



Observing Tucson And  
The Greater Arizona Community

# OBSERVER

<http://www.tucsonobserver.com>

WEEKLY OBSERVER

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## Feingold Announces Support For G/L Marriage

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Legislation introduced in the U.S House of Representatives would amend the Social Security Act to afford same-sex couples the same benefits, responsibilities, and obligations as others who pay into Social Security, reported [advocate.com](http://advocate.com). The Equal Access to Social Security Act, H.R. 5152, would add the term "permanent partner" to the Social Security Act in addition to the terms "husband" and "wife," which are already present in the legal code.

"Same-sex couples are denied more than 1,000 federal benefits that other taxpayers are entitled to," said Democratic congressman Jerrold Nadler of New York, who authored the bill. "The Equal Access to Social Security Act addresses this inequity. Ultimately, the only way same-sex couples will be treated equally is when they are allowed to marry—but until that can be a reality for the millions of same-sex couples in this country, we should act to make federal law fair to all."

Nadler's bill does not address same-sex marriage but does provide gay and lesbian couples with some of the benefits married couples enjoy under the Social Security system. Under H.R. 5152, children of same-sex couples would be able to collect survivor benefits in the event of a parent's death, just as children of federally recognized married couples may do.

"I've heard many conservatives say that other than the case of marriage, they don't want to discriminate against the LGBT community," Nadler said. "If they truly don't want to discriminate, here is their chance to prove it. Same-sex couples pay the



**Sen. Russ Feingold (D-Wisconsin)**

same taxes as married couples, and they deserve the same Social Security benefits as everyone else."

Recognizing that the elderly often face difficulty maintaining their standard of living after a partner dies, the bill would also entitle elderly same-sex couples to the survivor benefits offered by Social Security to heterosexual widows and widowers.

Seventeen members of Congress have cosponsored Nadler's resolution: representatives Tammy Baldwin, Howard Berman, John Conyers, Joseph Crowley, Rahm Emanuel, Sam Farr, Barney Frank, Raúl Grijalva, Patrick Kennedy, Barbara Lee, Carolyn Maloney, Jim McDermott, George Miller, Charles Rangel, Pete Stark, Henry Waxman, and Lynn Woolsey.

## Attacks On G/L Tourists, Homophobia Reign In Caribbean

PHILIPSBURG - Two CBS News employees were attacked and severely beaten by a group of men on the Caribbean island of St. Maarten where they were vacationing in what is described as a homophobic attack, reported [365Gay.com](http://365Gay.com). WFOR television in Miami reports that Richard Jefferson, a senior producer for the CBS Nightly News and his friend Ryan Smith a producer-researcher for 48 Hours were attacked as they left a popular bar after an altercation with the men earlier in the night inside the club.

The attackers allegedly hurled homophobic insults at the two and they were beaten with a tire iron. Both men were rushed to a local hospital. Jefferson sustained severe cuts on the back of his head and his lower back. Smith suffered a fractured skull and possible neurological damage. He was transferred by air ambulance to Memorial Hospital in Miami on Friday (Apr. 7). Jefferson is also in Miami receiving medical care.

A doctor said that Smith is unable to speak properly and may have difficulty walking. Jefferson was critical of the way police handled the situation. He said that employees of the club called police but no one responded. Jefferson said he called police from the hospital but at no time did any officer come to the hospital to take a report. Police in Philipsburg did not return calls from [365Gay.com](http://365Gay.com) seeking information. Jefferson said he has been visiting St. Maarten for 15 years but it isn't "a friendly island anymore."

Earlier in the week a Gay man was chased through the campus of the University of the West Indies in

Kingston, Jamaica by rioting students. Students on Friday (Apr. 7) apologized for the attack and the university said it would discipline the ringleaders.

The rioting began when a student claimed the man had propositioned him in a college washroom. Police on Friday (Apr 7.) said the victim of the attack was not a student as they had earlier stated. The man is being investigated under Jamaica's sodomy law and will be charged with trespassing. . . .

Meanwhile, a Bahamian government board's decision to ban the movie "Brokeback Mountain" has prompted charges of discrimination and censorship in the island chain. Gay rights groups and others have called on the Plays and Films Control Board to reverse its decision prohibiting theaters from showing the award-winning movie about a troubled love affair between two cowboys.

"You have a group of people who are telling grown men and women what they can and cannot watch," said Philip Burrows, a theater director in the island chain. "I cannot understand denying people the right to make their own choices." Theaters in Nassau, the capital, had already begun to advertise the movie Friday (Apr. 7) when the board announced its ban at the request of the Bahamas Christian Council.

"The board chose to ban it because it shows extreme homosexuality, nudity and profanity, and we feel that it has no value for the Bahamian public," Chavasse Turnquest-Liriano,

**Continued on Page Two**

## Pentagon Admits Spying On LGBT Groups

WASHINGTON, D.C. - After months of silence the Department of Defense has confirmed that it spied on groups opposed to "Don't Ask, Don't Tell", the law banning openly Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual service members, reported [365Gay.com](http://365Gay.com).

Last December media reports said that the Pentagon has been spying on "suspicious" meetings by civilian groups, including student groups opposed to the military's "don't ask, don't tell."

The reports said that the Pentagon had spied on New York University law school's LGBT advocacy group OUTlaw and Gay groups at the State University of New York at Albany and William Patterson College in New Jersey.

In February, the DoD acknowl-

edged in a letter to the Senate Armed Services Committee that it had 'inappropriately' collected information on protestors but did not name any of the organizations.

That same month the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network filed a lawsuit to obtain information related to the government's domestic spy program when the Pentagon turned down a Freedom of Information Act request.

In response to the lawsuit the DoD now has released details on its TALON database.

Although the newly released reports may not be a complete list of groups monitored, it does confirm domestic surveillance of protests at New York University, the University of California at Berkeley, and the

University of California at Santa Cruz

DoD also indicated that it will continue to search for other documents related to SLDN's FOIA request.

"The Department of Defense has now confirmed the existence of a surveillance program monitoring LGBT groups," said C. Dixon Osburn, executive director of SLDN.

"Pentagon leaders have also acknowledged inappropriately collecting some of the information in the TALON database. That information should be destroyed and no similar surveillance should be authorized in the future. Free expression is not a threat to our national security."

## HAPPY EASTER



# UPDATE

## Jell-O Wrestling: A Honored Tradition

TUCSON - On Sunday, May 7, wrestlers will be slipping and sliding in a pit of Jell-O (the color is a secret!) to help raise funds for the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) in the 19th anniversary of the Reno Gannon Memorial Jell-O Extravaganza and Benefit Auction, at Woody's, 3710 N. Oracle Rd., with doors opening at 2:00 p.m. and wrestling scheduled to begin at 4:00 p.m.

Jell-O was begun in 1987 when funds to help support people with HIV/AIDS were non-existent and so the community banded together to find a way to help, forming the organizations of Shanti, PACT and TAP, and the event continues for SAAF.

Tickets for Jell-O and Raffle tickets are on sale. Tickets to Jell-O are \$6 in advance and \$10 at the door. This year's Jell-O Wrestling Raffle features a grand prize of a one-week stay in Mazatlan during the month of November, plus \$250 in cash and tickets are only \$1 each.

Between wrestling matches there is also a live auction. Please visit the Jell-O website at [www.jello-wrestling.org](http://www.jello-wrestling.org) to get more information or contact Mae Krueger, (520) 628-7223 or by email at [events@saaf.org](mailto:events@saaf.org). See you at Woody's on May 7!

## Treasures For TIHAN, May 6

TUCSON - "Treasures for TIHAN," the signature fundraising event for the programs and services is coming up on Saturday, May 6, 6 p.m. at The Hotel Arizona (formerly the Radisson Hotel), 181 W. Broadway.

A sparkling evening of great music, fantastic food, and wonderful auction items to raise funds to support the programs and services, the "Treasures" benefit is the largest event of the year, raising over \$84,000 last year.

Tickets for the event are \$50 (\$23 is tax-deductible), and can be purchased by calling (520) 299-6647 or online at [tihan.org](http://tihan.org). If you can help by donating or soliciting items for our auction—trips, gift certificates, massages, antiques, jewelry, rugs, unique gift items, and collectibles of value (over \$50 in value, please), please contact Scott at TIHAN, (520) 299-6647, E-mail: [scott@tihan.org](mailto:scott@tihan.org).

## Easter Weekend Services April 14-16

TUCSON - Cornerstone Fellowship church, 2902 N. Geronimo, announced that they will be holding a series of Easter weekend services, Apr. 14-16.

Services will begin on Friday evening (Apr. 14), 7 p.m., and the Easter Sunrise Services will take place on Sunday at 6:30 A. M. in the church memorial garden. The Sunday (Apr. 16) worship service in the sanctuary will be held at 10:30 a.m. All are invited to attend.

Please call Pastor Paul Chambliss, (520) 622-4626 for more information.

## Desert Voices Spring Concert April 29-30

TUCSON - Desert Voices, Tucson's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Straight chorus, will explore the rich spectrum of gender definition in their upcoming concert, "A Many-Gendered Fling," Saturday, Apr. 29, 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Apr. 30, 2 p.m. at the Dunbar Auditorium, 325 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave., at the corner of Second Street and Main Ave.

"A Many Gendered Fling" opens with Stomp Your Foot a classic Copeland piece in which, "Ladies love their fine amusement, putting patches in a quilt, but men prefer to bend their shoulder to something that will stand when built." Desert Voices shatters these stereotypes with a musical exploration of gender. A hysterical Gender Polka and a few wicked parodies complete the first half, closing with The Promise of Living, also by Copeland.

Tickets for "A Many-Gendered Fling" are now on sale from chorus members, at the chorus office at (520) 791-9662, or at Antigone Books, 411 N. 4th Avenue in Tucson. Advance purchase tickets are \$15 each (\$12 for students and seniors) and tickets will be \$18 at the door if available. More information about the concert and the chorus is available at [desertvoices.org](http://desertvoices.org).

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

## Spring Into Health April 15

TUCSON - You're invited to "Spring Into Health" at Wingspan's annual Health & Wellness fair Saturday, Apr. 15, 10:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., at Wingspan, 425 E. 7<sup>th</sup> St.

There will be food, prizes, massage, acupuncture, exercise classes, a jumping castle for the kids, health screenings (blood pressure, eye exams, body mass index, etc.) and much more.

Everyone is welcomed to come and share in all the fun to be had, learning about their minds, bodies and how to be proactive about their health.

If you have any questions, would like more information, volunteer or offer their services free of charge, please contact Judy Kinney, (520) 624-1779, Ext. 23.

## Wingspan Seeking Nominations For Community Awards

TUCSON - Recognize those who have made outstanding contributions to Southern Arizona's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community as Wingspan is seeking nominations for their community awards.

