



Observing Tucson And  
The Greater Arizona Community

# OBSERVER

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WEEKLY OBSERVER

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## Catholic Bishops Welcome Gays While Calling Them 'Disordered'

BALTIMORE, Maryland - The nation's Roman Catholic bishops adopted new guidelines for Gay outreach Tuesday (Nov. 14) that are meant to be welcoming while also telling Gays to be celibate since the church considers their sexuality "disordered," the Associated Press reported on 365Gay.com. Gay Catholic activists said the approach was so contorted and flawed that it would alienate the very people it was trying to reach.

The statement, "Ministry to Persons with a Homosexual Inclination," was adopted by a 194-37 vote, with one abstention, at a meeting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. The bishops also overwhelmingly adopted separate statements encouraging Catholics to obey the church's widely ignored ban on artificial contraception and directing parishioners to examine their consciences to decide if they are worthy of receiving Holy Communion.

Anyone who knowingly persists in sinful behavior, such as Gay sex or using artificial birth control, should refrain from taking Communion, the bishops said. "To be a Catholic is a challenge," said Bishop Arthur Serratelli of Paterson, N.J., chairman of the bishops' doctrine committee. "To be a Catholic requires a certain choice."

Presenting the Gay ministry document at the meeting, Serratelli acknowledged that Gay and Lesbian Catholics "have a difficult task in this world, but this task is necessary and good." He added, "The tone of the document is positive, pastoral and welcoming. Its starting point is the intrinsic human dignity of every person and God's love for every person."

But Gay Catholic groups thought the bishops' approach was flat-out wrong. Francisco DeBernardo, executive director of New Ways Ministry, an independent outreach to Catholic Gays that has run afoul of some church leaders, said the guidelines "do not reflect good science, good theology, or human reality." He went on, "This document proposes that Lesbian and Gay people be viewed not in the entirety of their lives, but in one dimension only—the sexual dimension. 'No other group in the church is singled out in this way.'"

The guidelines condemn discrimination against Gays and say it's not a sin to be attracted to someone of the same sex—only to act on those feelings. The bishops also underscore Catholic opposition to same-sex marriage and adoption by Gay and Lesbian couples, but also say children of Gay Catholics can be baptized if they are being raised in the faith.

Under the guidelines parishes are instructed to help Catholics avoid "the lifestyle and values of a 'Gay subculture.'" Gays also are discour-

aged from telling anyone about their sexual orientation outside a close circle of friends and supporters in the church. On the subject of therapy to change same-sex attraction, the bishops said there is no scientific consensus on whether it can succeed. But church leaders say Gays are free to seek counseling to help them live a chaste life. Sam Sinnett, president of Dignity USA, an advocacy group for Gay Catholics, said the document is damaging because it recommends that Gays "stay emotionally and spiritually in the closet."

## Around The Nation

COLUMBUS, Ohio - Doctors will no longer be allowed to criticize a patient's sexual orientation under new Ohio regulations, nor ask about it unless it is medically necessary. The state board that regulates medical licenses has adopted rules governing sexual misconduct that address abuses of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender patients by care providers. The 12-member State Medical Board of Ohio approved the new regulations Nov. 9, to take effect Nov. 30. ...

LOUISVILLE, Kentucky - A prominent LGBT health advocate has been found dead in his home after apparently being beaten to death. Dr. Emery Lane was the former president of Community Health Trust, which focused on Louisville's Gay community and people with AIDS. Lane, 75, was discovered by his housekeeper, and police have concluded that he had been beaten with a blunt instrument. Cash and his Jaguar were among items that were stolen. Two men, Gene Raymond Miller and Bennett Shaw Bilbrey, were arrested early Wednesday morning (Nov. 15) and were charged with murder, burglary and robbery. ...

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Two Gay Washington, D.C. police officers have filed separate lawsuits alleging that senior officers disclosed their sexual orientation to co-workers without permission, the Washington Blade reported. Officers Anthony Faverio and Donald Marcus Phillips each state in their lawsuits that internal affairs investigator Debbie Anne Burt outed them in a widely circulated report in May. Both the police department and its Gay and Lesbian liaison refrained from commenting on pending litigation. No trial dates have been set. ...

HOOVER, Alabama - The Alabama state branch of the Southern Baptist Convention is the latest to condemn Wal-Mart for barring discrimination against Gays and Lesbians in its code of ethics and for forging an alliance with the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce. But

Continued on Page Fifteen

## Presbyterians Drop Charges On Gay-Nuptial Pastor

PITTSBURGH - Charges were dismissed Wednesday (Nov. 15) Pittsburgh against a Presbyterian minister accused of breaking church law by performing a marriage ceremony for two women after church officials determined the charges were filed too late, reported the Associated Press on the PlanetOut Network. The Permanent Judicial Commission of the Pittsburgh Presbytery voted 8-0 to dismiss the charges against Janet Edwards because they were filed several days after a filing deadline.

Edwards, a parish associate at the Community of Reconciliation Church in Pittsburgh, had been accused of violating the church's position on marriage by presiding at the June 2005 wedding. The constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) reserves marriage for a man and a woman, although ministers may bless other types of "holy unions." "This dismissal constitutes neither a vindication of the accused nor any finding with respect to the subject," according to a statement from the commission read by Kears Pollock, the group's vice moderator.

The Presbyterian Church, like other mainline denominations, has been struggling to stay unified despite differences over whether the traditional biblical view condemning Gay relationships should stand. Presbyterians who support same-gender unions say the Bible's social justice teachings on inclusiveness should prevail over what they see as an outdated view of homosexuality.

Edwards presided over the marriage of Nancy McConn, a retired computer software developer from Dallas, W.Va., and Brenda Cole, a clinical psychologist. Edwards said



Parish Associate Janet Edwards

she was relieved not to have to face a church trial, but hopes this is not the end of the dialogue on same-sex unions. "I want to participate in the discussion that must go on within our church about the inclusion of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered people," Edwards said. About 200 people showed up at a rented hall for what was to be the start the church trial, most of them supporters who received invitations from Edwards to attend.

Robert Brown, who was on the church's prosecuting committee, said his group was looking into whether charges can be refiled. In March, a longtime Presbyterian minister was acquitted of the same charge. A regional judicial commission of the church ruled that the Rev. Jane Spahr, of San Rafael, Calif., acted within her rights as an ordained minister when she married two Lesbian couples in 2004 and 2005. The ruling has been appealed.

## Twin Cities Pride And Newspaper End Dispute

MINNEAPOLIS, Minnesota - A lawsuit filed after the Star Tribune refused to run an ad for Twin Cities Pride has been dropped, but neither side will discuss the settlement, reported 365Gay.com. The lawsuit accused the newspaper of discrimination and breach of contract.

The dispute, previously reported in The Observer, began in 2004 after the Star Tribune agreed to advertise Pride and become a sponsor. But when the ads, which contained a small picture of two men kissing, were delivered to the paper the company balked and refused to run them. Pride Twin Cities first filed a complaint with the Minneapolis Commission on Civil Rights saying that the paper was trying to impose its own standards on the community. The commission later ruled that it did not have jurisdiction to hear the case. Pride then filed a lawsuit in Hennepin County District

Court. The suit said that the Star Tribune applied different standards for heterosexual-based advertising than for ads from the Gay community. The suit said that the company had in the past accepted ads of opposite-sex couples kissing.

The lawsuit also alleged that the paper refused to print ads submitted to replace the "kiss ad." Both sides in the dispute announced this week that a settlement had been reached. But neither side will say how the agreement was arrived at or whether the paper would run a similar ad in the future. The Minneapolis-St Paul Metro Transit system ran into its own Gay ad dispute as well this year when it allowed a driver to refuse to operate a bus as long as it had an ad for a local Gay publication. The transit company later said it had made a mistake.

# UPDATE

## Rainbow Teddy Bear Raffle Tickets On Sale

TUCSON - For only \$1, you can win a chance in the 2006 Christmas Rainbow Bears Benefit. Raffle tickets are now on sale for this chance to win one of seven life-size rainbow bears (stuffed animals of varying colors of the rainbow).

Under the coordination of volunteer David Manzanaras, seven community bars will be displaying these beautiful stuffed bears and selling \$1 raffle tickets, and each will be raffling off their bear in drawings on Saturday, Dec. 23, 11:00 p.m.

Proceeds from the raffle will benefit the holiday programs provided for children, adults, and families affected by HIV/AIDS sponsored by the Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN) and the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF). Raffle tickets are available at Ain't Nobody's Biz, Colors, Howl at the Moon, IBT'S, Venture-N, Woody's, and Yard Dog, as well as at the offices of TIHAN and SAAF.

## World AIDS Day At Fox Theater Dec. 1

TUCSON - World AIDS Day, Dec. 1, is a day of remembrance for individuals who have passed away or are currently living with HIV/AIDS. In Tucson, World AIDS Day will be marked at the Fox Theater. 17 W. Congress, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

World AIDS Day is also an opportunity for individuals, businesses, community organizations, and faith-based organizations to demonstrate both their commitment to fight against AIDS and their solidarity in this effort. This year's commemoration is an evening event filled with activity, commemoration and celebration, featuring performances, presentations, and exhibits by respected community members.

Join in on Friday, Dec. 1 at the Fox Theater. For more information, call the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation, (520) 628-7223 or the Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN), (520) 299-6647.

## Quit Smoking On Dec. 3

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. 7<sup>th</sup> St.

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

## Love Your Body Day, Nov. 29

TUCSON - Say no to beauty standards which are harmful, narrow and offensive and join in at the University of Arizona (UA) Alumni Plaza, 11:00 a.m. to 3 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 29.

This event, according to the organizers, UA Feminists, is to raise awareness and speak out against negative body image, eating disorders and dangerous media influences.

So come gather information about campus resources, listen to panelists share personal experiences, indulge in free food, and let your own thoughts on body image be known!

## Inspired Futures: A Celebration Of Youth Arts and Cultures, Nov. 25

TUCSON - Come join in on Saturday, Nov. 25 for a celebration of youth art and culture.

Inspired Futures, a youth art walk will take place from 6 - 8:30 p.m., followed by youth film screenings and performances until 10:00 p.m. Participants who visit each of the art walk sites (Open Inn, VOICES, Eon, and Skrappy's) will receive prizes and be entered into a raffle with a chance to win exciting prizes.

