

## Obama Endorses 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' Compromise In Congress



WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - President Obama has signed on to a "don't ask, don't tell" compromise between lawmakers and the Defense Department, the White House announced, an agreement that removes a key obstacle to repealing the military's policy banning gays and lesbians from serving openly in the armed forces, reported the Washington Post.

Under the compromise, finalized in a series of meetings at the White House and on Capitol Hill, lawmakers will vote in the next several days on a repeal of the Clinton-era policy. If it passes, that action would not go into effect until the Pentagon completes a study about its impact on the troops.

In a letter to lawmakers pushing for a legislative repeal, the White House wrote Monday that "such an approach recognizes the critical need to allow our military and their families the full opportunity to inform and shape the implementation process through a thorough understanding of their concerns, insights and suggestions."

Gay rights advocates hailed the White House decision as a "dramatic breakthrough" that they predicted would dismantle the policy once and for all. In a statement, Human Rights Campaign President Joe Solmonese said the announcement "paves the path to fulfill the President's call to end 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' this year and puts us one step closer to removing this stain from the laws of our nation."

The move also injects a highly controversial social issue back into the national conversation, even as lawmakers begin to gear up for their fall reelection campaigns.

Conservative lawmakers have

vowed to fight the effort to end the policy. Arizona Sen. John McCain (R), who had previously supported repeal, said at a recent congressional hearing that "Don't Ask" was "imperfect but effective" and that "we should not be seeking to overturn." Several conservative Democrats in Congress have said they would oppose a repeal unless military leaders made clear that they approved of such a change. That signal has been on hold as the Pentagon completes its study of the ramifications.

At the same time, liberal lawmakers had been pushing for an immediate repeal. The White House endorsement of the compromise is designed to satisfy both concerns and earn their support for a deferred repeal. "We can live with this, and we're asking enthusiastically members to support and vote for it," said Aubrey Sarvis, executive director of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network.

## Proposition 100 Passes

PHOENIX (Observer Update) - Arizona voters, by a 64.1 to 35.9 percent margin approved Proposition 100.

The tax increase will take effect June 1, raising the current state sales tax of 5.6 cents on the dollar to 6.6 cents for three years and raising a projected \$918 million in the first year. Local jurisdictions also charge sales taxes, so the overall tax paid on purchases in Phoenix will rise to 9.3 percent from the current 8.3 percent.

A defeat for Proposition 100 would have triggered \$862 million of contingency budget cuts for schools  
Continued on Page Five

## Lieberman Ready To Move On Partner Benefits Bill

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - A bill extending benefits to same-sex partners of gay federal employees could be introduced on the Senate floor "within weeks," according to aides to Sen. Joseph Lieberman.

The Washington Post reports that the benefits would cost \$310 million through 2020, according to Congressional Budget Office estimates.

Though some Republicans have criticized the legislation due to its potential cost, Lieberman said, "This legislation would cost about two-hundredths of a percent of the federal government's overall costs for the

civilian workforce. That is a very small price to pay for the improvements we would see in recruitment, retention, and morale."

A House committee approved a similar a domestic-partner benefits bill in November, though the legislation has yet to receive a floor vote.

Last year President Barack Obama signed a memorandum extending certain benefits to partners of federal employees, though the most substantive benefits, such as most types of health care, were excluded.

Lieberman's bill is expected to be introduced before July 4.

## Immigration Reform Could Include Gays

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - U.S. representative Luis Gutierrez of Chicago said that foreign-born partners of gay and lesbian Americans should have the same rights to citizenship as those of heterosexual Americans – and that he would fight to include that proposal in his immigration reform bill, reported advocate.com.

"The underlying part of any comprehensive immigration bill is family unity," Gutierrez told the Chicago Tribune. "We need to speak more clearly and more articulately and more frequently that the LGBT community, and same-sex couples and their binational relationships, are part of families."

Gutierrez is proposing that language from the Uniting American Families Act, which has more than 100 sponsors in the House and 20 in the Senate, be integrated into the comprehensive immigration reform bill he and others introduced in December.

However, the prospect for that bill, which has 97 co-sponsors, is unclear in this reelection year, the Tribune reports.



U.S. Rep. Luis Guttierrez

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# UPDATE

## Open Seat On Tucson GLBT Commission

TUCSON (Observer Update) - The City of Tucson has an opening on its Commission on GLBT Issues, with the resignation of the Ward 5 appointee, Matt Harding.

Harding resigned to due a new job opportunity, for which Ward 5 Councilmember, Richard Fimbres, thanks him for his service and commitment to the Commission.

The mission of the Tucson Commission on GLBT Issues is to foster conditions that promote the welfare of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people of metropolitan Tucson, Arizona through education, advocacy and collaborative and advisory relationships with government, community organizations, businesses and individuals.

The City of Tucson Commission on GLBT Issues was originally formed in November 1998 as a mayoral task force, and became an independent city commission in July 1999. It remains one of the only government-sanctioned independent commissions on issues related to sexual orientation and gender identity in the United States.

If interested, E-mail your resume a letter of intent to the Ward 5 Council Office. Send it to Mark Kerr, mark.kerr@tucsonaz.gov, subject line, GLBT Commission. For more information, go online to tucsonglbtcommission.org or call the Tucson City Clerk's Office, (520) 791-4213.

## Memorial Day All-Star Music Jam May 31

TUCSON (Observer Update) - On Memorial Day, LGBT Tucson favorite and award-winning musician Namoli Brennet will be headlining an evening jam to benefit the fundraising efforts of her friend, trumpet player Michelle Maliniak. This concert will take place Monday, May 31, 7:00 p.m. at the Unitarian Church, 4831 E. 22nd.

Michelle will be riding in the 9th annual AIDS/LifeCycle, a 7 day, 545-mile cycling event benefiting the West's two largest HIV/AIDS service organizations, The San Francisco AIDS Foundation and the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center.

