

## Tucson Observer Archives

### Osama bin Laden Is Dead



WASHINGTON, DC (Observer Update) - Osama bin Laden has been killed and his body has been recovered by U.S. authorities in Afghanistan, reports advocate.com.

President Barack Obama's televised address from the White House included, in part, "Shortly after taking office, I directed Leon Panetta, the director of the CIA, to make the killing or capture of bin Laden the top priority of our war against Al Qaeda. Then last August, after years of painstaking work by our intelligence community, I was briefed on a possible lead to bin Laden. It was far from certain and it took many months to run this thread to ground. I met repeatedly with my national security team as we developed more information about the possibility that we had located bin Laden hiding in a compound deep inside Pakistan. And finally last week I determined that we had enough intelligence to take action and authorized an operation to get Osama bin Laden and bring him to justice. Today at my direction, the United States launched a targeted operation against that compound in

Abbottabad, Pakistan. A small team of Americans carried out the operation with extraordinary courage and capability. No Americans were harmed. They took care to avoid civilian casualties. After a firefight they killed Osama bin Laden and took custody of his body. The death of bin Laden marks the most significance achievement to date in our nations effort to defeat Al Qaeda"

The president reiterated that this war is, in no way, a war with Islam, and that bin Laden was not a religious leader, describing him as a mass murderer, and that his victims included many Muslims. The President continued, "So his demise should be welcomed by all who believe in peace and human dignity."

"Tonight we are once again reminded that American can do whatever we set out mind to," the President continued. "That is the story of our history, whether it's the pursuit of prosperity for our people, or the struggle for equality for all our citizens, our commitment to stand up for our values abroad, and our sacrifices to make the word a safer place. Let us remember that we can do these things not just because of wealth or power but because of who we are, one nation, under God indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Authorities have been searching for the terrorist leader since the September 1, 2001, attacks. Capturing or killing Osama fulfills a goal first set by President George W. Bush. This event marks one of the most significant of the Obama administration thus far.

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## Roger McDowell Suspended Amid Allegations Of Anti-Gay Slurs

NEW YORK (Observer Update) - Major League Baseball (MLB) has fined and suspended without pay Atlanta Braves pitching coach Roger McDowell, celebrity website TMZ.com reported.

The move comes after McDowell was accused of hurling anti-gay slurs towards fans in San Francisco. McDowell was fined an undisclosed amount and suspended without pay for two weeks.

Thirty-three-year-old father-of-four Justin Quinn made the accusations against McDowell at a Wednesday news

conference organized by Los Angeles attorney Gloria Allred.

Quinn accused McDowell of yelling to three male fans sitting in the left field seats at ATT Park during a game against the Giants last Saturday: "Are you a homo couple or a threesome?" He used a bat to simulate gay sex and then asked, "Are you three giving it to each other in the ass?" Quinn, who was attending the game with his 9-year-old twin daughters, claims he told McDowell to watch

### Gay 9/11 Hero's Mom Reacts To Bin Laden Death

NEW YORK (Observer Update) - The mother of a gay hero during the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks said Monday the death of Osama bin Laden is a time for Americans to feel proud of the intelligence community and U.S. military, reported the Washington Blade.

During an appearance NBC's "Today Show," Alice Hoagland, the mother of Mark Bingham, who was gay and slain during the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks after United Airlines Flight 93 crashed into a field near Shanksville, Pa., reflected on the demise of the terrorist leader.

"I think it is a point in time of which the American people can be very proud, which we can take stock in and realize how very valuable our intelligence community and our military are," Hoagland said.

Bingham, along with other passengers on Flight 93, was among the passengers who tried to storm the cockpit to prevent members of al Qaeda from using the plane to kill additional victims during the terrorist attacks in D.C. During the 2008 presidential campaign, then-Republican presidential nominee John McCain, who delivered a eulogy at Bingham's funeral, told the Washington Blade he identified Bingham as one of his gay heroes.

Hoagland said during her "Today Show" appearance that she continues to be proud of Bingham and other passengers in their work in redirecting Flight 93 from its intended target.

"I'm very proud of what Mark did along with his fellow passengers," Hoagland said. "A little group of guys in the back of a pitching 747 that took a vote and decided they were going to run forward armed with nothing more than their fists and whatever they could find on board to fight real evil - people who were determined to kill them and anyone else they could on the ground."

his language in front of children.

