



Observing Tucson And  
The Greater Arizona Community

# OBSERVER

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WEEKLY OBSERVER

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## U.S. House Passes Hate Crimes Bill

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The House of Representatives passed legislation late Wednesday afternoon (September 14) to expand federal hate crimes laws to include Gays, Lesbians and the Transgendered, reported 365Gay.com.

The measure received bipartisan support, passing on a 233 - 199 vote.

Called the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act it has passed the Senate in previous congressional sessions only to die in the House.

A Senate version of the bill is currently before the chamber.

This legislation extends existing hate crimes laws that already cover crimes motivated by race, color, national origin and religion to include crimes based on actual or perceived gender, sexual orientation, disability and gender identity, including gender-related characteristics. The gender identity/characteristics language was added to this bill this year to make clear that anti-Transgender crimes are covered.

The bill would allow the Department of Justice to assist local authorities in investigating and prosecuting cases in which violence occurs.

Passage in the House drew praise from LGBT rights activists.

"Every American child deserves the strongest protections from some of this country's most horrifying crimes," said Judy Shepard, the mother of Matthew Shepard, who was murdered by two men because he was Gay, in 1998 in Wyoming. Shepard's slaying became the impetus for the legislation.

"Never before has the House of Representatives voted to protect Transgender people in any way," said Matt Foreman, Executive Director of the Task Force. "And today marks the first time, outside of procedural motions, that the House has affirmatively voted to extend full hate crimes protections to Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual people. This proves that even in times of adversity for our community, when grassroots voices keep up the pressure on our elected officials, decency can prevail."

Gay Democrats were equally pleased.

"This legislation will allow the federal government to enhance its law enforcement resources so that it may effectively combat crimes that attempt to terrorize groups of Americans," said Eric Stern, NSD Executive Director.

Passage of the bill came the same week as the conviction of two men in the slaying of Transgendered teen Gwen Araujo. The jury, however, was unable to reach agreement on the sentence for a

third defendant in the case.

Last April a report released by the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs showed violence against members of the LGBT community is on the rise.

Overall, NCAVP's report noted a 4% increase in reported incidents of anti-LGBT violence. Such incidents rose from 1,720 in 2003 to 1,792 in 2004.

Included in the rise in incidents for the year, was an 11% increase in anti-LGBT murders, which rose from 18 in 2003 to 20 in 2004. During 2004, the total number of victims rose 4%, from 2,042 in 2003 to 2,131 in 2004.

## Poll: Americans Embarrassed By Military's G/L Ban

BERKELEY - Barring out Gay men and Lesbians from serving in the armed forces makes more people embarrassed by the military than proud of it, according to a new University of California poll, reported Advocate.com. According to the poll, 24.2% of respondents said that the policy makes them embarrassed by the military, while 17.5% said that the policy makes them proud. Fifty-six percent said the policy has no impact on their feelings about the military.

Conservatives were heavily over-represented in the pool of respondents because the sample was designed to match the characteristics of a cohort of new military recruits. Among respondents to the survey, 53.1% were Republicans, 29.8% were independent/other, and 17% were Democrats; 81.6% were male, and 18.4% were female; and all were between the ages of 18 and 24. These characteristics closely match the profile of a cohort of new military recruits.

The survey was designed by the Center for the Study of Sexual Minorities in the Military, a research institute at the University of California, Santa Barbara, to test how the Gay ban is perceived among individuals whom the military seeks to recruit. "The fact that even conservatives are embarrassed by the Gay ban suggests that the policy is harmful to the military's reputation," said Aaron Belkin, director of the group.

During the past two years, at least six national polls administered by five different polling organizations have asked members of the public whether Gays and Lesbians should be allowed to serve openly in the military. All polls found that between 58% and 79% of the public believe that Gays and Lesbians should be allowed to serve openly. For example, Fox News found in August 2003 that 64% of the public, including 55% of Republicans, believe that Gays and Lesbians should be allowed to serve openly.

## 'Rainbow Queens & Talent Show' Benefit For Habitat House October 1



TUCSON (ON) - "Rainbow Queens & Talent Show," a benefit for the GLBT sponsored Habitat for Humanity house build ever will take place Saturday, October 1, starting at 7 p.m. at Howl at the Moon, 915 W. Prince.

Proceeds from the show will go to the ongoing construction of the Habitat house. According to organizers, the house is near completion and the fund raising goal promised, \$60,000 is almost met. This event is sponsored by many GLBT owned and straight supportive Tucson businesses.

Representatives from Wingspan will be giving the audience an update on the progress of this history making project. An update though doesn't a show make, for which several national title holders from Tucson and Phoenix are taking part to raise the important funds. As of press time, the line up will include:

Amanda Nicole - Miss NCC

## Three Honored At Wingspan Annual Dinner

TUCSON - More than 900 guests will be in attendance at the Tucson Convention Center for Wingspan's Eighth Annual Benefit Dinner; an evening of celebration, socializing, recognition and enlightenment, Saturday, September 24.

The keynote speaker for this year's event is Mandy Carter.

Carter, a leading African American Lesbian activist and the co-founder and current Executive Director of Southerners on New Ground (SONG), southnewground.org. Her work against war and violence and promoting social and economic justice for people of color and equal rights for women and the LGBT community has been successful because of her strength as a both a grassroots and national coalition builder. Winner of the prestigious Stonewall Award, Mandy was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize as part of the 1000 Women for Peace nominations.

Three community awards will be presented during the dinner.

National E.O.Y. for 2005, Mr. Scott - the NCC National, Ayida Coxs - Miss NCC National 2005, Josie P. Katt - Miss Latin AZ 2004, Lady Ebony - Miss Black AZ and Miss MCC Nation Elite, Miss Samorah - Miss NCC Native America 2005, Veronica Halliwell - Miss Gay Tucson America 2004, Tatum - Miss NCC Temple City, 2004, Jalissa Aundrea Michaels - Miss NCC National Emeritus 1993.

The Queen of Comedy, Miss Lucinda Holliday and Jackie O'No will perform as well as several Kings from Tucson.

An open microphone talent show will take place as well as several raffles and the opportunity to have your picture with your favorite performer, all to raise funds for the GLBT Habitat for Humanity home. There will be a cover charge of \$2.00 for this event, all of which goes to the project.

The Godat Award, which honors a lifetime of service to the LGBT community, will go to Mae Krueger who has been a tireless advocate for the rights of LGBT people in Tucson and Southern Arizona.

Krueger's leadership in Desert Voices has both provided beautiful music, but also a tool for community building. Mae has also assumed leadership roles with the Tucson LGBT Chamber of Commerce (formerly the CBA), the Steering Committee for the Rainbow Habitat for Humanity Build and Lesbian breast cancer awareness and advocacy.

The Community Ally Award is Wingspan's "thank you" to allies outside the LGBT family, and will be presented to Detective Tim Rupel of the Tucson Police Department for his outstanding contributions to Tucson's LGBT community, particularly for his work against hate crimes as part of the Hates Crime Unit.

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# UPDATE

## GLBT Vet Pride Parade Honor Guard Forming

TUCSON - A Honor Guard for Tucson's Pride Parade, to be held Sunday, October 9 is being formed.

Organizer Maurice Grossman said that GLBT vets are needed to carry flags and a banner "we served with honor," to support GLBT citizens in military service.

For more information, call (520) 323-2293.

## Pride On Parade Gears Up

TUCSON - The volunteers who brought you Pride on Parade 2004 will build on that success to again bring Tucson it's best ever Pride Parade and Block Party on October 9, free and open to all.

Working in conjunction with Tucson Pride, Inc., producers of OUToberFEST, the Pride on Parade 2005 Committee (POP) will again invite Tucson's GLBT and allied community to celebrate diversity over Tucson's Pride weekend.

Following last year's format with some adjustments, Pride...on Parade! will begin at 6 p.m. on October 9, at the corner of 4th Ave. and 9th St. and continue north on 4th Ave. to Catalina Park at 1st St., to be immediately followed by a block party on 4th Ave. Interested in being part of the parade? You, your business, group, organization, pets, whatever, are invited to participate. Contact us at [info@prideonparade.com](mailto:info@prideonparade.com) to find out how.

This year's Grand Marshall will be Amanda Simpson, a vital member of our community who has expended tireless amounts of time and energy to educate people on the issues of Transgender people in the community as well as the workplace. Amanda recently garnered America's attention as this nation's first openly Transgender person to win the 2004 primary election with her bid for state legislature here in Pima County.

Once again, this year's parade will be funded in part by sales of raffle tickets for a \$1,000 Grand Prize. Tickets are 6 for \$10 or \$2 each, and are available through Pride on Parade volunteers or by contacting us at [info@prideonparade.com](mailto:info@prideonparade.com).

Immediately following the parade, celebrate Pride with a community block party between 4th St. and 5th St., free and open to everyone. POP will have information booths, live entertainment, dancing, and we'll draw the grand prize winner for our \$1000.00 raffle!

## OUToberFEST Is Just Around The Corner

TUCSON - OUToberFEST, Tucson's Fall Pride festival will take place Saturday, October 8 at the DeMeester Band Shell in Reid Park in Tucson.

This event is organized by Tucson Pride, Inc. is an Arizona non-profit corporation and an IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that produces and promotes cultural, educational and recreational events for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) community in Tucson, Arizona.

OUToberFEST, for which this year's theme is "love is love," will feature live local, regional, national and international entertainers on the main stage. In addition, they will have multiple entertainment venues, commercial and non-profit exhibitors, a food court, youth and children's areas and much more. This event continues to grow by number of participants and in areas of entertainment offered.

Because of the size of the event, many volunteers are needed the day of the event. Tucson Pride has developed "Volunteer Dollars," a program in which volunteers are "paid" and the "paycheck" goes to the non-profit organization of their choice. For more information, call (520) 622-3200 or E-mail: [pride@tucsonpride.com](mailto:pride@tucsonpride.com). For more information about Tucson Pride, go online to [tucsonpride.com](http://tucsonpride.com).

## Desert Pride Store Going Out Of Business

TUCSON - In a written statement, the owners of Desert Pride, located at 611 North Fourth Avenue announced that they will be going out of business. The Store is located just across the street from IBT's and next to Magpie's Pizza.

Dana Young and Kim Nuell said that the store will be open, Fridays, Saturday's and Sunday's only, from noon to 5:00 p.m., until the merchandise is gone. They are offering their entire stock of merchandise at highly marked-down prices.

