



Observing Tucson And  
The Greater Arizona Community

# OBSERVER

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WEEKLY OBSERVER

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## 'Arizona Daily Star Irresponsible In Reporting On Local Gay Community'

By Nancy Robinett

TUCSON - The Arizona Daily Star has badly missed the benchmark of fair and accurate reporting in its July 18, 2005 front-page story (rerun in The Observer, Edition No. 1096, as well as portions of the piece being picked up by national online GLBT Websites) "Local Gay Men Taking More Risks, Study Says." Star reporter Carla McClain has mis-interpreted and misused data published in July 2003 (yes, 2003) by the Pima County Health Department in order to bolster her bigoted conclusions about sexual risk-taking in the Gay male community in Tucson.

Ms. McLain's primary source of data for this article was the RARE ("Rapid Assessment, Response and Evaluation Project") study published in July 2003 by the Pima County Health Department as a preliminary study of very risky sexual behaviors in order to assist public health workers in responding to rising HIV infection rates.

What Ms. McLain doesn't tell us about the RARE study is that it never set out to be a representative study of all Gay men in Tucson, and that it specifically collected data only on the most risky sexual encounters possible by men who have sex with men, such as sexual encounters among strangers. The RARE study never was intended as a tool for understanding the uncounted and unstudied "average" Gay men in Tucson who would never think of engaging in risky sex with a stranger.

Despite not mentioning the narrow scope of the RARE study, Ms. McClain irresponsibly relies on it to make prejudiced and inflammatory generalized conclusions unsupported by the data. For example, Ms. McClain states that: "many Gay men in Tucson once again are risking unsafe sex"; "today, the thinking among many older Gay men is that contracting HIV is acceptable"; and "many admit - and the study documented - a growing feeling of 'condom fatigue' among Gay men." None of these asserted conclusions are supported by any unbiased representative sample data of Gay men in Tucson.

When I challenged Ms. McClain on this language on July 20, she replied that since the word "many" has no particular numerical meaning, it is a legitimate word to use. If "many" is an acceptable word to use, why didn't she just use the word "few" - which would also be acceptable to use in her sloppy statistical worldview? "Few" would be more numerically accurate, based on the scope and purpose of the RARE study, and would certainly be less prejudicial and inflammatory.

I asked Ms. McClain on July 20 where she obtained other data: for example, the assertion that 5% of Pima County's population is men who have sex with men, and in the next paragraph that

the "Gay community" in Pima County is "11,000-strong." (Between those two numbers, one has to be wrong: if nothing else, 5% of the population in Pima County is not 11,000, unless there are only 220,000 persons in Pima County, and men who have sex with men are only a sub-part of the "Gay community".) Ms. McClain could not remember sources for these numbers off-hand, other than Floyd Meeks and Halley Freitas. At the very least, this is sloppy reporting, and when the gist of the article is about the risky sexual behavior of "many Gay men" there should be more careful attention to numbers.

Most troubling is the closing "statistic" in Ms. McLain's article: a quote from researcher Halley Freitas that "in Tucson, about 25 percent of Gay men suffer such severe addiction, depression or other psychiatric problems that they will never be persuaded to change their sexual behavior." In an e-mail follow-up to Ms. Freitas on July 18, I asked her the source of this alarming statistic. Ms. Freitas' response? "I was misquoted in this article and I will do what I can to right this wrong...I stated that it was only MY OPINION (i.e. no research to back it up) that prevention should shoot to hit the 50% of MSM [men who have sex with men] who are most receptive to change and that 25% were probably already practicing safe behaviors and that 25% were resistant to change for a myriad of reasons including those [quoted by Ms. McLain]."

In fairness to Ms. McClain, I read Ms. Freitas' response to her on July 20. Ms. McClain countered that she had in fact followed up with Ms. Freitas after the article ran. Ms. Freitas admitted that the numbers were not found in any local data, but that Ms. Freitas stood by the numbers as justifiable based on Ms. Freitas' knowledge of other national data, and that Ms. Freitas did not seek a retraction of the numbers cited.

I am unaware of any substantiated data anywhere that could justify Ms. Freitas' conclusion that only 25% of all Gay men in Tucson are practicing safe sex (50% need to change and 25% are hopelessly mired in addiction, depression or other psychiatric problems according to Ms. Freitas). Ms. McLain should know better than to so mis-rely on a researcher, who cannot cite to actual data for an opinion that strains credulity, in order to lend borrowed credibility to her hatchet job.

Ms. McLain's misuse of the RARE study data is akin to taking study data of sexual risk-taking behavior among female sex workers and then generalizing that data to all women in Tucson. It just doesn't compute.

The Arizona Daily Star should have known better, and Ms. McLain should have known better, than to run this

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## Signs Of Progress

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Once upon a Gay time, before the Stonewall riots in New York, before Gay marriage, Gay adoption and Gay real estate, before "Will & Grace," "The L Word" and cable channels called Logo and Here!, before everyone had a Gay relative, there was a man who led a picket line in front of the White House. It was 1965, and the man was Franklin E. Kameny, reported the Washington Post.

"So here we are!" says Kameny, a lifetime later, in his foghorn of a voice. "This is what you wanted to see!"

Boxes of personal papers, offi-

The modern Gay rights movement has been around long enough to worry about losing the artifacts of its history. The AIDS epidemic cut a broad swath through the generation most likely to recall and collect the essential ephemera of the middle 20th century, and the transition of the closeted homosexual to the proudly "queer," a term that makes room for Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals and Transenders. Social barriers still limit the inclusion of Gay history in mainstream museums and archives. More than a few movers and shakers in Washington's Gay community have recently feared that Kameny's trove could accidentally become rubbish once he's gone, if someone



Frank Kameny in WWII and today. See related story.

cial documents, newspaper clippings dating back to the 1950s. Stack after stack of black-and-white posters ("First Class Citizenship for Homosexuals," "Homosexual Americans Demand Their Civil Rights") that he and others brandished at the White House, the Pentagon, the State Department in the 1960s.

The man in the three-piece navy blue suit with a dark blue tie is starting to sweat, just enough that you begin to wonder if a summer afternoon might not be the best time for an 80-year-old to spend nearly three hours in his dusty Northwest Washington attic. But he doesn't mind. He's a vigorous figure - head stern, jaw locked, shoulders slightly forward.

"People have been asking me, 'What are you going to do with all of this?'" says Kameny, his left hand resting on a stack of posters. The posters are written in precise, bold script, and Kameny, who speaks in precise, perfectly constructed sentences, wouldn't have had them any other way. ("Let's make it a tentative 1:30 p.m. meeting, subject to confirmation," he'd said about this interview.)

"People have been legitimately telling me, 'For heaven's sake, you're 80 years old now. Figure out what you're going to do with them.' . . . One of the things I still have to do," Kameny says, laughing, "is write a will."

doesn't step in and preserve it. Lately, something of a scramble has emerged:

The Stonewall Library & Archives in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; the ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives at the University of Southern California; the New York Public Library; the James C. Hormel Gay & Lesbian Center at the San Francisco Public Library (named after the country's first openly Gay U.S. ambassador), to name just a few, are all interested in acquiring Kameny's collection.

"You're talking about a pioneer here, and what he's been keeping all these years are . . . well, they're absolutely historic," says Greg Williams, head of the collection committee at ONE, the country's largest (and best-organized, scholars say) Gay archive.

If Kameny decides that his papers belong in Washington, the Library of Congress and the District's Rainbow History Project would certainly be pleased.

"I think they belong here in Washington - Frank's home," says Deacon Maccubbin, owner of the Gay bookstore Lambda Rising, on Connecticut Avenue, who has considered Kameny a mentor since they first met in 1969. "But, in the end, I would like Frank to make the decision."

Continued on Page Three

# UPDATE

## Arizona Together Update:

by Mark R. Kerr

TUCSON (ON) - Arizona Together (AT) is a statewide coalition comprised of individuals and groups, representing the LGBT, straight, human rights and faith-based communities, who joined together to defeat the proposed Protect Marriage Arizona (PMA) amendment, drafted by the Center for Arizona Policy (CAP), to add it to the state constitution.

If approved the PMA would define marriage as consisting of "one man and one woman," and prohibits the recognition or creation of any legal status for any unmarried persons similar to marriage. This measure would strip away many benefits, including health and dental coverage, currently offered to the domestic partners, same and opposite sex, of employees for the governmental entities which offers these as well as affected many state laws and private business policies. One thing is clear, once the state Constitution is amended, there is no going back and we must stop those individuals, such as CAP, who insist on mandating their discriminatory will upon the rest of the state. This must be stopped!

At their Web site, aztogether.org, people can now make secure online, credit-card donations, as well as getting the address of where to send checks if they so are inclined. People can get more information, volunteer and read pertinent information about this proposed measure.

AT has many volunteer committees, in Northern and Southern Arizona, as well as holding events to get the voting public aware of PMA and why they

shouldn't sign the petitions currently being circulated. Here is a schedule of upcoming events & committee meetings in Southern Arizona:

Saturday, July 30, 9:30 a.m., the Media Committee will be meeting at Bentley's, 1730 E. Speedway. This committee focuses on getting the word out to the print, television and radio outlets about AT's activities, organizing media events and much more. For more information, E-mail Vicki Gaubeca, vgaubeca@msn.com.

Tuesday, August 2, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 1350 N. Arcadia, the Coalition Building Committee is meeting and will focus on identifying, education and supporting businesses and organizations that may join AT or be supportive of the effort to defeat the PMA. For more information, E-mail Ivy Schwartz, ischwartz@cs.com.

Thursday, August 4, 7 a.m. at St. Francis in the Foothills, 4625 E. River Road, the First Prayer Meeting will hold its monthly event to pray for those working to protect all people and for the leadership of the AT coalition. A different church hosts this monthly event. For more information, E-mail Rev. Briget Nicholson, briget@firsttucctucson.org.

Starting Thursday, August 4, 6 to 8 p.m., will be Double Trouble for CAP Thursdays. Volunteers can come in to Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St., and help with the various tasks, such as making copies, data entry, letter writing, flyer making. People with various abilities are gladly welcome. Meet new people and work to defeat this measure. For more information, E-mail

Jess Knutsen, jknutsen@wingspan.org.

Monday, August 8, noon to 1 p.m., at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St., the LGBT Community Outreach/Social Change Committee, will be meeting to plan the upcoming fall events to engage the LGBT community about PMA and to fight it. For more information, E-mail Cathy Busha, cathy@wingspan.org.

