



Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

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WEEKLY OBSERVER

NOVEMBER 9, 2005

ISSUE 1112

Trasoff & Ulrich Win Election By A Landslide



Tucson Council Member Elect Nina Trasoff (D) Ward 6



Tucson Council Member Elect Karin Uhlich (D) Ward 3

TUCSON (ON) - On Tuesday, Nov. 8, voters went to the polls and ousted two incumbent members of Tucson's City Council.

With 90% of the votes tabulated, as of press time:

In Ward 3, Democratic candidate Karin Uhlich trounced Republican incumbent Councilmember Kathleen Dunbar. Uhlich - 32,489 votes - 62%, Dunbar - 20,283 votes - 38%.

In the Ward 6 contest, Democratic challenger Nina Trasoff was victorious, defeating the two-term Republican incumbent, Fred Ronstadt. Trasoff - 34,628 votes - 65%, Ronstadt - 18,382 votes - 35%.

Ward 5 Democratic Councilmember Steve Leal was unopposed, winning an unprecedented fifth term on the Council.

Two ballot proposition were also on Tucson's ballot for consideration.

With 90% of the votes tabulated, as of press time:

Proposition 100, giving the Mayor and Council a pay raise was narrowly losing while Proposition 400, the Home Rule initiative was approved.

More in next week's Observer.

Pressure Mounting On Congress To Pass LGBT Civil Rights Bill

WASHINGTON, D.C. - LGBT civil rights groups are ratcheting up their lobbying efforts to get Congress to pass civil rights protections for Gays, Lesbians and the Transgender ed, reported the PlanetOut Network.

The United States remains the only major industrialized nation not to have laws providing equality in employment and housing for the LGBT community.

Legislation to provide job protections died in the past two sessions of Congress. Neither of those bill included the Transgender

ed. A new bill is expected to be introduced in this session and for the first time LGBT rights groups are making a major push to ensure the legislation provides protections for the Transgender ed.

In Washington the Human Rights Campaign and the National Center for Transgender Equality has unveiled an ad campaign specifically showing the inequalities faced by transsexuals across America. The ads will be placed in Roll Call, the leading publication for Congressional news. The groups also released on Thursday (Nov. 3) a new handbook designed to educate Americans

about Transgender equality.

"The more Americans know and understand each other, the more united we are as a nation," said Human Rights Campaign President Joe Solmonese.

Mara Keisling, executive director of the National Center for Transgender Equality said that the ads "will go a long way toward building the support we need to pass a Transgender-inclusive non-discrimination law. This isn't the beginning and it won't be the end, but it's a big chapter toward getting this done."

Even Jerry Falwell, a longtime opponent of Gay rights legislation, says he would not oppose basic civil rights for Gays and Lesbians. In August, Falwell told MSNBC that he continues to oppose "special rights" for the LGBT community, but that civil rights are another matter.

"Well, housing and employment are not special rights. I think - I think the right to live somewhere and to live where you please or to work where you please, as long as you're not bothering anybody else, is a basic right, not a not a special right."

UPDATE

LGBT Youth 'Out In The Cold' Nov. 19

TUCSON - It is estimated that 20-40 percent of all homeless teens identify as Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, or Transgender. Out in the Cold is a powerful new documentary that gives a voice to youth that have been rejected by family and are forced to live on the streets.

Join folks surviving similar conditions in our community and their allies for a screening of Out in the Cold, Saturday, Nov. 19, 7 p.m., Skrappy's Youth Center, 201 E. Broadway. This event is open to all and is free, with a suggested canned food donation.

A discussion and performance by Eon youth and Teen Theater will follow the film. For more information, call (520) 620-6245, courtney@wingspan.org.

Rainbow Build Party November 12

TUCSON - The Rainbow Build, in which the Tucson LGBT community and allies, working together to construct a Habitat for Humanity Home by raising the funds and labor will be holding a block party and volunteer recognition celebration, Saturday, Nov. 12, 1-4 p.m., at 2892 N. Balboa.

According to the Build organizers, the house is coming along well and work is wrapping up on the site, and are encouraging all people who worked or donated funds to join in at the build site to celebrate the completion of the house.

A coalition of LGBT and allied organizations formed under the name Rainbow Build Coalition to raise the funds and the labor to construct the Habitat for Humanity home. Currently, there are over 35 community groups and organizations that have committed to being part of the Rainbow Build Coalition.

This coalition decided to take on this project as a way of allowing the LGBT and allied communities to join forces and work together on a non-partisan, non-divisive project that will better the community. It is a way for LGBT and straight people to work together, learn from one another, and give back to our Tucson community.

The concrete slab for the Rainbow Build home was poured in January of this year. The home will be one of thirty-six Habitat houses built in the Balboa Laguna neighborhood near Oracle and Glenn. It takes \$60,000 and approximately 2,200 hours of volunteers labor to complete, and thanks to donations from the community, organizers said, close to \$60,100 had been raised as of the beginning of October.

For more information, go online to rainbowbuild.org.

Desert Voices Announces 17th Season

PTUCSON - Get prepared for some amazingly magical moments as Desert Voices, Tucson's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Straight chorus begins their 17th season of song.

The chorus has titled this season "Reaching Out" to as they continue their mission of building community through song and performing music that reflects and promotes positive images of the LGBT community.

This season the chorus will present two full concerts in Dec. 2005 and Apr. 2006, as well as holding their annual Silent Auction Fundraiser with Cabaret style entertainment in February of 2006. The chorus has already been asked to sing at five different community events in October and November and plans to bring their positive messages to the community as often as possible throughout the 05-06 season.

The concert season will open with "As We Dream By The Fire", on Saturday, Dec. 3-4, at Dunbar Auditorium, 325 W. 2nd Street, at the corner of Main Street and Second Street in Tucson. As always, the chorus combines songs that are familiar, new and slightly twisted (a la Desert Voices), under the talented leadership of director Chris Tackett, now in his third season with Desert Voices.

DV's Annual Silent Auction Fundraiser, Feb. 4, "A Passionate Affair," features shopping in abundance, just in time for Valentine's Day gift giving. Plan to bring your sweetie and let her or him pick out just the right treasure. The fundraiser will be held at the Historic Y, 300 E. University, between 4th and 5th avenues in Tucson.

To close out their concert season, the chorus will be exploring the Ins and Outs of Gender Expression as only Desert Voices can, with "A Many-Gendered Fling" on Saturday, Apr. 29-30 30, 2006. This concert will have the chorus will taking a closer look at imposed gender definition, and the beauty and variety of self-expression in our community. The concert will feature exciting new choral arrangements of songs by Namoli Brennet performed by Desert Voices. It will be held at the Dunbar Auditorium, 325 W. 2nd Street in Tucson.

Season tickets are now being sold for both concerts and the Silent Auction Fundraiser for a discounted rate of \$40 (\$35 for Seniors and Students with ID). Advance tickets for individual shows can be purchased for \$15/\$12 per concert and \$20 for the Silent Auction fundraiser (no discounts). Tickets at the door will be \$18 for the concerts, if available. To order your tickets, call the Desert Voices office at (520)791-9662 (tickets may be charged by phone), or go to their website, www.desertvoices.org, to download a ticket order form. Antigone Books will also be selling tickets prior to each show.

The Desert Voices yard sale, previously planned for November 5, 2005, has been postponed. Watch their website for more information about this fundraiser in the future.

Don't miss a moment of Desert Voices' exciting Season 17! Get your tickets today!

TIHAN Update: Seeking Volunteers For 2006 AGRA Rodeo

TUCSON - Recently the Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Action Network received a grant check for the Arizona Gay Rodeo Association (AGRA) at an event in Phoenix.

The membership of the AGRA had voted to award proceeds of the 2005 Phoenix rodeo to four Phoenix-area charities and to the Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN), the only non-profit outside of Phoenix that was selected. This grant comes from the proceeds of last January's 20th anniversary AGRA rodeo held at in the Phoenix area.

"TIHAN is proud to be chosen to receive part of the funds from the Gay rodeo, and we are very grateful to AGRA, its volunteers, and the Gay rodeo community in Arizona," said Scott Blades, Executive Director of TIHAN.

Blades also encouraged Tucsonans to take an active part in helping with the 2006 Road Runner Regional Rodeo, which promises new adventures. The event, set for January 13-15, 2006 (Martin Luther King Day holiday weekend), will take place at the new Rawhide Wild West Town on the Gila River Indian Community. The new site of the rodeo will be even closer to Tucson, as it is located right off the I-10 freeway on the way into Chandler. Rodeo admission is \$15 per day, or \$25 for a weekend pass. For more information, call AGRA at (602) 265-8166 or www.agra-phx.com

Volunteers are still needed for the rodeo. "The rodeo is a great time because of the efforts of volunteers, and there are many opportunities for volunteers to help with the rodeo." Blades noted that rodeo volunteers receive free admission to the rodeo, a free t-shirt, and an invitation to the post-rodeo volunteer party. "And you also get a chance to meet lots of great people from all over the U.S.," he commented. Volunteer opportunities include ticket taking, ticket sales, volunteer check-in booth, security, parking, runner, relief, and AGRA booth. There are morning and afternoon shifts available.

Persons interested in volunteering at the Phoenix Gay rodeo, or who want more information on TIHAN, can call Scott Blades, (520) 299-6647. With its beginnings in Reno in 1976, the Gay rodeo movement raises thousands of dollars for charity each year. The Arizona rodeo is among the longest-running and best-attended on the International Gay Rodeo Association circuit, with several thousand people expected to attend.

Tucson DP Anniversary Celebration Dec. 3

TUCSON - Since its inception, more than 300 couples had registered with Tucson's domestic partner registry.