The Godat Award, named after the first recipient, Ken Godat, was inaugurated in 1998 as a way to recognize annually one person who has made outstanding long-term contributions to Southern Arizona's LGBT community. It is the most prestigious award and highest honor granted each year at the Wingspan Annual Benefit Dinner. Past Godat Award winners include: Ken Godat (1998), Jean Baker (1999), Colette Barajas (2000), Ana "Bertie" Lozano (2001), Bob Ellis (2002), Alexander John Goodrum (2003), Alan Storm (2004), and Mae Krueger (2005).

The Community Ally Award recognizes straight ally who has made significant contributions to advance the freedom, equality, safety and well being of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) people in Southern Arizona. Past Community Ally Award recipients include: Ernesto Portillo Jr. (2001), George Miller (2002), Rev. David Wilkinson (2003), J. Kevin Carmichael (2004), and Detective Tim Rupel (2005).

Wingspan is accepting nominations for both awards for 2006, with winners to be honored at Wingspan's 9th Annual Benefit Dinner, on Saturday, Sept. 16, at the Tucson Convention Center. Members of the Wingspan Board of Directors or Selection Committee are not eligible to be nominated. For more information, call (520) 624-1779 or go online to: [wingspan.org/content/](http://wingspan.org/content/)

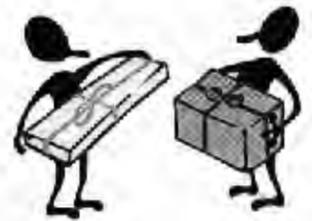
## Attacks On G/L Tourists

Continued from Page One

liaison officer for the control board, said Wednesday (Apr. 5). The Rainbow Alliance, a Gay rights group, called the ban a "farce," and said most Bahamians reject the idea that a "small group of appointed individuals can provide the moral compass for the entire country."

Some have suggested the board could have simply issued a rating that would have barred anyone under 18 from seeing the film. Critics also noted that even some countries where homosexuality is illegal have allowed the movie to be shown in theaters. "Brokeback Mountain," which won critical acclaim and three Oscars, including best director for Ang Lee, has also been banned in mainland China. Turkey has restricted viewing to viewers over 18.

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Monday thru Friday

Office Closed Thursdays

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Informing the Community

The Observer

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## VALLEY FEVER - A Top Killer Of HIV Patients

TUCSON - As valley fever cases spike toward a record in Arizona, the outbreak is especially threatening to those with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, reported the Arizona Daily Star. Although patients infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) are living longer than ever before because of effective drug treatment, valley fever is their leading cause of death in this region.

"I only wish I had known about valley fever when I moved here," said Noel Floresca, an HIV patient who has been fighting the debilitating fungal infection - with severe chronic fatigue - since 1996, four years after arriving in Arizona. "When I made that decision, I did not know valley fever existed. I had all kinds of information on the state, but no one ever mentioned this, and what a threat it can be, especially to vulnerable people."

Valley fever, a lung disease caused by inhaling fungal spores found in the soil of the desert Southwest, has always been a potentially deadly threat to people with damaged immune systems, including those with HIV. While most healthy people experience few or no symptoms from a valley fever infection, it often causes severe, sometimes fatal disease in people with inadequate immune defenses - spreading from the lungs to the bones and the brain and other organs. For years, valley fever - known scientifically as coccidioidomycosis, or "cocci" - was one of many opportunistic infections that could and did kill patients with HIV who visited or lived in this region.

However, when development of the AIDS-fighting drug "cocktail" in 1996 dramatically strengthened the immune systems of these patients,

giving them an almost normal life span instead of a certain death sentence, most of those opportunistic infections vanished as major threats - except valley fever. Although deaths from it have declined significantly in treated HIV patients, valley fever nevertheless persists as the prime cause of death in those infected with HIV in Southern Arizona, according to the Tucson physicians who treat them. HIV patients here are twice as likely to die of valley fever as of the other leading threats - liver disease and substance abuse, records show. In the rest of country, where the valley fever fungus does not grow, the chronic liver disease hepatitis C has surfaced as the top threat to HIV patients.

"The fact is, these patients shouldn't be dying at all, because the anti-retroviral (HIV) therapy is so good now," said Dr. Kevin Carmichael, whose practice, El Rio Special Immunology Associates, treats most Tucson AIDS and HIV-positive patients. "But since I've been keeping track, cocci (valley fever) is the leading cause of death in our practice. It's a pretty aggressive infection, so once we start treating for it, we never stop - patients stay on medication for life, no matter what their immune status."

Carmichael has seen too many cases go bad, when people have stopped treatment after their immune systems have improved. "The valley fever comes back, and then it can take off," he said. "It goes to overwhelming disease, often to the brain, and people die." Of the 116 deaths among Carmichael's patients in a recent four-year period, 29 were caused by valley fever - about 25 percent. Most of those who died were

not being treated at the time for their HIV - either because they were unaware they had it or because they stopped treatment, often due to drug abuse or mental illness, Carmichael said. But in some of the cases, the valley fever medication simply failed, even in people whose immune systems had recovered fairly well on the HIV drugs.

Especially at risk are HIV-positive people who move away from the area, Carmichael said. "Before they go, I remind them there is cocci here, so if they ever get sick, they must tell their doctors they once lived in Arizona, and to consider valley fever," he said. "Doctors in New York City won't think of it." It's not yet clear if the current statewide outbreak of valley fever cases is affecting HIV patients as well, Carmichael said.

Blamed at least in part on the ongoing severe drought - which gets huge numbers of fungal spores out of the dry, dusty soil and into the air - record-high valley fever infections have been reported in recent months. In January and February alone, a total of 1,000 cases have been counted in Arizona - way ahead of a normal year, which should tally 2,700 cases over 12 months. February's 640 cases tripled the five-year average for that month, according to state health officials. "There is really no way to deal with the valley fever threat," Carmichael said. "There's nothing you can do about it - you can't put people in a bubble. But we can and do have a very high level of suspicion for it. And when we find it, we treat it for life."

Causes of death at Tucson's largest AIDS clinic 2005: Total 22 - Valley Fever 8, Liver disease 3. Drug overdose 2, 2004: Total 21 -

Valley fever 9, Liver disease 3, Lung cancer 3. 2003: Total 25 - Valley fever 6, Heart attack 3, Liver disease 2. (Source: El Rio Special Immunology Associates).

### Baseball Benefit Poster Contest Announced

TUCSON - The Seventh Tucson Baseball Benefit at TEP Park at the Tucson Sidewinders Pacific Coast League ball game approaching, the organizer has announced a poster contest to advertise the fund raising event.

In a press release, Dave Locke said that the winner of the poster contest will receive two complimentary tickets, valued at \$30 per person, as well as free entry to the fund raising suite for the ball game, for which a portion of the proceeds will go to the Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN).

According to the release, the poster should have the following: "Dave Locke presents the Seventh Annual Baseball Benefit, July 9, Tucson Electric Park. Cost: \$30 Per Person. Portion of the Proceeds from this years event to benefit TIHAN. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. For \$30.00 you receive a Suite right behind home plate, with a buffet of Hamburgers, Hot dogs, Chips, Soda, Cookies in the suite, with a cash bar outside the Suite."

Proposed posters must be submitted by 5 p.m., June 1, and sent to Dave Locke, 1635 N. Craycroft, #210, Tucson, AZ 85712.

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### Mark Your Calendars

## 2nd Annual 80's Prom Party

### Thursday, April 20th



# UPDATE

## Karin Ulrich Honored By AHRF-Tucson April 20



**Karin Ulrich (D-Ward 3)**

TUCSON - City Councilmember Karin Uhlich, D-Ward 3, will be the honoree at the Arizona Human Rights Fund (AHRF) - Tucson Chapter annual membership Garden Party, Thursday, Apr. 20, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 2331 E. Adams St.

Uhlich is Tucson's first openly Lesbian member of the City Council, as well as the first open Lesbian candidate for political office in Southern Arizona to be elected as well, winning a landslide victory in Nov. 2005, soundly defeating the Republican incumbent officeholder.

AHRF-Tucson's event is the annual membership drive of the local chapter of the statewide Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) rights organization. Annual memberships for AHRF ranging from a \$20 (individual student membership) to \$75 (family membership), with proceeds going to Arizona's LGBT political and advocacy organization.

State Representative Kyrsten Sinema, D-Phoenix and Steve May, co-chair of AHRF, will be on hand to talk about the latest developments of the campaign to defeat the "Protect Marriage Arizona," amendment, as well as informing those present of happenings at the Arizona State Legislature.

For more information, go online to [ahrf.org](http://ahrf.org), or call (602) 650-0900.

## LGBT Prom Gives Teens Experience Without Fear

PHOENIX - High school prom is a rite of passage for American teens. Every year, however, countless students in the Valley and around the country forgo this defining life event, but not because they can't afford a dress or find a date. Many Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered (LGBT) teens stay home every year because of fear of harassment and bullying.

"Everybody thinks of certain events that you're supposed to have during high school. Prom is one of those events, but a lot of Gay and Lesbian students don't feel like they're welcome at their own prom," said Tiffany Davis, co-president of TRANSforming Hearts and Minds, an organization that put on an alternative prom Friday night (Apr. 7) for LGBT students, reported the Arizona Republic.

Pamela Weir, 17, a junior at Chaparral High School, was one of about 120 Gay prom guests who gathered at the Lath House Pavilion in downtown Phoenix's Heritage Square

for music, dancing and pictures. Weir, a Lesbian, said some Gay students at her high school are subjected to name-calling and physical attacks and shy away from bringing their same-sex significant others to prom. "High school is a really scary place to be out because kids can be mean," Weir said.

Alternative proms for Gay students, which have been held in places like San Francisco for years, are relatively new to Arizona. A Gay prom was hosted in Phoenix two years ago; now TRANSforming Hearts and Minds is starting it back up with the intention of holding it every year.

McClintock High School senior Sulaiman Stephens, 17, said prom is an exciting milestone and it's unfortunate that students would feel uncomfortable attending their own school's signature event. But he thinks the alternative prom is "a great idea" because Gay students would probably be teased if they attended traditional school dances. "They would receive some sort of teasing and taunting," Stephens said. "It's unfortunate that some students have to go through that. I don't agree with it. Just as I express my heterosexuality, they have the same right to express their homosexuality."

Not everyone agrees. Weir said she has experienced plenty of name-calling from people she doesn't even know. "On a couple of occasions I've actually had things thrown at me during lunch." In addition to the Gay prom, she said she will be going to her own high school prom in May, with her girlfriend Morgan, but not for the same reasons as her classmates. "That is more about making a statement and showing that we're not afraid, more than actually just having fun and relaxing," she said. "I'm thrilled that there is a Gay prom," Weir added, "but I hope that one day there won't be a need for one."