Thursday, August 11, 6:30 p.m. at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St., the Southern Arizona Fund Raising Committee will meet to discuss the upcoming campaign and to schedule the various events being planned for the Fall calendar. For more information, E-mail Kim Brown, kbrown\_psych1@hotmail.com.

Tuesday, August 16, 6 p.m., at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St., a forum on the new voter registration rules will take place. Pima County Recorder F. Ann Rodriguez will discuss how the process has changed since the passage of Proposition 200 in the November 2004 general election. For more information, E-mail Jess Knutsen at jknutsen@wingspan.org.

Much is still in store, so a silent community won't be protect. Come out as a citizen, voter, human being together for Arizona. For more information, call Jess Knutsen, (520) 624-1779, Ext. 21.

## Azrad Party Fundraiser Aug.6

PHOENIX - The Arizona Rainbow Alliance for the Deaf (AZRAD) will be holding a Deaf GLOW pool party, August 6, 3 to 6 p.m., at 2424 S. Cottonwood Lane.

Hot dogs, hamburgers and beverages will be served, along with a fun time. Cost: \$10 without a side dish, \$5 with a side dish. All proceeds go to help put on the 2006 Deaf GLOW Conference which will take place in Phoenix.

For more information, please email Carla or T.J. at AZGlow@gmail.com.

## SASD Endorsement Meeting Aug. 2

PTUCSON - On Tuesday, August 2, the Southern Arizona Stonewall Democrats (SASD) will hold their monthly meeting to reach a decision on an endorsement in the upcoming City of Tucson, Ward 6 Democratic primary between Steve Farley and Nina Trasoff.

At their July meeting, SASD endorsed the candidacies of Karin Uhlich, who is running for the Tucson City Council from Ward 3 and incumbent Ward 5 Democratic Councilmember, Steve Leal, who is seeking another term.

For more information about the meeting, call Anthea Scouffas, (520) 326-4461 or E-mail: tucsonstonewall@aol.com.

## Volunteer Orientation At Wingspan Aug. 2

TUCSON - Since Wingspan moved into their spacious new offices with expanded hours, the need for volunteers is greater than ever.

Volunteering is a way to help out, meet wonderful, caring new people and to help Tucson and Southern Arizona's LGBT community center and the various services it offers. On Tuesday, August 2, 5:30 to 7 p.m., there will be a volunteer orientation and introduction to the community's new center.

Wingspan is volunteer driven and couldn't exist without community support. For more information or if you want to attend, E-mail: ktankersley@wingspan.org.

How can I help?

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Sign up today!

Contact Wendy Ascione at 628-7223 or [wascione@saaf.org](mailto:wascione@saaf.org)



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# Signs Of Progress Continued from Page One

A great deal of what's in Kameny's attic makes up a living memorial to those paranoid early years of the Cold War, when "Gay" meant "happy" and you called a homosexual a homosexual if you had manners, or "a moral risk" or "an undesirable" or "a sexual misfit" if you didn't. It was a time when the question "Are you now or have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?" could be followed or preceded by: "Information has come to the attention of the Civil Service Commission that you are a homosexual. What comment do you care to make?"

It was also a time when someone like Kameny — an astronomer for the Army Map Service, who fought in the front lines during World War II and earned his PhD from Harvard — could be and was fired in 1957 for being Gay. Executive Order 10450, signed by President Eisenhower in April 1953, mandated that "sexual perversion" — "That meant us," says Kameny, green eyes narrowing — was grounds for firing a federal employee and for barring the hiring of a homosexual.

Incredulous, Kameny fought the dismissal, eventually petitioning the Supreme Court. In a 61-page brief he wrote himself ("The court had a major footnote in their response objecting to its length," he says), Kameny called the government's anti-homosexual policies "a stench in the nostrils of decent people." The high court refused to hear his case in 1961.

Shortly after, he formed the Mattachine Society of Washington, the country's first "civil-liberties, social action organization dedicated to improving the status of the homosexual citizen through a vigorous program of action," according to a Mattachine brochure in his attic.

"If society and I differ on something, I'm willing to give the matter a second look. If we still differ, then I am right and society is wrong; and society can go its way so long as it does not get in my way," Kameny said back then, according to the book "Out for Good: The Struggle to

Build a Gay Rights Movement in America." "But if it does, there's going to be a fight. And I'm not going to be the one who backs down. That has been an underlying premise of the conduct of my life."

From 1965 to 1969, in what became a yearly Fourth of July protest in front of Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Kameny led the picket line in a three-piece suit. The protesters — the women in dresses and heels, the men in jackets and ties — looking so polished that passersby thought they were actors pretending to be homosexuals.

For nearly half a century, Kameny made regular news within Gay activist circles — Kameny did this, Kameny did that. But the name Franklin E. Kameny is not as recognizable as Harvey Milk, the slain San Francisco city supervisor, or Larry Kramer, the writer and AIDS activist. In his formal, buttoned-up manner, Kameny projects the stereotypical air of a Washington busybody (and, as a member of the Oldest Inhabitants of the District of Columbia, he's very much a city history buff). He never again worked as an astronomer — his passion since age 6 — but for decades worked as a "self-characterized paralegal." In the course of the 1960s, '70s, '80s and into the early '90s, he became, not by choice but by circumstance, the authority to whom Gays seeking security clearances turned.

Through it all, Kameny, a self-described "pack rat" and proud of it, has stored documents, posters, letters, fliers, articles.

He is regarded as the first openly Gay person to seek public office, running in 1971 for the District's nonvoting seat in the House of Representatives. ("Two, four, six, eight, Gay is just as good as straight," his supporters chanted as they marched down Pennsylvania Avenue the day before the election.)

Kameny, together with the Mattachines, confronted the American Psychiatric

Association and won the battle to get homosexuality delisted as a mental illness in 1973. On the national stage and especially on the local stage, he fought anti-sodomy laws for decades. "The District's sodomy law was repealed effective on Sept. 11, 1993," he says, "and that concluded a 30-year 1-month 4-day 11-hour effort on my part.

"The one thing that I want to be remembered for, if only one," he says, "is that in 1968, inspired by the slogan 'Black Is Beautiful,' I coined the term 'Gay Is Good.'"

In last month's Gay pride parade in Washington, where colorful and creatively designed posters read "I {heart} my Gay son," "Lesbian of Faith" and "Let us tie the knot," Kameny was greeted, with hugs or kisses or handshakes or salutes, by all of the District's elected officials who participated, including David Catania and Jim Graham, the District's two openly Gay council members.

To the ruling class of Gays in Washington, Kameny is a one-man institution — patriarch, ambassador and also field general, taking on all manner of lawmakers, clerics and pundits who opposed Gay rights.

He lives alone. On Fridays he stops by Lambda Rising to get his copy of the Washington Blade. He never misses an episode of cable TV's "Queer as Folk" and "Six Feet Under" (the latter features the off-and-on relationship of two Gay men) and keeps himself occupied with meetings and events for organizations such as the Gay and Lesbian Activist Alliance and his neighborhood association. He has no family, except for his 77-year-old sister, Edna, who lives in Long Island. He has remained — except for a love affair with a man named Keith in what he refers to as the "golden summer of 1954" — steadfastly single. (But don't think for a minute that he wants your help or needs your sympathy, because he's taking "quite good care" of himself, thank you.)

In May, some of Kameny's

friends and admirers threw him a lavish 80th-birthday party with 160 guests at David Gregory, a downtown restaurant. The walls were decorated with Kameny's picket posters.

Charles Francis, a public relations consultant and co-chair of the Republican Unity Coalition, organized the birthday party, and hopes Kameny's collection will someday have a place in the Smithsonian's American History Museum — Kameny's posters, he says, should be displayed alongside those of the suffragettes.

"Those posters, we all knew, are more than just posters. They have a chi force, a presence," Francis says. "They have an importance, not just as a Gay thing but as an American thing. So I told Frank, 'Let's use your posters in the party.' Those posters are so powerful because Gays had never spoken out publicly before, had never stepped forward lawfully and constructively into the public square."

"Frank is the closest thing we have to the philosopher king of the Gay rights movement. He represents the continuum of knowledge in the history of the movement itself," says Dudley Clendinen, co-author of "Out for Good." He was asked to formally introduce Kameny at the party, and described him as

"part Galileo, part Thomas Jefferson, part Brad Pitt, part Mr. Magoo."

"He is someone who stood for what he believed to be right — against law, organized religion, medical authority and the tide of public opinion all his adult life. It has been almost half a century," Clendinen says, weeks after the party. "The battles against the psychiatrists and the sodomy laws have been won. Church doctrine is changing and public opinion has changed enormously. Kameny hasn't changed, but the culture has, and he is one of the reasons."

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# Dave Locke Receives TIHAN Award



TUCSON - Dave Locke, show above right, receiving a certificate of appreciation from TIHAN Executive Director Scott Blades. See story below.

Dear Community,

The 6th annual skybox benefit for the Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN) at the Tucson Sidewinders' game on June 26 was a great success, and a ton of fun. Under the leadership of Dave Locke, this benefit raised over \$1,000 to support the programs and services provided by TIHAN. The 60 people in attendance had a great time enjoying watching the baseball game from the luxury of an air-conditioned suite, eating burgers and hot dogs, and enjoying wonderful friends and fellowship.

special because of a well-deserved recognition of a great man: Dave Locke. Dave has been organizing this benefit for TIHAN for six years, and he has been a very active fundraiser on other events for TIHAN and other important causes over the years. Whenever called upon, Dave has come through for TIHAN and for our community, even during the recent past when he has been experiencing health challenges himself. During a break from the baseball game, those attending gathered together in applause as TIHAN's board and staff proudly presented Dave Locke with a special Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of his outstanding volunteer efforts.

TIHAN is truly blessed to have the support of so many in our community who helped sell tickets, who volunteered, and who attended the event. I would like to thank the Tucson Sidewinders organization for their support, and also the Observer for helping promote this event. Also, congratulations to lucky Steve Barreto who won the 50/50 raffle, and thanks to him as well for donating \$98 of the winnings back to TIHAN!

Thank you Dave and everyone who participated in this benefit for TIHAN. I cannot say it enough: you make a difference, and we are grateful. I hope we can look forward to another Tucson Sidewinders benefit game again next season!

With appreciation, Scott Blades, Executive Director, TIHAN

The evening was made even more



Steve Barreto (l), congratulating Dave Locke on his TIHAN Award of Appreciation. Steve was the winner of the 50/50 raffle drawing that evening and he donated his winnings back to TIHAN. See sotry above.

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## LGBT Groups Alarmed By Bush Supreme Court Pick

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Although John Roberts was not nearly as radical as some of the names on the short list for the U.S. Supreme Court, his nomination Tuesday night (July 19) has nonetheless struck fear into the hearts of LGBT leaders, pro-choice activists and progressives around the country, the PlanetOut Network reported.

