



Observing Tucson And  
The Greater Arizona Community

# OBSERVER

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WEEKLY OBSERVER

JUNE 22, 2005

ISSUE 1092

## Memorial For Philip Walsted Dedicated Saturday In Catalina Park



By Gerald M. Gay  
Arizona Daily Star

TUCSON - Not a day goes by that Judy Boyer doesn't grieve for her son, Philip Walsted.

June 12 marked the third anniversary of Walsted's murder. The 24-year-old Gay man was beaten to death in a hate crime on his way home from work, reported the Arizona Daily Star.

And though several years have passed since her son's untimely death, Boyer says the pain of losing him still haunts her.

"It's something that never goes away," she said. "It's there every day."

Boyer hasn't let her son's memory or what happened to him fade from the public eye.

Last year, in coordination with Wingspan and its Anti-Violence Project, Boyer held an observance for her son in Walsted's West University neighborhood. Another observance was held Saturday, June 18, at Catalina Park.

Unlike last year, however, this year's observance included the dedication of a physical memorial in Walsted's honor.

The memorial - a joint effort by Walsted's family and Walsted's life partner, Wingspan and the city of Tucson Parks and Recreation Department - consists of a park bench and a tree as well as a remembrance stone with the inscription: "Philip Arthur Walsted. Beloved life partner, son, brother and grandson. 1978-2002. Hate crime murder victim. We miss you enormously."

Wingspan Anti-Violence Project Co-ordinator Lori B. Girshick said now is the time for such a memorial because Walsted's killer, David Higdon, was convicted of first-degree murder and armed robbery earlier this year. He was sentenced March 28 to life without parole.

"I felt it would be good to bring the community together to acknowledge that aspect of the case is basically closed," Girshick said.

The memorial sits on the North Fourth Avenue side of the park, across the street from Walsted's former home and mere blocks from where he was murdered.

"We wanted it to be somewhere where people could go and reflect and think about Philip," she added. "I think it will be a permanent reminder to people that somebody lost their life to a hate crime. It happened here in our city. We need to do what we can to prevent it from happening again."

"I think it's a wonderful idea," Boyer said. "I'm hoping as people walk by at street fairs and things like that, they'll stop and remember Philip and remember the horrible event that happened there - that it keeps awareness that there is so much hate in the world."

Boyer said she and other relatives plan on making regular visits to Catalina Park.

"It will be to me just like his gravesite," Boyer said. "We'll go out there as often as possible. We'll make sure that it's well-kept."

## Bisbee Pride Weekend Has Strong Turnout

BISBEE - The inaugural Gay pride weekend is wrapping up its festivities today, and everyone who joined in on Saturday, June 18 seemed happy to be a part of the new tradition, reported the Sierra Vista Herald Review.

Bisbee's Bob Klein said he thought of the idea when hanging out at the historic Copper Queen Hotel last summer, since the place seemed to be perfect for such a celebration.

Klein said he took the idea to the hotel's front desk manager, Adam Lamb, since he knew Lamb was Gay, too.

"We just decided, 'Let's do Gay pride in Bisbee,'" Klein said. "It's never been done before."

Klein said he was active in the 1990s with similar events in Santa Fe, N.M., so he had experience when planning this weekend's "Get Wild In Bisbee" three-day party.

Bisbee's Gay community has a pot-luck dinner every Friday evening, and the dinner became a planning time for "Get Wild In Bisbee."

More than 100 people showed up as the event kicked off Friday night for the leather-and-lace party at the Copper Queen Hotel.

"There were people from Palm Springs," Klein said. "Most, I guess, were from Tucson or Phoenix."

"Last night was like check-in night, so we didn't even think it was going to be a big night," he added.

Many straight Bisbee residents showed up to hang out and volunteer to staff the festivities, letting the local Gay, Lesbian, bisexual and Transgender crowd have the weekend off to enjoy the events, Klein said.

"Our straight friends are the ones that are the volunteers that are doing a lot of the work," Klein said.

In Santa Fe, he said, in a similar fashion the friends of the food shelter who were Jewish would volunteer to staff the charity dinner lines on Christmas, so those celebrating Christmas could have their religious holiday off.

"And I think that is what community is about," he said.

The hotel's bar and front desk staff reported higher than usual sales so far this weekend. This typically is a slow business season for Bisbee's tourist district.

Hotel clerk Kristen Simons said almost all 48 rooms had been booked by noon Saturday, adding she wouldn't be surprised if they were fully booked by

nightfall.

"I like the small-town atmosphere," said Christina Black, who traveled to the inaugural event from east Mesa with her wife, Leanne Spears.

Though Gay marriages aren't statutorily recognized in Arizona, she said the two women committed to one another, rings and all, at Camelback Resort in Scottsdale on Jan. 17, 1998.

"We had a commitment ceremony with family and friends," Black said.

The two said they are still definitely in love.

## California G/L Marriage Bill Gets New Life

SACRAMENTO - Legislation to legalize same-sex marriage in California that died three weeks ago in the state Assembly has been reborn, 365Gay.com reported.

Assemblymember Mark Leno (D-San Francisco) said Monday night, June 20 that he intends to bring the measure back in the current session - this time as an attachment to a bill already before the Senate.

On June 2, the Assembly narrowly defeated Leno's first bill that would have legalized Gay marriage in the state. The measure lost by a slim four votes in the 80 seat Assembly after a quarter of the Democrats voted with Republicans to reject it.

Leno, one of six openly Gay members of the Legislature, told the Associated Press he will attempt to use a legislative maneuver known as "gut and amend" to resurrect the bill.

"My hope is that we will have a bill amended by the end of this week (June 25) or the beginning of next (July 3)," Leno told the AP, declining to offer specifics on which legislation he plans to rewrite. "We intend to do this."

The new measure will be a duplicate of the first. The Religious Freedom and Civil Marriage Protection Act would require local clerks to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples but allow people opposed to Gay marriage to refuse to conduct weddings.

The first attempt to pass the bill had the support of Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez and other key Democrats. It is unclear if that support remains. Last month the California Democratic Party passed a resolution supporting same-sex marriage.

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# UPDATE

## Sixth Annual Sidewinders Benefit For TIHAN June 26

By Dave Locke

TUCSON - Let's all go out to the ball game!

On Sunday, June 26, we will be celebrating our the annual Tucson Sidewinders Benefit Game for TIHAN, and for the price of \$30.00 you will receive the following: portion of your ticket (approximately \$14.00) will be tax deductible and a donation to TIHAN. The remainder is for an air conditioned sky box right behind home plate. In the sky box will be a buffet of Hamburgers, Hot dogs, Chips Soda and all the fixing's for free, we will also have a cash bar in the sky box.

This is a great opportunity to get out of the bars for a couple of hours and meet some interesting people in a great setting, have fun, while helping out a great organization that due to changes being made, needs more ways to increase private funding to help continue the critical work that they do for our community.

Grab a friend or two and call the TIHAN Office for tickets at (520) 299-6647 or Dave Locke, (520) 326-1952.

## Arizona Together Holds First Prayer Thursday's

TUCSON - On July 7, 7:00 a.m. at the United Church of Christ 1350 North Arcadia Ave., will be our first First Prayer Thursday, sponsored by Arizona Together (AT) (formerly known as Arizona Coalition for Fairness).

The positive response from our faith based event in May, lead AT to realize that creating a safe sacred space is important for our community. The Faith Committee of AT has offered to help coordinate a prayer meeting the first Thursday of every month at 7:00 a.m.

Every month the meeting will be hosted by a different denomination. This time will be used to rejuvenate and come together to pray or meditate for a safe, successful campaign and for strength during this trying time of attacks on our community. Please feel free to join and know that the Religious Right does not own faith. For more information please contact Jess Knutson at [jknutson@wingspan.org](mailto:jknutson@wingspan.org) or (520) 624-1779, x 21.

## New Tucson HIV+ Social Web Group Forming

TUCSON - A new online, social group for HIV+ Gay and Bisexual men is being formed in the Old Pueblo, Strength In Numbers (SIN) - Tucson.

SIN stands for Strength In Numbers. SIN is a not-for-profit global online social network for HIV+ Gay and Bisexual men. This Yahoo Group allows poz guys to better communicate with each other directly, share information and plan group outings. All postings require moderator approval.

For more information, go online to: <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/SINTucson>.

## Gay Themed Musical 'A New Brain' On Stage Thru June 26

TUCSON - Arizona Onstage Productions, the company that brought "Falsettoland," last year's "Assassins" (winner of the MAC Award - Best Musical of 2004) and this years side splitting musical comedy "Ruthless!" brings "A New Brain," a musical tale, to Pima Community College Center for the Arts Black Box Theatre for performances through Sunday, June 26.

This story revolves around Gordon Schwinn - an openly Gay musical composer tired of writing for children's television shows. He discovers a brain disorder, and is faced with having dangerous surgery. He and his life partner Roger make decisions before this surgery takes place. Along the way, the audience meets singing frogs, M.R.I. machines that turn into sailboats, and mothers smart enough to wear black to "hide the fat."

Tickets to Arizona Onstage Productions go fast. January's, "Ruthless!" was sold-out every performance. Tickets are \$20 general admission and \$16 for students/seniors. Call (520) 206-6989 to get your tickets. Visit [arizonaonstage.org](http://arizonaonstage.org) for more information.



## Senior Pride Social June 25

TUCSON - Senior Pride invites all LGBT folks ages 55 and up (and their friends & family) to a Social with Line Dancing on Saturday, June 25, 1 - 4 p.m., at Cornerstone Fellowship Church, 2902 N. Geronimo (2 blocks west of 1st Ave., 1 block north of Glenn)

You don't have to know how to line dance since they will have an instructor in attendance! All abilities welcome, if you'd like to dance, or just to watch!

Senior Pride is a group of, and for LGBT folks ages 55 and up who are busy planning social activities for the community. If you are interested in joining us, please call or email Pat Woelke, (520) 624-1779 x 22, or E-mail: [pwoelke@wingspan.org](mailto:pwoelke@wingspan.org).

## Vigil In Memory Of Amancio Corrales Of Yuma, June 25

YUMA - On May 6, 2005 the body of Amancio Corrales was found in the Colorado River. Amancio was murdered, and although the police are still investigating this crime, the community of Yuma wants to remember this young and vibrant member of their community in a vigil.

The Amancio Project, a coalition of family and community members, in a demonstration of unity and support will like to invite you to join them for this event. The vigil will take place on Saturday, June 25, 7:30 p.m., at the Riverfront Park - Madison Avenue in Yuma.

For more information on this event or how you can get involve with the Amancio Project, please contact Brenda or Sam at (602) 279-5263 or email them at [brenda@azleadership.org](mailto:brenda@azleadership.org) or [sam@azleadership.org](mailto:sam@azleadership.org).

## Remaining Tucson Pride Week Events

TUCSON - The Old Pueblo will be marking Pride through June 25.

Pride Week, put on by Tucson Pride Inc., is a ten-day schedule of cultural, educational and recreational activities.