"Kids don't fucking belong at the baseball park," McDowell replied, then threatened Quinn with a baseball bat. "How much are your teeth worth?" he asked.

"Conduct by people associated with MLB that shows insensitivity to others simply cannot and will not be tolerated," MLB Commissioner Bud Selig said in a statement. Quinn told the website that he was pleased by the outcome.



MARK BINGHAM

Additionally, Hoagland praised both President Obama and former President George W. Bush for their work into attempting to find bin Laden and bring him to justice.

"Barack Obama has been real friend to the 9/11 families and he's working hard to fulfill the promises that he has made," Hoagland said. "And George W. Bush deserves a great deal of credit. He promised the 9/11 families that he would not relent in his effort to find the perpetrators of the bloodshed of 9/11," she said.

Hoagland added that she would have liked to have seen bin Laden stand trial from his crimes, but said she's lost faith in the Article III courts because she said "certain liberal groups following their own agenda have taken the essence 9/11 struggle out of the hands of the families, and that is a travesty."

Controversy has ensued over whether to try the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist suspects in military or civilian courts, although U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder has recently said the suspects would be tried in military tribunals.

"The short answer is, in some way, I'm really relieved [bin Laden] has no one to face now except his God," Hoagland said.

"I understand the decision made today by the Commissioner," McDowell said in a statement. "I am embarrassed by my actions and I plan to give a personal apology to Mr. Quinn and his family." The disciplinary action comes on the heels of the NBA leveling a \$10,000 fine against Los Angeles Lakers shooting guard Kobe Bryant for slurring referee Bennie Adams with an anti-gay epithet during a nationally televised basketball game.

# UPDATE

## Reveille Men's Chorus Spring Concert May 21-22

TUCSON (Observer Update) - "From Out of the West We Come", a BBQ flavored concert with all the fixins.

Reveille takes on western Americana and makes it our own. Load up the wagons and get ready to travel down the ol' Chisom trail for a Reveille style hoedown!

Tickets are \$20 at the door, \$15 for seniors and advance sales, \$10 for students with I.D. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.reveillemenschorus.org](http://www.reveillemenschorus.org), by calling the Reveille line at 304-1758, at Antigone Books or from any Reveille member.

## Emerge! 10th Annual Mother's Day Luncheon

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Emerge! Center Against Domestic Abuse will host its 10th Annual Mother's Day Luncheon on Thursday, May 5, 2011. The luncheon will take place from 11:30 am - 1:30 pm at the Westin La Paloma Resort and Spa.

The event's emcee will be Bobby Rich from 94.9 MixFM and will feature Dr. Joseph Bellal, UMC Trauma Surgeon, as the keynote speaker. The 10th Annual Mother's Day Luncheon will feature the Mother of the Year Award. An Emerge! participant will be honored as Emerge!'s 2011 Mother of the Year for her dedication to her children while facing the challenges of domestic abuse.

\$65 per Ticket/\$650 Table Sponsorship for 10. For more information, contact Robin Kasly, 520-795-8001.

## 24th Annual Reno Gannon Memorial Jell-O Wrestling Extravaganza, May 24

TUCSON (Observer Update) - The Jell-O Wrestling Extravaganza and Benefit Auction is a zany event and SAAF's longest running fundraising event, celebrating it's 24th year this 2011!

This year, we're adding not just one but TWO concerts to the Jell-O Wrestling festivities! In addition to our post-wrestling concert featuring Pandora Boxx from RuPaul's Drag Race & RuPaul's Drag U, we will also feature a pre-wrestling concert featuring singer-songwriter Josh Zuckerman.

Josh is not your typical rock star. While exemplifying the perfect star quality, he continues to carry a message about being true to one's self. Josh loves the stage and performing in front of a crowd and proves this with his charismatic stage presence that leaves his audience with a lasting impression, enticing people to come back for more. Come see what everyone is talking about and see Josh in action at this year's Jell-O Wrestling!

This year's event will take place on Saturday, May 14 at Kennedy Fiesta Park. The pre-wrestling concert will start at 3pm and the main event starts at 4pm. Then, stick around after the wrestling and auction for an incredible live performance by Pandora Boxx.

For complete details about this year's event and to purchase tickets, visit the Jell-O website. <http://www.saaf.org/events.php>.

