Federal Anti-Marriage Bill Moves Thru Congress

WASHINGTON - The far-right's proposed congressional measure, known as the "Defense of Marriage Act" (DOMA), easily won approval of a House subcommittee on a party-line vote. The Senate companion measure should be reaching the floor of the upper chamber for a vote by early July. The Senate companion measure barring the state from recognizing same-sex marriages at the federal level, has left rights activists at loose ends since it was introduced in Congress earlier in the year. McDonald identified herself as a mother and long-time educator and volunteer speaking in defense of marriage. In particular, McDonald identified the benefits of civil marriage and noted how those benefits are denied to same-sex couples. McDonald said she wished they were testifying in favor of a bill that would grant equal marriage rights to all couples, see CO, page 10.

HIV Bias Lawsuit Won

Paul Saladin has won his wrongful termination lawsuit against his former employer, Terry Turner, owner of The French Hen. Saladin had filed his case under the federal Americans with Disabilities Act which prohibits discrimination on the basis of HIV/AIDS as well as other disabilities.

The case is noteworthy because it is one of the first to address discrimination based on an association with someone who is disabled. Saladin was fired from his job as a waiter when one customer allegedly complained to management after he heard another customer ask Saladin about his former partner who was seriously ill with AIDS-related infections.

Saladin received modest damages of partial back pay, see Case, page 8.

"Promise Keepers" Boot Radical Extremist Enyart

"Christian" syndicated television talk show host, Bob Enyart, appears to have been disinvited from the Promise Keepers "Christian men's" rally planned for June 15th at TU's Skelly Stadium. Lesbian/Gay activists, pro-choice activists and moderate and progressive religious leaders had objected to Enyart's participation because of his documented remarks calling for the execution of "homosexuals" and "abortionists" as well as the closing and the physical destruction of homophile churches, clubs and other establishments, as well as abortion clinics. Enyart has acknowledged those remarks as accurate but he also has addressed the issue in an interview with the Denver Post. The Rev. Russell Bennett of Fellowship Congregational Church said that the Task Force for Religious Freedom and Tulsa Metropolitan Ministry were involved in persuading key Promise Keeper supporters to call for Enyart's removal. Allegedly, Rev. Pearson called the national office of Promise Keepers to ask them to get local organizers to remove Enyart. According to The Tulsa World, local organizers would not comment on the program change, see Enyart, page 10.

Tulsa Library Nixes Gay Exhibits for Two Years

While the Tulsa County Library commission and Library administrators deny that complaints about an April Lesbian and Gay themed exhibit by Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) with husband and wife team Bill & Cathy Hinkle, and Nancy & Joe McDonald flank Dallas Gay & Lesbian Alliance President Cece Cox, her spouse, Lisa Means, & Tom Neal at a joint meeting of PFLAG, TOHR & Rainbow Business Guild.

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Colorado 2: A War-Weary Veteran Speaks

by Phyl Boler-Schmidt

Thank God it's over. The Amendment Two battle in Colorado has been a long haul of often drudgery for those of us involved in that fight. And, though it began in one state, the effects rippled across our great nation. For me, the battle began one May evening in 1991. I was living on the western slope of Colorado, minding my own business, enjoying my life and my work. That evening, the voters of Denver rejected an ordinance proposed by a socially-conservative group called Citizens for Sensible Rights that would have removed sexual orientation from the wording of the city's equal protection law. After the referendum, one of its statewide supporters vowed to take the issue to the state level where, they thought, they would receive a more favorable response. And they did. With the Amendment Two vote in November, 1992. All we could do was stand by for the right Americans to be stopped dead in its tracks that May evening. Every debate, every political campaign, every uphill fight has been to simply keep from losing ground.

I certainly know I have changed since the innocence of my babymom in the gay rights movement before the Amendment Two vote. I’ve gone from an often timid addresser of lezbi-gay concerns to someone who can be counted on to know the issues inside and out and who in the least afraid to stand toe to toe with anyone. This issue is too important to let the wimps win. None of this is easy and I don’t mean easy.

The Family Values Myth

by Tedd Adams

The religious right would like you to believe that despite their hate mongering and anti-gay propaganda, they truly have compassion and genuine Christian concern for the homosexual. It is not a personal bias, they claim, but only because of Biblical proclamation that they are compelled to preach this so-called threat to family values.

Consider then, the disproportionate lack of attention given to the far more pervasive trend toward unmarried heterosexual couples cohabitating. Isn’t this what the Bible calls fornication, to be a far greater threat to those sacred family values. Just by the sheer numbers of people engaged in fornication compared to those who are engaged in homosexuality, one would think the former is the far more pervasive trend toward unmarried heterosexual couples. After their defeat, CSRandits statewide support—

Tulsa Pride

I never could remember those old sayings that hold well but there is this one that goes like this: may you live in interesting times and I never could remember that was supposed to be a blessing or a curse.

Well, here we are at Pride 1996. We certainly are living in interesting times. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgendered issues are being discussed more than they have been at any other time in the last two thousand or so years.

And though our losses (to AIDS, to breast cancer, to the institutionalized violence and self hatred our society fosters) have been beyond imagination, it is easy to feel that we are under attack each time we turn, we are winning some. Colorado 2— do need to say more? The highest court in this nation, and the source of both despair and hope for America, minorities, has finally recognized us as citizens.

Even here in Tulsa, we are making some progress. Although we are still marginalized by many of Tulsa leaders, a few are recognizing our existence, our contributions to this city and our emerging political impact. And though we are poisoned by too many of the pathologies that growing up in America engenders, and although we are often unnecessarily cruel to each other, Tulsa is rich in remarkable individuals who dedicate their time to building community and resources.

Family of Faith

Rev. Nancy J. Horroth M. Div., Pastor

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11:00 am Worship Service

Wednesday

6:30 pm Midweek Service
7:30 pm Choir Practice

Thursday

7:30 pm Codependency Support Group

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Weary (cont'd from p. 2)

the most ardent anti-gay zealots. Wars will do that for you. Survival skills are something we either gain in a hurry, or we die in the hands of the enemy, sometimes literally, often figuratively.

Of course, there are always battle scars too, and I watch myself, as well as others who have fought this one in the trenches, acting most times like we suffer from the more modern adaptation of World War II's shell shock. Post-traumatic stress disorder runs rampant among civil rights activists of any persuasion.

On May 20th, nearly five years exactly to the day after the Denver vote, I was catching up on some paperwork at my computer when the news came in via the Internet about the U.S. Supreme Court's 6-3 decision declaring Amendment Two unconstitutional. There was no jubilant fist thrust into the air. There was no in-your-face queer political noise-rubbing of the opposition. I just sat there, staring at the two-line news alert for over 30 minutes, occasional quiet tears of mostly relief surfacing.