Please join the celebration on Saturday, Dec. 3, 4 - 6 p.m., at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St., to mark the two year anniversary of Tucson's Domestic Partner Registry with fun, food, and music. Couples who are currently registered are asked to stop by with their certificate, and get your picture taken.

Couples who want to register as well will be able to do so at the anniversary celebration. All you need to bring is your partner, a check for \$50 made out to the City of Tucson, and a big smile! For more information, call Cathy, (520) 624-1779, cathy@wingspan.org.

How can I help?

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

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Contact Wendy Ascione at 628-7223 or wascione@saaf.org



Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation



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Office Closed Thursdays

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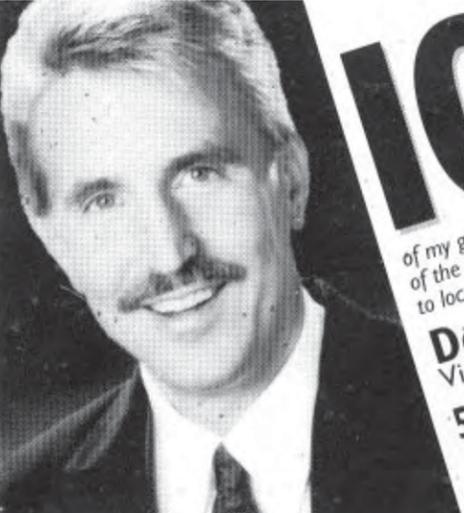
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Informing the Community
The Observer



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AIDS Group Rejects Alito For High Court

WASHINGTON, D.C. - AIDS activists are raising objections to President Bush's latest choice for the U.S. Supreme Court, saying he supported discrimination for people with HIV and AIDS in the 1980s, reported 365Gay.com.

The National Association of People with AIDS announced its opposition to Judge Samuel Alito on Wednesday. Executive Director Terje Anderson said Alito has a "narrow and hateful willingness to allow irrational fear and hatred to become enshrined in law."

Alito was nominated Monday (Oct. 31) for the seat being vacated by Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. Alito is credited with helping to author policy that was used to discriminate against people with HIV and AIDS when he worked in the Reagan administration as deputy assistant attorney general. The administration's policy supported legally firing AIDS patients because of "fear of contagion whether reasonable or not." Other candidates Bush has put forward for the high court have had spotty records on the issue. However, much of the information comes from the 1980s, when less was known about the disease and how it was contracted.

Jon Davidson, legal director for Lambda Legal, said Alito's commentary on people with HIV and AIDS is significant because it made it possible for employers to fire people with the disease. "They were out there taking really radical positions," said Davidson. Lambda Legal has yet to take a position on Alito.

Alito told the Washington Post at the time that the measure was not meant to encourage discrimination, but the law did not regulate what an employer could do if he feared contracting a disease.



Judge Samuel Alito

"Judge Alito advanced the argument that it was legally acceptable to discriminate against people based on irrational, unfounded fear of risk of infection," Anderson said. "He supported a course of action whereby base prejudice and misinformation took precedence over scientific fact and sound public health practices."

Supreme Court Justice John Roberts, who was confirmed in September, also served in the Reagan administration. While employed in the solicitor general's office, he opposed the federal government taking a stand against similar discrimination. Harriet Miers, who withdrew her nomination last week as a candidate for O'Connor's seat, opposed protections against housing discrimination for AIDS patients when she ran for the Dallas City Council.

Davidson said he was unsure what Alito could say to alleviate concerns about his views. "I don't know how he might explain this," he said. "He could say we all learned a lot from then, or he could say he was just following orders."

Maine Keeps Anti-Discrimination Ordinance; Texas Votes Anti-Gay

AUGUSTA (ON) - Gay rights in Maine and Texas reached a critical crossroads on Tuesday, Nov. 8 as residents in each state headed to the voting booth.

Texans were deciding whether to pass an amendment to their state constitution that will define marriage as the union of one man and one woman. That proposal is in addition to the state's 2003 Defense of Marriage Act, which already bans same-sex marriage or civil unions—even those recognized in other states.

In Maine, Gay rights groups were hopeful that they will defeat a referendum brought by conservatives to overturn a law that recently expanded the Maine Human Rights Act to ban discrimination based on sexual orientation in employment, housing, credit, public accommodations, and education. The act already prohibited discrimination based on race, color, sex, disability, religion, ancestry, and national origin.

Texas overwhelmingly approved a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage, with three out of four Texas voters supported the amendment. It not only bars same-sex couples from marrying but also prevents the state from recognizing civil unions. Opponents of the measure say it may also negate common-law marriages for opposite-sex couples.

In Maine, with 70 percent reporting as of press time, the effort to repeal the Maine Human Rights Act was losing, with 56% of Maine voters casting ballots to keep the law.

Full results in next week's Observer.



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UPDATE

SAAF Announces 17th Annual Jérôme Beillard Festival For Life

TUCSON - The Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) announces the 17th Annual Jérôme Beillard Festival for Life on Saturday, November 19 from 5 to 8:30 p.m. with this year's theme Desert Stars, City Lights. This live and silent auction will be held at the University of Arizona Student Union Grand Ballroom, 1303 E. University Drive in Tucson. Proceeds from the Festival for Life benefit SAAF to provide services for people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS and prevention programs to reduce the rate of HIV infection.

tickets or more information, or visit the Festival for Life website at www.festivalforlife.org.

What: The 17th Annual Jérôme Beillard Festival for Life
When: Saturday, November 19, 2005; 5 to 8:30 pm
Where: University of Arizona Student Union Grand Ballroom
Why: Special Event to Benefit the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF)
Tickets: \$50 in advance; \$60 at the door

Festival for Life features fine art from locally and nationally recognized artists such as Barbara Gurwitz, Barbara Rogers, Curt Brill, Deezie Manning-Catron, Gail Marcus-Orlen, Jane Cohen, Janet K. Miller, Josh Goldberg,

SAAF's mission is to create and sustain a healthier community through a compassionate, comprehensive response to HIV/AIDS



Kathleen Lewis, Lori Lieber, Lorraine DarConte, Lynn Taber, Marianne Bersen, Nancy Tokar Miller, Owen Williams, Sarafina Luz, Sylvia Garland and Philabaum Glass Gallery. A wide array of holiday items, gifts and gift certificates, jewelry, celebrity collectibles and Paper Prayers will be available as well.



Time To Make Your Tax Credit Donation To GSA

TUCSON - If you haven't made a donation to one of the 17 active, donation-eligible Gay-Straight Alliances in southern Arizona for 2005 yet, you have until Dec. 31.

GSA's are student-initiated and student-run clubs in public and private schools, typically high schools. A GSA provides a safe, supportive place for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, questioning (LGBTQ) and straight ally youth to meet and discuss sexual orientation and gender identity issues, and to work to create a school environment free of discrimination, harassment, and intolerance.

Tucson GSAs have received thousands of dollars over the past few years thanks to the Arizona tax credit and generous, informed donors. Donations to public schools are eligible for Arizona Tax Credit 322.

Up to \$200 for single filers and \$250 for joint filers can be deducted from your tax due when you file for tax year 2005. Note this is not a tax deduction, but a tax credit.

Details on how to contribute to a GSA and claim the tax credit, including schools and donation forms, are available at home.earthlink.net/~gsaresourcenetwork.



Festival for Life is proudly presented by Title Sponsor Jim Click Automotive Team, and supported by the following Sponsors: Long Realty Cares Foundation, El Rio Health Center, Bank One, Dean Groth, Douglas Newman, Randy Greenberg of Northwestern Mutual Financial Network, Ollanik Construction, Steven and Lori Banzhaf, Thomas and Candace Grogan, Tucson Medical Center Healthcare, Dr. Jean Baker, Stuart Meinke and The Temp Connection.



Masters of Ceremony for the event are Lupita Murillo from KVOA-TV and Allen Kath of Skyview Traffic and Rodney Shanks will host the live auction starting at 6:15 p.m. Festivities will also include an hors d'oeuvres buffet, casino-style gaming, a no-host bar and live music by the Street Minstrels and the Tim Schaffner trio with Deb Luna on vocals.

Tickets are \$50 in advance and \$60 at the door; please call Mae at 628-7223 for

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SCOTD

O'Connor To Remain On Supreme Court For G/L Related Case

WASHINGTON, DC - The Senate will begin hearings on Jan. 9 on Judge Samuel Alito's appointment to the Supreme Court, reported 365Gay.com.

The move was pushed by Democrats - a rejection of President Bush's call for a final confirmation vote by year's end - and was supported by Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee. "It's simply wasn't possible to accommodate the schedule that the White House wanted," said Specter. He outlined a schedule that envisions five days of hearings, followed by a vote in committee on Jan. 17 and the full Senate on Jan. 20.

That means Sandra Day O'Connor, a moderate and the justice Alito would replace if confirmed, will remain on the high court for a case involving the Pentagon's "don't ask, don't tell" policy." The court is scheduled to take up the case over whether colleges can bar military recruiters from their campuses on Dec. 6.

Last November the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals struck down the Solomon Amendment, a 1994 federal law requiring law schools to give the military full access or else lose their funding. The case involved 25 law schools who argued the statute infringed on the free-speech rights of the schools all of which had barred on-campus recruiting because of "don't ask, don't tell." Each of the colleges have nondiscrimination policies barring any recruiter - government or private - from campus if the organization unfairly bases hiring on race, gender or sexual orientation. The Bush administration appealed the ruling to the Supreme Court.