## Normal Heart Opens To Raves

NEW YORK (Observer Update) - Larry Kramer's *The Normal Heart* - which follows the lives of a group of friends during the early days of the AIDS epidemic - has opened to rave reviews on Broadway, with *The New York Times* calling it a "passionately acted" drama that "blasts you like an open, overstoked furnace."

From the review: "More than a quarter of a century after it first scorched New York, *The Normal Heart* is breathing fire again. The passionately acted new Broadway production of Larry Kramer's watershed drama from 1985 - an indictment of a world unwilling to confront the epidemic that would come to be known as AIDS - blasts you like an open, overstoked furnace. Your eyes are pretty much guaranteed to start stinging before the first act is over, and by the play's end even people who think they have no patience for polemical theater may find their resistance has melted into tears. No, make that sobs."

The *Normal Heart* runs for 96 performances only with a portion of ticket sales supporting the Human Rights Campaign.

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If you are interested in offering peer support to clients, educating on HIV/AIDS and more, contact Volunteer Resources at 628-7223 or [volcoond@saaf.org](mailto:volcoond@saaf.org)



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Informing the Community  
**The Observer**

## Get Your Tickets To The Prom

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Ready to have a different Prom experience? Come to the Time of My Life Prom on May 21st at 8:00 pm! The event will feature music and refreshments in the beautifully remodeled One Toole building in downtown Tucson. Music and decorations will visit and celebrate the 6 previous decades.

The night promises to be the most fabulous prom for adults of the season! The dress code is BE YOURSELF! From traditional formal attire to garments that express your unique personality and identities, all are welcome and encouraged!

Guests are invited to send in electronic copies of their prom or high school graduation pictures to be used in event promotion and for decorations. Tickets are \$25 per person for the 21+ prom. Tickets are for sale at the center (430 East 7th Street) Monday through Friday from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. Electronic pictures for event decorations and promotion can be sent to [ojimenez@wingspan.org](mailto:ojimenez@wingspan.org).

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## In Arizona



PHOENIX (Observer Update) - Steven and Roger Ham are raising 12 children in Arizona, a state that bans gay and lesbian couples from adoption and marriage.

The Hams, known as daddy and papa to their adoptive children, were profiled in The Arizona Republic. The men met in 1993 in Reno and fell in love on their first date. But it would be 8 years before they decided to adopt what was supposed to be their only child, Michael.

But Michael continually worried about his four younger siblings, who still were in foster care, so the men rounded up Elizabeth, Andrew and the twins, Jackson and Madison.

"It was very heart-wrenching to see this little 5-year-old with these big adult concerns," said Steven. "He

should have been playing with his Legos."

"It broke our hearts," Roger added.

Ten of the children are adopted in Arizona, and legally belong only to Steven, because the state does not allow gay couples to adopt or a gay spouse to adopt a partner's child. The dads are considered full parents in two adoptions from Washington state.

"With only one legal parent, children in gay households are not entitled to health and Social Security benefits, inheritance rights or child support from the other parent," the paper wrote. "If a gay couple splits up, only the legal parent has custody rights."

The couple has taken in 42 foster children over 10 years; some moved on, some stayed.

"We knew the kids deserved

a better life, and someone who would love them, no matter what," Steven said. "None of my kids will ever tell you, anytime in their lives, even years from now, that they didn't feel loved."

## Memphis Gay Center In Fiscal Trouble

MEMPHIS (Observer Update) - The Memphis, Tenn., Gay and Lesbian Community Center is in danger of closing but has launched a fund-raising drive in an attempt to avoid doing so, reports advocate.com.

The center has seen reductions in individual donations and grant opportunities because of a change in its financial setup, in addition to the weak economy, Memphis's Daily News reports. It is seeking to raise \$45,000 by the end of May to avoid closure.

The center used to operate under a system in which donors paid a membership fee, but it ended that last year and could have publicized the change more effectively, board chair Christy Tweddle said. "We didn't do as good of a job as we should have going back to those former membership donors and asking them to continue to give," she said. "That's where we fell down, and it had a large impact on us."

The center, founded in 1989, offers youth and family programs, free HIV testing, referrals for counseling, and cultural opportunities including a book group and a film festival. Jonathan Cole, board chair for the Tennessee Equality Project and a former board member at the Memphis center, particularly praised the center's work with young

people, noting that, among other services, it can arrange temporary shelter for youths who have been kicked out of their homes for being gay.

"You may not access these services yourself, but there are people in this community who desperately need it," Cole told the Daily News. "It will be a travesty for the center to close for lack of funding."





