

## Apple Under Fire For Approving 'Gay Cure' iPhone App From Exodus International

NEW YORK (Observer Update) - Apple is under fire for approving a controversial iPhone app created by a religious organization that seeks to help gay individuals become heterosexual, reports the Huffington Post.

The application, "Exodus International," was created by a ministry of the same name that says its mission is to "[mobilize] the body of Christ to minister grace and truth to a world impacted by homosexuality."

The app's description notes, "With over 35 years of ministry experience, Exodus is committed to encouraging, educating and equipping the Body of Christ to address the issue of homosexuality with grace and truth."

It received a "4" rating from Apple, which indicates the company considered the app to contain "no objectionable material."

Yet many disagree with Apple's assessment and are demanding that it be removed.

"No objectionable content? We beg to differ," wrote TruthWinsOut.com. "Exodus' message is hateful and bigoted."

Change.org has launched an online petition calling for Apple to remove the app that has garnered over 21,000 "signatures." The app received 85 five-star reviews—the highest rating—from App Store users, but it also received nearly twice as many one-star reviews. What a shameful, deceptive app," wrote one user. "Disgusting."

## Most Oppose GOP DOMA Defense

WASHINGTON, DC (Observer Update) - Fifty-four percent of Americans polled by the Human Rights Campaign said they oppose House Republicans' decision to defend the Defense of Marriage Act in federal court, after President Barack Obama announced his administration would cease to argue to uphold the antigay law, reports advocate. Om.

Overall, 51% of voters said they opposed DOMA, while 34% favor it. At least 55% of Americans said same-sex couples deserve to participate in the same federal benefits afforded to heterosexual married couples, such as Social Security survivor benefits, federal employee health insurance, medical emergency housing protection, and joint tax filing.

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

## Dianne Feinstein Introduces Legislation To Repeal DOMA

WASHINGTON, DC (Observer Update) - California Senator Dianne Feinstein has introduced legislation that would repeal the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), reported On Top Magazine.

Feinstein's measure would end the Clinton-era law that bans federal agencies from recognizing the legal marriages of gay and lesbian couples and allows states to ignore such marriages from other states. New York Representative Jerrold Nadler first introduced his Respect for Marriage Act in September 2009, but without a companion Senate bill the effort fizzled. Nadler reintroduced his bill earlier.

According to gay weekly Metro Weekly, Feinstein announced her bill at an afternoon news conference flanked by Democratic Senators Kirsten Gillibrand of New York, Chris Coons of Delaware and Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut.

Senator Patrick Leahy, who voted in favor of the 1996 law, has separately said he would support the effort. In 2009, Leahy told Vermont Public Radio that he had reversed his

position on allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry.

"DOMA was wrong and unconstitutional when I voted against it fifteen years ago, in 1996, and it's equally wrong and unconstitutional today," Massachusetts Senator John Kerry said in a statement. "This discriminatory law treats loving, committed same-sex couples like second-class citizens by denying them thousands of federal benefits. It's overdue for Congress to ease the pain that Congress caused in the first place."

DOMA is getting a second look in the wake of President Barack Obama's announcement that his administration would no longer defend the law in court, which prompted Republican House Speaker John Boehner to take up the cause.

Repealing DOMA faces an uphill battle without Republican support, especially in the GOP-controlled House, where more than 80 lawmakers have signed onto a bill that would force the president to defend the law in court.



In an interview with the Christian Broadcasting Network posted March 15, Exodus International's Jeff Buchanan said the ministry had not yet had any direct contact with Apple regarding the app. Apple's approval of the app is particularly noteworthy given that the company requires all apps submitted to the App Store be scrutinized and vetted by Apple itself. Last year, the company removed, without warning, thousands of "sexy" apps from the App Store.

Earlier this year, Apple was criticized for its approval of an application from the Manhattan Declaration, which encouraged users to take a stand against gay marriage. Apple later removed the app.

## DADT Protesters Head To Court



WASHINGTON, DC (Observer Update) - A group of demonstrators who were arrested last year for protesting "don't ask, don't tell" at the White House are scheduled to head to federal court and may face up to six months in prison if found guilty, reports advocate.com.

The 13 activists, including eight veterans, were charged for violating the orders of a federal law enforcement officer, according to The Washington Post.

Mara Boyd, a protester who was discharged by the Air Force in 2003 under the ban on openly gay and lesbian soldiers, said she joined the group chaining themselves to the White House fence because she simply wants to finish serving her country.

"I was tired of empty promises and delays and politicians – including our president – telling me and other gay veterans and service members to just wait your turn, that other things are more pressing," she told the Post.

# UPDATE

## Lucinda Will Have The Pulse



LUCINDA HOLLIDAY

TUCSON (Observer Update) - As many people already know, The Coyote Moon Pub closed its doors last Sunday. But don't panic, coming in April 2011, the all new Pulse Tucson, 915 W, Prince Road, will open a brand new venue for the GLBT community at the old Moon address...