The event is sponsored by Open Inn, Our Family, Wingspan/ Eon Youth Center, and VOICES. For more information, contact Courtney Jones at courtney@wingspan.org.

## Proposition 107 Victory Party Dec. 4

TUCSON - Southern Arizona opponents of Proposition 107 will hold their official, victory party, Monday, Dec. 4, 5:30 p.m. at Colors Food & Spirits 5305 E. Speedway.

Colors owners, according to the organizers of the event, have generously offered to open that night for the event, which is taking place after the official election results have been certified. Pima County's election totals will be certified at their weekly meeting, Tuesday, Nov. 28 per Arizona law.

For more information about Colors Food & Spirits, go online to colorstucson.com.

## Alternative Theatre Company Presents "A Queer Carol" Dec. 7-10 & 14-17

TUCSON - Come support Arizona's only LGBT theater company and the holiday production of A Queer Carol, by Joe Godfrey, Dec. 7-10, 14-17.

Directed by Joe W. Marshall, the show puts a uniquely Gay twist on the Dickens classic and features Tucson's Black Cat Aja Simone as the Ghost of Christmas Present. The show opens Dec. 7 at the newly renovated Hollywood Cabaret Theatre, 1501 N. Oracle, with a special night on Dec. 15 to benefit Wingspan. After the benefit show, please join in as a special guest of Wingspan for a cast party at the Hollywood Bar.

Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door, and are available at Antigone Books (411 N. 4th Avenue) or by calling the Alternative Theatre Company at (520) 883-8246. A Queer Carol Performance dates: Thursday, Dec. 7 - 8:00 p.m., Friday, Dec. 8 - 8:00 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 9 - 8:00 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 10 - 3:00 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 14 - 8:00 p.m., Friday, Dec. 15 - 8:00 p.m., (Wingspan Night & Cast Party), Saturday, Dec. 16 - 8:00 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 17 - 3:00 and 7:00 p.m.

## 1N10 Announces New Board Members

PHOENIX - 1n10, the Valley's only youth services organization serving Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, queer and questioning youth on a weekly drop-in basis, is pleased to announce several new additions to the Board of Directors. New board members include:

Drew Coleman, Carol Comito, Greg Early, Thomas Eccles, MD, Michael Fornelli, Merrill "Merf" Fratkin, Javier Puig and Marshall Shore. The new board members join board co-chairs Nicholas Routson and Toby Urvater, secretary Kellie Houston, and members, Dina Cooper, Donna Henault, Scott Sarisky and Cynthia Zwick.

1n10, Inc provides a safe environment for LGBTQ youth to develop positive self-acceptance through life enhancing programs. 1n10 continually seeks to engage community members to serve on its Board of Directors or as adult volunteer mentors for its youth group programming. Board and volunteer applications are reviewed on an ongoing basis and may be obtained by contacting Beck, the 1n10 Coordinator at (602) 475-7456 or email coordinator@1n10.org.

## Annual Day Marks Transgender Losses, Triumphs

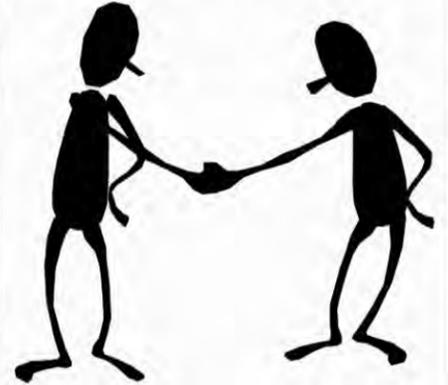
TUCSON - People in Tucson and 250 cities worldwide reflected on those who've been murdered over their gender identity or expression, and push for Transgender protections.

Vigils, services, and other events were held Monday (Nov. 20) on the eighth Transgender Day of Remembrance, founded in 1999 in San Francisco by Gwendolyn Ann Smith to honor the memory of Rita Hester, who was slain in Boston the previous year. Hester's killing remains unsolved.

"The Transgender Day of Remembrance is a solemn time to reflect on those who have been murdered because of their gender identity or expression," said Mara Keisling, executive director of the National Center for Transgender Equality.

Continued on Page Four

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



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# New Outings Sign Of Gossip Culture

NEW YORK CITY - N Sync star, telling People he'd decided to speak my mind When the comedian Bill Maher went on "Larry King Live" and alleged that some top Republican operatives were Gay, it was too much detail for CNN, which edited the remarks out of later broadcasts and off the transcript on its Web site, reported the Associated Press. But the remarks couldn't be edited out of cyberspace, where they remain available, along with virtually everything else these days.

Maher's comments, and a series of recent coming-out announcements by Hollywood figures responding to persistent rumors, show just how much the Internet has changed the rumor mill, and consequently the process of outing celebrities. Where anti-Gay sentiment used to fuel these revelations, these days they are more likely to be merely a byproduct of a voracious Web-based gossip culture where no part of a celebrity's life is off limits, or, in the case of politicians, an attempt by one side or the other to score political points. Either way, the information, true or not, is out there for everyone to see.

"The reality is that the kinds of gossip and celebrity rumors that used to spread by phone, around the water cooler or over dinner are now ending up online where anyone can see them," says Glenda Testone, senior director of media programs for GLAAD, the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. "It doesn't mean that they're more credible, just that more people can see and spread them."

In the recent political case, Maher was arguing that a number of "people who run the underpinnings of the Republican Party" are Gay, even though they don't support pro-Gay

positions. He said he wasn't going to name names, but then began to. Despite CNN's actions to remove the remarks from circulation, several versions were available, including on Youtube.com, the repository of all events in our culture. Many major Gay rights groups oppose outing, saying it's a personal choice and should remain so. But there is a difference of opinion when it comes to the idea of outing political figures perceived as harming Gay interests.

"When someone is in a position of power and they are using that power to hurt Gay people ... it's perfectly appropriate that they be outed," says Matt Foreman, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. "We don't do it, but we have no problem with it." Foreman notes that the type of outing happening these days shows, in one way, that social progress has been made. "The stigma around being Gay is gradually diminishing," he says. "At one point it was a huge scandal to say someone was Gay." Now, he says, "what fuels outings is something else: It's not, 'This person's Gay.' It's, 'This person's Gay and can you believe what they're doing with their power?'"

Or, in the case of the entertainment world, merely a prurient interest in every aspect of a celebrity's life, from where they get their coffee to the results of their pregnancy tests to what baby clothes their kids are wearing. "I don't think it comes as a surprise to see gossipmongers speculating about celebrities' sexual orientations," says Testone, "particularly when there's little about celebrities' private lives that these folks don't gossip and speculate about." She adds that truth is often a casualty: "When it comes to some of these Web sites that thrive on celebrity gossip,

the rumor is often all that's needed."

Rumors are what prompted three recent Hollywood figures to come out publicly, all to People magazine. The most recent was Neil Patrick Harris, the former title character of 'Doogie Howser, M.D.' and now starring on the CBS comedy "How I Met Your Mother." Earlier this month he told People's Web site he was Gay, saying he was responding to "speculation and interest in my private life and relationships."

A few weeks earlier it was "Grey's Anatomy" actor T.R. Knight, who said he was addressing "any unnecessary rumors that might be out there." Knight made it clear he would have preferred to keep his personal life private, and added he hoped 'the fact that I'm Gay isn't the most interesting part of me.' And before that it was Lance Bass, the former 'N Sync star, telling People he'd decided to 'speak my mind' because rumors about his sexuality were starting to affect his daily life.

While Gay groups applaud anyone's decision to come out, they are critical of the pressure on them by purveyors of gossip to do so. "Celebrity outing can be very problematic," says Damon Romine, entertainment media director of GLAAD. "While this kind of gossip and speculation about a celebrity's orientation might lead some people to come out of the closet, it may drive others even further in." 'Ultimately,' he added, 'coming out is a personal process, one that ideally happens when celebrities make the decision not out of fear or intimidation but because they want the fuller, richer life that that openness provides.'

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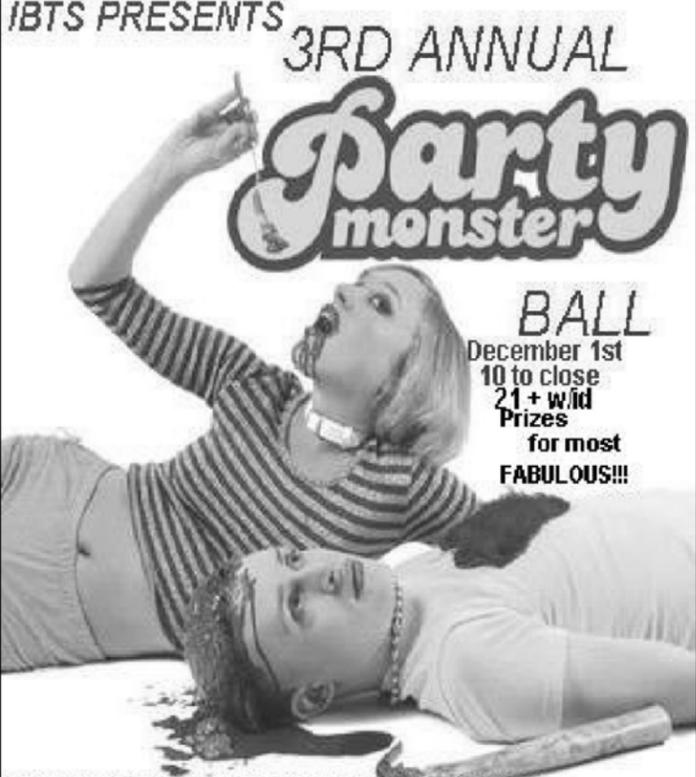
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## Haggard Gay Sex Scandal Reignites 'Reparative Therapy' Debate

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colorado - Comments by an American evangelical leader who has apologized for contacts with a Gay prostitute have rekindled a debate over the controversial premise that people can overcome same-sex attraction through "reparative therapy," reported the Associated Press on [advocate.com](http://advocate.com). The claim by Ted Haggard that he had tried unsuccessfully to treat himself for a "repulsive and dark" part of his life reflects a philosophy espoused by many religious conservatives and disputed by many mental health experts.

