

WOMEN'S CENTRAL NEWS

Arizona's Lesbian Newspaper published since 1974

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March on Washington set for 2000

From the Human Rights Campaign

Organizers for the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered community's fourth March on Washington have announced the event will be held on April 30, 2000. The march aims to articulate the concerns of our community and focus our nation's attention on our quest for equality in all aspects of life.

"We expect one million of my gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered sisters and brothers and our enlightened allies to stand on the Mall and call upon our nation to live out the promise of equality under the law," said Rev. Troy D. Perry, long-time gay activist and founder of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches.

Organizers have taken steps to begin incorporation of a non-profit entity to handle planning, production and financial arrangements.

"The millennium march promises to continue its bold commitment to all people of color. I am hearing from Native Americans, Asians, African Americans, Latinos and Pacific Islanders who are

ecstatic about participating," said Martin Ornelas-Quintero, executive director of the Latino Latina/o, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transgender Organization.

Organizers also expressed their support for the "Equality Begins at Home" actions on all 50-state capitals set for 1999. (Arizona efforts are being spearheaded by the Arizona Human Rights Fund.)

"The Equality Begins at Home" actions enjoy the full and enthusiastic support of the organizers of the Millennium March," said Elizabeth Birch, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign. "It's imperative that we focus our energies as a movement at both the state and federal level. These two events will complement each other as together we build the momentum to achieve equality in the next century."

For further information regarding accommodations, travel agents and groups please call the March on Washington, (818) 891-1748 or E-mail MMOW2000@aol.com.

Benefit concert/swapmeet

Many women from Phoenix visiting Tucson over the last couple of years may have discovered Girlfriends, a bookstore/coffeehouse/concert venue run by Mary and her partner Susie. Unfortunately, Girlfriends closed at the end of February, and now Susie has discovered she has uterine cancer. She is urgently in need of funds for the treatment she is about to undergo, and so a number of us who used to perform at Girlfriends are holding a benefit concert/swapmeet for her.

Date: Sun, June 21 Time: 2-6 pm
Venue: MCC Church of Tucson, 3269 N Mountain Ave

(between Prince & Ft Lowell) From Phoenix, take the Prince exit off I10. Go left on Prince for approx. 2-3 miles. Go right on Mountain, and the church is on the right. Door: \$5 (more if you can) Partial list of performers: Mitzi Cowell, Jess Hawk Oakenstar, Gillia DeLear, Sabra Faulk, Jane Murdock, Vanessa, Tari Tenase

For more info, phone Jess 520 322 9450 or e-mail Oakenstar@aol.com

For those who'd like to make a donation, the address is: Susie Parsons, Girlfriends, PO Box 6031, Tucson, AZ 85703

Echo loses Jeff - Jeff wins prize

By Margot Marie Bronski, WCN staff

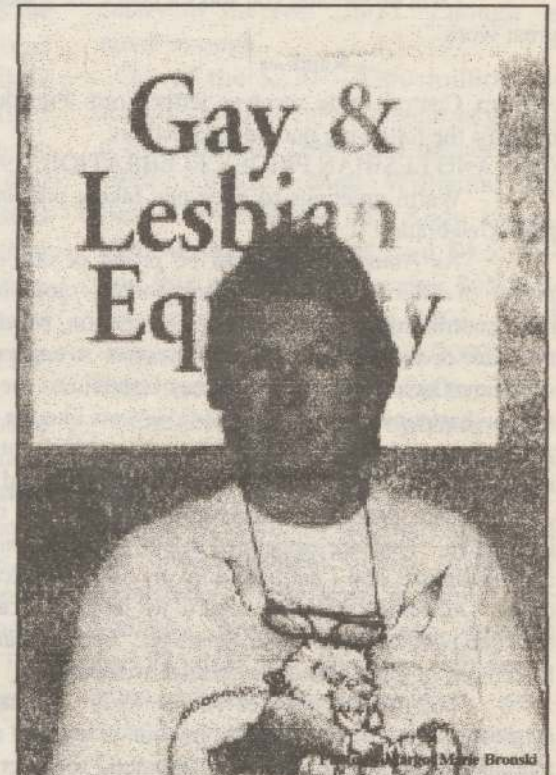


Photo by Margot Marie Bronski
magazine's general manager, writer and

The valley's gay journalism community is losing one of its most prominent members at least for a while. Echo

Arizona Press Club award winner, Jeff Ofstedahl turned in his notice last month. After six years of helping to build Echo into one of the Southwest's leading publications, Jeff is taking time off to pursue a dream.

Ten years ago he bought a boat - a 22-foot, 1971 Columbia - with the idea of someday going sailing. This month his dream comes true. He'll be leisurely working his way up the Pacific coast from San Diego to Vancouver, BC and back again. Along the way he'll be working on a travel guide for coastal travelers. It will be a sort of KOA guide for seafarers. He'll also be working on a novel that he's



Bon Voyage Diane Post!

The women of the Women's Central News would like to wish Diane Post a fond farewell as she heads off to Russia to work with female lawyers there. She was selected by the American Bar Association to participate in their Central and East European Law Initiative project. Diane will be a Women's Specialist; in which role she will continue her fight to help victims of domestic violence.

Diane has been invaluable in her continued legal efforts and legislative lobbying for the cause of women in Phoenix and Arizona. She has also put in countless hours working with the Arizona Human Rights Fund. We would like to thank her for all that she has done for our community over the years.

Best of luck to you, Diane, from all of us here at WCN. You will be missed!

had in mind for a long time.

"This will be a spiritual journey for me", he told WCN. "No schedule. No Daytimer."

Ofstedahl was honored May 3rd by the Arizona Press Club. His regular feature *The Inside Story* won second place for commentary and analysis among smaller Arizona papers. It was the fourth year in a row that he has received an award from the APC.

Jeff plans to be sailing for three to five months. After that he'll return to his home in Phoenix. Beyond that he has made no plans.

WOMEN WHO DARED - Elreta Alexander-Ralston

Elreta Alexander-Ralston (b 1920 - d 1998) Former Judge Alexander-Ralston was the first Black woman accepted by the Columbia University School of Law, the first Black woman to practice law in North Carolina and one of the first ever elected to the bench, serving as a District Court judge in Guilford County, N.C.

Letters to the Editor

"Hi, I would like to cancel my ad in the G.A.S.P.. I would also like to thank you for having that service. I have been very lonely and I guess looking for that special person in the wrong places. I have met and talked with lots of fine ladies, and have found that special someone, thanks to your paper.

I will be sending you folks a check for a membership. Please keep up the great work."

--Randi--

Arizona Central Pride receives letter From President Bill Clinton. The letter contains the following quoted information:

GAY AND LESBIAN PRIDE CELEBRATION, 1998

Warm greetings to everyone taking part in the 1998 Gay and Lesbian pride Celebration.

As Americans, we can be proud of our diversity. Striving together, people of different ethnicity's, backgrounds, races, beliefs, and sexual orientation have contributed to the success of our nation, reflecting the profound truth that this rich diversity is one of our greatest strengths. But we must face the reality that sometimes our differences divide us; sometimes the voices of hatred and prejudice drown out the harmony in our national life. Events like the Pride Celebration help us to recognize anew that working in a spirit of community is not a hope but a necessity, and that our individual dreams can only be realized by our shared efforts.

Our ideals and our history hold that the rights guaranteed us as Americans are inalienable. They are embedded in our Constitution and amplified over time by our courts and legislature, and I am bound by my oath of office and the burden of history to reaffirm them. Our nation stands to lose if we let prejudice and discrimination stifle the hopes or deny the potential of a single American. And we stand to lose when any person is denied or forced out of a job because of sexual orientation.

I commend each of you for your dedication to working for an America that celebrates our diversity, builds on our strengths, and fulfills our fundamental values of mutual respect and compassion. Working together, I am confident that we can enter the 21st century as One America.

Best wishes for a wonderful celebration. (signed) Bill Clinton

To Your Health

By Bonnie J. Brooks, M.D.

In Arizona skin cancer is a significant problem for too many people and the number of new cases each year is rising. The three major types are **basal cell, squamous cell** and **malignant melanoma**. Here's a quick review of the topic:

What puts us at risk of developing skin cancer? Sun exposure is a biggie, particularly occupational exposure. Due to their work (traditionally) men are at 2 times the risk of skin cancer as compared to womyn. Close observation of any pigmented (or colored) skin lesions (i.e., moles) to look for changes of color (lighter or darker) or size (bigger, denser) is recommended. Other factors which increase your risk of developing skin cancer are age, older than 15 years and a family history of skin cancer. Being fair-skinned or caucasian, or immunosuppressed through chemotherapy, diabetes or HIV will make you a higher candidate for developing abnormal skin lesions.

Pigmented skin lesions may change over the course of your lifetime. Most suspicious lesions are 5 - 12 mm diameter, could be flat (macular) and nobby/raised (papular), and have color variations within the same bump (white/tan/brown/black). These skin lesions may hide anywhere on our bodies, so a friend can help with those hard to see areas (back, bottom, scalp).

Sun exposure increases our risk of developing skin cancer by 3 - 5 times in general. Both ultraviolet B and ultraviolet A are thought to be involved. Unfortunately by now a lot of damage has already been done - those early blistering sunburns from childhood come back to haunt us in the form of skin cancer. For those of us who burn first versus tan, we are at higher risk for basal

cell and squamous cell cancer. Melanoma can be found on skin never/rarely exposed, but is also thought to be related to early childhood sunburns.

Prevention is the key here...SUNSCREEN and COVER-UP! Avoid direct, 12-noon sun. Wear hats, long-sleeve shirts, pants/long skirts as much as possible. On those too hot days, at least apply sunscreen in the maximum number you can find. Also, avoiding tanning booths and sun beds is a good thing. A yearly "skin check" by your health care provider will help keep close observation of any skin lesions you know of and identify new ones. Any suspicious lesion should be biopsied or removed, usually an easy office procedure. It's frequently hard to identify a normal vs. abnormal skin lesion, but in the pathology lab it's a cinch, AND it's off your body.

A few classic finding with skin cancer: Basal cell cancer may be pearly in appearance with visible blood vessels on the surface (telangiectasias). Skin cancer in general often appears as a non-healing bump or abrasion which keeps bleeding or remains raw despite usual wound care. Melanoma may have irregular borders or surface, and multiple color shades including black within the same lesion.

Actinic keratoses are skin lesions thought to be pre-cancerous, i.e., may develop into cancer. They are usually found in areas of high sun exposure, such as the scalp, face and arms. It's recommended to have these removed to prevent progression or growth into cancer. Again, this is an easy office procedure.

Remember your SUN SCREEN and a WEAR A HAT....and have a great summer!

Bonnie J. Brooks, MD is an internist located at Deer Valley Medical in Glendale. She welcomes questions or conversation via email bonniejb@msn.com or office 869-6811.

President's Message

Dear Readers,

A co-worker who knows of my 'lifestyle' said the other day 'But you don't look like a lesbian!' I first started to laugh, then asked her what a 'lesbian' should look like. Her response was typical; short hair, no makeup, comfortable shoes, etc. I wear suits, heels, and do not have very short hair.

After a few minutes discussion, my friend was much more enlightened about us, and I came away with my message for the month. Since then, I attended Pride here in Phoenix, and saw first hand the diversity in our community. From young, spirited, laughing girls to the older, wiser, more mature women, the answer was right in front of me. There is no 'look' for a lesbian, other than what the magazines, tv, and media have portrayed us as. In reality, we come in all shapes, sizes, colors, backgrounds, religions. We are --- normal human beings! Now all we have to do is convince the rest of the world!

So the WCN salutes you, women of diversity. Each month, we try very hard to appeal to our varied audience, giving all the lesbians who read us something they can enjoy. If you have an idea, something we should cover, or a desire to help this diverse group of women get this newspaper out, please contact us. Happy reading, and happy being yourself!

Mary

San Francisco "domestic partners" law upheld

SAN FRANCISCO (Reuters) - San Francisco's landmark "domestic partners" law survived a legal challenge Friday after a judge ruled that, in most cases, the city can enforce its requirements.