Justice O'Connor must be a member of the court for her votes to count on any cases. If she participates in oral arguments and then retires before the rulings are issued, the court could order re-hearings, hand down decisions or decide on another course at its own discretion. Any 4-4 ruling leaves the decision of the lower court intact and does not create a precedent.

Conservatives eager to replace

O'Connor and push the court to the right have swung behind Alito's nomination, and in making the appointment the president urged the Senate to vote this year. Democrats, citing a need to review the voluminous record that Alito has compiled in 15 years as a judge on the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, favor waiting until the new year for the beginning of hearings. The 55-year-old judge has written an estimated 300 rulings and participated in roughly 1,500 cases.

Despite his conservative judicial record, Alito argued in 1971 that sodomy laws should be overturned. The US Supreme Court finally did overturn laws against consensual Gay sex in 2003. Alito's position on the issue was made public Wednesday (Nov. 2) in newly released documents. A report prepared by a Princeton University undergraduate task force, chaired by Alito while he was a student, recommended the decriminalization of sodomy, said that discrimination against Gays in hiring "should be forbidden," and accused the CIA and the FBI of invading the privacy of citizens. "We sense a great threat to privacy in modern America," Alito wrote in a foreword to the report, in 1971. "We all believe that privacy is too often sacrificed to other values; we all believe that the threat to privacy is steadily and rapidly mounting; we all believe that action must be taken on many fronts now to preserve privacy." The report was obtained from the Seeley G. Mudd Manuscript Library by the Boston Globe. It was issued by Alito and 16 other Princeton students.



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Study Finds 100k Hispanic G/L Households

FREDERICKSBURG - Sylvia Evans and her family have had it easier than many other Lesbian Latina couples. Her children have been granted citizenship, and they have had access to schools. But that's only because her partner, Dilcia Molina, and her two children were granted political asylum in 2002 after she was attacked for being a Lesbian in Honduras, reported the PlanetOut Network. "We're totally in a better position," said Evans, of Fredricksburg, Va. "If it didn't happen, they wouldn't have papers, and I would be able to do nothing for them."

A new report by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute says there are more than 100,000 Gay and Lesbian Hispanic couples throughout the country, and suggests they face different obstacles than other same-sex partnerships. The report, assessing 2000 Census figures in collaboration with the National Latino/a Coalition for Justice, found that Hispanic Gay couples have lower incomes and are less likely to own a home than non-Hispanic couples. They are also more likely to be raising children.

Many are hurt by their inability to sponsor partners for citizenship, which has lead to deportation in some circumstances. Forty-four percent of people in same-sex Latino couples are not U.S. citizens, compared to only 5 percent of non-Hispanic Gay partners. Lawmakers in Congress introduced a bill in June that would change immigration rules to add "permanent partners" to spouses and immediate family members who can currently sponsor immigrants for benefits.

The report suggests Hispanic Gay couples could benefit greatly from domestic partnership and Gay marriage legislation, and stresses that anti-Gay measures in several states have made living circumstances hard for the partnerships. The report, released

Tuesday, comes a week before Texas is to vote on amending the state Constitution to ban same-sex marriage.

"Many of the 1,138 federal benefits and protections of marriage are designed to help families save money, purchase a home and better provide for their children," said Jason Cianciotto, the study's author and the Policy Institute's research director. "This study shows that Hispanic same-sex-couple families would not only benefit from the ability to marry, but also are disproportionately harmed by anti-same-sex marriage laws and constitutional amendments."

Other Gay Latino couples face different problems. Braulio Veloz and Miguel Rodriguez of San Antonio, Texas, both have worked for the federal government. The two men say they are concerned their federal retirement benefits will not carry over to each other, because their relationship is not legally recognized.

"If I were to die tomorrow, my partner of 27 years would not be eligible for any portion of my retirement," Veloz said in the report. "My earnings would just go back into the general pot, rather than going to the well-being of my surviving partner."

The average income for households of Hispanic same-sex couples is more than \$25,000 less than white non-Hispanic Gay couples, the research found.

Evans said her family has not taken many of the expensive legal steps necessary to provide the security many straight families take for granted. "Protecting our family right now means just trying to survive," Evans said. "However, we wish we had feasible long-term strategies to protect our family on all counts."

Senate Passes 'Common Sense' HIV Treatment Bill

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Senate passed legislation Thursday (Nov. 3) allowing states to provide Medicaid coverage to low-income, HIV-positive Americans, 365Gay.com.

AIDS activists say that it will save lives as well as save the federal Medicaid program millions of dollars in long-term care costs.

The bill, which creates "demonstration projects" under Medicaid, is similar to the Early Treatment for HIV Act (ETHA) and was introduced by Sens. Gordon Smith, R-OR and Hillary Clinton, D-NY, as an amendment to the budget reconciliation package. It passed the full Senate by a voice vote.

"No American should have to be diagnosed with AIDS before they get access to AIDS-preventing drugs," said Human Rights Campaign President Joe Solmonese. "Countless Americans' lives can be improved if this common-sense legislation becomes law."

Currently a person with asymptomatic HIV infection is not eligible for Medicaid until he or she has progressed to full blown AIDS. Without Medicaid coverage, many low-income Americans are left without the critical care and medication needed to help slow the progression of the HIV. Only after developing AIDS does Medicaid coverage become available - significantly impacting a person's quality of life and increasing the long-term cost of care and treatment.

A recent study by PriceWaterhouseCoopers found that ETHA will

delay disease progression, increase life expectancy, and is cost effective. The study also found that over 10 years, ETHA would reduce the death rate for persons with HIV who would qualify for Medicaid by 50 percent. It predicted that disease progression would be significantly slowed and health outcomes improved and that savings could reduce Medicaid treatment costs by 70 percent, accounting for close to \$1.5 billion in savings over ten years.

WHAT'S BLACK & WHITE & READ ALL OVER?

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OBSERVER

TUCSON, ARIZONA

High Court Lets Transsexual Cop's Win Stand

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Supreme Court declined to review Monday the workplace discrimination case of a Transgender Cincinnati police officer. The decision leaves intact a ruling in favor of the officer, Philecia Barnes, issued last March by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, reported the PlanetOut Network.

At least four of the nine justices must agree to review a case in order for a petition to be accepted. The high court winds up hearing only a tiny fraction of the appeals it receives, but the Barnes case was one that some observers felt might make it to the docket.

At the heart of the case was the question of whether this country's main federal law against workplace discrimination, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, protects Transgender workers (and tangentially, Gay workers) against sex discrimination. Neither "Transgender" nor "sexual orientation" appears in the text of Title VII, which bars job bias because of religion, race, sex and other factors. But in 1989, the Supreme Court ruled that an employer who punishes a worker because he or she does not match gender stereotypes is guilty of sex discrimination under Title VII. Ignored in the early 1990s, that 16-year-old ruling is now gaining currency as more courts defer to the precedent in favor of Gay and Transgender plaintiffs.

Philecia Barnes was a Cincinnati policeman for over two decades before beginning a transition from Phillip to Philecia. In 1998, Philecia was working as a man, but living as a woman, when she took the

sergeant's exam, placing 18th out of 105. She was then subjected to a stressful three-month probation, during which time she was monitored on a daily basis, forced to wear a mike, and rated on a six-page form designed specifically for her. At the end, she failed. According to court papers, Barnes was the only officer to fail probation during the seven years from 1993 to 2000.

Barnes convinced a federal jury that the Cincinnati police department did not approve of her gender presentation, and that her lack of masculinity and so-called "command presence" led to her demotion. On appeal, the Sixth Circuit agreed, ruling that Barnes had a legitimate claim of sex discrimination under Title VII. It was the second such ruling out of the Sixth Circuit, where a Transgender fire fighter won the right to sue under Title VII in July of last year.

The Sixth Circuit may have made up its mind about the scope of Title VII, but the question remains unsettled as courts continue to head in conflicting directions. As more federal appellate rulings seek to interpret the high court's precedent in the context of LGBT plaintiffs, however, the pressure on the justices to review one of these cases will only increase.

For now, LGBT advocates can only be pleased that the Supreme Court justices are letting this victory stand.



