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NEWS MAGAZINE



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February 2010 / Issue No. 67 / Complimentary

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Recipe for a Happy New Year

By Author Unknown

Take twelve fine, full-grown months; see that these are thoroughly free from old memories of bitterness, rancor and hate.

Cleanse them completely from every clinging spite; pick off all specks of pettiness and littleness; in short, see that these months are freed from all the past-have them fresh and clean as when they first came from the great storehouse of Time.

Cut these months into thirty or thirty-one equal parts. Do not attempt to make up the whole batch at one time (so many persons spoil the entire lot this way) but prepare one day at a time.

Into each day put equal parts of faith, patience, courage, work (some people omit this ingredient and so spoil the flavor of the rest), hope, fidelity, liberality, kindness, rest (leaving this out is like leaving the oil out of the salad dressing- don't do it), prayer, meditation, and one well-selected resolution.

Put in about one teaspoonful of good spirits, a dash of fun, a pinch of folly, a sprinkling of play, and a heaping cupful of good humor.

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Joshua Tree in need of donations

By Luis Garcia

Joshua Tree Feeding Program is every Tuesday at noon and the second and fourth Friday of the month at **Asbury United Methodist Church**, 1601 W. Indian School Rd. in Phoenix. The organization is accepting contributions of food and financial assistance. If you would like to sponsor client food boxes each month, or to volunteer please call 602-264-0223 or e-mail Joshuatreefeedingprograminc@cox.net.

The Joshua Tree Feeding Program, which started in 1988 to provide a safe environment where people living with HIV/AIDS could come together to receive free food and mutual support, is in dire need of donations.

According to Joshua Tree Chairman Robert Bartlett, the program is currently “living from paycheck to paycheck.”

“Cuts to the Ryan White program and the bad economy have hurt us,” said Bartlett. “About half of Joshua Tree’s budget comes from federal funds.”

Each Tuesday the all-volunteer organization serves a weekly hot lunch to more than 120 people living with HIV/AIDS and sends another 100 clients home with supplemental groceries.

Additionally, Joshua Tree averages 130 clients on the second and fourth Friday of each

month from Ryan White funded food boxes, with all services are at no cost to clients. Joshua Tree told ‘n touch news that the bad economy has caused their client base to go up.

“We are hurting,” said Joshua Tree Vice President Scott Robinson. “Not only are donations down but people who used to donate to us are now coming in to use our services because they are hurting as well. Donations from the Men of Charlie’s are helping to keep us running.”

Leslie Baldwin, who performed at last years Artie Party fundraiser hosted by the Men of Charlie’s benefiting Joshua Tree, has started her own campaign on Facebook. As her birthday wish she is trying to raise \$1,000 by Jan. 24 for the organization.

“It was a difficult year for me as far as the unemployment situation, as I am sure it was

for quite a few people,” Baldwin said. “This is the way I see it. I am going to be 48 this month, I have no medical issues, nor am I on any medications. Even though the past year has been a difficult one, I have to remember that even though my ‘Higher Power’ has not provided everything I want, I have been provided everything I need.

“I know that there are people in our community who are having difficulties more than I am. I want to do whatever it is I can to try to make these difficulties a little easier to bear. Joshua Tree provides weekly food boxes and other services to those who need a helping hand. Without the support of ‘our community’ there would not be a Joshua Tree.”

Joshua Tree is a non-profit organization and all donations are fully tax deductible.

For more information visit joshuatreefeedingprograminc.org





Four Royalty titles in the balance

By Luis Garcia

A new year means it's time to crown new royalty in the Grand Canyon State. Four different crowns will be handed out in the next month.

On Jan. 31, Phoenix will witness the crowing of the new Miss Gay AZ USofA and Reina Del Sol USofA Classic 2010.

"We will be a double crowning pageant," Miss Gay AZ USofA and Reina Del Sol USofA Classic 2010 (for contestants over the age of 40) promoter Mike Fornelli said. "Both prize packages are over \$2,500 each."

According to Fornelli, the theme for this year's much anticipated pageant will be Egyptian Beauty... Ascension to the Throne.

"The opening productions, titleholders, and performers will all be in Egyptian costuming," Fornelli said. "Contestants may embellish it to fit the Egyptian theme, but this is not required."

The event will also honor Miss Gay AZ USofA 2009 Mya McKenzie and Miss Gay Reina Del Sol USofA Classic 2009 Nicole Dubois. It will feature Miss Gay USofA



Stasha Sanchez and Miss Gay USofA Classic Lawanda Jackson.

The double crowning will be held at the Wyndham Phoenix Grand Ballroom, with the show starting promptly at 6 p.m.

On Feb. 6, Phoenix Pride will have a double crowning of their own when Nina Flowers from VH1's Ru Paul's Drag Races hosts the Mister and Miss Phoenix Gay Pride Pageant.

According to Phoenix Pride Executive Director Brandi Sokolosky, it is the first time both events will be held on the same night.

"We are not only excited to have them both on the same night, Sokolosky said. "We introduced a fundraising component this year. Each contestant has to do at least two fundraisers that benefit the Phoenix Pride community foundation. Phoenix Pride wants to be sure that all the events we do go with the mission of Pride in helping and promoting the history, diversity, and future prosperity of the metropolitan Phoenix LGBT community"

Money raised from the fundraisers will benefit the new Pride Partnership; Pride Scholarship Program; and Pride Community programs.

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- | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
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| <i>Miss Amsterdam</i> | <i>Miss Diamond Dallas</i> | <i>Miss Plazma</i> | <i>Miss Victoria Knight</i> |
| <i>Miss BS West</i> | <i>Miss Naomi St. James</i> | <i>Miss Pumphouse II</i> | <i>Miss Patricia Mason</i> |
| <i>Miss C-7</i> | <i>Miss Ebonie Shane</i> | <i>Miss The Rock</i> | <i>Miss Ashley Michaels</i> |
| <i>Miss Forbidden</i> | <i>Miss Mikala Kay</i> | | |

MISTER PHOENIX GAY PRIDE CONTESTANTS:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <i>Mister Charlie's</i> | <i>Mr Freddie Prinze Charming</i> |
| <i>Mister Cash Inn Country</i> | <i>Mister Nikki Kidd</i> |
| <i>1st Runner Up</i> | <i>Mister Ace Masters</i> |

Miss Gay AZ USofA Reina Del Sol USofA Classic 2010

Sunday, Jan. 31, 5 p.m., Wyndham Phoenix Ballroom, 50 E. Adams St. Tickets are \$25 and are available at www.brownpapertickets.com/event/90901. For more information call 602-527--2464 or e-mail Mike Fornelli at mike@bswest.com.

Mister & Miss Phoenix Gay Pride Pageant 2010

Saturday, Feb. 6, 7 p.m., Wyndham Phoenix Ballroom 50 E. Adams St. Tickets are \$20 and are available at brownpapertickets.com Please e-mail office@phoenix-pride.org or call 602-277-7433 for details. VIP Tables available.



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“I am 1” giving campaign

By J. Ursone

Thriving during the past year is a double-edged sword for One Voice Community Center. Although the Center has moved to a larger facility and provided numerous classes and meeting space to the community, it does not mean they are flush with donations. Operations require ongoing financial support from the community.

According to the Center’s Board of Directors, to remain viable and meet the needs within the community requires \$10-15,000 per month.

In a statement the BOD said: “We are asking for your financial support in order to help us help the community in 2010. Any financial gift is appreciated and needed. Whether one time or recurring, we hope you will support your LGBT Community Center in working to meet the needs in our community.

“If we could simply get 100 individual commitments to give \$100 per month, a majority of our needs would be met. This is a very realistic goal as similar sized cities have this level of support many times over. We realize not everyone can afford to give \$100 per month,



so we’ve created a monthly giving program that allows you to make recurring donations starting at \$25 per month. If you’re unable to commit to a monthly gift, please consider a one-time gift of any amount. No gift is too small and every dollar makes a difference here in your community.”

To give, go to 1vcc.org and download the pledge sheet, complete and return your commitment of support to One Voice.

1VCC 2010 Plan of Action

As 2010 begins, we plan to start the year with a 40% increase in the number of hours we are open! This means we will be here 6 days a week

to better serve the needs of our community.

Soon we will be sending out a Community Survey to gauge needs related to suicide and substance abuse prevention which will be used in the groundbreaking research we are working on with the Maricopa LGBT Consortium in the development of a Strategic Prevention Framework related to these issues in the LGBT community of Maricopa County.

We’ll be rolling out our Anti Violence Project Hotline in the first quarter as well as officially opening the BJ Bud Memorial Library for public circulation.

The rebirth of our Speakers Bureau, Link - LGBT Non Profit Networking, and our Community Resource and Referral Center, named in memory of Michele de LaFreniere, are all exciting things to look forward to early in the year.

One Voice will celebrate it’s 5th Anniversary in April and we are planning a celebration of what has been accomplished organizationally since inception.

Obama appointed trans woman begins job

By Gina Read

Former Wingspan Board member and Tucson resident, Amanda Simpson recently began her new job as Senior Technical Adviser to the Commerce Department. Appointed by President Obama, Simpson becomes one of the first transgender women appointed to the federal government. One other transgender person has been appointed by the Obama administration.



“I’m truly honored to have received this appointment and am eager and excited about this opportunity that is before me,” Simpson said in a statement.

A former test pilot and 2004 YWCA “Woman On The Move”, Simpson has been active in the aerospace and defense industry for the past 30 years. She most recently served as Deputy Director in Advanced Technology Development for Raytheon, where she transitioned from male to female.

Besides sitting on the boards of Wingspan, the Southern Arizona Gender Alliance and Equality Arizona, the 48 year-old has been active in other LGBT issues. In 2005, Simpson successfully worked to have Raytheon adopt gender identity into its Equal Employment Opportunity Policy. That same year, she ran unsuccessfully for the Arizona House of Representatives. Until recently she also served on the board of the National Center for Transgender Equality.

Simpson has been open about being transgender, sharing her story with ‘n touch news and other publications. Originally from Chicago, Simpson was the eldest of four boys. Born as “Mitch” she knew from an early age that she was a girl. She would dress up in her mother’s clothing, enduring ridicule and cruelty.

Simpson’s success as an openly transgender woman will benefit the transgender community says Courtney Jones, the director of programs for Wingspan. “It’s fantastic that Amanda’s dedication and work experience have led to this opportunity and that the Obama administration values highly qualified and diverse individuals,” Jones said.

Simpson says she hope to see more people hired and promoted strictly based on their ability to do a job. “I hope this appointment opens future opportunities for so many others.”



Voices of the Desert performs show stoppers

By 'N Touch News Staff

Valley resident looking to lose themselves in their all-time favorite musicals need only to look to "I Hope I Get it," an evening of music and entertainment by Voices of the Desert. The chorus will treat audience members with music from shows like A Chorus Line, Spring Awakening, Music Man, and the Lion King. The performance is scheduled for Jan.23-24 at the Phoenix Center for the Arts.

Voices of the Desert was formed in November 2008 and, over the course of its first year, over 100 people, both LGBT and allies, have contributed their time, talent, and treasure. Over its short life thus far, the organization has attracted 10 volunteers to its Board of Directors, over 30 singers drawn equally from the LGBT and allied community, and many other volunteers including musicians, a signer for the deaf, and specialists in Web design, marketing, event production, and audio recording.

Founding Artistic Director Ron Casola said that people will leave this event tapping their



toes and humming their favorite tunes.

"We are encouraging families and children to attend. We are open to everybody and we are expecting everybody," Casola said.

Additionally, Voices of the Desert collaborated with Phoenix Metropolitan Men's Chorus at the performance of the Annual World AIDS Day event on December 1, 2009, at Church of the Beatitudes. Unlike other LGBT choruses in the Valley, Voices of the Desert provides a platform and venue for LGBT people of both genders

to express their musical ability in a supportive, collegial, and respectful environment. The diversity of this family is an expression of the ability of Voices of the Desert to assimilate the LGBT community with the community at large in a constructive and meaningful way.

"The advantage to having both men and women in our chorus is that we can sing more music," said Casola. "There is a lot more music that is written to mixed voiced. It opens a lot more doors for us."

I Hope I Get It, Saturday, Jan 23, 7:30 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 24, 3 p.m., at the Phoenix Center for the Arts 1202 North Third Street in Phoenix. Tickets are \$10 for children and \$15 for adults in advance or \$20 at the door. Veterans are admitted free. To purchase tickets or for more information visit voicesofthedesert.org. Tickets are also on sale at Off Chute Too, 4115 North 7th Ave. and Showuptix.com. Those attending are asked to bring a can of food for the St. Mary's Food Bank.

Transgender fronted band to film six-city tour Bisbee, Phoenix, & Tucson included

By J. Ursone

Minnesota's premiere transgender fronted band, All the Pretty Horses, will be filming their six-city winter tour, the *3D House of Small Places*. The tour will include three Arizona locations in Bisbee, Phoenix and Tucson.

Footage from the tour could be used for a Travel Channel project, and will definitely be used as part of band leader, Venus DeMars', own film project.

According to DeMars, the tour focuses on smaller venues, allowing the fan base to watch the band in an intimate setting and be part of the film project. "We invite the fans to come and be part of it."