For more information, E-mail: [info@desertpride.com](mailto:info@desertpride.com), go online to [desertpride.com](http://desertpride.com) or call (520) 388-9829.

## CARD ADS IN THE RESOURCE SECTION OF THE OBSERVER GET RESULTS

## Arizona Together Update

P TUCSON (ON) - The effort continues in the ongoing battle against the Center for Arizona Policy (CAP), the right-wing, homophobic group spearheading the Protect Marriage Arizona amendment (PMAA)

With this upcoming event, word will be spread about the PMAA but if the volunteers are limited in number, the message can only get so far. Arizona Together needs your help in this and for other planned events, including:

A table at annual Wingspan Dinner (Saturday, September 24); the Pima County/Tucson Women's Commission celebration of the anniversary of the Nineteenth Amendment granting women the right to vote in the U.S. (Monday, September 26);

The Domestic Partner Registry Drive at OUToberFEST (Saturday, October 8); Arizona Together in need of notaries willing to volunteer their time to assist in notarizing Domestic Partner registry certificates on Saturday, October 8 throughout the day at OUToberFEST. Arizona Together's goal is to register 1,000 couples before November 2006. Please contact Jess Knutson, (520) 624-1779, ext. 21, [jknutson@wingspan.org](mailto:jknutson@wingspan.org) to volunteer or for more information.

Arizona Together participating in the pride parade as well as the block party taking place after the annual Fourth Avenue event (Sunday, October 9); and

Tucson's National Coming Out Day event, (Tuesday, October 11).

So to get involved in Arizona Together, for Southern Arizona, call Jessica Knutson at Arizona Together, (520) 624-1779, Ext. 21, and in Phoenix and Northern Arizona, call the Arizona Together office, (602) 908-4067, or go online to [aztogether.org](http://aztogether.org) and sign up to volunteer and get the E-mail updates.

There are two options to donate funds for the upcoming fight. If you don't wish to give online, then make checks payable to "aztogether.com" and mail them to AZTogether.com, 2303 N 44th St, #14-1548, Phoenix, AZ 85008. At their Web site, [aztogether.org](http://aztogether.org), people can also make secure online, credit-card donations as well.

## Desert Voices Date Night Raffle

TUCSON - If you're looking to dream up a romantic evening with your special someone, Desert Voices can help! The lucky winner of the Desert Voices' (DV) Date Night raffle will enjoy dinner at Barrio Grill, a one night stay in the romantic Royal Elizabeth Bed and Breakfast, two tickets to their winter concert, "As We Dream By the Fire," and a basket of goodies that includes two tarts for a midnight snack, all on December 3.

Tickets will be on sale from now until October 20, from members, through the office at (520)791-9662, and at their OUToberFEST boot. Raffle tickets are \$5 each or 5 tickets for \$20.

DV is Tucson's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Straight chorus, singing songs of GLBT Pride for the past 17 seasons. The chorus sings at many community events throughout the year, including OUToberFEST in Reid Park, October 8, 1:00 p.m. on the DeMeester stage, and participation in the Pride Parade on October 9.

Their winter concert, "As We Dream By the Fire," will feature beautiful choral music evoking the warm glow of romance discovered in wintertime. The concert will be held at Dunbar Auditorium, 325 W. 2nd Street, in Tucson. For more information or tickets to the event, you can call the DV office at (520)791-9662.

Want to do something positive with your leisure time?

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



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

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

Sign up today!

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



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# Perspective: They Shoot News Anchors, Don't They?

By Nikki Finke

At first, only CNN appeared not to have thoroughly read the proverbial memo. It was the only network, on air and on its Web site, to compare and contrast the wildly contradictory statements by federal, state and local officials, sometimes within hours, but often within minutes of each other. It was CNN that posted the first full transcript of New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin's profanity- and passion-filled September 2 interview on local radio. It was also CNN that first exposed the gruesome nature of the conditions at the Superdome, at the convention center and in the hospital corridors. Its broadcasters were the first to keep a heart-wrenching online blog during Katrina. Even as late as September 6, political correspondent Ed Henry was the first to counter the claims by House Majority Leader Tom DeLay that local officials and not the feds were to blame, by reporting that congressional Republicans, in a secret confab, were giving the Bush administration a big fat F.

Then the fix was in.

On September 8, CNN anchoress Kyra Phillips was chewing into House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi for "continuing to criticize the administration, and criticize the director of FEMA... I think it's unfair that FEMA is just singled out. There are so many people responsible for what has happened in the state of Louisiana."

Instead of smiling through clenched teeth, the San Francisco Democrat bit back: "I'm sorry that you think it's unfair. But I don't... If you want to make a case for the White House, you should go on their payroll."

By September 12, even the White House admitted that FEMA had been its own disaster area by pushing out its Arabian-horseman-turned-jackass head,

Michael Brown. (Bush finally admitted on Tuesday that the buck was going to stop with him whether he liked it or not. "To the extent the federal government didn't fully do its job right, I take responsibility," he said.) That same day, CNN's parent company, Time Warner, announced the hiring of DeLay's chief of staff as a top Washington lobbyist. This news, and its timing, prompted Jeff Chester of the Center for Digital Democracy to tell the L.A. Weekly: "Time Warner aligning itself with the right-wing DeLay machine should send shudders [down] CNN and HBO. Clearly, TW wants DeLay insurance so it won't have to face cable-ownership safeguards, à la carte rules and broadband non-discrimination policies."

For the first 120 hours after Hurricane Katrina, TV journalists were let off their leashes by their mogul owners, the result of a rare conjoining of flawless timing (summer's biggest vacation week) and foulest tragedy (America's worst natural disaster). All of a sudden, broadcasters narrated disturbing images of the poor, the minority, the aged, the sick and the dead, and discussed complex issues like poverty, race, class, infirmity and ecology that never make it on the air in this swift-boat/anti-Gay-marriage/Michael Jackson media-sideshow era. So began a perfect storm of controversy.

Contrary to the scripture so often quoted in these areas of Louisiana and Mississippi, the TV newscasters knew the truth, but the truth did not set them free. Because once the crisis point had passed, most TV journalists went back to business-as-usual, their choke chains yanked by no-longer-inattentive parent-company bosses who, fearful of fallout from fingering Dubya for the FEMA f\*\*kups, decided yet again to sacrifice community need for corporate greed. Too quickly, Katrina's wake was spun into a web of deceit by the Bush administration, then disseminated by the Big Media boys' club. (Karl Rove spent the post-hurricane weekend conjuring up ways to shift blame.)

If big media look like they're propping up W's presidency, they are. Because doing so is good for corporate coffers — in the form of government contracts, billion-dollar tax breaks, regulatory relaxations and security favors. At least that wily old codger Sumner Redstone, head of Viacom, parent company of CBS, has admitted what everyone already knows is true: that, while he personally may be a Democrat, "It happens that I vote for Viacom. Viacom is my life, and I do believe that a Republican administration is better for media companies than a Democratic one."

When it comes to NBC's parent company, GE's No. 1 and No. 2, Jeffrey Immelt and Bob Wright, are avowed Republicans, as are Time Warner's Dick Parsons (CNN) and News Corp.'s Rupert Murdoch (Fox News Channel). (Forget that Murdoch's No. 2, Peter Chernin, and Redstone's co-No. 2, Les Moonves, are avowed Democrats — it's meaningless because Murdoch and Redstone are the owners.)

Once upon a time, large corporations and their executives typically avoided any public discussion of their politics because partisan positions alienated customers and employees. But all of that changed after GE bought NBC in 1986. For seemingly eons, Immelt's predecessor, the legendary Jack Welch, was a rabid right-winger who boasted openly about helping turn former liberals Chris Matthews and Tim Russert into neocons. (And Los Angeles Representative Henry Waxman is still waiting for GE to turn over those in-house tapes that would prove once and for all whether Welch, in 2000, ordered his network and cable stations to reverse course and call the election for Bush instead of Gore.)

As for Immelt, he publicly wishes his MSNBC could be a clone of FNC. Not surprising, since he let his network and cable news cheerlead the run-up to the Iraqi war without ever bothering to tell viewers GE had billions in contracts pending. More than half of Iraq's power grid is GE technology. It was also under Immelt that GE installed a former adviser to W and Condi, who also served as press secretary to former first lady Barbara "Let 'em eat cake" Bush, as NBC Universal's executive vice president of communications.

And let's not forget that in October 2004, the Republican-controlled House and Senate and White House okayed a \$137 billion corporate-tax bill — dubbed "No Lobbyist Left Behind" — that gave a huge \$8 billion tax break to GE, which had bankrolled a record \$17 million lobbying effort for it. (Meanwhile, in that same bill, House Republicans at the last minute stripped the movie studios of about \$1 billion worth of tax credits because of Hollywood's near-constant support of the Democratic Party and its candidates.)

Disney, parent company of ABC, has turned most of its extensive radio network and owned-and-operated stations into a 24/7 orgy of right-wing talk. (Sean Hannity is their poster boy.) Disney's chief lobbyist, Preston Padden, is not only one of Washington, D.C.'s most infamous Republican lobbyists, but he used to work for Rupert Murdoch. Bush even pleaded just days after 9/11 for Americans to "go down to Disney World in Florida." Meanwhile, Disney World has benefited from special security measures, including extra protection and a federally declared "no-flyover zone." And let's not forget that Michael Eisner pulled the distribution plug on Fahrenheit 9/11.

As for Rupert Murdoch, his

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# UPDATE

## First Same-Sex Announcements In Tucson Morning Newspaper

TUCSON - Luanne Withee and Pamela Dunn made history celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary with an announcement in Tucson's morning daily newspaper, the Arizona Daily Star's "Celebration," marking births, weddings, anniversaries and similar markings in the September 20 edition of the paper.

According to the Arizona Daily Star, they are the first same-sex couple to list a Celebration in the newspaper in over 15 years. What follows is the text of the announcement:

Luanne Withee and Pamela Grace Dunn celebrated their 25th anniversary on September 8, 2005. The couple will celebrate their anniversary with a trip to southern Italy and Sicily. They were joined on September 8, 1980 in New York City.

Lu and Pam have lived in Tucson for three years. Luanne (wearing hat) is employed by Wingspan and Pamela is a freelance artist and musician. Lu and Pam have a wonderful dog named Garbo. Lu and Pam met in NYC and since then their work in the theater has provided opportunities to live in many more cities including San Francisco, Chicago, Los



Luanne Withee and Pamela Dunn

Angeles, Seattle and more. They often give up the city life and retreat to Montana to fulfill their love of fly-fishing and the Great Outdoors.

