



Observing Tucson And  
The Greater Arizona Community

# OBSERVER

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WEEKLY OBSERVER

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ISSUE 1139

## Ad Spending In LGBT Media Reaches All Time High

NEW YORK - Despite a national campaign by a conservative Christian group to force Ford Motor Co. to end its advertising in the LGBT media ad sales in general to the Gay press and broadcasting reached a record \$212.2 million in 2005, 365Gay.com reported. In its annual assessment of media buys advertising agency Prime Access Inc. and Gay media representative firm Rivendell Media said that for the first time, advertising with "Gay-specific" content comprised slightly over half (50.3%) of all ads in the Gay and Lesbian press.

This is a dramatic increase from just three years ago, when "Gay-specific" campaigns accounted for only 9.9% of all ads the 2005 Gay Press Report says. "Like all consumer segments, Gays and Lesbians value and tend to purchase brands that advertise directly to them," said Howard Buford, founder and president of Prime Access Inc. "Since the Gay community tends to exhibit much higher brand loyalty than their straight counterparts, it's not surprising that brands are becoming increasingly open and unambiguous when reaching out to them."

Overall, ad spending in Gay and Lesbian publications reached a record \$212.2 million in 2005, an increase of 2.5% over the year before. Since the first Gay Press Report was

issued twelve years ago, ads in the GLBT press have soared by 189% according to Todd Evans, president and CEO of Rivendell Media. Ad spending in the Gay sector has grown almost 50 percent faster than in general consumer publications over the same period of time he said. "This reflects a significant shift in overall marketing strategies among Fortune 500 companies and local businesses, which now recognize the spending power of the Gay market and are committing more advertising dollars to reach them," noted Evans.

Advertising in the real estate sector was included in the top ten categories for the first time and now accounts for the third highest number of advertisements. With significant media attention around Gay marriage and same-sex unions, ads for wedding-related services, including consultants, planners and lawyers contributed the second highest number of ads in the "Services Non-Medical" category. The report tends to indicate that boycotts by groups opposed to LGBT civil rights do not work. In March the American Family Association and 18 other conservative groups reinstated a boycott of Ford Motor Corporation over its advertising in the Gay media. The AFA said the company "renege on an agreement to halt advertising and stop funding LGBT groups that promote same-sex marriage."

## EXXON To Vote On LGBT Rights Measure

NEW YORK - Shareholders in ExxonMobil, the only major U.S. company to rescind a non-discrimination policy covering sexual orientation, will vote this month (May 31) on a proposal to reinstate the job guarantees, reported 365Gay.com.

This month shareholders at two other major corporations that include Gay rights in their policies, American Express and Ford, defeated attempts to drop its protections for LGBT workers. In both cases the companies recommended voting down the measures. But for six years shareholders at Exxon have agreed with a company position that protections for its LGBT workers are not needed.

One of the leading advocates for change has been New York City Employees Retirement Fund (NYCERS). Last year its call to reinstate LGBT protections was supported by 29 percent of the voting stockholders. It was the highest percentage in the six years Gay supporters have brought the issue to the floor. LGBT workers had been included in employment policies at Mobil. In December 1999 when Mobil merged with Exxon and under Exxon's direction, the policy was abandoned. At the same time, it closed Mobil's domestic partner benefits program to

any more employees. NYCERS currently holds 11.9 million shares worth approximately \$446 million in the company.

New York's pension funds have a long history of activism on behalf of social causes, including Gay rights. The funds were part of a decade-long battle to get CBRL Group Inc., the parent company of the Cracker Barrel restaurant chain, to bar discrimination based on sexual orientation. CBRL, which reportedly fired at least 11 Gay workers in the 1990s, agreed to change its policy in November 2002 after a resolution garnered 58 percent of the vote. It also backed a resolution that resulted in J.C. Penney Co. supporting LGBT non discrimination. Earlier this month fast food chain Wendy's International has agreed to amend its employment nondiscrimination policy by adding new written protections based on sexual orientation and gender identity for all employees.

While companies which include adding protections for LGBT workers in their written non-discrimination rules say they are doing so because it's the right thing to do most financial analysts suggest the real reason is the realization of the pink buck. LGBT purchasing power in the U.S. has been estimated at \$641 billion a year.

## Supreme Court Won't Block Lesbian Mom's Quest



WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Supreme Court refused Monday (May 15) to block a Lesbian from seeking parental rights to a child she had helped raise with her partner, 365Gay.com reported. Justices could have used the case to clarify the rights of Gay men and Lesbians in child custody disputes stemming from nontraditional families.

They declined, without comment, to disturb a ruling of Washington state's highest court that said Sue Ellen Carvin could pursue ties to the girl as a "de facto parent." The girl is now 11. The case had brought a contentious issue to a court that has shied away from Gay rights disputes. Lawyers for the girl's biological mother, Page Britain, told justices that the state court decision in this case and others around the country "pave the way for children to have an unlimited and ever-changing number of parents."

Carvin's attorneys had said the court has never agreed to hear a case involving parenting or visitation disputes arising from same-sex relationships, a recognition "that state courts can best provide the case-by-case attention these matters require." Carvin and Britain had lived together for five years before they decided to become parents. Britain was artificially inseminated and gave birth in 1995 to the daughter, known as L.B. in court papers. The girl called Carvin "Mama" and Britain "Mommy." The couple broke up in 2001 and the following year, when the girl was 7, Carvin was barred from seeing the girl. After Carvin went to court, Britain married the sperm donor. Justices were told that the father lives in Thailand. The court's action does not end the case. Carvin must now prove that she is a "de facto parent" defined by the state court as someone who though not legally recognized, functions as a child's actual parent.

The case paints a nasty battle between the two women.

Britain says she wanted to have the girl baptized in a Catholic church and that her former partner wanted to take L.B. to a Buddhist temple. Carvin contends she was the active parent. One of Britain's lawyers said Monday that the Supreme Court should provide direction to lower courts. "This is becoming a huge can of worms when courts do not follow the more conventional lines of parental rights," said Jordan Lorence, senior vice president for the Alliance Defense Fund, an Arizona group that has fought same-sex marriage. "This is an issue that the Supreme Court is going to hear at some time in the future."

In other court action, The Supreme Court refused on Monday (May 15) to speed up an appeal by a conservative organization seeking to air a radio ad on same sex marriage around election time. The proposed ad by the Christian Civic League would refer to the two U.S. senators from the state of Maine, a format the Federal Election Commission says would violate the ban on "electioneering communications" in the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002. The reform law bars corporations or labor unions from paying for any broadcast referring to a candidate for federal office within 30 days of a federal primary election or 60 days of a general election.

On May 9, a three-judge panel of the U.S. District Court in Washington, D.C., rejected the civic league's request for a preliminary injunction to fund the ad, saying that it represents "the sort of veiled attack that the Supreme Court has warned may improperly influence an election." The group said the Senate debate on the Marriage Protection Amendment to the Constitution will take place in early June and it asked the Supreme Court to schedule oral arguments in the case sometime this month. The court issued a one-sentence order denying the request. The amendment declares that marriage is solely between a man and a

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# UPDATE

## Lesbian Humor Topic At Library May 31



**Alison Bechdel**

TUCSON - The Tucson-Pima Public Library Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender Services Committee will host an evening with cartoonist and author Alison Bechdel, 6:30 p.m., May 31 at the Joel D. Valdez Main Library, 101 N. Stone Ave., to kick-off LGBT Pride Month celebrations.

Since 1983, Bechdel's self-syndicated comic strip *Dykes To Watch Out For* has had fans following the ups and downs of Mo, Clarice, Toni, Ginger, Sparrow and Lois as they navigate Lesbian life in modern America. Long before the *L-Word*, there was *Dykes To Watch Out For*. Bechdel will also preview her newest book, *Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic*, her graphic memoir about growing up with a closeted Gay dad.

The event is free and open to the public. Free parking is available in the parking garage below the library, accessible from Alameda Street. This event made possible by The Friends of the Tucson-Pima Public Library.

## Tucson To Take Part In International AIDS Candlelight Memorial May 21

TUCSON - On Sunday, May 21, 6 p.m., Tucson will join communities from all over the globe in celebration of the International AIDS Candlelight Memorial, at Himmel Park.

Sponsored by TIHAN, SAAF, the Human Relations Commission and Wingsoan, the event is based on four simple principles: to honor the memory of those lost to AIDS; to show support for those living with HIV and AIDS; to raise community awareness and decrease stigma related to HIV/AIDS; and to mobilize community involvement in the fight against HIV/AIDS. This year's theme is "Lighting the Path to a Brighter Future." Tucson's commemoration will include activities and a viewing of the AIDS quilt, and will conclude with a candle lighting ceremony at sundown. The event will consist of music, prayers, readings, and an opportunity for people to light a candle in memory of loved ones lost to AIDS and to support those affected. Everyone is welcome to join the global memorial.

The International AIDS Candlelight Memorial Campaign involves all sectors of the local community in the fight against HIV/AIDS. The Memorial has helped communities hold a forum honoring the memory of those lost to AIDS, show support for those living with HIV/AIDS, fight stigma associated with the disease, and mobilize individuals with the common goal of responding to the local impact of HIV/AIDS. Each year, Memorials take place in over 4,500

communities in more than 93 countries. The International AIDS Candlelight Memorial has become the largest grassroots AIDS event in the world. For more information, contact Ashley at Wingspan, (520) 624-1779, [anowe@wingspan.org](mailto:anowe@wingspan.org).

## Deadline For TIHAN Baseball Benefit Poster June 1

TUCSON - The Seventh Tucson Baseball Benefit at TEP Park at the Tucson Sidewinders Pacific Coast League poster contest to advertise the fund raising event is underway with entries due June 1.

According to organizers, Posters should include: "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.

## G/B Fraternity Votes To Allow Transgender Members

TUCSON - Sigma Phi Beta fraternity's national board of directors on Sunday (May 14), voted to allow Transgender students to join its ranks. According to a press release, the new policy allows any individual who identifies as male, regardless of the legal recognition of their gender can seek membership in Sigma Phi Beta. The new policy approved also allows members to maintain their membership if at a later date they decide to change their gender to female.

Sigma Phi Beta's decision was hailed by Transgender activists. "Sigma Phi Beta's decision to welcome Transgender fraternity members is in direct fulfillment of the Greek Life values of self-determination, self-actualization, and brotherhood," said Jamison Green. "The inclusion of Gay and Transgender students in the fraternity system ensures the formative experience of true brotherhood."

Sigma Phi Beta was originally formed as a local chapter at Arizona State University in 2003 and has a chapter at the University of Arizona. The inclusive fraternity formed its own national parent organization in July 2005. In an interview, Sigma Phi Beta

president and chairman Sam Holdren said his fraternity's decision to allow Transgender members is a continuation of their supportive policies. "Students develop best in environments where they feel valued, protected, accepted, and socially connected to their peers," Holdren said.

