Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

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Tucson Observer Archives

DanChoi Honorably Discharged
Gives Up His West Point Ring

tucsonobserverarchives.org

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - Army National Guard Lt. Dan Choi was honorably discharged, 17 months after he came out on national television to join the fight to overturn "don't ask, don't tell."

Choi called the letter, which he released Thursday "an infuriating and painful announcement."

"The true honor and dignity of service does not come from a piece of paper, a pension or paycheck, a rank or status; only an unflinching commitment to improve the lives of others can determine the nature of one's service," he wrote in an e-mailed statement. "From the first moment we put on our nation's uniform and swore our solemn oath, we committed ourselves to fight for freedom and justice, to defend our constitution and put the needs of others before our own. This is not an oath that I intend to abandon. Doing so at such a time, or remaining silent when our family and community members are fired or punished for who they truly are, would be an unequivocal moral dereliction that tarnishes the honor of the uniform and insults the meaning of America."

The AP reported on lasvegussun.com that former Lt. Dan Choi, gave his West Point ring to Sen. Harry Reid today during an emotional meeting at The Rio in Las Vegas.

As Reid delivered a keynote address to Netroots Nation, a gathering of politically progressive bloggers and activists, Choi passed his blue-stoned West Point ring up to the senator.

Choi, who has lobbied for years for the repeal of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" mandate, found out Thursday he was being honorably discharged from the Army National Guard because he is gay. His dismissal takes effect Thursday.

"He earned this ring," Reid said to the crowd of about 2,000 bloggers watching the exchange. Reid tried to return the ring to Choi, but Choi refused it.

Instead, Choi jumped to his feet to salute Reid.

"When the bill is signed, I will return it to him," Reid promised, after hugging Choi.

Choi said he decided to give Reid his ring last night.

"I was thinking about what my life is about," Choi explained. "I felt I didn't have anything. My career went away. My memories are tarnished, stripped away. I felt I had nothing, but I had my ring and I had promises."

Choi first met Reid last year backstage at a political event at Paris Hotel and Casino. Reid promised then he would repeal Don't Ask, Don't tell by the end of the year. That didn't happen.

Choi said his ring now represents a new promise.

"It's a promise that I'm going to hold him accountable to keep his promise," Choi said. "No one can do it any more than he can. He's the most powerful senator."

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A family member of the Tucson Gay Museum

Gates Urges Troops To Take Survey

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - Defense Secretary Robert Gates is urging gay and lesbian soldiers to take the Pentagon's survey on "don't ask, don't tell," since the resulting information could be vital to repealing the 17-year-old law.

Gates, speaking to service members in South Korea, voiced his concerns about the 400,000 surveys

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Insurance Benefits For State Workers' Gay Partners Gets Court OK

PHOENIX (Observer Update) - Calling it discrimination, a federal judge has blocked the state from canceling insurance benefits for the domestic partners of gay and lesbian state and university employees, reported the Arizona Daily Star.

In an order issued, U.S. District Court Judge John Sedwick rejected arguments by attorneys for the state that there is nothing unfair in the law, approved by legislators last year and signed by Gov. Jan Brewer. They called it a "neutral policy" that treats all unmarried employees equally.

Sedwick acknowledged that the provision, tucked into the state budget, is not discriminatory on its face.

But the judge cited the Arizona constitutional amendment that bars same-sex marriages. What that means, Sedwick said, is the state is making benefits for the partners of its employees available "on terms that are a legal impossibility for gay and lesbian couples."

"As a result, (the law) denies lesbian and gay state employees in qualifying domestic partnership a valuable form of compensation on the basis of sexual orientation."

Sedwick also brushed aside claims by the state that providing benefits to the partners of gay and lesbian employers would mean cuts in other services. He said the evidence shows the cost of providing benefits to the partners of gay and lesbian workers is no more than 0.27 percent of total health-care spending by the state. And even if cuts had to be made elsewhere, the judge said, that still doesn't make the law right.

"It is not equitable to lay the burden of the state's budgetary shortfall on homosexual employees, any more than on any other distinct class, such as employees with green eyes or red hair," the judge wrote.

Gubernatorial press aide Paul Senseman said Brewer and her staff "will review the court decision" with attorneys and decide next week what to do next.

The injunction actually affects only what the judge called "a small fraction" of the more than 800 state and university employees who are now getting domestic partner benefits.

The ruling does not affect unmarried heterosexual couples who also gained coverage as part of a change in state policy pushed through by the administration of former Gov. Janet Napolitano. Absent some change in policy - or a different lawsuit - they will lose their domestic partner benefits at the end of this year.

Attorney Dan Barr said the lawsuit did not cover these "straight" unmarried workers because they are in a different legal situation: Unlike gays, they can get married to obtain benefits.

In making that 2008 change, Napolitano staffers argued that offering the benefits will help the state and universities get and keep qualified workers.

But the process of doing that by rule change rankled legislators. After Napolitano quit last year to take a job in the Obama administration, the Republican-controlled Legislature tucked a provision into the budget defining what constitutes "dependents" for the purpose of insurance coverage. That specifically excluded the partners of those who are not married, whether gay or not.

With insurance-benefit contracts already in place by the time the law took effect, the effective date of that change was pushed back to the end of this year.

The Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund responded by filing suit on behalf of state workers, arguing the change denied equal protection to gay and lesbian employees.

Sedwick said some of the arguments of the state hold no water. One of them is that Arizona is saving money by reducing the number of dependents getting coverage. Another is that there is a legitimate government interest in favoring marriage.

The state figured it paid out about $4 million in claims for domestic partner benefits in the first year of the change, and $5.5 million in the just-completed fiscal year, though there were no figures about how much of that was related solely to gay and lesbian employees.

"If the state's interest were simply saving money, the companion goal of promoting marriage would seem to do the opposite," Sedwick wrote. "If (the law) succeeds in promoting marriage, the state will have to provide health benefits to more people, thus increasing the state's expenditures."

Anyway, the judge said, nothing in the law actually can promote marriage, at least not among gays and lesbians, given the prohibition against same-sex nuptials. The order is not the last word, as there will still be a full-blown trial to sort out whether the law is legal. But Sedwick, in issuing the injunction, said the challengers to the statute have shown him they are likely to succeed at that time.

UPDATE

TO THE TUCSON GLBT COMMUNITY:

Not to belabor the subject, but, this past month has been very difficult for me as well as many of the 'old-timers' in our community. With the loss of Gary Clark, something in me died also. For over 34 years, we had the perfect relationship - every day was an adventure to be cherished. His unexpected death has caused me to pull in, and live a life or remembrance. But this too shall fade with the passage of time.

One of the major things that have helped me in this time of mourning has been the out pouring of love from our friends. Beginning with the outstanding attendance at the ''Celebration of Life" on Sunday, July 11th at IBT's, and the receipt of many cards of condolence .

As Natalie Perry said in her recent letter, "your passion, commitment, unconditional love and generosity made me feel a lot like the old days in the '80s and '90s, when we all rallied to take care of one another as a "family".

It is always dangerous to thank people by name, because you always miss some - but in this instance I will try and thank the following friends of Gary and myself (if have missed you please let me know!).

Natalie, Willie, Aviva, Penny, Lucinda, Aja, Tommy, Nancy and Armando, Harry, Heather, Darrell, Danny, Hal, George and Fred, Jeff, Warner, Tim B., Deb and Janet, Armando Z., Rich, Mike V., and Mike (IBTs).

