appreciation of jazz.

Kim's piece doesn't mention Kerouac's poetry. I wonder if he knows about it.

So what can be said about THE TIMES? Perhaps there's a natural life cycle for great institutions. Maybe they inevitably go from good to great to grand to ridiculous.

[Thorn welcomes comments, suggestions for future columns, and tips on local skulduggery that ought to be exposed. Write to Box 85571, Tucson, AZ 85754. e-mail: Doid3@aol.com]

Desert Voices Yard Sale November 6

TUCSON - It is time once again for you to do your fall cleaning, sift through your things, and eliminate! Desert Voices, Tucson's GLBT (and S) chorus is seeking donations for their annual Yard Sale Fundraiser. The Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, November 6th, 2004 at 4412 E. Holmes, near Columbus and 5th Street, from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Check out your CD's and give Desert Voices the ones you no longer listen to! Cull through that stack of books, and toss them the ones you won't read a second time. Dive into the back of your closet (but only for a few minutes) and bring out the items that are too tight, too tired or too tacky to stay there any longer. Got furniture you keep stubbing your toes on? Send it their way. Did that latest attempt at an in-home workout, not work out? They'll recycle your exercise cycle. To set up a time to make your donation, drop them an email at info@desertvoices.org, or call Becky Cohen at (520) 319-9830.

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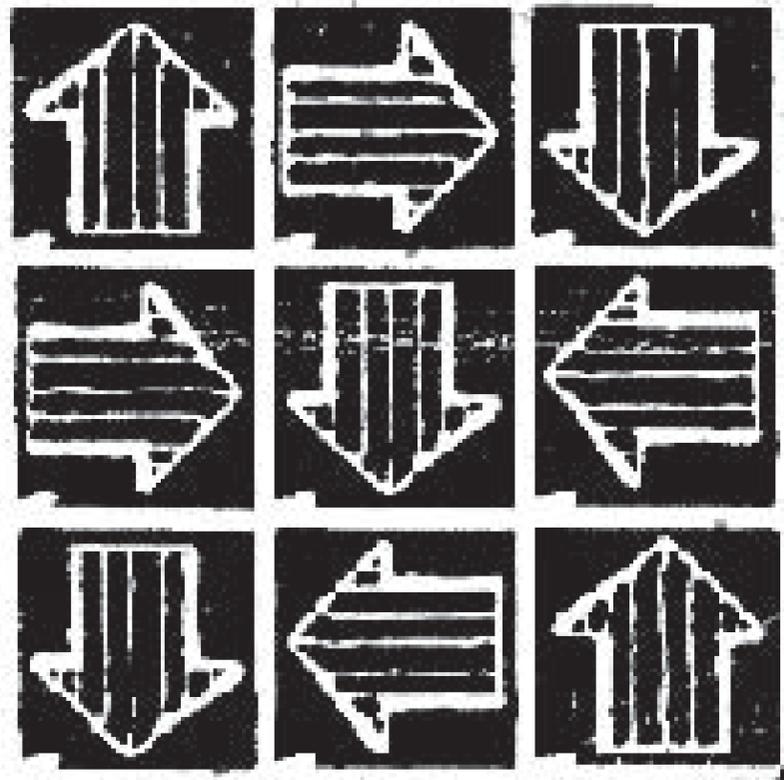
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POLITICS 2004

by Mark R. Kerr

'Politics Will Never Be The Same'

Dear Gracie:

As this is written, on election day, November 2, for the 2004 general election, there are reports of long-lines of voters at polling places across the country - something that makes this citizen's heart beat faster but also shows that politics will never be the same.

Gracie, the Internet has played a major part this year, bringing people from all parts of the globe together to get involved:

With issues such as battling the Federal Communications Commission, and their attempt at media consolidation, naming one of many, where the online community rose up and protests, to the astonishment of the Washington, D.C. glitterati;

Organizations, such as MoveOn.org, American Coming Together and Democracy for America, who have battled the Republicans and their political action committees;

Political campaigns like Howard Dean's presidential campaign - he may have lost the race for the Democratic presidential nomination but his Internet strategy has revolutionized the process; and,

People traveling to other states to help in Congressional, Senatorial and the Presidential campaign in battleground states, as well as neighboring states.