## 'Reveille Pride' Concert May 19 - 21

TUCSON - Reveille will be proudly performing some of their most frequently requested songs, songs that uniquely capture the Gay experience in "Reveille Pride," May 19-21, Steve Eller Dance Theater, on the Mall at the University of Arizona (across from McKale Center).

Some of the songs to be performed, that give Reveille an opportunity to show their pride at being vital members of the LGBT community for over 11 years include, Judy Garland's "Over the Rainbow," an anthem for the Gay culture, "Secret Love" that speaks to the great strides towards equality that have been made since Doris Day recorded it back in the 50's, and "The Boy From Ipanema" offering a taste of the chorus' recent trip to Brazil are just a few of the songs that will be performed with special choreography.

The curtain will rise at 8 p.m., May 19-20, and a 3 p.m., matinee performance, Sunday, May 21. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door, and are available at Antigone Books, or online at [reveillegmc.com](http://reveillegmc.com).

## Southern Arizona Stonewall Democ- rats Pool Party/ Meeting June 3

TUCSON - Southern Arizona Stonewall Democrats (SASD) will host a Pool Party / Meeting on Saturday, June 3, 2:00 - 6:00 p.m. at 2460 N. Dodge.

There will be candidates sharing their plans, SASD elections and discuss future programs.

Come join the group, ask questions, become involved. Make your vote count. The upcoming elections are important to all of us. For more information call (520) 323-2293 or [sasdtucson@yahoo.com](mailto:sasdtucson@yahoo.com).

## A. Beck Wins Awards For Work With Queer Youth

HOENIX - A. Beck has been named a graduate recipient of the Herberger College of Fine Arts Collegiate Community Partnership Award for her partnership project with GLSEN Phoenix (Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network), 1n10, Inc and Arizona State University. The award is in recognition of the founding and development of QSpeak Theatre, the Valley's only queer youth theatre

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Informing the Community

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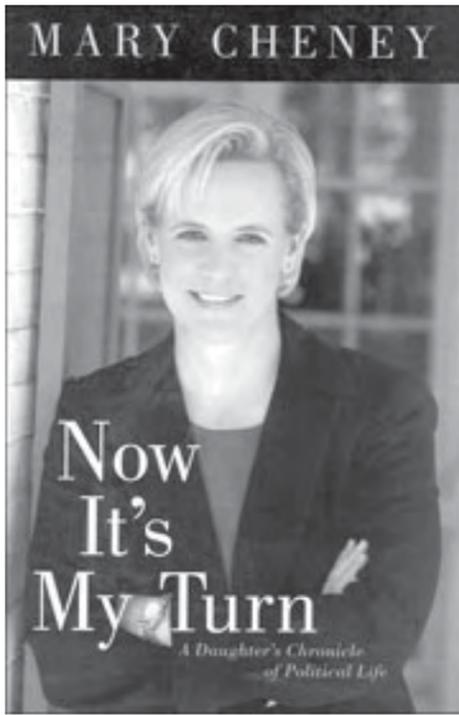
# Mary Cheney's Book Ignites Critical Firestorm

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The new memoir by Mary Cheney, the Lesbian daughter of the U.S. vice president, drew pointed retorts Wednesday (May 10) from Democratic Sens. John Kerry and John Edwards, as well as mixed reactions from the LGBT community, reported the PlanetOut Network.

Cheney's book harshly criticizes Kerry and Edwards, who lost the 2004 presidential election to incumbents George Bush and Dick Cheney, for mentioning her sexuality during televised debates. "I was furious," she writes about Kerry's discussion of her in the presidential debate. "It was a blatant and sleazy political ploy." She also calls Kerry a "son of a bitch" and Edwards a "total slime," the Vancouver Sun reported. Responding to the slap, Kerry spokesman David Wade said Mary Cheney "flacked for the most anti-Gay administration in history. 'She'd be more credible if she pushed dad's administration to support hate crimes legislation and equal rights for Gay Americans,'" Wade told The Raw Story Web site.

Edwards told the Associated Press that he stands by the comments he made during the vice-presidential debate. "What I did was express my respect and admiration for the way the Cheney family, along with millions of other families, have embraced members of their family, and if I remember the vice president was very gracious in reacting to that," Edwards said Wednesday. "I think it was appropriate."

The book, "Now It's My Turn," hit bookstores Tuesday (May 9). In a televised interview, Cheney admitted that she almost quit the 2004 campaign over President Bush's opposition to same-sex marriage. She added that Bush is a "good man" who "hasn't



caught up" on Gay rights issues. Cheney has been with her partner, Heather Poe, for 14 years, and said she considers them married.

The U.S. Senate is scheduled to vote next month on an amendment to the Constitution preventing same-sex couples from marrying. The measure failed in 2004.

John Aravosis, a Washington Gay activist and political blogger, told the Vancouver Sun he believes Cheney's timing is suspect. "For the longest time, Mary wouldn't speak. Now she gets a million-dollar book advance and suddenly she is speaking," he said. "It rings a little hollow." Aravosis is one of the activists behind the site dearmary.com, which tried to get Cheney to speak out against the administration's anti-Gay policies.

Meanwhile, Cheney's memoir received support Tuesday (May 9) from the Log Cabin Republicans, the nation's largest Gay GOP group. "There is never an easy or perfect path in the journey of speaking out as a Gay or Lesbian American," said Patrick Guerriero, the Log Cabin president. "Mary Cheney's story reflects the story of so many Americans who choose to be honest and open about their sexual orientation with their families."

A far harsher critique came from Gay syndicated columnist Wayne Besen, who suggested this week that Cheney has betrayed the LGBT community. "I never thought I'd say this, but I agree with Alan Keyes when he said Mary Cheney is a 'selfish hedonist,'" Besen wrote. "It took a big fat book advance before she stepped out to ostensibly advance Gay rights. While I can understand family loyalty, she also had an obligation to defend her LGBT family, and she let us down."

## LGBT Russians To March With Or Without Approval

MOSCOW - Organizers of an LGBT festival planned for later this month submitted forms Monday (May 15) officially requesting permission to hold a LGBT pride parade in the Russian capital, 365Gay.com reported. Mayor Yuri Luzhkov announced in March that if the group filed a parade request it would be denied. At a news conference Monday Nikolai Alekseev, one of the organizers of Moscow Pride, said the march will go on with or without official approval.

Russian Patriarch Alexy II has denounced the planned festival and parade, and the leader of Russia's

Muslims has called for a "violent mass protest" if gay leaders go ahead with Pride celebrations. Earlier this month police had to form a human chain to hold back more than 150 skinheads and Russian Orthodox Church supporters from rushing a LGBT event at a Moscow club. The club was to have held a party and rally in support of the pride celebrations. Skinheads hurled tomatoes and plastic bottles at the Gays while members of the Church held religious icons and prayed. One Gay man was reportedly beaten unconscious.

At Monday's news conference pride organizers handed out a statement by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Terry Davis condemning attacks on gays in the city. "I strongly condemn the recent violent incidents against Gays and Lesbians in Moscow, and I call on the authorities to investigate these attacks and prosecute the people responsible for them, and prevent any such violence in the future. This is particularly important in view of the series of events currently being organized by the Russian Gay and Lesbian community to raise awareness about the difficult situation in which they live. They are entitled to call for full and unequivocal respect for their basic rights and freedoms," the statement said.



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# IBT'S UPCOMING EVENTS

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**Motown Night**  
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 with DJ Johnny B  
 at 9 pm

# UPDATE

## Alliance Fund Holds Fundraiser



Chuck George

TUCSON - Chuck George of KOLD-TV headlined the Lesbian-Gay-Bisexual-Transgender and Straight (LGBT&S) Alliance Fund gala, "An Evening of Music and Friends," May 4.

About 150 people attended the Alliance Fund affair and enjoyed music, good food, drink, and heard a review of the Fund's investment in the community that has resulted in 49 grants totaling nearly \$300,000 to 22 non-profit agencies in Tucson and Southern Arizona. Testimonials to the good done by the combined efforts of the LGBT&S Alliance Fund supporters, recounting the value of Alliance Fund grants to many of the Center's programs.

Proceeds from the successful evening support the Alliance Fund's philanthropic effort, a special project of the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona. For more information, go online to [alliancefund.org](http://alliancefund.org) or contacting its program coordinator, Luis Ortega, at the Community Foundation (520) 971-7143.

## Celebrate Pride In Prescott May 20

PRESCOTT - The Prescott Pride Center will host its sixth annual Mile High Pride Day on Saturday, May 20, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., at the Center, 111 Josephine Street.

Come join in for a day of hometown fun as they celebrate the wonderfully diverse community with vendors, live entertainment, psychic readings, raffles, festival food, and more. Admission is \$5 and kids 12 and under get in free. This is a family event, so bring your kids, relatives, and friends, but please leave your pets at home. For more information, call the Pride Center (928) 445-8800, [contact@prescottpridecenter.com](mailto:contact@prescottpridecenter.com).

Local Directions to the Prescott Pride Center: From the courthouse square, drive west on Gurley Street (toward Thumb Butte). One block past the traffic light at Gail Gardner Way, turn right onto Josephine Street. The Pride Center is the first building on the right side of the street, just past the vacant lot.

Long Distance Directions to the Prescott Pride Center: From Phoenix, Tucson, etc., head north on Interstate 17, then take the Highway 69 exit at Cordes Junction for Prescott. Stay on Highway 69 all the way to Prescott (you'll go through Mayer, Dewey, and Prescott Valley). From Flagstaff, Verde Valley, Cottonwood, etc., take I-17 south to Highway 169, then follow 169 to Highway 69. Turn Right onto Highway 69, and follow it through Dewey

and Prescott Valley. Highway 69 turns into Gurley Street shortly after you pass the Frontier Village Shopping Center and the Prescott Resort. Continue on Gurley Street to the courthouse square. From the courthouse square, continue to drive west on Gurley Street (toward Thumb Butte). One block past the traffic light at Gail Gardner Way, turn right onto Josephine Street. The Pride Center is the first building on the right side of the street, just past the vacant lot.

## Neighbors You Know' Announces Launch And Fund-Raising Drive

By Mark R. Kerr

TUCSON (ON) - This summer, a new media project will hit the Tucson and Southern Arizona television airwaves.

Produced by Wingspan, the project, "Neighbors You Know," is a series of eight commercials, featuring local LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) citizens, which show the vital role that LGBT people play in the community.

Each of the eight commercials features a different "neighbor," Rev. Susan Anderson Smith, Maudree Callahan, W.A. Mason, Kathi Mayer, John Peck, Ivy Schwartz, Amanda Simpson, and Carlos Torres highlighting their contributions to our community through work and volunteerism.

These individuals, representing a diverse cross-section of the community in terms of race, age, gender identity, and cultural identity, will discuss the everyday work and volunteer lives of LGBT people in Arizona, as well countering the negative campaigns by the Center for Arizona Policy (CAP) and other radical organizations that are trying to paint LGBT people in a negative light by spreading lies and deceit.