DeMars will be taking her vinyl record collection and art work on tour with the band. Three of the shows will feature DeMars disc jockeying between music sets. The Jan. 16, show in Tucson, Ariz., will feature the band



as well as DeMars' art collection of personal drawings and paintings.

DeMars has worked on other film projects including, *My Skin Is A Map* with Tim Miller, *Unforgiven Fire* and *Stolen Shadows* with John Killacky, *HorseHead*, *Slap-Drag-Ons*, and multiple music videos. Footage of one of her projects was used within the award winning documentary: *Venus of Mars* (venu-

sofmars.com), by Emily Goldberg. The latter film deals with DeMars' transition from male to female.

For 15 years, All the Pretty Horses has been making music, under the influence of leading lady, DeMars. The band has four studio albums under their belt. All The Pretty Horses have a sound described as David Bowie/glam punk-rock. Their music stylings are only enhanced by the gender bending presence of their lead vocalist

All the Pretty Horses will be in Phoenix Jan. 14, at Ice Pics Video Bar. On Jan 16 the band will perform and DeMars' art work will be on display at the Music Candelabra Art Gallery, 412 E 7th St., in Tucson. On Jan. 18, the band will perform at Hot Licks, 37 Ok St., in Bisbee. Between sets Vinyl Venus Space Lounge spins Real Vinyl records, from 70's glam, 80's disco, punk, underground and odd gems from then to now.



HRC AZ: Let's Get Together

By Linda Elliott and Steve Reid

The biggest celebration of the year for HRC Arizona takes place on March 20, 2010! If you have not attended our annual gala, it's time for a change! You do not want to miss out on one of the best parties of the year. All you need to do is set aside one day this year to come out, celebrate and stand TOGETHER!

The 6th Annual HRC Arizona Gala Dinner and once a year auction will be held downtown at the newly renovated Phoenix Convention Center on Saturday, March 20. The auction begins at 5:30 p.m. and the dinner and festivities follow starting at 7 p.m.. Black tie is optional. The HRC Steering Committee and volunteers selected "Together" as the theme for this year's gala. It is representative of how hardworking and active our community has been and continues to be to reach out, demand change and move forward. Together, we have proven that we can accomplish more!

The annual event is an opportunity for the LGBT community to bring friends, family, and businesses collectively to commemorate our accomplishments and share in our vision. Everyone that attends is guaranteed a night rich in experiences mixed with a social soiree among HRC honorary guests,

entertainers and the best of Arizona's diverse community. Most importantly, the evening gives HRC the opportunity to reach out and thank those that are making a difference in the lives of people that are standing together to achieve equality for all.

The annual fundraising auction is blended with an evening of social mixing, awards and recognition. The auction includes artists work representative of the true spirit of diversity and community. In addition to the artwork, local businesses provide various donations for a silent auction to raise critical money needed to help HRC Arizona focus on its mission for the remainder of the year.

Tickets for the event are available at tinyurl.com/HRCAZ-Together2010. There are also opportunities to get involved as a corporate sponsor or table captain. HRC Arizona Table Captains are an essential part of the dinner since each one is acting as a host for the evening. If you are interested in becoming a table captain or sponsor for the event please contact



us at dinner@hrcarizona.org.

Every year, HRC gives out two distinctive awards at the Gala. The HRC Individual Equality Award recognizes one person for their exceptional commitment,

leadership and initiative to bring awareness to the mission of the Human Rights Campaign. The HRC Corporate Equality Award is recognition of a business that exemplifies HRC's mission and goals of fundamental fairness and equality for all. Cynthia Leigh Lewis received the 2009 Individual Equality Award and Honeywell received the 2009 Corporate Equality Award.

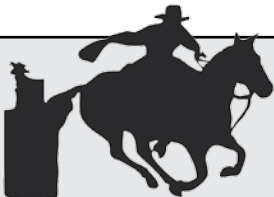
HRC Arizona has a large group of volunteers that work endless hours leading up to the event (and throughout the evening and after) to ensure everyone has a great time and that HRC can continue to improve the lives of the LGBT community. They work to organize the dinner, bring in our top entertainment, commit to serious fundraising and drive valued sponsorships for the evening's festivities. HRC is always overwhelmed and

grateful for their selfless contributions. We are an organization that is rewarded by our volunteer's generosity and determination to make every gala better than the last.

You need to stay in touch. The entertainment announcement for the 2010 dinner along with the award winners will be made in the coming weeks. We will be posting all our announcements on our website, Twitter and Facebook. We hope you are a fan!

Mark your calendar. Spread the word. It is time to get TOGETHER! There is a party on March 20 that you won't want to miss. We'll see you there!

About Us: HRC has 750,000 members nationwide and over 8,000 members in Arizona, making the Human Rights Campaign America's largest civil rights organization working to achieve lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender equality in the US and in Arizona. By inspiring and engaging all Americans, HRC strives to end discrimination against LGBT citizens and realize a nation that achieves fundamental fairness and equality for all. For information about local HRC events and opportunities to get involved visit hrcarizona.org. For real-time local updates visit Facebook facebook.com/HRCAz and twitter.com/hrcaz.



HOMO RODEO Meet & Greet

Phoenix – The HomoRodeo.com Meet and Greet will take place Feb. 12 at Bar 1.

Hosted by Stacy Lewis, Bill Travis and Harley (HomoRodeo.com), the models from the HomoRodeo will sign their 2010 Calendars. Free food at 7 p.m. for all those hungry cowboys along with drink specials, door prizes and giveaways. Bar 1 is located at 3702 N. 16th Street in Phoenix.

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Chris Pureka performing in Flagstaff

Flagstaff - Chris Pureka will be performing in Flagstaff Jan. 30 at the Downtown Green Room. Recent accolades from Bill Board Magazine and The New York Times plus consistent touring have kept Pureka in the public eye while she works on her 5th record, a full length due out at summer's end. A rising songwriter from Western Massachusetts, Pureka has built a reputable name for herself in the 250-500 capacity rooms in the U.S. with a relentless tour schedule and creative marketing strategies.

For this indie-acoustic songstress with simple, heartfelt and vulnerable delivery, comparisons flow easily. Some recognize the poetry and grit of a young Bruce Springsteen or a troubled Ryan Adams. Others see shades of greats like Gillian Welch, Patty Griffin or Mary Gauthier.

Whatever the reference point, one thing remains certain: on her newest release, Pureka has taken the unfettered, heart-on-your-sleeve approach she is known for and has delved even deeper into her calling as promising young troubadour.

Joining Pureka on the Stage is Flagstaff's own Alyson Jay presenting her newly awaited album, "Upside Down".

The event starts at 7 p.m. Cost is \$15 per person. This is a benefit for the Northern Arizona Pride Association.

1VCC Executive Director resigns

Phoenix - On Dec. 28, 2009 Jeff Gish, current Executive Director of One Voice LGBT Community Center, submitted his

letter of resignation to the Board of Directors for health and personal reasons.

"We are truly sad to see Jeff Gish leave One Voice Community Center but completely understand. We are very grateful to him for the massive amount of work he did and for his passion and dedication to our Community Center for our LGBT community here in Phoenix. We could not have opened the center without his tireless efforts and we are looking forward to his continued involvement with One Voice in the future..." said Rocco Menaguale, Board Chair.

"I'm sincerely grateful to have had the opportunity to have served as One Voice's first Executive Director and to have been a part of making a permanent Center in Phoenix a reality. I regret cutting my time in the position short as I remain truly committed to seeing the organization grow and prosper. I hope to remain involved with the organization in a volunteer capacity..." said Jeff Gish. The Current staff, Board, and volunteer committees will be helping the organization move through the transition and the Center will remain vibrant and continue to meet community needs.

Power Paws Walk N' Roll Dog Walk

Tempe - Join Power Paws Walk N' Roll Dog Walk & Silent Auction at Tempe Towne Lake Jan 30. This event raises donations and awareness for Power Paws Assistance Dogs, a Non-Profit organization whose mission is to provide highly skilled assistance dogs to adults and children with disabilities, provide education and continuing support for working assistance dog teams, and to be a resource in the community for people with disabilities. Friendly dogs invited! Registration starts 9am.

For more info go to walknrolldogwalk.org

Man from Magdalena



Tucson - "Man from Magdalena" is a new musical theater work that expresses the migrant experience in Southern Arizona in the 21st century. The

courage of Manuel Jesús Córdova Soberanes from Magdalena, a city only an hour south of the Arizona/Mexico border, inspired Patty C. Willis and Mary Lou Prince (life partners and collaborators for 32 years) to create "Man from Magdalena."

On his way north, he saved an Anglo boy's life and in so doing gave up his own dream. In his incredible act of kindness, he urges us to find our own ways to reach out our hands and heal. His story is our story. This stranger who transformed into an angel shows us the way.

The play, performed by a storyteller, vocal quartet, piano and cello, opens with an overture on the cello and piano. A rancher, living at the heart of this migration, recounts: "Hundreds of strangers cross this land every night on their way from south to north. And of course, that crossing is of interest to lots of people. There are people interested in keeping them out and there are those invested in getting them north." The land holds tragedy and salvation. The music will sweep you away.

Performances are Jan. 22-24. Tickets are \$25. (tax deductible). Advance purchase recommended. Call 520-269-9429. The play will be held at the Amado Territory Ranch, 3001 E Frontage Rd, on the frontage road off I-19 South, Arivaca Exit #48.

Net proceeds will be divided among microloan programs in Central America and Mexico which heal the broken economies at the root of the migration and the music program of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Green Valley.

TIHAN volunteer orientation

Tucson - Join other like-minded people on Jan, 23 from 1-5 p.m. to learn more about TIHAN's volunteer opportunities, HIV/AIDS, and what you can do to make a difference in our community. The cost of the orientation is \$17 to cover materials and snacks. Scholarships are available.

To register or for more information, contact TIHAN's Volunteer Resources Coordinator, Katelyn McDonald at 520-299-6647 or katelyn@tihan.org.



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Three fabulous film festivals you must attend *Elizabeth Taylor, Desperado & Faygeleh*

Compiled by 'N Touch News Staff

For you film aficionados, or those of you who like to take in a movie, January offers not one, but two LGBT themed film festivals and a festival for a gay icon.



The Elizabeth Taylor Film Festival

January 22-24 - Phoenix

Gay icon and world-renowned actress Elizabeth Taylor gets honored by City of Phoenix Councilman Tom Simplot and Harkins Theatres Jan. 22 through 24. The Elizabeth Taylor Film Festival will support HIV/AIDS prevention. Southwest Center for HIV/AIDS, a Phoenix-based nonprofit research, prevention and wellness center, has been chosen as the beneficiary for the event.

"This is a fun, family way to celebrate an icon of the screen and an icon of the AIDS movement. I can think of no better way to raise money for Southwest Center for HIV/AIDS than to celebrate Elizabeth Taylor," noted Phoenix Councilman Tom Simplot, co-chair of the event.

The film festival will be held at Harkins Theatres Christown 14 located at 1620 W. Montebello Ave. Phoenix, and will feature a weekend-full of films starring Elizabeth Taylor, generously underwritten by Harkins Theatres. The film festival will open with an entertainment-filled VIP cocktail reception, silent auction and film showing on Friday evening, Jan. 22. The reception will spotlight Elizabeth Taylor's renowned work in the film and entertainment industry.

"One hundred percent of the ticket sales will help support HIV/AIDS research, as well as

prevention and wellness programs at Southwest Center for HIV/AIDS," noted Carol Poore, president and CEO. "Elizabeth Taylor has been a great supporter of HIV/AIDS prevention, and we are honored that a community film festival would honor her work while supporting our ability to serve the growing needs for awareness, prevention, and support for those 13,000 youth, men and women in Arizona who are impacted by this devastating disease."

Films & Schedule

Friday

VIP Event

5:30 p.m. Reception and Auction

7:15 p.m. *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*

Saturday

12 p.m. *National Velvet*

2:30 p.m. *Giant*

6:45 p.m. *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*

9:20 p.m. *Suddenly Last Summer*

Sunday

11 p.m. *National Velvet*

1:45 p.m. *Little Women*

4 p.m. *Butterfield 8*

6:30 p.m. *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*

Tickets for the VIP reception are \$75 and include cocktails, appetizers, one raffle ticket, a showing of "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" following the reception, and admission into all Elizabeth Taylor films shown at Harkins Christown 14 Theatre throughout the weekend. RSVP is required for the VIP reception and tickets can be purchased by phone only by calling Southwest Center for HIV/AIDS at 602-307-5330 ext. 2242 in advance.

Individual film tickets are \$10, where 100 percent of the ticket sales will be given back to Southwest Center for HIV/AIDS. Tickets will be available for purchase during the film festival throughout the weekend at Harkins Theatres Christown 14. Those who attend more than one Elizabeth Taylor movie will have the opportunity to win raffle prizes drawn at the close of the film festival.

For more information about this film festival please visit Southwest Center for HIV/AIDS online at swhiv.org.

Desperado Gay and Lesbian Film Festival

January 29-30 - Paradise Valley

The curtain goes up on the inaugural Desperado Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, a spectacular showcase of film making from some of the best in the industry. The festival is being presented in collaboration with Paradise Valley Community College's Office of Student Life, P.R.I.D.E Student Organization and the Center for the Performing Arts.