Then there are the Internet blogs, such as the Daily Kos and Atrios, naming two of the many Web sites, Gracie, providing an outlet for discussion and to get the real scoop on the political events and happenings since the So-called Liberal Media (SCLM) has fallen down on the job, or as Jon Stewart of the Daily Show, said so well on "CrossFire," "they're hurting America."

Since the SCLM, or Corporate

Media Whores, such as CNN, MSNBC, and the Fascist News Channel put out a line, usually a lie, especially with this year's campaign, and with the interest in politics and news Gracie, people now have another outlet, Media Matters for America, again on the Internet, who are watching the SCLM and calling them on their mistakes and getting results.

Wonderful publications, such as "The Guardian," "The Nation," "The Week," "Mother Jones," and "The American Prospect," as well as the Internet publications, such as CommonDreams.org and truthout.org, citing several examples, who have contributed to awaken this country up from the four-year nightmare it has endured.

Documentary films, such as "The Hunting of the President," "OutFoxed," "Super Size Me," and of course, Michael Moore's "Fahrenheit 9/11," have played a tremendous part during this year's election campaign.

Gracie, the right-wing controls talk radio but that is changing too, with the launching of Air America Radio. In March, the fledgling progressive talk network featuring Al Franken, Jeaneane Garofolo and the fabulous Randi Rhodes with six stations, the Internet and satellite radio, and now in just seven months, they've added 32 more affiliates, including KXXT in Phoenix! Hopefully, the Old Pueblo will have the opportunity to tune in.

Now Gracie, it's on the results and the possible celebration, the turnout is way up, usually a plus for Democrats but since this is written before the results are tabulated, that story is still to be written but will be in this week's publication too.

Things have changed Gracie and politics will never be the same.

As ever faithful always.



Dear Community:

Once again we are approaching that time of the Holidays.

We would like some assistance from you to help make them a little easier for Care Partners of TIHAN.

You will notice that there are big boxes located at IBT's Woody's, Yard Dog and Venture. We are asking that you help us fill these boxes with some non-perishable items. Some suggestions would be, canned foods, soups, bathroom items, cleaning supplies, gift cards, phone cards, etc.

We will be rounding up these items before December 9th in order to have them in the hands of the people in need before the holidays.

If you would like to have a box set up at your business or location, or have any questions, please call Dave Locke at 326-1952.

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Dave Locke

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UPDATE

AROUND THE GAY WORLD.....

Elton To Madonna: Sorry, Sort Of

AUCKLAND - Elton John set tongues wagging last month when he criticized Madonna for lip-synching at her concerts, Advocate.com reported.

Now, reports Soundbuzz, he has apologized—more or less. On a New Zealand TV show, John called Madonna “a major artist of the video age,” adding, “I do regret hurting her feelings, because she’s a major artist. Madonna is a great artist. I hate to hurt her. I don’t like slagging people off.”

He added, “She’s not the same kind of artist as U2 or Bruce Springsteen or Prince or Sting or someone like that.” John put his original catty comments down to his own personal prejudice against lip-synching. “I have a bee in my bonnet about live shows.” Besides, he said, “it was in the context of a very rowdy lunch. Sometimes when you say something and then it’s written down on paper, it looks totally different.” No word yet on Elton’s opinions about Ashlee Simpson.

Order Issued To Company To Stop Threatening Outing

JEFFERSON CITY - A Missouri judge has ordered a Texas company to stop sending email masquerading as freedom of information requests to Missouri schools after some administrators were threatened with outing, reported 365Gay.com

The mass emails were sent by Abilene, Texas-based StarProse Corp. seeking information on school administrators, principals and teachers.

The e-mail messages appeared with the subject line, “Open Records Request,” but actually sought personal information. The emails threatened to list as Gay anyone who does not respond to the information demand. The company said in the emails that the information was needed “to help parents when choosing a school for their children.”