Originally from Portland, Oregon, Luanne now works in Development at Wingspan Southern Arizona's LGBT Community Center. Pamela, who hails from St. Louis, Missouri, is an artist and musician and is learning to speak her ancestral language of Sicilian for their trip.

## PFLAG Phoenix Seeks Contributions For Gulf Coast Chapters Recovery Fund

PHOENIX - PFLAG Phoenix (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) is seeking contributions for a special Gulf Coast Chapters Recovery Fund recently established by PFLAG National.

The fund will be used to help Gulf Coast PFLAG chapters that may have lost their computers, membership data, stocks of PFLAG brochures, pride signs and banners, PFLAG merchandise, libraries, hotline telephone equipment and a whole host of other items that are essential to the success of their work. Chapters may need temporary assistance to cover costs of remaining in operation: hotlines, meeting spaces and advertising to announce new meeting times and locations.

Additionally, there may be affected PFLAG chapters who have not suffered a loss of their operating capacities but need financial support to help rebuild their GLBT community infrastructure such as re-supplying GLBT-positive books to schools whose libraries have been lost. With this fund, we want to be sure that our PFLAG chapters have the capacity to recover from this tragedy, determine their own priorities and continue to provide important support, education and advocacy in their local communities.

The PFLAG Gulf Coast Chapters Recovery Fund will be distributed by PFLAG National through a re-granting program. Chapters that have suffered from the impact of Hurricane Katrina will be able to submit proposals which identify their chapter's specific needs—what they intend to do with the funding to help rebuild their chapter's capacity to fulfill their mission.

Locally, PFLAG Phoenix is seeking contributions from our members and supporters, and from the local community. To make a tax-deductible contribution, please send a check payable to "PFLAG Phoenix - Gulf Coast

Recovery" to: PFLAG Phoenix - Gulf Coast Recovery, P.O. Box 7265, Phoenix, AZ 85011-7265. PFLAG Phoenix is also contributing directly to this effort. PFLAG Phoenix will contribute \$500 for the first \$1,000 received, and will contribute another \$500 for the second \$1,000 received. All contributions will go directly to this fund. For more information, call (602) 843-1404 or visit [www.pflagphoenix.org](http://www.pflagphoenix.org).

## Spain's Gay-Friendly Prime Minister Popular As Ever

MADRID - Spain's pro-Gay socialist prime minister, Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero, is a solid 20 points ahead of his opposition rival, Mariano Rajoy, according to a recent opinion poll, Agence France-Presse reports on Advocate.com.

Some 55% of those questioned had a favorable opinion of the prime minister, while only 35% said the same of Rajoy, the head of the right-wing Popular Party, according to the survey carried out for the daily economics paper Expansion.

Zapatero, who came to power in April 2004 and helped push through the full legalization of same-sex marriage, was unpopular among 37% of those asked, while the performance of the opposition leader drew a negative response from 55%. The Ipsos Institute questioned 1,000 Spaniards September 2 to September 4.



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Bossburgers, "PLUS" -- 5 pm - 7 pm

**MONDAY**  
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## Perspective: They Shoot News Anchors, Don't They?

Continued from Page Three

News Corp. continues to defy a July 2001 FCC order requiring it to divest itself of a TV station in exchange for the agency's approval to buy 10 TV stations from Chris-Craft Industries Inc. for \$5.4 billion. What, Rupert worry? This W cheerleader can rest assured that the FCC will amend its prohibition on owning broadcast outlets and newspapers in the same market.

And lest anyone think there's no connection between Murdoch's business and editorial, several news organizations have noticed a détente between the New York Post and Senator Hillary Clinton because Rupert needs congressional Democrats on News Corp.'s side to oppose a change in the Nielsen ratings that could harm its TV stations.

Given all of the above, it comes as no surprise that, as early as that first Saturday, certainly by Sunday, inevitably by Monday, and no later than Tuesday, the post-Katrina images and issues were heavily weighted once again toward the power brokers and the predictable. The angry black guys were gone, and the lying white guys were back, hogging all the TV airtime. So many congressional Republicans were lined up on air to denounce the "blame-Bush game" — all the while decrying the Louisiana Democrats-in-charge — that it could have been conga night at the Chevy Chase Country Club.

And the attitudes of some TV personalities did a dramatic 180.

At MSNBC, right-winger Joe Scarborough had looked genuinely disgusted for a few days by the death and destruction that went unrelieved around him in Biloxi, even daring to demand answers from Bush on down. But Scarborough was back to his left-baiting self in short order. Inside FNC's studio, conservative crank Sean Hannity had been rendered somewhat speechless by the tragedy. Soon, he was back in full voice, barking at Shep Smith (who was still staking out that I-10 bridge and sympathizing with its thousands of refugees) to keep "perspective." The Mississippi-bred Smith boomed back in his baritone, "This is perspective!"

FNC's Bill O'Reilly, who spent last month verbally abusing the grieving mother of a dead Iraqi war soldier, then whiled away the early days of Katrina's aftermath giving lip to New Orleans' looters and shooters, eventually blamed the hurricane's poorest victims for creating their situations and for even expecting any government help at all.

On NBC, Meet the Press host Tim Russert cut off Jefferson Parish's Andre Broussard during one of TV's most moving and memorable outpourings of emotion. Instead, to fill up airtime, Russert let Mississippi Governor Haley Barbour praise Bush's response ad nauseam without reading back Barbour's sharp criticism of the feds days earlier.

On MSNBC, Hardball's hard-brained Chris Matthews chided viewers and guests alike not to talk about who's to blame — unless it was Louisiana Governor Kathleen Babineaux Blanco or Mayor Nagin. Interesting how Barbour's state was also dehydrated and starving, but nobody on TV news blamed him, since he just happens to be a former chairman of the Republican National Committee.

And Don Imus skewered Dubya's "disgusting performance" at the start of his MSNBC TV show (simulcast on the

Viacom/CBS-owned Infinity radio network) and then turned over just 24 hours later, directing blame at Mayor Nagin.

Meanwhile, the TV news situation is about to get worse. Incoming Disney CEO Bob Iger has tried repeatedly to dismantle Nightline for a mindless celeb talk show. And CBS chairman Les Moonves wants to reinvent TV news to be more like entertainment shows — as if it's not that way already — hosted by even prettier people. Of course, no one could have anticipated that, to their immense credit, TV's prettiest-boy anchors (CNN's Anderson Cooper and FNC's Shep Smith and NBC's Brian Williams) would be boldly and tearfully relating horror whenever and wherever they found it, no matter if the fault lay with Mother Nature or President Dubya. But the real test of pathos vs. profit is still before us: whether the TV newscasters will spend the fresh reservoir of trust earned with the public to not only rattle Bush's cage but also battle their own bosses. If not, it won't be long before TV truth telling will be muzzled permanently.

[Nikki Finke is a columnist, this column appeared in the September 16-22 edition of the Los Angeles Weekly, from which this is reprinted and for which the Observer Editorial Staff wholeheartedly agrees with.]

## Emmy Award Winners Announced

LOS ANGELES - Emmy voters loved "Everybody Loves Raymond" one more time, honoring it as best comedy series for its final season Sunday, denying the prize to newcomer "Desperate Housewives" while giving best drama honors to another first-year hit, "Lost," reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com.

Felicity Huffman and Patricia Arquette became first-time Emmy winners as they received lead actress honors while Tony Shalhoub and James Spader once again proved favorites in the best actor category. Other past Emmy favorites grabbed trophies at Sunday's (September 18) ceremony, with Brad Garrett and Doris Roberts of "Everybody Loves Raymond" and William Shatner of "Boston Legal" receiving best supporting actor honors.

Blythe Danner was named best supporting actress in a drama for Showtime's "Huff." "I think my husband Bruce Paltrow is up there, stirring this up for me," Danner said. She said Paltrow (their children include actress Gwyneth Paltrow) would want her to pay tribute to hurricane-ravaged New Orleans and she issued a plea for the return of troops from Iraq.

Host Ellen DeGeneres paid brief tribute to the victims of Hurricane Katrina. The magnolia on her lapel was for them; presenters also were asked to wear the state flower of Louisiana and Mississippi. And Jon Stewart, a winner and a presenter, did a comedic bit that

blasted the federal response to Katrina. But for the most part, the tragedy that had drawn Americans to their TV sets received scant attention as the ceremony's focus remained mainly on the awards.

The ceremony did include a tribute to late-night king Johnny Carson, the "Tonight" show host who died this year, with David Letterman remembering the man who entertained America and was mentor to so many comedians. The ceremony also honored network TV's veteran news anchors, the retired Dan Rather of CBS and Tom Brokaw of NBC and the late Peter Jennings of ABC. Rather and Brokaw drew a prolonged standing ovation when they took the stage.

For their supporting acting work in a miniseries or a movie, Paul Newman was honored for "Empire Falls" and Jane Alexander for "Warm Springs," both on HBO. Hugh Jackman was honored as best individual performance in a variety or music program for his work as host of the 58th annual Tony Awards.

"The Daily Show With Jon Stewart" repeated as best variety, music or comedy series and again won for writing. "The Amazing Race" was named outstanding reality-competition program for the third time. The directing and writing awards for a drama series were split between two new hit shows. "Lost" won the former and "House" took the latter.

Continued on Page Eight

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# Shaq Helps Nab Florida Gay-Bash Suspect

NEW YORK - Miami Heat center Shaquille O'Neal sprang into action last weekend when he saw a man allegedly assault a Gay couple, the PlanetOut Network reported.

Around 3 a.m. on Sunday (September 11), the 7-foot-1 basketball player was driving in South Beach when he saw a passenger in a car yell anti-Gay slurs at the couple before throwing a bottle and hitting one of them.

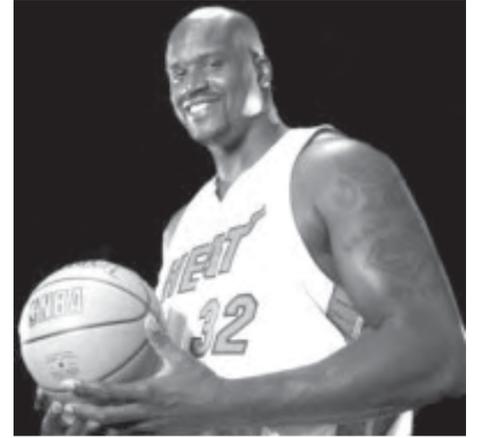
O'Neal sped after the car, flagging down an officer who later arrested Michael Gonzalez, 18, on charges of aggravated assault and assault with a deadly weapon. The driver of the car was not charged.

