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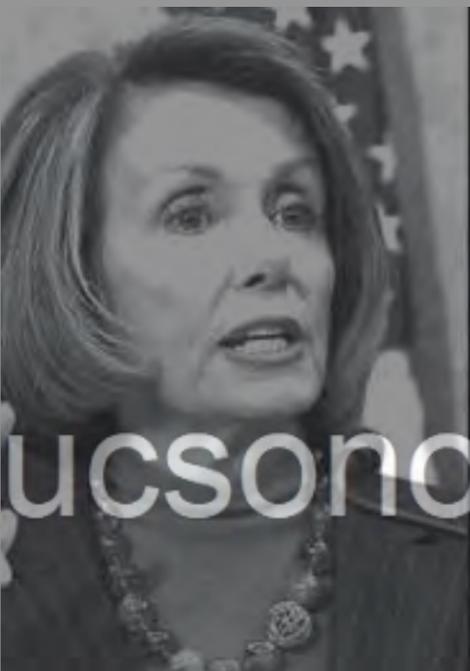
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WEEKLY OBSERVER

MARCH 16, 2011

ISSUE1389

## Pelosi To Boehner: How Much Will DOMA Defense Cost?



WASHINGTON, DC (Observer Update) - House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi is calling on House speaker John Boehner to make public the estimated cost of hiring private attorneys as part of the Republican leadership's defense of the Defense of Marriage Act.

"The American people want Congress to be working on the creation of jobs and ensuring the continued progress of our economic recovery rather than involving itself unnecessarily in such costly and divisive litigation," Pelosi wrote in a Friday letter to the speaker.

Earlier, Pelosi and Minority Whip Steny Hoyer, the two Democrats on the five-member House Bipartisan Legal Advisory Group, voted against authorizing the House to defend the 1996 law in court.

The advisory group's three Republican members - Boehner, Majority Leader Eric Cantor, and Majority Whip Kevin McCarthy - all voted to authorize the House general counsel to intervene in multiple federal lawsuits against DOMA as well as retain outside counsel (full text of the vote can be found here).

Atty. Gen. Eric Holder announced last month that the Obama administration concluded that section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act is unconstitutional.

Pelosi's letter, in full:

Dear Mr. Speaker:

The House Bipartisan Legal Advisory Group (BLAG) voted this week by a 3-2 margin to direct the House General Counsel to initiate a legal defense of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA). As you know, the Democratic members of the BLAG voted against directing the House Counsel to initiate the costly defense of a statute which many believe to be unconstitutional under the Equal Protection clause.

While respecting the role of the BLAG to make such decisions, I disagree in this circumstance because of the number of cases, at least 10. There are numerous parties who will continue to litigate these ongoing cases regardless of the involvement of the House. No institutional purpose is served by having the House of Representatives intervene in this litigation which will consume 18 months or longer. As we noted, the constitutionality of this statute will be determined by the Courts, regardless of whether the House chooses to intervene.

The resolution passed by the BLAG also directs the House General Counsel to hire private lawyers rather than utilize his own office to represent the House. The General Counsel indicated that he lacked the personnel and the budget to absorb those substantial litigation duties. It is important that the House receive an estimate of the cost to taxpayers for engaging private lawyers to intervene in the pending DOMA cases. It is also important that the House know whether the BLAG, the General Counsel, or a Committee of the House have the responsibility to monitor the actions of the outside lawyers and their fees.

The American people want Congress to be working on the creation of jobs and ensuring the continued progress of our economic recovery rather than involving itself unnecessarily in such costly and divisive litigation.

Thank you for your responses to these questions concerning the cost and oversight of the litigation as it proceeds through the courts.

Best regards,

NANCY PELOSI  
Democratic Leader

## Dallas Couple Files Non-Discrimination Claim Against Dalls Morning News

DALLAS (Observer Update) - Mark Reed-Walkup and Dante Walkup, a Dallas area gay couple, announced today that they have filed a non-discrimination claim against the Dallas Morning News for the newspaper's refusal to run their wedding announcement, reported 365Gay.com.

The couple, married December 10th in a ceremony at the Jefferson Memorial in Washington, DC, placed and paid for a wedding announcement in the Dallas Morning News. However, Jim Moroney, chief executive and publisher of the Dallas Morning News, refused to run the couple's announcement, citing Texas' discriminatory law barring gay couples from legal, civil marriage in the state.

The couple filed a complaint on December 27, 2010, with the city of Dallas' Fair Housing Office due to the newspaper's violation of Chapter 46 "Unlawful Discriminatory Practices Relating to Sexual Orientation," which prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation in housing, employment and public accommodations.

According to James Donovan in the Brooklyn Law Review, "If a newspaper is a public accommodation, then its refusal to grant access to the society pages to gay men and lesbians for the purpose of announcing their unions, likely would violate

the nondiscrimination ordinance. Withholding that service would deny privileges available from the newspaper, such as appearance in the society pages, based on the prohibited criterion of sexual orientation."

On May 8, 2002, the Dallas City Council adopted Chapter 46, "Unlawful Discriminatory Practices Relating to Sexual Orientation." Chapter 46 prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation in housing, employment and public accommodations. This ordinance became effective on October 1, 2002. The full Chapter 46 ordinance reads:

"It is the policy of the city of Dallas to bring about through fair, orderly, and lawful procedures the opportunity for every person to obtain employment, access to all places of public accommodation, and housing, without regard to sexual orientation.

"This policy is based upon recognition of the rights of every individual to work and earn wages through gainful employment, to obtain and enjoy goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, and accommodations in all places of public accommodation, and to obtain housing. The denial or deprivation of these rights because of sexual orientation is detrimental to the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Dallas and is within the power and responsibility of the city to prevent."

## House Counsel To Defend Gay Marriage Ban

WASHINGTON, DC (Observer Update) - House Speaker John Boehner says the House counsel will defend the federal ban on gay marriage, now that the Obama administration won't.

A five-member House panel on Wednesday voted 3-2 along party lines to direct the House counsel to come up with a legal defense for the 1996 law.