Now known as The Pulse, it will bring a stunning, brand new vision to nightlife in Southern Arizona. From weekly cabaret shows to intense dance music to countless events, Pulse Tucson will be one of Tucson's "don't miss" destinations.

The new owner is none other than Tucson's famous Miss Lucinda Holliday (a.k.a. Larry Moore). A proud Tucson resident since 1989, Larry has been an active and indispensable member of the GLBT community. As Lucinda, he has propelled his art and its public acceptance to unimaginable heights. Larry's vision combined with that of his General Manager's, Rick Morey-Wolfe, will breathe new life into this city!

Pulse Tucson is an all-inclusive alternative lifestyle venue. It will be Tucson's favorite place for food, shows, dancing and hope.

## Most Oppose GOP DOMA Defense

Continued from Page One

Among those polled, 54% said jobs and the economy were the most important issues the country faces, with Medicare, Social Security, and education following. Five percent said marriage equality was the most pressing issue the nation faced.

"Americans are clamoring for Congress to deal with jobs and the economy," HRC president Joe Solmonese said in a statement. "This new poll shows that House Republican leaders take their eye off the economic ball at their own peril."

## Wingspn Update

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Thanks to an anonymous donor, Wingspan, Tucson's LGBTQ community Center is getting makeover! Come check out the new space on Tuesday, March 29 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. For more info check out their website [www.wingspan.org](http://www.wingspan.org) or contact Linda Thomas at 520-624.1779.

Jim Hohman is the man Wingspan Program Director Linda Thomas calls "Volunteer Coordinator Squared." "She calls me that because I'm a volunteer volunteer coordinator," he laughs.

Hohman recruits, screens and trains Wingspan volunteers, develops programs and incentives for them and monitors progress. He has, if you will, risen through the ranks.

After moving to Tucson from Denver in 2006 with his partner, Charles Kocher, he volunteered to serve on Wingspan's front desk. "I saw Wingspan as a great connector," he says. In 2010, Thomas recruited him to serve as the community center's volunteer program chief.

Hohman served with the U.S. Department of Defense (mostly with the Air Force) for 32 years as a civilian in human resources. "His background fits perfectly with Wingspan's needs," Thomas adds.

He has initiated a quarterly Wingspan Volunteer Award to honor outstanding service and is organizing the Wingspan volunteer picnic scheduled for April 9 - this year for the first time in conjunction with SAAF and TIHAN.

Hohman's interests include photography and travel, and he operates a home-based picture-framing business. Of Wingspan's volunteers, he says: "I'm humbled to see how many people are willing to help. I'm constantly amazed at the generosity of our community. I find it very affirming."

Eon LGBT Youth Center is thrilled to announce that longtime volunteer Noel de Tierra was honored with the Coalicion de Derechos Humanos Award for her work with LGBT individuals. Noel received her award Feb. 18 at the annual Corazon de Justicia Dinner and stood proudly with a dozen of her peers who were recognized for their efforts in the struggle for equality and justice for all.

Noel's gentle-yet-feisty demeanor engages the hundreds of youth who come through our doors each year. She provides these young people, many of whom have experienced oppression and injustice in their homes and schools, with someone who truly cares and who can engage them with love, respect, humor and compassion. It's through her loving, consistent approach that many of these youth are encouraged to explore the extensive range

of supportive services that Eon offers.

Noel is not alone. Eon relies on the dedication of dozens of wonderful volunteers to provide these services. All of them lend their strengths, wisdom and passion to our mission of improving the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning and straight-ally youth. If you would like to volunteer at Eon contact us at: 520-624-1779 or [eonyouth@wingspan.org](mailto:eonyouth@wingspan.org).

## Treasures For TIHAN April 30



TUCSON (Observer Update) - The 14th Annual Treasures for TIHAN, a live and silent auction with great food and entertainment, to benefit the programs and services offered by TIHAN (the Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Action Network) will take place Saturday, April 30, 6:00 pm, at the Doubletree Hotel at Reid Park, 445 South Alvernon Way

"Treasures for TIHAN," the signature fundraising benefit for the programs and services of TIHAN, celebrates its 14th anniversary with a spectacular event! Join event co-chairs Kim and Alicia Talerico for a sparkling evening of cocktails, great music, fantastic food, and wonderful auction items.

"Hollywood Nights" is the theme for our 2011 Treasures for TIHAN. Be a star and dress to impress the paparazzi! Arrive in style, walk on the red carpet, and have your picture taken as you enter the grand ballroom and take in our fabulous live and silent auction items.

Advance tickets for the event are \$65 each or two for \$120, and can be purchased online from our payment options page. Tickets purchased on the day of the event will be \$75. The value of food and services received in return for each ticket purchase is \$30.

TIHAN, Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network, is a volunteer-based, nonprofit organization focused on mobilizing the resources of faith communities to respond compassionately to those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS and to promote awareness and the prevention of HIV/AIDS. For more information, contact TIHAN at (520) 299-6647 or [scott@tihan.org](mailto:scott@tihan.org).