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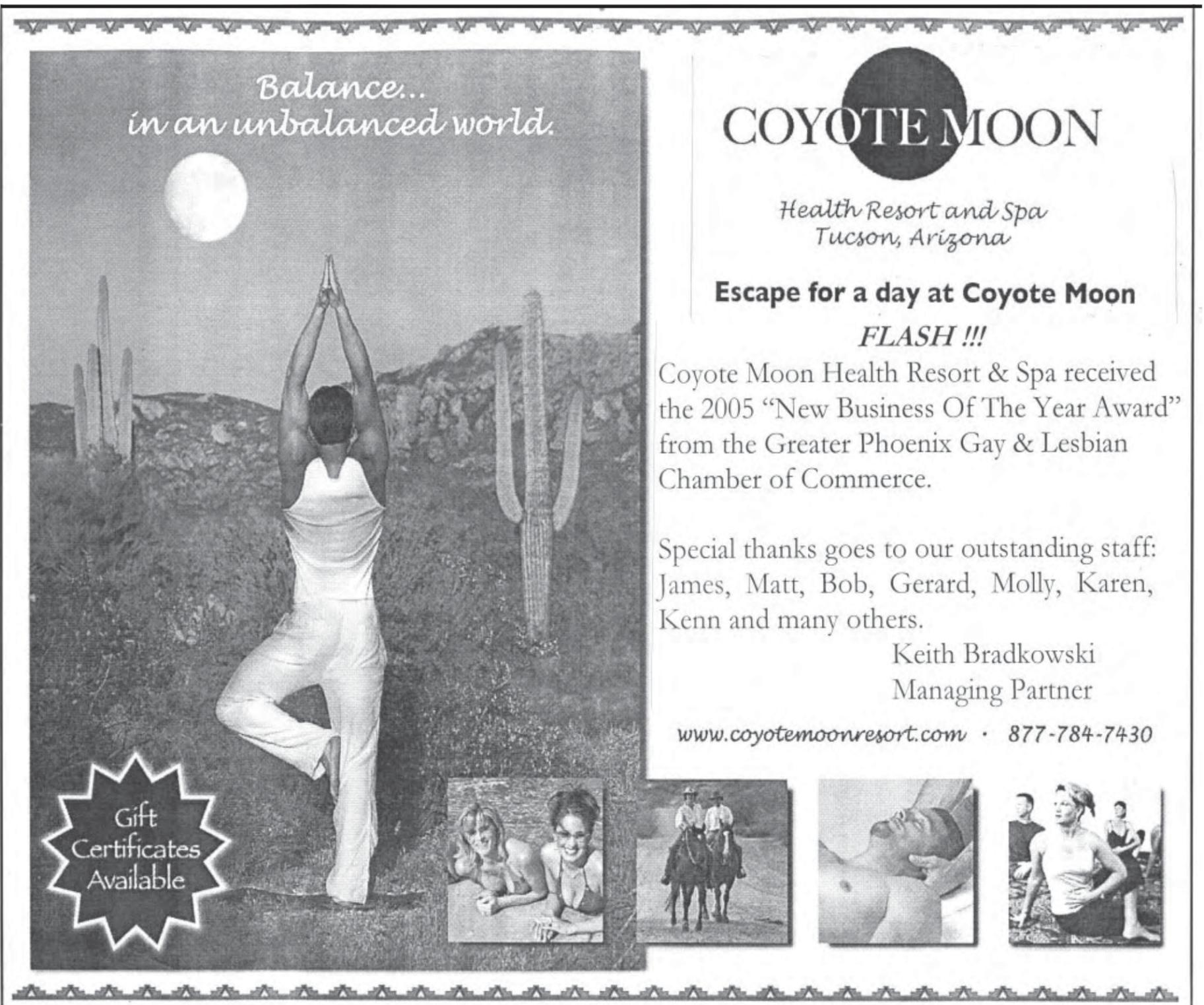
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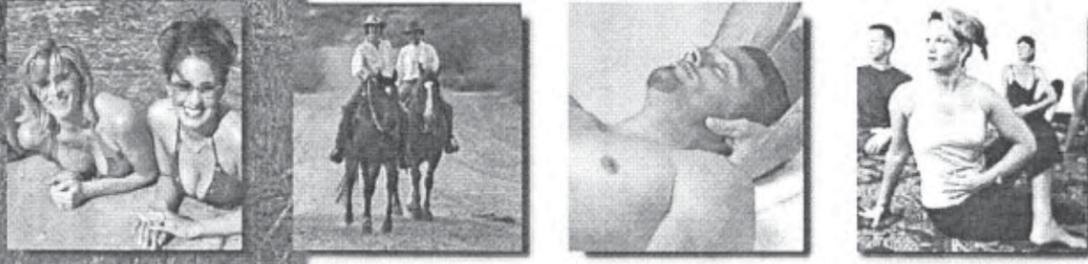
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Gay Actor's Partner Arrested For Airport Joke

NEWPORT NEWS - A casual remark made at the wrong time led to an arrest and an ongoing legal battle for the partner of Gay Broadway star Denis O'Hare, who is now starring in "Sweet Charity."

The drama began at the Newport News, Va., airport when O'Hare and his partner, Hugo Redwood, traveled home to New York City after attending O'Hare's sister's wedding. At the Transportation Security Administration screening station, each of the pair was taken aside for a second security screening, which is not uncommon for passengers who purchase one-way tickets, as they had. Then Redwood said to O'Hare, "I guess we must be terrorist suspects." A TSA officer overheard the comment and gave him a stern warning about joking. That could have been the end of it. Instead, a second TSA officer arrived and all hell broke loose, Redwood told the PlanetOut Network.

"The second officer came up and asked me what I said, so I repeated it and insisted it was a joke," Redwood recalled. "Then he handcuffed me, carried me away in my socks through the airport, and placed me in a detention room. It was a huge deal. At one point there were six officials in the room." After nearly three hours of interrogation and background checks, an FBI agent determined that Redwood was not a threat and immediately ordered him released. But TSA and local officials still squabbled over what to charge Redwood with, finally settling on disorderly conduct. Redwood is scheduled to return to Virginia this month for trial.

"The incident report, if you read it, is laughable," he said. "It's clearly perjured to cover their asses. The second TSA officer said

he heard me shout 'I'm a damn terrorist,' which is ridiculous. And if this was really about terrorism, why would they not bother to question the person I was flying with?" A TSA officer told O'Hare that he had no rights and no ability to find out anything about what was happening to Hugo, since they were not married and could not legally be married.

Neither O'Hare nor Redwood believes his treatment was racially motivated (Redwood is African-American), nor do they think it was motivated by homophobia. "I think it was one guy who didn't like something about us, or urban-ness, or maybe he thought I wasn't properly respectful or whatever," O'Hare told the PlanetOut Network. "And he had a badge and used it to punish us because he could."

Regardless of the officer's motivation, such incidents are not unheard of. High-profile detentions of Sen. Ted Kennedy and Broadway actress Patti LuPone by TSA have drawn media attention. But the agency, formed under the new Department of Homeland Security in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, routinely detains ordinary citizens for the flimsiest of reasons, according to Bary Steinhardt, Director of the Technology and Liberty Project of the ACLU. "TSA is a hopelessly flawed agency and not good at respecting rights and dignities of passengers," Steinhardt told PlanetOut Network.

"You have tens of thousands of screeners, with haphazard training and professionalism that varies widely," Steinhardt continued, recounting an investigation that showed TSA workers were no better at detecting mock explosives in

luggage than the private screeners used before 9/11. "All of this raises the questions of, are we really safer now? And are we getting anything out of this agency, except hassles?" TSA did not respond to repeated calls for comment.

It could have been worse. Under Homeland Security rules, Redwood could have been detained for up to a week without being able to contact his partner. Still, both are taking a financial hit for what started as an innocuous remark. O'Hare, who stayed behind while Redwood was in detention, was docked for

missing a performance of "Sweet Charity," and both had to pay for new plane tickets back home. They are also paying a lawyer to help them fight the disorderly conduct charge, which carries a fine of up to \$2,500 and a year in jail.

O'Hare, who won the 2003 Tony Award for his role in the Broadway hit, "Take Me Out," is angered by the incident. "For the first time I feel like leaving the country," he said. "America is becoming a nightmare with the permanent war culture brought on by this president. I don't recognize my country."

Margaret Cho Takes Another Stab At Series TV

LOS ANGELES - Fox Broadcasting Co. is developing a comedy script with comedienne Margaret Cho, who unhappily starred in the short-lived sitcom All-American Girl on ABC in 1994-1995, Reuters reported on advocate.com.

The ethnic, multigenerational family comedy is said to involve a character based on Cho's mother that she has made a fixture of her stand-up routine.

"I'm very excited about this project because, finally, I get to become my mother," said Cho, who would also executive-produce with Just Shoot Me writer Susan Dickes. Cho describes her harrowing experience with All-American Girl in her concert film I'm the One That I Want, alleging that ABC pressured her to lose so much weight that it triggered kidney failure.



Margaret Cho



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Gay Men's Health Project is a collaboration between the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation, Wingspan and the Pima County Health Department

Complaint Filed In Penn State Bias Case



Jennifer Harris

STATE COLLEGE - A former Penn State women's basketball player started a discrimination complaint against Nittany Lions coach Rene Portland, filing paperwork Friday claiming that she was harassed by the coach to change her appearance because she was not "feminine enough," reported 365Gay.com.

The attorney for Jennifer Harris cited sex and race as the basis for charges of "discrimination, retaliation and harassment" in paperwork filed with the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission. Harris, who is black, said in the filings that she told Portland that she was not comfortable in changing her appearance, and that Portland then "treated me differently from other team members" and "threatened and humiliated me" to get Harris to quit or take a leave of absence.

Besides the university, Portland and athletic director Tim Curley were named in the complaint. A spokeswoman for Portland, who is white, said Friday (Nov. 4) that the coach had not seen the complaint and declined to comment. A spokesman for Curley also declined comment.

Harris left Penn State after last season and transferred to James Madison. Portland, in response to Harris' initial allegations last month, said in a statement that accusations that the former player's departure involved discrimination on the basis of her perceived sexual orientation were "completely and utterly untrue."

University spokesman Tysen Kendig said he was not aware of any prior complaints by Harris related to race. "It wouldn't surprise me that it hadn't come up before, because we have had very little information on the issue."

Lawyers for the two sides have talked, but the school said they have not been allowed to talk to Harris herself and that is delaying an internal investigation.

Harris has said Portland thought she was Gay, but the former Penn State player says she is not. In the filing, Harris said the "pattern of ongoing harassment" started in early 2004, and that other black players were forced off the team or harassed "more harshly than other players because of their race and what coach Portland perceived to be their nonconformity to out-of-date gender stereotypes."

Portland has declined to discuss the issue, referring questions to her statement last month and saying she was concentrating on preparing for the upcoming season. In her statement, Portland said Harris was no longer with the team "because of her performance and attitude in relation to basketball" and

because she "did not meet the level of commitment" required of players.

The paperwork filed by Harris' attorneys starts the process to open an official complaint with the state, said agency spokeswoman Laura Treaster.



