



Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

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22nd Annual SAAF Jell-O Wrestling Makes Big Splash

TUCSON (Observer Update) - The Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) hosted its longest running fundraising event - the 22nd Annual Reno Gannon Jell-O Wrestling Extravaganza and Benefit Auction on Sunday, May 3, with more than 550 community members helping to break all kinds of event records!

For the past 12 years, the event has drawn sold out crowds at Woody's Bar. Each year the event's fundraising has grown and crowds have been turned away at the door because of limited spacing. This year, with the help of Dave Huff and Frank Scheppis, Woody's Bar, TEP Park, Golden Eagle Distributors, and many Corporate Sponsors, the event moved to TEP Park. The result equaled success!

The event drew a record crowd of almost 600 in attendance (350-400 in previous years) and raised more than \$40,000 in support of programs and services administered through SAAF for people living with, affected by, or at risk for HIV/AIDS.

The event raises money through Corporate Partners, Jello Wrestling Sponsorships, and a live and silent auction. This year's event is more critical than ever as the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation works hard to spread the word that every 9 1/2 minutes someone new in the U.S. is infected with

HIV. Prevention and Education are currently the only cure.

Hostesses included Lucinda Holliday & Mya McKenzie, Ajia Simone, Janee Starr and Tempest DuJour. The wrestling teams, who raised thousands of dollars deserve mentioning. They included John Lochert & Jose Hinojos (Colors); Shannon Smith & Waco Sean Starr; Ana Martinez & Vincent Wicks; Cesar Egurrola & Erin Butler (Woody's); Javier Moreno & Shawn Graby (Woody's); Brian M. Gorden & Gilbert Raymond (Venture-N); Hank Knaack & Melanie Cushing; Peter Zismann.

The 2009 Jell-O Steering Committee deserve some recognition. They do all the behind the scene work from making the Jell-O to making arrangements for tents, chairs, food, selling etc. etc. etc. They include Steve Barreto, Timothy Franco, Eddie Gallego, Willie Gradillas, Roy Hernandez, Dave Huff, Hank Knaack, David Lefton, Harry Lewis, Dave Locke, Jessica Noele, Natalie Perry, Joe Roos, Frank Schepis, Peter Sittig and Helga Wocherl.

Congratulations to all who make the annual Reno Gannon Jell-O Benefit the big success it is. It was Reno's suggestion to do this ununual Benefit in 1987. Unfortunately he died from AIDS one year later. Reno's legacy from this event has generated tens of thousands of dollars to help people living with AIDS. His spirit has never been forgotten. Had he been to this year's event he would have been especially proud.

If you are interested in helping to support SAAF's efforts in reaching thousands each year in the community through prevention education and intervention or through care services (such as food, medications assistance, housing, case management, dental, and more)- you can! Simply donate online at www.saaaf.org or call (520) 628-7223 for information or a tour.



Leading off the days Jell-O wrestling were John Lochert and Jose Hinojos representing Colors Food & Spirits. Referee Joe Roos didn't think John had enough Jell-O so he dumped some more down his trunks.



Troy Terpening and Derrick Pooyouma wrestling for IBT's, decided it would be fun to throw the gooey blue Jell-O at each other and the referee and some in the audience if they were lucky. These two photos were taken by Amanda Irvin. There are more photos on page sixteen that were taken by Bill Morrow.



Hundreds March In National LGBT Rights Rally

PHILADELPHIA, PA (Observer Update) - Hundreds of Gay rights demonstrators marched through the streets of the city's historic center on Sunday carrying rainbow-colored flags and signs calling for equal rights in marriage, in the workplace and in health care, 365Gay.com.

The National Equality Rally was billed as the first national demonstration since 2000 for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender rights and the first held outside Washington. The marchers displayed signs from dozens of organizations and photos of people said to have been killed because of their sexual orientation. The march ended with a rally in front of Independence Hall, where rainbow-colored umbrellas came in handy in a steady drizzle. The crowd listened to music from a band and a chorale singing the national anthem. A cheer rose at the sound of the bell from the spire of the building where the Constitution was drafted.

Speakers called for support for

Gay marriage, more money for AIDS research and an end to workplace discrimination and the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy, which prohibits Gays in the military from being open about their sexual orientation. One participant wearing a fatigue jacket and pink slacks held a sign saying "Do ask, do tell." "We don't wilt, and we don't melt. We are here for equality now," Malcolm Lazin, executive director of the Equality Forum local Gay rights group, which sponsored the event, told the crowd.

Bryan Berchok, of Upper Bucks County, Pa., listened to the speeches as he held his 4-year-old adoptive son, Shawn, whose face was painted to resemble the black mask of Spider-Man's evil alter ego. He and his partner of 15 years, John Ferraro, said it was difficult and expensive to try to get the same rights afforded to married couples. "We worry how things would work out if one of us was not able to care for Shawn," Berchok said. "It's just a little scary."

Allison Woolbert, who chairs the Interweave Gay rights group of southern New Jersey, said she wanted more attention given to health care for Transgender people, who she said often are refused care by medical personnel and whose medications are not covered in health plans.

A few counter-demonstrators held religious signs at the margins of the gathering, and one preached with a bullhorn as the marchers filed past.

At the time of the last national rally, nine years ago, Vermont had just passed the first civil union law in the country. Now, Gay marriage is legal in Vermont, Connecticut, Iowa and Massachusetts, with bills pending in other states. California briefly allowed it last year, but a voter initiative repealed it.

Speakers on Sunday noted that Independence Hall was the site of the first Reminder Day picket for Gay rights on July 4, 1965. That gathering attracted about 40 people, but about 150

attended the fifth one in 1969, just after the landmark Stonewall riots in New York, considered the birth of the U.S. Gay rights movement. Nurit Shein, executive director of the Mazzone Center, a local health services office serving the Gay community, told Sunday's crowd that Gays will be "seen" and "counted." "Equal means equal," Shein said, "not separate, not less."

Tucson Community Museum®



UPDATE

Treasures For TIHAN, May 9

TUCSON (Observer Update) - The 12th Annual "Treasures for TIHAN," a live and silent auction event to support the work of TIHAN and the lives of those living with HIV who we serve, takes place on Saturday, May 9 at the Doubletree Hotel at Reid Park.

Join us for a sparkling evening of great music and decorations, wonderful food, and fantastic auction items to raise funds to support TIHAN's programs and services. Tickets for the event are \$65 (or \$75 at the door) and can be purchased by calling (520) 299-6647 or online (tihan.org): Since this event is the night before Mother's Day, bring your mom (she'll be entered into a free drawing for prizes!).

In addition to fine dining, art, trips, event tickets, and golf packages, we'll also have great Mother's Day gift items available! And purchase your raffle ticket to win a chance at \$1,000 cash! Get your tickets now for the biggest event of the year to support the work of TIHAN!

Deadline Extended: Tucson GLBT Commission Seeking Candidates

TUCSON (Observer Update) - In anticipation of upcoming vacancies and expiring terms, the Tucson Commission on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Issues is currently seeking individuals interested in serving the community via appointment to the Commission.

The mission of the Tucson Commission on GLBT Issues is to foster conditions that promote the welfare of GLBT people of metropolitan Tucson, Arizona, through education, through advocacy, and through collaborative and advisory relationships with government, community organizations, businesses, and individuals. Members are appointed by the Mayor and City Council to three-year terms. Council members may choose to appoint an individual of their choice. The Commission periodically, as positions are vacated, submits a list of recommended

candidates for open position(s) to the Mayor and Council - these recommendations are usually followed.

After reviewing applications, the Search Committee will present their findings and recommendations to the full Commission, who in turn will forward recommendations for appointment to the Mayor and Council in the near future. To express your interest, please send a letter of interest, along with a current resume, by Friday, May 8, to: Attn: GLBT Commission Search Committee, Liberty, O'Neill & Bibbens, 1590 E. Grant Rd., Tucson, AZ 85719.

26th International AIDS Candlelight Memorial Will Be Celebrated In Tucson May 17

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Sunday, May 17, the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) along with many other community organizations and members will be participating in the 26th International AIDS Candlelight Memorial. This annual event will be held in over 1,200 other communities around the world.

The 26th Anniversary of the historic International AIDS Candlelight Memorial - one of the world's first public events against HIV/AIDS that continues to be led by communities worldwide - commemorates more than a quarter century of remembrance, community mobilization, and global solidarity. For 26 years, the Candlelight Memorial has brought people together in every region of the world to honor those lost to AIDS and demonstrate the importance of civil society, a movement in step with the spread of the disease itself.

The Tucson AIDS Candlelight Memorial is a family friendly event that will be held at Himmel Park near Speedway and Tucson Blvd. Music, speakers, performances, information tables and candle lighting will all be part of the memorial celebration.

Antigone Books Hosting Events

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Please join us for two upcoming events/workshops at Antigone Books, 411 N. 4th Avenue.

A free, writing workshop at Antigone Books on Friday, May 15, 7:00 p.m.: Free Writing Workshop: Finding Your Most Authentic Voice. Join Molly Knipe, writer and teacher, in an experiential writing workshop designed to lead you to your truest voice. Bring your open mind plus pencil and paper! Molly has an MFA in creative writing, has published numerous short stories, and has taught fiction writing at the U. of A. and Pima Community College. Free. Group limited to 12. Pre-registration required: Please call (520) 792-3715, or stop by the store. ...