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# 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.

## Tucson Bowlers Scoring Well At Prit

By Mark R. Kerr

PHOENIX (Observer Update) - Bowlers from Phoenix, Tucson, Arizona and across the country have converged for the Phoenix Regional Invitational Tournament (PRIT)

More than 150 bowlers are taking part in the tournament, part of the IGBO (International Gay Bowling Organization) schedule of LGBT and straight supportive tournaments held across the country.

When this article went to press

time, the Team event had been bowled. Dan Diffie, who bowls in the Desert Coyotes league at Golden Pin Lanes, bowled a 706 in the team event, with scores of 212, 258 and 236.

Chuzza Boys, led by Welcome to Oz league bowlers, Joe Ware, Richard Foster, Anthony DiBartolemo and Brian Hirsch bowled 2812 for their series.

Singles and doubles were to commence after press time. Full results in an upcoming edition of the Observer.

## Canadian Citizenship Guide Mentions Gay Rights

OTTAWA (Observer Update) - The latest version of a Canadian citizenship study guide includes a single sentence about gay rights in what appears to have been an official effort to keep the history short, reports advocate.com.

CTV News reports that the revised version of Discover Canada released follows the first version of the booklet released in 2009. That version contained only a passing reference to gay people, namely, with a photo and caption of Olympic gold medalist Mark Tewksbury. A draft indicated that more extensive information including milestones in gay rights had been planned, but the office of immigration minister

# UPDATE

Jason Kenney ordered the deletion of the material.

Kenney, who was an opponent of marriage equality in the opposition party, unveiled the next version. "The latest version acknowledges gay rights in Canada, but still doesn't outline how those relatively recent rights came about," reports CTV News. "It simply says: 'Canada's diversity includes gay and lesbian Canadians, who enjoy the full protection of and equal treatment under the law, including access to civil marriage.'"

Kenney said the guide should be praised for having any mention of gay rights, given that the guide published under the Liberal government did not include anything on the subject.

Egale Canada, a national LGBT advocacy group, welcomed the addition to the guide, but called for transgender rights to be included. A bill that would add transgender protections to the national human rights law has passed the house of commons but faces resistance in the Conservative-dominated senate.

## An End To Anti-Gay Aid?

WASHINGTON, DC (Observer Update) - The House Financial Services Committee passed an amendment that would discourage giving aid to countries that persecute their citizens because of their sexual orientation or gender identity, reports advocate.com.

According to a statement from Rep. Barney Frank, who introduced the amendment to the committee, the bill passed with nearly unanimous support. The amendment will be added to a House Financial Services Committee bill that outlines budget priorities for issues under the committee's jurisdiction. According to Frank's office, the Financial Services Committee's overwhelming support for his amendment may lead to support in the Budget Committee and the full House.

The text of the amendment reads: "The Committee urges Treasury to advocate that governments receiving

assistance from the multilateral development institutions do not engage in gross violations of human rights, for example, the denial of freedom of religion, including the right to choose one's own religion, and physical persecution based on sexual orientation or gender identity."

Frank cited Uganda, a beneficiary of the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries program, as an example of a country that openly abuses its LGBT citizens.

"The United States has a fairly influential voice in the development area," Frank said Tuesday. "And we should not be supportive of providing multilateral bank development funds going to the governments of countries which engage in the physical persecution of people because of their religious beliefs, sexual orientation, or gender identity."

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# COMMENTARY . . .

BY JAMES WITHERS

## Young Man Killed

Anthony Collao has died, succumbing to injuries sustained in a brutal attack. The recent high school graduate went to a birthday party. Four suspects, Alex Velez, 16, and Nolis Ogando, Christopher Lozada and Luis Tabales all 17, also went but declined to pay the \$7 cover charge.

The four busted in, started harassing party goers, and breaking windows. Collao sensed trouble and left with a friend. For reasons that are still murky, the four chased the young man and beat him. They used anti-gay epithets during the attack. The hosts of the party are gay. Collao is not. A pipe was allegedly used, and he was on life support until two days ago. When the suspects were arrested, they allegedly were covered in blood and had the victim's baseball cap.

Right now the police are considering hate crime charges.

"It appears to have all the elements of a hate crime," said NYPD Commissioner Raymond Kelly. "The hate crime task force is involved."

The police are also searching for a fifth suspect.

This is the type of story that numbs. A kid decides to do what is the most natural thing in the world for a youngster: go out. Senses there is trouble, and takes the advice I'm sure his parents repeated over and over. However, that wasn't enough.

Then there are the suspects. Sixteen and seventeen, facing a murder charge. Whatever futures they thought they had no longer exist.

Don't worry. I'm not weeping for them. They are alive and can still see the faces of loved ones. Collao doesn't have that privilege. His blood stains a city street. Whatever his life might have been, is now a fervid dream. The other five? They are state property now. If found guilty of this terrible crime, nothing will wash the blood away. That's a burden no one should bear.

