



Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

WEEKLY OBSERVER

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Day Of Silence Observed



DAY of SILENCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - Hundreds of thousands of students at thousands of schools nationwide took part in the National Day of Silence to bring attention to anti-LGBT name-calling, bullying and harassment, 365Gay.com reported.

Students from more than 8,000 middle schools, high schools and colleges registered as participants in last year's Day of Silence. This year the number is expected to be higher. Students typically participate by remaining silent throughout the school day, unless asked to participate in class. The Day of Silence was created by University of Virginia students in 1996 and became a national event in 1997. The Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network became the national sponsor in 2001.

To bring attention to this problem of anti-LGBT bullying, many students handed out speaking cards on the Day of Silence, which read: "Please understand my reasons for not speaking today. I am participating in the Day of Silence (DOS), a national youth movement bringing attention to the silence faced by Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender people and their allies. My deliberate silence echoes that silence, which is caused by anti-LGBT bullying, name-calling and harassment. I believe that ending the silence is the first step toward building awareness and making a commitment to address these injustices. Think about the voices you are not hearing today."

Some students held the day this year in memory of Carl Walker-Hoover, an 11-year-old from Springfield, Mass., who took his life April 6 after enduring constant bullying at school, including anti-LGBT attacks. Carl, who did not identify as Gay, would have turned 12 today. It was at least the fourth suicide of a middle-school aged child linked to bullying, the GLSEN said.

Earlier this month, the parents of a Mentor, Ohio, high school student filed a federal lawsuit in connection with their son's suicide. Mohat, 17, went home from school on March 27, 2007, put a gun to his head and pulled the trigger. In a federal lawsuit, the parents of Eric Mohat allege that he regularly "was called 'Gay,' 'fag,' 'queer' and 'homo' among other names" and that the school did nothing to prevent it. A 2007 study by GLSEN of more than 6,000 LGBT students found that nearly nine out of 10 LGBT youth reported being verbally harassed at school in the past year because of their sexual orientation, nearly half reported being physically harassed and about a quarter reported being physically assaulted. "The Day of Silence is a positive event during which students bring attention to the pervasive problem of anti-LGBT bullying in our nation's schools, a problem far too often ignored," GLSEN Executive Director Eliza Byard said. "It is inspiring to see so many young people take action to make their schools safer."

Iowa Orders Clerks To Comply With Marriage Ruling

DES MOINES, IA (Observer Update) - Iowa state officials have told county clerks they must comply with the state Supreme Court ruling allowing same-sex couples to obtain marriage licenses, 365Gay.com reported. In an e-mail to all 99 county clerks, the Department of Public Health which registers marriages in Iowa said that clerks must "issue marriage licenses to same sex couples in the same manner as licenses issued to opposite gender applicants."

A spokesperson for the department said that it had received an inquiry from at least one clerk asking if the ruling applied throughout the state or just in Polk County, where the original court challenge to the Iowa law limiting marriage to opposite-sex couples was filed. The Attorney General's office also

Gates: Repeal of DADT 'Complex & Difficult'

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates has spoken out for a second time in nearly as many weeks about repeal of the military's "don't ask, don't tell," policy, rawstory.com reported. Gates said repeal of the law is "complex and difficult" and would need to be undertaken "carefully," reports the New York Times. "If we do it," Gates told reporters on his plane after speaking at the Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, "it's important that we do it right, and very carefully."

"The president has made it clear where he wants to go" with the law, Gates responded to an officer earlier in the day at the college. "Everybody in this room knows that this is a complex and difficult problem."

"There is a law. If the law changes so will our policies," he added. "Don't ask, don't tell" is the 1993, Clinton-approved law that prescribes discharge as the remedy for Gay service members who do not remain quiet about their sexuality or do not remain celibate. More than 13,000 members of the military have been fired under the law, according to the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, a group that lobbies for repeal.

Gates reminded the officers that

it took five years for the armed forces to fully enforce former President Harry Truman's 1948 executive order that ended racial segregation in the military. "I'm not saying that's a model for this, but I'm saying that I believe that this is something that needs to be done very, very carefully," Gates said.

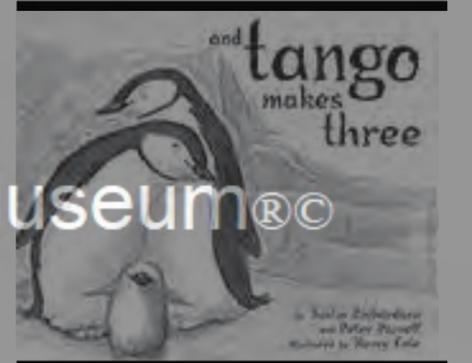
The Obama administration issued a statement in early March that it was discussing repeal of the Gay ban with top Pentagon brass. White House Spokesman Tommy Vietor said the president has "begun consulting with Secretary Gates and Chairman Mullen so that this change is done in a sensible way that strengthens our armed forces and national security." But speaking on Fox News Sunday late last month, Gates said there had been little progress on repealing the law. Chris Wallace asked Gates why money to enforce "don't ask, don't tell" was in the 2010 budget when the Obama administration has pledged its support for repeal. Gates answered that it "continues to be the law."

"We will follow that law, whatever it is," Gates said. "That dialog though has really not progressed very far at this point in the administration. I think the president and I feel like we've got a lot on our plates right now and let's push that one down the road a little bit."

Gay Penguin Book Remains Most Challenged

NEW YORK, NY (Observer Update) - Not everybody loves Gay penguins or "The Kite Runner." Khaled Hosseini's million-selling novel, "The Kite Runner," about friendship and betrayal between two Afghan boys, a book club favorite that became a feature film, was among the releases mostly likely to inspire complaints last year from parents, educators and others, the American Library Association announced, reported 365Gay.com.

"The Kite Runner," which includes a rape scene, has been criticized for offensive language and sexual content. A parent in Champaign, Ill., and a school board official in Morganton, N.C., were among those who challenged "The Kite Runner" last year. The ALA listed 513 challenges last year, an increase of 93 from 2007, but well below the levels of 700 and higher in the 1990s. The ALA defines a challenge as a "formal, written complaint filed with a library or school requesting that materials be removed because of content or appropriateness."



For every challenge tallied, about four or five end up unreported, according to the ALA. For the third year in a row, the most challenged book was "And Tango Makes Three," Justin Richardson's and Peter Parnell's award-winning picture story about two male penguins who become parents. "Tango" was cited for being anti-family, pro-Gay and anti-religion.

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UPDATE

Treasures For TIHAN, May 9

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Treasures for TIHAN takes place on Saturday, May 9, the day before Mother's Day. We'll honor all mothers present by entering you into a special free raffle drawing. We'll also have a special section of items that will make great Mother's Day gifts. And for the first time—we'll be honoring 10 special mothers who make a difference!

We are celebrating the 12th annual "Treasures for TIHAN" benefit auction, and we hope that you can be part of this year's event and help us raise funds to sustain TIHAN's programs and services! This signature fundraising event for the programs and services of the Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN), is coming up on Saturday, May 9 at 6:30pm at the Doubletree Hotel at Reid Park, located at 445 South Alvernon Way (just south of Broadway).

Join us for this festive evening of music, fantastic food, compassionate people, and wonderful auction items to raise funds to make a difference in the lives of those living with HIV/AIDS. For more information, call (520) 299-6647 or go online to tihan.org.

'Evening Of Music And Friends,' May 1

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Ernesto Portillo, Jr. will return to be Master of Ceremonies for the LGBT-Straight Alliance Fund's annual "Evening with Music and Friends," at the wonderful home of Michael Myers and Chas Baumgardner from 6-8:30 p.m. on May 1.

The evening is devoted to enjoyment and features music from the Arizona Jazz Academy Ellington Band, a return engagement from competition-winning guitarist Alvaro Mendizabal, elegant hors d'oeuvres by Gallery of Food, and good drinks.

This is a fundraiser for the many grants given by the Alliance Fund each year. Tickets are \$75 and information is available by contacting Randy Soderstrom at (520) 471-0966, Douglas.noffsinger@comcast.net, or alliancefund@cfsoaz.org.

22nd Annual Reno Gannon Memorial Jell-O Wrestling, May 3

Come to the 22nd Anniversary of the Reno Gannon Memorial Jell-O Wrestling Extravaganza and Benefit Auction presented by Woody's, Sunday, 1:30 p.m., May 3, TEP Park, 2500 E. Ajo, to raise funds for the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF).

Teams of wrestlers raise funds to wrestle in a pit of Jell-O, often with extraordinary costumes and characters and between wrestling matches the hostesses run a live auction of a variety of unique items selected to please the crowd. Funds raised through Jell-O Wrestling assist SAAF with their mission to create and sustain a healthier community through a compassionate, comprehensive response to HIV/AIDS.

The event is named after Reno Gannon. In 1987, Reno Gannon, a bartender at Tucson bar Rumor Hazzit, returned from a vacation in Mexico with an exciting new idea for a fundraising event. The concept? Jell-O Wrestling! Reno spoke with Rumor Hazzit owner Bruce Peg and his management staff of Peter Sitig and Michael Bennett about putting on the event as a fundraiser to help people living with HIV/AIDS. Bruce, Peter, and Michael liked the idea and organized the first Jell-O Wrestling Extravaganza in 1987. Shanti, one of the 3 local AIDS Service Organizations that would later merge to form the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF), was the recipient of event proceeds.

