Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

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Arizona Extends Domestic Partner Benefits To State Employees

PHOENIX (Observer Update) - Equality Arizona celebrated today's decision of the Arizona Governor's Regulatory Review Council (GRRC) to approve a rule granting domestic partner benefits to state employees.

The proposal, which was introduced on November 15, 2007 by the Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA), received widespread support from community members and several organizations. The GRRC approved the rule change by a 4-0 vote.

Equality Arizona has been working in coalition with lawmakers, business leaders and community members for decades to advocate for equal benefits.

Earlier this month Senator Pamela Gorman (R-6) introduced SB 1499 which would have created a legal definition to exclude domestic partners and their children from the definition of "dependent" for the purposes of state employee and retirement benefits. SB 1499 failed by a vote of 16-14.

Equality Arizona Executive Director Barbara McCullough-Jones released the following statement:

"Today's ruling was a defining moment for Arizona. It is because of positive change in social norms, forward thinking lawmakers and progressive companies that we are celebrating a rule change that will have dramatic, positive impact on Arizona's families.

"Throughout Arizona people work every day in state jobs that improve the lives of our residents, ensure public safety, protect the state's interests in water & land, and protect Arizona's families. Today's vote sends a clear message that Arizona values all families regardless of sexual orientation.

"The state of Arizona has gained significant tools to attract and retain the best and brightest employees. Arizona now joins the majority of Fortune 500 companies that offer domestic partner benefits; the more than 140 cities & counties nationwide; and more than 60 percent of the universities that comprise the top 125 institutions in the U.S. News and World Report rankings; 13 states plus the District of Columbia; all Ivy League schools; ten out of the eleven schools that make up the Big Ten; and now ALL PAC Ten universities which we are proud to say now includes the University of Arizona and Arizona State University."

Report Shows 48 Hike In U.S. HIV Cases

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - Reported new HIV infections in the United States increased by 48 percent in 2006 according to new data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 365Gay.com reported.

The stunning figures, in the CDC Surveillance Report, comes in advance of a long anticipated in depth review of HIV infections that was to have been released early this year but is believed to be months away.

The CDC said last December at the HIV Prevention Conference that it was working on new estimation methods but the federal agency has delayed release of the document.

In its Surveillance Report the CDC reported there were 52,878 new HIV infections in 45 states and the District of Columbia for 2006. In 2005, CDC reported only 35,537 new infections in 38 states and the District of Columbia.

The CDC in a statement said that the difference in statistics is the result of additional states being counted and not an increase in actual new diagnoses.

HIV/AIDS groups say that the numbers are alarming, despite an increase in the number of state reporting.

The seven new states for which CDC is reporting HIV data for the first time in 2006 are: California, Delaware, Illinois, Maine, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Washington.

"While there are seven additional states reporting in 2006, this does not account for the 48% jump in new diagnoses," said Marjorie J. Hill, PhD, Chief Executive Officer of Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC).

"These devastating numbers reinforce what we have known for quite some time: that HIV prevention is underfunded and hamstrung by ideological restrictions that force us to fight this epidemic with one hand tied behind our back," Hill said.

In recent months, government data have shown increases in HIV infections among young men who have sex with men and young women in New York City, especially young people of color.

Nationally, HIV is up for MSM and dramatically up among Black MSM. Teen pregnancy rates have also increased for the first time since the early 1990s. Earlier this month, the CDC reported that one quarter of teenage females have a sexually transmitted infection, with nearly half of Black teenage females in the study infected.

Michael Weinstein, President of AIDS Healthcare Foundation, also slammed the CDC report it a "catastrophe".

HIV/AIDS groups have fought for increased prevention funding at CDC.

GMHC said that under the Bush-Cheney administration, funding for prevention at CDC has dropped 19 percent in real dollar terms.

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Media, Military Kept Soldier In Closet After Death

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The death of a Gay soldier in Iraq is drawing renewed attention to how the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy – and the mainstream media – help ensure that Gays stay in the closet, even in death, reported the Washington Blade.

Maj. Alan Rogers, 40, a Gay intelligence officer who served on a military transition team that trained Iraqi soldiers, died Jan. 27 in Baghdad from wounds caused by an improvised explosive device that detonated near him while he was conducting a patrol on his Humvee. He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery on March 14.

For sacrificing his life in the line of duty, the Army posthumously awarded Rogers a Purple Heart and a second Bronze Star.

Tony Smith, a friend of Rogers', described him as "very positive" and "very outgoing." Smith and Rogers worked together in the D.C. chapter of American Veterans for Equal Rights, a group that works to change military policy toward Gays. Rogers was out to friends in the Washington area, but "had to obviously be careful [about being out] to too many people because he was active duty military," Smith said.

Rogers, a D.C. resident since about 2004, entered the Army in 1990 and served in the first Persian Gulf War and was on a second tour of duty in Iraq when he died.

Mainstream media coverage of Rogers' death coincided with the grim milestone of 4,000 U.S. service members killed in Iraq and the five-year anniversary of the invasion. But the media reports about Rogers' death omitted any mention of his sexual orientation. The Washington Post, National Public Radio and the Gainesville Sun, the local newspaper in his hometown of Hampton, Fla., made no mention of his sexual orientation or his involvement with a group that works to overturn "Don't Ask, Don't Tell."

Lynn Medford, Metro editor for the Post, said the newspaper debated whether or not to disclose Rogers' sexual orientation and ultimately decided not to include such information as a matter of ethics. Rogers to some degree "kept his orientation private" and outing him after his death would "take a decision out of his hands," she said. Rogers had no partner and no immediate family to consult with to determine what his wishes would be, Medford noted.

"We had no way of knowing what his wishes were, and that's what we came down and decided on," she said.

Deborah Howell, ombudsman for the Washington Post, reiterated that Post editors decided there was no proof Rogers was Gay and no evidence Rogers would want to be publicly known as Gay after death. The Post has a policy of not mentioning a person's sexual orientation unless it is germane to the story, she said.

"They just felt it was a matter of privacy and they neither knew his wishes nor felt comfortable with [discussing his sexual orientation]," she said.

Karen Voyles, who wrote articles on Rogers for the Gainesville Sun, said she did not include information about Rogers' sexual orientation because she found no evidence that Rogers was Gay.

"It just never came up," she said. "We covered this as a casualty of the war, and that wasn't something that anybody addressed."

Steve Inskeep, who covered Rogers' funeral for National Public Radio, did not return calls seeking comment.

Smith said he thinks it's very important for Rogers' "whole story to get out," including information that he was Gay.

"It's something I know that Alan would want," he said. "I don't know why they decided to leave the story out that he was Gay, but … it saddens me as a Gay veteran myself. It saddens me that part of his life … can't be told."

Both of Rogers' adoptive parents are deceased and he was the only child in the family. His closest living relative is his cousin, Cathy Long, who lives in Florida, sources said.

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UPDATE

Treasures For TIHAN May 3

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Get your tickets for the 11th annual "Treasures for TIHAN," Saturday, May 3, at the Doubletree Reid Park

A sparkling evening of great music, fantastic food, and wonderful auction items to raise funds to support TIHAN's programs and services.

With your help, "Treasures for TIHAN" will raise $100,000, more than 1/3 of TIHAN's annual budget. Tickets for the event are $65 (or $75 at the door), of $32 of which is tax-deductible, and can be purchased by calling (520) 299-6647 or go online to tihan.org.

Tickets On Sale For 21st Annual Reno Gannon Memorial Jell-O Wrestling

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Tickets for the 21st Annual Reno Gannon Memorial Jell-O Wrestling Extravaganza and Benefit Auction are $20 and are on SALE NOW at Woody's and the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF). Don't wait a minute longer to get yours!

The celebration takes place at Woody's, 3710 N Oracle Rd, Sunday, May 4, 2008 starting at 2:00 p.m. and you are invited!

And don't forget to purchase your raffle tickets for a chance to win a "Trip to Vegas, Baby!" This one-of-a-kind raffle prize is guaranteed to delight everyone with a 3 day/2 night stay at the Flamingo Hotel & Casino, a $200 dinner gift certificate for Emeril's New Orleans Fish House, 2 - two-day adult Power Passes, and a $300 travel gift certificate. The trip is valued at $1,000 - and you can have your chance at all of this with just a $1 raffle ticket. For more information on wrestling, raffle, or entrance to the party visit jello-wrestling.org or contact Jess at (520) 628-7223 or events@saaf.org. Proceeds benefit the programs and services of the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF).

Desert Voices 'This I Believe' April 19-20

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Desert Voices finalizes its season of "Hats" with This I Believe on Saturday, April 19, at 7:30 pm and on Sunday, April 20, at 2:00 pm at the Proscenium Theatre, Pima Campus West, 2202 West Anklam Road.

Desert Voices' season of "Hats" began in November with the "Hats" we wear to pay our bills, feed our families, put roofs over our heads. They continued in February with the "Hats" as they wear when performing and entertain ourselves and others, and now presenting the "Hats" worn when in the presence of the divine, no matter what form that may take. Artistic director Chris Tackett said, "With our usual sense of humor and irreverence we look at what we believe and how we came to believe it. Beautiful songs of faith and hope from many different traditions will be interwoven with our personal stories to create an evening that will make you laugh, cry and think."

Ticket prices are $18 in advance; $20 at the door. Seniors and students are $12. There are special rates for groups of 6 or more. For additional information or to purchase tickets, call the Desert Voices Box Office, (520) 791-9662. Tickets are also available at Antigones on 4th Avenue and from any chorus member. Desert Voices accepts Visa and Master Card.

IFGE 22nd Annual Conference: "Toward A Greater Diversity", Through April 5

TUCSON (Observer Update) - The International Foundation for Gender Education (IFGE) brings its 22nd annual conference to Arizona for the first time.

Seminars of interest to Transgender people as well as service providers, medical personnel, law enforcement and first responders, political strategists, families, students, journalists, supportive allies, and the general public. CEUs available. Social activities and entertainment. Keynote address by author Jamison Green; appearances by Mayor Walkup and Congressman Raul Grijalva. Wingspan's Southern Arizona Gender Alliance is the local host committee. Details and registration at transeventsusa.org/

When: Through Saturday, April 5. Cost: Varies per registration package. Don't miss these FREE IFGE Events: Friday Late-Night: Cantina Jam! Saturday 10:00 a.m.: Town Hall Meeting: How did Tucson get to be such an accepting Community? Thurs-Sat: Trans-Friendly HIV Testing. Entertainment by namoli brennet, Stevie Gold, Dragstar Cabaret, Too Much Information, and the world premier of part of Martie van der Voort's one-actor show, "TransFormations." For more information contact Erin Russ, (520) 624-1779. E-mail:eruss@wingspan.org.

ATC's 'The Clean House', April 5-26

TUCSON (Observer Update) - The Arizona Theatre Company will be proudly presenting the Clean House, by Sarah Ruhl, April 5-26.

Matilde is the child of the two funniest people in Brazil. She has gotten a job as a cleaning woman for an American doctor with no sense of humor - which doesn't really matter since all her jokes are in Portuguese anyway. And even though she's a complete failure at dusting, ironing and vacuuming, she is still a catalyst for cleaning up the lives of the people she meets. The Clean House is a mischievously comic look at the dark secrets we sweep under the rug. This off-Broadway hit was written by Sarah Ruhl, who this year was a McArthur Genius Award-winner and is one of the brightest new playwriting talents of the American stage. The New York Times called it, "One of the finest and funniest new plays you're likely to see this season ... a play that keeps revealing surprising insights, whimsical images and layers of rich feeling as it goes along." Contains mature themes and language.