Rick & Scott, John W., Rusty, Mike & Linda, Scott Blades & TIHAN, Phillip B., Tim Mc., Merle, Hank, Frank & Dave, Wendell & SAAF, David G., Michael C., Will & Michael., Mary L., Chuck S., Florence, Fran, Nancy H., Leslie, Jack & John, Charles A, David R., Gerry, Chuck B., Rose & Kim., Colette, Harry L., Barbara L., Michael S.,

Thank You Very Much. I love you all

Bob Ellis

Dear Friends,

TIHAN invites you to join us for one of the biggest and most fun events in our community.... Turnabout for TIHAN, a benefit show where Tucson's LGBT bars raise funds to support TIHAN's AIDS awareness and support programs. Last year's 13th annual event raised over $10,000. This year's event will take place on Sunday, September 5 (during Labor Day Weekend) at the Doubletree Hotel at Reid Park, and we hope you can join us.

With Gratitude
Scott Blades,
Executive Director

Tucson Pride Update

TUCSON (Observer Update) - With your support of Tucson Pride, Inc., more than $40,000 has been given back to our Tucson community. Thank you for your continued support of our fundraisers!

Bud Light, Comcast and Woody's are the Title Sponsors for Pride on Parade and Pride in the Desert 2010! Thank you to all our sponsors for supporting Tucson Pride, Inc., in our 34th year of celebrating P.R.I.D.E. For sponsorship opportunities please visit tucsonpride.org.

We are very excited to announce that hip-hop/pop group Goddes & She have chosen to produce a music video for their upcoming album release right here in Tucson, AZ! Ever since they appeared on Showtime's The L Word three years ago, the pair haven't had a moment's rest, selling over 30,000 albums, holding down the #1 song spot on LOGO with their song "Love You Better," and signing autograph after autograph for eager fans. With their new unreleased album...God-Des & She are about to blow up–BIG! MTV has asked Goddes & She to produce a high quality video to be played on their channel. Tucson Pride Inc will act as Lead Executive Producer on this project and we look forward to bringing Goddes & She to Tucson later this year. This is a great opportunity to create some positive national exposure and for future fundraising events.

Attention Vendors: Spaces are quickly filling up! Please be sure to submit your vendor applications by September 1st and avoid paying additional fees. All paperwork including application and insurance needs to be submitted and fees paid to reserve your space. If you have any questions, please contact David Ealy at ealy@tucsonpride.org.

UApresents Town Hall Forum Set For Aug. 7

TUCSON - UApresents, the largest performing arts presenter in Southern Arizona, will host a professionally-facilitated Town Hall Forum on Saturday, August 7 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm in the Social Sciences Building Auditorium Room 100 on the University of Arizona campus. The community is invited to share their input to UApresents' direction for 2010 and beyond. No RSVP is required.

"UApresents could not succeed without the community's support," Natalie Bohnet, Executive Director of UApresents, said. "We welcome the opportunity to listen and learn from our patrons and to ensure a vibrant and strong UApresents for the upcoming season and for the years ahead."

UApresents' Box Office at (520) 621-3341 is available to respond to questions about the event.

Gates Urges Troops To Take Survey

Continued from Page One

issued to military personnel, and the outcry some have made in regard to the confidentiality of the surveys.

"If the law changes and we are told to implement it – and we will if the law changes – then how do we do this in a way that makes sense?" Gates said, according to United Press International. "How do we identify beforehand the problems, the issues, and the challenges that we're going to face? The kind of training requirements we're going to need, the kinds of changes in regulations, the impact on benefits – all of these things need to be addressed in advance.... That's where we want to hear from you all."

AIDSWALK Tucson Oct. 17

TUCSON (Observer Update) - October 17 will mark the 22nd Annual AIDSWALK Tucson. This event provides tremendous support to Southern Arizona in helping to provide services like medications assistance, food programs, case management, housing, prevention programs, HIV testing and more .

This year also marks the 25th Anniversary of Tucson AIDS Project (TAP), People with AIDS Coalition of Tucson (PACT), the Shanti Foundation, and now SAAF (Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation providing programs and services to members of our community who are infected, at risk, or affected by HIV/AIDS.

This year's goal is to have 6,000 walkers and raise more than $180,000 to help support programs and services of the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation.

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Monday thru Friday

Office Closed Thursdays

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Informing the Community
The Observer

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'Fabulous Las Vegas' Offers Glitz And Glamour At New LGBT Event

LAS VEGAS (Observer Update) - Las Vegas, known for the best parties, concerts and events, is becoming even more Fabulous during a fun-filled, indulgent party weekend August 12-15. Hosted by MGM Resorts properties' ARIA, MGM Grand, Mandalay Bay, The Mirage, Monte Carlo, New York-New York, Luxor and Excalibur, Fabulous Las Vegas will offer special events throughout the 4-day celebration including limited access to the sold-out Lady Gaga concert at MGM Grand.

Fabulous' guests can now visit www.MyFabulousVegas.com to select from their choice of MGM Resorts hotels listed above, then choose from four Fabulous packages offering varying levels of VIP access to private parties, preferred entry to the hottest LGBT events and exclusive opportunities with some of Las Vegas' top shows. The four packages, ranging from $50 to $575 plus hotel, will provide a flexible approach for guests to be as Fabulous as they want to be.

The Fabulous weekend will serve up drink specials at participating pool bars from noon to 7 p.m. each day. Every day also will feature the LOGO Lounge at eyecandy sound lounge & bar at Mandalay Bay from noon to 7 p.m. Thursday and Friday and from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday and a Fabulous Happy Hour across all host properties from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. LOGO Lounge will be the center of activities offering guests meet-and-greets with LOGO TV personalities, sponsors and other Fabulous guests. For guests who have not purchased their package online, LOGO Lounge also will serve as a purchasing location.Evenings will heat up with concerts, shows and exclusive parties. Select Fabulous packages include tickets to the sold-out Monster Ball starring Lady Gaga, tickets to Zumanity, the sensual side of Cirque du Soleil, and private parties at ROK Vegas and Studio 54.

Further celebrity mingling is an option as guests will have a chance to meet and socialize with proud out Chef Susan Feniger at her restaurant Border Grill and get up close and personal with the artistic and talented casts from seven Cirque du Soleil shows at the Cast After-Party at ROK Vegas. Fabulous guests also will receive preferential treatment at Las Vegas' most popular LGBT events - Heaven at Bare Pool Lounge, Closet Sundays at The Beatles REVOLUTION Lounge and Temptation Sundays at Luxor's South Pool. Other Fabulous events include blackjack and slot tournaments with the casts of Thunder from Down Under and FANTASY, docents tours of the Fine Art Collection at CityCenter and fashion events at Crystals, Las Vegas' newest and most extravagant shopping district.

For one weekend, this town is Fabulous, and the LGBT community owns it. Start following @MyFabulousVegas on Twitter and Facebook or visit MyFabulousVegas.com for more information, updates and to book your Fabulous package.

Much Ado About Nothing

by Jack Melichar

It's that time again boys and girls - the Arizona Theatre Company will soon begin its 2010-2011 season. It will open on September 10, with *BACKWARDS IN HIGH HEELS,* the life story of Ginger Rogers. I will have more about this later. You see, I know vou. have a short attention span, and it would be a wasted effort to give you more details now.