Penn State Coach Rene Portland

Dissent Mounting Over Anti-G/L Methodist Rulings

DENVER - Two recent rulings by the highest court in the United Methodist Church on the role of Gays is dividing the denomination, with many members calling for a more liberal view of homosexuality and same-sex relationships, reported 365Gay.com.

Nearly 100 faculty and students from the Iliff School of Theology staged a protest vigil this week in front of Denver's United Methodist headquarters over the rulings. The Denver school is a United Methodist seminary.

At the same time, across the country, the Church's bishops were voicing their opposition to at least one of the rulings. On Monday (Oct. 31) the United Methodist Church's Judicial Council overturned a lower church court ruling and ordered the defrocking of a Lesbian pastor who is in a committed relationship with another woman.

The United Methodist Church accepts Gay and Lesbian ministers as long as they are celibate. The Rev. Beth Stroud notified her Germantown, Pennsylvania congregation of the relationship in a sermon on April 27, 2003. Her bishop immediately began procedures to remove Stroud from the ministry.

In a second LGBT case, the Judicial Council ordered the reinstatement of a rural Virginia minister placed on leave for denying a Gay man membership in his church last winter. The Council decided the Rev. Edward Johnson

was within his ministerial rights when he denied membership to the would-be parishioner.

Anger at the rulings reached the very top of the Iliff School of Theology. "[It's] a very sad and offensive decision" Iliff interim president Phil Wogaman said of the ruling reinstating Johnson.

On the Stroud decision, the Rev. Gil Caldwell, a former member of the Iliff board of trustees and a retired United Methodist minister, said it was misguided. Caldwell, who worked with the Rev. Martin Luther King in the civil rights movement, told the crowd that Stroud faces a worse situation than the late Rosa Parks. "Even though Rosa Parks was forced to sit in the back of the bus, at least she had a place on the bus," Caldwell said.

While the protestors were holding their vigil in Denver, the Church's 65 active bishops were issuing a dissent of their own. The bishops were meeting at a Methodist retreat in North Carolina. The prepared a pastoral letter to be read in all United Methodist Churches Sunday (Nov. 6) criticizing the Judicial Council ruling on Johnson. "While pastors have the responsibility to discern readiness for membership, homosexuality is not a barrier," the letter says.

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POLITICS 2005

by Mark R. Kerr

'Fiction Or Non-Fiction

While on yet another appearance on that waste of television, "CNN's Larry King Undead," Thursday, Nov. 3, Arizona Senator John McCain, in the midst of schlepping his latest book, was asked by a caller, surprisingly not from Houston, on how he would reach out "to liberals and the Democratic voters," if he was to run for president.

"Well, I would try to reach out to all Americans, because when, once you're elected president, obviously you're president of all the people," McCain blathered, looking soulfully into the camera as his handlers instructed while Larry King gazed lovingly at him.

McCain says that the president is for "all the people" and yet wants to make sure that "all the people" are not entitled to the same rights and benefits with his support of Arizona's proposed Protect Marriage Arizona Amendment (PMAA) to the state constitution.

"I believe that the institution of marriage should be reserved for the union of one man and one woman," said McCain in an Aug. 25 press release from Protect Marriage Arizona, the group, a front for the homophobic Center for Arizona Policy (CAP). Going on, McCain adds, "... The Protect Marriage Arizona Amendment would allow the people of Arizona to decide on the definition of marriage in our state. I wholeheartedly support the Protect Marriage Arizona Amendment and I hope that the voters in Arizona choose to support it as well."

McCain, who also recently launched his so-appropriately named Web site, straighttalkamerica.com, for his upcoming 2008 presidential bid, has also hopped into political bed, with Rev. Jerry "Tinky Winky" Falwell and declared that Karl "Plamegate" Rove should keep his security clearance, offering an olive branch to the man who allegedly had spread rumors spread, trashing McCain's wife and adopted daughter during the 2000 South Carolina GOP Presidential primary, derailing McCain's bid for the nod against Dubya.

The title of McCain's latest work? "Character is Destiny." ...

Still on the subject of character, or the lack of, there is CAP's own Lynden (still going by his stage name "Len") Munsil, the man who drafted Arizona's own Defense of Marriage Act, passed by the State Legislature and signed into law in 1996 and upheld by the Arizona Supreme Court in 2004. What would a day be without more misleading muck from Mr. Munsil and as usual, he doesn't disappoint.

Recently, the Alaska Supreme Court unanimously ruled that it was unconstitutional to bar benefits to the same-sex partners of government employees, since it violated the state constitution's equal protection guarantees.

In 1998, Alaska voters approved an amendment to the state constitution, (Article 1-25), which reads, "To be valid or recognized in this State, a marriage may exist only between one man and one woman." A lawsuit was filed in 1999, by nine Gay and Lesbian government workers, and joined by the Alaska Civil Liberties Union (the state chapter of the national ACLU) in 2002, not seeking to invalidate the 1998 initiative but arguing that using marriage as a litmus test for public employment benefits, such as medical and dental insurance, violated the

state constitution.

Alaska's Supreme Court agreed, rejecting the arguments presented by the state's Attorney General. "[D]enying benefits to the same-sex domestic partners who are absolutely ineligible to become spouses has no demonstrated relationship to the interest of promoting marriage," the court wrote.

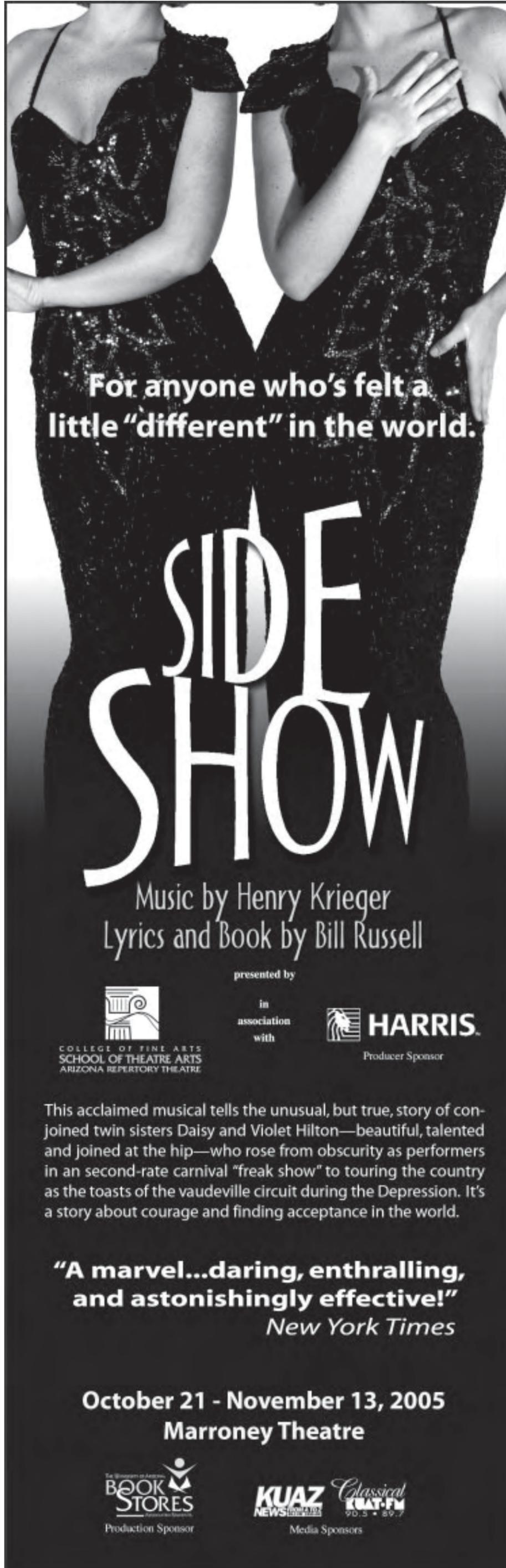
Before the ink was even dry on the ruling, Munsil reacted in the Nov. 1 Family Facts newsletter, writing, "Alaska, like most states, promotes marriage by offering employee benefits to married couples and financially dependent children. Now the Alaska Supreme Court has agreed with legal arguments by the ACLU that the state must provide marriage benefits to same sex domestic partners. This decision is yet another example of why the Protect Marriage Arizona Amendment is needed."

Not stopping there, Lynden goes on, stating, "The Alaska Constitution clearly defines marriage as between a man and a woman, but that didn't stop the courts from forcing a marriage counterfeit on the state."

Oh really? In the Center for Arizona Policy's (CAP) "Family Facts Arizona" newsletter, dated July 14, Munsil writes in section three, entitled "Lies About PMAA (Protect Marriage Arizona Amendment)," that "some of the things the PMAA does not do," are "to prohibit a hospital visitation; inheritance rights; medical decision making, and other benefits ..." adding that the PMAA "simply reserves the special status of marriage in our laws to people who are actually married."

Flashing back to the present, Lynden wrote that, "Arizona is one activist court decision away from a marriage redefinition that is not supported by our people," despite the polls showing overwhelming support for extending rights and benefits to committed couples, same-sex or otherwise, who can't or choose not to get married.

So has Lynden been reading McCain's latest work then?



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Klan Anti-Gay Rally Outnumbered

AUSTIN - A showdown over a proposed state constitutional ban of same-sex marriage pitted a small Ku Klux Klan group Saturday (Nov. 5) against a massive rally by opponents.

Only about a dozen members of the American White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan appeared at Austin City Hall for the group's "pro-family values" rally. None wore the traditional hoods or robes of the white supremacist group. Some displayed Confederate flag symbols.