For tickets for the Tucson performances, go online to aztheatreco.org/index.html?topbar.html&0. If you have technical difficulties, call the Arizona Theatre Company Tucson box office, (520) 622-2823.

National Stonewall Democrats In Tucson May 8-11

TUCSON (Observer Update) - The Southern Arizona Stonewall Democrats have announced that they will be hosting the National Stonewall Democrats on May 8 -11, 2008 for a conference and Board meeting at the newly remodeled Holiday Inn Airport at 4550 South Palo Verde.

This conference will feature training programs designed for Democrats locally, state-wide and nationally, including topics involving media, fundraising, organizing campaigns, and youth programs. Friday night's (May 8) reception will be hosted by the City of Tucson's City Council, all members of Stonewall Democrats. During our banquet, we'll hear from keynote speaker Governor Barbara Roberts of Oregon. Special recognition awards will be presented. Saturday night begins with dinner at several local LGBT owned/friendly restaurants (Pastiche, Rio and Raz). Bus transportation provided. A Black & White Ball follows including costumes from tuxedos and gowns, leather and lace, or jeans and t-shirts. We only request the wearing of black and/or white. Sunday will feature a Mother's Day brunch at Colors Restaurant.

A private reception will be held on Thursday evening with Oregon's Governor Roberts for major donors and the Board members of the National Stonewall Democrats and the Southern Arizona Stonewall Democrats. If you are interested in becoming a major donor, please contact Les Krambeal, Co-Chair of the Stonewall Democrats and Region 7 Director, National Stonewall Democrats at leskrambeal@yahoo.com. Party officials from across the country will attend the conference. Join with the Southern Arizona Stonewall Democrats and make this a very special event. For more information about the Southern Arizona Stonewall Democrats contact Co-chair Brenda Nowlan at sasdtucson@yahoo.com and for more information about the National Stonewall Democrats visit their web site at stonewalldemocrats.org.

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UPDATE

Twilight Of The Golds, April 4-26

TUCSON - If your parents knew everything about you before you were born, would you be here?

That is the question posed in this provocative drama. All is well when Suzanne Gold and her close New York family discover that she is pregnant, until a prenatal test reveals that the baby will be born with a "specific" Gay gene. The news forces the entire Gold family to confront issues of bigotry, evolution and the limits of love.

Twilight of the Golds will premiere at the Catalina Players Theater Academy Hall, 6653 E. Carondelet. For more information and tickets, go online to catalinaplayers.org.

An Evening Of Music And Friends April18

TUCSON (Observer Update) - One of Tucson's premiere social events, the LGBT-Straight Alliance Fund's "Evening of Music and Friends" will take place on April 18.

Join MC Ernesto Portillo of the Arizona Daily Star for a gala evening of music, food, wine, and companionship at the stunning home of Randy Soderstrom and Steve Quinlan. The evening celebrates another successful year of philanthropy by the Alliance Fund, a unique coalition of LGBT and straight allies and friends.

Information about the evening and reservations are available from Randy Soderstrom, (520) 471-0966, or Doug Noffsinger, douglas.noffsinger@comcast.net Space is limited and reservations are suggested.

Observer Community Notice Page Update

TUCSON (Observer Update) Readers of the print and online editions of this publication will notice changes in the Community Notice Page.

Expired ads are now removed as well as redundant notices, and items for fee based programs or groups.

Notices or advertisements accepted for this page will be required to have the following: A working phone number or valid E-mail address. Descriptions of thirty words or less of the group or purpose or intent. People can attend meetings or events for the group with no fees connected. Submissions for profit-businesses will not be accepted.

These notices will be reviewed on a monthly periodic basis. Send submissions to info@tucsonobserver.com.

Utah Student Protests Use Of Lesbian's Comic Novel

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah (Observer Update) - A book by Lesbian artist Alison Bechdel being used in an English class at the University of Utah is generating controversy. Time Magazine voted it the book of the year, but some students are calling it pornographic and asking it be removed from their curriculum.

Thomas Alvord, with the group "No More Pornography," says, "The issue is exposing people to pornography." The issue is with "Fun Home," a book assigned for reading in a mid-level English class at the University of Utah. The class introduces students to different literary genres.

In the case of "Fun Home," it's told in the style of a comic book. The story centers around the author as she comes to terms with her own and her father's homosexuality. Drawings depicting sex acts are included in the 230 page novel.

Briefly

A Gay Wisconsin man has settled a civil lawsuit against one of two men he alleges attacked him for being Gay, the Associated Press reported. Brett Timmerman, as a student at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, went to a local sandwich shop in July 2005. According to the suit, Oden Waite and Enove Urias approached him, making homophobic remarks. One then put Timmerman in a headlock and took him to the ground. Timmerman said Waite spit on him twice. Timmerman's attorney told the AP he reached a deal with Waite's attorneys, but the settlement terms will remain secret.The lawsuit against Urias is pending. ...

A New York appeals court has vacated the ruling of a lower court that a Gay man was not entitled to spousal health insurance benefits even though he and his spouse were lawfully married in Canada. Duke Funderburke, 72, married his partner of 42 years, Brad Davis, 67, in October of 2004 in a ceremony in Ontario, Canada. Funderburke was a teacher at the Uniondale Union Free School District in Nassau County for over 20 years before retiring in 1986. When Funderburke requested that his retirement health benefits be extended to his spouse, just as benefits are extended to other married retirees, the school district refused. While the department's agreement resolved the pension issue itself, Lambda in its appeal argued that the lower court's decision still technically stood and creates confusion about the status of the couple's marriage and of State law. The appeals court agreed. "The decision from the appellate court wipes the lower court ruling off the books," said Susan Sommer, Senior Counsel at Lambda Legal. Even though New York State recognizes same-sex marriages performed in areas where they are legal, Gay and Lesbian couples cannot marry in New York.

1N10 Theatre Program Hits The Stage

PHOENIX - QSpeak Theatre is a program of 1n10, Inc - the valley's only nonprofit organization serving the complex needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) youth ages 14-22. Now in its third season, QSpeak Theatre provides LGBTQ youth and their cool straight allies a unique and innovative approach to raising their own voices about issues and concerns facing them each day. Using the power of true stories and experiences of youth living across the valley, QSpeak participants bring a greater awareness to youth needs and provide education for all communities.

This year the program wants to mix it up by layering fairy tale elements over true stories and experiences to cut against the common misperception that "gay kids have it so much easier these days." Join them as they follow Hero's journey with his Fairy Dragmother through a land of LGBTQ youth and cool allies who are struggling with just being teenagers, and who want all of us to realize that being gay is only a small part of the rest of "My So Called Fairy Tale Life."

"My So Called Fairy Tale Life" plays May 1-3, 7:30 p.m. at South Mountain Community College, Performing Arts Center Studio Theatre. Free student only matinee on Sunday, May 4 at 2:00 p.m. This production is offered as a feature of the Phoenix Fringe Festival. To purchase tickets to QSpeak Theatre, please visit brownpapertickets.com/event/31996 For more information about the Phoenix Fringe Festival visit phxfringe.org.

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In Memoriam

TUCSON - It is with great sadness that we report that Jim Valiton, community activist and leader in the GLBT and HIV communities, passed away on Saturday, March 29, 2008 at the age of 53.

IN MEMORIAM: JIM VALITON

In addition to great memories and friendships, Jim leaves us with a legacy of his many contributions, including leadership on the City of Tucson Commission on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Issues; the Men's Social Network (a networking group that offers a variety of alcohol-free social activities throughout the year); and the Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIIHAN), where he served on staff for over three years. Forced to retire due to medical issues in 2002, Jim continued to be active in a volunteer capacity. Even in the weeks before his passing, Jim wrote a review of the restaurant where TIHAN's weekly breakfast program is served, and he was in the midst of devoting his volunteer time helping with tax preparations for TIHAN clients to ensure they would receive their economic stimulus payments.

Jim was a longtime survivor of HIV (more than 20 years), and a medical miracle. Despite living for many years with advanced HIV disease and cardiac issues, Jim continued to stay as active as possible, always helping others. Even with his limited mobility, diminished hearing, and constant pain, Jim lived courageously and valiantly. He passed away peacefully on a weekend camping trip, one of the things he most loved to do. Jim was a man of many talents, and his expertise covered many areas–computers, sewing, tax preparation, electronics, pinochle, cooking, electrical engineering, camping, HIV disease, advocacy, bookkeeping, and so many other areas. He excelled at sharing his skills and expertise with others. Raised on a ranch in Montana, Jim also lived in Spokane, Washington, as well as Stockton and Pleasanton, California

During his tenure with TIHAN, Jim was instrumental in helping the fledgling organization to grow and thrive, and he was recognized with a special award for his lifetime contributions to TIHAN and people living with HIV. He received many other recognitions as well. In January 2002, he was chosen to help carry the Olympic Torch through Tucson, the only known person living with HIV to do so as the Olympic Torch Relay made its way across the United States in preparation for the Salt Lake City Olympic Games.

Jim always spoke proudly of those who inspired him along the way, crediting his doctors, medical staff, and researchers who are making great progress in medical treatment, as well as his many brothers and sisters who are also living with HIV, and the countless volunteers who dedicate part of their lives to make a difference. "I hope that, just as other people have inspired me to continue to walk this journey, I want to inspire others with my message that people living with HIV and AIDS can overcome hardships and obstacles and make a real difference in the world," he said in 2002.

"During my segment of the [Olympic] torch run, I'm just going to focus on putting one foot in front of the other, and that's how I've had to live my life since I found out I have HIV. You never know what life will bring you, and you just have to accept your circumstances and move forward."

That philosophy, Jim said, helped him to overcome hurdles in the past and be able to continue his journey forward, knowing that through taking one step at a time, and sometimes very small steps, he could make it through anything. "It's the people who I am surrounded by in my life that make it possible for me to keep taking those steps into whatever tomorrow will bring me," he said. Jim was fortunate to be surrounded by so many wonderful people in his life, and we were amazingly blessed to have him with us.

Jim is survived by his longtime partner Dave Fredricks, his sister Mary Emerson, friends Kitty Tobin and Mary Beth Barone, and hundreds of friends and loved ones. A gathering in celebration of Jim's life is being planned, and is tentatively scheduled for mid-May. Details will be forthcoming. Jim's partner Dave has requested that gifts in memory of Jim be made to TIHAN, 1011 North Craycroft #301, Tucson, Arizona 85711 (tihan.org) so that the important work of AIDS awareness and support services can live on in memory of Jim.

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Media, Military Kept Soldier In Closet After Death

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Major Alan Rogers

An intermediary said Long did not want to comment for this article.

Donna St. George, a Post staff writer who wrote about Rogers' funeral, said she received an e-mail from an Army casualty of icer stating that the deceased's family was "nervous" about how Rogers was going to be portrayed in the Post article. The casualty officer did not mention the word "Gay" or the phrase "sexual orientation" in the e-mail, St. George said. A decision had already been made about how the Post would handle Rogers' sexual orientation by the time the e-mail was received, although the article was not yet published, she said.

Shari Lawrence, spokesperson for Army human resources, did not return calls seeking comment.

Galen Grant, a retired Army captain and psychologist at a Department of Veterans Affairs clinic in South Carolina, said that although the military "is proud to flaunt [Rogers] as one of the soldiers, they want it kept secret that he was Gay."

Rogers intended to stay in the Army until he retired, Grant said.