The man who was hit with the bottle was not hurt seriously.

O'Neal, who hopes to be a police chief or county sheriff, released a statement about the incident. "For this incident I don't want to be credited as an individual who does police work. I want to be credited as a Miami Beach police officer."

Miami police spokesman Robert Hernandez said O'Neal has completed the training to be a reserve officer, but has not taken the state certification exam yet.

"He should be certified any day now," Hernandez told the Miami Herald. "He's already been fitted for a uniform."



"I think he's a great guy and he was just doing the right thing," said Cyd Zeigler, co-founder of the LGBT Web site OutSports.

Zeigler says although several athletes have made headlines for making anti-Gay slurs, O'Neal has kept a low-profile on LGBT issues. "His attitude about life has always been live and let live and do what you want. He's a fun-loving guy who's trying to do the right thing."

"He exhibited the best qualities of law enforcement: he showed a blind eye," Zeigler pointed out. "It didn't matter who was being wronged."

"We live in a culture where we are still surprised when a heterosexual sports icon steps up for us," said Shawna Virago, the domestic violence program director of Community United Against Violence. "We can now say, 'Shaq has our back.'"

## Study: Old Military Rule Resists "Don't Ask"

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Despite previous Pentagon denials, the U.S. military has a published personnel policy that halts the discharge of Gay and Lesbian soldiers entering active duty, scholars announced on Tuesday (September 13), the PlanetOut Network reported.

The regulation was found in a 1999 "Reserve Component Unit Commander's Handbook" and is still in effect, according to the Center for the Study of Sexual Minorities in the Military (CSSMM).

According to the document, if a discharge for homosexual conduct is requested "prior to the unit's receipt of alert notification, discharge isn't authorized. Member will enter AD [active duty] with the unit."

Researchers from the CSSMM, a think tank at the University of California at Santa Barbara, discovered the document while doing research for the ABC news program "Nightline."

Advocates for Gays in the military say the regulation confirms a trend they've seen for years: The military sends known Gay soldiers into combat during times of war, and then discharges them once the conflict ends. The pattern runs counter to the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy, which states that Gay and Lesbian personnel must be discharged whether or not the country is at war.

Since Sept. 11, 2001, discharges under "don't ask, don't tell" have decreased.

The Pentagon has denied, however, that it is easing up on Gay discharges because of U.S. conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq. Last month Jeff Howe, an Army soldier who served two recent tours in Iraq, was discharged after he was outed by an online personal ad. At least 10 other

service members have faced similar discharge proceedings for online ads this year, according to the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network (SLDN).

Major Susan Idziak, a spokeswoman for the Department of Defense, said she was unfamiliar with the 1999 document and could not comment on it in time for this story's deadline.

Steve Ralls, spokesman for the SLDN, said the discharges of Gay and Lesbian soldiers on active deployment shows that the 1999 directive is not being enforced.

However, the discovery of the 1999 document, he said, exposes a major flaw in the military's rationale that Gay and Lesbian personnel would hinder the cohesive nature that is essential to a military unit. "I think it's clear that there are some in the military who believe that Gay and Lesbian service members do their jobs well, and that undercuts the 'cohesion' argument," Ralls told the PlanetOut Network. "If [Gays and Lesbians] wouldn't undercut cohesion during a time of conflict, they wouldn't during peacetime, either."



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## Government Probes G/L Bedrooms

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The number of people identifying as Gay has grown over the past decade, but remains far lower than conventional estimates according to a new study for Health and Human Services, 365Gay.com reported.

The report, by the National Center for Health Statistics, was prepared to give the government - and particularly the Centers for Disease Control - an insight into sexuality to help it develop programs to combat HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases.

But, already, the data may be out of date. The study relied on information supplied in a wide-ranging survey done in 2002 - the most recent year for which there is sufficient information the NCHS says.

In response to a question that asked, "Do you think of yourself as heterosexual, homosexual, Bisexual, or something else?" 90 percent of men 18-44 years of age responded that they think of themselves as heterosexual, 2.3 percent of men answered homosexual, 1.8 percent Bisexual, 3.9 percent "something else," and 1.8 percent did not answer the question.

The numbers for males are up slightly from a similar study by the NCHS in 1992.

The study also found that more women, particularly those in their late teens and 20s, are experimenting with Bisexuality or at least feel more comfortable reporting same-sex encounters.

The study is based on 12,571 in-person interviews with men and women 15-44 years of age.

But, while the number of men and women identifying as Gay or bi has increased, it is lower than the 10 percent of the population believed to be Gay.

Mark Shields, the director of the Coming Out Project at the Human Rights Campaign said that the study would appear to show that more people are willing to talk openly about their lives than they were a decade earlier.

## NH Commission Begins Final Report On G/L Marriage

CONCORD - A New Hampshire commission Tuesday (September 13) began preparing its final report on how, or if, the state should recognize same-sex relationships, 365Gay.com reported.

The commission was created last May as part of a law passed to forbid the recognition of out-of-state same-sex marriages. New Hampshire law already bans same-sex marriage but there were concerns that couples from the state would travel to Massachusetts or Canada, wed, and return home seeking to have those marriages recognized.

In creating the commission the legislature said it wanted to have a complete look at same-sex relationships including the possibility of repealing the bans on Gay marriage or of permitting civil unions similar to those in Vermont. The commission was asked to examine all state laws that would need to be rewritten — including child custody and inheritance statutes.

Since then the commission has been touring the state gauging public opinion. Its final report with recommendations must be handed in to the legislature by December 1. The commission's final public hearing was held on Monday (September 12) and was devoted to what it called specialists in family law, economists, and experts on families and children.

"You have heard people tell you

"I think its not necessarily the number of same-sex relationships that has gone up [but] it's the level of honesty that has increased around those relationships as stigma and social pressure around us continues to melt away," Shields told 365Gay.com.

"I still suspect these [numbers] will continue to rise because there's a lot of people, because of the amount of social pressure that still exists, feel uncomfortable to identify themselves publicly.

Shields points to an HRC poll of the LGBT community taken last year that showed that while most LGBT people said they were out to parents, close friends and siblings; less than half of those polled were out to their bosses. Only 16 percent were out at their church or in their community of faith; three percent said they were out to their neighbors and three percent were out to their doctors.

On the issue of health, the National Center for Health Statistics study released Friday shows that 29 percent of men who have ever had male-male sexual contact were tested for HIV in the last year, compared with 14 percent of men with no same-sex sexual contact.

17 percent of men who ever had male-male sexual contact had been treated for a non-HIV sexually transmitted infection (STI), compared with 7 percent of those who had never had male-male sexual contact.

Among males who had ever had sexual contact with another male, 91 percent used a condom at their last sex, compared with 36 percent of men who never had sex with another male

But, among the general male population the study found that among men 15-44 years of age who had at least one sexual partner in the last 12 months, 39 percent used a condom at their most recent sex. Among never married males, this figure was 65 percent, compared with 24 percent of married males.

that children and even the social institution of the family will be irreparably hurt if Gay and Lesbian parents are given the rights and responsibilities of civil marriage," Tufts University pediatrician Ellen Perrin told the commission during a public hearing. But "there are just no scientifically sound studies that provide evident of any harm to children based on their parents being the same sex," said Perrin, an expert on the children of Gay and Lesbian parents.

Perrin told the commission that children's development and resilience relies on the stability and permanence of their parents' relationship. She said it doesn't make sense to create obstacles to that for homosexual couples. He said that studies comparing the children of Lesbian and heterosexual mothers' found no difference in the children's self esteem, academic achievement or ability to make friends. The parent-child relationship is a greater influence on child development than a parent's sexual orientation, she said.

Conservative syndicated columnist Maggie Gallagher said that heterosexual marriage is the "gold standard" a family relationships and should not be tinkered with. "For all the talk of marriage protecting children, it's not even clear to me how the law of marriage is going to protect children in same sex unions."

Earlier this year Gallagher was



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exposed as a "shill" for the Bush White House when it was learned she had been paid more than \$40,000 from the White House and from the Department of Health and Human Services to help promote the president's program promoting heterosexual marriage as a means of strengthening families. In 2003 Gallagher who testified before the US Senate in support of

a constitutional ban on Gay marriage. She neglected to mention she was on the Administration's payroll when she testified before the Senate subcommittee on the Constitution.

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# POLITICS 2005

by Mark R. Kerr

## 'Have You Checked Your I.D. Lately?'

When one goes out to the GLBT nightclubs or other locations across the city and state that serve alcohol, you are asked to show either your driver's license or a photo I.D. (state identification, military I.D. card, etc.), to prove that you're over 21 so that you can go have a good time, and the establishment isn't cited for breaking state laws - serving alcohol to someone under age which could in turn have your favorite "watering hole," losing their license.

Whether the picture matches the person showing the card and does the birthday listed puts them at 21 or older are the two things looked for when one is asked, usually at the entrance, or in other words, "carded." Persons can also be "carded" in Arizona if they want to purchase alcohol, tobacco products, certain cold medications and other items in which state law requires a showing of a valid photo I.D.

In these two examples, the address listed isn't something that is checked but in regard to casting a vote at your polling place, a valid government photo I.D., with your current address is required to be shown, thanks to the passage of Proposition 200 by the voters in November 2004.

One may be currently registered to vote, voted in every election but now a hurdle has been put up for people wanting to exercise their rights, thanks to radical, right-wing extremists who want to limit who can cast ballots with the passage of this initiative.

Proposition 200 deals with both photo identification for current registered voters and registration for people coming into Arizona. (Note: This article will deal with photo identification and the options current registered voters have under this law, with a follow up on registration in the following edition.)

To cast a vote at the polls for people who were registered to vote prior to November 2004, one needs to have a valid government photo I.D., with your name and current address that has been issued

after October 1, 1996.

The most standard form of identification, accepted and used in many cases, is the Arizona driver's license. People though may not have updated theirs in a long while, since the state has been issuing driver's licenses that expire when one turns 65 years of age for ten plus years or so - the picture or information may be old but the license is still valid.

An interesting "Catch-22" but if one who is currently registered, wants to cast a ballot at their polling place now, their driver's license or photo identification card doesn't have the current information or was issued prior to October 1, 1996, it isn't valid and unlike Visa, it won't be accepted.

So one wants to cast a ballot but doesn't have a valid photo I.D., does this person still have a way to vote? Yes, under Proposition 200, one can still exercise their constitutional rights by either voting early or voting by mail, since they omitted these in the drafting of their initiative.