However, for those of you that enjoy live theatre and are perhaps a bit too parsimonious to spring for a ticket, there is some good news.

Arizona Theatre Company is proud to present *Summer on Stage 2010*, featuring forty high school students from Tucson, Yuma, Las Vegas, and Chicago who will star in two productions on Arizona Theatre Company's stage at the Temple of Music and Art located at 330 S Scott Ave.

This summer's productions will be A.R. Gurney's touching drama *The Dining Room* and the most amusing musical, *The Wedding Singer,* with music by Matthew Sklar, book by Chad Beguelin and Tim Herlihy and lyrics by Chad Beguelin. The play is based on the New Line Cinema film also written by Tim Herlihy. ***Free performances*** are scheduled for July 28-31 at the Temple of Music and Art in downtown Tucson.

The Dining Room set, where else but in the dining room of a typical well-to-do household, recounts the many pivotal moments that occur here. The action is comprised of a mosaic of interrelated scenes that spans the spectrum of human emotions. Dovetailing swiftly and smoothly, the varied scenes coalesce, into a theatrical experience of exceptional range, compassionate humor and abundant humanity. Directed by Jenny Bazzell The Dining Room plays Wednesday, July 28 and Friday, July 30 at 7PM.

In *The Wedding Singer,* a 1985 rock-star wannabe, Robbie Hart, is New Jersey's favorite wedding singer. He's the life of the party until his own fiancée leaves him at the altar. Shot through the heart, Robbie makes every wedding as disastrous as his own. Directed by Cale Epps, choreographed by Amy Shuttleworth and with musical direction by Elizabeth Spencer The Wedding Singer plays Thursday, July 29 and Saturday, July 31 at 7PM.

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NOON-9PM-HAPPY HOUR

4PM-8PM-BBQ BEER BUST FOR REVEILLE MEN'S CHORUS

4PM-KARAOKE ON THE PATIO

9PM-CLOSE-DANCE ON THE PATIO WITH DJ HILL

9PM-CLOSE-KARAOKE INSIDE

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Senate Democrats Weigh Timing Of DADT Ban Repeal

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - Democratic leaders in the Senate are weighing their options on repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," the 1993 law that bans gay troops from serving openly, reported 365Gay.com.

House members approved repeal of the ban in May when they passed next year's defense budget, which included a repeal amendment. A similar Senate maneuver was achieved in committee.

With a bevy of Senate races rated as toss-ups and Republicans threatening to filibuster the bill, Democratic leaders are carefully considering the timing of repeal. Oklahoma Senator James Inhofe, a Republican, has announced he'll introduce an amendment on the Senate floor to strike repeal language from the bill. Inhofe told the Baptist Press that he believes Democrats will hold off on repeal until after the mid-term elections.

"Those people coming up for an election in November - and I'm talking about the wobbly Democrats who want to do what the Democrats say to do but they know how the people at home feel - they don't want to [be] on record [voting in favor of repeal]," he said. Republican Senator Todd Akin of Missouri agreed, saying the "big window of danger is after the elections."

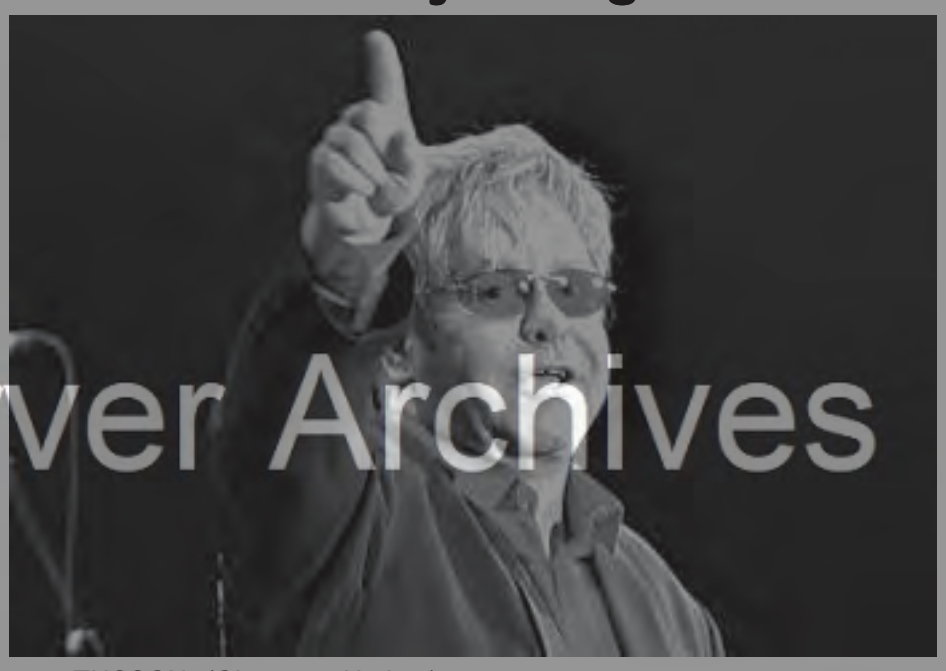
While Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada is keeping mum on when he'll bring the bill to the floor, Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Carl Levin, a major backer of repeal in the Senate, is urging Reid to do so in September, after lawmakers return from August recess.

Levin told DC gay weekly the Washington Blade that he's working on a deal between majority and minority leaderships that would eliminate the possibility of a Republican filibuster.

"What we're hoping to do before August is to have an agreement which will pave the way for it being brought up right after the recess," Levin said.

Aubrey Sarvis, executive director of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network (SLDN), a group lobbying for repeal of the gay ban, said it backed the plan. "This bill ... should not be caught up in post election games and posturing," he said.

Elton Slams Boycotting Musicians



TUCSON (Observer Update) - Elton John delivered an expletive-filled rant against musicians who have decided against performing in Arizona due to the state's controversial SB 1070 immigration law, reports the newspaper Arizona Daily Star.

The singer was onstage during a sold-out concert when he decided to blast a number of entertainers who have canceled concerts in the state, reports Advocate.com.

"We are all very pleased to be playing in Arizona. I have read that some of the artists won't come here," the singer said. "They are (expletive)wits! Let's face it: I still play in California, and as a gay man I have no legal rights whatsoever. So what's the (expletive) with these people?"

Last month, John, who is married to partner David Furnish, angered many gay and lesbian fans by performing at the wedding of conservative radio talk show host Rush Limbaugh, an outspoken opponent of gay marriage.

AROUND THE GAY GLOBE. . .

Within the halls of the 19th-century Casa Rosada, or Pink House, Argentinian president Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner has signed into law South America's first same-sex marriage bill. Hundreds crowded the streets outside Buenos Aires's Casa Rosada to show their support for the bill, which the Argentinean legislature passed on July 15. Within the Hall of Science, 150 people – including Fernandez's husband and former president Nestor Kirchner – crammed into a room to watch the president sign the legislation. The room, and a spillover room, erupted into applause following the signature and it was announced that marriage equality was now the law of the land.

Fernandez then spoke to the ebullient crowd. She stated that by signing this law the government is granting marriage equality to a group that deserves rights granted to them, not taken away. Change and progress are a good thing, Fernandez added, saying that once Argentina's senators debated allowing divorce. Finally, the president pointed out the symbolism of signing the bill within the Hall of Science, saying it demonstrates that enlightenment trumped suspicion and fear.