I believe it is important to remember that although the Supreme Court decision reflects a changed attitude on the part of the federal judiciary as it regards the humanity of lesbian people, nothing has really changed legally. No rights have been gained. It remains okay to discriminate against us as a people in most of the country, & the fight for equality remains one we will need to address one person at a time. What has happened is imperceptible to people on the outside of our movement. We are a more confident people, more sure than ever before of our beliefs.

I believe it must start with us. The second reason is pure and simple ignorance. They fail to understand that we have exactly the same range of human emotions and feel exactly the same feelings they do; love, lust, guilt, jealousy, anger, compassion; just in a slightly different context. Homosexuality is a normal, natural and healthy way of life for a certain percentage of the population. But because those feelings are foreign to them, the religious right assumes our lives to be wicked, perverted and disgusting. They fail to see that falling in love is truly a universal emotion with many varieties.

So don't be misled. The attention given to homosexuality has nothing to do with family values. If it did, more preachers would have been concerned about the results of their hate speech: abandoned and abused children, gay teen suicide, substance abuse. All of these are far more serious family issues which deserve far more attention.

Values (cont'd from p. 2)

emotions: lust, envy, fear, hate! Therefore, it is profitable for the religious right to keep homosexuality controversial. It is their greatest fund-raising tool. Even the most cursory glance at their fund-raising literature will reveal classic propaganda techniques; dehumanize the subject to remove any compassion people might feel, and present only the most extreme behavior as examples of that "lifestyle". Behavior which, incidentally, many homosexuals themselves would find distasteful. These techniques are nothing new. They are the same methods used by the Nazis to persecute the Jews.

Throughout the afternoon,
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- Booths with vendors, community organization info., crafts, etc.
- Food for modest cost
- Free beverages provided by Anheuser-Busch, Coors, Miller & Pepsi
- Volleyball & tennis court available
- Kids’ playground
- Security provided all day by Tulsa Park officers
- Closing ceremony, with benediction by RF Renfro & Freedom Balloon Extravaganza!

Opening Ceremony, 1pm
- Blessing by the Rev. Leslie Penrose
- Welcome by TOHR president Debbie Starnes
- Performances by local entertainers, including Miss Gay Tulsa & Miss Tulsa USofA, Tulsa Family Chorale & The Banned from OKC!

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Texas Log Cabin Sue State GOP  AUSTIN, Texas - The Log Cabin Club of Texas, a predominately gay and lesbian political organization, sued and won a preliminary judgment this week that the Texas Republican Party after the Texas GOP reneged on a contract for a booth at its state convention and on ad space in the convention program. The Log Cabin lawsuit, filed in Travis County state court, charges the Texas Republicans with violating the organization's First Amendment rights, bias based on sexual orientation, and breach of contract. Lester van Pelt, a spokesperson for the state Republican Party, told reporters that Bar bara Jackson, the state GOP's executive director, had made the decision to exclude the Log Cabin Republicans because of the party platform's positions against homosexuality. "Sodomy is still a crime in Texas," van Pelt said. Nonsense, say the gay Republicans, noting that the booth and ad space had nothing to do with sodomy. "Obviously, no one is going to commit an illegal act in the booth."

Your Partners Program or Mine?  WEST HOLLYWOOD, Calif. - In what is believed to be the first of its kind in the U.S., the West Hollywood city council has unanimously approved a measure that would extend full recognition of domestic partners registered in other cities with similar programs to those registering in the city. Domestic-partners registration offers few actual benefits anywhere in the U.S., but it could be important in cases for example where a visiting couple is already technically required to extend it as its national committeewoman in favor of Amy Agbayani. Rosehill has been very active in efforts to block the possible legalization of same-sex marriages in Washington. Agbayani represented the ACLU in testimony opposing legislative efforts to block same-sex marriage for the state. Martin Rice, an openly gay Democratic Party activist, was also elected to a position as one of the committee's vice chairs as an executive board member.

Hawaiian Dems Make Pro-Gay Moves  HONOLULU - While many of the state's lawmakers grappled much of the past year with the issue of same-sex marriage resulting from what is expected to be a state court victory for gay and lesbians, the state Democratic Party made its position clear during its May 24-26 convention. The party's central committee adopted a resolution opposing any future interference by the state legislature or efforts to change Hawaii's liberal state Constitution in the court battle. The Dems then went on to oust Linda Rosehill from the key post as national committeewoman in favor of Amy Agbayani. Rosehill has been very active in efforts to block the possible legalization of same-sex marriages in Washington. Agbayani represented the ACLU in testimony opposing legislative efforts to block same-sex marriage for the state. Martin Rice, an openly gay Democratic Party activist, was also elected to a position as one of the committee's vice chairs as an executive board member.

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AIDS Epidemic: 15 Years of Death
WASHINGTON — This year marks the 15th anniversary since the first cases of AIDS were diagnosed in the United States, although at the time, of course, no one knew what this strange new disease — initially called “gay cancer” — held in store for the nation and the world. Globally, the World Health Organization reports there have been 4.5 million cases of HIV infection, while in the U.S., there were 476,000 cases and 295,000 deaths.

FDA OKs Home-Testing Kit for HIV
WASHINGTON — The U.S. Food & Drug Administration has approved the first home-testing kit for detecting HIV, the virus generally believed to cause AIDS. The kit, known as the Confide HIV Testing Service, will be marketed initially at pharmacies in Texas. It will also be available through a toll-free telephone number. The FDA said it approved the home-testing kit for people who would prefer the anonymity of home testing instead of using clinics or medical facilities. Critics of home testing, however, say the kit is too expensive and that counseling services via phone in such a situation seemed hit or miss.

Gel May Help Block HIV in Women
WASHINGTON — Researchers report that a vaginal gel containing a drug known as PMPA has been shown to protect female monkeys from the simian version of HIV and may offer humans the same kind of protection from the virus. Dr. Roberta Black of the National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases, who sponsored the study, said, “For women to have a woman-controlled method is very important so they can protect themselves.” Black said much more research is needed including studies involving humans to determine whether the PMPA anti-viral gel could prove safe and effective for women.