In a complex ruling that satisfied both gay rights activists and the airline association, which originally sued San Francisco over its partner's law, U.S. District Court Judge Claudia Wilken said the 1996 ordinance was constitutional. "This is a major victory for human rights," San Francisco City Attorney Louise Renne said in a statement. "Equal benefits have now survived a significant constitutional challenge and they will endure."

Wilken's ruling ended a suit brought by the Air Transport Association which contended that San Francisco's first-in-the-nation 1996 partners ordinance intruded on federal law, impeded interstate commerce and violated the U.S. Constitution.

Wilken said that in most cases where the City of San Francisco contracts for goods or services, it can require that companies seeking the business offer the same benefits to employees with domestic partners as they do to those in traditional marriages.

Wilken said, however, that in cases where San Francisco itself acts as the regulator -- such as at the airport -- it cannot enforce its law but must instead accept the provisions of the 1974 federal Employee Retirement and Income Security Act, which does not require domestic partner health and pension benefits.

"It is a very clear ruling today, and the airlines won this on the basis of federal law," an ATA spokesman told reporters after the judge's decision.

San Francisco officials said they were pleased with the ruling, noting that in most cases it means the domestic partners law will cover any company having business with the city.

"I am thrilled with this decision," said Leslie Katz, an openly lesbian member of the city's Board of Supervisors.

"The decision means that thousands of employees will finally have benefits and dignity accorded to them by their employer."

Assistant City Attorney Dennis Aftergut said the ruling meant that companies which want to sell goods or services to San Francisco must offer the benefits to their employees wherever they are located.

"The real implication here has to do with contractors who do work with us," Aftergut told a news conference.

San Francisco's Board of Supervisors passed the local ordinance in 1996 requiring companies doing business with the city to provide equal benefits to spouses and employees' unmarried partners -- gay or heterosexual.

Lawyers for the airlines argued that their industry has always been governed by federal rather than local laws because it would be impossible to operate in hundreds of communities with different local laws.

A number of prominent San Francisco companies, including Chevron Corp. and BankAmerica Corp., have quickly agreed to extend domestic partners' benefits to U.S. employees.



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news analysis, commentaries, poetry, coming out stories or anything of interest to the lesbian community. WORD LIMIT: Letters to the Editor: 200 words; Articles: 350.

Submissions must include name and address. You may request that your name be withheld. Submissions cannot be returned. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, brevity and spelling. Copyright remains with each contributor. Deadline - 15th of the month.

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BOB - Mercury game conflicts

By Robin Dee, WCN staff writer

For the thousands of lesbians who will be attending the Mercury games, here are the dates and times of sure-to-be parking conflicts because of overlapping Diamondback games:

SAT., June 14th the Diamondbacks play at 1:05 pm and Mercury play the Sparks at 1 pm.

WED., June 24th the DB's play at 7:05pm and the Mercury play the Comets at 7pm

FRI., June 26th the DB's play at 7:05pm and the Mercury play the Starzz at 7 pm.

FRI., July 10th the DB's play at 7:05 pm and the Mercury play the Rockers at 6 pm.

MON., July 13th the DB's play at 7:05pm and the Mercury play the Sparks at 6:30pm.

WED., July 15th the DB's plat at 7:05 pm and the Mercury play the Shock at 7 pm.

SAT., July 18th the DB's play at 7:05 pm and the Mercury play the Liberty at 1 pm.

FRI., Aug. 14th the DB's play at 7:05 pm and the Mercury play the Shock at 7 pm.

WED., Aug 19th, the DB's play at 4:35pm and the Mercury play the Monarchs at 7 pm.

Other facts:

There are 40,000 plus seats in America West and 48,500 in BOB. When two events occur at once, as in the above schedule, about 75,000 people will be circulating around the 8 square blocks which roughly surrounds BOB and America West. There are about 41,000 parking spaces in the area bordered by Fillmore, 7th Ave., 12th Street and Lincoln Street. About 24,000 are in restricted and DB season-ticket areas, leaving 17,000 of which 15,300 are in private lots and the rest, 1,700 are street spaces.

The Arizona Center is charging \$10 for parking on game nights.

Corporate dollars are paying \$20,000 per month to operate shuttles on Diamondback game days for a few months. Outside of this the public is paying \$2 per round trip. Phoenix is using about \$57,000 of Civic Plaza money to fund the shuttle for a few months.

My Mercury sales rep told me that the shuttles run for Diamondback attendees only, but admitted he didn't know how the shuttle's could tell who was attending what event.

"When we are authentic, when we keep our spaces simple, simply beautiful living takes place."

—Alexandra Stoddard—

Reserved for your business

BOB facts

By Robin Dee, WCN staff writer

The Stadium tax, levied without a vote of the people, raised \$238 million dollars, about \$62.50 from every taxpayer in Maricopa county. BOB is the first sports facility ever to combine air-conditioning (annual electric bill \$2 mil) and natural grass playing field under a retractable roof and also the first to have a swimming pool (\$4,000 rental fee per game). The A/C in BOB is large enough to cool more than 1,500 homes of 2,500 square feet. BOB has about 48,500 seats, 40% of them, about 19,600 are in the upper deck.

For you rich folk: The club/suite level has 4,400 seats, served by waiters and waitresses and 69 luxury suites which can hold 18 each; the 500 sq ft suite has a private restroom, wet bar, tv and catering service. The cheapest suite cost \$95,000 a year and includes two reserved parking spaces. The swankiest suites cost \$120,000 a year and both have a private walkway to the parking garage.

For us poor folk: \$1 seats go on sale two hours before the game, one per customer and you must go directly into the stadium so you can't hawk your ticket. Anyone with a cooler must enter at a special gate so your cooler can be searched. Maybe your kids can run the bases after a game. And you'll

most likely have to take a shuttle.

For Colangelo: He has his own royal luxury box behind home plate. It's two stories high with a spiral staircase between floors. It's been reported that Colangelo will make \$11 million in salary by the year 2003. 'Enough' is never enough.

Out of the \$230 - \$300 million the franchise will earn Colangelo is giving a \$102 million combined paycheck to Diamondback's Matt Williams, Jay Bell, Devon White and Andy Benes. Matt Williams will get paid \$4.5 million this season, then receive \$45 million from 1999 through 2003. Bell will get \$34 million through 2002. Oh, they love the sport of baseball!

The stadium district operates BOB on behalf of the taxpayers and has authority to book other events into it. In fact, the stadium district has signed the booking agent Select Artists of Scottsdale to help bring in talent. The Catholic church has already rented it for \$25,000 for the day. However, none of the proceeds from non-baseball events go back to the county. Only half of what the stadium district makes will go into a capital improvement fund which will be used to update the stadium and make repairs. Where is the other half? Who is getting that? Colangelo? It's beginning to sound like it could be an ass-shooting offense to me.

Back in the black - '98 Pride made \$\$\$

By Margot Marie Bronski, WCN staff

It may not exactly qualify as a miracle, but it's close. Arizona Central Pride is back on its feet financially. At WCN's deadline, they were still waiting for a bill from the City of Phoenix for various services. But even taking that into consideration, conservative estimates are that ACP should end up approximately \$12,000+ to the good.

What's especially significant is that Pride went into the '98 event almost \$40,000 in the hole. That amount included a \$15,000 loan to get the doors open at this year's event as well as bills left over from the '97 festival. Additionally, according to preliminary accounting, they paid out in excess of \$90,000 to stage this year's parade and festival.

While it beats being forty grand in the hole, \$12,000+ is not a major start on next year's event. So fund raising will need to continue. In the next several months the ACP Board is going to concentrate on corporate sponsorships. Several Prides around the country rely on corporate money to keep running. If you can help with corporate contacts, ACP needs to hear from you.

In other business, ACP is looking for a volunteer to handle publicity and press relations. Interested parties can contact ACP.

To contact ACP, you can call their voice mailbox at (602) 279-1771. Or you can write to ACP/PLGPC, PO Box 16847, Phoenix, AZ 85011-6847. E-mail is info@azpride.org. Their website is www.azpride.org. Arizona Central Pride/Phoenix Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee, Inc. is a non-profit corporation with a 501(c)3 federal tax-exempt status.

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Steps to protect your privacy

Parade Magazine, April 19

- 1) Ask credit bureaus for a copy of your credit report, which lists companies that have asked for credit information about you. There may be a small fee. Call Equifax at 1-800-685-111, Experian (formerly TRW) at 1-888-397-3742 or Trans Union at 1-800-888-4213.
- 2) Stop receiving unsolicited 'preapproved' credit-card offers. Under a new law, all it takes is one phone call to have your name removed from credit-bureau mailing lists; For Equifax, 1-888-567-8688; Experian, 1-800-353-0809; Trans Union, 1-800-680-7293.
- 3) In filling out credit applications, look for a box that says this informa-

- tion is not to be disseminated.
- 4) Do not disclose personal information to retailers, such as your phone number and address. This information is often sold to both phone and direct-mail marketers.
- 5) If possible, avoid litigation, such as a filed tax lien against you, which becomes public domain.
- 6) Avoid grocery purchases with a savings club card or credit card. Together with scanners, this tells marketers your buying habits.
- 7) Request security codes (a number or a password) for your telephone and bank accounts. Potential intruders must repeat the password to gain access.

Myths made mentionable

What's in a color?
By Pamela Fitzpatrick,

Color is an interesting thing. My son asked me the other day what my favorite color was. I told him it depended on where the color was. I like a purple sky but I don't think I would want a purple house.

I had taken my old FJ40 LandCruiser in the other day to have it painted at the local body shop and asked the guy if I should paint it white or stay with red. He said I could choose any color I liked, it didn't matter as he could make it look good with any of my choices. I began to consider the two colors and thought to myself, I guess it doesn't matter, color is color, or is it?

In ancient times and some not so ancient times red was considered the symbol of energy and life force, possibly due to its resemblance to blood. It also has been associated with Mars, the Greek god of war. The Romans, who made sacrifices to planets based on a victims resemblance to the planets, took all red-haired men or red-cheeked men to be sacrificed to the red planet Mars. These practices didn't stop with people, red-haired dogs were even sacrificed to the Dog-star in hopes of averting its supposedly destroying influences on the crops. Red has also been considered through time as a symbol of all good things in life. The Montagnais-Naskapi believe that no color on earth can be compared with the manificence of red and decorate many of their tools, canoes and clothing with it.

Modern physiological studies have proved that humans placed in red rooms with red filtered light were discovered to have an increase in muscular tone, blood pressure and breathing rhythm. When red was exposed to those suffering from anemia it was noted that there was an increase in the patient's production of red corpuscles. Red also was reported to be a physical and mental stimulant.

The interesting thing is that red even affected blind people, this is due to the fact that the wave lengths that creates the color are what actually affect us. I guess this is why color-blind bulls are even affected by red!

In Christian tradition red usually represents evil or sin while white represents purity and goodness. Isaiah 1:18 says "Though your sins are like scarlet they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool." Throughout time white has usually symbolized goodness and holiness in many cultures, this could possibly be due to its resemblance to light. In Greek mythology the Fates are called the white sisters and are known to spin white or lucky threads.

Dioscuri, known as the patron god of sailors is described as white, riding on white horses. In Africa white represents those who have just come down from heaven or have died and are entering the world of the gods. An albino or white skinned African was thought to be a deity and was sacrificed to the gods.

Boy, people and there sacrifices, is anyone safe? Apparently not, if they could not find an Albino they would find another victim and dress him up in white before sacrificing him. The wearing of white was thought to transpose the human to the god's world, which meant he would not feel the pain of death during the sacrifice. I wonder if there was a difference of opinion from the sacrificee's point of view.

So what color should the LandCruiser be after weighing all of the facts, I asked myself. Actually it came down to what was easiest, typical modern attitude, red was my choice. So if you pass me on the road I hope the red reflection from my new paint job offers you a sense of life, joy and possibly a few more red corpuscles.

Pamela can be reached at pamela@sedona.net.



"It's difficult to think anything but pleasant thoughts while eating a home-grown tomato."