In the media, the LGBT community are often portrayed as either hate crime victims, discrimination victims, and just a small minority. Most LGBT people are simply working jobs, volunteering, raising families, and living their lives.

"Neighbors You Know," according to Miriam Barnard, Director for Development for Wingspan, will the general community a chance to see this often invisible majority of LGBT people. Two members of Tucson's LGBT community, Sarah Jones and Pam Squires, were the inspiration for the idea and campaign, seeing the need for positive and diverse images of LGBT people in the local media.

"Neighbors You Know" was produced by Ridgewood Associates, a public relations firm that donated part of the production costs. Wingspan's plan is to run the commercials on both network and cable television beginning the last week of June and continuing into early July.

Wingspan has already raised the \$15,000 needed to produce these commercials, but now needs the help of the community to cover the costs to pay to get them on the air, so a fund raising drive has been announced.

As of press time for this article through July 15, an additional \$30,000 in needed in order to buy the needed airtime to ensure that these commercials are seen by hundreds of thousands of people in Tucson and Southern Arizona.

Make checks payable to Wingspan (write "Neighbors" in the memo line), and mail them to: Wingspan, 425 E 7th Street, Tucson, AZ 85705. One can also donate online through Wingspan's secure site powered by Network for Good by visiting [wingspan.org/content/donations.php](http://wingspan.org/content/donations.php).

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# Feds Target Syphilis Among G/B Men

ATLANTA - Syphilis infection rates in the United States have been on the rise since 2001, largely due to increases among men who have sex with men, and the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Monday (May 15) announced a new strategy to reverse the trend, reported the PlanetOut Network. A new study by the Chicago Department of Public Health indicates syphilis infections reported by MSM rose by 87 percent between 2004 and 2005, despite significant declines in the previous two years.

Researchers in San Diego discovered that men who have sex with men are 37 percent less likely than heterosexual men to have the disease diagnosed in the earliest stage, when it is most infectious. Researchers believe that's because the syphilis lesions among MSM are more likely to be in the anus or mouth and consequently go unrecognized.

"Delayed diagnosis among men who have sex with men may result in continued risk behavior during the period in which syphilis can be most easily transmitted, as men may be unknowingly spreading the disease," said Dr. John M. Douglas Jr., director of STD prevention at the National Center for HIV, STD and TB Prevention. "Based on these findings, we recommend frequent testing among these men at risk of syphilis and education of clinicians and the men themselves to increase the likelihood that syphilis lesions are recognized," Douglas said. Douglas made the remarks during the 2006 National

Sexually Transmitted Disease Prevention Conference, held in Jacksonville, Fla.

Researchers believe understanding why MSM are at greater risk for syphilis infection is crucial to finding ways to reverse rising infection rates. One Chicago study shows that 10 percent of MSM diagnosed with syphilis between 2000 and 2005 acquired the infection more than once.

"Repeat infection with syphilis among a subset of Gay and Bisexual men may be an important factor behind the sustained transmission of the diseases in this population," said Dr. Kevin Fenton, director of the National Center for HIV, STD and TB Prevention. "Finding ways to reach this group with effective prevention interventions is critical if we are to reverse rising rates of syphilis cases in the United States."

The CDC's plan focuses on three primary strategies: The first strategy aims to enhance public health services, with a focus on partner notification programs. The second involves cutting down on the number of syphilis infections among men who have sex with men. The third aims to improve the accountability of prevention efforts. As an example of partner notification, researchers cite San Francisco's inSPOT.org, a Web site that helps MSM notify past partners who may have been exposed to an STD. In 2005, nearly 24,000 e-cards were sent to 39,000 recipients. More than one-third (36 percent) of recipients clicked on an Internet link to obtain information about STDs and how to get tested. The program is expanding to other cities and will soon include content to reach heterosexuals.

## Pope Declares War On Italy's Government Over G/L Unions



ROME - Pope Benedict warned Italy's new left-of-center government on Thursday (May 11) that the Vatican will use all of its power to thwart any move to recognize same-sex couples, 365Gay.com reported. Speaking at a Vatican conference on marriage and the family, Benedict condemned Gay unions - especially marriage - noting that marriage must be a union between a man and a woman and must be open to procreation.

"Only the rock of total and irrevocable love between a man and a woman is capable of being the foundation of building a society that becomes a home for all mankind," the Pope told the conference. His speech sparked immediate censure from Prime Minister Romano Prodi's coalition. Franco Grillini, an openly Gay member of Italy's lower house accused the Pope of trying "to write

a political agenda" and of "ignoring the rights of million of Italians who live together".

Vladimir Luxuria, Europe's first Transgender lawmaker and another member of Prodi's coalition accused the Pope of attempting to subvert democracy. Luxuria said it was the duty of a lay state to "recognize and regulate" homosexual unions. Prodi has been a supporter of moderate rights for same-sex couples since last July when he met with Gay activists, but he opposes Gay marriage. His planned bill would legalize civil partnerships, similar to those in Britain and other parts of the European Union. He also has voiced his support for revamping hate crimes and reassignment surgery.

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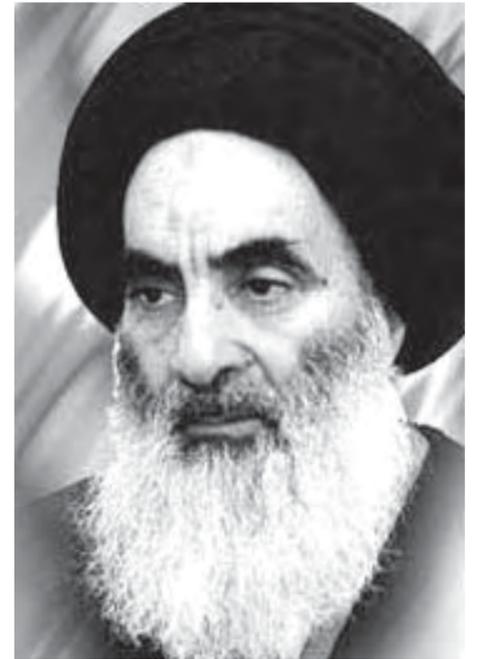
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**Iraqi Cleric Removes Anti-Gay Fatwa From His Web Site; Lesbian Fatwa Remains**

LONDON - In what's being hailed as a major victory for Iraqi Gays, the Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani has removed from his Web site a fatwa calling for the murder of Gay men, reported advocate.com. But the fatwa against Lesbians remains on his site, Sistani.org, and the fatwa against all Gay people is still in effect offline, according to the London-based Gay-rights group Iraqi LGBT-UK. "We welcome the decision to remove the most murderously homophobic part of Sistani's fatwa from his website," Ali Hili, the head of Iraqi LGBT-UK, said in a statement. However, "this decision does not go far enough. The fatwa has been removed from Sistani's Web site only. It has not been revoked. We want the entire fatwa withdrawn, including the hateful denunciation calling for the punishment of Lesbians."



**Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani**

The removal online of the fatwa against Gay men, which stated that "people involved" in sodomy "should be killed in the worst, most severe way possible," came on Wednesday (May 10) after two weeks of negotiations between Iraqi LGBT-UK and Sistani's representatives in London and Najaf, Iraq. Sistani's people had first contacted Iraqi LGBT-UK, which coordinates a network of Gay activists inside Iraq, demanding that the group remove anti-Sistani criticisms from its own Web site and renounce its questioning of Sistani's religious authority. The group refused and made its own demand that Sistani remove the anti-Gay fatwa from his Web site. The fatwa, which appeared on Sistani's site earlier this year, has been blamed for a rise in anti-Gay killings in Iraq, including the recent execution by Iraqi police of a 14-year-old boy in Baghdad.

condemning such "vigilante" murders, saying they're against Islam. "We believe that Sistani's fatwa has encouraged and sanctioned the current wave of execution-style assassinations of Lesbians and Gay men," Hili said. "He owes Gay Iraqis an apology. He owes all Iraqis an apology for setting straight Iraqis against Gay Iraqis. Endorsing the murder of other human beings is unIslamic. Our Muslim faith is one of love, compassion, tolerance, and mercy. Hatred and prejudice have no legitimate place in our religion."



In its statement, Iraqi LGBT-UK called on Sistani to revoke the fatwa entirely, and to issue a new one

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## CDC Says It Will Investigate Changes To Abstinence Panel

ATLANTA - Following reports that pressure from a right-wing congressman led to the installation of abstinence proponents to a panel discussion held last week at the National STD Prevention Conference in Jacksonville, Fla., the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has announced it will investigate the panel's formation, the federal health care policy Web site CQ HealthBeat reported on advocate.com.

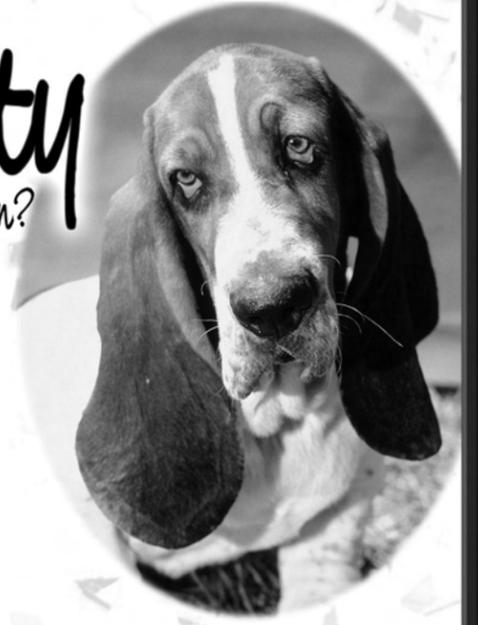
The CDC-sponsored panel was slated to address in part the failures of abstinence-only education programs and was originally titled "Are Abstinence-Only Until Marriage Programs a Threat to Public Health?" The original panel included a Penn State University student who had planned to talk about the failures of abstinence-only education programs in reducing sexually transmitted disease rates. But Rep. Mark Souder, an Indiana Republican, objected to the panel's makeup and focus and wrote to the Department of Health and Human Services to complain, calling the conference "controversial" and "anti-abstinence." After Souder's complaints, the CDC removed the Penn State student from the panel, replacing her with two abstinence-only supporters. Neither of the new panelists went through the peer-review vetting process required of the original panel members, sources say. The abstinence supporters also reportedly had their travel expenses for the conference paid by the government, while the other panel members were required to pay their own way. Even the title of the panel discussion was changed after Souder's complaint, renamed "Public Health Strategies of Abstinence Programs for Youth."

U.S. representative Henry Waxman, a California Democrat, last week sent a letter to Health and Human Services secretary Mike Leavitt, questioning whether the department improperly allowed Souder to change the makeup of the panel as well its name and its focus. Waxman also called on Leavitt to guarantee that all future conferences sponsored by HHS or the CDC allow decisions about panel sessions to be made by scientists and public health experts, not politicians. CDC spokesman Tom Skinner said the agency will investigate the formation of the panel and the changes made after Souder's complaints, adding that the agency believes the changes were made not because of Souder's influence but instead to "bring more balance" to the discussion, CQ HealthBeat reports.