On Friday, May 22, 7:00 p.m., join us for a talk with two Tucson gardening experts: Greg Starr, author of Cool Plants for Hot Gardens: 200 Water-Smart Choices for the Southwest (Rio Nuevo, \$19.95). Scott Calhoun, author of The Hot Garden: Landscape Design for the Desert Southwest (Rio Nuevo, \$40.00). Desert plants will be available for sale. Enter the evening's drawing to win free garden prizes. Bring your gardening and landscaping questions.

Award-winning horticulturist, and local nursery owner Greg Starr's new book is an indispensable reference for desert dwellers. It offers extensive information on 200 low-water-use plants perfect for home gardeners, landscapers, and anyone interested in conserving precious desert water. Scott Calhoun shows Southwest gardeners how to translate the natural beauty of the region - mountains, canyons, sculptural succulents, and incandescent sky - into gorgeous yet water-thrifty landscape designs that complement the existing architecture. Scott is an award-winning author, teacher and garden designer, who also runs the local nursery, Zonagardens. The reading will be followed by a question and answer period. Refreshments will be served.

New Mexico Settles G/L Partner Benefits Suit

SANTA FE, NM (Observer Update) - The New Mexico government has agreed to offer health and other benefits to the domestic partners of retired state government workers, reported 365Gay.com.

The agreement ends a lawsuit filed in 2007 by three Lesbians whose domestic partner benefits ended when they retired from state jobs. In 2003, Bill Richardson issued an executive order providing state employees, both Gay and straight, with the option of providing their partners health insurance through domestic partner coverage. Under the order, domestic partner coverage is not available to employees after they retire, while spousal coverage is provided.

The retired state workers with the help of the ACLU filed suit claiming the state discriminated against them in canceling the health benefits. The lawsuit charged that the state's policy of denying Lesbian and Gay state retirees equal health insurance for their partners violated the state constitution's equality guarantees. Unlike their straight colleagues, Lesbian and Gay employees are barred from marrying in the state and therefore, in the absence of domestic partner benefits, are denied equal compensation. The state agreed to extend the benefits retroactive to 2003.

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



If you are interested in offering peer support to clients, educating on HIV/AIDS and more, contact Volunteer Resources at 628-7223 or volcoord@saaaf.org



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No Apology From Foxx On Shepard Comment

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - A North Carolina congresswoman says she made a poor choice of words when she called the infamous murder of a Gay Wyoming student a "hoax" to justify passing hate crimes bills, but she has not apologized for denying the killing was a Gay bias crime, reported 365Gay.com.

nents have become," said Brad Luna, Communications Director for the Human Rights Campaign. "It is no longer acceptable in this day and age to just come right out and say you don't like Gay people. Instead, extremist opponents of equality must resort to these types of malicious and twisted lies. Rep. Foxx should be ashamed of herself."

During debate in the House on the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act, also known as the Matthew Shepard Hate Crimes Act, Republican Rep. Virginia Foxx said the 1998 murder of Shepard wasn't a hate crime and shouldn't be used to justify a hate crimes bill. Foxx said Shepard was killed during a robbery.

Foxx did not back away from her assertion that Shepard was the victim of a robbery and not a hate crime, but said that her comments didn't convey what she meant to say.

In a statement she said "hoax" was "a poor choice of words," and said Shepard's killers deserved their punishment. The two men convicted in Shepard's death are serving life terms for murder. Foxx said in her statement that she relied on two news reports for her comments about robbery being a motive for the slaying. "Referencing these media accounts may have been a mistake, but if so, it was a mistake based on what I believed were reliable accounts," she said.

Shepard, a 21 year old University of Wyoming student was kidnapped by two men he met in a bar in October 1998. He was pistol-whipped, robbed and left tied to a fence on a rural snow swept country road outside Laramie. He died five days later in hospital from massive head injuries. Russell Henderson and Aaron McKinney are serving double life sentences for the killing. In statements to police and in plea bargains to avoid the death penalty both men admitted murdering Shepard and said they had targeted him because he was Gay.

"The hate crimes bill that's called the Matthew Shepard Bill is named after a very unfortunate incident that happened where a young man was killed, but we know that that young man was killed in the commitment of a robbery. It wasn't because he was Gay," Foxx said. "This - the bill was named for him, hate crimes bill was named for him, but it's really a hoax that that continues to be used as an excuse for passing these bills."

She made the remarks while Shepard's mother, Judy Shepard, looked on from the House gallery. The comments were immediately condemned by LGBT rights groups. "Vile lies, like the one spread by Rep. Foxx today on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives about Matthew's brutal hate-fueled murder, continues to underscore how extreme anti-LGBT oppo-



Rachel Maddow

Judy Shepard



Virginia Foxx



Matthew Shepard



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How A Supreme Court Justice Is Chosen

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - Now that Justice David Souter has helped solve the mystery of whether anyone would retire from the Supreme Court this year, what's next reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com. How will the executive and legislative branches of government set about filling a vacancy on the nation's highest court?

President Barack Obama will have to nominate a successor after Souter makes his retirement announcement official. Souter is likely to stay on the court through the end of the term in June, and maybe longer if a replacement is not quickly confirmed. Obama will have chosen his successor long before June - if the president hasn't already made up his mind - but an announcement from the White House is unlikely before the Supreme Court finishes this year's session.

The Constitution requires the president to submit his nomination to the Senate for its advice and consent; the House plays no role. The Senate's majority Democrats and minority Republicans will investigate the nominee's background thoroughly before hearings begin in the Senate Judiciary Committee. It normally takes

between four and six weeks to begin hearings after the Senate receives a Supreme Court nomination.

The Senate will try to hold hearings and a confirmation vote before the Supreme Court begins its new term in October.

Hearings will be supervised by Judiciary Committee Chairman Patrick Leahy, D-Vt. Senate hearings on the nominations of John Roberts as chief justice and Samuel Alito as justice, the high court's two newest justices, lasted about a week.

At the end of hearings, the committee will vote on the nominee and send a recommendation to the full Senate. Whether the committee decision is positive or negative, the full Senate is likely to vote on the nomination.

It takes 60 votes to block a filibuster of a Supreme Court nominee. Democrats now hold 59 votes in the Senate with Specter's defection and two Democratic-voting independents. There is one open seat in the Senate with Norm Coleman and Al Franken fighting in court over the right to be the Minnesota senator.

New Hampshire Senate Passes Marriage Equality

CONCORD, NH (Observer Update) - The New Hampshire Senate approved a bill that would legalize same-sex marriage.

earlier shows that 55% of New Hampshire voters support marriage for same-sex couples, while 39% are opposed.

The 13-11 vote mirrors the House's similarly close vote of 186-179 in March, reported advocate.com. Because the senate voted on a bill that has been amended since the house voted on it, HB 436 will return back to the house for a third reading. The senate version removed gender-specific language. Gov. John Lynch has expressed his preference for the same-sex civil unions already legal in New Hampshire. A poll released

Two New England states - Connecticut and Massachusetts - and Iowa are the only states that currently grant such rights to same-sex couples. Vermont has passed marriage-equality legislation that will go into effect September 1. And California's marriage equality, granted by the state supreme court and later revoked by Prop. 8, is once again under court scrutiny.

Colorado Partner Benefits Bill Heads To Governor

DENVER, CO (Observer Update) - Legislation to provide health insurance and other benefits to the same-sex partners of Colorado state workers is on its way to the desk of Gov. Bill Ritter who is expected to sign it, reported 365Gay.com.

cal decision for incapacitated partners and leave property to their partners. The measure would apply to same and opposite-sex unmarried couples. The Designated Beneficiary Agreement Act was passed last month in the state House of Representatives and the Senate. The law will permit any two people - regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity - to enter into designated beneficiary agreements that confer specific legal rights and responsibilities, including the right to receive state employee pension benefits, the right to make medical decisions for an incapacitated partner, and the right to inherit if a partner dies without a will.

The state House passed the bill on a 34-30 vote. It had already passed the Senate. Under the legislation the state employee would have to be in a committed relationship for at least a year. Workers had been lobbying for the provision for several years but was fought by Republicans who argued it violated a 2006 referendum that defines marriage as a union of one man and one woman.

GOP lawmakers also claimed it would cost too much and was discriminatory because it does not apply to unmarried opposite-sex couples who live together. The plan is expected to cost about \$150,000 a year and will go into effect in July. Earlier this month Ritter signed a domestic partner bill making it easier for unmarried couples to make medi-

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Across The Q Globe

Lesbian Chosen As UK Poet Laureate

LONDON, UK (Observer Update) - Britain awarded the role of national poet laureate to Carol Ann Duffy - the first woman to hold a post that has been filled by William Wordsworth, Alfred Lord Tennyson and Ted Hughes, the Associated Press reported on 365Gay.com. Duffy, who once said "no self-respecting poet" should have to write verses about the wedding of Queen Elizabeth II's youngest son, will be expected to produce poems for royal weddings, funerals and other state occasions.

A witty and popular writer whose work is widely taught in British schools, Duffy is also the first openly Lesbian laureate. Duffy, 53, said she had thought "long and hard" before accepting the high-profile job, which has a 10-year term. She said she'd given the final decision to her 13-year-old daughter. "She said, 'Yes mummy, there's never been a woman,'" Duffy said. The laureate is officially appointed by the queen on the advice of the government. Prime Minister Gordon Brown called Duffy "a truly brilliant modern poet who has stretched our imaginations by putting the whole range of human experiences into lines that capture the emotions perfectly."