Attorney General Jay Nixon went to court after a number of school officials complained.

Circuit Judge Bruce Colyer has permanently barred the company and its president, Jeffrey Kowalski, from sending e-mail requesting the sexual orientation of any school or government employees in Missouri. from school officials, such as their age, race, gender and sexual orientation.

The lawsuit accused StarProse of violating the state’s anti-spam law, in part by using a misleading subject line. The judge’s ruling also bars the company from sending e-mail or making threats under the guise of an open records request, and from publishing false information about school or public officials, Nixon said.

Schools in other states have also complained about the emails, but there may be little those states can do. Missouri has one of the toughest anti-spam laws in the country.

Oscar Wilde Archival Materials Sell Big At Auction

LONDON - A handwritten chapter of Oscar Wilde’s novel The Picture of Dorian Gray, written by the author at the behest of his publishers and including the scandalous visit of the title character to an opium den, has been sold for \$132,000, reported the Associated Press on Advocate.com.

The heavily revised text was one of several pieces of memorabilia auctioned Friday on behalf of a private buyer by Sotheby’s. A signed first edition of The Picture of Dorian Gray fetched \$770,000. The trove of material, described by Sotheby’s as “the finest collection of Oscar Wilde material remaining in private hands,” was sold for \$1.5 million. It was well above the \$1.1 million estimate, even though some items did not sell. Most of the items, which included books, letters, photographs, and manuscripts relating to the Irish-born writer, were sold to private buyers or British dealers. Wilde wrote the extra chapter to The Picture of Dorian Gray after publishers asked him to lengthen the novel and add interest and credence to the plot. The completed novel, which tells the story of a young man who sells his soul for eternal youth and beauty, was published to controversy in 1890.

One of the centerpiece items of the auction, one of only two known copies of The Wilde Myth, an unpublished book by Lord Alfred Douglas, failed to sell on Friday. The book was a vitriolic attack on the author by Wilde’s former lover—the relationship between Douglas and Wilde triggered the author’s downfall. An ill-advised libel action against Douglas’s authoritarian father, the Marquess of Queensberry, led to Wilde’s imprisonment in 1895 for gross indecency. He served two years in prison and died in exile in Paris in 1900 at age 46. Douglas later turned on Wilde, and in The Wilde Myth called him “one of the most powerful forces for evil that has happened in Europe for the last 300 years.” The book was considered libelous to then-prime minister Herbert Asquith and was never published. Sotheby’s said the book failed to meet its reserve price, which it did not disclose.

A catalog from the auction of the contents of Wilde’s London home—sold in 1895 to pay his debts—and a photograph of the author on his deathbed also both failed to sell. Other items that did sell included an inscribed presentation copy of Wilde’s theatrical masterpiece, The Importance of Being Earnest, which sold for \$48,400. (A presentation copy is a book the author has marked with an inscription and presented to someone.) The author’s annotated rehearsal copy of his first published play, Vera; or, the Nihilists, sold for \$92,200. It is one of approximately 20 copies printed in the first American edition. Also auctioned was the only known presentation copy of a rare, privately printed historical tragedy, The Duchess of Padua. The copy, inscribed to James Morrison Steele Mackaye, an American dramatist and friend of Henry James, was sold for \$770,000.

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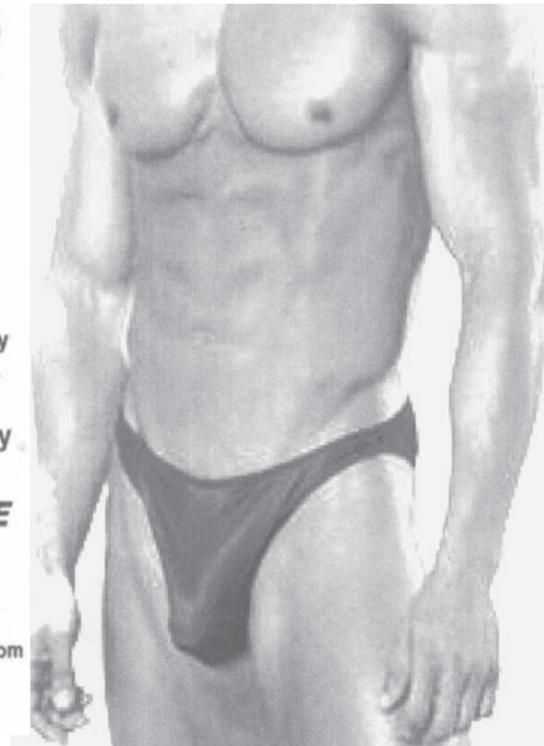
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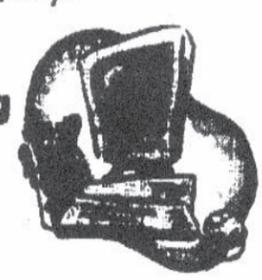