Reno was an energetic, fun-loving, intelligent man in his early 20s when he brought this idea to the community. Committed to doing something to help, he and the owners and management of Rumor Hazzit made the event a reality. At age 23, Reno died from AIDS. The year following his death, the event became a memorial to him. Reno's legacy of hope and dedication to raising public awareness about HIV/AIDS continues through this wonderful event. In the past 9 years alone, Jell-O Wrestling has raised more than \$260,000 for the programs and services of SAAF.

For more information, contact Jess Celentano, (520) 628-7223, events@saaaf.org or online at jello-wrestling.org.

Health Care Survey Wants Your Input

TUCSON - The Health Advisory Council at Wingspan is compiling a "consumer report" of health care services in Southern Arizona.

A confidential survey is posted on the website (www.wingspan.org).

We need feedback from the L,G,B,T,Q community about their experiences with health care practices and providers in Southern Arizona. We want to identify practices and providers who are welcoming and friendly to our community. Please take 5 minutes to go on line to access and complete the survey.

Reveille Concert April 24

TUCSON (Observer Update) - On Friday, April 24, 8:00 p.m., Reveille Men's Chorus will proudly present, "Make 'Em Laugh, Comedy in Music," at the Berger Center for the Performing Arts, ASDB, 1200 W. Speedway Blvd.

Artistic Director Linus Lerner has selected a broad spectrum of music that parodies all elements of this crazy world we are living in. Audience members will be asked to check their sensitivities at the door, all bets are off and political correctness will be out the window. No sacred cow will be left unturned!

Use code: WINGSPAN for online order, or mention WINGSPAN for phone tickets or at the door for a \$5 discount, which will be donated to Wingspan. For more information, go online to reveillemenschorus.org/.

Book Signing Event At Antigone Books

TUCSON (Observer Update) - There is a book signing event at Antigone Books, 1411 North Fourth Avenue, Friday, April 24 at 7:00 p.m.

Mary Ellen Barnes will discuss her new book, *The Road to Mount Lemmon: A Father, A Family, and the Making of Summerhaven* (U of A Press, \$17.95). This beguiling illustrated memoir of the Catalina Mountains is told by the daughter of one of the pioneers in the life and development of Mount Lemmon's communities. Barnes' father resigned from teaching in 1943 to devote his career to the development of this mountain oasis. He sold real estate, bought the village's tiny two-room store, installed a sawmill to build a larger store, and built the Mount Lemmon Inn. As Barnes spins her father's personal saga, she also gives readers a glimpse of the Catalinas before Tucson became a boom town, recalling adventures in the wild country, amid the local cowboys, rangers, ranchers and loggers.

The reading will be followed by a question and answer period. Refreshments will be served.

Calling for friendly and reliable people to join SAAF's Client Services Team as volunteer Peer Counselors.



If you are interested in offering peer support to clients, educating on HIV/AIDS and more, contact Volunteer Resources at 628-7223 or volcoord@saaaf.org

SAAF
Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation



P.O. BOX 50733,
TUCSON, AZ 85703
(520) 622-7176 (Voice)

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Gay West This Saturday!

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Wingspan's outdoor fun fund raiser, Gay West, will take place Saturday, April 25, at Old Tucson Movie Studios, 201 S Kinney Rd., Tucson.

Tickets are \$18 at the gate. Special VIP tickets, which include VIP seating and a reception with Lady Bunny, Neil Giuliano (former mayor of Tempe and GLAAD executive director) and Ruthie & Connie, and Lucinda Holliday are \$50. The festivities begin at 6 p.m. on Saturday, April 25, and continue until the last cowboy and cowgirl have hung up their chaps.

Gay West 2009 is bigger, better, and cooler than ever, with an entertainment lineup that features outrageous drag shows by two female impersonator icons: New York City's nationally-recognized Lady Bunny, and Tucson's own inimitable Lucinda Holliday. A special VIP ticket (\$50) includes a hosted reception with Humanitarian Award winners Neil Giuliano and "Ruthie and Connie" (as seen in "Every Room in the House" on LOGO) as well as International drag star Lady Bunny and Tucson's own Lucinda Holliday, and VIP seating for the shows. Tickets are \$18 at the gate or online at the GayWest2009.com.

The lineup also includes Old Tucson Studios' stunt shows, 'Hypno' Joe, a Hi NRG Dance Saloon, mechanical bull riding, great food and drinks, and much more!

"For over 20 years, Wingspan has been providing opportunities for Southern Arizona's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community to come together and rejoice in all its glorious diversity," said Jason Cianciotto, executive director, Wingspan. "Gay West 2009 will be bigger, better, and cooler than ever as we celebrate with our community at Old Tucson Studios."

Broadway In Tucson Announces 2009 / 2010 Season

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Broadway in Tucson/A Nederlander Presentation proudly announces the 2009/2010 Season, its sixth season of presenting Broadway's best shows and live entertainment downtown at the Tucson Convention Center venues. The 2009/2010 Season features a lineup of two of Broadway's most recent hits alongside two iconic titles at the Tucson Music Hall and a special weeklong holiday event at the Fox Tucson Theatre. It's one ELLE of a season!

The season begins in September with Monty Python's SPAMALOT, the musical lovingly ripped off from the

movie "Monty Python and the Holy Grail." In December, the "musical wonder from Down Under," THE TEN TENORS return to Tucson, this time at the Fox Theatre, to perform some holiday tunes alongside tracks from their latest album Nostalgica. The new year brings the totally fun, totally pink new musical based on the hit MGM film LEGALLY BLONDE. Tucson audiences are sure to LOL at sorority girl-turned-Harvard Law student Elle Woods and her hilarious antics. In February, family-favorite FIDDLER ON THE ROOF comes to the Music Hall, with the film's star TOPOL in his farewell tour. It is one of

Broadway's most touching musicals, with a remarkable score that features popular songs like "If I Were a Rich Man" and "Sunrise, Sunset." The season ends in April with a return engagement of the most popular musical we've ever presented, CHICAGO. It's the irresistible story of fame, fortune and greed...and it's back!

Current season ticket holders will receive renewal materials in the coming days, via email or postal mail, and can complete their order online, by phone at 1-866-821-2929. Season ticket packages range from \$93-\$344. Package prices differ depending on the number of shows you select, what day of week you attend and what seating section you choose. Season ticket holders save up to 20% off regular ticket prices, get priority seating and can exchange their tickets in the event of a scheduling conflict. New season ticket packages will be available on Friday, April 24. Ordering online is the fastest way to reserve season tickets—log on to www.broadwayintucson.com for information on the packages available. You may also order by calling 1-866-821-2929.

Student season ticket packages are also available and offer students (and youth 18 and under) a savings of up to 50% off the regular adult ticket price. Also, an American Sign Language (ASL) interpreted season ticket package (for the five Saturday matinee performances) is available for patrons who are deaf or hard of hearing, with seating in the reserved ASL section. NEW THIS SEASON: \$100 HOLDS IT! Reserve season tickets with a non-refundable down payment of just \$100. This deposit, which applies to the full package price, reserves the best available seats now, while the remainder of the payment is not due until August 1. All "\$100 Holds It" orders are subject to a \$10 fee. Group sales reservations for all shows will begin in July. Ticket buyers purchasing 10 or more tickets are eligible for savings up to 20% off the regular adult ticket price by reserving their group seats in advance. For more information, or to make a group reservation, please contact Broadway in Tucson Group Sales at (520) 903-2929, ext. 4 or groups@broadwayintucson.com.

Donate To The Observer

TUCSON (Observer Update) - So when reading the Observer, either in print or online, consider making a small contribution to help defray the web/Internet costs to help keep the publication free, online and most importantly, weekly. The paper has been financially able to put out a print edition for two weeks, but that doesn't signal rosy times ahead, help is needed.

This publication over the years has beaten the daily newspapers in this town covering the same issues concern the LGBT community and HIV/AIDS and will continue to strive to do so for the future, offering it as a free paper, as it should be and hopefully can continue.

At the website or the blog, people have the option of donating through the PayPal system but for those wanting to send a check, make checks payable to "The Observer," and mail them to P.O. Box 50733, Tucson, AZ 85703 and with "a little help from our friends," we all will get by during these times.

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"Race For The Cure" Fundraiser Big Success



Last Sunday, April 19, over 14,000 women, men, children and pets gathered in Reid Park to support the Susan. G. Komen 'Race For The Cure' breast cancer fundraiser. They competed in a non-competitive 1 mile walk/run, a 3-mile walk/run and a 3-mile race. It was the 11th annual 'Race for the Cure' in Tucson and the 26th annual nationally.

Among the many participants, Ain't Nobody's Biz locally known as "The Biz" participated with their team shown above. All participants are to be congratulated for such a noble "Celebration of Life" event.

Across The Q Globe

The Vatican denounced the criticisms of the pope's comments about condoms and AIDS during his trip to Africa, saying they marked an unprecedented attempt to intimidate him into silence. Pope Benedict XVI said last month that condoms weren't the answer to Africa's AIDS epidemic and could make the problem worse. France, Germany, the U.N. AIDS-fighting agency as well as the British medical journal The Lancet criticized the comments as irresponsible and dangerous. The Belgian parliament passed a resolution calling them "unacceptable" and demanding that the government officially protest. Belgium's ambassador to the Holy See lodged the formal protest April 15, prompting the strongly worded Vatican statement.