To be admitted to the event, just go to Michelle's fundraising website at tofighthiv.org/goto/zombiegirl and donate. Then, print out your confirmation page and bring it with you to the door. If you can't get to the internet ahead of time and want to see Namoli live and in person, you can also make a tax-deductible donation at the door.

For more information, call Donna Trujillo, (520) 975-5687.

## HIV Testing Update

TUCSON (Observer Update) - HIV Counseling and Testing is provided in collaboration with the Pima County Health Department.

Testing is available at SAAF, local bars, and at community events throughout the year. All tests are confidential. SAAF uses a Rapid HIV Test, with results available in approximately 15 minutes.

For more information on testing or to make an appointment, please call (520) 628-7223.

## Steven Gellman Live, June 5

SCOTTSDALE (Observer Update) - With a musical styling that Billboard Magazine has called "intensely sensitive and impressively intelligent," Washington area gay singer/songwriter Steven Gellman will make the Southwest debut of Peaceful World, his newest release, at Angel's Serenity, 4839 E. Greenway.

An intimate concert is planned for Angel's Serenity on Saturday, June 5, 2010. To hear sound clips from the new CD, visit hiddenpoet.com.

For more information, contact Edwin van de Grift, 602-482-0036.

## What TIHAN Is?

TUCSON (Observer Update) - After 26 years in the insurance business, Kim Talerico believes that volunteerism is one policy that helps ensure a healthier and more successful community. "It is our obligation as Americans to actually give back to the community," she said. "It is an obligation we should all want to do, and it should be part of our everyday lives."

Talerico has put that philosophy into practice post-retirement at Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN). TIHAN is a coalition of 39 congregations of different faith communities that provides compassionate, non-medical care to people living with HIV and AIDS, reported the Arizona Daily Star.

Programs include education for clergy and laity as well outreach through CareTeams, which provide support services such as transportation, in-home assistance, meals and social and emotional support for CarePartners (those living with HIV/AIDS).

Additionally, the Poz Cafe provides a monthly lunch and social programs, and the Poz Marketplace offers toiletries, clothing and other items to clients. Link specialists such as Talerico facilitate services for CarePartners and their families and friends, assisting them in accessing resources through TIHAN and elsewhere.

These duties - and a desire to fight the stigma of HIV/AIDS - became a priority for Talerico after she watched a close friend struggle with the disease. She hopes to counter fear and confusion about how the disease is contracted with education.

"Even in 2010, people still think you can get it from shaking hands or from a toilet seat. . . . Others still think it is a gay man's disease and don't realize it is affecting everyone in all walks of life of all races, ages and ethnic backgrounds," Talerico said.

TIHAN serves about 300 people annually, and the need for services has increased about 10 percent this year. Executive Director Scott Blades said funding has simultaneously decreased by 15 percent to 20 percent, which means the annual Treasures for TIHAN fundraiser is more vital than ever.

He said TIHAN programs can help extend both quality and quantity of life, particularly if those living with HIV/AIDS receive prompt care before the disease progresses.

"The most important thing is for people to get tested for HIV so they know their status, and if they test positive, for them to get connected with good medical care from an HIV specialist," he said.

"Then they need to connect with our services to find out what is available. Often, a newly diagnosed person really needs to talk to someone who understands and won't judge them and who can give them hope."

This past weekend, the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Treasures for TIHAN was held, raising funds for the programs and services of TIHAN. For more information, call 520-299-6647 or go online to tihan.org.

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](mailto:volcoord@saaaf.org)




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# AROUND THE GAY GLOBE. . .

## Malawi Gay Couple Sentenced To 14 Years Hard Labor



Monjeza broke down upon hearing the ruling and was still sobbing as he was helped into the van. Hundreds of onlookers inside and outside the court house showed little sympathy. There were shouts of "You got what you deserve!" and "Fourteen years is not enough, they should get 50!" Michelle Kagari, deputy Africa director of Amnesty International called the sentence "an outrage."

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## Senate Introduces LGBT Student Anti-Bullying Bill

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - Democratic senators Al Franken and Kirsten Gillibrand have introduced legislation aimed at combating anti-LGBT bullying in public schools.

The bill, known as the Student Non-Discrimination Act, "would establish a comprehensive federal prohibition against discrimination in public schools based on actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity," according to a press release from Gillibrand's office. "It would forbid schools from discriminating against LGBT students or ignoring harassing behavior."

Penalties for public schools that fail to address antigay bullying could include loss of federal funding and legal recourse for students who have suffered discrimination.

A House version of the bill was introduced in January by Colorado representative Jared Polis, one of three openly gay members of Congress.

Franken indicated last month that he would introduce an antibullying bill when he criticized current laws during a Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee hearing.

"There's something very specific that has been on my mind ... LGBT youth being bullied," Franken told a panel of education experts in the April hearing. "Right now we have laws that prohibit bullying based on pretty much everything, but not on gender identity and gay and lesbian kids. And the evidence is that gay kids are bullied a lot and that their achievement goes down. There's a lot of absenteeism and even suicide."

LGBT-identified youths are two to three times more likely to be the victims of harassment at school compared to their straight-identified peers, according to a 2010 study by Nationwide Children's Hospital.

The bill currently has 21 additional cosponsors in the Senate.

Blantyre (Observer Update) - A judge sentenced a couple to the maximum 14 years in prison with hard labor under Malawi's anti-gay legislation, and crowds jeered the two men as they were driven from the court house to jail, reported 365Gay.com.

The harsh sentence for unnatural acts and gross indecency had been expected after the same judge convicted Tiwonge Chimbalanga and Steven Monjeza earlier this week under laws dating from the colonial era. The case has drawn international condemnation and sparked a debate on human rights in this conservative southern African country.