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**Easter At Woody's:**  
**Egg Hunt All Day**  
**11:30 AM Leno's Brunch**  
**'Virgin' Ham & 'Classy' Hashbrown Casseroll \$6**  
**2 PM Patio Bar And Beer Bust**  
**5 PM Sirlion Burgers**  
**8 PM Basket Contest (\$50 Best Basket)**  
**Submit A Picture Of Your Basket**  
**9 PM Karaoke With Michael D.**

**Sarong Underwear Party**  
**Wed. April 19th**  
**Taurus/ Aries Birthday Party**  
**Fri. April 21st**  
**Earth First Party (Win A Bike)**  
**Sat. April 22nd**

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## Six Sentenced In Attack On Gay Men

SANTA FE - A New Mexico judge told the two men deemed most responsible for last year's beatings of two Gay men that "you need to see the inside of the penitentiary," reported the Associated Press on Advocate.com. Gabriel Maturin, 21, and Isaia Medina, 20, will undergo 60-day psychological examinations at the state prison in Los Lunas and then will appear before state district judge Michael Vigil for final sentencing.

"The viciousness of this attack warrants you going to the penitentiary to see where you will live your life if this type of activity continues," Vigil told them Wednesday (Feb. 5), to the gasps of their families. James Maestas, 22, and Joshua Stockham, 24, were beaten Feb. 27, 2005, in the parking lot of a Santa Fe motel. Maestas spent eight days in a coma; Stockham received minor injuries. Maestas told Vigil he had to relearn how to walk and talk and do everyday things such as dress himself. "I will never, ever forget this," he said. "Having someone hate your lifestyle so much that they would physically beat you is hard to accept." Stockham told the defendants, "I will forgive you, but I won't forget." Medina and Maturin pleaded guilty last September to charges of conspiracy and aggravated battery causing great bodily harm. The charges included hate-crime enhancements.

Four other people charged in the beatings also were sentenced Wednesday (Feb. 5) under a 2003 state hate-crimes law. Prosecutor Shari Weinstein, who helped write the

law, said it was designed for such cases. Joseph Cano, 19; Jonathan Valdez, 21; and Paul Montoya, 20, each were sentenced to three years of supervised probation and 500 hours of community service, including speaking to high school and college students about what they had done. Cano, who was accused of driving the others to the motel, pleaded guilty in September to conspiracy to commit aggravated battery with great bodily harm, with a hate-crimes enhancement. Valdez and Montoya were slated to go on trial April 25 but accepted plea bargains instead on the same charge, Weinstein said. Vigil ordered David Trinidad, who was 17 when the attack occurred, to participate in an intensive treatment program in Las Vegas, N.M., for sexual offenders and then go on probation for five years.

Trinidad pleaded guilty in August to aggravated battery, battery, conspiracy, and criminal damage to property. At the time of the beatings, he was on probation for raping a 4 1/2-year-old boy, prosecutors said. Trinidad, a waiter who served Maestas and Stockham at a restaurant earlier that evening, knew where they were going and directed his friends there, police have said. Maestas said after the hearing that he was fine with the sentences for Trinidad, Cano, Valdez, and Montoya. As for Maturin and Medina, he said, "When Gabe and Isaia got up and looked at me and said they were sorry—you can say 'sorry' as many times as you want, but it doesn't change anything. What happened that night—10 more minutes, and I would have been dead."

## Children Removed From Lesbian Mom, Given To Ex-Partner

LONDON - Britain's Court of Appeals has ordered that two children be removed from the custody of their biological mother and turned over to her ex-partner, 365Gay.com reported. The ruling came after the birth mother ignored a lower court ruling that gave joint custody of the two young girls to both women. The court heard that the biological mother fled with the children to Cornwall rather than share custody.

When they were found the birth mother was ordered to appear in court where a judge ruled there was no indication she would obey the joint custody ruling in the future. He noted that both women had shared responsibilities in raising the children and that the girls did not distinguish

between one mother or the other. He then ordered that the children be surrendered to the former partner who would become their sole caregiver. The decision was hailed as a major breakthrough in the recognition that same-sex partners have rights in parenting. The birth mother appealed.

In its ruling the the Appeals Court upheld the lower court ruling and noted that times have changed and traditional definitions of families have changed with them. "We have moved into a world where norms that seemed safe 20 or more years ago no longer run," said Lord Justice Thorpe writing for the court. "In the eyes of the child, the natural parent may be a non-biological parent who, by virtue of long settled care, has become the child's psychological parent," Thorpe said.



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**AS I SEE IT. . . . . BY CLARK**

ALL HAIL THE COMMANDER IN LEAKS



# LGBT Families To Attend White House Easter Egg Roll



WASHINGTON, D.C. - Among the 16,000 guests at next Monday's (Apr. 17) White House Easter Egg Roll will be some 200 LGBT families, who are attending the annual event as part of an effort by Family Pride Coalition to show President Bush that families like theirs exist, reported advocate.com.

Although the group claims they are not making a protest, some conservatives disagree, saying they're "crashing" the party, reports The New York Times. "We're not protesting the president's policies on Gay families," Jennifer Chrisler, executive director of the coalition, told the Times. "We are, however, helping him understand that

Gay families exist in this country and deserve the rights and protections that all families need."

Countered Mark D. Tooley of the conservative Institute on Religion and Democracy: "It's facetious and not very persuasive for Family Pride to say they're not making a political statement." Although first lady Laura Bush, the hostess of the egg roll, would not give her personal take on the matter, her press secretary told the Times that "all families are welcome to attend...provided they comply with the rules." The families plan to wear rainbow leis to distinguish themselves.

# Federal Legislation Would Give G/L Couples Equality In Social Security

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Legislation introduced in the U.S House of Representatives would amend the Social Security Act to afford same-sex couples the same benefits, responsibilities, and obligations as others who pay into Social Security, reported advocate.com. The Equal Access to Social Security Act, H.R. 5152, would add the term "permanent partner" to the Social Security Act in addition to the terms "husband" and "wife," which are already present in the legal code.

"Same-sex couples are denied more than 1,000 federal benefits that other taxpayers are entitled to," said Democratic congressman Jerrold Nadler of New York, who authored the bill. "The Equal Access to Social

Security Act addresses this inequity. Ultimately, the only way same-sex couples will be treated equally is when they are allowed to marry—but until that can be a reality for the millions of same-sex couples in this country, we should act to make federal law fair to all."

Nadler's bill does not address same-sex marriage but does provide gay and lesbian couples with some of the benefits married couples enjoy under the Social Security system. Under H.R. 5152, children of same-sex couples would be able to collect survivor benefits in the event of a parent's death, just as children of federally recognized married couples may do.

"I've heard many conservatives say that other than the case of marriage, they don't want to discriminate against the LGBT community," Nadler said. "If they truly don't want to discriminate, here is their chance to prove it. Same-sex couples pay the same taxes as married couples, and they deserve the same Social Security benefits as everyone else."

Recognizing that the elderly often face difficulty maintaining their standard of living after a partner dies, the bill would also entitle elderly same-sex couples to the survivor benefits offered by Social Security to heterosexual widows and widowers.

Seventeen members of Congress have cosponsored Nadler's resolution: representatives Tammy Baldwin, Howard Berman, John Conyers, Joseph Crowley, Rahm Emanuel, Sam Farr, Barney Frank, Raúl Grijalva, Patrick Kennedy, Barbara Lee, Carolyn Maloney, Jim McDermott, George Miller, Charles Rangel, Pete Stark, Henry Waxman, and Lynn Woolsey.

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**COMMENTARY . . .** by Marta Donayre

**Who Are The Illegals?**

The recent immigration debate has stirred up a lot of emotions in this country. Not too long ago, the same emotions rose around the issue of same-sex marriage. As a Latina Lesbian



**Marta Donayre**

immigrant, I can't help but feel continually targeted. On the one hand my immigrant brothers and sisters call me "immoral." On the other hand my Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and queer brothers and sisters call me "illegal." In the end, both only perpetuate the "otherness" stigma that affects immigrants and LGBTQ people. Sadly, both groups fail to see that they have more similarities than differences.

Both LGBTQ people and immigrants are accused of breaking "the law." To some these are sodomy laws (repealed only as recently as 2003), to others immigration law. Yet powerful people wrote both legal codes to enforce their personal biases on those deemed "other." In the heat of the argument, the humanity of people like me is completely lost since the "other" is less deserving, or needs to be eliminated somehow.

Unfortunately, both groups also advocate for justice and equality, but only for themselves. During immigration protests I vigorously chant, "What do we want? Justice! When do we want it? Now!" But this chant really means "just us," since the LGBTQ community is never included. The assumption is that all immigrants are heterosexual. As an immigrant, my own movement leaves me behind.

Likewise, I also vigorously chant along to "What do we want? Equality! When do we want it? Now!" at LGBTQ rallies and protests. But the LGBTQ community has made it very clear that there are some that are more equal than others through their citizenship rhetoric. The argument is that citizens are more deserving than non-citizens. The immigration debate in the LGBTQ community is only limited to partnership recognition. Most times, this is muddled in with marriage. Unless I, as an immigrant, am the appendix of an American citizen whose rights are violated I do not count at all. The assumption is that all LGBTQ people are citizens. As a Lesbian, my own movement leaves me behind.

Ironically, both groups put forward the same arguments. "If they only understood how we suffer," the logic goes, "they would change their hearts and minds and support us." So both camps go out to the public to do just that: share their stories of how they are being wronged. Yet, when it comes time to hearing the other side, for instance for the immigrants to hear the LGBTQ plight or vice versa, something funny happens. The openness that is asked of others is refused when it is their turn. We allow in ourselves the same bigotry we point to in others. No matter what the speaker may have to present, heterosexual immigrants and LGBTQ citizens can only see and listen through the filter of bias. The immigrant will always be the undeserving "illegal," the LGBTQ person will always be the undeserving "immoral."

Then, I ask, how can either

movement really achieve justice and equality? Aren't we, as people, giving back the exact thing we don't want for ourselves? Aren't both communities victims of the same oppressive bias and bigotry? Are we not perpetuating the myth of the "other" onto each other? To this I say, "Do onto others as you would wish them do onto you."

I am ashamed to say that a few years ago I did not understand this. At the time I was caught up in the cycle of creating hierarchies of oppression. I too thought that citizens should come first, even though I myself am an immigrant. But I was fortunate to learn that all forms of oppression are the same. They are rooted in the notion that group A is better than group B based on a label. Because group A is inherently better, then this group deserves something more and better, and that they deserve it before group B. The label could be that of citizenship status, gender, sexual orientation, income level, skin color, religion, disability, class, etc. Now I understand that no advocate for justice and/or equality can see the fruits of the tree of oppression as being different. When a person advocates for equality, he or she must not see people as unequal. When a person advocates for justice, they cannot advocate for "just us." I hope that my brothers and sisters on both sides of this argument can also learn this lesson and that we can all work together against all forms of oppression.

[Marta Donayre is the co-founder of Love Sees No Borders, an organization that advocates for LGBT immigrants and their families. This commentary is reprinted from pageoneq.com.]