Criticizing the Belgian vote, the Vatican said it deplored "the fact that a parliamentary assembly should have thought it appropriate to criticize the Holy Father on the basis of an isolated extract from an interview, separated from its context." It said the remarks had been "used by some groups with a clear intent to intimidate, as if to dissuade the Pope from expressing himself on certain themes of obvious moral relevance and from teaching the Church's doctrine." ...

In Madrid, Spain, a Spanish judge has declared that a man cannot be charged with domestic violence against his husband because a law covering spousal abuse does not cover Gay male victims. Same-sex marriage became legal in 2005. Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero has called it one of his greatest achievements. But a raft of other laws affecting families have not kept up Gay marriage-include domestic violence legislation. The inadequacy of the law came to light this week after a man killed his ex-husband in the town of Adra, in the southern region of Andalucia. The former husband was stabbed to death and the killer then took his own life.

In an interview with the Spanish news service EFE, the President of the Almeria Provincial Court, Benito Galvez, said if the perpetrator had survived he could be charged with murder, but an addition charge of domestic violence could not be brought. Galvez said that

the domestic violence law, written before same-sex marriage became legal, identifies a victim as only being female. It could only be called a Gay domestic violence incident if it had happened between two Lesbians, he said. In the case of the murder-suicide, Adra officials said they intend to regard it as domestic violence and will hold a vigil for the victim. Judge Glavez said the law needs to be reviewed. ...

Jamaica's largest LGBT civil rights group is asking American Gays to reject a boycott of Jamaica and Jamaican products. U.S. rights group TruthWinsOut, founded by 365Gay columnist Wayne Besen, has called for a boycott of the island and some of its most famous products, to protest several violent homophobic incidents and Jamaica's refusal to repeal laws against sodomy. But in Kingston, the Jamaica Forum for Lesbians All-Sexuals and Gays, said the boycott could backfire and result in more violence. "Because of the possible repercussions of increased homophobic violence against our already besieged community, we feel that a tourist boycott is not the most appropriate response at this time," J-FLAG said in a statement. ...

In Dakar, Senegal, An appeals court in the Senegal capital of Dakar overturned jail sentences for nine men convicted on charges of homosexuality. They were sentenced in January to eight years in prison on charges of "indecent and unnatural acts" and "forming associations of criminals." In overturning the ruling, the court ordered the immediate release of the men. ...

Irish Gays and Lesbians are accusing the government of dragging its feet in legalizing same-sex marriage and calling a bill that would grant civil partnerships "insufficient." Nearly 1000 people demonstrated in central Dublin blasting the government for refusing to give Gay people equal rights.



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Arizona Democratic Party Participates In Phoenix Pride

PHOENIX (Observer Update) - The LGBT Caucus of the Arizona Democratic Party had a great time at Phoenix Pride and festival.

Their parade entry was a show stopper! It featured "Michelle and Barack Obama and the Secret Service." The First Family was riding in a black Presidential Prius emblazoned with the presidential seal. When the Secret Service allowed, they stepped out and "worked the ropes." The crowds were really excited to meet them and they had to pose for photographs with watchers every time they stepped out. The group started out right behind the cars with the incumbents, including Matt Heinz. But they quickly outdistanced us walkers and the gap stretched to ten minutes.

The group's booth was good as well. They registered a large number of new voters and new Democrats, got them signed up to vote by mail, and took

names to add to this list. They happened to be across from a booth which featured young male gymnasts who normally perform in the Greek sense of gymnos. They attracted a large crowd all day with their athleticism and they were able to reach many more people as a result.

Continuing in Greek, tremendous kudos go out to CJ Carezza for organizing this spectacular kickoff event for the LGBT Caucus. "We certainly gained fame as a result of the parade and have a very long list of new activists from which to build upon, both for ourselves and for the emerging Stonewall Democrats group in the Valley of the Sun", said Bob Bland. "I will wait for CJ to do the formal list of people who helped since I know only about half of the names." Bob Bland is the Treasurer of the Arizona Democratic Party's LGBT Caucus and chair of the Cochise County Democrats.



OZ Kick Off Party May 14

TUCSON (Observer Update) - Welcome to OZ, Tucson's newest Gay/Gay-friendly mixed bowling league is looking for people who would like to bowl and have fun and will be housed at Tucson Bowl, 7020 E. 21st Street (22nd & Kolb Rd).

They will bowl on Thursday nights, practice at 6:45 pm and bowling at 7:00 p.m. Their inaugural summer season begins with a Kick-off Party on Thursday, May 14 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. with a 13-week schedule running May 21 - August 13 and will end the season with a Fun Night culmination event on August 20. The Kick-off Party will be a time to get information about the league, meet new people, form teams, meet the board members and have fun. Teams will consist of three bowlers each. There will be a \$3 fee for the Kick-off Party which includes shoe rental and 2 hours of

bowling. Take a break from the summer heat and join us for some cool fun - BOWLING! For more information contact us at: welcometoOZ09@gmail.com.

It's never too late to have a ball! - so they look forward to meeting you on Thursday, May 14, 7:00 p.m. at Tucson Bowl, 7020 E. 21st St. (22nd & Kolb Rd).



Woody's

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1:30PM *PATIO BAR OPENS*

2-7PM *BEER BUST FUNDRAISER FOR WOODY'S JELLO WRESTLING TEAMS*

3PM - 7PM *BURGER BAR-B-QUE*

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POLITICS 2009

by Mark R. Kerr

As previously reported, H.R. 1913, the "Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009," which if approved, would expand current federal statutes on hate crimes to include sexual orientation or gender identity, perceived or otherwise, had been introduced in this Congress and assigned to the House Judiciary Committee for consideration.

It has been reported that the House Judiciary Committee has "marked up" H.R. 1913 and will be voted on by the full committee after press time of this publication. If the bill passes out of committee, it will be taken up by the full House of Representatives in the near future . . .

Meanwhile on Capitol Hill, in the wake of the Vermont's Legislature approving the recognition of same-sex marriages and the Iowa Supreme Court decision on the same matter, efforts are ongoing to repeal sections of the Federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), which prohibit the federal legal and governmental recognition of such committed relationships.

According to accounts, a handful of congressional leaders have been hashing out the details of the legislation, which would accomplish two goals: repeal section 3 of DOMA as it relates to the federal government's ability to confer some 1,100 federal benefits on same-sex partners; and provide a way for same-sex couples living in states that do not allow them to marry legally to access the same federal benefits afforded to heterosexual spouses. Section 2 of DOMA would remain in place, defining marriage as between a "man and a woman." . . .

U.S. Representative Jared Polis, D-CO, is considering drafting a federal omnibus measure that would deal with many issues of concern to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community.

In interviews, Representative Polis, one of three openly LGBT members of the U.S. House of Representatives, said his proposed legislation could cover areas dealing with hate crimes, "don't ask, don't tell," and employment non-discrimination, to name three potential topics of his measure. . . .

Back in the Grand Canyon State, Arizona's accidental Governor Jan Brewer, this past week asked the federal government for funding . . . for the state's failed abstinence program, to the tune of \$1-million, despite the poor tracking record for the program, since in 2007, the most recent statistics available, there were 12,972 births to teen mothers, defined as 19 or younger. Of that total, nearly 87 percent of the teens were not married.

Wonderful, the accidental governor asks for money for "Just Say No, No, No," but when it comes to the federal stimulus money, what has Jan done?

Nothing, since signing her "Super Bowl" budget, she hasn't lifted a finger to get Arizona's Legislature to change the funding and guideline rules for education and Arizona's health care program which has put the state's money, close to \$800 million on hold because of the Republican's screw up.

Speaking of screw-ups, this week, specifically Saturday, April 25, will mark the 100th day, the first session of the 49th Arizona Legislature will be operating - the usual date, the Republican leadership of each chamber has blathered on, time and time again, that they would have their "open and transparent" business completed.

As in time past, they haven't, costing the taxpayers to the tune of \$63,000 a day to operate, while the Republican's play whose truck in bigger on non-issues dealing with state sovereignty, guns in bars and Rio Nuevo, in an effort to change the subject away from their incompetence.

So to hear those sweet words, "Sine Die," will be such a welcome relief but it's a tune that is far off the horizon, like the state's recovery thanks to the elephantine efforts of the Arizona Republican Legislative Leadership.

For those conservative readers and money-grubbing fiends, how many of those individuals who support the concept of a flat-tax, actually follow through by using the federal and state EZ income tax forms?

Informing The Community



Massachusetts Men Arrested For Possible Hate Crime



NATION1291-2

Assault and Attack Victim Justin Goodwin

GLOUCESTER, MA - Two men were arrested for attacking a Gay man in what he believes was a hate crime, reported 365Gay.com. The suspects are brothers Jonathan and William Chadwick, ages 23 and 21, respectively. Police charged them with aggravated assault and battery and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon in the beating of Justin Goodwin, 33, of Salem.

Goodwin was attacked early Saturday morning (April 18) outside Old Timer's Tavern in Gloucester. He underwent 10 hours of surgery on Sunday for severe head trauma and currently has no sight in his right eye or hearing in his right ear, the Boston Globe reported.

A close friend who communicated with Goodwin through written notes said he told her the attack was "most definitely" a Gay bashing. Police say the incident is still under investigation.

Maryland G/L Couples Get Tax Break

ANNAPOLIS, MD (Observer Update) - The Maryland general assembly has approved a measure that will exempt same-sex domestic partners who co-own a home from paying state inheritance tax when property changes hands, reported advocate.com.

ents, stepchildren or stepparents, and siblings from paying state inheritance tax when property changes hands. All others pay a 10% tax on the property's value.