Chimbalanga, a 20-year-old hotel janitor, and his unemployed partner were arrested Dec. 27, the day after they celebrated their engagement with a party at the hotel where Chimbalanga worked - an apparent first in Malawi.

"Maximum sentences are intended for use for worst cases," Magistrate Nyakwawa Usiwa Usiwa said as he delivered his sentence. "We are sitting here to represent the Malawi society which I do not believe is ready at this point in time to see its sons getting married to other sons or conducting engagement ceremonies."

The lawyer for the two, Mauya Msuku, said they would appeal. Chimbalanga remained composed as armed police officers handcuffed him to Monjeza. "I am not worried," he told reporters as they were taken to a police vehicle.

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## COMMENTARY...

### Celebrities Come Out, Without Fanfare

NEW YORK (Observer Update) - The love that dare not speak its name has been speaking up an awful lot lately. So much, in fact, that people are starting not to notice when it happens, reported the New York Times.

Barely five months into the year, several high-profile people have come out, from Ricky Martin, to the "Will and Grace" star Sean Hayes, to the country music singer Chely Wright. Yet Americans greeted the news largely with a shrug.

In Mr. Martin's case, the most common reaction in the United States was hardly surprise. Ditto for Mr. Hayes, who played the flighty, fop-pish Jack McFarland on the hit NBC series and who is now on Broadway in "Promises, Promises." (More on that later.) For Ms. Wright, who was little known outside of her country music fan base until she came out, the response was most often, "Who?"

Once seen as a defiant and courageous act of such social and political significance that gay rights activists created a holiday for it and recruited prominent gay people to take part (National Coming Out Day, still observed every Oct. 11), coming out has lost some of its potency.

While few experts on gay issues would dispute the powerful impact that coming out has on a personal, one-on-one level, there is a growing sense that a celebrity coming out sways few hearts and minds and does relatively little to alter negative perceptions about gay people.

"There's the assumption among gay people that if only this famous person came out, things would be better - and that's never been the case," said Eric Marcus, a chronicler of gay social issues, whose books on the subject include "Making History: The Struggle for Gay and Lesbian Equal Rights, 1945-1990."

"The most significant effort any of us can make in moving the ball forward in terms of promoting awareness and acceptance of this issue is for those of us who are gay to come out to those closest to us," he said. "It isn't ultimately the celebrity that changes people's minds, or the politician. It's the individual, one on one."

The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation conducted a survey in late 2008 that looked at the reasons behind society's evolving tolerance for gay people. It found that the reason cited most frequently by people who reported having more favorable views - by far - was knowing someone who is gay.

Seventy-nine percent of the survey's respondents said that knowing someone who is gay contributed to their more positive opinions, compared with 34 percent who said seeing gay characters on television was a factor.

In 1997, when Ellen DeGeneres broke ground and set out on the now-familiar ritual of the celebrity coming out - a series of carefully placed magazine and television interviews that often coincide with the promotion of a product - it was a big deal.

She appeared on the cover of Time under the headline, "Yep, I'm Gay." The ABC studio where her show was filmed was evacuated because of a bomb threat. The Rev. Jerry Falwell mocked her as "Ellen Degenerate." At the time, with far fewer public figures comfortable with sharing their sexual orientation, Ms. DeGeneres's coming out sparked a national discussion in a way that would be surprising today.

The relative indifference Americans have these days about high-profile people coming out appears rooted not only in progressively tolerant views of gay people but in the rather cynical supposition that stars wait to come out until they see a financial benefit, or have little to lose. Mr. Martin is past the prime of his career. Ms. Wright is promoting an album and a new book about her life as a closeted lesbian, and her revelation gives her exposure to a potential fan base outside traditional country audiences.

"With more and more gays and lesbians coming out in middle school and high school, it's hard not to view coming out post-peak in your career or whenever as cowardly, if not opportunistic," said Dan Savage, the gay author and editorial director of The Stranger, a Seattle newsweekly, where he writes an advice column called "Savage Love."

"Now that I have my millions, now that it's totally safe, now that I can scoop up a few more fans, I will come out," Mr. Savage added. "Forgive me, but I have much more admiration for those kids coming out in middle school."

Howard Bragman - the publicist who represents Ms. Wright and has advised other celebrities on coming out, including Meredith Baxter, the "Family Ties" actress, and Sheryl Swoopes, the pro basketball star - does not dispute that many of his clients have been motivated by profit. But he said that to confuse their desire to make money with a lack of earnestness about living openly would be unfair and a double standard.

"That doesn't make someone's coming out less sincere," he said. "Celebrities profit all the time from getting married and selling their pictures to magazines and telling their love stories in song and in book. Yeah, we'd like a little piece of the pie, too."

Mr. Bragman and others who have looked at the response to celebrities' coming out say that many people who are quick to dismiss these celebrities as opportunists fail to see the impact that they are having in the socially conservative communities they come from - in Ms. Wright's case, the country music world; and in Mr. Martin's, Latin America.

The country music star John Rich, of the duo Big & Rich, has publicly apologized for an exchange he had with Ms. Wright, recounted in her new book, in which he responded, "Good, thank God," after she denied being a lesbian.

In Puerto Rico, the archbishop of San Juan, where Mr. Martin grew up, urged compassion for the singer.

"When it's one of their own, I think it forces people to take it a little more seriously," said Jarrett Barrios, president of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. "In that way, Chely Wright has the promise of being far more impactful in coming out in red states where people couldn't give two hoots about Ellen DeGeneres." The same applies to Mr. Martin in Latin America, he added, noting that the singer enjoys far greater celebrity there than he does in the United States.