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# COMMENTARY...

BY DALE CARPENTER

## How The Law Accepted Gays

The prestigious law firm King & Spalding has not fully explained its decision this week to stop assisting Congress in defending the law that forbids federal recognition of same-sex marriage. But its reversal suggests the extent to which gay men and lesbians have persuaded much of the legal profession to accept the basic proposition that sexual orientation is irrelevant to a person's worth and that the law should reflect this judgment. The decision cannot be dismissed simply as a matter of political correctness or bullying by gays.

Gay-rights supporters have transformed the law and the legal profession, opening the doors of law firms, law schools and courts to people who were once casually and cruelly shut out because of their sexual orientation.

But it was a process that took a half-century to unfold. In 1961, a Harvard-trained astronomer, Frank Kameny, stood alone against the federal government. Fired from his federal job simply for being gay, he wanted to petition the Supreme Court. But at a time when all 50 states still criminalized sodomy, even the American Civil Liberties Union declared it had no interest in challenging laws "aimed at the suppression or elimination of homosexuals." Mr. Kameny wrote his own appellate brief; without comment, the court turned him away.

Over the next quarter-century, lifted by gales of change in sexual morality and in the status of women, gay-rights advocates mobilized at every level of the legal profession. In the late 1960s, they successfully challenged the antigay civil service policies under which Mr. Kameny had been discharged. In 1973, a small group of gay lawyers formed the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, enlisting the help of prominent heterosexual lawyers. They drafted legislation protecting gays from discrimination in housing and employment.

At the same time, gay-rights supporters began lobbying law schools, and then professional organizations like the American Bar Association, to adopt nondiscrimination policies. With these in place, they pressured schools to exclude law firms from on-campus recruiting unless they agreed not to discriminate against gay students in hiring. The Association of American Law Schools endorsed this approach. These developments paved the way for firms that had once fired suspected homosexuals to adopt their own nondiscrimination policies.

Changes in the profession ran

in parallel with the evolution of jurisprudence on sexuality. In 1986, in *Bowers v. Hardwick*, the Supreme Court upheld a Georgia sodomy law. Five justices — one of whom told a closeted law clerk that he had never met a gay person — dismissed the idea of a right to gay sex as "at best, facetious." But four justices disagreed — a harbinger. Within a decade, openly gay law clerks had become unremarkable.

In 1996, the year Congress passed the Defense of Marriage Act — the law it is now defending — the Supreme Court struck down an antigay state constitutional amendment in Colorado. Justice Antonin Scalia, dissenting, saw the tide turning. He tried to rewrite the narrative from one of a small and despised minority to one of an elitist legal corps disparaging ordinary Americans. The majority decision, he wrote, reflected "the views and values of the lawyer class from which the court's members are drawn."

Any doubt left about where most lawyers stood was eliminated in 2003 in *Lawrence v. Texas*, which involved another sodomy law. Lambda Legal led the challenge, helped by Jenner & Block, a firm with extensive Supreme Court experience. Other big firms, groups like the American Bar Association and scholars filed supporting briefs. The cumulative effect of decades of work by gay-rights advocates was that the best firms and many of the best lawyers were unwilling to defend sodomy laws on constitutional, let alone policy, grounds. The court agreed, holding in *Lawrence* that such laws demeaned the very existence of gay people.

No serious case can be made that an institution as powerful as Congress has a right to the services of the biggest law firms and the most credentialed lawyers. The Defense of Marriage Act is not unpopular, and while Congress may be indebted, it is not indigent. A thornier question arises when a firm withdraws from a representation, though in this case the quick withdrawal evidently caused no harm to the client. More troubling is the possibility that a firm might quit because of outside economic pressure rather than principle, though it is unclear whether such pressure played a role in this case.

As Mr. Kameny's lone crusade showed, the legal profession was not in the vanguard of gay rights. Unlike Mr. Kameny, of course, the House will have excellent counsel on its side: a former solicitor general who resigned from King & Spalding to protest its decision. The world of legal professionals is still a diverse one where basic values collide every day. Respectable constitutional arguments for the Defense of Marriage Act will surely be made — but grounded in ideas, one hopes, not contempt.

(Dale Carpenter, a law professor at the University of Minnesota, is the author of the forthcoming "Flagrant Conduct: The Story of *Lawrence v. Texas*." This is reprinted from [nytimes.com](http://nytimes.com).)