Rogers' friends say that he was devoted both to his duties as a soldier and efforts to change military policy. For a time starting in October 2004, Rogers served as treasurer of the D.C. chapter of American Veterans for Equal Rights.

Smith said Rogers was "very active in the group" and involved in social events and community outreach projects.

"Whenever he came into a room, his presence … immediately lifted the environment and the spirits of everyone," Smith said.

Smith said Rogers was "someone who loved being in the Army."

"He was a soldier before anything else," he said. "He loved serving his country."

Smith said he received an e-mail from Rogers Jan. 26 – the day before he died. Rogers recalled some good times he had with D.C. friends and asked about other friends who were serving overseas, Smith said.

More than 100 mourners attended Rogers' funeral and were a "mix of people from all over the world," Smith said.

Patrick High, another Rogers friend and a Gay former Army medical service officer, said Rogers was a "caring soul" and "selfless in everything that he did."

High said he and Rogers communicated while Rogers was in Iraq. Rogers was more interested in learning about High's work instead of talking about his own duties.

"He was just asking me more about my research and my getting a job … as opposed to anything that he was doing in Iraq," High said.

Rogers and High would often go to Nation, a Gay club in D.C., when it was still around, High said.

The recently deceased officer was out to some troops who served alongside him, High said.

In 2005, Rogers earned his master's degree in policy management at Georgetown University. The Army officer also earned a bachelor's degree in theology from University of Florida.

Mark Nadel, a visiting George-town professor who was Rogers' thesis adviser, said Rogers was an excellent student and a knowledgeable participant in class.

Rogers' thesis examined how the U.S. military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy affected recruitment and retention for military officers. Rogers received an "A" for his work.

Grant said Rogers was bright, intelligent and "a good-looking guy, too." "He wasn't like real charismatic and stuff like that, but people were drawn to him because he was just a great guy," she said. "Everyone wants to have at least one friend like him because he's the guy you can always count on."

Grant was president of the D.C. chapter of the American Veterans for Equal Rights while Rogers was treasurer. Grant said the organization trusted him with its money, but she "would have trusted him with [her] life at any time."

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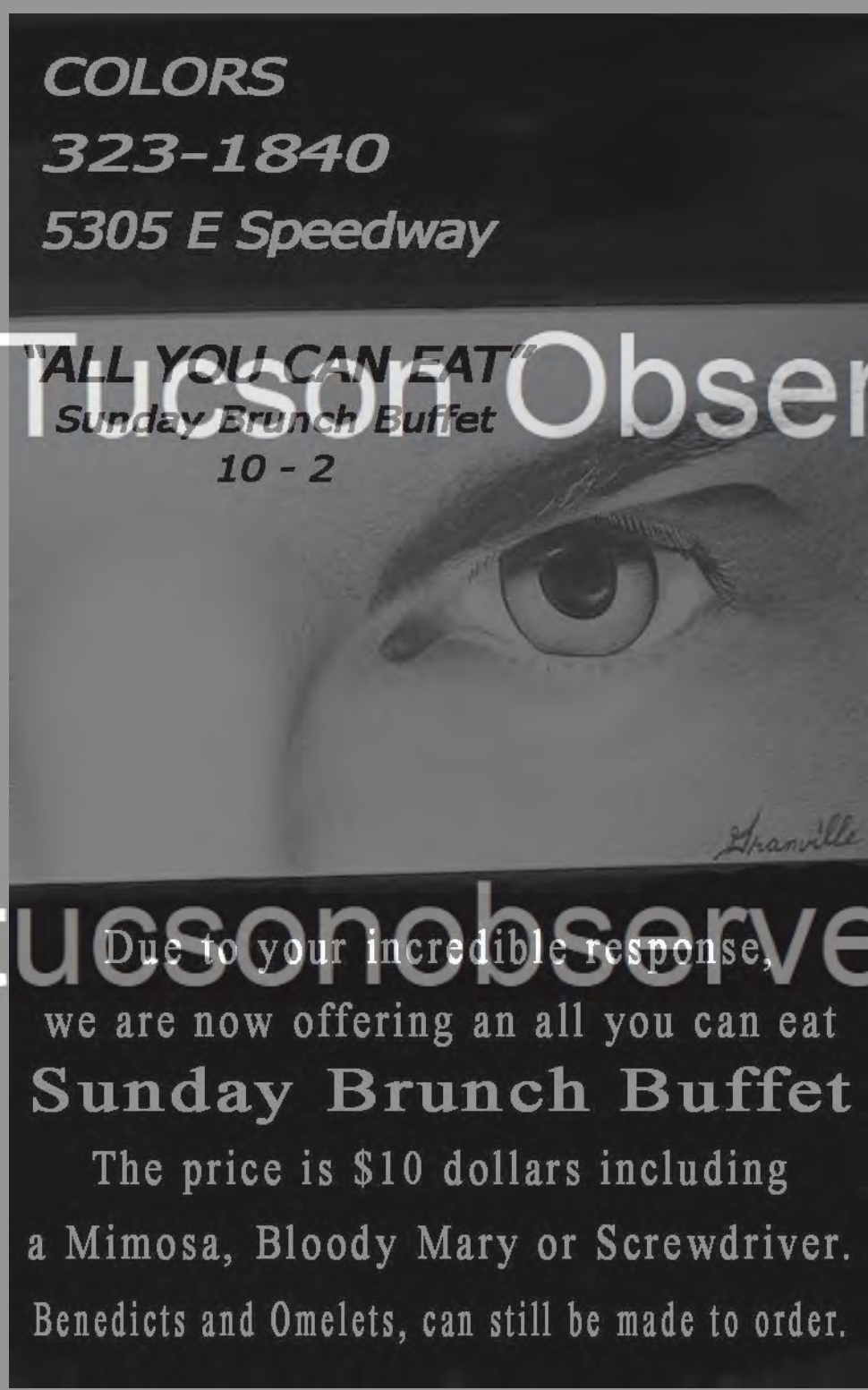

COMMENTARY. . . .

By Deb Price

Lesbian Idealist Fights For Undiluted Protections

By Deb Price

MADISON, Wisconson (Observer Update) - Middle-schooler Tammy Baldwin faced a problem: A lady complained that students trampled her flowers on their way to school.

So student council member Baldwin worked with kids on an outreach team to fence the flowerbed. Solving problems is in her "never doubt" DNA.

This year, Baldwin marks her 10th year as the gentle lady from Madison. She was both the first Wisconsin woman and the first person who ran openly Gay elected to Congress.

With the only other openly Gay and Lesbian member of Congress, Democrat Barney Frank, turning 68 and now thriving as a committee chairman, the 46-year-old Baldwin may be the Gay community's best shot at having an openly Gay or Lesbian senator in a decade or so.

The Democratic congresswoman finds herself for the first time in the party that controls the House. Her overriding political passion hasn't changed – passing universal health care.

But being in the majority opens new possibilities to improve the lot of Gay Americans. Fortunately for those of us who're Gay, Baldwin's girlhood idealism is in full bloom.

She's pushing to extend partner benefits to federal workers. With allies, she is slowly changing the State Department. By taking her partner of 11 years, Lauren Azar, to congressional events, she reminds colleagues that anti-Gay policies hurt someone they care about.

But no example is more valiant than her attempt to keep transgender protections in legislation to protect Gay workers from discrimination. After losing that round, Baldwin promised trans people: "You are not forgotten. And our job will not be finished until you, too, share fully in the American dream."

Baldwin acknowledges frustration, but views this session as a "rehearsal" before a Gay-friendly Democrat wins the White House. Since Democrats took control after the 2006 elections, the House and Senate have passed hate crimes bills with Gay and trans protections and the House passed Gay job protections

Tammy Baldwin

"The issues have gotten their first real airing in well over a decade," Baldwin says. "That's a step forward. And there's a value in members in tough districts having taken these votes. When they survive re-election, they can come back with more courage."

"Never doubt" has become Baldwin's mantra. But she reminds us that dreams must be followed by courageous acts.

"There will not be a magic day when we wake up and it's now OK to express ourselves publicly," she says. "We make that day by doing things publicly until it's simply the way things are."

The girl who sewed her own dress for her first day of school has blossomed into an inspiring woman. Never doubt how much more she will achieve.

(Deb Price is a columnist for the Detroit News, from which this is reprinted from pageoneq.com.)

Castro Daughter Champions Gay Rights

HAVANA, Cuba (Observer Update) - Mariela Castro, Raul's daughter, is the head of the National Center for Sex Education.

The proposed legislation would recognize same-sex unions, including inheritance rights, allow free gender-reassignment operations for transgender people, and allow transgender people to change their identification records without first having to undergo surgery. The bill, however, does not allow adoption for Gay couples, nor does it push for marriage equality. "

A lot of homosexual couples asked me to not risk delaying getting the law passed by insisting on the word marriage," she said, according to BBC News. "In Cuba marriage is not as important as the family, and at least this way we can guarantee the personal and inheritance rights of homosexuals and transsexuals."

Raul Castro's daughter, Mariela

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Supreme Court Case Could Impact Phelps' Push For Anti-Gay Statue

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - The Supreme Court has agreed to consider a free speech case in which a church wants to place a religious monument in a park, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com.

Officials in Pleasant Grove City, Utah, asked the court to step into the lawsuit brought by the religious group known as Summum, saying that if the group prevails, governments would be inundated with demands to display donated monuments.

The dispute stems from Pleasant Grove City's refusal to allow the display of a "Seven Aphorisms of Summum" monument in the same park that is the home for a Ten Commandments monument donated by the Fraternal Order of Eagles 47 years ago.

At issue is whether a donated monument displayed by a municipality remains the private speech of the original donor, or is government speech; and whether placing donated monuments in a government-owned park creates a public forum or whether the government retains authority to select which monuments to display.

The 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver ruled that monument remains the private speech of the donor and that the park is a public forum.

"Government bodies are now sitting targets for demands that they grant 'equal access' to whatever comparable monuments a given group wishes to have installed, be it Summum's Seven Aphorisms, an atheist group's Monument to Freethought or Rev. Fred Phelps's denunciations of homosexual persons," lawyers for Pleasant Grove City wrote in asking the Supreme Court to intervene.

In response, the church says government bodies always have the option of banning display of all privately donated monuments. Pleasant Grove City has treated donated items as private speech for decades, said the religious group,

Summum, a Latin term meaning the sum total of all creation, was founded in 1975 and is headquartered in Salt Lake City. The Seven Aphorisms refer to a notion that when Moses received stone tablets on Mount Sinai inscribed with writings made by a divine being, he actually received two separate sets of tablets - the Seven Aphorisms and the Ten Commandments.

Gay Couple Teaches Tolerance In Poland

WARSAW, Poland (Observer Update) - A married Gay New York City couple have become the darlings of the Polish media since arriving in the country on the weekend. Brendan Fay and Tom Moulton were unknown in Poland until it was discovered they were the couple whose wedding pictures were illegally used by Lech Kaczynski last week to warn that ratifying a European Union treaty would lead to the forced legalization Gay marriage.

When Fay found that the pictures were used without his or Moulton's permission he filed a formal complaint with the Polish consulate in New York. Kaczynski used the pictures in his conservative Law and Order Party's campaign against the European Union's proposed charter of rights, called the Lisbon Treaty, during a national broadcast. Fey and Moulton were legally married in Toronto in 2003. It was not clear where Kaczynski obtained the picture. The Law and Order Party, led by Kaczynski's twin brother lost the last Parliamentary election to the more moderate Civic Platform Party which supports ratification of the charter. Nevertheless, Law and Order has been able so far to hold up the charter. In Warsaw, Prime Minister Donald Tusk denounced President Kaczynski's use of the photos. Before becoming President Kaczynski was mayor of Warsaw where he rejected Gay pride parade applications from 2004 to 2006.