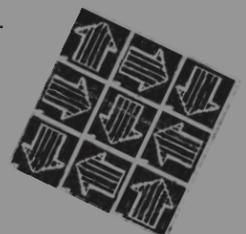
But being perceived as gay can still be an issue. In an online review of "Promises, Promises," the Newsweek columnist Ramin Setoodeh posited that Mr. Hayes was not a credible romantic lead in the show because of his sexual orientation. "Frankly, it's weird seeing Hayes play straight," Mr. Setoodeh wrote. "He comes off as wooden and insincere, like he's trying to hide something, which of course he is." The column sparked an immediate outcry among gay activists, and an angry response from Mr. Hayes's co-star, Kristin Chenoweth, and the magazine later tried to make amends by publishing follow-up interviews with, among others, the openly gay screenwriter (and Oscar winner for "Milk") Dustin Lance Black.

Still, in the United States, it appears that short of a truly major celebrity or public figure unexpectedly coming out, the only surefire way one's sexuality will gain considerable attention these days is if the outing is involuntary, as was the case with Ted Haggard, the disgraced Colorado pastor, or Larry Craig, the former Idaho senator.

"Look at the cases that get attention," said Mike Rogers, who runs BlogActive, a Web site that tries to force gay politicians out of the closet. "It's all salaciousness."

But that might not be bad for the advancement of gay rights, Mr. Rogers said. Though such cases - an arrest for soliciting sex in the men's room of the Minneapolis airport in Mr. Craig's case - have an initial ick factor to them, Mr. Rogers said they ultimately undermine anti-gay activists and politicians.

"It does help discredit them," he said.



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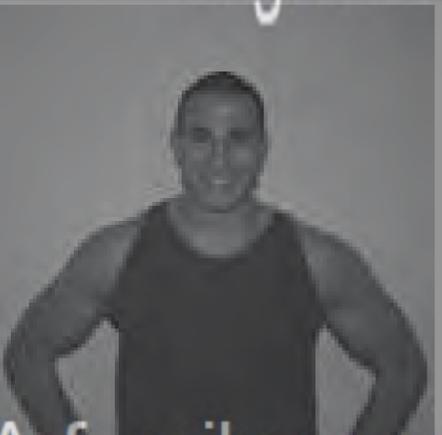
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# BUZZ - BUZZ - BUZZ - BUZZ --

## Lesbian Who Sued Over Prom Date Transfers Schools



**Constance McMillen**

JACKSON (Observer Update) - The lesbian who sued her rural school district over its ban of same-sex prom dates has transferred to a school in Mississippi's capital.

Constance McMillen told The Associated Press on Thursday that she now attends a high school in Jackson, about 180 miles from Itawamba Agricultural High School in Fulton.

McMillen filed a federal lawsuit against the Itawamba County School District in March over the district's decision to cancel the prom rather than allow her to bring her girlfriend. Afterward, McMillen said she faced hostility.

She won't say which school she now attends, but she plans to graduate June 2.

Members of a fundamentalist church from Kansas say they'll protest the Itawamba graduation because they think parents didn't teach their children to condemn homosexuality.

## Neil Patrick Harris" : GLEE Is Like 'Factory Work'



**Actor Neil Patrick Harris**

LOS ANGELES (Observer Update) - The cast of Glee works hard – perhaps a little too hard for Neil Patrick Harris.

The actor told Entertainment Weekly that working on the Fox show was a bit like being on an assembly line, advocate.com reported. "It's a bit of factory work," he said. "Just a lot of 'Next take! Next take! Moving on! Moving on!'"

Harris said he had a blast guest-starring on the episode, directed by his Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along collaborator Joss Whedon. But he said the "wildly grueling" shoot took its toll – on his first day he flubbed every one of his lines.

Harris also said hunky quarterback Finn Hudson (Cory Monteith) is "dreamy" and, hard work aside, he wouldn't rule out a return visit.

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## Proposition 100 Passes

Continued on From Page One

and other programs, going beyond the reductions included in the budget approved by the Legislature in March to cope with the loss of 30 percent of the state's revenue.

Elsewhere in government, Proposition 100's rejection would have led to layoffs of highway patrol officers, transfers of 3,000 to 5,000 prison inmates to county jails, further reductions in Medicaid payments to hospitals

and other health care providers, and reductions in services for developmentally disabled adults and disabled children.

The \$8.5 billion budget lawmakers approved for the fiscal year starting July 1 already included raids on special-purpose funds, borrowing and spending cuts. Those cuts included saving \$218 million by halving state funding for full-day kindergarten.

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## Pentagon Paying \$4.4 Million To Gay Troop Survey

CHICAGO (Observer Update) - The Pentagon is paying an outside contractor \$4.4 million to survey troops and their families about their feelings towards gay soldiers, reported chicagopride.com.

asked if they knew of any gay soldiers in their units, far fewer raised their hands when asked if they felt those soldiers caused problems.

The Pentagon can't undertake the survey itself, because doing so would violate "Don't Ask, Don't Tell."

Some participants have said they are concerned about sharing private quarters with gay troops. Some also talked about their own personal, religious views on the issue.

The Boston Globe reports that 350,000 troops and their families will be asked about how they feel about homosexuality and how the issue relates to housing, benefits and recruiting.

Homophobic "family" groups say the entire survey is based on the wrong premise.

Secret military panels have already met around the country, asking troops of all ages and backgrounds about attitudes towards gay soldiers. The Globe says that while most participants raised their hands when

"Our frustration with this working group is its charge to come up with a plan [for implementing a change in the law] rather than studying whether repeal is a good idea," Family Research Council senior fellow Peter Sprigg told the Boston Globe. "They are asking the wrong questions."

## Gay Vets And Allies Tell Congress To End 'Don't Ask'

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - Military veterans - about 350 by Servicemembers United's estimate - walked the halls of congressional office buildings and the steps of the U.S. Capitol May 11 to lobby for the repeal of "don't ask, don't tell."

probably embrace a delay.