The Obama administration has directed the Justice Department to stop defending the law in court because, White House officials believe, it is unconstitutional. Boehner said the law's constitutionality should be decided by a court, not by the president.

Meanwhile, House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi, who voted against the directive, says the defense will be lengthy and expensive.



# UPDATE

## City Council Candidates Need Our Help

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Shirley Scott, Paul Cunningham and Regina Romero are running to stay on the Tucson City Council for their respective Ward's, Ward 1 (Romero), Ward 2 (Cunningham) and Ward 4 (Scott).

All three have been supportive of the Tucson LGBT community and issues of concern as well and are asking for help from our community to help circulate petitions to get the signatures needed to qualify for the September ballot.

To contact Regina Romero's campaign to volunteer, call (520) 406-9778. For Paul Cunningham's campaign, call (520) 339-1983. For Shirley Scott's campaign, call (520) 270-9662.

## Queer Film Series Fabulous! The Story Of Queer Cinema

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Controversially considered to have begun in 1947 with Kenneth Anger's Fireworks, Fabulous is a chronological look at films by, for, and about LGBTQ people in the US.

Coined by B. Ruby, the New Queer Cinema is a close examination of the LGBTQ community's various firsts, movements, and triumphs: experimental films, indie films, sex on screen, outlaw culture and bad guys, lesbian lovers, films about AIDS and dying, emergence of romantic comedy, transgender films, films about diversity and various cultures, and then mainstream Hollywood drama. This film features close interviews with Todd Haynes, Jane Lynch, Gus Van Sant, those who were there when queer history manifested itself through cinema.

Event Details: Mar 30, 7:00pm, Student Union Memorial Center,

Gallagher Theatre -1303 E University Drive. Event Sponsor - Office of LGBTQ Affairs and Pride Alliance. For more information, contact Cindi Azuogu or Shanell Robertson, 520-621-7585.

## Obama And LGBT Issues: Where Do We Go From Here?

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Chicagoan Tracy Baim will discuss "Mid-term Report Card: Obama and LGBT Issues" Tuesday, April 5, at the Pima County Main Library, 101 N. Stone Ave., in the Lower Level Room (LL1). A reception starts at 5:30 p.m.; the program, at 6 p.m.

The event is co-sponsored by Wingspan and the University of Arizona Institute of LGBT Studies. Admission is free. Baim is the author of the new book "Obama and the Gays: A Political Marriage," the first thorough history of Barack Obama's interaction with the LGBT community, from the mid-1990s onward.

"It is widely acknowledged," Baim says, "that the role of gays" (a term she uses to represent all LGBT people) "in the United States, including their role in mainstream politics, has been left out of most history books - but the omission is particularly egregious for the 2008 election." According to Baim, "the book takes a detailed look at Obama's trajectory on gay rights, an arc that has been too liberal and 'radical' for some, not nearly progressive enough for others."

Baim will also speak at 1 p.m., Monday, April 4, in the Copper Room, UA Student Union, on "LGBT Media: Out of the Closet and Into the Newsrooms." For more information, visit the UA Institute for LGBT Studies website at [www.lgbt.arizona.edu](http://www.lgbt.arizona.edu)

## Phoenix Regional Bowling Tournament This Weekend.

PHOENIX (Observer Update) Bowlers from Phoenix, Tucson and across the country will be converging on AMF Christown Lanes for the 2011 Phoenix Regional Invitational Bowling Tournament, March 17-20

Bowlers will be participating in singles competition, doubles and team (four people) over the weekend in the state capital.

LGBT bowlers from the Welcome to Oz League will be leading a contingent from Tucson for the annual tournament in Phoenix.

## TWO's Wayne Besen Challenges Lisa Ling's Reporting On 'Ex-Gay' Group Exodus

LOS ANGELES (Observer Update) - Wayne Besen, president of Truth Wins Out, has challenged Lisa Ling on her reporting on "ex-gay" group Exodus International, reports On Top Magazine.

Ling profiles the group in an Our America segment aired on Oprah Winfrey's cabler OWN.

In a video posted, Besen, whose non-profit advocates against ex-gay ministries, claims Ling was duped. In Lisa Ling Screws Up Big-Time On 'Ex-Gay' Segment, Besen challenges Ling's assertion that Exodus doesn't make false promises.

"Exodus International understands their client base well - that they are desperate and vulnerable, and they'll do anything to change," Besen says in the video. "So their technique is to put the truth, which is unappealing, next to a lie, which offers false hope. Well, guess which one people believe who want to change desperately. Well, they believe the lie."

Besen points to a revealing moment on the show where Exodus president Alan Chambers concedes he struggles with same-sex attraction, then reverses course with: "You know, people say once you're gay, you're always gay. You can't break free from that. That's not true. And as I lived my life through the filter of my faith, my sexuality changed. That's not a lie. That's the truth."

"The final step in Exodus' deception is to really pray away the gay, the very thing that Lisa Ling and Exodus deny they do," Besen adds.