The trip to Warsaw was paid for by TVN - a private television station. Reporters and camera crews were on the ground when the plane landed and have been following them ever since in what Polish Gay rights advocates say it the biggest bonanza for LGBT in the country's history. Fay and Moulton, met with Ryszard Kalisz, the head of the parliamentary committee on human rights in Poland and a leading member of the left of center coalition. At a news conference Moulton said that he and Fay were impressed with the reception they've received. "I want to reiterate that we feel comforted by the Polish people who feel badly how our images have been used. We come here in the hope of opening a dialogue with a community that may have not had much voice and that will make Poland a better place. The issue here is about equality."

But the right and left oppose same-sex marriage in Poland, but Tusk's party would grant some limited rights to Gay couples. Tusk and Kaczynski have been locked in a battle over ratification of the EU treaty with Kaczynski pushing for a national referendum. On the President gave in to pressure, allowing for a Parliamentary vote where the measure is expected to pass.

PA. Mayor Holds Commitment Ceremony For Four G/L Couples

STATE COLLEGE, Pennsylvania - Mayor Bill Welch presided over a commitment ceremony for four Gay couples, even though the state does not legally recognize same-sex marriages or civil unions.

More than 500 people cheered after the ceremony, which looked very much like a wedding, at Penn State University's Alumni Hall. Two groups protested the event, which was organized by a group of Penn State graduate students to start the annual Pride Week for Gay, bisexual and transgender students.

The couples – Frank Vasquez and Paul Datti, James Collins and Ryan Fitzpatrick, Kat Sinclair and Delia Guzman, and Amanda Applegate and Donna Coffman – exchanged vows and rings, and sealed their pledges with a kiss.

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COMMENTARY. . .

by John Corvino

The Sins Of Sodom

Though it may sound perverse, I get excited whenever religious fundamentalists speak up during the Q&A portion of my public events. While fundamentalists are hardly a dying breed, they seldom participate in such functions. And though I find their silence generally pleasing, it does rob me of what we college professors like to call "teaching moments."

So I was pleased when, at a debate in St. Louis, Missouri, last week, an audience member concluded an anti-Gay tirade with, "Haven't you ever heard of the Sodom and Gomorrah story?!"

You see, I had actually read the Sodom and Gomorrah story the evening before–out loud, to a Detroit audience. If you've never actually read the story, find a bible and read Genesis 19 (it's near the beginning). You may be in for a surprise.

A quick summary: two angels come to Sodom and Gomorrah, and Abraham's nephew Lot invites them into his home. An angry mob surrounds the door and demands, "Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us, so that we may know them." Lot protests, offering them his virgin daughters instead. (Yes, you read that right.) But the mob keeps pressing for the visiting angels, who suddenly strike them blind. The angels then lead Lot and his family to safety, and the Lord rains fire and brimstone on the cities.

Most scholars take the mob's demand to "know" the visitors in a sexual (i.e. "biblical") sense. Assuming they're right, this oft-cited story is about an attempted gang rape. I'm going to go out on a limb here and say that gang rape is BAD. But what does that have to do with homosexuality?

At this point fundamentalists will point to the fact that the mob declined Lot's offer of his daughters, instead demanding the (male) visitors. "Aha," they say. This proves that the story is about homosexuality!"

I always find this response surprising, since Lot's offer of his daughters is an embarrassing detail of the text–for fundamentalists. Lot is supposed to be the hero of the story, renowned for his virtue. When faced with a mob of angry rapists, what does he do? Why, he does what any upstanding man would do. He offers them his virgin daughters. If you ever want an example of the bible portraying women as expendable property, you need look no further than the Sodom and Gomorrah story.

Some biblical scholars have suggested that the true sin of Sodom is inhospitality. Inhospitality? Failing to offer visitors a drink, after they've traveled a long way to see you, is inhospitality. Trying to gang rape them is quite another matter. (And let's not forget about offering them your daughters, which apparently is biblical good form.)

Lest you think Lot's offer is a quirk, a strikingly similar story occurs at Judges 19. In this story, an angry mob demands to "know" visitors, and the host offers both his virgin daughter and his guest's concubine. As in the Sodom story, the mob declines the women and keeps pressing for the visitor. This time, however, the guest tosses his concubine outside and closes the door. (Again, he's supposed to be one of the good guys.) The mob violently rapes her until morning, when she finally collapses dead.

The lessons to be drawn here are several. First, most people who cite the bible against homosexuality have little idea of what it says. Either that, or they have a rather strange moral sense. A story where the bad guys attempt gang rape and the good guys offer them their daughters is supposed to teach us what, exactly?

Second, the bible contains some pretty wacky stuff. This isn't news to those who study it carefully, but it does surprise the casual reader. For example, later in Genesis 19 Lot's daughters get him drunk, have sex with him, and bear his children/grandchildren, without eliciting the slightest objection from the brimstone-wielding God.

After I explained all of this to my questioner in St. Louis, my debate opponent (Glenn Stanton of Focus on the Family) interjected that the bible contains more salient references to homosexuality than the Sodom story. This is undoubtedly true, but it misses the point. The point is that the bible reflects the moral prejudices and limitations of those who wrote and assembled it. Genesis 19 makes that abundantly clear (as do passages regarding slavery, and numerous others).

Once you grant that point, you can't settle moral claims merely by appealing to the fact that "the bible says so." The bible says lots of things–some true, some false, and some downright bizarre.

So when fundamentalists quote the bible at my events, I don't try to silence them. On the contrary, I ask them to continue reading.

(John Corvino is a writer, speaker, and philosophy professor at Wayne State University in Detroit. His column "The Gay Moralist" appears bi-weekly at 365Gay.com. His writing has been featured in Between the Lines (Michigan's GLBT weekly), at the online Independent Gay Forum and in numerous academic journals and anthologies. For over 15 years he has been presenting his lecture "What's Morally Wrong With Homosexuality?" to university audiences around the country. To buy the DVD or to learn more about him, visit JohnCorvino.com.)

Good News (Sort Of) For The Southwest

By Jimmy Petrol

While the Southwestern United States has become the New Mecca for modern Sun worshipers, what the region has in buckets is sunshine, not water. But bucket for bucket, the Southwest cannot provide sunshine and water to an unlimited population.

One need look no further than other desert regions of the same planet (earth) to see the eventual effects of too many people and too little water.

All this is bad news for the developers (who can live anywhere they want), to be sure, as cities and states in the region begin to be forced to vet new developments based on available water, not sunshine and land. Nevertheless, the Southwest is loathe to forgo the economic benefits it reaps with every new 'sunshine soldier'. When push comes to shove, cities vote against draconian water measures as soon as the opposition mentions lost jobs, less money.

The worst news is for the residents whose wealth is buried in their homes. For these people, who cannot simply pick up and move unless they can sell the McMansion, McHovel or McDump, the promise of buckets of water without reason may become catastrophic.

The plunge into water-poverty often comes to a desert region suddenly, the result of factors that form a silent caucus and get to work all at once. These conditions are being warned of by universities but the water mavens protest strongly. It seems that where science is involved, universities carry less weight than when coaches are canvassed. Government water boards assure us that these factors are unlikely to combine and plunge the region into water failure.

The problem with the attitude that 'science will find a way' while nattering on about the quality of scientific warnings is self evident and it can't have it both ways.

All that needs to be done, Tucson Water mentions at the end of a long list is to find 'new sources of water' to support projected growth. Burying this at the end of sensible suggestions for conservation shows a brilliant style of thinking that will be called upon strongly to provide these mysterious new water sources.

Los Angeles faced a similar situation after allowing unfettered growth in the last century and simply popped upstream a bit and diverted a watershed to feed the lawns, pools and thirsts. It is unlikely that this type of save can be had for the Southwest, as the effects of this type of engineering have been proved to be unacceptable.

The problem, though, with unacceptable results is that they tend to become acceptable right away when jobs and money are at risk. It is most likely, in view of historical evidence, that it is not the ostrich-like populations of the Southwest that will suffer most, but rather whatever region water is eventually diverted from to feed it.

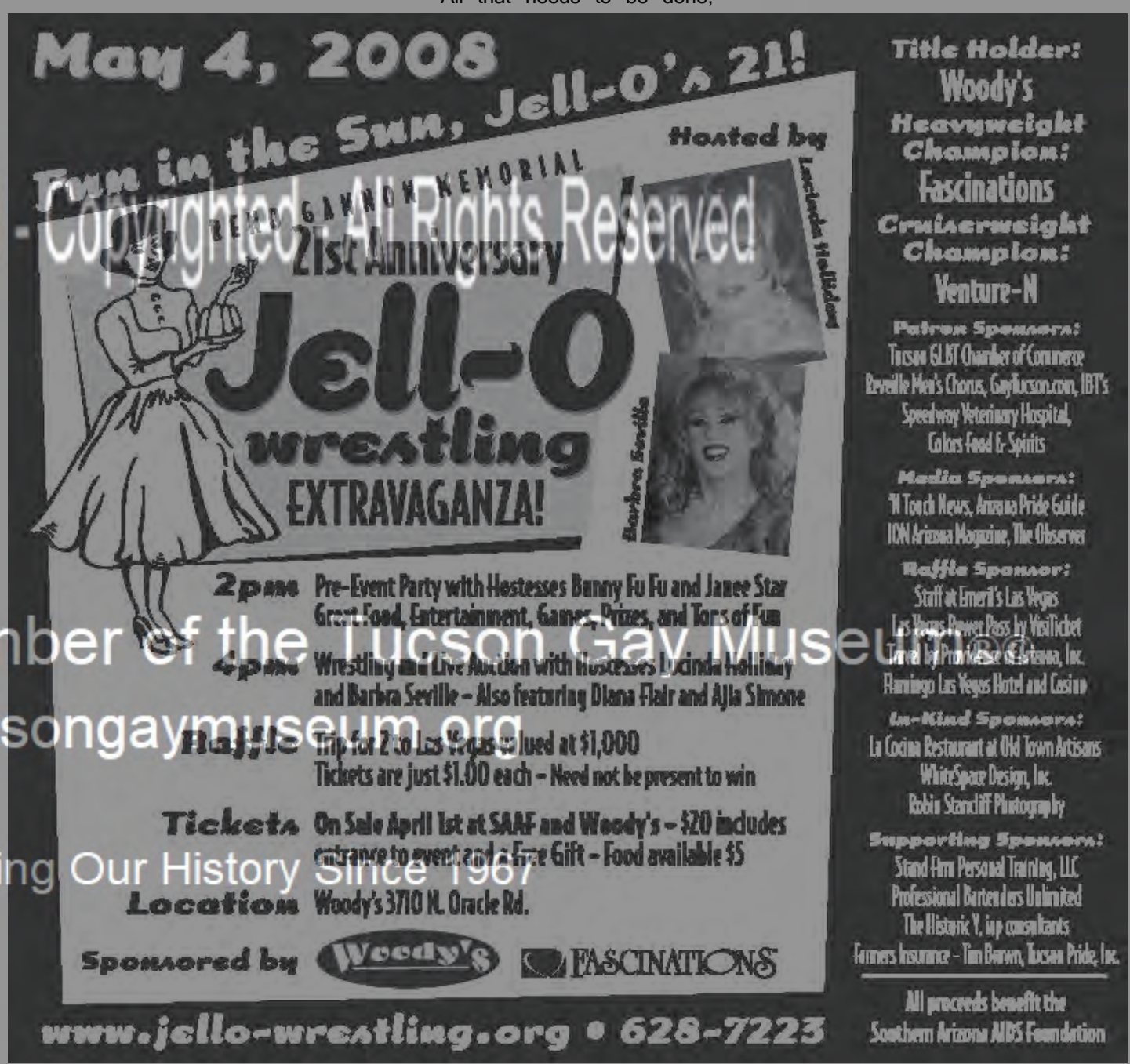
There is little doubt of the outcome when the giant voting block that is the Southwest turns it's thirsty maw toward other water sources, such as the Columbia and the Klammath. In America, the majority rules, even when that majority might have known and should have done differently.