Ugandan activist Valentine Kalende reports that international pressure has helped slow the progress of that nation's antigay bill. The outlook for gay people, however, remains discouraging, according to Voice of America. Kalende, currently in Washington, D.C., is working to create more awareness about the antihomosexuality bill; she feels that international pressure, including from the United States, has helped delay its passage. "There is room for conversations and dialogue," she says.

The proposed law sentences gays and lesbians to life in prison. The death penalty awaits those who have intentionally or unintentionally spread HIV, repeat offenders who engage in homosexual relations, and anyone who engages in sexual contact with a minor of the same sex. If enacted, the bill will also extend the death penalty to those already convicted. Without major government intervention, the initiative is expected to be signed into law by the end of this year.

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MTV Becomes First Network To Receive An 'Excellent' Rating In Fourth Annual GLAAD Network Resposibility Index

LOS ANGELES (Observer Update) - The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) today released its fourth annual Network Responsibility Index (NRI), a report that maps the quantity, quality and diversity of images of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people on television. Primetime programming on the five broadcast networks was evaluated as well as original primetime programming on 10 of the highest-rated cable networks.

MTV became the first network in the history of the NRI to earn an "Excellent" rating from GLAAD. Of its 207.5 hours of original primetime programming, 42% included LGBT-inclusive images that reflected the ethnic and racial diversity of the LGBT community as well as a strong cross-section of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people.

"It is with great pride that GLAAD honors MTV with our highest mark of excellence in recognition of the network's commitment to fair and accurate representation of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community," said GLAAD President Jarrett Barrios. "From their inception, MTV programs like 'The Real World' and 'America's Best Dance Crew' have offered richly diverse portrayals of gay and transgender people that help Americans better understand and accept our community."

GLAAD reviewed a total of 4,787.5 hours of primetime programming for inclusion of LGBT characters or issues on the five major networks (ABC, CBS, The CW, Fox and NBC) from June 1, 2009 to May 31, 2010. GLAAD also examined 1,227.75 hours of original primetime programming on 10 highly-rated cable networks. Each hour was reviewed for on-screen LGBT representations. Based on the quantity, overall quality and diversity of these representations, a rating was assigned by GLAAD's Entertainment Media Program to each network: Excellent, Good, Adequate, or Failing.

Additional findings from the GLAAD Network Responsibility Index:

Broadcast Networks

After three years in second place, The CW is now the top broadcast network with 35% of its primetime programming hours being LGBT-inclusive. This is the highest percentage ever recorded for a broadcast network, though it should be noted that The CW airs less primetime programming hours than the other four broadcast networks. ABC dropped to third place in terms of its percentage of LGBT-inclusive programming hours (26%). ABC received a "Good" rating because of the quantity and strong quality of its LGBT images.

Fox ranked right behind The CW in its percentage of LGBT-inclusive programming hours (30%) but received an "Adequate" rating because of the stereotypical and defamatory nature of some of its content. NBC also received an "Adequate" because of the comparatively low quantity of LGBT stories (13%).

CBS once again received a "Failing" rating with only 7% LGBT-inclusive hours of primetime programming, the vast majority of which came from its reality series.

Cable Networks

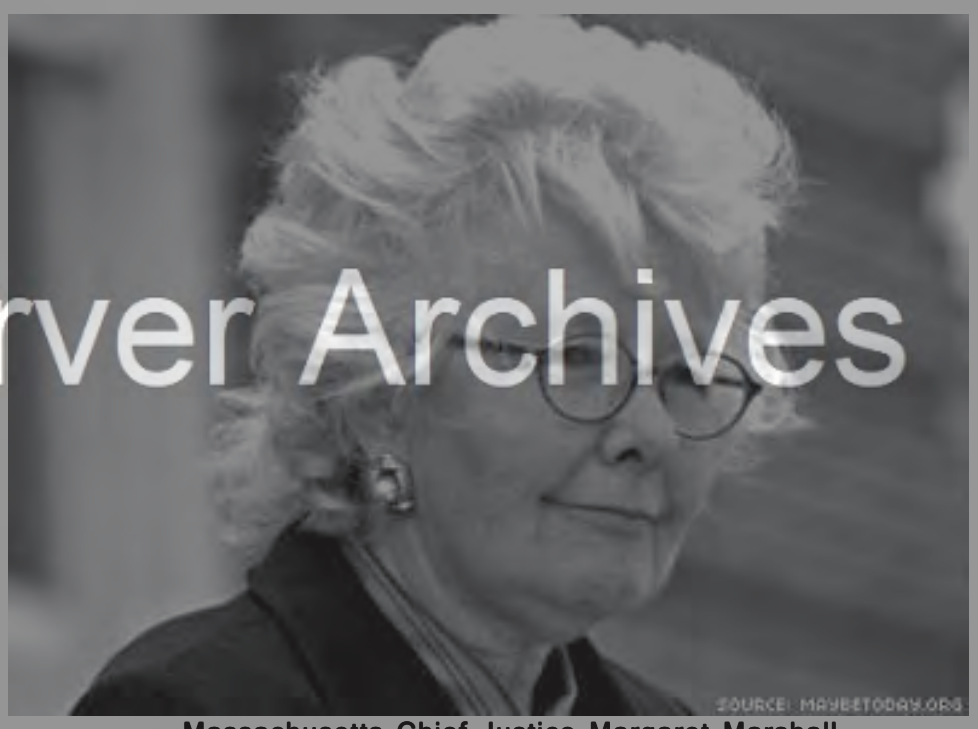
In addition to MTV's groundbreaking "Excellent" rating, for the first time a majority of cable networks received higher than an "Adequate" rating. ABC Family (37%), TNT (34%), Showtime (32%), Lifetime (31%) and HBO (26%) all received "Good" ratings for the quantity and quality of their LGBT-inclusive original programming. FX aired a significant amount of LGBT-inclusive programming (27%), but often relied on stereotypes or problematic representations of the LGBT community. USA (4%), A&E (3%) and TBS (2%) all received "Failing" ratings for their lack of LGBT-inclusive images.

"When television networks share real stories of our community, audiences begin to see the common ground that we all share," said Barrios. "Over the last year, viewers across the country celebrated the arrival of Mitchell and Cameron's baby on ABC's 'Modern Family', while teens and parents everywhere were moved by Kurt Hummel's relationship with his father on Fox's 'Glee.' These images and stories are being noticed by viewers, critics and Awards programs and we urge other networks to open their airwaves to such powerful and inclusive messages."

The fourth annual GLAAD Network Responsibility Index was sent to programming executives at the 15 graded networks, and GLAAD's Entertainment Media Program will continue to advocate for improvements in the quantity, quality and diversity of their LGBT representations.

tucsonobserver.com
It's More Than You Think.....

Mass. G/L Marriage Judge Retires



Massachusetts Chief Justice Margaret Marshall

BOSTON (Observer Update) - Advocate.com reports that after serving 14 years on the bench and issuing the historic ruling that legalized same-sex marriage in Massachusetts, Chief Justice Margaret Marshall has announced her retirement.

According to MSNBC, Marshall explained that her motives for stepping down focus on spending time with her husband, Anthony Lewis. Lewis, 87, is a retired New York Times political columnist and First Amendment scholar who received two Pulitzer Prizes along with the ACLU's Roger N. Baldwin Medal of Liberty.