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## Eclipse of the Moon



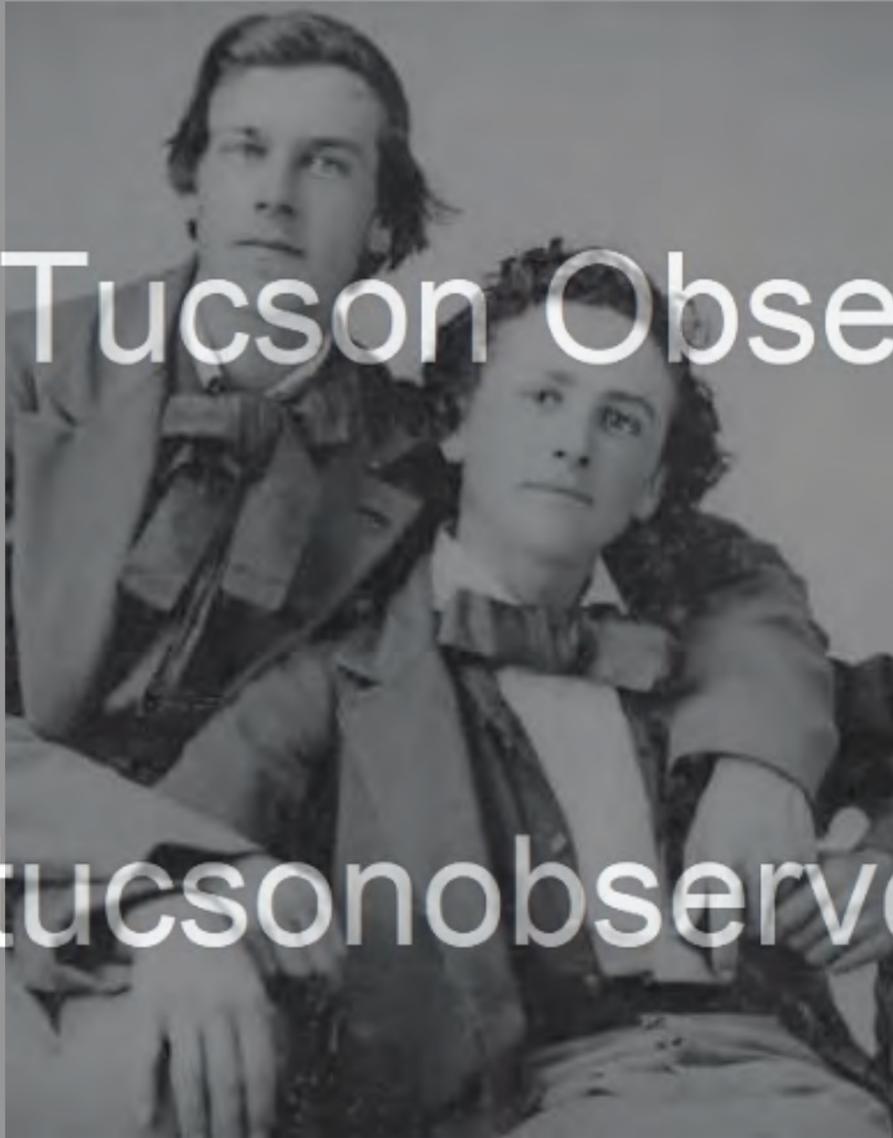
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		Finals



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# Tucson LGBT History Museum Online Welcomes Related Items



process and it is planned to be opening soon. Exhibits include both LGBT and period related items to give museum visitors a better understanding of the daily life of Gays, Lesbians, Bi-sexuals, and Transgendered during the times they lived in.

Unfortunately much of our Tucson LGBT history and historical items are ending up in the landfill for various reasons. Please contact the museum about sharing your LGBT historical-related stories, memorabilia, memories, photos, 8mm-16mm or other videos regardless if digitalized or not. Estate LGBT historical-related items are also sought from executors, executrixes, individuals, family members and trustees.

To share or donate items e-mail the group at: [TucsonLGBTMuseum@live.com](mailto:TucsonLGBTMuseum@live.com)

## Insurance Bill For LGBT's Introduced

WASHINGTON, DC (Observer Update) - Newly proposed legislation by two Democratic legislators would ensure that LGBT Americans are covered by COBRA insurance benefits if their partner becomes unemployed, reports The Washington Blade.

Rep. Anthony Weiner of New York introduced legislation, called the Equal Access to COBRA Act, in the House on Thursday, while Sen. Barbara Boxer (pictured) of California introduced it in the Senate. Boxer had introduced the legislation in 2010 as well, advocate.com reported.

"All of our families deserve equal access to health insurance," Boxer said in a statement. "This bill would help ensure that domestic partners and their families will be able to keep their health coverage if their partner loses their job."

In praise of the introduction of the legislation, Human Right's Campaign president Joe Solmonese said, "In these troubled economic times, social safety-net benefits like COBRA continuation coverage are even more important to American families. LGBT people should have the equal ability to maintain those critical benefits for their families during difficult times."

The legislation would affect employees of companies required to offer health coverage under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act. The law, signed by Ronald Reagan in 1985, mandated the creation of an insurance program giving some employees access to continuing health insurance coverage after leaving or losing a job.

A PHOTO FROM THE EARLY 1900'S OF A NERVOUS COUPLE IS A TYPICAL MUSEUM ITEM

For the last 44 years in the Old Pueblo, a group of Gay and Allied former Tucson area high school students from 1967 and later LGBT identifying others have been collecting and gotten access to an amazing amount of local LGBT, Tucson, and related items, materials, photo collections, and family historical collections.

Currently, the online LGBT museum website is in the construction

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# Olympic Legend Greg Louganis Dives Into Coaching

FULLERTON (Observer Update) - As he grabs a quick bite to eat at a favorite restaurant before heading off for yet another long afternoon at the pool, Greg Louganis sits all but unrecognized by scores of fellow diners - and that's just fine with the greatest Olympic diver who ever lived, reported the Associated Press on pageoneq.com.

"I've had my day in the sun as it were," Louganis chuckles as he swirls the Thai iced tea in his glass and contemplates something that just a year ago he never imagined would happen. Louganis, winner of four gold medals and a silver in three Olympics, has returned to the sport as a coach and mentor. And right now there's barely time for lunch before he has to jump in his car and head four miles down the road to the Fullerton College pool. There, on a sun-swept but chilly winter afternoon the soft-spoken Louganis will start putting a handful of young athletes through their paces as head coach of a fledgling program called SoCal Divers.

He'll have them diving, sure, but he'll also have them doing back flips on the ground, handstands, stretching, yoga and calisthenics. It's all part of a laid-back but rigorous conditioning program. "I want to get your cardiovascular system to where you're at a national competition and thousands of people are watching and your heart isn't going boom, boom, boom," he tells 21-year-old Christine Runkle.

"I don't know if I'll ever get to that," says the Concordia University senior who is the defending NAIA women's one-meter diving champion. "Sure you will," Louganis says softly. After all, he did.

