

## Tucson Observer Archives®

### In DOMA Challenge, John Boehner's House Lawyers Argue Gays Are Powerful;

#### Refuses Video Deposition



Karen Golinski with wife Amy Cunninghis

WASHINGTON, DC (Observer Update) - House lawyers under the direction of Speaker John Boehner arguing in support of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) say gay men and lesbians are politically powerful and influential, the AP reported.

Because of this power, gay people do not meet the legal criteria for groups such as racial minorities and women who receive heightened protection from discrimination, the lawyers argued in a filing in San Francisco's U.S. District Court, reports ontopmag.com. DOMA was put in place by Congress in 1996 and bars federal agencies and the military from recognizing the legal marriages of gay and lesbian couples.

Citing increasing support for openly gay elected officials, the recent legalization of gay marriage in New York, and the September 20 end of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," the policy that banned openly gay military service, the lawyers argued that "gays and lesbians cannot be labeled 'politically powerless' without draining that phrase of all meaning." The legal wrangling is the latest move in the ongoing case of Karen Golinski, a 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals lawyer who sued the government after her employer denied health insurance coverage to her wife, Amy Cunningham. The U.S. Office of Personnel (OPM) argues that DOMA blocks such benefits.

Boehner appointed and led a committee that instructed House counsel to defend the law in court after the Obama administration announced it would no longer do so. The president has said he believes the law that bans federal recognition of the marriages of gay and lesbian couples is unconstitutional. In July, the Justice Department sided with Golinski. In its 31-page filing, the agency argued that sexual orientation is an "immutable characteristic"

and that DOMA serves no legitimate policy interest.

In other news, House lawyers under the direction of Speaker John Boehner will not consent to a video recording of a legal challenge to the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), the 1996 law that bars federal agencies from recognizing the legal marriages of gay and lesbian couples.

House general counsel Kerry Kircher notified a federal court in California that the House's Bipartisan Legal Advisory Group (BLAG) "prefers not to participate in this district's pilot project permitting video recording of courtroom proceedings," gay weekly Metro Weekly reported. Earlier, U.S. District Court Judge Jeffrey White announced that the proceedings won't be recorded unless all parties agree.

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### Senate Panel To Vote On Bill That Would Repeal Gay Marriage Ban DOMA



Vermont Senator Patrick Leahy

WASHINGTON, DC (Observer Update) - Vermont Senator Patrick Leahy, the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, announced that the committee has scheduled a vote for a bill that would repeal the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), the law that defines marriage for federal agencies and the military as a heterosexual union, ontopmag.com reports.

Leahy said consideration of the bill would take place in November. "The march for equality continues, and now is the time to ensure equality for gay and lesbian Americans who are lawfully married," Leahy, who supports repeal, said in a statement. "Next month, I will call up the Respect for Marriage Act for debate and a vote in the Judiciary Committee. The Respect for Marriage Act would repeal the Defense of Marriage Act, which prevents thousands of American families from being protected by laws that help secure other American families. This is part of the nation's continuing fight for civil rights for all Americans."

While the panel's Democratic majority backs the bill - making approval a near forgone conclusion -

Republican members are uniformly opposed to the measure. The issue in the GOP-controlled House is a non-starter. Still, passage out of the committee will represent a symbolic victory for gay marriage advocates.

"Thousands of loving and committed couples have gotten married in New York and other states since the Senate Judiciary Committee held hearings on the Respect for Marriage Act in July, and all of them are now enduring harms because of the so-called Defense of Marriage Act and its double standard," said Evan Wolfson, president of Freedom to Marry. "It is time for Congress to repeal DOMA's discrimination, and we are pleased that Senator Leahy is moving the Respect for Marriage Act forward."

The legislation was first introduced in 2009 by New York Rep. Jerrold Nadler. California Senator Dianne Feinstein is the bill's primary sponsor in the Senate.



### Tucson Marks Pride; Remembers Those At AIDS WALK

TUCSON (Observer Update) - A procession at Reid Park and celebration at Kino Stadium marked the 34<sup>th</sup> annual commemoration of LGBT Pride in Tucson on Saturday, October 15.

Thousands of LGBTQ Tucsonans, LGBTQ people from Pima County and beyond, as well as straight supportive individuals, came through the gates of Kino Stadium, to celebrate their Pride, the recent successes of the LGBT rights movement and to remember those who started it, during the

Stonewall Riots in New York.

On Sunday, October 16, the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) held AIDS WALK Tucson, 2011.

This was SAAF's 23rd year of raising awareness of HIV and AIDS with its annual AIDS walk, taking place at the University of Arizona Mall.

As part of the walk, Pima County provided free and confidential

HIV testing to raise awareness and demonstrate how simple it is to get tested, according to Dave Martinez, prevention program manager at the foundation.

HIV and AIDS survivors spoke before the walk, and remembrance quilts were presented in memory of those who have died from HIV. The nonprofit organization AIDS Ribbon Tucson gave participants a chance to sign a ribbon as a memorial to those who have died or been afflicted with HIV or AIDS.

# UPDATE

## Wingspan Award Winners Announced

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Each year, Wingspan presents awards to leaders in the LGBT and allied community. These awards are:

The Godat Award was inaugurated in 1998 to recognize extraordinary long-term contributions by an individual to Southern Arizona's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community. Ken Godat, after whom this award was named, was the first recipient.

The Community Ally Award. In 2001, an award was created to honor a straight ally who has made significant contributions to advance the freedom, equality, safety, and well-being of LGBT people in Southern Arizona.

The Stever Hall Award is given to an individual who makes outstanding volunteer contributions to further Wingspan's mission of promoting the freedom, equality, safety and well-being of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people. The award is named after Steve Hall, a former Wingspan Board member and volunteer who died in 2001.

STEVE HALL AWARD WINNERS - ALEX LOPEZ AND ANA JIMENEZ (PUERTAS ABIERTAS CO-COORDINATORS) Alex Lopez was born and raised in Tucson, AZ. His volunteer experience began when he was in high school and was active in after-school volunteer projects. He volunteered for Tucson Pride in 2009 and connected with organizations serving the LGBT community. Alex joined the Wingspan development committee where he assisted with the Night Thing New Year's Eve event in 2010. Alex has been active in Wingspan Anti-Violence Programs by helping implement the RainbowCONNECT warm line, joining in on Anti-LGBT Bullying awareness activities and by co-coordinating Puertas Abiertas, Wingspan's Latin@

LGBT outreach group. Alex helps plan one social activity a week as well as special events for Puertas Abiertas participants. â

Ana Jimenez (Puertas Abiertas Co-Coordinator) Ana Jimenez was raised on the Mexico/US border and is passionate about supporting progressive issues that create a positive border culture. Ana has volunteered with the Anti-Violence Programs crisis line for the last four years and serves as a Bilingual Advocate on an on-call basis when a Spanish speaking community member needs assistance. Ana Jimenez has co-coordinated the Puertas Abiertas Latino LGBT outreach group on a volunteer basis for the last year. Ana's passion for sports and cultural events has helped propel her goal to create diverse schedule of activities that reach a diverse population. This year, Ana co-chaired the Tucson Latin@ Gay Pride planning committee. As part of her efforts, she has traveled to rural communities to spread awareness of Latino LGBT identities and cultures. Ana's vision for Puertas Abiertas include to continue to grow the program's reach and involve more participants as well as expand activities and projects that create visibility of LGBT Latin@s.

