



Former President Makes Surprise Appearance At NGLTF Event



Former President Bill Clinton shown above with NAACP Chair Julian Bond at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Leadership Award Dinner

MIAMI - Former President Bill Clinton made a surprise appearance at a benefit for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) reported 365Gay.com. Clinton was in South Florida to campaign for Democratic candidates. An aide called the NGLTF about an hour before to say that Clinton would like to attend.

The former president mingled with the 650 people who attended the dinner and stayed to see old friend NAACP Chair Julian Bond receive an NGLTF leadership award. Bond has been a longtime supporter of LGBT issues. Bond told a forum at the University of Virginia where he is a professor that the state's proposed constitutional amendment to ban same-sex marriage is nothing less than discrimination and no different from racism.

"I have the privilege of traveling all across this country and talking with LGBT people and virtually everywhere I go there is wrenching injustice: high rates of suicide, homelessness and violence and bullying among our young," NGLTF Executive Director Matt Foreman told the crowd. "Rampant discrimination in employment keeping closet doors slammed shut and the homophobia that is fueling the immoral rates of HIV infection among African-American Gay and Bisexual men. And the daily heartbreaking injustices our families face almost everywhere because they are denied legal recognition and protection. All of this makes me heartsick and angry at the root causes of these scourges. Angry that an entire industry has been built around demonizing, defaming and dehumanizing Gay people. Angry that

we now live in a nation where lying about a blow job is an impeachable offense, but lying that leads to the literal blowing up of thousands of human bodies is not. Angry that homophobia is once again polluting the political discourse in this election — at this very moment in time — in both subtle and crass ways."

And Foreman had some pointed words for former Florida Congressman Mark Foley. "Mark, whenever you re-emerge from wherever you are, please don't come crawling to us looking for acceptance — there's no toaster waiting for you here, that I promise." The dinner raised more than \$270,000, two-thirds of which will be donated by the Task Force to organizations serving the Miami-Dade LGBT community.

Lifespan With HIV Now Averages 24 Years

ATLANTA - An American diagnosed with the AIDS virus can expect to live for about 24 years on average, and the cost of health care over those two-plus decades is more than US-\$600,000, new research indicates, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com. Both life expectancy and the cost of care have risen from earlier estimates, mainly because of expensive and effective drug therapies, said Bruce Schackman, the study's lead author.

The research found that the average annual cost of care is about \$25,200, nearly 40 per cent higher than a commonly cited estimate from the late 1990s. The new research also

Judicial Independence Remains Under Fire

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Efforts to curb judges' independence suffered some Election Day setbacks, but supporters pledged to keep fighting against a judiciary they say has lost touch with America, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com. The problem, critics say, is that judges too often make laws rather than interpret them. On the respective ballots, the possible solutions ranged from term limits to prison time. All failed, most by wide margins.

Judges say such efforts threaten their autonomy and some legal scholars see them as part of an organized campaign to persuade voters that judges, like legislators, governors and presidents, are policymakers who need political oversight. The frontier of the movement was South Dakota, where voters considered allowing judges to face lawsuits or jail time for their opinions.

"People are not going to allow judges to take over this county," said Ron Branson, who conceived the South Dakota measure and is promoting it nationwide. "They talk about judicial independence but they're getting involved in things they have no power to order." Nine out of 10 voters rejected the idea but Branson predicted it would take hold in one of several states with active chapters in the "Jail4Judges" campaign.

In Montana, three Republican legislators backed a proposal that would have allowed judges to face recall for any reason. The measure was voted upon but the results weren't counted because judges found fraud and deception in the petition drive. Supporters of the measure said it was just another arbitrary ruling by the courts. "We're not off-the-wall people. We're three leadership people in the Montana

House of Representatives," said state Rep. Ed Butcher, who said they were trying to send a message that jurists "have to be judges rather than legislators."

It's a familiar refrain in these debates. Critics, frequently conservatives, have used the phrase "activist judges" to refer to jurists they say are legislating from the bench. President Bush has used the term to criticize opinions such as the court-ordered legalization of Gay marriage in Massachusetts. The critique, however, is not new. Theodore Roosevelt proposed recalling judges who had grown "out of touch with social needs" and Franklin D. Roosevelt contended the Supreme Court was acting as a policymaking body. "We must take action to save the Constitution from the court," he said.

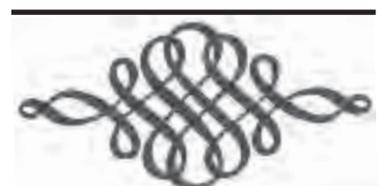
But anti-court sentiment is growing. The Justice at Stake Campaign, an effort to keep the judiciary independent, called the 2006 election "the most threatening election yet for fair and impartial courts." "I'm increasingly concerned about the current climate of challenge to judicial independence," retired Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor recently told a gathering of state judges. "Unhappiness with judges today is at a very intense level."

That unhappiness was clear in Oregon, where people wrote impassioned statements supporting a measure requiring that appellate judges be selected from diverse areas of the state. The courts currently are dominated by city judges who are reinterpreting the state constitution, supporters of the measure said. "The Oregon Supreme Court has substantially expanded the rights of criminals, limited the rights of property owners and limited the initiative process," victims' rights advocate Steve Doell wrote for a voter's guide. "Many of the changes instituted by the court are more properly the responsibility of the legislature or of the people." A similar argument was used to support a Colorado proposal that would have imposed 10-year term limits on judges. Both measures failed at the polls. Such proposals reflect a political strategy, said University of Pennsylvania law professor Stephen B. Burbank. If voters are persuaded to see judges as representing constituents or policies rather than simply interpreting the law, it will be easier to pass laws limiting their independence, he said.

updates other studies from the 1990s, when life expectancy for HIV-infected people was closer to 10 years.

The study could influence how much state and federal governments appropriate for HIV and AIDS care and prevention in the future, some HIV policy experts said. "They're going to have to take into account medical advances that have extended people's lives," agreed Schackman, assistant professor of public health at New York's Weill Cornell Medical College. The study appears in the November edition of the peer-reviewed journal, Medical Care.

A 1993 estimate of life expect-
Continued on Page Five



UPDATE

Former GOP State Rep. Poelstra Jailed

TUCSON - Former Republican state representative Edward Mark Poelstra has been jailed here on suspicion of one count of theft and seven counts of forgery, according to Pima County Jail records, reported David Teibel of the Tucson Citizen.

Poelstra, defeated for reelection four years ago, was being held in lieu of \$5,500 bail.

He was arrested at 2:30 p.m. Monday (Nov. 13) by Tucson police, said a jail records clerk. Poelstra, 36, was accused of forging seven checks on a family member's bank account for a total of \$995, said Officer Dallas Wilson, a police spokesman.

Wilson said Poelstra made the checks out to cash and not to other people or businesses. Poelstra used the money himself, Wilson said. He would not say for what the money was used. The problem was reported Monday (Nov. 13) to police, Wilson said. He would not say who reported it and did not know when the checks were written or cashed.

Democrats Give Navajo President Hope

WINDOW ROCK, Arizona - The newly re-elected president of the Navajo Nation said he hopes that the Democrats' takeover of Congress will help the nation's largest Native American reservation, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com. In an interview Wednesday (Nov. 8), the day after the Navajo general election, Joe Shirley Jr.'s thoughts were partly on how the political shift in Washington will translate into federal action on his reservation, which is home to about 300,000 people in Arizona, New Mexico and Utah.

"We're going to have a lot more friends in Washington," said Shirley, a Democrat. "I'm very much looking forward to continuing on with my quest as president and for more funding for our hospitals, for our schools, for our social services, for our health services, for the different things we get help with (from) the federal government."

By treaty, the Navajos are a sovereign nation with their own government and laws. Like other Native American tribes, they receive money from the federal government for social services, schools and infrastructure.

Eighth Annual International Transgender Day Of Remembrance, Nov. 20

TUCSON - The University of Arizona (UA) Residence Life program will present "No Room for Hate on Campus" Program & Candlelight Vigil Monday (Nov. 20) 6:00 p.m., Social Sciences Building Room 100 (UA).

Residence Life will present an indoor program featuring a film and panel discussion on anti-trans violence, followed by candlelight vigil at the UA Fountain. The event commemorates those whose lives were directly impacted by hate crime or even ended by it and will coincide with the Transgender Day of Remembrance.

Representatives from Wingspan LGBT Community Center will provide information about how individuals can take action and help end hate-motivated violence in the community to stop the hate!

For more information, contact Michael Woodward, (520) 624-1779, mwoodward@wingspan.org or go online to rememberingourdead.org.

Around Tucson

Self-Defense 101, Sunday (Nov. 19), 2 to 4:00 p.m. at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St., presented by Violence Prevention Specialist Tina Tarin of UA Campus Health's Oasis Program. Open to all ages and genders. RSVP required. Call (520) 624-1779, x26 or E-mail: mwoodward@wingspan.org. ...

Freedom of Expression March: Join Tucson youth & allies as they march from the heart of University of Arizona campus (Westside Mall Stage) to the soul of the Southern Arizona LGBT community, Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St. Sign-making activities will take place earlier in the day. Call (520) 624-1779, x26 for more information. ...

De Ambiente Social Hour and "Hombres De Ambiente." De Ambiente is a prevention program specifically targeted to Latino men who have sex with men (MSM) in Southern Arizona. De Ambiente is implementing the curriculum "Hombres de Ambiente an adaptation of "Many Men Many Voices" (3MV). 3MV is a group level intervention program to prevent HIV and sexually transmitted diseases among men of color who have sex with men who may or may not identify as Gay or Bisexual.

Join De Ambiente for drinks and appetizers at the De Ambiente Social Hour Saturday November 18, 8 to 10:00 p.m. "Hombres De Ambiente" (Many Men Many Voices) discussion Monday November 20th 6pm to 8pm Please RSVP for these events. For more information or to RSVP contact Hector Quiroz or Carlos Torres, (520) 628-7223 or at hquiroz@saaf.org.

Food Drive To Support SAAF. Nov. 18

TUCSON - In light of the impending holidays, the Arroyo Chico Neighborhood Association (ACNA) will hold a food drive to share the holiday spirit with those less abundantly blessed on Saturday (Nov. 18).

After some deliberation, the ACNA decided to support the pantry at SAAF (Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation). SAAF is widely regarded as one of the best (if not -THE- best) HIV/AIDS service organizations in the Southwest, and as the number of persons diagnosed with HIV increases, the need for SAAF's services - including its food pantry - will likewise increase.

ACNA be collecting canned, boxed, dried, and other shelf-stable foods, and/or grocery store cards at Reid Park (southwest corner, at 22d Street and Country Club) on Saturday, (Nov. 18), 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. For more information, call Les Pierce (520) or E-mail: les_p_hackenslash@yahoo.com.

18th Annual Jerome Beillard Festival For Life, Nov. 19

TUCSON - Enjoy an "Evening in Paradise" and show your compassion for people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS at the 18th Annual Jérôme Beillard Festival for Life, Sunday, (Nov. 19) 4 to 7:00 p.m. at The University of Arizona Student Union Grand Ballroom and is presented by Long Realty Cares Foundation and the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF).