The veterans who lobbied their senators and representatives last week were urging them to support the repeal of DADT as part of the 2011 defense authorization legislation - to have repeal included in a bill in the Senate and attached to the bill as an amendment in the House.

The veterans were gay and straight, men and women, marines, soldiers and sailors of conflicts from World War II to the Iraq War. They came from 44 states and they were involved in more than 250 meetings with congressional staff, representatives and senators, 365Gay.com reported. Their message was "repeal DADT now. Not tomorrow. Not Next year. Now."

An authorization bill was the vehicle for enacting DADT and it is seen by the policy's activist opponents as the quickest, simplest way to tank the policy.

Why the rush to repeal?

DADT is discriminatory. It should never have become law and its enforcement can be devastating to gay and lesbian military personnel and their families.

The military has fired more than 13,500 personnel under DADT since 1993 and continues to require an estimated 66,000 active-duty GLB servicemembers to live in the closet.

And their firepower was their stories about their patriotism, sacrifice and courage and their arguments that the government they fought for should stand for equality and justice for all. One gay veteran told lawmakers he would re-enlist in the military if he were not barred from service. One straight veteran who served in WWII told lawmakers he was lobbying against DADT in solidarity with gay veterans.

But more ammunition is needed to put Congress on a direct path to repealing DADT this year - now.

DADT is expensive. Since its inception, the policy has cost the Defense Department an estimated \$290 million-\$500 million, according to HRC. The military spends about \$29,000 to replace a discharged servicemember.

When 2010 began with President Barack Obama pledging to work "this year" to end the policy banning gays and lesbians from serving openly in the military, I expected DADT to be done by Veterans Day.

DADT is a threat to readiness. Enlistment, in recent years, has been down, requiring the Armed Forces to relax recruitment standards to the point that convicted violent-crimes felons can get waivers to enlist. Estimates indicate that enlistments would rise by nearly 37,000 for active-duty service and 12,000 in the guard and reserves if DADT was discharged.

Now, just weeks away from Memorial Day and the start of the heavy, hectic campaigning for the mid-term elections, I see no end for DADT without a massive attack on the policy from voters.

In late April, a letter from Defense Secretary Robert Gates urged Congress not to act to repeal DADT until the Pentagon completes its study of the issue, which now apparently will consider the solicitation of anonymous opinions from the troops.

The momentum for repeal that came with the president's pledge in January must not be lost. We shouldn't expect him, in his 2011 or 2012 State of the Union addresses, to repeat the pledges to repeal DADT. If 2010 slips away, we will, in a blink, be in the midst of a 2012 presidential election fight and an opportunity may be lost.

The Obama administration, in a statement following the release of Gates' letter, deferred to the defense secretary on the issue, and, without tremendous pressure, lawmakers will

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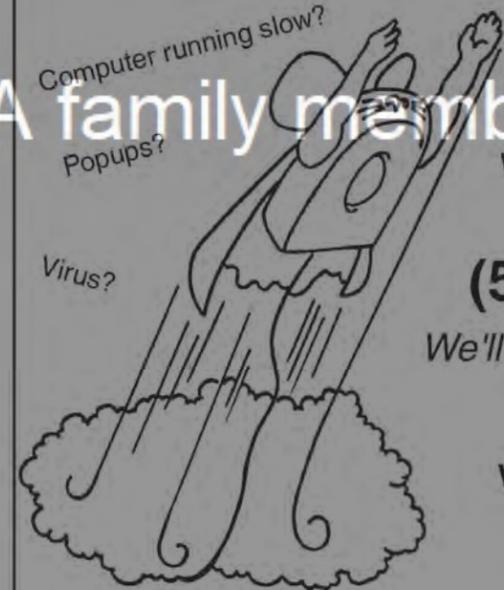
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# Media Asks For Broadcast Of Prop. 8 Closing Argument

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (Observer Update) - More than a dozen mainstream media news organizations petitioned a federal judge to allow broadcast of closing arguments in the Proposition 8 lawsuit, reported the Keen News Service on 365Gay.com.

In a letter to U.S. District Court Judge Vaughn Walker, the news groups say such a broadcast, and webcast, would "enhance the public's ability to witness the parties' respective closing arguments in this historic case." They ask Walker to once again seek approval from the 9th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals Chief Judge Alex Kozinski to include closing arguments under the circuit's pilot project on broadcast of court proceedings.

The letter was delivered to Walker on behalf of NBC and CBS, Fox News, Associated Press, National Public Radio, the Cable News Network, In Session (formerly known as Court TV), and other large media interests.

The unprecedented interest in the case challenging Proposition 8, California's same-sex marriage ban, prompted Walker initially to seek approval for some limited live broadcast of the proceedings, as well as delayed viewing on youtube.com. But before the trial got underway, in January, the U.S. Supreme Court intervened and prohibited Walker from making a broadcast of the proceedings available anywhere outside the federal courthouse in San Francisco.

The 5 to 4 majority of the Supreme Court indicated its decision to bar broadcast of the Perry v. Schwarzenegger trial was based -not on the merits of whether this trial should be made available for public viewing, but rather because- "it appears the courts below did not follow the appropriate procedures set forth in federal law before changing their rules to allow such broadcasting."

Specifically, the majority suggested that Walker allowed only five business days for public comment on his plan to make the proceedings public, whereas "administrative agencies...usually" provide 30 days or more.

In their letter to Walker, the news organizations note that the federal district court has, since that time, re-opened the public comment period for 30 days and set forth the rules to authorize "the taking of photographs, public broadcasting or televising, or recording" court proceedings as part of the 9th Circuit's pilot project. The news groups say they believe those developments make broadcast of closing argument "consistent with federal law" and the Supreme Court's initial ruling.