Organizers hope that by providing the Phoenix LGBT population as well as the students of Maricopa County's Community Colleges an understanding of diversity and multiculturalism, that acceptance will take stronger root in the Valley.

In addition, with proceeds from this event, P.R.I.D.E. will establish the PVCC Rainbows Scholarship.

Friday, there will be a welcome reception at the theater and a premiere showing. Saturday, films will run throughout the day starting at 1p.m. Cost is \$10 per film, \$8 for students and seniors. Tickets maybe purchased in advance at showup.com

The Films

25 Random Things I Did During My Big Fat Lesbian Depression takes a comedic look at one lesbian's journey of recovery from an unreal break up. From eating excessive amounts of frozen yogurt to entering a twelve step program. The film uses the framework of social media to poke fun at some of the crazy, yet personal things we do in life to get through our darkest moments.

A Belch Can Ruin A Wedding (Premiere) It was love at first sight when Little Mel spotted Studly Doright across the bar. Two years later, they announce to the world that they will "tie the knot" in the state's first gay marriage. But when the dastardly, right-wing Rev. Fred Belch learns of their wedding plans, he devises a sinister plot to foil the happy couple's plans - for good.

- continued on page 42 -



FRIENDSHIP/SUPPORT

The Imperial Sovereign Empire of Arizona strives to unite the LGBT communities through charitable fundraising events to meet the needs of all. Go to imperialcourtaz.org for more information.

Lesbian Social Network is the alcohol free alternative to the bar scene. We have games, refreshments, great special events. LSN meets Friday evenings at the One Voice Community Center, 4314 N. 7th Ave in Phx. Admission is \$5 and includes refreshments. LSN is sponsored by the Women's Community Connection.

NativeOUT advocates for Native American Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and the Two-Spirit community. For more information, visit nativeout.com.

One Voice Community Center, 725 W Indian School Rd, offers programs, services, and fun events for the Valley's LGBT community. Call 602-712-0111, www.1vcc.org.

Phoenix Pride produces the annual Phoenix Pride Festival & Parade celebration. They also coordinate additional LGBT community events. For more info visit phoenixpride.org or call 602-277-7433.

Transgender Harmony, a metro area support TG group, meets twice monthly, on second and fourth Saturdays at 7pm. Info: e-mail info@tgharmony.org or visit tgharmony.org

Wingspan (Southern Arizona's LGBT Community Center) offers direct programs and services to the LGBT community of Southern AZ and offers space for a wide variety of support, social and political information. Call 520-624-1779 or go to wingspan.org

HEALTH

AIDS Network of Arizona offers a support group for older persons living with HIV, partners, families and friends. For more info 602-222-6226 core-mailaidsnetworkofarizona@wowmail.com

Southwest Center for HIV was created by and for people infected and affected by HIV. Call 602-307-5330 or go to www.swhiv.org. Located at 1144 E. McDowell Road, #200.

For Positive Men (4PM) A peer-owned social support group for HIV positive men. Meets weekly on Thursday evening 6:30-8:30 @ Casa de Cristo, 1029 E. Turney Ave, Phx go to ForPM.org for more info.

Phx LAMBDA Center provides 12-step programs for LGBT people. Call 602-635-2090 or go to phxlambda.org.

Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN) Can be reached at 520-299-6647 For more info go to tihan.org.

POLITICAL

Equality Arizona supports LGBT equality by influencing public policy through political advocacy & legislative lobbying; & by providing educational programs & info through workshops, trainings, townhalls. For more info call 602-650-0900 or equalityarizona.org

GLBT Police Advisory Board meets the third Tuesday of each month at 6pm at Community Church of Hope. Call 262-7658 for more info.

Log Cabin Republicans is the nation's largest organization of Republican LGBT Americans. For more info go to Azlogcabin.com

National Stonewall Democrats is a grassroots network connecting LGBT Democratic activistst. For more info go to stonewalldemocrats.org.

Yuma County Gay Rights Meetup is dedicated to the advancement of LGBT rights in Yuma County through support, news, community events, and political information and action. Visit gayrights.meetup.com/177 for more info.

RECREATION / SPORTS

Arizona Frontrunners is a running/walking group designed to promote health & fitness throughout the LGBT & Friends community. All levels of running/walking are welcome. Contact Ken @ 602-740-8150 or azfrontrunners@cox.net.

Arizona Gay Rodeo Association Membership is open to both women and men, at least 21 years of age. Call 602-265-8166 or to agra-phx.com for more info.

Desert Adventures is designed primarily to provide camping, hiking and other recreational outdoor activities for members of the LGBT community. For info visit desertadventures.org.

Desert Valley Squares is Arizona's premier LGBT social square dance club. For more info call 602-674-3239, or go to desertvalleysquares.com.

The Central AZ Region Lambda Car Club members have cars from the 1930's up to just off the showroom floor. They have events throughout the year, so check them out at azgaycar.com.

SPIRITUAL/RELIGIOUS

Affirmation serves the needs of LGBT members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and their family and friends. Call 602-553-8674 or go to phxaffirmation.com

AVIV is a spiritual and social organization for the Arizona Jewish LGBT community. Call: 602-952-1612 or go to groups.yahoo.com/group/avivsocialaz/

YOUTH

Q²Youth is a group for high-school age LGBTQ youth in the Tri-City area centered in Prescott. The group meets the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month from 2-5 pm. Call Terry for location 928-713-7722. Go to qsquaredyouth.org for more info.

1N10 provides support, info, activities and community for LGBTQ youth ages 14-22. The group meets Thursday evenings at 7pm at Community Church of Hope, located at 4121 N. 7th Ave (Enter on 6th Drive from Indian School). Tuesday evenings in Tempe. For more info see 1n10.org.

YEP (Youth Empowerment Project) is a drop in space for LGBT youth 14-24. Information: 602-277-5166, yep_phoenix@yahoo.com, or myspace.com/yep_phoenix.

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) offers multiple LGBTQ support groups. Main group meets monthly (3rd Mon, 7pm) at 1st Congregational United Church of Christ, 1407 N. Second St., Phx. Info: 602.843.1404, pflagphoenix.org.



High-stakes gay marriage trial to begin in Calif.

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) - The national debate over same-sex marriage will take center stage in a California courtroom at a closely watched federal trial that could ultimately become the landmark case that determines whether gay Americans have a right to marry.

The case will decide a challenge to California's gay marriage ban that was approved by voters in 2008, and the ruling will likely be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. How the high court rules in the case could set the precedent for whether gay marriage becomes legal nationwide.

"This could be our *Brown vs. Board of Education*," said former Clinton White House adviser Richard Socarides, referring to the 1954 Supreme Court decision that outlawed racial segregation in schools and other public facilities. "Certainly the plaintiffs will tell you they are hoping for a broad ruling that says that any law that treats someone differently because of sexual orientation violates the U.S. Constitution."

The case marks the first federal trial to examine if the U.S. Constitution permits bans on gay marriages, and the challenge is being bankrolled by a group of liberal Hollywood activists led by director Rob Reiner.

They retained two of the nation's most influential lawyers to argue the case - former U.S. Solicitor General Theodore Olson and trial lawyer David Boies. The lawyers are best known as the rivals who represented George W. Bush and Al Gore in the "hanging chad" dispute over the 2000 presidential election in Florida, and have tapped the talent of their respective law firms in preparation for the trial and plan to take turns questioning witnesses.

Republican Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and Democratic Attorney General Jerry Brown are defendants in the lawsuit by virtue of their prominent positions in California government, but both men opposed the ban and have refused to defend the suit in court. Schwarzenegger has taken no position on the case, while Brown filed a brief saying he agreed with the Olson-Boies team that gays have the same federal constitutional right to marry as heterosexuals.



The sponsors of the gay marriage ban, a coalition of religious and conservative groups, joined the case as defendants. Their legal team is being led by Charles Cooper, a veteran trial lawyer who worked for the Reagan-era Justice Department. Cooper is being assisted by a team of lawyers from his own firm, along with a Christian legal group based in Arizona.

Presiding over the case is U.S. District Court Chief Judge Vaughn Walker, a Republican named to the bench in 1989 by the first President Bush. Walker, who has a reputation as an independent thinker, was randomly assigned the lawsuit, put it on a fast-track to trial and has said he thinks it raises serious civil rights claims. During a pretrial hearing in August, the judge pointedly scolded Schwarzenegger for remaining neutral "on an issue of this magnitude and importance."

Walker says the case is so important that the court has taken the rare step of allowing videotaping of the proceedings so the public can watch. The trial, scheduled to start Monday, will air on YouTube every day.

To prevail, Olson and Boies will try to prove that denying gays the right to wed serves no legitimate public purpose and that Proposition 8 was motivated by legally irrelevant religious or moral beliefs or even anti-gay bias. The ballot initiative, which passed with 52 percent of the vote, supplanted a California Supreme Court ruling that had legalized same-sex marriages.

Boies and Olson say the ban is a blatant violation of Constitutional rights to equal protection and due process.

Testimony in the trial will explore many of the most contentious political arguments surrounding the issue. Leaders of the

campaign to outlaw gay marriages have been called as witnesses, along with competing academic experts who will be cross-examined on topics ranging from how having same-sex parents affects children and if gay unions undermine male-female marriages.

Cooper's team plans to argue that same-sex marriage still is a social experiment and that it is therefore prudent for states like California to take a wait-and-see approach. Their witnesses will testify that governments historically have sanctioned traditional marriage as a way to promote responsible child-rearing and that this remains a valid justification for limiting marriage to a man and a woman.

"What sets this case apart is the strategy up until now, in the last 10 or 15 years, has been by the national organizations that support same-sex marriage to attack this on a state-by-state basis," said Brian Raum, who is helping to defend Proposition 8. "The impact of those cases, obviously, was limited to their respective states. But the potential impact in this case goes beyond the state of California."

Kristin Perry, 45, is the title plaintiff in the case registered on legal dockets as *Perry v. Schwarzenegger*. She and her lesbian partner of 10 years, Sandra Stier, 47, got married in San Francisco in 2004 when Mayor Gavin Newsom ordered city officials to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples. Six months later, they were among the 4,000 couples who had their unions invalidated by the state Supreme Court.

Perry and Steier, who have four sons, agreed to become involved in the challenge because they believe that a judicial approach grounded in constitutional law provides the best chance of success. Still, many gay rights groups objected to the timing of the lawsuit, fearing it was too soon to mount a federal case.

The plaintiffs will have plenty of star power with Olson and Boies. Olson helped Bush win the presidency in 2000 after the recount battle in Florida, and later served as the president's solicitor general - the lawyer who argues the government's cases before the Supreme Court. Boies represented Gore in 2000.

RI lawmakers back funeral rights for gays

PROVIDENCE (AP) - Rhode Island lawmakers voted to allow same-sex and unmarried couples the right to plan the funerals of their late partners, overriding a veto by the governor, who warned it eroded traditional marriage.



The bill passed 67-3 in the House and 31-3 in the Senate, and enjoyed support from several Republican lawmakers in the same party as Gov. Don Carcieri, an adamant opponent of same-sex marriage in a state that does not recognize gay unions.

The new funeral planning rights also apply to unmarried heterosexual couples.

Mark Goldberg, 49, pushed for the legislation after struggling for five weeks to claim the body of his partner of 17 years, Ron Hanby, who committed suicide in October 2008. The state medical examiner would not release Hanby's body to Goldberg because they were not married or relatives, even though the couple had wills and other legal documents attesting to their relationship.

"Not being able to claim his body was certainly something that was beyond belief, was beyond human compassion from anyone," Goldberg said. "There was just no compassion whatsoever from anyone in the state."

Rhode Island and Maine are the only New England states that do not recognize gay marriage. The movement has stalled in Rhode Island partly because of opposition from Roman Catholic church leaders in the most heavily Catholic state in the country. Bills legalizing gay unions have died in Rhode Island's Democratic-dominated Legislature every year since they were first introduced in 1997.

House Speaker William Murphy, D-West Warwick, and Senate President M. Teresa Paiva-Weed, D-Newport, oppose gay marriage, while Carcieri would almost certainly veto it if it passed.

House Majority Leader Gordon Fox, a

Democrat who is gay, said the bill was about helping the bereaved, not changing the definition of marriage.

"You're dealing with tragedy, one of the worst events in human life as we know it," Fox said, asking his fellow lawmakers to empathize with Goldberg's ordeal. "You're dealing with that tragedy - to be turned away, that you don't count, to be victimized again, who amongst us would want to feel that way?"

To qualify for funeral planning rights, a couple must be at least 18, have lived together for one year and prove they were financially dependent, for example, by owning property together or sharing a bank account.

Carcieri argued that state law already allows residents to designate people to plan their funerals. He said the requirements in the bill meant to prove a relationship were too vague.

"Finally, this bill represents a disturbing trend over the past few years of the incremental erosion of the principles surrounding traditional marriage, which is not the preferred way to approach this issue," Carcieri wrote in a letter to lawmakers.

If lawmakers want to grant domestic partnership rights, they should put the issue on a ballot and let the voters decide, Carcieri said.

A handful of lawmakers opposed the move, including Rep. Lisa Baldelli-Hunt, D-Woonsocket, who supports civil unions for gay couples but opposes gay marriage. She objected to allowing people as young as 18 to qualify as domestic partners for the purpose of claiming a loved one's body.