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Is the election over yet? Welcome Thanksgiving month and the gaggle of turkeys gobbling the political pork. Celebrate or commiserate with your constituencies. Join a party and party on and Out, comrades!

ARIES (MAR. 21 - APR. 20)
Someone you know knows exactly what you need. Who can that be? Play hide and seek throughout November with a certain special someone, proud Ram. Keep searching every nook and cranny. Before you know it, things heat up. Mars enters passionate Scorpio mid-month and love turns to lust. Will it last through Thanksgiving? Let's hope so! Pass the hot sauce.

TAURUS (APR. 21 - MAY 21)
The stress may ratchet up from various quarters but queer Bulls are as cool as cucumbers throughout November. The secret is to channel anything annoying into your work. You have ample energy combined with great powers of concentration now. Don't waste it. Bury yourself in minutia, if necessary, and slowly dig yourself out. By mid-month you begin to see the sky.

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)
Forgo convention this November, pink Twin. There is too much happening and too many temptations to keep you on a conservative path. Good! Boundless optimism gets you into all sorts of mischief, if you are lucky. But all play and no work eventually takes a toll. Mid-month you yearn to make a good impression on the job. Make it in your seat cushion as you nurse your hangover.

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)
There is something to be said for stability. There is also something to be said for shocking change. Gay Crabs, who gravitate to the familiar, find themselves navigating a changing landscape throughout November. Prepare to put out a few raging fires when long dormant issues charge and ignite. Pursue a new domestic policy which includes full partnership benefits.

LEO (JULY 24 - AUG. 23)
How long will you allow others to take advantage of your good nature and generosity? Proud Lions are sick and tired of all those campaign promises and yearn for regime change. So speak up and say what is on your mind. Jupiter insures that nothing you say will rub others the wrong way. With practice, you will rub others just right. Get lots and lots of practice this November.

VIRGO (AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23)
Covetous queer Virgins can get all that they need and want this November ... and much more. There is a wilde constituency that campaigns for your affection. But before your greed overtakes your common sense, think about what is really important and valuable to you. Are you willing to compromise yourself for a barrel of pork and block of votes? Hell yes.

LIBRA (SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)
All eyes are upon you and you are something to see. Gay Libras wind sail to the center of attention as November rolls out the red carpet. You have quarts of charm, panache and charisma. But don't pour it out all at once. As the planets move on, you become less the ingenue and more the Wizard of Ooze. Pace yourself throughout the month to avoid an oil slick.

SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)
If you feel an emptiness, fill your cup with good Gay Outreach this November. Who says that proud Scorps are selfish bastards? Well some say that, but prove them wrong! I happen to know that as you selflessly donate your efforts, there is wilde Jupiter lurking in the background, poised to deliver you a huge reward. Yeah, it's true. Some bastards do have all the luck!

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)
There are those Gay Archers who know how to nimbly balance work and play. Alas, there are also quite a few who dissipate their best efforts on the job and crawl home each night to recharge. November is the month to take a break from the grind and create a members only club for fun, frolic and general mayhem. Exactly which member do you have in mind ...?