It will be 23 years this summer since Louganis became the only man in the sport's history to win back-to-back Olympic gold medals in both springboard and platform diving. He likely would have done it

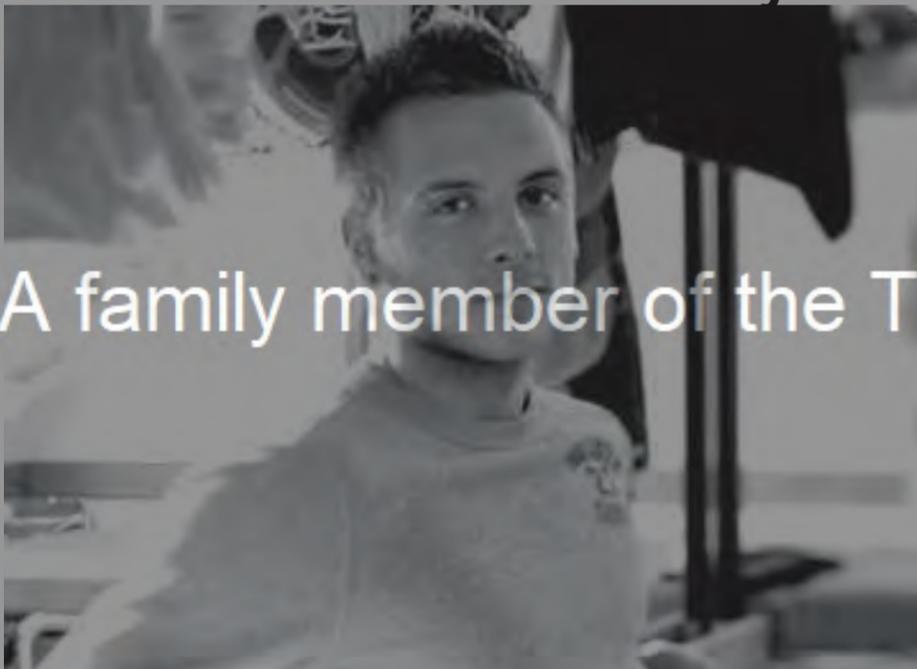
three times had the United States not boycotted the 1980 Olympics. Then he quietly vanished from the sport upon which he had stamped his name as indelibly as Michael Jordan did on basketball.

Not that Louganis didn't keep busy during those years. He's been a motivational speaker, made a handful of movies, written a best-selling memoir called "Breaking the Surface," even spent two decades training show dogs. But until last summer, Louganis said, he never thought seriously about coaching. Not until Steve Foley, who trains USA Diving's best divers, asked him why he hadn't remained involved with the sport. "I was never invited," Louganis says he told him. "Nor did I feel welcome." For years he thought that might have something to do with old jealousies. He was, after all, the cover boy for U.S. diving in the 1980s, his handsome face and perfectly sculpted body splashed across so many magazines that, like Muhammad Ali in boxing, he made it hard to remember anyone else who competed during his era.

But others, including his former coach, told Louganis there was another, darker reason: It was because he was gay. "And I'm like 'Nooooo!'" Louganis recalls, laughing. He really didn't believe it at first, he adds, or at least he tried not to. Although he didn't come out publicly until 1994, a year before announcing he was also HIV-positive, he says his sexuality was never a secret to fellow divers. "You want to give people the benefit of the doubt," says Louganis, who for the past several years has lived in Malibu with his partner, Daniel McSwiney. "But there's too much evidence to the contrary that that was the case."

Foley for his part prefers not to talk about that, but to note how grateful he is that Louganis came back. Besides his SoCal Divers duties he's a mentor to USA Diving's coaches and top competitors, helping prepare the next crop of Olympic divers. "He's our Michael Jordan," Foley says. "He was expected to win all the time and he did. He's quite special and amazing and we want to tap into that 'What made you so good?'"

# Hysen: It's Effed Up, I'm Sweden's First Out Player



STOCKHOLM (Observer Update) - Anton Hysén, the 20-year-old British-born professional soccer player for Sweden's Utsiktens BK who came out earlier this week, says he can't believe he's the only openly

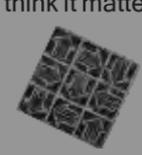
gay soccer player in the entire country, reports advocate.com.

"It's so f\*\*ked up," Hysén said in an interview with Offside magazine. "It's totally sick when you think about it.

... Where the hell is everyone else?" then I do not think it matters if I like girls or boys." Earlier Hysén, the son of soccer star Glenn Hysén, announced he was gay, saying, "I am a footballer. And gay. If I perform as a footballer,

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## BUZZ - BUZZ - BUZZ - BUZZ - Lady GaGa & Target End Deal To Sell CDs In Stores

NEW YORK (Observer Update) - Lady Gaga's deal to sell a special edition of her upcoming album at Target is now out of range, reports advocate.com.

A representative for the singer said the two sides "came to a mutual decision to end their overall exclusive partnership a few weeks ago." Last month, it was announced that Target would be selling a deluxe edition of the album, to be released May 23, with bonus content.

But gay advocates were concerned about the partnership, citing Target's donations to a political candidate who was against gay marriage. Gaga told Billboard that her relationship with the retail giant was tied to their "reform," supporting the gay community and making up for past "mistakes."

The Advocate reported Tuesday that Gaga wasn't comfortable with the deal and ended it.

## BUZZ FLASHES - BUZZ FLASHES

Barbra Streisand's hotly anticipated return to film musicals as Mama Rose in Gypsy is not going to happen, according to an interview with Arthur Laurents in the Hartford Courant. Laurents, an accomplished playwright, director, screenwriter who wrote the book for the legendary 1959 musical says the reason for the cancellation is due to an epiphany from the show's lyricist Stephen Sondheim.

In the interview Laurents says, "A few years ago, she called me. It was a Sunday and I have an enormous breakfast on Sunday. I wait the whole week for that breakfast. She would call from time to time when she wanted advice. So she called to ask me if she should do the movie of Sunset Boulevard. I said, 'Listen, Barbra, I'm having breakfast. Can I call you back?' She said, 'Do you have my number?' I said, 'I've always had your number.' So I called her back and said, 'Barbra, I've changed.' And she said, 'Since Tom died?' I said, 'Yes. I don't have patience with people who don't say what they mean. You didn't call about Sunset Boulevard. She said, 'No, I didn't. I called about Gypsy. Do you think I can do it?' I said, 'No.' She said, 'Too old?' I said, 'It has nothing to do with age. You play for sympathy. ...