You'll feel as though you have escaped to an exotic tropical island for the evening as you enjoy the music of steel drum band Jovert, and the sounds of marimba and guitar from Duo Sonido, while sampling luscious hors d'oeuvres and sipping a cool beverage from the no-host bar.

Tickets are \$60 in advance and \$75 at the door, and are available by calling SAAF, (520) 628-7223, or go online to festivalForLife.org.

Help People To Quit Smoking

TUCSON - Wanna be an Inflammable Friend? Are you passionate about supporting people to quit smoking?

Wingspan is recruiting volunteers to participate in a variety of activities to help people quit smoking and stay quit. You could facilitate a smoking cessation class, link friends up to smoking cessation resources and help with other quit smoking strategies. The Inflammable Friends training will be held on Saturday (Dec. 3), from 9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Wingspan 425 E. 7th St.

Contact Judy Kinney, (520) 624-1779 for more information or to sign up!

Calling for friendly and reliable people to join SAAF's Client Services Team as volunteer Peer Counselors.



If you are interested in offering peer support to clients, educating on HIV/AIDS and more, please contact Wendy Ascione at 628-7223 wascione@saaf.org

SAAF

Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation



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Observer on the World Wide Web :
www.tucsonobserver.com
E-Mail: info@tucsonobserver.com

EDITOR/PUBLISHER:

Bob Ellis

ARTS & GRAPHICS:

Gary Clark

MANAGING EDITOR:

Mark Kerr

Special Events Photos:

Bill Morrow

Amanda Irvine

Horoscope:

Charlene Lichtenstein

Contributing Columnists

MARK R. KERR-LEETHORN

JERRY DIAZ

*

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Informing the Community
The Observer



Did Election Move Democrats Closer To The Right?

ASHEVILLE, North Carolina - When Democrat Heath Shuler took the stage to claim victory on election night, he began his speech by saying, "I want to thank my lord and savior, Jesus Christ," reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com. The crowd - even Asheville's environmentalists and liberal activists - went wild.

On the day when Democrats posted their biggest gains in the House since 1974's post-Watergate election, Shuler was one of only two congressional Democratic candidates in 10 Southern states able to tap the nation's discontent with President Bush and the GOP and beat a Republican incumbent.

Many view that success - built in part on Shuler's socially conservative views, which would make him a Republican in most other parts of the country - as a way forward for the party in a region largely locked up by the GOP for decades.

"I think Shuler is the kind of exemplar of a conservative Democrat who can win in more traditionally Republican areas," said Vanderbilt University political scientist Christian Grose. "On issues, he's taken at least some conservative positions. Voters will say: 'He's not lockstep. He's not a traditional national Democrat.'"

Neither is Jim Webb, the former Republican and Reagan appointee who beat GOP Sen. George Allen in Virginia. Webb is one of only four Democrats among the 20 senators from Virginia, the Carolinas, Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, Mississippi, Alabama, Arkansas and Louisiana. For

the first time since the 1950s, the majority party in the House will be the minority party in the South.

Shuler's campaign mixed economic populism and strong environmental stances with moderate positions on social issues that often hurt Democrats in the South. He opposes abortion but supports stem-cell research. He supports gun rights. He talks openly of his Christian faith and bringing "mountain values" to Washington.

He won even though the South was far more receptive to Republicans. Exit polls conducted for The Associated Press and the networks found a majority favored Republican candidates in the South, breaking 52-45 percent for the GOP.

Just over half in the South, 51 percent, approved of Bush's job performance, and about the same number were either enthusiastic about or satisfied with the Republican leaders in Congress. White men and white women in the South strongly supported Republican candidates. More than a third of Southern voters - 35 percent - said they were white evangelicals, and they backed the GOP by a margin of almost 3-to-1.

As Shuler heads to Washington for freshman orientation, returning to the city where he once played quarterback for the NFL's Redskins, he will encounter other Democrats trying to occupy the political middle. "Boy, he'll be watched like a hawk," said Merle Black, a political scientist at Atlanta's Emory University. "If he doesn't vote the way they like, they

(the Republicans) will come after him. Every issue that (likely House Speaker) Nancy Pelosi sends up, he has to watch out."

Shuler will have role models. Neighboring Tennessee is home to Rep. Lincoln Davis, a rural Democrat who once vowed that no Republican would ever "out-pray me or out-family me." Like most successful Democrats in Tennessee and across the region, Davis supports gun rights and opposes Gay marriage.

Eric Wortman, a spokesman for the fiscally conservative Blue Dog Democrats, said money issues may separate the Blue Dogs from the new Democratic majority. "I don't know what the leadership's going to push, but certainly if you look at the budget, many in the Democratic Party have advocated for increased spending in many areas," Wortman said. One faction within the Blue Dog coalition is mainly concerned with budget deficits and keeping spending down; the other is socially conservative and economically populist.

Shuler, Davis and North Carolina Rep. Mike McIntyre are among the latter, generally opposed to free-trade agreements but open to spending aimed at helping the less fortunate. That philosophy works well for Southern Democrats comfortable "holding the Bible and saying, 'The Bible tells you, you have to help people who don't have money,'" Grose said.

Running as a moderate Democrat in the South, however, isn't a perfect blueprint. The party's only

other Southern win in the House came in Kentucky, where liberal former newspaper columnist John Yarmuth beat five-term Rep. Anne Northup in a race defined mostly by the Iraq war.

Grose and Black both believe deep South states such as Alabama and Mississippi remain more or less off-limits to Democrats. But in states on the edges - Virginia, Arkansas and even North Carolina, which has seen a large influx of newcomers from other regions - Grose said, "there's just enough people who are comfortable with the national Democratic Party ... and then enough people who can make a coalition to vote for old-time Southern Democrats."

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The GOP Dilemma

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Republicans, walloped in the midterm elections are in a quandary as they consider how to bounce back from the Democratic takeover of Congress, reported the Canadian Press on 365Gay.com. They need to figure out how to bring back American voters in the center, scooped up mostly by the Democrats this time, without alienating their Christian conservative base.

It's not a new problem for the party but it just got tougher to solve, especially with competition for so-called "values" voters from a new crop of moderate Democrats who openly campaigned on socially conservative views.

"This is a turning point for the role of evangelicals in the Republican party," said John Green, an expert on religion and American politics at the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life. "The Republican party cannot abandon them but it may be that they get less attention. They might have to have more patience and be willing to accept less."

Before Tuesday's (Nov. 7) vote, some high-profile religious leaders were already publicly furious that President George W. Bush and the Republicans hadn't done more to advance their core social issues, especially a promised constitutional amendment to ban same-sex marriage. And surveys suggested the religious right also found the Republicans lacking when it came to broader issues, like government ethics and Iraq. They were less confident that U.S. forces would win the war and indicated more support for a full or partial withdrawal of troops. And they reported being disenchanted with the taint of scandal plaguing the party, including revelations that former congressman Mark Foley sent cybersex messages to teen-aged male pages.

Yet predictions they'd stay home didn't pan out. White evangelicals turned out in about the same numbers as everyone else, said Green. The Pew Center estimates that about 70 per cent of white evangelical Protestants voted Republican, down a bit from the 2004 presidential race. Democrats attracted 27 per cent of their vote, slightly more than two years ago. But exit polls also suggest that Catholics favored Democrats by 55 to 45 per cent, a notable switch from their voting pattern of the last couple of decades. In 2004, Bush won 52 per cent of the Catholic vote, compared with 47 per cent for his rival, Democrat John Kerry.

Analysts say part of the reason involves the deliberate attempt by Democrats to make faith an issue. For the last two years, more high-profile Democratic legislators like New York Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton have been talking openly about their religious beliefs after widespread perceptions that Kerry was uncomfortable with the topic. And some successful new Democrats weren't shy about broadcasting their conservative social beliefs on the campaign trail. Bob Casey Jr.'s anti-abortion stand in Pennsylvania helped him knock off Republican Rick Santorum, once the social right's most prominent voice in the Senate. And Ohio governor candidate Kenneth Blackwell, a religious right ally, lost his bid by a wide margin.

At the same time, Democrats also won a lot more of the critical independents this time, 57 per cent compared with 39 per cent for the Republicans. In 2004, independents split their votes between Bush and Kerry.

The message from the Christian right on getting booted from Congress? Don't blame us. James Dobson, chairman of the powerful Focus on the Family based in Colorado, said that ignoring family values until the last minute was the prime reason Republicans got dumped. And failing to return to the conservative principles that resonated with Americans in the 1980s era of Ronald Reagan will be "catastrophic" for Republicans in the 2008 presidential race, said Dobson. "Values voters are not going to carry the water for the Republican party if it ignores their deeply held convictions and beliefs," he said.

Christian leaders are also miffed that some Republicans, like Senator Arlen Specter, are taking a different lesson from the seismic shift on Capitol Hill. Specter, a moderate Republican, urged his party to re-evaluate priorities in the wake of the election losses, saying it must become "a lot more progressive and a lot less ideological."

And Dick Arme, the Republican House majority leader from 1995 to 2002 who helped the party sweep Congress in 1994, blamed the results on putting politics before policy and "letting parochial interests dominate the decision-making process. "Social Security is collapsing while rogue nations are going nuclear and the Middle East is more combustible than ever. Yet Republican lawmakers have taken up such issues as flag burning, Terri Schiavo (right-to-die case) and same-sex marriage," said Arme, a devout Christian.

The fixation on conservative social issues prominent on state ballots in 2004 served Republicans well. This time there were fewer and the results were a mixed bag. Of the eight states where bans on Gay marriage were on the ballot, only Arizona said No. And in South Dakota, voters overturned a measure signed by the governor that would have banned abortions except to save the life of the mother. Missouri voters, meanwhile, narrowly approved a measure to ensure the legality of embryonic stem-cell research in the state. The results, said Green, show that American opinion isn't polarized on the top social issues. "What we have is tendencies, but mostly nuances."

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Nov. 18th
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Delta Lambda Phi "HO Down"

Nov. 19th
UA Basketball at 2PM
Drag Bingo with Jance Starr
And Stella Virgin at 8 PM
Karaoke at 9 PM

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Elton John Says Religion Encourages Hatred

LONDON - Elton John's comments that organized religion justifies anti-Gay discrimination have sparked mixed responses from the Gay community, reported the Observer in advocate.com. "I think religion has always tried to turn hatred toward Gay people," John said in an interview published Saturday (Nov. 10) in the London Observer's Music Monthly Magazine.

"I would ban religion completely," he said. "Organized religion doesn't seem to work. It turns people into really hateful lemmings." John also said religious leaders have failed to do anything about world conflicts. He added: "The world is near escalating to World War Three and where are the leaders of each religion? Why aren't they having a conclave? Why aren't they coming together?"

In response, the Metropolitan Community Church in East London issued Sir Elton a personal invitation. Said Rev. Jane Clarke, pastor of the East London MCC: "Before you give up entirely on religion, come and see how we do it here." "I am certain that Elton will get a better idea of that faith can do if he came to see the love of God demonstrated for all people here at our church. We would be delighted to welcome him," Clarke said. "We know that religions haven't always kept an unblemished record in combating the most hateful expressions of homophobia; many of our members have experienced this, which is why we it's so important for us to get it right."