Conversely, conservative factions, including those farthest to the right, appear delighted by the selection, a contrast that can only add to the trepidation on the left.

Unlike most of the other candidates, Roberts does not carry a suitcase full of problematic opinions, speeches or essays on the contentious issues of the day. His lack of baggage may help him navigate the Senate confirmation hearings he will face in late August or early September. Barring scandal or an uncharacteristic lapse in discipline — from a man known for his poise and intelligence — Roberts seems like a lock for the high court.

Roberts served just two years on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, a short tenure that has left very little published fodder for the confirmation mill. But as Deputy Solicitor General for Bush's father from 1989 to 1993, Roberts was responsible for writing briefs and arguing on behalf of the government's positions before the U.S. Supreme Court.

In *Rust v. Sullivan*, a case challenging the government's attempt to bar certain federally funded clinics from offering abortion counseling, Roberts wrote that *Roe v. Wade* was "wrongly decided and should be overruled," a quote that came back to haunt him during his 2003 Senate confirmation hearing.

At that time, Roberts acknowledged that *Roe v. Wade* was indeed "settled law," adding "there's nothing in my personal views that would prevent me from fully and faithfully applying that law." He was confirmed to the D.C. circuit by unanimous consent.

Roberts also crafted arguments defending school prayer and in favor of Operation Rescue's unfettered right to protest in front of abortion clinics. In a recent appellate dissent, he favored limits on congressional power that, by extrapolation, could harm future efforts to win Gay rights legislation on the federal level.

Aside from these scattered pieces of evidence, the sense of foreboding from progressives seems to lie in the possibility that Roberts, as legal reporter Tony Mauro put it, "may combine the stealth appeal of Souter with the unwavering ideology of Scalia and Thomas."

Like Roberts, Justice David Souter was something of a mystery man when he was named to the Court by George Bush Sr. in 1990. Thought to be conservative, he eventually evolved into a reliable vote for the liberal side of the Court, much to the frustration of conservatives.

If Roberts turns out to be as far to the right as Justice Antonin Scalia or Justice Clarence Thomas, the legal ramifications would be distressing to liberals. They would also be far-reaching, as Judge Roberts turned 50 last January and would probably remain on the court for decades.

Speaking to the LGBT press on a conference call Wednesday morning (July 20), Christopher Labonte, legislative director for the Human Rights Campaign, stressed that Roberts must be subjected to a rigorous confirmation hearing, complete with tough questions about his core legal principles.

Labonte, along with HRC Senior Counsel Lara Schwartz, dispelled the notion that the nominee should somehow be allowed to dodge direct inquiries about his specific positions and his view of the Constitution. They also predicted that the Christian right would likely accuse senators of attacking Roberts on the basis

of his faith if lawmakers pressed him on matters of separation of church and state, abortion or Gay rights.

In remarks published on Salon.com, Ron Daniels, executive director of the progressive Center for Constitutional Rights, predicted Roberts will keep his answers very general.

"I don't think we'll be able to find out much more about his views. In some ways this is a smart move by the Bush administration, because it may take several years before we know what kind of justice Roberts will be."

For now, HRC, Lambda Legal Defense, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and other LGBT groups have stopped short of open opposition to Roberts' nomination, preferring to express, respectively, "grave concern," "serious concern" and "grave pause."

### Arizona Daily Star Irresponsible In Reporting On Local Gay Community

Continued from Page One

puff piece for the rabidly anti-Gay, and in the process smear the reputation of the Gay community in Tucson. This story ran on page A-1 of the Star and the damage has been done. How many readers will ever note Ms. McClain's retraction, assuming that the Star does the right thing and makes amends for this irresponsible and inaccurate journalism?

For a realistic and timely review of this topic, Ms. McLain would have been well-served to consult sources for a story such as that run on July 20 in the San Francisco Chronicle: "Large Drop Reported in HIV Cases in S.F." (article reproduced below) This article discusses findings from a study released in June 2005 in San Francisco (as opposed to Ms. McClain recycling information from July 2003 from the small Tucson study of only significantly risky behavior) which suggest that "the spread of the virus in the city's Gay community has slowed substantially [over the past four years]."

A study such as this in San Francisco has not been done in Tucson recently; if it were, we might well find similar findings to San Francisco. Ms. McClain should not have manufactured conclusions and results unjustified by source data in order to run her July 18 article, at stark contrast to results during same week from reputable representative sample data in San Francisco.

(Nancy M. Robinett is an attorney in private practice in Tucson, Arizona since 1997. For the past three years, she has been co-chair of the City of Tucson Commission on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender Issues. The views below are her personal views and do not reflect the views of the City Commission.)

[Editor's Note: The Observer has permission from the Arizona Daily Star and the Tucson Citizen to re-run articles that appeared in their editions but were given instructions to cite the publication when using articles. This has been followed intently and will continue to do so. In their E-news letter, issue 111, July 19, Wingspan gave the following information to contact the Arizona Daily Star in regard to the article Ms. Robinett addressed in the Observer, to let them know your opinion of the coverage and the story: Debbie Kormmiller, Reader Advocate, advocate@azstarnet.com or (520) 434-4080. Letters to the Editor: letters@azstarnet.com.]

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## Pressure Mounts Over Iranian Execution Of Gay Teens

LONDON - International indignation is rising over the hanging of two Gay teens July 19 by the Iranian government, 365Gay.com reported.

Mahmoud Asgari, 16, and Ayaz Marhoni, 18, were publicly executed in the northern city of Mashhad. They said before their executions that they were not aware that homosexual acts were punishable by death.

Calls for Iran to publicly rebuked for its treatment of Gays has resounded from Washington to Moscow.

Russian Gay leaders have called on President Vladimir Putin to condemn executions.

"The Russian Federation can not close the eyes to the middle aged barbarity and huge human rights violations," said the letter to Putin, signed by Nikolai Alekseev the head of LGBT rights Web site GayRussia.ru and by Evgeniaya Debryanskaya the leader of Gayly.ru, a site for Lesbians.

The letter calls on Putin to stop diplomatic and trade relations with the "barbarian regime of Islamic extremists".

Russia is one of the biggest economic partners of Iran and consequently has many ways to pressure the regime.

In Sweden, Foreign Ministry spokesman Per Saland said the government was "looking very seriously" at the hangings, following a formal complaint by the Swedish Federation for Lesbian, Gay and Transgender Rights.

"We are against the death penalty and we particularly react when it comes to the execution of minors, pregnant women and the mentally disabled," Saland said.

The Federation for Lesbian, Gay and Transgender Rights' chair, Soren Andersson, called on the Swedish government not to deport Gay and Lesbian asylum seekers back to Iran.

"Sweden has turned Gay and Lesbian refugees back to Iran and they should know that these people could be killed," he said.

Being Gay or Lesbian should be enough for refugees to remain in Sweden and not be returned to Iran, he added.

In London, rights group

OutRage which first brought world attention to the hangings, called on the Blair government to lodge a formal complaint with Iran.

Friday (July 22) the Washington-based Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest LGBT civil rights organization urged Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice to publicly condemn the executions.

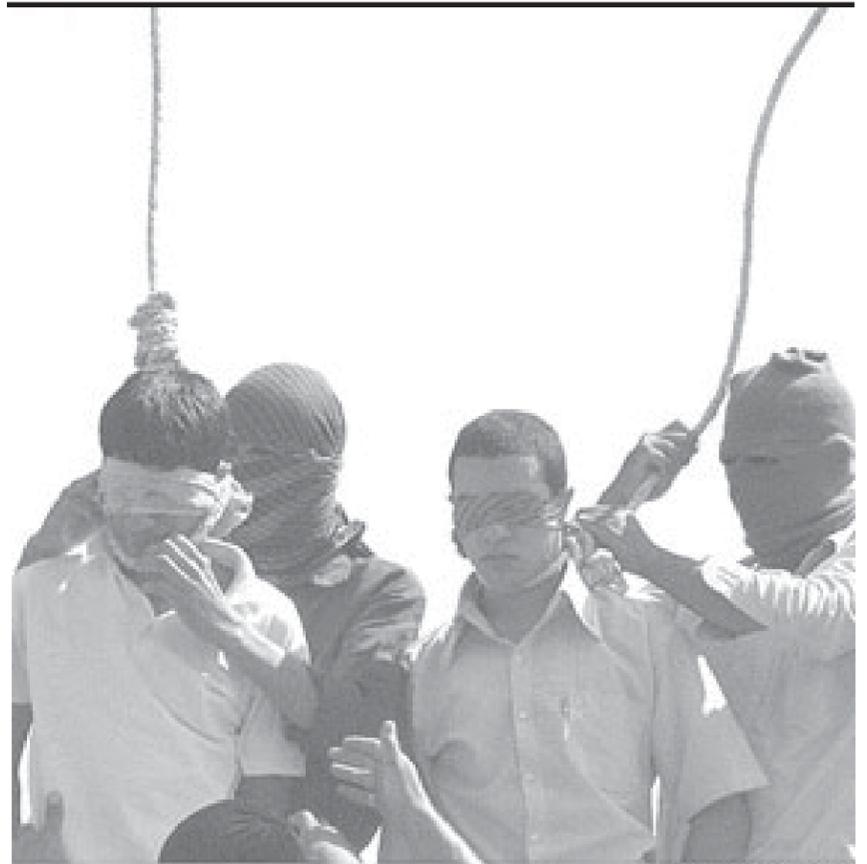
"This crime warrants an immediate and strong condemnation from the Department of State," said the letter, signed by HRC President Joe Solmonese.

In Tehran, Nobel Peace laureate Shirin Ebadi condemned the execution and discounted the government's assertion that the two - an 18 year old and a youth 16 had raped younger boys in the northeastern part of the country.

Ebadi, who runs the Center for the Protection of Human Rights in Tehran, said that the executions violated the International Convention on the Rights of the Child, of which Iran is a signatory.

"My calls for a law clearly banning execution of under-18s has fallen on deaf ears so far but I will not give up the fight," Ebadi told The Associated Press.

Ebadi, who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2003, has campaigned to protect the rights of children and improve human rights in Iran but has met stiff resistance from the judiciary, which is controlled by hard-liners.



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**POLITICS 2005**

by Mark R. Kerr

**'Arizona Together, Insured Against The PMAA**

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) Arizonans are good neighbors, living where the community lives, making sure all people are in good hands, meeting life's ups and downs and helping the community out, stepping up, reliable, getting everyone back where they belong, paraphrasing numerous insurance company advertising slogans.