**Soccer Star In Trouble Over Comment**

SAO PAULO - Wanderley Luxemburgo could face a one-year ban for offensive remarks made about a referee during a recent press conference, (Apr. 2). The former Brazil and Real Madrid boss, now in charge of Brazilian giants Santos, is being investigated for comments made after Sunday's 3-1 defeat against Sao Paulo in the penultimate round of the Campeonato Paulista - the Sao Paulo state tournament.

Luxemburgo said: "The referee was looking at me all the time. I don't know if he likes me, but I'm not Gay." The prosecutor of Sao Paulo's Court of Sport Justice, Edilson Zago, will charge Luxemburgo for having infringed the 188th article of the Brazilian Code of Sport Justice, which deals with inappropriate comments made about referees to the press. If the court finds him guilty, Luxemburgo could be banned for between 60 to 360 days.

Cintra has the backing of the Sao Paulo football federation's referees committee, according to president Marinho. He said: "It's obvious. If Cintra felt offended, he has the right to fight to defend his rights."



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# POLITICS 2006

by Mark R. Kerr

**PMAA UPDATE:** Arizona could be one of eight states with proposals on this year's ballot for voters to consider whether to amend their respective state constitutions to forbid the governmental and legal recognition of same-sex marriages, civil unions and domestic partnerships but if recent reports are to be believed, which they're not, the drive to get the signatures to place a measure on the November ballot in Arizona, known as the "Protect Marriage Arizona" amendment (PMAA) is in serious trouble and would be the first such measure in the nation to fail in gathering the signatures for ballot access, if it were the case.

According to accounts from the ever-inaccurate, mainstream media, Cathi Herrod, the interim President of Center for Arizona Policy and Nathan Sproul, a political consultant, in charge of the PMAA, both claimed that a for-pay, petition circulator company, Petition Partners, was forbidding their circulators from getting signatures in an effort to prevent the PMAA from getting on the ballot or, in other words, "it's not our fault!"

Small problem though, this isn't the case, according to Andrew Chavez, the owner of Petition Partners, the firm cited in the news stories, who said that Protect Marriage Arizona doesn't have a signed contract with Petition Partners for his firm to collect signatures to get the PMAA on the November ballot in Arizona.

In an interview with this reporter, Chavez said that he had "contact" with Sproul, with the last such communication in Nov. 2005, but no signed contract for Petition Partners to gather signatures ever came about.

According to Chavez, the PMA had initially started their effort (volunteers and circulation of petitions) in Arizona's churches roughly from the filing of the legal paperwork, May through Aug. 2005, and then attempting to expand the effort to get the 183,917 valid signatures needed by July 6, 2006 to place the PMAA on the November ballot.

Chavez added that Petition Partners is the only full time petition circulation business in Arizona and that his firm, and one other, PCI Consultants of El Segundo, California, are working on measures for this year. Petition Partners is listed on the Arizona Minimum Wage Coalition (I-13-2006) financial reports for petition circulation. Smoke Free Arizona

If the sponsor concurs, (most likely what will happen in this case since the only approved amendments were by Republicans), a "final passage" vote is taken in the respective chamber and the bill is then sent to the Governor's desk for further action, but if the sponsor refuses, the bill goes to a conference committee to have the differences resolved and then final votes must be taken in both chambers and then sent to the Governor's desk.

SB 1153 is the bill that would permit student organizations in public colleges and universities to discriminate, denying equal opportunity access for all students all in the name of "moral proclivities."

In Arizona, the three state universities, several community colleges, schools and school districts have policies to protect the rights of LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning) students but these measures would be gutted if this bill is approved and signed into law.

As the same as HB 2696, SB 1153 awaits to be third read, as of press time (Apr. 11), by the Arizona House and wasn't scheduled for an immediate vote, according to the Arizona Legislative Online Services calendar as well.

Unlike HB 2696, this measure was not amended and if approved in third reading, it will then be sent to Governor Janet Napolitano's desk to await her decision. When Napolitano's office formally receives the bill, as well as other measures during the legislative session, she has five days to act - either sign, veto or let the bill become law without her signature. If bills are received after the legislative session, which is the case for many measures, the Governor has ten days, per state law.

It is still important to contact your state Senator and Representatives and speak out on HB 2696 and SB 1153. In Tucson and Pima County, call the Tucson Legislative Office, (520) 398-6000; for Phoenix and Maricopa County, call the Capitol Complex, (602) 926-3559 (State Senate), (602) 926-4221 (State House); and, for those outside these two areas or who wish to reach their legislators offices at the Capital directly, one can also call toll-free, (800) 352-8404. To reach Governor Janet Napolitano's office from anywhere in Arizona, call (800) 253-0883.

Send an E-mail to your state Senator, by going online to a z l e g . s t a t e . a z . u s / MemberRoster.asp?Body=S, and click on the E-mail link for your Senator, and to send an E-mail to your state Representatives, go online to a z l e g . s t a t e . a z . u s / MemberRoster.asp?Body=H, and click on the E-mail links for your two Representatives.

If you want to send an E-mail or perhaps don't know who your representatives are, go online to eqfed.org/ahrf/home.html, the Arizona Human Rights Fund Advocacy Center. AHRF's advocacy center has a special online campaign tool for HB 2696 and SB 1153, located at eqfed.org/campaign/HB2696 and eqfed.org/campaign/SB1153 respectively. Just follow the links and send the Legislature and Governor Napolitano a message to oppose these two measures.

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DATE:** Giving preference to single people - straight, to adopt a child in a crowded

(Apr. 11) HB 2696 has been read and voted on by the floor. It wasn't on the floor calendar. Since the bill was introduced in the Arizona House, it will go back to the Arizona House to concur/refuse - a part of the process in which if the sponsor doesn't accept this case House Majority Rep. Steven Tully, R-Tucson, says he doesn't accept the bill, with the added language of "to be added or to be rejected (refuse) their bill".

## G/L Marriage Advocates Split Over Strategy

SAN FRANCISCO - As Gay and Lesbian marriage advocates battle through the courts for the legal right to wed, a split has emerged over the best strategy to win, reported the Associated Press on the PlanetOut Network. Two Gay California men plan to ask a federal appeals court this week to declare they have a right to marry under the U.S. Constitution, but heavyweights in the fight for same-sex marriage are sitting this one out because they think the legal tactic is misguided.

"We have been very active in trying to win the freedom to marry for same-sex couples," said Jon Davidson, legal director for the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund. "We think there is a smart way to do that and a less smart way to do that." Lambda, the American Civil Liberties Union and other groups are waging their campaigns in state courts in California, Iowa, Washington, New Jersey, New York and elsewhere, seeking similar rulings to the one that led to legal Gay marriages in Massachusetts.

The groups are withholding funding and other support for this case, saying a U.S. Supreme Court ruling is a likely loser given the national consensus against Gay marriage, and it would set bad precedent. The lawyer for a California couple was heard Tuesday (Apr. 4) by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals scoffs at the groups' tactics.

"You fight for your rights when your rights are being denied," Richard Gilbert said. "When the building is on fire, you don't stand by and let the building burn down and say we'll fight

the fire another day." His clients, Arthur Smelt and Christopher Hammer, are arguing in federal court that the U.S. Constitution's equal rights guarantee forbids laws against same-sex marriage. The two men, both in their 40s, declined comment.

The lawsuit is one stop short of the Supreme Court - meaning the case could prompt a definitive ruling by the justices as early as next year on whether the 49 states that don't permit same-sex marriage are violating the Constitution. Many same-sex marriage advocates believe Gays and Lesbians must win the right to marry in several states before bringing the case to the Supreme Court. That approach is failing, Gilbert said.

Despite recent polls showing Americans are increasingly accepting of same-sex marriage, the movement has seen a backlash in the two years since Massachusetts started issuing marriage licenses and San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom's short-lived and illegal move to allow Gays and Lesbians to marry at City Hall. In 2004, 13 states approved constitutional bans on same-sex marriage. Texas and Kansas followed the next year. All told, 19 states have amended their constitution to outlaw Gay marriage, and voters in six or more states could be asked to amend theirs similarly this year.

Even Gilbert suspects his case might lose at the Supreme Court or be dismissed on procedural grounds without a definitive ruling. "Once there is a great stain like that on the courts, there will be a greater movement toward correcting the problem," he said.

Matthew Coles, director of the ACLU's Lesbian and Gay Rights Project, said there is no "magic number" of states that need to approve same-sex marriage before the issue should go before the Supreme Court. "We think, strategically, bringing a federal claim for marriage now is not a wise idea," Coles said. "The Supreme Court is the country's institutional conscience, and if you lose there, I think that sets you back."

Gilbert, however, likened his case to the 1857 Dred Scott decision, when the Supreme Court ruled that black men could be "treated as an ordinary article of merchandise." The nation eventually overcame that decision with the Civil War and banned slavery. The ACLU and Lambda, Gilbert said, "would have told Dred Scott, 'Don't bring your case.'"

Lambda's Davidson said history is siding with his position. In 1986, when many states had laws banning sodomy, the Supreme Court upheld a Georgia sodomy law. Then, in 2003, in what was then seen as the most important legal advance for Gays, the justices struck down a Texas sodomy law in a decision that nullified the nation's remaining 13 state sodomy laws.

"What we've learned was: You're more likely to win at the Supreme Court if you've done your homework, if you have victories in state courts," Davidson said. "He (Gilbert) thinks he knows better and that we have somehow sold out, and I find that quite offensive."

## UCC Continues To Lose Churches Over Pro-LGBT Stand

NEW YORK - The number of churches leaving the United Church of Christ over the denomination's support for same-sex marriage and other LGBT issues continues to grow, reported 365Gay.com. So far more than 50 churches have left the faith. That number is relatively small, leaders of the Church say, and represents less than one percent of the UCC's 5,725 churches.

The latest to disaffiliate is Shepherd of the Hills United Church of Christ in Bechtelsville, Pennsylvania. "We believe a marriage is between one man and one woman," said Keith Leonard, president of the church consistory. "Our name will remain Shepherd of the Hills Church, with additional designation to be determined," Leonard told worshippers during Sunday's service. "We will continue to withhold monies from the UCC Conference and General Synod and continue to redirect those to local charities."

Last July the UCC General Synod voted to endorse same-sex marriage, making it the largest Christian denomination in the country to do so. After debating the issue for about an hour, at the annual meeting in Atlanta, about 80 percent of the nearly 1,000 delegates voted to approve the resolution. Even though some churches are leaving the denomination over Gay marriage, other churches are affiliating with the liberal-leaning UCC. The church says that 23 new congregations affiliated with the UCC during 2005 and an additional 42 churches have expressed a "firm interest" in joining. Two television commercials featuring Gay congregants have met with opposition from networks.