GODAT AWARD WINNER - JENNIFER HOEFLE. Jennifer Hoefle earned a Master of Arts in Applied Sociology from Northern Arizona University in 2001. She is an educator with ten years experience. She was an adjunct faculty member for five years at NAU where, among other courses, she taught a Sociology of Sexuality and a special topics course in Race, Class and Gender. Since 2007 she has served the University of Arizona campus. She was the Program Director for Social Justice Education Programs through the Center for Student Involvement and Leadership until 2009. She currently serves as the Program Director for LGBTQ Affairs through the Dean of Students Office. In this role she directs the Safe Zone Training Program, runs an internship program that provides students the opportunity to plan a variety of events and programs, advises Pride Alliance,

and collaborates on an LGBTQ Support Group, among other things.

COMMUNITY ALLY AWARD WINNER - MARI HERRERAS. Mari Herreras, a fifth generation Tucsonan, is an award-winning writer with the Tucson Weekly, and has been working in journalism for more than 18 years. When she's not writing about the ugly and beautiful that makes Tucson weird and wonderful, she writes with a local women's writing collective. An anthology of their poetry and essays will be published next month. When Mari's not writing, she and her husband explore the city with their super-hero and musical-theater obsessed 10-year-old son, remind each other to feed the dogs and cats, and work around their old house.

## Duncan Hunter Warns Of Gay 'Military Takeover'



California Republican Rep. Duncan Hunter

WASHINGTON, DC (Observer Update) - California Rep. Duncan Hunter has warned that gay rights activists won't be satisfied until they take over the military, media watchdog RightWingWartch.org reported.

Hunter, a Republican and a former Marine who fought against repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," made his remarks during an interview with Family Research Council (FRC) President Tony Perkins on the radio show Washington Watch. When Perkins asked whether Duncan was surprised by calls to end continued inequities in the military for LGBT service members, including having their marriages recognized, after the policy that had banned gay and bisexual members from serving openly had ended, Duncan answered that gay rights advocates were determined to take over the military.

"Are they moving faster than you thought they would?" Perkins asked. "No, in fact this is exactly what we knew would happen," Duncan answered. "We're not especially clairvoyant, we can't see into the future, but the homosexual lobby isn't simply pressing to have equal status in the military with people that are heterosexual. They would like a military takeover by the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender community, and that's what they're going to keep pushing for until it happens."

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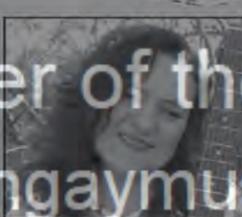
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Saving Our History Since 1967

On Wednesday, October 19, after this publication has gone to press, ballots will be mailed out for the City of Tucson 2011 general election, which is being conducted as vote-by-mail election.

Four political offices are up for consideration in this election, Mayor, and three Council seats in Ward 1, Ward 2 and Ward 4 respectively. Tucson will select a new person to serve as its Mayor. For the three Council seats, the current office holders are facing challengers.

**MAYOR - JONATHAN ROTHSCHILD**

For more than a year, Jonathan Rothschild has been running to become the leader of the City of Tucson Mayor and Council. He has met with many community leaders - including from the LGBT and HIV/AIDS communities, current City Councilmembers, City of Tucson Department Directors and staff, former Mayors and City Managers, in his preparation and during his candidacy.

In addition, he has been at many community events, discussing issues with Tucsonans of all aspects, and taking part in various community projects.

Jonathan Rothschild has done his homework to be prepared to serve. In addition, he has reviewed the City of Tucson's Charter, in existence since 1929, and is prepared to lead, despite what the writer's of the Charter intended for the post he seeks.

He is a longtime business attorney who has served on the board of several large social-service agencies, including as president of Casa de

# EDITORIAL . . .

## City of Tucson General Election: Rothschild, Romero, Cunningham and Scott Are Clear Choices

los Ninos, Handmaker Jewish Services for the Aging and Temple Emanu-El. Rothschild served on the Tucson Parks and Recreation Commission and manages day-to-day operations of a 56-employee law firm. His experience is a good match and necessary for the role of a mayor in Tucson.

**WARD 1 - REGINA ROMERO**

Regina Romero was elected to the Tucson City Council to represent Ward 1, encompassing Tucson's westside, in 2007. For four years, jobs, human rights, and the environment have been the staple of Romero's tenure on the Tucson City Council.

As the Ward 1 Councilmember, Romero created an Economic Recovery Plan to create high-wage long term jobs, focusing on innovation and research. She developed a model small business forum to improve doing business with and in the City. She helped bring investments to Ward 1 in an economic crisis - Meridian Engineering new HQ on the Southside, FBI building, the Mercado and Senior Housing Group on West Congress, and new affordable housing.

Romero is working to save taxpayer dollars. Since 2007 she

has worked to reduce general fund expenditures by more than \$90 million, by merging departments and eliminating expensive director positions. She reduced her own office budget by 20 percent and fought against a pay raise for city council.

**WARD 2 - PAUL CUNNINGHAM**

Paul Cunningham is a Tucson native with 19 years of experience in both professional and volunteer public service. After graduating from Rincon High School in 1992, Paul earned a B.A. from the University of Arizona and a M.S.W. from Arizona State University. He is a 12 year veteran of the Pima County Juvenile Probation Department, and served as a combat medic in the Army Reserve and National Guard from 1993-2001. Cunningham was appointed to the Ward 2 Council seat in 2010, replacing Rodney Glassman, who resigned to run for the U.S. Senate seat, against John McCain. Glassman has endorsed Cunningham in his bid for a full term.

Why is he running? In an interview with the Tucson Weekly, he said, "I really want Tucson to be successful, and I'm the kind of guy who can bring us there. Tucson is one of the greatest cities in the

world, and I love it with all of my heart. ... I think I bring this kind of unique skill set to put people together, collaborate and try to come up with effective solutions. It's not sexy, but it's what gets the job done."

As a Councilmember, Cunningham sponsored 3 graffiti clean-up events; Voted against Rental Tax; Voted against Garbage fee increase; Hosted four document shredding events to help residents protect their privacy; Implemented median adoption programs and neighborhood clean-ups and led the effort to restore the chip-seal program to re-vitalize residential streets.