GLBT Arizonans own property, vehicles and businesses. Many of them are in a committed relationship with some same-sex couples even raising children, just some of the numerous aspects of life and contributing to the betterment of society in general but with these responsibilities, various insurance policies (life, auto, property, homeowners, casualty, healthcare, disability, etc.) are needed, some required by statute so that a person or family's existence can continue unabated.

There are insurance companies who offer policies to same-sex couples and their families, either who can't marry, or have their relationship recognized by government, as well as opposite sex couples who choose not to get married for whatever reason.

Lynden Munsil, Cathi Herrod and those individuals fronting as the head of the Protect Marriage Arizona (PMA) front organization, as well as the Center for Arizona Policy (CAP) who are the ones really spearheading the effort in Arizona to enshrine discrimination in the state constitution with the PMAA (Protect

Marriage Arizona Amendment) would change that, marginalizing same-sex families, as well as opposite-sex couples and their families, making them all "high risk," because as Herrod, a lobbyist for the CAP said in the June 18, 2005-East Valley Tribune article, entitled "Same-sex Marriage Fight Looms," "If it gives a legal status to unmarried individuals, . . . 'it would not be allowed.'"

Laws dealing with all types of insurance, including the selling and purchasing of policies and the respective contracts for these transactions, types and definitions of policies, beneficiaries, coverage requirements, discrimination prohibitions, claims (and the payment of thereof) that would be affected by the PMAA are in Arizona Revised Statutes (ARS), Title 20.

Paraphrasing Audre Lorde, the great African-American Lesbian poet, teacher and activist, our silence will not protect us. As a community, we all must get involved in every way possible since we shouldn't assume that people know how our families and rights are under attack from Munsil, Herrod, CAP and their minions.

Call Arizona Together at (602) 650-0900 or (520) 624-1779, Ext. 21 or go online to [www.arizonatogether.org](http://www.arizonatogether.org) to sign up, donate, either online or by check, to insure our lives against the PMAA because needs now more than ever to be together to succeed.

**Military Would Gain 41,000 Recruits If 'DADT' Ban Were Lifted**

WASHINGTON, D.C. - A report released Monday (July 25) shows that if "don't ask, don't tell" - the law that bars out Gays from serving in the military - were repealed the armed forces could alleviate a critical troop shortage, 365Gay.com reported.

The report, prepared by the Williams Project at the UCLA School of Law, and released today by the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network shows that without the ban, the military could expect to see 41,000 new recruits.

It comes as the Pentagon admits it will not meet its recruiting goal this year for the first time since 1999.

"The 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' law hangs like a 'Gays Not Welcome' sign outside the Pentagon's front door," said Sharra E. Greer, director of law and policy for SLDN.

"Thousands of Lesbian and Gay Americans are ready to answer our nation's call to service, but are turned away because of federally sanctioned discrimination. Now, more than ever, our country needs the talent of these patriotic Americans. We can make our homeland more secure by repealing 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' once and for all."

The Williams Project based its analysis on data from the 2000 census said Gary J. Gates, Senior Research Fellow at the UCLA School of Law.

By abolishing "don't ask, don't tell," the Pentagon could significantly close its recruiting gap - or even eliminate it - Gates said.

Gates has previously estimated there are 65,000 Lesbian and Gay Americans currently serving in the forces. "There is no justification for continuing to turn away qualified Gay Americans from

military service," said Greer.

"Our military should be in the business of recruiting the best and brightest Americans. The 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' law is a deterrent to service that, we now know, costs our country tens of thousands of troops. The difference those men and women could make on the ground is immeasurable. Congress should take down the 'Gays Not Welcome' sign and strengthen our national security by ending the ban and welcoming the thousands of Lesbian and Gay Americans who want to serve."

A bill to end the controversial ban on Gays is currently before Congress. The Military Readiness Enhancement Act currently has 90 bi-partisan supporters and was endorsed by eight retired military officers. "As a commander, I know that Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Americans have served our country with honor and distinction," said BG Evelyn Foote, one of the first women to achieve the rank of Brigadier General, upon the bill's introduction.

"Our armed forces should be able to recruit every qualified, capable American to protect our homeland, regardless of their sexual orientation. 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' is not only unnecessary and discriminatory, it is also detrimental to our military readiness. The law does not meet the common sense rule our military should abide by."

The Government Accountability Office, earlier this year, issued a report showing that "don't ask, don't tell" has cost taxpayers more than \$200 million since its inception in 1993.

More than 10,000 service members have been discharged over the last 10 years under the policy according to statistics from the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network.

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# UPDATE

## Wingspan Grand Opening Saturday, August 6

TUCSON - On July 11, Wingspan, Southern Arizona's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Community Center, opened the doors of its new building at 425 E. Seventh St. It is Wingspan's fourth home in its 17 years of service to the community.

Wingspan is holding a Community Open House on Saturday, August 6th from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. Light refreshments will be served, and staff and volunteers will be on hand to provide tours, and answer questions.

Wingspan's roots date back to the 1970s, when a small group of local Tucsonans took it upon themselves to carve out a safe and supportive space in the community for Gay and Lesbian teenagers. These original support groups (which remain an integral part of Wingspan today) were facilitated in the living rooms of a few compassionate people who wanted to make a difference, and established the organization's roots in community-based, volunteer-driven services for and by the LGBT community.

In 1988, when Wingspan incorporated, Southern Arizona's Lesbian and Gay community center was little more than a concept, a few pieces of paper, a handful of dedicated volunteers, and a windowless meeting space no larger than an average dorm room. Today, the entire first floor of the new leased building, 2,800 square feet, is for the community—nearly twice the size of the community space in the previous building.

Three community meeting rooms are available for use by a myriad of grassroots LGBT and Allied groups, ranging from AA meetings to the Buddhist Meditation group. An open community living space houses the Wingspan lending library. The first floor is also home to a six-computer CyberCenter that is open to the public at no cost. The cornerstone of the downstairs area is the front desk which, since Wingspan's inception, has been the source of information about all things LGBT in Southern Arizona. The friendly and knowledgeable front desk volunteers continue to greet visitors, answer community members' questions, and guide people toward appropriate resources and referrals.

In order to better serve the community, Wingspan has expanded its hours. Wingspan is now open to the public 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. on weekdays, and 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on weekends.

Wingspan now has over 17 staff members, over 200 active volunteers, and an annual budget of \$1 million. Thanks to community support and involvement, Wingspan is one of the largest, most active LGBT community centers in the United States. Wingspan's programs include services include:

Wingspan's Eon Youth Program is a comprehensive youth-led program. As a collaboration of Wingspan, the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation, and the Pima County Health Department, Eon's projects include a homeless youth program, a drop-in lounge, a leadership development program, a youth activism program, and much, much more. LGBT and allied youth enjoy a safe, substance-free, space for social interaction, support groups, and activism training and opportunities. A unique peer-led model encourages youth to become leaders in their communities, and to bring their voices, ideas, and energy to create a strong future for our LGBT community. In 2004, Eon served 755 unduplicated youth, and provided the community with 187 educational presenta-

tions.

Wingspan's Anti-Violence Project, formerly the Wingspan Domestic Violence Project, provides 24-hour, bilingual crisis intervention to LGBT survivors of domestic and sexual violence, bias or hate crimes, violence, discrimination, and harassment. The Anti-Violence Project, or AVP, has provided community education and technical support to schools, workplaces, service providers, law enforcement, courts, and dozens of other community service providers and groups. In 2004, the AVP answered 612 crisis calls, and provided 124 educational presentations and trainings to the community.

Puertas Abiertas (Open Doors) is a social and outreach program that promotes positive awareness for Latino/a LGBT people. Puertas holds special cultural events as well as discussion groups to talk about issues important to LGBT Latino/as.

Wingspan's Health and Wellness Program encourages LGBT people to be active participants in their own health and wellness by teaching and promoting healthy habits, as well as working to educate the health care community about the needs of LGBT people. The Health and Wellness program has served thousands of individuals in its first year of operation, ranging from helping a trans woman get her first mammogram to hosting a smoking cessation campaign and support group.

Wingspan's Information and Referral Service provides LGBT community members, as well as those looking to move to our community with up-to-date, accurate information on a huge range of services that are LGBT friendly, including realtors, businesses, health care providers, and nearly every service type available. Our library has over 5,000 books, magazines, and films, and our CyberCenter allows community members free access to computer and internet services.

Wingspan's Senior Pride and Rainbow Train Program is a volunteer-driven program which engages seniors and other volunteers in our community in training service providers about the needs of LGBT elders, while providing valuable support and fun social opportunities for LGBT seniors.

Wingspan's Advocacy and Public Policy Program is a unique program that engages the LGBT and allied community is grassroots, community-based, issue-driven social action. This program focuses on building and strengthening coalitions in our community and across the state to promote freedom, equality, safety, and well-being for all people.



Wingspan, 425 E. Seventh Street

# States Should Stop Treating Children Of Gays As Orphans

By Deb Price

Long before she began to seriously entertain the idea of becoming a parent, and even longer before the birth of the 6-year-old twins now at the center of her universe, Heather Finstuen was attracted to how much Anne Magro valued family: In 1991, while the women were Illinois graduate students, Magro would drive five hours to see her teenaged siblings play soccer in Ohio.

Soon Finstuen and Magro began building a life together, moving to New Jersey so Magro could take a job as an accounting professor at Rutgers University. They bought a home and eventually decided they were ready — financially and emotionally — for Magro to bear their first child.

News that Magro was actually having twins was a delightful jolt. "We had to restructure our finances," Finstuen recalls of the last-minute planning before the 1998 arrival of their tiny daughters, no bigger than kittens. New Jersey allowed Finstuen to adopt Kate and Sarah as their legal second parent.

Had the family not moved to Oklahoma, this could be a column about how a growing number of states have begun helping conscientious Gay couples protect their children. Instead, it spotlights the need for judges to defend loving, stable families made needlessly vulnerable by officials who neglect or undermine them. (Michigan law doesn't address second-parent adoptions, and a few judges have granted them.)

The University of Oklahoma wanted Magro's talents. The family was persuaded in 2000 that, despite the state's history of hostility, they could flourish

there. And it has. But neither mom has felt safe since May 2004, when Democratic Gov. Brad Henry signed a law that Oklahoma "shall not recognize an adoption by more than one individual of the same sex from any other state or foreign jurisdiction."

Now both moms are terrified: Oklahoma could use a tragedy to treat Kate and Sarah as orphans. "If something fatal happens to Anne," Finstuen asks, "what happens if someone shows up and says I am not a legal parent? I show them a piece of paper that says I am the parent, and they show me the law. And then who decides?"