The groups also note that earlier objections by defendants that broadcast of the proceedings could make them vulnerable to criticism or harassment from people who disagree with them are not at issue in the closing arguments

since only attorneys will be speaking in court.

The case has received considerable media attention in part because two high-profile attorneys -conservative Ted Olson and liberal David Boies- are heading up the legal team challenging the anti-gay initiative.

Walker had not yet indicated whether he would seek approval for the broadcast. Closing argument is scheduled for June 16.

## Expedia Courts Gay Travelers



NEW YORK (Observer Update) - Travel website Expedia announced that it has opened Out & About, a gay travel section that rates hotels on their LGBT-friendliness, reported advocate.com.

The initiative, in partnership with the International Gay and Lesbian Travel Association, features hotels from 15 cities worldwide, The New York Times reports.

"Some of the listings seem a bit arbitrary," Joshua David Stein writes. "In New York City, for instance, the Hilton New York makes the gay cut, but not the Bowery Hotel. In Miami, the Standard makes the list but the new W doesn't."

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SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE CLINIC provided daily by the Pima County Health Department. Gay friendly. Confidential. Treatment and Medication too! Any questions? Call 624-8272

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION (SAAF), 375 S. EUCLID. Office Hours 8am to 5pm, Monday through Friday. Direct services and emotional support for persons with and affected by HIV. Anonymous HIV testing and support groups available. Prevention education programs. 628-SAAF (7223). World wide web: <http://www.sAAF.org>. VOLUNTEERS WELCOME.

P.F.L.A.G. -CANCER SUPPORT GROUP for Lesbians, Bisexuals, Trans, Queer, Women. Meets Mondays (6:00 - 7:30pm) at Wingspan, 425 E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Tucson, AZ 85701. For more info, please contact Brenda Casey, LMSW 520-694-0247 or bcassey@umcaz.edu

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.

### YOUNG AND GAY?

GLBT Youth 23 and under, meet Tucson for sharing, support and information. You are not alone. For more info call Wingspan, 624-1779.

Start getting more out of life with TUCSON PRIME TIMERS. We're the local chapter of Prime Timers Worldwide, the preeminent social organization for mature gay and bi men as well as younger (21+) men who enjoy their company. Each month we sponsor a wide range of dining events, cultural enrichment activities, parties, meetings, bowling, day trips, picnics, tours and much more. Visitors are always welcome. For info call our message phone 520-743-9514 Visit our website: [www.tucsonprimetimers.org](http://www.tucsonprimetimers.org)

### 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. 7<sup>th</sup> 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 (GPGLCC) P.O. BOX 2097, Phoenix, AZ 85001-2097. E-mail: [webmaster@gpglcc.org](mailto:webmaster@gpglcc.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](mailto: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 of visit our website at [www.botop.com](http://www.botop.com) All are welcome to our general meetings/potlucks on the 2nd Friday of every month, at 3202 E. 1<sup>st</sup> 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, Tucson's Gay & Lesbian square dance club, dances Tuesdays 6:30\_9 pm at the Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N. Geronimo Ave (Northwest of 1st Ave & Glenn St). No experience needed, no partner required! For more information contact Barb at 886-0716, or visit [www.azgaydance.org](http://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](http://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. 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

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 TEAM ARIZONA at their website: [teamarizona.org](http://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](http://www.tucsonglbtchamber.org)

TUCSON PRIDE, INC. meets on the second Wednesday at Braun P.C. located at 6125 E. Grant Road at 6pm. Tucson Pride produces the following events each year: Pride Week; Pride In The Desert and Pride On Parade. For more information please call 622-3200 or visit their website at [www.tucsonpride.org](http://www.tucsonpride.org)

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.

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 1<sup>st</sup> Mondays at 7pm; Dezerz Girlz (MTF Support) meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays at 7pm; Dezerz Boyz (FTM Support) meets 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://www.lctucson.org) or write: Lutherans Concerned/Tucson, P.O. Box 40702, Tucson, AZ 85717-0702.

REVEILLE MEN'S CHORUS rehearses Monday evenings 7\_10pm at the Historic Y, corner of University Blvd. And 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. Join us!! Call 304-1758 for more info.

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 toSAGE-Tucson-subscribe @yahoogroups.com. See you on the trails.

MEN'S KINK DISCUSSION GROUP (Open to all who identify as male and are 18 or older) meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m. at Desert Dominion, 3843 E. 37<sup>th</sup> Street, Tucson, AZ. (Map available at [www.desertdominion.org](http://www.desertdominion.org)) For those who are kinky or just curious. No fee, contributions are appreciated, but not required. Mondays, 6:30pm at Wingspan, 425 E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street. This is an open meeting of Narcotics Anonymous - all are welcome. For more info call Bernie W.: 406-0740

TUCSON LATINO M2M - <http://groups.yahoo.com>. TucsonM2M A social group for Tucson and Sonora Latinos, and those who appreciate them.

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP for Lesbians, Bisexuals, Trans, Queer, Women. Meets Mondays (6:00 - 7:30pm) at Wingspan, 425 E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Tucson, AZ 85701. For more info, please contact Brenda Casey, LMSW 520-694-0247 or

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP Sponsored by TMC Hospice and Valor Hospice Care. 1st & 3rd Thursdays 4:30-6:00 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 4831 E. 22nd Street, Tucson. Located one quarter mile east of Swan on 22nd St. For more information please contact Steve Ross- Valor Hospice 615-3996; Karla Brockie - TMC Hospice 269-9573 or [karla.brockie@tmcaz.com](mailto:karla.brockie@tmcaz.com)

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. 6<sup>th</sup> St. Donations accepted. for more info. 323-2293.



# Poet's Corner

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by Ron Rose, Tucson

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### COMMENTARY...