Marshall decided the historic 2003 ruling that legalized same-sex marriage in Massachusetts, a precedent for the country that paved the way for other states' legislation. Both the ruling and the judges received harsh criticism and were branded as "judicial activists" by marriage-equality opponents.

She stated that prohibiting gays and lesbians matrimonial rights "works a deep and scarring hardship on a very real segment of the community for no rational reason." She also justified her decision by citing the rights of children, arguing that children of gay parents are denied state benefits due to discrimination against their parents.

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Cleveland Halts Gay Games Payments

CLEVELAND (Observer Update) - The city of Cleveland has issued a letter to the Cleveland Synergy Foundation informing the group that the Federation of Gay Games is terminating Synergy's license agreement for Gay Games 2014 and halting all funding, reports advocate.com,

Outsports.com obtained the letter, which was sent July 7 from Tracey A. Nichols, director of the department of economic development for the city of Cleveland. The letter reads: "On July 6, 2010, the Federation of Gay Games, Inc. (FGG) notified Synergy that FGG was exercising its right to terminate the license agreement.... In light of the notice given to Synergy by the FGG, the City hereby notifies Synergy that it is suspending any further payments to Synergy until the outstanding issues between the FGG and Synergy are resolved...."

This isn't the first stumbling block for Gay Games 2014, since it was announced the games would take place in Cleveland. Bidders from Boston and Washington, D.C., suggested foul play was involved in Cleveland's selection.

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BUZZ - BUZZ - BUZZ - BUZZ --

Constance McMillen Settles Prom Suit

JACKSON , MS (Observer Update) - Constance McMillen has agreed to settle with the Mississippi school district that refused to allow her to attend her school prom with her girlfriend, On Top Magazine reported.

Constance McMillen at the GLAAD Media Awards

Itawamba County School District officials have agreed to pay the teen $35,000 in damages plus attorneys' fees and adopt a policy prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) announced Tuesday. School officials, however, did not admit to any wrongdoing in their offer.

"I'm so glad this is all over," McMillen said. "I won't ever get my prom back, but it's worth it if it changes things at my school."

"I hope this means that in the future students at my high school will be treated fairly. I know there are students and teachers who want to start a gay-straight alliance club, and they should be able to do that without being treated like I was by the school."

McMillen, with the assistance of the ACLU, sued the district in March after it decided to cancel the annual prom dance for junior and senior students rather than allow McMillen to attend with her girlfriend and wear a tuxedo.

U.S. District Judge Glen H. Davidson agreed that the school had violated McMillen's rights but refused to force the school to hold the event.

The ACLU called a plan by parents, students and school officials to hold a private prom that excluded McMillen "cruel."

"We hope this judgment sends a message to schools that they cannot get away with discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender students," said Bear Atwood, interim legal director at the Mississippi chapter of the ACLU. "We're very proud of Constance for standing up not just for her rights but the rights of LGBT students everywhere."

McMillen told the AP that she transferred to another school before graduating in the spring.

The case drew nationwide interest, turning McMillen into an overnight gay rights celebrity. She was invited to present an award at this year's GLAAD Media Awards and served as grand marshal for New York's Gay Pride Parade.

Rep. Tammy Badwin Clears GOP Group Challenge

MADISON (Observer Update) - Wisconsin Congresswoman Tammy Baldwin will remain on the ballot after being cleared of a GOP group's challenge to her nomination paperwork, the Chicago Tribune reported.

On Top Magazine reported that the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board on considered a challenge by the Young Republicans of Dane County, which claimed Baldwin's papers are invalid because they list her campaign office as her address instead of her voting address.

"Tammy Baldwin has always been a blind supporter of liberal interests; However, she is now demonstrating reckless disregard for the voters of the Second Congressional District by not even bothering to conceal the fact that she no longer lives in the District she was elected to represent," Charla Halverson, president of the GOP group, said in a statement.

The board rejected the claim because state election officials have allowed Baldwin to keep her home address off of the documents for more than a decade due to the threat of violence.

Baldwin is one of three openly gay members of Congress. The other two are Jared Polis of Colorado and Barney Frank of Massachusetts.

Baldwin submitted to the board numerous homophobic and threatening emails she had received over the years.

William Murat, Baldwin's chief of staff, told officials in an affidavit dated Monday that the Madison bomb squad was called to her home in 2000 to determine if a suspicious looking package wrapped in aluminum foil was a bomb. It wasn't. The affidavit also describes other threats of violence against Baldwin, one as recently as June.

Following the 2000 bomb scare, U.S. Capitol police recommended that she keep her personal address off any public documents.

Baldwin is seeking her sixth term in office and remains popular in her district.

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Sex, Drugs, And House M.D. ?

LOS ANGELES (Observer Update) - Advocate.com reports that a lawsuit filed by a former staffer on the Fox show House M.D. levels allegations of drug usage, sexual harassment, and threatened violence against producers.

Carl Jones, a former assistant property master, sued Universal Network Television – House's production company – along with property supervisors Mike Casey and Tyler Patton, the individuals Jones alleges tormented him during his four years in the position. According to the litigation, Jones accuses Casey and Patton of frequent intoxication on set, under the influence not only of alcohol but also of cocaine and other drugs. The managers also frequently attended a nearby strip club or took women from the set back to the working trailer, where they engaged in sexual conduct.

The pair invited Jones to participate in these events, according to court documents, and became angry when he refused, threatening violence and calling him and other employees "fag" as well as other offensive words. Jones says he repeatedly refused, leading Casey and Patton to believe he was gay.

Patton, who was "extremely drunk," the suit states, dismissed Jones in late March 2010. After attempting to contact supervisors, Casey and Patton threatened Jones with being blackballed from further company projects. A complaint to coexecutive producer and unit production manager Garret van der Meer was met with no further action. Since being terminated, Jones has not been contacted for any further work from the company.

Jones is suing on the grounds that the discriminatory behavior to which he was subjected violated the Fair Employment and Housing Act, stating that the lack of action on the part of van der Meer sanctioned Casey and Patton's behavior "with a conscious disregard of [Jones's] rights and safety." Jones believes that his termination was largely due to his "perceived sexual orientation" and his refusal to accept harassment and discrimination.

Jones is seeking $1 million in compensation for "humiliation, mental anguish, emotional and physical distress, anxiety, and [injury to] mind and body" as well as lost wages, benefits, and "the intangible loss of employment-related opportunities." $4,000 in treble damages are also sought, with an additional penalty of $25,000 for intimidation by threat of violence.

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Albuquerque Gay Man Attacked

ALBUQUERQUE (Observer Update) - An Albuquerque gay man was attacked, and the gay community is calling his beating a hate crime, reported 365Gay.com. Members of the gay community are demanding changes, saying they don't feel safe in the downtown area.

"I don't think there's any way to describe how horrible it is," said the victim who wishes to remain anonymous. "I was pushed back and held back we were both sprayed in the face with pepper spray just before they started to chase us," he said.

He and his partner were attacked after five men ran after them yelling anti-gay slurs. "I am scared to go downtown and it's up to you and to you to help make this a safe place not just for the gay community, but for all people," said the man.

The police are not yet calling it a hate crime, but are still investigating the incident.

U.S. G/L Couples Banned From Russian Adoption

MOSCOW (Observer Update) - The latest round of discussions on the U.S.-Russia adoption policy began and already it has been decided U.S. gay and lesbian couples will not be allowed to adopt Russian children, reported advocate.com.