(James Withers is a contributing editor for 365Gay.com blog, from which this is reprinted from).

## Attorneys: Lift The Stay On California Marriage



TED OLSON

DAVID BOIES

SAN FRANCISCO (Observer Update) - It's been 225 days since a federal district judge ruled that Proposition 8 "fails to advance any rational basis in singling out gay men and lesbians for denial of a marriage license." But as Prop. 8 supporters pursue their appeal in the case, a stay on Judge Vaughn Walker's order to stop enforcing the ballot initiative continues, reports advocate.com.

The legal team led by Ted Olson and David Boies reiterated their argument in support of immediately lifting that stay. "Proposition 8—and the stay that allows it to remain in force—is causing great damage. It is not merely deferring wedding dates," Olson wrote in a reply brief to the U.S. court of appeals for the ninth circuit. "For those near the end of life, it is denying the right to marry outright. But beyond the damage done to loving couples' wishes to marry, Proposition 8 carries an unmistakable message—transmitted and enforced by the State and tolerated by this Court—that gay men and lesbians are members of a class of persons unworthy of the fundamental right of marriage[.]"

It's unclear when a three-judge panel of the ninth circuit could decide whether to lift the stay or allow it to remain in place. In January, the panel in a certified question asked the California Supreme Court whether under state law proponents of a ballot initiative have the right to defend its constitutionality when state officials refuse to do so.

Even if Prop. 8 supporters are allowed standing to appeal, their

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arguments have been seriously undermined by attorney general Eric Holder's February announcement that laws discriminating against gays and lesbians warrant "heightened scrutiny" by the courts. "Proponents cannot seriously believe their assertions that the position of the chief law enforcement officers of the United States 'adds nothing of consequence' to this case," Olson wrote.

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# COMMENTARY . . . .

BY JUDY RICKARD

## United by Love; Divided by Law

The news that Lavi Soloway, long associated with the fight for same-sex binational couples to be together in America, had held off the deportation of Rodrigo Martinez, keeping him in Maryland with his legally-married husband Edwin Echegoyen, made me cry.

The last few weeks have given me more hope than the last few years have that same-sex binational couples like mine can overcome the pain and suffering U.S. immigration and marriage laws cause us. I am thrilled to see that people in government are listening. It means that we might one day not be seen as legal strangers by the United States government. Our relationships must be recognized. Our marriages and families, if not validated, continue the current status that we face. We do not have the equal rights our country espouses.

I now have hope that my partner Karin and I will no longer be geographic yo-yos. I can see a glimmer of hope for the couples and families with children I have interviewed for my book *Torn Apart: United by Love, Divided by Law*. I feel like they can be together where they want, without fear and without extra expense and separation. I hope I am right.

Last year, my family was torn apart again because I cannot sponsor my partner for immigration to the United States. I tried. I had filled out the forms at Congressman Mike Honda's office. But the request was denied by the federal government.

So when her visa ran out in October, Karin had to leave. I stayed behind because my brother-in-law was battling his second bout with cancer. I stayed in America to help him and my sister. But before Karin could return, we lost John. When Karin finally came home, she had to endure more than an hour of questioning by ICE – Immigration and Customs Enforcement – officers before being allowed a visit with me.

New census data will give us updates, but an estimated 36,000 Americans deal with this situation today. LGBT couples and families face being torn apart, being deported, living in the shadows or facing unspeakable acts when returned to their home countries if denied asylum here.

We are not legal strangers. Our families matter. We pay the same taxes and face the same challenges as other families. We want the same opportunities and promises that America offers all its citizens.

U.S. immigration law must include provisions for same-sex partners, the same as opposite gender spouses, or we continue to be discriminated against. U.S. marriage law must allow same-sex marriage to be recognized federally and in each state or we continue to face discrimination and second class status is maintained.