Richard Hatch, the winner of the first season of CBS's Survivor, has been ordered back to prison for nine months for failing to pay the taxes on his \$1 million prize from that show, reports The Hollywood Reporter. Hatch, currently appearing on NBC's The Celebrity Apprentice, was released in 2009 after serving more than three years in jail for tax evasion. He was previously ordered to re-file his 2000 and 2001 taxes, but has not done so. Hatch owes an estimated \$2 million to the IRS for his winnings, other income, and penalties.

U.S. District Court Judge William Smith said that Hatch, who has maintained his innocence, has not indicated any remorse for his actions. Smith imposed a harsher sentence, adding three months to the six that were recommended by prosecutors. "You can continue to proclaim your innocence," Smith said. "You don't have the option of engaging in this type of game or negotiation with the court. It needs to be a severe punishment. That's the only thing that will deter you in the future." ...

Out actress Felicia "Snoop" Pearson, known for her role in the groundbreaking TV program The Wire, was arrested in the midst of a drug raid in Baltimore. Pearson was one of dozens arrested in the raid orchestrated by the Drug Enforcement Administration, according to the Associated Press. Police did not indicate the charges she faced. The raid was the result of a seven-month heroin, cocaine, and marijuana investigation taking place across the city of Baltimore.

Pearson was convicted of second-degree murder stemming from a crime she committed at age 14. She served five years of an eight-year sentence and was released in 2000. In 2008 she was arrested on a minor drug charge but found not guilty. In 2002, Pearson joined the cast of The Wire as a character with the same name. She told The Advocate, as the final season was about to air in 2008, that she hoped her portrayal of Snoop could help change the face of gay characters on television. "I hope I broke the mold for my gay people," she said. "Just let 'em know; you don't have to hide it. People are gonna accept it or they gonna reject it. So what?"

## Lesbian DA To Run For San Diego Mayor

SAN DIEGO (Observer Update) - Bonnie Dumanis, the San Diego County district attorney, plans to run for mayor next year, reports advocate.com.

According to the Los Angeles Times, Dumanis, 59, made the announcement in an e-mail to friends. A Republican elected in 2002, she is the first openly gay district attorney in the United States and a former superior court judge. "Dumanis promised to end the rancor that has gripped City Hall over pension issues, taxation and budget cutting," reported the Times.

If elected San Diego mayor, she would succeed Jerry Sanders, who announced his support for marriage equality because of his lesbian daughter in an emotional press conference in 2007.



BONNIE DUMANIS PLANS TO RUN FOR MAYOR OF SAN DIEGO

## Lawyer: Navy Inventing Grounds To Fire Sailor

CHARLESTON (Observer Update) An attorney says the Navy is inventing grounds to fire a sailor in South Carolina who was found in bed with another male sailor, reports towleroad.com.

Navy Petty Officer Stephen C. Jones is contesting his discharge for unprofessional conduct. His lawyer, Gary Myers, says the Navy believes Jones is homosexual but has no proof and therefore charged him with something else. Myers says the case could help prevent the military from using excuses to oust gay members after a policy against them serving openly is repealed.

The two sailors were found last month at the Naval Nuclear Power Training Command near Charleston, in a case first reported by The Washington Post. Navy spokesman Thomas Dugan declined comment on the case but said sharing a bed violates instructions for sailors to act professionally.

# COMMENTARY...

BY JON FAIRBNKS

## Why I Came Out In The Jury Box

If there was ever a time to marvel at social networking and its ability to engage people in meaningful dialogue, it's today. From a simple Facebook status update, my story has traveled the globe, appearing in multiple languages everywhere from The Village Voice to Perez Hilton to international publications. The positive response has been overwhelming.

I've received over 200 emails and calls from friends and complete strangers thanking me for my stand. I couldn't be more proud or honored. However, I never set out to be an activist. Like I said on MSNBC, I'm just a young gay man who saw some inequality in the state and nation and said what was in my heart when I was asked for total candor by the judge.

I sat for two full days of juror questioning during voir dire, and when it was my turn, I simply answered, "I can't possibly be an impartial judge of a citizen when I am considered a second class one in the eyes of this justice system."

Shaking and in shock that I'd ever say such a thing out loud, I quietly sat down while those around me had a mix of responses, from applauding and high-fives to snickers and eye-rolls. I was so proud to have shared my feelings with that jury room.

To clarify, I was not advocat-

ing shirking one's civic responsibilities. We have taxes to pay and jury duty summonses we must obey. But when we are asked by a judge - or by anyone - about how we feel as citizens, it is our duty to note that with civic responsibilities come civic rights that we do not share. Knowing that, how could any of us possibly be impartial?

I'm hoping to now start a campaign encouraging all gay and lesbian citizens to make just such a statement. Not to get out of jury service, but to make the point that when we have all the responsibilities but not all the rights of citizenship, then we indeed are second-class citizens.

We are too often expected to suffer such status in silence.

Anyone can applaud with a roomful of like-minded at a benefit or scream for rights in a Pride Parade. However, speaking out in a roomful of strangers is when a dialogue of differing opinions can lead to real change.

I sincerely hope someone in that jury box will remember what I said when the next bit of misinformation is repeated aloud about gay marriage and DOMA, and hopefully, they will take a stand of their own.

(Fairbanks is an actor and writer from New York City. This is reprinted from 365Gay.com)



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## FagBug Vandalized Again



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NEW YORK (Observer Update) - In 2007, Erin Davies's VW Beetle was vandalized when someone spray painted "Fag" and "U R Gay" on her car. She decked her Bug out in rainbow colors and started driving around to college campuses, educating students on tolerance and antigay discrimination, reported advocate.com/ Now, 47 months later, someone has defaced her car again.

While she was preparing for an appearance at SUNY Plattsburgh, someone wrote "Faggets + Dikes

Need to Die" on the driver's-side window.