The family is asking the federal court system to decide that the Oklahoma law — as mindlessly anti-child and anti-family as it anti-Gay — is unconstitutional. Already, a federal judge has given them and two other families a green light to proceed with the lawsuit filed by Lambda Legal.

Judge Robin Cauthron brushed aside the state's argument that the suit is premature because the law has not been enforced. Cauthron, appointed by President George H.W. Bush, stressed the stakes are high: "If Gov. Henry faithfully executes this Oklahoma law pursuant to his duty to do so, no state agency will recognize these plaintiffs as a family and these plaintiffs could be deprived of all the legal rights and obligations associated with that relationship."

A Washington state couple — Greg Hampel and Ed Swaya — and their daughter, Vivian, are part of the lawsuit. Vivian was adopted from an Oklahoma woman. Oklahoma's attorney general

then ordered the Health Department to issue a birth certificate listing both men as parents. Lawmakers reacted with the anti-Gay adoption rule. So now, the fathers think it's too risky to let Vivian visit her birth mother and Oklahoma.

And Magro and Finstuen fret they might have to leave Oklahoma. "If we lose, it's just too dangerous to

stay," Magro says.

Good parents — Gay or straight — shouldn't have to fear that some government agency is going to take away their kids.

(Deb Price is a columnist for the Detroit News, from which this is reprinted from their July 18 edition.)

## In Her Own Words



TALLULAH BANKHEAD (1903-1968)

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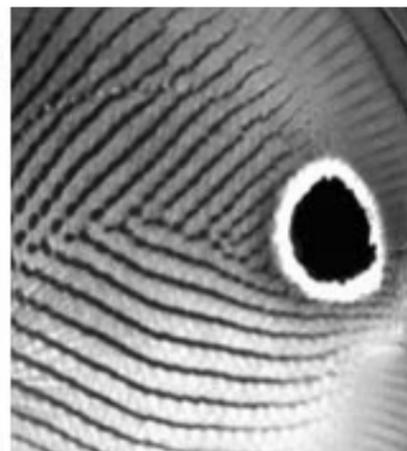
The less I behave like Whistler's mother the night before, the more I look like her the morning after.

If I had to live my life again, I'd make the same mistakes, only sooner.

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I thought I told you to wait in the car - on seeing a former lover for the first time in years

Only good girls keep diaries. Bad girls don't have time.



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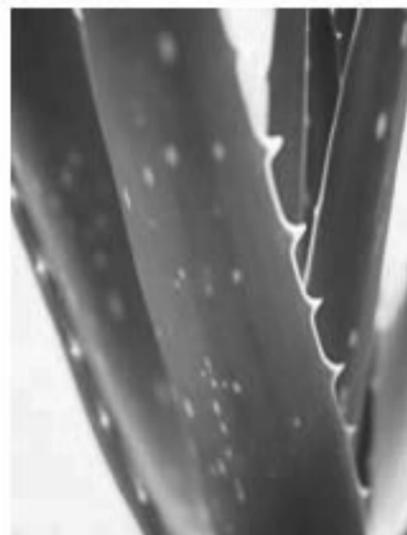
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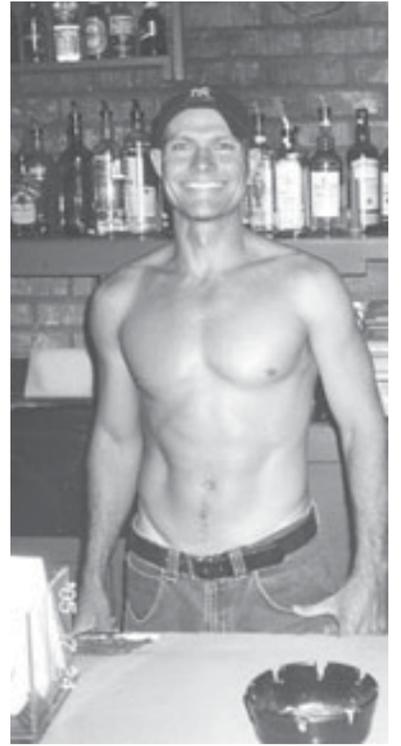
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# Fresh FARM FROM THE



## NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE Corporations

by Lee Thorn

A history professor being interviewed on C-SPAN about a week ago caught my ear when he said that we revere the Founding Fathers too much because our reverence for them keeps us from improving their creations. The professor went on to argue that the First Amendment could use some improvements and that the Fathers, experimentalists to the core, wouldn't have hesitated to make them if they'd had the centuries of experience that we've had.

I kind of like the First Amendment the way it is, but the professor got me to thinking about our reluctance to reinvent our institutions, even when they don't seem to be serving us very well. Take corporations. Everybody complains about them — corporate greed, corporate excess, corporate corruption — but, just like the weather, nobody does anything about them.

If you boil down all the anti-corporate whining to its essentials, you get just two issues: Corporations are so big that they can and do corrupt governments. Corporations are so amoral that they're dangerous and often fatal to living organism from human beings to tadpoles.

The first issue, that of corporate size, has been addressed before. When corporations got so big that they exercised monopolistic powers, actions were taken to break them up. My premise here is that they don't have to be monopolies to be too damn big. The sad and indisputable fact is that they don't have to be monopolies to purchase big chunks of our federal government.

Why can't the inventors of corporations, namely human beings, go back to the drawing board and figure out how to redefine corporations in ways that limit their size? The issue could be addressed in any number of ways. You could limit the total allowable value of a corporation's assets. You could limit the geographical area in which any one corporation could operate. You could limit the number of employees.

"What about unintended negative consequences of these arbitrary limitations?" you scream. There would surely be unintended negative consequences, but while we're worrying about

Birth Certificates Issued to these monster corporations are eating us alive.

I'm not proposing any specific limitations. I'm suggesting that, at this point in our history, the definition of a corporation needs to be open to revision. Controlling corporations by imposing rules on their behavior, rules that don't alter their essential structure, has proven to be ineffective.

What about corporate amorality? Corporations and governments are always making noises about this important subject but never coming up with effective mechanisms to deal with it. I'd suggest that every corporation over a specified size be required to have a vice president in charge of corporate ethics. The post should be a full-time position lasting for a fixed term, say six years, with no possibility of reappointment. The job of the ethics VP would be to review all corporate practices for ethical soundness, to attempt to get the corporation to do the right thing as often as possible, and to publicize all its failures to do the right thing. Corporations have lots of lawyers to keep them legal, but legal isn't the same as ethical. At times it's been legal to pump carcinogens into the groundwater. It has never been ethical to do so.

It will be noted that even if an ethics VP couldn't be fired for six years he could be bought. The corporations could say, "You've got a big payday coming if you keep your mouth shut." But compare that situation, the case where the ethics cop could be bought, with the situation we've got now — no effective ethics cop.

Corporations were designed to be machines for making money. As soon as we appreciate the exclusivity of their focus, nothing that they've done to our world — for good or for evil — should surprise us. But they are an invention — like cars, computers, the First Amendment, fountain pens — and they need to be refined.

[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.]

## Birth Certificates Issued To Mass. Same-Sex Parents May Be Illegal

BOSTON - Gov. Mitt Romney's office is instructing hospitals to cross out the word "father" on birth certificates for the children of same-sex parents and substitute the phrase "second parent," a practice that has angered Gay and Lesbian advocates and municipal clerks, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com.

Eric Fehrstrom, a spokesman for Gov. Mitt Romney, said that the certificates are perfectly legal. But the clerks, who register and store birth records, say the cross-outs could make them open to challenges by passport agents, foreign governments and other officials.

"They should not have a birth certificate that has crosses on it," said Barnstable Town Clerk Linda E. Hutchenrider, a past president of the Massachusetts Town Clerks Association. "They should be allowed to have a birth certificate that really looks valid."

Hutchenrider sent a letter to Romney in October, asking him to formally revise the birth certificates for the

children of same-sex couples.

In recent weeks, she discussed the issue with Department of Public Health officials, but Hutchenrider said she was told the forms cannot be changed without the governor's approval.

Fehrstrom said the health department has been advising hospitals to alter the documents since last year and that the governor believes the hand-altered certificates are valid.

"As long as they're recorded, they're valid," he said.

The certificates may be legal, said Michelle Granda, staff attorney for Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders, but "they raise unnecessary questions for one segment of the population, and that's not right."

Fehrstrom said the state Legislature must authorize any changes to the birth certificates.

"This affects just a handful of

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cases," he told The Patriot Ledger of Quincy. "We're told births to same-sex couples are very rare."

In 2004, when Massachusetts became the first state to legalize same-sex marriage, there were 61 children born to married same-sex couples out of about 80,000 children born in the state, according to data from the Department of Public Health. This year, the number stood at 75 by the end of June.

"It doesn't matter if there's only one or 500," Hutchenrider said. "They all deserve to have proper birth records."



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# UPDATE

## University of Arizona To Offer Tuition Breaks To Same-Sex Couples

TUCSON - Same-sex domestic partners of the University of Arizona (UA) employees will get tuition breaks starting this fall in a move officials say will help the university compete for faculty and staff members and bring equitable treatment to its employees.

University of Arizona President Peter Likins made the announcement in a letter to the campus community Monday, July 25, reported the Arizona Daily Star.

The UA is the first of the three state universities to extend its tuition reduction program to same-sex domestic partners and dependent children of those partners. The university already offers its tuition reduction program to employees, their spouses and dependents, reported the Tucson Citizen.

While the new policy won't cover health-care benefits, like those

offered by Pima Community College, Pima County and the city of Tucson, it's a step in the right direction, say UA employees who have been pushing for domestic-partner benefits. Participants must meet qualifications and be registered under the Tucson Domestic Partner Ordinance. They will be eligible to attend classes for \$25 per semester, plus mandatory fees.

The UA can't on its own extend domestic partner benefits to its employees because the Legislature would have to approve changes to benefits of state employees. The tuition reduction will start bringing the UA in line with its peer institutions, Likins wrote. Of the Pac-10 schools, only the UA and Arizona State University don't offer domestic partner health coverage. Ten of 11 peer universities in the Big 10 offer some combination of health coverage and tuition reduction to domestic partners.

the press release. "They need to be held accountable for their inaction and insensitivity."

The press release triggered media interest in the story, which appeared in the local press and on television stations. Subsequently, Riley told PlanetOut, the police called the women back into the station to give their statements again, and pressed much harder for a description of the assailant. Riley is encouraged by the renewed effort by law enforcement, and is cautiously optimistic that the Kansas City police are now taking the case seriously.