—L. Grizzard—



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LRP is . . .

. . . a tree! That's what women have been describing and defining this past month under the leadership of Jo Miller. Jo helped us to look at LRP as a tree, a model of an ecosystem needing nutrients, producing fruit, and yet subject to pollutants. Over the course of three meetings, women discussed all parts of the system. The Nutrients include the women bonds; the care, the energy and giving of women; our past history; and, of course, money—among other things. Our Fruits include our events and happenings: Dawg Daze, the Auction, TLC Chorale, the Common Interest Groups, the Health Fair, and the many instances of social interaction, information, and education for and among women.

However, we do need to pay attention to our Pollutants. The women looked closely at LRP's problems/challenges and narrowed them to three major issues: a) Lack of Space, b) Lack of Follow-Up, and c) Lack of Representation. These three issues will form the basis for planning LRP's future.

A) Lack of Space: Obviously, we need the space, but space requires just the right location and MONEY, MONEY, MONEY. B) Lack of Follow-Up is due to lack of volunteers—we are a volunteer organization. At this time, five women are responding to phone messages, attempting to answer questions and requests. We are trying to do our best until we have a place where more volunteers can help staff the phones. C) Lack of representation will need to be worked on—we need to continue to educate ourselves on our racist, classist, and ethnocentric attitudes and work harder to make every woman feel welcomed to be part of the LRP.

The most positive outcome for the LRP Board was the great show of support for LRP. The lesbian community is huge, diverse, and involved in varying degrees in different types of activities. In the past, because

most of our funding came from grants, we were put in a position of having to offer services. We became, in effect, a service organization, meeting the needs of clients by providing services to meet certain types of needs. Now, we want to revisit that mission. Instead, we want to respond, first of all, to any and all women in the valley without restrictions and concerns for grant reporting and compliance. To do that, we need to shift the source of our support—from outside agencies to our own sisters.

We need your help—financially—to continue to do those things you enjoy and to provide the visibility we all need in this valley. Every woman needs to support the LRP with her money.

The four women on the LRP Board have been focusing tremendous time and energy on helping to shape LRP's future. We would like more lesbians to join us in this venture as board members. Please call us to receive a packet of information on what board membership involves. If you would like to volunteer, please call us also. We will call you back regarding the next opportunities for helping in various ways. And to all of you who participated in the town hall meetings, who come to the board meetings to offer your input, who help at various events and fundraisers, and to those of you who have hung in there, supporting us during this transition—a major Thank You! Please send your tax-deductible check to LRP, P.O. Box 1917, Tempe, AZ 85280-1917. For more information, you can reach us at (602) 266-5542 or e-mail us at <<lrp@swlink.net>>

LRP is . . . LRP is Information; LRP is Sisterhood. LRP IS! On to our future!



Martina and Me

By Robin Dee, WCN staff writer

I don't want to brag but I received a letter from Martina Navratilova. Here it is:

I didn't have the heart to write Martina back and tell her that I seldom use a credit card, that I can't afford a Subaru and that I am terrified of flying. I got it anyway just because I like the idea of US having our OWN credit card. I pulled it out to buy a loveseat (appropriate, don't you think?) and the salesman noticed the crowd scene on the face of the card where each person is holding up a rainbow flag, and said, "This is a great card." Yup.

Dear Friend:

It is with great pleasure that I thank you for joining me as a Rainbow Card member. By using the Rainbow Visa® Card you can show your pride while supporting causes important to the gay and lesbian community. Thanks to card holder support and corporate contributions, the Rainbow Card program has already contributed over \$250,000 to gay and lesbian causes.

A portion of every Rainbow Card transaction goes directly to the Rainbow Endowment, a non-profit organization which funds lesbian and gay health, arts, cultural and civil rights organizations. The Rainbow Endowment contributes money to groups such as: AIDS Information Network, Astraea National Lesbian Action Foundation, Community Research Initiative on AIDS, National Breast Cancer Coalition, National Lesbian and Gay health Association and the National Center for Lesbian Rights.

Our goal is to encourage card members to use the Rainbow Card each and every time they would typically shop, dine out, travel or make a transaction with a credit card. The more you use the card, the more funding you help raise for community efforts.

Not only does the Rainbow Card benefit gay and lesbian causes, it is also a benefit to you with a super low introductory rate and no annual fee. You are welcome to transfer an existing credit card balance to your Rainbow Card and take advantage of the Introductory APR.

In addition, Subaru of America, Inc., Founding Sponsor of the Rainbow Endowment, has added two more great benefits to card membership: when Rainbow Card members take retail delivery of a new Subaru, they will receive up to 3 years or 45,000 miles of Added Security Basic scheduled maintenance, absolutely free (please see the Added Security Maintenance Plan brochure at your Subaru dealer for complete coverage details). And Subaru will donate \$100.00 to the Rainbow Endowment.

Take off on British Airways, our newest proud sponsor, and enjoy exclusive Rainbow Travel rewards, available to all Rainbow Card members. Look for complete details on Rainbow Card offers in an upcoming newsletter or on our website at www.rainbowcard.com.

Today, more than ever, it is important that we support our community and the organizations that serve it. Once again, thank you for becoming a part of this important program. We greatly appreciate your support.

Sincerely,
Martina's signature
Martina Navratilova
Rainbow Endowment Spokesperson

"If you have made mistakes...there is always another chance for you...you may have a fresh start any moment you choose, for this thing we call "failure" is not the falling down, but the staying down." —Mary Pickford—

The Spinal Column

By Dr. Susan C. Rayeski

Hello valley women (and men)!!! I am writing to answer that burning question on everyone's mind: "Why should I go to a Chiropractor?" Ok. Let's first talk about what chiropractic is...and is not. It is the most widely used, natural, health profession in the world, attracting millions of people each year: househusbands and movie stars, scientists and businesswomen, lawyers and laborers, infants and the elderly... even dykes and postal workers. It is safe, effective and gentle. The goal of

a chiropractor is to awaken your own natural healing ability by gently adjusting the spine, thus removing nerve interference. That totally cool power that created you from one cell some late Saturday night in the back seat of a Chevy, is still inside you and can heal you, too! (if given the chance) Chiropractors tap into this power, unleashing it, so that your body can function perfectly like it was designed to... without drugs or surgery. Chiropractic is not a pill, potion, patch or puncture. If it is drugs you crave, you won't find what you

are looking for in a chiropractor's office. But if it is natural healing, vitality, strength, and health that floats your boat then chiropractic is for you!

Taking care of your body is similar to taking care of your car (or as in the case of my sister friends here in the valley...your truck). When the oil light comes on in your truck, you basically have two choices: 1. Cover up the light with an attractive piece of duct tape 2. Add some oil! Chiropractors do not cover us the problem like duct tape and drugs do. Chiropractors find the cause of the problem and gently correct it. Get it?

So...no matter what disease or problem you have, you can benefit

from a healthy spine. You only get one spine - it is important to take care of it. Have your spine checked by your local chiropractor today and feel the difference.

Would you like to know more about chiropractic? Please send questions and comments to Dr. Susan, 5527 N. 27th Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85017, fax 602-242-0494 or e-mail wcn@swlink.net.

Health talk

Free Health talk every Thursday, 8-9pm at Dr Susan Rayeski office, A Chiropractic Place, 5527 N. 27th Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85017, 602-242-2370.

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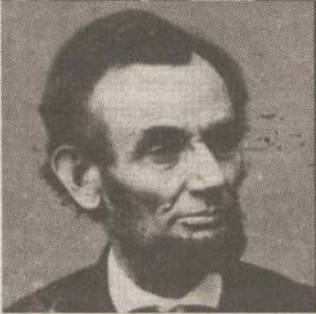
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ONE VOICE CAN TRANSFORM a NATION

Please attend the 1998 Arizona Human Rights Fund Awards Dinner
Saturday, June 13, 1998 at the Arizona Biltmore

Award recipients:

US West

The Honorable Sheila James Kuehl
Parents And Friends of Gays And Lesbians (PFLAG)

William Orovan, Echo Magazine

Marc Kellenberger

Please call 602.650.0900 for more information

Your lesbian community calendar and events pull out.

CCSL LEAGUE Mid-Season revenge

May 20, 1998: The return of sun drenched weekends has sparked close divisional races as the CCSL hits the mid-season mark. While the Women's division continues to resemble a cat fight, high drama has intensified with the sweet taste of revenge igniting both the Competitive and Recreational divisions.

Bas Bleu saw their divisional lead shrink when a game with third place 2GirlGraphics ended in a tie. The Cash Inn is now clawing at Bleu's heels with only a 1/2 game advantage separating the two; however, the divisional leaders shouldn't become too comfortable because a dark horse lurks in the middle of the pack. The Castle Boutique Players have quietly climbed to fourth place and savor the thought of being the Women's Division spoiler.

After taking revenge on Wink's Cosmos for an earlier season loss, the boys from Roscoe's once again lead the Competitive division. Even though Wink's has vowed to capture the elusive divisional championship, one has to wonder if history will repeat itself. There is one upside to Wink's once again being a runner up, instead

of buying new brides maids dresses, they can just re-accessorize the ones hanging in their closets.

Speaking of closets, not even the Extreme's slinky uniforms could distract scorned First Family from avenging an earlier season loss. Even though the Extreme still leads this race, First Family has sent a message that they will not relinquish their tiara easily. The thought of a crown also tantalizes the Wink's Warriors, BunkHouse Scorchers, Gay Yellow Pages and BS West Express. As the end of the season tournament draws closer, these teams continue to strengthen with one thought in mind. Two teams from the Recreational division will be awarded berths to the Gay World Series in Atlanta.

The CCSL invites the gay and lesbian community to come out and support our athletes. League games are played on Sundays from 9am to 4pm at El Dorado Park located on Miller Road north of McDowell in Scottsdale. If you have any questions or comments, please contact our Hotline at 848-8562, or visit our website at www.aau.net/ccsl.

WOMEN'S DIVISION

Rank	Team	Record
1	Bas Bleu Productions	10-0-1
2	Cash Inn 11-1	
3	2GirlGraphics/Page Whitney	9-2-1
4	Castle Boutique Players	5-4
5	Roscoe's Heat	5-5
6	Nasty Habits	5-6-1
7	Desert Reproductions	4-6
8	Movies on Central Renegades	4-6
9	The Mavericks	3-7-1
10	Ain't Nobody's Biz/Experience This	2-9
11	All About Destinations	0-10

OPEN DIVISION - COMPETITIVE

1	Roscoe's 8-1
2	Wink's 7-1
3	Pookie's 0-8

OPEN DIVISION - RECREATIONAL

1	Roscoe's X-Treme	7-1
2	First Family Medical	6-1-1
3	Bunk House Scorchers	4-4
4	BS West Express	3-6
5	Wink's Warriors	2-6-1
6	Gay Community Yellow Pages	2-7



Same sex partner benefits

According to an American Family Association Action Alert, The Amoco and Mobil Oil companies have joined with Shell and Chevron Oil companies in offering same sex Domestic Partner benefits to their employees.

The AFA called for members to boycott these companies and send them messages expressing their concerns with this policy. We suggest that anyone who is interested contact these companies with praise for their very spiffy new policy to counteract the negative response they will get from the AFA. The address and what not are:

Amoco Corporation, 200 East Randolph Drive, Chicago, IL 60601-7125, Telephone - 800/333-3991, E-mail: info@amoco.com

Mobil Corporation, 3225 Gallows Road, Fairfax, VA 22037. Telephone - 703/846-3000, E-mail: pub_aff@mobil.com

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"...Some things...arrive on their own mysterious hour, on their own terms and not yours, to be seized or relinquished forever."
—Gail Gordon—



By Cindy B., WCN sports writer

Phoenix Mercury games begin June 2 against Utah for preseason game. The home games in June are:

June 14 against Los Angeles at 1:00pm

June 15 against Washington

June 21 against Charlotte

June 24 against Houston

June 26 against Utah

For more information about Games and times you can call 252-WNBA.