However, Maryjo Oster, the Penn State student removed from the panel, told CQ HealthBeat that an e-mail she received from the CDC telling her she had been cut from the panel says the change was made "due to political pressures from above." Panel organizer Bruce Trigg said he received a phone call about the changes from a CDC official who said that "we can't have a one-sided criticism of a government program," CQ HealthBeat reports. "This is a level of interference in the public health community that I don't think we've seen before." A spokesman for Souder says the congressman did not unduly influence or politicize the panel. "We would argue strongly what we've done is remove politics from this panel," Souder spokesman Martin Green told The Albuquerque Journal.

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# Dean Says He Misstated Party Platform Regarding Marriage Equality



**DNC Chairman Howard Dean**

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Democratic National Committee chairman Howard Dean admitted Thursday (May 11) that remarks he made about the Democratic Party platform during a Christian Broadcasting Network interview that aired Wednesday (May 10) on The 700 Club were incorrect, reported [advocate.com](http://advocate.com). "The Democratic Party platform from 2004 says that marriage is between a man and a woman," Dean said during the interview with Pat Robertson. "That's what it says. I think where we may take exception with some religious leaders is that we believe in inclusion, that everybody deserves to live with dignity and respect, and that equal rights under the law are important."

In fact, the DNC 2004 platform reads, "We support full inclusion of Gay and Lesbian families in the life of our nation and seek equal responsibilities, benefits, and protections for these families. In our country, marriage has been defined at the state level for 200 years, and we believe it should continue to be defined there. We repudiate President Bush's divisive effort to politicize the Constitution by pursuing a 'Federal Marriage Amendment.' Our goal is to bring Americans together, not drive them apart."

On Thursday, Dean issued the following statement: "I misstated the Democratic Party's platform, which does not say that marriage should be limited to a man and a woman but says the party is committed to full inclusion of Gay and Lesbian families in the life of our nation and leaves the issue to the states to decide. The Democratic Party remains committed to equal protection under the law for all Americans. How we achieve that goal continues to be the subject of a contentious debate, but our party continues to oppose

constitutional amendments that seek to short-circuit the debate on how to achieve equality for all Americans."

The party platform was approved by more than 4,000 elected and at-large Democratic delegates who met in Boston in 2004 to pick a presidential candidate, and there have been no official revisions of the platform since 2004. "Disturbingly, this is not the first time [Dean] has misrepresented this important and affirming plank, and he has been asked before to correct the record and to cease making these misleading statements," said Matt Foreman, executive director for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

## Ireland Told To Amend Constitution To Include G/L Unions

DUBLIN - The Irish Human Rights Commission has told the government to amend the constitution to allow civil partnerships for both same-sex and opposite-sex couples, reported [365Gay.com](http://365Gay.com). In an official report to the government the Commission said that no doing so could be an intervention of international human rights requirements.

The current failure to recognize same-sex unions and common law (unmarried) relationships by heterosexual couples may violate current European law it said because it treats unmarried couples differently from married ones. The report does not recommend the government legalize same-sex marriage.

The Irish government already is committed to enacting legislation allowing civil partnerships but not marriage for Gay and Lesbian couples. Justice Minister Michael McDowell Friday (May 12) said that constitutional change was unnecessary. McDowell also said that the government was justified in excluding opposite-sex couples from partnership unions because they could marry. The Gay and Lesbian Equality Network has been critical of civil partnerships - holding out for full marriage. Friday the organization in a statement said it was disappointed the Human Rights Commission did not support marriage in its report to the government.

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# POLITICS 2006

by Mark R. Kerr

## Voting By Mail

As previously reported in this column for this publication, there are presently petitions being circulated to get voter signatures in an attempt to get various issues, ranging from raising the minimum wage to discriminating against a segment of the state's population based on "sexual orientation" and "marital status," also known as the Protect Marriage Arizona amendment (PMAA), qualified for consideration for the upcoming, Nov. 7 general election ballot.

One of these petitions is entitled, "Your Right to Vote by Mail," for which the purpose would be to ensure that all registered voters in the state of Arizona, are automatically mailed ballots from their respective county elections official before every election. In the proposal for "Your Right to Vote by Mail," a number of county-wide polling places will remain open on election days for on-site voting and for voters to return automatically mailed ballots.

Presently, the vote-by-mail system had been used in cities and towns in Oregon since 1981, and statewide since 2000 (with an average turnout of more than 80% since its introduction), various cities in Washington state, as well as the Arizona cities of Litchfield Park, Surprise, Prescott, Carefree, Paradise Valley, Lake Havasu City, Oro Valley and most recently, Tucson, which will go to an all, vote by mail election system for the 2007 election.

A vote-by-mail election system has resulted in:

A higher participation/turnout rate of voters than elections conducted with solely polling places, or hybrid elections - absentee/early voting in combination with precincts.

Making it easier for election officials to conduct by maintaining an up to date list of voters as well as time to resolve any disputes that may arise, as well as being cost-effective for the conduction of elections;

Being fraud resistant, with built-in safeguards increasing the integrity of the process by providing an automatic, built in paper voting trail, not having to rely on questionable electronic "touch screen" machines, such as Diebold, which has had numerous, documented problems, deliberate or otherwise in various cities, counties and states across the country, most notably in Ohio for the 2004 presidential election and most importantly;

Giving the voter a longer opportunity to study the ballot and find answers to their questions about the candidates and issues before them for the respective election and getting rid of potential, last-minute negative campaigning by groups or organizations.

Putting aside the flummery and "sugary statements," some local facts to consider about all mail in voting in comparison with precinct or hybrid elections.

On Mar. 14, 2006, Oro Valley conducted an all mail in voting election for Mayor, the town Council, as well as two ballot questions, and had a turnout/participation of 53.6%.

For the Nov. 8, 2005 Tucson general election for three City Council

seats, the turnout citywide for this contested election was only 24.7%.

Oro Valley's held an election as well on the same day, with an all mail in voting system at the same time on just one ballot question that resulted in a turnout/participation rate of 35.6%.

Earlier in 2005 (May 14), Sahuarita held their all mail in general election for one uncontested Council seat as well as one ballot measure that resulted in a turnout/put rate of 43%.

In 2003, for Tucson's Nov. 4 "hotly contested" general election for Mayor, three Council seats and three ballot measures, the turnout was only 40.8%.

Unlike the PMAA, "Your Right to Vote By Mail," if approved would ensure the rights of all Arizonans in regard to one of the most important that we have, the right to vote in a fair and democratic election, especially with the passage and enacted of the draconian Proposition 200 in 2004, that was created to prevent people from voting as well as the efforts by the current Arizona Secretary of State to purchase Diebold electronic voting machines for the entire state to use whether they want to or not.

If you approached or see a petition being circulated for "Your Right to Vote By Mail," sign it so your right to vote is ensured, even in the theocratic state of Arizona. For more information, call (602) 697-0891, toll free (877) 829-9046, or online at [vbmaz.com/index.html](http://vbmaz.com/index.html).

## Supreme Court Continued from Page One

woman. The Maine primary is June 13 and the proposed ad asks the public to call the state's two senators, Republicans Olympia Snowe Susan Collins, and urge them to vote for the amendment. Snowe is running unopposed. The FEC had urged the Supreme Court not to put the appeal on a fast track, saying it has no obligation to reorder its calendar and issue a decision under the "extraordinary expedited schedule" the civic league proposes.

## A. Beck Wins Continued from Page Two

program. This is the highest award the college gives for student community-based work and one of only two awards to be given this year.

In addition, Beck was also named the 2006 winner of the Faculty Women's Association Distinguished Achievement Award for a master's candidate, for her work with GLSEN and the development of the QSpeak Youth Theatre program. The Faculty Women's Association awards one masters student and one doctoral student for outstanding achievement in scholarship, research, and leadership.

Beck graduated this May from ASU with a Masters of Fine Arts in Theatre for Youth as well as a Masters Certificate in Nonprofit Leadership and Management. She is currently a volunteer with GLSEN Phoenix and serves as the Coordinator for 1n10, the Valley's only queer youth services organization that offers weekly drop-in meetings for LGBTQ youth and their allies. For more information, contact 1n10 (602) 475-7456 or [coordinator@1n10.org](mailto:coordinator@1n10.org)