All one has to do to vote by mail is to fill out a vote by mail request form. For registered voters in Tucson for this year's election, the City Clerk has the form's online, [tucsonaz.gov/clerks/ballotrequest.php](http://tucsonaz.gov/clerks/ballotrequest.php), [tucsonaz.gov/clerks/ballotrequest.php?type=spanish](http://tucsonaz.gov/clerks/ballotrequest.php?type=spanish), so you can fill your form out electronically or print it out and mail it in and get your ballot. For those without Internet or computer access, you can call the City Clerk's office, (520) 791-4213 and get a form mailed to you.

Voting early is where one goes to the election's office or designated locations to cast their votes. In a couple of week's the Tucson City Clerk will have locations set up for people currently registered and wanting to vote early to avoid the hassle either at the polls or now, with Proposition 200.

Proposition 200 isn't solely for just this city election but for all future elections held in Arizona but people do have options to still cast their ballots, either early or by mail.

## Ex-Gay Facility Ordered To Close

NASHVILLE - The state Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities has ordered the closing of what it calls two unlicensed personal care facilities run by a Christian group that counsels Gays to give up homosexuality.

The state inspected two facilities in Memphis on Aug. 19 and determined Love In Action International Inc. was providing housing, meals and personal care for mentally ill patients without a license, according to a subsequent letter to the organization from the Department of Mental Health. The department gave Love In Action until Sept. 23 to cease operation of the facilities and apply for a state license.

If the organization were to continue operating the facilities past the Sept. 23 deadline, it would face criminal penalties that include fines of up to \$500 and six months in jail for each day the facilities are determined to be in violation of state laws.

Additionally, it has been re-

vealed by former Love In Action victim Peterson Toscano that Love In Action's leader, John Smid, is misleading clients by falsely claiming to be a reverend. In fact, Smid has no such credentials and is not the holy man he purports to be.

## Emmy Awards

Continued from Page Five

Geoffrey Rush was honored as best actor in a miniseries or movie for "The Life and Death of Peter Sellers," HBO's dramatic take on the comic actor which also claimed writing and directing awards. S. Epatha Merkerson was named best actress in a miniseries or movie for "Lackawanna Blues," on HBO, and proceeded to charm the audience by announcing her acceptance speech, which she'd tucked into her bosom, had slipped down and couldn't be retrieved.

"Desperate Housewives" won the comedy series directing award while the writing trophy went to Fox's "Arrested Development." HBO's "Warm Springs," which dramatized Franklin D. Roosevelt's battle against polio before becoming president, was named best TV movie. The best miniseries trophy went to PBS' "The Lost Prince."

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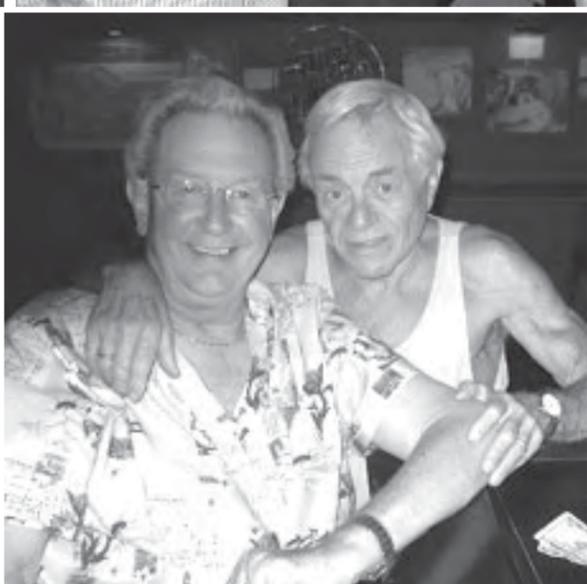
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# EXPOSED!



# Abstinence Programs Challenged

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Two organizations that promote sex education are taking an unorthodox approach in their fight against federal funding of abstinence-only education programs, the PlanetOut Network reported.

Relying on a little-used law that allows "affected persons" to seek the correction of information disseminated by federal agencies, the groups said Tuesday that the abstinence education programs contain erroneous and ineffective information. They asked the Health and Human Services Department to correct it.

About three-quarters of the challenges made under the two-year-old Information Quality Act have come from industry groups concerned about regulations.

The two sex-ed organizations, Advocates for Youth and the Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States, support educating youth about contraceptives as a means of avoiding pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases.

"Turnabout is fair play," said James Wagoner, president of Advocates for Youth. "We'll use this and any other tool at our disposal to ensure that youth receive honest and accurate sex education."

The groups claim that the curriculum used by most Community-Based Abstinence Education grantees contains false information. They called on the Administration for Children and Families to cease sponsorship of programs that fail to provide medically accurate information.

For example, dozens of grantees teach that condom use reduces the risk of contracting HIV/AIDS by 69 percent to 90 percent. The two groups say that such instruction greatly underestimates the effectiveness of condoms in preventing HIV/AIDS, and the numbers result from a study that the department itself described as having conclusions based on "serious error."

"Never in recent history has so much government money been put into so many programs with so little oversight and so little proven impact," Wagoner said.

Federal officials did not have

immediate reaction to the challenge. Wade Horn, who oversees the Administration for Children and Families, told Congress earlier this year that it should continue funding the abstinence programs when they take up welfare reform legislation. He said abstinence education has helped people develop the self-discipline to say no to sex.

"They help people develop inner strength, help them take charge of their lives, and redirect their energies into healthy and productive choices," Horn said. "While the evidence is still being collected, we are seeing the benefits of a strong abstinence message."

Congress held its first hearing on the Information Quality Act just two months ago. Groups such as the U.S. Chamber of Commerce strongly support the legislation because they say the data used by federal regulators must be correct. Otherwise, every activity that relies on the data will have flawed results.

Opponents of the legislation said that petitioners challenging government data are trying to delay or weaken government regulation - to the detriment of society as a whole.

A report on the act by the nonpartisan Congressional Research Services shows that many challenges are over rather routine matters. For instance, a challenge filed with the National Archives seeks to correct the identity of individuals listed in a photograph of President Nixon and Elvis Presley.

Others are more substantive. For example, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the Salt Institute filed a petition challenging the government's finding that reduced sodium consumption will result in lower blood pressure in all individuals.

## Blue Cross Drops G/L Families

HELENA - Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Montana will no longer provide coverage on some policies for domestic partners, 365Gay.com reported.

Blue Cross is the biggest health insurer in the state, with a quarter of a million members. The decision affects people who work for companies insured in its small-group coverage - about 10,000 to 20,000 people. Small-group policies cover groups of two to 50 employees.

Larger groups have more flexibility to choose their range of benefits and can define who's covered, including domestic partners of employees, a company spokesperson told the Billings Gazette.

Gay-rights leaders accuse Blue Cross of "queer baiting" and "blatant discrimination". The company says it based its decision on Montana Supreme Court ruling that defines dependents and affects both opposite-sex and same-sex unmarried couples.

Last December in a case involving an employee of the Montana University System the court ruled that he state cannot discriminate between same-sex couples and heterosexual, unmarried couples in health insurance benefits.

In a letter to small groups Blue Cross said that because of the court ruling, it would no longer extend coverage to any unmarried domestic partner of a covered employee - Gay or straight.

But, LGBT civil rights advocates see it as an excuse to discriminate and are calling on supporters to cancel their health coverage with Blue Cross. Kaufmann and Karl Olson, director of PRIDE, the state's leading Gay organization, said other insurers have not taken the same action.

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**NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE**  
**Time Matters**  
 by Lee Thorn

A conservative columnist recently wrote that we're not pursuing a winning strategy in Iraq. He suggested that we increase troop levels in small areas until those areas are secure and then gradually expand those areas like an ink spill expanding on a blotter until the whole country is secure.

Apparently the columnist doesn't remember that his strategy was tried in Vietnam. I think it was called the "secure hamlet program." Whatever they called it, it was a complete failure. But the analogy of ink slowly filling a blotter perfectly captures the tone of most of the current commentary. The chattering and scribbling classes seem to be taking the position that time simply doesn't matter. The ink can flow ever so slowly. We'll be in Iraq "for the foreseeable future." We'll have "a permanent presence in Iraq." We'll stay "as long as necessary." We "may be there for decades."

Well maybe time doesn't matter to American commentators, but it's a pretty good bet that time matters to the citizens of an occupied country. How do I know? Imagination. Why can't we imagine ourselves in their place? What if you lived in a midsized country with a really rotten leader who was ruining your homeland by exclusively serving the interests of some small part of the population, say the super rich for example. Let's make this leader really evil by saying he's not particularly averse to the torturing of his enemies. What if the world's biggest military power said, "We've got to come in and change your regime for your own good and maybe even for the safety of the world?"

You probably wouldn't like it. Nobody wants a foreign country to come in and change the government. But, since you can't do anything about it and since your leader does stink by any standard, you might be willing to stand back and see how it went. Okay, the big country comes in like a bull in a china shop. There's all kinds of damage that didn't have to happen and all kinds of deaths that should have been avoided. In short, everything that could have gone wrong did go wrong.

Things are a mess, but you still can't do much about it so you're patiently waiting for them to get better. And then the occupying country say, "Oh, by the way, we're staying." You say, "What do you mean, 'We're staying'?" For how long?" They say, "What do you mean, 'For how long?' What part of 'We're staying' don't you understand?"

It's the "We're staying" phase, the phase we now seem to have entered, that's going to separate the patriots from the quislings. It's the "We're staying" phase that would make most Americans, if we were Iraqis, join the insurgency, only we'd call it the "Resistance." The idea that people don't want their country permanently occupied by a foreign power transcends ideology. It's summed up nicely by the story of a Union soldier asking a Confederate why, since the man owned no slaves, he was fighting. The

Confederate answered, "Because you all are down here."

And the good news for Iraqis who couldn't do anything about the war and couldn't do much about the chaos that it created is that they CAN do something about the permanent occupation. Their backyards are stuffed with expensive targets of opportunity. They almost have to go out of their way NOT to damage or destroy American property. The miracle to me is how American commentators can fail to see that the "We're staying" phase is a paradigm shift, a whole new ball game, a different kettle of fish, a horse of a different color, etc. How can we so utterly fail to be able to put ourselves in the shoes of the people we're turning so effectively into our enemies?

All of which leads to the question, "So what is the solution?" My answer is, "What makes you think there is one?" There are lots of unpleasant realities in life that don't have solutions. Iraq is proving to be one of them. We can continue to make matters worse by continuing to do what we're doing. But it's not clear that we can do anything to make matters better.