Schedule of Events For Tucson Pride Week - 2005:

Wednesday, June 22, Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle, luau. For more information, please call (520) 292-6702.

Thursday, June 23, Venture-N, 1239 N. 6th Ave. For more information, please call (520) 882-8224.

Friday, June 24, Howl at the Moon, 915 W. Prince. For More Information, please call (520) 293-7339

Sunday, June 25, 7 p.m. to midnight, Gay Wet! Breakers Water Park, 8555 W. Tangerine Rd. The Ultimate Dance Party with Niki Harris and "circuit" DJ Kio Kio. Tickets are \$10 advance · \$12 at door. Tickets are available at Desert Pride, 611 N 4th Ave, (520) 388-9829, and by TPI Board Members at all Pride Week events.

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# What's The Real Problem With Gay Marriage?

By Russell Shorto

## (It's The Gay Part) PART 1

WASHINGTON, D.C. - [Editor's Note: The following is the first part of a five part series on an article which ran in the New York Times Magazine (June 20) on the virulently homophobic Family Research Council, one of the national organizations assisting in the effort to adopt the Protect Marriage Arizona amendment.]

The small but grandiose building at the corner of Eighth and G Streets NW in Washington, tucked directly behind the National Portrait Gallery, holds its own in a city packed with monumental architecture. You step into the lobby and automatically look around for a plaque, figuring that with its dark wood paneling and marble columns, this must be the onetime home of Rutherford B. Hayes or some other historical personage heavy with Victorian-era dignity. As it turns out, the structure, with its architectural signals of tradition and power, was built in 1996 for its tenant: the Family Research Council, the conservative public policy center.

In the gift shop just off the lobby — where you can buy research-council thermoses and paperweights and the latest titles by Peggy Noonan, Alan Keyes, John Ashcroft and Pat Buchanan — sits one of Washington's most unusual museum displays. Moms and dads who are planning to take the kids to the nation's capital this summer for an infusion of American history might want to add it to their itinerary, since it carries the lesson up to the present and right into their own living rooms. Beneath a large wall-mounted plaque emblazoned with the group's slogan — Defending Family, Faith and Freedom — and flanking a rather ferocious-looking American eagle statue are two large, museum-quality glass cases. The one on the left contains a complete groom's outfit — tux, tie, fluffy shirt — and the one on the right holds a

bridal gown and all the trimmings, right down to the dried bouquet. Color snapshots of happy wedding parties festoon both display cases, and the back wall of the bridal unit features verses from the book of Genesis, King James version:

And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him. . . .

And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;

And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.

Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

This shrine to marriage as a heterosexual, Judeo-Christian institution is a totem of conservative Christianity's mighty political wing and a flag marking its territorial gains in what its leaders see as a decisive battle in the culture war. In May 2003 the heads of 26 conservative organizations, including the Family Research Council, formed an entity, which they called the Arlington Group, to pool resources and come up with a combined strategy for fighting the forces of secularism. They thought it would be an amorphous battle, with many fronts. But just a month later the United States Supreme Court struck down a Texas law that had declared consenting homosexual sex illegal. Gay rights groups saw the Lawrence v. Texas ruling as a watershed:

an endorsement, at the federal level, of homosexuality itself. So did the conservative leaders. Then in November of that year came the Massachusetts Supreme Court ruling that gave same-sex couples in the state the right to marry.

The effect of this one-two punch, which was heightened by the mayor of San Francisco's granting of same-sex marriage licenses the following February, was galvanizing for the Arlington Group members. The nebulous culture war instantly focused into a single issue. Since the ultimate goal of Arlington's member organizations is an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would define marriage as a heterosexual union, they formed another entity, the Marriage Amendment Project, to spearhead this mission. The Family Research Council offered space in its building for the project, and as an expression of the enthusiasm of the research-council staff for the initiative, the manager of the gift shop came up with the idea of the shrine to marriage, which comprises real-life wedding memorabilia donated by employees.

The exhibit itself could very likely serve as a cultural litmus test. Perhaps half the population would see the disembodied wedding outfits preserved in glass cases and guarded by a wooden eagle as bizarre, even lurid, while for the other half the display would trip different signifiers: sanctity, defiance, determination. On so many fronts that is where we are as a nation these days: divided, clearly and seemingly unbridgeably, in sensibility, values, foundations, even sense of humor.

As hot-button issues go, however, Gay marriage probably isn't a

classic divide. For one thing, the country is fairly decisively opposed to it. The vote last November — all 11 states that had anti-Gay-marriage amendments to their state constitutions on the ballot saw those amendments pass — made clear that most people are not comfortable with the idea of extending the marriage franchise to same-sex pairings. And polls on the issue reinforce the point. Only about a quarter of voters surveyed in the national exit poll following the election favored same-sex marriage, and interestingly enough, only about half of Gay and Bisexual voters did.

People have given pollsters many different reasons for their opposition to Gay marriage. Some base their feelings on what you might call linguistic grounds: a belief that the definition of the word "marriage" necessarily involves one person from each sex. Others say that it would be bad for children or that the purpose of marriage is to procreate or that they just don't agree with the idea. Then there is the compromise position. In April, Connecticut passed a law recognizing same-sex civil unions, which have been legal in Vermont for five years. The fact that civil unions, as well as efforts to extend specific rights and benefits to Gay couples, receive significant support in polls suggests that many who object to Gay marriage nevertheless see an underlying civil rights issue.

But as I learned spending time among the cultural conservatives who are leading the anti-Gay-marriage charge, they have their own reasons for doing so, which are based on their reading of the Bible, their views about both homosexuality and the institution of marriage and the political force behind the issue. In the words of Gary Bauer, president of American Values — one of what is now a

Continued on Page Four



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# UPDATE

## Wingspan Moving To New Location

TUCSON - As you may have heard, Wingspan is moving to a new leased building just around the corner from their current location on Sixth Street.

Wingspan's new address is 425 E 7th Street, which is 1/2 block east of 4th Avenue. The phone number will remain the same (520) 624-1779.

To prepare for the move, Wingspan will be closed July 1 - 10. While Wingspan is closed, staff will have limited access to email or telephones, and may not be able to return your emails or calls.

However, during the time we closed, our Anti-Violence Project 24 hour crisis line (520) 624-0348, (800) 553-9387, will be available for victim/survivors of domestic and sexual violence, hate crimes, harassment, and

discrimination. Please do not call the line unless the call relates to one of these issues.

While Wingspan is closed, groups who have been meeting at the Muse space on Sixth Street will continue to meet at the Muse.

Wingspan will be in their new office, Monday, July 11. Street parking is available around the new building, as are limited spots in the lot behind the building. Parking for people with disabilities is available in the front of the building. The first floor of the new building is completely wheelchair accessible.

Wingspan's "new" hours are Monday through Fridays, 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; Saturday and Sundays 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## Road Runner Regional Rodeo Moves To New Location

PHOENIX - The Road Runner Regional Rodeo (RRRR), hosted by the Arizona Gay Rodeo Association (AGRA), is moving with Rawhide to their new location. Rawhide is moving to the Wild Horse Pass on the Gila River Indian Community. The rodeo will be January 13-15, 2006.

Wild Horse Pass has the Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Resort with 500 rooms, the 17,500 square foot Native American Aji Spa, the Whirlwind Golf Club; an equestrian center, and a 2.5 mile replica of the Gila River meandering through the property with boat shuttles to the activities, along with gaming and entertainment at the Wild Horse Pass Casino. The casino will be just a short distance from Rawhide.

Rawhide will be located approximately 20 miles from central Phoenix and only a short distance off I-10 exiting on Wild Horse Pass Blvd. The old west Town of Rawhide will still be a unique part of the facility with entrance to the rodeo through the town. The arena will run north and south, and will have holding pens, internal return for animals, roping chutes at one end of the arena, and at least eight bucking chutes at the opposite end of the arena. There will be uncovered seating for 8,000 people, an RV park with 100 spaces, and 923 parking spaces. More restrooms and concession stands are planned. And, of course, the covered pavilion will still exist so dancing, entertainment, and vendors will definitely be a major part of the overall rodeo production.

## What's The Real Problem?

Continued from Page Three  
total of 61 organizations under the Arlington Group banner, with a combined membership of 60 million — Gay marriage is "the new abortion." He meant that, as with abortion, conservatives see Gay marriage as a culture-altering change being implemented by judicial fiat. But Gay marriage is also the new abortion in that it is for groups like Bauer's a base-energizing and fund-raising issue of tremendous power.

During last year's election campaign, at the same time that he was calling for a federal constitutional amendment to outlaw Gay marriage, President Bush was giving a moderate sheen to the position of the conservative Christians with whom he is closely allied. As he said in his final debate with John Kerry, responding to a question about homosexuality: "I do know that we have a choice to make in America and that is to treat people with tolerance and respect and dignity. It's important that we do that. And I also know in a free society, consenting adults can live the way they want to live. And that's to be honored."

But for the anti-Gay-marriage activists, homosexuality is something to be fought, not tolerated or respected. I found no one among the people on the ground who are leading the anti-Gay-marriage cause who said in essence: "I have nothing against homosexuality. I just don't believe Gays should be allowed to marry." Rather, their passion comes from their conviction that homosexuality is a sin, is immoral, harms children and spreads disease. Not only that, but they see homosexuality itself as a kind of disease, one that afflicts not only individuals but also society at large and

that shares one of the prominent features of a disease: it seeks to spread itself.

## Memorial To Gay Victims Of The Nazis Planned

VIENNA - The Austrian capital unveiled plans Wednesday to honor Gay victims of the Nazis, organizing a competition to design a memorial for a group of victims often overlooked in accounts of World War II atrocities, reported the Associated Press on Advocate.com.

Vienna's top official in charge of culture, Andreas Mailath-Pokorny, said that like other groups who were targeted, this group of victims should be remembered in a year marking the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II in Europe. "It is critical in this...year to remember this group of victims, who were not only forgotten...but even prosecuted," Mailath-Pokorny said, referring to laws in postwar Austria that forbade homosexual behavior. Such laws made it even more difficult for Gays to stand up and make others take notice of what occurred to them during the war.

The work will be placed at the site of the city's former Gestapo headquarters, which activists had long considered a focal point of outrage against Nazi persecution. City cultural officials plan a competition among eight artists for the task of designing the memorial, which will have to incorporate an existing memorial to all victims of the Gestapo already at the site, known as Morzinplatz.

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## In His Own Words

The Ever Changing Definition of "Mission" In Iraq. A headline in the Washington Post (June 21) declares "Bush Defends Strategy In Iraq, Pledges to 'Complete the Mission'." The trouble is that George W. Bush has changed the definition of "mission" so many times, it's hard to have any confidence in his most recent declarations.