He has been endorsed by environmental groups, labor unions, public safety organizations and the Tucson Chamber of Commerce. So Paul is living up to his promise to bring people together.

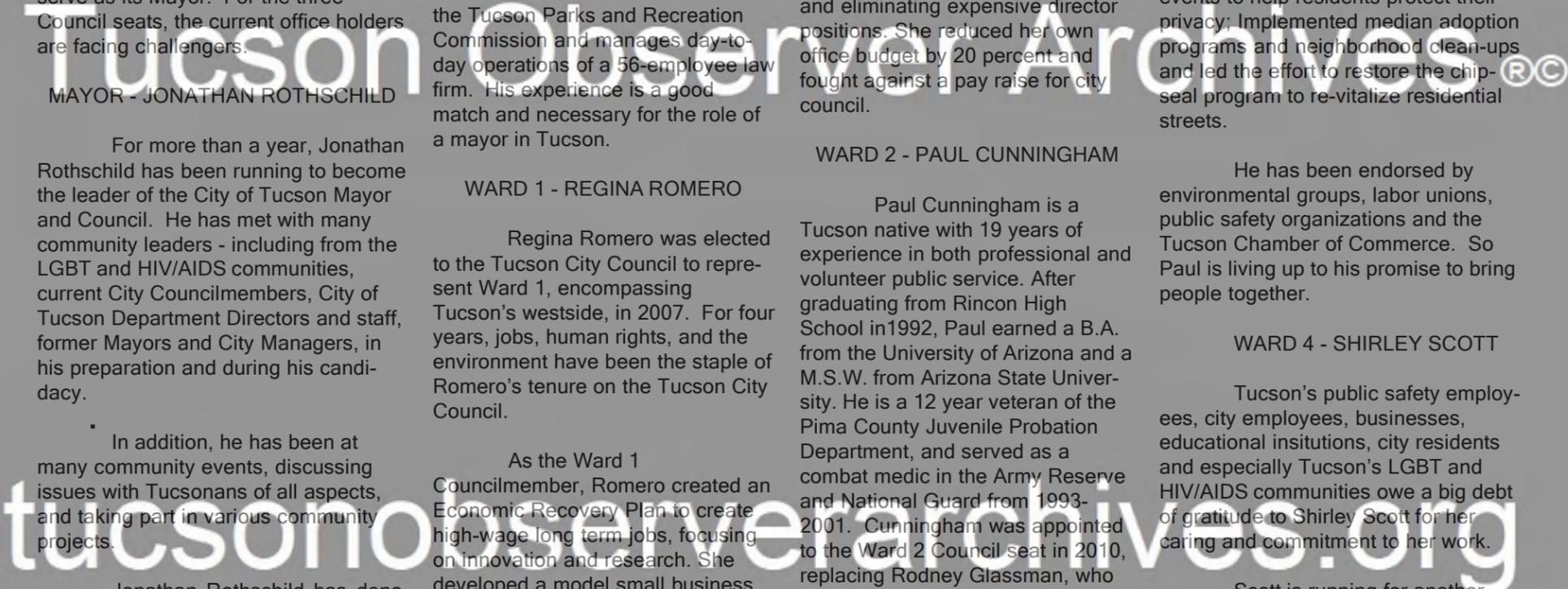
**WARD 4 - SHIRLEY SCOTT**

Tucson's public safety employees, city employees, businesses, educational insitutions, city residents and especially Tucson's LGBT and HIV/AIDS communities owe a big debt of gratitude to Shirley Scott for her caring and commitment to her work.

Scott is running for another term and has a laundry list of accomplishments during her time on the Tucson City Council, including:

Adoption of the Houghton Area Master Plan and continual road and infrastructure improvements in the Houghton corridor and across the East side to make traveling from Point A to Point B safer and more efficient;

Continued on Page Four



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structure improvements to facilitate growth of the UA Tech Park Corridor, home to Global Solar, Raytheon, IBM, Citi-group, U of A Southeast Campus and Vail HS, among others; Creating the environment, particularly on the east side, for continued private sector investment in Tucson; and converting the Ward IV Office building into the first totally solar City building.

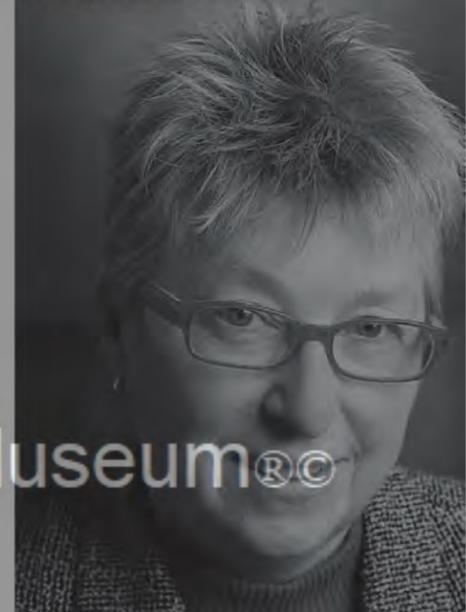
A VOTE FOR

Jonathan Rothschild, Regina Romero, Paul Cunningham and Shirley Scott bring knowledge and a good track record of accomplishments to the Mayor and Council table. Each and every one support the 34 year Tucson anti-discrimination ordinance, the work of the City of Tucson Commission on GLBT issues, the continuing work by SAAF (Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation) and TIHAN (Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Action Network), the City of Tucson Domestic Partner Registry, as well as the work of the City government to protect the rights of all citizens, regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity, perceived or otherwise.

As our community celebrated the 34th annual Pride Festival, Tucson's LGBT and HIV/AIDS communities can cast a vote for Jonathan Rothschild for Mayor and Regina Romero, Paul Cunningham and Shirley Scott for the Tucson City Council, for Ward 1, Ward 2 and Ward 4 respectively, with pride that they will work for our community, unlike their opponents who have never worked with the LGBT and HIV/AIDS communities, said a word in support, or otherwise.

Ballots are being mailed out to all registered Tucson voters, according to the Tucson City Clerk's office, they will be mailed Wednesday, October 19. For questions or more information, call the City Clerk's Election Office, 791-3221.