"Let's meet their hate with love and understanding," Glen Maxey, an openly Gay former legislator and a leader of the counter demonstration, told hundreds of opponents as they marched toward the Klan event.

At issue was Proposition 2, a proposed constitutional amendment on Tuesday's (Nov. 8) election ballot stating that marriage in Texas is only between a man and a woman. "We're asking Texans to support Proposition 2 because God supports it, not because the KKK supports it," said Steven Edwards, the grand dragon of the Klan group.

Maxey, director of No Nonsense in November, an anti-Prop 2 campaign organization, said the vote is important, but changing Texans' minds about discrimination is more important.

An estimated 3,000 protesters showed up during the Klan event, said Austin Police Department spokeswoman Toni Chovanetz. Two people were arrested. One was carrying a club and causing a disturbance, and another was arrested on outstanding warrants,

Chovanetz said. The city blocked off several streets to keep members of the public at least a block away from the Klan in all directions. A contingent of 200 police officers - some of wearing riot gear and at least one toting a rifle - stood along police barricades and patrolled the area.

Many anti-Klan demonstrators carried yellow daisies, sang peace songs and chanted anti-Klan slogans. Some held banners or signs that said, "Vote Against Bigotry," "Vote Against the Klan" and "Killers, Kowards, Kooks Go Away."

Some social conservatives who are actively supporting Proposition 2 made it clear they weren't associated with the Klan event. The Anti-Defamation League issued a statement saying it "hopes all Texans will understand the significance of an organization with a history of hatred and bigotry supporting a discriminatory amendment."

Austin Mayor Will Wynn and other city leaders had declared Saturday a "day of tolerance" and urged that citizens stay away from the Klan and do community work instead. But many came to speak their minds and get a glimpse of a faction of the white supremacist group that got its start in Texas in the 1860s.

Ronda Swain, 25, said she was curious because she'd heard her mother speak of segregation and violence toward blacks when her mother was growing up in North Carolina. She spoke by cell phone with her mother, Rose Horton of Austin, describing the Klan scene to her. "It's, like, making it real for me that these people really still exist," Swain said.

Matthew Limon Freed From Kansas Prison

TOPEKA - After spending five years in prison, Matthew Limon was released Thursday (Nov. 3) following the Oct. 21 Kansas Supreme Court ruling that determined it was unconstitutional to punish underage sex between homosexuals more harshly than between heterosexuals, reported the PlanetOut Network.



Matthew Limon

Limon was originally sentenced to 17 years in prison for having consensual sex with a 14-year-old boy while both were attending a Paola school for the developmentally disabled. Limon was 18 years old at that time. If Limon had been convicted of having sex with a 14-year-old girl at age 18, however, he would have received a maximum sentence of 15 months under Kansas' "Romeo and Juliet" law.

While the state Supreme Court ruled it was not constitutional to treat illegal Gay sex differently, it did not strike down the law. Instead, it ordered Limon be resentenced as if the "Romeo and Juliet" law applied to his case. While awaiting his resentencing, Limon, now 23, was released from the Miami County Jail and allowed to stay with relatives in western Kansas, the Kansas City Star reported.

According to the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), Limon is under house arrest. He will work on his aunt and uncle's farm while the Miami County attorney and the attorney general's office decide their next moves.

decides to charge him under the 'Romeo and Juliet' statute he's already served more than the required sentence several times over," she said.

Miami County Attorney David Miller, who told the Kansas City Star on Thursday that he still thought Limon's 17-year sentence should stand, has until Nov. 26 to file different charges against Limon. The state attorney general's office has until late January to appeal, the Star reported. If no new charge is filed, Limon could be free from house arrest. But if he is charged, Limon could be jailed again.

"We're really happy that he's home with his family and has gotten to spend a night where he is not in prison, but we do wish this case would finally end," Chris Hampton, spokeswoman for the ACLU, told the PlanetOut Network. "Even if the local district attorney

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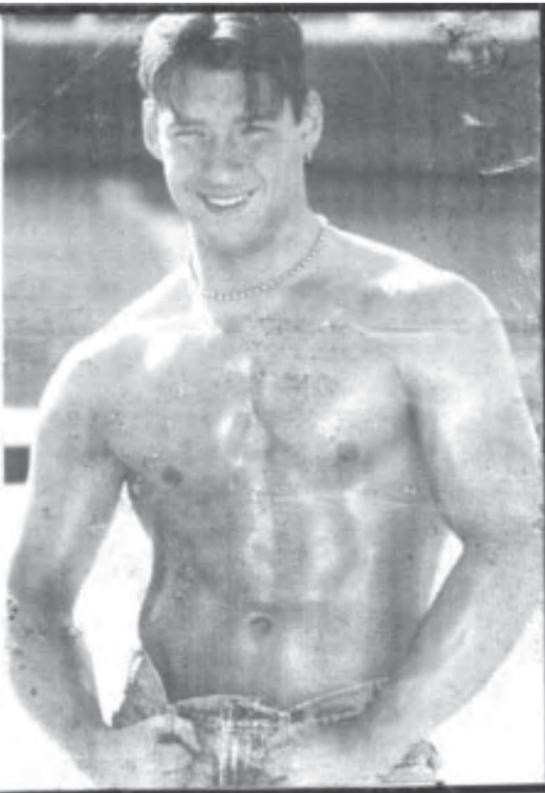
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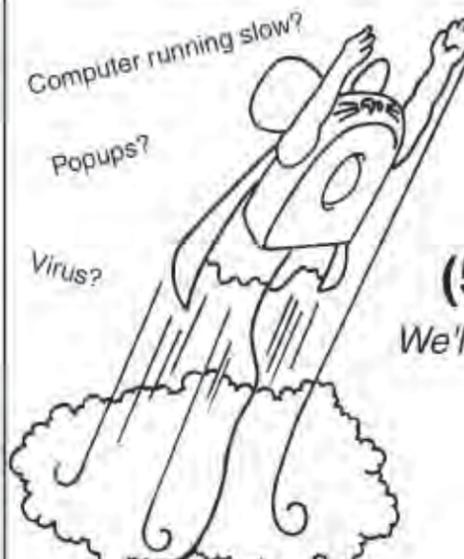
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LIBRA (SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)
Love is in the air or at least we think so as Venus bumps into shocking Pluto. It is a juicy burst of passion. Will it be everything our heart desires or another case of heartburn? Pack the pepto, pardner.

Proud Libras are apt to call 'em as they see 'em when Venus rubs Pluto. You may find that your usual bon mots are lobbed with greater intensity. They not only hit their mark but also leave a few rosy bruises. Thankfully folks see that you are not your usual diplomatic self and forgive and maybe even forget. This means you should speak Out while you have the soapbox.

ARIES (MAR. 21 - APR. 20)
It suddenly hits you - there has been too much time wasted on planning without much action. Pluto and Venus now push you Out into the world and into magnificent adventures. Make your move. There are a great many opportunities ready to be plucked and plumbed. Yet there is so much stimuli that you may become overly stimulated and even frizzled. And this is a bad thing??

SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)
The greedy green gremlins have you in their clutches. Venus and Pluto insist that you grab all the loot that you can while you can. Proud Scorps are usually fiscally inclined but now it becomes an obsession. Why fight it? Indulge your expensive tastes for now. Too soon the fates reverse their fortunes and you go back to perusing the warehouse sales rack.

TAURUS (APR. 21 - MAY 21)
What is it that makes queer Bulls so sexually sizzling now? The planets send you into high broil. It seems that anyone you meet is raw meat ready to be cooked. You are rough, ready and just itching to have a good time. Scratch away! But before you bite off more than you can chew remember to be a bit discerning. Anything more than a mouthful is wasted ... or so they say.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)
Gay Archers are not usually publicity hounds but now the world clamors for your face. And such a face! If you have a few choice things to say you find an appreciative audience to hang on to each syllable. It is almost too easy to make headlines. The trick is to be prepared with a few sage sound bites. Err Sagittarius? Ouch. Better ask someone for sage advice.

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)
Relationships undergo tremendous volcanic change while Venus pokes Pluto. Hint - Most of this change is of your own doing. Unexpectedly, you become bored, smug and self absorbed. The world will come to you, or so you think. And so, Gay Twins may find that they are no longer be satisfied with the status quo. That is this week. What about next week?

CAPRICORN (DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)
Paranoid? They say that paranoia is simply having all the facts. Pink Caps fact check this week as their imagination goes into overdrive. It may surprise you to find that not all of it is in your head. There happens to be many hidden things - obstacles and opportunities - that suddenly come to light. Tackle each one as it comes. Come to think of it, isn't that your dating style?

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)
Stress builds to a tipping point with Venus conjunct Pluto. Pink Crabs usually take on more than they can handle but now all of your assorted projects suddenly go to deadline. Don't panic compadre - this is just a passing thunderstorm. If you can maintain your balance and good common sense, you find that not only is it timely, it is timeless. But watch those sweeping hands!

AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)
Aqueerians are suddenly extremely popular as their presence is required all over town. It just won't be a top tier event without you. RSVP to Venus and Pluto and enjoy the surge. But rather than dance in the same circles, expand your orbit into new spheres. This may be one of your few chances to enter and impress the elite. Most of the time you invade and gouge.

LEO (JULY 24 - AUG. 23)
Proud Lions gravitate to the high life as Venus bumps Pluto. Your appearance is required at every social event. Fun takes on a "wilde", zany energy that gains in velocity and intensity. Suddenly too much is just not enough and the usual routine just won't do. So plan you week with enough stimulation to keep you on your toes while not hitting the ceiling.