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## Marines Get Trained On Accepting G/L Recruits

WASHINGTON, DC (Observer Update) - If a Marine spots two men in his battalion kissing off-duty at a shopping mall, he should react as if he were seeing a man and woman. If he turns on the television news to see a fellow Marine dressed as a civilian and marching in a parade with a banner that reads, "Support Gays and Lesbians in the Military!" he should accept it as a free right of expression.

Prescriptions for those possible scenarios are being played out at Marine bases as the military prepares to allow gays to openly serve, ending a 17-year-old policy commonly known as "don't ask, don't tell." Training for the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines began early this year and is expected to finish by summer's end. The repeal goes into effect 60 days after the president, defense secretary and chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff certify that lifting the ban won't hurt the military's ability to fight.

"These changes are about policy," states briefing material for Marine instructors. "The policy is about adherence to orders and behavior, and not about beliefs."

The latest round of training material asks Marines to consider their reactions to a wide range of scenarios, from seeing a member "hanging around" a gay bar to hearing locker-room jokes from others who refuse to shower in front of gays.

There is nothing wrong with "hanging around" a gay bar, the materials state. The officer who witnesses the loud locker-room banter aimed at gays and lesbians should remind the Marines any discrimination or harassment is inappropriate.

For those who oppose the new policy, the Marine Corps says it doesn't expect anyone to change their personal beliefs. Still, everyone must follow orders.

"You remain obligated to follow orders that involve interaction with others who are gay or lesbian, even if an unwillingness to do so is based on strong, sincerely held moral or religious beliefs," the training material states.

A top-notch recruiter who opposes the new policy cannot refuse a promising applicant on grounds of sexual orientation but might be considered for another assignment and, at the discretion of the Navy secretary, may be granted early discharge.

Chaplains who preach at base chapels that homosexuality is a sin are entitled to express their religious beliefs during worship.

The Marines expect to finish training on the new policy by June 1, Gen. James Amos, the Marine Corps commandant, testified in Congress earlier this month.

Amos testified last year that permitting gays to openly serve could disrupt smaller combat units and distract leaders from preparing for battle. When he appeared this month before the House Armed Services Committee, he said he had been looking for problems that might arise under the new policy and hadn't found any "recalcitrant pushback."

"There has not been the anxiety over it from the forces in the field," he said.

## U.S. Labor Dept. Bars Gender Identity Discrimination

WASHINGTON, DC (Observer Update) - The U.S. Department of Labor has added gender identity as a protected class in its internal equal opportunity policies, reported [advocate.com](http://advocate.com).

In the Dept. of Labor's equal opportunity policy, gender identity is listed under sex discrimination; pregnancy status has also been added as a protected category, and applies to hiring, disciplinary action, and promotion for agency employees.

In January 2010, the Obama administration's Office of Personnel Management - headed by John Berry, the highest-ranking openly gay official in the administration - began listing gender identity as a protected class under federal equal opportunity policies. The policy does not affect state or local government workers, however, nor does it protect private sector workers.

"With this change, the federal government is doing what smart employers in the private sector have been doing for years," National Gay and Lesbian Task Force executive director Rea Carey said in a statement. "They know that in order to attract the best talent they need to show that diversity is important to their companies."

The Department of Labor press release:

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Department of Labor today announced its full commitment to implementing equal employment opportunity policies for all department employees and applicants. The policies ensure equal protections for all employees and applicants regardless of race; color; religion; national origin; sex, including pregnancy and gender identity; age; disability, whether physical or mental; genetic information; status as a parent; sexual orientation; or other non-merit factor. New, robust statements signed by Secretary Solis include updated policies on prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex, including gender



identity and pregnancy.

Secretary Solis strongly supports fair equal employment opportunity policies, and creating diversity and fairness in the workplace.

"I am expressing my personal commitment to ensure that the U.S. Department of Labor is a model workplace, free from unlawful discrimination and harassment, which fosters a work environment that fully utilizes the capabilities of every employee," said Secretary Solis. "It is my goal that we achieve and maintain a high-quality, diverse workforce at all organizational levels throughout the department."

The Labor Department is required to issue annual written policy statements expressing the secretary's commitment to equal employment opportunity and a workplace free of discriminatory harassment, pursuant to 29 Code of Federal Regulations Part 1614, Federal Sector Equal Employment Opportunity, and the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's Management Directive 715. The EEOC's directive identifies minimum requirements for the policy statements.