Duffy has published more than 30 books - plays and children's stories as well as poems that mix accessible modern language with traditional forms such as the sonnet. Her work often displays a sly, feminist take on history and contains a strong vein of social commentary. Her collections include "The World's Wife," verses that adopt the voices of female historical figures and of the wives of famous men. It includes the poem "Mrs. Darwin": "7 April 1852/Went to the Zoo/I said to him - Something about that chimpanzee

over there reminds me of you." Last year, when the issue of youth knife crime was in the news, an exam board removed Duffy's poem "Education for Leisure" from an anthology for high school students. Poets and many teachers condemned the removal of the poem, which is written from the point of view of a disturbed individual and begins "Today I am going to kill something. Anything/ I have had enough of being ignored."

Britain's first official poet laureate was John Dryden, appointed in 1668, although the tradition is centuries older than that. Until 1999, laureates were appointed for life. Duffy succeeds Andrew Motion, who was widely praised for expanding the laureate's role to become a national champion for poetry. His eight official poems were less well-received, however. His rap-style poem marking Prince William's 21st birthday in 2003 - which opened "Better stand back/ Here's an age attack" - met with derision. Duffy said she would take the royal aspect of the job seriously, but would not feel compelled to write a poem for every occasion. "If I felt, in the event of a royal wedding, inspired to write about people coming together in marriage or civil partnership, I would just be grateful to have an idea for the poem," she told the BBC. "And if I didn't, I'd ignore it." Duffy said she would give the annual salary of just over 5,700 pounds (\$8,500) to the Poetry Society to fund a prize for the best collection published every year. The laureate traditionally also receives a "butt of sack" - about 600 bottles' worth of sherry, donated by the Sherry Institute of Spain. "Andrew hasn't had his yet so I've asked for mine up front," Duffy said.

Lesbian Law Prof Among Potential Court Nominees

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - Court watchers think President Barack Obama will choose a woman for his first nomination to the Supreme Court, where only one of nine seats is held by a female - Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, the Associated Press reported on 365Gay.com. With Justice David Souter to retire this year, here are the some of the people who are likely to get some consideration from the White House:

Kathleen Sullivan, former dean of Stanford Law School. Born in 1955 in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Received law degree from Harvard University in 1981. Openly Lesbian. Worked as law professor at Harvard University from 1984-1993. Worked as law professor at Stanford University from 1993-1999. Served as dean of Stanford law school from 1999-2004. Works as law professor at Stanford University. Was involved in legal teams fighting for LGBT rights before the US Supreme Court including Bowers v. Hardwick in 1986 where the court upheld Georgia's criminal sodomy law and in 2003

Lawrence v. Texas where the court overturned sodomy laws.

Others being considered are: Ruben Castillo of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. Merrick B. Garland of the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm. Elena Kagan, U.S. solicitor general. Pamela S. Karlan, law professor at Stanford University. Harold Hongju Koh, dean of the Yale University Law School. Sandra Lea Lynch, chief judge of the 1st U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. M. Margaret McKeown of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick. Johnnie B. Rawlinson of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Leah Ward Sears, chief justice of the Georgia Supreme Court. Sonia Sotomayor of the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Cass Sunstein, University of Chicago law professor. Kim McLane Wardlaw of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Diane Pamela Wood of the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

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POLITICS 2009

by Mark R. Kerr

Hate Crimes Are No Hoax But The GOP Will Be One At This Rate

During debate on H.R. 1913, Wednesday, April 29, on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives, Grandma Virginia Foxx, a Republican Congresswoman showed the true colors of her regional, political party when she alleged that it was a "hoax" that the slaying of Matthew Shepard's had anything to do with him being Gay.

"That young man was killed in the commitment of a robbery, it wasn't because he was Gay," said Foxx. Despite the vile, inhumane remarks from Foxx and other insidious statements made by other Republican House Members, by a vote of 249-175, H.R. 1913, the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act, was approved by the House.

H.R. 1913, as previously reported, if approved, would add sexual orientation and gender identity to the list of categories covered under current federal hate crimes statutes.

All five Democrats from Arizona's House delegation voted in favor while the other three Republicans, John Shaddegg, Trent Franks and Jeff Flake voted no on H.R. 1913.

Prior to the final floor debate, President Obama issued the following statement on the measure, "I urge members on both sides of the aisle to act on this important civil rights issue by passing this legislation to protect all of our citizens from violent acts of intolerance - legislation that will enhance civil rights protections, while also protecting our freedom of speech and association."

Maine Senate Passes Marriage-Equality Bill

AUGUSTA, ME (Observer Update) - The Maine senate voted 20-15 to pass a bill that would legalize same-sex marriage in the state. Senators also voted 22-13 to reject an amendment that would send the marriage-equality question to voters in a referendum, reported 365Gay.com.

The votes follow a firm recommendation for the marriage-equality legislation from a joint judiciary committee. Legislators voted 11-2 in favor of the legislation. The measure now goes to the house for consideration. Gov. John Baldacci, a Democrat, recently suggested that he would sign the bill via a phone call he placed to a Maine blogger associated with the Gay blog Pam's House Blend.

During the debate, Sen. John

On Tuesday, April 28, the companion measure to H.R. 1913 was introduced in the U.S. Senate by Massachusetts Senator Edward Kennedy, Democrat.

S. 909 was assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee for consideration.

Meanwhile, U.S. Representative Carolyn Maloney, D-NY, has introduced a measure to expand and update the Family and Medical Leave Act, signed into law in 1993.

H.R. 2132, the "Family and Medical Leave Inclusion Act," which would the Family and Medical Leave Act to permit leave to care for a domestic partner, child of a domestic partner, same-sex spouse, parent-in-law, adult child, sibling, or grandparent if that person has a serious health condition.

"Tens of millions of American workers have been granted leaves under the terms of the original Family and Medical Leave Act; it's become a system that works. There are all kinds of families in America, and the law should keep up," Maloney said. "Whether you need to care for a child, a parent, a grandparent or an in-law, the ability to help them through their crisis is the essence of family values," Maloney concluded.

H.R. 2132 has been assigned to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee for consideration.

Nutting, a Democrat from Leeds and an elder in the Presbyterian Church, based his support for marriage equality on the genetic determination of sexual orientation. "I'm in firm belief that it's in the genes, and that is spelled not j-e-a-n-s, but g-e-n-e-s, and that's just the way it is," he said. Although the amendment for a marriage-equality referendum failed, some senators suggested the prospect of a public vote is inevitable.

"This is not a matter of trusting or not trusting my constituents," said Sen. Elizabeth Schneider, a Democrat from Orono, who voted against the amendment. "I trust that there will be a referendum eventually - it's how we get to that place. For those who wish to bring forth a referendum, they will find a way to do that."

Rudy A No-Show At Gay Pal's Wedding



Former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani in a 'gay' moment

NEW YORK CITY (Observer Update) - When then-mayor Rudy Giuliani was forced to leave home during a nasty divorce in 2001, he was taken in by Howard Koeppel and his longtime partner Mark Hsaio, reported 365Gay.com. He stayed for months with the couple in their \$2.37 million dollar Manhattan home and invited the men to his wedding to Judith Nathan, the "other woman" who led to his divorce. That was when the mayor was appearing in drag at an LGBT rights event and touting his support for Gay issues.

But now that Giuliani is making noises about a possible GOP run for governor, he isn't quite so Gay positive, even criticizing Democratic Gov. David Paterson for pushing a

marriage equality bill. Giuliani said that he would support civil unions. So when Koeppel and Hsaio were married over the weekend in Connecticut, their old pal was a no-show. "Rudy and Judith were both invited with a beautiful written invitation by mail," Koeppel told The New York Post.

Giuliani had an aide call to say he would not be there. The couple said the snub did not spoil their wedding. "I danced at his wedding with [his wife] Judith [Nathan], and it would have been nice if he'd danced at mine," Koeppel told The Post, adding, "I understand why he's doing what he's doing. If he decides to run for governor . . . he's a Republican, and he's taking a Republican stand" on same-sex marriage.

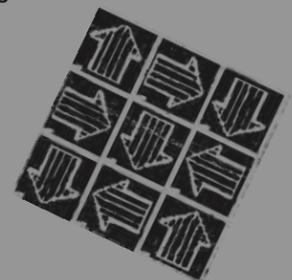
Joe The Plumber: No 'Queers' Near Kids

NEW YORK CITY (Observer Update) - Samuel Wurzelbacher, who under the nickname "Joe the Plumber" was taken up by the 2008 Republican presidential campaign as a symbol for the common man, says in an interview with evangelical magazine Christianity Today that he has had Gay friends but that he "wouldn't have them anywhere near my children," reported advocate.com.

In the interview, posted on the magazine's website, Wurzelbacher says those friends know where he stands on homosexuality, and he says the word queer "means strange and unusual" and is "not like a slur." He also voices his opposition to marriage equality, saying, "God is pretty explicit in what we're supposed to do - what man and woman are for." However, he says the question of whether to grant

marriage rights to Gay couples should be up to each state, and he says the same about abortion rights.

He goes on to assert that the Republican Party pays only lip service to religion, voice his support for Sarah Palin if she runs for president in 2012, call 2008 nominee John McCain the lesser of two evils, and tackle a range of other subjects in the interview, conducted Monday at an event near Chicago.



COMMENTARY. . .

An LGBT Report Card For Obama's First 100 Days

By Emma Ruby Sachs

Standing in Grant Park, President-elect Barack Obama told the crowd of thousands that his presidency was "...the answer spoken for by young, old, rich and poor, Democrat and Republican, black, white, Hispanic, Asian, Native American, Gay, straight, disabled and not disabled." Hearing that acknowledgment, the open recognition of LGBT voters - 70% of whom supported Obama - was thrilling. It also set high hopes for the new year when the new President would finally take office.