Baldelli-Hunt said she could theoretically be stopped from planning a funeral for one of her children if they died while in a relationship that qualified under the new law.

"Do I have to lose my rights as a parent because my son is in an intimate relationship with an 18-year-old girl for one year?" she said.

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Investigators seek cause of death of lesbian socialite

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Casey Johnson, an heiress to the Johnson & Johnson fortune, lived the life of a Hollywood socialite - partying with Paris Hilton, posing for paparazzi, becoming engaged to bisexual reality TV star Tila Tequila and like her idol Marilyn Monroe, dying young.

An autopsy Jan 8 found no evidence of trauma on the body of the 30-year-old Johnson and a determination of the cause of death was deferred pending toxicological tests and microscopic studies that could take eight weeks or more.

Johnson was diagnosed with diabetes as a child, but it was unclear if that had a role in her death.

Johnson's body was found Jan 7 in the home where she lived behind big wooden gates bearing the name "Grumblenot" in a quiet neighborhood. There were no signs of foul play, police Officer Gregory Baek said.

But there were signs of trouble in tabloid tales of a life of privilege seemingly spinning out of control.

Johnson was facing criminal charges alleging she burglarized a friend's home, reportedly had her adopted daughter taken away by her mother, and once publicly accused her father's sister of stealing her boyfriend.

Johnson was the daughter of New York Jets owner Robert Wood "Woody" Johnson IV. He is also chairman of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and co-authored the book, "Managing Your Child's Diabetes."

Woody Johnson learned of his daughter's death a day after his team clinched an



NFL playoff spot for the first time in three seasons.

Jets head coach Rex Ryan opened his press conference Jan 8 by offering condolences to the owner.

"It's obviously a tragedy for Mr. Johnson and his family," Ryan said.

Casey Johnson had no role in the health care products company that her great-great-grandfather founded in 1886, even though she and her two younger sisters were heirs to the fortune.

The family's involvement with the corporation ended decades ago.

Like her friend and former high school classmate Hilton, Johnson's exploits were detailed in tabloid reports of partying and sexual escapades. Johnson became a staple of the New York Post's Page Six, the gossip column where she was mockingly dubbed the "baby-oil heiress."

She was one of the subjects of the 2002

Manhattan documentary "It Girls," but screen fame eluded her.

Johnson told Vanity Fair in a 2006 interview that her decision to turn down Hilton's invitation to be her co-star on "The Simple Life" reality show was "the stupidest mistake of my life."

In a Twitter posting, Hilton said she was devastated by the death of her friend.

"In bed crying, looking at baby pictures of Casey, Nicky and I. I feel so upset. I feel like I've lost a sister. My heart is broken. Miss her," she wrote.

Johnson and Tila Tequila canoodled and announced they were engaged in a Web video last month. Tequila referred to Johnson as "my Wifey" in a Twitter posting after Johnson's death.

Johnson was recently arrested for investigation of stealing \$22,000 in lingerie, mail, jewelry and other items from the Hollywood home of model friend Jasmine Lennard.

She pleaded not guilty last month to burglary and receiving stolen property, and had a preliminary hearing scheduled on Feb. 2, district attorney's spokeswoman Jane Robison said.

Johnson also was reportedly in a custody fight over her adopted daughter with her mother, Sale Johnson.

Casey Johnson adopted the child as a baby from Kazakhstan in 2007 and named her Ava-Monroe after her idol, Marilyn Monroe.

"I see a lot of similarities between us," Casey said about Monroe in the Vanity Fair interview. "Her life makes me sad. I don't think she was very happy.

"They thought she was some dumb blonde, and she wasn't. She was a smart, smart broad. And I think that sometimes people look at me and think, 'Oh, Casey Johnson, she's stupid, she's blonde, she's an heiress, blah, blah, blah.'"

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Portuguese parliament votes to permit gay marriage

By Barry Hatton



LISBON, Portugal (AP) – Portugal’s parliament passed a bill Jan.8 that would make the predominantly Catholic nation the sixth in Europe to permit gay marriage.

Conservative President Anibal Cavaco Silva is thought unlikely to veto the Socialist government’s bill, which won the support of all left-of-center parties. His ratification would allow the first gay marriage ceremonies to take place in April — a month before Pope Benedict XVI is due on an official visit to Portugal.

Right-of-center parties opposed the change and sought a national referendum on the issue, but their proposal was rejected and the government’s bill was passed by 125 votes to 99.

Gay rights campaigners applauded from the galleries, hugged and kissed outside the building and ate wedding cake.

“This law rights a wrong,” Prime Minister Jose Socrates said in a speech to lawmakers, adding that it “simply ends pointless suffering.”

Socrates said the measure is part of his effort to modernize Portugal where homosexuality was a crime until 1982. Two years ago his government lifted Portugal’s ban on abortion, despite church opposition.

Gay marriage is currently permitted in Belgium, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and Norway. Canada, South Africa and six U.S. states also permit it.

The bill removes a reference in the current law to marriage being between two people of different sexes.

“It’s a slight change to the law, it’s true,” Socrates, the prime minister, said. “But it

is a very important and symbolic step towards fully ensuring respect for values that are essential in any democratic, open and tolerant society: the values of freedom, equality and non-discrimination.”

Like neighboring Spain, which introduced same-sex marriages four years ago, Portugal is an overwhelmingly Roman Catholic country and previous efforts to introduce gay marriage ran into strong resistance from religious groups and conservative lawmakers.

Paulo Corte-Real, head of a lobby group called Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transsexual Intervention, said Portugal had become a pioneering country in gay rights.

“This is a historic moment. We just hope (the bill) gets ratified quickly,” he said.

Socrates said a referendum was not necessary because the gay marriage proposal was included in the Socialist Party’s manifesto in last September’s general election, when it was returned to power.

In 2001, a law allowed “civil unions” between same-sex couples which granted them certain legal, tax and property rights. However, it did not allow couples to take their partner’s name, inherit their possessions nor their state pension, which is permitted in marriages.

A proposal from the Left Bloc and Green Party allowing gay couples to adopt children was voted down Friday. Gay campaigners said they would continue to fight for gay couples’ parental rights.

The main opposition Social Democratic Party proposed granting non-married cohabiting couples of the same sex more rights, as in France, but its bill also was rejected.

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Community chooses 2009 'N Touch News Man & Woman of the Year

By Luis Garcia

2009 Woman of the Year: Meg Sneed

It is safe to say that no single individual in the Valley did more for political activism in the LGBT community last year than Meg Sneed.

The journey of this incredible woman, however, did not begin in 2009. Shortly after her 24th birthday, Sneed was diagnosed with breast cancer. After receiving the horrible news Sneed promised herself to fight, never give up, and make cancer "her bitch." Sneed admits that cancer has made her the activist she is today, taking the lessons she has learned

on every campaign.

"I was froze in fear and shock, it was the moment that my life took a turn in the road that I had never expected, and my life has never been the same," Sneed said. "For a long time I was really angry and just kept asking 'why me?' But with the support of an amazing medical team and the love of family and friends that anger faded into a steady resolve to overcome it. Cancer taught me the power in a positive attitude and that a strong support system is the key to success."

In the spring of 2006 Sneed became a member of the first Soulforce Equality Ride, a two

month bus trip to 19 different colleges and universities that expel or penalize lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender students.

According to Bill Carpenter, Interim Executive Director of Soulforce, Meg was an integral part of the 2006 Ride.

"She paved the way for the equality riders who came after her," Carpenter said.

"Meg Sneed was a pioneer on the 2006 Soulforce Equality Ride, and as such, had to endure long bus rides, short nights and even less respect from some of the students along the way. Meg showed her own brand of non-violent courage and commitment by standing strong and firm and having a good laugh along the way. She has continued as a pioneer for justice as she inspired others to join her in the Right to Marry – Arizona marches in 2008 and 2009. She's an inspiration to me and everyone who knows her story."

The Fight Comes to Arizona.

In the fall of 2006 Meg organized her first political action in Arizona. Along with other openly gay young adults across the country, Meg declared her desire to serve her country in the armed forces.

Soulforce's Right to Serve campaign directly challenge the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy prohibiting openly gay, lesbian and bisexual people from serving in the U. S. military.

"I never got the chance to attempt to enlist; the office was closed without notice. I knew under the policy I would be turned down, but I wanted to serve my country, openly and honestly," Sneed said.

The following summer Sneed was involved in the Soulforce Right to Marry campaign. In which young adults traveled to New York speaking to legislatures and citizens about the importance of Marriage Equality for the LGBT community.

In 2008 she brought the Right to Marry campaign to Arizona, stating that it was time to bring equality home. Meg lead seven young adults as they walked 96 miles in the dog days of summer across Arizona to bring awareness to the fact that Arizona had been a state for 96 and for 96 years had denied rights to LGBT Arizonans. The campaign drew national and local media and support, and creating many

conversations among those in Arizona.

"It is a pilgrimage across Arizona talking to police, city managers, faith communities, elected officials and individuals in diverse districts." Seed said. "In 2009 we added a mile to the trek and walked 97 miles for the 97 years that Arizona had been a state without full marriage equality for all Arizonans. In 2010 we will walk 98 miles, and will continue to put our feet to the pavement and have conversations until all Arizonans are equal."

In November 2008 Arizona suffered a loss in the fight for Marriage Equality, and Sneed called for a candlelight vigil in order to support one another and offer encouragement for the future. From this vigil Meg and other activists co-founded the group Human & Equal Rights Organizers. H.E.R.O. became an organization that was community driven, working tirelessly through Service, Action, Visibility, and Education (S.A.V.E.) events. Less than six months after its creation H.E.R.O. won a number of political service awards and the Phoenix Pride Spirit Award.

In January 2009 Sneed launched her first National Campaign with the Right to Save Campaign which challenges the FDA policy that "men who have had sex with men even once since 1977 are deferred for life from donating blood." Sneed organized a test run in Phoenix where men declared that because of this policy they would be deferred but that they would like to give blood and save three lives.

"Right to Save is important because the FDA holds policies that don't make our blood supply safer," said co-organizer and longtime friend Melissa Halverson. "These policies are out dated, discriminatory and seek to alter what are 'moral' behaviors. The FDA's opinion on morality does not lead to a safer, healthier blood supply."

Sneed felt Right to Save was essential because, in her own words "Our community needs a win, and this fight, is winnable". I mean all the major blood banks in the country agree the ban should be lifted."

Sneed has maintained a positive attitude and faced the unthinkable with fire and determination. Since being diagnosed in 2007, Sneed has also helped raise over \$10,000 for education and research about causes, treatment, and the search for a cure for breast cancer.

2009 Man of the Year: Mark Fetgatter

Towering over 6 feet before he dons heels or wig, Mark Fetgatter aka Bunny Fu Fu retired this past December after 13 years as one of Tucson's reigning drag queens. Over the years he has racked up plenty of tiaras and five pageant titles including Miss Gay Tucson in 2001, Miss Copper State 2004, and Miss Gay Arizona in 2004. During that time Mark donated most of his time as "Bunny" raising thousands of dollars for local nonprofits, including Wingspan, Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation, TIHAN, and Body Positive in Phoenix, The Salvation Army, and many others. "I can't sit down and write a million dollar check for an organization, but I can put on some heels, lashes and a dress and make money for their cause."

Mark started drag, Aug. 1, 1996. "I know it was that date because it was my best friend's 21st birthday, and I wanted to do something special that he would never forget."

Larry Moore aka Lucinda Holliday, who would eventually become Mark's Drag Mother, suggested Mark go as Marilyn Monroe and sing Happy Birthday. Mark thought it was a great idea. As Moore helped him get ready, he kept asking Mark if he was sure he wanted to do it, warning, "You know drag is a drug. Once you get started you'll become addicted."

From the start Mark's parents were very supportive. Mark knows from his work at Wingspan that not everyone is so lucky.

"I gave my parents the one, two punch. First, I'm gay. They were like 'we knew', then I hit them with 'I'm a drag queen.' They were intrigued about what that really meant. But, I'm really lucky; my parents have attended all my pageants and make all my early shows. My dad makes homemade salsa from his garden and brings it to IBTs and has a drink with the girls. All the girls have connected with my parents and vice-versa. My mother always uses their first two names. 'Is it Larry-Lucinda?' She is so cute."

"If every gay person or drag queen had parents like mine it would be a perfect world. We wouldn't have any homeless youth or ostracized people. It would be great."

Besides performing, Mark has mentored up and coming Drag performer's telling them to be themselves and to always give back to their community. For those thinking about drag, do not try and copy others, just be you. "Remember who you are and remember your community. Drag was a way of giving back for me. I was very grateful."

When he isn't doing fundraisers, Mark is the Community Educator at Wingspan, specifically for its Anti-Violence program, which provides free and confidential 24-hour crisis intervention, information, support, referrals, emergency shelter, and advocacy to LGBT victim/survivors of violence. If a bias crime is committed and police or media response is slow or absent, AVP demands a thorough investigation. The Anti-Violence Program also organizes the community to speak out against prejudice and bigotry, insisting on equal rights for the LGBT community.