Only heterosexual couples will be allowed to adopt because Russia does not recognize same-sex relationships, Alina Levitskaya, a senior official at the Education and Science Ministry, said in a statement.

Negotiations have continued with U.S. and Russian officials are still trying to determine how to monitor adopted children and the possible transfer to new families if something goes wrong.

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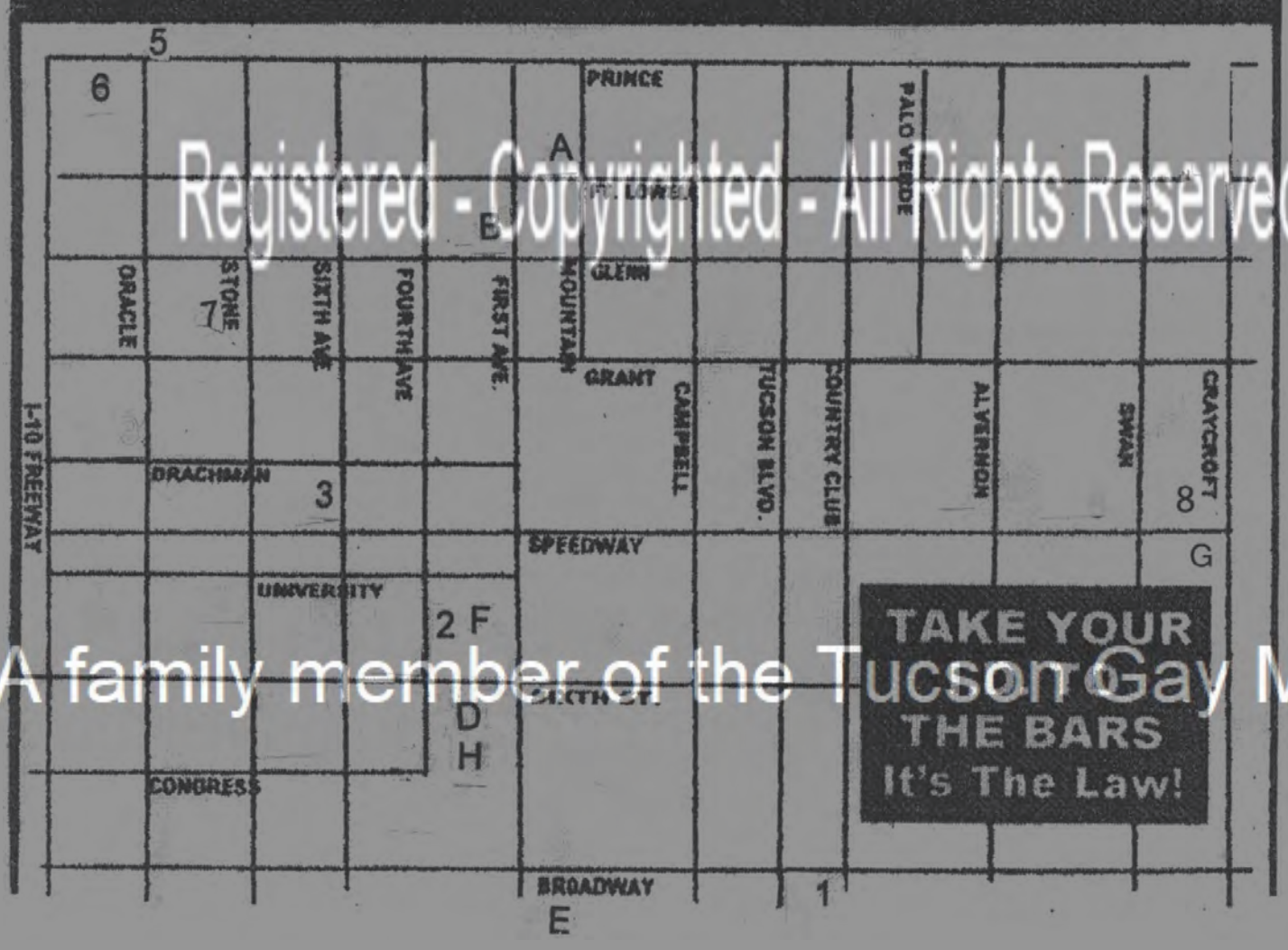

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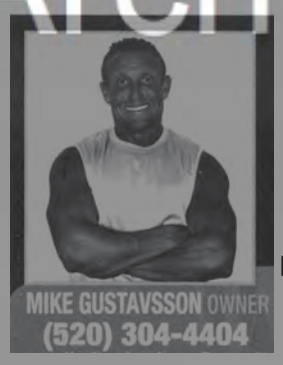
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CANCER SUPPORT GROUP for Lesbians, Bisexuals, Trans, Queer, Women. Meets Mondays (6:00 - 7:30pm) at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th Street, Tucson, AZ 85701. For more info, pleases contact Brenda Casey, LMSW 520-694-0247 or bcassey@umcaz.edu

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE CLINIC provided daily by the Pima County Health Department. Gay friendly. Confidential. Treatment and Medication too! Any questions? Call 624-8272

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION (SAAF), 375 S. EUCLID. Office Hours 8am to 5pm, Monday through Friday. Direct services and emotional support for persons with and affected by HIV. Anonymous HIV testing and support groups available. Prevention education programs. 628-SAAF (7223). World wide web: http://www.saaf.org. VOLUNTEERS WELCOME.

P.F.L.A.G. -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

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

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

Start getting more out of life with TUCSON PRIME TIMERS. We're the local chapter of Prime Timers Worldwide, the preeminent social organization for mature gay and bi men as well as younger (21+) men who enjoy their company. Each month we sponsor a wide range of dining events, cultural enrichment activities, parties, meetings, bowling, day trips, picnics, tours and much more. Visitors are always welcome. For info call our message phone 520-743-9514 Visit our website: www.tucsonprimetimers.org

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

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

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

SOURCES UNLIMITED, a Lesbian & Gay referral service. Business and individual listings are free of charge. All information available to anyone just simply by asking. 322_5655. Leave message. TucsonSources@aol.com

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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 of visit our website at www.botop.com All are welcome to our general meetings/potlucks on the 2nd Friday of every month, at 3202 E. 1st St. (the "Ward 6" Office Bldg.) Just south of Speedway & East of Country Club. PotLuck Dinner begins at 6:30 and the monthly meeting follows at 7:15 p.m.

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

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

T-Squares, Tucson's Gay & Lesbian square dance club, dances Tuesdays 6:30_9 pm at the Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N. Geronimo Ave (Northwest of 1st Ave & Glenn St). No experience needed, no partner required! For more information contact Barb at 886-0716, 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.

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

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

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. meets on the second Wednesday at Braun P.C. located at 6125 E. Grant Road at 6pm. Tucson Pride produces the following events each year: Pride Week; Pride In The Desert and Pride On Parade. For more information please call 622-3200 or visit their website at www.tucsonpride.org

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.

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

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

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP FOR ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLES. Not a dating club. Discreet. Meetings every Monday evening. Call for more info. APEX (Arizona Power Exchange) 602-415_1123. 24-hr multi-choice message including information, calendar and location.

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

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

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

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 Monday evenings 7_10pm at the Historic Y, corner of University Blvd. And 5th Ave. Join us!! Call 304-1758 for more info.

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 toSAGE-Tucson-subscribe @yahoogroups.com. See you on the trails.