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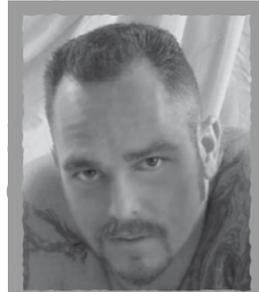
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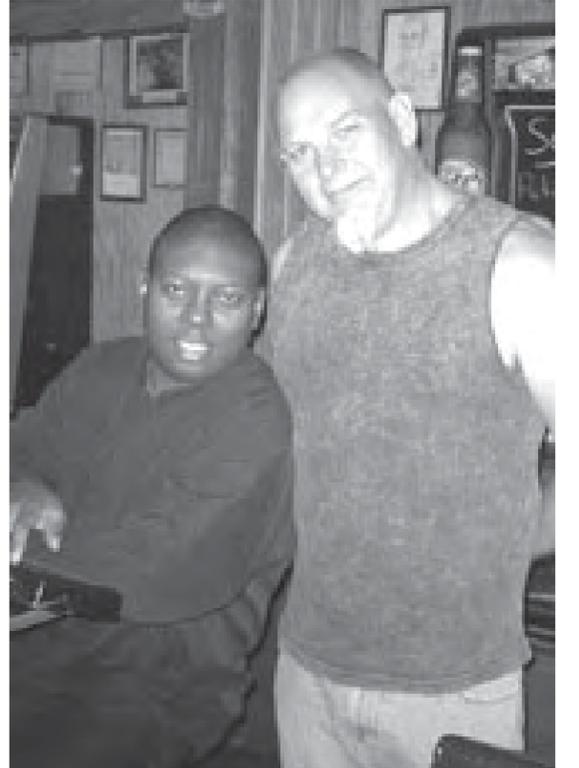
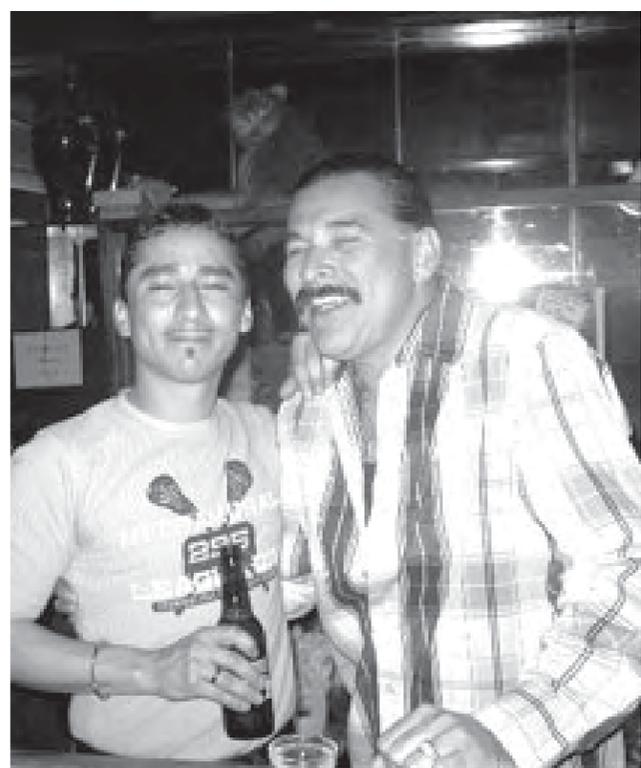
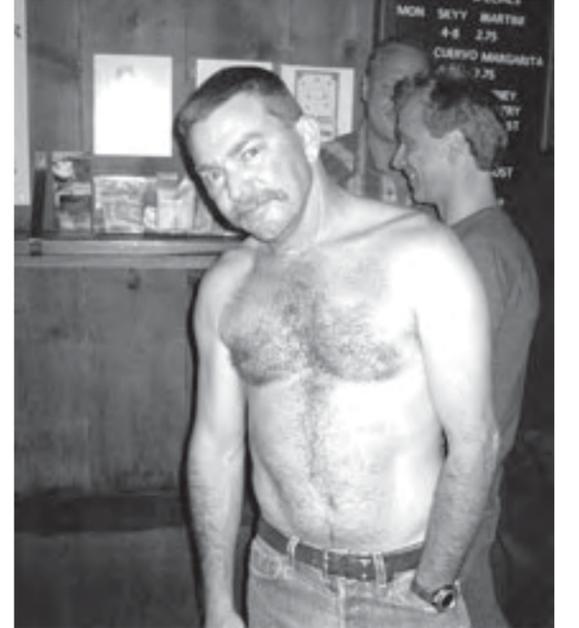
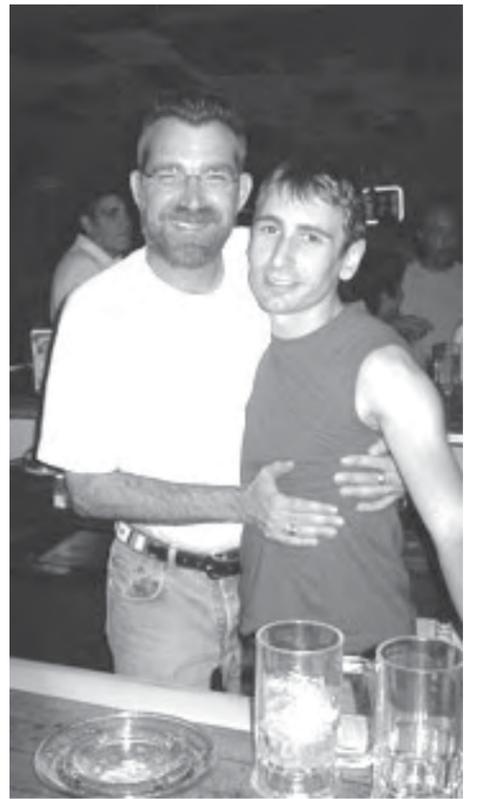
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# Salt Lake Benefits Did Not Break Anti-G/L Amendment Judge Rules

SALT LAKE CITY - Salt Lake City Mayor Rocky Anderson did not violate the Utah constitution when he extended health care benefits to **Mayor Rocky Anderson** domestic partners of Salt Lake City employees a judge has ruled, 365Gay.com reported.



breakthrough that could benefit other same-sex couples in the state.

The case was brought to court by the Alliance Defense Fund which alleged that Anderson "flagrantly" violated Utah's constitutional amendment banning Gay marriage. In his written ruling issued late Friday (May 12), Judge Roth said that employee health insurance is a form of compensation that can increase worker satisfaction, reduce stress, help retain valued workers and attract new employees.

"Providing such benefits also can satisfy an employer's sense of social obligation, whether in the private or public sector," Roth wrote. "The flexibility to extend the traditional concept of dependent as Salt Lake City proposes to do to meet the changing expectations of the marketplace and needs of employees can therefore be argued to be in the city's interest as an employer and public entity, as well as in the interests of covered employees."

But the decision is moot. After Anderson signed the order city council overruled it and implemented a watered down version that replaces domestic partners with any "adult designee". Anderson, calling the measure "discriminatory" vetoed the measure, but the council overrode his veto and the amended ordinance now stands. While the same-sex partners of city workers can still enroll in the health benefits program, he and LGBT civil rights activists say the ordinance fails to specifically recognize them. Still they hailed the ruling by as District Judge Stephen Roth as a significant

The chair of LGBT rights group Equity Utah hailed the ruling. "It's a very important step for Utah to recognize that Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender employees can be treated equally, at least as far as health insurance benefits go," Marquardt told the Deseret Morning News.

# 'Survivor' Winner Sentenced To 51 Months

PROVIDENCE - Richard Hatch, the openly Gay, first winner of "Survivor" was sentenced Tuesday (May 16) to 51 months in prison for failing to pay income taxes on his reality TV prize and other earnings. He was convicted in January of this on the charges of tax evasion.



**Richard Hatch**

According to news reports and wire service stories, U.S. District Judge Ernest Torres issued a harsher than expected sentence because Hatch had committed perjury repeatedly during his trial. "It seems unfortunately very clear to me that Mr. Hatch lied," Torres said during the sentencing hearing. "I believe I've been completely truthful and completely forthcoming throughout the entire process," Hatch told Torres before receiving his sentence.

countants about some income. At times, Hatch was seemed to be handling his criminal case like an extended reality TV competition, abruptly walked away from a plea deal with prosecutors and pleaded his innocence in television interviews while the trial was ongoing.

Hatch claimed he thought the show's producers would pay his taxes and pleaded ignorance about money matters, saying he forgot to tell his ac-

# George Michael In Traffic Flap Yet Again

LONDON - Gay pop star George Michael has attracted harsh media attention once again, this time by allegedly falling asleep at the wheel of his Range Rover, the London News of the World reported Sunday (May 14) on the PlanetOut Network. Michael made headlines in February after nodding off at the Hyde Park Corner traffic lights while he sat at the wheel of his car. He later received a police caution - a form of no-contest citation under the British legal system - for possession of cannabis.

driver who witnessed the incident. "That's probably why he didn't hear all the angry tooting behind him. He got going again - but was weaving all over the place. Then he hit a bollard. I doubt he even noticed it. He looked wasted. He just drove on."

The star has never made a secret of his penchant for a joint; in the past he has admitted to smoking up to 20 a day. This is Michael's third motoring incident in four months: On Easter Sunday, a vehicle he was driving collided with four parked cars. Safety campaigners have been queuing up to knock the star's irresponsible behavior. Said Tory MP Robert Goodwill, of the House of Commons' transport committee: "It is very worrying that a role model like George Michael is seen behaving so irresponsibly. . . . He shouldn't be behind the wheel at all - he should employ a chauffeur."

In Sunday's revelations, a witness claims the traffic lights changed four times before a concerned driver rapped on Michael's window. The incident occurred in the leafy confines of Highgate, close to the singer's home. "He was sweating heavily and had his iPod on," said a

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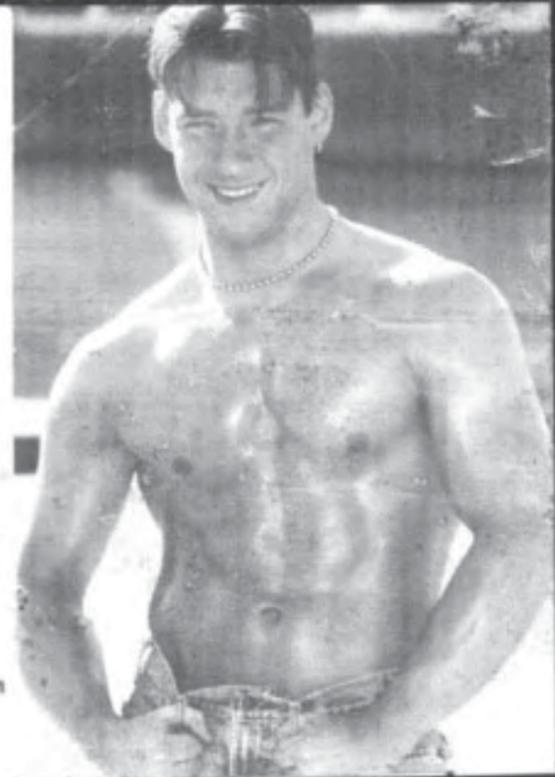
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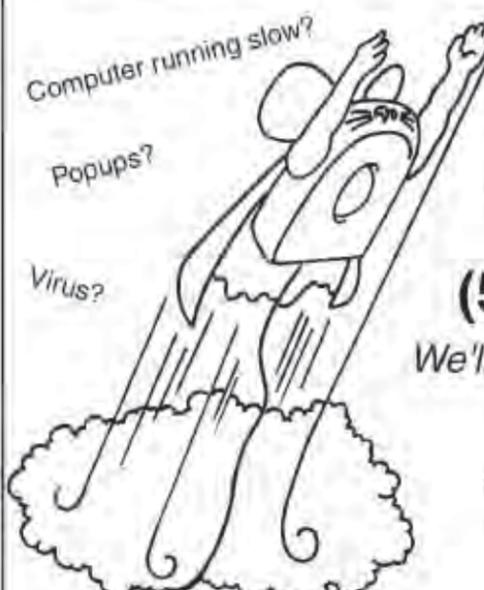


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# Howard Stern Vows Not To Marry Until Gays & Lesbians Can

# Mediation Fails In 'Lesbian Baiting' Coach Case



NEW YORK - Howard Stern said during the May 15 newscast portion of his Sirius radio show that he will not marry until Gays and Lesbians can marry.

Stern's comment came during a conversation with co-host Robin Quivers on the issue of marriage equality.

Responding to a sound bite from conservative Sen. Bill Frist, Stern, who has long dated model Beth Ostrosky, proclaimed, "I'm never getting married unless Gays can get married." The outspoken shock jock then proclaimed this "his cause."

STATE COLLEGE - Lawyers in the federal discrimination lawsuit against Penn State women's basketball coach Rene Portland were unable to reach a settlement during a court-ordered mediation session on Monday (May 15), reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com. Former player Jennifer Harris contends in the suit that Portland discriminated against because the longtime coach perceived her to be a Lesbian. Harris says that she is not Gay. Portland has firmly denied the accusations.