The inaugural train asked sixteen guests to accompany the President to his opening day ceremony and one of those chosen was a Lesbian organizer from Cleveland. Openly Gay representative Tammy Baldwin was selected as an honorary co-chair for the inauguration and Reverend Lowry, a supporter of equal rights for LGBT people, was asked to give the benediction at the inaugural ceremony. Reverend Rick Warren, decried for his anti-Gay sentiments, was given a White House makeover: taking trips to Gay neighborhoods, backtracking on homophobic statements and recently stating that he was "oblivious" to the Iowa Gay marriage ruling.

Even Easter at the white house included LGBT families specifically invited to participate in the Easter Egg Roll. If Barack Obama were a student in a high school civics class, he'd be getting a pretty good grade for class participation. Compared to the rows of sullen, silent Presidents behind him, he would look like a Gay rights brown-noser. But 70% of LGBT voters came out in support of Barack Obama because they expected that the support for equal rights expressed on the campaign trail would result in action for LGBT people once Obama was in office. And when it comes to actual change in the lives of LGBT people, nothing has been done. Obama has failed to hand in any of his assignments.

The Gay rights agenda is clear: pass the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act that adds LGBT Americans to the list of protected groups in existing hate crime legislation; pass the United American Families Act that permits committed LGBT couples to sponsor their foreign partners into the country; repeal the Defense of Marriage Act that denies federal benefits to same-sex couples even if they are married; pass the Employment Non-Discrimination Act that would protect employees from discrimination based on their sexual orientation or gender identity; and repeal Don't Ask Don't Tell, a policy that forces many service members to forego relationships or live part of their lives in secret in order to avoid discharge from the military.

This is just the fight for legal equality. It says nothing of funding and support for programs that target at-risk youth (1 in 3 Gay youths have

attempted suicide), public awareness campaigns that promote tolerance and social services - specifically health services - that cater to the LGBT community. Obama has permitted Secretary Gates to indicate that repealing DADT may never happen. He has merely pledged to sign ENDA and the hate crimes bill, but has done nothing to actively campaign for them. And repealing DOMA isn't even on the radar.

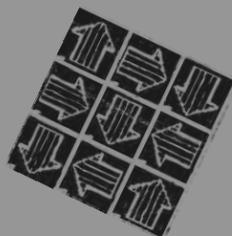
Nancy Pelosi tells us that Congress, and the President, have their hands full with, "health care, energy and the issues related to the economy." And it's true that LGBT people are also citizens who care about the same things most Americans care about: health care coverage, good jobs, a healthy planet.

But we expect the government to be able to multi-task. We reject the notion that Obama's political power and political capital are all used up by getting this country in basic working order. If we had ranked political problems, like Pelosi urges us to, equality gains, past, present and future, would never have been achieved. She is effectively telling the LGBT community, create a national crisis or good luck getting basic rights.

Well, individual LGBT citizens are facing a crisis. They are being fired from jobs so hard to come by already because of their sexual orientation. They are paying huge amounts more in taxes than their straight counterparts despite the fact that everyone is scrimping and saving to make it through the economic downturn. They are losing their life partners to deportation because immigration rights don't extend to families with two parents of the same-sex. Sure, these are tough times, but being an LGBT American puts a magnifying glass on your life. Economic problems, social problems, problems with access to social services, are all compounded by the lack of legal equality. Obama has been ignoring this reality.

In his own words, the struggle for LGBT rights is "about whether this nation is going to live up to its founding promise of equality by treating all its citizens with dignity and respect." He has an obligation to put that promise of equality on his immediate political agenda. We have an obligation to make enough noise, raise enough money and put enough pressure on Congress to ensure that Obama's overall grade on LGBT rights becomes a sparkling "A". Class Participation (30%): B+. Class Assignments (70%): F. Overall Grade: D -.

(Sachs is a civil lawyer and this is reprinted from the Huffington Post.)



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Calif. High Court OKs Lesbian Students Expulsion

RIVERSIDE, CA (Observer Update) - The California Supreme Court will let stand an appeals court ruling that a Lutheran school was within its rights when it expelled two students for allegedly being lesbians, reported 365Gay.com. The case began in 2005 after the school's principal, Gregory Bork, called the girls into his office and grilled them on their sexual orientation. One girl was allegedly coerced to say she loved the other.

tuition and falls under the California civil-rights law that prohibits LGBT discrimination.

The school is owned by the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, the nation's third-largest Lutheran church body. The California Lutheran High School Association, comprising three dozen churches and religious schools, operates the campus. The school argued that it is exempt from the rights law because it is run by a religious institution and does not accept state funding. In 2008, a Riverside County Superior Court judge dismissed the case, ruling that was no legal basis for the girls' claim that the school falls under the law. The case was appealed and last January the 4th District Court of Appeal upheld the lower court ruling. Attorneys for the girls appealed to the California Supreme Court which declined to hear the case. The decision allows the earlier rulings to stand.

The next day, the suit said, Bork told the girls' parents they could not stay at the school with "those feelings." In a Sept. 12, 2005 letter to the parents, Bork acknowledged officials had seen no physical contact between the girls but said their friendship was "uncharacteristic of normal girl relationships and more characteristic of a lesbian one." The girls' attorney argued that the 142-student school in Wildomar was bound to comply with state civil rights laws because it functions as a business by collecting

Anti-G/L Group Hiding Mormon Cash?

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - The nonprofit National Organization for Marriage - better known as the people behind the widely panned "Gathering Storm" commercials and as friends of "opposite marriage" supporter Miss California, Carrie Prejean - is required by law to release its financial reports. According to the marriage-equality group Californians Against Hate, NOM is skirting that law, refusing to make its IRS 990 forms public, reported advocate.com.

CAH has filed a formal complaint with the IRS citing NOM's failure to comply with the federal public disclosure laws; NOM could be hit with penalties of up to \$10,000 if the group remains resistant to complying. "They now claim to be spending \$1.5 million on their outrageous TV commercials," Karger said. "Where is that money coming from? How much are they personally paying themselves?" Karger and his group believe NOM is a front group set up by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to first qualify California's Proposition 8 for the ballot and, later, fight marriage equality around the nation. Six weeks ago CAH filed a formal complaint with the California Fair Political Practices Commission charging that the Mormon Church established NOM as a way to fund Proposition 8; the commission is now looking into the matter. "How much 501(c)4 money did they raise to qualify and pass Prop. 8?" asked Karger. "These and many more questions need to be answered. Now."

"Californians Against Hate had representatives go by the Princeton, New Jersey, offices of the National Organization for Marriage twice to get copies of their IRS 990 reports, to no avail," Fred Karger, CAH's president, wrote in a press release. "Then our representative, Ben Katzenberg, sent two certified letters to the NOM office on March 18, 2009, requesting its two 990 forms. Federal law requires NOM to furnish copies of these IRS filings within 30 days after the request has been received. And 40 days later, still no 990s."

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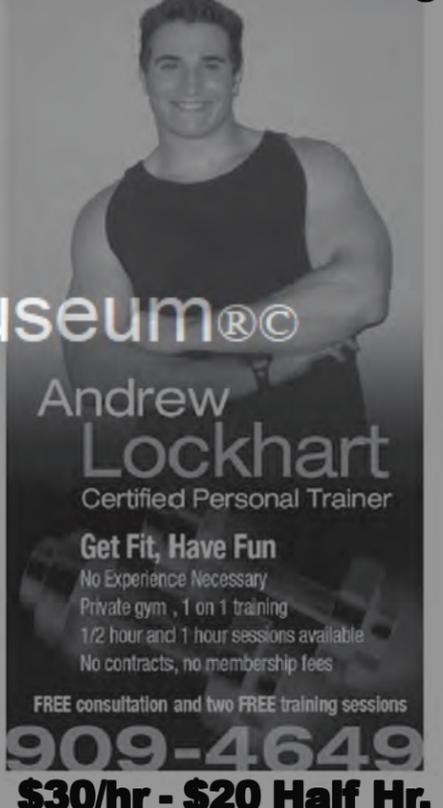
Gay Kisses Get Nod At MTV Awards

NEW YORK CITY (Observer Update) - Two same-sex smooches are nominated for Best Kiss at this year's MTV Movie Awards. Among the nominees are James Franco and Sean Penn's steamy kiss on a crowded San Francisco street in Milk, and Thomas Lennon's bromantic move on Paul Rudd in I Love You, Man, reported advocate.com.

Real-life twosome Dev Patel and Freida Pinto of Slumdog Millionaire are among the four other nominees.

Viewers can watch the kisses and cast their votes on MTV's website through May 27. The awards will air Sunday, May 31, at 9 p.m. Eastern on MTV.

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Lesbian Or Gay And Married? Not In Iowa National Guard

DES MOINES, IA (Observer Update) - The Iowa National Guard says that it will discharge personnel who have married their same-sex partners following the state supreme court's marriage-equality ruling, which took effect April 27, the Des Moines Register reports.

mately 13,000 military personnel have been discharged under DADT since the law was enacted. Kevin Nix, SLDN's director of communications, says the organization has been pushing the Obama administration to task, especially since the president stressed a promise to repeal "don't ask, don't tell" on the campaign trail. They are also urging the president to rescind a line in the Defense budget that funds the administrative and legal actions behind discharging military personnel under the policy. "If [Obama's] serious, he'll cut it from the budget," Nix said.

Congress, however, has to approve of the impending budget. SLDN is pulling together grassroots efforts in states that will rally support for moderate Republicans in Congress who would likely support a budget without the line, as well as a bill ultimately getting rid of the policy.