MEN'S KINK DISCUSSION GROUP (Open to all who identify as male and are 18 or older) meets 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m. at Desert Dominion, 3843 E. 37th Street, Tucson, AZ. (Map available at www.desertdominion,org) For those who are kinky or just curious. No fee, contributions are appreciated, but not required.
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.: 406-0740

TUCSON LATINO M2M - http://groups.yahoo.com.TucsonM2M A social group for Tucson and Sonora Latinos, and those who appreciate them.

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
Gays _ is a support group available to anyone who has a son, daughter or friend

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP
Sponsored by TMC Hospice and Valor Hospice Care. 1st & 3rd Thursdays 4:30-6:00 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 4831 E. 22nd Street, Tucson. Located one quarter mile east of Swan on 22nd St. For more information please contact Steve Ross- Valor Hospice 615-3996; Karla Brockie - TMC Hospice 269-9573 or karla.brockie@tmcaz.com

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. for more info. 323-2293.

BROTHERS OF THE COMPASSIONATE WAY gay, bi and transgendered men, 18 and older, creating spriritual community using ritual, magic, shamanism and other traditions and Initiations withiin the Western Mystery Traditions. P.O. Box 42211, Tucson, AZ 85717

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Poet's Corner

WHAT HAPPENED? by Ron Rose, Tucson

Whatever happened to the good old USA?
Produce too much, and spend too much, now there's hell to pay.
We buy too much from overseas, we export all our jobs,
And then some play the "Race Card" and cater to mobs.
We let the rich get richer, while cutting their fair tax,
While our poor keep growing poorer, how could we be so lax?
One party pleads for unity, one party shouts obstruct.
Let's rally round the flag folks, before we self-destruct.
Soon we will be voting, but we must use our brain.
One party solves the problems, the other is a drain.

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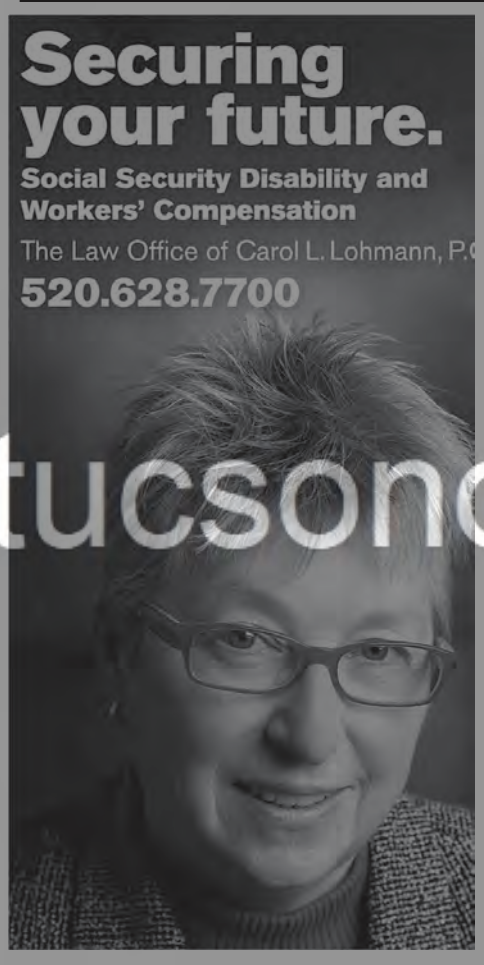

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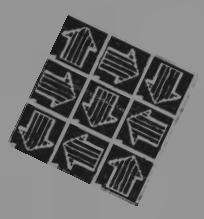

Study Finds Gay Men Don't Have Riskier Sex On HIV Pills

VIENNA (Observer Update) - A trial study of gay men taking medication to prevent HIV infection suggests that it does not encourage them to have riskier sex, pinknewsuk.com reported.

Viread, produced by Gilead Sciences Inc, is already used for the treatment of HIV infections but is being tested to see if it can be used to prevent HIV infection before exposure to the virus. The study was designed primarily to test whether Viread produced side effects, rather than analysing its effectiveness or effect on behaviour.

The International AIDS Conference in Vienna heard that a study of 400 HIV-negative men found that they were not more likely to take part in risky sexual behaviour when they believed the pills could prevent infection. The small study gave half of the men a daily dose of Viread or a placebo immediately, while the other half were given the drug or a placebo nine months later.

Mitchell Warren, executive director of the New York-based AIDS Vaccine Advocacy Coalition, told Bloomberg News: "It is encouraging to hear there were no serious safety concerns and that the men in the study did not appear to increase risk-taking behaviors while taking a pill.

"Much more safety, adherence and risk data will be needed before PrEP [pre-exposure prophylaxis] can be implemented if it is proven effective."

Seven of the 400 men became HIV-positive during the survey, although none of the men taking Viread did. Researchers said the study was not large enough to draw any conclusions about efficacy. The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which presented the research in Vienna, say that PrEP is one of the most promising leads for tackling HIV and AIDS globally.

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Group Demands Refund Of 'Biased' DADT Survey

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - An LGBT group lobbying for repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" is demanding the government refund the cost of a survey it claims is biased against gay troops, reported On Top Magazine.

The group Servicemembers United, which lobbies for repeal of the law that forbids gay troops from serving openly, said the survey was "laced with bias, inaccuracies and derogatory assumptions and insinuations about gay and lesbian Americans" in launching its online campaign demanding the research firm Westat and the Pentagon repay the American taxpayer the survey's $4.4 million cost.

The group has launched a website at SurveyRefund.org that asks people to sign a petition demanding a refund of the survey.

"This expensive survey stokes the fires of homophobia by its very design and will only make the Pentagon responsibility to subdue homophobia as part of this inevitable policy change even harder," Alexander Nicholson, executive director of Servicemembers United, said on the group's website.

Pentagon spokesman Geoff Morrell rejected the claims of bias in a call with reporters two weeks ago. "Absolutely, unequivocally, I reject [the accusations of bias] as nonsense," Morrell said. The Department of Defense is recruiting 400,000 service members to answer 103 questions related to the policy, including how heterosexual members would react in various social situations if gay troops were visible.

Gay groups have panned the survey as biased against gay troops. They point to questions that ask service members how they would feel about sharing bathing facilities and living quarters with gay troops, the survey's use of the outmoded word "homosexual" to describe gay men and lesbians and its overwhelming focus on the potential drawbacks of repeal.

"We think it would be irresponsible to conduct a survey that didn't address these kinds of [social] questions," Morrell said.

The survey is part of the military's comprehensive review of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," the law approved by Congress and signed by President Bill Clinton in 1993. Under a last-minute deal brokered by gay groups and Democratic leaders, the review will continue even as Congress debates repeal of the law.

DAILY BAR CALENDAR

SUNDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm - 2am It's Latin Sunday like the good ol' days. Catch DJ Dmenace spinning the best Cumbias. Get your Bucket of Beer ... 5 Bud Bottles for $5!

COYOTE MOON PUB - Open 11am. Beer Bust Sunday - $1 draft beers (12 oz), domestic only; $2.25 domestic long necks. Hair of dog special $1.50 well bloody mary, screwdriver,,Cape Cod, salty dog or margarita.

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.

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

MONDAY

THE BIZ - Closed for employee training.

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 and microbrews (4 beers to a bucket, for 2 or more people, Some brands excluded).

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".

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.

TUESDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. Happy Hour 5-8 and Game Night all night long. Play Wii, beer pong and pool with the staff.