"I wished I saw it happen so I could've had a chance to interview the person who did it," Davies told Vanity Fair Stick Shift blogger Brett Berk. "My project is all about documenting this type of thing and discussing people's opinions from various viewpoints." Davies said the latest incident won't set her back - she plans to incorporate it into her next presentation.

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# AROUND THE GAY GLOBE...

A Serbian human rights official said Saturday a hardline Orthodox Church bishop must publicly apologize for the anti-gay remarks he made after last year's pride march that erupted in violence.

church. The bishop could face legal action if he does not apologize. ...

A 72-year-old man was arrested after his 30-something lover told British authorities that the former was planning to set off a bomb.

Bishop Amfilohije violated Serbia's anti-discrimination laws when he criticized gays in a speech, Commissioner for Equality Nevena Petrusic said.

Police tracked the older man to Heathrow Airport's Terminal Five and cleared out all passengers and staff. When police arrested the older man, they didn't find any explosives. His partner, believed to be in a civil partnership with the 72-year-old, had dialed an emergency number and said his partner had a bomb in his bag and was on his way to blow something up. The younger man may now face charges for making false claims regarding an explosive.

Petrusic also urged Amfilohije to meet with the gay activists and advised that he should "refrain from making statements that incite discrimination, hatred or violence."

There was no immediate comment from Amfilohije or the

## Maryland Gay Marriage Bill Dies With No Final Vote

APOLIS (Observer Update) - The effort to legalize gay marriage in Maryland died for the year after supporters said they could not find enough votes to pass the measure in the House.

Democrats have solid control over both chambers of the General Assembly and the governor's office, extending full marriage rights to same sex couples did not appear possible before this year.

House leaders avoided a final vote on the bill and returned it to the House Judiciary Committee after it became apparent they did not have the 71 votes needed for approval. The bill to make Maryland the sixth state to allow gay marriage had already passed the Senate, and the governor said he would have signed it. House Speaker Michael Busch said they would try again next year.

The Senate narrowly approved the measure two weeks ago, voting 25-21 send the bill to the House after adding language to keep religious groups from being forced to serve gay weddings.

"The vote would have been very close, make no mistake about it," said Busch, D-Anne Arundel. Although

While Democrats hold an overwhelming 98 seats in the 141-seat House of Delegates, the pickup of six seats by Republicans in the last election helped erode support, said House Environmental Matters Chairwoman Maggie McIntosh, one of the chamber's seven openly gay mem-

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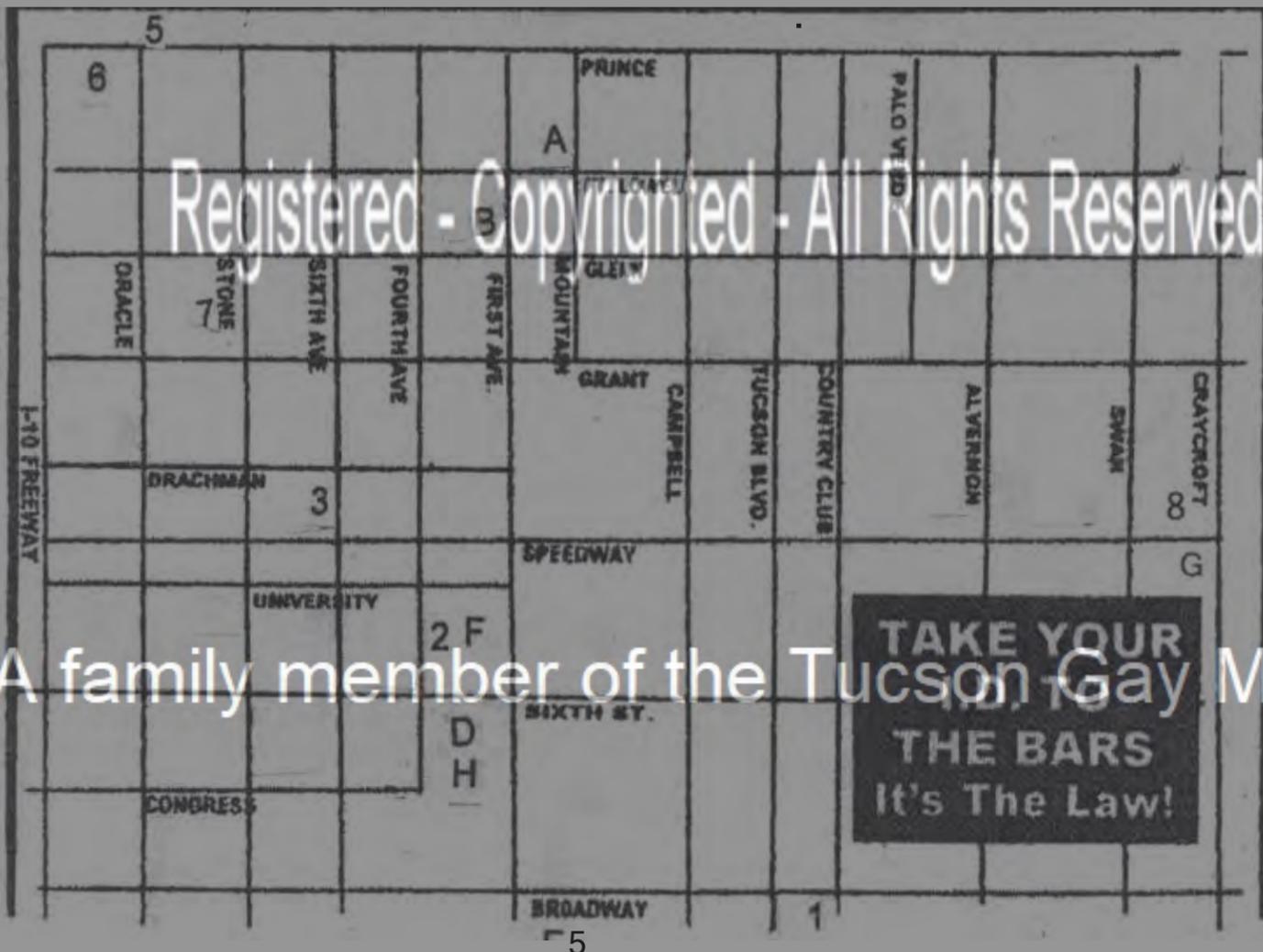
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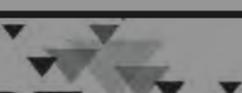
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# Morre Scenes at SAAF's Benefit 'MODA Provocateur'



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# Poet's Corner

## DESERTING THE DESERT

by Ron Rose - Tucson

Prairie dogs in tiny holes  
 Escape the grueling heat  
 The rattlers slither to the rocks  
 Cause they ain't got no feet.  
 Coyotes howl their mournful howl  
 And roam in major packs  
 Bees are swarming, after storming,  
 Flowers are their snacks.  
 Deserted summer desert  
 Where cactus soak in heat  
 While air conditioned campers  
 Think the desert's kind of neat.