New time and day for Scrabble League

Beginning immediately, the Friday night Scrabble League is moving to Tuesday nights. We will be meeting at The Coffee Plantation in Tempe, on Mill and 6th Ave., at 6:00 PM. We usually meet in the back room, and if the weather is nice, move the game outside. This change of schedule should alleviate the parking problem we've had in downtown Tempe on Friday nights. Tuesday is a less busy night for a lot of people, so we hope to attract some new players. All skill levels are welcome. For more information, call 732-7916 or 946-5570.

Important phone service information

Received a telephone call from an individual identifying himself as an AT&T Service Technician that was running a test on our telephone lines. He stated that to complete the test we should touch nine (9), zero (0), pound sign (#) and hang up.

Luckily, we were suspicious and refused. Upon contacting the Telephone company we were informed that by pushing 90# you end up giving the individual that called you access to your telephone line and allows them to place a long distance telephone call, with the charge appearing on your telephone call. We were further informed that this scam has been originating from many of the local jails/prisons.

Please beware. This sounds like an Urban Legend-IT IS NOT! I called GTE Security this morning and verified that this is definitely possible and DO NOT press 90# for ANYONE. It will give them access to your phone line to make long distances calls ANYWHERE!



Tina Angotti
Singer/Songwriter
602 • 238 • 0839

AHRF Dinner June 13

By Margot Marie Bronski, WCN staff

California Assemblywoman, Sheila James Kuehl will receive the Barry Goldwater Award as the Arizona Human Rights Fund's annual Awards Dinner to be held Saturday, June 13 at the Arizona Biltmore. The corporate honoree will be U.S. West.

The AHRF Community Activist Award will be given to William Orovan, publisher of Echo Magazine.

The Barry Goldwater Awards recognize individuals and corporations who, on a national level, have made outstanding efforts toward the elimination of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, and/or have contributed to awareness for an effective response to the AIDS crisis.

The Arizona Human Rights Awards go to those who meet the Barry Goldwater Awards criteria on a local, or state, level. The Arizona Chapter of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) is this year's corporate/organizational honoree. The individual honoree is Marc Kellenberger.

The evening begins with cocktails from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The dinner, awards and entertainment begin at 7:30 and are scheduled to run until 10 p.m. Pazport, a local acappella singing group, will provide entertainment. Local writer and TV commentator Jana Bommersbach will MC the evening's festivities.

This is the primary AHRF fundraiser each year. Tickets are \$135 each and can be ordered by calling the AHRF office at (602) 650-0900. Table and "Premier" sponsorships are also available.

Can you deliver the Women's Central News envelopes to the Tempe Post Office?



Call 898-4844

Resource directory for Verde Valley

Want to know what's going on in the Gay and Lesbian community in the Verde Valley? The Verde Valley Alternative Lifestyles Directory is now available to provide resource, social events, and friendly services available to the Gay and Lesbian community. For info. call 520-634-1405 or e-mail martimac@sedona.net.

San Francisco Pride is June 27th

By Margot Marie Bronski, WCN staff

It's June. It's time to go to San Francisco Pride. For those of us whose bags have been packed for a month, here's some info.

Pride events be held Saturday, June 27 and Sunday, June 28.

The festival has moved. There's major construction going on in the Embarcadero area, so The Celebration will be held in the Civic Center Area, near Market Street on the streets around Larkin and McAllister.

The parade has changed directions. Because of the construction, it will begin at the Embarcadero and head up Market Street to the Civic Center Area. The parade starts at 10:30 am on Sunday, the 28th.

For more complete information call SF Pride at 414-864-3733, or visit their WebPages at <http://www.sf-pride.org/>. That site also includes info on seating, related events, the dance clubs and all that.

Dyke March? Of course! Dyke March '98 will be held Saturday, June 28, starting at 7 PM. It begins at 16th Street and Market. Where it ends know one ever really knows for sure. The giant street party *Pink Saturday in the Castro* starts after the Dyke March.

Are You Going?

Sometimes it's nice to know that you are not "in the big city all alone". If you're going to S.F. Pride and would like to network with some other local lesbians who are going up, you can contact me, Margot Marie, at 433-1706, or e-mail me at margotm@swlink.net.

NOW - National Organization of Women: East Valley Chapter

Meetings will be held the third Thursday of the month from 7-9PM at the Pyle Center, 3500 S. Rural Road, Tempe. For information contact Jennifer Deprey-Jackmen at 917-4760.



WREN hikes up a creek in June

On Saturday, June 20, WREN hikers will be up a creek - scenic Cibique Creek in the White Mountain Apache reservation. We will dayhike 2 1/2 miles to the waterfall. Our goal is to turn this short but challenging water hike into a refreshing day of fun and frolic.

We will be walking and wading in the water from the start, so bring sturdy tennis shoes or old hiking boots to wear in the water, extra sun block and plenty of drinking water. It will be very hot, but we will be wet all the time.

Midway through the hike we will have a picnic and floating party. Bring a picnic lunch and a flotation device for the floating party. Prizes will be awarded for the funniest flotation device and to the winner of the waterfall dash.

Those wishing to car-camp after the hike on the Salt River off the Cibique access road must purchase a \$6 per vehicle overnight permit in addition to the \$2 day use permit required by the tribe. We will purchase all permits from the store at the bottom of Salt River Canyon before driving the seven-mile dirt road to Cibique Creek. High-clearance vehicles recommended. Expect warm evening temperatures.

Meet at the east end of the parking lot of Fry's Electronics (formerly Incredible Universe) on the northwest corner of I-10 and Baseline Road at 7:30am. Drive 2 1/2 hours one way. Call Jane at 268-5897 for more information.

Orienteering Group



On June 27, the Orienteering Group will continue to learn orienteering by exploring the Four Peaks Wilderness area. You will need the following:

- Book *Be Expert With Map and Compass* by Bjorn Kjellstrom
- Topo map: Four Peaks
- Compass, ruler, pencil and protractor
- Hiking boots, water and lunch

We will meet at 7:30 am at Margaret's. Call 464-8795 for directions. We will study orienteering for about 1 1/2 hours then head out to

Four Peaks to practice our skills along with some easy hiking. Newcomers welcome.



1998 Ride Calendar

- June 14th - Sunday - Strawberry/Payson
- July 11/12 - Showlow/Globe overnight
- August 8th - Saturday - Saguaro Lake rest. Dinner ride
- September 13th - Sunday - Prescott via Wickenburg
- October 11th - Sunday - Jerome
- November 8th Sunday - to be announced

If you are interested in joining us on any scheduled club ride or event call Deb at 279-9228 for times and meeting locations.

Desert Hearts Motorcycle Club wishes you happy and safe motoring.

"Los Amigos Del Sol"

Now 22 years old, Los Amigos Del Sol continues to benefit its members and the community as a social organization of men and women working together for the fun of it.

For information on the location of business meetings held the 2nd Saturday of each month at 3pm and the social events call GB at 997-2411.

Support group in Verde Valley

Women's Chat in the Verde Valley. Every Wednesday night 5 to 7 at the Huff n Puff Straw Bale Inn near Sedona, 520-567-9066 for more information.

National Women's Music Festival June 25-28

The 24th Annual National Music Women's Festival may have a better date for you (June 25-28, 1998) and definitely has a new 1998 & 99 location at Ball State University, in Muncie IN (due to the renovation of the IU Auditorium)

Summary of some of the main feature performers/speakers:

Thursday, June 25th, on the main stage: Faith Nolan, Zrazy, & HOLLY NEAR!!!!

Friday, June 26th, on the main stage: Nedra Johnson, June & Jean Millington and comedian KATE CLINTON.

Sunday, June 28th, Anita Hill will be the keynote speaker.

There are all day workshops on drumming and new this year all day financial planning workshops.

More information is available at: <http://www.a1.com/wia/> (note that's a one not an "L"). Information about work exchange: there may be opportunities to help in performer care, call 812-336-6555 for more details.

Glenna's Community Potluck



The potluck will be held June 20th, 6:00 pm at 10777 W. Mohawk, Peoria, Sun City. Take Loop 101 and exit at Union Hills Drive. At Union Hills Drive go West to 99th Avenue turn right (N) on 99th Avenue get in left lane and at the stop sign turn left (W) on Beardeley, go to 107th Avenue, turn right (N) get in the left lane and go 1/4 mile and turn left on W. Mohawk Lane. It is the 2nd house on the right. Bring your favorite dish to pass, drinks, table service and chairs.

July and August - NO PLANNED POTLUCKS.

Any questions call Glenna at 345-7453 or 671-4166.

Women sought for Tennis Team

An all lesbian/gay tennis team has openings for new teammates on existing World Team Tennis league. World Team Tennis contains teams of both men and women. This format stresses equality between the sexes. The six set matches are made up of a set each of women's doubles and singles and men's doubles and singles and two sets of mixed doubles. The total number of games won determines the winner. The lesbian/gay team will make its second appearance in the local World Team Tennis league that plays in North Central Phoenix on Monday nights. "The format is both fun and competitive" team captain Doug McNeil said, "You get a feeling of camaraderie."

Team members should be a "B" or "A" recreational player or have a National Tennis Rating Program (NTRP) rating of 3.0 to 4.0. The next season will start in June. If you are interested in participating please call Doug at 971-4387.

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Same Time/Same Place Breakfast Club

Now's the time to join us at the Coffee Talk, 48 N. Robson, in Mesa (north of Main/East of Country Club). We meet every Sunday at 10 a.m. and talk and drink coffee and talk and eat and talk.... For more info. call Robin 848-0083.

Xena

Do you thrill to the weekly adventures of Xena, Warrior Princess and her devoted Bard? Come meet with other lesbian and bi-women who share your passion for the dynamic duo, our "Amazon" heroes for the 90's.



Xena group activities include: reading lesbian fan fiction from the Internet, viewing early episodes, interviews, bloopers, sharing information about posters, articles, books, and merchandise. This common interest group of the Lesbian Resource Project meets once a month on a Sunday, 1-3:30 pm at Augustana Lutheran Church, 2604 N. 14th St., Phoenix (corner of 14th and Virginia).

For meeting dates and further information, call XeenFan at 813-8681.



Women 2 Women Connection's first pool party of the season!

Date: June 27, 1998 (Saturday)
Time: 3:00 pm until ????

For directions call Donna at (602) 331-4018 or e-mail TWOSQUARED@aol.com
The best time to contact me is after 7:00 pm on the weekdays. Weekends are always "iffy."

This will be a "coordinated" pool party and potluck (hot tub may also be available). Bring something to grill, a towel, suntan lotion and any "special" music.

Women To Women Connection is a way for Arizona women to meet and have fun. Couples and singles are welcome. Please visit the monthly events web page at: <http://www.psn.net/~sammie/events>. If you'd like to propose an activity, please drop an email to Anne S. at sammie@psn.net.

Telephone Tree

Hey there! We need to help each other spread the word. The Telephone Tree needs more members to tell us about what is for sale, such as furniture, equipment, dogs, etc.



Also to seek or rent apartments, share homes. Tell us any kind of news that might interest the community. The only way to pass on information, excluding a paid ad, is word of mouth. The more mouths on the tree, the more ears will get the message. Let's have more volunteers, who call one more person. Call Jean at 954-8007 with new messages or to volunteer.

Let's keep the tree growing.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Herpes Resource Center, American Social Health Association, Department PR85, P.O. Box 13827, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709. Enclose \$1.00 to cover postage and handling.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Phoenix area women's shelters

- National 24-hour Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233
Metro Phoenix shelters and safe homes:
*My Sister's Place, Chandler, 821-1024,
*Faith House, Glendale, 939-6798
*New Life Shelter, Litchfield park, 935-9161,
*Autumn House, Mesa, 835-5555
*DeColores, phoenix, 269-1515
*Chrysalis Shelter, Phoenix, 944-4999
*Sojourner Center, Phoenix, 244-0997
*Chrysalis Shelter, Scottsdale, 481-0402



WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY GROUP

PROVIDING SACRED SPACE FOR SHARING PERSONAL SPIRITUALITY - FOCUSING ON THE HEALING & TRANSFORMATION OF OURSELVES, OUR COMMUNITY, HUMANITY & THE EARTH.