THE PRE-WAR MISSION WAS TO RID IRAQ OF WMD - Bush: "Our mission is clear in Iraq. Should we have to go in, our mission is very clear: disarmament." [3/6/03]

AFTER THE WAR BEGAN, THE MISSION EXPANDED - Bush: "Our cause is just, the security of the nations we serve and the peace of the world. And our mission is clear, to disarm Iraq of weapons of mass destruction, to end Saddam Hussein's support for terrorism, and to free the Iraqi people." [3/22/03]

Bush: "Our forces have been given a clear mission: to end a regime that threatened its neighbors and the world with weapons of mass destruction and to free a people that had suffered far too long." [4/14/03]

THEN THE MISSION WAS COMPLETE - Bush: "On Thursday, I visited the USS Abraham Lincoln, now headed home after the longest carrier deployment in recent history. I delivered good news to the men and women who

fought in the cause of freedom: Their mission is complete, and major combat operations in Iraq have ended." [5/3/03]

BUT THEN IT CONTINUED AGAIN - Bush: "The United States and our allies will complete our mission in Iraq." [7/30/03]

THEN THE MISSION WAS TO DEVELOP A FREE IRAQ - Bush: "That has been our mission all along, to develop the conditions such that a free Iraq will emerge, run by the Iraqi citizens." [11/4/03]

Bush: "We will see that Iraq is free and self-governing and democratic. We will accomplish our mission." [5/4/04]

AND TO TRAIN THE IRAQI TROOPS - Bush: "And our mission is clear there, as well, and that is to train the Iraqis so they can do the fighting; make sure they can stand up to defend their freedoms, which they want to do." [6/2/05]

NOW, COMPLETION OF THE MISSION IS FAR FROM CLEAR - Bush: "We're making progress toward the goal, which is, on the one hand, a political process moving forward in Iraq, and on the other hand, the Iraqis capable of defending themselves... And we will - we will complete this mission for the sake of world peace." [6/20/05]

## Lawmakers Urge Bush To Enforce Ban On G/L Discrimination

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Eighty-five U.S. Representatives Monday, June 20 called on President Bush to preserve the longstanding prohibition against discrimination based on sexual orientation in the federal civil service, reported 365Gay.com.

In a letter to the President they urged Bush to rein in Scott Bloch, director of the Office of Special Counsel, reminding the President that he has affirmed is his administration's policy that LGBT workers are protected under an Executive Order signed by President Clinton.

Bloch's office is responsible for investigating complaints by federal workers but he has consistently refused to look into allegations of harassment by LGBT workers.

Among the signatories to the letter are Representatives Barney Frank (D-Mass), Eliot Engel (D-NY), Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), George Miller (D-CA), and Henry Waxman (D-CA).

The letter was sent in response to Bloch's flat refusal during an appearance last month before a Senate subcommittee to enforce the policy.

The letter urges the President "to take whatever steps you can to see that Mr. Bloch complies with the policy you have promulgated - and which was supported by a large majority of the House of Representatives in 1998 when a challenge to it was presented."

Appearing before the the Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs subcommittee on oversight of government management, the federal workforce and the District of Columbia, Bloch was grilled by Sen. Carl M. Levin (D-MI).

Bloch told Levin that despite the Clinton Executive Order and the Bush administration's pledge to honor it, "We are limited by our enforcement statutes as Congress gives them."

Levin then reminded him of the statement issued by the White House last year that said, "Longstanding federal

policy prohibits discrimination against federal employees based on sexual orientation. President Bush expects federal agencies to enforce this policy and to ensure that all federal employees are protected from unfair discrimination at work."

Levin asked Bloch if he did not believe the President's statement was binding on him.

"It is binding on me," Bloch said, "but it is not something I can prosecute in my agency... I am limited by the enforcement statutes that you give me."

At that point Levin asked if Bloch would recommend Congress amend the law to add sexual orientation to the protections for federal employees. Bloch declined to take a position saying that it was a matter for Congress not him to comment on.

Bloch has been under fire for more than year for stonewalling complaints of discrimination by LGBT federal workers.

In February 2004 he ordered references to sexual orientation removed from the Office of the Special Counsel website. Since 1998, when President Bill Clinton issued an executive order prohibiting bias in the civil service, the OSC has taken that to include sexuality.

A month after the references disappeared from the OSC website Bloch said Gay workers were no longer protected.

After intense pressure from Federal Globe, an organization for Gay and Lesbian workers, and from Democrats on The Hill, the White House said it would honor the Executive Order signed by President Clinton.

But, last September, with Bloch's approval, several union contracts negotiated with various branches of the government removed the list of categories that are protected replacing them with the more nebulous phrase "any class protected by law."

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# Governments Weigh E-Mail Warning Service For G/B Men With STDs

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Local governments in the United States and abroad are moving to adopt a new e-mail service that Gay and Bisexual men with sexually transmitted diseases can use anonymously to warn former partners of possible exposure, reported the Knight Ritter News Service.

Thousands of people have used inSPOT.org to notify up to six partners of their risk with one of six e-cards such as "It's not what you brought to the party, it's what you left with."

Users don't have to provide their e-mail addresses or names, and each e-card has a space for personalized messages.

The cards include maps of community health resources where recipients can get tested.

InSPOT, for Internet Notification Service for Partners or Tricks, is designed for San Francisco - but the map lists only health resources in the Bay Area - but it's attracted attention nationally and overseas.

California is expected to launch the service statewide before Labor Day, according to Deb Levine, the executive director of Internet Sexuality Information Service, which launched inSPOT last October.

The Indiana State Department of Health recently signed on to take the program there. The Mazzoni Center, a Philadelphia group that's dedicated to helping sexual minorities, and the Philadelphia Health Department agreed to conduct focus groups to discuss adopting the service and expanding it to include heterosexuals. An international nongovernmental organization has agreed to replicate the service in Romania, according to Levine. Officials in Florida, Maryland, New York state and British Columbia have expressed interest.

The biggest obstacle to providing the service outside San Francisco isn't money but personalizing the cards and Web site for specific communities.

It will cost those groups \$20,000 to adapt the service to their communities and an additional yearly maintenance fee to run the site, Levine said. InSPOT got its funding through a grant from the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

Because the goal is to educate people and help them get tested, Levine doesn't frown on heterosexual men and women using the service. But they should be aware that some services on the Web site and e-card are designed for Gay and Bisexual men.

"What we would really like to know is if these folks are going back in to get testing," Levine said.

The service comes at a time of renewed worry about the spread of STDs and HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. There are now more than 1 million Americans living with HIV, the most since the height of the epidemic in the 1980s, according to a report that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released last week.

There's little data regarding the transmission of STDs through contacts made online because of a lack of national comprehensive studies, but clinic workers in major cities have estimated that as

many as 30 percent of Gay men recently infected with STDs think they were exposed through partners they met online.

"Men finding men on the Internet for sex is actually considered on the rise, and it is a scary trend," said Nestor Rocha, a division director for prevention and health promotion at the Whitman-Walker Clinic in Washington.

The rise of anonymous online hookups has made notification more difficult. Sometimes men know only a partner's e-mail address and a meeting location. How do you tell someone whose name you might not even know that you may have given him an STD?

"It just made sense to have an online solution to an online problem," said Tom Kennedy, the communication director for Internet Sexuality Information Services.

Some health practitioners have expressed concern that the e-mail system could be abused.

Unlike most telephone and online partner notification programs around the country, inSPOT can be used anonymously, so there's no way for recipients to know whether the e-mail is legitimate or from a prankster. The program also doesn't require users to prove that they've tested positive for STDs.

Beau Gratzner, the director of men's health at Howard Brown Health Center in Chicago, said the service shouldn't necessarily be shunned because of the possibility of abuse.

"In many respects the worst thing that can happen is that someone can get tested for STDs," he said.

The service's level of automation and the fact that there's no way to gauge inSPOT's effectiveness also worries some health workers.

Mary McFarlane, of the CDC's division of STD prevention, said the national STD-prevention community was cautiously optimistic about the service. She warned, though, that it must adjust to each new community and provide as many human connections as possible to be truly effective.

"It is important at some point out there to have a human being," McFarlane said. "They need to know where there is a human to talk to."

Rocha, of Whitman-Walker, expressed the same concern for the unwitting recipient of an inSPOT e-mail.

"What I would be concerned about is people's reaction," Rocha said. "We have to consider that it can be detrimental" emotionally.

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# Safe Sex

# Is Bringing Men Together

# PBS Special Highlights Straight Texas Teen Fighting For Gay Rights & Sex Ed.

LOS ANGELES - "AIDS IS GOD'S CURSE." A child, no more than 9 years old, holds the banner high during an anti-Gay rally in Lubbock, Texas. On the other side of the street, Gay students protest the school board denying them the right to organize on campus, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com.

Their cause draws legal support, media coverage and an unlikely ally in Shelby Knox, a conservative Christian teenager and warrior princess for comprehensive - as opposed to abstinence-only - sex education.

Not even she could have dreamed her battle would lead her to this place.

"The thing Shelby understood very clearly was how the fight she was waging for comprehensive sex education had to include them," says New York filmmaker Marion Lipschutz, who captured this watershed moment for "The Education of Shelby Knox," which aired on Tuesday, June 21, on the PBS documentary series "P.O.V."

"Not everybody sees the inter-connection in sex education and Gay rights. Shelby did," says Lipschutz, "and (she) felt it was very important to have that in the film because she understood this film is also getting a message out there."

Originally, Knox wasn't supposed to be at the center of the story.

"We started out to do the story about sex education in a town where kids were advocating to get better sex education," says Lipschutz's creative partner, Rose Rosenblatt. "Shelby emerged as the dominant character. As we followed her more and more, it became the story of fighting for sex ed through the point of view of this young girl."

Knox was a high school sophomore in 2001 when she joined the Lubbock Youth Commission, a group of 35 high school students empowered by the mayor to give Lubbock teens a voice in city government.

The commission lobbied fervently for comprehensive sex education in schools. Although the area's high schools teach abstinence-only sex education, Lubbock has some of the highest rates of teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases in the country.

"I knew people who had STDs. I knew people who had fathered children," says Knox, "and the more I asked about it, they'd say things like, 'We thought you couldn't get pregnant the first time.' It was happening in our very own schools. I thought it was something that I could use my voice to try and change."

Easier said than done.

"Five-to-one I get positive letters over negative - I'm having huge success," says Ed Ainsworth, youth pastor for Faith Christian Family Church in Lubbock, an abstinence educator who gives seminars, sans religious doctrine, throughout Texas high schools. "Abstinence will protect your heart, your mind, your emotions and your body."

As the culture wars were waged on the outside, Shelby's increasingly liberal views - and the stress she was putting on herself - made things contentious at home.

"For the first time, it was less important to her what we said or what we felt, she was just so passionate about the issue," says Shelby's mother, Paula Knox, from the family's home in Lubbock.

The Youth Commission was eventually disbanded, with the city's budget shortfall blamed for its demise.

"Ultimately it was their advocacy and their action ... that led to its demise," says Eric Benson, former Youth Commission adviser who has worked in STD prevention for nearly a decade.

He contends that "as a society, we have some serious hang-ups about sex. We're both fascinated with it and afraid of it. We're in an incredible amount of denial. It's obvious that sexual abstinence is not a realistic choice for many of our youth. Shouldn't we be meeting those kids where they're at and helping them to take steps toward safety?"

This year, President Bush has earmarked \$167 million for abstinence-only education, and his proposed 2006 budget will see an increase of \$206 million for such programs.