PISCES (FEB. 20 - MAR. 20)
If you have been planning a certain professional course, move forward on it now. Venus and Pluto give you extra oomph to get what you want, when you want and from who you want. Guppies usually fade into the corporate background hoping that someone will recognize their worth. Stop hoping and waiting, cousin. Gold is rising and the dross is worried. 'Bout time.

VIRGO (AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23)
If you blow a few fuses around the house, blame the surge on Venus and Pluto. Expect to have a few domestic mishaps and a few out of control family altercations that reach the boiling point. A few kabooms in every room. But this is all good. Sometimes the tried and true is tired and blue. Get out of your funk, queer Virgo. And then what? Hmmm.



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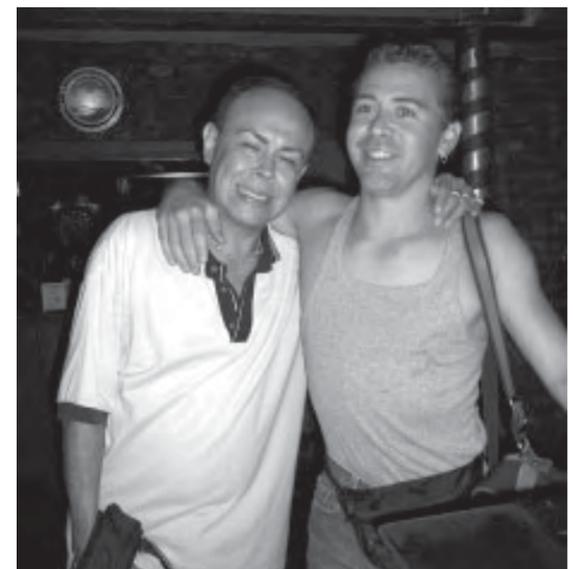
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Non Bar Calendar

Wednesday, November 9

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Jack 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 Jack at 887-3736.

Thursday, November 10

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, November 11

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, November 12

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

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

Monday, November 14

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

Tuesday, November 15

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

#2 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Karol for an evening of Dinner and a Movie; "Tootsie" starring Dustin Hoffman. For details and directions, please call Karol at 744-9017.

Wednesday, November 16

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Jack 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 Jack at 887-3736.

Thursday, November 17

#1 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.

#2 Call Robert at 400-1376 and reserve by Noon today for Pizza Night on the 18th.

Friday, November 18

Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join Lloyd as he hosts Pizza Night. For just \$5.00, come and enjoy a night of Pizza and good conversation. For reservations and directions, please call Robert at 400-1376. Please reserve your spot by noon on Thursday, November 17th.

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. Amazing artwork, casino-style gaming and live entertainment. Convenient parking at the Mountain and Second Street Garage.

#1 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 8:30 a.m. Join Robert, Mike & Jack for a morning of Volleyball. This is played for fun, and you'll get to know some nice guys as you play. For details and directions, please call Jack & Mike at 881-5733 or Robert at 400-1376.

#2 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Steve hosts Pinochle Night. If you don't know how to play, but would like to learn, this is the place. For more information, please call Steve at 664-2076.

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

Sunday, November 20

3 - 5 p.m. The new Men's Erotic Massage Group is a great way to meet men and have clean, safe erotic fun. Non-sexual. Call Marc in advance at 881-4582 for information and to sign up. We have been doing this group for 15 years. Small fee.

Monday, November 21

#1. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:00 p.m. Join us for the "putting out the Newsletter" Night. For reservations and directions, please call Arlan at 323-7414.

#2. Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 7:30 p.m. Join us

for the MSN Premiere of "Unconditional Love" starring Kathy Bates, Rupert Everett and Dan Aykroyd (after Newsletter Night). For reservations and directions, please call Arlan at 323-7414.

#3 Reserve for Thanksgiving Dinner on the 24th at Rick and John's, 743-3289.

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

Tuesday, November 22

#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. Jim 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 Jim at 790-8735.

Wednesday, November 23

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

Thursday, November 24

#1 Men's Social Network (open to men of all ages; newcomers welcomed): 3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Help your hosts Rick and John celebrate Thanksgiving with your MSN family. Open House from 3:00 - 8:00 with dinner served at 4:30 p.m. For directions and reservations, please call Rick and John at 743-3289.

#2 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. Rainbow Planet Coffee House may be closed for Thanksgiving Day so call before venturing out.

Friday, November 25

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, November 26

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

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

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NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE

Elections

by Lee Thorn

Why are the four dullest people in Tucson — Dunbar, Ronstadt, Trasoff and Uhlich — running for municipal office? As Leno would say, "What are the odds?" But just because there are no personalities, that doesn't mean there are no issues. The issues are a trash tax, impact fees, loan sharks and billboards.

The trash tax is what economists refer to as a "regressive tax." That means a tax on the people who can least afford to pay it. You want regressive taxation? Forget the trash tax. We could come up with something even more regressive. Remember when they allowed street people to beg on the medians at major intersections? Making that illegal "for safety reasons" (ho ho ho) probably cost those folks a fortune. It also made Tucson a less colorful place. Worst of all it deprived the City of the opportunity to institute a spectacularly regressive tax.

That's right. You could bring back the median beggars and authorize the cops to randomly confiscate their cash. The cops could give out receipts that would prevent the beggar from having his cash confiscated again for thirty days. You certainly don't want to take the profit motive out of begging. They're screaming about more money for the police force. Here you'd have it, and without middlemen, undue paperwork or excessive red tape.

Over and above the chance they'd give us for some seriously regressive taxation, I miss the median beggars with their clever and often moving cardboard signs. I won't soon forget the pregnant lady whose sign said, "Begging for two." Or, "I forgot my secret Swiss bank account number." Or the many variations of, "Need a cold beer." Or an intentionally illegible one that I took to mean, "Isn't it obvious?"

The impact fees for new development is the opposite of regressive. It taxes the people who can most easily afford to pay. Unfortunately, those people have long since realized that they can avoid paying taxes by buying politicians. For anyone who's just this minute gotten off the bus in our fair city, let me tell you that the housing market has been shooting through the roof here. The developers have more market and more money and higher profits than they know what to do with. They

could easily pay impact fees enormously higher than anything anyone has had the guts to propose without missing a beat.

The current housing market in Tucson is like a convoy of flatbed trucks each piled high with gold coins. They're rumbling through town with coins spilling everywhere and filling the gutters, but the only people who can pick the coins up — the politicians — well, you know.

Loan sharks: They exist, legally and illegally, because poor people need them. A municipal minimum wage would hurt them more than any amount of municipal regulation. Billboards: Is anybody seriously concerned about visual clutter in Tucson? Hasn't that train left the station? Don't ban billboards. Establish a billboard board that reviews proposals for billboards and bans the ones that are boring. Have a little fun for heaven's sake. It's the non-issues in this election that really interest me. How can the perennial mismanagement of the infamous Rio Nuevo revitalization project not be an issue? From the fabled fish tank that sank before it was launched to the bridge to nowhere, how did this continuing fiasco escape the attention of the candidates?

More importantly, why doesn't anyone running for office have a vision for Tucson's future? What do we want to be when we grow up? Hadn't we better decide? We're already the thirtieth biggest city in the country. Okay, we have a reputation of being friendly. We have a reputation for being laid-back. We have the longest non-mechanized rodeo parade in the world. Can we build on any of this or should we be content with being nondescript?

"Pray for Tucson." I love that bumper sticker. My question is, "Pray for Tucson to do what?" The great cities of the world have distinctive personalities. New York — sophisticated. San Francisco — gay. New Orleans — musical. Paris — artsy. Rome — eternal. Do we want to settle for "laid-back"?

[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.]

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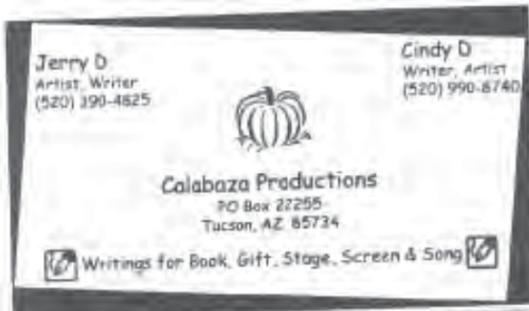
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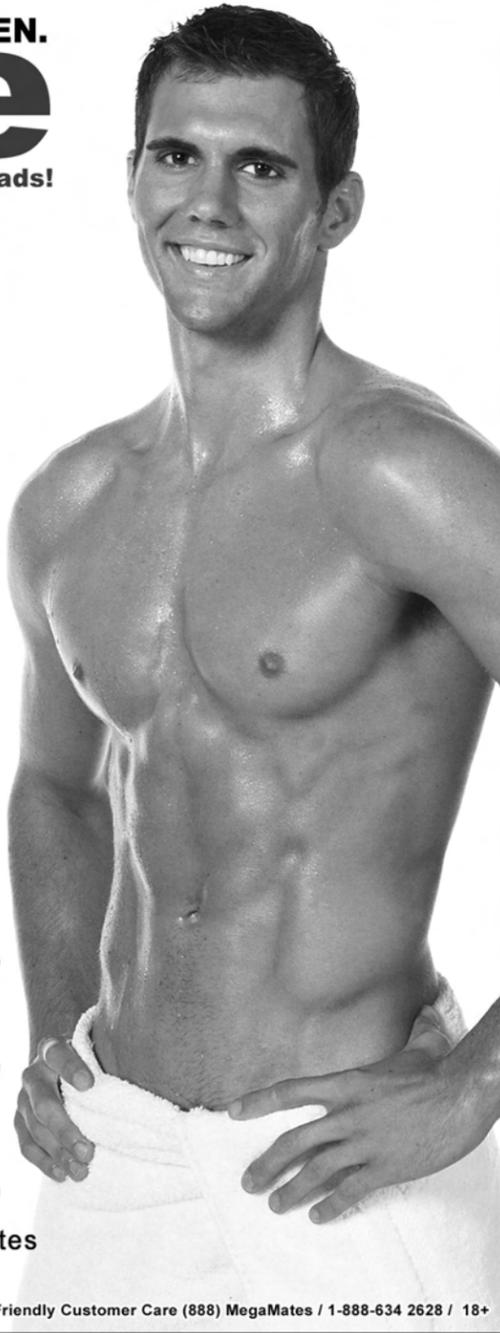