"It was not successful; we are disappointed with the outcome," women's basketball spokeswoman Erin Whiteside said about the all-day mediation session in Harrisburg. "This means that the case will continue to move forward." The trial is tentatively scheduled to start in May 2007. "We are disappointed but completely undaunted and will be moving forward with litigation," said Karen Doering, a lawyer for the National Center for Lesbian Rights who is representing Harris. Harris transferred to James Madison University last year. In court filings, Harris lawyers' said that "believing Jennifer was a Lesbian, Ms. Portland tried to force her to leave the team, humiliating, berating and ostracizing her."

The lawsuit also named athletic director Tim Curley and the university as defendants. Last month, Penn State released the results of an internal investigation against Portland, concluding that she violated school policies with alleged hostile treatment of Harris. The university fined Portland \$10,000 and said she would be dismissed for any future violations. Portland disagreed with that finding, called the school's investigation flawed and maintained that

Harris' departure was purely related to basketball. Harris, who is black, also alleged racial discrimination by Portland, who is white. The school said there was no evidence to support that accusation.

Portland has taken criticism in the past for comments regarding homosexuality. In 1986, she told the Chicago Sun-Times that she didn't allow Lesbians to play on her team. In a 1991 story in The Philadelphia Inquirer, several former players, recruits and colleagues of Portland said the coach did not tolerate homosexuality among her players. More recently, several former players or people affiliated with the team have told various news outlets of conversations with Portland in which they alleged the coach made comments that indicated bias against Lesbians.

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# NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE

## A Bush Coup?

by Lee Thorn

I'm not yet ready to start seriously worrying about whether or not our current president will suspend the next presidential election and declare himself president for the duration of the terrorism crisis. I know some people who are ready to worry about just that and I know some of their arguments.

One thing they point to is Judge Judy on LARRY KING. She is frightening, as are Chris Matthews and Bill Mahr, all people widely regarded as being both smart and independent in their views. The frightening thing about these folks is that they understand the legal problem with the president's warrantless wiretaps, but cannot seem to wrap their minds around the practical problem. The legal problem is simple: breaking the law is illegal, even for presidents.

The practical problem that evades Judy, Chris and Bill is apparently so very tough and subtle that it needs to be explained in some detail. Suppose I'm a president who's not very moral for one reason or another. We've had those. Suppose I assume the power to tap anybody's phone I want to tap. Suppose I have the power to destroy the records of which phones I've actually tapped. Suppose I say I'm only going to tap the phones of terrorists.

BUT, because I'm not all that moral and because no one will ever find out whether I've done it or not, suppose I decide to lie! Suppose I get a crush on some celebrity and decide to tap that person's phone with a view to arousing myself sexually. Suppose I get tired of being crucified every night by Lou Dobbs on CNN and decide to tap his phone with a view to finding something I can blackmail him over to bring him into line. Now let the nastiest part of your imagination continue these suppositions, bearing in mind that you may have an amoral president who knows he will never get caught, not even after he's been dead 100 years, and you will become aware of the possibilities that for some strange reason Judy, Chris and Bill can't imagine.

Coming back to the coup danger, if Judy and Chris and Bill can't see the potential for practical evil in warrantless wiretaps, can they see the potential for practical evil in the recently revealed secret prisons of the CIA? I'd argue that the danger of the secret prisons is more subtle than the dangers of the warrantless wiretaps. The reason: the danger lies not just in what specifically might happen in those prisons but in the changes their existence implies in the nature of the CIA.

The CIA was set up as an intelligence gathering agency. How did it get into the prison business? In Stalin's Russia the intelligence business and the military and the prison business were all merged. Is that the model we want to follow? Is there anything in the founding charter of the CIA that authorizes it to get into the prison business? Assuming that there's not, and assuming that they're breaking the law with the president's approval or on his explicit orders, whose job is it to stop them? Bear in mind that the Congress of the United States can't even muster the courage to confront the president over the wiretaps.

It's interesting to note that after the secret prisons story broke the

president nominated a general to run the CIA. What is the import of militarizing the management of a traditionally civilian agency? Isn't a general more likely to feel duty bound to obey the possibly illegal orders of a president than a civilian official would feel?

Let's say that gas prices stay high or get even higher between now and November. Let's say that they're so high they get the electorate's dander up enough to give control of both houses of congress to the Democrats. Let's say that the Democrats go after what they call "the culture of corruption" all out, investigating everything from free money for Halliburton to outing a CIA agent to cooking intelligence to abrogating the US Constitution to tolerating torture to secret prisons, etc. Say we come to the point where top government officials are not just facing impeachment; they're facing jail time as well.

Then, just when things are looking their worst for what Mark Twain called our only native born criminal class, we have another 9-11 but ten or a hundred times worse than the first one. Perhaps the president might feel called upon by God to declare a national "state of emergency." What could that mean? He'd have to make it up as he went along. For sure he'd send the congress packing. We wouldn't want them all together in Washington where they might get hurt. Better send the Supreme Court home as well. So forth, so on.

[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.]

## Anti-Gay Politician Made Gay XXX Movie

LONDON - The extreme right wing British National Party which publicly condemns homosexuality was left with egg on its face Wednesday (May 10) when it was learned one of its leaders produced and directed a film featuring young men cavorting in the nude and fondling one another, 365Gay.com reported/

"It was an art film, end of story. It was not a bloody porn film," is all Richard Barnbrook, the party's London organizer and leader of the opposition on east London council. The film, "HMS Discovery: A Love Story," was shot in the mid 1980s. London's Evening Standard which uncovered the old movie reports that it shows men undressing, full frontal nudity and the men fondling each other. In one scene, the paper reports, one man performing a sex act on another. At the bottom of the screen there is homoerotic poetry. The film's credits list Barnbrook as producer and director but he denies writing the poetry.

In Barnbrook's election campaign material the BNP called for a local vote to let parents decide if they want to "prohibit the teaching of homosexuality as an alternative lifestyle choice." Previous BNP pronouncements included calls to criminalize the "revolting practices" of homosexuality and calls AIDS the "revenge" of nature against "the nauseating proliferation of homosexuality."



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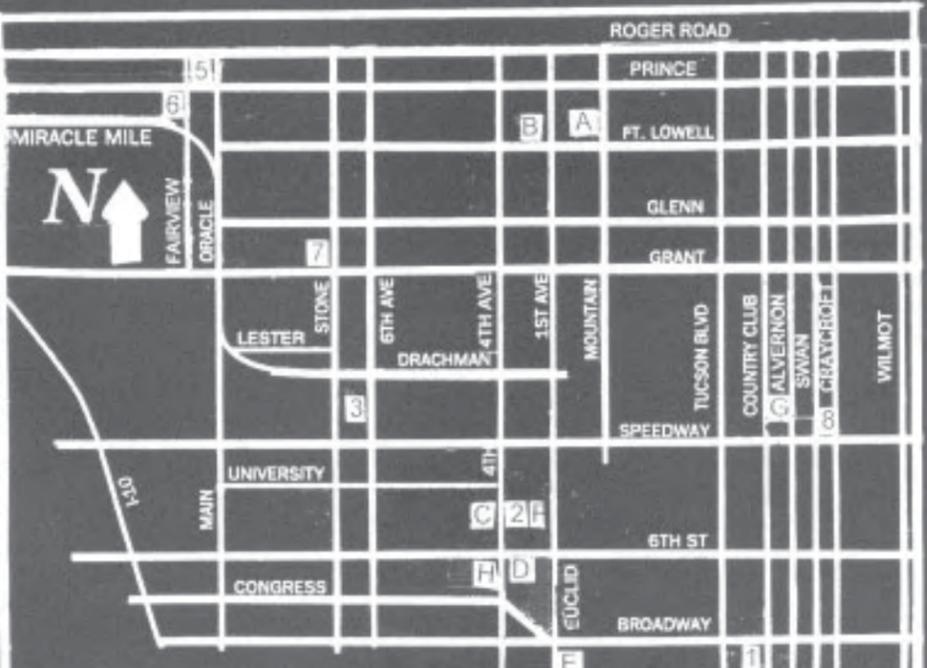
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# Non Bar Calendar

Wednesday, May 17  
 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, May 18  
 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Coffee Night at Rainbow Planet on Fabulous 4th, 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, May 19  
 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 9:00a.m. to 6:00p.m. Create a successful social experiment by visiting a failed social experiment! Join the Driving Trip to Amazing Biosphere 2 with your successful host... Thom! \*\*\* No one will be allowed to return to the Outside World at any time during the drive!\*\*\* (Just kidding.) Call Thom at 623-2941 or e-mail Thom right now at this very instant for carpooling logistics and opt for the optional late lunch or early dinner at the A# 1 China Super A Buffet at 75 W. River Road after the return drive. Tour will include both the

inside and outside of the facility. No host costs are only for entry fees and buffet. E-mail Thom at: thomsepals@yahoo.com

Tucson Prime Timers, Cocktails – 5:30 PM, Colors, 5305 E. Speedway

May 19, 20, & 21  
 Reveille: Gay Men's Chorus of Tucson/ PRIDE Concert, University of Arizona / Steve Eller Dance Theater on University Mall. 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 20  
 #1 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:30a.m. Join Robert 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 Robert at 400-1376.

#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 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. Saturday, May 20

Sunday, May 21  
 Miss Gay Tucson Pageant takes place tonight at 7:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Palo Verde, 4550 S. Palo Verde Rd. An official preliminary of Miss Gay Arizona America 2007 in July 2006. General admission tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. They may be purchased from Bunny FuFu, the pageant sponsor, 304-3030 or e-mail BunnyFuFuAZ@aol.com, or come by IBT's Wednesday or Saturday evenings after 8:30 where she will be performing.

Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00 p.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. 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Call

Marc in advance at 881-4582 for information and to sign up in advance. This group has been attended by men all over Arizona for 15 years. Small fee.

Monday, May 22  
 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Newsletter and Movie Night! Once a month, the men of MSN get together to help get their newsletter in the mail. Requiring very little effort, this is a great way of socializing, and also a great way to find out all the dirt for next month's Calendar a whole 3 days earlier than the average MSN member. The movie shown after the newsletter is put to bed for this month is the 2005 gay spoof MATRIMONIUM Arlan is hosting this event, and you can contact him at 323-7414 for info and directions.

Tucson Prime Timers, Lunch – 12:30 P.M., The Wildcat House, 1800 N. Stone Ave.

Tuesday, May 23  
 #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: 7:00p.m. Play Bridge hosted this evening by John at 744-9017. Bridge nights are generally featured on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, but please check the calendar and phone the host to confirm date, time, location, and emcee. Lay your cards on the table for a "whist" full evening of Bridge! And remember: Bridge is like sex: if you don't have a good partner, you'd better have a good hand!

Tucson Prime Timers, Lunch – 1 PM, Golden Corral, 4380 E. 22nd St.