CAPRICORN (DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)
Prepare for a November filled with high level meetings and a chance to rub assorted elbows until they chaff. Pink Caps have the most moxie early in month so don't be shy around bosses. You need to plant seeds for future success while you are fertile and the time is ripe. By the 23rd your heart begins to waver and your eyes wander. Someone else may then tend your garden.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)
Aqueerians are poised for a global campaign this November and are only waiting for enough votes to get them to the gate. Plan your course so that you can learn as much as possible in your travels. You hanker for adventure and excitement and you will find it. However by the 23rd, you may find that intrigue is less intriguing than you expected. Decompress closer to home.

PISCES (FEB. 20 - MAR. 20)
How is it hanging, Chad? This November, Guppies are consumed with passion and find very creative ways of locating, harnessing and releasing it. Of course some prefer to stay harnessed.... You have opportunities galore to meet and greet. By the 23rd you will happily toot your own horn as well as the horns of a few new pals. Those are horns... aren't they?

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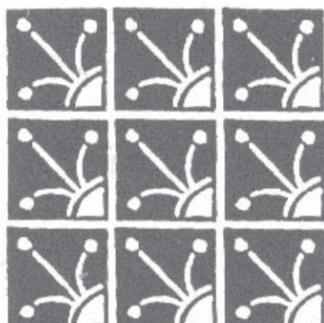
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Dear Dr. X,

What is up with the Poppers thing? It seems like almost every time I hook up with a guy and we go home, he gets out this bottle of nasty smelling crap and breathes it in until he's dizzy! I don't understand how this makes for a good time. What exactly is this stuff? Why do these guys have to do drugs just to be able to have sex?

Signed,
Not Poppin

Dear Poppin,

Let's start with the simple stuff first: What is it? "Poppers" is the common name for the family of liquids collectively known as alkyl nitrites (includes amyl, butyl and isobutyl). These liquids are highly volatile and flammable, and evaporate at room temperature. Poppers are usually sold in the US as "room orderizers" or "video head cleaner" in order to be legally available. Originally sold for various medical uses (amyl nitrate is still used as an alternative treatment for cyanide poisoning), it was originally packaged in small glass capsules that were cracked open (popped) and the vapor inhaled. Now many folks inhale directly from the bottle or soak a cloth to hold up to their nose/mouth.

Once you have inhaled the

vapors, you will usually feel the effects within about 15-20 seconds. Many experience a relaxed feeling, or a rush of light-headedness, with some reporting feelings of euphoria, loss of motor control, or dizziness to the point of falling over. Noticeable effects are short lived, an usually last no more than 3-4 minutes per hit. The nitrites cause your blood vessels to enlarge, which lowers your blood pressure and increases your heart rate. These internal effects can last much longer, and without being noticed. Oddly enough, even though poppers increases blood flow, many men report loss of erections with their use. Poppers also cause your muscles to relax (which makes anal sex much easier). This is the main reason that poppers have been so popular in the Gay community for so long.

Now for the more complex stuff: Why do they do it? If your dates are hitting the poppers heavily during sex, they may be trying hard to find a way to relax. If their use bothers you, try to find a way to help them relax without it. Try giving them a slow, sensual massage. Play some soft music. Spend more time touching and cuddling. If they are hitting frequently because they are worried about being able to accommodate your more-than-generous size in their little butt, try having more sex play that does not revolve around anal sex. (If this is the case, you can also feel free to send me a picture and a contact number for you!) If you are really bothered by it, I suggest that you are quite honest and clear about that before you guys get home. Better to have that conversation in the beginning so that you know what you are getting before you start.

As for being a drug: legally speaking they are considered as such if you are inhaling them (also called, "use inconsistent with its labeled packaging"). That being said, I know many men who use poppers quite regularly who will not consume any other drugs, including alcohol. Do poppers fall into the list of drugs? That is really up to the individual and how they feel about it. You should also be aware of the potential health risks of mixing poppers with other drugs, both legal and illegal. Since they do increase your heart rate and blood flow, poppers should be used with care around other drugs with the same effects. NEVER use poppers and Viagra together, though the combination sounds like it would make for a great night. These two together, along with the resulting sexcapades, have been the cause of many a heart attack.

I hope this helps.