"Haggard is exhibit A of how people can't change their sexual orientation," said Wayne Besen, a Gay rights activist and author. "With all that he had to lose—a wife, children, a huge church—he had to be who he was in the end. He couldn't pray away the Gay." Haggard denied some of the prostitute's claims but confessed to "sexual immorality" and resigned earlier this month as pastor of his 14,000-member New Life Church in Colorado. He also gave up the presidency of the National Association of Evangelicals. "There's a part of my life that is so repulsive and dark that I have been warring against it for all of my adult life," he wrote to his congregation. "Through the years, I've sought assistance in a variety of ways, with none of them proving to be effective in me." Haggard did not specify how he had sought help or describe the healing-and-restoration program he vows to pursue now—but did say he deserved to be "disciplined and corrected."

Clinton Anderson, director of the American Psychological Association's Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Concerns Office, found Haggard's statement dismaying. "There's a profound sadness that someone should be saddled culturally with such a negative attitude toward a part of themselves," Anderson said. "From our vantage point as psychologists, his self-repulsion is not necessary, it's not justified."

California psychologist Joseph Nicolosi—a leading advocate of "reparative therapy"—said such second-guessing of Haggard was inappropriate. "If this man is saying, 'This is a part of me that I abhor,' why can't we respect that?" Nicolosi asked. "Why do we have to attribute that to something external and take away the dignity of the individual to express how he feels?" Nicolosi is president of the National Association for Research and Therapy of Homosexuality, representing therapists who believe it is appropriate to help clients try to change their sexual orientation. Some take a secular, psychoanalytical approach; other allies of NARTH favor prayer-based counseling. Nicolosi suggested that he could help Haggard if the evangelist was prepared for "deep, emotional work." "We're talking about looking at your life squarely in the eye—facing the realities that you did not get certain central affirmations from your mother or your father," Nicolosi said.

NARTH's views are considered fringe by the American Psychiatric Association and the American Psychological Association. Both declared in the 1970s that homosexuality was not a mental disorder and does not warrant a "cure." "There's nothing good that can come from 'conversion therapy,'" said Doug Haldeman, a Seattle psychologist who specializes in Gay-related issues. "The wreckage left behind, for some who go through it,

is frightening—they're depressed, suicidal."

Jack Drescher, a New York City psychiatrist who wrote *Psychoanalytic Therapy and the Gay Man*, said proponents of "reparative therapy" ignore its potential for causing harm. "They're selling you something without any warning of what might go wrong," he said.

There have been numerous studies, with varying conclusions, on how homosexuality originates and whether it can be changed. But there has been no authoritative study—accepted by both sides—examining the effectiveness and possible ill effects of "reparative therapy."

At its national convention this summer, the American Psychological Association was pressed by NARTH about its stance on reparative therapy. APA leaders said they did not oppose people voluntarily seeking to change their sexual orientation, but said therapists should warn that treatment could prove harmful and be sure the client wasn't motivated mainly by social pressure. The APA also said the positions of NARTH and its allies "create an environment in which prejudice and discrimination can flourish."

Nicolosi said NARTH opposes antiGay prejudice, but he contended that social factors that trouble Gays are a legitimate reason for seeking therapy. "It's more difficult to live as a Gay man than as a heterosexual," he said. "We wish to respond to those clients who feel that it is.... It's irrelevant if it's society's fault." Nicolosi is a regular participant in Love Won Out, a series of conferences organized by the Christian ministry Focus on the Family as part of what is known as the "ex-Gay" movement. The conferences, often protested by Gay rights supporters, spread the message that "a homosexual identity is something that can be overcome."

Another Love Won Out regular is Alan Chambers, president of Exodus International, a network of ministries promoting "freedom from homosexuality" through Christian faith. Chambers, who says he changed his own sexual orientation through religious counseling, expressed empathy with Haggard, saying, "We're all susceptible to temptation." As for Haggard's future, Chambers said, "If someone says they want to change because of their faith-based convictions, you have to honor that. There has to be a real desire and motivation on the part of the person to change."

### Annual International Transgender Day

Continued from Page Two

Although not every person represented during the Day of Remembrance self-identified as Transgendered — honorees include transsexuals, crossdressers, or otherwise gender-variant folks — each was a victim of violence based on bias against Transgendered people. Transgender hate crimes are largely undocumented in the United States. However, each year more names are added to the expanding global list.

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## Mexican Right Weighs Challenge To Same-Sex Unions

MEXICO CITY, Mexico - The ruling conservative party is considering filing a legal challenge to Mexico City's new law recognizing same-sex civil unions, saying it violates a clause in the country's constitution protecting the family, legislators said Friday (Nov. 17), the Associated Press reported on the PlanetOut Network. The law was published in the city's official gazette Thursday (Nov. 16), making it the first such law in the history of the conservative, predominantly Roman Catholic country. It will take effect 120 days from that date.

City assemblyman Miguel Angel Errasti said his National Action Party - the party of President Vicente Fox and President-elect Felipe Calderon - is determining whether the new law can be challenged on constitutional grounds. Article 4 of Mexico's Constitution covers the rights of spouses, children and the family, and states that "men and women are equal before the law. This will protect the organization and development of the family." Errasti said the new Mexico City law is unconstitutional because the article mentions only men and women in relation to marriage.

City legal counsel Maria Estela Rios, however, called the argument "absurd" because the law guarantees legal rights for same-sex couples, but does not legalize Gay

marriage. "There is no attack against the concept of the family," Rios said. The law "just involves recognizing that there are other forms of unions that have existed for many years."

Errasti did not say when his party would decide on whether to file the constitutional challenge - the only legal avenue to overturn the law. The law allows same-sex couples living in Mexico City to register civil unions with authorities, granting them inheritance rights and other benefits typically given to spouses. The city legislature passed the law and it was signed on Monday (Nov. 13) by Mexico City Mayor Alejandro Encinas.

The measure has been severely criticized by the Roman Catholic Church and conservative groups in the country, which is 90 percent Catholic. The Mexican Council of Bishops has said the law is the first step toward legalizing Gay marriage and adoption by Gays, while the conservative National Parents Union called it "aberrant." While homosexuality is still taboo in many rural parts of Latin America, the region's urban areas are becoming more tolerant. Mexico City joins the Argentine capital of Buenos Aires and the southern Brazilian state of Rio Grande do Sul in legalizing same-sex civil unions. At the national level, lawmakers in Costa Rica and Colombia have debated, but not passed, similar measures.

## Alaska Lawmakers Thumb Nose At Court-Ordered Same-Sex Benefits

JUNEAU, Alaska - Republicans have drawn a line in the sand, refusing to obey a court order mandating health and other benefits for the same-sex domestic partners of state employees and retirees, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com. Called into a special session by Gov. Frank Murkowski to approve a benefits package worked out by the Department of Administration to comply with the order the legislature the House voted instead to tie the governor's hands on the issue.

It passed a bill prohibiting Murkowski's administration from granting any court-ordered health and retirement benefits for same-sex partners of state employees. The House then passed a second bill that would put the issue to a statewide plebiscite, asking voters if a constitutional amendment barring Gay benefits should go on the 2008 ballot. Alaska already has a constitutional amendment banning Gay marriage in the state. An attempt to extend that to include benefits failed earlier in the House. Following Friday's vote (Nov. 17) the House adjourned. Both measures now go to the Senate. It is unclear how the upper house will vote. If it concurs with the House it is likely the whole issue of benefits would return to the state Supreme Court. But, if the court overturns the bills it would leave it up to voters.

Democrats were outraged by the House vote. "I think history will look back and say this Legislature tried to stop the march of progress, the march of civil rights, the march of health care," said Minority Leader Ethan Berkowitz, D-Anchorage. Last year the state Supreme Court ruled the state must establish benefits to same-sex partners of its employees in response to an action filed by the American Civil Liberties Union and nine Alaska couples. The high court ruled that because same-sex couples are prohibited from marrying in Alaska, denying them rights extended to married couples deprives them of equal protection guaranteed under the Alaska Constitution.

A key Alaska Senate committee has ratified the two bills passed by the House that could result in a constitutional showdown between the legislature and the state Supreme Court over same-sex benefits.

Murkowski called the legislature into special session to approve a benefits package worked out by the Department of Administration to comply with a court order declaring the lack of health and pension benefits violated the Alaska constitution and ordering the legislature to rectify the situation by Jan. 1.



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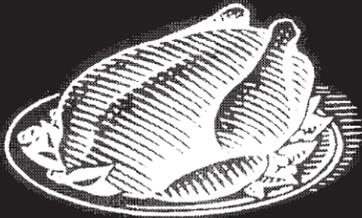
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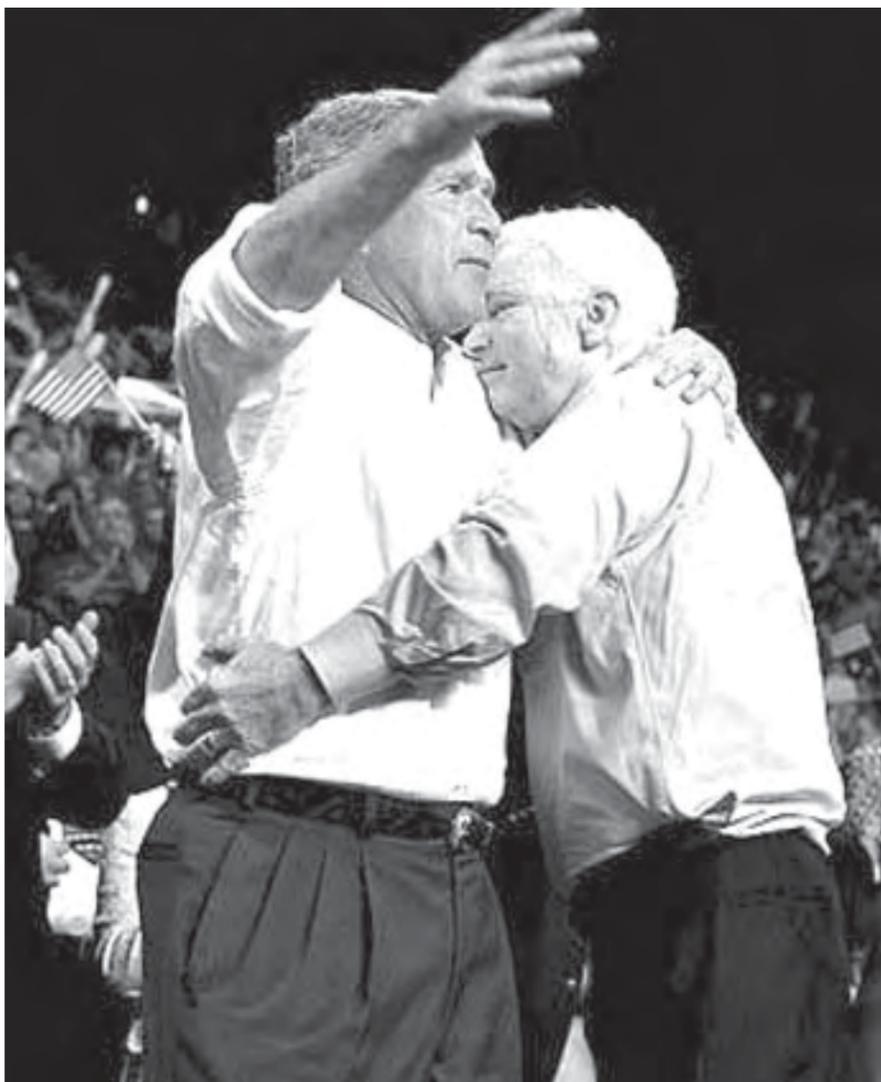
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## In Their Own Words

### The Straight-Talk Express Derails



**Senator John McCain and President George Bush in a hugging moment.**

During an interview on Sunday on ABC's "This Week," Senator John McCain (R-AZ) said that homosexuality was not a "defect" or a "sin," but emphasized that he didn't think same sex marriage should be legal, reported rawstory.com. The possible 2008 GOP presidential contender drew the line at civil unions for Gay and lesbians, but said that he thought they should have the right to enter into legal agreements.