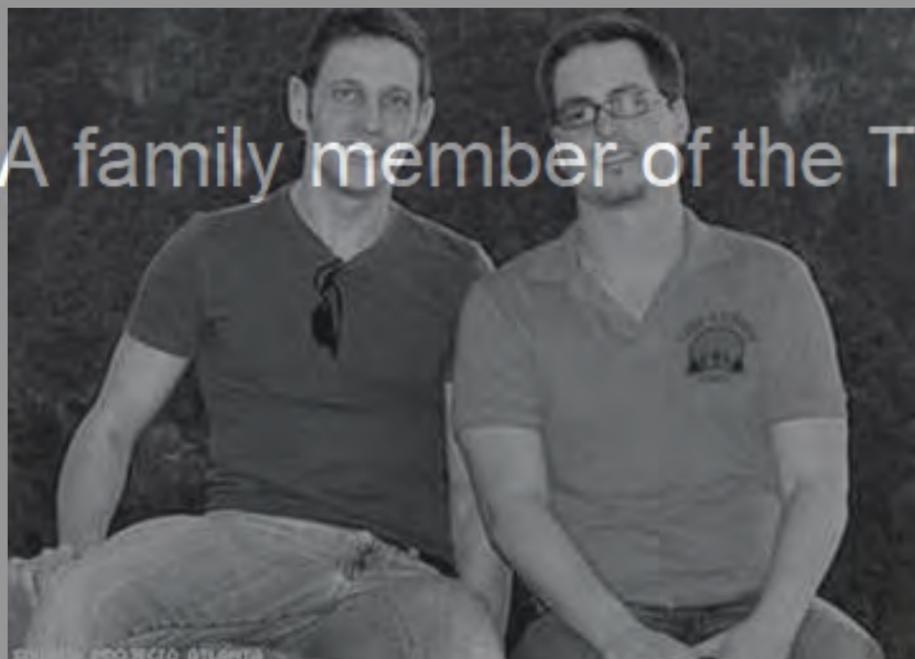
Let the news stories we have seen – and felt good about – these past few days be the beginning of a sweeping move by America to right these wrongs and extend liberty and justice to those of us who feel the sting of its absence - and right away!

(Judy Rickard wrote this for [advocate.com](http://advocate.com), from which this is reprinted from).

## St. Lucia Decries Attack On 3 Gay U.S. Tourists

CASTRIES (Observer Update) - A robbery and assault on three gay American tourists at their vacation cottage has St. Lucia officials scrambling to assure visitors that the southern Caribbean island is safe and welcoming for gays and lesbians, reported the AP on [365Gay.com](http://365Gay.com).

Tourism Minister Allen Chastanet issued an apology Monday to three



A family member of the Tucson Gay Museum

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men from Atlanta after masked bandits broke into their mountain rental home in Soufriere. One victim said the gunmen made slurs against gays, white people and Americans during the March 2 assault.

The tiny, tourism-dependent Caribbean country is typically peaceful and a safe place for all kinds of travelers, Chastanet said. He said the attack was "unacceptable behavior and our destination will not tolerate it."

Police announced that they have arrested two suspects in the assault and are looking for three more. This former British territory is not known as a risky place for gays, particularly compared with other, socially conservative Caribbean islands where many gays are not open about their sexuality.

Nonetheless, a victim who detailed his account of the robbery on Facebook said he believes the attack was "partly a gay bashing."

## Ogden Twelfth Utah City To Approve Gay Protections

OGDEN (Observer Update) - Ogden has become the latest Utah city or municipality to approve a gay protections ordinance, reported On Top Magazine.

Eleven municipalities have already followed Salt Lake City's lead in approving legislation protecting gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people from discrimination. Members of the Ogden City Council originally approved with a 4-3 vote the two ordinances that outlaw discrimination in the areas of employment and housing at a meeting, but Mayor Matthew Godfrey promised to veto them unless they included greater religious exceptions.

The new language straddles a fine line between protecting the right to speak out against gay people and outlawing discrimination. It says: "Expressions of religious or other deeply held beliefs are exempt from this chapter, provided they do not become so pervasive or severe as to alter the terms, conditions or privileges of employment. Religious or other deeply held beliefs may not, however, excuse conduct that otherwise violates this chapter."

Members unanimously approved the amended measure.

In October 2009, Salt Lake City approved two groundbreaking ordinances that make it illegal to discriminate based on sexual orientation or gender identity (transgender protections) in the areas of employment and housing.

Other municipalities that have approved similar measures include Park City - home of the Sundance Festival - Logan, West Valley, Taylorsville, Murray, Midvale, Salt Lake County, Summit County and Grand County.

# BUZZ - BUZZ - BUZZ - BUZZ - Anti-Gay Bullying Leads To Another Suicide

RITTMAN (Observer Update) - Nicholas Kelo Jr., 13, used a gun to commit suicide on Feb. 23 in his home in Ohio. His mother Jaqueline Kelo said her son was bullied for many years. "We would talk and he would say [of the bullies] that they were not worth his time," she said in the Beacon Journal.

It is not known whether Nick considered himself to be gay. However, when he switched extra curricular activities—from football to band—rumors that we was gay circulated through his school. "After that, it [the bullying] spiraled out of control," mother Jaqueline Kelo said.

Another Rittman mother, whose

son has also been subject to bullying, recounted a story about a bus ride home from a football game where Nick was allegedly spit on by an older student. Nick refused to share details and told the other mother he would handle it on his own. Nick's parents had no knowledge of this attack until after their son's death, reported 365Gay.com.

Jacqueline told the Beacon Journal she wasn't surprised her son kept the bullying a secret. "He was the man of the house," she said and described her son as his mother's protector. Nick scored a 152 on an IQ Test, was second-degree black belt qualified and a creative inventor.

## Kurt and Blaine Kiss On Glee



LOS ANGELES (Observer Update) - Kurt and Blaine shared a long-awaited kiss on Glee.

Sandra Gonzalez recaps the highly anticipated moment, which Blaine initiated, for Entertainment Weekly.