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**EDITORIAL...**

Continued from Page Three  
Successful annexation and development of the UA Science & Tech Park, an incubator for 21st Century hi-tech jobs in Tucson;

Facilitated successful land swap between KB Home and the UofA Tech Park in order to allow the UofA Bio Sciences Center at the Bridges Project on 36th and Kino; both projects valued at \$10 million in sales tax per year for the City of Tucson General Fund; Sponsored the deferral of impact fees with the goal of reducing up-front costs on projects, to create jobs sooner rather than later;

Strengthening the Tucson Housing Trust Fund to help families purchase new homes; Brought to Mayor and Council the concept of deferring elements of the Land Use Code for up to five years as a means to facilitate the expansion of existing businesses in the inner city; Establishment of a Police Substation and

two new Fire Stations in Ward 4, greatly enhancing public safety on the Southeast side;

Creation of the Clements Recreation Center, a regional center for fitness, nutrition and wellness support for all ages; Major improvements to Pantano River Park; Saving Fantasy Island for bicycling enthusiasts; Stopped the construction of an incinerator plant near the intersection of Harrison and Irvington that could have created a health hazard in the region and would have devastated land values; Organized a Task Force of alternative energy experts to review the best options for Tucson for renewable sources of energy, which determined through extensive research that Solar is the best renewable energy for Tucson; the extensive solar project at Davis Monthan Air Force Base is as a direct result of report of the Task Force on Renewable Energy;

Establishment of the Jobs for Tucson Advisory Board, bringing

together private and public sector partners, neighborhood representatives, and environmental and labor leaders to generate job-creation solutions and foster trust and collaboration; Leadership on City/County negotiations over the water and wastewater, with an eye toward economic impacts during the implementation of each of the goals; Resolved scores of issues between developers and neighborhoods to the satisfaction of both in order to facilitate the creation of jobs; Have worked to protect \$30 billion/year industry with meaningful jobs at the critical national security facility, Davis Monthan Air Force Base; helped establish the the Joint Land Use Act that shielded DM from future encroachment.

Worked with Council Member Regina Romero to extend approved development plan protections for up to five years to eliminate extensive development costs that the private sector would have experienced through the need to re-submit their development plans; Road and infra-

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Saving Our History Since 1967

# Much Ado About Nothing

Jack Melichar

How time flies when you're having fun - or maybe not having fun. Anyway, it is time to get my butt busy and write another article.

I was pleased to see that Melody Louise is back playing at The New Moon. I was not so pleased to see the support - or rather lack thereof - she received from the community. It would seem to me that given the opportunity to enjoy first rate entertainment with no admission charge would entice almost everyone to line up. Ah, but I often forget that ancient admonition advising all to refrain from casting pearls before swine.

For those who simply forgot, Melody will be performing again soon, and you will have a couple of more opportunities to be entertained. She will be at the Moon on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7:30. Hope to see you there. I will be taking attendance!

As everyone is now aware, last week-end Tucson celebrated Pride in the Desert. Certainly not as much fun as it was a few years ago when it was an occasion for meeting up with old

friends and not being particularly interested in how much money was raised. It seems that like everything else it has become a scheme for raising money.

I read with great interest one of the posters I saw advertising the event. On the poster it was proudly pointed out that since 2001, Tucson Pride Inc. has given back over \$45,000 to Tucson non-profit organizations. If my math does not fail me, that amounts to about \$4,500 per year. If that is split among the various organizations, I think they would be better off having a bake sale. Then we could all go to the 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue Street Fair, see our friends, avoid paying 10 of 15 dollars a pop, and still be able to buy items we don't need at highly inflated prices - just saying.

On a sad note, British IndyCar driver Dan Wheldon was killed in a massive crash at Las Vegas Indy 300 on Sunday. Wheldon was one of 15 drivers involved in the pile up. He won the Indy 500 in 2005 and 2011, and leaves a wife and two young sons. Wheldon was 33.

# Log Cabin Republicans And A Racially Charged Interview

NEW YORK (Observer Update) - Have you ever been in the middle of an interview on a globally-broadcast radio show and realized you just said something that, from a certain perspective, probably sounded boneheadedly racist? Have you ever then watched in horror as your public profile was dragged through the gutter and you were stripped of your title in a political organization you've loved and labored in for years? No? Me, neither! But that's the experience Bob Schlein, the just-sacked head of the Dallas Log Cabin Republicans, towleroad.com reports.

Here's what happened: In September, he published an essay in the Dallas Voice entitled "Why I will vote Republican in 2012." The essay earned him an appearance on the Michelangelo Signorile Show on Sirius XM Radio (where, full disclosure, I'm a guest news anchor), where the two men briefly argued about non-discrimination laws. Schlein thinks they're pretty useless. At some point, these words were exchanged (as transcribed by Signorile's people):

Schlein: Texas is a right to work state. So as an employer, which I am, I can fire anyone at will, there's no such obligation.

Signorile: You can't fire someone for being black -

Schlein: I can them for what ever reason I want -

Signorile: You cannot fire someone for being African-American...

Schlein: Well, I wouldn't tell them...

Signorile: Well, you wouldn't tell them, but you'd do it anyway?

Schlein: Well, I sure wouldn't tell them... I'd find a reason if I wanted to fire them...

Signorile: You'd find a reason

to fire someone because they're black?

Schlein: I'd find a reason if I wanted to fire anybody not respective of race. It's not about race.

You can see how Schlein tried to salvage the exchange at the end there, but it did no good. The national Log Cabin Republicans have sacked Mr. Schlein and dissolved his chapter of the Log Cabin Republicans, while simultaneously beginning a new chapter in Dallas under different leadership. Mr. Schlein thinks he was sacked because he was getting too chummy with GoProud. The LCR have their own explanation. According to R. Clarke Cooper, the group's executive director:

When the leadership of one of our chapters chooses to undermine the credibility, effectiveness and mission of Log Cabin Republicans through their actions, we are forced to enact corrective measures for the good of the greater organization. It is unfortunate that the former leadership of Log Cabin Republicans of Dallas, particularly its president Rob Schlein, have engaged in a consistent pattern of behavior that detracts from the mission of our organization. After all due consideration and efforts at reconciliation, the Board of Directors have decided to begin anew, ensuring that our mission of fighting for freedom can be at its strongest in Dallas and across the country.

Apparently, the national LCR is for anti-discrimination laws, and failing to toe the party line is a very big mistake. Though if you ask me, it probably wouldn't have been as big a mistake if Mr. Schlein hadn't soundly vaguely racist while committing it.

But is Mr. Schlein a racist? It seems like Mr. Schlein was trying to explain that if an employer is racist, anti-discrimination laws won't necessarily stop him from firing someone on account of race. Am I reading this right? Was Mr. Shlein's gaffe a dumb slip of the tongue, or something else?

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**WOODY'S....WHERE NIGHT TURNS INTO PLAY**

Don't Miss Colors First Annual

# ZOMBIE PROM

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Saving Our History Since 1967

# EDITORIAL . . .

## Invest In The Future Of Our Community: Yes On School Bond Measures

In addition to the selection of individuals for Tucson's Mayor and City Council, the Marana, Vail, Flowing Wells, Tanque Verde, Continental and Sunnyside School Districts are holding bond elections as well, as separate elections.