"I do not believe Gay marriage should be legal," McCain repeated. "I do not believe Gay marriage should be legal." "But I do believe that people ought to be able to enter into contracts, exchange powers of attorney, other ways that people [who] have relationships can enter into," McCain continued. McCain also said that while he didn't "believe we should discriminate against anyone in the workplace," he didn't "think we need specific laws that would apply necessarily to people who are Gay."

McCain has been criticized by many for "flip-flopping" on issues related to Gay rights and abortion.

"In 1999, the 'moderate' version of John McCain said that overturning Roe v. Wade would be dangerous for women and he would not support it, even in 'the long term,'" the liberal blog Think Progress noted. "This morning on ABC, McCain — now aggressively courting the likes of Jerry Falwell — expressed his unequivocal support for overturning Roe v. Wade."

Excerpts from McCain's interview on ABC's This Week:

MR. STEPHANOPOULOS: Good morning everyone. Proving that it's never too early for presidential politics, both Rudi Giuliani and John McCain set up exploratory campaign

candidates this week. And we're joined this morning here in the studio by Senator McCain. Welcome back.

SEN. MCCAIN: Thanks George.

MR. STEPHANOPOULOS: So you're in South Carolina or Michigan talking to a county chairman, when he asks why should I support you over Rudy Giuliani? What do you say?

SEN. MCCAIN: My record. My record of being a conservative Republican of knowledge on national security and defense issues, my advocacy for less government is best government. And I think people should be judged on their record, but also their vision for the future of the country.

MR. STEPHANOPOULOS: Mayor Giuliani describes himself as both pro-choice and pro-Gay rights. Do you think someone with those positions can get the Republican nomination and effectively lead the Republican Party?

SEN. MCCAIN: I don't know. I know that he's an American hero. I know that Americans will never forget the magnificent job he did following 9/11, and I think that he would be favorably looked on by a lot of Americans.

MR. STEPHANOPOULOS: I know you're not pro-choice. You're pro-life. Are you pro-Gay rights?

SEN. MCCAIN: In the respect that I believe that the don't ask, don't tell policy is working in the military. I don't know how you view that. I do not believe that marriage between — I believe in the sanctity and unique role of a marriage between man and woman. But I certainly don't believe in

**Continued on Page Seven**

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MR. STEPHANOPOULOS: But on that don't ask, don't tell policy, the military now classifies homosexuals. They classify homosexuality as a defect. Do you agree with that?

SEN. MCCAIN: No, I don't think they do that.

(Cross talk.)

MR. STEPHANOPOULOS: It actually is. Yes, they do right now.

SEN. MCCAIN: I don't think it's a "defect", but I do believe the don't ask, don't tell policy has been very effective. We've got the best military we've ever had in our all-volunteer force. So I think the policy is working.

MR. STEPHANOPOULOS: You say you believe that marriage should be reserved between a man and a woman.

SEN. MCCAIN: Yes.

MR. STEPHANOPOULOS: You voted for an initiative in Arizona that went beyond that and actually denied any government benefits to civil unions or domestic partnerships. Are you against civil unions for Gay couples?

SEN. MCCAIN: No, I'm not. I - but the - that initiative I think was misinterpreted. I think that initiative did allow for people to join in legal agreements such as power of attorney and others. I think there was a - I think that there was a difference of opinion on the interpretation of that constitutional amendment in Arizona.

MR. STEPHANOPOULOS: So you're for civil unions?

SEN. MCCAIN: No, I am for ability of two people - I do not believe Gay marriage should be legal. I do not believe Gay marriage should be legal. But I do believe that people ought to be able to enter into contracts, exchange powers of attorney, other ways that people have relationships can enter into.

MR. STEPHANOPOULOS: You threw your support behind Trent Lott this week to be Republican Whip. Do - he has said that homosexuality is a sin. Is that what you think?

SEN. MCCAIN: I have never heard Trent Lott state that. But no, that's not what I -

MR. STEPHANOPOULOS: It's not your position?

SEN. MCCAIN: No.

MR. STEPHANOPOULOS: One final question on abortion. You're for -

SEN. MCCAIN: I just want to point out again; I believe that Gay marriage should not be legal. Okay? But I don't believe that we should discriminate against any American because that's not the nature of America. Okay?

MR. STEPHANOPOULOS: Does that extend then - you should have - do you believe then that there should be a law that bans discrimination against Gays and lesbians in the workplace?

SEN. MCCAIN: No, I don't believe we should discriminate against anyone in the workplace, but I don't think we need specific laws that would apply necessarily to people who are

Gay.

MR. STEPHANOPOULOS: Let me ask one question about abortion; then I want to turn to Iraq. You're for a constitutional amendment banning abortion with some exceptions for life and rape and incest.

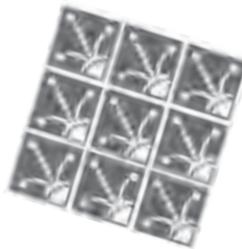
SEN. MCCAIN: Rape, incest, and the life of the mother, yes.

MR. STEPHANOPOULOS: So was President Bush. Yet that hasn't advanced in the six years he's been in office. What are you going to do to advance a constitutional amendment that President Bush hasn't done?

SEN. MCCAIN: I don't think a constitutional amendment is probably going to take place. But I do believe that it's very likely or possible that a Supreme Court should - could overturn Roe v. Wade, which would then return these decisions to the states, which I support that.

MR. STEPHANOPOULOS: And you'd be for that?

SEN. MCCAIN: Yes, because I'm a federalist, just as I believe that the issue of Gay marriage should be decided by the states. So do I believe that we would be better off by having Roe v. Wade returned to the states. And I don't believe the Supreme Court should be legislating in the way that they did on Roe v. Wade.



# South Dakota Page- Scandal Lawmaker Quits



PIERRE, South Dakota - A state senator accused of sexual misconduct with an 18-year-old male page resigned Tuesday (Nov. 14) rather than be judged by his colleagues, but said he intends to show up for the new South Dakota legislative term that begins in January, reported the Associated Press on advocate.com. Democrat Dan Sutton's lawyer said the lawmaker did not want to be judged by a lame-duck Senate in a special session led by some of his political enemies.

The session had been scheduled for Nov. 27 to look into allegations that Sutton groped a high school student who served as a page. Lawmakers could have expelled, censured or otherwise disciplined or exonerated Sutton. Despite the allegations, Sutton, 36, was re-elected last week to a new two-year term with 57 percent of the vote.

The new Senate seated in January can take up the issue. Sutton's lawyers have said he did nothing wrong. No criminal charges have been filed. The scandal arose while Congress was investigating Mark Foley's sexually explicit computer messages to male pages. The congressman resigned over the furor.

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# POLITICS 2006

by Mark R. Kerr

## A Post Election Primer, Episode Three

Election officials for Arizona's two largest counties for population, Maricopa and Pima County announced (over the weekend of Nov. 18-19) they have completed their tabulations of ballots cast in the 2006 general election.

Results from Arizona's remaining 13 counties have either been tabulated or with close or contested election results, will complete their efforts before the weekly meetings of their county's Board of Supervisors, who will review the election canvasses (figures) and certify the results, commencing Monday, Nov. 27. Pima County's Board will certify their election figures Tuesday, Nov. 28.

As the figures were being tabulated, the initial results of whom was elected to serve for the various political offices from the local to federal levels, and which ballot propositions were either approved or voted down, did not change (except for the margins of victory or defeat) except for a couple of contests for Arizona's Legislature.

In the 110<sup>th</sup> U.S. Congress, Arizona will be sending a delegation of four Democrats and four Republicans to serve in the House of Representatives.

Former state Senator and Tempe Mayor, Democrat Harry Mitchell has defeated homophobic Republican Congressman, J.D. Hayworth in the Congressional District (CD) Five race.

As previously reported, Democratic Congressmen Raul Grijalva and Ed Pastor both won their elections handily. Former Democratic state Senator, Gabrielle Giffords defeated Republican Randy Graf in the CD-8 contest to succeed outgoing Republican Congressman, Jim Kolbe.

Arizona's four Democrats will be part of the new majority in the House, picking up 29 seats as of press time, marking the first time the Democrats controlling the chamber since 1994. Democrats also gained control of the U.S. Senate as well in the Nov. general election, gaining six seats.

The State Legislature will begin their session in Jan. 2007 with

more Democrats in both chambers serving the 30 Legislative Districts (LD), shooting down the Republican dream of "veto-proof" margins.

Democrats gained one seat in the Arizona Senate when Charlene Pesquiera (an observer-endorsed candidate) defeated the ultra conservative, homophobic Republican candidate, Al Melvin for the LD-26 (Tucson, Northwest Pima and Pinal Counties) contest that was previously held by Republican Toni Hellon, whom Melvin defeated in the September primary election. In the upcoming session, Republicans will hold 17 seats to the Democrats 13.