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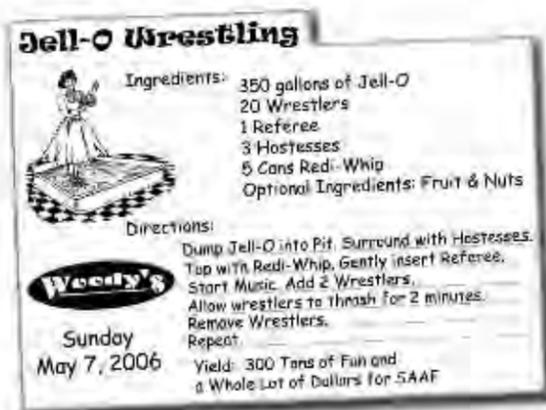
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## PERSPECTIVE

### What LGBT Workers Want



by Kevin Cathcart

The last time you changed jobs, did you think about whether your prospective employer was committed to equality for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender people (LGBT)? If so, then you're in step with a majority of people in the LGBT community, according to a recent survey Lambda Legal conducted with Deloitte Financial Advisory Services LLP. Of the 1,200 respondents, 54 percent said they consider an employer's policies and practices advancing workplace fairness to be a "critical factor" when they're deciding where to work. An additional 38 percent said these policies are "appreciated" and contrib-

ute to their overall happiness.

This is good news for LGBT employees, who are feeling increasingly comfortable at work. It's also good news for the growing number of employers who've made a concerted effort to foster equality in the workplace. Employers understand that diversity is good business: If they want to attract the most talented employees then they must demonstrate a commitment to workplace equality. The survey confirms for the first time just how important this commitment to our community really is.

Lambda Legal and Deloitte conducted the 2005 Workplace Fairness survey over six weeks last fall, seeking to fill a gap in the existing data about LGBT experiences at work. While recent surveys have tracked attitudes toward LGBT people in the workplace - most notably the Harris Interactive—Witeck-Combs survey that investigates workplace attitudes toward Gay and Lesbian people - there hasn't been a direct survey of

LGBT people in the United States about their workplace experiences in more than a decade. And I don't have to tell you how much things have changed in the past ten years.

For instance, 74 percent of survey respondents reported being out at work. While respondents at higher income levels were more likely to report being out at than those at lower incomes, and people who live in parts of the country generally thought to be more "conservative" were less likely to be out, the data shows people claiming to be out in every income category in all parts of the country. This is progress.

But the picture is not all rosy. More than one-third of respondents reported experiencing some form of anti-Gay discrimination or harassment in the workplace. It's this part of the story that forms the bedrock of Lambda Legal's work.

For more than three decades, we've worked to eliminate employment discrimination against LGBT

people. Historically, our work has focused on challenging discrimination through court action. In recent years, we've joined our hallmark litigation with public education in a groundbreaking campaign to "Blow the Whistle on Workplace Discrimination." These efforts have been highly successful, leading to vast improvements in the workplace policies and practices of major employers like UPS, Foot Locker and Cirque du Soleil. Currently, we're gaining momentum in our case against the U.S. State Department on behalf of a man who was denied his dream job in the Foreign Service, solely because he has HIV. As we argue the case in court this spring, we'll be stepping up our efforts to educate the community about discrimination in the public sector and, of course, we'll let Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice know that this kind of discrimination will not stand.

Just as more and more employers are seeing that they lose qualified candidates when they don't promote equality, we believe the government will come around as well. Supporting workplace equality for LGBT people and those with HIV is simply good business - and now we've got the numbers to back it up.

[Kevin Cathcart is the Executive Director of Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund.]

### Ruling Gives Equal Access To GSA Group

MINNEAPOLIS - The Osseo School District must give a student Gay rights (GSA) group at Maple Grove High School the same privileges offered to other extracurricular clubs while a lawsuit proceeds through the court system, according to a ruling Tuesday (Apr. 4), reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com. U.S. District Judge Joan Ericksen issued a preliminary injunction that orders the district to put the student group called Straights and Gays for Equality (SAGE) on equal footing as other groups.

Two students sued the school district in September, claiming that groups including the Spirit Council, the Asian Culture Group and the Chess Club were allowed to publicize meetings and events, but members of SAGE were consistently denied such requests. The lawsuit claimed a violation of the federal Equal Access Act, which holds that public schools must extend the same privileges to all student-organized, non-curricular clubs.

The plaintiffs are two female students who are seniors at the school. Defendants include the current and past superintendents of the Osseo School District, the school's principal and the district's school board members. In her ruling, Ericksen ordered the school to treat SAGE like any other student group when it came to access for meetings, avenues for communication and other rights, according to a news release from the American Civil Liberties Union of Minnesota. The judge issued the preliminary injunction to prevent "irreparable harm" from befalling the group while the lawsuit runs its course, the news release said. "Instead of denying SAGE equal access, the school should be encouraging them, and this order is an important first step toward that happening," said Teresa Nelson, legal counsel for ACLU of Minnesota. Lisa Hunter Jensen, director of community relations for the school district, said the district has seen the decision and was reviewing

Continued on Page Seventeen

**The WHAT PARTY**  
**APRIL 15, 2006**

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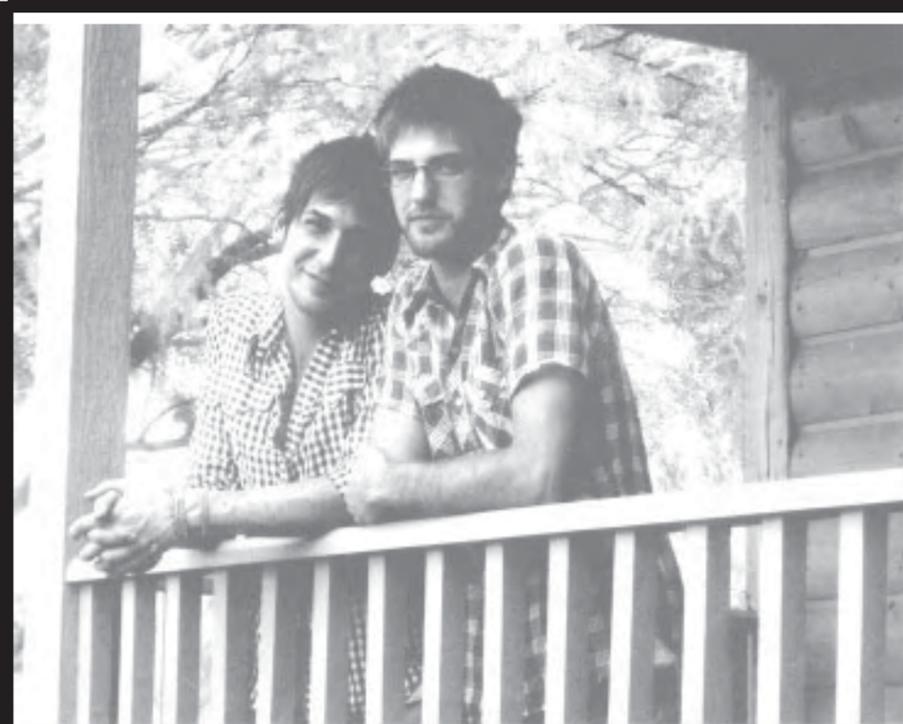
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## Ford Shareholders To Weigh In On G/L Workers

DETROIT - Ford Motor Co. shareholders will decide whether to amend the company's equal employment policy to exclude sexual orientation after the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission denied Ford's request to keep the issue off its proxy statement, the automaker said Tuesday (Apr. 4), reported the Associated Press on 365.Gay.com.

Ford's policy now says the company won't discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation, gender, religion and other factors. Shareholder Robert Hurley of Alton, Ill., has submitted a proposal recommending Ford change its policy to exclude any reference to sexual interests, activities or orientation.

Ford asked the SEC to exclude the proposal from its proxy statement, saying it would hurt the company's ability to recruit employees because some universities require companies to include sexual orientation in their policies. Ford also said publicity over changing the policy could hurt sales to Gay rights supporters. But in a recent decision, the SEC said Ford can't exclude the proposal. The SEC said a rule that allows companies to reject proposals that deal with "ordinary business operations" doesn't apply to this case.

Ford is sending its proxy

statement to shareholders Friday (Apr. 7), spokeswoman Becky Sanch said. Shareholders will vote on the proposals and the results will be announced at the company's annual meeting May 11. "We will include it, and we will have our comments in the proxy statement," Sanch said.

The SEC agreed with Ford's decision to keep other proposals off the proxy statement, including one that would have required the company to pay managers no more than \$500,000 per year. Ford has had an ongoing struggle with the American Family Association and other right-wing groups about homosexuality. In December, Ford said it would stop advertising its Jaguar and Land Rover luxury brands in Gay publications to reduce marketing costs. But after meeting with several Gay rights groups, Ford said it would put ads featuring all eight of its brands in Gay publications.

Last month, 19 right-wing groups reinstated a boycott against Ford over the issue. The American Family Association said that it supports the SEC's decision. "I find Ford's logic in asking the SEC to omit the resolution interesting," AFA Chairman Don Wildmon said in a statement. "In essence Ford is saying they are concerned that a boycott by homosexual groups would financially hurt the company, but the boycott by the pro-family groups will not."

## Bill Would Mandate LGBT Studies



Sen. Shelia Kuehl

SACRAMENTO - Groups already pushing for a constitutional ban on same-sex marriage are girding for a major battle over legislation that would mandate the teaching of LGBT history in California schools, reported 365Gay.com. The measure has already passed one Senate committee and appears likely to hit the floor later this spring. Supporters say they are measurably confident the bill will pass both houses this session.

But whether Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger would sign it is unknown. He has been supportive of some LGBT rights measures but vetoed a bill that would legalize

same-sex marriage. The education bill was authored by Senator Shelia Kuehl (D-Los Angeles) the only openly Lesbian member of the legislature.

"Students deserve an education that gives them a full and accurate picture of our history and society rather than one skewed by negative images and stereotypes," said Kuehl. Her bill would require that the contributions of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community, like other underrepresented groups, be included in social science curriculum.

One student who testified in favor of the bill said that when students learn about the people who shaped history they seldom hear that many of those people were Gay. "I believe that many of society's values are rooted in education, and with an inclusive and more diverse curriculum, we can break down the stereotypes that are obstructing the way to acceptance for

all," said Juliana Spector, a senior from Piedmont High School in Oakland.

But conservatives are demanding that the governor stand up now and voice opposition to the legislation. The Campaign for Children and Families, one of two groups pushing to amend the state constitution to ban same-sex marriage, denounced the education bill. "We're

totally opposed to inserting sexual orientation into textbooks in our schools, Karen England, executive director of the public-policy group Capital Resource Institute told reporters.

Nevertheless, LGBT rights groups across the country are closely watching the progress the bill makes. If it becomes law similar legislation could be pursued in other states.

## Chrysler's 'Fairy' Ad Strikes A Nerve

NEW YORK - In a new Chrysler ad, a fluttery fairy zaps buildings and trains into cute-looking gingerbread houses and toy trains, but is unable to transform a black Dodge Caliber, reported the PlanetOut Network.