The upshot for real-estate investors of the minor type, the homeowner, is mixed. On one hand, there is bound to be a period when houses in the Southwest are even harder to sell than they are today, there is the promise of a bright future once these 'new sources of water' have been found.

At that point of course, the less fortunate and less numerous residents of the Pacific Northwest will want to move along quietly, lest they be forced to view the desertification of a once lush region, as did the former residents of the Owens Valley.

There is another solution, of course, and one which is perhaps even more likely to be pursued, given American acceptance of the process of making war

Continued on Page Nine



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POLITICS 2008

by Mark R. Kerr

Arizona Legislative Update

While the state teeters toward an economic cataclysmic precipice, state legislative leaders continue their current session of the Arizona Legislature at 1700 West Washington by dealing with horse tripping, twins in classrooms and taxing breast implants.

According to the state legislative website, azleg.gov, Friday, March 28, was the last day for bills to be heard by committee's in the other chamber (Arizona House bills in the Arizona Senate and vice-versa).

There are two other bills, Concurrent Resolutions, pending of concern to Arizona's LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) populace, SCR (Senate Concurrent Resolution) 1038 and HCR (House Concurrent Resolution) 2065.

Both concurrent resolutions deal with the topic of marriage. Despite Arizona's 12-year-old laws (Arizona Revised Statute (ARS) 25-101 and 25-112) on the books defining marriage as between "one man and one woman," that has been upheld by Arizona's courts (Standhardt V. Superior Court) in 2004, the two resolutions would place on the November ballot a proposed state constitutional amendment defining marriage as between "one man and one woman."

HCR 2065, as previously reported, received approval by the Arizona House Judiciary Committee and the House Rules Committee respectively and had been caucused in the Arizona House but an objection was filed.

SCR 1038 had been okayed by the Arizona Senate PSHS (Public Service and Health Safety) Committee and still awaits a hearing before the Senate Rules Committee.

An ongoing effort by the Center for Arizona Policy (CAP), the ultraconservative homophobic group which its first president, Len Munsil, drafted ARS 25-101 and ARS 25-112 and lobbied for their passage in 1996 and notes it on their website at azpolicy.org, continues to get this measure on the November general election ballot.

Through their daily radio commentaries, CAP has ramped up their efforts, lying about a pending threat, purported threats and forgetting their past success, state statutes and website notices notwithstanding, urging their minions to lobby legislators to place this on the ballot again, as it was in 2006, which the voters said "no" to, making Arizona the first state, of 28 which had similar such measures on the ballot, to defeat it.

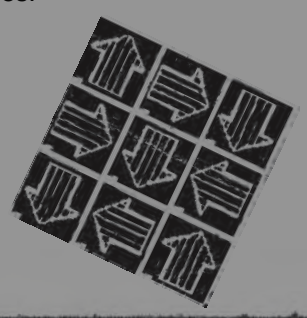
To take action, go online to eqfed.org/ahrf/home.html, reach your state Senator or state Representatives online at azleg.gov and E-mail or call at (800) 352-8404. For more information, go online to equalityarizona.org or call (602) 650-0900.

Clock Ticking On Illinois Civil Union Bill

SPRINGFIELD, Illinois (Observer Update) - There is no indication when, or even if, Illinois lawmakers will vote a bill that would allow same-sex couples to have civil unions in the state, 365Gay.com reported. The measure passed a key House committee last year. A Senate version was introduced in February.

Both bills would allow couples to register their partnerships. They then would be entitled to make health-care decisions for partners, funeral arrangement and inheritance rights. The legislation would also recognize same sex marriages and civil unions from other states as civil unions in Illinois.

Civil unions currently are legal in New Jersey, Vermont and Connecticut. Same-sex marriage is available only in Massachusetts, although legislation has been filed in Maryland and the California Supreme Court is considering Gay marriages.



Good News (Sort Of) For The Southwest

Continued from Page Eight

for resources. Canada, being water rich, should think twice about any military buildup along its borders and may do well to hire the Americans to erect another wall along the Northern border of the U.S. Of course, with American Air Power being what it is, such an effort would be no better than a gesture and do little to prevent America from taking the water she will need very shortly.

(Jimmy Petrol can be reached at jpetroulisx@yahoo.com.)

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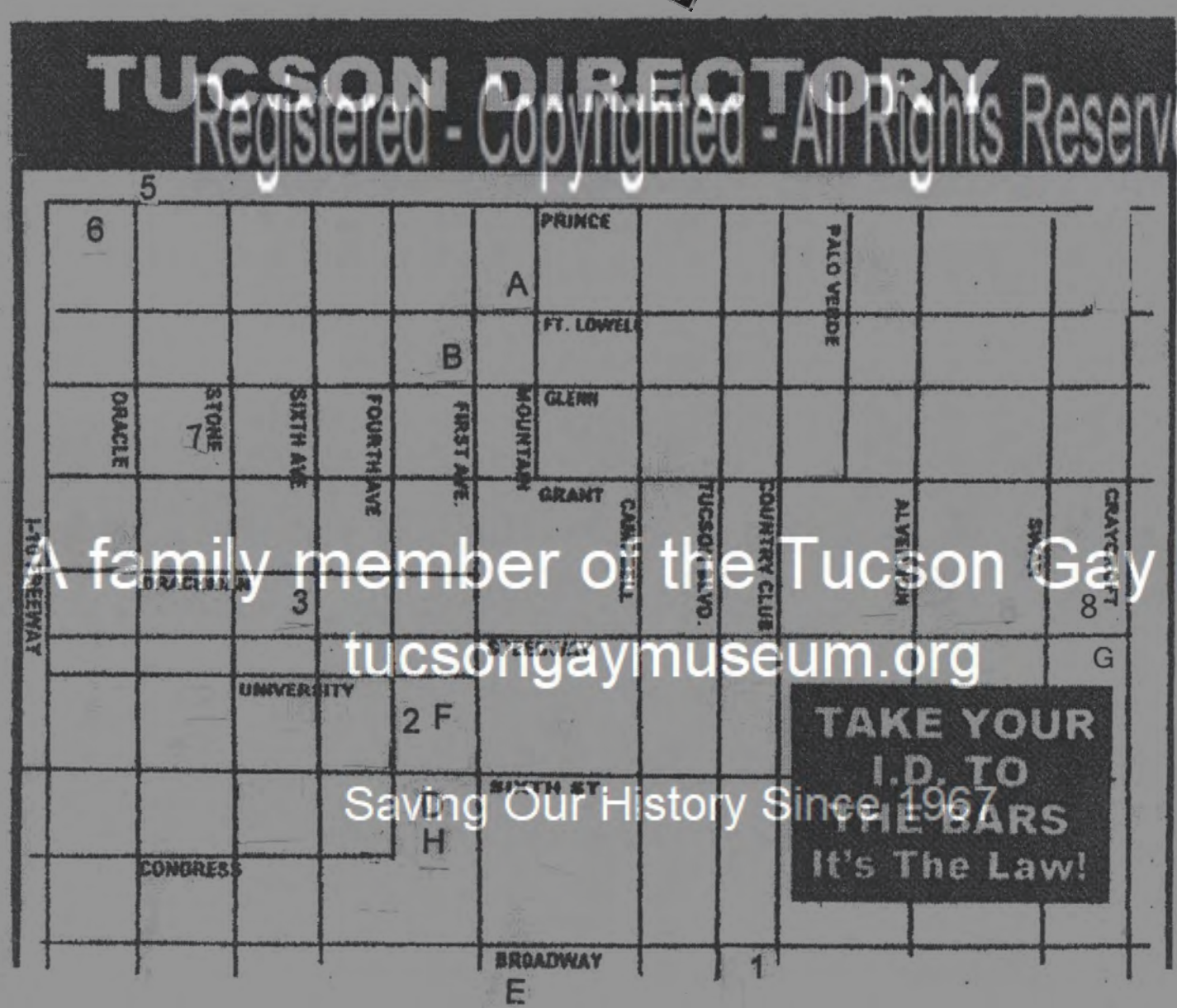

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Clark Gable

Clark Gable Memoir Claims The Star Was 'Gay For Pay'

NEW YORK CITY (Observer Update) - David Bret's angle on Clark Gable is this: Gable was "Gay for pay" and "rough trade," and he enjoyed having sex "for bucks."

In addition, he "would sometimes scrub his penis until it bled" and used a device to prolong erections. If these tidbits from the book's first few pages aren't too much information for you, you're in luck. This breathtakingly trashy biography does not skimp on sordid anecdotes.

How does Bret, the author of numerous celebrity biographies, know so much about Hollywood stars' sex lives? Judging by this new book's convoluted wording, he really doesn't. "Clark Gable: Tormented Star" hedges its bets with lines like "Indeed, unlikely as this seems, the two may even have been lovers," and "It was alleged that a threesome took place." The effect is "Hollywood Babylon" lite.

Push To Remove G/L Rights From Equador Constitution

QUITO, Ecuador (Observer Update) - In 1998 Ecuador became the first country in the Americas to adopt constitutional language granting protection against discrimination based on sexual orientation.

But now, under President Rafael Correa, the country is looking at yet another stab at redrafting the constitution. Former model, television news anchor and triathlon athlete Rosanna Queirolo, a member of the National Assembly, stunned some legislators, including some from her own party, when she stood up at a public hearing and asked the Constitutional Assembly to consider changing parts of the constitution pertaining to "sexual orientation".

Queirolo claimed that the word "orientation" should be changed to "preference" since, in her interpretation, the former word also pertained to "pedophiles and other degenerates."