However, the Gay and Lesbian Humanist Association agreed with the pop star's "self-evidently true" comments, although it was more critical of his suggestion that religion should be banned. "It should be quite clear to anyone that these days most hostility to Gay relationships and Gay rights comes from religious sources, notably Evangelical Anglicans, Christian pressure groups like the Christian Institute,



the Vatican, and Islamic organizations," said George Broadhead, secretary of the Gay and Lesbian Humanist Association. "Hardly a day passes without some anti-Gay proclamations, fatwa or edict being issued by one religious leader or another. Religionists are campaigning against our human rights, peddling their bigotry, telling us we're sick, diseased, perverted and destined for hell-fire, or promoting quack therapies to 'cure' us," Broadhead said. "However, Sir Elton's suggestion that religion be banned is unworkable. Any attempt to ban it would simply make it stronger and more determined. The right approach is to argue and debate and try to convince religious believers that they are wrong when it comes to Gays," he said. "Religious organizations are trying hard to increase their political power and influence on the back of hatred of Gay people. The campaigns in America by evangelical Christians to thwart Gay marriage and reduce the rights of Gay people are proof of that. These same tactics are being used by UK organizations like the Evangelical Alliance and the Christian Institute. Sir Elton John speaks for many when he pinpoints religion as a primary generator of homophobia."

Lifespan With HIV Now Averages 24 Years

Continued from Page One

ancy for a symptomless person infected with HIV was less than seven years. But since the mid-1990s, about two dozen HIV-fighting antiretroviral drugs have come onto the market that have essentially turned HIV from a death sentence into a chronic disease. Physicians now understand life expectancy after HIV diagnosis to be two decades or more, and the new study supports that belief. "It's nice to see that in writing," said Dr. Carlos del Rio, co-director of Emory University's Center for AIDS Research.

The researchers drew most of their data from 18 medical practices across the United States that provide care for 14,000 patients. The researchers looked at the records of about 7,000 of those patients. They used a computer simulation model to project HIV medical care costs, and concluded the average lifetime cost of HIV care is \$618,000 per person. That figure is roughly equivalent to lifetime cost estimates for heart disease and some other chronic conditions in women, who incur more costs than men because they live longer, the researchers said.

The researchers estimated the monthly cost of care at \$2,100, with about two-thirds of that spent on medications. That equates to \$25,200 a year. In 1998, the average annual cost was \$18,300, according to an older study. The difference is not just

inflation - the costs of improved and more expensive HIV medications account for much of the difference, Schackman said. For example, a typical regimen for an HIV patient beginning treatment includes the drug efavirenz, which blocks a certain protein that HIV needs to make copies of itself. It also includes tenofovir and emtricitabine or some similar drug which helps keep the AIDS virus from reproducing. The monthly cost just for that regimen was about \$1,140 in 2004, Schackman and the other researchers said. If that treatment doesn't work or stops working, the patient is switched to more expensive arrays of drugs. In their cost estimates, the researchers aimed high, basing their numbers on the best available drugs and the best standards of care. But that's not always what's provided, some HIV policy experts noted. For example, a 2003 federal study concluded that only 55 per cent of HIV patients who should have been on virus-fighting medications were actually getting them.

"This is really an optimistic scenario" in the study, and the true cost is probably lower, said Jennifer Kates, director of HIV policy for the Kaiser Family Foundation. However, she added that since people living with HIV should be getting optimal care from doctors experienced in treating HIV, the study's expectations are reasonable, she added.



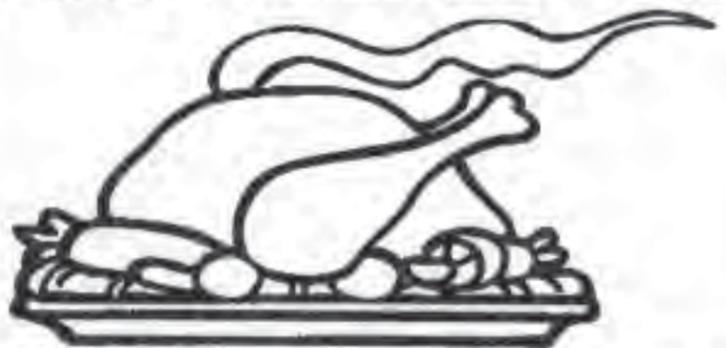
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Haggard Begins Spiritual 'Restoration'

DENVER - There will be prayer, and perhaps the laying on of hands. There will be counseling and a confession. And there will be advice, confrontation and rebuke from "godly men" appointed to oversee the spiritual "restoration" of the Rev. Ted Haggard, reported the Associated Press. After tumbling from the pinnacle of the American evangelical movement amid allegations he snorted meth and cavorted with a male prostitute, Haggard has agreed to a rehabilitation process that could last three to five years.

"I see success approximately 50 percent of the time," said H.B. London, vice president for church and clergy at Focus on the Family, the conservative Christian ministry in Colorado Springs. "Guys just wear out and they can no longer subject themselves to the process." Those who fail "end up selling cars or shoes or something, and being miserable and angry the rest of their lives," London said.

Haggard was president of the National Association of Evangelicals and senior pastor of the 14,000-member New Life Church in Colorado Springs until last week, when a Denver man said Haggard paid him for sex nearly every month for three years and sometimes took methamphetamine during the encounters. Haggard denied having sex with the man; he admitted buying meth but said he threw it away unused. He resigned from the NAE and days later was fired from his church after confessing to unspecified "sexual immorality."

London, who is not involved in Haggard's restoration, said the process will demand honesty from Haggard and determination from his overseers. "It cannot be just a matter of friendship. It will have to become almost a confrontational relationship," he said. "You've got to confess your sins and you've got to have a group of people around you who will not let you whitewash the issue."

The process includes counseling, in groups and alone, and prayer. Each restoration is unique, with a program tailored for the needs of the participant. "From the Christian perspective, we think in terms of prayer, we think in terms of what we call godly counsel, where godly men who are clean themselves insert themselves in the life of the one who is struggling," London said. The symbolic laying on of hands may also be a part of the recovery, London said. "I'm sure there will be those who lay their hands on Pastor Haggard as an act of faith, calling on the act of God to restore and heal," he said. "The prayer can be therapeutic, the laying on of hands can be ceremonial."

One of the men who agreed to oversee the restoration, Focus on the Family founder James Dobson, has already withdrawn, citing a lack of time. The other two, Pastors Jack Hayford of The Church on the Way in Van Nuys, Calif., and Tommy Barnett of First Assembly of God in Phoenix, declined to comment on

the specifics of Haggard's program. It isn't clear whether Haggard will try to return to the ministry, at New Life or elsewhere. "He says that he has committed his life to God and that he is looking for direction as to where God can best use him," said Leonard Chessler, Haggard's lawyer and friend.

The Rev. Shawn Spear, a Brethren in Christ pastor in Hollidaysburg, Pa., knows at least part of what lies ahead for Haggard. After admitting he had an affair with a woman, Spear endured a painful yearlong separation from the ministry, went to counseling six times a month and worked to earn back the trust of his wife and his church. It was brutal for his wife, Joy, as well. She said she suffered nightmares, had trouble sleeping and at times wanted to die. "If God could have taken me at that point I would have been pleased, because you just didn't feel like you could take another day," she said. Now they feel blessed: They say their marriage survived, even flourished, and their church accepted Shawn Spear back as minister. "There's hope," he said. "There's grace. There's restoration."

Mexico City Okays Civil Unions

MEXICO CITY, Mexico - The capital city's assembly on Thursday (Nov. 9) voted for the first time in the country's history to legally recognize Gay civil unions, proving homosexual couples in the country's largest city with benefits similar to those of married couples, reported 365Gay.com. The mayor was expected to sign the measure into law.

The bill, which does not approve Gay marriage, has been heavily criticized by the Catholic Church and conservative civil groups. The law allows Gay couples to voluntarily register their union with civil authorities, granting them inheritance and pension rights and other social benefits.

The legislative assembly approved the measure 43-17, with five abstentions, with all of the opponents from the conservative National Action Party of President Vicente Fox and President-elect Felipe Calderon. The party is known for its opposition to abortion and its support for "traditional" families.

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COMMENTARY . . .

Pelosi's Rise To House Speaker Signals Fresh Start

DETROIT, Michigan - "Madame Speaker." Nothing symbolizes the profound change ahead after Election Day 2006 more than the rise of a woman to lead the "people's House" and be second in line to assume the presidency, writes Deb Price of the Detroit News for a column printed in the (Nov. 13) print edition of the newspaper. Nancy Pelosi: San Francisco liberal. Friend of Gay congressman Barney Frank. And supporter of same-sex marriage.

Republican mudslingers digging deep into their anti-Gay mud buckets to try to use Pelosi's Gay friendliness to scare voters got a very clear message back: What really would have been spooky was leaving the current crop of Republicans in charge of Congress. Two of the most anti-Gay Republicans - Sen. Rick Santorum of Pennsylvania, who compared Gay sex to "man-on-dog" sex, and Rep. John Hostettler of Indiana, who tried to strip federal courts of authority over Gay marriage - got the voters' boot.

For those of us who are Gay - and for everyone who recognizes diversity is one of our nation's strengths - Pelosi signals a fresh start: At a minimum, we will not see any more disgraceful votes in Congress to try to amend the U.S. Constitution to make Gay Americans second-class citizens. During the next two years, we can also expect to see a change in tax law so health benefits for Gay and unmarried heterosexual partners are no longer treated as taxable income. But lifting the ban on out Gays in the military, extending partner benefits to federal workers and outlawing anti-Gay job discrimination can't realistically be expected to happen that soon.



Nancy Pelosi

The many other gains on Election Day serve as a reminder that the battle for full equality for Gay citizens still largely needs to be focused at the state level. Gains include:

Ballot victory. In an encouraging first, Arizona voters by 51-49 percent defeated a proposal to ban Gay marriage in their state constitution. South Dakotans narrowly passed a similar measure, but by only 52-48 percent. In all, seven bans passed - but with significantly less support than earlier ones. As the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force notes, of the 11 anti-marriage measures that passed in 2004,

opposition topped 40 percent only in Michigan and Oregon. This Nov. 7, opposition exceeded 40 percent in five of eight states (including Colorado, Virginia and Wisconsin).

Governors. Voters elected the first governors who support Gay marriage. Democrat Eliot Spitzer vows to sign a marriage bill in New York. Democrat Deval Patrick will lead Massachusetts, where more than 8,100 Gay couples are legally married.

State legislatures. The biggest engines of change for Gay Americans will be state legislatures. The national Democratic sweep put Democrats in control of both chambers of legislatures in 23 states, Republicans in 15, with 10 split, including in Michigan after Demo-

crats took the House. (Nebraska's legislature is non-partisan.) A recount in Pennsylvania could flip its House to Democrats.

Openly Gay candidates. Barney Frank of Massachusetts and Tammy Baldwin of Wisconsin once again easily won re-election to the U.S. House. Alabama, Arkansas and Oklahoma elected their first-ever out state legislators.

This election didn't hand Nancy Pelosi or anyone else a magic wand to make anti-Gay laws disappear. But it gave Gay allies a fresh start to show Americans the value of inviting everyone to be part of the team.

(Deb Price is a columnist for the Detroit News, reprinted from the Nov. 13 edition.)