Mark facilitates all training workshops for social service providers such as police departments, hospitals, mental health facilities, schools of social work, some High Schools and his favorite - The Superior Court of Arizona. These workshops focus on serving LGBT survivors of violence and LGBT sensitivity training. The trainings are designed to address LGBT domestic, relationship and sexual violence issues, risks and disparities.

"The Anti-Violence Program works to raise awareness of the realities of violence against and within the LGBT community. The AVP works to change public attitudes that tolerate or instigate violence by educating the broader community about LGBT lives, domestic, and sexual violence."

It is no wonder that given Mark's duties as Wingspan's Educator that his alter ego is so outrageously funny. But still Mark says it is time for Bunny to go. "I will really miss the Bunny fans, the people in the bars, and the community of course. But I really would like to enjoy spending time with my partner. He has been a huge support and great sport. How many gay men do you know that would put up with their partner being gone until the wee hours of the morning two or three nights a week?"

Mark says that if "Bunny" is truly needed then she will return for a fundraiser now and then, which is a comfort to all the Fu Fu fans out there.



Phoenix Gay Chamber

Quarterly Dinner

Will be held on Wednesday, January 20th, from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. Location to be announced.

February Luncheon

Will be held on Friday, February 5th, from 11am to 1pm.

February Net Mix

Will be held on Wednesday, February 10th, from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. Location to be announced.

You must RSVP for all events by emailing: RSVPevents@gpplcc.org



Tucson Gay Chamber

Breakfast Meeting

is held the 3rd Thursday of the month 7:30-9 a.m. at the Hotel Congress, 311 E. Congress. Cost: \$15 for members. \$20 for guests.

RSVP at 520-615-6436 or go to Tucsonglbtchamber.org

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2010 GPGLCC Directory deadline nears

The ability of the Greater Phoenix Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce Directory to bring in business for their members is exceptional. With a distribution of 20,000 annually, the Directory reaches a readership of more than 100,000 potential customers! For the second year in a row, as an added bonus, all display ads as well as listings will be included free in the 2010 Digital Directory. The Digital Directory reaches an unlimited amount of customers.

Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity to advertise in the "2010 GPGLCC Directory" Hurry because sales close January 20, 2010.

PDF Directory Forms online at gpplcc.org. Type in your information online, print and either fax or mail them in.

Business Mentor Match 2010

Valley entrepreneurs, make a New Year's resolution to learn about the many mentoring programs available for your business. Join the Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce as they partner with Arizona Public Service (APS), the Phoenix Chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO), the Maricopa Small Business Development Center and the Arizona Small Business Association (ASBA) to host Mentor Match on January 28, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in the Chamber Board Room.

The Mentor Match event will kickoff with a 10 minute presentation by each organization outlining their programs' requirements. Attendees will match these requirements to their business model and determine the right mentorship program for their company. The event will conclude with a 20 minute forum where business owners can speak to each representative, ask questions and identify which organization best fits their business.

Business Mentoring Programs: The Chamber's Athena Powerlink, APS Academy for the Advancement of Small, Minority and Women Owned Enterprises (AAAME), National Association of Women Business Owners' (NAWBO) Phoenix Mentoring Program, Maricopa Small Business Development Center and Arizona Small Business Association's

(ASBA) Training Information Mentoring Education (T.I.M.E.) will be showcased in the Chamber boardroom allowing business owners to discover which program best fits their business model.

For more info go to phoenixchamber.com.

Women Entrepreneurs Small Business BootCamp



Phoenix - March your troops into a prosperous new year. Come celebrate the successes of our local mighty micro-businesses at this 6th annual conference, Feb. 6.

The Center For Women's Business Research finds that a large portion of the 220,000 women-owned firms in Arizona that generate over 60 billion dollars in sales are Micro-business owners who employ less than 10 people. They are the fastest-growing segment of entrepreneurship in the country!

Enjoy two keynote speakers, learn from nine workshop presenters and visit with 50 exhibitors. Expand your business knowledge, explore new opportunities, gather important resources, mingle with your peers and enjoy this exciting day of education and motivation that will energize, synergize and maximize your success.

For more information go to Womensbusinessbootcamp.com

Small business assistance from the City of Phoenix

Phoenix - The City of Phoenix Community & Economic Development Department has created a Small Business Assistance Program to help existing Phoenix businesses create and retain jobs and improve the quality of life for Phoenix residents.

If you are thinking of expanding or relocating your business or looking for ways to improve the efficiency and productivity of your workplace, the small business assistance program can help.

For more information, phoenixchamber.com.

Pack up your gear... The rodeo is almost here!



Arizona Gay Rodeo Association invites you to its 25th year of rodeo with the **Road Runner Regional Rodeo: Presidents' Day Weekend, February 12-14, 2010.**

RODEO EVENTS AT:

**RAWHIDE at
WILD HORSE PASS**
5700 W NORTH LOOP RD
CHANDLER, ARIZONA

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12:

WESTERN COOKOUT,
ENTERTAINMENT &
CONTESTANT
REGISTRATION... all at
RAWHIDE

HOST HOTELS:
GRACE INN PHOENIX
and the new
**WILD HORSE PASS
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www.agra-phx.com
(602) 265-8166

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Slim waists, bulky arms?

By Kirk Matthews

Readers: Happy New Year to you all-- It's going to be a great year! Keep those questions coming, and if you don't see your question answered this month, you might see it answered next month or when I can fit several shorter answers together. Thanks for the many kind e-mails and support – I appreciate it!

Now, on to your questions...

Kirk: I'm 46 years old, and over the past year, I've lost close to 40 lbs. doing weight-lifting and adding to my cardio program. My pants are getting really loose, but my dress shirts seem to be shrinking, mostly in the sleeve length? I don't get it, are my arms getting longer? Dan

Dan, congratulations on the weight loss! It sounds like you have a very motivating trainer and/or total program.

I've seen this scenario several times in my training career. Yours sounds like the body type that stores fat mostly in the abdominal region, and I'd also guess you're the type that gains muscle more rapidly than the average trainee -- much to the envy of others. Here's a visual: Drape a towel over your shoulders, and another towel, same length, over an Olympic powerlifter's shoulders – one who matches your height. Odds are, that towel will hang lower on your arms than his.

Visuals sometimes help make the most sense: It's not so much about arm length – it's more about density of muscle, and muscle takes up room under fabric. So, the idea in your case: You've obviously added some pretty good size to your trapezius, shoulder and triceps muscles over time -- and all that adds up to more muscle density and size under the same amount of fabric -- resulting in shorter sleeves, not longer arms.

This is common in men who wait until their 30's or



later to begin a comprehensive and focused training program. Many find that it's easier than they thought to gain muscle (and lose fat) and wonder why they waited so long – but are thrilled with the speedy results.

Whether the gains are fast or slow, the research keeps confirming that controlled and safe progressive resistance training for all ages and body types is a smart and healthy choice. All I can say in your case is: Have fun shopping for those new shirts!

Kirk: For the new year, I'm trying to add in more frequent meals like the experts tell you to do. What do you think of those protein and energy bars? Charice

Charice, this is a great question for the New Year. MRPs, or Meal Replacement Products, are a healthy and smart way to get that "grazing" lifestyle in full swing. Grazing-based eating is being recommended by a number of health professionals as a smart way to control portion, hunger and insulin as well – all aiming you toward a healthier metabolism and weight. More frequent, smaller meals also help to keep energy high and binging low – all great for your overall program.

Whether for work or post-workout, I keep on hand a small assortment of portable MRP bars. My favorite: 15g complete protein, 5g sugars, 3g fiber and 3g fat. Great flavors

to choose from – I can order them for you anytime. But wherever you get them, here's what to watch for: 10-25g protein, 5-20g sugars (not carbs), 2-8g fiber, and 2-8g fat.

If the protein is too low and the sugars (not the carbs) are too high, then it's really more of a candy bar – whether they call it a protein, energy or snack bar. And I'm pointing out the difference between carbs and sugars because high-fiber carbs aren't what we need to worry about. If there's nearly zero fiber and something like 40-50g of carbs, then it's a lot of sugar: heavy on the sweeteners = heavy on your waistline – not the best choice for your healthy lifestyle.

And as far as qualities of proteins go: a balanced mix of whey and soy proteins seem to be the best choice and flavor – soy-only bars tend to fail more in taste tests -- and since I favor whey, the blend is a great choice for my money.

Read your labels and test the flavors, you'll find a good fit. Most busy professionals prefer the bars to the shakes, because if it's likely to cause a mess, it's likely to just be skipped altogether -- and you want to make a choice you can stick with easily. And the bars are still better choices over shakes because they're actually filling – it's more like a meal. That's what the best MRPs do: when you can't get a regular meal when you need to eat – they fill you and feed you. Let me know if you want me to order some of my favorites for you -- but either way, let me know how it goes and good luck!

As the new year moves forward, you're going to hear more people talking about "customized nutrition" – the next wave in personal supplementation. If you want to learn more about how it can change and enhance your complete wellness program, contact me anytime: It's changing the way people see supplementation, and saving them time and money!

Kirk Matthews is a Multiple Certified Personal Trainer and Professional Nutrition Consultant; answers may contain advice from either or both disciplines. Call at: 602-616-9195. Questions: e-mail kirk.matthews@hotmail.com Visit: sportsclubatcitysquare.com and try before you buy!



Athlete's 'N Touch

By Jared Garduno

Several leagues throughout the Valley are revving up for the spring season. Eagerly waiting to step out onto the courts are two new leagues, indoor volleyball and basketball. Eric Reyes of the Desert Volleyball Alliance and LeRoy Eswonia of Hellraisers Hoops are building these sports with the same goal in mind; to provide the LGBT sports community with another outlet to showcase their talents.

The challenges Reyes and Eswonia face are sure to reveal their true character. Past efforts to launch both leagues failed to take hold. So, it begs the question, is the fifth largest city in the nation now ready for these new leagues? Do Eric and LeRoy have what it takes to survive the heat of the desert? Will their game plan lead them to success?

With the surge of gay sports in Phoenix, basketball and volleyball would be a great addition. The current softball, sand volleyball and flag football leagues are an encouragement for new sports to become just as established in the future.

Reyes' interest and experience in gay sports are key motivations for his decision to begin an indoor volleyball league in the valley. Reyes knows the team effort necessary to make a successful league. Reyes has also received the backing of six key advisors who themselves had attempted to launch leagues in the past. With the insight of these advisors the leagues



are sure to be a success this time around.

Eswonia is familiar with the unavoidable publicity challenges that lay ahead. Therefore, he is relying on the help of his Hellraiser brotherhood that made flag football a main stay in the community. They are both out and about building community and recruiting future athletes to build these new leagues. With

Eswonia on the job, the new basketball league is bound to be a great addition to the already thriving LGBT sports community.

Neither, Reyes or Eswonia is fazed by the hard work nor the uphill battle they face in upcoming years. They both realize that they need to build the leagues one person at a time. Patience, marketing, and team work are the key ingredients to change the outcome this go around, and as of now, both Reyes and Eswonia are following through.

Every successful league in the Valley shares the common denominator of a group of dedicated people making their league a success- to whom we give our gratitude. The marketing and branding efforts are already in full force and if they continue down their path success will follow. Look out folks, with the addition of these two new leagues Phoenix will eventually be the most sought out city in the region.

Playmakers Corner



Duke Kimbol is "playing the field" in the valley's gay sports community. As a master handler of a basketball, Kimbol transfers his agility and technique to three other sports including Flag Football, Sand Volleyball, and Softball. How does he find the time? Simply put: love of the game and this community. A great leader, he challenges his teammates to work as one cohesive unit. It is easy to foresee Kimbol's skill and dedication catching wide-ranging attention and receiving accolades for himself and his teammates. Look for a well decorated Duke at the end of 2010,

and don't be surprised if you see Kimbol strutting his stuff down the runway.

LGBT SPORTS LEAGUES SPOTLIGHT

Sports leagues of the Valley provide a safe, friendly, and fun social setting for the LGBT community. Whether a new comer, veteran, or a fan everyone is welcome.

Basketball

Hellraisers Hoops

Open Play Sunday's from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Sports Club of City Square
www.phoenix.ngba.us
hellraiserhoops@yahoo.com

Flag Football

Phoenix Hellraisers Flag Football League

Saturday's 9:00 a.m. January – April
Colter Park
www.phoenixflagfootball.com
info@phoenixflagfootball.com
602.284.9207

Rugby – Men

Phoenix Storm

Saturday's 8:00 a.m.
Longview Elementary School
www.phoenixstorm.org
info@rugbystorm.com

Softball

Cactus Cities Softball League

Sunday's starting at 8:00 a.m.
Spring: Feb. – May; Fall: Oct. - Dec
Ceasar Chavez Park
www.cactuscities.com

Swimming

The Phoenix Sunfish

Year around schedule
Mon, Tues, & Thurs - 6:30 - 8:00 pm
Sat - 4:30-6:00 pm
Three Locations throughout the valley
www.phxsunfish.org

Volleyball – Indoor

Desert Volleyball Alliance

February - May
Saturday's 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Kingdom Courts
www.desertvalleyalliance.org
aaryck@hotmail.com

Volleyball – Sand

Arizona Gay Volleyball Association

Three seasons to choose from
Feb – May, June – Aug, Sept – Dec
Indian Steele Park & Radisson City Center
Monday & Tuesday's 6:30 p.m.
www.azgv.org
commissioner@azgv.org

Sign up for Cactus Cities Softball at www.cactuscities.com!