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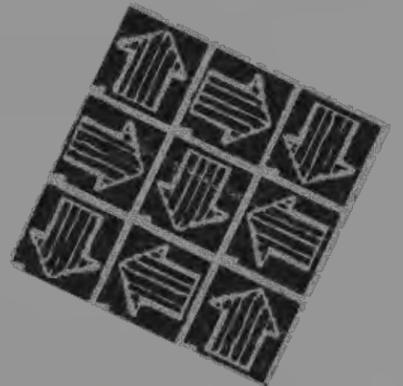
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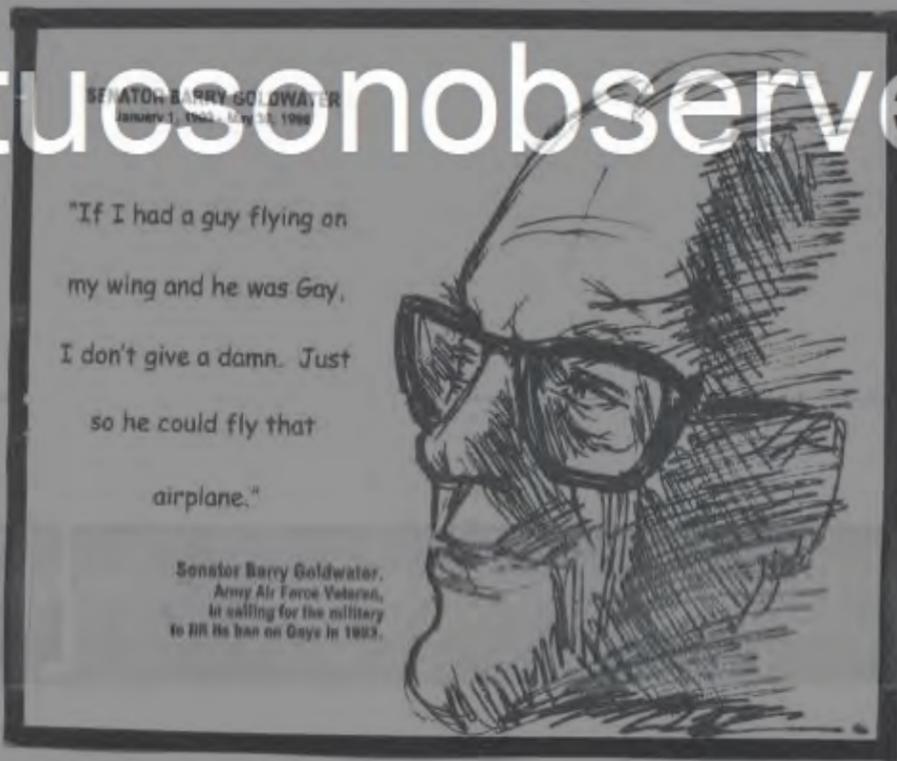
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## The Way I Saw It. . .by Gary Clark



newspaper for nearly 40 years as graphic artist and Entertainment Editor. Part of his heritage was producing a weekly humorous drawing of life 'as he saw it'. It is amazing that most of these drawings are as funny and entertaining today as they were in past years. We have decided to open the 'vaults' on these faultless viewpoints. Enjoy!

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In cooperation with Clementi's parents, the scholarship was created to honor Clementi's memory and highlight the efforts to stop the bullying many gay students face within their schools. "This scholarship will help college students and it will raise awareness of young people who are subject to abuse through malicious bullying—and so it will help people in Tyler's memory," said Joe and Jane Clementi.

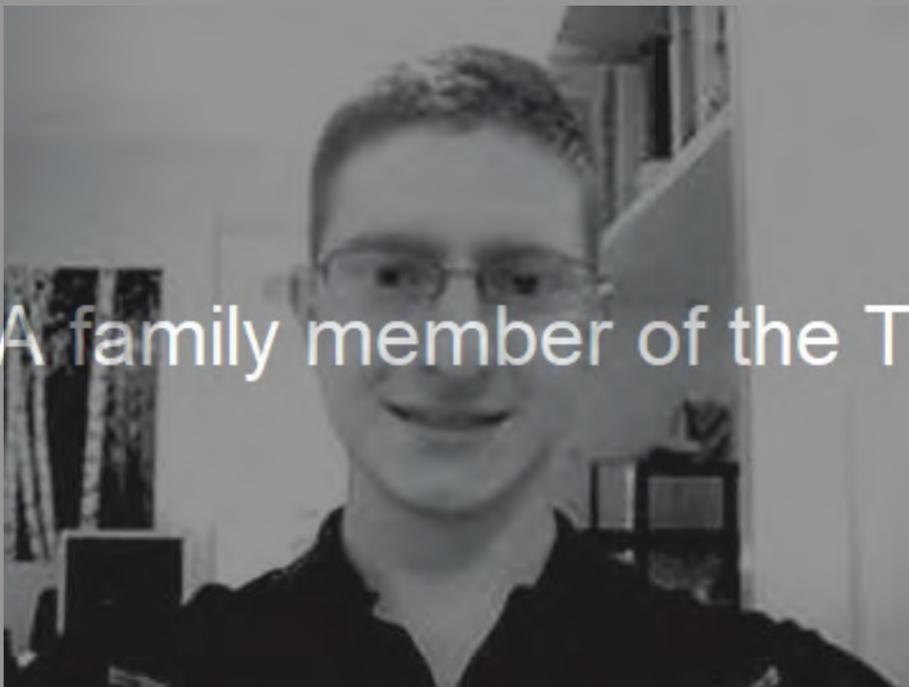
this ongoing struggle for acceptance," he said.