Transgender Woman Alleges Discrimination At YMCA

PHILADELPHIA Pennsylvania - Dawn Dalpe, a Transgender woman living in South Philadelphia, has filed a complaint with the Philadelphia Commission on Human Relations alleging that she has been barred from all 10 regional branches of the YMCA, the Philadelphia Gay News reported Friday (Nov. 10) on advocate.com. Dalpe states in her complaint that she joined the Christian Street YMCA in mid October to use the swimming pool but was barred after only three visits when executive director Michelle Stevenson demanded Dalpe's "proof of gender." When Dalpe returned with an affidavit from her doctor certifying her biological sex as female, Stevenson grabbed the paper out of her hand and told her to leave or else she would call the police.

"I was afraid I'd be harassed even more if I didn't bring in the affidavit," Dalpe told the PGN. "But when [Stevenson] grabbed it out of my hands, that was too much. I lost

my composure. I didn't say anything threatening to her. But I did tell her she should be ashamed of herself for violating someone's privacy in such a rude and cavalier way." Shortly thereafter, Dalpe received a letter informing her that she was barred from all 10 Philadelphia-area YMCA branches. Her complaint went on say that Stevenson violated her civil rights by asking for proof of her gender and that she violated a city-wide ordinance protecting Transgender individuals from discrimination in housing, employment, and public accommodations.

Omoiy Kinney, a spokeswoman for the YMCA of Philadelphia and vicinity, insisted Dalpe's membership was terminated due to her threatening behavior toward Stevenson, not her Transgender status. "The YMCA of Philadelphia and vicinity is open to all," Kinney said in a statement. "We don't discriminate on any basis that's covered by law."



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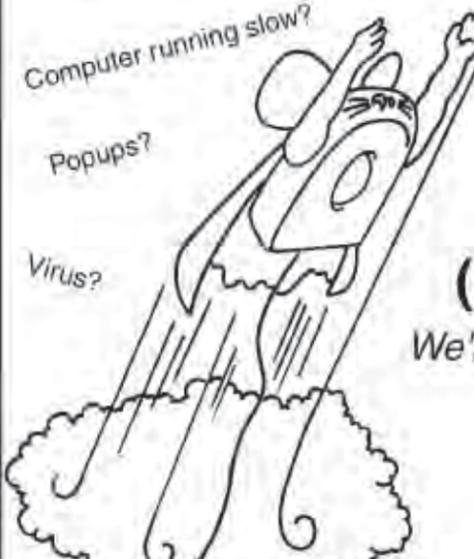
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POLITICS 2006

by Mark R. Kerr

A Post Election Primer, Episode Two

Still citing that well-worn, often-used phrase, as of press time, Arizona's general election still continues as the fifteen county election's offices are tabulating the ballots cast early, by mail, at the polls or as a provisional measure - under the guidelines of Arizona's voter identification law up through Tuesday, Nov. 7.

Despite the use of the abacus machines to add up the votes, some political contests have already been settled pending the final figures which will be the proverbial "icing on the cake."

Facing his first competition in six years, Jon Kyl will unfortunately continue as John McCain's understudy in Washington D.C. Gabrielle Giffords, the former state Senator, kicked Republican Randy "Minuteman" Graf's elephantine keyster to win the contest for the CD-8 Congressional seat, succeeding outing Congressman, Jim "Rafting Trip" Kolbe. Both Ed Pastor and the terrific Raul Rijaalva will be going back to the 110th Congress, as part of the new Democratic majority on Capitol Hill. In the hotly contested race in Congressional District 5, former state Senator, Democrat Harry Mitchell, is leading the anti LGBT incumbent Republican blowhard, J.D. Hayworth.

Democrats Janet Napolitano and Terry Goddard will continue to lead and represent Arizona's executive and legal interests respectively but on the other hand, Republicans Jan "Diebold" Brewer and Tom "AIMS" Horne again gets to mishandle the state's elections and education divisions. Republican Kris Mayes and Gary Pierce will sit on Arizona's Corporation Commission and the ultraconservative, former state Senator, Republican Dean Martin was elected Treasurer to handle the state's "books."

When it comes to the statewide political contests for the Democrats in Arizona, the usual strategy is to win Pima County by more than 10%, of the ballots cast and to be within 7% in Maricopa County to get elected. In the Nov. 7 general election, only Napolitano and Goddard followed this.

Unlike the races for federal or statewide office, the political contests for Arizona's state Legislature is still unfolding, as of press time, since many races are still too close to call pending the final outcome. If trends

continue, Arizona's state Senate will remain 18-12 in favor of the Republicans and the Democrats will gain a minimum of four seats in the state House of Representatives, making the total 35-25 in favor of the GOP. Democratic State Senators Paula Aboud of Tucson and Ken Chevront of Phoenix, and state Representatives Robert Meza and Kyrsten Sinema, both from Phoenix, will continue to represent Arizona's LGBT interests at 1700 West Washington when the Legislature convenes for its new session in Jan. 2007.

Arizona voters had nineteen statewide (in Pima County - twenty) ballot propositions to consider for the general election, of which all the feel-good, immigrant (legal or otherwise) bashing measures were approved, as well as making English again the state's official language. These ballot measures will face the inevitable legal challenge and who will end up footing the bill, Arizona's taxpayers for the costs. There will be no \$1-million voter lottery or an all vote-by-mail system as these two propositions failed but the few hogs raised in this state will get better treatment with their cages, thanks the passage of Proposition 204. Legislators won't get a pay raise and trust lands will remain the same since these three ballot proposals went down to defeat as well. Pima County will set up a job training education program in the respective school districts to help those who won't be attending college for whatever reason to have a career.

On Nov. 7, Arizona made history with one of the ballot measures. Proposition 107, which would have barred governmental and legal recognition of same-sex marriages, civil unions and domestic partnerships by inserting such discriminatory language in the state's, 94-year-old constitution, was defeated, with no votes leading by a 52-48% margin. This was the first such measure proposed to be voted down in the country. Similar measures had been approved by voters in 27 other states, including seven in the 2006 general election.

These results elated campaign leaders, volunteers and sup-

porters. "First and foremost, I'm exceptionally proud to be an Arizonan. This outcome speaks volumes about Arizona's commitment to families," said state Representative Kyrsten Sinema, D-Phoenix, chair of Arizona Together, one of the leading groups formed to oppose the measure. "Arizona voters saw through Proposition 107's rhetoric and knew that the intent of 107 was to take away domestic partner benefits from thousands of Arizona families," continued Sinema.

"Clearly, Arizona's voters

WEEKLY OBSERVER

took the time to do their homework regarding Proposition 107," said Steve May, campaign treasurer for Arizona Together. "We knew all along that once voters were informed about the true impact of Proposition 107 they would oppose this hurtful initiative. They made the right decision." Arizona Together campaign chairs credit research, truth, discipline and staffing for the defeat of Proposition 107.

Voters in Apache, Santa Cruz and Maricopa County were rejecting the bigotry of Proposition 107 but the biggest margin of defeat was coming from Pima County by a 58-42% margin.

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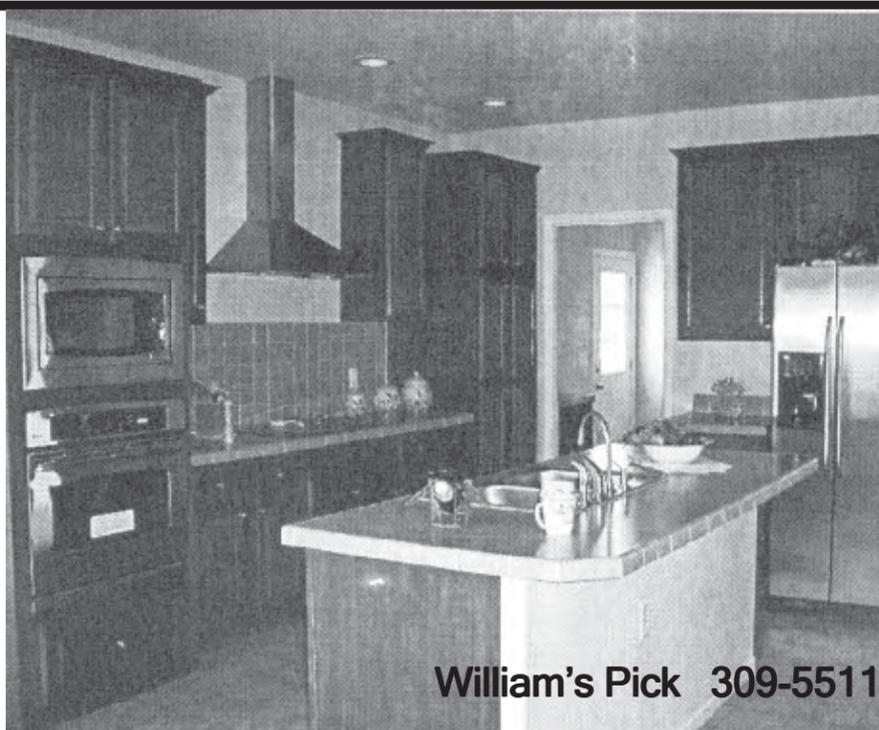
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COMMENTARY . . . by Kent Burbank

Evangelical Leader's Downfall Is Instructive

Over the years, there have been several cases of high-profile people being forced to admit they are Gay or engaged in same-sex behavior. Most recently is the tragic case of the Rev. Ted Haggard, the former president of the National Association of Evangelicals, who confessed to having a relationship with a male escort after the escort made their liaison public.

The evangelical association believes "homosexuality is a deviation from the Creator's plan for human sexuality." The Gay escort revealed their encounters after seeing Haggard publicly rail against marriage equality and domestic-partner benefits for same-sex couples. He was tired of the hypocrisy.

While Haggard admitted to having sex with a man, what is most tragic is that he may never be able to accept himself for who he is as a Gay or bisexual man. It is evident from Haggard's own statements that he is still in denial about and tortured by his sexual orientation. He says: "There is a part of my life that is so repulsive and dark that I have been warring against it for all of my adult life."

This one sentence speaks volumes – and should dispel any fundamentalist fallacies that homosexuality is always and only a choice. Clearly, for many of us, it is not. I feel for Haggard. His internal struggle is one that many Gay, lesbian and bisexual individuals have gone through on the way toward acceptance. Haggard was taught by the church to hate himself, which caused him to lead a spiritually and psychologically damaging double life.

That said, I am a strong believer in personal responsibility. Haggard needs to accept responsibility for his actions, including entering into a heterosexual marriage even though he had an attraction to men, choosing to cheat on his wife, lying about his sexuality and scapegoating the Gay community.

Just as individuals need to accept and account for the decisions we make without blaming others, when do we as a community accept

our responsibility? It is not only the hypocrisy of these fundamentalist and extremist groups that needs to be addressed, but that of our entire society.

When are we as a community going to stop treating homosexuality as a personal and moral defect, but then act shocked and appalled when a supposedly straight man is having clandestine affairs with men?

This same hypocrisy pervades virtually all aspects of public discourse on human sexuality. We act shocked that teenage girls get pregnant, even though we have filled the airwaves with cheap and degrading portrayals of sexuality while simultaneously teaching young people abstinence in the schools.

If we don't start helping our youth grow up to understand their sexuality as a normal and healthy part of their being, then we should not continue to act surprised and troubled when men and women lead double lives and later end up hurting others when they are caught in same-sex affairs.