Clinton Signs Ryan White CARE Act
WASHINGTON — Saying he hoped to be the last president to have to sign a 5-year extension of the funding program, President Clinton signed federal legislation reauthorizing the Ryan White CARE Act for 5 more years of federal spending. The measure was first passed by Congress 6 years ago and allocates federal funds to local communities hardest hit by AIDS for home care, transportation, hospice care and other support services for people with AIDS/HIV. The spending measure will authorize $738 million for AIDS-related services in cities and towns around the country during the 1996 fiscal year, an increase over the 1995 level of $632 million. The measure also includes some $52 million in funding for states to provide new HIV/AIDS drugs for residents who can’t afford them, and $10 million for a new program aimed at getting pregnant women to voluntarily seek testing and counseling for HIV.

HIV Particle Counts Aid Treatment
PITTSBURGH, Pa. — According to a new study, doctors now have a more accurate way of predicting how long people infected with HIV will survive, thereby giving physicians better guidance in how aggressively to treat their patients. Dr. John Mellors and a team of researchers at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center have confirmed the relative accuracy of an extremely sensitive new blood test that counts the number of HIV viral particles instead of the current method which relies on counting the immune system’s CD4 T-cells. “We found very strikingly that the amount of virus in the bloodstream predicted how individuals did,” Mellors said. “The more virus, the worse the individuals did, by which we mean the shorter time to developing full-blown AIDS and dying.” The researchers analyzed blood samples from 180 gay men enrolled in a U.S. government study between 1983 and 1991. They found that 49% of the men with more than 36,000 HIV particles per milliliter of blood died within 5 years. But only 5% with just one-ninth that amount of virus died that quickly. “The likelihood of progression increases directly with the level of AIDS virus in the blood,” Mellors said. “So we have a pretty good idea based on our study what the expected survival of an individual would be at a certain level of virus.” Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Disease says the researchers’ findings will let doctors make better decisions about when to begin treatments and when to change to possibly more aggressive therapies. “If some individuals have very high set points [HIV particle counts], even though their CD4 cells are reasonably OK, you might want to more aggressively treat those people because you know that you can predict they are going to do more poorly,” Fauci said. “Whereas someone who has a low [HIV particle count], even though their CD4 count might not be all that high, you might want to hold off on aggressive therapy. So really, it’s a step towards using the steady state level of the virus much more as a tool both in prediction and in therapeutic decisions.”

FDA OKs HIV Tests
WASHINGTON — The U.S. Food & Drug Administration has given the OK to 2 new HIV tests in this country. The Orature test appears to be as accurate as current standard blood tests, research indicates, but has the advantage of using saliva instead of blood, thereby potentially reducing the number of accidental needle-stick injuries to health care workers. The FDA also gave approval to Hoffmann-LaRoche’s
HIV Positive?

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Associates in Medical and Mental Health
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Drug Combo Effective

WASHINGTON – A 73-week study by drug manufacturer Hoffman-LaRoche of some 978 AIDS patients has shown that Invirase, the brand name for the firm's version of the protease inhibitor saquinavir, in combination with the drug ddC, reduced the rate of deaths by more than two-thirds compared to patients taking ddC alone. Saquinavir has been considered the least impressive of the new protease inhibitors, but the new findings, which have not yet been published, have prompted the drug manufacturer to ask the Food & Drug Administration to allow the new information to be added to the drug's label.

Drug Reduces CMV Retinitis Risk

BOSTON – A study published in the New England Journal of Medicine reports that AIDS patients who take the oral form of ganciclovir reduces the risks of being stricken by the blinding eye disease, cytomegalovirus (CMV) that often attacks PWA's in the advanced stages of the illness. Researchers at the University of California at San Diego studied 725 men during a 12-month program testing the Hoffman-LaRoche version of ganciclovir known as Cytoveine and found that a daily dose of the drug reduced the risk of contracting CMV by nearly half.

AIDS Drugs for HIV-Exposed Workers

ATLANTA – The U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention has for the first time recommended that health care workers who are exposed to HIV through accidental needle-sticks or other medical procedures should be given antiviral drugs, including AZT and 3TC, immediately following such accidents. The agency says studies now show without doubt the effectiveness of antiviral drugs in countering the virus.

HIV Infection Risk From Oral Sex?

CHICAGO - A research study published in the journal Science reports that the risk of transmission of the simian version of HIV (known as SIV, and closely related to HIV) through the mouth may be higher than had been believed. The Harvard University researcher found that 6 of the 7 rhesus monkeys they swabbed with SIV in the back of the throat became infected with the virus, according to the report. The researchers also found, surprisingly, that far less of the virus - 6,000 times less - was needed to trigger an infection than is required to infect the monkeys rectally with the virus. The study's startling results are so unlike other research and data about oral transmission risks that many AIDS and health workers immediately questioned the findings. Among other things, federal studies have only documented 15 cases of known oral transmission and infection of HIV since the epidemic began. Also, AIDS experts point out, unprotected oral sex has continued to be popular among gaymen in the U.S. while the infection rate among homosexuals has steadily declined since the routes of transmission were discovered.

HIV Cell Infection Agent Isolated

WASHINGTON – Government scientists have isolated a chemical clue to why HIV is infectious. Reporting in the journal Science, researchers at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases say they have found a protein which they call "fusin," that must be present for HIV to infect white blood cells, the primary target of the virus. Edward Berger, a Harvard University researcher found that 6 of the 7 monkeys he swabbed with SIV in the back of the throat became infected with the virus. The study's startling results are so unlike other research and data about oral transmission risks that many AIDS and health workers immediately questioned the findings. Among other things, federal studies have only documented 15 cases of known oral transmission and infection of HIV since the epidemic began. Also, AIDS experts point out, unprotected oral sex has continued to be popular among gaymen in the U.S. while the infection rate among homosexuals has steadily declined since the routes of transmission were discovered.

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Heat Treatment OK for Expanded Trials

LOS ANGELES – The Indiana-based HemoCleanse Inc. has been given approval by the Food & Drug Administration to expand testing of its blood-heating treatment of people infected with HIV. The 2nd phase of the trials will include 2-hour treatments at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Lafayette, Ind., and the Harbor-UCLA Research & Education Institute in Los Angeles. HemoCleanse's treatment, similar to kidney dialysis, involves slowly drawing all a patient's blood from his body in small quantities and heating it to 108 degrees Fahrenheit before infusing it back into his body. The ideal temperature treatment is that HIV is sensitive to even small increases in temperature and would be destroyed in massive quantities by the treatment. Sixty patients will be divided into 2 groups during the trials. One group will receive 2 treatments each - the first for 1 hour, and the 2nd for 2 hours. The other group will serve as a control group and will not receive the treatment, but will remain on standard HIV drug therapy.