Mitcham Isolated After Mexico Trip

BRISBANE, Australia (Observer Update) - Aussie diver Matthew Mitcham has put himself into voluntary isolation after flying home from Mexico City from a competition that was canceled due to swine flu, reported advocate.com. The Olympic gold medalist says he has no flu symptoms but that he and his partner will stay at home with face masks and anti-flu medicine, according to the Brisbane Times.

"We got tested before we got on the plane in Mexico and we were all asymptomatic," he said in the article. Before his departure from Mexico City, where he had been preparing for the competition, Mitcham said he was more concerned over being in close quarters with potentially infected people on the long flight.

Mexico has registered 25 deaths and 590 laboratory-confirmed human cases of infection.

Iowa prohibits discrimination against LGBT residents in the workplace, but while the National Guard is state-run, it's a federally recognized military operation, subjecting it to the national policy banning openly Gay members, advocate.com reported. Justin Uebelhor, director of communications for the Gay rights group One Iowa, told The Advocate on Monday that he knows of some openly Gay National Guard members who are in committed relationships, but as far as he knows, none have yet been married.

Commanding officers for the National Guard and other military branches are legally barred from randomly searching for marriage records. However, says Emily Hecht, an attorney for the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network in Washington, D.C., there is some leeway in that law. Three criteria for getting discharged under "don't ask, don't tell" include statements, acts, or marriage - including an attempt to marry someone of the same gender - that signify homosexual activity. Civil unions, domestic partnerships, and commitment ceremonies are also classified as attempts to marry. Hecht explained that officers must be supplied with viable information from a trusted source close to the suspected military member before the officer can launch an investigation.

The federal policy has had repercussions in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and California, states where Gay and Lesbian couples have been granted marriage licenses, even during the five months Gay marriage was legal in the Golden State. Approxi-



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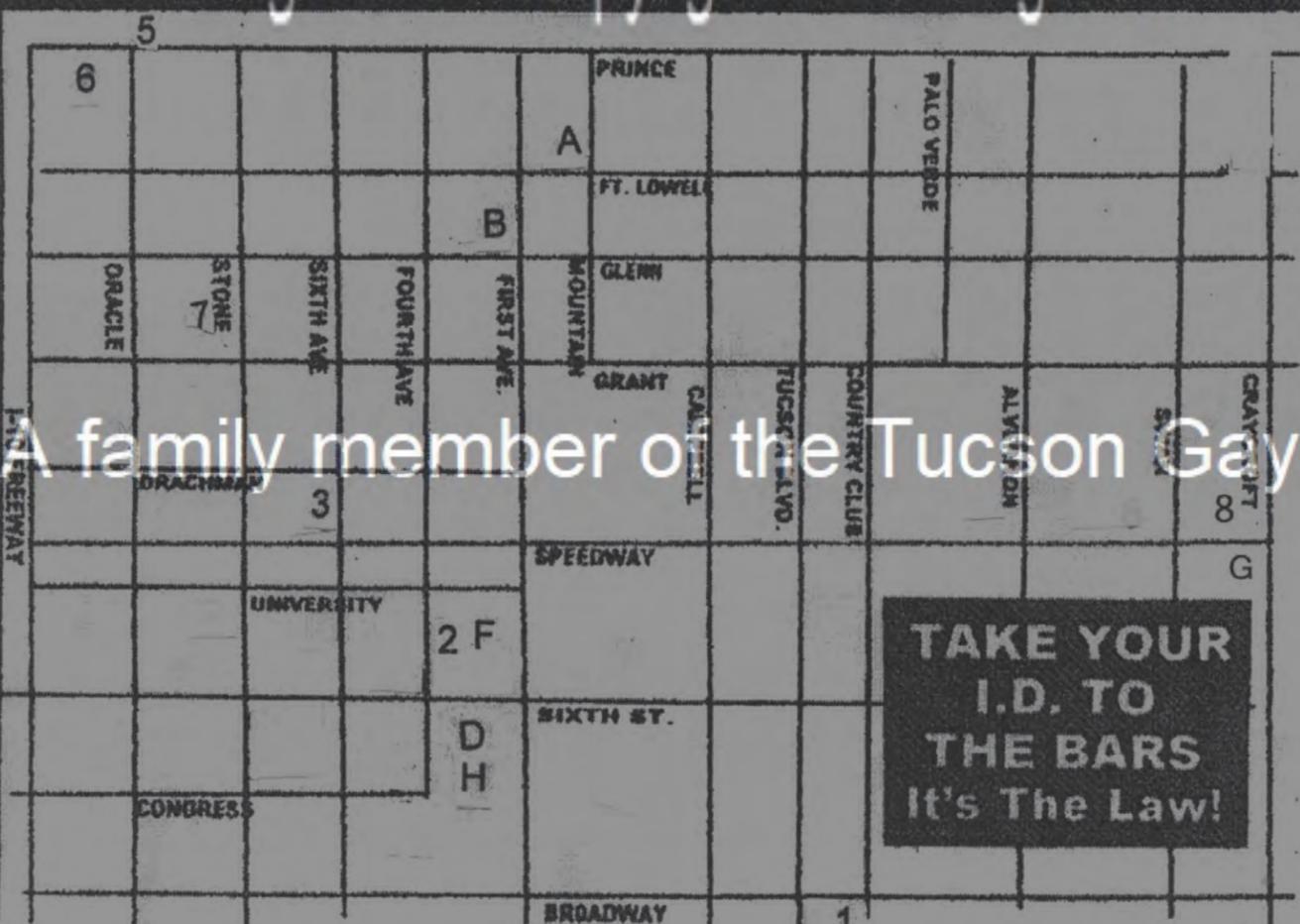
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COMMENTARY...

Iowa, Vermont G/L Marriages Spark Debate In California

SAN FRANCISCO, California (Observer Update) - Both sides of the Gay marriage ban approved by California voters are debating how Iowa and Vermont's recent moves to allow same-sex unions will affect their state's running legal battle, reported the Associated Press on 365Gay.com. Gay marriage supporters are particularly interested in the Iowa Supreme Court's ruling, which they hope will sway the California Supreme Court to overturn the ballot measure voters passed with 52 percent of the vote in November.

But opponents say the Iowa decision should have no bearing on the essential issue before the high court: Whether voters have the right to amend California's constitution at the polls. California's Proposition 8, similar to laws in 29 other states that ban Gay marriage, was the most expensive ballot measure in the nation, with \$83 million poured into campaigns on either side. The measure was introduced largely as a reaction to the California Supreme Court's decision in May to legalize same-sex unions. That ruling was extensively cited by Iowa justices in their decision released.

California's highly anticipated ruling on Proposition 8 could come any time before June 3. Some 18,000 Gay and Lesbian couples were wed in the 4 1/2 months it was legal to do so in California. Shannon Minter, legal director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights, who led the challenge to Proposition 8 in oral arguments before the California court last month, was jubilant Tuesday after Vermont joined Massachusetts, Connecticut and Iowa as the fourth state to allow Gay marriage. While the other states went through lengthy legal battles, Vermont's approval came when the Legislature overrode their governor's veto.

But Minter said it was Iowa's ruling that was important to California in two ways. First, the Iowa court stresses "that equal protection is such an essential structural foundation of our system of government" that it can't be left to the ballot initiative process, he said. Second, he said, Iowa justices adopted the California Supreme Court's analysis of why providing a separate status for same sex couples is inherently unequal. "It would be very ironic," he said, "if just at the time that other state courts are following the California Supreme Court in holding that only marriage can provide true equality, that California were to backpedal away from that holding."

But the question before the California Supreme Court is not whether it supports Gay marriage, said Maggie Gallagher, president of the National Organization for Marriage, which opposes Gay marriage. "I think that the California court might view the Iowa Supreme court decision as reasonable," she said, "but it's not the question before them. It's whether the people of California have the constitu-

tional right to pass Proposition 8."

William Eskridge, a professor at Yale Law School and scholar on the Gay marriage issue, said "the Iowa decision actually relies on the California decision ... I think that both their legal analysis and their unanimity was surely influenced by the California decision, which they lavishly quote." But, he added, "I don't believe that will influence the Chief Justice and the majority of the court."

During oral arguments before the California Supreme Court on March 6, the seven-member body indicated a wariness to override what Associate Justice Joyce Kennard called the people's "very, very broad, well-established" authority to amend the state's governing framework at the ballot box. "What I am picking up from the oral arguments is that this court should willy-nilly disregard the will of the people," said Kennard, who was part of the majority in the 4-3 decision that legalized Gay marriage in California.

If the court overturns Proposition 8, "it would be devastating to the democratic process and any future initiative or referendum," said Bryan Brown, executive director of the National Organization for Marriage, which opposes Gay marriage. He noted that when the California Supreme Court overturned the death penalty, the voters amended the state constitution in 1978 to uphold it.

Evan Wolfson, executive director of Freedom to Marry, a pro-Gay marriage group, said the Iowa ruling has given him new hope in California. "The fact that this decision is so clear and unanimous from the heartland," he said, "is a reminder to the California Supreme Court that the equality in marriage is a civil right whose time has come and whose place is everywhere."

Whatever the court decides, it will likely spark protests and celebration: The oral arguments drew thousands of supporters and opponents to an outdoor plaza in San Francisco, where the Supreme Court's hearing was shown on a big-screen TV.

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TUCSON (Observer Update) - So when reading the Observer, either in print or online, consider making a small contribution to help defray the web/Internet costs to help keep the publication free, online and most importantly, weekly. The paper has been barely financially able to put out a print edition in the past few weeks, but that doesn't signal rosy times ahead, help is needed.

This publication over the years has beaten the daily newspapers in this town covering the same issues concern the LGBT community and HIV/AIDS and will continue to strive to do so for the future, offering it as a free paper, as it should be and hopefully can continue.