Just as individuals need to accept responsibility for their actions, we as a society must also take responsibility for the seeds we sow collectively. We are all reaping the consequences, and I, for one, am tired of seeing the resulting pain and broken lives.

(Kent Burbank is the Executive Director of Wingspan and this commentary is reprinted from the Nov. 9 edition of the Arizona Daily Star.)



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Sen. Allen Concedes, Dem. Takeover Complete

ALEXANDRIA, Virginia - Republican Sen. George Allen conceded defeat Thursday (Nov. 9) to Democrat Jim Webb, sealing the Democrats' control of Congress and the political downfall of a man once considered a White House contender, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com. Allen said the "owners of government have spoken and I respect their decision."

"The Bible teaches us there is a time and place for everything, and today I called and congratulated Jim Webb," he said. Webb, a former Republican and Navy secretary under President Reagan, claimed victory early Wednesday (Nov. 8) after election returns showed him with a narrow lead of about 7,200 votes out of 2.37 million ballots cast. Allen chose not to demand a recount after initial canvassing of the results failed to significantly alter Webb's lead. "I do not wish to cause more litigation that would not alter the results," Allen said, adding that he saw "no good purpose being served by continuously and needlessly expending money and causing any more personal animosity."

The Virginia contest was the last undecided Senate race in the country, and Webb's victory tipped the

scales, giving the Democrats control of 51 Senate seats and majorities in both the House and Senate for the first time since 1994. Allen, 54, son of a Hall of Fame football coach, served as governor in the 1990s and was popular for abolishing parole and instituting other conservative reforms. Allen had been expected to cruise to a second term this year and make a run for the White House in 2008.

But in Webb he faced an unconventional challenger. Supporters drafted Webb, a political neophyte, to run because of his early opposition to the Iraq war. Allen was comfortably ahead in polls until August, when he mockingly referred to a Webb campaign volunteer of Indian descent as "Macaca," regarded by some as a racial slur. The incident, caught on videotape, became international news. Some former football teammates from the University of Virginia also charged that Allen had commonly used a slur for blacks - something he denied.

Webb, a 60-year-old Naval Academy graduate and decorated Vietnam veteran, tried to tie Allen to President Bush and the war during the campaign. He also seized the Reagan edge, having served in the former president's administration, and used a video in ads that showed Reagan praising him.

Gay Baiter Martinez To Share GOP Helm



Martinez And Bush

TALLAHASSEE, Florida - U.S. Sen. Mel Martinez, a notoriously anti-Gay Republican from Florida who has served in President Bush's Cabinet, will assume the high-profile post of Republican National Committee general chairman, GOP officials said Monday (Nov. 13) reported advocate.com. "Sen. Martinez was elected in 2004 by taking Page One out of Karl Rove's Gay-baiting playbook," said Joe Solmonese, president of the Human Rights Campaign. "His campaign was one of the most anti-Gay, bigoted, and divisive campaigns in the nation's history."

Martinez, 60, will remain in the U.S. Senate when he takes the reins of the Republican National Committee in January, said the officials, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to avoid pre-empting a formal announcement. He will be the face of the party, focusing on fundraising, outreach, and travel to promote the GOP agenda. Mike Duncan, the RNC's current general counsel and a former party treasurer, will be named chairman and will be put in charge of running everyday operations at the party's Capitol Hill headquarters, the officials said. The current party chairman, Ken Mehlman, is leaving his post in January at the end of his two-year term.

As a team, Martinez and Duncan will be responsible for leading the RNC during Bush's final two years in office and throughout the 2008 presidential election cycle. "For (Martinez) to be tapped as the head of

the Republican Party sends yet another message to our community and the country that the Republican leadership is continuing their old ways of rewarding slash-and-burn politics instead of being interested in uniting the country," Solmonese said.

In a statement released after the announcement, the Human Rights Campaign outlined Martinez's record on equality and fairness: He scored a zero on the Human Rights Campaign 2006 scorecard for support for equality and fairness in the last session of Congress. He is an ardent supporter and cosponsor of the anti-Gay Federal Marriage Amendment. He is on the record opposing GOP presidential possibility John McCain's states-rights stance on marriage, saying, "It isn't good enough to say, 'Leave it up to the states. If we leave it up to the states, we will see the erosion of marriage that we've seen by activist courts, which we otherwise will not see if we protect the institution of marriage at the federal level.'" He attacked his 2004 GOP primary opponent for supporting hate-crimes legislation, accusing him of catering to the "radical homosexual lobby." The campaign was so anti-Gay and divisive that Florida Gov. Jeb Bush called on him to stop the attacks and the St. Petersburg Times revoked its endorsement, the Human Rights Campaign said.

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Behind Foley's Fall, A Politically Ambiguous Blogger

MIAMI BEACH, Florida - Lane Hudson had no idea he would bring down a congressman when he sat down in his living room and turned on his laptop on a Sunday morning nearly seven weeks ago, the Los Angeles Times reported. The 29-year-old Gay former Democratic congressional aide had been railing for weeks on his anonymous blog against congressmen who prey sexually on young people. That day in late September, he decided to post a series of suggestive e-mails between Rep. Mark Foley and a former page.

"I thought: Here we go, let's see what happens," Hudson recalled. Within days, he had his answer. Foley, a six-term Florida Republican, resigned in disgrace. Hudson had ignited the biggest Washington sex scandal since the Monica Lewinsky affair. Hudson remained anonymous throughout the fall as the scandal raged and GOP leaders complained of a vast Democratic conspiracy. Two weeks ago, he was unmasked, driven into the open by bloggers who identified him as an organizer for a national Gay-rights organization, which subsequently fired him.

In a recent interview at a hotel in Miami Beach, where he went to escape the political storm, Hudson talked publicly for the first time about his role in the Internet-fueled scandal. Youthful, occasionally defensive and slightly ill at ease, the South Carolina native is no veteran political trickster. But Hudson, who volunteered for his first campaign when he was still in elementary school, is fiercely partisan and politically ambitious. He nurses a bitterness about what he says is a corrupt environment in the capital that protects the powerful. "It's the Washington culture that allowed this to happen," he said. "Now we know the FBI, a host of media organizations, Republican leadership, all were in possession of this same information. And no one did anything about it."

Hudson, who will not say where he got the e-mails, approached the Los Angeles Times with them in July. He posted them anonymously in September after becoming frustrated that the newspaper was still researching the story and had not published an article. Hudson's rise to political muckraker and minor Web celebrity did not happen overnight. Eager and energetic, Hudson has been working phones and knocking on doors for Democratic candidates since his mother took him to volunteer for a relative of his second-grade teacher's who was running for the South Carolina Legislature.

"My mother said Republicans take care of the rich, and Democrats take care of everyone else. And we were everyone else," said Hudson, who grew up in the state's cotton country. Through high school and college, Hudson volunteered for candidates, including the head of his alma mater. "He was a whirling dervish of activity," recalled Alex Sanders, former president of the College of Charleston, who ran unsuccessfully for Senate four years ago. But Hudson couldn't get to the

center of the action in Washington. Although he moved there in 2001 to work for Sen. Fritz Hollings, he didn't stay long.

Hudson tried jobs at an Episcopal school in Washington and a bank in Charleston, S.C. In 2004, he went to Wisconsin to work for Massachusetts Sen. John F. Kerry's unsuccessful presidential campaign. "He wants to be involved. ... And he really believes in the campaigns he works in," said Liz Patterson, a former South Carolina congresswoman for whom Hudson volunteered in high school. "But the campaigns he has worked on, we haven't won. ... I think he's still trying to find his place."

This summer, Hudson moved back to Washington. Then, he got the e-mails. Hudson wouldn't identify his source, saying only that the e-mails "weren't hard to come by." (Since the scandal broke, it has become clear that numerous media outlets, Republican House leaders, a government reform group and the FBI had them). Foley's messages - all to a former page from Louisiana - were not sexually explicit. But, in one, the Gay congressman asked the boy for photo and, in another, commented that a different former page was "in really great shape." Hudson said he immediately knew something wasn't right.

Eleven years earlier, as an 18-year-old congressional intern, Hudson had been approached by Foley at a Capitol Hill bar, he said. The congressman had asked for his e-mail address and started sending him invitations to drinks and meals, he said. "Honestly, I had forgotten about the whole incident," Hudson said. But this summer, a former page mentioned in a casual conversation that Foley "hit on him all the time." "It kind of clicked in my head," Hudson said. "I asked another friend who had been a page. I heard the same kind of story and realized that this guy is just a real creep."

Hudson contacted the Los Angeles Times. Without disclosing his plan to the Times, he also started an anonymous blog he titled "Stop Sex Predators." "This blog is dedicated to exposing sex predators before they can get to our kids," Hudson announced in his first posting, dated July 28. Breathless posts would follow, recapping congressional sex scandals dating back to the 70s and bemoaning sexual liaisons between interns and older Washington officials. "The blog was my backup," Hudson explained recently. "The blogosphere isn't subject to the same rules as the Washington culture, as the mainstream media." Just after 11 a.m. Sunday, (Sept. 24), Hudson put up the Foley e-mails. "This is absolutely amazing," he wrote that morning. "There must be even more out there. E-mail me ... and let me know what we should do!!!!" By the following Wednesday, Wonkette, a popular Washington gossip site, had linked to Hudson's blog. That Thursday, ABC News posted an article on its

Continued on Page Fourteen

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Pastor Will Shut Down Controversial Kids Camp

DEVILS LAKE, North Dakota - The summer camp featured in the documentary "Jesus Camp," which includes scenes with disgraced preacher Ted Haggard, will shut down for at least several years because of negative reaction sparked by the film, according to the camp's director, wire services reported. "Right now we're just not a safe ministry," Becky Fischer, the fiery Pentecostal pastor featured in "Jesus Camp," said Tuesday (Nov. 7)

The documentary, which hit select U.S. theaters during the summer, portrays Fischer, 55, as drill instructor to a group of young evangelical children steeling themselves for spiritual and political warfare. Led by Fischer, the children pray in tongues, as is common in charismatic strains of Pentecostalism; tearfully beg God to end abortion; and bless President Bush at a weeklong camp in Devils Lake. Fischer has drawn fire from some corners for "brainwashing" the children. After vandals damaged the campground last month and critics besieged Fischer with negative e-mails, phone calls and letters, the pastor said she's shutting down the camp for at least several years. "I don't think we'll be doing it for a while," she said.

Fischer lives in Bismarck, N.D., and is chief pastor at The Fire Center, a church devoted to children's ministry there. She has run the weeklong "Kids on Fire" summer camp, which is featured in the film, since 2002, with 75 to 100 children attending each year. The documentary also includes scenes of Haggard, the evangelical leader accused of Gay sex and drug use. In one scene, directors

Heidi Ewing and Rachel Grady visit Haggard's 14,000-member New Life Church in Colorado Springs, Colo. He tells the vast audience, "We don't have to debate about what we should think about homosexual activity. It's written in the Bible." Then Haggard looks into the camera and says kiddingly: "I think I know what you did last night," drawing laughs from the crowd. "If you send me a thousand dollars, I won't tell your wife." Later, another joke for the filmmakers: "If you use any of this, I'll sue you."