"Speaking of revealing moments ... easily the week's most buzzy and tender moment came from another of my favorite pairs - Kurt and Blaine. Sigh," she writes. "As Kurt was working on a tiny birdie casket, Blaine walked in wanting to practice their Regionals duet, 'Candles' by Hey

Monday. (The group had voted to split the spotlight this time around as opposed to letting Blaine do his usual thing.) If I may overthink this scene a moment, I knew it was going to be big based on the expression on Blaine's face when he walked in. And it was a big moment in every way. After Kurt asked Blaine why he'd picked him as a duet partner, Blaine wasted no time and put his feelings out on the table. 'Kurt, there's a moment when you say to yourself, 'Oh, there you are. I've been looking for you forever,' he said. 'You move me, Kurt. And this duet would just be an excuse to spend more time with you.' Then they kissed."

## Easy Hearing for Gay Judge Nominee

WASHINGTON, DC (Observer Update) - A judicial nominee faced no opposition at a Senate Judiciary Committee confirmation hearing that could lead to him becoming the first openly gay man to serve as a federal judge, reports advocate.com.

New York attorney J. Paul Oetken was recommended to President Barack Obama by Sen. Charles Schumer. If confirmed he would be assigned to the U.S. District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

"Paul is the first openly gay man to go through an Article III confirmation process in this country, which makes this moment historic,"

Schumer said according to the Washington Blade."But long after today, what the history books will note about Paul is certain to be his achievements as a fair and brilliant judge."

Oetken is currently general counsel of Cablevision, and previously served as associate counsel to President Bill Clinton from 1999 to 2001. According to the Blade, Oetken also has worked with Lambda Legal, the American Civil Liberties Union, and co-authored a amicus brief for the U.S. Supreme Court for Lawrence v. Texas, the lawsuit that resulted in the overturn of sodomy laws.

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# BUZZ FLASHES - BUZZ FLASHES

Jesse Cruz, a junior at New Jersey's Seton Hall, says he was unfairly removed from his dorm room because he is gay and is now suing the school for emotional and psychological trauma. According to New Jersey paper The Record, the public relations student paid close to \$4,000 for a full semester of housing and was assigned to a double room at the school's Xavier Hall.

Seton's policy allows for any student who is unhappy with their living arrangement for any reason to request a new room on "Room Change Day." However, when Cruz's roommate complained that he didn't want to be paired with Cruz, it was Cruz who was removed, not the person who had filed the complaint.

In a lawsuit, Cruz alleges that he was reassigned to another building because of his sexual orientation. A lawyer representing Seton Hall wrote that "the University has never taken any action against Mr. Cruz based on his sexual preference." Cruz has since been returned to his original dorm and has not had any problems with his new roommate. "On a moral level, we are seeking to make sure that this never happens again," said Cruz's attorney, Rosemarie Arnold. "We as parents send our children into the real world for the first time when we send them to college, and we expect the college to treat them responsibly." ...

Bobby May, sheriff of Arkansas's St. Francis County, says he believes the death of transgender woman Marcal Camero Tye is a routine murder case and not a hate crime. In an interview with FM 89 News, May conjectured that Tye had gotten involved in a late night sexual

scenario with a stranger that turned deadly. According to preliminary autopsy results, the 25-year-old Tye, who was born a man but had been living as a woman, was killed by a gunshot to the head. Shell casings found at the scene appear to corroborate this.

While early reports implied that the victim was dragged behind a vehicle by a rope or chain, Sheriff May says a more likely scenario is that Tye's body was caught underneath the vehicle and inadvertently dragged. Evidence suggests the suspect backed up in an attempt to dislodge it. While the FBI has declined to comment on Sheriff May's statements, spokesman Steve Frazier says agents will continue investigating the case as a possible hate crime or civil rights violation.