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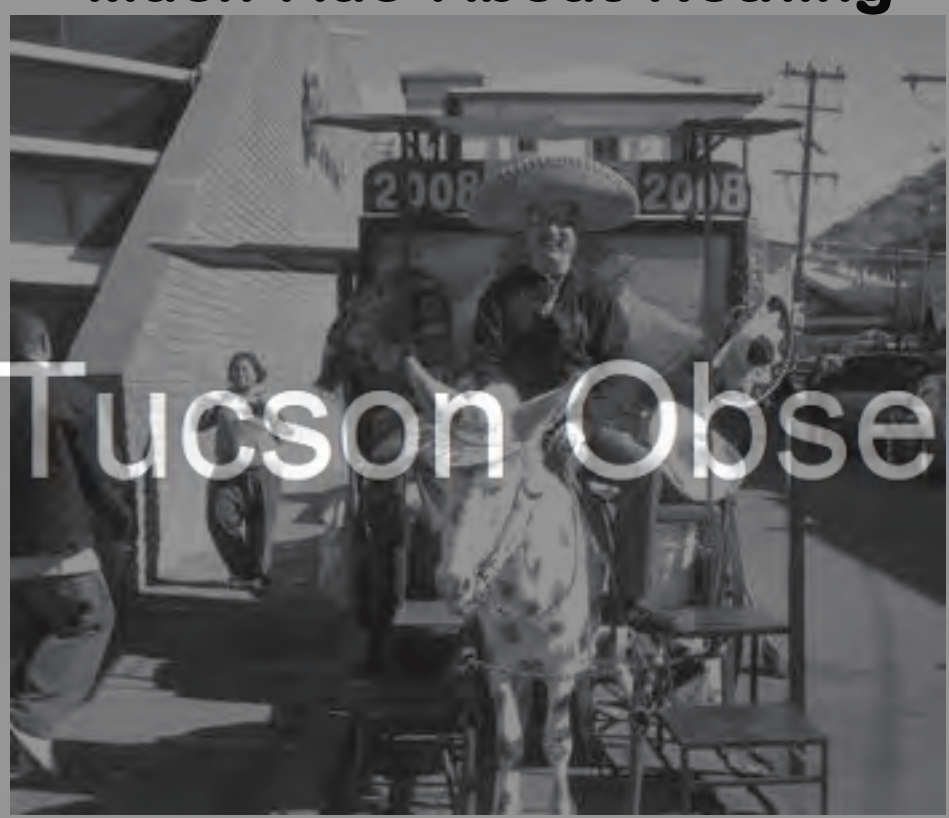
Much Ado About Nothing



By Jack Melichar

I am aware that the title for this column has been used before; however, I cannot improve on the bard, so I shall steal it. Now that this is out of the way, we can get to the nuts and bolts of the tale. Since my early childhood – and I don't want to hear derisive laughter from you missies who believe I sprang from my mother's womb already old – I have had a visceral fear of dentists. I suppose this can be traced back to my first visit when an old butcher named Blakeman put a bite block in my mouth, strapped my arms to the chair and drilled away with an old slow speed hand piece. Now that I am somewhat more mature, and they use this device from the Spanish Inquisition far less frequently, I don't anticipate such visits with a bad bout of cold sweats and the shakes. Of course it helps that I only have a tooth and a half left. The others are conveniently removable.

My last visit was actually pleasant. I had the opportunity to accompany Dave Huff and Frank Schepis to their dentist in Nogales to have my tooth and a half checked (by the way, have you ever tried to brush a tooth and a half?). But I digress. The day began with a trip in a Hummer, a vehicle, by the way, and not a sex partner! It was certainly not like riding in a Cadillac. One can easily see why so many soldiers suffer from post traumatic stress syndrome – their brains have been shaken loose. That might also explain my recent eccentricities! I also acquired a new insight into modern dentistry. First, gone are the old x-ray machines. In their place is some kind of a computer gadget that allows a wand to be run across your teeth and – voila – an image appears on a screen so you can see the results instantly. Mighty handy gadget to have if you are pregnant!

But the most enlightening and enjoyable feature of the trip was the dental waiting room. No longer will you be bored by ancient copies of Time and Newsweek. The waiting room is a bar around the corner. By the time I went for my checkup, the doctor could probably have performed oral surgery and I wouldn't have felt much pain. I did feel sorry for the dentist, though. I couldn't be sure, but it looked like he was wearing a double face mask. Perhaps that was a result of double vision and had no bearing on reality. After our visits were completed, we enjoyed an obligatory lunch and more libations (too many more, I might add). I highly recommend such a trip for a great day's outing if you don't choose to go to Roosevelt Lake or some other such exotic location. I will announce the time for the next visit. Come one come all for a day of fun, frivolity and beautiful Mexican boys.

Now let's have a little fun playing pin the tail on the donkey. Please don't confuse the donkey with the burro!

Episcopal Bishop Who Ordained Lesbian Dies At 73

WASHINGTON, D.C. - An Episcopalian minister who fought for gender equality in the church has died, reported advocate.com. Ronald H. Haines, the former bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington who ordained a Lesbian priest and presided over the marriage of Vice President Al Gore's daughter, has died. He was 73.

Bishop Ronald Haines

Haines, who served as the bishop of Washington, D.C., from 1990 to 2000, died Friday from complications with cancer at his home in Lancaster, Pa., said Cheryl Daves Wilburn, special assistant to the bishop at the diocese. Haines was an advocate for the ordination of women priests and defended gender equality in the church. Less than a year after becoming bishop he sparked protests by ordaining a Lesbian, the Rev. Elizabeth L. Carl.

According to a 1992 article in The Washington Post, one of the bishop's most vocal critics was his wife, Mary, who was vice president of the National Organization of Episcopalians for Life. She even favored her husband's censure, which he narrowly avoided, at a national gathering of bishops. Haines served in churches in New York and Rutherfordton, N.C., and was named deputy to the bishop of the Diocese of Western North Carolina in 1981.

Kentucky House Rejects Ban On Universities' D.P. Benefits

FRANKFORT, Kentucky (Observer Update) - A Kentucky House committee killed a Senate bill that would bar state universities and other public agencies from providing health insurance for domestic partners of employees.

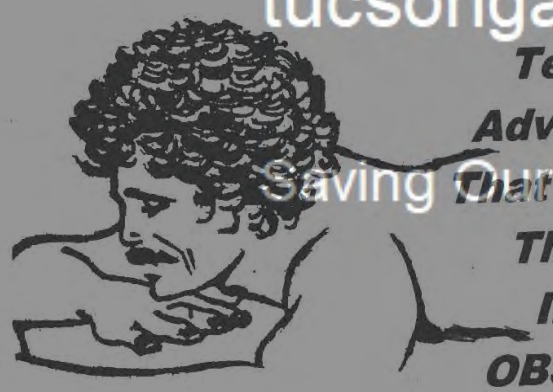
The Health and Welfare Committee voted 9 to 6 to reject Senate Bill 112 – but not before committee member David Watkins, D-Henderson, delivered a tongue-lashing to the bill's sponsor, Sen. Vernie McGaha, R-Russell Springs.

Watkins, a family physician, called the measure divisive and said the Senate is ignoring the state's biggest health problems, including smoking, obesity and a lack of adequate mental health services for its citizens. "I am tired of the same petty issues coming before us when we've got major issues to address," he said.

BUZZ BRIEFS

How Gay did Mick Jagger get at his absolute Gayest? Well, according to bandmate Keith Richards, pretty Gay. "I mean, dickering and dangling. ... I'm not there watching it every day. ... But there was, at the time, a load of excruciatingly painful campness that went on," the guitarist tells GQ's Michael Hainey in the April issue, on stands this week. But what about Mick's legendary night in bed with David Bowie? Keith just doesn't know. "I really have no idea." Despite Mick's foray in the Gay, there was no shortage of women on the road for the Stones. Still, it wasn't all fun and games. "It wasn't just boinky-boinky," says Richards. "They used to take care of you. They used to rub Vicks on your chest if you had a cold." ...

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender movement has traditionally depended on smaller, grassroots donations for specific causes. But more aging philanthropists whose generation was the first to be "out," are making end-of-life gifts to help secure the future of the community. "If I had died in 1980, I would have had no idea that the HIV epidemic was around the corner," said retired venture capitalist David Gleba, 45, who has contributed more than $250,000 to the Horizon Foundation. "After I am gone, I would like to see the part of my estate continue to work in succeeding the younger generation." In the past three decades, Gay philanthropies such as Horizon Foundation, Pride Foundation and Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice have helped shape today's Lesbian and Gay community.



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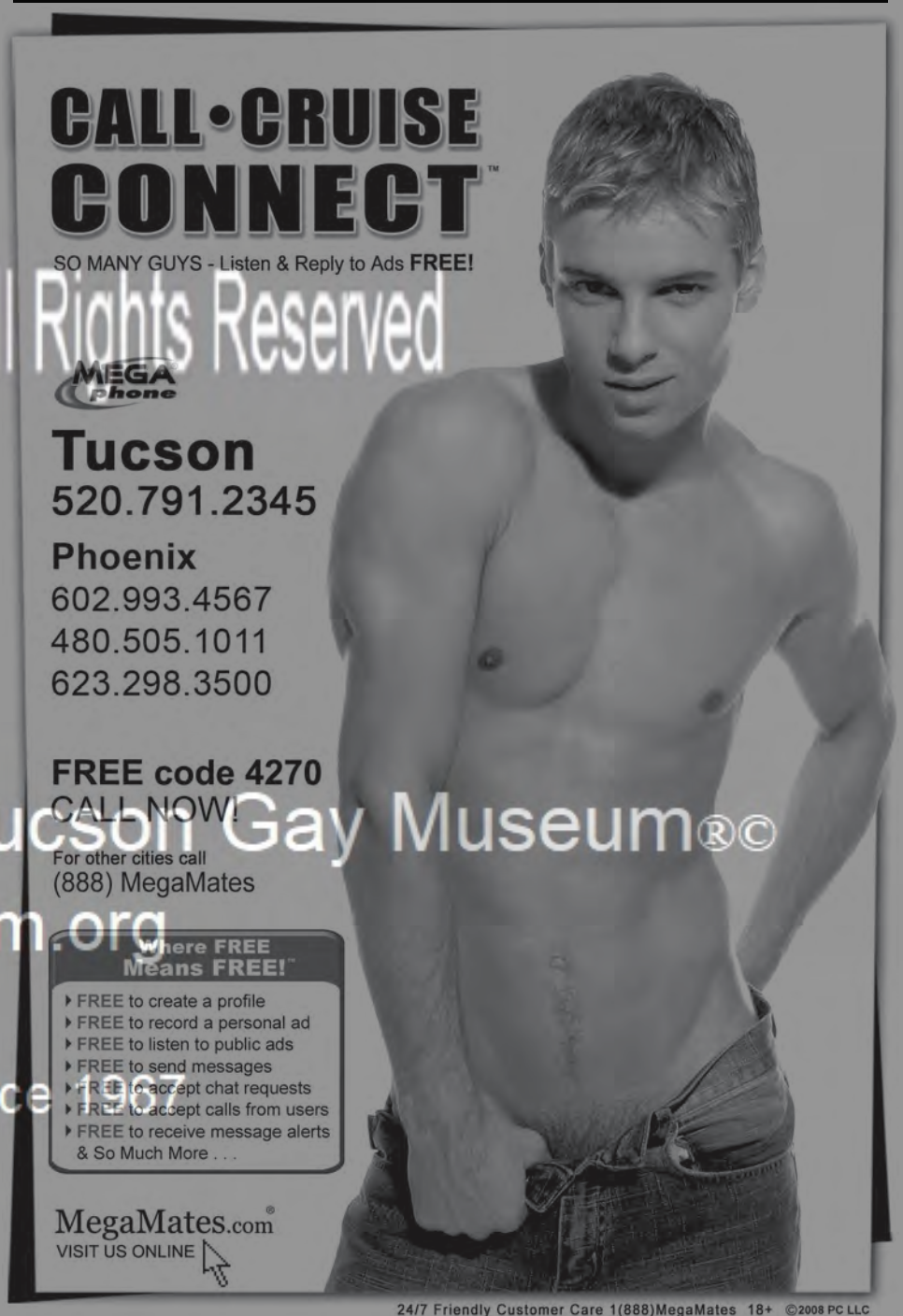

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NON-BAR CALENDAR

Wednesday, April 2nd
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00pm Hand and and Foot with Bruce. 743-3890

Thursday, April 3rd
#1 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.