The married, 50-year-old father of five has admitted to his followers that he was "guilty of sexual immorality." He has yet to address specific claims by a male escort that Haggard paid him for sex over the past three years. Haggard also leads the audience in praying for President Bush to select a Supreme Court nominee who supports their beliefs (it would end up being Samuel Alito) and later brags about the rapid expansion of evangelicalism. "It's got enough growth to essentially sway every election," Haggard says with a smile. "If the evangelicals vote, they determine the election." Haggard has acknowledged that he paid Mike Jones of Denver for a massage and for methamphetamine, but said he didn't have sex with Jones and didn't take the drug. He resigned as president of the National Association of Evangelicals, which represents 30

million people, and was removed Saturday as leader of his own church.

For the last three years, Fischer has rented a campground in Devils Lake from the Assemblies of God, one of the largest national churches in the Pentecostal movement. But Fischer said she was asked not to return after vandals broke windows and caused \$1,500 in damage at the campground in October. Fischer said she has asked the distributors of "Jesus Camp" not to

release the film in Bismarck because she fears for the safety of the 70 children who attend The Fire Center.

Grady, the co-director of "Jesus Camp," said the negative reaction to the film "has weighed a little heavy on our hearts." "Not that we had anything to do with it, but [the campground] wasn't getting vandalized before the film and it was after it, and we need to acknowledge that," Grady said.

Bill Would Legalize G/L Marriage In New Jersey

TRENTON, New Jersey - A same-sex marriage bill has introduced in the New Jersey Legislature despite opposition from the Assembly leadership and Gov. Jon Corzine, reported 365Gay.com. The bill fulfills a commitment by Assemblyman Reed Gusciora (D) following last month's state Supreme Court ruling that same-sex couples must have all the rights of marriage.

The Court gave the New Jersey State Legislature 180 days to act on the decision to grant same-sex couples the rights and benefits enjoyed by different-sex married couples but left it up to the legislators to decide whether to call it marriage or civil unions. "If you want to fulfill the spirit and the decision of the Supreme Court without creating a system of separate but equal, just any two consulting adults who want to obtain a state marriage would get a civil marriage," said Gusciora.

Called the Civil Marriage and

Religious Protection Act, it opens up marriage to same-sex couples but states that churches are not required to conduct marriage ceremonies if they don't want to. The bill would allow civil officiants to perform the ceremonies for a \$50 fee that would go to property tax reform. The legislation has the endorsement of the state's largest LGBT rights group. "Marriage equality in New Jersey would in no way force any religion or any member of the clergy to perform any marriage ceremony that violates their own conscience," said Steven Goldstein, chair of Garden State Equality.

The leadership in the Legislature and Gov. Corzine have said they favor civil unions, but have indicated they are in no rush to proceed with legislation despite the time limit imposed by the court. Meanwhile a Republican lawmaker has proposed impeaching the State Supreme Court justices over the marriage ruling. Assemblyman Richard Merkt (R) has introduced seven resolutions in the

Continued on Page Seventeen

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NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE

Election Musings

by Lee Thorn

Hell yes I'm surprised. I didn't think Americans would ever wake up. But the exit polls show unequivocally that voters now realize we're getting clobbered in a war we have no plan for winning and no obvious way to get out of.

This is wonderful news. In the Vietnam War it took over 40,000 deaths of American troops before we began to smell the coffee. Now we're waking up with fewer than three thousand pointlessly, purposelessly killed. Progress in being made.

And furthermore an ancient political axiom has been refuted. From time immemorial it's been said that in politics, "You can't beat something with nothing." The Democrats have proven that you can. I actually got a piece of Democratic campaign literature that simply said, "Had enough?" So now we know that it's possible for things to get so bad, for example when you provoke a civil war and then blunder around in the middle of it with both sides shooting at you, that something can be beaten by nothing.

But then you have a new problem. When you actually take power, having beaten something horrible with nothing in particular, what exactly are you going to do? What scares me is all the post-election talk about having to change our tactics in the war. We are not losing the war because of tactical problems. We are losing this war, or more precisely we lost this war, because our insufficient intelligence and insufficient planning allowed us to create a situation in which we occupy a country where 80% of the population wants us gone and 60% of the population is happy to see us killed. You might say we've worn out our welcome.

Changing tactics is not going to help the problem. Leaving is the only thing that's going to help the problem. Do the Democrats have a plan to get us out? Not yet. But if they don't come up with one before the next election they will deservedly be in deep trouble. Hopefully, the upcoming Baker-Hamilton report will give the Dems an opportunity to jump-start the exit planning. Rumor has it that the

report won't say anything about staying the preposterous, murderous, destructive course.

Moving from that note of cautious optimism, I've got to say that I was cautiously pessimistic about what Pelosi said she wanted to accomplish in her first 100 hours as the new and first woman Speaker of the House. If I may condense her message, she wants to make things easier for the middle class. Okay, fine. But how about walking us back from the most frighteningly fascistic aspects of the Bush power grab and giving us back the America that our Constitution created and that has served us well for over 200 years?

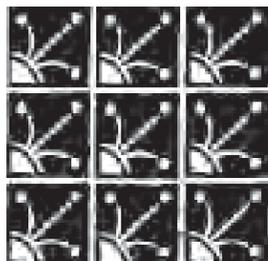
I'm talking about the urgent need to reassert our commitment to habeas corpus, the need to declare to ourselves and to the world that we are not some banana republic where the president is allowed to make people disappear. I'm talking about the urgent need to reassert our traditional revulsion with torture. We need to get our government out of the torture business with no ifs ands or butts. The same with secret prisons. Let's leave that with the old dead Soviet Union. The same with warrant less wiretaps. So I say I'm cautiously pessimistic. I'm hoping that Pelosi didn't start with the concept of walking back Bush's fascistic tendencies because she wanted to begin on a positive note.

Maybe she figured it would be more constructive to build a relationship around helping the middle class. Then, once they trust each other and are all friendly, she can say, "By the way, we're not going to let you disappear people, torture people, warrant less wiretap people, or run secret prisons. Those things are illegal. They're also immoral. And for 99 percent of our country's history they've been regarded as un-American."

Somebody's bound to point out to me, and I don't mind such pointing, that all the stuff I'm objecting to doesn't seem to bother most Americans. It especially doesn't seem to bother us when you can scare us with a bogeyman and then promise protection. I'm afraid that our history supports that observation all too well. And that's where leadership comes in. Leaders like Churchill and Roosevelt help people rise above their fears and do the right thing.

So, Nancy, make nice and all that, but, at your earliest convenience, please give us our country back.

(Thorn welcomes comments, suggestions for future columns and tips on local skulduggery that ought to be exposed. Write to Box 85571, Tucson, AZ 85754. E-mail: Doid3@aol.com)



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LEO (JULY 24 - AUG. 23)

Don't be surprised if you have several choices of parties, pastimes, fun times this week. Proud Lions not only can maximize their jollies when Venus squares Uranus, they are also apt to go too, too far in their enjoyment. Cats generally have nine lives, but in reality we only live once. Will you become a tired and dissipated old thing? You should only wish.

VIRGO (AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23)

Venus square Uranus creates an imbalance between relationships and your domestic situation. Compromise may be required. For those queer Virgins who are on the prowl, you may find a perfect mate who requires you to rethink where you live. Maybe they are "geographically undesirable" or just hate your home design sense. Ridiculous! Who doesn't like chintz?

LIBRA (SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)

You may think that you are especially charming and diplomatic but as Venus squares Uranus, you may find that others will disagree. Proud Libras can become bossy at work without realizing it. Interference can create unexpected problems and tumult. Instead of offering an opinion or even a "helping hand", why not just sit back and observe? Ah, some things never change.

SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)

Money and fun will not mix while Venus squares Uranus. Proud Scorps begin their jolly evening with a lift in their heart and a heft in their wallets. There are no limits to your appetite. But too, too soon your expenses exceed your happiness. Why not lower your overhead and decide to enjoy yourself with some cheaper thrills? No names please!

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)

Not only are you the center of

attention, you manage to make a big splash in any important social pool. You are pushed into the deep end and will learn how to swim with the sharks. Will you float above the rest or dog paddle to the nearest shore? Venus squares Uranus and can change the course of your destiny. That can be a good thing, gay Archer. Grab a buoy or two.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)

Let's see where your intuition leads you when Venus squares Uranus. Pink Caps are usually very careful in their communication but now you are apt to say anything (and everything) that pops out of your mind. Shocking! As long as you are shooting from the lip, why not make a political statement? Next year is the really big election and it is never too early to start agitating.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)

Hang on to your dough as Venus squares Uranus. Aqueerians may find themselves joining in the camaraderie but wind up being stuck with the bar tab for all their friends and hangers-on. Well, it's one way to be popular. While this pricey platonic period shall pass, be especially careful about the who, what, when, where and how in the meantime. Why? Because.

PISCES (FEB. 20 - MAR. 20)

Your career may come into conflict with your personal interests and dreams. It will be an either / or situation. Guppies may be offered a step up the corporate ladder while Venus squares Uranus but it will require that you give up something personally valuable and important, at least in the short term. Will you sell your soul for a bit of power and prestige? Hey who wouldn't!

Venus is on a rampage - changing signs and then squaring shocking Uranus. Whatever makes our hearts go pitter patter, suddenly makes it go kaboom. Hold on to your seats compadres and prepare for a rollercoaster ride.

ARIES (MAR. 21 - APR. 20)

Travel brings a certain wilde and out of control romantic adventure. Lucky thing. The secret is to get out of your usual neighborhood and expand your horizons. Expect a few interesting detours in your itinerary. Not only do proud Rams trip over their hooves to make their big move, the end result will be upending. Hey, isn't that your favorite position?

TAURUS (APR. 21 - MAY 21)

Queer Bulls are on a personal rampage and find themselves sampling new pastures as well as a few various and sundry characters. But what is it about your heightened social scene that manages to mix a potent cocktail of pals and lovers? Friends try horn in on your act when Venus squares Uranus. Maybe they are looking out for your best interests. Yeah right.

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)

There will be times this week when you pine for a bit of peace and quiet where you can cuddle quietly with your significant other (or even an insignificant other). Make very merry while you can. Once Venus squares Uranus your public life overtakes your private one. Pink Twins find themselves putting out fires at work while their sexual fire cools. Hurry and poke the embers.

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)

Gay Crabs enjoy puttering in familiar seas but somehow you are now thrust into new surroundings with oceans full of exotic people. The old familiar routines suddenly become unfamiliar and complicated. This is no time to panic. This is a time to embrace all change and go with the cosmic flow. Who knows where life will take you. Maybe to Paris? But Paris who?

Behind Foley's Fall, A Politically Ambiguous Blogger

Continued from Page Eleven

Web site. That Friday, after the network confronted Foley with a series of more sexually explicit instant messages, the congressman resigned. Wow! Hudson posted that night. "This is a good start ... maybe we can keep stopping them!!!!" That sense of triumph faded as Hudson was deluged with e-mails from journalists and others trying to find out who he was and what he knew.