MEETINGS

We Meet the 1st & 3rd Mon. of the Month 7 - 9 PM

June 1st - Ritual Honoring our connection to the "AIR"

Contact Valissa - 468-9672

June 15th - "Circle of Stones"

Contact Patti - 678-5729

SOCIALS

All Women Welcome to Join us for our Social Gatherings

June 5, 6, & 7th - Mt. Baldy Hike & Camp Out Weekend (Fee Per Person)

For more info contact Jacalyn - 493-2406

JAQUI GEE
970-5442
6360 E. Thomas Rd
Building 2, Suite 222
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Natural States

Tina M. Angotti
Healing through Energy & Bodywork

602-238-0839

Networking meetings for Reiki

Workshop Networking Meetings for Reiki, Chiropractic and other Alternative Healing Practitioners continues the third Tuesday of every month at the Hand of Love Ministry, 6605 N. 14th Street, Phoenix (between Maryland and Glendale). The next meeting is May 19, 7-10 pm. Admission by good will donation. Monitors will be Reiki Masters Bonnie Flanagan and Rev. John Vickers-Ziarnick and long-time Natural Healer Rev. Roderic Vickers. Adepts of all disciplines of Healing Therapy are welcome. For more information call 602-264-1470.

The regular weekly service at the Hand of Love Ministry is at 9 am Sunday morning. Rev. Roderic Vickers and Rev. Tom Lee presiding. For information call 602-264-1470.

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Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel

LOVE and WORK part I
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YOUR HONOR, MY ESTEEMED COLLEAGUE IS OVERLOOKING SECTION 304 (a) AND (f), 42 U.S.C. SEC. 7604, WHICH SETS AN EMISSION LIMIT OF 5µg/m³ OVER ANY 30 DAY PERIOD, IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN.

...AND TOMI EXHIBITS MATURITY.
BECAUSE I'M THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THAT'S WHY!
JOAN, LET'S DISCUSS THIS AFTER LUNCH. YOU KNOW YOU GET IRRITABLE WHEN YOU'RE HUNGRY.

BUT IN THE BOUDOIR...
HA! I TAPED THIS FOR RAFFI, BUT IT'S REALLY GROWING ON ME.
HUH?
AGAIN!

AT THE BOOKSTORE, JEZANNA IS A WOMAN OF FEW WORDS.
DIDJA SEE BOUNDERS BOOKS AND MUSIC IS HAVING THEIR GRAND OPENING NEXT MONTH?
MMPH.

... BUT IN AN INTIMATE SETTING, SHE'S A BIT MORE VOLUBLE.
OH, WHERE'D YOU LEARN TO DO THAT? YES! DON'T STOP! @*#! ME, YOU *\$%! ME!
BABE, BEFORE YOUR FATHER MOVES IN, WE NEED TO TALK SOUNDPROOFING.

GINGER HAS AN EYE TO THE FUTURE AT WORK.
SO I HEAR YOU FINALLY GOT A REAL JOB.
DR. REYNOLDS, I MAY HAVE MADE A FRACTION OF YOUR SALARY HERE, BUT I TAUGHT TWICE YOUR COURSE LOAD. YOU CAN KISS MY ADJUNCT ASS GOODBYE.

... BUT IN BED, SHE'S LIVING IN THE PAST.
RECENTLY EXCAVATED 10-YR. OLD MEMORY

ON THE JOB, MO STANDS BY HER PRINCIPLES...
ARE WE JUST GONNA SIT AROUND WITH OUR THUMBS UP OUR BUTTS TILL ONE SUPREME C.E.O. ACCUMULATES ALL THE WEALTH ON THE PLANET? MARX WAS RIGHT! CAPITALISM TENDS INEVITABLY TOWARD MONOPOLY, AND RICH PEOPLE SUCK!

... AND SYDNEY'S OUT OF CONTROL.
NOT ONE OF YOU OVERPRIVILEGED, BEER-PICKLED FRAT FOLLOWERS READ THE CHAPTER? WELL WASTE YOUR OWN LIVES IF YOU MUST, BUT DON'T WASTE MINE!

BUT IN THE HEAT OF PASSION, MATTERS ARE DIFFERENT.
POOL GIRL! WHAT IS THIS SWILL? I ASKED FOR NATURALLY CARBONATED WATER!
I'M SO SORRY, MS. STEWART. WOULD YOU PREFER THE PERRIER?

YES, AND CALL ME MARTHA, YOU COMELY WENCH.

To BE CONTINUED...

June 1998

Community Calendar

Places to go. things to do!!!!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thr	Fri	Sat
	1 Women Spirituality, pg 9	2 Mercury home game Scrabble league, pg 7	3	4	5	6
7 SP/ST Breakfast Club, 48 N Robson, Mesa 10AM	8	9 Scrabble league, pg 7	11 Women's Central News general meeting at 333 E. Virginia #101, 7PM	12	13 AHRF dinner, pg 6 & 7	14 Los Amigos Del Sol, pg 8
14 SP/ST Breakfast Club, 48 N Robson, Mesa 10AM Mercury home game Hesert Hearts ride, pg 8	15 Mercury home game Women Spirituality, pg 9	16 Scrabble league, pg 7	17	18	19 Grease party at Cash Inn, pg 11	20 WREN hike, pg 8 Gleena's Potluck, pg 8
21 SP/ST Breakfast Club, 48 N Robson, Mesa 10AM Mercury home game	22	23 Scrabble league, pg 7	24 Mercury home game	25	26 Mercury home game	27 S.F. Pride, pg 8 Orienteering, pg 8 W2W pool party, pg 9
28 SP/ST Breakfast Club, 48 N Robson, Mesa 10AM Lilith Fair, pg 12	29	30 Scrabble league, pg 7	1	2	3	4

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Comments: _____

Heart To Heart

Dina Bachelor Evan, Ph.D., WCN staff writer

Question: There are times when I get to this place in myself and in my relationship that feels like I am jumping off the deep end into an abyss that is very scary. I don't understand the fear or the feelings. Can you help?

Crossing the Gap

Most of us know about the gap and have been in it, but, like you, we haven't named it. We've only felt it. What is the gap? The gap is that negative energetic pit of aloneness you get into in life, sometimes with yourself, sometimes with someone else, and sometimes with Spirit where you just can't seem to connect or make a connection that feels real and healing. It's the abyss that stands between you and your bliss. It's that chasm that appears between you and another who doesn't seem to understand who you are, or where you are coming from. It's that space that seems impossible, if not too treacherous, to cross at times. The gap is rich with possibility. It is a terrain abundant with information about you, and those issues inside of you that still need to be healed.

When you get to the gap with someone, your first instinct may be to protect yourself, move away from the edge. You may find yourself using anger, judgment or arrogance to distance the other person. Usually, you get to the gap because someone, or some circumstance, has triggered a vulnerable place inside of you. That feeling or place is normally from some incident or circumstance in our past. Our natural inclination the moment we feel those feelings is to close off, close down and move away. It's unfortunate that we have been taught that we are not able to deal with pain or fear because the gap is a great teacher, a place requiring great compassion and understanding with one's self and the other person. In the middle of it you will find your true self.

You have probably been in the gap without knowing it and you may have felt isolated, alone and disconnected. The gap can make you feel dizzy, nauseated, light headed and out of control. It feels life threatening and it literally steals your sense of aliveness unless you deal with it. Most of us get to the edge of the gap, or fall into it at times in our life with what we call break downs or what I call break through's, but, we usually don't identify it, embrace it or do the work required to heal it. Instead, you crawl out of it, eventually pull yourself back together to some degree, and you then walk away from the edge of the gap feeling as if something is very wrong. Since you can't determine what it is that feels so bad, you usually blame another person, or the circumstance and determine not to repeat the process again - but you do. You feel better with your don't go there decision, for the moment that is, until you come upon the next deep abyss that takes your breath away.

Every time you walk away from a gap, or find your way around it, you experience a little disappointment in yourself knowing at some deeper level you want to do something differently. At some level, you feel ashamed, a little or a lot guilty and you probably secretly wish you'd handled things better. If you are into not taking any responsibility for yourself, you will continue to feel like a victim or a loser.

Crossing the gap requires the willingness

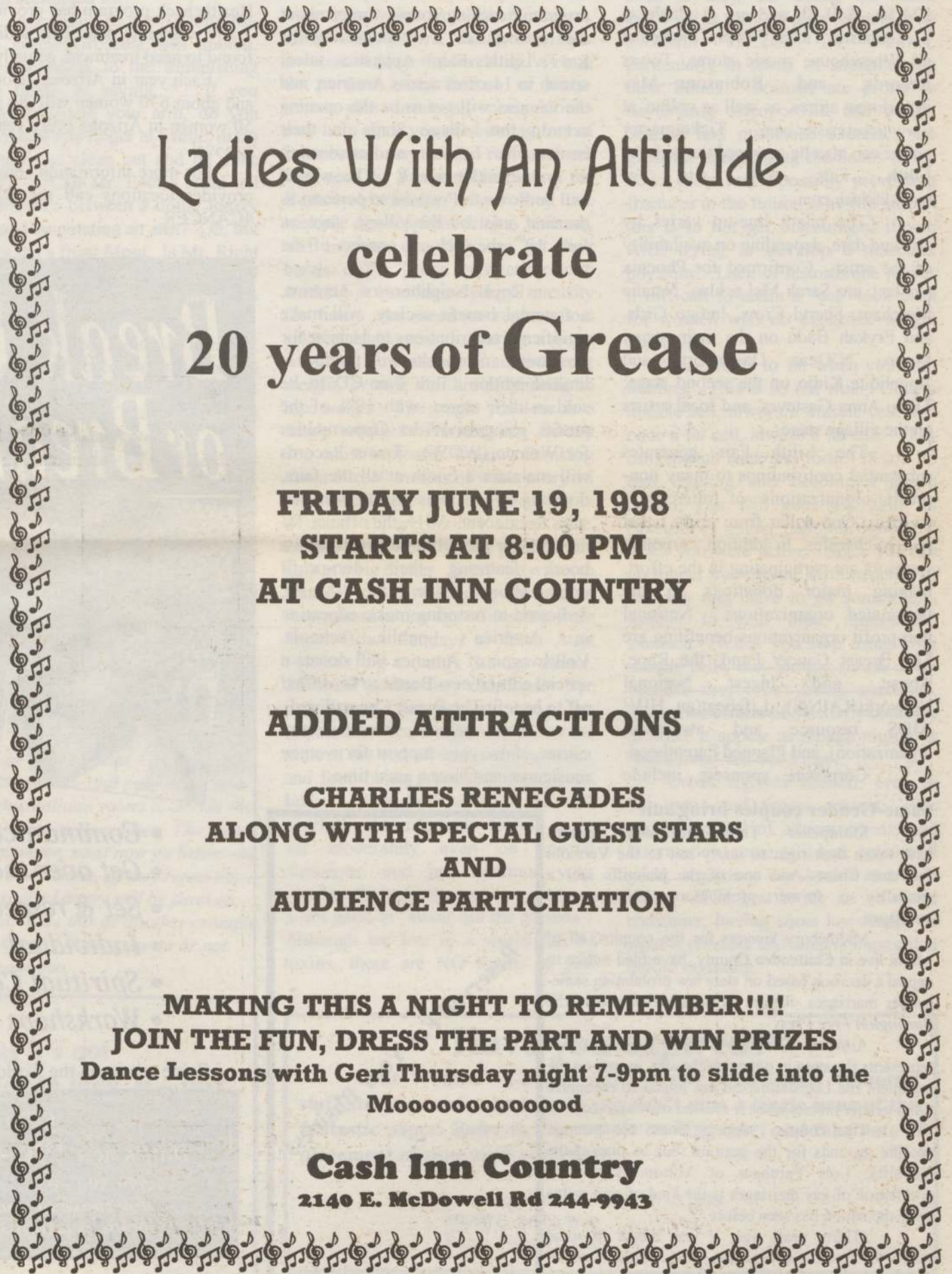
to look at what has been triggered. Was it a lack of safety, a sense of not being seen, honored or respected? Was it a breach of boundaries, an unconscious label, a discounting remark? When one of these vulnerable places inside gets triggered, it tells us we are still holding some old unresolved pain that needs healing. It's a signal there is work to be done on ourselves. It tells us that we still have a place inside that still feels powerless to act on our own behalf - therefore we move away.