For the Arizona House, Democrats picked up a total of six seats, winning contests for seats either previously held or by defeating current officeholders (Republicans) in five districts located in Maricopa, Pinal and Yuma Counties. Pima County will be sending another Democratic state Representative for LD-26. Lena Saradnik, another Observer-endorsed candidate, won her contest for a seat previously held by a Republican who was term limited and ran for the GOP nomination for Congress in CD-8. In the upcoming session, Republicans will hold 33 seats to the Democrats 27.

Arizona's Human Rights Fund (AHRF), in an E-mail dated Nov. 21, said the general election was a victory for pro-equality in the state. For the state Senate, according to AHRF, there will be 13 pro-equality members, 15 anti-equality members and 2 mixed in the upper chamber. In the state House, AHRF says there will be 25 pro-equality, 30 anti-equality and 5 mixed in Arizona's lower chamber.

Final ballot tabulations did not change the results of the proposed ballot measures voters considered for the general election, just the margins of victory or in the case of the most controversial measure, Proposition 107 which would have barred governmental and legal recognition of same-sex marriages, civil unions and domestic partners and the extension of any benefits to such relations with an amendment to the state Constitution. Proposition 107 proponents, the homophobic Center for Arizona Policy conceded defeat in a tersely worded statement issued Wednesday, Nov. 15.

## Pentagon Compares Homosexuality To Bedwetting

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Pentagon guidelines that classified homosexuality as a mental disorder now put it among a list of conditions or "circumstances" that range from bedwetting to fear of flying, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com.

The new rules are related to the military's retirement practices. The change does not affect the "don't ask, don't tell" policy that prohibits officials from inquiring about the sex lives of service members and requires discharges of those who openly acknowledge being Gay.

The revision came in response to criticism this year when it was discovered that the guidelines listed homosexuality alongside mental retardation and personality disorders.

Mental health professionals said Thursday they were not satisfied by the change. "We appreciate your good-faith effort to address our concern that the document was not medically accurate," James H. Scully, head of the American Psychiatric Association, wrote David Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness. "But we remain concerned because we believe that the revised document lacks the clarity necessary to resolve the issue."

The guidelines outline retirement or other discharge policies for

service members with physical disabilities. The rules include sections that describes other specific conditions, circumstances and defects that also could lead to retirement, but are not physical disabilities.

Among the conditions are stammering or stuttering, dyslexia, sleepwalking, motion sickness, obesity, insect venom allergies and homosexuality.

"More than 30 years after the mental health community declassified homosexuality as a mental disorder, it is disappointing that the Pentagon still continues to mischaracterize it as a 'defect,' said Rep. Marty Meehan, D-Mass., a member of the House Armed Services Committee.

Pentagon spokeswoman Cynthia Smith said "homosexuality should not have been characterized as a mental disorder. A clarification has been issued."

The psychiatric association declassified homosexuality as a mental disorder in 1973. Questions about the Pentagon's guidelines were raised in June by a research institute at the University of California at Santa Barbara.

There were 726 military members discharged under the "don't ask, don't tell" policy during the budget year that ended Sept. 30.

## Mark Foley:

### 'Been A Real Hard Time'

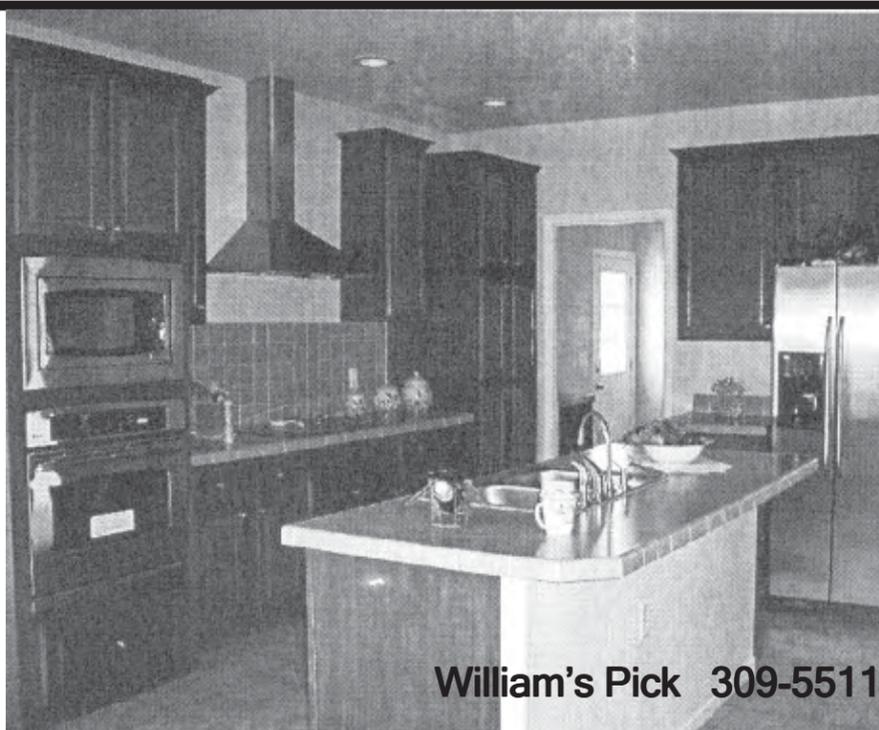
WEST PALM BEACH, Florida - Former U.S. Rep. Mark Foley on Friday (Nov. 17) attended a visitation for his father who died of complications from cancer, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com. Foley had been in seclusion since he checked himself into Sierra Tucson, a rehabilitation facility, on Oct. 1 for treatment of alcoholism.

"It's just been a real hard time," Foley told The Associated Press. Reporters and photographers were camped out on every corner surrounding the Quattlebaum-Holleman-Burse Funeral Home in West Palm Beach as Foley's friends and family milled about inside. Foley resigned from Congress on Sept. 29 after being confronted with sexually explicit computer messages he sent to male teenage pages who had worked on Capitol Hill.

Soon after, his attorneys announced that Foley was Gay, suffered from alcoholism and had

been molested by a priest as a teenage altar boy in Florida. The Rev. Anthony Mercieca, who has retired to the island nation of Malta, has admitted having inappropriate encounters with Foley, including massaging him in the nude and skinny-dipping together, but he denies having sex with Foley. Church officials are investigating whether Mercieca had inappropriate contact with others.

Florida authorities said Thursday (Nov. 16) they had opened a criminal investigation into whether Foley broke any laws related to his lurid communications. Federal authorities are also investigating. Foley's attorneys have said he never had inappropriate sexual contact with a minor. Meanwhile, a House ethics committee is looking into whether senior GOP officials hid what they knew about the computer messages.



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# COMMENTARY. . . .

## Pastor's Fall Exemplifies Split Views About Gays

By Ellen Goodman

I suppose it's hard to count Ted Haggard as a direct casualty of the 2006 election since his name wasn't on any ballot. But if the evangelist had not been a prime supporter of a Colorado amendment banning Gay marriage, Mike Jones might never have seen him on TV and said, "Oh, my God, it's Art." The Gay prostitute might never have outed the minister of the New Life Church as a customer of rentaboy or a referral for methamphetamine.

So the Sunday before the election, Pastor Ted resigned, labeling himself a "deceiver and a liar." He no longer heads the National Association of Evangelicals, nor does he field calls from the president. He's embarked on religious rehab, more properly known as "spiritual restoration," an odd name that seems to combine New Age steps and fundamentalist beliefs.

Still, what strikes me in the aftermath is not merely the hypocrisy of Pastor Ted. I keep flashing back onto this sentence in his confession: "There is part of my life that is so repulsive and dark that I've been warring against it all of my adult life." Haggard was not referring to marital infidelity or drugs, but to his Gayness.

Haggard seemed like a kinder, gentler and greener evangelical than many on the religious right. Yet he once equated Gay Pride Day with Murderer's Pride Day and looked to the Bible for the last word in science as well as religion. This was not just a man split between his walk and his talk. This was a man repulsed by himself.

How do we think about this repulsion? In the aftermath of his revelation, reactions were as bifurcated as our culture. Sympathy came in two varieties.

On the one hand, there were congregants, fellow ministers and letters-to-the-editor writers who heard a man wrestling with real demons. Their sympathy was for a sinner.

On the other hand, there were people who heard a man wounded by the culture of demonization. Their sympathy was for a man primed for repression and deception by the teaching of homosexuality as a sin.

We've heard echoes of this duality before. When "Brokeback Mountain" was presented as the ultimate Gay cowboy story, the religious right found its own moral message in the movie: Look at the damage done by the evil of homosexuality. But other moviegoers saw the culprit of the tragedy in the repressive atmosphere that hung over these two men and the landscape.

Haggard's deception and repulsion are, in some ways, lagging indicators of changing attitudes and science. Thirty years ago, only 13 percent of Americans thought homosexuality was inborn while 56 percent thought it came from the way people were raised. This year, for the first time, more Americans believe that

homosexuality is inborn (42 percent) than due to upbringing (37 percent). More Gays, more friends, families, co-workers have come to believe that Gayness is not a choice, let alone a sin.

Nevertheless, at the Catholic bishops meeting in Baltimore offered guidelines for ministering to Gays that were from the distant past. The tone, said one bishop, was meant to be "positive, pastoral and welcoming" to Gay Catholics. But the message was that "homosexual inclinations" are "disordered," that Gays should live in chastity, and that they are banned from marrying or adopting. In short, Gays are welcome as long as they declare themselves sinners and reject — repel? — their own sexuality.

Writing for the conservative National Review, David Frum compared Haggard with Jones, the one who outed him. Surely, Frum wrote, Haggard was the more moral of the two for fighting his impulses, raising a family and a church. But are those the two choices? The Gay prostitute and the Gay closeteer? Aren't they the flip side of the same coin?

In many places, we are witnessing another way out of the repulsion — the creation of open homosexual unions, the establishment of Gay families with all their ordinary, imperfect, daily struggles.

I suspect that Haggard's idea of "spiritual restoration" is the restoration of the closet. "From time to time," he wrote, "the dirt that I thought was gone would resurface." If anything, he seems to want more tools to fight the "dirt." This charismatic man may well reappear, "cured," as a poster boy for the ex-Gay movement enlisted to preach "hope" for the homosexual.

But those whose families and workplaces and neighborhoods include openly Gay men and women will always see this lost soul as a poster boy for the real damage caused by the old-time ministry of self-hate.

(Ellen Goodman is a columnist with the Boston Globe and this op-ed was reprinted from the Nov. 17 edition of the Arizona Daily Star.)