Meanwhile, schools opting for comprehensive sex education have to pay for those programs from their general budget, provided by local and state governments.

"There's been a bill presented in the Senate," Knox offers, "called the Responsible Education About Life Act to match funding for comprehensive sex education so school districts can choose abstinence only or comprehensive and get the same funding."

Now 18, Knox is a sophomore at the University of Texas in Austin. A self-described liberal Democrat and future presidential hopeful, she was raised Southern Baptist but has no current affiliation with any religious denomination. However, she still adheres to a "purity pledge" she took at 15 vowing to abstain from sex until she marries.

"The artistic surprise of this film," notes Lipschutz, "was that we started out doing a fight over sex ed and as we were editing we saw that we didn't have that fight as much as we had Shelby's transformation, and specifically a religious, social transformation."

Knox maintains the film isn't about her, adding: "It's about an issue that is very important to the United States right now. I'm simply the face of that issue in this film."



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# Youth's Blog Stirs Uproar Over 'Ex-Gay' Camp

MEMPHIS, ALABAMA - Sixteen-year-old "Zach" is apparently enduring a rite of passage still too common for Gay youth: His parents say he must change. When they enrolled him last month in a Christian camp-like program to turn him straight, he documented his fears in his online diary, or blog, reported the PlanetOut Network.

The PlanetOut Network could not confirm Zach's identity or his story, but the blog has sparked a firestorm of protest against the program, known as Refuge, and renewed scrutiny of similar "ministries."

A residential program run by Memphis, Ala.-based Love in Action (LIA), Refuge "ministers to adolescents struggling with broken and addictive behaviors, such as promiscuity, alcohol and drug addiction and homosexuality," according to its Web site.

An estimated total of 150 people -- including parents, children, psychiatrists and other concerned Memphis residents carrying signs that have slogans such as "This is Child Abuse" -- have gathered over eight consecutive days outside LIA headquarters. On Thursday LIA held a press conference in response to the protests.

For LIA, homosexuality is not an orientation but a set of behaviors that lies at the root of all dysfunction. And homosexual desires can supposedly be reprogrammed, through Refuge, at a cost of \$2,000 for two weeks, or \$4,000 for six weeks.

Patterned after teen drug and alcohol programs, Refuge minimizes contact with familiar things that it claims encourage homosexual behavior: no secular music, no more than 15 minutes per day behind a closed bathroom door, no contact with any practicing homosexuals, no masturbation, no secular music, and \_\_\_ for reasons not explained \_\_\_ no Calvin Klein underwear.

The rules above were posted on Zach's blog, which has been inactive since June 3. The policies were confirmed by

Alex Polotsky, a spokesman for Queer Action Coalition, a Memphis group formed to provide alternative information for struggling youth.

"Nobody can be straight enough in the program," said Polotsky, whose group staged the protests outside LIA. "We're outraged at the treatment youths receive [in Refuge]."

Exodus International, an umbrella organization for nearly all regional "ex-Gay" ministries, provides funding and marketing support for groups such as LIA, Lifeguard Ministries, New Hope Ministries and others. Although "reparative therapy" for homosexuality has been denounced by the mainstream psychological community as tantamount to abuse, "ex-Gay" ministries offer hope to conflicted parents (usually devoutly religious and conservative) who are unwilling or unable to accept their kids' sexuality or seek traditional counseling.

Youth (and adults) who enter "ex-Gay" programs may suffer from genuine self-destructive behaviors that go far beyond their struggle with same-sex attraction, said Wayne Besen, who wrote the book "Anything But Straight" about the "ex-Gay" movement.

"To get help they have to swallow the lie that it's because they are Gay that they're having these problems. It works by confusing people. It doesn't matter to them that they don't get results. They get a lot of money from people who really believe this stuff."

"Love in Action seems to be the worst of these reckless religious activities," said Craig Bowman, executive director of the National Youth Advocacy Coalition. "These programs are dangerous because they systematically work on a young person's psyche using junk science as a foundation."

Jack Drescher, M.D., a New York-based psychiatrist and chair of the American Psychiatric Association Committee on LGBT Issues, told the PlanetOut Network that such programs do far more harm than good for impressionable teens. "They may delay the child's coming out for many years, but by

the time they are ready to come out, there's been a lot of psychological damage."

Shawn O'Donnell spent eight years in and out of therapy to change his sexual orientation. As a depressed and suicidal 18-year-old, O'Donnell was referred by his pastor to a three-year residential program, New Hope Ministry, located 10 miles from San Francisco. O'Donnell said it only made his issues worse.

"It was hell, very controlling. We couldn't be alone. We were always told to pray harder, and it made us feel ashamed that we weren't using the program correctly," he recalled.

Peterson Toscano spent 17 years and \$30,000 to get straight as an adult, but nothing worked. Now a "performance activist" in Connecticut, Toscano has toured the United States and Europe with a satirical theater piece about his two years in LIA.

"'Ex-Gay' programs use the term 'Gay lifestyle,' which to them includes unsafe sex [and] emotionally dependent relationships," Toscano said. "They know they can't really turn anyone straight, but they can make them not live the 'Gay lifestyle.' They are purposely deceiving people."

Though relatively few people participate in 'ex-Gay' programs, Drescher believes their influence goes far beyond changing individuals. "They are a pawn in the culture war," he said. "They support the idea that homosexuality can be changed, therefore it is a lifestyle and not worthy of civil rights legislation."

Drescher pointed to an 'ex-Gay' convention called Love Won Out, organized by the anti-Gay Focus on the Family and held in Texas to coincide with the state legislature's biennial sessions.

"The timing is not a coincidence," he said. "Their purpose is to shape public policy."

# Oregon Resumes Medical Pot Program

SALEM - Oregon resumed issuing medical-marijuana cards Friday, June 17, deciding the program could continue despite a Supreme Court ruling allowing federal prosecution for possessing the drug, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com.

But the state warned that registration in the state program won't protect patients or caregivers from federal prosecution for drug possession if the federal government chooses to take action against them.

The Human Services Department stopped sending out the cards -- but continued processing applications -- after the Supreme Court held last week that federal authorities can prosecute marijuana possession under federal drug laws, even in states like Oregon, where medical use of the drug is legal.

The department was awaiting a review of the Supreme Court's ruling by Oregon Attorney General Hardy Myers. Myers concluded that the ruling did not invalidate the state's program, and the department on Friday, June 17, began mailing about 550 registration cards that had been held up, said Grant Higginson, a department administrator.

Madeline Martinez, Oregon director of the National Organization to Reform Marijuana Laws, said the court ruling caused many patients to dismantle their gardens.

She said her group tried to assure patients that medical marijuana users also weren't protected from federal prosecution in 1999 after the program began "and that now we are right back where we were."

More than 10,000 patients have registered for the state's medical marijuana program, one of 11 in the nation. Patients qualify if a state-licensed physician states that they suffer from certain conditions including cancer, glaucoma, HIV/AIDS or severe pain, and may benefit from marijuana use.



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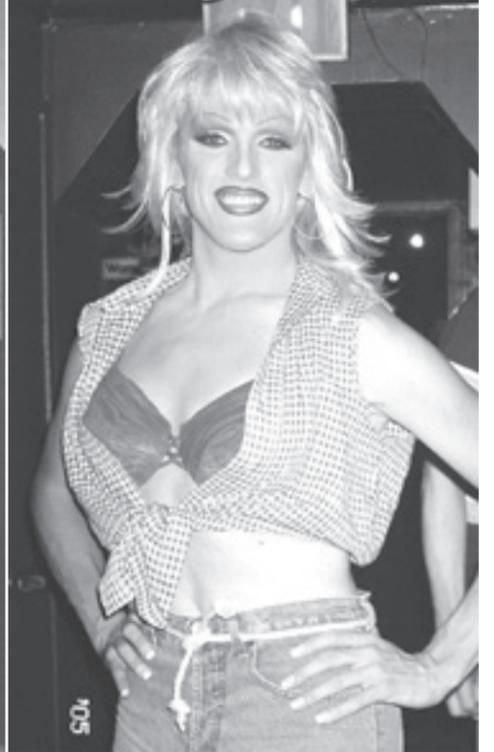


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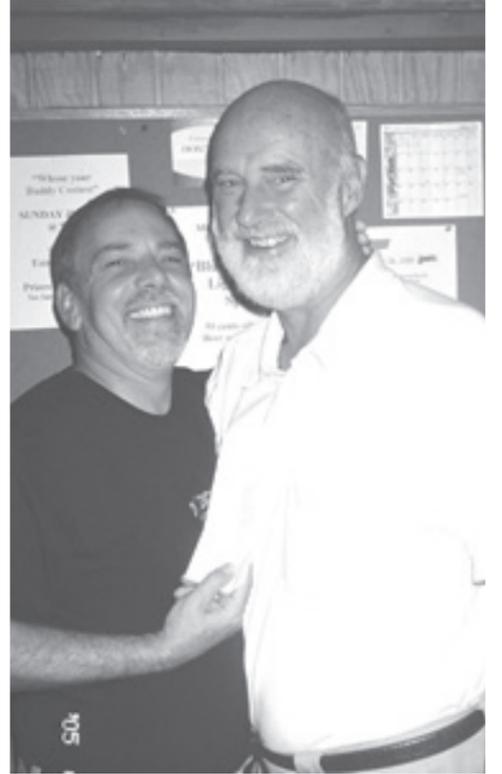
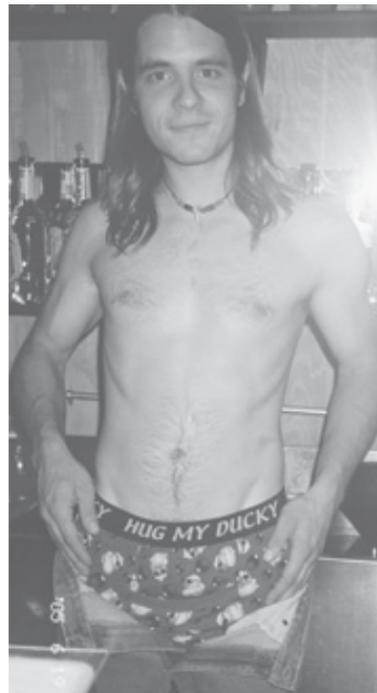
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# PRIDE NIGHT AT IBT'S



# PRIDE NIGHT AT YARD DOG



# POLITICS 2005

by Mark R. Kerr

## 'Again, The PMA Protects Whom?'

People in a democratic society will go to the polls to either vote for or against individuals running for local political offices, ranging from their respective school boards to community college district boards, town and city councils to their county supervisors (the term used in Arizona) to solve the problems and deal with the issues and concerns that a community faces, but Len Munsil, Cathy Herrod and the Center for Arizona Policy (CAP) and their proposed state constitutional amendment, also known as Protect Marriage Arizona (PMA), show they don't believe in protecting democracy, the tenet this country and state are purportedly founded upon.