Wednesday, May 24  
 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00pm Canasta! Hosted by Peter at 881-8276. 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, May 25  
 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Coffee Night at Rainbow Planet on Fabulous 4th, 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, May 26  
 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 10:00 a.m. Sunrise Scientist's Meeting Muons! Time Traveling Twins! And How About That E=mc2! Please make your special relativity reservation faster than light, and secure your past, present, and future elsewhere by establishing Simultaneity with Tom's Space/Time at 744-9036. Escape Galactic Contradiction at the Sunrise Scientists May Meeting. Although we cannot be more than 99% certain of their precise location at any certain point in time, the probability is that refreshments appropriate to the occasion will certainly be served.

Tucson Prime Timers, Cocktails - 5:30 PM, Colors, 5305 E. Speedway

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**7th Stop:**

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



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# HOROSCOPES

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The raucous party turns up the music when naughty bawdy Neptune retrogrades now. It is "no holds barred." We try anything (and I mean anything), damn the outcome. Not only are we led into temptation, we are also buttered and deep fried. Who will take a bite?

**ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)**  
 Proud Rams can usually be tempted to do one or two outrageous things for an audience. Now, as Neptune retrogrades, you have quite a few standing room only appearances. Soak up the accolades while you can, compadre. Pals are eager to accept everything you give but don't pile it on; A little bit can easily become a little too much. Is that possible? Ha! Let's just see.

**TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)**  
 Aim for the professional klieg lights but watch where you step. Queer Bulls are usually content to quietly toil in the corporate back rows. But now the fates have other plans for you; Don't be surprised if you are plucked from the chorus to enter the center stage of power. You'll get what appears to be a lucky break, but you think you earned it through raw talent. Very raw. Ahem.

**GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)**  
 Pink Twins can't help but get itchy feet and are poised for discovery, adventure and global impact. Scratch that itch with a far flung trip of a lifetime, a mentally stimulating class, an internet chat, an international tasting menu or a few exotic strangers. The most important thing is to shed your usual skin and try on something new. How weird will you look?

**CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)**  
 Gather your rosebuds while you may. Pink Crabs are dreamy, creamy and full of love. Count your lucky stars - for the next few weeks you can prick your finger on assorted thorns and not feel the pain. Neptune expands your appetite but also gives you the charismatic sugar to tempt even the most hard to get lover. And they say the harder the better.

**LEO (JULY 24 - AUGUST 23)**  
 If a particular relationship has become stale and boring, expect a jolt with retro Neptune. You can revive even the most moribund partnership, if that's what you want. For those unbranded proud Lions still on the prowl, this week provides you with charm galore and a bevy of delightful possibilities. Hurry! At midnight you turn back into a horny toad, or is it troll?

**VIRGO (AUGUST 24 - SEPT. 23)**  
 Rightly or wrongly, queer Virgins are sometimes accused of being hypochondriacs. Now, retro Neptune delivers a surge of irrepressible, happy energy and you feel pretty darned good despite yourself. Reinvest in an exercise, overall health or stress reducing regime and make the good vibes last. Will you possibly overdo all the good stuff? One can only hope.

**LIBRA (SEPT 24 - OCTOBER 23)**  
 Retro Neptune is uncontrollable but benign and proud Libras can make much of the wilde and wooly energy. Turn your attention to anything having to do with fun, creativity, imagination and passionate party hearty instincts. You can't help but take things to the outer limit, and way beyond. When is enough, enough, cousin? Enough with the questions!

**SCORPIO (OCT 24 - NOV. 22)**  
 Any roadblocks in family relationships can be overcome during retro Neptune. Maybe its because your guard is down. That is not to say that proud Scorps should compromise one iota on but it does mean that this is a great time to reapproach and try, try again. You also have a wealth of great ideas to improve your home surroundings. Redecorate or detonate? Kaboom, kiddo.

**SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)**  
 As wilde Neptune retrogrades, randy Gay Archers realize that they can get everything they want by just asking. I sense danger! Get the word Out, but do it strategically and politically. You are almost sage-like but you can also be expansive to the point of unwieldy and totally out of control. They say loose lips sink ships. Let's try for sailors instead.

**CAPRICORN (DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)**  
 If you have been cautiously saving your hard earned pennies, hold on to them tightly with retro Neptune. On the one hand you can splurge on nonsense. On the other hand, you can hit pay dirt! Anticipate a huge swing in your bottom line as you can reap, and lose, big rewards from even half-hearted efforts. Don't spend it all at once - you may not have it tomorrow.

**AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)**  
 Aqueerians exponentially increase their personal charisma now. Wow! You are a social supernova. Will you be too, too much of a good thing? Only if you believe your own press. Jostling crowds of admirers make the pilgrimage to your shrine. But as you nibble on their offerings remember that you are surrounded by smoke and fog. Don't trip on your celestial gown.

**PISCES (FEB. 20 - MARCH 20)**  
 The usually prescient Guppie is even more psychically on target now. You can see how to manifest your destiny but don't let all the good vibes go into your contemplative navel. A light is illuminated not only in the far reaches of your cobwebbed mind but also in your cobwebbed closet. Everything blasts Out! Tell the world who you are, loud, proud and queer.

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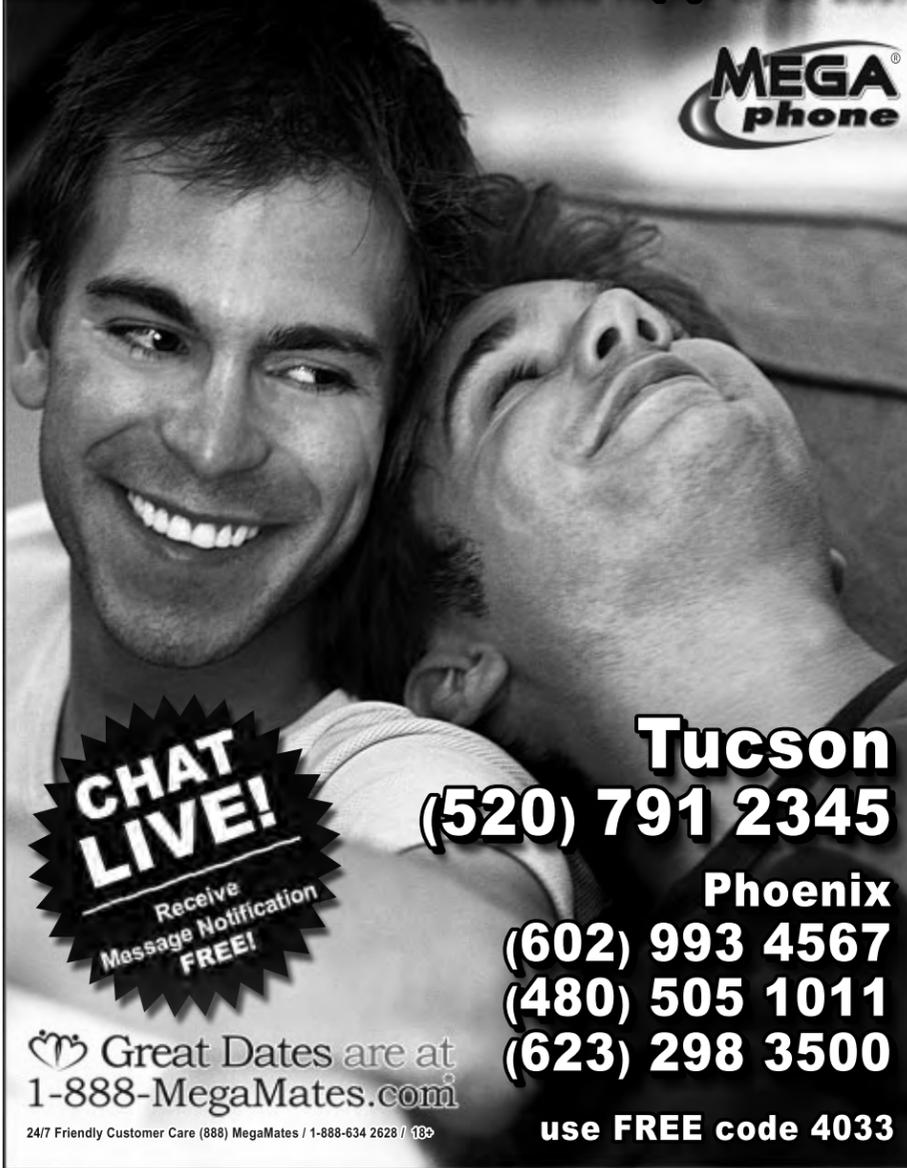
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### SERVICES

YBARRA CATERING. Catering for all occasions Specializing in authentic Mexican Food. Phone 982-5627 or 981-1034. [ybarracatering@aim.com](mailto:ybarracatering@aim.com) Gay owned and operated. 1138.

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WHAT'S BLACK & WHITE & READ ALL OVER?

# 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 11:00 am. \$2 Smirnoff Sunday. Free Texas Hold-'Em Poker Tournaments at 1:00, 4:00, and 7:00 pm. 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. Monday Munchies 4 - 9 pm with reduced prices on appetizers - best deal in town! Free Texas Hold-'Em Poker Tournament at 6:30 pm. Sign-up begins one hour before playing time. No Cash - Play for Prizes and Points. Great chance to learn the hottest game around.

**IBT's** - Open Noon. 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 Martinis 4-8pm.

**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. 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. Kitchen open 4-9pm. Women-only Texas Hold-Em Poker at 6:30 p.m. for women only.

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

**VENTURE-N** - Open 9am. Patio 7pm. Free Pool til 4pm. Spaghetti Nite (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday every month \$2.00).

**WOODY'S** - Open 10am w/Special Happy Hour til 2pm \$1.50 well or domestic longneck. Regular Happy Hour 2-8. 80s Nite 9-close. \$1 off to those wearing 80s concert T-shirt. (Excludes draught & schnapps).

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

## wednesday

**COLORS** - Open 4-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3 Skyy cocktails, \$2.50 Domestic and 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 - 9 pm. Free Texas Hold-'Em Poker Tournament at 6:30 pm for Women Only.

**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 9am. Patio 7pm. 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 and 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 - 9 pm. 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 7pm. Free Pool til 4pm. Pool Tourney 7pm. \$3 entry. Special prices for players. Steak Nite (3rd Thursday during summer). 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. Kitchen open 4 - 9 pm. Two-step lessons with Amanda every other Friday from 7:30 to 8:30 pm. DJ plays your favorite country dance songs 8:30 to midnight then dance mix 'til close. Kitchen open 9 pm - midnight for late night munchies.

**IBT's** - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, 9pm Hot Dance with DJ Mike Lopez outside on the patio and DJ Rayman spinning club music inside. 9pm-2am.

**VENTURE-N** - Open 9am. Patio open 7pm. Free Pool til 4pm.

**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

### 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. Happy Hour 11 am - 8 pm, \$2 well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3 sm pitchers, \$5 lg pitchers. \$4.00 Burger & Fries all day. DJ Johnny D playing the best mix in town. Check our ad for special events. Kitchen open 9 pm - 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.