Tucson Prime Timers invites you to Bowling, 1:30PM at Golden Pin Lanes, 1010 W Miracle Mile
www.tucsonprimetimers.org

Friday, April 4th
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Join Merlin and Lee for an evening of Charades. Come out and totally enjoy putting your acting/miming and panto-mime skills to the test! For directions and reservations [(a limited space event, please plan ahead and phone early)], place a telephone call to Lee and Merlin, your gracious yet competitive emcees and moderators, at 207-5336.

Tucson Prime Timers invites you to our weekly Friday no-host Cocktail Mixer at 5:30PM. Colors, 5350 E Speedway www.tucsonprimetimers.org

Saturday, April 5th
#1 Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. MSN Potluck at Casa Adobes Church, located at 6801 N. Oracle Road.

#2 Saturday April 5th Coffee at the Crave Coffee Shop 4530 E Broadway at 1pm.

Tucson Prime Timers - 6PM. Meet us for Drinks & Grub at Woody's Bar, 3710 N Oracle www.tucsonprimetimers.org

Sunday, April 6th
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 6:30p.m. Dinner Out at one of Tucson's Ultra-Fabulous Buffets. For reservations and directions, contact Thom 623-2941, e-mail thomsepals@hotmail.com , or Ken at 294-6606. Please contact Thom or Ken by Sunday at Noon to facilitate reservations. Price is usually under $10. Check the Yahoo MSN on-line calendar for the scheduled place. The venue is rotated to include all parts of town, and may occasionally be held at a full-service menu restaurant. Tucson Prime Timers invites you to our 11AM Weekly Sunday Brunch. This week at Woody's Bar,3710 N. Oracle. www.tucsonprimetimers.org

Monday, April 7th
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00 p.m. Lee and Merlin host 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 207-5336. If you're loquacious, erudite, or a wordsmith; this man's game just may be a triple word score for you!

Tucson Prime Timers welcomes visitors to our weekly drop-in Lun-cheon at 12:30PM. The Wildcat House, 1800 North Stone. www.tucsonprimetimers.org

Thursday April 8
Tucson Prime Timers invites you to Bowling, 1:30PM at Golden Pin Lanes, 1010 W Miracle Mile
www.tucsonprimetimers.org

Wednesday, April 9th
Men's Social Network Open to men of all ages, newcomers welcomed: 7:00p.m. Hand and Foot with Marvin

WATER OF LIFE
Metropolitan Community Church
Reverend Gale Rawson, Pastor
Our Mission . . .
Discover God's Love In All People
Sunday Service - 10:15 AM
Fellowship Thursdays - 7:00 PM
3269 North Mountain Avenue
Tucson AZ 85719
(Just North of Ft. Lowell)
292-9151
www.wolmcc.org

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ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS
Let me keep your clothes fitting properly and in good repair. Experienced - Economical - Prompt. Merle Hudson, (520)888-7264 in Tucson. 1240

FOR RENT

ROCKY POINT: Gorgeous 2bd, 2ba condo located in Las Conchas. Beautiful ocean view, full kitchen, spacious rooms, nicely furnished, rooftop balcony, steps to beach, BBQ, pool. Quiet location, minutes to everything. Pictures available. Contact Ed at 465-1165 or 990-4731. etcuts@aol.com 1238

1 BEDROOM STUDIO AIR CONDI-TIONED APARTMENT. One person. No pets. $450/mo. Includes all utilities. Gay Friendly. Northwest area. 579-0547 1235

EMPLOYMENT

WEEKEND COOK FOR HOWL AT THE MOON. Please come in and fill out an application. 915 Prince Road. 293-7335

FOR SALE

WIZZA IS A FATHER! Beautiful Golden Doodle CKC Puppies. From AKC champion lines. 8 weeks old. Home Raised. $850.00. 297-3127 1236

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COMFORTABLE, RELAXING MASSAGE. Strong hands, warm heart. Let me take you away from the stress & strain of everyday life. Timm: 390-4921 1238

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HOROSCOPES

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April showers wash over us in a refreshing and invigorating way. Maybe that's because the Sun, Saturn and Pluto form a trine mid-month. Things fall into place in an unusual and transformative way. Why ask why? Enjoy the serendipity and hold on tight.

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)
April starts off as a collision between long term career goals and petty demands of the day to day job. Proud Rams begin to feel like rats on a treadmill. But as the month progresses, relief is in sight as well as a clear professional direction. Will you leave your current emply for something better or make your mark where you are? Time will tell if you don't watch the clock.

TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)
Queer Bulls decide to make the front pages this April. They not only itch to travel, they want to go to the outer limits and have an adventure of a lifetime. It is all possible, compadre. Very soon things will fall into place and give you the ways and means. You might meet someone who can direct you to the best of the best. Of course the opposite is also true.

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)
Dip into your intuitive arsenal this April, pink Twin. You need to make the best use of your wits to solve a mystery and get clues to the whys and hows. Use any newly gained information to solidify your home environment. You receive a monetary gift that may come with a hidden price. Pay off debts and gain more control. How much control is enough?

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)
Gay Crabs need to open up the line of communication with partners. There is too much that is unsaid that can cause rifts or barriers to true happiness. Mid-month, you find pals who provide new, useful perspectives on any stagnant situation. If you are looking for a relationship, pretend that you are interested in any chit chat. You appear to be especially attractive and interesting.

LEO (JULY 24 - AUGUST 23)
Money troubles begin to clear up in April if you concentrate on controlling your debt and learning new tricks of the financial trade. Proud Lions might feel caged in at work where they are not appreciated or recognized for their efforts. This is a passing phase that reconciles mid-month. While you wait, avoid mouthing off by steering clear of office politics. Oops.

VIRGO (AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23)
You may experience a lack of self confidence this April as a number of false starts begins to take its toll. But give yourself another chance to get out in front of the crowd and strut your stuff. You may find them more appreciative of your talents and more excited by your ideas. Then again maybe they are just humoring you. Heck, any port in a storm.

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23)
Home and relatives are highlighted this April. Not only can you improve your surroundings, you improve your relation to your relations. Do so and soon. They seem more open to change and compromise. Proud Libras know just what to do and say to mend bridges and move things forward. Anything is possible to a willing heart. Are you willing?

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22)
Proud Scorps can expand their social circle this April especially in their immediate neighborhood. Don't sit at home and warm your couch cushion. Step out and see what is happening around the corner. You never know who might be waiting for you there. By mid-month, things might become even more interesting with certain neighbors. How neighborly do you feel?

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22)
While you seem to be more attuned to the movements of the financial markets, don't be surprised if you get in over your head financially this April. That is because your eyes are too big for your wallet and everything seems affordable. But don't panic; the fates find a way to help you pay your bills ... even if it means you have to work harder for it. Drat!

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20)
Your personal stock rises and soon you find yourself in control of the crowd. This has its advantages and disadvantages. On the one hand you can sell through your ideas easily. On the other hand, everyone may soon be a nit picky critic. When in doubt, don't take yourself or your ideas too seriously. Laugh and the world laughs with you. Err, is it "with' or "at"...?

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19)
Aqueerians may need to revamp their home environment to make it more in balance and airier. There may be some stressful areas of your life this April but you should not let anything ease you off track. Keep your attention focused and energy high. Before you know it you will discover something delightful behind the curtain. Choose the right curtain...

PISCES (FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20)
Guppies become the mediators between friends and lovers this April. Both sides have valid issues that need to be addressed. Not only can you smooth over any rough spots, you can bring folks together and create a nice harmony. Charm works wonders as well as careful dipiomacy. And if all else fails, let warring factions argue and tire out. Then declare victory.

Humane Society of Southern Arizona
3450 North Kelvin Boulevard
Tucson, AZ 85716
(520) 327-6088
http://www.humane-so-arizona.org

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NOTICES - COMMUNITY - NOTICES

Tucson Knight Owls (T.K.O)
We are a non profit social club that is open to every one. T.K.O. contributes to the fellowship and support of the community, and openly invites new members and/or guests. Monthly meetings occur on the first Saturday of every month. Please come and join us! Our next meeting will be held at Rose canyon lake at 12:00 pm. We will meeting at the yard dog at 10:30 am to car pool up to Rose canyon. T.K.O. will also be having a bake sale at Woodys on Sunday April 6th 3:00pm to 6:00 pm.

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.

YOUNG AND GAY?
GLBT Youth 23 and under, meet Tucson for sharing, support and information. You are not alone. For more info call Wingspan, 624-1779.

Start getting more out of life with TUCSON PRIME TIMERS. We're the local chapter of Prime Timers Worldwide, the preeminent social organization for mature gay and bi men as well as younger (21+) men who enjoy their company. Each month we sponsor a wide range of dining events, cultural enrichment activities, parties, meetings, bowling, day trips, picnics, tours and much more. Visitors are always welcome. For info call our message phone 520 731-3485. Visit our website: www.tucsonprimetimers.org

TUCSON 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 325-2111 - 7am-7pm M-F - 9am-5pm weekend and holidays.

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

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

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

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

BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO – a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, Call the Bears Hotline (520)790-5775 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910 of visit our website at www.botop.com All are welcome to our general meetings/ potlucks on the 2nd Friday of every month, at 3202 E. 1st St. (the "Ward 6" Office Bldg.) Just south of Speedway & East of Country Club. PotLuck Dinner begins at 6:30 and the monthly meeting follows at 7:15 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

DESERT VOICES, Tucson's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Straight Chorus, has been singing songs of pride, hope and laughter for 19 seasons. Check out our website at www.desertvoices.org, or call (520)791-9662 for information about upcoming concerts or how to join.

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

AA Meeting with HIV/AIDS focus, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., Wingspan Annex, 425 E. 7th Street. All alcoholics welcome.

MEN'S SOCIAL NETWORK: Social organization for men of all ages. Building an extended Gay family in Tucson. Monthly social potluck gatherings the first Saturday of each month and almost weekly social activities. Call 207-5336 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 (TIHAN) 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, contract TEAM ARIZONA at their website: teamarizona.org

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

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

TUCSON PRIDE, INC. (Formerly Tucson Lesbian and Gay Alliance - TLGA) meets on the second Wednesday at 845 S. Craycroft Road at 6pm. Tucson Pride events: Pride Week, Gay West and OUToberFEST. For more information call 622-3200 or visit the TPI website at www.tucsonpride.com

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

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.

THIS WAY OUT, 1/2 hour national GLBT show. 4:30 p.m. on Sundays only on 91.3 FM, Community Radio KXCI.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

REVEILLE 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.

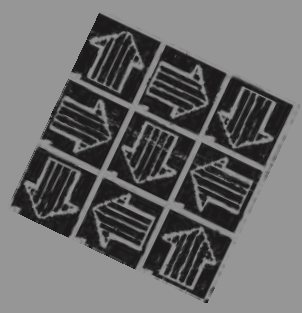
LGBT Buddhist Meditation Group. Join us for two 20 minute silent sitting meditations, and reading from Buddhist Spiritual text and discussion. Bring a friend and a pillow or cushion. Takes place every Sunday from 10-11:30AM at 3 Jewels, 314 E. 6th St. Donations accepted. Contact Maurice Grossman for more info. 323-2293.

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

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

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

THE BROTHERS OF THE COMPASSIONATE WAY. Pagan spiritual group for gay, bisexual, transgendered men. Box 41623, Tucson, AZ 85717.



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DAILY BAR CALENDAR

SUNDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am; L Word Sundays. L Word shows at 7pm on two 51" flatscreens. Beer Bust 5pm-10pm. DJ HILL following til 2am.