An Associated Press dispatch

said that Donna Pittman of KMBC has reported that police are in fact treating the matter as a hate crime. But Riley himself has not received confirmation to this effect during his own discussions with police.

The Kansas City community is "really shocked and angered that this happened," Riley told PlanetOut. But the KCAVP has received a tremendous amount of community support in the process. The Kansas City Anti-Violence Project is a member of the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs, and the only organization of its kind in the entire territory of Western Missouri, Kansas, Iowa and Nebraska.

## Capital Vigil For Amancio Corrales Aug. 6

PHOENIX - Amancio Corrales, a 23-year-old Gay man who performed as a female impersonator was founded murdered in the Colorado River near Yuma.

Because of the violent nature of the attack, activists suspect this was a hate crime and have formed a coalition, called the Amancio Project, [theamancioproject.org](http://theamancioproject.org), to pressure the Yuma County Sheriff's office to pursue an aggressive investigation but with few

leads, the Corrales family is left to grieve without hope of justice or closure.

On Saturday August 6, 7 p.m., at the Arizona State Capitol, 1700 W. Washington in Phoenix, a vigil will take place for Amancio, the Corrales family, and to continue the public outcry for justice. For more information, please contact Sam Holdren at the Arizona Leadership Institute, (602) 264-5782 or E-mail: [sam@azleadership.org](mailto:sam@azleadership.org).

## Lesbians Say Police Ignored Hate Crime

KANSAS CITY - Two Lesbians were attacked by a bat-wielding woman in the early morning hours of July 14, reported the PlanetOut Network.

According to a July 18 press release from the Kansas City Anti-Violence Project (KCAVP) and local sources, the women were walking hand in hand when a pickup truck drove by, and a woman in the passenger seat yelled anti-Gay comments in their direction. The truck circled the block for another round of hate speech, and then made a third pass at the victims. This time, the truck stopped, a woman came out with a bat and proceeded to attack the pair, pummeling one of the Lesbians multiple times.

The assault was cut short by the appearance of a tow truck with flashing lights that the basher may have thought was a police car. She took off in the pickup and has not been identified.

According to Doug Riley, executive director of the KCAVP, one of the

women was relatively unscathed, but the other suffered a concussion and a cut on her ear. Riley told PlanetOut that the injured woman refused an ambulance, but was driven to St. Luke's hospital for treatment.

Riley's group was initially outraged by the nonchalant reaction to the crime by authorities. Monday's press release (July 18) said the police responded to a call and met with the women at their house after the beating. However, they failed to treat the incident as a hate crime, or even mention the gay slurs in their report.

Two officers reportedly told the women they were under no obligation to respond to the call at all, and seemed indifferent to the implications of the attack, describing it in their paperwork as a "verbal assault."

"I would think being bashed over the head with a bat would give reason for police to come to a scene," Riley said in

## Partner Benefit Lawsuit Postponed

LANSING - LGBT activists are hoping the postponement of a hearing over domestic partnership benefits in Michigan will be for the best, the PlanetOut Network reported.

On Thursday (July 21) Gov. Jennifer Granholm, a Democrat, and Attorney General Mike Cox, a Republican, were supposed to hear a lawsuit from 21 same-sex couples, angered that the state had prevented the city of Kalamazoo from offering same-sex partner benefits.

Cox ruled that Kalamazoo could not offer the benefits since Michigan voters had passed Proposition 2 in March, a bill banning the recognition of same-sex marriage.

Thursday's postponement came after Granholm said she wanted to retain counsel to argue on her own behalf, instead of relying on Cox's counsel.

Jay Kaplan, the staff attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Michigan's LGBT project, gave his interpretation of Thursday's events to the PlanetOut Network.

"It's a good thing, because the governor has stated she does not agree with the AG's opinion that public employers should not provide domestic partner benefits," Kaplan explained.

Kaplan disagrees with Cox's interpretation that Proposition 2 prevents the state from extending domestic partner benefits.

"We hope the governor's position will be favorable to the position we're taking — we don't know," Kaplan admitted. "Ultimately, it's up to the judge to decide the meaning of this amendment."

The hearing has been postponed to August 16.

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## MCC Church Founder Troy Perry Steps Down After 37 Years

CALGARY - The Rev. Troy Perry, who founded the first Metropolitan Community Church in Los Angeles, will give his farewell speech at the denomination's General Conference Thursday night (July 21), reported the PlanetOut Network.

The Rev. Nancy Wilson is expected to be ratified as his successor at the conference. She will take over as Moderator of the church October 8.

The MCC has 43,000 members, mostly Gay men and Lesbians, across 23 countries. It started as a gathering of 12 people in Perry's living room in 1968.

Over four decades, Perry has become an internationally recognized spiritual leader and one of the world's leading activists for the civil rights of LGBT people.

In his autobiography, "The Lord is My Shepherd and Knows I'm Gay," Perry recalled coming to terms with his sexual orientation, divorce, estrangement from his wife and children, loss of his license as a minister, a suicide attempt and finally his rediscovery of his calling and founding of a church where "all are welcome."

Perry, 65, began making plans to step down as Moderator almost three years ago to enable a smooth transition. The installation of Wilson will mark a subtle shift in emphasis for the church, but not a sea change, according to Jim Birkitt, director of communications for MCC Los Angeles.

"The Reverend Wilson has always had a strong commitment to reaching out to other churches," Birkitt told the PlanetOut Network.

"She wants to continue breaking down theological barriers, especially in evangelical churches and other denominations where Gays and Lesbians are still not welcomed."

In addition to her ecumenical strategies, Wilson plans to place great emphasis on youth outreach and social justice initiatives as part of a 10-year strategic plan for the MCC. The plan, called "Focus on the Human Family," will be revealed at her Oct. 29 installation ceremony in Washington, D.C.

## Gay Student Ordered To Pay \$77,000 To Former School

WACO - A former seminary student who lost his scholarship because he is Gay has been ordered to pay \$77,000 for sending more than 1,000 lewd e-mails to Baylor University officials and their families. After awarding \$47,000 in damages and \$30,000 in attorneys' fees to Baylor, the judge ordered James Matthew Bass to stop sending e-mails to officials at the world's largest Baptist university, reported the Associated Press on Advocate.com.

The judgment Friday (July 22) puts an end to the case, which began in August when employees started complaining about receiving e-mails with pornographic photos and obscene subject matter. Baylor sued in November in trying to track down and stop the person sending the e-mails.

Bass, now a theology student at Emory University in Atlanta, never filed court papers responding to Baylor's lawsuit or denying that he sent the lewd messages to more than 50 people. Many e-mails were made to appear as if they came from other Baylor officials or their relatives. Bass, 25, attended Baylor's George W. Truett Theological Seminary until late 2003, when administrators



Rev. Troy Perry

Wilson will also take a large contingent of MCC representatives in a delegation to the World Council of Churches conference in Brazil next February, Birkitt said.

Wilson and Perry have had a strong working relationship for more than 30 years. In 1976, Wilson became the youngest person ever elected to the MCC Board of Elders; she has been an elder ever since. She served as Vice-Moderator of the MCC for 10 years and has pastored MCC congregations in Massachusetts, Michigan and California. She also led the denomination's "mother" church, the MCC Los Angeles, and now serves as senior pastor of Church of the Trinity MCC in Sarasota, Florida.

She has also been active on behalf of HIV issues, prisoner treatment programs and women's rights. In 1979, she participated in the first-ever meeting of Gay and Lesbian religious leaders at the White House at the invitation of President Carter.

Wilson lives in Florida with her partner of 27 years, Dr. Paula Schoenwether. They both actively work for marriage equality.

Perry lives in Los Angeles with his lover of 17 years, Philip Ray DeBlicke. He plans to devote his time to speaking engagements and writing, according to Birkitt.

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**Prepare for a zesty energy surge** courtesy of Mars in Taurus and the Sun in Leo. Don't put your best pots on the back burner; it's time to turn up the heat and start cooking! Breathe new life into old corners. Your place or mine, charmer?

**ARIES (MAR. 21 - APR. 20)**  
 Beaten down Rams have been looking a little long in the horn recently. What better opportunity to put a little spark in your trot than with the new energies of Sun and Mars? Haul out the party favors and pass them on to an appreciative crowd. Money is no object for now so go for fun, frolic and frothy fare. If your creative Gay muse is itching, give it a good Gay scratch.

**TAURUS (APR. 21 - MAY 21)**  
 Rollicking proud Bulls have made their opinions known to all over the past few weeks. It's all been very successful but now, with Sun and Mars moving into new signs, you must target your intuitive and gutsy message strictly to family members. Set things queer with relations. It's also a good time to take stock of your home surroundings. Should you redecorate or detonate?

**GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)**  
 As Sun and Mars move on, pink Twins turn their attention from crassly amassing capital gains to delicately refining the art of social conversation and persuasion. Ask and you shall receive, cousin. Make good use of this eloquence; it may lead you to greater wealth and riches than ever imaginable. (That is if you consider charity, spirituality and karma worth your while...)

**CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)**  
 You may think that, as Sun and Mars posit in new signs, your star may fade and all the attention that you've been receiving will disappear. Untrue! All that you have begun in the past few weeks will go to the next logical step with your careful effort. Water your seedlings and surround yourself with friends and admirers. Do I smell steaming Crab? Pass the melted butter!

**LEO (JULY 24 - AUG. 23)**  
 The double dose of Sun in your own sign and Mars in Taurus signals a new era of corporate success for proud Lions. Gather your great ideas, begin new projects now and make sure that those in authority see what you can do. You charm the sharks so get Out there and stir things up in your profession. You may even get an offer that you cannot refuse. So don't refuse it.

**VIRGO (AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23)**  
 Queer Virgins feel the power and pull of community service when Sun and Mars move on. Involve yourself with global Gay works and charities. You accomplish great things with long term impact. At the same time, you are especially perceptive and intuitive now. What do you divine, you divine thing? Rub that crystal ball into a frenzy and peer in. Anyone we know?

**LIBRA (SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)**  
 Sun and Mars prepare to surround you with convivial and sexy company and proud Libras are anxious to join the throng. It's not only possible to expand your social circle now but also to find a gem buried in the trash. But before you gyrate to the music, be sure that the band is playing your type of tune. Don't come dressed for disco if the invitation says opera.

**SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)**  
 Your professional aspirations receive a boost from a close companion when Sun and Mars change signs. All your plotting and planning can pan out as long as you keep your eyes and ears open for the right opportunity. Proud Scorps are effective "powers behind the throne" but now you are tempted to take all and rule. Will you be a wooden ruler or a petty dictator?

**SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)**  
 Sun and Mars shine a spotlight in your area of expertise which can make queer Archers seem especially expansive and forward thinking. Grab the attention and reach the multitudes with your best ideas. Your best method of persuasion may be to cruise the internet to reach a truly global audience. Who knows who is lurking Out in cyberspace? Destiny bytes!

**CAPRICORN (DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)**  
 Pink Caps feel hot and bothered when Sun and Mars stoke your fire. You learn that there are many hearty souls out there who know how to have fun and can cool you down. Use this wonderful energy to explore the innumerable ways to express yourself. Remember that anything involving a jar of pimentos, a snack tray and an egg timer will be talked about for weeks.

**AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)**  
 Strengthen partnerships and your home life when Sun and Mars move on. Aqueerians are more than willing to make compromises now to insure domestic harmony. If you seek motivation, know that this is an opportune time to cast for a supporting role. There is something about the casting couch that can make your search, no matter how long, a ...ahem... fulfilling experience.

**PISCES (FEB. 20 - MAR. 20)**  
 Guppies are in the pink with Sun and Mars now. Not only is your daily grind of a job going more smoothly but you are also inspired to develop and refine your exercise and diet regime. Even meager efforts will achieve boastful results. No time to waste; there are still plenty of beach days left to the summer and you want to look shipshape for the rest of cruise season.

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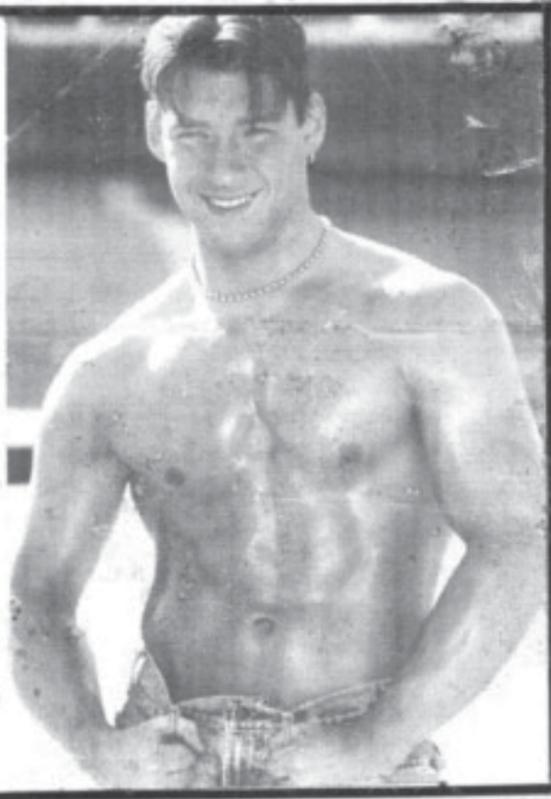
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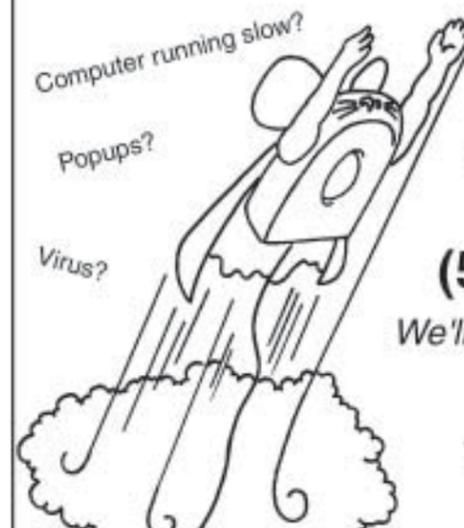
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# Navratilova Settles Lawsuit With Sponsor

NEW YORK - Martina Navratilova has settled her lawsuit against the sponsor of a credit card directly marketed to Gays and Lesbians, reported the Associated Press on Advocate.com.

The tennis star sued Do Tell Inc., which offers the Rainbow Card, in March because she disagreed with the way the card was being marketed. Do Tell had used Navratilova to market the card since 1995 with the tennis star's permission, the suit said. But in late 2004, Navratilova became at odds with the card's marketing, which she called "inappropriate and repugnant."

On February 8, 2005, Navratilova's attorneys sent a letter to Do Tell, based in Conshohocken, Pa., telling them to stop using the former Wimbledon champ's likeness. She objected to the card's being associated with the cable TV shows The L Word and Queer as Folk, calling the shows "depraved," Do Tell said in court papers.

Terms of the settlement, reported to the judge handling the case last week, were not released. Lawyers for both sides declined comment. Navratilova had been seeking at least \$75,000 in damages. Navratilova is a nine-time Wimbledon



Martina Navratilova

champion and winner of 18 Grand Slam singles titles. She also owns a record 167 singles titles and 40 Grand Slam doubles titles.

The Rainbow Card helps fund the nonprofit Rainbow Endowment, which promotes the health and social well-being of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender people.

# Gay Author, Screenwriter Gavin Lambert Dies



Gavin Lambert

LOS ANGELES - Gavin Lambert, the openly Gay writer whose credits include some of the most well known books and films, has died of of pulmonary fibrosis. He was 80.

Lambert was born in England and moved to Los Angeles in 1954. A longtime resident of West Hollywood, Lambert's novels include "The Slide Area: Scenes of Hollywood Life," "Inside Daisy Clover," "A Case for the Angels," "The Goodbye People" and "Running Time."

As a screenwriter, Lambert's credits include his adaptation of Tennessee Williams' "The Roman Spring of Mrs. Stone," his adaptation of "Inside Daisy Clover," and his two shared Oscar-nominated adaptations, "Sons and Lovers" and "I Never Promised You a Rose Garden."

In 1961 when it was released, Roman Spring attracted the interest of Gays who noted a line when the leading lady, an aging actress who becomes involved with a young Italian gigolo is referred to as a "chicken hawk".

Four years later he turned his novel Inside Daisy Clover into a film. The story involves a movie star married to a closeted Gay man.

Other credits include the 1986 made-for-television movie "Second Serve", about transsexual tennis star Renee Richards, and a bio of Liberace,

titled "Liberace: Behind the Music".

He also penned a biography of Natalie Wood, titled "Natalie Wood: A Life in Seven Takes."

In his book "Mainly About Lindsay Anderson" - a combination biography-memoir about the acclaimed British director - in which he seems more at ease with being Gay than was Anderson.

He later wrote that he "never made any secret" of the fact that he was Gay, "but (he) was never militant — unless it was 'militant' to inform the tribunal that summoned" and rejected him for military service in 1942 that he was Gay.

At Lambert's request, no formal services are planned, and his ashes will be scattered in the Pacific Ocean.

# Man Convicted Of Murdering 3-Year-Old 'Gay' Son

TAMPA - A Florida man stands convicted of second-degree murder after killing his 3-year-old son because he thought the boy might grow up to be Gay, Sirius OutQ reported on Advocate.com.

A jury on Thursday (July 21) found Ronnie Paris Jr. guilty of second-degree manslaughter and aggravated child abuse in the death of his son, Ronnie Antonio Paris. According to The Tampa Tribune, the boy was beaten so badly that he became lethargic, stopped eating, and began wetting himself. On January 22 the boy went into a coma and died six days later. Experts testified that his death was caused by blunt trauma to the head.

The child's mother, Nysherra Paris, testified that her husband was trying to "toughen up" their son because he was worried he might grow up to be Gay. Nysherra Paris, who never reported any abuse until February, is charged with child neglect and faces up to 15 years in prison if convicted. Ronnie Paris will be sentenced next month, and he faces life in prison.



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**A. METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH: 3269 N. Mountain - 292-9151**  
**B. CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP: 2902 N. Geronimo - 622-4626**  
**C. DESERT PRIDE - Gifts, Videos, etc.: 611 N. 4th Ave. - 388-9829**  
**D. WINGSPAN - 425 E. 7th St. - 624-1779**  
**E. S.A.A.F. - 375 S. Euclid Ave. - 628-7223**  
**F. RAINBOW PLANET COFFEE HOUSE: 606 N. 4th Ave. - 620-1770**  
**G. TIHAN -Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network: 492 N. Alvernon, 299-6647**  
**H. EON GAY YOUTH CENTER 620-6245**

1. AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ: 2900 E. Broadway - 318-4838  
 2. IBT'S: 616 N. 4th Ave. 882-3053  
 3. VENTURE-N: 1239 N. 6th Ave. 882-8224  
 5. WOODY'S - 3710 N. Oracle Road, 292-6702  
 6. HOWL AT THE MOON - 915 W. Prince Rd. 293-7339  
 7. YARD DOG - 2449 N. Stone, 624-3858  
 8. COLORS FOOD & SPIRITS, 5305 E. Speedway, 323-1840

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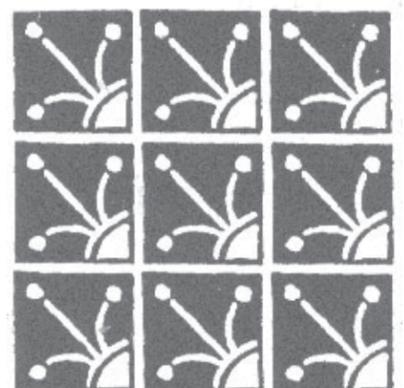
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# DAILY BAR CALENDAR

## sunday

**COLORS** - Open 11am - 11pm Champagne Brunch 11am - 2pm with choice of complimentary mimosa, Bloody Mary or Screwdriver. Happy Hour 4-7pm \$2 sky 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 - 1:30pm, - Scrambled eggs, hash brown, biscuit & sausage gravy and your choice of Bloody Mary, Screwdriver or Mimosa. 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. \$2.00 Bloody Marys or Screws til 3pm Patio Beer Bust 3-7. Burger BBQ 5-7. Selection of burger meats to choose from. \$3 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 9am. Patio 6pm. Free pool til 4pm. \$2.75 Skyy & Beefeaters Martinis.

**WOODY'S** - Open 10am. w/Special Happy Hour til 2pm \$1.50 well or domestic longnecks. 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 9am. Patio 6pm. Free Pool til 4pm. Spaghetti Nite (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday every month \$2.00).

**WOODY'S** - Open 10am w/Special Happy Hour til 2pm \$1.50 well or domestic longneck. 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.

**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. \$2.75 Cuervo Margaritas 4-8pm

**WOODY'S** - Open 10am w/Special Happy Hour til 2pm \$1.50 well or domestic longnecks. 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 9am. 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 \$6.00.

**WOODY'S** - Open 10am w/Special Happy Hour til 2pm \$1.50 well or domestic longnecks. 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-2am. 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 9am. Patio open 6pm. Free Pool til 4pm. DJ 9pm to close.