At the website or the blog, people have the option of donating through the PayPal system but for those wanting to send a check, make checks payable to "The Observer," and mail them to P.O. Box 50733, Tucson, AZ 85703 and with "a little help from our friends," we all will get by during these times.



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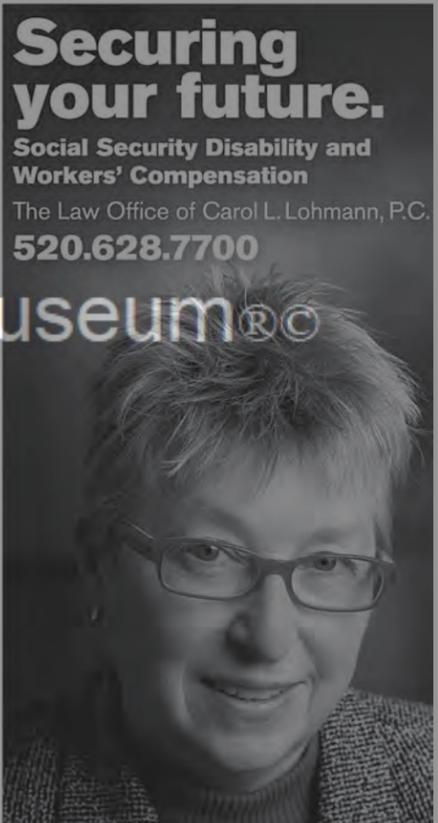
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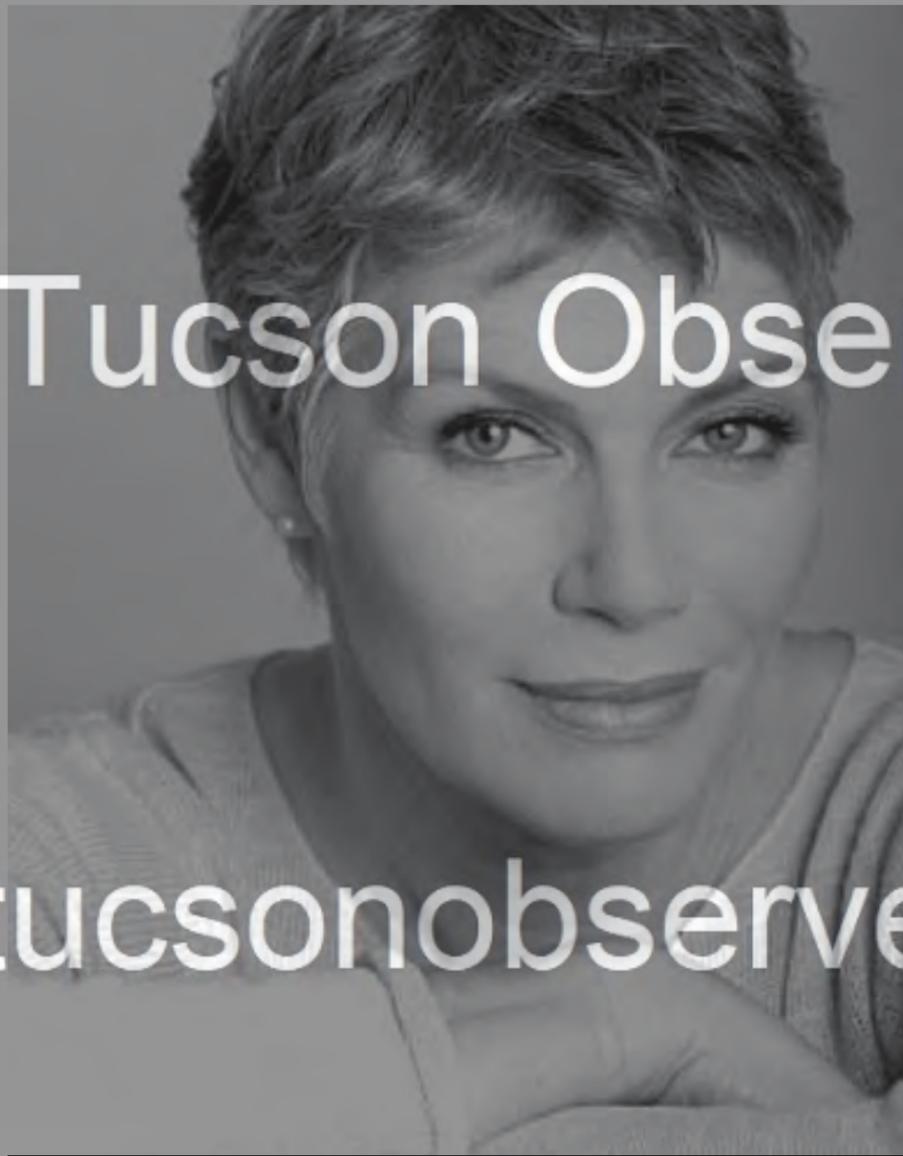
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Top Gun Star Comes Out: Not Tom



Tucson Observer Archives

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LOS ANGELES, CA (Observer Update) - Kelly McGillis, the 51-year-old star of acclaimed films including Witness, The Accused, and Top Gun, has come out on SheWired.com, reported advocate.com.

McGillis was asked by SheWired vlogger Jennifer Corday if she is seeking a relationship with a man or woman. The actress responded, "definitely a woman." McGillis said that coming to terms with her sexual orientation has been an ongoing process since age 12, and she was long convinced that God

was punishing her for being Gay.

A long-rumored Lesbian who guest-starred on The L Word as a closeted Army colonel trying a "don't ask, don't tell" case, McGillis added that she is "done with the man thing." In the interview she says she "needs to move on in life, and that's another part of being true to yourself." McGillis added that "life is a freaking journey, and it's about growing and changing, and coming to terms with who and what you are, and loving who and what you are."

NH Says No To Trans Rights

CONCORD, NH (Observer Update) - The New Hampshire Senate unanimously rejected a bill that would have extended anti-discrimination laws to Transgendered people, reported the Concord Register. House Bill 415 would have protected those with sexual identity issues in areas of housing and employment, much the way the state's laws protects others from discrimination on the basis of color, race, religion or sexual orientation.

state law should protect all citizens equally. They said there have been no bathroom incidents in the 13 states that have similar laws on the books. Passing the bill now would only worsen the situation for transsexuals because of the way the bill was portrayed, she said. A Senate committee had voted 5-0 to recommend the entire Senate kill the bill. The bill passed the House by a single vote on April 8, 188-187, winning there only after a parliamentary move brought it back to life two weeks after it initially failed.

Those who fought the bill said it would open women's bathrooms, changing rooms and locker rooms to sexual predators who could raise a defense in court that they were sexually confused. The 24-0 vote to kill it came after Democrats blasted opponents of the bill for dubbing the measure the "bathroom bill," a move they said created misunderstanding and fear among the general population. They also criticized the press and media for picking up on the nickname, saying they became an unwitting partner in the effort to continue denying a part of the population its civil rights.

Bill supporters said discrimination of any kind is wrong, and that



POET'S CORNER

NAWLINS NIGHTMARE

by Ron Rose - Tucson

Shut dem shutters on Bourbon Street, cane gonna pass us by
Hush dem parties, quit dat dancin', waters coming fast, dats why
Levees breakin' my knees are shakin', ya think my soul will float?
Lord, stop this rainin', we all are painin', can you jes find me a boat.
Gabe, play your horn on Bourbon Street, Play "Stormy Weather" on cue.
Jes play it sad, or play it bad, but play it nice and blue
Dere's too much water on Bourbon Street, de levees broke, they lied
Dem engineers in fancy suits, don't give a damn, so many people died.
So fix 'em fast, and not half-assed, dere's more canes, wait and see.
So better get dem shutters shut, this quarter's home to me.

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In Tough Times For Gay Bars, Drag Shows Seek Straight Audiences

ANCHORAGE, AK (Observer Update) - In Mad Myrna's drag dressing room, where a J.Lo song wound out among the wigs and gowns on a recent Friday evening, Isanoel Pinson leaned into the mirror, pursed his lips a little and smeared foundation on his forehead, reported the Anchorage Daily News. Pinson, who is in his 40s, started performing drag just after he immigrated to Anchorage from the Philippines in the early '80s. His first haunt was an old bar called the Jade Room. These days the crowds that come to his shows couldn't be more different than they were back then. "Oh. My. God," he said, applying a ribbon of glue to a false eyelash. "Before is all like Gay, Gay, Gay. Now would you believe? Our audience is all straight people. Couples!"

Myrna's has been home to a drag show for a decade, and straight people have long been part of the audience. But on some Friday nights lately, Gay patrons have thinned dramatically, replaced by military couples, bachelorette parties and curious young professionals. It's part of a national trend. From San Francisco to Pittsburgh, Boston to Nashville, Gay bars are closing their doors and shuttering drag shows, citing lack of patrons. There are plenty of theories why clientele is changing at Myrna's. People are making connections on the Internet. Growing social acceptance means there are few establishments where Gays don't feel comfortable. Simply put, the need for Gay bars is fading.

"I have this feeling now that it's like 'mission accomplished,'" said Mike Richardson, board president of the Imperial Court of All Alaska, one of the state's oldest Gay organizations. "We really don't need safety in numbers." Myrna's had to get creative to attract new customers to fill in where the old ones used to be, said manager Jeff "Myrna" Wood. Over the past few years, that has meant retooling the drag show to appeal to a wider audience. And now the venerable Gay bar depends at least in part on the dollars of straight customers to keep its doors open. As Wood likes to say, Gay or straight, "everybody's money is green."