## Scuttle 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell'

(A New York Times Editorial, Sunday May 23)

soldier's career.

A prime opportunity is at hand for Congress to repeal the repressive "don't ask, don't tell" policy that has drummed out more than 13,000 capable members of the military simply because they are gay men and lesbians.

The Pentagon study reportedly will survey more than 300,000 people, including service members and families. Possible changes focus on whether the military code will have to be amended to ban discrimination against gays and lesbians, and whether their partners will receive family benefits. These questions are subsidiary to Congress's obligation to enact repeal, which opinion polls indicate the public clearly favors.

President Obama and the top Pentagon brass have called for repeal, and House strategists plan a floor fight to attach repeal to the big defense budget bill that comes up this week. Election-year nervousness is evident among some supporters, but Speaker Nancy Pelosi braced them last week with a flat prediction that don't-ask "will be a memory by the end of this year."

"Don't ask, don't tell" is a culture war scar on military honor that finds the nation alone among the major Western allies in denying qualified gay men and lesbians the chance to defend their country. Military generals from Britain, Canada, Australia, the Netherlands and Israel were in Washington last week offering assurances that ending the gay ban became a nonissue once their services were justly integrated.

The speaker did not detail the process, but an amended defense bill generated by the House would be a good start. Senate opponents would have to come up with a supermajority to delete repeal from the measure.

"There were concerns in the late '90s of gay men walking across the gangplank in feather boas and high heels," retired Lt. Cmdr. Craig Jones of the British Navy related. "That just did not happen."

Some lawmakers who favor repeal want to wait for a Pentagon study due in December about how — not whether — to carry out the change. The obvious legislative solution is to make repeal effective after the study is in the hands of Defense Secretary Robert Gates. He has already ordered the end of such abuses as third-party accusations that are not made under oath, or that are made with malice and intent to harm a good

Congress has the chance to strike down similar absurdities in the American mind and military by enacting repeal to end a shameful injustice.

## Gay Iranian May Be Deported

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Observer Update) - Towleroad has a heartbreaking post today about Mohammad Abdollahi, an undocumented gay Iranian whose participation in an immigration protest at John McCain's office Monday may lead to his deportation.



Steve Ralls of Immigration Equality said:

Mohammad Abdollahi

"In today's Arizona, the fact that Mohammad Abdollahi is willing to speak up would be cause enough for concern. Abdollahi, who has been in the United States since the age of 3, risks arrest and deportation simply by being visible."

Michigan, were to face execution in Iran for being gay:

"I think it's terrible you can be executed for that, but how is that America's problem?" And while Meltzer said she would "certainly hate" for Abdollahi to go back to his country and face execution for "any reason," she said she was unsure if she could intervene on his behalf."

Towleroad also quotes Rep. Kim Meltzer, who says it would be "unfortunate" if Abdollahi, who lives in



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# DAILY BAR CALENDAR

## SUNDAY

**THE BIZ** - Open 5pm - 2am It's Latin Sunday like the good ol' days. Catch DJ Dmenace spinning the best Cumbias. Get your Bucket of Beer ... 5 Bud Bottles for \$5!

**COYOTE MOON PUB** - Open 11am. Beer Bust Sunday - \$1 draft beers (12 oz), domestic only; \$2.25 domestic long necks. Hair of dog special \$1.50 well bloody mary, screwdriver, Cape Cod, salty dog or margarita.

**IBT's** - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm \$2 Well or Domestic Beer. Karaoke on the Patio 4-8:30pm. Burger BBQ 5-8pm + \$1 pint draft. 9pm-close Karaoke inside with Troy & \$1.50 Well or Domestic Beer, \$2.50 Call or Premium Beer. DJ Hurricane on the Patio.

**WOODY'S** - Open 11am-2am. 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. Check our Ad for Special Events or Parties

## MONDAY

**THE BIZ** - Closed for employee training.

**COYOTE MOON PUB** - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 p.m. \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3.50 sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg. Pitcher. Bucket o' Beer - \$10 Domestic, \$12 Imports and microbrews (4 beers to a bucket, for 2 or more people, Some brands excluded).

**IBT's** - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm \$2 Well or Domestic Beer. 8pm-close \$5 Scratch Long Island Varieties. 9pm-close DJ Hurricane with "All Request Music".

**WOODY'S** - Open 11am-2am. 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.

## TUESDAY

**THE BIZ** - Open 5pm-2am. Happy Hour 5-8 and Game Night all night long. Play Wii, beer pong and pool with the staff.

**COYOTE MOON PUB** - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3-8. \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. Girlz Nite .75 for your favorite well drink or domestic drafts 6-8pm. Ladies only Texas Hold 'Em Poker 6 p.m. Y-Not Karaoke with Anna at 8pm. - Drink specials during karaoke \$1 Michelob Ultra or Bud Light.

**IBT's** - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, \$2 Well or Domestic Beer. 8pm-close "2'sDay" - \$2 Well or Domestic Beer. DJ Q 9pm-close.

**WOODY'S** - Open 11am- 2am. 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.

## WEDNESDAY

**THE BIZ** - Open 5pm-2am. Happy Hour 5-8pm. Wild Wednesday 18+ Party with DJ White Shadow spinning the hottest Hip Hop, R&B and top 40 remix dance of today. 21+ NO COVER. 18+ \$8 Cover.

**COLORS** - Open 4-10pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm, \$3.75 Skyy cocktails, \$3.00 Domestic and Well. ½ 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. Boyz Night - .75 for your favorite well drink or domestic draft beer for men 6-8pm. Karaoke with Anna at 8pm drink specials during karaoke \$1 Michelob Ultra or Bud Light..

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

**WOODY'S** - Open 11am-2am;. Happy Hour 11am-8pm excl. special events). Ful 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..