COYOTE MOON PUB - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3-8. $2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. Girlz Nite .75 for your favorite well drink or domestic drafts 6-8pm. Ladies only Texas Hold 'Em Poker 6 p.m. Y-Not Karaoke with Anna at 8pm. - Drink specials during karaoke $1 Michelob Ultra or Bud Light.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, $2 Well or Domestic Beer. 8pm-close "2'sDay" - $2 Well or Domestic Beer. DJ Q 9pm-close.

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

WEDNESDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. Happy Hour 5-8pm. Wild Wednesday 18+ Party with DJ White Shadow spinning the hottest Hip Hop, R&B and top 40 remix dance of today. 21+ NO COVER. 18+ $8 Cover.

COLORS - Open 4-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, $3.75 Skyy cocktails, $3.00 Domestics and Well. 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. Boyz Night - .75 for your favorite well drink or domestic draft beer for men 6-8pm. Karaoke with Anna at 8pm drink specials during karaoke $1 Michelob Ultra or Bud Light..

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

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

THURSDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. Happy Hour 5-8pm. Y-NOT Karaoke 9pm-2am with Meco pouring the best drinks in town. Come out and play.

COYOTE MOON PUB - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, $2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints, $3.50 sm. Pitcher/$5.50 lg. Pitcher. Latin Thursday: Latin music 8pm to close. $2,50 well margaritas. $3 Mexican beers, $3.50 Jose Cuervo.

IBT's -Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, $2 Well or Domestics. 10pm-close "Boyz Nite Out" w/ Bartenders in their underwear. DJ Hurricane spinning Top 40 & DJ Mike Lopez on the patio. $1.75 Long Island, $1.50 Tequila Shots, $3 Skyy Cape Cods and $4 Skyy Cosmos.

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..

FRIDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. Happy Hour 5-8 pm. GoGo Fridays with 2-4-1 drinks for the ladies til midnight. Catch Shorty spinning the hottest Hip Hop, R&B and Top 40 remix dance of today.

COYOTE MOON PUB - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, $2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. $3.50 Sm. Pitcher/$5.50 lg. Pitcher. Shots shot specials 8-close.. Dance lessons with Lawrence at 7pm $5 per person, Country Dancing 8:30 p.m. to close with DJ Pat.

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

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.

SATURDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm - 2am. Latin night with Latin Drag Show the 1st, 3rd and 4th Saturdays of the month. DJ Dmenace spinnin' the best Cumbias, Salsa & Merengue. $3 pitchers and $2 Tequila shotz all night long!

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 cheese-burger & 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 Domestics. 5-8pm Karaoke on the patio $1Draft Pints. 9pm "Saturday Starrlett's" w/Bunny FuFu & Janee Starr. After the show, DJ Q spinning inside & 10pm-close, DJ Mike Lopez with the "Party on the Patio".

WOODY'S - Open 11am-2am; Happy Hour 10am-8pm (excl spec events); Full Menu Kitchen open11am-11pm. Back Pocket Patio Bar open 5pm-close. Techno and Top 40 Dance with DJ Jeff 9pm til close. Check our ad for Twice-A-Month Special Events or Themed Parties.

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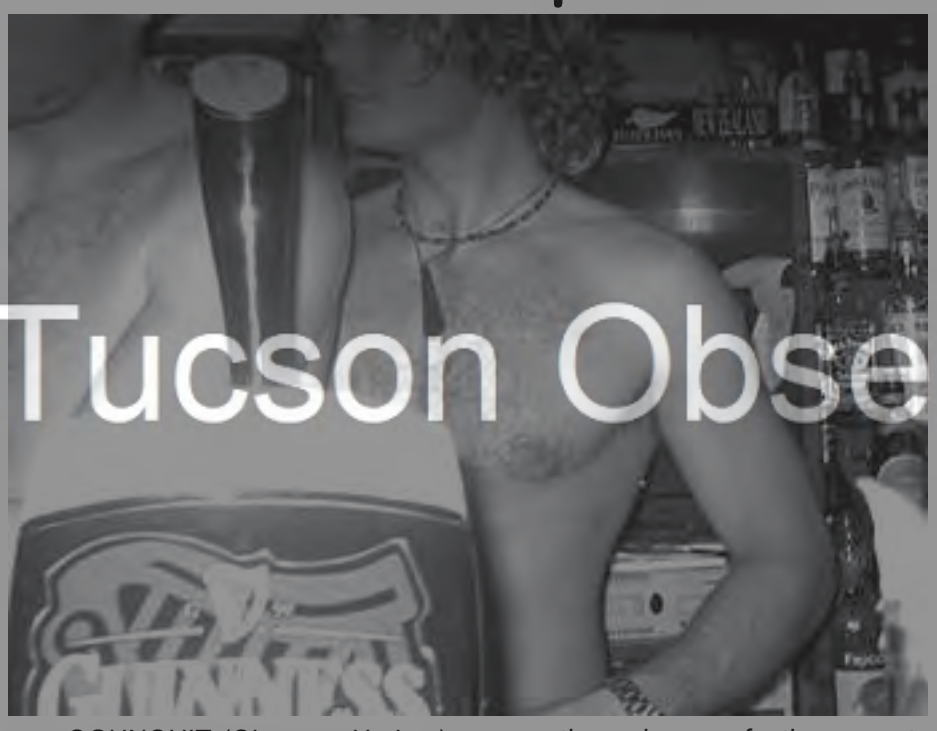
Maine Officials To Bartenders: Cover Up!



OGUNQUIT (Observer Update) - Bartenders at a gay bar in Ogunquit, Maine, have been told by city officials they need to start working with their shirts on, reported advocate.com.

Citing "health hazards," Code Enforcement Officer Paul Lempicki last week told Mainestreet owner Norm Paquin he needs to cover up his staff – and a set of whiskey bottles visible from the street. Paquin complied, but patrons of the bar suggest complaints from locals concerned with the town's image are the real reason for the request.

"I was appalled that the town manager allowed this to happen," resident Harriet Yaffe told the Seacoast Online. "It was brought to his attention a while ago, and he didn't do anything about it. I have no problem with eating outside or having a nice outside bar. I love Ogunquit, and I love the gay men. I have no problems with anyone. I just don't want a tacky town. It's going to become another P-town."

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LGBT Group Gets United Nations Nod

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UNITED NATIONS (Observer Update) - After a three year application process, the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission was granted consultative status by the United Nations Economic and Social Council, reports advocate.com.

The U.S.-led IGLHRC resolution passed 23 in favor, 13 against, 13 abstentions, and five absences. The IGLHRC is only the tenth gay rights organization to be granted consultative status by the UN.

"Today's decision is an affirmation that the voices of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people have a place at the United Nations as part of a vital civil society community," said Cary Aln Johnston, IGLHRC executive director, in a statement.

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Gay Candidate's Signs Defaced With Anti-Gay Grafitti

MIAMI (Observer Update) - In thepast few days several of Florida gay congressional candidate Scott Galvin's campaign signs have been found defaced, spray-painted with the word fag, advocate.com reported.

According to theWashington Blade, the signs were taken down after Galvin's office received calls from residents. "It's impossible to know who's doing it," explains Derek Newton, a consultant for the campaign. According to Newton, the Miami police have been contacted and the campaign is considering further action.

A councilman for North Miami, Galvin is campaigning for the Democratic nomination in Florida's August 24 primary.