Elected officials, such as the Tucson City Council, have passed ordinances, such as the Human Relations Ordinance in 1977, dealing with the issues of concern to the Old Pueblo but Len, Cathy and the CAP and the PMA, show they don't believe in protecting citizens in getting employment, obtaining housing or public accommodations and being a part of society.

One of the problems that all people will deal with, directly or indirectly, is domestic violence, for which the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, domestic violence "is a pattern of behavior used to establish power and control over another person through fear and intimidation, often including the threat or use of violence. Battering happens when one person believes they are entitled to control another. Assault, battering and domestic violence are crimes."

Arizona's Legislature has adopted laws dealing with domestic violence in the books, (Arizona Revised Statutes 13-3601 through 13-3603), covering misdemeanor and felonious offenses, depending upon the legal circumstances but Len, Cathy and the CAP and the PMA, show they don't believe in protecting victims of domestic violence, as well as family members affected indirectly by such heinous acts.

So whom do Len, Cathy and the CAP want to protect with the PMA? Not children or people who have children, through conception, adoption, guardianship or otherwise and who happen to not have "gone down the aisle" in the Grand Canyon State either, if the PMA gets on the November 2006 ballot and approved by the voters, participating in democracy - something they don't really want to protect but setting the irony aside and digressing.

In an interview with Mary K. Reinhart of the East Valley Tribune, for a story, entitled "Same-sex Marriage Fight Looms," which ran in the Saturday, June 18 edition, "Herrod said the (PMA) amendment would apply to benefits regardless of sexual orientation. 'If it gives a legal status to unmarried individuals,' she said, 'it would not be allowed.'"

So with that, Arizona Revised Statutes (ARS), dealing with:

Children - Title 8 - Chapters 1 through 4 - Adoption, Article 1, 8-101 through 8-173, Chapter 5 - Child Welfare and Placement, Articles 1 through 5, 8-501 through 8-550.1, Chapter 7 - Legitimacy of Children, 8-601, Chapter 8 - Early Intervention Programs and Services for Infants and Toddlers, Chapter 9 - Health Families Program, Chapter 10 - Dependent Children, Articles 1 through 6, 8-801 through 8-892, Chapter 11 - Family Group Decision Making Program;

Education - Title 15, Chapter 1 Article 1 - General Provisions, 15-101 and 15-102; and,

Marital and Domestic Relations -

Title 25, Chapter 4 - Child Custody and Visitation, 25-401 through 25-415, Chapter 5 - Family Support Duties, Articles 1 through 5, 25-500 through 25-685, Chapter 6 - Maternity and Paternity Proceedings, 25-801 through 25-817, Chapter 8 - Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act, Articles 1 through 3, 25-1001 through 25-1067, Chapter 9 - Uniform Interstate Family Support Act, Articles 1 through 8, 25-1201 through 25-1342, will be affected, immediately struck from the books or one lawsuit from being tossed, because if the PMA somehow wins approval, Len, Cathy and CAP's proposal would prohibit, as the language for the amendment states "... legal status for unmarried persons shall be created or recognized by this state or its political subdivisions that is similar to that of marriage ..."

So again the question is posed, whom would the PMA protect?

# McDonald's Sued For HIV Discrimination

CLEVELAND - A trial began Monday, June 20, pitting a Akron, Ohio man who says he was fired by McDonald's because he has HIV against the giant fast food chain, 365Gay.com reported.

Russell Rich alleges in the suit that he was forced to quit his job as a manager in 1997 when the company learned he was HIV-positive.

Rich, 41, of Akron, won a \$5 million verdict in his discrimination case against the burger chain in 2001. But the verdict was overturned after an appeals court ruled that McDonald's did not receive a fair trial. The court ordered that a new trial be held.

When Rich left McDonald's he also lost his health insurance. He says that he nearly died in 1999, becoming so sick and depressed he attempted suicide.

Then his doctor advised him to get involved with a clinical trial for the drug Fuzeon, which Rich credits with saving his life. He has since become a spokesman for Roche Group, the drug's maker.

His AIDS medications, which cost tens of thousands of dollars a year, are being covered by the Ohio AIDS Drug Assistance Program.

Rich said he is pursuing the lawsuit because he thinks McDonald's, and not taxpayers, should be paying.

"I truly believe McDonald's hopes to outlive me," he told the Associated Press. "They about did."

In the trial which began Monday before Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Judge Ronald Suster, Rich's lawyer, Paige Martin, contended that McDonald's violated the Americans With Disabilities Act.

McDonald's spokesman William Whitman said in a statement that the corporation has a zero-tolerance policy prohibiting any form of discrimination and denies any wrongdoing.

"Mr. Rich's allegations against McDonald's are simply not supported by the facts," Whitman said.



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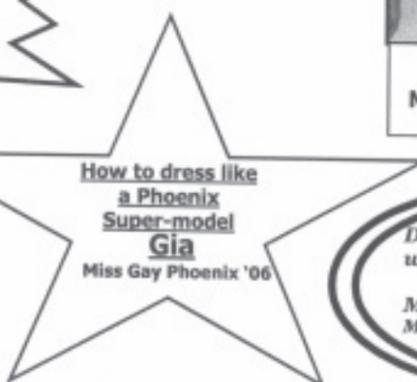


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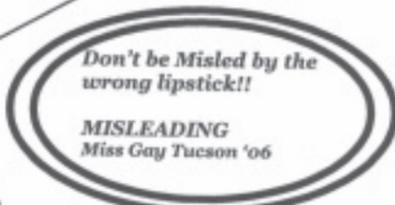
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**NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE**

**Audubon's Here**

by Lee Thorn

I'm not joking when I say that if you want to see all the pictures in the current John James Audubon exhibit at the University of Arizona's Museum of Art you'll need to bring a flashlight. And not one of those discreet little flashlights you can carry in your shirt pocket like a pen. You'll need one of the great big ones we use in the desert to avoid tripping over rattlesnakes on warm summer nights.

Somebody should go to jail for the criminal negligence with which this show is lighted. With several in light and several more in darkness, we here have 53 plates from the Double Elephant Folio edition of the Birds of America. Unless you happen to own a copy of this twice-jumbo set, these prints will be much larger than any Audubons you've seen before.

Some of them look to go at least two-by-four feet. We've all seen a hundred coffee-table volumes of Audubon reproductions. The manufacturers of coffee tables would probably go out of business without them. But I'm here to tell you, no matter how much you like those relatively smallish books, their images do not have the impact of these super-sized prints. And the militant aesthete would point out that this is the size that the artist intended for these works.

A written statement introducing the show begins, "For Audubon, art and science were one." My take on the artist is that his scientific accuracy has tended to diminish our appreciation of his artistic accomplishment.

Yes, he strived for scientific accuracy, but scientific accuracy does not dictate how to fill an empty rectangle. It doesn't even dictate a rectangle. A scientific image could as well be produced in a circle or an oval.

Scientific accuracy doesn't dictate the depiction of birds with bloody bills tearing apart their prey with apparent glee. Nor does it dictate the depiction of a golden eagle with a cute lifeless white bunny in its talons.

All of these images required aesthetic choices imposed on top of scientific accuracy. And science had nothing to say about the choice of perspective that characteristically gives

us a pine tree that is smaller than an eagle's upper beak, a two-story building about the size of a curlew's eye, or a lighthouse smaller than one pelican feather.

These choices of perspective, as well as the decision to include man-made objects in nature studies, were aesthetic choices that add drama without in the least compromising science.

And science doesn't dictate the super-photo realism of the pictures. I made up the phrase "super-photo" because I don't know the actual technical term. What I mean is a picture in which every square inch is in perfect focus. In a photograph you have areas that are in focus and areas that are blurry. In an Audubon every feather is in perfect focus. I can understand why a scientist would appreciate this highly artificial choice, a choice that is not at all like the way we actually see things, but it remains an aesthetic choice.

The Audubon choices most removed from scientific considerations are those of composition. What naturalist would complain if a composition seemed left-heavy or right-heavy? Most critics would probably describe Audubon's typical composition as "balanced." Within this decision to be consistently balanced, Audubon reaches one of his more interesting achievements. The balanced compositions happen also to be compelling and frequently brilliant.

Analogies in all the arts abound. Artists choose to work within arbitrary limits all the time. These self-imposed limitations often turn out to be stimulants. But you don't hear much about Audubon's compositions. Everybody is so enthralled with his science, his draftsmanship, his patience, his persistence, his salesmanship, etc. I ask you to take a gander at his composition — its subtlety, its ingenuity, its lyricism.

And I'd be justly condemned to critics' purgatory if I didn't mention the lush and vibrant colors of these magnificent prints. The show runs through August 7th.

[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.]

**What Makes Our Town Tick?**

Calabazamusic@yahoo.com

By Jerry D

Hello readers! Those of us who know that Tucson is one of this country's hidden jewels, are aware of the events that make it so. We have a professional softball team, an indoor soccer league, and many other entertaining events.

What seems to be one of the most popular in our community, as well as the most hidden, takes place monthly at Blade World, behind the multiples on Grant Road & I 10. There on a Saturday each month, there is a loud, vivid, and sometimes violent scene that people flock to.

The Tucson Roller Derby League is celebrating the end of its second complete season, and shows no signs of letting up. People in droves appear to watch the ladies strap on the skates and take to the rink. The action is extreme and the entertainment between periods makes for an enjoyable evening.

Those of you who read this column regularly might remember my praises of the Roller Derby a little over a year ago. So why you ask am I once again going on about this event. This time around, I had the opportunity to invite some friends to the event. They were there to witness what I had already known, but it was worth mentioning on my part due to their enjoyment.

Roller Derby here in Tucson is real. There are no staged scuffles, no good guy versus bad guy routines. The action, as well as the injuries are very real, but

minimal with the safety precautions practiced by participant and official. The sport (if I may dare call it that) is growing here in Tucson, adding Phoenix to the league that stretches as far as Texas.

My invited guests were excited to see what all my excited talk was about. Even before the first period started, they had a look in their eyes that showed me they were in for quite a ride. My guests enjoyed the action, the uniforms the ladies wore and the entertainment of the entire evening.

What I think they most got out of the evening though, was all of the people they recognized who also came to that evening's event. Combined with our guests, there were no less than twenty friends, co-workers, and long seen acquaintances noticed. Between periods looked like a regular class reunion, and nothing but happy faces among them.

My picture of the event held monthly can only partially give you an idea of what you are missing. If you want the full effect, as well as the cliché that like minds think the same check out the next match. Blade World hosts the next event on Saturday, July 16. The match starts at 7 p.m., but get there early. Tickets are \$8 before and \$10 day of match. The Iron Curtain faces The Vice Squad (I cant make this up), but no matter who is competing, the action is always worth every penny. Hope to see you all there. Have a great week!

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**COMMENTARY. . . .** by Larry Swartz

## Love Is The Only Test Of A Marriage Gay Or Straight

I no longer have the letter I recently received so as to quote it exactly, but it was a letter and questionnaire from an Arizona group that had, as part of its banner, Saving Marriages in Arizona.

It asked me to volunteer to call or go house to house to get signatures on a petition that would prevent or at least diminish the possibility for same-gender marriages in our state, implying that by so doing, I would save the institution of marriage.