How many years do we have to continue killing people and getting our troops killed before we admit we made a mistake and come home?

[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.]

**Three Honored At Wingspan Annual Dinner**

Continued from Page One

The Steve Hall award, named in memory of the past Wingspan board president, honors a person who demonstrates outstanding contributions toward the mission, values and work of Wingspan, and this year's Hall award goes to Kathy Altman.

Altman has served on the Wingspan Board of Directors for six years, including nearly three years as President of the Board. Kathy was instrumental in helping transition Wingspan from an all-volunteer run organization to one with professional staff. Kathy has also run the Lesbian cancer and health project in its early days and more recently, coordinates the Rainbow Build Habitat for Humanity project.



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## Legacy Of Gwen Araujo: Death Of Gay, Trans-Panic Defense

SAN FRANCISCO - In the early hours of Oct. 4, 2002, 17-year-old Gwen Araujo was punched, gashed, choked, tied up and strangled, 365Gay.com reported.

And that, a jury decided, was murder, despite defense claims Araujo provoked the attack by not telling her male companions - and occasional sex partners - that she was born biologically male.

The verdicts, which followed murder convictions in the beating death of Gay college student Matthew Shepard as well as those in the murder of Brandon Teena, whose story was told in the movie "Boys Don't Cry," may suggest a shift in societal attitudes.

Getting murder convictions is still tough; defendants continue to use "Gay panic" or "trans panic" defenses, and often avoid more serious charges in such killings.

Still, Transgender advocates hope the Araujo verdicts mean that Americans are much less likely to believe that people who defy traditional gender definitions were asking for brutal retribution.

"It has been such a long time up to now before juries got around to the point of believing that it actually wasn't OK to do this to people," said Clarence Patton of the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs, a coalition of Gay, Transgender and other groups. "People are not buying the concept of 'Gay panic' or 'trans panic.'"

A Gay, or trans panic defense is that a defendant killed or hurt someone of the same sex in a rage after they had sex or thought they were on the receiving end of a sexual overture.

While Araujo jurors apparently weren't convinced of that, at least for two of the three men charged with killing Gwen, other decisions have gone differently.

In Central California, a Fresno man recently pleaded guilty to manslaughter and got the minimum sentence, four years, after claiming he panicked when he discovered the woman he'd brought home was biologically male. He had stabbed the victim 20 times.

And in Kentucky, a man charged with murdering a Gay man and stuffing his body into a suitcase was convicted of a lesser charge of second-degree manslaughter earlier this year after arguing that he'd defended himself against an unwanted sexual advance from the victim.

Probably the best-known panic defense was evoked in the 1998 murder of Shepard, who was tied to a fence in Laramie, Wyo., pistol-whipped, robbed and left for dead in the cold, dying five days later of massive head injuries. Defense attorneys claimed one of the two men charged in the case flew into a rage after Shepard made a pass at him.

The judge disallowed the defense and the men received multiple life sentences.

Panic wasn't raised in the case of Teena, a 21-year-old Nebraskan who was born a woman but identified as a man. Prosecutors said he was killed in 1993, along with two witnesses, after reporting being raped by two men who had discovered his biological identity. A 2001 court opinion found that the sheriff at the time callously referred to Teena as "it" after he reported the rape and didn't immediately arrest the suspects.

One of the men was sentenced to death; the other, who testified for the prosecution, got life in prison.

The Araujo verdicts weren't a

sweeping statement. Jurors decided against first-degree murder for Michael Magidson and Jose Merel, convicting them of second-degree instead, and hung 9-3 on second-degree murder for the third defendant, Jason Cazares. They also didn't agree with prosecutors this was a hate crime.

Araujo was born a boy named Edward but grew up to believe her true identity was female. She met the defendants, all 25, in late summer 2002 and they became friends. Magidson and Merel had sexual encounters with Araujo on separate occasions and grew suspicious of her gender after comparing notes, according to a fourth member of the group, 22-year-old Jaron Nabors, who was allowed to plead guilty to manslaughter in exchange for testifying.

There was a confrontation at Merel's house in the San Francisco suburb of Newark. Araujo's underwear was roughly pushed aside; the secret was out.

Magidson had sought a manslaughter conviction, admitting that he beat and tied up Araujo but saying he couldn't remember strangling her. Merel's attorney asked for no more than felony assault, saying his client slapped Araujo and hit her in the head with a pan, but didn't kill her. Cazares sought acquittal, saying he was outside when the killing took place and only helped bury the body.

A first trial ended in a mistrial, when jurors were unable to reach agreement on whether to find the men guilty of first or second degree murder.

In the second trial, Magidson and Merel were found guilty of second degree murder, but the jury could not reach a verdict for Cazares.

Although they took different strategies, none of the three lawyers allowed that there was premeditation in the case, calling it manslaughter, a crime committed in a heat of passion provoked by sexual deception.

Magidson's attorney, Michael Thorman, said after the verdict that he hadn't been claiming a panic defense. He defined that approach as justifying violence in response to a mere sexual overture from someone of the same sex. In this case, he said, actual sex was involved, leading to "a surge of rage and violence" fueled by emotions, deception and alcohol. But others disagreed.

"What the panic was caused by was their reaction to someone not falling into one gender or the other as neatly as they had in their heads," said Brad Sears, director of the Williams Project, a UCLA think tank dealing with sexual orientation law and public policy.

He believes courts should reexamine manslaughter arguments in such cases. "We really need to question if our state, our society still wants to say it's justified to act with a murderous rage when things happen, like you find out someone's of a different gender or is Gay or your girlfriend is sleeping with somebody else," Sears said.

Since Araujo was killed, four other Transgender people have been killed in the San Francisco Bay area - all unsolved slayings.

After the verdict, Araujo's mother, Sylvia Guerrero, who has taken on an active role speaking out for other Transgender victims, said she was satisfied with the verdicts against Magidson and Merel. "Nothing is going to bring Gwen back," she said. "But this is at least a step toward closure and healing for my family."

"This is not a vengeful community," said Patton. "We just want some acknowledgment and justice served. That is all that we've ever really asked for."

## Congress Moves To Protect LGBT Federal Workers

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congress is moving forward on legislation to ensure LGBT federal workers are protected from discrimination on the job, 365Gay.com reported.

The House Government Reform Committee unanimously approved a bill Thursday (September 15) that would force the Office of Special Counsel to obey an executive order that traditionally has been used to protect LGBT workers in the civil service.

The Office of the Special Counsel is responsible for investigating allegations of discrimination in the federal government.

Since his appointment by President Bush, Scott Bloch the director of the agency has refused to investigate claims from LGBT workers.

Appearing in May before the the Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs subcommittee on oversight of government management, the federal workforce and the District of Columbia, Bloch said that his interpretation of the executive order, signed during the Clinton presidency, cannot be used to protect Gay workers because it does not specifically name LGBT workers.

"It is not something I can prosecute in my agency," Bloch told the committee. "I am limited by the enforcement statutes that you give me."

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

The legislation approved Thursday in committee was the result of that encounter.

## LGBT Americans Decry Vatican 'Pink Inquisition'

NEW YORK - News that Catholic investigators will search U.S. seminaries for "evidence of homosexuality" caused an uproar Thursday (September 15), with Gays angrily charging the Vatican with mounting a "witch hunt," reported the PlanetOut Network.

A report in the New York Times kicked off the furor by confirming that the Vatican has drafted guidelines targeting Gays in an evaluation of 229 seminaries. The guidelines were provided to the newspaper by an anonymous priest.

This fall's seminary review, called an "apostolic visitation," was ordered three years ago in the wake of the sex abuse scandal that has damaged the U.S. church. Some conservative Catholic leaders blamed the scandal largely on Gay priests, citing a church study that found 80 percent of the young people victimized by priests were male.

The correlation of pedophilia and homosexuality is flawed, many experts agree, and does not rely on scientific data. Further, Gay Catholics and other leaders believe the notion is a strategy to scapegoat Gay priests to divert attention from other factors in the wide-ranging scandal.

"The investigation of U.S. seminaries for 'evidence of homosexuality' continues the pattern of smoke-screening the church leaders have employed since the clergy child abuse crisis began," said Francis DeBernardo, executive director of New Ways Ministry, which serves LGBT Catholics. "Why not look instead for evidence of cowardice, secrecy and dishonesty — the traits displayed by so many bishops who magnified the crisis into a public scandal?"

Joe Solmonese, president of the

"Members of Congress are fighting for more than 2 million federal workers while a Bush appointee tries to chisel away at protections," said HRC President Joe Solmonese.

"This measure would halt the rollback of a law preventing anti-Gay discrimination that has existed for three decades."

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

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

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

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

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

"From national park rangers to emergency personnel, federal employees fill important roles in American society. The last thing they should have to worry about is a bureaucrat in Washington rolling back their employment protections," Solmonese said.

nation's largest LGBT political group, said, "The real debate around this witch hunt isn't between us and the Vatican, it's between the Vatican and the truth. When the church makes Gay men a scapegoat for pedophiles, it ignores one problem and creates another."

According to the Times, the 12-page document outlines interview questions for every seminary teacher, student and recent graduate, including, "Is there evidence of homosexuality in the seminary? (This question must be answered.)"

The last seminary review began 25 years ago and took six years to complete, the Times reported.

The seminary evaluations, scheduled to begin later this month, compound the current anxiety felt by many Gay Catholics who anticipate a Vatican ruling that may soon ban Gay men from becoming priests. That document, shrouded in speculation, has not been released.

Church teaching calls homosexual acts "intrinsically disordered." The exact number of Gay priests in the United States is unknown; estimates range from as low as 10 percent to as high as 60 percent.

Debbie Weill, executive director of DignityUSA, the largest group of Gay Catholics, said a review of U.S. seminaries may be appropriate, but not if it's a "witch hunt" for Gay seminarians and supportive faculty.

"The Vatican continues to be obsessed about homosexuality, misguided about human sexuality and misdirected regarding the child abuse crisis in the

Continued on Page Fourteen

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

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

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

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

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

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Over 900 guests are expected for Wingspan's 8th Annual Benefit Dinner; an evening of celebration, socializing, recognition and enlightenment will take place tonight with a reception before dinner from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. at the Tucson Convention Center. The reception includes a silent auction for a variety of items. After dinner and the awards ceremonies, live dance music will be provided by Descarga. Dinner tickets are

# Non Bar Calendar

on sale for \$85 per person or \$850 for a table of ten. For tickets or more information call (520)624-1779 or visiting [www.wingspan.org](http://www.wingspan.org)

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

#1-Tucson Prime Timers Food & Drinks - 7:00 P.M. Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

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

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

#1 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. The Circle of Men is a support group that helps you deal with yourself and your relationships with others. For directions and reservations, please call Tom at 591-2828.