The statements issued by Secretary Solis articulate stronger protections and establish responsibilities to ensure meaningful adherence to equal employment opportunity throughout the department. They have been disseminated to all current employees and will be disseminated to new employees during orientation as well as to employees who are promoted into supervisory ranks.

## R.I. Civil Unions Bill To Be Introduced

PROVIDENCE (Observer Update) - Rhode Island lawmakers could introduce a civil unions bill as soon as after deciding not to push for marriage equality legislation.

According to the Associated Press, "The new bill comes after House Speaker Gordon Fox declared that gay marriage legislation wouldn't pass the General Assembly this year. Fox, who is gay, now supports civil unions as a more politically feasible alternative."

The civil unions legislation would seek to give same-sex couples in Rhode Island the same state rights given to married couples. Lawmakers are reviewing civil unions laws in other states to help them draft their proposal, the AP reports.

Senate president Teresa Paiva-Weed, a marriage equality opponent, supports civil unions and has said she believes a bill would pass her chamber. Fox attributed the marriage equality setback in part to her opposition, but others debate whether his chamber had enough votes to pass the bill. Committee hearings were held in both the house and senate this

winter on the marriage equality bill, but no votes were ever taken.

Gov. Lincoln Chafee, an independent who pushed for marriage equality, said he would sign a civil unions bill if it passes. Other advocates strongly object to the change in direction.

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## Gay J. Crew Designer Appears in Catalog



ABC News reports on the catalog photo of designer Somsack Sikhounmuong and his boyfriend, Micah, with the caption "Happy Together."

"The Men's Shop' section in the back of the 135-page catalog includes J. Crew's in-house stylist with his 9-month-old son, bearded brothers, a designer with his dog and also the photographer's African-American husband and their Asian daughter, headlined as 'Family Matters,'" the story notes.

J. Crew did not comment on the catalog, but ABC News reports that it appears to be an attempt to reach a more diverse range of consumers. Analysts of the gay market applauded the move.

LOS ANGELES (Observer Update) - May's J. Crew catalog features a gay designer and his boyfriend, following last month's controversy over an online newsletter in which the company president's son was shown with his toenails painted pink.

Last month, the company sparked controversy when its online newsletter included a photo of president and creative director Jenna Lyons admiring her son, who sported hot pink polish on his toenails.

## GOProud's Mission: Take Down Obama

WASHINGTON, DC (Observer Update) - Gay conservative group GOProud has one mission between now and November, 2012 - to defeat Barack Obama, reports advocate.com.

"Barack Obama's tenure in the White House has been an unmitigated disaster for all Americans, including gay and lesbian Americans," GOProud president Jimmy LaSalvia said in a statement. "Defeating Barack Obama and putting a conservative in the White House should be the number one goal of every single person in the conservative movement."

The group is looking ahead toward the Iowa Straw Poll in August as the kickoff for the effort. The Ames Straw Poll will begin on August 11th with a Republican Presidential debate and conclude on August 13th with the actual straw poll itself.

"This Republican presidential field is shaping up to be an incredibly strong one," La Salvia said. We look forward to hearing each of the candidates make his or her case about why they would be the best nominee to beat Barack Obama."

## Minnesota Gay Marriage Ban Amendment Cles First Hurdle

ST. PAUL (Observer Update) - A Minnesota Senate committee approved a resolution that seeks to constitutionally ban gay marriage in the state, the Minnesota Independent reported.

After hearing more than 3 hours worth of testimony, the Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety approved Republican Senator Warren

Limmer's amendment on an 8 to 4 party-line vote.

The measure now heads to the 11-member Senate Rules and Administration Committee.

If approved, voters would be asked in 2012 to decide on the definition of marriage. Minnesota state law already outlaws gay and lesbian couples from marrying.

## Gay Marriage Opponent Named Olympic Chief Of Mission

NEW YORK (Observer Update) - The U.S. Olympic Committee has named gold medalist and outspoken marriage equality opponent Peter Vidmar as its chief of mission for the 2012 U.S. Olympic team, advocate.com reported.

In 2008, Vidmar, a Mormon, donated \$2,000 to help pass California's Proposition 8 and publicly

protested, telling the Orange County Register, "It's good for our society to stay with a traditional definition of marriage."

Vidmar, who won two gold medals and one silver in the 1984 Olympics, will act as the U.S. liaison between organizers in London and the International Olympic Committee.