The clock ticks toward 9 p.m. Paige Langit arrives in the dressing room with her mother, Donna Langit, carrying bags of costumes. Langit is 28. Lounge singer and comedienne, she's the sexy, bossy, busty co-host of the show. She's also a registered Republican with a boyfriend. She stands in front of the mirror in a pink bra, teasing her hair and caking on purple eye shadow. A queen named Mariquita squeezes in next to her, pawing through a make-up bag. Langit is the face of the new scene. The drag show, once the exclusive domain of Gay men and Transgender women, has morphed into a variety show - kinky and freaky - with something for everyone, from burlesque to torch singing, along with a diverse stable of queens.

A singer and actress since her teens, Langit started performing at Myrna's in her early 20s after one of the drag queens saw her sing karaoke. She had a couple of Gay friends in high school but had no experience with drag. "I didn't know anything about the Transgender community," she said, but she enjoyed the personalities she encountered at the bar. "It was like, 'Oh great - a group of people who like to perform.'" Drag is mainly about exaggerated femininity, Langit says. Once she has her hair and make-up and magenta high-heels on, she feels a bit like a drag queen too. People in the audience wonder if she's a Lesbian or if she's a "real" woman. All that ambiguity is part of what makes the show interesting, she says. Lights dimmed, cocktails flowing and tables full, music pounds out of the speakers in Myrna's show hall. Scott "Daphne DoAll LaChores" Koeller, the other drag show co-host, is dressed in a red Sarah Palin-esque suit, enormous ratty blonde wig and matronly glasses. He takes the stage, warming the audience with a monologue full of double-entendre one-liners. Then Langit makes her entrance, sashaying into the spotlight in a tight pink top and white leggings, bubble gun in hand. An old cross-dresser and a young lady - a drag version of Regis and Kelly - their witty, bawdy banter serves as the backbone for the show, bridging generations and sexuality. Koeller makes a joke referencing a

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decades old commercial. Langit tilts her head to the side, her face blank. "I'll YouTube it," she says.

Soon an old-time burlesque dancer in a bustier and ruffled panties weaves through the audience starting her act. Then comes the lithe, shirtless male go-go dancer. Then the Karaoke crooner in a brown V-neck sweater. The room is full of whistles and belly laughs. There's a soldier in dress uniform and his wife in the front row. Today's audience is usually couples or single women, Wood said. "The girls want to go see the drag queens," he said. "Women are more tolerant than guys are." "You can always tell the straight people," says Koeller, "because they're the ones who come on time." Iesha Jones, 32, who is not Gay, has become a regular at Myrna's. She started coming years ago because she had a friend in the show. She likes that the bar doesn't have a "meat market" feel, she said. "It's like OK, I'm here for the show," she said. "I know I'm not going to get hit on by guys."

The straight men are almost always with women. In general men who come alone are "highly questionable" as a dating prospect, she said. Though it's not entirely impossible to meet someone. "Occasionally you get a lot of soldiers. I did meet a guy who just got back from Iraq." Members of the older generation might raise an eyebrow that she's spending time at a Gay bar, she said. But people her age don't think it's strange and most of her friends would be comfortable joining her. There are a number of bars in Anchorage with an integrated Gay-straight social scene, she said.

Backstage not everyone is happy. But then they wouldn't be drag queens without a little drama. Pinson, affixing a 3-foot-wide Afro wig, clicks his tongue, looking at the clock. The new acts take forever. He complains in Tagalog to Joebie Fernandez, a diminutive, smooth-skinned queen, who's sorting through a tackle box of earrings. There are eye rolls

all around. The class of drag queens once at the center of the show are aging - most are at least 40 - and like a fading order of nuns whose convents are closing, fewer among the younger generation are stepping into their size 13 pumps. Some worry drag has become so mainstream, it may have lost its edge, so the younger generation isn't as interested. And, with fewer bars, there's fewer places for new queens to learn the craft.

That's what makes Trevor "Ashley" Council unique. At 24, he's the youngest of the queens by at least 10 years. On his hands and knees, he's pulling shoes out of a suitcase, naming each style as he examines them: "French Whore. French Whore. Hooker Shoe." "I'm a boy during the day and girl on Friday nights and for special events," he says. He stands in front of the mirror in a black dress, fluffs his wig and flashes a set of perfect white teeth. He doesn't know what Gay bars used to be like but likes the way they are now. "I think the people who go there are the kind who are straight and more accepting of Gay people," he said. "It's nice to be around those kind of people."

Out on the main floor, bass from the speakers vibrates the drinks on the bar. Pinson waits off stage for her Gloria Gaynor number. Fernandez, in a leather bikini and dangling earrings, steps out to face the audience, opening a huge set of gold lame wings into a whirl of lights. And at least for now, the show goes on.



NOTICES - COMMUNITY - NOTICES

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP for Lesbians, Bisexuals, Trans, Queer, Women. Meets Mondays (6:00 - 7:30pm) at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th Street, Tucson, AZ 85701. For more info, pleases contact Brenda Casey, LMSW 520-694-0247 or bcassey@umcaz.edu

TUCSON KNIGHT OWLS (T.K.O)
We are a non profit social club that is open to every one. T.K.O. contributes to the fellowship and support of the community, and openly invites new members and/or guests. Monthly meetings occur on the first Saturday of every month at 11:00a.m., Please come and join us! Our next meeting will be held at the Yard Dog.

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P.F.L.A.G. - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays - is a support group available to anyone who has a son, daughter or friend who is Gay. Call 360-3795 or write P.O. Box 36264, Tucson, AZ 85740-6264. All replies confidential.

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

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For Information on human service organizations, health and mental health services, financial and government assistance, emergency services such as food and shelter, education, etc. Call Information and Referral 325-2111 - 7am-7pm M-F - 9am-5pm weekend and holidays.

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

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

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BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO - a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, Call the Bears Hotline (520)829-0117 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910 or visit our website at www.botop.com All are welcome to our general meetings/potlucks on the 2nd Friday of every month, at 3202 E. 1st St. (the "Ward 6" Office Bldg.) Just south of Speedway & East of Country Club. PotLuck Dinner begins at 6:30 and the monthly meeting follows at 7:15 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

DESERT VOICES, Tucson's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Straight Chorus, has been singing songs of pride, hope and laughter for 20 seasons. Check out our website at www.desertvoices.org, or call (520)791-9662 for information about upcoming concerts or how to join.

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

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

MEN'S SOCIAL NETWORK: Social organization for men of all ages. Building an extended Gay family in Tucson. Monthly social potluck gatherings the first Saturday of each month and almost weekly social activities. Call 207-5336 for information and a newsletter. Check the Non-Bar Calendar in the Observer.

CARE TEAMS ARE AVAILABLE to offer support to people living with HIV/AIDS. The Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN) offers trained, compassionate and committed volunteers to provide services including friendly visits, light housekeeping, assistance with meals, shopping, errands, transportation and companionship for medical appointments, and respite care for primary care givers. No judgement or proselytizing - we are here to be of service. For information call Scott at 299-6647.

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT SPORTS TEAMS and updates on Gay Games, contract TEAMARIZONA at their website: teamarizona.org

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

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

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

ANONYMOUS HIV COUNSELING AND TESTING is available through the Pima County Health Department at sites throughout Tucson, Very Gay Friendly. For more information or to make an appointment call 791-7676.

SMART (Self Management And Recovery Training) a free non-12-step self-help alternative for people working to overcome addictive and other emotional problems meets in Tucson Monday thru Thursdays at different locations. For more information about SMART, contact Jennifer at 838-3975.

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

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

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

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

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

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

SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS. Starting this February, the Tucson Rape crisis Center will be providing free confidential group services for Lesbian,

Gay, Bisexual and Transgender survivors of all manner of sexual assault. Interested persons please call Mirto Stone, MSW, at 327-1171 (if unavailable leave message with phone number).

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

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

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

LUTHERANS CONCERNED ___ Tucson chapter for Gay/Lesbian Lutherans meets 3rd Sunday, 5:30 p.m. each month at Lutheran Church of the Foothills, 5102 N. Craycroft Rd. For information visit www.lctucson.org or write: Lutherans Concerned/Tucson, P.O. Box 40702, Tucson, AZ 85717-0702.

REVEILLE MEN'S CHORUS rehearses Thursday evenings 7-10pm at the Historic Y, corner of University Blvd. And 5th Ave. Join us!! For info call 304-1758

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

LGBT SUPPORT GROUP FOR VICTIM/SURVIVORS OF Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Hate Crimes, Bias Acts, Harassment. Call Megan at Wingspan, 624-1779, ext. 116. Services are free.

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

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

NA MEETING WITH GLBT FOCUS meets Mondays, 6:30pm at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th Street. This is an open meeting of Narcotics Anonymous - all are welcome. For more info call Bernie W.: (520)406-0740.

TUCSON M2M - <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TucsonM2M>

COPPER RAINBOW BISTRO at David's Oasis Camping Resort, Bisbee, AZ 520-979-6650

www.azgaycamping.com
Membership Beer and Wine Bar. Annual Member \$15.00

Bar Hours:
*Open Fridays, 5-10 p.m. or until last member leaves. Happy Hour 5-7 all drinks \$100 off.

*Open Saturdays 5-10 p.m. or until the last member leaves. Happy Hour 5-7 all drinks \$1.00 off.