The measure, which passed the senate by a vote of 27-18, adds domestic partners to the list. The bill is awaiting the signature of Gov. Martin O'Malley, who intends to sign it.

Current state law exempts spouses, children, parents, grandpar-

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Fight Against Syphilis, AIDS Goes OnLine

CINCINNATI, OH (Observer Update) - As life moves to the Internet, a growing number of public health agencies are signing on to social networking sites - not to find friends but to fight syphilis, AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases, the Associated Press reported on 365Gay.com. Public agencies in Ohio are among the latest to open accounts on online meeting sites in an effort to reach people who may have a sexually transmitted disease and need medical care.

Cleveland's health department opened accounts on two sites this week, and Cincinnati has plans to start an online effort in a couple of months. Columbus Public Health established a presence a year ago on Manhunt, a social networking site for Gay men, and has since added other popular sites. Debra Mullen, who handles online notifications for Columbus Public Health, contacted a man a year ago who did not know he had syphilis. She heard from him again this week. "He got treatment and now is asking whether he needs any follow-up," she said.

Traditionally, health departments have used letters and telephone calls to set up preferred face-to-face meetings with the partners of infected people who visit their clinics, test positive for a sexually transmitted disease, and reveal their partners' names to health officials. But with the Net, the encounters may occur between people who know only each other's online names. Even with that small piece of information, health officials can go to the site, send a message to someone's partner, and advise him or her to contact health officials and provide contact information.

Daniel Pohl of Howard Brown Health Center in Chicago recalls two instances where online notification has done more good than expected. "One client I was in contact with over a couple of months was an escort. I was able to get him to come in for syphilis testing, and he was infected," said Pohl, the center's manager of disease intervention services. "He was treated for that, but was too afraid to get tested then for HIV." Over time, the man agreed and tested positive for HIV a year or so ago when he was 19, Pohl said. "He not only became very involved with his own care, but also got involved with a program that helps other young people with HIV." Pohl said another man who lived with an emotionally abusive male partner was notified and tested negative for HIV and syphilis, but agreed to see a counselor in the center's domestic violence program. "Sometimes the person on the other end of the e-mail may be completely isolated from support services, and this may help them in many ways," Pohl said.

The National Coalition of STD Directors, consulting with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, developed guidelines in 2007 to help public health departments create profiles for confidential online notification. Health officials say the notification cost is minimal - a few thousand dollars for a computer and DSL line dedicated to the program. Rachel Kachur, a researcher with the CDC's STD prevention division, said she is encouraged more health departments are moving to online notification, but the work is not happening fast enough. "The national guidelines help by giving local areas a jumping off point where they can tweak them to fit their needs," she said. "But the goal is to get everyone doing this."

Health departments in San Francisco, Washington, D.C., and Mas-

sachusetts were among the first to begin using social networks to reach a possibly infected person. The Web sites typically used cater to Gays and bisexuals, such as Manhunt and Adam4Adam, but some officials hope to eventually reach the heterosexual population as well. Cleveland, which has seen a rise in syphilis, started a presence on Manhunt and Adam4Adam this week, said David Merriman, project coordinator overseeing HIV/AIDS services for the city. "Our goal is to also be on sites like Facebook where we could reach broader populations, including heterosexual adults and adolescents who wouldn't use sites like Manhunt," Merriman said. In Massachusetts, the state health department has reported a good response since initiating partner notification on Manhunt in 2006. Kevin Cranston, director of the department's infectious diseases bureau, says well over 50 percent of those the agency contacted online responded, with some getting department-documented medical evaluation and treatment and others saying they would seek medical evaluation on their own.

Hundreds Attend Funeral For Anti-Gay Bully Victim

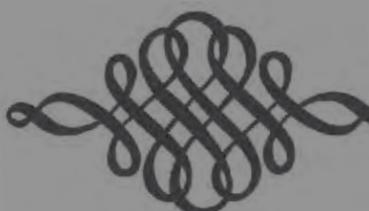


Carl Walker-Hoover

SPRINGFIELD, MA (Observer Update) - Hundreds of people attended a funeral for an 11-year-old boy who hanged himself after enduring months of anti-Gay harassment, reported 365Gay.com. Many of those who went to the church never met Carl Walker-Hoover, but his death and the reasons behind it have galvanized the western Massachusetts community. "The name calling must stop; the bullying must stop," said the Rev. Hugh A. Bair in his eulogy.

Reminders of the grade-six student surrounded the casket - pictures of him in happier days at school and on the football field and a set drums he played at home. The youth was found last week hanging by an extension cord on the second floor of the family home. His mother, Sirdeaner L. Walker, said that the New Leadership Charter School did nothing to stop the bullying, despite her repeated complaints to the school.

The 11-year-old did not identify as being Gay, but Walker said that he suffered taunts and threats from other students who made fun of him, insulted the way he dressed and called him Gay. It was at least the fourth suicide of a middle-school aged child linked to bullying, the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network said.



Miami Beach Hosts First Pride Parade

MIAMI BEACH, FL (Observer Update) - Among the rows of antique cars and colorful floats, Robert Collier and Charles Hunziker, of Fort Lauderdale Is your Fort Lauderdale restaurant clean? - Click Here., marched down Ocean Drive hand in hand in honor of 46 years together and in celebration of the first Miami Beach Pride Parade, the Sun Sentinel reported. "We have been looking forward to today," Collier said. "It's about time that Miami Beach has a pride parade."

The couple met on July 4, 1963, in New York City and remember the difficulties of being openly Gay in that era. A night out to a local club could have landed them a night in jail, they said. "Clubs were frequently raided. It was illegal for Gays to dance together," Collier remembers. He recalls when the overhead lights were turned on, everyone scrambled off the dance floor. But today, he has hope for progress. "I think this generation is open and not afraid," Collier said. Collier and Hunziker were among 17 couples honored at the parade for having been together for more than 20 years.

The parade attracted a host of characters. A group of four women in leotards and fishnet stockings held a sign that read "Yes, we come in heels." Some like Franchesque Richards wore a skimpy flower dress, platform pumps and a big straw hat with purple feathers. Richards, of Fort Lauderdale, was stopped for photos along with friend Ditmar Perner, who was wearing tight jeans and a collar without a shirt. "We try to be involved with everything that supports our community," Richards said. Floats and flatbed trucks filled with

people dancing to loud techno music blew bubbles into the crowd of over a thousand. Behind them was Hector Zuazo's 20 students who marched from Fifth Street to 15th Street and Ocean Drive. Each student held a section of a large pride flag overhead and threw beach balls to the crowd.

"I'm here because I don't want our kids to go through what I went through," said Zuazo, a retired Miami-Dade County public school teacher, who didn't want to miss the opportunity to reach out to the Gay community. "Nonacceptance is ignorance, and I hope that this parade will change that," Zuazo said. "We are just like everyone else. We just have a different orientation when it comes to sex."

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Gay Iowa Senator Receives Death Threat

DES MOINES, IA (Observer Update) - State senator Matt McCoy, the first and only openly Gay legislator in Iowa, received a death threat by telephone, reports the Des Moines Register. Public safety officials said the matter, which McCoy declined to discuss publicly, was reviewed by the Iowa State Patrol at the capitol, then referred to Des Moines police. The senator received the threat via voice message at his private job, according to GayPolitics.com.



Iowa State Senator Matt McCoy

McCoy, a Democrat, has been a vocal advocate of marriage equality, which the Iowa supreme court legalized by unanimous ruling on April 3. Since then, opponents of the ruling have been pressuring state lawmakers to take action against it. Legislative leaders have said they have no intention of considering a constitutional amendment to ban same-sex marriage.

McCoy, 43, represents the 31st district, which includes south and southwest Des Moines. He came out in office in 2004, 365Gay.com reported. In March, McCoy introduced a bill that would make Iowa's marriage laws gender-neutral, but action on it was postponed pending the outcome of the supreme court decision.

Activists Urge Hyatt To End Hypocrisy

WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA (Observer Update) - Activists, workers, and labor leaders including Cleve Jones and the Courage Campaign's Rick Jacobs joined forces outside the Andaz Hotel in West Hollywood to support the continuing battle for marriage equality - by calling attention to the Hyatt chain of hotels and what one group is calling "Hyatt's hypocrisy." The Andaz is owned and operated by the Hyatt Corp., which also operates the Manchester Grand Hyatt in San Diego. That hotel is owned by Doug Manchester, who donated \$125,000 to support Proposition 8, the November 2008 California ballot initiative to ban same-sex marriage. LGBT leaders in San Diego called for a boycott of the hotel in July, and it has since been at the forefront of the battle over same-sex marriage.

The group approached the Andaz's management with a simple message: Hyatt makes a lot of money from the Gay community in West Hollywood...and around the world. "Hyatt, therefore, has an obligation to stand for equality and against the bigotry shown by its business partner Doug Manchester, who seems willing to take our money and our rights," said Jacobs.

Jacobs and Jones, who served as a historical consultant for Milk, were joined by John Cleary, president of Los Angeles Stonewall Democrats, and David Valk, UCLA student activist and organizer of 1fest. The group demanded that Hyatt publicly support marriage equality, and that the company sever all ties with Doug Manchester. "We are not calling for a boycott of the Andaz Hotel, but we will definitely continue to hold Hyatt accountable for their relationship with Doug Manchester," Jones told the crowd, reported advocate.com.