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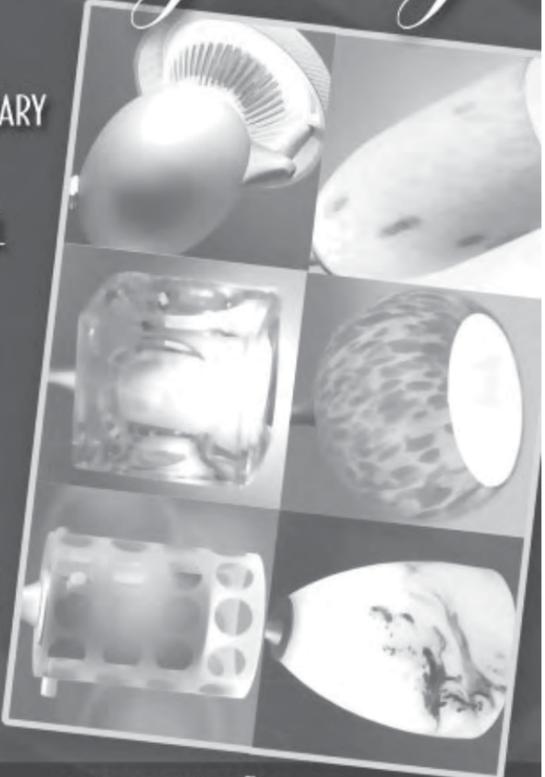
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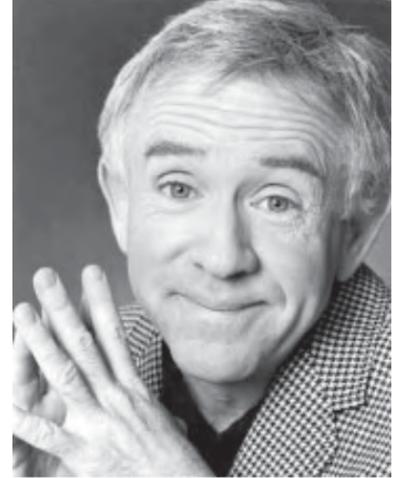
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## Pair Disinvited From Talk Show



Delta Burke



Leslie Black

NASHVILLE, Tennessee - A local television talk show rescinded an invitation to Delta Burke and Leslie Jordan to appear on the program, saying the show's conservative viewership could be offended by a discussion of their current work, according to celebrity site TMZ, reported [advocate.com](http://advocate.com).

The two are currently starring in a Del Shores revival tour that recently won accolades from the L.A. Stage Alliance Ovation Awards and they were scheduled to appear on Talk of the Town on November 10. But the show's producer e-mailed them saying that after reviewing the subject matter of the plays, he "decided that it would not be in the best interest of Talk

of the Town to [have] an actor come on the show to discuss the plays. We are dealing with a very conservative viewership who we feel would be offended by the show's titles and their topics."

Tennessee native Leslie Jordan, who won an Emmy award for his appearance on Will & Grace, called the incident a slap in the face. Del Shores said the show is underestimating its audience. "Somehow I think that the people of Nashville are a little more diverse and open-minded than the producers of Talk of the Town are giving them credit for," he said. "At least that's been my experience in one of my favorite cities."

## Groups Look To Democratic Congress To Pass Rights Bill

WASHINGTON, D.C. - After years of playing defense, advocacy groups see the Democrats' takeover of Congress as a long-awaited chance to convert some of their goals into law, reported the Associated Press on [365Gay.com](http://365Gay.com). Their wish lists include workplace protections for Gays, a broader hate-crimes law, and a multi-pronged push to reduce unplanned pregnancies.

A Republican president remains in the White House, armed with veto power, and Democratic control of the Senate is as slim as could be. Yet Gay-rights, feminist and abortion-rights groups are nonetheless pleased by their brightest prospects for legislative victories since 1994.

"It's exciting to get off the defensive," said Cecile Richards, president of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America. She hopes the new Congress will stay away from debate on abortion restrictions and instead work on a bipartisan basis to curtail unintended pregnancies. Nancy Keenan, president of NARAL Pro-Choice America, said "common sense" initiatives might include requiring health insurance companies to cover birth control, requiring that emergency contraception be available at hospitals for rape victims, and ensuring that sex education for young people includes accurate information about contraceptives.

The president of the largest national Gay-rights group, Joe Solmonese of the Human Rights Campaign, said he has high hopes for two long-pending proposals that failed to get through the GOP-controlled Congress. One would outlaw employment discrimination against Gays, Lesbians and transgender people; another would include them among the groups protected in federal hate-crimes legislation. Gay activists also would like to see Congress repeal the "don't ask, don't tell" policy that prohibits Gay members of the military from being open about their sexual orientation - but a push for this may come somewhere down the road.

"Everyone remembers the fight President Clinton had when he made this his first major political issue in 1993," said Aaron Belkin, director of a University of California, Santa Barbara think tank that studies Gays and the military. "While opinion on letting Gays

serve has moved leaps and bounds since then, the new Democratic Congress is not likely to come out strongly on this one from the get-go," Belkin said.

Solmonese indicated that leading Gay-rights groups will be patient with the new Democratic leadership, not pushing to have their issues be at the very top of the 2007 agenda. "What we've got is a new and respectful Congress that's open to our community, to learning the specifics of our issues," he said. "To stress right now - 'This is what we want and this is when we want it' - would be premature."

Feminist groups such as the National Organization for Women (NOW) were generally at odds with the GOP leadership in Congress and have welcomed the power switch, which will include Rep. Nancy Pelosi serving as the first female speaker of the House. NOW President Kim Gandy said her organization's legislative wish list includes adding gender to the existing federal hate-crimes law, tightening controls over silicone breast implants, and improving options for working mothers through enhanced family leave policies and child care options.

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# NOTES FROM THE FOR-REAL SIDE

## Shelton's Goals

by Lee Thorn

The incoming president of the University of Arizona, Robert N. Shelton, set forth five goals for the university in his inaugural address. I propose to define a university as an institution whose purpose is the production and propagation of knowledge and culture, and then to examine Shelton's goals in the context of that generally accepted definition.

The first goal he set was that of helping to solve complex social problems. To solve a social problem you have to first define one, and defining one requires a value judgment. The trouble is that universities aren't set up to make value judgments outside the realm of education. If, for example, you believe in economic justice based on almost any notion of proportionality, then Bill Gates having the money he has is a social problem. But universities don't believe in economic justice. They don't disbelieve in it either. They're neutral and their neutrality with regard to non-educational values serves them well.

Shelton's second goal is to drive economic development by producing an educated work force, creating and transferring technology to business, and being a resource center for the business community. I'm all for the university getting in bed with business, but I see almost endless possibilities for serious problems in their affair. There's no conflict in conforming the requirements for professional degrees to the dictates of the professions, but what about the non-professional degrees? Do we want the university to turn out ever better worker bees who can be ever more agile on their computers, or do we want it to turn out graduates who are capable of critical and creative thinking? Is there any reason to believe that the goal of producing an educated person closely coincides with that of producing a better worker bee? If so, show me the evidence.

As for creating and transferring technology, why not do that within limits? The problem is that the university is supposed to be universal. It's supposed to advance all knowledge, not just knowledge that can be used to make a buck. Thus, the question becomes, "How can we get in bed with business and still maintain the universal character that our integrity demands?" My suggestion is that an Integrity Committee be established to pass on all university assignments with business. The committee would have the power to veto anything that got so out of hand that it threatened the essential charac-

ter of the place. The members of the committee would have to include folks from academic disciplines in which it's inconceivable to turn a buck. This would keep the U from turning into a Research and Development Department to some big company or into an independent R&D consulting firm.

Being a resource center for the business community is a good idea. A far better idea would be to become a resource center for the whole community - arts groups, young people, old people, independent intellectuals, everybody. They could start by letting Tucsonans check books out of the library for free instead of charging \$100 a year for the privilege. They could let local performing groups use rehearsal space and performance space for free. They could create gallery space for Tucson visual artists. They could encourage professors to advise community groups for free. None of this community involvement would have much potential for compromising the integrity of the university. The upside would be making Tucsonans feel so positive about the place that we'd want to leave it money when we croaked. The library fee has always struck me as a particularly succinct and straightforward way of telling Tucsonans to go to hell.

Shelton's third goal is to achieve ethnic diversity. It's a good goal for a university in that it adds new perspectives and makes the institution more universal. The question is whether you can do it without being unfair to any individual. I think you can be scrupulously fair if you're very smart and very careful.

Shelton's fourth goal is pursuing academic excellence. Pretty hard to argue with that. His last goal is to inspire us with stuff like sports and art. I'll quote the sentence that creeps me out: "We have helped to define Southern Arizona's high quality of living with sports, performing arts, visual arts, literature, museums and more." It's frightening to think that any university president could put sports on the level of art. Of course Picasso could paint pretty good but his passing game was weak. Oh well, anybody can make a lame speech. I say we give him a chance and see what he actually does.

(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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# HOROSCOPES

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Feel that inexplicable burst of optimism? Yippee! The Sun glides into Sagittarius and gooses our curiosity as it broadens our horizons. But don't just take the long view. Get close and explore every nook and cranny. Oh baby!

**ARIES (MAR. 21 - APR. 20)**  
If there was ever a good time to plot your escape to parts unknown, this is it. Pull out all the maps and guidebooks. Proud Rams get itchy hooves when Sun enters Sagittarius. The tried and true just won't cut it now. But don't get wilde and woolly all by yourself. Pack a posse of compadres and go on a junket. Okay, maybe a yacht is a bit more comfortable.

**TAURUS (APR. 21 - MAY 21)**  
If you seem to have more hot energy than usual, blame the flame on Sun in Sadge. The usual queer Bull move is to plop squarely in front of the tube and vegetate with the other couch potatoes. But that would waste the zip in your doodah! Go on a bull run and charge into a few china shops. Shake things to the rafters and see what shimmys your way. You lucky devil.

**GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)**  
Connections with partners are electric and pink Twins are ready to plug in. You crave company but may be afraid to commit. Don't fight it. Open yourself up to all sorts of relationships with Sun in Sadge and stop being so independent. Not only will you find that you can go further with a special helping hand, you will enjoy the leg up (and occasionally over).

**CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)**  
Everyone knows that you secretly love to feel needed at work. As the Sun dips into Sadge, you are pulled into the epicenter of all job activity. Oh goodie. Pink Crabs are not only more effective, they also feel more energetic and robust. Make the most of it

and tackle all nagging projects with dispatch. Soon you will tire of being a worker drone and will make your royal move.

**LEO (JULY 24 - AUG. 23)**  
How much fun can a proud Lion have? Apparently quite a lot with Sun in Sadge. Don't be shy. (As if that's a problem...) Get off your leash and let loose. And there is an added benefit - it is also an especially creative time for you. Delve into various artistic outlets and see how much of a genius you are. Of course even a meager effort will pay off now. Hmmm, typical.

**VIRGO (AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23)**  
Make the Sun in Sadge energy work for you as you prepare for the Thanksgiving frenzy. Queer Virgins are not only domestic divas this week, they show exceptional skill and talent in handling irritating and demanding relatives. Emotions may run high, but you are able to hold your cool and give as good as you get. How good do you get? Stay tuned.

**LIBRA (SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)**  
Have something pithy and meaningful to say? Say it proud and queer while the Sun shouts in Sadge. Gay Libras are usually very glib and diplomatic but now you are more than just a stream of oil. Your words have impact and meaning. So what are you waiting for? This is no time to hold your tongue. It is hard to make yourself understood that way anyway.

**SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)**  
Even the greediest, neediest of proud Scorps find their needs sated and fulfilled with Sun in Sadge. If you have done your fiscal homework and consulted the right advisors, your investments can pay off. You are able to make some astute financial decisions. Enjoy all gotten gains and roll in the dough. Before you know it you are back to budgeting for every lousy crumb.

**SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)**  
Sun in your own sign makes you too magnificent for words. All sorts of people from all walks of life gravitate into your orbit and revolve around your every word. Well, it will seem that way anyway. And yet there is something about you now that increases your ability to charm even the slimiest of snakes. Gee, anyone we know, Gay Archer?

**CAPRICORN (DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)**  
A bright light (like the Sun in Sadge) illuminates anything and everything you are trying to keep secret. Finally! It is about time that you faced your demons, wrestled them to the ground and kicked them out of your personal space. A fresh new beginning is coming. Be honest, open, out and free pink Cap. There is no point being otherwise. Hey, watch where you point that thing!

**AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)**  
This is not the time to daydream behind your desk. Sun in Sadge encourages you to mingle with both the usual and the unusual crowd. Not only can Aqueerians gather the assorted troops and march them just about anywhere, they also have a commanding presence. What bon temps can you have with your bon homies? Don't ask, don't tell. Just do and enjoy.

**PISCES (FEB. 20 - MAR. 20)**  
Buff your corporate star when Sun enters Sadge. Guppies are normally self effacing and non-confrontational but now any calculated aggressive move you make takes you another rung up the ladder. Strategize and pounce. Warm your spot with a few new, sensational ideas. They will get the attention of the power brokers. When in doubt, go for broker, err broke.

## Baptists Finalize Split Over School Coming-Out Day

ATLANTA, Georgia - The Georgia Baptist Convention has formally ended its 170-year relationship with Mercer University, a relationship that had grown increasingly troubled over the convention's concerns that Mercer is more liberal than its Southern Baptist roots, reported the Associated Press on the PlanetOut Network. Convention members had voted last year to sever ties with the Macon, Ga., institution. A second vote finalized the split, which means Mercer must seek Baptist funding from individual churches rather than the convention. Mercer also has control now over choosing its trustees.

Convention members were disturbed last year by a National Coming Out Day program on campus - called the Mercer Triangle Symposium - sponsored by a Gay student group and supported by faculty and staff. "The waters had been troubled for some time over a number of issues, but that seemed to be the straw that broke the camel's back," said Wayne Robertson, chairman of the convention's administration committee and pastor at Morningside Baptist Church in Valdosta, Ga.

Mercer had prepared for the funding loss by cutting \$8.5 million from its more than \$171.5 million dollar budget this year. The convention funded \$3.5 million in scholarships and another \$2 million for the Georgia Baptist College of Nursing on Mercer's Atlanta campus. The convention already has transferred \$25.5 million in endowment and trusts to Mercer. Mercer President William D. Underwood said the college will continue a relationship with its founding denomination. "Mercer remains committed to its historic Baptist roots and continues to have close ties with Baptists and Baptist churches throughout Georgia, the nation and the world," he said in a news release. The convention still has ties to three Georgia colleges: Shorter College in Rome, Brewton-Parker College in Mount Vernon and Truett-McConnell College in Cleveland.

TUCSON DIRECTORY

The map shows a grid of streets. Vertical streets from left to right include: I-10 FREEWAY, ORACLE, DRACHMAN, UNIVERSITY, CONGRESS, BROADWAY, MOUNTAIN, GRANT, TUCSON BLVD., COUNTRY CLUB, ALVERNON, SWAN, and CRAYCROFT. Horizontal streets from top to bottom include: 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50. Specific street names include: PRINCE, FT. LOWELL, GLENN, PALO VERDE, FIRST AVE., FOURTH AVE., SIXTH AVE., SPEEDWAY, and SIXTH ST. A sign in the bottom right corner reads: TAKE YOUR I.D. TO THE BARS It's The Law!

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- G. **TIHAN -Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network**  
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# Non Bar Calendar

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  
 #1 Men'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.

#2 Men'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.

#2 Men'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, December 1  
 World AIDS Day 2006 - A free community event will be held at the Fox Theatre in downtown Tucson. The Information Fair begins at 5:00 p.m. Hors d-oeuvres at 6:00 p.m. and Live entertainment at 7:00 p.m. Sponsored by The Fox Theatre, COPE Behavioral Services and Arizona Department of Health Services. For more information call 520-798-1772.

### Around The Nation Continued from Page One

the group stopped short of calling for a boycott. Instead, delegates to the Alabama Baptist State Convention's annual meeting called on parishioners to pray for the giant retailer, saying Wal-Mart's actions "contrary to the biblical beliefs of many of its customers. ...

PITTSBURGH, Pennsylvania - A local school board member accused of using a Gay slur when referring to a school organization is being asked to apologize. A national gay rights group is targeting the vice president of the Ambridge Area School Board for making anti-Gay remarks in public. The Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network is asking school Boardmember William Scherfel to apologize. "He referred to the Gay-straight alliance at the high school as a sex club initially," said GLSEN member Tom Weise. "And then when he was asked to apologize, he called it 'fags.'" The group is coming to the aid of the Gay-straight alliance at Ambridge Area High School and is stunned and angered by the alleged remarks. Weise said the alleged remarks underscore a disturbing trend towards Gay and Lesbian members of student body groups across the state. The superintendent for the school district said it is a matter out of his jurisdiction, because it involves a board member and not an administrative staff member or teacher.

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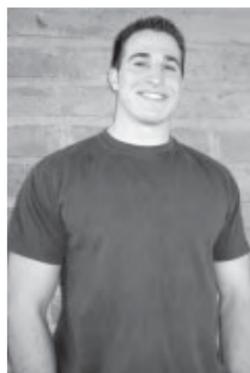
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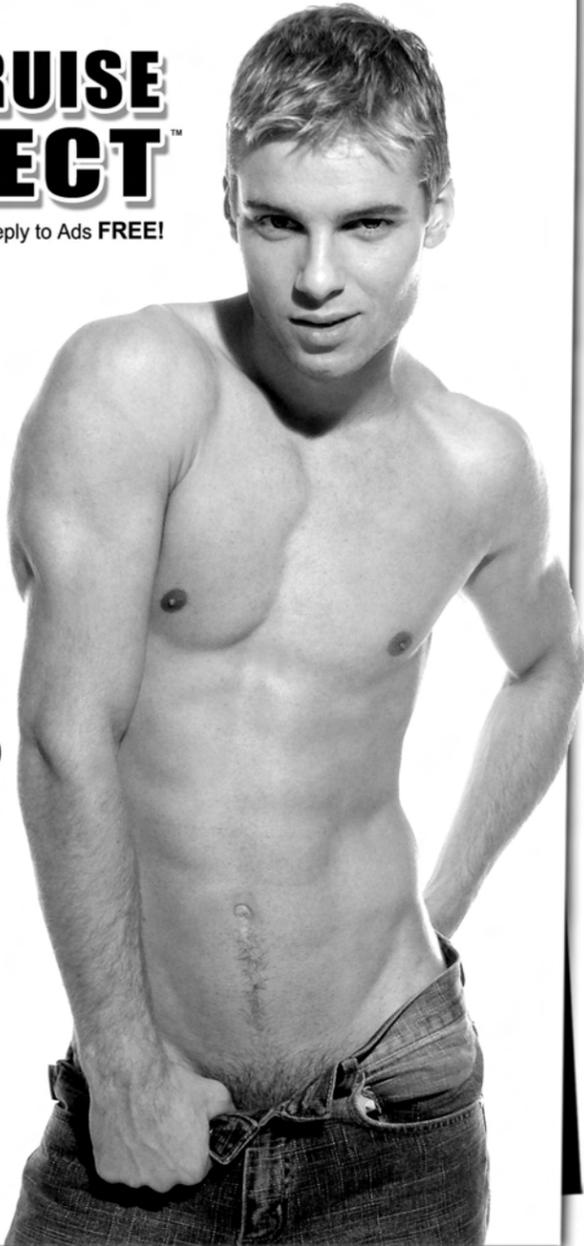
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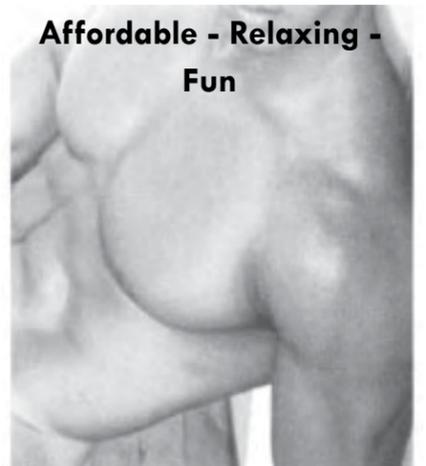
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Call the Anti-Violence Project 24-Hour Crisis Line at 624-0348, or toll-free 1-800-553-9387.