I returned the questionnaire with comments I am sure they didn't appreciate, for my first thought was: "Whose marriage are they seeking to save? Mine?"

If two same-gender people succeed in getting legally married, does that mean my marriage is null and void? Does it mean my commitment has been diminished or somehow tainted by the choice of another? I don't think so.

Does it mean that now an overwhelming number of young people will begin to look at others with the same genitalia structuring, but now with the thought of marriage? I don't think so.

Fear is an ugly thing, for in this instance it is seeking to make another wrong - very wrong - so they can be right, so they can feel good about themselves.

"But the Bible says ..." my clergy brethren and others would say. The Bible says many things about societal values and couches much in very stringent rules with horrendous and often lethal outcomes for violations.

Yet many laws stated within the Bible would be laughed at today if we sought to apply them, for we would run afoul of current laws of our land.

So we pick and choose not the things that give us reason to exercise the overt, ancient ordinances that call for an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth, for the laws of today would not allow this.

So now many settle upon such things as Gay or Lesbian issues. "Would you want your son to marry another man?" "Would you want your daughter to have sex with another woman?"

And the fires are fanned by those who seem to live for the opportunity to point a finger at some and use the label "sinner."

As you read this guest column, can you remember the day you chose to see in the opposite sex someone attractive and even desirable? Probably not. Probably it was just a natural sequencing of thought and feeling as something within you now began to see in another something that was sexually attractive.

What if, just what if, for you that other person shared the same basic plumbing you have? And no matter what you were told by others, or tried to make disappear and go away, that urge or desire just wouldn't go away?

Then what if you found someone you wanted to share your life with and were told that the same basic rights afforded to opposite-gender couples were not there for you?

I would feel singled out and denied my basic rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

If this be a sin, then Jesus spoke to that, asking anyone who was without sin to cast the first stone.

Months ago, as I watched reports on television of same-gender couples being married, I saw such love in their eyes. When love is present, can this be wrong or sinful? This clergyman doesn't think so.

I believe God is but love, and whenever love is present, I am not about to cast the first or subsequent stone. If love isn't present, then that isn't my issue, but another's. Does either scenario affect my marriage and commitment? Of course not.

The world would be a better place if we just lived our lives and allowed others to live theirs, and the best gift we can give is loving acceptance of another, especially when another's liberty, life or limb isn't being threatened.

If a Gay marriage diminishes

any reader of this writing, get a grip. Put this energy toward solving world hunger and the planet's need for peace - things worthy of energy and time.

I am called sexually straight. But to my Gay and Lesbian brothers and sisters, I give a gift of acceptance and a prayer that you might peacefully find fulfillment, acceptance and love in your journey of life.

[Larry Swartz has been a co-minister at Unity of Tucson since 1966 with his wife, Mary Ellen, and this is reprinted from the June 21, 2005 edition of the Tucson Citizen.]

### California G/L Marriage Bill

Continued from Page One

If Leno is successful in attaching the bill to existing legislation in the Senate the measure stands a good chance of passing. Democrats hold a 25-15 edge over Republicans.

The state's largest LGBT civil rights group says it is already lobbying

senators.

"From a national perspective it is extremely important for us to have a legislative victory," Geoffrey Kors, executive director of Equality California told the AP.

"If one house, be it the Assembly or Senate of the California Legislature votes in favor of marriage equality, it totally undercuts President Bush and the extreme right-wing argument that this is simply a few judges who are ruling on the issue."

The issue of same-sex marriage also is slowly heading toward the California Supreme Court. Last month a San Francisco judge ruled that state laws preventing Gay marriage are illegal.

Meanwhile, a conservative group called the "Voters' Right to Protect Marriage Initiative" has begun collecting signatures to have a proposed amendment to the California Constitution banning same-sex marriage placed on the 2006 ballot. If approved by voters it would not only bar Gays and Lesbians from marrying but also void the state's landmark domestic partner law.

Randy Thomasson, president of the Campaign for Children and Families - an organization fighting same-sex marriage - predicted that if Leno is successful it would give momentum to the amendment supporters.

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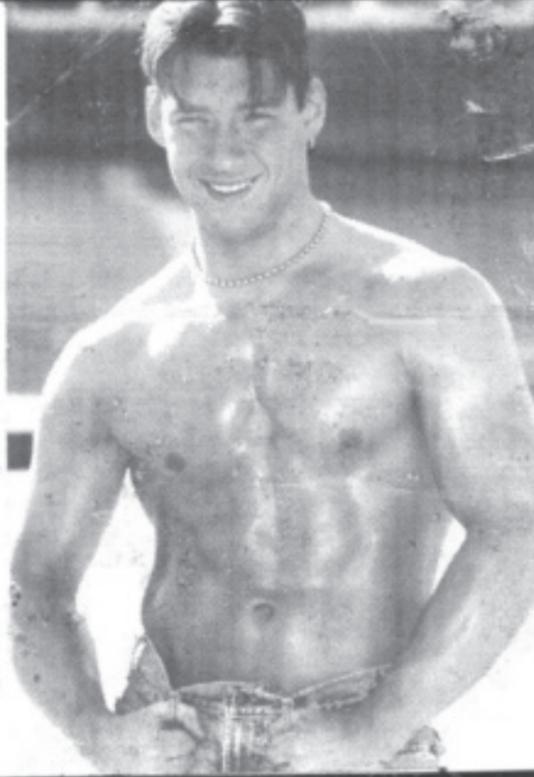
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**SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)**  
Lovers who are close at hand soon becomes underfoot and proud Scorps may begin to yearn for more breathing space. Blame it on Sun, Venus and Mercury who get you thinking about all sorts of faraway adventures and international mischief. There are a few lessons to be learned on that long and winding road. Maybe it's time to schlep off to a much needed recharging vacation.... alone?

**ARIES (MAR. 21 - APR. 20)**  
A new broom sweeps clean when fastidious proud Rams wield their mighty mean sticks. You're finally ready to address much needed changes around the house. Foundations shimmy and shake and may need to be re-evaluated or dismantled. Remodel, move or just survey the landscape with fresh eyes. Sooner than you think, the dust will settle and you'll enjoy some fresh air.

**TAURUS (APR. 21 - MAY 21)**  
How diplomatic can you be when the Sun conjuncts Venus and Mercury? Not much. Queer Bulls may prefer to push things in a certain direction rather than reach happy compromise. That works for me! Challenge the status quo as you pretend to listen to both sides of the argument. Problems won't go away unless you tackle nitty gritty details. Pack a magnifying glass, pardner.

**GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)**  
That which you hold near and dear may not be all that desirable when the Sun conjuncts Venus and Mercury. All that glitters is not gold and the fun (and status) that you thought all these silly tsochakas would bring doesn't measure up to expectations. Pink Twins need to reassess their expensive pastimes. You do more with less and you won't miss the clutter and mess.

**CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)**  
You catapult into the center of attention when a posse of planets conjunct in your own sign. Proud Crabs cannot contain themselves and burst on the social scene with wilde abandon. There are times when you think you are pushing the envelope. Keeping pushing compadre - one day you will penetrate the social zeitgeist. But will they give you cabfare in the morning?

**LEO (JULY 24 - AUG. 23)**  
Sun conjuncts Venus and Mercury and empties out your cosmic closeted debris. It may be summer but this is a good spring cleaning. We carry around all sorts of negativity and can continue to beat ourselves silly under the yoke of hidden oppressions. Had enough? This is a planetary "Stop" sign, proud Lion. Make a turn and become "Slippery When Wet" rather than a "Dip".

**VIRGO (AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23)**  
Don't let friends take you to where you don't want to go. Sun conjuncts Venus and Mercury and tempt queer Virgins to follow the herd because they are so keen for new powerful friendships. Why be molded by the group and pay for the privilege? Avoid the urge to buy acceptability. Compadres, if they are worth their salt, will love you for who you are; warts, farts and all.

**LIBRA (SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)**  
Some Gay Libras know exactly where they're going in life, but some (too many) can't quite make up their minds. Sun conjuncts Venus and Mercury and agitates your career. It can mean that professional success is at hand or it can mean a detour and a much needed change in direction. The important thing is to use your strengths to best advantage, devious though they may be....

**SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)**  
How ready are you for prime time, Gay Archer? Sun, Venus and Mercury peel you like an onion; each hidden layer of your life, loves and dreams are exposed to all who grab a peek. There is nothing to fear if your inner and outer pride are harmoniously in sync. If not, rest assured that liberation is a'coming so hang on, hang tight and hang out. Pack the sun screen for the glare!

**CAPRICORN (DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)**  
Just when you thought you had found the perfect dance partner, Sun, Venus and Mercury change the tempo. Sharpen your pencils; The test for true compatibility is on! Pink Caps can reassess what works and doesn't work and use this time as a prelude for future happiness. Hopefully it's a trip to the moon on gossamer wings, but it's better to know now if it's just one of those things.

**AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)**  
Sometimes it's almost impossible to tie up all those loose ends into a nice neat package. Aqueerians should accept the fact that this is one of those times. Sun, Mercury and Venus pit your daily work commitments against your fun personal plans. It's hard to play the social diva when bosses expect to see you hum as a worker drone. Don't toss your invites yet. This too shall pass.

**PISCES (FEB. 20 - MAR. 20)**  
Is it possible to have too much of a good thing? Let me know after Sun conjuncts Venus and Mercury. Guppies know how to party but they can now overextend. It will be hard to choose from a delicious and diverse array of jollies. Be a little picky and choose only the best venues to display your considerable talents. Why lose the wind in your sail so early in the cruise season?

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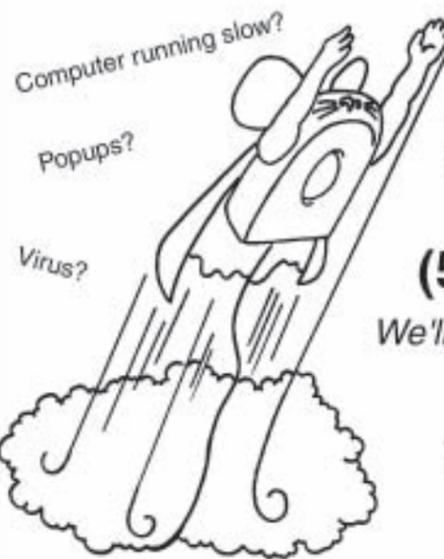
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# New Research Shows Homosexuality Genetic

LONDON - A new study of research on sexuality over the last 15 shows that homosexuality is genetic, reported 365Gay.com.

The study, by Qazi Rahman, a psychobiologist at the University of East London, and Glenn Wilson, a personality specialist from the University of London, examines the work of a number of international researchers in the fields of psychology, neuroscience, genetics, endocrinology and evolutionary biology.

It concludes that sexuality is determined prior to birth and is based on a combination of genetics and hormonal activity in the womb.

In an interview with The Guardian newspaper Rahman said that the study examined the 1990 work of psychobiologist Simon LeVay that revealed differences in small parts of the brain between Gay and straight men. It

also looked at 1993 research indicating chromosomal differences between Gays and straight men.