Schools Block LGBT Info Sites, Not 'Ex-Gay' Sites

NASHVILLE, TN (Observer Update) - As many as 107 Tennessee public school districts could be illegally preventing students from accessing online information about Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender issues, according to a letter to sent to school officials by the American Civil Liberties Union, 365Gay.com reported. The letter demands that Knox County Schools, Metro Nashville Public Schools, and the Tennessee Schools Cooperative unblock the Internet filtering category designated "LGBT" so that students can access political and educational information about LGBT issues on school computers.

"When I found out about this web filtering software, I wasn't looking for anything sexual or inappropriate - I was looking for information about scholarships for LGBT students, and I couldn't get to it because of this software," said Andrew Emitt, a 17-year-old senior at Central High School in Knoxville, in a statement released by the ACLU. "Our schools shouldn't be keeping students in the dark about LGBT organizations and resources," Emitt said.

In its letter, the ACLU gives the districts and the Tennessee Schools Cooperative until April 29 to come up with a plan to restore access to the LGBT sites or any other category that blocks non-sexual websites advocating the fair treatment of LGBT people by the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year. If that deadline is not met, the ACLU will file a lawsuit, the letter warned.



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COMMENTARY...

by Deb Price

Obama Puts Out Rainbow-Colored Welcome Mat

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - At a recent White House cocktail party, Gay leaders Joe Solmonese and Rea Carey sipped drinks in the Blue Room and guessed which way President Obama would enter.

Suddenly, the president walked in — right behind Carey. "I said, 'Rea, turn around,'" recalls Solmonese, head of the Human Rights Campaign. "I physically turned her around to see the president." To their happy astonishment, the president didn't just quickly shake their hands on his way to greet the 30 or so other guests that night.

Instead, he asked when hate crimes legislation will reach his desk so he can sign it. And he listened as they stressed the need for a federal ban on job discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity — legislation he supports.

"It was such a sharp contrast to the Bush administration — to have a president that recognizes the issues that our community has been working on for a long time," says Carey, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

The Obama White House invited Gay leaders to the health care and fiscal responsibility summits, the signing of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act and the executive order creating the White House Council on Women and Girls, and an online town hall. Gay parents were encouraged to bring their kids to the Easter egg roll.

The new access, says Solmonese, provides chances to make sure discussions of desired reforms include Gay topics — like how Gay couples are taxed for partner health coverage and not recognized for Social Security survivor benefits.

"I was able to bring to light a number of economic inequalities that (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) people face in the ab-

sence of marriage equality," Solmonese says. "I can't tell you how important it was to have that conversation."

The White House outreach has included Mara Keisling of the National Center for Transgender Equality and Rebecca Fox of the National Coalition for LGBT Health. Gay leaders I spoke with aren't worried that there aren't big policy changes to celebrate just yet. One noteworthy exception: The United States will sign a United Nations declaration calling for decriminalization of homosexuality worldwide.

And Obama is salting Gay talent through his administration. Most noteworthy is John Berry, confirmed by the Senate as director of the Office of Personnel Management. That puts a Gay man in charge of the 1.9 million federal employees, including overseeing their benefits.

Other appointees include Emily Hewitt, an ordained Episcopal priest, as chief judge of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims. A peek at Hewitt's biography on her official court site shows the comfort Obama's Gay choices feel: "Chief Judge Hewitt is married to Eleanor Dean Acheson."

Obama tapped Fred Hochberg to chair the U.S. Export-Import Bank, Harry Knox to serve on the Advisory Council on Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships, and Nancy Sutley to chair the White House Council on Environmental Quality.

Summing up the feelings of so many Gay leaders about the Obama era, Solmonese says, "I feel incredibly hopeful on every front."

(Deb Price of the Detroit News writes the first nationally syndicated column on Gay issues. This column is reprinted from commondreams.org)



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COMMENTARY...

by Frank Rich

The Bigots' Last Hurrah

What would happen if you crossed that creepy 1960s horror classic "The Village of the Damned" with the Broadway staple "A Chorus Line"? You don't need to use your imagination. It's there waiting for you on YouTube under the title "Gathering Storm": a 60-second ad presenting homosexuality as a national threat second only to terrorism. The actors are supposedly Not Gay. They stand in choral formation before a backdrop of menacing clouds and cheesy lightning effects. "The winds are strong," says a white man to the accompaniment of ominous music. "And I am afraid," a young black woman chimes in. "Those advocates want to change the way I live," says a white woman. But just when all seems lost, the sun breaks through and a smiling black man announces that "a rainbow coalition" is "coming together in love" to save America from the apocalypse of same-sex marriage. It's the swiftest rescue of Western civilization since the heyday of the ambiguously Gay duo Batman and Robin.

Far from terrifying anyone, "Gathering Storm" has become, unsurprisingly, an internet camp classic. On YouTube the original video must compete with countless homemade parodies it has inspired since first turning up some 10 days ago. None may top Stephen Colbert's on Thursday night, in which lightning from "the homo storm" strikes an Arkansas teacher, turning him Gay. A "New Jersey pastor" whose church has been "turned into an Abercrombie & Fitch" declares that he likes Gay people, "but only as hilarious best friends in TV and movies." Yet easy to mock as "Gathering Storm" may be, it nonetheless bookmarks a historic turning point in the demise of America's anti-Gay movement. What gives the ad its symbolic significance is not just that it's idiotic but that its release was the only loud protest anywhere in America to the news that same-sex marriage had been legalized in Iowa and Vermont. If it advances any message, it's mainly that homophobic activism is ever more depopulated and isolated as well as brain-dead.

"Gathering Storm" was produced and broadcast — for a claimed \$1.5 million — by an outfit called the National Organization for Marriage. This "national organization," formed in 2007, is a fund-raising and propaganda-spewing Web site fronted by the right-wing Princeton University professor Robert George and the columnist Maggie Gallagher, who was famously caught receiving taxpayers' money to promote Bush administration "marriage initiatives." Until last month, half of the six board members (including George) had some past or present affiliation with Princeton's James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions. (One of them, the son of one of the 12 apostles in the Mormon church hierarchy, recently stepped down.) Even the anti-Obama "tea parties" flogged by Fox News last week had wider genuine grass-roots support than this so-called national organization. Beyond Princeton, most straight citizens merely shrugged as Gay families celebrated in Iowa and Vermont. There was no mass backlash. At ABC and CBS, the Vermont headlines didn't even make the evening news.

On the right, the restrained response was striking. Fox barely mentioned the subject; its rising-star demagogue, Glenn Beck, while still dismissing same-sex marriage, went so far as to "celebrate what happened in Vermont" because "instead of the

courts making a decision, the people did." Dr. Laura Schlessinger, the self-help media star once notorious for portraying homosexuality as "a biological error" and a gateway to pedophilia, told CNN's Larry King that she now views committed Gay relationships as "a beautiful thing and a healthy thing." In The New York Post, the invariably witty and invariably conservative writer Kyle Smith demolished a Maggie Gallagher screed published in National Review and wondered whether her errant arguments against Gay equality were "something else in disguise." More startling still was the abrupt about-face of the Rev. Rick Warren, the hugely popular megachurch leader whose endorsement last year of Proposition 8, California's same-sex marriage ban, had roiled his appearance at the Obama inaugural. Warren also dropped in on Larry King to declare that he had "never" been and "never will be" an "anti-Gay-marriage activist." This was an unmistakable slap at the National Organization for Marriage, which lavished far more money on Proposition 8 than even James Dobson's Focus on the Family.

The Obamas' dog had longer legs on cable than the news from Iowa and Vermont. CNN's weekly press critique, "Reliable Sources," inquired why. The Gay blogger John Aravosis suggested that many Americans are more worried about their mortgages than their neighbors' private lives. Besides, Aravosis said, there are "only so many news stories you can do showing guys in tuxes." As the polls attest, the majority of Americans who support civil unions for Gay couples has been steadily growing. Younger voters are fine with marriage. Generational changeover will seal the deal. Crunching all the numbers, the poll maven Nate Silver sees same-sex marriage achieving majority support "at some point in the 2010s."

Iowa and Vermont were the tipping point because they struck down the right's two major arguments against marriage equality. The unanimous ruling of the seven-member Iowa Supreme Court proved that the issue is not merely a bicoastal fad. The decision, written by Mark Cady, a Republican appointee, was particularly articulate in explaining that a state's legalization of same-sex marriage has no effect on marriage as practiced by religions. "The only difference," the judge wrote, is that "civil marriage will now take on a new meaning that reflects a more complete understanding of equal protection of the law." Some opponents grumbled anyway, reviving their perennial complaint, dating back to Brown v. Board of Education, about activist judges. But the judiciary has long played a leading role in sticking up for the civil rights of minorities so they're not held hostage to a majority vote. Even if the judiciary-overreach argument had merit, it was still moot in Vermont, where the State Legislature, not a court, voted to make same-sex marriage legal and then voted to override the Republican governor's veto.

As the case against equal rights for Gay families gets harder and harder to argue on any nonreligious or legal grounds, no wonder so many conservatives are dropping the cause. And if Fox News and Rick Warren won't lead the charge on same-sex marriage, who on the national stage will take their place? The only enthusiastic contenders seem to be Republicans contem-

Continued on Page Thirteen

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'Kansas City Police Department Cuts Partner Benefits

KANSAS CITY, MO (Observer Update) - In an effort to cope with a \$15 million budget gap, the Kansas City Police Department decided to eliminate health insurance coverage for the domestic partners of department members, a move that would save \$421,293. The decision was made at a special meeting of the board of police commissioners on April 1, according to The Pitch, a local newspaper.