*Open Sundays 2-7 p.m. or until last member leaves. Bottle Beer starts at \$1.00

DAILY BAR CALENDAR

SUNDAY

THE BIZ - 'L' Word showing 7pm & 9:30pm (Progressive drink specials) - First: \$3 Well; Second: \$1.50 pints. Last Special is 2-4-1. Following L Word, Out Loud Open Mic. If you have talent join our open night mic - Starts 10:45 pm.

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

COYOTE MOON PUB - Open 11am. Beer Bust Sunday - \$1 draft beers (12 oz), domestic only; \$2.25 domestic long necks. Texas Hold-Em Poker at 3 & 6. No cash involved - Play for Points & Prizes. SIN Nite - drink discounts for Service Industry employees with ID or payroll receipt.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm \$2 Well or Domestic Beer. Karaoke on the Patio 4-8:30pm. Burger BBQ 5-8pm + \$1 pint draft. 9pm-close Karaoke inside with Troy & \$1.50 Well or Domestic Beer, \$2.50 Call or Premium Beer. DJ Hurricane on the Patio.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am-2am. Patio Bar open 3pm. Beer Bust \$2.25/pitcher, 3-7pm. Burger BBQ, 5-7pm, \$3 proceeds to Petwatch (Helping HIVAIDS clients with their Veterinary bills).

WOODY'S - Open 11am-2am. Peter's Build Your Own Bloody Mary Bar 11am-2pm. Happy Hour 11am-8pm (excluding special events). Full Menu Kitchen open 11am-8pm. Back Pocket Patio Bar 2pm-2am. Beer Bust 2pm-7pm. Karaoke with Michael D 9pm-close. Drag Bingo every other Sunday 8-9pm.

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

MONDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. Happy Hour 3-8. EDAN...Exotic dancer appreciation night. DJ spins Hip Hop & R&B and all request dance. \$5.25 drink specials.

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

COYOTE MOON PUB - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 p.m. \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. \$3.50 sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg. Bucket o' Beer - \$10 Domestic, \$12 Imports (4 beers to a bucket, for 2 or more people, Some brands excluded). Texas Hold-Em Poker at 6 & 8:30 p.m. No cash involved - Play for points & Prizes

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm \$2 Well or Domestic Beer. 8pm-close \$5 Scratch Long Island Varieties. 9pm-close DJ Hurricane with "All Request Music".

VENTURE-N - Open 9am-2am. SKYY Matinis \$3 ea., 4-8pm.

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

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

TUESDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. Happy Hour 3-8. PHAT Tuesday's 50 cent Pabst cans 9pm-close Come play our Wii gaming system. Beer Pong Tournament w/ cash prizes starts 9pm.

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

COYOTE MOON PUB - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3-8. \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. Pitcher Special \$3.50 sm. Pitcher/\$5.00 lg. Pitcher (excluding Blue Moon & Dos XX Amber). Girlz Nite Out. Girlz pay only .75 for well liquors or domestic drafts 8-10pm.

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

VENTURE-N - Open 9am-2am. Dart Tournament, 7pm \$3 entry fee/Pot Match.

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

YARD DOG - Open Noon-2am. Beer Bust 3-7

WEDNESDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. Happy Hour til 8pm. Wild Wednesdays College Night. 18 to party - 21 to drink. \$7 Cover 18+ No Cover 21+. DJ Spins Hip Hop, R&B Top 40 remix dance.

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

COYOTE MOON PUB - Open 3pm. Happy Hour All Day \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3.50 sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg. Pitchers. Texas Hold-Em Poker at 6 & 8:30 pm Play for points & Prizes. No cash involved.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, \$2 Well or Domestic. "Diva-Licious" show w/Bunny FuFu. 11pm --close "Reverse Happy Hour". DJ Q Inside & DJ Mike Lopez playing 80s music on the Patio.

VENTURE-N - Open 9am-2am. Beer Bust, 8pm-11pm \$2.50/Pitcher.

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

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

THURSDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. Happy Hour 3-8. Y-NOT Karaoke starts @9:00pm to close. 2-4-1 starts 10:pm.

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

COYOTE MOON PUB - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3.50 sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg.. Pitcher. Boyz Nite Out - boys pay only .75 for well liquors or domestic drafts 8-10pm. Bicardi Thursdays - \$3.00 Bicardi Rum - all flavors. Karaoke with Kristen and K2 Tunes 8pm.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, Boyz Nite Out with your Bartenders & GoGo Boys dancing in their undies and DJ Mike Lopez spinning Top 40 & All request \$1.75 Long Islands and \$1.50 Tequila shots 10pm-2am.

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

YARD DOG - Open Noon-2am. Beer Bust 3-7

FRIDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. Happy Hour UNTIL 8. Hip Hop & R&B. Drink Specials all night called out by DJs. Special Performances.

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

COYOTE MOON PUB - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. \$3.50 Sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg. Pitcher. \$2.75 All Mexican Beers and Dos XX Amber. Country Dancing 8:30 p.m. to close with DJ Pat.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, \$2 Well or Domestic. 9pm -close DJ Hurricane inside. 10pm-close DJ Mike Lopez with "I'm a Sexy Bitch Night" on the patio.

VENTURE-N - Open 9am-2am. Patio Bar Open 7pm-2m Cuervo Margaritas \$3 ea., 4-8pm.

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

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

SATURDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm - 2am. Starting Feb. 13th Escandalo Saturdays w/Carnival Latino. Latin Hip Hop, Top 40s & Reggaeton music will be spun. Guest DJs. \$5 Cover. oGo dancers male and female. Shot specials allnight.

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

COYOTE MOON PUB - Open at 2pm. Happy Hour 2-8pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. \$3.50 sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg. Plus check out the bartenders choice of shot specials. \$5.00 cheeseburger & fries. \$3.00 Cuervo and \$4.75 Jager Bombs. Check our calendar for the Saturday Night Special Entertainment.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, \$2 Well or Domestic. 5-8pm Karaoke on the patio \$1 Draft Pints. 9pm "Saturday Starlett's" w/Bunny FuFu & Janee Starr. After the show, DJ Q spinning inside & 10pm-close, DJ Mike Lopez with the "Party on the Patio".

VENTURE-N - Open 9am-2am. Patio Bar open 7pm-2am. Beer Bust \$2.25/Pitcher. 3-7pm.

WOODY'S - Open 11am-2am; Happy Hour 10am-8pm (excl spec events); Full Menu Kitchen open 11am-11pm. Back Pocket Patio Bar open 5pm-close. Techno and Top 40 Dance with DJ Jeff 9pm til close. Check our ad for Twice-A-Month Special Events or Themed Parties.

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

BAR CALENDAR Of Upcoming Events

Friday, May 1

THE BIZ - On The Mark Dance Company performs.

Saturday, May 2

THE BIZ - Carnaval Latino starring Debbie Deb direct from Philadelphia. Performing live!

Coyote Moon - Gaia Sounds today at 9:00 p.m. No Cover.

Sunday, May 3

WOODY'S - Sign up for Woody's Bus to Jell-O Wrestling. \$15 roundtrip.. Limited space. Sign up with your bartender. Post Jell-O Party 7-9 p.m.

VENTURE-N - Cinco de Mayo Party with Mariachis on the back patio 4-7 p.m.

Monday, May 4

VENTURE-N - Cinco de Mayo Party continues with drink specials all day.

Tuesday, May 5

VENTURE-N - Cinco- de Mayo Party continues with a Mexxican Food Buffet 6-9 p.m.

WOODY'S - Cinco De Mayo Party with special drink prices.

YARD DOG - Deb's Taco Bar nOon to 3p.m. Drink specials all day.

Wednesday, May 6

WOODY'S - Toga Party. Their Toga Boy will dress you up and get \$1 off your drink.(excludes schnapps and draught beer).

Friday, May 8

WOODY'S - Wine Tasting 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Sign up with your bartender.

YARD DOG - Karaoke with Troy St. John - 9ish.

Saturday, May 9

YARD DOG - Dart Tournament 12:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 10

YARD DOG - Jason's Burgers and Brats 2 p.m. Pool Tournament 2 p.m.

Friday, May 15

THE BIZ - On The Mark Dance Company performs

Bears of the Old Pueblo
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1992-2009

May Events: All are welcome!
See web site for updates and more info.

Every Wed, Bear Coffee at Raging Sage Coffee Roasters, 2458 N Campbell, 7-9 pm.

Every Fri (except 5/8), Beatinis at The Shelter, 4155 E Grant, 6:30-8:30 pm.

Fri, 5/8, Social Pot Luck Dinner & Meeting, 6:30 PM, Ward 6 Council Office, 3202 E 1st St (rear entrance) - Bring a dish to pass. Just come!

Sat, 5/16, Beer Bust at Yard Dog, 2449 N Stone, 3-7 pm. Proceeds benefit Tucson Community Food Bank. Please bring canned or packaged food for Food Bank.

Thur, 5/21, Dinner Out, My Big Fat Greek, Broadway & Kolb, 6:30-8:30 pm. **Please RSVP by email or call 829-0117 to attend.**

Sun, 5/24, Memorial Day Swim Party, 4450 E Elmwood, 2-10 PM. Bring dish to share, meat to grill, drink, towel. See website for more info.

Thur, 5/28, Bingo at Casino el Sol, 6:30-10 pm. If interested, please email or call 829-0117; leave a message requesting further details.

Sat, 5/30, Noon, BBQ Cookout, Toumey Park, 19th St 2 blocks west of Swan. Food provided. Fiesta planning meeting after BBQ.

Our 2009 Charity is the Tucson Community Food Bank. Proceeds from special events inc. beer busts, other events & our annual Fiesta in January benefit charity.

A fully member of the Tucson Gay Museum

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JELLO WRESTLING 2009

PHOTOS: Bill Morrow



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