Global AIDS Briefs

GENEVA – The World Bank has warned in a new report that up to 2 million of Malawi's 11 million population will be infected with HIV by the year 2000 and the average life span in that country will drop from 57 to just 33 years. It adds that unless culturally conservative and devoutly Christian people in 22 So. Pacific island nations and territoriesalter their views about sex education and condom use, the AIDS epidemic will devastate that region as well.
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Making Worldwide Waves

Case cont'd from p. 1

and $2,500 for pain and suffering as well as attorney's fees. Saladin said to TFN that his goal in pursuing legal action was not financial but rather trying to do what was right.

He was represented by Steve Novick, Greg Bedrose, and Katrina Bodenhamer on behalf of the AIDS Legal Resource Project. The Project is a joint effort of the

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Tulsa Family News
Your best hometown, state & national news.

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from The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

JUNE 23 – AUGUST 18

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Tulsa Family News
on the World Wide Web:
July 1
http://users.aol.com/TulsaNews/

PHILBROOK MUSEUM OF ART
One block east of Peoria at 27th Place
749-7941

Singer Abigail at Concessions

Sohoma Lane & Diana Nicole join Brian & Bill, with Victoria Towers & Veronica DeVore for a successful Pride Picnic Benefit at Lola's. Photos: JD Jamett

Kathryn Conover at Gayfest, Renegades

Picnic cont'd from p. 1

couldn't happen without the support and hard work of these folks.

The Picnic is organized this year by Tulsa Oklahomans for Human Rights (TOHR). TOHR was asked by the former organizers, an informal association of business owners (mostly club owners), to resume organizing the event. The Picnic continues their traditions with minor changes. After complaints from many individuals about conflicts with Father's Day, the organizers responded by moving the event to Saturday. Also due to ongoing problems with the Mohawk Park site, the organizers unanimously approved Owen Park as this year's site.

The Picnic is an informal affair with free beverages. Attendees are welcome to bring their own food or to purchase food at a modest cost. Any funds raised by the Picnic (after expenses) will benefit the Gay & Lesbian Community Center Project and Legal Services of Eastern Oklahoma.

PFLAG cont'd from p. 1

to Lesbian and Gay citizens instead of testifying about a bill that would deny equal rights. "I find instead of defending marriage, I need to defend the people - gay & lesbian people - who are being denied the right to marry. I do not believe we would be here today if our society did not have a deep bias against gay & lesbian people. I say that not to lay blame, but to recognize the fact that we are really in a civil rights discussion about gay & lesbian persons."

McDonald further gave examples of discrimination experienced by Gay persons or persons perceived to be Gay using the story of one of her sons who was beaten because he was perceived as Gay even though he happens not to be. McDonald adds that she perceives the country to be in a "cultural meltdown" not because Gay people may marry but because "we have yet to overcome our intolerance and bigotry. We have yet to recognize the richness in the diversity of all of our citizens."

McDonald closed by questioning the need for this legislation since the Hawaii case that has prompted this response is unlikely to be resolved for several years, and maybe not favorably to Gay citizens. She called on Representatives not to target Lesbians and Gay men for discrimination but rather to "focus on the challenges of the economy, education, and health care that face all of us."

Tulsa Family News
June – July 1996, page 8
SUNDAYS
Agape' Christian Fellowship
Service, 10:30 am & 7 pm
Sheridan Center, Suite H
21st & Sheridan, 747-2482

Bless the Lord At All
Times Christian Center
Sunday School, 9-45 am
Worship Service, 11 am
2627 East 11th 853-2815

Community of Hope
(United Methodist)
Worship Service, 6 pm
1703 E. 2nd, 858-1800

Memorial Park, NW 35th & Classen
Bernest Cain, Keynote Speaker:
Woman of the Year
Ecumenical
Statewide Pride Rally & Parade
SUNDAY, JUNE 23
7 pm, 2312 NW 39th, OKC 73112
Herland Sister Resources
6 pm, Doubletree Hotel, Warren Place
Follies Revue, Inc.
2:30 pm, 1430 S Boulder
Community Planning Group Meeting
FRIDAY, JUNE 21
TCAP Advisory Council Meeting
Noon, 1430 S Boulder

Tulsa Regional HIV Prevention
Community Planning Group Meeting
2:30 pm, 1430 S Boulder

SUNDAY, JUNE 22
Herland Sister Resources
Concert: Freesfall
7 pm, 2312 NW 39th, OKC 73112

STATEWIDE
Statewide Pride Rally & Parade
Ecumenical Worship Service, The
Banned, Metro Men's Chorus, Sen.
 Ernest Cain, Keynote Speaker:
Drag Queen of the Year - 92 Advocate
Woman of the Year
1 pm, program begins. 3 pm, speaker
Red Wing, 4 pm, parade begins.
Memorial Park, NW 34th & Classen
Blvd, Oklahoma City
Info: 743-4297 or 405-791-2020

MONDAYS
HIV Testing
TOHR Clinic
Free & anonymous testing
using fingerstick method.
No appointment required.
Walk in testing: 7-8:30 pm
Results hours: 7-9 pm
Info: 742-2927

Lambda Bowling League
Sheridan Lanes
8:45 pm
3121 S. Sheridan

PFLAG Family AIDS
Support Group
2nd Monday of each month,
6:30 pm
4154 S. Harvard
Info: 749-4901

OTHER GROUPS
TOHR Helpline
Daily 8-10 pm
For info or to volunteer: 743-GAYS
The Technicians, Leather
org., info c/o 621-5597
T.U.L.S.A. Tulsa
& Leather Seekers Assoc.
Info: 838-1222

Community Organizations
Need Your Help
Donate A Little of Your Time - Help Others & Help Yourself

TUESDAYS
HIV+ Support Group
HIV Resource Consortium
1:30 pm
4154 S. Harvard, Ste. H-1
Info: Wanda @ 749-4194

Shanti-Tulsa, Inc.
HIV/AIDS Support Group
& Friends & Family
HIV/AIDS Support Group
7 pm, call for location:
749-7898

Grief Group
Butler/Stampf
Funeral Home
2103 E. 3rd St.
Call for time: 787-7000

Alternative Skating
8:30-11 pm, 241-2282
$4, Sand Springs Skate
Community Organizations
Need Your Help
Donate A Little of Your Time - Help Others & Help Yourself

WEDNESDAYS
Agape' Christian Fellowship
Service, 7 pm
Sheridan Center, Suite H
21st & Sheridan, 747-2482

Bless The Lord At All
Times Christian Center
Prayer & Bible Study
7:30 pm, 2627 East 11th
Call, 853-7815

Shanti-Tulsa, Inc.
HIV/AIDS Support Group

WOMEN
Agape' Christian Fellowship
Service, 7 pm
Sheridan Center, Suite H
21st & Sheridan, 747-2482