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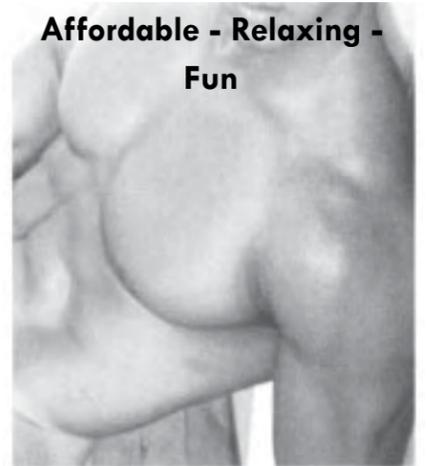
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Queer Duck/The Movie Enters Production



HOLLYWOOD - Paramount Home Entertainment announced Thursday (Nov. 3) that it has green-lit a feature-length version of the popular Queer Duck animated shorts from Simpsons writer Mike Reiss, reported Advocate.com.

Queer Duck (voiced by out actor Jim J. Bullock) began as an online character before his animated adventures were picked up by the Showtime network and screened in conjunction with Queer as Folk. "Mike Reiss and his creative team have created a truly funny story filled with more of the outrageous, shocking antics that fans of Queer Duck will enjoy," said Thomas Lesinski, president of Paramount Pictures worldwide home entertainment, in a statement. "Queer Duck, an Internet short animated on a home computer, went on to be named one of the 'Hundred Greatest Cartoons of All Time' by the BBC," said Reiss. "I'm delighted Paramount Home Entertainment is taking it to the next level."

The film will feature the original cast of Bullock, Kevin Michael Richardson (as Openly Gator), Maurice LaMarche (as Oscar Wildcat), and Billy West (as Bi Polar Bear), along with special guests Conan O'Brien, Andy Dick, Bruce Vilanch, Tim Curry, Mark Hammill, and David Duchovny (as "Tiny Jesus"). Queer Duck-The Movie is set for a 2006 release.

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DAILY BAR CALENDAR

sunday

COLORS - Open 11am - 11pm Champagne Brunch 11am - 2pm with choice of complimentary mimosa, Bloody Mary or Screwdriver. Happy Hour 4-7pm \$2 sky Cocktails, \$3 Sky Martinis, \$2.25 Domestic and half price appetizers. Full menu served 2-10pm. Nightly dinner specials. Live music from Bob Feldhaus during Brunch (11:30-2:30) & Dickie Steede during dinner (6:30-9:30)

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 11am. Kitchen 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 Sky & Beefeaters Martinis.

WOODY'S - Open 10am. w/Special Happy Hour til 2pm \$1.50 well or domestic longnecks. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. Karaoke w/Michael D. 9-1

YARD DOG - Open daily 8am. 50¢ off any Top Shelf Rum until 8pm. Beer Bust 4-8pm

tuesday

COLORS - Open 4-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7 \$3 Sky cocktails, \$4 Sky Martinis, \$2.25 Domestic and half-price appetizers. 1st 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 (2nd 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, \$2.25 Sky cocktails, \$3 Sky Martinis, \$2.25 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, "Divalicious" 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, \$3 Sky cocktails, \$4 Sky Martinis, \$2.25 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, \$3 Sky cocktails, \$4 Sky 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. lunch. Dinner Happy Hour 4-7pm domestic beers or well cocktails \$2.25. Close 1am.

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, \$3 Sky cocktails, \$4 Sky Martinis, \$2.25 Domestic and half-price appetizers Full menu served 4-11pm. Nightly dinner specials. Singer, piano player Marily Harris performs during dinner from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Reservations suggested. Close 1am.

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/ Aija 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.

CASINOS

AVA AMPHITHEATER AT CASINO DEL SOL COMING ATTRACTIONS: (Box office 838-6700 -I-10 Exit Valencia West)

Nov. 12 - Wayne Newton

Nov. 20 - Dave Chappelle

Feb. 26 - Brooks & Dunn (Tickets on Sale Nov. 25)

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

LIVE THEATRE WORKSHOP:

5317 E. Speedway. 327-4242.

Noel Coward's "BLITHE SPIRIT" continues through Sunday, November 13. Performance times are 7:30 p.m. Thursday thru Saturdays and 3:00 p.m. Sundays. \$13 - \$15.

"THE EXISTENCE OF FAERIES", the story of what happens when the fairies of the world decide to perform a musical to announce their existence continues thru Sunday, Nov. 27. Shows are 1:00 p.. Sundays, Tickets are \$5.00 to \$7.00. Call 327-4242 for reservations.

UofA PRESENTS Rodgers and Hammerstein's "OKLAHOMA" based on the Royal National Theatre/Cameron Macintosh Broadway Production. Tickets are on sale now. Call the box office at 621-3341. www.oklahomatour.com

Arizona Repertory Theatre Company presents "SIDE SHOW" through November 13 at the UA Morroney Theatre, 1025 N. Olive Rd., 621-1162. "Side Show" tells the unusual but true story of conjoined sisters. Call for times. Gen. Tickets \$29

BAR CALENDAR Of Upcoming Events

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11

COLORS - Friday's it's Jazz hre with Susan Artemiss at the piano from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Then at 10:00 p.m. it's the Guys and Dolls Show starring Lucinda Holliday with special guest Adrienne Alexander.

VENTURE-N - It's Veteran's Day and what better wy to celebrate with a Uniform Nite here. Specials for men in military wear.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12

WOODY'S - Live Jazz on the Patio with Arthur Migliazza from 6 to 9 p.m. and then at 9:00 p.m. there's a special benefit show for Miss Saigon who is a candidate for Miss Gay Tucson.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13

COLORS - Live music from Bob Feldhaus during brunch 11:30 - 2:30. Live music from Dickie Steede during dinner 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14

YARD DOG - Something new here - Monday Night At The Movies begins at 7:30 p.m. Free popcorn and 50¢ hot dogs. If you have a favorite movie let them know.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

WOODY'S - A Toga Party starts at 8:00 p.m. and runs until closing. Drink Specials.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18

WOODY'S - Do you have a November Birthday? If so celebrate it at Woody's tonight with your astrological friends.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

WOODY'S - They're planning a "Blow and Suck" Party here. Watch for details!

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24

VENTURE-N - Celebrate Thanksgiving here with their Thanksgiving Day Potluck. Sign up with the bartender.

UTA Student Found Killed In Arlington, TX

ARLINGTON - A Gay University of Texas at Arlington student was murdered in his apartment by someone police suspect he had invited home, reported the Dallas Voice.

Police early Monday (Oct. 31) found the body of Samuel Lea, 28. His mother had filed a missing persons report when he failed to keep an appointment with her and did not answer his phone. He was last seen on Oct. 26, when he met his mother for lunch in Fort Worth.

A friend of Lea's went to his apartment near the university campus and called police after detecting a peculiar odor coming from inside. Lt. Blake Miller, a spokesman for the Arlington Police Department, said investigators suspect Lea was killed by someone he knew or had met. His killer apparently drove Lea's truck away from the murder scene. The cause of death is still pending, according to a spokeswoman for the Tarrant County medical examiner's office.

Miller said investigators doubt that Lea's death was the result of a hate crime. There was no sign of forced entry, and the apartment was locked when police arrived. "What we can say right now is that he probably went out and met up with someone he knew, or met someone new and decided to take them home, and he ends up being killed," Miller said. "He had a frequency of going to Gay bars all over the Metroplex." Whether Gay or straight, the lieutenant added, "If you take someone home you are rolling the dice sometimes."

Susanna Lea, the student's mother, said she also doubted that her son died as a result of a hate crime. "My theory is that he tried to help somebody and trusted and tried to help them and it was the wrong person," Lea said. Lea said her son was compassionate and eager to help others. "I loved my son, and I loved who he was," Lea said. "He was warm, intelligent, terribly caring about everyone. He went to the Nth degree to help people, and he didn't know a stranger."

NOTICES - COMMUNITY - NOTICES

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

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

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

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

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

GLBT-friendly AL-ANON group meets Saturdays at 11am at Unitarian Universalist Church, 4831 E. 22nd Street, Tucson

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 WORLD-WIDE** 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

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 or call (602)225-8444.

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

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

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

BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO - a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, Call the Bears Hotline (520)790-5775 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910 or visit our website at 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 GAYAL-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, 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, 425 E. 7th St. 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, contact **TEAM ARIZONA** at their website: teamarizona.org

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

GRACE GROUP - CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 2nd and 4th Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the Madonna Hall at Saints Peter and Paul

Catholic Church, 1436 N. Campbell across from University Hospital. For more info. Call Anabeli at 325-0892

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

AZdykes is a new email list for Lesbians living in Arizona. For information mail tyan@theriver.com and request guidelines.

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

THEATER / DINNER / 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. 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-diversity 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)624-1779 x26 for more info.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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/ 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) 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.



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