Members of the police department were e-mailed a memo on April 9 that explained the cut. A spokesperson for the department described it as "one area that allowed us to save that much

money and affected so few people."

The move reportedly affects eight department members, only one of whom is Gay. Still, local Gay leaders find the cut unacceptable. "The issue still goes back to the fact that, even though the city has a domestic-partnership registry and we're making all these strides, here's people serving the city who don't have the same benefits," said Nettie Alford, vice president of the Lesbian and Gay Community Center of Kansas City. Community members plan to work with the mayor and police department in order to get the benefits restored.

Teacher Resigns Over Gay Club Field Trip

TRENTON, OH (Observer Update) - A teacher in Butler County, Ohio, resigned amid fallout over her having taken four high school cheerleaders to a Gay dance club, advocate.com reported. Lori Epperson, who taught at Edgewood High School in Trenton, said that while she did take the young women to Club Masque in Dayton, she had received permission from all their parents. One of the students is her daughter.

The women drank at the club and became intoxicated. Epperson said that was the result of their encounter with an acquaintance at the club who bought them shots of liquor and cosmopolitans.

All the cheerleaders are seniors at the high school and were all 17 or 18 years old. The club's website says that patrons must be 18 to enter, and 21 to drink.

Nevada Governor Threatens Domestic Partner Bill Veto

CARSON CITY, NV (Observer Update) - Nevada Gov. Jim Gibbons (R) has thrown down the gauntlet on domestic partner legislation currently before the state Senate, saying that if the bill reaches his desk he will veto it, 365Gay.com reported.

"I just don't believe in it," he told the Las Vegas Review-Journal. Gibbons said he did not think voters agreed with the bill either and noted that in California, voters approved a ballot question last November barring same-sex marriage. Domestic partnerships are essentially the same thing, he said. The bill, however, does not permit marriage, already barred in Nevada, although it does provide the same rights and obligations that married opposite-sex couples have under Nevada law.

ners would have the "same rights, protections, benefits, responsibilities, obligations and duties" as traditionally married couples and be subject to the same divorce laws, such as those involving community property. The bill also has been amended to state public sector employers would not be required to provide health care benefits to employees partners. It does not block similar benefits from being provided in the private sector. It would allow same-sex couples to register their relationships with the secretary of state's office.

The bill was written by Sen. David Parks, an openly Gay Las Vegas Democrat. Parks told the Review-Journal that he still is hopeful of getting the bill passed. "I see the bill as only being on first base," Parks said. "It has a long way to go before getting to the governor."

The bill states domestic part-

N.H. Takes Up G/L Marriage

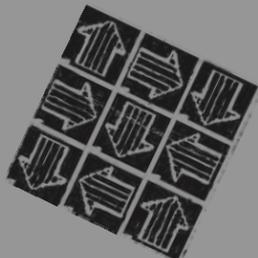
CONCORD, NH (Observer Update) - Supporters and opponents of same-sex marriage filled a New Hampshire Senate hearing room as the Senate Judiciary Committee began hearings on marriage equality legislation, reported 365Gay.com. Nearly 500 people showed up for the hearing, with crowds spilling out into a hallway.

Among the speakers in favor of the bill was Gene Robinson, the openly Gay Episcopal Bishop of New Hampshire. Robinson urged senators to support the bill and not fear political consequences from opponents of Gay marriage. "I know and understand that some of you are worried about your next election, fearing that your doing the right thing now will cost you. But not doing the right thing will also cost you, not just in the next election but also in your soul's self respect," he said.

Roman Catholic Bishop John McCormack, in a written statement to the committee said that marriage can only be entered into by a man and a woman. "Marriage is not simply a matter of emotional intimacy between two people, a lifestyle choice, or a purely, private relationship protected by the state. Civil society benefits from a stable marital

order."

Crowds began arriving at the Legislature, splitting into two camps - those for and those against same-sex marriage. "Civil rights," said Tom Keeler, a Concord Gay activist, speaking through a bullhorn. "That's all there is to this. There is a minority being oppressed by a majority." At one point, an opponent of Gay marriage tried to block the megaphone. Several minor skirmishes were also reported. The bill narrowly passed the state House last month. Gov. John Lynch (D) has said that he opposes Gay marriage and believes the civil union law is fine. Two years ago, the Legislature approved, and Lynch signed, the civil unions bill. Some 600 same-sex civil unions have been conducted in the state. But same-sex couples have complained the law has created two separate forms of unions resulting in discrimination.



POET'S CORNER

GUN

by Ron Rose - Tucson

(Written after viewing TV pictures of the smiling gunman who killed five Southern Illinois students)

Power, power in this hour, aren't we having fun?
See the terror in their eyes, when they see the gun.
Screaming, pleading, pleading, screaming is it time to bow?
Trip the safety, aim the barrel time to shoot right now.
Squeeze the trigger, squeeze the trigger
Watch the victims fall
'Slowly writhing, not surprising
Slumped against the wall.
Spatter, spatter, doesn't matter
See the pool of red
Now I'm running, no more gunning
Hope they're nice and dead
Never heard the victims screams
The noise was oh so loud,
Isn't killing so much fun,
My parents will be proud.

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COMMENTARY...

Continued from Page Eleven

plating presidential runs in 2012. As Rich Tafel, the former president of the Gay Log Cabin Republicans, pointed out to me last week, what Iowa giveth to the Democrats, Iowa taketh away from his own party. As the first stop in the primary process, the Iowa caucuses provided a crucial boost to Barack Obama's victorious and inclusive Democratic campaign in 2008. But on the G.O.P. side, the caucuses tilt toward the exclusionary hard right. In 2008, 60 percent of Iowa's Republican caucus voters were evangelical Christians. Mike Huckabee won. That's the hurdle facing the party's contenders in 2012, which is why Romney, Palin and Gingrich are now all more vehement anti-same-sex-marriage activists than Rick Warren. Palin even broke with John McCain on the issue during their campaign, supporting the federal marriage amendment that he rejects. This month, even as the father of Palin's out-of-wedlock grandson challenged her own family values and veracity, she nominated as Alaskan attorney general a man who has called Gay people "degenerates." Such homophobia didn't even play in Alaska - the State Legislature voted the nominee down - and will doom Republicans like Palin in national elections.

to him that opinion has "shifted quite substantially" toward his point of view. Huntsman's approval rating now stands at 84 percent. He believes that social issues should not be a priority for Republicans in any case during an economic crisis. He also is an outspoken foe of the "nativist language" that has marked the G.O.P. of late. Huntsman doesn't share "the view of some" that "the party was created in 1980." He yearns for it to reclaim Lincoln's faith in "individual dignity."

As marital equality haltingly but inexorably spreads state by state for Gay Americans in the years to come, Utah will hardly be in the lead to follow Massachusetts, Connecticut, Iowa and Vermont. But the fact that it too is taking its first steps down that road is extraordinary. It is justice, not a storm, that is gathering. Only those who have spread the poisons of bigotry and fear have any reason to be afraid.

(Frank Rich is an award winning columnist for the New York Times, from which this is reprinted.)

A man who doesn't advertise is like one who winks in the dark: he knows he's doing it, but nobody else does.

One G.O.P. politician who understands this is the McCain-Palin 2008 campaign strategist, Steve Schmidt, who on Friday urged his party to join him in endorsing same-sex marriage. Another is Jon Huntsman Jr., the governor of Utah, who in February endorsed civil unions for Gay couples, a position seemingly indistinguishable from Obama's. Huntsman is not some left-coast Hollywood Republican. He's a Mormon presiding over what Gallup ranks as the reddest state in the country. "We must embrace all citizens as equals," Huntsman told me in an interview last week. "I've always stood tall on this." Has he been hurt by his position? Not remotely. "A lot of people gave the issue more scrutiny after it became the topic of the week," he said, and started to see it "in human terms." Letters, calls, polls and conversations with voters around the state all confirmed

NOTICE OF SUMMONS

Re: In Re: Petition of Deborah Cornelius for the Adoption of Madeline Nichole O'Neal and Connor Michael O'Neal In the Superior Court of DeKalb County. Case No.: 08AD1712-8

To: Father (Donnie Kellog) of the above named minor children:

You are hereby notified that the above-styled action, **Petition to Terminate Parental Rights and for Adoption**, was filed against you in said court on October 16, 2008, and that by reason of an Order for service of summons by publication entered by the court on, you are hereby commanded and required to file with the clerk of court and serve up **Phyllis R. Williams**, Petitioner's attorney, whose address is **315 West Ponce de Leon Avenue, Suite 321, Decatur, Georgia, 30030**, an answer to the complaint within thirty (30) days of the date of the order for service by publication.