Bless The Lord At All
Times Christian Center
Prayer & Bible Study
7:30 pm, 2627 East 11th
Call, 853-7815

Shanti-Tulsa, Inc.
HIV/AIDS Support Group

THURSDAYS
16-Step Empowerment
Group For Women
Community of Hope
1703 E. 2nd, Info: 858-1800

Co-Dependency Support
Group
7,30am, of Faith MCC
5451-E S. Mingo, 622-1441

HIV Testing TOHR Clinic
Walk in testing: 7-8:30 pm
Results hours: 7-9 pm
Info: 742-2927

Tulsa Family Chorale
Weekly practice, 9-30 pm
Lola's 2630 E. 15th

PFLAG Family AIDS
Support Group
1st & 3rd Thursdays
4154 S. Harvard, 749-4901

Tulsa Family News
Community Calendar
JUNE 20 - 21
4th Annual Shanti-Tulsa Water Garden Tour
10-5 pm, Info: 749-7898

OUT & ABOUT
by J.D. Jamett
Yes, the rumors are true. I'll be leaving Tulsa to go live in our nation's capital
(bag, talk about out of the frying pan and into the fire). I would like to take this chance
to thank a few people for the great opportuni-
ties and support they have given me.

Tom Neal, for being that ODL/DERoster-figh
ter (or sister) that has always looked
out for me, and who has been
pity, err...push-
ing me in the right di-
rection. Geoff & Earl, and the rest of that crazy
group that I call my chosen family - I will
be ever indebted to you mentally and physi-
cally.

Steve & John, please
thank a few people
for persons with HIV/AIDS
Info: 646-5503

SUBSTANCE ABUSE SUPPORT GROUP
for persons with HIV/AIDS
4154 S. Harvard, Ste. G
3-4:30 pm, Info: 749-4194

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SUBSTANCE ABUSE SUPPORT GROUP
for persons with HIV/AIDS
4154 S. Harvard, Ste. G
3-4:30 pm, Info: 749-4194

SATURDAYS
St. Jerome's Ecumenical
Catholic Church
Mass, 6 pm
Garden Chapel
3841 S. Peoria
Info: Father Rick
at 742-7122

Narcotics Anonymous
Meets weekly at 11 pm
for emotional support for
recoving addicts.
Community of Hope
1703 E. 2nd, Info: 858-1800

NAMES Project
AIDS Memorial Quilt
Sewing Bees
3rd Sat. of each month
Info: 748-3111

OTHER GROUPS
Gay & Lesbian Student
Association
TJOSoutheast Campus,
Info: 651-7632

SWAN-Single Women's
Activity Network
Call 832-2121

Yes, the rumors are true. I'll be leaving Tulsa to go live in our nation's capital.
...I would like to take this chance
to thank a few people for the great opportuni-
ties and genuine care they have given me.
session. Complicated legislative ntles have there remains very little active opposition country were celebrating the May 20 rul-lina Gov. David Beasley signed into law. a measure barring same-sex marriages in the state. To find any good news in the same-sex marriage arena, activists had to look to Holland where the Dutch justice ministry announced it will be putting together a panel of experts to evaluate the possible impact of legal same-sex marriages in the country. The Dutch Parlia-ment has already voted in principle to support full equality in marriage rights for same-sex couples, but the government has continued to resist full marriage status for gays and lesbians, arguing that the international consequences of the European nation could be enormous. The committee the justice ministry appoints will examine national and international laws and treaties that might affect such a move. It will have a year to prepare its report, including recommendations for legislation.

### Family Finances

**Waiting To Invest Could Jeopardize Your Dreams!**

There are countless reasons people use to explain why they haven’t started an investment plan. Investing for the future is frequently seen as a luxury, rather than a need. Sometimes, things you do after you’ve taken care of essential living expenses. Unfortunately, there is rarely any money leftover after doing that, so it’s easy to procrastinate. But do you know how much waiting, even a few years, can cost you? The chart below shows the monthly investment required at different ages to accumulate $1 million by age 65, assuming hypothetical 10 percent compounded rate of return. What this chart shows is the dynamic power of compound returns. Compounding is the process where each year you not only earn money on your invested principal, you also earn additional money on the money you earned. The amount you earn grows or “compounds” at an increasing rate as the years go by.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age When Investments Begin</th>
<th>Monthly</th>
<th>$158</th>
<th>$442</th>
<th>$1,316</th>
<th>$4,882</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>$158</td>
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<td>55</td>
<td>$1,316</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

By starting an investment program at an earlier age, you spread the accumulation task over a longer period of time and enable your money to benefit from the powerful force of compounding.

Incidentally, $1 million might seem like a lot of money to you today, but in order to generate an income of $70,000 a year for just 22 years of retirement, that’s how much you’ll need to sock away (assuming a hypothetical annual return of 7.5% and inflation rate of 3.14%). If you’ve been putting off investing, as yourself if it is going to be any easier putting away almost three times as much at age 35, than at age 25? Or, eight times as much at age 45? Your financial priorities will change over the years and your income will increase. However, whether you’re saving for a house at age 25 or trying to juggle finances to pay for your children’s education age 45, chances are it will be just as difficult. In addition, can you afford not to benefit from the power of compounding?

**How Can I Start Investing Now?**

First, accept the fact that there is never a convenient time to invest. The answer to this dilemma is to do it yourself first. Before you can do this you need to do a cash-flow analysis to find out where your money is going. Warning! This might be a frightening process. Once the numbers are laid out in front of you, you’re probably going to see several ways to reduce your expenses. Establishing a spending plan is often helpful. As part of this process, review your accumulation goals and determine a minimum percentage of your income that you’ll need to invest to meet these goals. By breaking the task down into manageable parts, you’ll introduce discipline into your investment program and increase your chances of success. It’ll take a while, but the long-term payoff for your discipline may be sweet. And remember, your financial consultant will be happy to assist you with any of the steps along the way in identifying and informing you about investment vehicles that can help you meet your accumulation goals.

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BluesFest Brings the Masses to Eureka Springs

by Phyl Boler-Schmidt

Hoo boy! What a weekend we had in Blues Festival. The annual event is one of the most popular in the Ozarks, and the 1996 variety was no exception. Thursday through Sunday (May 30 - June 2) brought blues lovers from thru to Eureka Springs, and the talent displayed was nothing short of magnificent.