"Thank you for your interest," he snapped in a posting a few days after Foley's resignation. "But if you were doing your job to begin with, Mark Foley would have been exposed a long time ago. ... I'm nobody that anybody should care about. So, please, go about your day as if I don't exist." Hudson said he got warnings that he should watch his back. "I kind of got scared," he said recently. He scaled back his Internet postings. Then, someone got him. Tracking Hudson's Internet profile, a blogger traced Hudson to Human Rights Campaign, a leading national Gay political organization. On Oct. 25, the group fired him. (HRC vice president David Smith praised Hudson's work but said he had violated policy by using an HRC computer to work on his blog). Hudson flew to New York and then to Miami. "You know, I had no interest in being public about this," he said last weekend from Miami Beach. "This was about exposing someone who was a sexual predator, and that's it."

"It's like it's accepted to come to D.C. and have high ideals and believe in something and then have it go away," he said. "This whole Washington culture allows that to happen. It's not only accepted, it's expected that people become callous and lose their ideals and their focus. And that makes me mad." Hudson said he was apprehensive about what would happen next. But he said he had few regrets: "I did the right thing."

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2. 1BT'S - 816 N. 4th Ave. 882-3053
3. VENTURE-N - 1236 N. 8th Ave. 882-8224
5. WOODY'S - 3716 N. Oracle Road. 282-6702
6. HOWL AT THE MOON - 915 W. Prince Rd. 293-7339
7. YARD DOG - 2449 N. Stone. 824-8858
8. COLORS FOOD & SPIRITS, 5305 E. Speedway 323-1840
9. HOLLYWOOD - 1501 N. Oracle Rd. 828-3519

Community Organizations

- A. METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH
3269 N. Mountain - 292-8151
- B. CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP
2902 N. Garono - 822-4626
- D. WINGSPAN - 425 E. 7th St. - 824-1779
- E. S.A.A.F. - 375 S. Euclid Ave. - 828-7223
- F. RAINBOW PLANET COFFEE HOUSE
606 N. 4th Ave. - 820-1770
- G. THAN - Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network
1101 N. Graycroft STE301 - 298-8847
- H. EON YOUTH CENTER 820-8245

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The map shows a grid of streets. The vertical axis is labeled with letters A through G, and the horizontal axis with numbers 1 through 9. Major streets labeled include I-10 FREEWAY, ORACLE, DRACHMAN, UNIVERSITY, CONGRESS, BROADWAY, PRINCE, FT. LOWELL, PALO VERDE, GLENN, GRANT, MOUNTAIN, TUCSON BLVD., COUNTRY CLUB, ALVERNON, SWAN, CRAWCROFT, SPEEDWAY, and SIXTH ST. A sign in the bottom right corner reads "TAKE YOUR I.D. TO THE BARS It's The Law!"

Non Bar Calendar

Wednesday, November 15th
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00pm Canasta! Hosted by Jack at 887-3736. MSN Canasta is played every Wednesday at 7pm, but check back here for the host du soir. If you are a nervous first timer, you will find printed rules of play, and guys eager to get you up and in the action as you learn the game!

Thursday, November 16th
#1 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 food, WIFI energy, and safe social intercourse. . Just show up to join in this no host cavalcade of queer conversation.

#2Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Triangle Tribe-A Men's Circle According to a recent study, very few people have as many close friends as they would like. Are you as connected with other men as you want to be? Do you get the support you need for issues in your life? Do you wish you had more meaningful friendships and relationships with other men? Join like-minded men at Wingspan to share feelings, thoughts and ideas in a safe, respectful space. For the same experience with both straight and gay men, join us at the regular Circle of Men meetings. Call Tom at 591-2828 for dates and times.

#3 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: Today is the day for that all so important phone call to Bruce! Please call now to reserve your place for tomorrow night's Friday Night Pizza Night. Buzz Bruce at 743-3890.

Friday, November 17th
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Pizza Night Tonight! Did you call last night to make your reservation? Great! Call Bruce for information and to give your life direction...743-3890. Enjoy!

Saturday, November 18th
#1 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 8:30a.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.

#2Men'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 Hollywood movie serial killer instincts! Phone host Steve at 644-2076 for location, driving directions, and info.

Sunday, November 19
 3-5 p.m. The original Men's Massage Group is a great way to meet men and have clean, safe erotic fun. Give and receive and non-professional massage for fun and relaxation. November is a big month. Sign up right away. 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. Fee. Space is limited.

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

Monday, November 20th
#1Men'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: "Girls Will Be Girls". Arlan is hosting this event, and you can contact him at 323-7414 for info and directions.

#2Please R.S.V.P. NOW for MSN Thanksgiving Celebration with the Sunrise Scientists. Call Tom at 744-9036.

Tuesday, November 21st
Men's Social Network Open to men of

all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00pm Hand & Foot Please be handy and call Karol at 744-9017 so we can plan our teams of four. Call now and put your best foot forward!

Wednesday, November 22nd
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00pm Canasta! Hosted by Merlin and Lee at 207-5336. 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, November 23rd
#1Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 1:00pm MSN Thanksgiving Celebration! Please bring a dish to share and also some food. Turkey & Dressing Provided. Did you call Tom last Monday to R.S.V.P.? Yes? Good! No? Well, call him NOW at 744-9036.

#2Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Triangle Tribe-A Men's Circle According to a recent study, very few people have as many close friends as they would like. Are you as connected with other men as you want to be? Do you get the support you need for issues in your life? Do you wish you had more meaningful friendships and relationships with other men? Join like-minded men at Wingspan to share feelings, thoughts and ideas in a safe, respectful space. For the same experience with both straight and gay men, join us at the regular Circle of Men meetings. Call Tom at 591-2828 for dates and times.

Friday, November 24th
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00 p.m. A word for word fun evening of Scrabble. If you don't know how to play, we'll be glad to teach you. For reservations and directions, please call Lee and Merlin at 207-5336. If you're loquacious, erudite, or a wordsmith; this man's game just may be a triple word score for you!

Saturday, November 25th
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 Hollywood movie serial killer instincts! Phone host Marvin at 745-0304 for location, driving directions, and info.

Sunday, November 26th
Men's Social Network Open to

men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 6:00p.m. Thom hosts Dinner Out at one of Tucson's Ultra-Fabulous Buffets. Price is usually under \$10 bucks. For reservations and directions, please contact Thom at 623-2941, or e-mail thomsepals@hotmail.com by the Event Sunday at Noon to facilitate reservations. There is nothing like a buffet with men to find everything you have been craving and "get your yum on"!

Tuesday, November 28th
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. A "whistful" evening of Bridge with host Jim at 790-8735. Please plan and call ahead for an evening of fun, and challenge your skills or learn new ones. . And when your Bridge partner excuses himself to go to the bathroom, at least then you will know what he has in his hand!

Wednesday, November 29th
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00pm Canasta! Hosted by Merlin and Lee at 207-5336. 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, November 30th
#1 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 food, WIFI energy, and safe social intercourse. . Just show up to join in this no host cavalcade of queer conversation.

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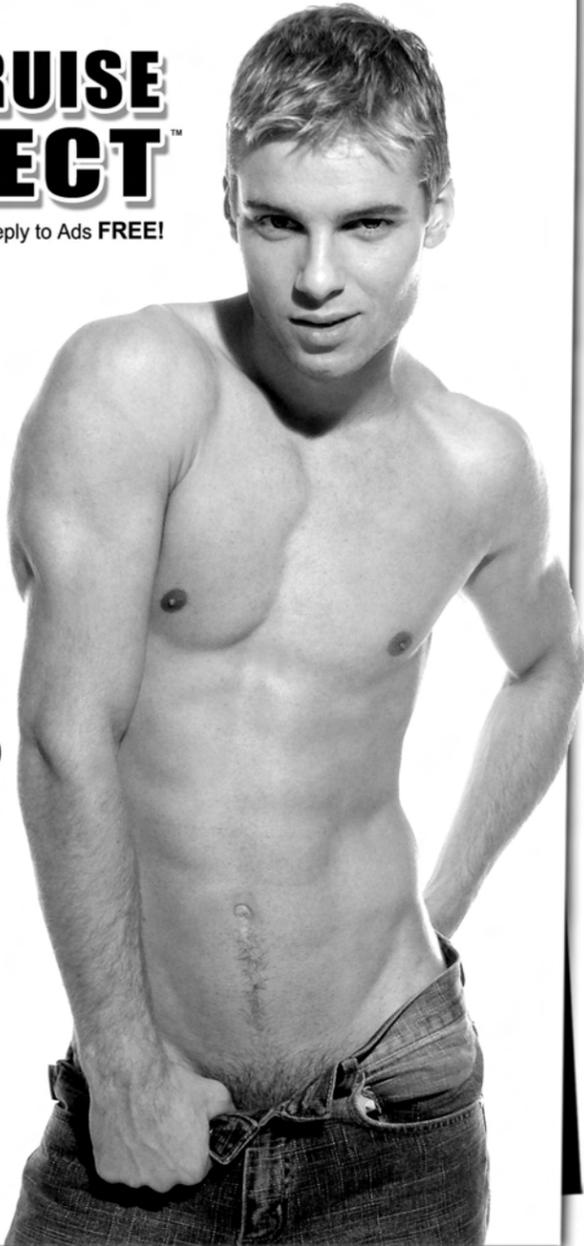
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Bill Would Legalize G/L Marriage In New Jersey

Continued from Page Twelve

Assembly charging each state Supreme Court justice with professional misconduct, violating their oaths and contravening the state constitution. Apart from encouraging conservatives opposed to Gay marriage, the measure is unlikely to gain any traction in the Legislature. Three public opinion polls taken after the high court ruling all show that a majority of New Jersey voters prefer civil unions for Gay couples rather than marriage.



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Wednesday September 20th, 2006
Time: 7 pm - 10 pm

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Gay Men's Health Project

DAILY BAR CALENDAR

SUNDAY

COLORS - Open 11m - 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 performed by Dickie Steed during Brunch (11:30-2:30)

HOLLYWOOD - Open 5:00pm. Happy Hour 5-7pm \$1.75 well, domestic bottles and draft.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 10am. \$2.50 Smirnoff Vodkas all day. We've got the NFL Sunday Ticket - Watch your favorite NFL team here. \$1 Jumbo Dogs, \$2 Chili Dogs. Free Texas Hold-Em Poker Tournaments at 4:00, and 7:00 pm. Ply for points and prizes - no cash involved.

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 7pm.

MONDAY

COLORS - Closed on Mondays.

HOLLYWOOD - Open 5pm. Happy Hour 5pm to 7pm. \$1.75 well, domestic bottles, draft.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. Kitchen open 4 - 9 pm. Watch Monday Night Football here! \$1 Jumbo Dogs, \$2 Chili Dogs. Domestic draft beer at happy hour prices all night.

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. Patio Bar opens 7pm

TUESDAY

COLORS - Open 4-11pm. Happy Hour 4-7 \$3 Skyy cocktails, \$2.50 Domestic and well. Game Night with Dan 5-7pm and nightly dinner specials.

HOLLYWOOD - Open 5pm. Happy Hour 5pm to 7pm. \$1.75 well, domestic bottles, draft. Karaoke 8pm-12am.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. Kitchen open 4-9pm. Free Texas Hold-Em Poker for women only at 6:30 p.m. Play for points and prizes - no cash involved. Great way to learn the game or sharpen your skills.

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 (2nd Tuesday every month \$2.00).