When a male passerby snarls, "Silly little fairy," the fairy retaliates by turning the man's button-down shirt and jeans into white shorts and pastel polo shirt draped with a sweater. With the flick of a wand, the fairy also transforms the man's tough dog into four Pomeranians with pink leashes. The formerly macho man then shrieks in horror. The 30-second TV commercial, part of Chrysler Group's "Anything but Cute" advertising campaign, is anything but funny to some Gay groups that say Chrysler is out of line for coaxing laughs from Gay stereotypes.

The ad earned low marks from the Commercial Closet, which monitors ads for Gay and anti-Gay content. "It directly finds humor with the term 'fairy,' referring not just to the type that flies around with a magic wand, but also the universally recognizable Gay stereotype of a Gay man," said a review of the spot on the group's Web site. The ad, which was created by the Detroit office of BBDO Worldwide to publicize the new Dodge Caliber, has generated an average number of complaints, according to Chrysler officials, who said the man in it was not intended to be a Gay stereotype.

"We're kind of surprised that people are making a conclusion about someone's sexual orientation based on the type of clothes you wear and the type of dog you're walking," company spokeswoman Suraya Bliss told the Associated Press. The company's LGBT group, People of Diversity, could not be reached for comment on the ad.



Parent company Daimler Chrysler Corp. has received high marks from the Human Rights Campaign on its Gay-friendly policies. But even a pro-Gay company can be insensitive, according to Sean Kosofsky, director of policy for the Triangle Foundation, a Michigan LGBT rights organization. "There's clearly stereotyping going on in the ad and people I've talked to say that it's playing on homophobic attitudes to get a laugh," Kosofsky said. "The Gay community has a great sense of humor about ourselves and some will say, 'This is just a funny ad.' But it's an ad from a major blue-chip corporation that's clearly devaluing the feminine, and that kind of insensitivity can lead to discrimination," he said. Kosofsky said that the ad did not warrant retraction or an apology from Chrysler.

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# EXPOSED!



# NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE

## Just Say No!

by Lee Thorn

A recent spate of newspaper articles about Rio Nuevo, the City of Tucson's downtown revitalization project, all focus on governmental attempts to secure more time and more money to move the project along. In passing these articles generally mention how dissatisfied everyone is with how the project has gone so far. The most positive comment in all this newsprint was that of a city official who couldn't understand why folks are so upset with Rio Nuevo. He pointed out that everything that was originally promised, with the exception of the aquarium, is "still on the table."

Without meaning to, this official put his finger right on the problem. Almost everything remains a promise "on the table" instead of an accomplished fact on the ground. The city keeps demonstrating, again and again, that it lacks the expertise to translate Rio Nuevo promises into Rio Nuevo realities. In all the many articles I've read I can't find any suggestion or even any hint of the obvious remedy for this continuing disaster. It seems as plain as a nose on a face but it remains unspoken.

Under these dire circumstances of civic silence, I consider it my citizen's as well as my journalistic duty to declare the obvious: We ought to simply and immediately stop Rio Nuevo. Take down its website. Lay off its employees. Return the funds that legally have to be returned to wherever they came from and convert what's left over to the city's general fund. By all manner and means, large and small, completely and permanently FORGET ABOUT IT.

The downside of stopping Rio Nuevo would be the admission that the city screwed up. Everybody already knows that. Another downside would be that our downtown would be without a revitalization plan. Surely that's no worse than having a plan that doesn't work.

Tucson has survived for decades without a particularly vital downtown. It could survive for decades more without one. You've got your government buildings, your courts, your law offices, and all the little restaurants that keep them going, but you're not going to have much more unless you put something downtown that you don't have in the rest of the city.

One way to revitalize downtown would be to take a page from the European playbook and establish a municipally regulated red-light district. Round it out with Amsterdam-style coffee houses that sell grass and some porn shops and I'll guarantee you'd revitalize the heck out of the place. Offer incentives for the prostitutes to move out of their traditional neighborhoods and get legal and centralized. Give the players, local as well as tourists, a playground and, at the same time, sanitize the neighborhoods that are always whining about vice.

The best part is that our city leaders wouldn't have to spend years of to-ing and fro-ing to figure out how to do it. It's already been done. They could all just get on an airplane to Amsterdam, take

a bunch of cardboard boxes with them, and bring back copies of all the relevant city ordinances needed to make the thing work. Anybody who's jumping up and down at this point screaming, "The people of Tucson would never go for it!" is invited to explain to me how the people of square old Denver (where I grew up) recently went for the legalization of small (but no THAT small) quantities of pot.

In short we could have a downtown revitalization if we really wanted it, but recent history shows us that we can live without it. We could have the continuing bottomless pit of Rio Nuevo spending, incompetence and non-performance, but why on earth would we want it?

When you look at what this city really needs, more than downtown revitalization or anything else in the fantasy vein, it's a high municipal minimum wage, something like eight or nine dollars an hour.

Our problem of urban poverty and near poverty would immediately be helped by it. Our problem of attracting and then exploiting undocumented workers would immediately be helped by it. Unaffordable housing would immediately become more affordable. All the really difficult problems that have plagued Tucson since at least the 1920s would be greatly eased.

A high minimum wage discourages start-up businesses and cripples mom-and-pop operations. No problem. Make start-ups exempt for their first five years and make mom-and-pops with fewer than ten employees exempt period. A high minimum wage would drive some cheapo employers, some philosophical conservatives and who knows who else away from our fair city. Not a problem. In all the criticisms I've heard of Tucson in the last nearly 40 years of living here, I've never once heard anyone complain that we haven't been growing fast enough.

[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.]

## Israel's Supreme Court To Hear G/L Marriage Case

JERUSALEM - The Supreme Court of Israel announced Wednesday that it will hear an appeal by five same-sex couples married in Canada who want those marriages recognized at home, 365Gay.com reported. Oral arguments in the case will be heard May 28.

In a rare move the court said the case will be heard by seven justices. Usually only three justices hear arguments in cases brought before the high court. A decision could take months or possibly more than a year, Onn Stock, one of the lawyers involved in the case told 365Gay.com. "Of course we hope it will not take too long for the decision, but regardless of the time period, we hope for a successful outcome," stock said. He said he will argue that even though same-sex marriage is not permitted in Israel legal marriages performed outside the country should be recognized in the Jewish state.

"Israeli straight couples who marry overseas have their marriages recognized by the Ministry of the Interior regardless of whether they are able or not to marry each other in Israel," Stock told 365Gay.com. He noted that certain types of marriages are impossible to perform in Israel due to the fact that marriage law in Israel is determined by Jewish law. Often opposite-sex couples unable to marry in



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 F. RAINBOW PLANET COFFEE HOUSE: 606 N. 4th Ave. - 620-1770  
 G. TIHAN -Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network: 492 N. Alvernon, 299-6647  
 H. EON GAY YOUTH CENTER 620-6245

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

Israel have weddings abroad and then have them registered by the Interior Ministry.

Stock also said that he will argue that any distinction between straight and same-sex couples is unconstitutional. He is representing three of the couples in the case. One of them, Jonathan Herland, 29, and his husband Ayal Wallrouch, 26, were married in a civil ceremony in Toronto last July.

Herland is an attorney who has dual Canadian and Israeli citizen-

ship. He is a graduate of McGill University in Montreal and is a member of the bar in New York State and in Israel. He practices law in Tel Aviv. Wallrouch is a life-sciences student and is employed at the Israeli Standards Institute. The couple has been together for three years. When the returned home to Israel the Interior Ministry refused to register them as a married couple. Same-sex couples have been slowly gaining recognition in Israel. In February Israel's Family Court for the first time recognized a same-sex couple as the joint parents of their children.

# Non Bar Calendar

**Wednesday, April 12**

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00pm Canasta! Hosted by Marvin at 745-0304 MSN Canasta is played every Wednesday at 7pm, but check back here for the host du soir. If you are a nervous first timer, you will find printed rules of play, and guys eager to get you up and in the action as you learn the game!

**Thursday, April 13**

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Coffee Night on Fabulous 4th Avenue at Rainbow Planet, the Premier Central Tucson GLBT owned and operated purveyor of stimulating caffeine enhanced beverages, delicious comestibles, WIFI energy, and safe social intercourse. Just show up to join in this no host cavalcade of queer conversation.

**Friday, April 14**

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00 p.m. Lloyd hosts a word for word 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. If you're loquacious, erudite, or a wordsmith; this man's game just may be a triple word score for you!

Tucson Prime Timers, Cocktails, 5:30 p.m., Colors, 5305 E. Speedway

**Saturday, April 15**

An official preliminary to Miss Gay America, "Miss Gay Western States -

America Regional will be held this Saturday, April 15 at the Double Tree Hotel at Reid Park..7:00 p.m. Celebrity performers include Miss Gay America 2006 Nicole Du Bois and the current Miss Gay Western States Angela Dodd. For more information call (520) 275-7999 or visit the website www.mgwsa.com

#1 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 8:30a.m. Join Jack and Mike for a morning of Volleyball. This is played for fun, and you'll get to know some nice guys as you play. Two great ways to work on your game! For details and directions please call Mike and Jack at 881-5733.

#2 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Shuffle over for Floating Pinochle every Saturday of the month except for first Saturday MSN Monthly Pot Luck. New recruits are always welcome and beginners are tutored to develop their gay serial killer instincts! Phone host Steve at 644-2076 for location, driving directions, and info.

**Sunday, April 16**

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 6:00p.m. Thom hosts Dinner Out at one of Tucson's Ultra-Fabulous

Buffets. Price is usually under \$10 bucks. For reservations and directions, please contact Thom at 623-2941, or e-mail thomsepals@hotmail.com by the Event Sunday at Noon to facilitate reservations. There is nothing like a buffet with men to find everything you have been craving!

Tucson Prime Timers, Brunch, Noon, Colors, 5305 E. Speedway

The Men's Massage Group is a great way to meet men and have clean, safe, erotic fun. Non-sexual. 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Call Marc in advance at 881-4582 for information and to sign up in advance. We have been doing this for 15 years. Small fee.

**Monday, April 17**

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

**Tuesday, April 18**

#1 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. A Circle Of Men by Tom Saylor-Brown Are you looking for an opportunity to connect with men at a deeper level? A Circle Of Men meets every Tuesday evening. Please call Tom at 591-2828 for info and directions.

#2 Men's Social Network Open to men

of all ages, newcomers welcomed: Today is the deadline to phone for reservations if you plan to attend the semi-annual Tanque Verde Guest Ranch Sunday Brunch on April 23 at 12:30p.m. Phone Lloyd at 792-8537 or e-mail to: dflatlloyd@highstream.net If you have not mailed you check at this point, you will remain hungry for the next 6 months!

**Wednesday, April 19**

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00pm Canasta! Hosted by Jack at 887-3736 MSN Canasta is played every Wednesday at 7pm, but check back here for the host du soir. If you are a nervous first timer, you will find printed rules of play, and guys eager to get you up and in the action as you learn the game!