A preview show took place at Victoria Inn on Thursday to kick off the weekend. Featured performers were Deborah Coleman, Baby Jason & The Spanklers, and Martin Simpson. If you have not been fortunate enough to participate in a BluesFest weekend in Eureka Springs, you have no idea what you are missing. From Thursday evening through Sunday afternoon, every club in town hosts both big name and local talent. And, the larger venues host nearly non-stop big name performers. You can pay one price to get into any of the clubs, and most folks spend the weekend going back and forth from the various small clubs, occasionly taking time out to attend a big concert.

Cly Auditorium, Victoria Inn, and the Basin Park and Crescent Hotels hosted some of the best blues talent on the planet this year, but the most-anticipated event took place Friday evening. Bo Didly performed two concerts along with local favorite The Cate Brothers Band.

If you have not been fortunate enough to participate in a BluesFest weekend in Eureka Springs, you have no idea what you are missing. From Thursday evening through Sunday afternoon, every club in town hosts both big name and local talent.

Other name performers included Kenny Neal, Rufus Neal, Tab Benoit, Chubby Carrier, Jimmy Thackery, Canned Heat, Rob Mo', Robert Lucas, and Kelly Jo Phelps.

And, there's always next year for BluesFest. Both of these festivals are major attractions in Eureka Springs so the earlier you reserve tickets, and make your lodging reservations, the more likely you are to get exactly what you want. Next year's BluesFest dates are May 29th - June 1, and the BluesFest Box Office can be reached year-round at 501-253-2926.

For those of you whose taste runs more toward the fine arts end of the spectrum, the Inspiration Point Fine Arts Colony will be hosting Opera in the Ozarks from June 21st - July 20. Fully-staged opera performances will be held at 8 PM at the Fine Arts Colony for the entire month. Reservations and information are available by calling 501-253-8055.

Come enjoy the music and the ambiance of Victorian Eureka Springs!
Dream Boy
By Jim Grimsley

Reviewed by Barry Hensley
Tulsa City-County Library

Coming of age novels, as common as they are, can benefit greatly from interesting settings. The locale which helps Dream Boy, by Jim Grimsley, is rural North Carolina where, yet again, two high school age gay guys slowly fall in love.

Nathan and Roy live next door to each other on the outskirts of a small town. Roy, a little older and wiser, is a popular kid and hangs around with a couple of guys, Randy and Burke, who follow his every move, not realizing that they actually idolize him. Randy and Burke, strictly heterosexual, become jealous when Roy starts inviting the shy, withdrawn Nathan to pal around with them. Nathan’s home life is an uncomfortable mix of a mentally ill, abusive father and a meek, helpless mother, so he is anxious to spend as much time as possible away from home, preferably with Roy, the only person who pays attention to him. Through several rocky adventures, Roy and Nathan begin to come to terms with their mutual attraction. Violence interrupts their budding romance, but they are unable to be kept apart.

...Except for a couple of extremely violent scenes, this could be a young adult novel, although adults should enjoy it also. Dream Boy is a pleasant, fun read, but it takes a back seat when compared to some other gay coming of age novels...

Entertainment Notes
by James Christjohn

Have I got CDs for you to listen to all summer long! First of all I’ve found some incredible gay-themed CDs. “Stage 1: How I Love You” is a true find. A goldmine of love songs from Broadway’s greatest shows, sung as originally written — by men, to men. Like an intimate cabaret show, the songs are set to a simple piano accompaniment, and are sung beautifully by some really talented singers. It is a treat to hear some of these songs sung the way we in the gay male community have always dreamed of them — with same-sex pronouns. Tracks include selections from Gershwin to Webber, classic standards to lesser known gems. Highly recommended. Available at selected record stores, or by mail at 800-707-8683. Wonderful for setting a romantic mood, or daydreaming of Mr. Right.

Up next is a great original cast album of “Get Used To It!” by Tom Wilson Weinberg, who also wrote the “Ten Percent Revue”. This album wittily captures all aspects of life as a gay man, from religion to falling in love, gay-phobia to what to call your spouse...

MCC Cathedral of Hope has produced a musical... regarding Gay issues from a Christian standpoint... it was pretty good... the songs are rather beautiful...[they range from hilarious (An Old Fashioned Lesbian Christmas) to moving to romantic.

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We offer our exclusive $2820 complete funeral plan, no added costs. If you have a policy somewhere else, you can transfer your policy to us, and may be due a cash refund if you paid more for what you have now.

Our journey through life should be done with pride; shouldn’t our journey through death be done with pride as well? For more information, please call Russell Langley-Stumpff at 918-587-7000 for all of your pre-need arrangements. (Insurance policies are available with no health questions asked.)

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918-587-7000

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918-599-7337 or toll-free, 800-994-7337
or visit us on the Internet at http://www.cremation.org/oklahoma/oklahoma.html

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City, St. & Zip: 
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The Wild Fork
1820 Utica Square

Hours: 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Monday – Saturday, closed Sundays

Cuisine: American contemporary

Dress: Casual (but remember this is Utica Square)

Prices: Very expensive

Alcohol: Full bar & wine list

Non-smoking section: Yes

Ratings: B list

These can be very tasty, but they are far too rich to eat more than a few gravy-like spoonfuls.

Same old story with the entrées. With the one major exception of the pork tenderloin roulade, which is dry and tasteless, the meats and fish are good quality foods expertly prepared and sauced. Do we really need Moroccan lemon (aren’t American lemons good enough?) on the free range chicken? Hot mango salsa on the meats? A “creative reinvention” of the chicken-fried steak? Excellent, huge sea scallops ruined by flavoring them with Pernod (a nasty licorice flavored liqueur)? Strongly flavored olive and vinegar sauces on delicate sweetbreads?

It’s possible to get a decent meal in this place, but you must be pro-active to do it. Find out what is on the menu and ask for substitutions or deletions. Anything that sounds unusual or strange should be ignored. If Chef Michee is in the kitchen, rely upon her excellent training and experience to cook a meal to your exact specifications; just don’t let her play around with it and get creative. The problem with this technique is that Miss Michee is not always in the kitchen, and many a lesser cook will panic when the set recipe is changed. Also, there seems to be a communications breakdown between dinner, waiter, and kitchen, because many times, special requests end up being ignored.

It’s parallel-parked somewhere between luxury and necessity.

By combining luxurious styling and dependability, the Accord EX Sedan fits nicely into your lifestyle as it does into a parking space. For your sensible, practical side, this car offers a host of impressive safety and performance features including airbags, anti-lock brakes, side-impact protection, double airbags, and a 142-horsepower I-4 engine. And for your indulgent side, the Accord EX Sedan is loaded with creature comforts like power windows, power door locks, a spacious, ergonomic interior, a power moonroof, air conditioning, cruise control and a high-powered audio. No steps today for a secure drive. (Okay, if you’re parking available) The Accord EX Sedan.