Dr. X

[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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NON-BAR CALENDAR Groups / Clubs / Organizations /

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Willie hosts Bridge Night. If you don't know how to play, they'll teach you-and it's a very relaxed atmosphere. For reservations and directions, please call Willie at 297-8756.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): RSVP by today for dinner out on November 12 at Pinnacle Peak. To RSVP and for directions, contact David at 404-4039.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 8:30 a.m. Join Jack & Mike & Ed for a morning of Volleyball. This is played for fun, and you'll get to know some nice guys as you play. For details and directions, please call Jack/Mike at 881-5733 or Ed at 407-5733.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join us for our monthly Potluck and Social Gathering where we invite you to have dinner and get to know the nice guys of MSN. It's a nice, safe setting in which to meet new men and greet old friends. This month, we will have our MSN Talent Show-come and support your talented MSN'ers. No reservations are required, but if you need directions, please call Robert at 400-1376.

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

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 pm. We're dusting off an old favorite; Backgammon Night. For information, directions and reservations, call Karol, 744-9017

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

#1 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 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.

#2 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 Coffee House. 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.

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

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

#1 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Jack for Canasta. If you don't know how to play, we'll be glad to teach you. For reservations and directions, please call Jack at 887-3736.

#2 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 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, NOVEMBER 11

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Karol hosts Bridge Night. If you don't know how to play, they'll teach you-and it's a very relaxed atmosphere. For reservations and directions, please call Karol at 744-9017.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 11:30 a.m. Join Karol for a morning of Miniature Golf at Funtasticks. For reservations and directions, please call Karol at 744-9017.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 1:00 p.m. Karol hosts a Lunch Out at Hometown Buffet. For reservations and directions, please call Karol at 744-9017.

#3 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 6:00 p.m. Join David for Dinner Out at Pinnacle Peak. Must RSVP by Friday, November 05. Contact David at 404-4039.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Steve 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 Steve at 664-2076

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

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): - Join us for an evening of Charades at 7:00 PM. For details and directions, please call Karol at 744-9017

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

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

#1 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 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.

#2 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 Coffee House. 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.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

#1 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Terry for Canasta. Tucson Prime Timers, Food & Drinks - 5:00 p.m., Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Willie hosts Bridge Night. If you don't know how to play, they'll teach you_and it's a very relaxed atmosphere. For reservations and directions, please call Willie at 297-8756.

BAR CALENDAR Of Upcoming Events

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4

VENTURE-N - Annual Art Show and Sale starts today. Select local artists will be showing their works.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6

IBT'S - 8:30 p.m. the "FuFu Revue" featuring this week another edition of "Drag Survivor". Hot Dance from 10:30 to 2:00 a.m. follows.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7

WOODY'S - 5TH Anniversary Party. Food, games and prizes. Catch it!

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

WOODY'S - "Boys Gone Wild" party 8:00 p.m. til close.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

YARD DOG - Breakfast by Nick, served from 10:00 a.m. until noon to benefit the Balboa Heights Center. Tucson Knight Owls are having benefit car wash from 9:30 a.m. until ???

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25

VENTURE-N - Thanksgiving Potluck. Spend the holidays with your friends. More later.

DAILY BAR CALENDAR

SUNDAY

COLORS - Fabulous Brunch 11am - 2pm with complimentary mimosa. Dinner 5-10pm..

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.

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-?. \$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

COLORS - Open 11am for lunch; 5pm for dinner. Happy Hour 4-7pm. Domestic beer and well cocktails \$2.25

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.

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

COLORS - Open 11am for lunch, 5pm dinner. Happy Hour 4-7pm. Domestic beers and well cocktails \$2.25. Karaoke 10:30pm to close w/Johnny DJ.

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 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

COLORS - Open 11am for lunch; 5pm dinner. Happy Hour 4-7pm Domestic Beers or Well cocktails \$2.25.

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.

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

COLORS - Open 11am for lunch, 5pm dinner. 4-7pm Happy Hour Domestic Beers or Well cocktails \$2.25. Karaoke 10:30 - close with Johnny DJ.