COLORS - Open 10am - 10pm Champagne Brunch 10am - 2pm with choice of complimentary mimosa, Bloody Mary or Screwdriver included. Happy Hour 4-7pm $3.50 Skyy Cocktails, $2.75 Domestics and well. Appetizers ½ price 4-6. Brunch served until 2pm. Full menu served until 10;m. Nightly dinner specials.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open 11am. Wear an NFL team t-shirt or jersey and get 50¢ off your drink. Smirnoff Vodkas $2.50. Texas Hold-'Em Poker at 3 and 6 pm. Play for points and prizes - no cash involved. $1 hot dogs, $2 chili dogs during game. SIN Nite Drink Discounts for Service Industry employees with ID or payroll receipt. Latin Dance Music 8:30 to close.

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-2am. Peter's Build Your Own Bloody Mary Bar 11am-2pm. Happy Hour 11am-8pm (excluding special events). Full Menu Kitchen open 11am-8pm. Back Pocket Patio Bar 2pm-2am. Beer Bust 2pm-7pm. Karaoke with Michael D 9pm-Close. Drag Bingo every other Sunday 8-9pm. Check our Ad for Special Events or Parties

YARD DOG - Open 10am - 2am. Mimosas & Bloody Mary Bar (Build your own)

MONDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. Poker Pub...FREE. No Happy Hour on this day. Games at 6:30 and again at 9:00pm. 21 and up.

COLORS - Open 4-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7. $3.50 Skyy Cocktails, $2.75 well & domestics. Appetizers ½ price 4-6m. Full menu served until 10pm.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open 3pm. Happy Hour all day $2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. $3.50 sm. Pitcher/$5.50 lg. Texas Hold-Em Poker at 6 & 8:30, Play for points and prizes. No cash involved.

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 11am-2am. Happy Hour 11am--8pm (excl spec events) Full Menu Kitchen open 11am-10pm Back Pocket Patio Bar 8pm-close. Karaoke with Michael D. 9pm-close.

YARD DOG - Open 11am-2am.Beer Bust 3-7pm

TUESDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. No Happy Hour on this day. Spin Tuesdays with Karaoke. Spin the drink wheel every hour for incredible drink prices...nothing over $2!! Karaoke at 8pm. 21 and up.

COLORS - Open 4-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7 $3.50 Skyy cocktails, $2.75 Domestics and well and ½ price appetizers 4-6. Full menu served until 10pm.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open 3pm. $2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints.$3.50 sm. Pitcher/$5.50 lg. Pitcher. $2.50 well margaritas and tequila. 75¢ off call tequilas. Ladies Only Texas Hold-Em Poker at 6:00 p.m. Play for points and prizes - no cash involved. $2 U-call-it drink special 9pm to midnight (some restrictions apply).

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

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

WOODY'S - Open 11am- 2am. Happy Hour 11am-8pm (excl spec events). Full Menu Kitchen open 11am-10pm. Back Pocket Patio Bar open 8pm-close, Caribbean Party Night with Woody's own Specialty Mojitos, Caprioskas and Martinis with Tucson's Hottest Bartenders.

YARD DOG -Open 11am-2am.Beer Bust 3-7pm

WEDNESDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. 1/2 Price Happy Hour til 8pm. Wild Wednesdays. DJHill Spins til 2am. This is an 18 and over event..

COLORS - Open 4-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, $3.50 Skyy cocktails, $2.75 Domestics and ½ price appetizers 4-6. Full menu served until 10pm. Nightly dinner specials.

HOWL AT THE MOON -Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, $2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints, $3.50 sm. Pitcher/$5.50 lg. Pitchers. $5.00 Jager Bombs and Long Island Ice Tea. Texas Hold-'Em Poker Tournaments at 6 & 8:30 pm Play for points & Prizes. No cash involved.

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 11am-2am;. Happy Hour 11am-8pm excl. special events). Ful Kitchen open 11am-10pm. Back Pocket Bar open 8pm-close. Service Industry Employee Special All Day Long - $1 off all drinks except schnapps and draft. Different Themed Underwear Party 9pm-close with $1.00 off for those who participate (excl. Schnapps and Draft). Retro 80s & 90s Dance with DJ Clint 9 til close..

YARD DOG -Open11am-2am BeerBust 3-7pm

THURSDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. 1/2 Price Happy Hour til 8pm. 20/20 Thursday's a night guaranteed to F*UCK,, with your vision!! $20 at the door we take care of the rest (premium top shelf not included). DJHill spins hip hop & R&B all night. 21'n up

COLORS - Open 4pm-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm,$3.50 Skyy cocktails, $2.75 Domestics and Well and ½ price appetizers. Full menu served until 10. Nightly dinner specials.. .

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, $2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints, $3.50 sm. Pitcher/$5.50 lg.. Pitcher. Mexican Beers $2.50 all day, all night. Starting 1/17/08 TNT Thursday Night Temptation for 18 & over. Eat-drink-dance Music with DJ Shorty v2.0

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 11am-2am; Happy Hour 11am-8pm (excl Spec Events); Full Menu Kitchen open 11am-10pm. Back Pocket Patio Bar open 8pm-close. Cheap Party Day **FREE POOL**, $1.00 PBR Longnecks, $2.00 Tecate Longnecks. Techno and Top 40 Dance with DJ Jeff 9pm - close..

YARD DOG-Open11am-2am BeerBust 3-7pm

FRIDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. NOCHE de CALOR. 1/2 price Happy Hour til 8pm. Every Friday DJ Hill spins the best norteno, Cumbias, Salsa, Bachata Reggaeton, Rock en Espanol and anything else that makes you shake your hips!!

COLORS - Open 4pm-midnight. Happy Hour 4-7pm, $3.50 Skyy cocktails, $2.75 Domestics and Well and ½ price appetizers. Finlandia martinis $5.50 open to close! Full menu served until 10. "Hot Jazz, Cool Martinis" with Susan Artemis & Craig Faltin 6:30 to 9:30. "Guys & Dolls" drag show hosted by Lucinda Holliday at 10pm. Nightly dinner specials. Drink specials during the drag show.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, $2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. $3.,50 Sm. Pitcher/$5.50 lg. Pitcher. $2.50 Smirnoff Ice. Triple Black, Green Apple and Raspberry Twisters. Free Country dance lessons at 7:30p.m. DJ Pat plays classic country 8:30 to close..

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

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

WOODY'S - Open 11am-2am; Happy Hour 11am-8pm (excl spec events). Full Menu Kitchen open 11am-11pm Back Pocket Patio Bar open 5pm-close. Enjoy the Live Blues/Motown/Soul sounds of Simon Crown 6-9 p.m.; Request your favorite Music Dance Night with DJ Clint 9pm-close. Monthly Birthday Party every 2nd Friday Night of the month.

YARD DOG - Open 11am-2am. Beer Bust 3-7pm. Patio Bar Opens 8pm

SATURDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm - 2am. $2.00 U-Call-Its til 11pm. Saturday night dance party with DJ Hill9pm. Patio Bar opens at 10:30pm.

COLORS - Open 4pm-10pm, Happy Hour 4-7pm, $3.50 Skyy cocktails, $2.75 Domestics and Well, ½ price appetizers 4-6. Pianist/Vocalist Marilyn Harris 6:30-9:30. Full menu served until 10. Nightly dinner specials.

HOWL AT THE MOON - Open at 2pm. Happy Hour 2-8pm, $2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. $3.50 sm. Pitcher/$5.50 lg. $4.50 cheeseburger & fries.$2.50 Captain Morgan or Malibu Rum all day, all night. Check our calendar for the Saturday Night Special Entertainment.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, 5-8pm karaoke and Teryaki Kabobs on the patio. 8:30pm Show time w/ Bunny FuFu 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 11am-2am; Happy Hour 10am-8pm (excl spec events); Full Menu Kitchen open11am-11pm. Back Pocket Patio Bar open 5pm-close. Techno and Top 40 Dance with DJ Jeff 9pm til close. Check our ad for Twice-A-Month Special Events or Themed Parties.

YARD DOG - Open 8am-2am. Patio Bar Opens 8pm.

BAR CALENDAR Of Upcoming Events

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2
WOODY'S - Flip Flops and Sorts Party 9:00p.m. to close. Drink spelcials for those dressed for fun.

FRI-SAT-SUN, APRIL 4-5-6
IBT'S - 4th Avenue Street Fair, come on in and get a cool drink while you're working the avenue. Premium drag shows on Friday at 9:00 pm. And Saturday and Sunday at 2:00 p.m. Karaoke on the Patio Saturday 4-8 p.m. and Sunday 4-8:30pm. DJs outside and inside Friday-Saturday and Sunday. S.I.N. Days drink special starts at 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 5
THE BIZ - It's Recession Saturday's here- They're taking prices back to 1993! $2 Domestic Beers, $3 Imports. All Premiums $1.50 or less!!! Patio Beer Pong Tournaments 8:30 p.m. starting tonight.

HOWL AT THE MOON - DJ Johnny D. 9:0 p.m.

WOODY'S - "Carribean Breeze 8p.m. til closing. All rum drinks specially priced. Bring in your best Rum Recipe and enter to win $50/ Contest at 10p.m. (Must be an original recipe).

YARD DOG SALOON - Two Sons Band

SUNDAY, APRIL 6
YARD DOG - Steak Nite at 7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9
WOODY'S - "Pledge Night" 9pm til close.

FRIDAY, APRIL 11
WOODY'S - Wine Tasting! 5:30-7:00 p.m. Register with your favorite bartender

SATURDAY, APRIL 12
HOWL AT THE MOON - DJ Johnny D. 9:00 p..m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 29
IBT'S - Madonna CD Release Party.

SATURDAY, MAY 3
THE BIZ - Cinco de Mayo weekend celebration. Latino Carnival!!! More details to come.

Arts and Entertainment

Now playing through APRIL 13
Beowulf Alley Theatre presents Tom Stoppard's "Arcadia" Thursdays, Friday and Saturdays at 7:30 and Sundays at 1:30. A brilliantly inventiv3 play that moves back and forth between the 19th century and the present, populated by a varied and vastly entertaining cast of characters. 11 South Sixth Avenue downtown. Tickets $14-$19. 882-0555.

Now playing through APRIL 13
The Rogue Theatre presents "Red Noses" by Peter Barnes. What happens when the Marx Brothers meet the Black Plague of 1348? Jabbing a finger into the ribs of politics, sex and religion, "Red Noses" is a poignant portrait of human resilience in the face of the great unknown. Thu-Sat 7:30 p.m. Sun 2:00 p.m. Tickets $18. Zuzi Theatre, 738 N. 5th Avenue at University..551-2053

APRIL 5 - 26
Arizona Theatre Company presents "The Clean House by Sarah Rul. A mischievously comic look at the secrets we sweep under the rug. Temple of Music and Art downtown Tucson.. ATC's Night Out!! An evening of fabulousness for the LGBT Community. Thursday April 10th, pre-show party begins at 6:30 p.m. Mention their ad in this issue of Observer and get $5.00 off the single ticket price. 622-2823

APRIL 4 - 26
The Catalina Players present "The Twilight Of The Golds"

If your parents knew everything about you before you were born, would you be here? That is the question posed in this provocative drama. All is well when Suzanne Gold and her close New York family discover that she is pregnant, until a prenatal test reveals that the baby will be born with a "specific" gene. The news forces the entire Gold family to confront issues of bigotry, evolution and the limits of love.

Twilight of the Golds will premiere at the Catalina Players Theater Academy Hall, 6653 E. Carondelet. Benind St. Joseph's Hospital. For more info call 409-8407

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