Voters will receive a separate ballot for these elections from the respective school districts, based on the location of the voter's registration.

All but one is an override election. The Sunnyside School District (Proposition 402) would be a bond continuation and would not raise property taxes.

It is important for all registered voters to consider the school district proposals, even if they don't have children, for whatever reason, because it is investment in this community's future, since the State Legislature doesn't believe in an educational system, cutting the funding, which in turn, decimates a community's potential for its population, and importantly, to be able to attract businesses looking for an educational system to train a potential workforce.

Vote yes for our community and invest in our future, as well as ensuring a future for our community.

## Zachary Quinto Comes Out Gay



NEW YORK (Observer Update) - Actor Zachary Quinto has announced he's gay, ontopmag.com reports. Previously, the 34-year-old Quinto had neither denied nor confirmed rumors that he's gay.

While discussing his role as Louis Ironson, a gay man, in the off-Broadway revival of Tony Kushner's groundbreaking AIDS drama *Angels in America*, Quinto told New York that the play was the "most challenging thing I've ever done as an actor, and the most rewarding." Then he added: "At the same time as a gay man, it made me feel like there's still so much work to be done, and there's still so many things that need to be looked at and addressed."

best known for playing a young Spock in the 2009 J. J. Abrams-directed *Star Trek* reboot, said "boundaries are very important to me" in refusing to answer questions about his sexuality in a *The New York Times* interview. Quinto also refers to himself as a "gay man" later in the interview, when asked about marriage equality and the recent suicide of Jamey Rodemeyer, a gay teen who was bullied to death.

"Where's this disparity coming from, and why can't we as a culture and society dig deeper to examine that? We're terrified of facing ourselves," Quinto said. Quinto plays gay in the cabler FX drama *American Horror Story*.

About this time last year, Quinto,

## Mitt Romney's Gay Rights Flip-Flop Slammed By Obama Strategist David Axelrod

WASHINGTON, DC (Observer Update)- Mitt Romney's changing positions on gay rights have been slammed by President Obama strategist David Axelrod. Axelrod made his comments during an interview broadcast Sunday on ABC's *This Week*, ontopmag.com reports.

When host Christiane Amanpour asked Axelrod whether he believes Romney will be the GOP nominee to

face Obama in 2012, Axelrod answered that the Romney campaign appears to be stuck in neutral. "I really don't know. There was a poll out this week that showed him at the same 23 percent he's been throughout the race. Now Herman Cain is leading the primary. The last poll Rick Perry was leading it. Earlier Michele Bachmann was doing very well. But Romney stays the same."

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WASHINGTON, DC (Observer Update)- Mitt Romney's changing positions on gay rights have been slammed by President Obama strategist David Axelrod. Axelrod made his comments during an interview broadcast Sunday on ABC's *This Week*, ontopmag.com reports.

face Obama in 2012, Axelrod answered that the Romney campaign appears to be stuck in neutral. "I really don't know. There was a poll out this week that showed him at the same 23 percent he's been throughout the race. Now Herman Cain is leading the primary. The last poll Rick Perry was leading it. Earlier Michele Bachmann was doing very well. But Romney stays the same."

"Why? Because I think there is this question about what his core principles are," Axelrod said. Citing Romney's positions from when he was running for U.S. Senate and Massachusetts governor, Axelrod said that Romney is too willing to shift for political gain. "Then he was a pro choice, pro gay rights, pro environmental candidate for office. Then he

decided to run for president. Did a 180 on all of that."  
  
"So time and time and time again he shifts - and you get the feeling that there is no principle too large for him to throw over in pursuit of political office." "If I were Governor Romney, I'd be worried about all these changes in position and ... what kind of message that sends to voters," Axelrod added.

# Gay Rights Pioneer Frank Kameny Dies At 86



Pioneer Activist Frank Kameny, shown here shaking hands with President Obama in the Oval Office

WASHINGTON (Observer Update) - Frank Kameny, who became a pioneer in the gay rights movement after he was fired from his job as a government astronomer in 1957 for being gay, has died at his home in Washington. He was 86, the AP reported on huffingtonpost.com.

Bob Witeck, a friend of Kameny's for three decades, confirmed his Tuesday death. Kameny had been in failing health, and a medical examiner said he suffered a heart attack or heart failure, Witeck said.

Plans for a memorial in November were being discussed, Witeck said.

Gay rights groups mourned his passing, noting it was National Coming Out Day, when many gay people celebrate coming out and encourage others to have the courage to do the same. "While so many have been impatient about the pace of progress, there was Frank, insisting we recog-

nize that, in the last two years, he was regularly invited as a guest of honor by the very government that fired him simply for being gay," said a statement by Rea Carey, the executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

Joe Solmonese, the president of the Washington-based Human Rights Campaign, said in a statement that Kameny "set a path for the modern LGBT civil rights movement."

Kameny told The Associated Press in 2009 that his contributions to the gay rights struggle had only recently begun to sink in. He said at the time he wanted to be remembered most for coming up with the slogan "Gay is Good" in 1968 to counter an onslaught of negativism aimed at gays and lesbians.

Kameny had been an astronomer for just five months when he was asked to meet with federal investigators. They told him they had information he was gay, and he was dismissed.

Kameny didn't leave quietly, however. He contested his firing by the U.S. Civil Service Commission by writing letters to the agency, both houses of Congress and eventually the White House.

He sued and lost in lower courts, but pressed on with a lengthy brief in 1961 that is now regarded as the first civil rights claim based on sexual orientation to be brought to the U.S. Supreme Court. Soon after, he co-founded the Mattachine Society of Washington, which advocated for equal rights for gays and lesbians.

In 1965, Kameny and 10 others became the first to stage a gay rights protest in front of the White House and later at the Pentagon and elsewhere. Many of Kameny's signs as well as buttons and leaflets from that time are now housed at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History.