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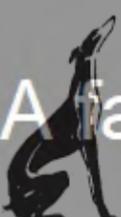
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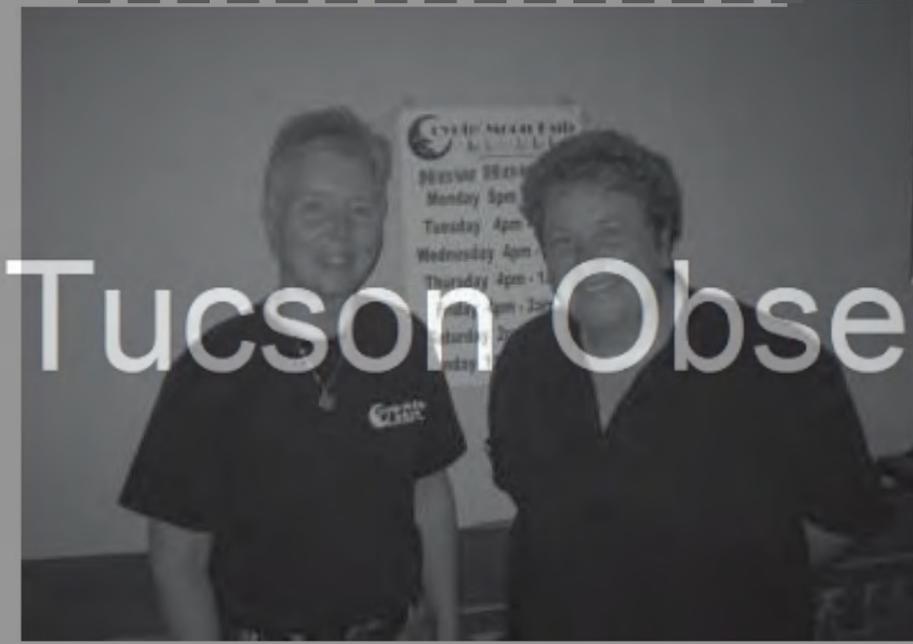
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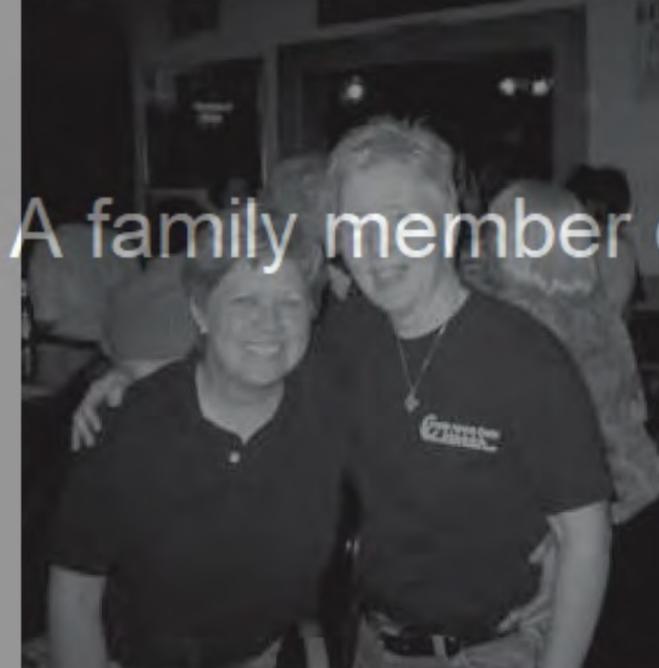
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# It Was A Real 'Eclipse' At The Moon Last Weekend. So Long. We'll Miss You



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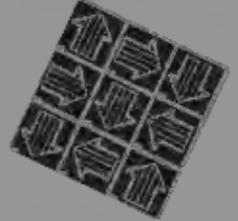
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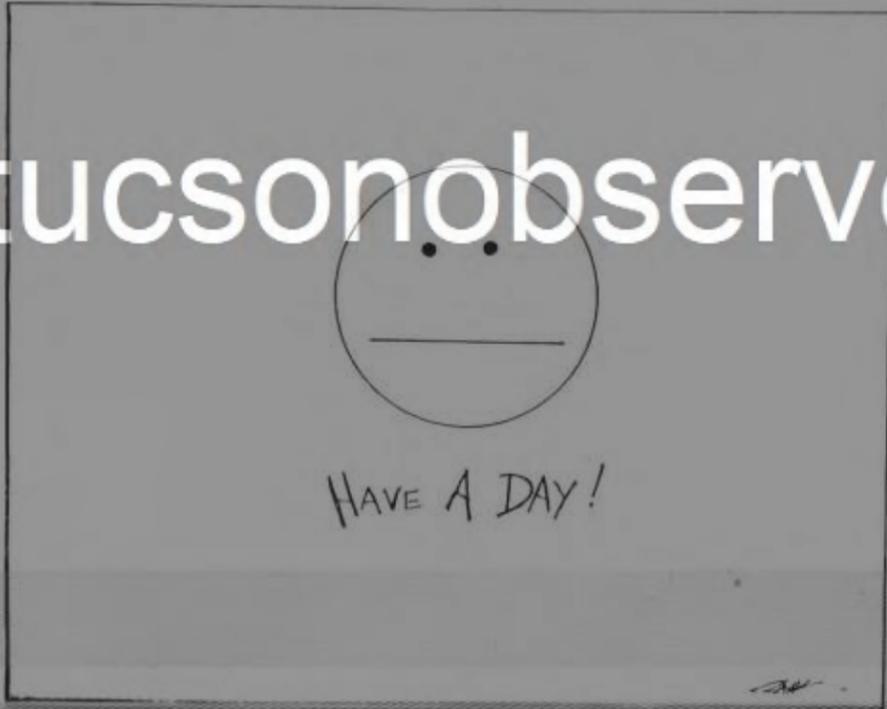
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## The Way I Saw It. . .by Gary Clark



NOTE: Before his untimely death, Gary Clark had worked on this 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!