Don Carlton Honda
622-3636, 4141 South Memorial

Wild Fork Rehashes Dead Tulsa Restaurants

by Jean-Pierre, TNF Food Critic

I lost the bet. Now I have to prepare dinner for someone who doesn’t know the difference between fingers, a dinner fork, a salad fork, or a wild fork. But, what is worse in being wrong, is that the poor citizens of Tulsa will continue to be denied what constitutes truly fine cuisine and is merely flash and a waste of money.

One year ago, we went to a highly touted restaurant in Utica Square. Everyone had great expectations, since one of Tulsa’s best known chefs, Kim Michee, and her partner, Julie Woolman, were driving forces behind the venture. As we lingered over post-dessert coffee, I quipped that unless Helmerich & Payne (owner-operator of Utica Square) was looking at the Wild Fork as a tax write-off, the restaurant would be closed within the year. And thus, I was goaded into making the ill-fated bet. They’re still open.

The Wild Fork is situated in the middle of Utica Square at the site of the former landmark institution and tea room, The Garden. Our first visit to the Wild Fork was on a rainy Saturday night, and we were obliged to wait for our table. But, a crowded, bustling restaurant is usually a good sign. We had a bit of an uneasy feeling in dealing with the rather abrupt and disinterested hostesses, magnified by our limited dealings with one waiter, so we wrote it off to the strains of being a new restaurant on a busy night. However, on our several subsequent visits to the Wild Fork, including the most recent when our party was one of only three tables in the entire restaurant, it is apparent that the Wild Fork is trying for some kind of unique merger between the rude waiters in New York & the snooty waiters in Paris.

The Wild Fork is open all day, and there are different menus for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Regardless of the mealtime you’ve chosen, one look at the menu and you instantly know that this is a culinary experience that will not come cheap.

It seems as though every review about the Wild Fork written in a Tulsa paper over the past year has raved about the crab cakes. Far be it for us to break with tradition. The crab cakes are a combination of crab meat, corn, and the usual filler to hold it all together, that is deep-fried and then presented atop a homemade mayonnaise aioli sauce and buried under a mound of terrifically hot jalapeño cole slaw. Scrape off the col slaw and enjoy the wonderful calories and high fat and cholesterol content of the crab cakes. After all, what’s a little grease and mayo (mayo is just egg yolks and olive oil whisked together with a dash of spice)?

But the famous crab cakes illustrate quite well what is wrong with the cuisine at this restaurant. First of all, Chef Michee’s attempts to be too creative and too innovative. She takes top quality food, prepares it well, and then ruins it with a bizarre or weird sauce or accompanying item. She had the same problem when she was at Karmichael’s and at the Fifteenth Street Grill, two of Tulsa’s better restaurants which now both out of business. Second, the restaurant touts itself as featuring “new American cuisine,” but you’d think the chef had been on another planet the last couple of decades when it comes to presenting healthy, lower fat foods and lots more vegetables and salads.

The Wild Fork continues the saga. While most of today’s celebrated modern American chefs in Dallas, Santa Fe, Scottsdale, or Los Angeles have gone to healthier thickening methods for cream soups such as vegetable purées, beurre manié, white rice puree, or a simple roux, with only a splash of cream or dairy product, Miss Michee continues to insist upon making cream soups the old fashioned way, based on traditional béchamel and velouté sauces.

The soups

The soups come to presenting

The soups are different menus for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Regardless of the mealtime you’ve chosen, one look at the menu and you instantly know that this is a culinary experience that will not come cheap.

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Don Carlton Honda
622-3636, 4141 South Memorial
Vegetables are bland, boring, overlooked side dishes here, almost relegated to the status of a garnish. Salads aren’t emphasized, either. This is the one major area where improvement needed at this restaurant.

As is the case in many fine restaurants, the baking is delegated to a baker and not handled by the chef herself. This is unfortunate, because we have had breads held too long in the warmer and disappointing desserts on almost every visit. On one visit, our crème brûlée tasted almost curdled and the propane torch used in lieu of the broiler to caramelize the top was unevenly applied. Another time, we had to ask for our coffee before the end of the dessert course just to wash down the dry cake. No excitement or originality here. There is a surprising little wine list with tolerable but limited choices in the moderate and less expensive categories, definitely preferring U.S. domestic vintages.

Despite its shortcomings, the Wild Fork continues to be a popular restaurant amongst the wealthier masses of Tulsa. Either Miss Michee has a loyal following from her previous kitchen experiments or Tulsans are just too parochial to know the difference between fine, wonderful food and overly-flaky, overly-expensive messes. Go to the Wild Fork if you like (and you can afford it), but don’t be surprised if you find it to be just another relash of a couple of dead Tulsa restaurants.

Coffee & conversation? Attractive 30’s GM seeking similar (or extra cool bi-guy) for coffee & conversation. Friendship can stimulate mind, body & soul. Appreciate healthy attitudes about life, work, etc. Interested? Tell me about yourself.

Write to: #29 c/o TFN, POB 4140, Tulsa, OK 74109

Let your advertisers know: You saw it in Tulsa Family News! Word of “Embraceable You” which was recorded by her mother long ago. The similarities in vocal qualities are eerie. Now she does a duet of “Chances Are” with one of our own, Johnny Mathis, that is lovely, and a serviceable job on another duet, “Does He Love You”, with Donna Summer. Yes, it’s the Kekha hit, and no, it’s not disco. The rest are beloved standards, delivered in a style that takes you to the morning. The arrangements are deceptively simple, yet elegant, and you feel she’s just across the room. As she calls it, a very romantic “make out” album.

Broken Arrow Community Playhouse’s production of “Company” opens the 14th and runs through the 23rd. Opening night, July 14th for “Beehive”. They need July 17 women. That could be a fun show for some in our community! The auditions will be at BACP at 5PM. It is a musical, so call 258-0077 for audition requirements.

And don’t miss BACP’s summerstage production of “Quilt: A Musical Celebration” August 16-18 at the PAC.

GEMINI MOON ASTROLOGICAL SERVICES can help identify the positive & challenging areas of your relationships, allow you to know yourself better, and give you information on upcoming trends in your life.

These written interpretations are a great gift for the special person in your life, friends, family, or a couple celebrating their marriage or anniversary. These are the most accurate & detailed written interpretations & charts offered. Each Interpretation is fully explained & comes with a chart, for those of you who are astrologers, or have friends with knowledge of or interest in astrology. Even if you know nothing about astrology, the interpretations explain it all for you. Gemini Moon offers full written reports. Each written Interpretation is $25.00 or a single Chart $5.00. To produce an accurate chart for interpretation, please provide the name, birth date, birth time, & birth place (City, State, County, & Country) of the person in question.