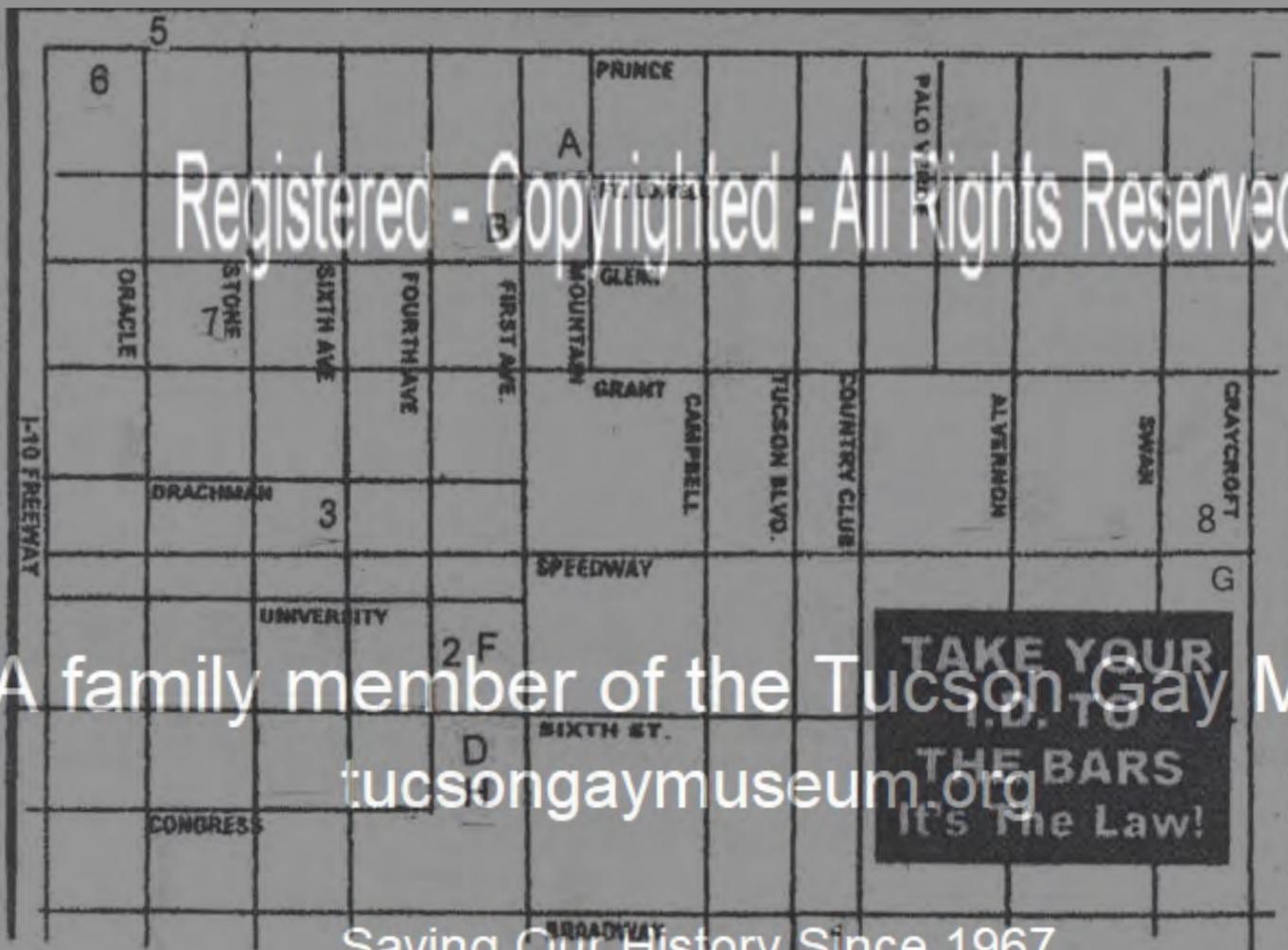
In the last years of his life, Kameny was increasingly recognized for his work as a gay rights pioneer. He was honored in 2009 during Washington's

annual Capital Pride celebration and that same year received a formal apology for being fired solely based on his sexual orientation. The apology came from the successor to the U.S. Civil Service Commission, the U.S. Office of Personnel Management. The office is headed by John Berry, who is openly gay, and Kameny attended his swearing-in.

When gay marriage became legal in the nation's capital in 2010, Kameny was at the first weddings.

"Being gay has become infinitely better than it was," he said earlier this year when documents from his collection of gay rights history went on display for the first time at the Library of Congress. "The fundamental theme underneath all of that is simply equality."

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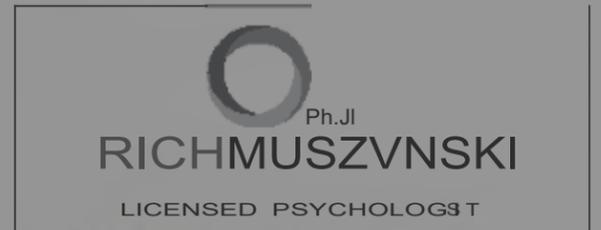
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Steve Wagner, MSW, LCSW