**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 and Entertainment

### 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.

### Now playing thru June 18

Top Hat Theatre Club presents Noel Coward's "Present Laughter" At the theater 3110 E. Ft. Lowell at Country Club. 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 3:00 p.m. Sundays. For reservations call 326-6800.

### Now playing thru June 11

"On Golden Pond" presented by Live Theatre Workshop, 5317 E.. Speedway.. 327-4242.

, Exit 80 (7 minutes South of Tucson). Presenting Tanya Tucker. TicketMaster 321-1000.

### May 20 - 21

Ballet Tucson performing "A Midsummer's Night Dream" at Centennial Hall on ofA campus. 621-3341

## Arts and Entertainment

Continued

### Friday, June 16

Casino Del Sol AVA Amphitheater presents the Times Tour of Martina McBride. Ticketmaster 321-1000. I-19, exit Valencia West. 838-6700.

### August 17 - September 24

"The Lion King" Broadway's Award Winning Musical. At Tucson Music Hall. Tickets: Tucson Convention Center Box Office, 260 S. Church Ave. Ticketmaster 321-1000.

## BAR CALENDAR Of Upcoming Events

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 17

**WOODY'S** - 5<sup>TH</sup> Annual TOGA Party. 8:00 p.m. til closing. Come in your own or let us decorate you. \$1.00 off drinks for those in their Togas (excludes Schnapps and draught).

### THURSDAY, MAY 18

**VENTURE-N** - The original Steak Nite! Steaks cut by Chef Howard from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Steak, salad & Baked Potatoes only \$6.00.

### FRIDAY, MAY 19

**HOWL AT THE MOON** - Step Lessons 7:30 p.m.

**WOODY'S** - May Birthday? Celebrate here beginning at 10:00 p.m. with balloons - cake - champagne!!!!

### SATURDAY, MAY 20

**HOWL AT THE MOON** - Motown Night - Groove to your favorites from Motown. DJ Johnny D starts at 9:00 p.m.

### SUNDAY, MAY 21

**IBT'S** - 'Menergy' an evening of flesh, fun and fantasy featuring the men of Playgirl! Dino Phillips and guest. Hosted by DJ Q.

**YARD DOG SALOON** - Yard Dog Cowboys Beer Bust and Food from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m.

### FRIDAY, MAY 26

**IBT'S** - Memorial Day Weekend begins here with Happy Hour from Noon until 8:00 pm. And "I'm A Sexy Bitch Night" from 9:00 p.m. to closing.

### SATURDAY, MAY 27

**HOWL AT THE MOON** - Latino Music with DJ Michelle starting at 9:00 p.m.

**IBT'S** - Memorial Day Weekend continues with Karaoke 5 to 8 p.m., Teri-Beef Kabobs \$3.00 from 5to8 p.m. Showtime hosted by Bunny FuFu at 8:30 p.m. followed by DJ Q spinning on the dance floor and party on the Patio with DJ Mike Lopez.

**VENTURE-N** - Memorial Day Weekend here from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Bucky's "World Famous" Omelettes followed by a Patio Beer Bust from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. followed by Uniform Night from 9:00 p.m. to closing. Drink specials for men in uniform.

**WOODY'S** - Memorial Day Weekend Beach Party - Today it's 'Miami Beach Party'. Drink specials.

### SUNDAY, MAY 28

**IBT'S** - Memorial Day Weekend festivities continue with Karaoke from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. followed by "Liquid 360 Party" starting at 9:00 p.m.

**VENTURE-N** - 3-7 P.M. Patio Beer Bust plus 5-7 p.m. Bossburgers Plus.

**WOODY'S** - Memorial Day Weekend Beach Party here - today it's Puerto Villarta Day in the Sun Beach Party. Drink specials.

### MONDAY, MAY 29 - MEMORIAL DAY (Observed)

**IBT'S** - Celebration starts early here called "Monday Morning Madness" opening at 10:00 a.m. with a free Breakfast Buffet and ana 11:00 a.m. Drag Show hosted by Bunny FuFu and 1:00 p.m. Karaoke on the Patio.

**VENTURE-N** - Memorial Day Bar-B-Que Chicken & Brauts from 5 to 7 p.m.

**WOODY'S** - Memorial Day Community Bar-B-Que from 2:30 until 6:00 p.m. Cut Throat 'Crogay' on the Greens. Patio Bar opens at 2:00 p.m. Drink specials.

### SATURDAY, JUNE 3

**HOWL AT THE MOON** - National Capital Cities Pageants for Miss Desert States & Desert Diva, Preliminaries start at 8:00 p.m.

### SATURDAY, JUNE 10

**HOWL AT THE MOON** - Ellas de Noche drag show starting at 9:00 p.m.

# 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.**

**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, contact TEAM ARIZONA at their website: [teamarizona.org](http://teamarizona.org)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**SOUTHERN ARIZONA GENDER ALLIANCE (SAGA).** The Southwest's largest transgender and gender-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.





**Fairy Tail Productions**  
Proudly Presents...

# Red & Wild!

## Miss Gay Tucson America 2007 Pageant

*An official preliminary to Miss Gay Arizona America 2007 in July 2006*

**Sunday May 21, 2006 / 7:00pm**

**Holiday Inn Palo Verde**  
4550 S Palo Verde Rd. Tucson

**Tickets:**  
General Admission ONLY:  
\$10.00 in advance / \$12.00 at door  
Contact Bunny Fu Fu for more info!!!  
520-304-3030 / BunnyFuFuAZ@aol.com



*Heather Boa  
Miss Gay Tucson 2006*



*Janee Starr  
Miss Gay Tucson  
2003 & 2005*



*Amanda Bury  
Miss Gay Arizona 2006*



*Lucinda Holbiday  
Miss Gay Arizona 1995*










## Catholic Church Hit With New LGBT Scandals

LONDON - The Roman Catholic Church was in the midst of damage control on Sunday (May 14) following the firing of a key aide to the Cardinal in London for being Gay and the reported arrest of a top Vatican official in Rome for trying to pick up a Gay or transsexual prostitute, 365Gay.com reported. Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor, the leader of the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales has reportedly fired his top aide after discovering the man is Gay.

The Mail reports that Stephen Noon's sexuality was discovered when his long-term partner visited him at his office. "His partner came to the office at the end of the day and was introduced to the Cardinal," a friend of the couple tells The Mail. "Shortly afterwards the Church made it clear that his sexuality was incompatible with the job he had to do. Since he was the spokesperson for the Cardinal, Murphy-O'Connor clearly felt he had to act because homosexual acts are regarded by the Church as a sin," the friend was quoted as saying. Noon, 35, joined the Archbishop's staff in 2003. He was previously a press officer for the Scottish Nationalist Party,

was handed the brief to improve the Catholic Church's image. The Church was paying him about \$70,000 a year. The cardinal was a leading opponent of Britain's civil partnership law, had opposed to the repeal of Clause 28 - which banned the promotion of homosexuality in schools - and fought against legislation that gave Gays and Lesbians job and housing protections.

Meanwhile, in Rome, the Vatican is vehemently denying published reports that a senior Church official had been arrested while looking for a male or a transsexual prostitute in an area of the city know for its hustlers. The Ansa news agency and Italian newspapers report that the 48-year-old priest - whose rank was withheld and who was identified only by the initials CB - works in the office of the secretary of state of the Vatican. "Information disseminated this morning by newspapers concerning a cleric in service at the Vatican are totally without foundation," a Vatican statement said. The media outlets are standing by their stories.

## World Outgames Forecasting No Financial Shortfall

MONTREAL - With confirmed attendance of more than 12,000 paid participants, organizers of the first World Outgames, to be held July 26 to Aug. 5, are forecasting no financial shortfall from the huge cultural and sporting event, reported the Montreal Gazette. "We have obtained financial viability," said Louis Roy, chief executive officer of Montreal 2006, the body organizing the games.

But Roy's confidence was a hard sell to the media in a city that is still paying for the 1976 Summer Olympics and was left holding the bag with a \$4.77-million deficit after last summer's FINA World Aquatics Championships. Roy and Montreal Mayor Gérald

Tremblay faced a tough crowd at a news conference. They wanted to know how this Gay-themed event could break even where other sporting events have not. Tremblay pointed out that the city has made municipal sites and all sorts of technical equipment available to the Outgames organizers.

Golf will be played in the Metropolitan course in Anjou, the cycling, triathlon and marathon events will make use of Jean Drapeau Park and the figure skating events will be held at the Maurice Richard Arena. Ites built specifically for the Olympics, like the rowing basin and the Olympic pool will be

used by the competitors. "Unlike other sporting events, we had no need to build any facilities, our sponsors are already with us and we have government money," Roy said by way of explaining the group's financial optimism.

The Outgames are expected to generate an economic windfall of \$170 million when an estimated 250,000 visitors from 109 countries descend on Montreal, Roy added. That money will be shared by hotels, restaurants, stores and both levels of government through sales tax. "In addition to the financial windfall, the

Outgames cements our reputation as a tolerant, open and inclusive city," Tremblay said. There are 35 sporting events ranging from aerobics to wrestling, in addition to an international conference on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered human rights that precedes the Outgames. Most events are open to the public with the purchase of a \$20, eight day, all-access bracelet. The opening and closing ceremonies as well as figure skating, dancesport, physique (bodybuilding), the choral festival, ball-room dancing, and a synchro swimming activity called Outsplash, require tickets which are available on the Outgames site at montreal2006.org

## Hawaii To Settle LGBT Youth Prison Case

HONOLULU - The state will pay \$625,000 and change policies at its only youth prison to settle a lawsuit over alleged abuse of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender inmates, according to a proposed settlement, reported the Associated Press on the PlanetOut Network.

The lawsuit involves three inmates at the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility who are Lesbian, Transgender and Gay, the attorney general's office said. They claimed they were physically and emotionally abused by guards because of their sexual orientation, and said correctional officers failed to intervene when they were harassed by other youths in the prison.

The state attorney general's office and the American Civil Liberties Union have agreed to the dollar figure of the settlement, but they're still trying to decide how to divide the money, said Deputy Attorney General John Molay. The settlement would give \$600,000 to the three inmates and the ACLU. The other \$25,000 would be spent on a contract with a juvenile justice expert to help the state develop new sexual orientation policies at the youth prison, Molay said. The state does not admit wrongdoing in the settlement.

Lois Perrin, legal director for ACLU of Hawaii, said the agreement will help ensure that the facility is safe for the teenagers and that their sexual orientations are respected. A federal judge in March called for the state to create policies against physical and verbal abuse of inmates perceived to be Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay or Transgender. A separate agreement reached in February with the Justice Department forces the state to fix the prison. In that case, inmates said they were beaten, locked alone in cells for days and denied medical care by

**A man who  
doesn't  
advertise  
is like one  
who winks in  
the dark:  
he knows  
he's doing it,  
but nobody  
else does.**