For more information, call 918-583-1248, or write Gemini Moon at POB 4140, Tulsa, OK 74159.

**TULSA FAMILY CHORALE**
**Thursdays 9:30 pm**
**Lola’s**
2630 E. 15th
749-1563

**Tulsa Family Personalals**

**Instant Phone Contacts By Area Code**

**GWWM, 22, 6’2’’, 185, brown hair, green eyes, seeks GWWM, 35-45, average build and weight, for friendship and possibly more. (Broken Arrow) =13397**

**OUT AND ABOUT! I’m looking for someone who likes to go out and have a good time. Call me. No need to go out alone. (Oklahoma City) =12326**

**NORTHEAST ARKANSAS GWWM, 5’11”, 160, brown hair and eyes, varied interests, seeks others for friendship and possibly more. Please leave a message. (Jonesboro) =15469**

**MEET ME IN MUSKOGEE Greg, 28, 6’, 180, brown hair and eyes, looking for other young guys in the area. (Muskogee) =12386**

**CREATIVE OUTLET! I’m 27 years old, Brown hair, and blue eyes. I’m looking for someone who is interested in a lot of fun. Someone who is very creative. If you are interested please call me. Please be discreet. (Oklahoma City) =10771**

**TAKE ME DOWN! I’m looking for someone 20 to 40 who likes to wrestle. If you enjoy that please call me. Winner takes all. (Oklahoma City) =12998**

**LETS DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY! I’m a 23 year old White male. I’m interested in the outdoors, camping, fishing, hiking, country western dancing, etc. I’m looking for a non smoking man, 20 to 35 for friendship and maybe more. (Stillwater) =11885**

**LOOKING FOR LOVE! I like music, cooking, plays, and good conversation. I’m looking for someone in his 30’s for a relationship. I’m good looking, own my own home, and have many interests. If you are interested please call me. (Stillwater) =19730**

**I KNOW YOUR OUT THERE! I’m a 6’5”, 215bs. I’m looking for a Gay White male 20 to 25 who is well built and disease free. Call me. (Oklahoma City) =19981**

**GOOD TIMES ARE HERE! I’m a Gay White male looking for another Gay White mate over 6ft. I’m 6’5”, Brown hair, Brown eyes, and I have a muscular build. Call me. Let’s have a good time together. (Stillwater) =10142**

**SHOW AND TELL! I’m a 23 year old White male looking for relationships, friends, and a real big man. Call me. Show me what you got. (Stillwater) =11693**

**ROOT SCOOTIN’ Buddies GWWM, 20, 6’6”, 165, attractive, clean cut, seeks other GWWM’s, 20-30, for country dancing and friendship with possibilities of more. Please leave a message. (Stillwater) =12399**

**LETS GO CAMPING! I’m looking for someone 20 to 40 to spend some time with. I enjoy camping and many other things. If you would like to be with me and help fulfill my fantasy please call me. (Oklahoma City) =1722**

**Bi Curious WF, 29, 5’3”, 150, 1885, auburn hair, green eyes, seeks someone who is interested in a lot of fun. Someone who is very creative. If you are interested please call me. Please be discreet. (Stillwater) =11962**

**GIRL TALK! Woman recently moved to Tulsa seeks tennis player 40 to 45, 5’10” for weekly games. Give me a call. (Broken Arrow) =14856**

**TENNIS ANTONETTE! Woman recently moved to Tulsa seeks tennis partner 45 to 52, 5’10” for weekly games. Give me a call! (Broken Arrow) =13858**

**SATISFACTION GUARANTEED! GWWM, 19, 5’6”, seeks other GWWM’s with blonde hair and blue eyes. Must be under 23 and very built. Please leave a message. (Tulsa) =36157**

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Before you begin a romance, or move in together...start a business together...commit to each other over the long term...start a friendship...

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These written interpretations are a great gift for the special person in your life, friends, family, or a couple celebrating their marriage or anniversary. These are the most accurate & detailed written interpretations & charts offered. Each Interpretation is fully explained & comes with a chart, for those of you who are astrologers, or have friends with knowledge of or interest in astrology. Even if you know nothing about astrology, the interpretations explain it all for you. Gemini Moon offers full written reports. Each written Interpretation is $25.00 or a single Chart $5.00. To produce an accurate chart for interpretation, please provide the name, birth date, birth time, & birth place (City, State, County, & Country) of the person in question.
WHAT IS VIATICATION?
Viatication is the process through which a person living with a terminal illness can receive a cash payment from the face value of their insurance policy.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR A VIATIONAL SETTLEMENT?
Generally, to be eligible for a viatical settlement you must have a documentable terminal illness, and life insurance coverage in either an individual term, whole life, or a group policy.

HOW MUCH IS MY POLICY WORTH?
The value of your life insurance policy in a viatical settlement is determined by the specifics of your policy and your unique medical situation. Not every policy is suitable for viatication, but settlement offers typically range from 60% to 90% of a policy’s face value, depending on the specifics of your policy and medical history.

HOW DOES A SETTLEMENT WORK?
With your written permission, we gather medical and insurance records with which to determine your policy’s value. Then, a settlement offer is presented to you. You may always decline the offer with no obligation whatsoever. Should you accept the offer, payment is made directly to you. You pay nothing else on your policy, and you owe us nothing.

IS VIATICATING MY POLICY THE RIGHT CHOICE FOR ME?
Many factors influence whether viaticating your life insurance is the best financial alternative available for you. Southwest Viatical can discuss all of the factors with you and your family in person, in detail and can recommend an experienced Certified Financial Planner to assist you in planning the best outcome from your unique financial situation.

HOW IS SOUTHWEST VIATIONAL DIFFERENT?
Today, many companies offer viatical settlements, doing business only by bulk advertising and 1-800 numbers. They transfer your insurance and medical records by mail, and do business from another state.

At Southwest Viatical, we believe you should be assured of complete confidentiality and the best possible service by working with us in person, face-to-face. We are involved on a community level, and are responsible directly to our local community.

By working with you in person, but at the same time having access to nationwide financial resources, we are able to deliver the best value on your policy available today. And because of our established resources, we can deliver a settlement in less than a third the time other companies take by mail, typically in fewer than 30 days. We’ll do what it takes to find the best solution for you.

Kelly Kirby
Oklahoma Representative
4021 South Harvard, Suite 210
Tulsa, OK 74135
918-747-3320

Home Office
Dallas, Texas
800-559-4790