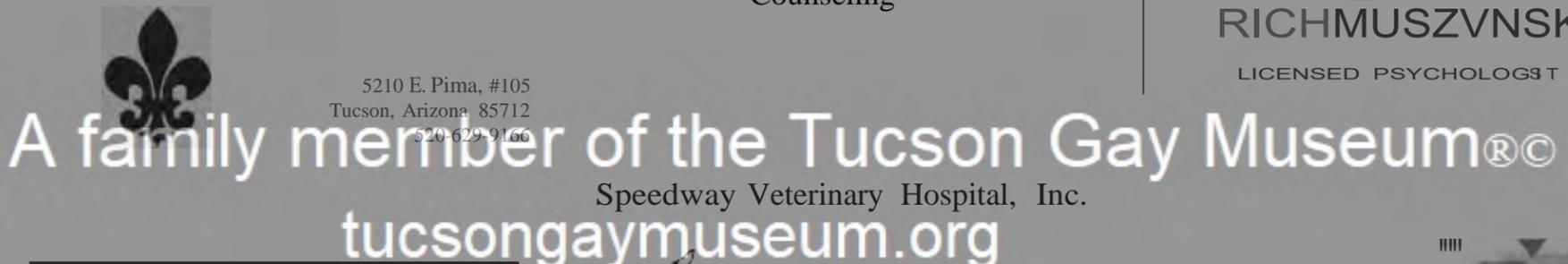
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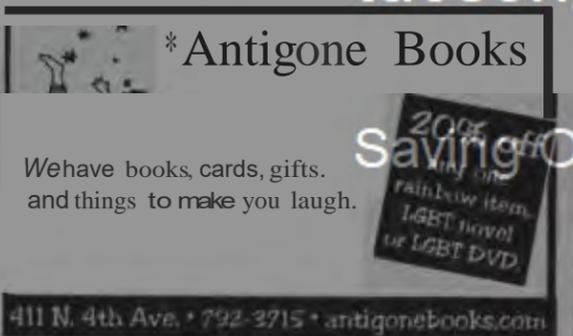
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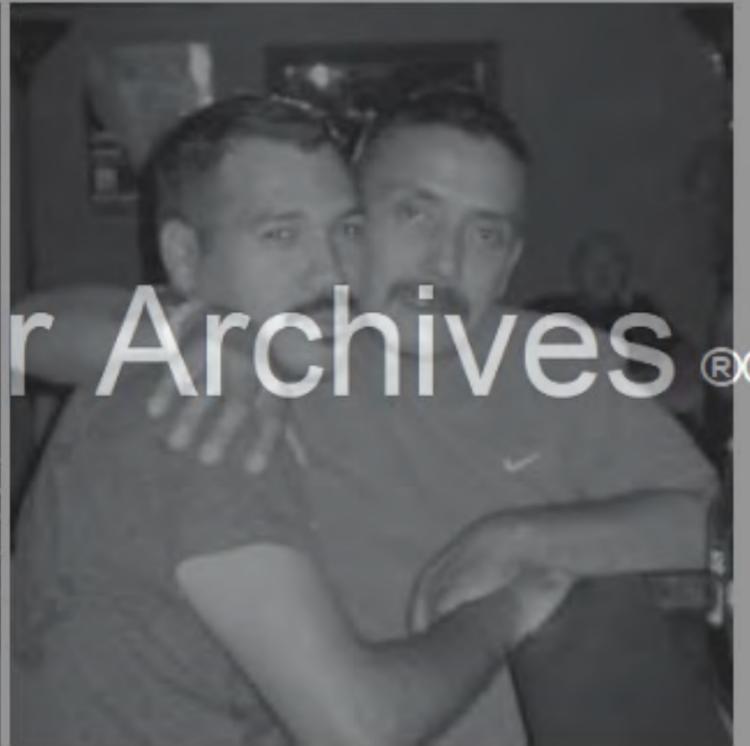
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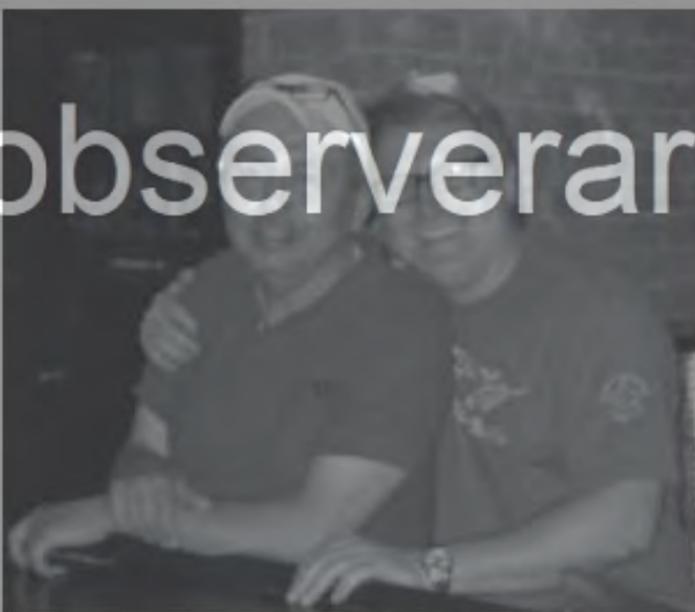
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# Poet's Corner

DOGTOWN by Ron Rose - Tucson

The cobbled streets of Milkbone, where sleeping dogs do lie,  
 In Dogtown, Arizona, beneath the desert sky  
 The Mayor is Pat Pit bull, no gangs do rumble here  
 Graffiti non existent, pit bulls in still such fear  
 Border collies hunt illegals, chihuahuas go to jail  
 Coyotes sent to prison, they're carried by the tail  
 Policing is terrific, police dogs do their job  
 Our police chief rides a Harley, and really scares the mob  
 Deputy Rottweiler, rides shotgun at his side  
 A nasty doby pincher, along just for the ride  
 Our ethnicle population, in ghettos they do dwell  
 French quarter for the poodles, their houses are quite swell  
 The English are so proper, Spaniels, Setters, too  
 They seldom come a "cropper" the Queen would love this crew  
 These Irish, these Red Setters, chase rabbits all the day  
 The Afghans have their habits, strange in every way  
 We also have our athletes, Boxers lead the list  
 If I failed to mention them, they'd hit me with their fist  
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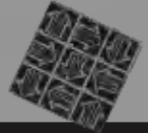
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## The Way I Saw It. . .by Gary Clark



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!

## SAVE TUCSON'S LGBT HISTORY!

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Tucson LGBT Museum (Tucson Gay Museum)

## Pressure On Anheuser-Busch To End Support For Homophobic UFC

LAS VEGAS (Observer Update) - Nevada equality and union activists recently sent a letter to Anheuser-Busch, urging the company to end its sponsorship of the Ultimate Fighting Championship following repeated incidences of antigay animus from athletes and executives, advocate.com reports.

Culinary Workers Union, Local 226, Howard Watts III of the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network of Southern Nevada, and Laura Martin of the Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada (UFC's parent company is based in Las Vegas), the letter said it was incongruous for Anheuser-Busch to sponsor gay pride events as well as the UFC.

The letter was addressed to Luiz Fernando Edmond, head of Anheuser-Busch's North American operations. Signed by LGBT activist Cleve Jones, Derek Washington of the Stonewall Democratic Club of Southern Nevada, Geoconda Arguello-Kline of

The letter mentioned specific antigay incidents from players and officials, including a homophobic rant from UFC president Dana White where he dropped the "F word" 34 times.

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# Daily Bar Calendar

## SUNDAY

THE BIZ - Closed Sunday, Monday, Tuesday  
 BRODIES - Open 10am - 2am. Happy Hour 10am-8pm  
 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.  
 NEW MOON - Open 4pm. Happy Hour 4-8 = \$2 well, dom longnecks, dom pints, or New Moon shots. Kitchen open 5-9pm. Check our calendar for special events.  
 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  
 BRODIES - Open 10am-2am. Happy Hour 10am-8  
 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".  
 NEW MOON - Closed Mondays  
 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.  
 IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, \$2 Well or Domestic Beer.  
 8pm-close "2'sDay" - \$2 Well or Domestic Beer. DJ 9pm-close.  
 NEW MOON - Open 4pm. \$2 well, dom. Long necks, pints New Moon Shots. Kitchen open 5-9. Women's Texas Hold 'em poker 6pm. Karaoke 8pm.  
 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.  
 IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, \$2 Well or Domestic.. 11pm - -close "Reverse Happy Hour".  
 NEW MOON - Open 4pm. \$2 well, dom. Long necks, pints New Moon Shots. Kitchen open 5-9. \$2 off appetizer menu items\* with drink purchase (priced \$4 or higher).  
 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.  
 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.  
 NEW MOON - Open 4pm. \$2 well, dom. Long necks, pints New Moon Shots. Kitchen open 5-9. Free Nachos 5-7. New Babies Drag Show 8pm. Check out the new talent!  
 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.  
 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.  
 NEW MOON - Open 4pm. \$2 well, dom. Long necks, pints New Moon Shots. Kitchen open 5-9. Women's Texas Hold 'em poker 6pm. Karaoke 8pm. First and Third Fridays are country, with dance lessons at 7pm and country DJ 8:30.  
 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 styling 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.  
 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 Spinning inside & 10pm-close, DJ Mike Lopez with the "Party on the Patio".  
 NEW MOON - Open 4pm. \$2 well, dom. Long necks, pints New Moon Shots. Kitchen open 5-9. Cheeseburger & Fries \$5.  
 WOODY'S - Open 11am-2am; Happy Hour 10am-8pm (excl spec events); Full Menu Kitchen open 11am-11pm. .