**Thursday, April 20**

#1 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Coffee Night on Fabulous 4th Avenue at Rainbow Planet, the Premier Central Tucson GLBT owned and operated purveyor of stimulating caffeine enhanced beverages, delicious comestibles, WIFI energy, and safe social intercourse. Just show up to join in this no host cavalcade of queer conversation.

#2 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: Call now for tomorrow's Pizza Night Lloyd 792-8537 or e-mail dflatlloyd@highstream.net for info, reservations, directions, enlightenment, and incredible satisfaction!

**Friday, April 21**

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. It's PIZZA NIGHT starring your host Lloyd and 4 types of pizza! (Lloyd is the one without the cheese.) Featuring salacious salad, bubbly sodas, and spunky desserts for only \$5 Dollars! It's the MSN Ganga of the Month! HEY! Did you contact Lloyd yesterday to let him know that you are coming??? And did you request a pizza flavor or vegetarian pie??? Good! Now you won't have to get ahold of him late and beg or make a scene! Also included are a few game table set-ups for our inveterate gamers.

Tucson Prime Timers, Cocktails, 5:30 p.m., Colors, 5305 E. Speedway

**Saturday, April 22**

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Shuffle over for Floating Pinochle every Saturday of the month except for first Saturday Monthly Pot Luck. Contact tonight's dreamy but taken host Marvin at 745-0304. New recruits are always welcome and beginners are tutored to develop their gay serial killer instincts!

**Sunday, April 23**

#1 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 12:30p.m. Tanque Verde Guest Ranch Brunch hosted by Lloyd. If you were efficient and got engraved onto Lloyd's List by sending in your check by last Tuesday, then saddle up and get yourself out to the east end of Speedway by midday today! What a place! What a meal! What a host!

#2 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 6:00p.m. Thom hosts Dinner Out at one of Tucson's Ultra-Fabulous Buffets. Price is usually under \$10 bucks. For reservations and directions, please contact Thom at 623-2941, or e-mail thomsepals@hotmail.com by the Event Sunday at Noon to facilitate reservations. There is nothing like a buffet 743-3890 for info and directions.

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Friday	12:30 – 3:30 P.M.

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# HOROSCOPES

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April turns wet and wilde and why not? There is plenty of planetary action going on with all four personal planets changing signs. Don't cling to old notions about what should and should not be. Just be.

**ARIES (MAR. 21 - APR. 20)**

Proud Rams can get a dose of the moody blues throughout April. Use it to your advantage! There is emotional watery energy just waiting to be tapped and gushed and you will never seem so attractive to others. So don't stay home and phone it in. Go out and ply your trade with beautiful poetry, mysterious love notes and a sensitive keen eye. Hmmm, who is this stranger?

**TAURUS (APR. 21 - MAY 21)**

Queer Bulls draw in new friends by the crateloads in April. Some of them may be unorthodox and unusual and create a very interesting social environment. Did I say "interesting"? I meant crazy and uncontrollable. And, with grace, you take it all in stride and manage to rise above the general melee. Before you know it you are elected leader of the pack. But pack of what?

**GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)**

It may be a good idea to get some sage advice before you undertake any professional action in April. You have been working hard, putting in the hours as well as the sweat equity and now you feel that this is the time for payback. Is life fair? There are political potholes that need to be filled. Pink Twins are awash with optimism. Don't forget to wash your neck too.

**CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)**

Pink Crabs have that get up and go in April. So what are you waiting for? Get up and go, go, go! Do you have a hankering for exotic adventure, wide vistas and beautiful sunsets? And yet, as much and as far as you can travel, you may never quite be able to cut the cord to the office. Choose one thing or another but don't try to do both. The job can wait. Your sanity can't.

**LEO (JULY 24 - AUG. 23)**

There are too many secret enemies plotting to stab you in the back whenever they damn please. Now proud Lions can exact their revenge with relish. You are able to see under the surface, divine others' ulterior motives and enlist help from powerful sources. This April you are in a prime position to reap the benefits and avoid the consequences. Some folks have all the luck.

**VIRGO (AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23)**

Don't be coy and shy queer Virgin. That won't get you what you need. And you need mucho affection. Come out with it and tell lovers how to scratch your itch. Honesty has its payoffs too. Relationships are cemented and become much closer. But turn on the charm as high as you do the demand. You can attract more with sugar than with vinegar. Err insects?

**LIBRA (SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)**

While life may be all sugar and spice, attending to health issues in April can only benefit you now. Improving your diet and exercise enables you to increase your capacity to pour on the effort in work and in any type of partnership - business or pleasure. Gay Libras have it easier than most folks. You are improving on perfection rather than building from the ground up.

**SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)**

April turns on the spigot of fun and proud Scorps can find it anywhere they go. Hit all the hot spots and see if you can raise the temperature a few more degrees. There are opportunities to press and impress. So party hearty you party hound. And while you are at it, expand your horizons to other "fun" parts of the world. Are there any anymore?

**SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)**

Gay Archers are in a "planning phase" all through April. Maybe that is because your ongoing low level dissatisfaction with certain home or family situations rise and can no longer be deferred. Patience may be a virtue but virtue alone does not feed the inner soul. So plan what you want to do, when you want to do it and with whom you want to do it. Then what? Stay tuned.

**CAPRICORN (DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)**

Although they say that actions speak louder than words, it turns out that words get you further than actions this April. Pink Caps have to accomplish a few things especially at work and what better way to get what you than by just asking rather than by doing? Think strategically and build alliances who can do the dirty work for you. Save your energy for love, not war bubble.

**AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)**

If your finances have had some of their ups and mainly their downs, you can bring them back down to earth in April. A pride parade of personal planets rounds up, lassoes and hogties your bucks. Not a moment too soon Aquearius. Everything you want to do has a cost associated with it. Even staying home can be expensive if those randy bucks knock on your front door.

**PISCES (FEB. 20 - MAR. 20)**

You not only have great insight and inspiration this April, you can use it to your advantage when fishing in new social pools. The planets posit you in the center of all the action. What can you do to maximize the opportunity? Pack the right bait in your can and put your pole in the water, Guppie. You never know who you will hook. Reel them in and see if they look too fishy.

### Ending the violence.

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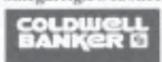
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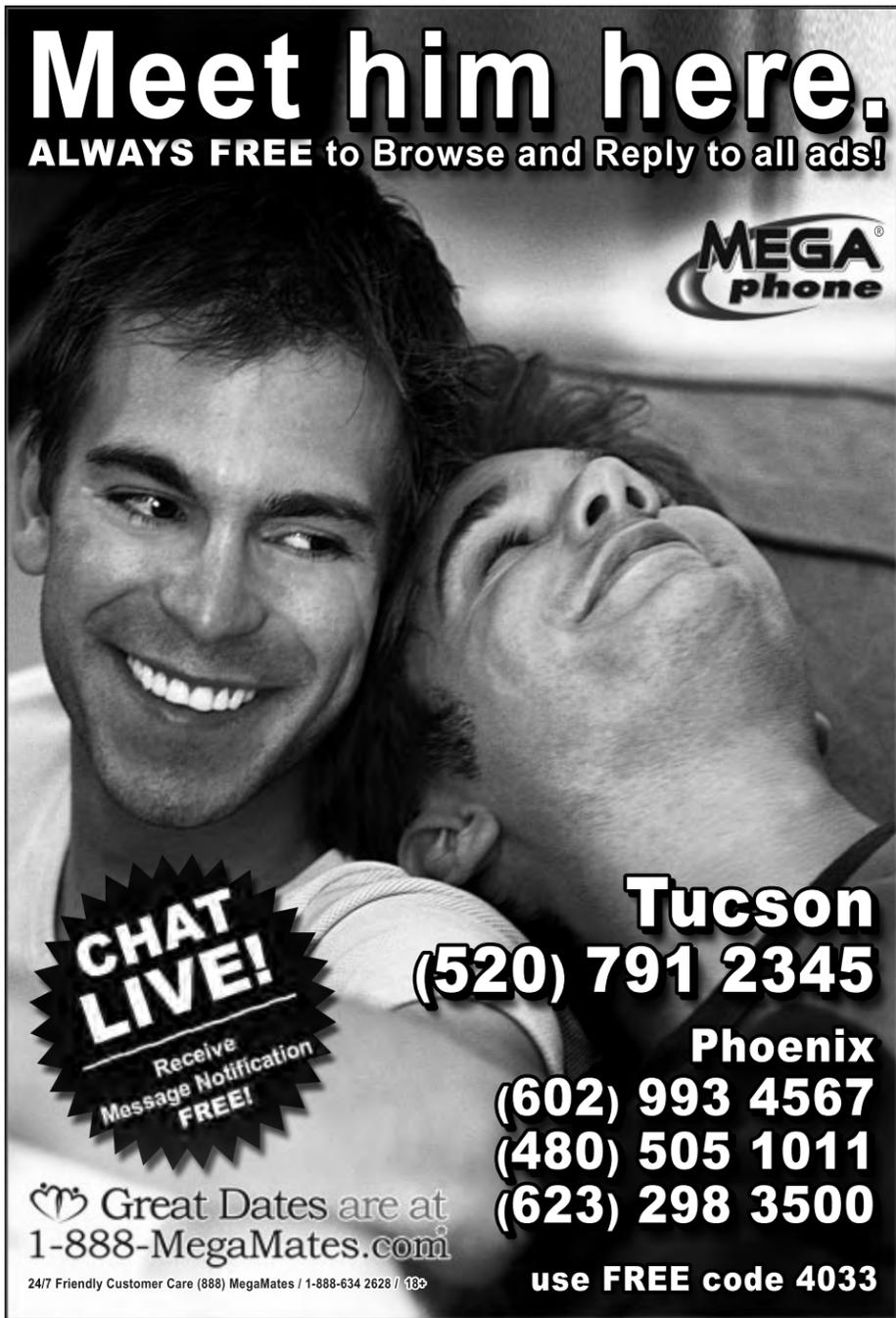
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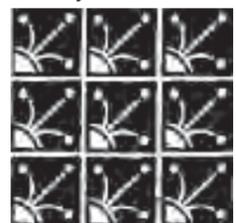
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**Ruling Gives Equal Access To GSA Group**

**Continued from Page Ten**  
 what its course of action would be formed at the school during the 2002-2003 school year, the lawsuit said, "to promote tolerance and respect for Maple Grove Senior High School students and faculty through education and activities." While some incidents date to the fall of 2003, SAGE members started to find their requests regularly denied in the 2004-2005 school year, the suit said.



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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 \$3 Skyy Cocktails, \$2.50 Domestic and well. 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 9pm. Watch the NFL here! \$1.00 Jumbo Hot Dogs, \$2 Chili Dogs. \$2 Smirnoff Sundays. 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 Bar open 2pm-close. Yard games on the grass. Beer Bust 16oz \$1 2-7pm. \$2.50 Sirloin or Chicken Burgers w/sides 5-9pm. Karaoke with Michael D. 9pm-close. DJ Jeff on the Patio 9pm. 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. Kitchen open 4-9 pm with reduced prices on appetizers - best deal in town! Free Texas Hold-Em Poker Tournaments at 6:00 pm. Sign-up begins one hour before playing time. No Cash - Play for Prizes and Points.