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

[www.wingspan.org](http://www.wingspan.org)

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### Sexually Transmitted Disease

#### Clinic Schedule

Theresa Lee Health Center  
332 S. Freeway  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
(520) 624-8272

|           |                   |
|-----------|-------------------|
| Monday    | 12:30 – 3:30 P.M. |
| Tuesday   | 8:00 – 10:30 A.M. |
| Tuesday   | 12:30 – 3:30 P.M. |
| Wednesday | 12:30 – 3:30 P.M. |
| Thursday  | 4:00 – 6:30 P.M.  |
| Friday    | 12:30 – 3:30 P.M. |

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#### 8th Stop:

#### Ain't Nobody's Biz

2900 E. Broadway  
Friday August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
Time: 7 pm – 10 pm

#### 9th Stop:

#### Woody's

3710 N. Oracle Road  
Wednesday September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
Time: 7 pm – 10 pm

A collaboration of the Pima  
County Health Department and  
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 (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday every month \$2.00).

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

**YARD DOG** - Open daily 8am. 50¢ off any Top Shelf Tequila until 8pm Beer Bust 4-8pm. 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 "Sunnyatta" 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 22

**HOLLYWOOD** - Movie Night - fresh popcorn and hot dogs.

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23 - Thanksgiving

**HOLLYWOOD** - Thanksgiving Dinner is on the 'house' beginning at 67:00 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. No Karaoke Tonight.

**IBT'S** - Opens today at 6:00 p.m. "Boys Night Out" 10:00 p.m. to closing.

**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.

**HOWL AT THE MOON** - Fried Chicken Dinner Special - it's finger-lickin' good!

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25

**HOWL AT THE MOON** - Drag Show performance show with coronation of NCC/USofA Miss New-comer, Tucson's own Knokache'. Show starts at 9:00p.m. \$2.00 Cover.

**WOODY'S** - Bradley's Gay Hypnosis Show. Fun-Comedy-Laughter. 8:00 p.m. \$5.00 Admission. The must-see comedy show. Can you be hypnotized???

## 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. 2-Step lessons with Amanda. Country DJ 8:30 p.m.

## 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.

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7

**HOWL AT THE MOON** - Silver Coyote Holiday Dance and Potluck. 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Dancing, swing, golden oldies, classic country, ballroom and easy listening favorites. Bring a dish to share, celebrate the holidays in a relaxed atmosphere. Non-smoking in the dance area. \$2.00 Cover.

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

**HOWL AT THE MOON** - AGRA Roadrunner promotional Party for the January 13-14 Rodeo in Phoenix.. Dust off your boots.

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

**HOWL AT THE MOON** - "The Bitches Are Back" Reunion Show with Kenneth Blake, Lucinda Holliday, Bunny FuFu and special (surprise) guests.

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

**HOWL AT THE MOON** - "Don We Now Our Gay Apparel" Show 9:00 p.m.

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

**HOWL AT THE MOON** - Make your plans now for New Year's Eve. Food, party favors, country DJ, champagne. More details later.

Got A News Tip?  
Call The  
WEEKLY OBSERVER  
(520) 622-7176  
Or FAX Us At  
(520) 792-8382

# 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. 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, Tucson.

#### YOUNG AND GAY?

GLBT Youth 23 and under, meet every Saturday in Tucson for sharing, support and information. Meetings are held at 425 E. 7th Street from 3 to 4:30 pm. You are not alone. For more info call Wingspan, 624-1779.

The TUCSON Chapter of PRIME TIMERS WORLDWIDE invites Gay or Bisexual men and their admirers to join and share Prime Timers fellowship. We welcome mature men (and admirers) who wish to become involved with planned and future Prime Timers (TPT) activities. Meetings luncheons and dinners are held monthly. For dates, times and information call 298-6727, leave name and phone number. [Tucsonpt@primetimersww.org](mailto:Tucsonpt@primetimersww.org)

#### TUCSON GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO - a social club for bears and bigger, more robust

men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, Call the Bears Hotline (520)790-5775 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910 of visit our website at [www.botop.com](http://www.botop.com) All are welcome to our general meetings/potlucks on the 2nd Friday of every month, at 3202 E. 1<sup>st</sup> 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](http://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](http://www.desertvoices.org), or call (520)791-9662 for information about upcoming concerts or how to join.

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

AA Meeting with HIV/AIDS focus, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., Wingspan Annex, 425 E. 7th 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](http://teamarizona.org)

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

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

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

the third Thursday of every month. Call 615-6436 for more info. [www.tucsonglbtchamber.org](http://www.tucsonglbtchamber.org)

TUCSON PRIDE, INC. (Formerly Tucson Lesbian and Gay Alliance - TLGA) meets on the second 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](http://www.tucsonpride.com)

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

TUCSON INTERFAITH HIV/AIDS NETWORK (TIHAN), a coalition of faith communities committed to a 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](mailto:tyan@theriver.com) and request guidelines.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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](http://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 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m. at Desert Dominion, 3843 E. 37th Street, Tucson, AZ. (Map available at [www.desertdominion.org](http://www.desertdominion.org)) For those who are kinky or just curious. No fee, contributions are appreciated, but not required.

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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://www.wingspan.org)

# End Marginalization Of African American Gays To Combat AIDS, Group Says

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The country's leading African-American lawmakers, civil rights leaders and medical experts called on the federal government Thursday (Nov. 16) to adopt and implement a new blueprint to address the HIV/AIDS crisis in the African-American community reported 365Gay.com. The plan is outlined in a new report, "African Americans, Health Disparities and HIV/AIDS: Recommendations for Confronting the Epidemic in Black America," released by the National Minority AIDS Council (NMAC) in advance of World AIDS Day.

Since the beginning of the HIV/AIDS epidemic 25 years ago, African Americans have been overrepresented among those living with and dying from AIDS the council said. The disease continues to affect African Americans more than any other racial/ethnic group in the United States. Today, African Americans comprise only 13% of the U.S. population but account for over half of all new HIV/AIDS diagnoses. Over 200,000 African Americans have died of AIDS, half a million are now living with HIV and blacks are 10 times more likely than whites to have AIDS.

Confronting this national health disparity is a paramount concern, the council said. "It is a national tragedy that the AIDS crisis has continued unabated in the African-American community for so many years," said Beny Primm, M.D., NMAC's chair emeritus. "There is a danger that we view AIDS as a problem that only affects Africa when it remains a real and growing danger in our own backyard. That kind of complacency is killing people and it has to stop. This plan of action shows us the path forward to reversing this national disparity."

NMAC's report, a comprehensive analysis of the complex social, economic and personal factors that

underpin the black AIDS epidemic, was written by Robert E. Fullilove, Ed.D., Associate Dean for Community and Minority Affairs and Professor at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health. "At this time each year, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention releases new national HIV statistics and we see an ever-increasing toll of AIDS on the African-American community," said Dr. Fullilove. "And each year we ask why AIDS is hitting black Americans hardest. Our analysis identifies the forces that drive the epidemic in black America, and recommends proven, practical and affordable strategies that government must implement without delay to protect the health of African Americans."

The report calls for the elimination of the marginalization of African American men who have sex with men. The African-American MSM is the population hardest hit by HIV, with diagnosis rates twice that among white MSM, the report said. Yet currently there is only one HIV prevention program that has been specifically designed for black MSM. The report calls for investing in research to implement interventions for black MSM is essential to reversing the epidemic in this population. Promoting leadership among black MSM and sustained capacity-building investments in the organizations that serve them is critical, the report noted. Efforts to address homophobia and related stigma, discrimination and violence - all of which increase HIV risk among black MSM - are also needed. The report also calls for a reduction in the impact of incarceration as a driver of new HIV infections. AIDS cases among incarcerated persons are more than three times that of the general population, and African Americans are disproportionately represented in U.S. prisons.

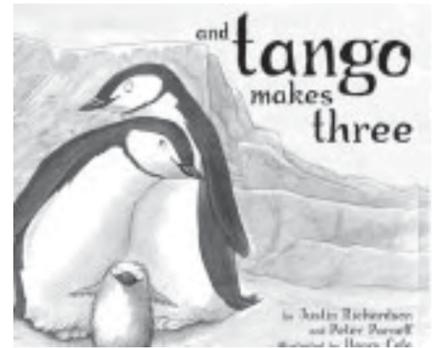
Outdated and inconsistently implemented HIV prevention policies have failed to reduce risk behaviors among prisoners while incarcerated and after their release, the report said. It calls for providing routine, voluntary HIV testing for prisoners upon entry and release; making condoms available in correctional facilities; expanding re-entry programs to help prisoners transition back into society; and ensuring that their HIV prevention, substance abuse, mental health and housing needs are met prior to release are key to stopping HIV's spread in the African-American community. The report also calls for new efforts to reduce drug use, new education programs and making affordable

housing more readily available.

The scarcity of affordable housing faced by many African Americans is at the center of a web of interconnected socioeconomic problems affecting the black community, such as residential segregation, school failure for children and a lack of access to health care, including HIV prevention, diagnosis and treatment services, the report said. Stabilizing black communities by expanding federal housing programs, such as Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA), is central to stemming the African-American AIDS epidemic.

## Parents Miffed At Book With Gay Penguins

SHILOH, Illinois - A popular children's book about two male penguins who raise a baby penguin has raised the ire of parents in this community about 20 miles east of St Louis with demands that it be removed from the bookshelves of a local school, reported 365Gay.com. "And Tango Makes Three," is based on a true story of two male penguins, named Roy and Silo, who adopted an abandoned egg at New York City's Central Park Zoo in the late 1990s.



The book, written by Peter Parnell and Justin Richardson, was moved to the non-fiction sections of Rolling Hills' Consolidated Library's branches in Savannah and St. Joseph in northwest Missouri. Silo and Roy are chinstrap penguins. They set up house-keeping together and for six years were completely devoted to each other and inseparable.

half months they raised Tango, keeping her warm and feeding her food from their beaks until she could go out into the world on her own.

Their chief keeper, Rob Gramzay discovered that the couple put a rock simulating an egg in their nest and sat on it, keeping it warm in the folds of their abdomens. Gramzay finally gave them a fertile egg that needed care to hatch. Things went perfectly. Roy and Silo sat on it for the typical 34 days until a chick, Tango, was born. For the next two and a

Shiloh Elementary School say the book deals with homosexuality and that, they say, is a topic for parents not schools. The school board is resisting calls for the book's removal but parents say they will continue fighting. Zoologists say that it is an over simplification to call the penguins Gay, but exactly what bound the two, and other examples of same-sex relationships among animals remains a mystery. Early last year, after "And Tango Makes Three" was written the penguin couple broke up. For a brief period Roy lived with a female penguin.



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