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# West Point Rejects Ex-Cadet

WEST POINT (Observer Update) - The U.S. Military Academy at West Point rejected an application for readmission to a former cadet who resigned last year due to the "don't ask, don't tell" law, which barred out gays and lesbians from serving in the military, [advocate.com](http://advocate.com) reported.

Katherine Miller, 21, left West Point, where she ranked ninth in her class, in August to attend Yale for her junior year. Miller requested to return to the academy for her senior year, as the "don't ask, don't tell" repeal process is under way, but she was told that she could not return.

"While the don't ask, don't tell policy was recently changed and will be repealed, the effective date has not yet been determined," Lt. Col. Sherri Reed, the academy's director of public affairs, said in a statement, according to the Associated Press. "Due to this situation, West Point is unable to offer her readmission at this time."

Miller released a statement, saying that she intended to finish her education at Yale, and then enter the military through Officer Candidate School upon graduation.

"Although I am deeply saddened

that I will not be readmitted to West Point, I understand and respect the decision," she said. "The Academy and the military are required to abide by a strict DADT repeal implementation timeline, and readmission would violate that timeline. My intent has never been to receive "special treatment" but rather to serve alongside my comrades as an equal."

The date for full repeal will be 60 days after President Barack Obama and top military officials certify that repealing the ban will not affect troop morale or defense capabilities. Training for each of the branches of the military is slated to be completed by the end of the summer. Classes begin at West Point August 15.

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# At The 14th Annual Treasures For TIHAN Benefit Last Saturday



Tucson Observer Archives



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# Poet's Corner

ROYAL WEDDING ?

By Ron Rose - Tucson

The wedding is over  
 Two hearts intertwined,  
 Now chores await them  
 The garbage can lined.  
 The wedding cake eaten  
 The guests have gone home  
 Royals both in bed snoring  
 Just leave them alone.  
 Their best days await them  
 Though some days are grim,  
 True love always conquers  
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# Tucson Observer Archives

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

"COMPUTER SEX TIPS"



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!

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## COMPLETE CAR CARE

## Historic San Francisco Gay Bar Shuts Its Doors - At Least For Now

SAN FRANCISCO (Observer Update) - Mike Talley said his family back home in Tulsa, Okla., disowned him, and it wasn't just because he was gay. He was also into leather. "Leather was over the line," he recalled. "Thirty days later, I was living in San Francisco, and I had found home."

And like many gay men who sought refuge in The City in the '80s, he wound up at the Eagle Tavern, a quintessential leather bar that shut its doors - at least for now - after 30 years as an institution.

Out on the back porch Saturday afternoon, the final-day crowd was in a nostalgic mood. Final pictures and videos were being captured and chalked messages on the walls said things like, "I broke my jaw here in 1993," and "I left my heart at the Eagle."

"If we hadn't seen our friends in a while, they would always end up here on Sundays," said patron Scott Van Hyde. "You didn't have to be anything, or wear anything special. Just show up. Just easy."

Sundays were when the bar held its famous beer bust fundraisers benefiting all kinds of charities, including those for AIDS research.

The disease was the bane of the gay community in the '80s, which was the heyday of SoMa leather bars that have since - and now perhaps officially - faded into history.

There was a time when many American cities had "Eagle" bars, a sort of label for gay-friendly. A few remain, including one in Dallas, where owner Mark Frazier contemplated buying the San Francisco outpost from its two owners, John Gardiner and Joe Banks.

But negotiations with the building's landlord faltered after rent was increased by 20 percent, and Frazier backed out. Bar manager Ron Hennis also expressed interest in ownership but declined requests for an interview and said in a Facebook message that he won't discuss ongoing negotiations.

San Francisco Supervisors Jane Kim, Scott Wiener, and David Campos sent a letter to San Francisco police in mid-April that highlights the

cultural importance of the Eagle and calls for the department to "closely scrutinize" any liquor license transfer that changes the business.

Wiener, who along with Campos is openly gay, said he has been to the Eagle many times as a patron.

"It would be a big loss to The City," Wiener said. "It looked like it was completely dead, but at least the

landlord might be negotiating again."

Patron Richard Olivia said the bar, at its core, represents all that is "San Fransexual."

"You don't feel like you're in the Castro with the clones, or in the Tenderloin with the trannies," Olivia said. "You can come here, and it's everyone."

## A family memory 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 open11am-11pm. .

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