## "LUG" Phenom Debunked

NEW YORK (Observer Update) - A new study has found that women who finish college are less likely to have had a same-sex experience than those who only completed high school, reported advocate.com.

The findings, from the CDC-funded National Survey on Family Growth, seems to show that the perception of women frequently experimenting in college may be a myth. The assumption that college was the place where many young women explore same-sex relationships led to the term LUG - or "lesbian until graduation."

According to "13,500 responses, almost 10 percent of women ages 22 to 44 with a bachelor's degree said they had had a same-sex experience, compared with 15 percent of those with no high school diploma. Women with a high school diploma or some college, but no degree, fell in between."

## GLSEN is Changing The Game In Sports

NEW YORK (Observer Update) - The Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network is launching a new initiative to combat homophobia in K-12 sports, reports On Top Magazine.

Headed by Pat Griffin, "Changing the Game" will focus on beginning a dialogue about inclusiveness in sports in schools and on teams. Outsports.com editor Cyd Ziegler sits on the advisory board of about 20 people.

GLSEN's website states, "The Sport Project's mission is to assist K-12 schools in creating and maintaining an athletic and physical education climate that is based on the core principles of respect, safety and equal access for all

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students, teachers and coaches regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity/expression and integrating these efforts into overall school plans to ensure a safe, respectful school climate and culture."

## G/L Parents More Accepted Than Single Moms

NEW YORK (Observer Update) - A new survey shows that Americans tend to be more accepting of gay and lesbian couples raising children than single parents, reports advocate.com.

One third of Americans say they are comfortable with a variety of family situations, according to a study by the Pew Research Center. That group is called "acceptors." Another third, called "skeptics" by researchers, have mixed views on nontraditional family structures. The final third group, known as "rejectors," believe nontraditional families can have a negative impact on society.

The majority of acceptors and skeptics say that families headed by gay and lesbian parents are an acceptable, if not a positive, asset to society. The view on single mothers, however, is quite polarized. Ninety-eight percent of acceptors think women can raise children alone, but 99% of skeptics and 98% of rejectors believe it's bad for society. The survey did not ask about single fathers.

Katherine Stamps Mitchell, a professor at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, told MSNBC that the gay and lesbian parents are favored because they're providing a two-parent family, as opposed to a single-parent family. She added that media helps with acceptance of gay and lesbian couples and families.

"You're seeing gay families more and more on TV in shows like Modern Family and in movies like The Kids Are All Right," Stamps Mitchell said.



# 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 open11am-11pm. .

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# Lesbian Activist Leads Recall Of Miami-Dade Commissioner

MIAMI (Observer Update) - Lesbian activist Vanessa Brito led a successful effort to recall longtime Miami-Dade commissioner Natacha Seijas, reports advocate.com.

According to The Miami Herald, almost 90% of voters in District 13 backed the recall of Seijas, who has helmed the area for 18 years. She became a recall target last year after she voted for a budget that raised property taxes in the area hard hit by the real estate crisis and also raised salaries for county employees.

Brito, a 27-year-old board member of Unity Coalition, a Hispanic LGBT political group, was assisted by Michael Pizzi, the mayor of Miami Lakes. "Brito started Miami Voice, a political action committee, to target county commissioners who had supported the budget," reports the Herald. "The group had little money, but it got help from Pizzi, a long-time opponent of Seijas with a knack for political theater. The group garnered sufficient petitions to force a vote only for Seijas."

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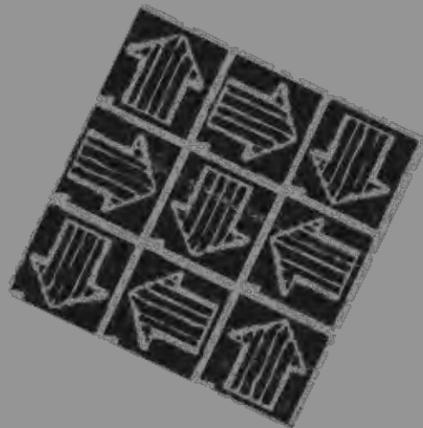
## COMPLETE CAR CARE

# New Orleans Cops Targeted Gays and Blacks

NEW ORLEANS (Observer Update) - The New Orleans Police Department is under fire for symptomatic misconduct, with charges that cops used excessive force and targeted black and gay residents, reports advocate.com.

The Washington Post reports on a 10-month analysis by the Department of Justice, indicating that the police had singled out gay and lesbian residents for unjustified stops, arrests, and harassment. Additionally, the analysis showed 500 African-American males older than age 17 were arrested in 2009 while only eight white males were arrested during the year. In the 27 instances in which an officer intentionally fired a weapon at sometime, all 27 individuals were black.

work with the city to help change the police department, which has been in decline since the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. "My colleagues and I are not naive about the enormity of the task that lies ahead," said the DOJ's Thomas E. Perez. "But we at the Justice Department have been heartened by the dedication to sustainable change we have seen throughout the city."



Justice officials said in a press conference Friday that they would

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