Since then there has been an "absolute explosion" in research into the area, Rahman told the Guardian, noting that this is the first attempt to put all the separate pieces of research together and analyze it as a whole.

Rahman and Wilson also conclude there is no evidence that people could "learn" to be Gay.

But, the study disputes the figure that roughly 10 percent of the population is Gay. It concludes that between 2% to 4% of people are Gay and that the figure does not seem to vary across societies.

It also notes that while men tend to be either heterosexual or homosexual, with little evidence for true Bisexuality, women show more mixed preferences.

# Massive Anti-G/L Marriage Rally In Madrid

MADRID - Thousands of people heeded a call from the Roman Catholic Church and demonstrated against same-sex marriage Saturday, June 18, 365Gay.com reported.

The rally was organized by the Church and the conservative opposition Popular Party. Both have been mounting an anti-Gay campaign since the socialist government of Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero announced last year he would legalize same-sex marriage.

The measure passed Spain's lower house in April and has passed a key Senate committee. A final vote is expected shortly. Cardinal Antonio Maria Rouco, the archbishop of Madrid, in his red vestment, and 15 bishops led the rally.

Shortly after he announced last year Zapatero was summoned to Rome for a lecture by Pope John Paul. Nevertheless, Zapatero and his government refused to bow under the pressure.

Despite the massive size of

Saturday's rally most Spaniards support Zapatero and same-sex marriage.

In an opinion poll on the issue carried out by the government-run Center for Sociological Investigations last June, 66 per cent of Spaniards favoured legalizing Gay marriage, while 26 per cent were opposed.

Homosexuality was banned during Franco's 1939-1975 dictatorship. Spain's liberal 1978 constitution outlawed sexual discrimination and homosexuality was decriminalized shortly afterwards.

Same-sex marriage is legal in Holland and Belgium. Most other European Union countries have some provision for recognizing those in committed same-sex relationships. In December Britain will open its registry for Civil Unions.

A short distance from the rally, and separated from it by a police line, Gay and Lesbian groups staged counter protest a short demonstration to voice their support for same-sex marriage.

## NON-BAR CALENDAR

Wednesday, June 22

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Richard & T. Jay for Canasta. If you don't know how to play, we'll be glad to teach you. For reservations and directions, please call T. Jay and Richard at 881-7919.

Thursday, June 23

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join the men of MSN for Coffee Night at Rainbow Planet Coffee House. This is a chance to have a cup of coffee and chat with the men of MSN. This is a No-host event, so please ask Barista to point you in our direction.

Friday, June 24

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Lloyd hosts a fun evening of Scrabble. If you don't know how to play, we'll be glad to teach you. For reservations and directions, please call Lloyd at 792-8537.

Saturday, June 25

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

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

Monday, June 27

Tucson Prime Timers Bowling — 10:30 a.m.. Visitors Welcome. Lunch — 12:30 p.m. The Wildcat House, 1800 N. Stone Ave.

Tuesday, June 28

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.

Wednesday, June 29

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Merlin and Lee for an evening of Canasta. If you don't know how to play, they'll teach you-and it's a very relaxed atmosphere. For directions and reservations, please call Lee and Merlin at 207-5336.

Thursday, June 30

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join the men of MSN for Coffee Night at Rainbow Planet Coffee House. This is a chance to have a cup of coffee and chat with the men of MSN. This is a No-host event, so please ask Barista to point you in our direction.



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> Open & Welcoming	✦ Wednesday Bible Study	6:30 PM

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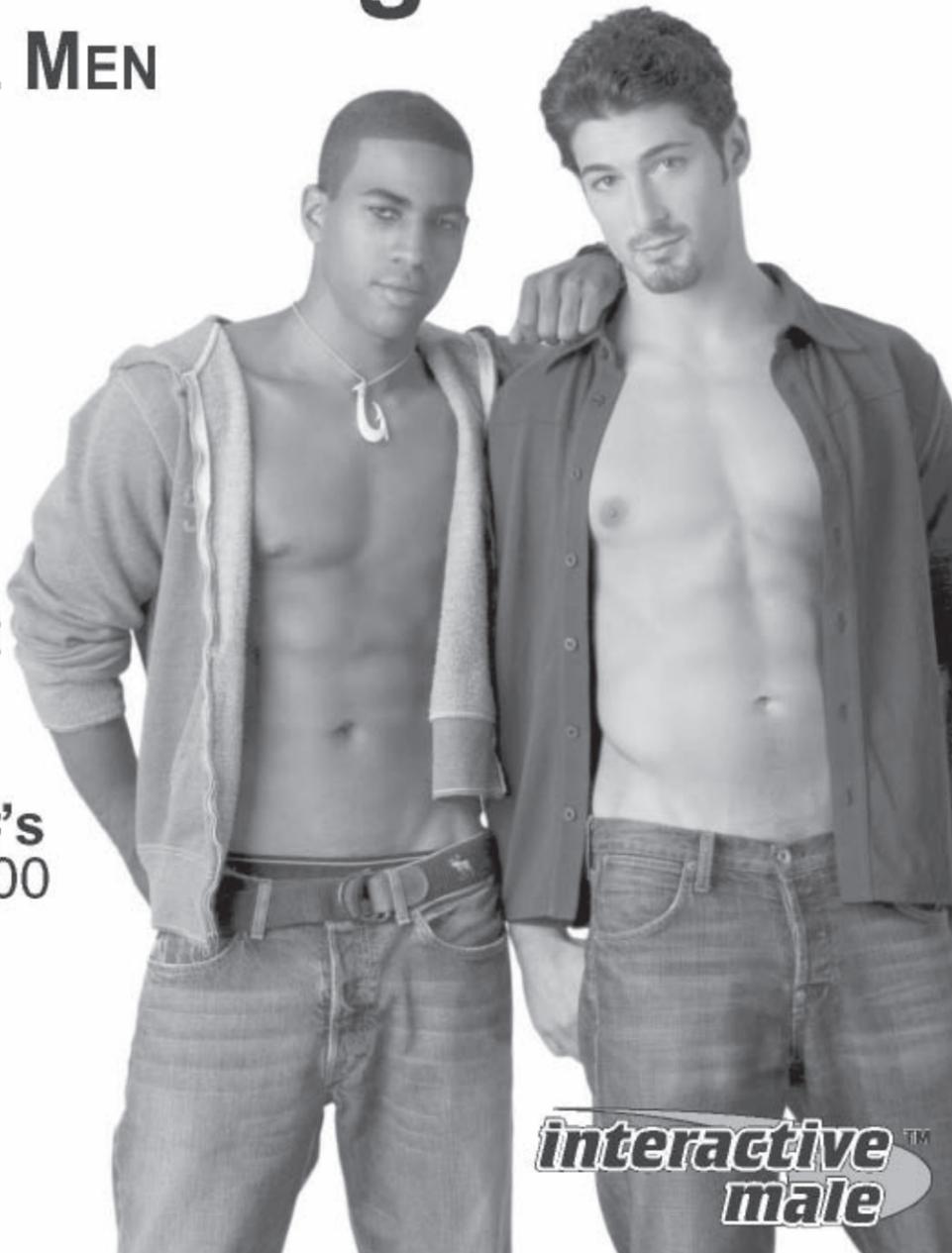
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# DAILY BAR CALENDAR

## sunday

**COLORS** - Open 11am - 11pm Champagne Brunch 11am - 2pm with choice of complimentary Mimosa, Bloody Mary or Screwdriver. Happy Hour 4-7pm \$2 skyy Cocktails, \$3 Skyy Martinis, \$2 Domestic and half price appetizers. Full menu served 2-10pm. Nightly dinner specials.

**HOWL AT THE MOON** - Open at 11:00 am. Chuckwagon Breakfast 11am - 1pm, \$4.00 - Scrambled eggs, hash brown, biscuit & sausage gravy and your choice of Bloody Mary, coffee, juice or milk. Free Texas Hold'em Poker Tourney at 4 and 7pm. Sign-up begins one hour before playing time. No Cash - Play for Prizes and Points. Great chance to learn the hottest game around

**IBT's** - Open Noon. \$1.75 Bloodys, or mimosas. til 4pm. 4-7:30 Karaoke with Michael D. on the patio 5:30-7:30 Beer Bust. 2-4-1 drink specials and DJ Mike Lopez 10pm to close. (Some restrictions apply).

**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. Brunch \$5, 11:30 - 2:30. Patio open 1pm-close. Yard games on the grass. Beer Bust 16oz \$1 2-7p. \$2.50 Sirloin Burger or Chicken w/sides 5-9pm. Karaoke with Michael D. 9pm-close. Drag Bingo every other Sunday 8-9

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

## monday

**COLORS** - Closed on Mondays.

**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 - best deal in town! Free Texas Hold-'Em Poker Tournaments at 6:00 pm and 9:00 pm. Sign-up begins one hour before playing time. No Cash - Play for Prizes and Points.

**IBT's** - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, DJ Mike Lopez 10pm-2am \$1.50 well vodka drinks, 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 10am. w/Special Happy Hour prices til 2pm. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. Karaoke w/Michael D. 9-1

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

## tuesday

**COLORS** - Open 4-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7 \$2 Skyy cocktails, \$3 Skyy Martinis, \$2 Domestic and half-price appetizers. 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of month "Dinner & Movie" sponsored by GMHP. All other Tuesdays "Dinner and a Concert" shown on 52" projection system. Full menus served until 10pm.

**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 Debbie from 8 - midnight

**IBT's** - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, Tropical Tuesdays \$2.50 Tropical drinks and DJ Q playing Retro Music 70's, 80's and 90's 9pm-close.

**VENTURE-N** - Open 8am. Patio 6pm. Free Pool til 4pm.

**WOODY'S** - Open 10am w/Special Happy Hour til 2pm. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. 80s Nite 9-close. \$1 off to those wearing 80s concert t-shirt. (Excludes draught & schnapps).

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

## wednesday

**COLORS** - Open 4-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$2 Skyy cocktails, \$3 Skyy Martinis, \$2 Domestic and half-price appetizers Full menu served 4-10pm. Nightly dinner specials.

**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. Country DJ Jake plays 8:30 - close

**IBT's** - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, 9pm "Diva-Licious" show w/ Bunny Fu Fu. HiNrgy dance with DJ Q.

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

**WOODY'S** - Open 10am w/Special Happy Hour til 2pm. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. Underwear- fetish-leather nite \$1 off for those wearing underwear-fetish or leather. (Excludes draught & 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 4-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$2 Skyy cocktails, \$3 Skyy Martinis, \$2 Domestic and half-price appetizers. Full menu served 4-10pm. Nightly dinner specials.

**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 Debbie from 8 to midnight.

**IBT's** - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, Boyz Nite Out with your Bartenders & GoGo Boys dancing in their undies and DJ Mike Lopez spinning Top 40 & All request \$1.75 Long Islands and \$1.50 Tequila shots 10pm-2am.