#2 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Terry hosts Bridge Night. If you don't know how to play, they'll teach you-

and it's a very relaxed atmosphere. For reservations and directions, please call Terry at 577-3545.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

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

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

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

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1

9:00am - 11:30am Medicare Part D, Forum presented by PCOA & Senior Pride Wingspan, 425 E 7th Street, Tucson Come learn about the changes to Medicare. How will these changes effect you? When should you apply? Are there subsidies for low income? Event sponsored by Senior Pride & Pima

Council on Aging. For more information contact Pat Woelke 624-1779 ex 22, or [pwoelke@wingspan.org](mailto:pwoelke@wingspan.org)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8

Organized by Tucson Pride, Inc., OUToberFest, Tucson's Fall Pride Festival will take place today at the DeMeester Band Shell in Reid Park from 10:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. There is a \$7.00 entry fee for this day-long event which features Niki Harris and Chad Michaels along with LeeAnne Savage, Orgena Rose, Courtney Robbins, Desert Voices, TMI, Amber Norgaard, Taiko-Odaiko Sonora plus Doria Riddle, DJ Raynman, Colors Dance Venue, IBT's Drag Depot, Howl at the Moon Country Dance Venue and hundreds of local and national vendors. Thousands are expected to take over the Reid Park Southeast corner. Lots to see, lots to do and lots of fun. Don't miss it! For more information or to volunteer call 520-622-3200 or e-mail: [pride@tucsonpride.com](mailto:pride@tucsonpride.com) or go on-line to [www.tucsonpride.com](http://www.tucsonpride.com)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

"Pride On Parade!" The same volunteers who brought you Pride on Parade 2004 will build on that success o again bring Tucson its best ever Pride Parade and Block Party free and open to all. The parade will begin at 6:00 p.m. on the corner of North 4th Avenue and 9th Street and continue north on 4th Avenue to Catalina Park at 1st Street to be immediately followed by a block party on 4th Avenue. You, your business, group, organization, pets, whatever, are invited to participate. For more information on line [info@prideonparade.com](mailto:info@prideonparade.com).

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

17TH Annual AIDSWALK takes place at Rillito Downs Race Park, River Road and First Avenue in Tucson. AIDSWALK 2005 will again feature both the traditional 4K walk as well as a 10K non-competitive run. Tucson's support of AIDSWALK over the years has made an important and lasting statement about Southern Arizona's commitment to the fight against AIDS.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19

17th Annual Jerome Beillard Festival For Life, a live and silent auction fund raising event for SAAF will take place from 5pm until 8:30pm. The event takes place at the University of Arizona Student Union Grand Ballroom, 1303 E. University Blvd. Tickets are \$50 in advance. \$60 at the door. For more information call 628-7223 or email [events@saaf.org](mailto:events@saaf.org) Amazing artwork, casino-style gaming and live entertainment. Convenient parking at the Mountain and Second Street Garage.

## 'Pink Inquisition'

Continued from Page Thirteen church," she said. "The church is fostering a climate of hostility toward some of its very best priests and bishops."

If the church tries to ban Gay seminarians, the outcome will be "disastrous," DeBernardo told the PlanetOut Network.

"It would affect not only Gay seminarians and priests, but the entire church, including Lesbian and Gay people, their families and all parishioners who already know, love and respect the healthy and holy Gay priests who have been serving them for years," he said.



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Thursday	4:00 – 6:30 P.M.
Friday	12:30 – 3:30 P.M.

# HOROSCOPES

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Lucky Jupiter and dynamic Pluto rubadub and channel happy sparks through the cosmos. Powerful opportunities like this don't come around that often. A pox on those who sit by and passively watch all the action! Quit yer griping, get off yer duff and make your happiness happen! 'Nuff said.

**ARIES (MAR. 21 - APRIL 20)**  
 Surprise a certain someone with two tickets to parts unknown and explore parts unknown. Proud Rams find ways to juice their relationships with a change of venue. If you are on the hoof, try looking for your little doggie off the beaten track or in uniquely different places. You may discover a very exciting new breed with a bag of tricks. Pack the treats!

**TAURUS (APR. 21 - MAY 21)**  
 Don't be surprised if the ugly drone in the next cubicle emerges from their cocoon and becomes a real beauty. Your heart is a flutter and may fly away when Jupiter sextiles Pluto. A furtive romance is in the making. But weigh and measure the impact of a love affair with someone on the job, queer Bull. A fresh muffin today looks pretty stale next week. Then what?

**GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)**  
 Around the clock partying can lead to some interesting and lucky "collaborations" while Jupiter and Pluto sextile. Pink Twins can transform or detonate current relationships or create new ones. Good. Things may have gotten routine and boring. Sedate and constant are not big motivators for you. You prefer hot nights and cold beer. Get singed ... and very wet.

**CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)**  
 If you can muster energy to tackle long term and highly detailed projects, you'll find the payoff in your homelife. Gay Crabs are domesticated divas anyway so why not corral Jupiter and Pluto to handle all the unpleasant work projects around the house. The results will give you the encouragement (and oomph) to tackle even more irksome domestic problems. Gee who can that be?!

**LEO (JULY 24 - AUG. 23)**  
 Jupiter sextiles Pluto and gives proud Lions a powerful and compelling roar. Have a great idea? Don't spend this time squeaking to yourself. Your thoughts are on fire and your opinions have incredible impact. Of course there are those lazy souls who emote their grandest speeches in the safety net of the usual crowd. Give yourself a wider berth and a large microphone.

**VIRGO (AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23)**  
 Queer Virgins are apt to count their pennies and save for a rainy day. But now as Jupiter sextiles Pluto, you cannot help but splurge. Upgrade your surroundings and enjoy life a little. I bet there are one or two items that you secretly crave that will transform your home. Go for it! Alas, too, too soon you will go back to clipping coupons and seeking the early bird special.

**LIBRA (SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)**  
 Who is that supernova? That glistening being who overshadows all other orbs? It's little old you, Gay Libra! You have more personal moxie than usual. It is the perfect time to rouse yourself from your stupor, get out of your rut and expand your realm into new powerful circles. Influential people take notice. Put long dormant projects into action before they lose interest.

**SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)**  
 Lucky breaks seem to materialize out of nowhere and proud Scorps are strategic and political enough to maximize their worth. Hidden enemies are vanquished but not before you reassess how you are doing business and what you truly value. There is mucho money to be made here and you are ready and poised to do so if you choose. Some bastards have all the luck.

**SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)**  
 Gay Archers are not usually interested in taking orders but now friends have a powerful influence over you. They are the ones who spur you into action in a different direction. You touch the outer limits of possibilities if you can depart from your usual stubbornness and take some sage advice from those who care about you. Do your own thing .... with a randy band of pals.

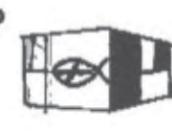
**CAPRICORN (DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)**  
 If you have been toiling in the background waiting to be noticed and rewarded, this is your week to crow, pink Cap. Jupiter and Pluto conspire to make your corporate ascent rocket propelled. It is accomplished through gut instinct, a few lucky breaks and a cadre of plotting star makers. The corporate superhighway makes a space for you in the fast lane. Avoid the tolls.

**AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)**  
 Compadres mix a potent cocktail of travel, mischief and adventure while Jupiter propels Pluto. Shake briskly, add a cherry, clear your calendar and plot your great escape. Aqueerians run wilde and put the sin back in synergy. If money and time are tight, gather a few kindred souls closer to home and make do with spicy take-out and cheap foreign plonk.

**PISCES (FEB. 20 - MAR. 20)**  
 The question is, "How much are you willing to give up to advance professionally?" It is a rather large and looming question since devilish temptations present themselves this week when Jupiter sextiles Pluto. Guppies can be tempted to make a dramatic, horizontal career move. While there may be a nice payoff do you really want to be known as bought goods?



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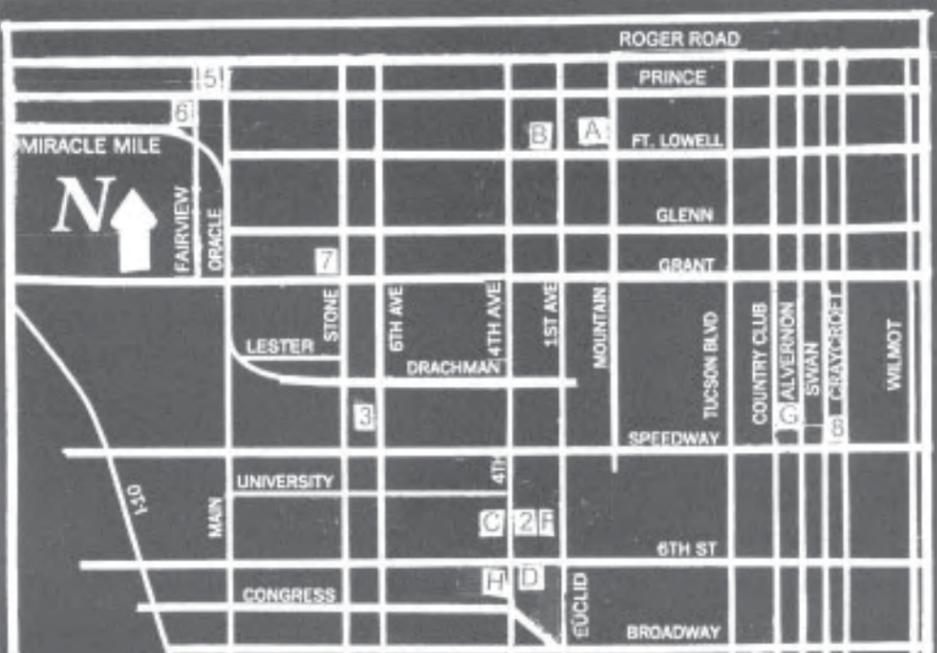
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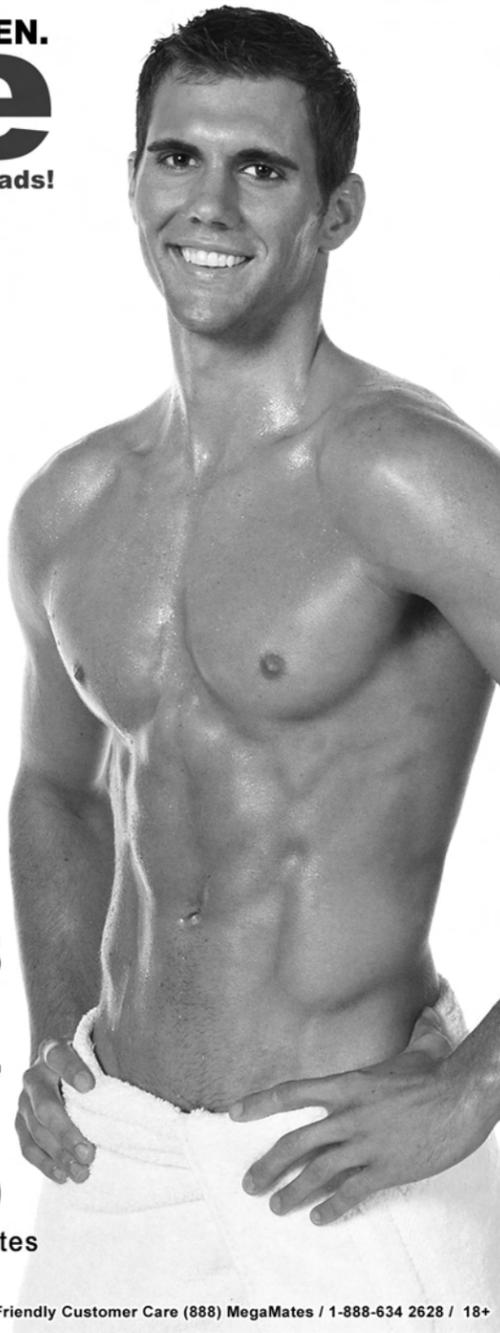