**WOODY'S** - Open 10am.w/Special Happy Hour til-2pm \$1.50 well or domestic longnecks. 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-2am, 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. \$4.00 Cheeseburger & 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 Jane Star. DJ Q spinning Club Music inside and Mike Lopez spinning on the patio 10pm to close..

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

**WOODY'S** - Open 10am. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. \$5 Steak or Fish w/all the trimmings 5-9. Patio Bar open 5-close. Live Jazz w/Arthur Migliazza 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.

## CASINOS

AVA AMPHITHEATER AT CASINO DEL SOL COMING ATTRACTIONS:(Box office 838-6700

I-10 Exit Valencia West) JULY 13 - Julia Iglesias

DESERT DIAMOND CASINO UPCOMING ATTRACTIONS: (Box office 393-2799 - I-19 & Pima Mine Road, Exit 80 - 7 minutes south of Tucson)

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 at

Of reported demographic information from participants, 60% of all registered walkers are female, two thirds are under 35, and one-fourth are under 18.

# BAR CALENDAR Of Upcoming Events

## THURSDAY, JULY 28

**VENTURE-N** - Steak Nite here from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. \$6.00. They say "You Cant Beat Our Meat" Try it out!

## FRIDAY, JULY 29

**IBT'S** - 8:30 p.m. - Miss Gay Arizona America 2006 Pre-Pageant Show. Hosted by Bunny FuFu (Miss Gay Arizona 2004) and starring Miss Gay America 2005, Raquel Chevallier; Tori Steele, (Miss Gay Arizona 2005); Devina (Miss Gay Arizona 1990); Kyra Starr (Miss Gay Arizona 1993); Barbara Seville (Miss Gay Arizona 2000), Followed by Dancing with DJ Mike Lopez.

## SATURDAY, JULY 30

**HOWL AT THE MOON** - It's 'Twist & Shout' Night on the dance floor here playing all the goodies from the past. The fun begins at 8:30 p.m.

**WOODY'S** - Live jazz with Arthur Migliazza from 6 to 9 p.m. and DJ Jeff from 9 to close

## SUNDAY, JULY 31

**WOODY'S** - All Day Party! Brunch at 11:30 a.m. The Patio Bar Sports Court opens at 1:00 p.m. Beer Bust 2-7 p.m. Burger Bar-B-Que 5 - 9 p.m. Drag Bingo starts at 8 p.m and Karaoke at 9 p.m. DJ Jeff will be playing on the patio from 8 to close.

## THURSDAY, AUGUST 4

**WOODY'S** - Intensive Care Party. Special shot prices to those in their Hospital Gown (back open).

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 6

**WOODY'S** - Monsoon Party!!! Prepare to get Wet!

**VENTURE-N** - Leather Nite 10 p.m. - 2 a.m. 'Seek'n Hides - Meet & Greet'. Dress up or down. Specials for men in leather - or ??

## Ending the violence.

**Wingspan launches the Anti-Violence Project - a community initiative to assist lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender victims of discrimination, domestic violence, sexual assault and hate crimes. Call the Anti-Violence Project 24-Hour Crisis Line at 624-0348, or toll-free 1-800-553-9387.**



Southern Arizona's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community Center

[www.wingspan.org](http://www.wingspan.org)

## Safe Sex



# 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.saaaf.org>. VOLUNTEERS WELCOME.

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

**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.

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

**SOURCES UNLIMITED,** a Lesbian & Gay referral service. Business and individual listings are free of charge. All information available to anyone just simply by asking. 322-5655. Leave message. [TucsonSources@aol.com](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 til 9pm. 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; Dezert Girlz MTF Support) meets 2nd Mondays at 7pm; Dezert Boyz (FTM Support) meets 3rd Tuesdays at 7pm. Also serving partners, youth, intersex, service providers and allies. Call (520)867-0083 for more info.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**LIKE TO READ?** The Guys' Book Club (TGBC) invites new members to join us. The group meets once a month, on the 3rd Monday, at 6:30 p.m. Reading selections include Gay-themed novels, bios and other nonfiction. For location or more info, email Bryan at [Bryansct@aol.com](mailto:Bryansct@aol.com)

**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

**LGBT BUDDHIST MEDITATION GROUP.** Join us for two 20 minute silent sitting meditations, a reading from a Buddhist religious text and discussion. Bring a friend and a pillow or cushion. Meets every Sunday from 10:00 - 11:30am at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St.. Contact Sean Seeba at 622-8759 for more information.

**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. (Get Map 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.

**MAN TO MAN INTENTIONAL COMMUNITY FORMING** for anyone wanting quality friendships, better health and more passion in their lives. This group has far-reaching benefits for those who want to explore their own spirituality, sexuality and purpose in life. Weekly social events include Keys to Healthy Relationships, and Be Your Own Best Lover. Also events include entertainment like dinner, movies, theater and art. Group discussions. Group fun with intimacy, spontaneity and play. A great way to meet other men who are on a more focused path. Contact Marc Haberman, Holistic Health Practitioner at 881-4582.

**HATE IS NOT A FAMILY VALUE**

# Same-Sex Marriage Is Made Legal In Canada

OTTAWA - Canada's Chief Justice signed bill C-38 into law Wednesday (July 20), making Canada the fourth country to grant full legal rights to Gay and Lesbian couples, the PlanetOut Network reported.

The signing came hours after the Senate approved the legislation late Tuesday night, ending years of court battles, political fights and determined activism on both sides of the divide.

Although the Senate was rocked by spirited and sometimes contentious debate, both the vote and the signing into law were expected. Canada's House of Commons passed the same legislation last month by a wide margin.

The Senate erupted in a loud cheer as the vote came in 41-21 just before midnight, ending years of court battles, political fights and determined activism on both sides of the divide.

The final word came from a 71-year-old Liberal party senator. "You have no idea what a difference it makes to the human spirit to know that you are treated equally under the law," said Senator Ione Christensen, reading from an e-mail sent by a Yukon constituent.

A few conservatives in Parliament vowed to keep the fight going. Conservative party leader Steven Harper promised to bring back the debate if he's elected prime minister, and Tory Senator Gerry St. Germain encouraged fellow lawmakers to make the next election a referendum on the bill.

Moreover, Liberal party members say marriage opponents have only one recourse if they want to reverse the decision: a relatively obscure clause, which has never been used. But according

to Laurie Arron, political coordinator for Canadians for Equal Marriage, the Canadian public would rather not reopen the debate.

"I think this is a done deal as far as the public is concerned, but of course in politics you can never say never," he told the PlanetOut Network. "Political leaders who have opposed marriage have gone down in the polls. And recent polling has shown us that a majority of Canadians don't want to continue debating the issue."

Bill C-38 would extend same-sex marriage rights to Alberta and Prince Edward Island, (PEI), the only two provinces where courts have not yet struck down traditional marriage laws.

PEI has already promised to amend its laws affecting families to conform to the new definition of marriage. Alberta, a conservative province, says it will not challenge the federal law, but may bring in legislation to allow civil servants and marriage commissioners who oppose Gay marriage to refuse to perform the ceremonies.

Only two provinces and two territories are affected by the new law, but its passage is far from an anticlimax for LGBT Canadians.

"Patchwork laws are not a good thing," Aaron said. "In Canada, the capacity to marry is a federal jurisdiction. We always pushed to change it nationally, and the federal government realized that after four unanimous court battles in a row supporting same-sex couples, that it was a losing battle to fight it."

The journey to marriage equality in Canada was relatively swift. A 1999 case in which the Supreme Court granted

common-law recognition for same-sex couples laid the groundwork for the new legislation.

In 2003, the Ontario Court of Appeal ruled that the exclusion of same-sex couples from marriage was unconstitutional. Although the government had fought marriage rights for same-sex couples, then-prime minister Jean Chretien announced in June 2003 that he would not appeal the Ontario ruling and that he would support legislation favoring same-sex couples.

One fear spread by opponents of same-sex marriage is that churches would be forced to marry couples against their beliefs. But C-38 stipulates that the new definition of marriage is binding only on public institutions. Religious institutions, such as mosques, churches, synagogues and temples, can continue defining marriage as they see fit.

"The government went to court to say our national charter protects religious freedom. Religious organizations do discriminate and have always set their own rules, and the proponents of marriage equality did not set out to change that."

When the bill becomes law, which could be as early as Thursday, Canada will join Holland, Belgium and Spain in offering marriage rights to all couples.

Although money from the religious right in the United States continues to pour in to fight equality in Canada, activists don't anticipate much of a backlash.

"In the aftermath of this bill, people will see that all of the fears were

way overblown," Aaron said. "Canadians generally see LGBT people equally in value, and now in the law. I'm very proud of my country today."

## County Refuses To Rescind Pride Ban

TAMPA - Hillsborough County commissioners, under pressure from Gay and other civil rights groups, Wednesday (July 20) reexamined last month's vote to ban the county government from any acknowledgement of Gay Pride, reported 365Gay.com.

About two dozen people addressed the commission - attacking the ordinance and calling for it to be repealed. Outside the building nearly 50 people demonstrated against the ban.

But, after nearly two hours, without and discussion, the commissioners let the law stand.

The ordinance was pushed by Commissioner Ronda Storms who became outraged last month over a Gay Pride display at a local library.

After Storms and several residents complained the display was removed, and several days later a much smaller one installed. But, Storms vowed to bring a motion before the Commission to ban such displays in future.

LGBT activists say they'll go to court, charging the county with violating the US Constitution's protections of equal protection and free speech.

In June a federal judge ordered St. Augustine to fly the Rainbow Flag from the Bridge of Lions ending a three-year battle between Gay Pride organizers and that city.

# Miss Gay Arizona America 2006 Pageant



### Saturday July 30, 2005

Holiday Inn Palo Verde

4550 S Palo Verde

Pageant at 7:00pm / Prejudging at 5:00pm

### Tickets:

VIP \$20.00 in advance / \$25.00 at door  
General \$12.00 in advance / \$15.00 at door

Contact David Dawson

3D Productions

520-681-4502

missgayarizonapageant@cox.net



Teri Steele  
Miss Gay Arizona 2005



Raquel Chevalier  
Miss Gay America 2005

The Biz



Davina  
Miss Gay Arizona 1990



Kyra Starr  
Miss Gay Arizona 1993



Barbara Sorillo  
Miss Gay Arizona 2000



Phoebe  
Miss Gay Arizona 2001



Angela Dodd  
Miss Gay Arizona 2002



Chano Jordan  
Miss Gay Arizona 2003



Bunny Fu Fu  
Miss Gay Arizona 2004