The first place to start dealing with the gap is to notice that it exists. Then we must ask ourselves what it is that are we afraid of? Once we have acknowledged and owned the fear, breathed it out and brought light to it, the gap becomes less dangerous. The gap is only intimidating when we are in denial about our own fear, judgment or guilt. Guilt is almost always in the gap. Each of these emotions and fears becomes increasingly more frightening

because we are layering years of denial on top. Chances are, a simple recognition of the fear will bring resolve.

Learning to use the gap, instead of moving away from it, or getting lost in it, is an act of mastery. The gap is a great teacher. Crossing it brings us closer to ourselves. It teaches us that we can trust ourselves, honor ourselves and resolve those issues that prevent us from Being ourselves. When you get to the gap, call it for yourself and the other person, have a good laugh, grab your sense of humor and jump on in! Your authentic, highest Self is waiting for you.

Dr. Evan is a psychotherapist in Phoenix. To contact her directly call (602) 230-7570. Please send questions or topics you would like Dr. Evan to address along with your comments directly to Women's Central News.



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Lilith Fair June 28th

By Sherrie Nist, WCN Staff

Women's music fans, get ready for the event of the year! June 28th is the date for this year's Lilith Fair. This all-woman music festival tour, now in its second year, celebrates the best in Women's music, bringing together an eclectic mix of female performers, including established artists as well as new and emerging talents. Conceived by Sarah McLachlan, last year's tour was the most successful music festival tour of 1997. This year's fair promises to be even bigger and better. The event will take place at Desert Sky Pavilion in Phoenix. Tickets prices range from \$24.50 - \$49.10, and are available at Ticketmaster Ticket Centers, located at all Warehouse music stores, Tower Records, and Robinsons—May department stores, as well as online, at www.ticketmaster.com. Ticketmaster online can also be accessed through the Lilith Fair web site, at www.lilithfair.com.

The talent line-up varies by city and date, depending on availability of the artist. Confirmed for Phoenix (so far), are Sarah McLachlan, Natalie Merchant, Sheryl Crow, Indigo Girls, and Erykah Badu on the main stage; Mono, N'Deaa Davenport, and Angelique Kidjo on the second stage; TBA, Anna Gasteyer, and local artists on the village stage.

The Lilith Fair generates substantial contributions to many non-profit organizations of interest to women. One dollar from every ticket goes to charities. In addition, corporate sponsors are participating in the effort, making major donations to the designated organizations. National non-profit organizations benefiting are The Breast Cancer Fund, the Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network (RAINN), Lifebeat (an HIV/AIDS resource and awareness organization), and Planned Parenthood.

Corporate sponsors include

Biore, Excite, Levi's, Royal Neighbors of America, Starbucks Coffee, Tower Records, VH1, and Volkswagon of America. Biore will donate funds totaling \$100,000 to five national women's organizations: Rape, Abuse, and Incest Network (RAINN), Lifebeat, the national Association of Anorexia Nervosa and Associated Disorders (ANAD), Wider Opportunities for Women (WOW), and the International Rett Syndrome Association. Excite, an online search engine, is hosting the Lilith Fair website. They have selected Girls, Inc., as their non-profit organization, and will work with their Girlslink program, teaching young women about the Internet. Levi's is sponsoring the Levi's/Lilith Fair Acoustic talent search in 14 cities across America, and the winners will get to be the opening act on the village Stage in their hometowns. Levi's is also conducting an online talent search. The winner will be flown to Portland to perform as the first artist on the village stage on June 19th, the kick-off concert of the tour.

Royal Neighbors of America, a fraternal benefit society, will make significant contributions to Habitat for Humanity. Starbucks will produce a limited edition Lilith Fair CD to be sold in their stores, with 10% of the profits going to Wider Opportunities for Women (WOW). Tower Records will maintain a booth at all the fairs, donating 5% of their profits from fair sales to Lifebeat. VH1, the official TV network for the Lilith Fair, will have a booth featuring their non-profit organization, Save the Music, dedicated to restoring music education in America's public schools. Volkswagon of America will donate a special edition new Beetle to be raffled off to benefit The Breast Cancer Fund.

Get behind these worthy causes, show your support for women musicians, and have a great time.

Same-Gender couples bring suit

Montpelier - Three same-gender couples have taken their right to marry suit to the Vermont Supreme Court. And one of the plaintiffs sees a similarity o former prohibitions of interracial marriages.

Middlebury lawyers for the couples, all of whom live in Chittenden County, have filed notice to appeal a decision based on state law prohibiting same-gender marriages, Robert Benincasa reported in the *Burlington Free Press*.

Attorney General William Sorrell's office represents the state in opposing the suit, in part on the argument the Legislature did not intend to recognize same-gender unions when it created marriage laws.

The couples' appeal does not contain specific grounds for the petition, but to one of the plaintiffs, Lois Farnham of Milton, Vermont's prohibition of gay marriages is the kind of civil rights issue the nation has seen before.

"Thirty years ago, it was illegal in some states for interracial marriage, and people tend to forget that," she said, "This is very much the same."

NEWS MARICOPA COUNTY

Department of Public Health

Jonathan Weisbuch, M.D., M.P.H., Director

1845 E. Roosevelt, Phoenix AZ 85006

Contact Mary Fowler, 506-4926, or David Urbinato, 506-0405

Organizations join efforts to provide breast, cervical cancer services

The Maricopa County Department of Public Health (MCDPH), Maricopa Medical Center (MMC) and St. Luke's Charitable Health Trust have joined efforts to deliver breast and cervical cancer services to under served and underinsured women.

Through its Well Woman Healthcheck program, MCDPH providers identify individuals who need surgical consultations and initial assessment follow-up. Referrals are then forwarded to hospitals and physicians, such as Dr. Dean Coonrad at the MMC, who schedule clinic appointments for evaluations. If surgery is needed, St. Lukes Charitable Trust provides financial assistance to cover both inpatient and outpatient hospital expenses, and MMC, along with other Valley physicians provide their services free-of-charge.

"This program can save lives through the early detection and follow-up treatment," said MCDPH Director Dr. Jonathan Weisbuch. "The Well Woman Healthcheck program has provided early detection cancer screening to more than 1,200 women to date. This additional program ensures that those women who are found to need treatment, actually receive treatment."

Each year in Arizona, about 3,000 women are diagnosed with breast cancer and about 670 women will die of the disease. Cervical cancer claims the lives of 50 women in Arizona every year. Early diagnosis ensures a 96 percent chance of survival.

For more information about the Well Woman Healthcheck Program and for provider locations call the Office of Family Health at 506-6377 or 1-800-4CANCER.



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The Mammogram

Author unknown

For years and years they told me,
"Be careful of your breasts.
Don't ever squeeze them or bruise them
And give them monthly tests".

So I heeded all their warnings
And protected them by Law...
Guarded them very carefully,
And always wore a bra.

After 30 years of careful care,
The doctor found a lump.
He ordered up a mammogram
To look inside that clump.

"Stand up very close, she said,
As she got my tits in line,
And tell me when it hurts," she said,
"Ah yes; there, that's just fine".

She stepped on a pedal...
I could not believe my eyes;
A plastic plate was pressing down...
My boob was in a vise.

My skin was stretched and stretched
From way up by my chin,
And my poor tit was being squashed
To Swedish pancake thin.

Excruciating pain I felt
Within its vise-like grip,
A prisoner in this vicious thing
My poor defenseless tit.

"Take a deep breath", she said to me
Who does she think she's kidding?
My chest is smashed in her machine,
I can't breathe, and woozy I am getting.

"There, that was good", I heard her say
As the room was slowly swaying.
"Now, let's get the other one",
"Lord, have mercy", I was praying.

It squeezed me from the up and down,
It squeezed me from both sides.
I'll bet she's never had this done
To her tender little hide.

If I had no problem when I came in...
I sure have one now...
If there had been a cyst in there,
It would have popped - KER POW!

This machine was made by MAN,
Of this I have no doubt..
I'd like to get his balls in there,
For months, he'd go without!!!!

Who is this guy?

By Robin Dee, WCN staff writer

Does the name 'Jeff Grosco' ring a bell? To refresh your memory, he's a Republican from Mesa and the Speaker of the House. It was he who pushed through the bill to create the Stadium District in order to cut us out of our rightful say-so on the BOB tax. Now, His Brilliance, has decided that the Lottery must go.

Last year, the Lottery raised \$79 million; \$25 mil went to the state's general fund; \$20 mil went to the Heritage Fund for historic preservation, state parks, recreation and wildlife projects; and local transportation projects got \$23 million. (The other 11 million was not accounted for).

According to the Arizona Republic article Grosco was quoted, while responding to the diminishing lottery funds, as saying, ".....if you have to amputate your arm, do you want to do it one finger at a time, or do you want one clean cut and be done with it?" Can Mr. Potato Head tell the difference between a dollar lottery ticket and amputating an arm? Oh, but I forgot, he's from Mesa. Is Mr. Right (Always Right) a Mormon perchance? And doesn't the Mormon religion forbid gambling?

Rep. Sue Lynch - Prescott, made a point Grosco didn't mention when she essentially said that the people voted it in and if they don't like it they, the people, can vote it out.

The president of the board that oversees Heritage Fund expenditures, Andy Gordon, said of Grosco, "He's like a lot of legislators - he doesn't like it when the voters decide how the state should be spending money....."

Grosco's arrogance, - I could make this statement about most lawmakers - knows no bounds. Get off your personal religious agenda of killing the lottery Grosco, and while you're at it, take a class in ethics.

As a last minute note before this issue goes to print, Grosco did bend to pressure and put forth a measure which allows voters to decide the lottery's fate in November. The measure, however, must now go before the House and Senate. If they reject the measure the Lottery will be dead on July 1st. I see this as another example of whether we have a say-so or not. We'll soon see.

More Gym Mythology

By Boyd Foster-Burns Department of Exercise and Wellness ASU

More "urban legends" from the fitness club to entertain you this month. Hopefully you learned something from that last set, and it got you to thinking:

What else may I NOT know about exercise?

1. Sports drinks are the best fluids for all exercisers or sports players. Lots of workout divas swear by a bottled sports drink in colors not normally found in nature. They are generally loaded with sugars, salts and minerals to "replenish nutrients" lost in sweat. Since most people exercise less than one hour at a time, and usually moderately if over thirty minutes, water is just what we need. Better yet, drink water before, during and after exercise to keep the levels up. If you do perform very intense or sixty-minute-plus sessions, sports drinks may help since you are burning lots of calories and may need to replace them. Ever seen the Ironman Triathlon or the Boston Marathon, where they are sucking down sports drinks, bananas, and anything else they can get their hands on? Those competitors are working at an extremely high intensity for hours and need to replace lost calories and nutrients. During a given workout, you should maintain your weight, even if you are attempting to lose weight. The weight you lose in a single workout is water, not fat-and you must replenish water. Drinking about 5 to 10 ounces of water every 15 minutes during exercise is good, but in Arizona's climate, more is better.

2. You must work off the pounds you gain at a big dinner. Everyone wants to "run off" or "sit-up" away the weight they gained in one day of noshing from Super Bowl Sunday, or from Aunt Agatha's big monthly Sunday dinner. The truth is that they didn't gain five pounds of fat in one day; it's impossible. The weight you see on the scale at the end of such a day is water, and food being processed through the body. The best solution to that overfull, uncomfortable feeling is to eat moderately even on special occasions, and just continue your regular activity program.

3. It's good to "sweat out the poisons". Although we live in a world full of toxins, there are NO toxins in you

sweat. Ninety-nine point nine percent of sweat is water, sodium, potassium and magnesium. Sweating is a cooling mechanism of the body during activity; evaporation of the sweat from the skin causes cooling. The average person sweats about a quart an hour during intense exercise, and as much as two quarts in hot weather. Replacing this fluid is necessary, or you could suffer from dehydration, heat exhaustion, and kidney damage (see #1).