AGRA'S ROADRUNNER REGIONAL RODEO TURNS

25

By Luis Garcia

Arizona's best cowboys and cowgirls are putting on their finest pair of boots and picking out their best hats as the 2010 RoadRunner Regional Rodeo comes out of the chute President's Day Weekend, Feb. 12-14. The anticipated weekend long event is the biggest "Gay Rodeo" event in the southwest and attracts rodeo fans and contestants from all over the country. The RRRR is also a chance to support local organizations in need of financial assistance. Gates open at 8 a.m. Saturday Feb. 13 and Sunday Feb. 14, with bull riding, poll bending, goat dressing and steer riding among the hotly-contested events.

A message from Michael Weidmann, Arizona Gay Rodeo Association President: *Let me start off by admitting that "Yes", I am the "new kid on the block" and by all means I have a lot of learning to do. My drive and determination to ensure that this organization continues to do the great work that it is known for is incomprehensible.*

This is our time, right now, to move this organization forward. Leaving personal agendas and bias's aside, let's all take a step back and look at what would be the best for AGRA. This will be my goal for the remainder of the year.

I am very proud to be part of this organization. Every one of you should be proud as well!!! Over the years we have done great things and donated an astronomical amount to different charities!! Yes, we make a difference

Let's make our 25th anniversary rodeo one that will be unforgettable!!! I look forward to seeing you there.

Royal family

Every year the Arizona Gay Rodeo Association sponsors a Royalty Contest that is not for the faint of heart. Each and every person who has held an AGRA Sash has worked tirelessly and endlessly to help promote, uplift, sponsor, fundraise and be a very valued part of what the rodeo family calls AGRA.



2009 AGRA ROYALTY:

Mr. AGRA 2009, Mr. Travis James
Travis James has been a wonderful part of AGRA since he joined its ranks. He is also one of the Men of Charlie's. When he is not spinning around the dance floor, he is teaching someone how to two-step or "help'em" polish up a line dance. Travis is also a rodeo event contestant. He can be seen in the arena doing Chute Dogging as well as Wild Drag and Goat Dressing.

Miss AGRA 2009, Miss Ionna Doublewide
Miss Ionna Doublewide immersed on the scene in early 2008 at a local fundraiser and has been shining and entertaining ever since. She gracefully accepted her crown last January as Miss AGRA and hit the ground running from there. Miss Ionna is also one of the Men of Charlie's, July 1998, as well as one of the former members of the Charlie's Cowboy Cloggers. She continues to support AGRA as well as build relationships with other organizations in and around phoenix.

GIVING BACK

The RoadRunner Regional Rodeo is not just a weekend filled with great competition. As part of the International Gay Rodeo Association (IGRA) the organization, assist in raising and donating thousands of dollars to charities in their local community each year. This year the following organizations will be benefiting from the RRRR:

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays - Phoenix

PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons, their families and friends through: Support - to cope with an adverse society, Education - to enlighten an ill-informed public, and Advocacy - to end discrimination and to secure equal civil rights. pflagphoenix.org

Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network

invites the religious community to join them in an informed, sensitive and compassionate response to those affected by HIV/AIDS. They are called to care by: Working within our faith communities to promote education and prevention of HIV/AIDS. Educating clergy and laity in offering support to those affected by HIV/AIDS. Assuring the availability of spiritual care, respecting each individual's faith and tradition. Advocating in the community for those affected by HIV/AIDS. tihan.org

The Phoenix affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure

is one of 125 affiliates around the world and serves Central and Northern Arizona. The organization's mission is to provide educa-

tion, mammograms, screening and treatment for those in need. Their signature event is Phoenix's annual Race for the Cure, which draws thousands of volunteers and supporters to empower Arizonans to conquer breast cancer. komenphoenix.org

The Community Church of Hope

is a spiritual resource for the LGBT community. The church hosts support and advocacy groups such as COLLAGE, H.O.P.E. and 1n10 youth group. Reverends Patrick Stout and Charley Coppinger help to create a healing ministry for all who journey with the Community Church of Hope. communitychurchofhope.com

The Joshua Tree Feeding Program

located in Phoenix, is dedicated to offering its clients a hot nourishing lunch, plentiful food to take home, and an opportunity to socialize in a compassionate and loving atmosphere. (See page 7.)

FESTIVITIES

Friday night - Dinner/show \$30. Includes cowboy cook out as well as cowboy karaoke finals. All events held at Rawhide along with contestant registration. There will be dancing the entire night. Entry for show/dancing only (meal not included) is \$8.

Saturday - All day entry is \$17. Includes night entertainment on the rodeo grounds. Watch the AGRA website for special guests.

Sunday - \$8 all day entry economy saver. Includes all rodeo events, entertainment events and awards ceremony at Rawhide.

VIP All Access Weekend Pass - \$50. Includes Dinner/Show Friday night, entry on both Saturday and Sunday.

HOST HOTELS

If you're looking for somewhere to stay where the cowboys and cowgirls bunk, then try the host hotels.

The Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino

5040 Wild Horse Pass Blvd. in Chandler, is Arizona's newest stay and play experience offering premier gaming, fabulous food, exciting nightlife, onsite event facilities with convenient adjoining accommodations. Reservations: 1-800-946-4452 and mention the AGRA rate. Website bookings: wing-lariver.com Use code AGRA0210 to receive your discounted rate.

Grace Inn

Phoenix AZ, 10831 South 51st Street in Phoenix, if you are looking to help and support AGRA the Grace Inn would love to hear from you. Reservations: 800-843-6010 or 480-893-3000 and mention the AGRA room block. graceinn.com

IMPORTANT INFO

RoadRunner Regional Rodeo will be held at the Gila Indian Community Reservation at Wild Horse Pass, 5700 West North Loop Rd. in Chandler. Tickets from \$8-\$50 can be bought at arizonagayrodeo.eventbrite.com or on the campgrounds on the day of the events. For more information visit agra-phx.com.

RODEO TO RETURN TO SOUTHERN ARIZONA

TUCSON - Mount up cowboys and cowgirls, rodeo is returning to Southern Arizona with the formation of the Sonoran Rodeo Association (SRA). The new independent association formed by local individuals with the commitment to promote rodeo and the Western cultural lifestyle in Southern Arizona as well as supporting local charities.

SRA began the association process by receiving the rights to the five Southern Arizona counties of Pima, Santa Cruz, Cochise, Graham, and Greenlee from the current Arizona state association. This was required to be a member under the International Gay Rodeo Association (IGRA) and to be recognized by the association at the IGRA Convention in Toronto in November 2009.

The SRA and its founding members are working toward the goal of producing its first rodeo in October 2011 at a yet to be determined rodeo venue in Southern Arizona. The Arizona Sonoran Stampede will be held October 7-9, 2011 which will make it the last rodeo of the season on the IGRA circuit.

Focused on producing a rodeo and promoting the western lifestyle, the SRA also has a strong commitment to supporting the local community through fundraising and charitable donations. A portion of the proceeds from the rodeo as well as fundraising efforts will be given to local charities whose focus is on the local community.

Rodeo has deep roots within Arizona and is at the heart of many in the area. SRA's rodeo will feature such events as bull riding, steer riding, barrel racing, pole bending, calf roping, chute dogging, team roping, break away roping, and the entertaining crowd favorite of wild drag just to mention a few!

SRA will also produce frequent entertainment functions as well as fundraising specials to support the association and the community.

Information about the SRA, its cowboys and cowgirls, sponsored events, what rodeos are going on, or to join go to sonoranrodeo.com.

HomoRodeo.com MEET-n-GREET Everyone's going to be at **bar1**



3702 N 16TH STREET, PHOENIX, AZ 85016
HOSTED BY STACY LEWIS, BILL TRAVIS, HARLEY (HOMORODEO.COM)

Gay Rodeo weekend: Fri 2-12 @ 7PM

'n touch
NEWS MAGAZINE



OFF CHUTE 600



ROOT SELLER
Gallery & Apothecary

MISS & MISTER PHOENIX

Gay Pride 2010

February 6, 2010

7pm, doors open at 6pm

\$20

18 and over. Cash Bar with ID.

Wyndham Downtown

Phoenix Hotel

(Just off the light rail at Adams. Paid parking available.)

Special Host NINA FLOWERS!

Other local and national celebrity
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Can you rely on your home as your retirement nest egg?

By Jarrod L. Dill

Like many homeowners, your house is probably the biggest investment on your personal balance sheet. So you might wonder, with all that's changed in the economic turmoil of the last few years—the Wall Street collapse, the housing boom and bust, cuts to employee pensions and 401(k) accounts—what your house is worth now and if you can rely on it as a retirement nest egg in the future. Here are a few things to keep in mind.

Counting on your home to provide a source of income in retirement is not without risk. Though home values historically have risen over time, they sometimes fall unexpectedly, leaving you at the mercy of the marketplace. The recent real estate crash is evidence enough that home values are subject to fluctuation.

In general, however, once you pay off your mortgage, and assuming your property is well-maintained, your home will be a valuable asset. To get a feel for its current worth, do an honest assessment of it relative to houses that are for-sale in the neighborhood. Take note of resale rates and other neighborhood trends that could affect home values. If you're looking for a more precise figure, consider hiring a professional to assess your home's value.

If you do decide to use your house as a source of income when you retire, then you have two basic choices:

You can sell your home at the current market value. With the proceeds, you can invest and draw a monthly salary. This is probably only a good option if you are looking to downsize from a large or expensive home into something more modest. Even in that scenario, however, you should keep in mind that expenses related to renting or buying a new place to live could take a heavy bite out of the sale.

You can consider taking out a reverse mortgage (if you qualify). A reverse mortgage is a government-run program that allows homeowners to stay in their homes while accessing a portion of the value of their property. You can choose to receive a lump sum, monthly



payments or open a line of credit based on available equity. The cash you receive can be used as you wish (whether to pay for daily expenses, make home improvements or whatever else). As long as you and your spouse are living and remain in the home, the reverse mortgage does not have to be repaid, so you are not at risk of losing your property. There are several downsides however. First, reverse mortgage loans are expensive, with relatively high closing costs and interest rates. Second, your heirs will not receive the full value of your home when you leave the property or die and they may be required to sell the home to repay the mortgage. While you are not required to make payments on a reverse mortgage during your lifetime, you are still responsible for homeowner's insurance and property taxes. Generally speaking, if you plan to stay in your home less than three years, the cost of a reverse mortgage may outweigh other more affordable options, including a home equity loan.

Using your home as a source of retirement income is a last-resort option and shouldn't

be the cornerstone of your retirement plan if you still have time to change course and actively save for your retirement. Enlist the help of a financial advisor to assess your personal financial situation and take steps to aggressively save for the future. With regular contributions to a tax-advantaged retirement account, you can make steady progress toward your financial goals, especially when you have time on your side and can reap the benefits of compounding. Whether or not you eventually need to tap your home's value to make ends meet, your efforts to plan and manage your finances today will be a reward in itself and equip you with the information you need to take control of your financial future.

Jarrod L. Dill, Financial Advisor, Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc., 4835 E Cactus Rd., Suite 230 Scottsdale, AZ 85254, (602) 996-7355 x11. This communication is published in the United States for residents of AZ only; and this advisor is licensed only in the state(s) of AZ, NM, NE, MO, KA & IL. Neither Ameriprise Financial nor its affiliates or representatives may provide tax or legal advice. Consult your tax or legal advisors concerning your situation.

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A New Year Resolution for Health & Prosperity!

By Dr. Damien Brandeis

Just when you thought the holidays were finished, we welcome the Chinese New Year, on Valentine's Day 2010. Many people spend considerable time making their bodies as healthy as possible. Vitamins, organic food, physical activity, herbal supplements have their place in promoting longevity and superior quality of life. It is a well known tradition in both eastern and western healing traditions that the environment plays a huge role in determining our health. This month, let's turn our attention to the healing your home and work environments.



One health tradition that has gained popularity in recent time, though its practice is quite ancient, is the art of Feng Shui. At the beginning of each lunar year, I attune my home and work environments to the energetic forces that change with the lunar year. Feng shui is my tool, and it promotes personal health, happiness, and prosperity in business and relationships.

Feng shui is the art of managing the flow of Qi. Qi (pronounced "chi") is the energy within an environment, and Feng Shui promotes the balance of yang and yin energy. Fundamentally, Feng Shui is based on balancing energy flow within the five elements: water, wood, fire, earth and metal. As these elements are balanced in the home or work environments, our environments positively impact our health and all aspects of living.

A few years ago, I interviewed a Feng Shui specialist on my radio show. In a two part show, she used my office and home to demonstrate and prove the positive impact the practice could make on my life. She visited both locations, performed an assessment based on the geographic directions of the building, the use of the rooms as they related to each other, their décor, and how energy flowed or was inhibited in the space relative to the five elements. As with any health practitioner, she recommended "cures" for the problems. For example, she noted that money and prosperity corners were missing in both my home and my office space. She felt that my helpful people corner had energy stagnation. She stated that the energy at the entrance to the business was blocked based on the construction of the complex. This meant that business would not

readily enter the space. We had several minor water issues in the office space which she stated was due to blocked flow of "energetic water" within and outside of the space. Her cures consisted of moving fountains, incorporating pictures of water falls at the entrance to generate business, coins in the windows to promote prosperity and placement of wind chimes at specific corners of the building to generate positive activity in that realm of life. We placed crystals over the toilets, and she recommended that we keep the bathroom doors closed. We also positioned mirrors to create virtual versions of missing corners. It was all quite fascinating but seemed a little "out there" to me.