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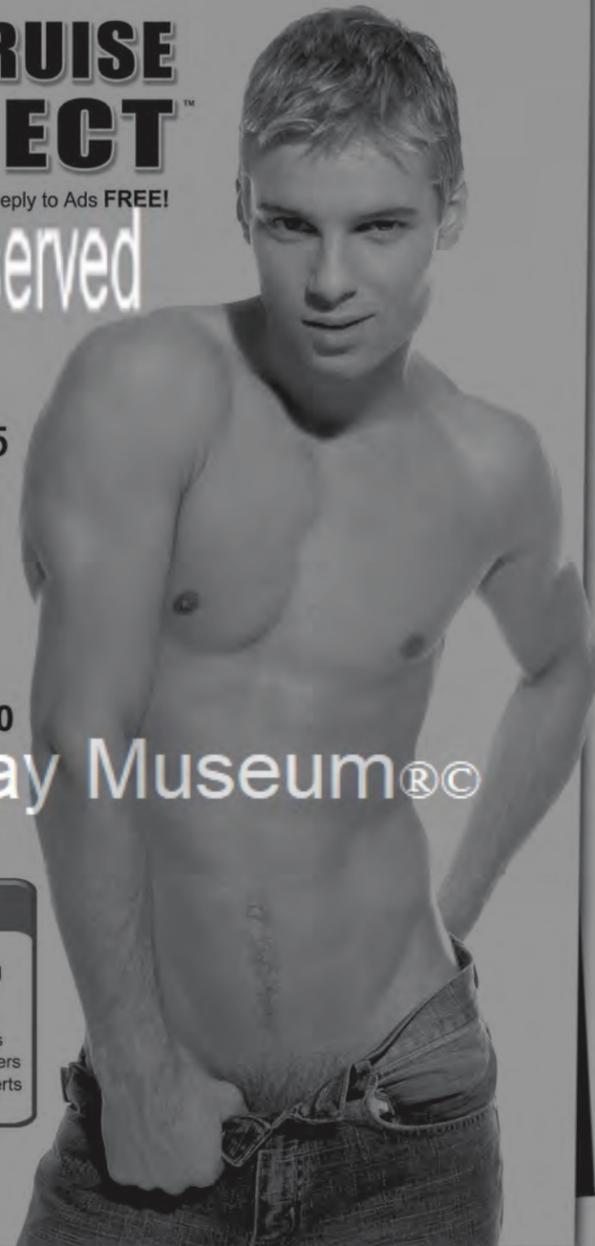
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TUCSON KNIGHT OWLS (T.K.O)
We are a non profit social club that is open to every one. T.K.O. contributes to the fellowship and support of the community, and openly invites new members and/or guests. Monthly meetings occur on the first Saturday of every month at 11:00a.m., Please come and join us! Our next meeting will be held at the Yard Dog.

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

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

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

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

SOURCES UNLIMITED, a Lesbian & Gay referral service. Business and individual listings are free of charge. All information available to anyone just simply by asking. 322-5655. Leave message. TucsonSources@aol.com

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BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO - a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, Call the Bears Hotline (520)829-0117 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910 or visit our website at www.botop.com All are welcome to our general meetings/potlucks on the 2nd Friday of every month, at 3202 E. 1st St. (the "Ward 6" Office Bldg.) Just south of Speedway & East of Country Club. PotLuck Dinner begins at 6:30 and the monthly meeting follows at 7:15 p.m.

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

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

T-SQUARES Lesbian and Gay Square Dance Club, dances Tuesdays. from 6:30-9 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N. Geronimo (Northwest of 1st Ave. and Glenn). No experience, no partner required! For more info contact David at 325-6739, or visit www.azgaydance.org

LIGHTNING LIGHTING will provide lighting for AIDS and related benefits at no charge. For more info call Adrienne at 889-7298.

COME EXPLORE YOUR SPIRITUALITY! St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church offers a variety of Gay and Lesbian groups and services for the spiritually minded. Come meet the Family! For more information call Debbie 579-9827 or David 323-7943.

LESBIAN/GAY WRITERS: Workshop at 7:00 p.m. third Wednesday of every month. Read and critique current projects. Network and support. For info call 325-4737.

DESERT VOICES, Tucson's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Straight Chorus, has been singing songs of pride, hope and laughter for 20 seasons. Check out our website at www.desertvoices.org, or call (520)791-9662 for information about upcoming concerts or how to join.

Join the **LESBIAN & GAY PUBLIC AWARENESS PROJECT**. In Tucson write Awareness Project, 3661 N. Campbell Ave. #365, Tucson, AZ 85719.

AA Meeting with HIV/AIDS focus, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., Wingspan Annex, 425 E. 7th Street. All alcoholics welcome.

MEN'S SOCIAL NETWORK: Social organization for men of all ages. Building an extended Gay family in Tucson. Monthly social potluck gatherings the first Saturday of each month and almost weekly social activities. Call 207-5336 for information and a newsletter. Check the Non-Bar Calendar in the Observer.

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

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

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GLBT, Tucson's Gay and Lesbian business networking group holds regular meetings the third Thursday of every month. Call 615-6436 for more info. www.tucsonglbtchamber.org

TUCSON PRIDE, INC. (Formerly Tucson Lesbian and Gay Alliance - TLGA) meets on the second Wednesday at 845 S. Craycroft Road at 6pm. Tucson Pride events: Pride Week, Gay West and OUToberFEST. For more information call 622-3200 or visit the TPI website at www.tucsonpride.com

LEARN TO BE A LISTENING FRIEND Unique Hospital Volunteer Program teaches listening skills to Volunteers who provide a safe/compassionate environment to at-risk patients. Training every 6 weeks. 694-7063.

ANONYMOUS HIV COUNSELING AND TESTING is available through the Pima County Health Department at sites throughout Tucson, Very Gay Friendly. For more information or to make an appointment call 791-7676.

SMART (Self Management And Recovery Training) a free non-12-step self-help alternative for people working to overcome addictive and other emotional problems meets in Tucson Monday thru Thursdays at different locations. For more information about SMART, contact Jennifer at 838-3975.

THIS WAY OUT, 1/2 hour national GLBT show. 4:30 p.m. on Sundays only on 91.3 FM, Community Radio KXCI.

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

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

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP FOR ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLES. Not a dating club. Discreet. Meetings every Monday evening. Call for more info. APEX (Arizona Power Exchange) 602-415-1123. 24-hr multi-choice message including information, calendar and location.

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

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

SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS. Starting this February, the Tucson Rape crisis Center will be providing free confidential group services for Lesbian,

Gay, Bisexual and Transgender survivors of all manner of sexual assault. Interested persons please call Mirto Stone, MSW, at 327-1171 (if unavailable leave message with phone number).

GLSEN - Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network meets first Thursday of every month at 4:30pm at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th Street. 743-4800.

SAA (Sex Addicts Anonymous) has 5 meetings a week in Tucson. People who wish to stop their compulsive sexual behavior, please call (520) 745-0775 for current information.

TUCSON GREATER SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION. Interested? Call Kelly Quinn, (520)906-0669 and or Mona Garcia 256-8728.

LUTHERANS CONCERNED ___ Tucson chapter for Gay/Lesbian Lutherans meets 3rd Sunday, 5:30 p.m. each month at Lutheran Church of the Foothills, 5102 N. Craycroft Rd. For information visit www.lctucson.org or write: Lutherans Concerned/Tucson, P.O. Box 40702, Tucson, AZ 85717-0702.

REVEILLE MEN'S CHORUS rehearses Thursday evenings 7-10pm at the Historic Y, corner of University Blvd. And 5th Ave. Join us!! For info call 304-1758

LGBT Buddhist Meditation Group. Join us for two 20 minute silent sitting meditations, and reading from Buddhist Spiritual text and discussion. Bring a friend and a pillow or cushion. Takes place every Sunday from 10-11:30AM at 3 Jewels, 314 E. 6th St. Donations accepted. Contact Maurice Grossman for more info. 323-2293.

LGBT SUPPORT GROUP FOR VICTIM/SURVIVORS OF Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Hate Crimes, Bias Acts, Harassment. Call Megan at Wingspan, 624-1779, ext. 116. Services are free.

MEN'S HIKING CLUB - A peer-run MEN's outdoor club for hiking, biking, camping, boating etc, is now up and running in the Tucson area. To join, go to SAGE-Tucson-subscribe@yahoo.com. See you on the trails.

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

NA MEETING WITH GLBT FOCUS meets Mondays, 6:30pm at Wingspan, 425 E. 7th Street. This is an open meeting of Narcotics Anonymous - all are welcome. For more info call Bernie W.:

TUCSON M2M - <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TucsonM2M>

COPPER RAINBOW BISTRO at David's Oasis Camping Resort, Bisbee, AZ 520-979-6650

www.azgaycamping.com
Membership Beer and Wine Bar. Annual Member \$15.00

Bar Hours:
*Open Fridays, 5-10 p.m. or until last member leaves. Happy Hour 5-7 all drinks \$100 off.

*Open Saturdays 5-10 p.m. or until the last member leaves. Happy Hour 5-7 all drinks \$1.00 off.

*Open Sundays 2-7 p.m. or until last member leaves. Bottle Beer starts at \$1.00

DAILY BAR CALENDAR

SUNDAY

THE BIZ - 'L' Word showing 7pm & 9:30pm (Progressive drink specials) - First: \$3 Well; Second: \$1.50 pints. Last Special is 2-4-1. Following L Word, Out Loud Open Mic. If you have talent join our open night mic - Starts 10:45 pm.

COLORS - Open 10am - 10pm Champagne Brunch 10am - 2pm with choice of complimentary mimosa, Bloody Mary or Screwdriver included. Happy Hour 4-7pm \$3.50 Skyy Cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and well. Appetizers 1/2 price 4-6. Brunch served until 2pm. Full menu served until 10pm. Nightly dinner specials.