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.

VENTURE-N - Open 8am. Patio open 6pm. Free Pool til 4pm. Pool Tourney 7pm. \$3 entry. Special prices for players. Steak Nite (4th 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

COLORS - Open 11am for lunch. Dinner 5-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm domestic beers or well cocktails \$2.25.

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

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. Beers Bust 3-7pm. Kennel open 9pm.

SATURDAY

COLORS - Open 11am for lunch; 5-10pm full dinner.

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.

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

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

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

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

TUCSON GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

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

AIDS HOTLINE - 326-AIDS. Hours M-F, 9:00 am to 10:00 pm. Information, counseling, HIV-related services, Tucson.

GAY OR BI-SEXUAL MEN in relationships with women. Need friends you can talk to? Weekly support group meets Wednesdays 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Licensed psychologist facilitator. Call 745-6977 in Tucson for more information. Strictly confidential.

WINGSPAN - Tucson's Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Community Center, 300 E. 6th St., offers support groups / info line / social events / library / meeting space. Volunteer Opportunities. Board meetings every 2nd Thursday (open to all), 6:00 p.m. Information 624-1779.

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

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

GET NAKED with TNTucson MEN! We're a social and recreational club. Have you ever longed to camp, swim, hike or play with others who enjoy the same, dropping all the masks and pretensions? We're for you! TNTucsonMEN@nethere.com, P.O. Box 12176, Tucson 85792 or call 514-9894

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 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.

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

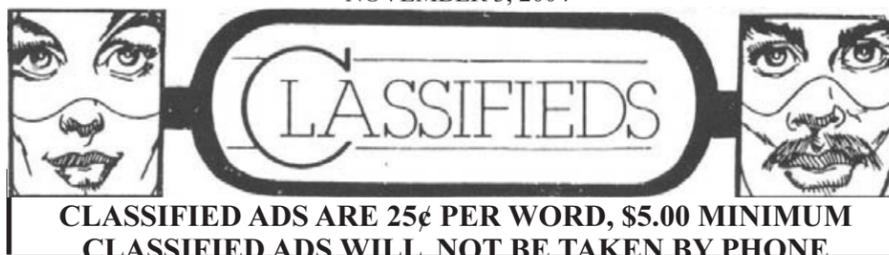
CHRISTIAN SCIENCE GROUP - Outreach to Gay and Lesbian people in Arizona. Meets monthly. Write to P.O. Box 893, Phoenix, AZ 85001 or call Eddy Walters, (602)371-1102

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

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

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

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



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

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

Join the **LESBIAN & GAY PUBLIC AWARENESS PROJECT.** In Tucson write Awareness Project, 3661 N. Campbell Ave. #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 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, contract TEAM ARIZONA at their website: teamarizona.org

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

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

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

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

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

TUCSON INTERFAITH HIV/AIDS NETWORK (TIHAN), a coalition of faith communities committed to a compassionate response to HIV/AIDS, provides HIV education in congregational settings, volunteer CareTeams 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 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).

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 or e-mail: AAPSP@aol.com or call Dave (520)745-9059 (Tucson) or Kim (602)534-6219 (Phoenix)

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

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

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

TUCSON GREATER SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION. Interested? Call Kelly Quinn, (520)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 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 MAN TO MAN Social/erotic education club is the tantric men's group that offers passionate friendships, fun activities and sex education. Marc 881-4582

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

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.

NEW TUCSON SOBRIETY SUPPORT GROUP. Secular Organizations for Sobriety - Sundays 8:00 - 9:30 p.m. at 739 N. 4th Avenue. Contacts Rick R. 520-792-2604 or Gary S. 520-323-1969. More information at www.secularhumanism.org/sos/ This group is an alternative to 12-step programs.

MEN'S KINK DISCUSSION GROUP (Open to all who identify as male and are 18 or older) meets 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m. at Desert Dominion, 3843 E. 37th Street, Tucson, AZ. (Map available at www.desertdominion.org) For those who are kinky or just curious. No fee, contributions are appreciated, but not required.

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