In my home, the cures were more involved. One severe solution involved building a deck with a roof to create a room on the house in the "missing money corner." She guaranteed that the cost of the improvements would pay for themselves in the increase in personal wealth. Another cure involved placing photographs I already had of comets in the "fame" corner of the house to promote prosperity and professional growth.

I selected my specialist based on her extensive training in China, as well as her particular focus on adapting Feng Shui to a desert environment. With any healing modality, it is not possible to have perfect conditions and situations. Curing the problems is a practical means toward resolution and positive outcomes. Living in the desert has particular issues from a Feng Shui perspective. Water is deficient so sometimes that needs emphasis,

and heat or the fire element may be overemphasized energetically. Additionally, as yang and yin energies change, modifications are necessary as time moves forward such as the beginning of a Chinese new year.

On the second show, I was happy to report that her assessment and "cures" created resolutions to the problems as she assessed them. Additionally, other problems resolved as well. Issues among staff, problems with the landlord, slow business, and all relationships drastically improved. In subsequent consultations, she accurately predicted the 2009 US financial crisis from a Feng Shui perspective. She has been informative about other aspects of our personal lives. All of the cures over time in our home and offices have worked well for my husband as well. When the additional deck room to complete the money corner was built, the influx of money in our businesses paid for it. She was right!

I do not have a western scientific explanation for the outcomes of this practice. From the vitalistic perspective, Feng Shui has merit and makes sense. I highly recommend that you examine your life in its totality. As part of your 2010 resolutions, employ health practices that impact all aspects of your life. Perhaps Feng Shui will assist you, too. Have a prosperous and healthy New Year!

Dr. Damien Brandeis, NMD has a private practice located in northwest Chandler. For more information about Dr. Brandeis and his practice, visit drbrandeis.net or call 480-855-6560.

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2nd Annual PetSmart Charities® PetWalk



The 2nd Annual PetSmart Charities PetWalk presented by Purina Pro Plan is more than a walk; it's a festival to celebrate the love we have for pets! Your participation will raise money for local animal-welfare agencies and help the thousands of homeless pets throughout Arizona. The event will include 5K and 1-mile walks (for humans and their four-legged companions) as well as fun activities for children, adults and pets.

The event will take place Feb. 21 at Tempe Town Lake, 620 N. Mill Ave. Activities begin at 1 p.m. The 5K walk begins at 2:30 p.m. The 1-Mile walk will take place at 2:45 p.m.

There are many ways to get involved with the 2nd Annual PetSmart Charities PetWalk to help raise money for homeless pets!

Register – join in to walk, fundraise and help save the lives of homeless pets Even if

you can't make it to the actual event, you can still register and fundraise as a virtual walker. Registration is \$25.

Donate – contribute funds or in-kind goods and services for the 2nd Annual PetSmart Charities PetWalk

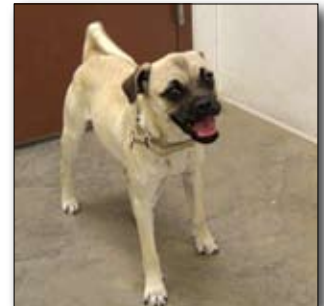
Volunteer – help out on the day of the 2nd Annual PetSmart Charities PetWalk and bring your co-workers, family and friends

Sponsor – you can choose your 2nd Annual PetSmart Charities PetWalk sponsorship level and marketing benefits

To register, donate, volunteer or sponsor, go to mypetwalk.org

Q & A with Dr. Ruiz will return next month. Send your questions to editor@ntouchaz.com

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Apple

Apple is a long legged Pug with an adorable under-bite and the typical Pug snort! She is also very active, playful, affectionate and walks very well on a leash. Apple loves people and is looking for a home where she can get a lot of attention, daily walks, lots of snuggling and play time with other dogs.



Nico

Nico is a strong proponent of open lines of communication. When Nico has something important on his mind, whether it is the need for love, food, or playtime, he is not afraid of vocalizing his opinion! He has communicated to us that he is looking for a home with rooms to explore, a family to love, and maybe another feline friend or two to be his comrade in arms when it is playtime.

To learn more or to adopt
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Film Festivals...

- continued from page 14 -

Buttery Top A jug of wine, a loaf of bread - but wait - what kind of bread? A comedy about a first date with extra baggage. Dancing into Happiness Helen, a stockbroker, and Anna, her cleaning lady, are united in a salsa dance course, which becomes a musical fairytale about overcoming societal borders.

Amancio - Two Faces On A Tombstone As a young boy, Amancio Corrales immigrated from Mexico to Yuma Arizona with his parents in search of a better life. Gay and Hispanic, Amancio dreamed of one day being a performer in Las Vegas, but his dream was cut short on May 6, 2005 when Amancio's body was found floating in the Colorado River near Yuma. He had been brutally beaten and stabbed. For the first time the story of one man's journey to seek justice for the murder on behalf of Amancio's family and friends is revealed in this intriguing documentary.

The Big Gay Musical Life imitates art in this musical comedy of love and acceptance. Paul and Eddie are stage actors performing in Adam and Steve, Just the Way God made 'em. During rehearsals, their personal lives come to mimic the story of their on-stage characters as Paul searches for that one true love and Eddie seeks acceptance from his conservative parents.

Daddy's Big Girl When a depressed and overweight young woman named Millie finds her gay dad dating yet another young hunk, tensions flare up. In her mind, his constant criticisms seem to come as much out of selfish embarrassment as genuine concern. Finally, in a last-ditch effort to reconcile with her father, Millie ultimately uncovers what makes him tick... and what she must do to find happiness herself.

Hannah Free Adapted from an award winning play by Claudia Allen, and starring Sharon Gless Hannah Free is the story of the lifelong love affair shared between Hannah, a butch independent woman who has an insatiable itch to travel and see the world, and Rachel, a widowed mother of two who spends most of her lifetime trying to shed the shame brought on by her religious upbringing. At the end of their lives, Hannah and Rachel are both trapped in the same nursing home, their once independent lives now at the mercy of a nursing staff that cares more about following rules than caring about their patients.



All films will be shown at PVCC's Center for the Performing Arts, located at 34th Street and Union Hills at the east end of the campus of Paradise Valley Community College in North Phoenix. For more information go to desperadofilmfestival.com

Fabulous Faygeleh LGBT Film Festival

January 30-31 - Tucson

Through the magic and power of cinema, The Tucson Jewish Film Festival strives to promote the preservation of Jewish culture by providing an open and inviting forum for films with diverse Jewish themes that would not otherwise find a place for public exhibition in the southern Arizona marketplace. The Festival encourages cultural diversity, intellectual growth and dialogue within the audience it serves by providing a forum for films that challenge long-held assumptions and stereotypes.

The LGBT film series features insightful cutting-edge cinema that wrestles with contemporary issues and universal themes of faith, love and social justice. It is a "must" for anyone who loves great cinema.

Special Guest Speaker Brooke Sebold will moderate discussions throughout the Fabulous Faygeleh Film Festival. Sebold is a documentary and narrative filmmaker currently based in New York City. In 2007, Brooke (with film collaborators Todd and Benita Sills) completed her first feature-length documentary, *Red Without Blue*, which received over 20 audience-choice and jury awards, and screened at 150+ film festivals, universities, and museums. Brooke's films have garnered glowing reviews from *Variety*, *The SF Chronicle*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Guardian*, *The Seattle Times*, *The Advocate* and dozens of other publications. Brooke is currently a Dean's Fellow in Columbia University's MFA Film Program.

The Films

Eyes Wide Open Aaron, a kosher butcher, is working hard to support his family and to study the Talmud at night. Ezri, a Yeshiva student, knocks one day at his door, asking for housing and for work. The latter finally succumbs to the advances of his young employee. Aaron yields to temptation asking, "How did I get here?"

Sidney Turtlebaum Sir Derek Jacobi stars as Sidney Turtlebaum - a smooth-talking elderly gay man in the twilight of his life who steals from grieving strangers at funerals where he pawns himself off as a loving and distant relative or acquaintance.

He's My Girl Simon's Ashkenazi mother accepts that he's gay, but doesn't realize that her pretty nurse is the Arab cross-dresser who steals her son's heart. In the midst of this farce, Rosalie, Simon's ex-wife, returns to Paris to star in *Fiddler on the Roof* with her new family, a husband and the precocious son, whom Simon hasn't seen in a decade.

Off And Running With white Jewish lesbians for parents and two adopted brothers - one mixed-race and one Korean - a Brooklyn teen grew up in a unique and loving household. But when her curiosity about her African-American roots grows, she decides to contact her birth mother.

And Thou Shalt Love This deeply moving film centers on the inner turmoil faced by a closeted Orthodox Israeli soldier who falls in love with his study partner.



Yossi & Jagger Both soldiers in the Israeli army, Yossi is the serious commander and Jagger is the free-spirited second in command. Based on a true story, *Yossi & Jagger* portrays their secret love, set in a remote army base along the Israeli-Lebanese border.

The Fabulous Faygeleh series will screen Jan. 30 and 31 at the Crossroads Cinema 6 at Grant & Swan, the weekend following the Tucson Jewish Film Festival's run at the Jewish Community Center. Tickets may be purchased online at Tucsonjcc.org or at the Jewish Community Center, or by calling the TIJFF Hotline at 520-615-5432.



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- 17 **African Children's Choir** Symphony Hall
- 23 **American Carnage Tour: Dodge Theatre Slayer, Megadeth, Testament**
- 24 **Voices of the Desert** Phx CFTA
- 25 **Korpikalaani** Club Red
- 27 **Celtic Crossroads** Happy Trails Resort
- 29 **La Boheme** Symphony Hall

FEBRUARY

- 2 **50th Anniversary Fest** Arizona Biltmore
- 4 **Piano Tour de Force** Arizona Musicfest
- 5 **George Winston** Mesa Arts Center
- 7 **Brazen Heads** Desert Bot. Garden
- 9 **Quartetto Gelato** Arizona Musicfest
- 12 **Madame Butterfly** Phoenix Opera



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LEGALLY BLONDE: THE MUSICAL

The hilarious MGM film is now a smash hit musical, and Legally Blonde the Musical is coming to Tucson! Legally Blonde follows sorority star Elle Woods, an underestimated blonde who doesn't take 'no' for an answer. Tucson Music Hall, January 19-24, 2010. Call (520) 791-4101. Tucson



ITZHAK PERLMAN

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A writer falls in love with Susie, a vision from his dreams. The play follows the logic of a dream. Featuring songs by Radiohead, Coldplay, and Marilyn Manson, as well as songs from Spring Awakening, Hair, West Side Story, and The Sound of Music. Coconino Center for the Arts, January 22, 2010. Call (928) 779-2300. Flagstaff



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WITH HER SPECIAL GUESTS 9PM FRIDAY
ON JAN 22ND - FEB 12TH

WOODY'S HAS TUCSON'S BEST SUNDAY PARTY

FROM OPEN 'TIL CLOSE

- 11 AM FABULOUS BRUNCH AND 2PM CUSTOM BURGERS
- 11 AM PETER'S BLOODY MARY BUFFET THEN \$1 PINTS DOMESTIC DRAUGHT FROM 2 - 7PM
- 2-7PM TEA DANCE WITH DJ CHICA ON THE PATIO
- 8PM DRAG BINGO WITH STELLA VIRGIN AND JANEY STARR JAN 17TH, 31ST AND FEB 14TH
- 9PM KARAOKE HOSTED BY JUSTICE (SERVICE INDUSTRY KARAOKE MONDAYS 9PM WITH JUSTICE)

ENJOY SUPER BOWL SUNDAY
FEB 7TH AT WOODY'S
WATCH THE GAME ON OUR 7' SCREEN
WITH FREE HOT DOGS & CHILI AND CHIP'S

"MEOW MIX"
FEB 13TH 8PM
"LADIES FEED THE KITTY IN YOU"
WITH DJ CHICA AND HOT GIRLS A-GO-GO

CELEBRATE VALENTINE'S
WITH YOUR LOVE ONE
-OR-
YOUR BEST BUD
SUNDAY FEB 14TH
OPEN 'TIL CLOSE
DRINK SPECIALS AND PARTY FAVORS

ON TUESDAY FEB 16TH
WOODY'S IS MARDI GRAS
YOUR LAST DAY TO SIN
WOODY'S WILL MAKE THAT HAPPEN...
TON'S OF BEADS TO TRADE FOR (?)
HOT DANCER'S - DRINK SPECIAL'S

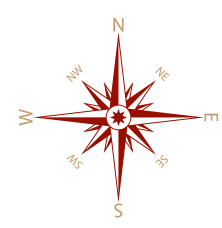
CHI CHI LARUE AND HER BOYS
RETURN TO PARTY AT WOODY'S
SATURDAY FEB 20TH

YOU DEFINITELY DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS WILD PARTY

3710 N. ORACLE (520) 292-6702
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4950 S Palo Verde, TUC 520-746-1161 | 7. WOODY'S
3710 N Oracle Rd, TUC 520-292-6702 |
| 2. COLORS
5305 E Speedway, TUC 520-323-1840 | 5. IBT'S
616 N 4th Ave, TUC | |
| 3. COYOTE MOON
915 W Prince Rd, TUC | 6. VENTURE-N
1239 N 6th Ave, TUC | |

Be part of the solution.



www.tihan.org

Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network
(520) 299-6647
1011 North Craycroft #301
Tucson, AZ 85711

TIHAN offers opportunities for volunteers to be part of the solution:

- HIV awareness and education
- support services for people living with HIV/AIDS
- advocacy on local and global issues surrounding AIDS
- compassion

For information about being part of TIHAN and our compassionate response to the AIDS crisis facing our families and our world, contact us.