**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 10am w/Special Happy Hour til 2pm. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. Free Pool all day. NTN Game Nite w/prizes 9-close. \$1 Pabst Blue Ribbon. Patio bar open 8pm-close

**YARD DOG** - Open daily 6am. 50¢ off any Bourbon til 7pm. Beer Bust 3-7pm.

## friday

**COLORS** - Open 4pm-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$2 Skyy cocktails, \$3 Skyy Martinis, \$2 Domestic and half-price appetizers. Full menu served 4-11pm. Nightly Dinner Specials. 6:30-9:30pm. "Hot Jazz, Cool Martinis" with Susan Artemis 10pm "Guys & Dolls" hosted by Lucinda Holliday. Reservations suggested.

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. DJ Pat plays your favorite country dance songs 8:30 to midnight then a mix of dance & country 'til close. Kitchen open 10 pm - 2 am for late night munchies.

**IBT's** - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm,, Hot Dance with DJ Mike Lopez 9pm-2am.

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

**WOODY'S** - Open 10am.w/Special Happy Hour til-2pm. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. Patio Bar open 8-close. Party w/ DJ Jeff 9-close.

**YARD DOG** - Open daily 6am. 50¢ off any Gin until 7pm. Beer Bust 3-7pm. Kennel open 9pm.

## saturday

**COLORS** - Open 4pm-11pm, Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$2 Skyy cocktails, \$3 Skyy Martinis, \$2 Domestic and half-price appetizers Full menu served 4-11pm. Nightly dinner specials. Amber Norgard sings originals and cover tunes 6:30-9:30pm. Reservations suggested.

**HOWL AT THE MOON** - Open at 11:00 am. Chuckwagon Breakfast 11am-1:30pm, \$4.50. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3 sm pitchers, \$5 lg pitchers. \$3.00 Burger & Fries all day. DJ playing your favorite country songs 8:30 - midnight, then "anything goes" requests until close. Kitchen open 10 pm - 2 am for late night munchies.

**IBT's** - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, 5-8pm karaoke and Teryaki Kabobs on the patio. 8:30pm Show time w/ Ajia Simone or Janee Star. DJ Q spinning Club Music inside and Mike Lopez spinning on the patio 10pm to close..

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

**WOODY'S** - Open 10am w/Special Happy Hour til 2pm. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. \$5 Steak or Fish w/all the trimmings 5-9. Patio Bar open 5-close. Live Jazz w/Arthur Miguazza on the patio 6-9. Party w/DJ Jeff 9-close.

**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.

## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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### PLAYING THRU JUNE 26

Arizona Onstage Productions, the company that brought "Falsettoland," last year's "Assassins" (winner of the MAC Award - Best musical of 2004) and this year's side splitting musical comedy "Ruthless" brings "A New Brain", a musical tale to Pima Community College Center for the Arts Black Box Theatre for 11 performances.

Tickets are \$20 general admission and \$16 for students/seniors. Call (520)206-6989 to get your tickets. Visit [arizonaonstage.org](http://arizonaonstage.org) for more information.

# BAR CALENDAR Of Upcoming Events

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15

Gay Men's Health Project "Beach Party" Underwear Night 8pm til Midnight.

## FRIDAY, JUNE 17

**COLORS** - Pride Night here. Hot Jazz & Cool Martinis" with Susan Artemis on the new "Baby Grand" piano in the lounge area. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Then at 10:00 p.m. "Guys & Dolls" hosted by Lucinda Holliday/

## SATURDAY, JUNE 18

**WOODY'S** - Matt Butterman Jazz Concert begins at 7:30 p.m. \$5. On the Sport Court.

**YARD DOG SALOON** - Gay Pride Event: 'The Graduate Reunion Party' starts with breakfast omelets by Bucky 10:00 a.m. and continues with one of their famous Prime Rib Dinners being served at 7:00 p.m. Got Pride?

## SUNDAY, JUNE 19

**IBT'S** - Pride event here tonight. "Hawaiian Beach Party". Karaoke 4-7pm. Free B-B-Q and \$1.00 Draft Beer 5-8pm. Drag Show 8pm and a male stripper. Wet Underwear Contest 10:30pm - \$75 First prize and \$25 Second place. Drink specials featuring Smirnoff Flavored Frozen Drinks All day and night, \$2.75 Relax in the pool and cool off.

**YARD DOG SALOON** - Patio Bar opens t 3:00 p.m. with Chris. "Who's Your Daddy Contest".at 9:00 p.m.

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22

**WOODY'S** - Pride Night 6:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. Hula Contest, Limbo Contest, Sexiest Bathing Suit Contest. Great food from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Give-aways and DJ Jeff.

## THURSDAY, JUNE 23

**VENTURE-N** - Steak Nite tonight \$6.00. Bring your own meat or get it here. Includes salad., baked potato and mushrooms.

**WOODY'S** - Intensive Care Night with patient gowns mandatory. Shot specials by Dr. Erik and RN Ricky. Tetanus or Comatose or Rectal Exam \$3.

## FRIDAY, JULY 1

**WOODY'S** - Four day 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration starts here tonight with "free to b u party". Happy Hour pricing from opening to close. Give-aways 8 til close. Dress your Fantasy Contest 10pm. \$75 first place.

## SATURDAY, JULY 2

**WOODY'S** - Live Jazz with Arthur Migliazza form 6 to 9 p.m. Steaks or Fish Dinner 5-9. DJ Jeff and Give-aways 9 til close.

## SUNDAY, JULY 3

**WOODY'S** - Brunch 11:30 a.m. Beer Bust 2-7. Sirloin Burgers 5-9pm. Drag Bingo with Janee Starr 8pm. Karaoke with Michael D. 9 p.m.

## MONDAY, JULY 4

**WOODY'S** - Open at 10am. The All American Picnic and Party 2 - 8 p.m. Baseball, Hot Dogs, Apple Pie. IONAZ Party Camera. Patio Bar Open. 9pm Karaoke with Michael D.

## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT CONTINUED

OCTOBER 16 - 17TH Annual AIDS WALK takes place at Rillito Downs Race Park, s River Road and First Avenue in Tucson. AIDS WALK 2005 will again feture both the traditionala 4K walk as well as a 10K non-competitive run. Tucson's support of AIDS WALK over the years has made an important and lasting statement about Southern Arizona's commitment to the fight against AIDS. AIDS WALK attracts approximately 4,000 walkers annually and continues to enjoy strong corporate underwriting alliances.

Of reported demographic information from participants, 60% of all registered walkers are female, two thirds are under 35, and one-fourth are under 18. AIDS WALK Tucson has grown from 800 participants in 1989 to more than 4,000 individuals and 79 businesses raising over \$239,000 in 2004 for local HIV/AIDS education, prevention and support programs.

# NOTICES - COMMUNITY - 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](mailto: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 M-F.

**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.

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

**SOURCES UNLIMITED,** a Lesbian & Gay referral service. Business and individual listings are free of charge. All information available to anyone just simply by asking. 322-5655. Leave message. [TucsonSources@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.botop.com) All are welcome to our general meetings/potlucks on the 2nd Friday of every month, at 3202 E. 1st St. (the "Ward 6" Office Bldg.) Just south of Speedway & East of Country Club. PotLuck Dinner begins at 6:30 and the monthly meeting follows at 7:15 p.m.

**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, Bisexual, Transgender and Straight Chorus, has been singing songs of pride, hope and laughter for 16 seasons. Check out our website at [www.desertvoices.org](http://www.desertvoices.org), or call (520)791-9662 for information about upcoming concerts or how to join.

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](http://teamarizona.org)

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

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

**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GLBT,** Tucson's Gay and Lesbian business networking group holds regular meetings the third Thursday of every month. Call 615-6436 for more info. [www.tucsonglbtchamber.org](http://www.tucsonglbtchamber.org)

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

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

**TUCSON INTERFAITH HIV/AIDS NETWORK (TIHAN),** a coalition of faith communities committed to a compassionate response to HIV/AIDS, provides HIV education in congregational settings, volunteer 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](mailto:tyan@theriver.com) and request guidelines.

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

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

**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 provid-

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**"OUT ON THE TRAILS - EQUESTRIAN FUN!"** Rider Club forming. Looking for women and men to ride together on the trails of Southern Arizona. Must have own horse, truck and trailer. For more info write: "Out On The Trails" P.O. Box 44045, Tucson, AZ 85733-4045  
**LIKE TO READ?** The Guys Book Club (TGBC) invites new members to join them. The group meets once a month, on the 3rd Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at Maggie's Pizza on 4th Avenue to discuss the Gay-themed book read by members the previous month.

**THE MAN TO MAN** Social/erotic education club is the tantric men's group that offers passionate friendships, fun activities and real Tantric 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/](http://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](http://www.desertdominion.org)) For those who are kinky or just curious. No fee, contributions are appreciated, but not required.

**SUN WORSHIPERS OF TUCSON (SWOT)** is a local men's nudist organization for men of all ages. Events feature swimming, hot tubbing and socializing in a relaxed, private setting. Check out our website at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/swot>. Bi-weekly daytime meetings, Saturdays at 10am and Sundays at 2pm. Contact John at 327-3135 for more info and upcoming dates.

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

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

*Tucson*  
Inc *Pride*  
P R E S E N T S

love is love  
PRIDE WEEK 2005

# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22ND**

▼ LUAU AT WOODY'S

**THURSDAY, JUNE 23RD**

▼ STEAK NIGHT AT VENTURE INN

**FRIDAY, JUNE 24TH**

▼ PRIDE NIGHT AT HOWL AT THE MOON

**SATURDAY, JUNE 25TH • 7PM – MIDNIGHT**

**THE ULTIMATE DANCE PARTY!**

gay **wet!** Tucson Pride Inc.

Breakers Water Park • Tucson  
8555 W. Tangerine Road  
(I-10 to Tangerine Exit, head East)

▼ TICKETS ▼

**\$10 Advance • \$12 At Door**

Tickets available at Desert Pride • 611 N 4th Ave. • 520-388-9829  
and by TPI Board Members at all Pride Week events.

HOST HOTELS:



8351 N. Cracker Barrel Rd.  
I-10 to Cortaro Rd,  
Exit West to Cracker Barrel Rd.

Reservations:  
1-800-800-8000  
Request "Tucson Pride Room"



8373 N. Cracker Barrel Rd.  
I-10 to Cortaro Rd,  
Exit West to Cracker Barrel Rd.

Reservations:  
1-520-572-4777  
Request "Tucson Pride Room"



A very special "Tucson Pride" appearance by the voice "Behind" the MATERIAL GIRL for the last 18 years. She starred in "Truth or Dare" movie and the "Music" video.

Direct from LA, the amazing **NIKI HARIS!**

**"Circuit" DJ Kio Kio**

Kio Kio's style has evolved into a blend of erotic beats and unique sounds, featuring hints of Danny Tenaglia's progressive edge, Little Louie Vega's brilliant tribal productions, and Superchumbo's twisted take on house. Whether it be a beach party, an evening bash or an afterhours event, Kio Kio's unique style is sure to keep you dancing.



**www.tucsonpride.com ▼ Prideline: 622-3200**