**IBT's** - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, DJ Craig Carter 10pm-2am \$1.50 well vodka drinks, All drink specials not available during special events.

**VENTURE-N** - Open 9am. Patio 6pm. Free pool til 4pm. \$2.75 Skyy & Beeefeaters 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 Skyy cocktails, \$2.50 Domestic and Well. 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of month "Dinner & Movie" sponsored by GMHP. All other Tuesdays "Dinner and a Concert" shown on 52" projection system. Full menus served until 10pm.

**HOWL AT THE MOON** - Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3 sm pitchers, \$5 lg pitchers. Tequila Tuesday: \$2.00 well margaritas, 50¢ off call tequilas. Karaoke with Debbie from 8 - midnight

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

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

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

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

## wednesday

**COLORS** - Open 4-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3 Skyy cocktails, \$2.50 Domestic Well. 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. Kitchen open 4-9pm. Women-only Texas Hold-Em Poker at 6:30 p.m. Play for prizes and points.

**IBT'S** - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, "Diva-Licious" show 9pm w/ Bunny Fu Fu & Friends. After show dance with DJ Q til 2am,

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

**WOODY'S** - Open 10am w/Special Happy Hour til 2pm \$1.50 well or domestic longnecks. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. Underwear- fetish-leather nite \$1 off for those wearing underwear-fetish or leather. (Excludes draught & schnapps) for all in leather or underwear.

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

## thursday

**COLORS** - Open 4-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3 Skyy cocktails, \$2.50 Domestic & Well. 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. Kitchen open 4-9pm. 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-1am. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3 Skyy cocktails, \$2.50 Domestic and Well. 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.

**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-Step Lessons at 7:30 with Amanda on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. DJ Pat plays your favorite country dance songs 8:30 to midnight then a mix of dance & country 'til close. Kitchen open 4-9pm.

**IBT's** - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, 9pm Hot Dance with DJ Mike Lopez outside on the patio and DJ Raynman spinning club music inside. 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-1am, Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3 Skyy cocktails, \$2.50 Domestic and Well Full menu served 4-11pm. Nightly dinner specials. Singer, piano player Marilyn Harris performs during dinner from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Reservations suggested.

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

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

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

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

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

# Arts & Entertainment

## Now Playing thru APRIL 23

"Born Yesterday", Top Hat Theatre Club performs a comedy about a mobster and his girl friend. 3110 E. Ft. Lowell. 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. 3:00 p.m. Sundays. 326-6800.

## Now playing thru APRIL 30

"Black Coffee" at Live Theatre Workshop. 327-4242 5317 E. Speedway. 7:30 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays 3:00 p.m. Sundays. \$13 - \$16.

## Now playing thru May 27

Gaslight Theatre presents "The Three Musketeers", at 7010 E. Broadway. Show times are 7:00 p.m. Tuesdays - Thursdays; 7:00 and 9:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 3:00 and 7:00 p.m. Sundays. 886-9428. \$15.95 general admission.

## APRIL 13 - 29

"All My Sons" presented by the Pima Community College Theatre Arts Department. Arthur Miller's classic drama set in post-World War II America. 7:30 p.m. Thursdays thru Saturdays. 2:00 p.m. Sundays. PCC Center for the Arts, 2202 W. Anklam Road. Tickets \$5 - \$10. Info: 206-6986.

# Arts and Entertainment

Continued

## APRIL 15 - MAY 6

"Tuesdays With Morrie" Arizona Theatre Company. Temple of Music and Art. 622-2823.

## APRIL 18

Engelbert Humperdinck at Casino del Sol AVA Amphitheater.. 838-6700.

## APRIL 20 THRU APRIL 30

90<sup>th</sup> Annual Pima County Fair. Fair Grounds Houghton Road South of I-10. Adults \$7.00. Each day packed with all kinds of entertainment. Check their website at [www.pimacountyfair.com](http://www.pimacountyfair.com) or call (520)762-FAIR.

## APRIL 21

Desert Diamond Casino, I-19 & Pima Mine Road, Exit 80 (7 minutes South of Tucson). Presenting Paul Rodriguez. TicketMaster 321-1000

## MAY 4

Desert Diamond Casino, I-19 & Pima Mine Road, Exit 80 (7 minutes South of Tucson). Presenting Cheap Trick. TicketMaster 321-1000

## MAY 9 - 14

"Les Misérables" The world's most popular musical

# BAR CALENDAR Of Upcoming Events

## THURSDAY, APRIL 13

**VENTURE-N** - The return of Steak Night. "The original and still the Best". Only \$6.00.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 14

**VENTURE-N** - Easter Weekend begins with a Good Friday Fish Fry 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

**WOODY'S** - Miss Gay Western States America Pre-Pageant Show. Featuring star performers from throughout the U.S.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 15

**YARD DOG SALOON** - Rocky's Breakfast starts at 10:00 a.m.

## SUNDAY, APRIL 16 - EASTER SUNDAY

**VENTURE-N** - Easter Egg Hunt this afternoon. Check it out!

**WOODY'S** - Mega Easter Party here. Submit your photo of your basket and win \$50 prize for 'Best Basket'. Contest begins at 8:00 p.m. Egg hunt all day. 11:30 a.m. Leno's Brunch ham and hashbrowns \$6. 2:00 p.m. Patio Bar opens and Beer Bust. 5:00 p.m. Sirloin Burgers. 9:00 p.m. Karaoke with Michael.

**YARD DOG SALOON** - Easter Bonnet Contest plus TKO's Easter Coloring Contest. Ham Dinner starts at 5:00 p.m. Contests judged at 6:00 p.m.

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19

**WOODY'S** - 'Sarong Underwear Party'

## THURSDAY, APRIL 20

**HOWL AT THE MOON** - Karaoke with Debbie starts at 8:00 p.m.

**IBT'S** - Mark your calendars for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual 80s Prom Party

**VENTURE-N** - Steak Nite. The original and yum yum good. Only \$6.00

## FRIDAY, APRIL 21

**WOODY'S** - Taurus / Aires Birthday Party.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 22

**HOWL AT THE MOON** - Ellas de Noche Show with special guest DJ Michelle. Drag Show starts at 9:00 p.m.

**WOODY'S** - 'Earth First Party' - Win a Bike!

## FRI-SAT-SUN, MAY 5-6-7

**VENTURE-N** - Cinco De Mayo Extravaganza. Watch for details.

## SATURDAY, MAY 13

**HOWL AT THE MOON** - TMI is back playing your favorite classic rock hits from the 70s & 80s. Don't miss them!

# NOTICES - COMMUNITY - NOTICES

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

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

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

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

**P.F.L.A.G. - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays** - is a support group available to anyone who has a son, daughter or friend who is Gay. Call 360-3795 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 WORLDWIDE** invites Gay or Bisexual men and their admirers to join and share Prime Timers fellowship. We welcome mature men (and admirers) who wish to become involved with planned and future Prime Timers (TPT) activities. Meetings luncheons and dinners are held monthly. For dates, times and information call 298-6727, leave name and phone number. [Tucsonpt@primetimersww.org](mailto:Tucsonpt@primetimersww.org)

#### TUCSON GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

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

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

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

**WINGSPAN - Tucson's Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Community Center**, 425 E. 7th St., offers support groups / info line / social events / library / meeting space. Volunteer Opportunities. Board meetings every 2nd Thursday (open to all), 6:00 p.m. Information 624-1779.

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

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

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

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

**BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO** - a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, Call the Bears Hotline (520)790-5775 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910 of visit our website at [www.botop.com](http://www.botop.com) All are welcome

to our general meetings/potlucks on the 2nd Friday of every month, at 3202 E. 1st St. (the "Ward 6" Office Bldg.) Just south of Speedway & East of Country Club. PotLuck Dinner begins at 6:30 and the monthly meeting follows at 7:15 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Join the **LESBIAN & GAY PUBLIC AWARENESS PROJECT.** In Tucson write Awareness Project, 3661 N. Campbell Ave. #365, Tucson, AZ 85719.

**AA Meeting with HIV/AIDS focus**, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., Wingspan Annex, 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, contract **TEAM ARIZONA** at their website: [teamarizona.org](http://teamarizona.org)

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

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

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

**TUCSON PRIDE, INC.** (Formerly Tucson Lesbian and Gay Alliance - TLGA) meets on the second Tuesday at 845 S. Craycroft Road at 6pm. Tucson Pride events: Pride Week, Gay West and OUToberFEST. Inquiries about support groups and indi-

vidual needs should be directed to Wingspan and other local agencies listed here. For more information call 622-3200 or visit the TPI website at [www.tucsonpride.com](http://www.tucsonpride.com)

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

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

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

**GRACE GROUP - CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP** meets every 2nd and 4th Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the Madonna Hall at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 1436 N. Campbell across from University Hospital. For more info. Call Anabeli at 325-0892

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

**AZdykes** is a new email list for Lesbians living in Arizona. For information mail [tyan@theriver.com](mailto:tyan@theriver.com) and request guidelines.

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

**THEATER / DINNER / MOVIES / ETC!** Nonsmoking Lesbian Network meets every month. If you'd like to meet women 50+ (flexible) and socialize in a smoke-free environment, please call or email: 888-8010 'til 9pm, or [joycesmth1@aol.com](mailto:joycesmth1@aol.com). The group dines OUT! and attends shows, movies, comedy events, etc. Now in our 23rd year, 7th in Tucson.

**SOUTHERN ARIZONA GENDER ALLIANCE (SAGA)**. The Southwest's largest transgender and gender-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](http://AAPSP.org) or e-mail: [AAPSP@aol.com](mailto:AAPSP@aol.com) or call Dave (520)745-

9059 (Tucson) or Kim (602)534-6219 (Phoenix)

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

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

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

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

**REVEILLE GAY MEN'S CHORUS** rehearses Wednesdays 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

**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, and reading from Buddhist spiritual text and discussion. Bring a friend and a pillow or cushion. Takes place every Sunday from 10:00 - 11:30am at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St.. Contact Maurice Grossman for more info. 323-2293.

**LGBT SUPPORT GROUP FOR VICTIM/SURVIVORS OF Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Hate Crimes, Bias Acts, Harassment.** Call Lori at Wingspan, 624-1779, ext. 20. Services are free.

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

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

**SUN WORSHIPERS OF TUCSON (SWOT)** is a local men's nudist organization for men of all ages. Events feature swimming, hot tubbing and socializing in a relaxed, private setting

The new **MAN TO MAN INTENTIONAL COMMUNITY** is meeting about honoring the spiritual side of ourselves. It is the men's social/erotic group that offers passionate friendships, fun activities, and real tantric sex education. Call Marc 881-4582 in advance Check it out. We meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 7-9pm. Potluck dinner. Donation.



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