ADVERTISING

The GLBT Guide, Inc. The national gay business listings plus personals and classifieds. Bringing America's GLBT Community together as one. Listings for less than \$3 per month. www.glbguide.com.

'N Touch News can help you put together an advertising package that works for your business. Print ads, classifieds, and electronic ads are all available. For more information contact Tracey at traceystewart@ntouchaz.com or (602)373-9488.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy Belated Ms Kim Kelly! T and the identity thief spoiler

Happy Anniversary Ron and Patrick!

Happy Birthday Papa Fred! Love the kids

Happy Birthday Ms Babe Caylor!! Love the Wives

Happy Birthday Ron! Boy are we happy you came along!

Downtown Phoenix Public Market is now open on Wednesdays from 4-8pm. Not just on Saturdays anymore! Support local farmers and artists while also supporting the local economy... and by the way, a little organic food won't hurt you!

BUSINESS / SERVICE

SISTERS 3 BISCUITS

Gourmet Dog Biscuits
how to order:
(480)238-2438
www.sisters-3-biscuits.com

Focusing on Estate Planning for Our Community for over 10 years. Contact Kathy Gummere to help you and yours prepare for your current and future legal needs. 602-952-0293.



PERSONALIZED PET SITTING! Pets First is now expanding service to downtown, north central Phoenix and Paradise Valley! Professional in-your-home care. Bonded, Insured. Call George, Judy and Mary. 602 548 9628

Having a bad hair day? John Krebs of Panache Salon can help you with all of your hair needs. 5533 N. 7th St, Suite 401, Phoenix. Call (602)678-5517.



Mobile bookkeeper for small business. I'll crunch your numbers so that you can focus on what you do best. Contact Dave Connell at 602-400-5383.

Professional tax preparation for individuals and small businesses. Call Rainbow Tax Service today for your appointment. (602) 265-1631.

Professional Screen "Doctor" accepting limited number of **scripts** for coverage and/or rewrite. Prices range from \$150 for simple coverage on up. Call 602-957-1638 for more information.

COMMUNITY INFO

The Southwest Center for HIV/AIDS, formerly Body Positive, offers free confidential HIV and syphilis testing every Friday from 4-8 p.m. at Off Chute Too, an alternative boutique located in Phoenix. Off Chute Too is located at 4115 N. 7th Avenue, just above Indian School Road. Phone: 602-274-1429.

Free Social Group and Non-profit listings. Did you know

that your social group or non-profit organization can list your info for free with 'N Touch News? Go to ntouchaz.com on the community directory page and add your listing online!

COUNSELING

Licensed Professional Counselor - Call Rene Broussard, LPC for a Caring Counselor who knows our community, from the inside out: 480-751-1020. Sliding Scale Fee and Free Initial Consultation Available.



Now, Voyager Hypnotherapy/Coaching- Let me help you improve many areas of your life. Visit NowVoyagerHypnosis.com for some ideas or call 602-301-6551. *The Mind Is The Greatest Vessel!*

FOR RENT/LEASE

\$500/mo Furnished, Unfurnished Room for rent in Avondale. New house, Rent includes cable tv, water, recycle, internet, and trash. It is a three room house with loft, flat screen tv, 2.5 bath, nice kitchen, dining room, family room, and laundry room. Looking for gay friendly roommate, respectful, quiet most of the time, clean, responsible, honest, and communicates. 623-252-6079.

Biltmore area home 24th st/ Camelback 3 bed rooms + bonus / 3 baths / master walk-in closet Granite / stainless steel appliances / Travertine / hardwood floors / 2 care garage contact adamzuke@yahoo.com



***FOR RENT* / Large N. Phx. Gay Owned 4-plex Apartments:** 3BR-3BA (1300sq.ft.) Ground Floor-*\$945* ~ 2BR-2BA (1145sq.ft.) Second Floor-*\$695* ~ 1BR-1BA (975sq.ft.) Ground Floor-*\$595*. All have Washer/Dryer hookups, Community Pool & Spa, Covered parking, a Bathroom for every bedroom (great for family or roommates)! The 3 BR has new carpet and paint. Small, well-trained pet OK. Gay couple living right next door! Available NOW! Call Denise 602-765-7760

FOR SALE

FOR SALE: LUXURY PENTHOUSE 207 W. Clarendon #22E Spacious, bright, views. 1566 sq.ft. 2 split Master BRs/2 full baths. Eat-in kitchen. LR/DR. Pool,spa,tennis,light-rail. 24/7 front desk. Move-in ready. Priced to sell. \$395,000.00. Linda Pool - Keller Williams - (480)600-7504 lindapool@cox.net



Enjoy exercising? Take the stairs to your new home! Walk to Light Rail, Clubs and entertainment. 1BR/1BA condo 207 W Clarendon #2D, \$149,000. Frank McGarry Windermere Phoenix (602) 738-4529 frankmcgarry@windermere.com

Classifieds also online at
ntouchaz.com



FOR SALE: Uptown Gem of a Home 1024 West Georgia Avenue, Pasadena Neighborhood, Walkability Score 67, Energy efficient 3 bedrms, 1.75 baths. 1900 sq. ft has home office entry. Spacious corner lot, walled privacy, paddle fans, skylights, A/C and evap. Security doors thruout & alarm system. Detached 2+ car port with secure storage, Offered at \$283,800. MLS # 4186597, 1024wgeorgiaave.eproperties.com. Owner/agent John E. Hughes, Jr. (602) 277 5402.

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Are you experiencing any of the following? Hot flashes, mood swings, low sex drive, weight gain, depression, headaches, anxiety, foggy thinking, vaginal dryness, prolonged fatigue? Call 1-888-314-3413

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Rainbow Massage Therapy
Bring this ad for \$10.00 off your first massage. Near 19th Ave. & Bethany Home. Swedish & Hot Stone. Call (602) 265-1631 or e-mail massage@chazkingacct.com to make your appointment. (MT-09329)

SPAS



Factory Direct. This 2008 6-person spa only \$1,895. Spa & gazebo packages from \$3,195. See ArizonaCustomSpas.com for more great deals. Custom build your backyard vacation today! Free Chemicals w/this ad. 623-251-5100.

SPECIAL OFFERS

LINDA'S
on Osborn


Stop by Linda's on Osborn for all you can eat Fish Fry (grilled if you want it) on Fridays. Don't miss out on the homemade pies!!! Home cookin' that will keep you coming back. 2333 E. Osborn Road, Phoenix, 602.956.4420

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Shaken & Stirred for Equality



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Join us at Kobalt Bar for Happy Hour every 3rd Thursday.

3100 N Central Ave, Suite 125
Phoenix, Az 85012



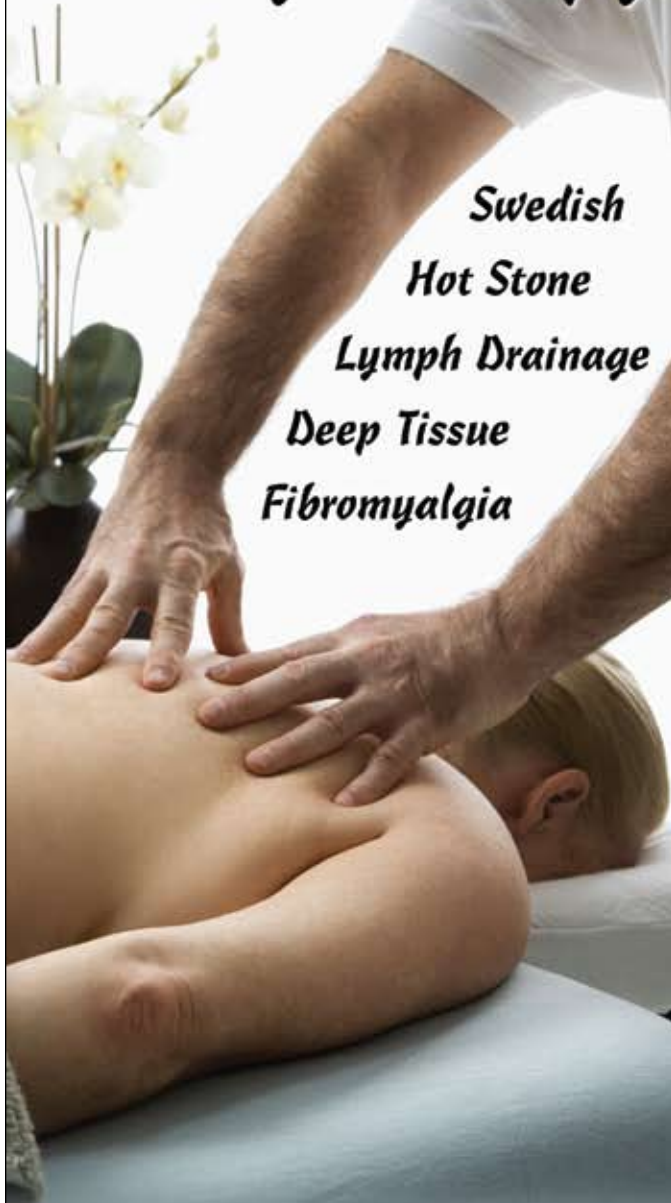
The Human Rights Campaign is America's largest civil rights organization working to achieve lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender equality. Together, our members and supporters are advocating for equal rights and benefits in the workplace, ensuring families are treated equally under the law and increasing public support for fairness among all Americans.


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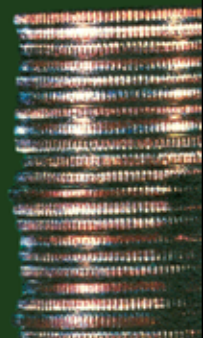
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1560 E. Osborn Rd., PHX |
| 3. BAR 1
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6820 E. 5th Ave., SCOTTS | 21. PUMPHOUSE II
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| 4. BS WEST
7125 E. 5th Ave, SCOTTS | 13. ICEPICS VIDEO BAR
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 Community Tire Glendale 602-978-0251
 Community Tire Airport 602-231-9090
 Community Tire 40th St/Univ 602-470-0677
 Community Tire Prescott Vly 928-772-9118
 Community Tire Cottonwood 928-634-0705

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Dave Connell 602-400-5383

Chiropractic

In Touch Chiropractic 602-548-1998

Computers/Networking

Moving I.T. Forward 602-317-6953

Counseling / Addiction

Evolve Counseling & Coaching 602-252-0771
 Man 2 Man 602-307-5330
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Celebrate YourLife 623-463-3470

Financial Services

Ameriprise Financial/Jarrod Dill 602-996-7355
 Money Awareness Program 520-400-8304
 Wells Fargo wells Fargo.com

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Lionwood Visual Design 602-413-0954

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Dr. Damien Brandeis, NMD 480-855-6560
 Dynamic Health Ways 602-254-0071
 Southern AZ AIDS Foundation 520-628-7223

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CT Electric 623-249-7471
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PFLAG of Payson 928-476-2358

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Ken Leombruno 602-971-5799

Law Firms

Herman, Goldstein, & Forsyth 602-569-8200
 Ronda Kelso 602-954-9313
 J. Ross Firm 602-685-1177

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Marc Anthony Massage 480-777-8366
 Rainbow Massage 602-265-1631

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 Colors Restaurant 520-323-1840
 Kobalt 602-264-5307
 Vegas Fuel vegasfuelarizona.com
 Woody's 520-292-6702

Pets

A Family Affair Pet Grooming 602-277-4300
 Central Phx Animal 602-277-5155

Pharmacy

Melrose Pharmacy 602-277-4714

Photography

Danton Photography 480-287-3780

Real Estate Services

Ron Houston/Realty Exec. 602-402-2459
 Dorian Kreiling/ReMax 623-694-4737
 Jamie T. Levy/CCPP 623-434-3377

Melinda Murphy/ReMax 602-695-2900
 Carol Reid/US Preferred 602-799-7339
 Rod Whitt/HomeSmart 602-315-2528

Religious

Community Church of Hope 602-234-2180
 Gentle Shepherd 602-864-6404
 TIHAN 520-299-6647

Restaurants

Caffé Italia 602-749-9228
 Linda's on Osborn 602-956-4420
 Slice of Sicily Pizza 602-667-3331

Retail Shopping

Boom Boom LaRue's 602-265-3441
 Chute Store chutestore.com
 Off Chute Too 602-274-1429
 Velvet Online velvetonline.com

STD Testing / Services

AZMAN2MAN 602-307-5330

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