4. Resistance (weight) training will make women get as muscular as men. Because women don't have as much testosterone as men, they are very unlikely to gain the same muscle mass, even if they are doing the same exercises as men. Weight training is an excellent exercise for women, particularly in terms of strengthening their bones. Women are prone to developing osteoporosis, and weight bearing and resistance exercises are great for encouraging the bones to lay down more mass, possibly preventing fractures in the future. The flip side of this is to not get discouraged if you ARE trying to develop a muscular physique. Lack of testosterone makes it difficult to attain a "cut" look even for women who do extensive weight training.

5. Muscle turns to fat when you stop training. This is so not true! Once a muscle cell, always a muscle cell, and once a fat cell, always a fat cell. They can't switch back and forth. If you do quit training and become a couch potato, you will generally gain fat because of eating patterns developed when you were active. Since you are no longer burning the same amount of calories, they have to go somewhere, usually to your hips, thighs and stomach. When you stop using your muscle cells, they simply shrink down because they aren't being exercised. These two effects of inactivity combine to make it appear as though muscle is "becoming" fat, but it can't.

Urban legends abound, even in our gyms and fitness centers. The papers are full of advertisements and information, some of it bad, some of it good, regarding our health and well being. It is best to be an informed consumer, having some knowledge of what is possible and what is impossible before investing.

**"Sometimes I say that it's not
that I think women are superior to men, it's just
that we've had so little opportunity
to be corrupted by power.
And I jokingly add sometimes
that we want that opportunity."**

--Bella Abzug 1997

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"The Faces Of Our Family"

Part of an on-going series about people in our community

By Mary, WCN Staff

Kam, as most everyone calls her, is a bouncy, peppy young woman who walks into a room smiling. She is energetic, happy, caring, and a lesbian. I recently asked her how she felt Phoenix has grown in the area of acceptance of gays and lesbians, and what her personal experiences have been in the Valley of the Sun.

Kam has lived here the majority of her teen and adult life, and began her coming-out journey while still a teen. According to her, Phoenix has become a more enlightened place in those years, although it has moved very slowly. She has seen a more open attitude evolve throughout the valley, and is hoping for the continued growth in acceptance that the leaders of the city appear to be working toward. But, not so long ago, she and a friend found themselves accosted by an out-of-control man in a public place, who accused them of 'looking at his girlfriend'. He then attacked Kam, knocking her to the ground and stunning her. Although this whole

incident took place in a theatre lobby, with others surrounding them, not one person came forward to help. When Kam finished the police report, the advice was pretty much 'Get over it - the guy will not be charged unless he is stopped for some other violation in Phoenix'. The whole attitude was scary, and brought home how truly alone we are in facing homophobia. When I heard the story I was sure that this happened 8 or 10 years ago, but she told me that it had happened in 1995!

Given this incident and other confrontations, I asked her how she feels about her safety. Her response was that she knows now that she has enough anger in her to defend herself should the need arise again. I asked how she feels about the 'outward' signs of our community (car stickers, t-shirts, etc.), and her response was that we should be allowed to express to the world our commitment and support for an issue that we feel strongly about. She compared it to the abortion (both pro-choice and anti-choice) issue, and many others.

Kam is one of the fortunate ones who is

"Mistakes are part of the dues one pays for a full life." —Sophia Loren—

Rivers in the Wilderness

By Anna Hernandez

I will drag black clouds across the sky
Rub them together to make them cry
Rain to grow your smile.

I will bring you rivers into the wilderness
and tiny flowers for your hair,
millions of flowers to build a desert home
that you and I could share.

I will pick out seasons, rainbows, big yellow stones,
car tires, piñatas and old dog bones;
shake them in tin cans until they glow,
pour it over the house for our windows.

I will steal stars from dark, secret places.
I'll collect the hearts, just hanging on all those sleeves;
scoop up pieces of green ocean with a large eagle's nest-
I will bring you rivers
into your wilderness.

open in both her personal and professional life, and has never found it to be an issue. Her career has been successful, a result of hard work and determination, and she has a loving and supportive family whom she is very close to. This is one young lesbian woman who is not afraid of the future, and sees Arizona's changing attitudes as a positive sign of things to come.

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That Time Of The Month!

Semi-Coherent Opinion by Margot Marie Bronski

It came to me the other day that I'm suffering from **PO - Password Overload**. At work I have an ID and password to get on the LAN. I have a password to get into my mail and calendar. We have two IBM AS/400 systems; I have ID/password combos for each. On the corporate Intranet, I have another combo to break past the firewall and out onto the Internet. I have yet another combo to get into our corporate help desk system. Plus various other passwords to get into various other stuff. At home I have my own Internet connection...so more IDs and more passwords. I'm a member of several on-line services, so...you got it. Most of these have some sort of timer that automatically forces me to change my passwords. They all work on *different* schedules, of course! And just to make it really interesting they all have different rules as to what constitutes a valid password. I have a desk drawer full of little yellow Post-Its where I try to track them all. But it's a challenge remembering if it's a *new* one, an *old* one, or *another* one. I recently installed NT 4.0 at home...SO NOW I NEED A PASSWORD FOR MY OWN DAMN PC!!!! I love high tech...its made my life so much simpler!

At my age not too much shocks me any more. But last month I read something that scared the hell out of me. According to experts WE MAY RUN OUT OF CHOCOLATE!! Remember the rain forests? Seems cocoa beans grow best on small farms in the world's rain forests which as we all know are disappearing. In part they're disappearing cause we're clearing them off for BIG farms to grow cocoa beans but it turns out that the big farms ain't too productive and they tend to be great breeding places for diseases which attach cocoa beans. Seems the situation is serious enough that several of the major chocolate companies have formed a group to study the obvious. I swear, if we run out of chocolate during my lifetime, some one's gonna pay!! Big time!!

I was struck by the differences between the final *Ellen* and the final *Seinfeld*. Granted the hype around *Seinfeld* would have been more appropriate for the Second Coming, but I found myself laughing all the way through. The final *Ellen* however was kinda grim. Maybe I'm projecting, but it seemed to me that no body was having much fun. I got the feeling they just wanted to get it over. Maybe they did.

The WCN has a volunteer named Sheila. She's the type of volunteer every organization needs more of. She's semi-homebound, but wants to help the community. So every month she makes all our phone calls - reminding our other volunteers of various meetings, gatherings and jobs to do. It's one of those *little* jobs that makes an organization work. Sheila does it very well and I thought you ought to know about her.

And a personal note to Jeff who's heading out for the blue Pacific. *Good sailing my friend. You got me started in this queer journalism stuff, and I may never forgive you for it.*

MOUNTAIN MEMORIES TOURING is going to Oak Creek Canyon

Mountain Memories Touring is cooling off along the West Fork of Oak Creek on Saturday, June 27th & Sunday, June 28th. Leave the hot desert behind and join us in a hike that crosses over the shallow West Fork Creek ten times! A splash of cool water, in a beautiful green canyon with unusual rock formations is a great place to relax and enjoy nature. We depart the valley at 11:00 am. Lunch at a restaurant of your choice and plenty of shopping time is allowed in Sedona. At camp you can rest, play several games with prizes and sing along with guitar strumming Jackalope Jackie. As the sun goes down dinner will be prepared for you, a camp fire will burn brightly and we will have a Native American women's circle. Flutes, drums, bells and rattles played by all of us will begin our evening. If you have one of these instruments please bring it with you. Information on the medicine wheel and totems will be discussed followed by a relaxing and enlightening meditation. Join us and experience the energies of Sedona and a good time with great people.

The fee per person is \$80 and includes: transportation, camp gear, dinner on Saturday evening, breakfast and lunch on Sunday, snacks and medicine wheel handouts. Limited space is available and **reservations** must be made by June 19, 1998. The dates for this event are June 27th and 28th. For more information contact Jacalyn or Shari at 493-2406.

Mountain Memories Touring has many hiking and camping trips for groups of six to ten people. If your group is unable to attend on our scheduled trips then let us know when you would like to go and we will make arrangements for you. We have trips year-round with hiking and camping in areas around desert lakes, in canyons and in the mountains surrounded by tall pines. We offer several tours around the state and have private party grounds, Mesquite Flats in the beautiful Desert Hills area north of Phoenix. Our special *southwestern* YAHOO is a three hour party with great team games, lots of dance lessons and delicious outdoor cooked food.

MOUNTAIN MEMORIES TOURING (& parties!) (602) 493-2406
Round us up at our website: www.mmtouring.com

Political Darkness in Arizona

By Robin Dee, staff writer

What is the problem with politicians in Arizona? Evan Mecham was a couple of laughs but essentially what he did to get impeached in 1988 was to lend his car dealership \$80,000 in state funds. Well, ok, he also rescinded a Martin Luther King holiday for state employees and declared homosexuality to be an unacceptable lifestyle. (Hey Ev, I'm still here!)

In 1992 nineteen legislators, lobbyists and others accepted bribes in an effort to bring legalized gambling to Arizona. The fallout from that was called AzScam. I can vividly remember seeing the secretly recorded video tape on TV of then-state Senator Carolyn Walker accepting a \$24,000 bribe so she could open some sort of shops in Nevada because she said she deserved it.

Carolyn has been in the news lately again for failing to make restitution, for failing to do her community service and for failing to check in with her probation officer. She's a bitter woman who is acting as though it is we who have done her wrong.

Charles Keating was not a politician per se but he kissed up to a lot of the valley's bigwigs. John McCain and John Glenn come to mind as part of a rat pack called the 'Keating 7'.

All King Charles did was buy Lincoln Savings & Loan and then invest it's money, about \$3.4 billion, in high-risk land, hotel and securities deals. When Lincoln collapsed retired people who had invested their life savings lost it all. Keating is bitter too and doesn't think he did anything wrong.

Our most recent shameless politician, ex-governor Symington, began his demise by overextending himself in his greed to get more, more, more. The Symington Co. with a variety of partnerships, developed shopping centers, office buildings and a hotel, most of which were lost to creditors. He filed for bankruptcy in 1995, I guess so nobody

could touch his wife's money.

As a result of his bankruptcy all of his debts have been discharged except for his largest single creditor - you guessed it - a consortium of union pension funds. And, since this is Arizona, the state of shameless rule-bending by politicians, Symington doesn't think he did anything wrong either.

Mary Rose Wilcox felt that she deserved to take 50 of the 100 freebie tickets to the first DB game because she was shot in the ass. The guy who shot her definitely has his wig on too tight but much of his excuse for shooting her made sense to me. He was very upset that we were taxed without voter approval, me too!

Is it any surprise that the lobbyist gift ban bill, senate bill 1064, hasn't gotten any support the last three years it has been brought up? Politicians think they deserve it, that we owe them any and all perks they can get, like:

Thirty-five state representatives and a dozen state senators, plus spouses, got treated by Colangelo to a catered party at BOB's TGI Friday's Front Row restaurant at the DB's opening game. Tobacco company, Philip Morris, treated some lawmakers to a Phil Collins concert, U of A treated lawmakers to thier games, and ASU treated 3 lawmakers to the 1997 Rose Bowl game. Plus all the free lunches, dinners, and parties. If I knew everything lawmakers get, usually at my expense, I would want to shoot some of them in the ass myself.

I pay taxes so politicians could spend \$500.00 on the ugliest artwork in the world - remember those 35 pots on the Squaw Peak? And I paid taxes on a privately owned baseball stadium, BOB, so the private investors could rake in the dough. I guess politicians know me better than I know myself because I'm so stupid I would have blown that money on more beds at women's shelters, or educational opportunities for women or kids health care. Good thing they protect me from myself.

RESOURCES

(Please note: This is a PARTIAL list of non-profit groups. If your group would like to be included please write or call us at 898-4844. We are looking for groups supportive of and of interest to Lesbians.)