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

YARD DOG - Open daily 8am. 50¢ off any Top Shelf Tequila until 8pm Beer Bust 4-8pm. Patio Bar Opens 7pm.

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.

HOLLYWOOD - Open 5pm. Happy Hour 5pm to 7pm. \$1.75 well, domestic bottles, draft. Movie Night. First show 6pm, Second show 8pm with movie theatre popcorn and hot dogs.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints, Kitchen open 4 - 9 pm. Free Pool all day and night. Free Texas Hold-Em Poker Tournament at 6:30 pm for Women Only and open tournaments at 7 and 10. Play for points & prizes - no cash involved. Great way to learn the game or sharpen your skills.

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. Patio Bar Opens 7pm.

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.

HOLLYWOOD - Open 5pm. Happy Hour 5pm to 7pm. \$1.75 well, domestic bottles, draft. Stnad-up Comedy Night - open mike 8-10p.m. Register 7pm. Prizes for winners.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. Kitchen open 4 - 9 pm. Karaoke with Rosemary at 8:30pm.

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 7pm.

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 and Craig Faltin. 10pm "Guys & Dolls" hosted by Lucinda Holliday. 21 and over.

HOLLYWOOD - Open 5pm. Happy Hour 5pm to 7pm. \$1.75 well, domestic bottles, draft. Two for One 9pm - 12am. With midnight specials.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 3 pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. Kitchen open 4 - 9 pm. Free Two-Step lessons with Amanda every other Friday. Call 293-7339 for schedule. DJ Pat plays your favorite country dance songs 8:30 to close. Kitchen open 9 pm - midnight serving late night munchies menu.

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 7pm

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. Hot new jazz duo "Sunyatta" performs 7:00-10:00pm.

HOLLYWOOD - Open 5pm. Happy Hour 5pm to 7pm. \$1.75 well, domestic bottles, draft.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 11:00 am. Happy Hour 11 am - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. Kitchen open 11am -9pm. \$2.50 capt. Morgan or Mailbu. Cheeseburger & Fries Special for \$4.50 all day. Best burgers around. Johnny D playing dance mix or ch3eck our ad for special events. Kitchen open 9pm to midnight serving late night munchies menu.

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 7pm.

BAR CALENDAR Of Upcoming Events

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

WOODY'S - Underwear Nite. UofA Basketball on the Big Screen TV.

YARD DOG SALOON - Bartender Exchange with the Phoenix Eagle. Snacks, food, drink specials. DJ Bob at 8:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17

YARD DOG SALOON - "Sonny Jones" and Band on the patio at 9:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

HOWL AT THE MOON - Celebrity Impersonator Show direct from Desert Diamond Casino one show only at 10:00 p.m. Incredible talent, hilarious show. Lucinda Holliday host. \$5.00 Cover

WOODY'S - UofA vs Oregon football at 11:30 p.m. Jazz on the patio with Arthur Migliaszza 6-8 p.m. Delta Lambda Phi "HO Down".

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

WOODY'S - UofA Basketball at 2:00 p.m. Drag Bingo with Janee Starr and Stella Virgin at 8:00 p.m. Karaoke at 9:00 p.m.

YARD DOG SALOON - Boo's Texas Hold-Em Poker Tourney starts at 5:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

HOLLYWOOD - Karaoke with Amazing Star from 8:00 to Midnight.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

HOLLYWOOD - Movie Night - fresh popcorn and hot dogs.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23 - Thanksgiving

HOLLYWOOD - Thanksgiving Dinner is on the 'house' beginning at 6:00 p.m. Then it's Comedy night. Register at 7:00 p.m. - Showtime is 8:00 to 10:00 p.m. Prizes for the winners!!

HOWL AT THE MOON - Opens today at 5:00 p.m..

IBT'S - Opens today at 6:00 p.m. Boys Night Out At 10:00 p.m.

WOODY'S - Join your friends here for Thanksgiving Dinner 5-7 p.m.

VENTURE-N - Opens today at 9:00 a.m. Thanksgiving Pot Luck at 2:00 p.m. They cook the turkey and ham - you bring your favorite side dish or a dessert. See bartender to sign up your dish.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24

HOLLYWOOD - "Two For One" night from 9:00 p.m. to Midnight. Check out the Midnight specials.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25

HOWL AT THE MOON - Drag Show performance show with coronation of NCC/USofA Miss Newcomer. Show starts at 9:00p.m. \$2.00 Cover.

WOODY'S - Bradley Jay Hypnosis Show.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

IBT'S - Third Annual "Party Monster Ball". 10:00 p.m. to closing. Prizes, give-aways and costume contest.

HOWL AT THE MOON - First day of a three-Day celebration of their anniversary. Come on by and howl.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

HOWL AT THE MOON - TMI (Too much Information) band is playing classic rock, blues and more. 9:00 p.m. \$5.00 cover.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

HOWL AT THE MOON - AGRA Roadrunner promotional Party. Dust off your boots.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

HOWL AT THE MOON - Special show with Kenneth Blake and friends.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

HOWL AT THE MOON - "Don We Now Our Gay Apparel" Show

NOTICES - COMMUNITY - NOTICES

"CELEBRACION" Out & About The group is planning to go out for Thanksgiving brunch. Our plans are not yet complete, but if you would like some more information about this, please contact us at out-about@comcast.net, or leave a message at 520-615-9237. We will contact you, as soon as possible. Come and join us it will be fun.

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

TUCSON GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

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

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

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

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

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

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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 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, dances Tuesdays. from 6:30-9 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N. Geronimo (Northwest of 1st Ave. and Glenn). No experience, no partner required! For more info contact David at 325-6739, or visit www.azgaydance.org

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

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

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

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

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

AA Meeting with HIV/AIDS focus, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., Wingspan Annex, 425 E. 7th Street. 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, contact TEAM ARIZONA at their website: teamarizona.org

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

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

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GLBT, Tucson's Gay and Lesbian business networking group holds regular meetings

the third Thursday of every month. Call 615-6436 for more info. www.tucsonglbtchamber.org

TUCSON PRIDE, INC. (Formerly Tucson Lesbian and Gay Alliance - TLGA) meets on the second Wednesday at 845 S. Craycroft Road at 6pm. Tucson Pride events: Pride Week, Gay West and

Pride Weekend. Inquiries about support groups and individual needs should be directed to Wingspan and other local agencies listed here. For more information call 622-3200 or visit the TPI website at www.tucsonpride.com

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

TUCSON INTERFAITH HIV/AIDS NETWORK (TIHAN), a coalition of faith communities committed to a passionate 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.

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

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

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

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

SOUTHERN ARIZONA GENDER ALLIANCE (SAGA). The Southwest's largest transgender and gender-diversity advocacy organization. Speakers and panelists available. General meetings monthly on the 1st Mondays at 7pm; Dezerz Girlz (MTF Support) meets 2nd Mondays at 7pm; Dezerz Boyz (FTM Support) meets 3rd Tuesdays at 7pm. Also serving partners, youth, intersex, service providers and allies. Call (520)624-1779 x26 for more info.

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

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

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

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

AAPSP - ARIZONA ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY PROFESSIONALS: a confidential organization committed to providing support and networking for all Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual public safety

professionals in Arizona. Membership open to Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters, Probation, Parole and Corrections Officers and civilians working within these agencies. Website: AAPSP.org or e-mail: AAPSP@aol.com or call Dave (520)745-9059 (Tucson) or Kim (602)534-6219 (Phoenix)

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

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

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

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

REVELLE GAY MEN'S CHORUS rehearses Thursday evenings 7-10pm at the Historic Y, corner of University Blvd. And 5th Ave. Join us!! Call 304-1758 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 10-11:30AM at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th St. Donations accepted. 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.

MEN'S HIKING CLUB - A peer-run MEN's outdoor club for hiking, biking, camping, boating etc, is now up and running in the Tucson area. To join, go to SAGE-Tucson-subscribe @yahoogroups.com. See you on the trails.

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

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.

Ending the violence.

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



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

www.wingspan.org

Record Number Of LGBT Elected To Office

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The wave that swept Democrats to victory on Tuesday (Nov. 8) led to unprecedented success in electing openly LGBT candidates, reported 365Gay.com. Sixty-seven candidates endorsed by the Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund, an organization that helps LGBT candidates gain office, were elected in national, state and local races.

Some of the victories were historic said Victory Fund president Chuck Wolfe. "This is the tipping point election for openly Gay candidates," said Wolfe. "We're proving that qualified, well-prepared candidates matched with committed donors means Gays and Lesbians can move from having a stake in policy to actually making policy. There's no reason to sit on the sidelines with our fingers crossed anymore."

The 67 winners were among 88 Victory Fund endorsed candidates - the most the organization has ever fielded. Thirty-seven of them were running as openly LGBT for the first time. Among the winners was Patricia Todd, who will represent District 54 in the Alabama State House. Todd is the first openly Gay person ever elected to any office in the state. Kathy Webb will represent District 37 in the Arkansas State House. She is the first openly Gay person ever elected to any office in the state.

Al McAffrey, who will represent District 88 in the Oklahoma State House, is the first openly Gay person ever elected to the Oklahoma state

legislature. Jamie Pedersen became the third consecutive openly Gay person to be elected to represent District 43 in the Washington State House Ed Murray, who will represent District 43 in the Washington State Senate, is a former state representative and becomes the first openly Gay state senator in Washington history. Jolie Justus becomes the first openly Gay state senator in Missouri history. Matt McCoy, who becomes the first openly Gay candidate ever elected to the Iowa legislature. McCoy, a sitting state senator, came out during his last term.

Henry Fernandez won a seat on the Lawrence Township School Board, making him the first openly Gay person ever elected to any office in Indiana. Ken Keechl won a seat on the Broward County Commission in Florida, beating an appointee of Gov. Jeb Bush. In Hawaii, Kim Coco Iwamoto won a seat on Hawaii's statewide Board of Education making her the country's highest-elected Transgender official. And, Judge Virginia Linder will join Rives Kistler on the Oregon Supreme Court, making it the first state ever to have two openly Gay Supreme Court Justices. In Minnesota, state Sen. Paul Koering, who did not seek Victory Fund endorsement, won re-election. Koering announced he is Gay after voting against a proposed constitutional amendment to prevent Gay marriage in the state. Thirteen states, however, still have no openly LGBT state legislators: Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Indiana, Kansas, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Jersey,

New Mexico, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Wyoming.

National Stonewall Democrats hailed the party sweep of the House. "Americans have rejected the failed politics that divided our families in the past in favor of new leaders with new priorities," said executive director Jo Wyrick. "Our members labored with Democrats in precincts across the country to achieve success tonight at the ballot box. We must now use the political victories won today to secure concrete results."

The Servicemembers Legal Defense Network which is working to overturn the ban on Gays serving openly in the military also heralded the

election results. "We now know that every co-sponsor of legislation to repeal 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' who sought re-election appears to have been successful, with just one outstanding race in Connecticut yet to be decided," said SLDN spokesperson Steve Ralls. "And we also know this," said Ralls. "Support for lifting the ban did not cause voters to reject any candidate. According to Gallup, nearly 4 out of 5 Americans support Gays serving openly in the military. America is ready for change. But he warned "The new doors that have opened, however, do not necessarily translate into certain, or fast, victory. Much work remains to be done, to educate both new and returning lawmakers."

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