COYOTE MOON PUB - Open 11am. Beer Bust Sunday - \$1 draft beers (12 oz), domestic only; \$2.25 domestic long necks. Texas Hold-Em Poker at 3 & 6. No cash involved - Play for Points & Prizes. SIN Nite - drink discounts for Service Industry employees with ID or payroll receipt.

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.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am-2am. Patio Bar open 3pm. Beer Bust \$2.25/pitcher, 3-7pm. Burger BBQ, 5-7pm, \$3 proceeds to Petwatch (Helping HIVAIDS clients with their Veterinary bills).

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

YARD DOG - Open 10am - 2am. Mimosas & Bloody Mary Bar (Build your own)

MONDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. Happy Hour 3-8. EDAN...Exotic dancer appreciation night. DJ spins Hip Hop & R&B and all request dance. \$5.25 drink specials.

COLORS - Open 4-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7. \$3.50 Skyy Cocktails, \$2.75 well & domestics. Appetizers 1/2 price 4-6m. Full menu served until 10pm.

COYOTE MOON PUB - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 p.m. \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. \$3.50 sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg. Bucket o' Beer - \$10 Domestic, \$12 Imports (4 beers to a bucket, for 2 or more people, Some brands excluded). Texas Hold-Em Poker at 6 & 8:30 p.m. No cash involved - Play for points & Prizes

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".

VENTURE-N - Open 9am-2am. SKYY Martinis \$3 ea., 4-8pm.

WOODY'S - Open 11am-2am. Happy Hour 11am-8pm (excl spec events) Full Menu Kitchen open 11am-10pm Back Pocket Patio Bar 8pm-close. Karaoke with Michael D. 9pm-close.

YARD DOG - Open 11am. Beer Bust 3-7pm.

TUESDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. Happy Hour 3-8. PHAT Tuesday's 50 cent Pabst cans 9pm-close Come play our Wii gaming system. Beer Pong Tournament w/ cash prizes starts 9pm.

COLORS - Open 4-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7 \$3.50 Skyy cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and well and 1/2 price appetizers 4-6. Full menu served until 10pm.

COYOTE MOON PUB - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3-8. \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. Pitcher Special \$3.50 sm. Pitcher/\$5.00 lg. Pitcher (excluding Blue Moon & Dos XX Amber). Girlz Nite Out. Girlz pay only .75 for well liquors or domestic drafts 8-10pm.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, Tropical Tuesdays \$2.50 Tropical drinks and DJ Craig Carter playing Retro Music 70's, 80's and 90's 9pm-close.

VENTURE-N - Open 9am-2am. Dart Tournament, 7pm \$3 entry fee/Pot Match.

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

YARD DOG - Open Noon-2am. Beer Bust 3-7

WEDNESDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. Happy Hour til 8pm. Wild Wednesdays College Night. 18 to party - 21 to drink. \$7 Cover 18+ No Cover 21+. DJ Spins Hip Hop, R&B Top 40 remix dance.

COLORS - Open 4-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3.50 Skyy cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and 1/2 price appetizers 4-6. Full menu served until 10pm. Nightly dinner specials.

COYOTE MOON PUB -Open 3pm. Happy Hour All Day \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3.50 sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg. Pitchers. Texas Hold-Em Poker at 6 & 8:30 pm Play for points & Prizes. No cash involved.

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

VENTURE-N - Open 9am-2am. Beer Bust, 8pm-11pm \$2.50/Pitcher.

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

YARD DOG - Open 11am-2am. Beer Bust 3-7pm.

THURSDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. Happy Hour 3-8. Y-NOT Karaoke starts @9:00pm to close. 2-4-1 starts 10:pm.

COLORS - Open 4pm-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm,\$3.50 Skyy cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and Well and 1/2 price appetizers. Full menu served until 10. Nightly dinner specials..

COYOTE MOON PUB - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3.50 sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg.. Pitcher. Boyz Nite Out - boys pay only .75 for well liquors or domestic drafts 8-10pm. Bicardi Thursdays - \$3.00 Bicardi Rum - all flavors. Karaoke with Kristen and K2 Tunes 8pm.

IBT's -Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, Boyz Nite Out with your Bartenders & GoGo Boys dancing in their undies and DJ Mike Lopez spinning Top 40 & All request \$1.75 Long Islands and \$1.50 Tequila shots 10pm-2am.

VENTURE-N - Open 9am-2am.. **WOODY'S** - Open 11am-2am; Happy Hour 11am-8pm (excl Spec Events); Full Menu Kitchen open 11am-10pm. Back Pocket Patio Bar open 8pm-close. Cheap Party Day **FREE POOL**, \$1.00 PBR Longnecks, \$2.00 Tecate Longnecks. Techno and Top 40 Dance with DJ Jeff 9pm - close..

YARD DOG - Open Noon-2am. Beer Bust 3-7

FRIDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm-2am. Happy Hour UNTIL 8. Hip Hop & R&B. Drink Specials all night called out by DJs. Special Performances.

COLORS - Open 4pm-midnight. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3.50 Skyy cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and Well and 1/2 price appetizers. Finlandia martinis \$5.50 open to close! Full menu served until 10. "Hot Jazz, Cool Martinis" with Susan Artemis & Craig Faltin 6:30 to 9:30. "Guys & Dolls" drag show hosted by Lucinda Holliday at 10pm. Nightly dinner specials. Drink specials during the drag show.

COYOTE MOON PUB - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. \$3.50 Sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg. Pitcher. \$2.75 All Mexican Beers and Dos XX Amber. 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.

VENTURE-N - Open 9am-2am. Patio Bar Open 7pm-2m Cuervo Margaritas \$3 ea., 4-8pm.

WOODY'S - Open 11am-2am; Happy Hour 11am-8pm (excl spec events). Full Menu Kitchen open 11am-11pm Back Pocket Patio Bar open 5pm-close. Enjoy the Live Blues/Motown/Soul sounds of Simon Crown 6-9 p.m.; Request your favorite Music Dance Night with DJ Clint 9pm-close. Monthly Birthday Party every 2nd Friday Night of the month.

YARD DOG - Open 11am-2am. Beer Bust 3-7pm. Patio Bar Opens 8pm

SATURDAY

THE BIZ - Open 5pm - 2am. Starting Feb. 13th Escandalo Saturdays w/Carnival Latino. Latin Hip Hop, Top 40s & Reggaeton music will be spun. Guest DJs. \$5 Cover. oGo dancers male and female. Shot specials allnight. .

COLORS - Open 4pm-10pm, Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3.50 Skyy cocktails, \$2.75 Domestic and Well, 1/2 price appetizers 4-6. Pianist/Vocalist Marilyn Harris 6:30-9:30. Full menu served until 10. Nightly dinner specials.

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. \$3.00 Cuervo and \$4.75 Jager Bombs. Check our calendar for the Saturday Night Special Entertainment.

IBT's - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, \$2 Well or Domestic. 5-8pm Karaoke on the patio \$1 Draft Pints. 9pm "Saturday Starlett's" w/Bunny FuFu & Janee Starr. After the show, DJ Q spinning inside & 10pm-close, DJ Mike Lopez with the "Party on the Patio".

VENTURE-N - Open 9am-2am. Patio Bar open 7pm-2am. Beer Bust \$2.25/Pitcher. 3-7pm.

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

YARD DOG - Open 8am-2am. Patio Bar Opens 8pm.

BAR CALENDAR Of Upcoming Events

Wednesday, April 22

COYOTE MOON - New here Karaoke by Y-Not at 9:00 p.m. every Wednesday.

WOODY'S - Green Party! Celebrating Earth Day 8 p.m. to closing.

Friday, April 24

THE BIZ - On The Mark Dance Company performs.

Saturday, April 25

COYOTE MOON - 9:00 p.m. it DickieChixx - Kings and Kittens

WOODY'S - Sign up for Woody's bus to Gay West. \$15 round trip. And then join the crowd here afterwards from 10:00 p.m. until closing.

Friday, May 1

THE BIZ - On The Mark Dance Company performs.

Friday, May 3

WOODY'S - Sign up for Woody's Bus to Jell-O Wrestling. \$15 roundtrip.

Friday, May 15

THE BIZ - On The Mark Dance Company performs



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April Events - Open to All

Every Wed, Bear Coffee at Raging Sage, 2458 N Campbell, 7-9 pm.
Every Fri (except Fri 4/10) Bearinis at The Shelter 4155 E Grant, 6:30-8:30pm.
Fri April 10, Social Pot Luck Dinner & Meeting, Ward 6 Office, 3202 E 1st St; Bring dish to pass. Just come!
Thur April 16, Dinner Out, Crossroads, 4th Ave & 36th, 6:30-8:30 pm. **RSVP email or 829-0117 to attend.**
Sat April 18, Beer Bust and Burgers at Yard Dog, 2449 N Stone, 3-7 pm. Proceeds benefit Food Bank.
Thur April 23, Bear Bingo, Casino del Sol, 6:30-10 pm. Email us or call 829-0117; leave msg for more info.
Email & suggestions for events: botop@botop.com
 See our web site for most current info on events.
Our 2009 Charity is the Tucson Community Food Bank. Proceeds from special events including beer busts, other events and our annual Fiesta in January benefit this charity.

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Saturday, April 25th, 2009 • 6pm

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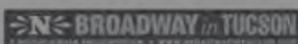
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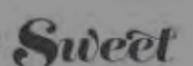
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