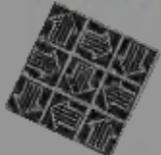
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# Gays In Military: "Inclusion Without Equality Is Incomplete"



LAS VEGAS (Observer Update) - Amid the joy of meeting in public for the first time and with the novelty of the repeal of "don't ask, don't tell" receding, active-duty military personnel at their first conference here shifted focus to the rest of their agenda, reported huffingtonpost.com.

"Inclusion without equality is incomplete," said Sue Hyde of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force during a session at the inaugural OutServe Armed Forces Leadership Summit. "The job is not done."

Or, rather, jobs. A survey of 530 members of OutServe, which was until the Sept. 20 repeal of DADT an underground network of gay and lesbian military personnel, rated their most important priorities. Topping the list was pressing the Pentagon for partner benefits and repealing the Defense of Marriage Act, which bars recognition of same-sex marriage. OutServe members also cited identifying discriminatory conduct within the ranks and highlighting the positive contributions of gay and lesbian personnel. Last on the list, at least to start, is pushing to change Pentagon rules that still bar transgender people from serving.

Here's a closer look at the to-do list for gays in the military:

Ending disparities in partner and family benefits.

Efforts are under way in Congress to repeal DOMA, although advocates privately concede their prospects remain bleak as long as Republicans control the House.

The Obama administration has said DOMA is unconstitutional, and the Justice Department will no longer defend it in court. But House Republicans have said they will spend taxpayer money to defend the statute, so the issue is expected to be settled in federal court.

Even if DOMA is repealed, gay rights groups also must deal with Title 10 of the U.S. Code, which pertains to the armed forces. It defines a spouse as a person of the opposite sex when it comes to military benefits.

Together the two laws work to bar gay and lesbian couples from many of the military benefits enjoyed by straight couples. Those include everything from commissary shopping privileges to space-available travel on military aircraft to burial in national cemeteries. But the two biggest are health care coverage and housing aid, which together can amount to 40 percent of a service member's total compensation.

OutServe founder Josh Seefried said the first priority is to address that inequality. "There are now two different classes in the military for the first time since before African Americans were integrated into the armed forces [in 1948]," he said. "Commanders will see gay soldiers paid less, not having spousal relocation rights, and that will have effects on unit cohesion."

In a letter to Defense Secretary Leon Panetta in August, the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network urged him to take whatever equality measures he could within the confines of DOMA, including making same-sex married couples eligible for joint duty assignments, family center programs and military family housing.

Increasing protection against discrimination.

Unlike race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability and age, sexual orientation is not part of the Military Equal Opportunity program aimed at eliminating bias against service members. SLDN Executive Director Aubrey Sarvis said sexual orientation "got lost" in the political bartering over repealing DADT.

Continuing harassment and a lack of redress will leave some uncomfortable about coming out of the closet, Seefried predicted. He noted that, despite more than a decade of gays serving openly in the British military, there is currently not a single openly gay Royal Marine.

Preserving recent wins.

The OutServe conference may be a milestone for gays in the military, but "we already see opponents who would roll back the clock if they could," Sarvis said.

The chairman of the House Armed Services Committee has said he

would rather not pass a defense authorization bill than allow military chaplains to perform same-sex marriages, even though the Pentagon has said they may. All Republican presidential candidates except Ron Paul and Jon Huntsman have said that, if elected, they would revisit the repeal of DADT with an eye to reinstating the ban on open homosexuality.

Changing and upgrading past discharges.

Now that being gay and out is no longer a bar to military service, veterans ousted because of their sexual orientation may want to alter their discharge papers to remove information that might be held against them by civilian employers or that contains troubling or outdated notations.

More than 14,500 gay and lesbian service members received honorable discharges under DADT that nonetheless listed "Homosexual Conduct," "Homosexual Admission" or "Homosexual" as the reason for separation. Those words are written on the DD-214 form that many employers ask to see when considering whether to hire a veteran. The forms can out veterans and hurt their job prospects in conservative areas of the country at a time when the economy is already working against them, Sarvis said.

A much larger group of veterans were ousted for being gay before DADT. More than 100,000 service members were given general, "dishonorable" or "undesirable" discharges between World War II and 1993, when the military had a blanket ban on homosexuals. Since the repeal of DADT, a growing number have sought to upgrade or cleanse the characterizations on their separation papers. A few have succeeded, but on a case-by-case basis and only after lengthy and expensive legal appeals.

"This is about restoring some measure of dignity and integrity," Sarvis said, adding that SLDN is in talks with the Pentagon to streamline the process so that the records for discharges based solely on sexual orientation can be changed en masse.

Allowing transgender people to serve.

This is by far the most sensitive issue remaining for the military's LGBT community. Of a dozen workshops, the session on transgender service was the only one that organizers insisted be off the record for the media.

The repeal of DADT did not cover those who have had genital surgery or identify themselves with the opposite gender. There is no statutory prohibition against transgender military service, but the American Psychiatric Association considers transgender individuals to be suffering from Gender Identity Disorder, which constitutes a medical disqualification from service.

The same association removed homosexuality as a medical disorder in 1973, which toppled a key barrier to military service. It's now revising its Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-V), with a new version due in May 2013. Transgender advocates are pushing to reclassify their condition so that under certain conditions they would be eligible for military service.

The diagnostic label is "a huge barrier and a challenge of great magnitude," said Sarvis, who chose his words carefully in an interview that reflected a level of discomfort about transgender issues that other gays – including participants at OutServe – rarely acknowledge outside their community. He noted that a bill to bar discrimination based on sexual orientation is currently stalled in the Senate because it includes transgender people.

Still, according to SLDN's legal director, David McKean, 5 to 10 percent of calls to the group seeking legal advice are from transgender people silently on active duty or considering enlisting. He said there are no statistics on the number currently serving. McKean said the push to welcome transgender people openly into the military is just beginning and that advocates must first agree on a strategy and education program before they can make their case to the public and the Pentagon.

But there was consensus at OutServe that the issue must be on its agenda. "We all came to the dance together and we all should leave together, including the Marine Corps Ball," said Danny Ingram, national president of American Veterans for Equal Rights and one of the first gay soldiers to be discharged under DADT. "We cannot let our transgender brothers and sisters down."

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