INFORMATION:

Women's Center, Inc. publisher Women's Central News PO Box 26031 Tempe, Az 85285, 898-4844, e-mail address wcn@swlink.net, website <http://www.swlink.net/~wcnews>

Lesbian/Gay Community Switchboard: 234-2752

Lesbian Resource Project: P.O. Box 1917, Tempe, AZ 85280-1917, 266-5542 (voice).

Valley of the Sun Gay and Lesbian Community Center, 24 West Camelback; , Phx 85013, 265-7283

The Gay and Lesbian Community, based out of Flagstaff, (520)526-6098.

Verde Valley Alternative Lifestyles Directory, 989 S. Main St. Suite 437, Cottonwood, Az. 86326

520-634-1405 e-mail: martimac@sedona.net

SOCIAL GROUPS:

Desert Adventures: Indoor/Outdoor social activities 266-Camp(2267).

Desert Valley Squares, Ltd.: Lesbian/Gay Square Dance Club, PO Box 34615, Phx 85067. Contact C.J. at 252-0048.

Same Place Same Time Breakfast Club, Sundays at Coffee Talk, 48 N. Robson, Mesa 10AM

Desert Hearts Motorcycle Club: Monthly rides. Deb at 279-9228.

Lesbian and Gay Seniors Group: 241-1604

Camelback Business & Professional Assoc., Business networking, socialization, 225-8444.

Scuba Diving Club, Phoenix, 957-9399 or Tucson digital pager, 261-9602.

Parents By Choice-Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Parents Group. Family gatherings 1st and 3rd Sat of every month. Call 252-3393 or 924-9974 for info or e-mail at JJKOPRY@swlink.net

Arizona Amazons BD/SM organization. Contact Sheryl Tilley at Bobby Cook Studio (602) 254-4513 or E-mail at azamazon@juno.com or Sheyltilley@juno.com find us at www.geocities.com/westhollywood/heights.3231

SUPPORT NETWORKS:

Women Veteran's Support Network: VIRAGO!, PO Box 1171, New Market, VA 22844.

Rainbow Alliance: meets Tuesday at 7:30pm in the Memorial Union at ASU. Contact 965-9756.

Phoenix Chapter of the Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Veterans of America meets the first Monday of every month at the Community Center. For more information contact Wally Straughn at 864-6092 or E-mail PGLBVA@aol.com.

POLITICAL GROUPS:

Arizona Committee For Progress: PO Box 40374, Phx, 85067.

Lesbian & Gay Public Awareness Project: PO Box 60881, Phx, 85082. Call 351-3080.

RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS:

Casa de Cristo Evangelical Church: 1029 E. Turney, Phx 265-2831.

CCL/Conference for Catholic Lesbians: Donna 947-8187 (Phx area) or Pat at 326-8379 (Tucson).

Dignity/Integrity: PO Box 21091, Phx 85036. Bill 258-2556.

Gentle Shepherd MCC: Quality Inn, 2nd Ave & Osborn, Phx., 10AM Sundays.

Goddess Womyn Network: Meetings & quarterly newsletter. Call 266-4111.

Healing Waters Ministries: 225 W. University Dr., Tempe 85281, 894-8681.

Lutherans Concerned: Phoenix, Frank 870-3611

Aviv (Jewish lesbian & gays): Call Gene, 996-8622.

Augustana Lutheran Church, 2604 N. 14th St, Phx, 265-8400

In His Steps Christian Fellowship, call 209-8155.

Community Church of Hope, Sunday 10AM, Turney & Central, Phoenix, 234-2180.

Affirmations (Mormon), 553-8674

Universal Church of Love, Pastor Joyce Cascio, Chandler, 917-5671

Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Phoenix, 4027 E. Lincoln Drive, Paradise Valley, 840-8400.


Hand of Love Ministry, 6605 N. 14th St, Phoenix, 602-264-1470.

NEWSLETTERS OF INTEREST:

Rubyfruit Journal, Tucson Wimmen's Community Newsletter. 517 E. Gay St., Tucson 85705. \$15.00.

Flagstaff Women's News: Aradia Bookstore, PO Box 266, Flagstaff, Az. 86002. \$18.00

conmoción, Bi-lingual, bi-cultural, latina lesbian newsletter, 1521 Alton Rd, #336, Miami Beach, FL 33139, \$4 sample, \$13 for 3 issues.






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GIRLS IN ARIZONA SEEKING PEOPLE

G.A.S.P. is a success! WCN will continue to run the G.A.S.P. column. The charge for one month will be \$5.00.

Looking for that special someone? Love hiking but don't have a hiking partner? Thought about romance ads but wasn't sure how they work? Well, WCN is announcing G.A.S.P! (Girls in Arizona Seeking People). Here's how it works:

- 1) You send in your submission - limit 50 words, tasteful, clever, discreet. List a P.O. box, e-mail, or whatever for your reply.
- 2) WCN will run your submission for one month in the G.A.S.P! column
- 3) WCN reserves the right to edit, not publish, or otherwise destroy any submissions in poor taste, offensive, or obscene.
- 4) Cost is \$5.00. Send in your submission by the 15th of the month for the next issue. Either mail it or e-mail to wcn@swlink.net.

Some hints for writing your ad:

- 1) Be honest. You can't ever meet the dreamboat you are corresponding with if you've told her you are a twin to k.d. lang when you are really a body double for Mama Cass.
- 2) Mention your likes/dislikes. If you love sand movies and hate dogs, say so. That's what interests the kind of person you want to get to know. Include significant details - like allergic to cats.
- 3) Don't babble. Say what you want, and leave it at that.
- 4) Be careful. We can't stress this enough. We wish the world was a safe place (and chocolate had no calories), but the reality is you must be careful. If you meet someone, go to a public place, do a group thing, whatever until YOU feel comfortable. Don't use your home phone. E-mail, P.O. box or pager is not expensive. Use your first name only.

Make my day - SGPF, 42, seeking someone to complete me. Non smoker, light drinker, height/weight proportionate, intelligent, passionate, professional seeking same. If you like animals, traveling, sunsets, quiet evenings at home, laughter, affection, write to A.J. at P.O. 5008, Phoenix, AZ 85010.

37, caring, loving, honest. Loves animals. Enjoys all that life has to offer. Would like to be friends and see where that leads. If this sounds like something you like e-mail me at Ldynytehkw@aol.com or leave message at 564-6752.

They call me a senior citizen-but I'm far from dead. Looking for someone between 50-65; young at heart; likes dogs; eating at home; quiet evenings; bicycling; walking; just enjoying life. I like dogs; cooking; certain concerts; arts and craft fairs; or just working in my own home enjoying all. Respond to princessbo.juno.com

New to Phoenix - Young 54, shy, blond, blue eyes, honest, compassionate. I love hiking, bicycling, walking, movies, dogs, politics and laughing. 5'7" medium weight, non-drinker, non-smoker, no drugs, no Bi's. Seeking someone 45-50. Sandy, P.O. Box 1847, Glendale, AZ 85311-1847

Two women in long term relationship looking for gay women in the White Mountain area for socializing and doing outdoor activities. We are full-time residents of Pinetop looking for local community connections. Send replies to HC 62, Box 49905, Pinetop, AZ 85935

LOVER of books and women searching for romance between the stacks. Tired of surreptitious glances at Borders? Me too! GWF, 35, nonsmoker, professional. Other interests include theatre, film, racquetball, camping, Xena. You: GWF or BiWF, 25-39, not butch, tall or into arts a plus. Respond to Bibliophile at P.O. Box 48693 Phoenix, AZ 85075-8693 or e-mail me at piwacket@aztec.asu.edu

Cave Creek Crone - Difficult to find women who like to hang out here and would like to play music together, hike in the hills and canyons, circle with the Goddess in ancient ruins. Any of these activities appeal? Want to make the long drive? You won't be sorry! Write to Barbara, P.O. Box 4853, Cave Creek, Arizona, 85327.

Looking for Tennis partner(s), evenings and weekends. I'm not rated I just play for the fun of it. I'm an intermediate player, and live in Central Phoenix. Write me at Mspokey1@aol.com

New to AZ, early 20's, 5'8", 150lbs, blonde hair and green eyes, ME- really into honesty, music, meditation, and working out. YOU- honest, athletic, and spiritually inclined. Age/race unimportant and light smoker and drinker okay. Friendship first pager# 1-888-740-5387.

I am looking for a companion to enjoy life with me. I'm a very young 55-year-old professional woman. Spiritually enlightened, animal lover, outdoors type. I hike, golf, swim, bike, camp and love to travel. I'm 5'8" tall, medium weight and am told I'm good looking, but I don't consider myself a beauty. Lori, 201 E. Southern Ave., Box #59, Apache Junction, AZ 85219.

NW area professional 40 year old Gay female, active adventurous, emotionally and finally stable, non-smoker, light drinker, height/weight proportionate, seeking same. No bis, drugs or 12 steppers. Get to know your neighbor. Lets be friends, maybe more. Call pager 210-3127 and leave message.

Being discreet is important to me. I am a 43-year-old; college educated professional businesswoman. Communication is first and foremost in any relationship. Some say I look like Roseann Barr and act like Rosie O'Donnell. I love laughter, animals (especially dogs) and nature. I enjoy the theater, basketball, dancing and humor. Page me at 210-2344.

Movies, books, quiet times rock-n-roll, a glass of wine, metaphysics, Sedona too, are you the one I wish I knew? Bi, very fem, 30, Blonde, blue 5' 7", non-smoker seeking Fem 25-35, Must have integrity, spirited laughter. pgr# 498-2434

Let's meet. You 50 or older unattached, no ghosts, weight and height in sync. Likes dancing plays, musicals, concerts, comedienne, taking drives for sightseeing, visiting or casino's for gambling. I have a female black Schnauzer dog, but am allergic to cats. Write to Lori at P.O. Box 1713, Scottsdale, AZ 85252.

Bulletin Board

Astrology - A transformative spiritual/psychological experience. Astrological chart read by well-known west coast astrologer Karen Freeman, M.S. Sedona/Phoenix. Call 520-282-7601.

Marti's Guest Ranch - A nice private cottage yards away from the banks of Oak Creek. A stress free, natural, serene environment. A haven for birds and wildlife. Please call Marti 520-634-4842 or write to Marti McElroy, 989 S Main St, A601, Cottonwood, AZ. 86326 for more information.

Mountain Memories Touring (& parties!) - Our private, outdoor party grounds in the beautiful Desert Hills area are available for any occasion including unions, workshops and our special dinner/dances. We can accommodate 10 to 100 persons at our western theme facility and make your party a unique and memorable one! For further information contact us at: 493-2406 or "tour" with us on the web at www.mmtouring.com

WOMEN HELPING WOMEN HEAL: A THERAPY GROUP FOR LESBIANS who are looking for an opportunity to come together with other lesbians for support and healing through coming out, breaking up, resolving past issues or any other issues that you need help and healing for in your life. For more information, call Denise Daup, 921-3936.

Roommate needed: Gay N.S. respectable female looking for a room to rent in a quiet clean sober gay household or a guesthouse. Central or N. Central Phoenix. Can pay \$250-300 including utilities. Call Lynne at 202-2916.

Wanted: Part-time volunteer coordinator to manage office functions for LRP. Must be detailed oriented, personable, and reliable. Training will be provided. Lesbian preferred. NW location probable. Hours negotiable. Leave a message at 266-5542.

Roommate: Someone to share 2 bedroom 1 1/2 bath TH in Chandler - No smoking, no pets. \$400.00 per month includes utilities. Call 786-5388

Roommate for Central Phoenix home. Mature, responsible woman, no smoking, drugs, pets or chemicals. Call Diane 507-9435. Leave message with phone number.

Employed student seeking room in or apt. for rent. I can pay approximately \$300 per month and seek a non-smoking, easy going environment. Call Carolyn 942-7876.

Roommate wanted: Prefer GF, New home, Chandler, quiet area, 4 bedroom, 2 bath. Includes furnished bedroom, own bath, all amenities, cable TV, own phone, and utilities. Must be responsible, neat, clean, N/S, N/D. 899-5479 or 450-4277.

Bulletin Board notices - \$5.00 up to 50 words and \$5.00 for each additional 50 words.

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