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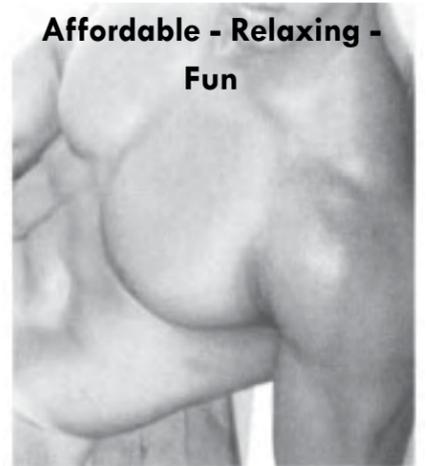
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# DAILY BAR CALENDAR

## sunday

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

**HOWL AT THE MOON** - Open at 11am. Lotchen open until 8pm. Watch the NFL here! \$1.00 Jumbo Hot Dogs, \$2 Chili Dogs. Free Texas Hold'em Poker Tournaments 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** - Troy's Recovery Bar noon-4pm. 4-7:30 Karaoke on the patio. Benefit B-B-Q for the Pride Parade 5:30-7:30 and dance with DJ Mike Lopez 9pm to close.

**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 10am - 2am. Patio Bar opens at 5pm.

## 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 Craig Carter 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 & Beekeepers 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 8am. 50¢ off any Top Shelf Rum until 8pm. Beer Bust 4-8pm

## 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 Craig Carter 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 8am. 50¢ off any Top Shelf Tequila until 8pm. Beer Bust 4-8pm.

## 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, "Diva-Licious" show 9pm w/ Bunny Fu Fu & Friends. After show dance with DJ Q til 2am.

**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 8am. 50¢ off any Top Shelf Vodka until 8pm. Beer Bust 4-8pm.

## 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 8am. 50¢ off any Top Shelf Bourbon til 8pm. Beer Bust 4-8pm. Patio Bar opens 5pm.

## 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 re-opens 9 pm to Midnight 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 8am. 50¢ off any Top Shelf Gin until 8pm. Beer Bust 4-8pm. Patio Bar Opens 5pm

## 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 Norgarrd sings originals and cover tunes 6:30-9:30pm. Reservations suggested.

**HOWL AT THE MOON** - Open at 11:00 am. Kitchen open til 8pm. Happy Hour 11am-8pm, \$2 Well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3 small pitchers, \$5 large pitchers. \$4.00 Cheeseburger & Fries all day. DJ Johnny D playing your favorite dance & country 9pm to close. Kitchen re-opens 9pm - midnight for late night munchies.

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

**VENTURE-N** - Open 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 8am. Beer Bust 4-8pm. \$1.25 glass, \$2.25 pitcher. Patio Bar Opens 5pm.

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Oct. 1 - ZZ Top

Oct. 2 - Lee Ann Womack

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

Sept. 25 - Chicago

Sept. 29 - Kenny G

**OCTOBER 16 - 17TH Annual AIDS WALK** takes place at Rillito Downs Race Park, River Road and First Avenue in Tucson. AIDS WALK 2005 will again feature both the traditional 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.

# BAR CALENDAR

## Of Upcoming Events

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

**VENTURE-N** - Steak Nite 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

**WOODY'S** - Mardi Gras Party and fundraiser for Hurricane Katrina Relief 6:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m. Special guests Ajia Simone and friends, Susan Artemis with Craig Faltin, Arthur Migliazz, members of the Flam Chen, Auction, Beads, Food, Masks, Music and give aways from Chi Chi La Rue, Falcon and Bad Puppy. Proceeds go to the American Red Cross and the Humane Society.

**YARD DOG** - Pork Chop Dinner at 7:00 p.m.

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1

**HOWL AT THE MOON** - A special benefit Drag Show to raise money for Rainbow Build, the nation's first GLBT sponsored build for Habitat for Humanity. Show features National Title holders, Drag Kings/Queens, surprise guests, raffle and Door Prizes and an open mic talent show. It all starts at 7:00 p.m.

## Roberts dodges Gay Rights Question

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** - During Senate confirmation hearings on Wednesday (September 13), U.S. Supreme Court chief justice nominee John Roberts demurred from answering a Gay rights question posed by Sen. Russ Feingold, reported Sirius Out Q on Advocate.com.

The Wisconsin Democrat asked Roberts whether he thought the Constitution gives Congress the power to ban employment discrimination against Gays and Lesbians. Roberts replied, as he has many times in this week's confirmation hearings, that he can't express an opinion on matters he might have to rule on. "Personally, I believe that everybody should be treated with dignity in this area, and respect," he said. "But the legal question of Congress's authority to address that, though, is one that could come before the courts."

Feingold also grilled Roberts about a memo he wrote when he was a White House lawyer in 1985, suggesting that a note saying the AIDS virus is not transmitted through casual contact be dropped from briefing materials for President Reagan. Roberts said Wednesday he did not "want the president giving out medical advice if it was a subject of some uncertainty." Feingold retorted that the mode of transmission was fairly well understood in 1985 and that the suggested change represented a lost opportunity for "presidential leadership and reassurance."

## Out-Of-State Civil Unions To Be Recognized In Connecticut

**HARTFORD, CT** - Connecticut will recognize civil unions and domestic partnerships from other states but not same-sex marriages from neighboring Massachusetts when a new law allowing civil unions takes effect here October 1, reported boston.com.

Attorney General Richard Blumenthal said Tuesday (September 20) that Connecticut will not recognize same-sex marriages because the legislature has defined marriage as being between a man and a woman.

"Civil unions performed in other states are entitled to full faith and credit in Connecticut, and cannot be repeated here. Out-of-state same-sex marriages have no legal force and effect here," Blumenthal wrote in a legal opinion requested by the state's Department of Public Health, which administers marriage licenses.

Those married, same-sex couples, however, will be able to enter into civil unions in Connecticut.

Currently, Vermont is the only state outside Connecticut that allows civil unions. Massachusetts is the only state that allows same-sex marriages. Several states, including California, New Jersey and Maine, allow some form of same-sex domestic partnership.

# NOTICES - COMMUNITY - NOTICES

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

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

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

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

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

**TUCSON GLBT AL-ANON GROUP** meets Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th 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 425 E. 7th 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 743-0810, 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,** 425 E. 7th 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 (GPGLCC)** P.O. BOX 2097, Phoenix, AZ 85001-2097. E-mail: [webmaster@gpglcc.org](mailto:webmaster@gpglcc.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 or 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 / MOVIES / ETC!** Nonsmoking Lesbian Network meets every month. If you'd like to meet women 50+ (flexible) and socialize in a smoke-free environment, please call or email: 888-8010 'til 9pm, or [joycesmth1@aol.com](mailto:joycesmth1@aol.com). The group dines OUT! and attends shows, movies, comedy events, etc. Now in our 23rd year, 7th in Tucson.

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

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

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

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

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

**AAPSP - ARIZONA ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY PROFESSIONALS:** a confidential organization committed to providing support and networking for all Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual public safety professionals in Arizona. Membership open to Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters, Probation, Parole and Corrections Officers and civilians working within these agencies. Website: [AAPSP.org](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)

**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.

**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, (Map available at [www.desertdominion.org](http://www.desertdominion.org)) For those who are kinky or just curious. No fee, contributions are appreciated, but not required.

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

**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.

**GLSEN - Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network** meets first Thursday of every month at 4:30pm at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th Street. 743-4800.



[www.tucsonpride.com](http://www.tucsonpride.com)

Saturday, October 8th, 2005

love is love  
OUToberFEST 2005

DeMeester Outdoor Performance Center, Reid Park ▾ Admission \$7 ▾ 10am - 8pm

### HEADLINING ENTERTAINMENT



NIKI HARIS



DARIO



CHAD MICHAELS

- ▾ Colors Dance Venue and Evening Light Show
- ▾ IBT's Drag Depot Hosted by Bunny FuFu
- ▾ Howl At The Moon Country Dance Venue
- ▾ Hundreds of Local and National Vendors
- ▾ Live Satellite Remote from Sirius Radio Out Q - Doria Biddle & Derek Hartley
- ▾ DJ Raynman



LeeAnne Savage



Orgena Rose



Courtney Robbins



Desert Voices



Amber Nordgaard



TMI



Taiko-Odaiko Sonora



Join us Sunday, October 9th for Tucson's PRIDE ON PARADE! Parade begins at 6pm at 4th Ave. and 9th Street heading north. PARADE ENDS WITH A FREE BLOCK PARTY! [www.prideonparade.com](http://www.prideonparade.com)



Host Hotel  
(520) 881-4200  
Rainbow Rate  
Rate Code: RAI



scenemag.net // // //  
HAVE YOU BEEN?