The Point Scholarship is set up with the individual's college to meet specific needs and cover the costs for tuition, books, supplies, room and board, transportation and living expenses. Point Scholars are encouraged to demonstrate strong leadership skills and are connected with a mentoring program, where professionals are committed to the scholar's well-being and success.

Scholars are chosen based off high academic performance and their ability to give back to the LGBT community through community service. While the organization has already set aside funds, Point supporters can also donate in Clementi's name to the scholarship.

"While it's a privilege to memorialize the life of Tyler Clementi, it's unfortunate that it takes tragedies like this to bring to light what many in the LGBT community and our straight allies have known for a long time—that intolerance and violence inflicted upon our youth is rampant," said Jorge Valencia, Point's Executive Director and CEO. "This scholarship is out way of keeping Tyler's life at the forefront of

## Clementi Scholarship Created In Anti-Bully Effort



BULLYING VICTIM TYLER CLEMENTI

NEW YORK (Observer Update) - Rutgers University student, Tyler Clementi, will continue to be remembered through the creation of a scholarship in his name. Point Foun-

ation, the nation's largest LGBT scholarship organization has created a scholarship in memory of this gay student who took his life after being bullied by his roommate.

## Maryland Bi-National Same-Sex Couple Avoids Separation

BALTIMORE (Observer Update) - Attorney Lavi Soloway provides the following update about Edwin Echegoyen and Rodrigo Martinez. The Maryland couple, who married in D.C. on March 1, faced separation today, as Martinez was due to surrender in Baltimore for deportation to El Salvador, reported Metro Weekly. Soloway relayed that "Rodrigo was released" in an email sent to Metro Weekly.

to immigration officials' custody earlier today but was released under an Order of Supervision, which is taking into account his Motion to Reopen Proceedings and Motion for Emergency Stay of Removal and the pending Petition for Alien Relative – based on their marriage – filed by Echegoyen.

Under the order, Martinez will need to report to Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials monthly. Additionally, Soloway said, Martinez must notify ICE of any travel outside of the Maryland, Virginia or D.C. area for more than 48 hours.

Talking with Metro Weekly later, Soloway said, "They're not moving forward with a deportation at this time. They're waiting for his case to work his way through the process." Soloway said that Martinez did report

# A family member of the Tucson Gay Museum

# DAILY BAR CALENDAR

## SUNDAY

THE BIZ - Closed Sunday, Monday, Tuesday

BRODIES - Open 10am - 2am. Happy Hour 10am - 8pm.

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. Beer specials and Trailer Trash Martini's All Day. Check our Ad for Special Events or Parties

## MONDAY

THE BIZ - Closed Mondays

BRODIES - Open 10am-2am. Happy Hour 10am - 8pm.

COYOTE MOON PUB - Open 8pm.- 1am

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. Service Industry Night - Employee prices all day..

## TUESDAY

THE BIZ - Closed Tuesdays

BRODIES - Open 10am - 2am. Happy Hour 10am-8pm

COYOTE MOON PUB - Open 4pm - 1am. Happy Hour 4-8. \$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. 2-4-1 Night

## WEDNESDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. Happy Hour 5-9pm (2 for 1). College Night 18 & Over. Drink & Shot specials every half hour.

BRODIES - Open 10am - 2am. Happy Hour 10am-8pm

COYOTE MOON PUB -Open 4pm - 1am. 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 Domestic.. 11pm - -close "Reverse Happy Hour".

WOODY'S - Open 11am-2am;. Happy Hour Prices all day.

## THURSDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. Happy Hour 5-9pm. 2 for 1 All Night Long.. Karaoke 9pm. Come out and play.

BRODIES - Open 10am - 2am. Happy Hour 10am - 8pm.

COYOTE MOON PUB - Open 4pm.- 1am. Happy Hour 4 - 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 Domestic. 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; Free pool and Happy Hour prices all day.

## FRIDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. Happy Hour 5-9 pm (2 for1) Latino Night. \$2 Tequila, \$1.50 Tecate. \$5 Buckets of Beer.

BRODIES - Open 10am - 2am. Happy Hour 10am-8pm. Karaoke 9pm.

COYOTE MOON PUB - Open 4pm. 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 Domestic. 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 vocals and piano stylings of Susan Artemis 6-9pm. Tori Steele Show 10pm

## SATURDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm - 2am. \$10 and drink for pennies. All night long.

BRODIES - Open 10am - 2am. Happy Hour 10am - 8pm.

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 OR two chicken tenders & fries. 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 \$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 open 11am-11pm. .

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## Outed Austin Fire Chief Not Gay



AUSTIN (Observer Update) - The president of the Austin chapter of the NAACP says he outed the city's fire chief as a way to defend her, despite her claims that she is actually straight, reports advocate.com.

Austin NAACP president Nelson Linder was expressing his concern about intercepted e-mails among city officials, with unflattering opinions of Austin fire chief Rhoda Mae Kerr. In one e-mail, Mayor Lee Leffingwell referred to Kerr as a "company man." Another e-mail from Mayor Pro Tem Mike Martinez shows him calling city manager Marc Ott and assistant city manager Mike McDonald, who are both black, "jokes."

Linder said it's clear that Martinez has animosity toward Kerr over her promotion of black candidates for jobs in the past. He also said that because it was "public knowledge" that Kerr is a lesbian, calling her a "company man" is "implicitly a sexual slur." "I just think it's ugly," Linder added, according to the Austin Chronicle, "and those kind of comments in this kind of context, with three folks who are black and one white female who was gay – that was my take on that."

Later, Kerr told reporters that she is not a lesbian and that the Chronicle did not confirm her sexual orientation. "I am not a gay woman," Kerr told the Austin-American Statesman. "I am totally supportive of all of my LGBT friends and workers and employees. I would just like the record to be straight that I am not a gay woman."

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