## THURSDAY

**THE BIZ** - Open 5pm-2am. Happy Hour 5-8pm. Y-NOT Karaoke 9pm-2am with Mecu pouring the best drinks in town. Come out and play.

**COYOTE MOON PUB** - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints, \$3.50 sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg. Pitcher. Latin Thursday: Latin music 8pm to close. \$2,50 well margaritas. \$3 Mexican beers, \$3.50 Jose Cuervo.

**IBT's** -Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, \$2 Well or Domestic. 10pm-close "Boyz Nite Out" w/ Bartenders in their underwear. DJ Hurricane spinning Top 40 & DJ Mike Lopez on the patio. \$1.75 Long Island, \$1.50 Tequila Shots, \$3 Skyy Cape Cods and \$4 Skyy Cosmos.

**WOODY'S** - Open 11am-2am; 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..

## FRIDAY

**THE BIZ** - Open 5pm-2am. Happy Hour 5-8 pm. GoGo Fridays with 2-4-1 drinks for the ladies til midnight. Catch Shorty spinning the hottest Hip Hop, R&B and Top 40 remix dance of today.

**COYOTE MOON PUB** - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3 - 8 pm, \$2.50 well, domestic longnecks & pints. \$3.50 Sm. Pitcher/\$5.50 lg. Pitcher. Shots shot specials 8-close.. Dance lessons with Lawrence at 7pm \$5 per person, Country Dancing 8:30 p.m. to close with DJ Pat.

**IBT's** - Open Noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm, \$2 Well or Domestic. 9pm -close DJ Hurricane inside. 10pm-close DJ Mike Lopez with "I'm a Sexy Bitch Night" on the patio.

**WOODY'S** - Open 11am-2am; Happy Hour 11am-8pm (excl spec events). Full Menu Kitchen open 11am-11pm Back Pocket Patio Bar open 5pm-close. Enjoy the Live 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday Night of the month.

## SATURDAY

**THE BIZ** - Open 5pm - 2am. Latin night with Latin Drag Show the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays of the month. DJ Dmenace spinnin' the best Cumbias, Salsa & Merengue. \$3 pitchers and \$2 Tequila shotz all night long!

**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 \$1Draft Pints. 9pm "Saturday Starrlett's" w/Bunny FuFu & Janee Starr. After the show, DJ Q spinning inside & 10pm-close, DJ Mike Lopez with the "Party on the Patio".

**WOODY'S** - Open 11am-2am; Happy Hour 10am-8pm (excl spec events); Full Menu Kitchen open 11am-11pm. 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.

## Bar Specials

THURSDAY, MAY 27

**COYOTE MOON** - This Thursday and every Thursday from now on is Latin Night here. \$2.50 Margaritas, \$3 Mexican Beer, \$3.50 Jose Cuervo and \$6 Patron Silver.

FRIDAY, MAY 28

**WOODY'S** -Friday, May 28 thru Monday, May 31 watch for big Memorial Day Weekend events.

SATURDAY, MAY 29

**WOODY'S** - A "White and Wet" Party 9 to close. Drink specials for those white and wet. Hot dance 10-to close.

SUNDAY, MAY 30

**WOODY'S** - Breakfast and bloody mary buffe 11am-1:30 pm. Burger and Beer Bust fundraiser for TKO 2-7pm. Drag Bingo with Stella Vlrigin and Janee Starr 8pm. Karaoke and hot dance 9-close..

MONDAY, MAY 31

**WOODY'S** - Monday morning recovery Pajama Party. Open at 8am. Dress to impress in your favorite sleepwear. \$1,50 bloodys, screws, mimosas 8-11 am. Breakfast 11am-1pm and Burgers and Brats 2-5. Hot Strippers 11am. Karaoke 1:30.

SATURDAY, JUNE 5

**COYOTE MOON** - MCC - Water of Life Church benefit show 8pm

SATURDAY, JUNE 12

**COYOTE MOON** - Dragstar Troupe is here with another mind-blowing show. 10pm

FRIDAY, JUNE 19

**COYOTE MOON** - Vivika D'Angelo and Friends drag show. 10pm

TUESDAY, JUNE 22

**COYOTE MOON** - Extxended girlz night special hours 6-10pm for Pride Week.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 23

**COYOTE MOON** - Extended Boyz night special hours 6-10 pm for Pride Week.

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# 630 New DADT Discharges Discovered



WASHINGTON, D.C. - Servicemembers United, the nation's largest organization of gay and lesbian troops and veterans, released a newly obtained document from the National Guard Bureau showing 630 additional discharges pursuant to the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law that have never before been counted in the Department of Defense's official "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" discharge numbers.

The document, obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request by Servicemembers United, only reports Army National Guard discharges from fiscal year 2004 through fiscal year 2009. Annual discharge numbers from other National Guard and Reserve components have yet to be released.

"These newly released data confirm what Servicemembers United has long suspected - that the official annual 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' discharge numbers are underreported and incomplete," said Alexander Nicholson, Executive Director of Servicemembers United and a former U.S. Army interrogator who was discharged under 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell.' "The Department of Defense has adopted its own 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' policy regarding the full and complete disclosure of these numbers over the years, and unfortunately the methodology by which this information has been requested, collected, and assembled by outside organizations has been flawed. What's more is that there are even more discharges that have yet to be disclosed, and we're still working on obtaining those data."

The commonly accepted annual "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" discharge statistic combines the total number of discharges reported by the Department of Defense for each of its active component branches with the total number of discharges reported by the Department of Homeland Security for the Coast Guard.

However, the Office of the Secretary of Defense's Freedom of Information Office has confirmed to Servicemembers United on three separate occasions in late 2009 and early 2010 that the internal source of their annual "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" discharge numbers is the Defense Manpower Data Center, and that Defense Manpower Data Center statistics do not include discharges from the National Guard or the Reserves.

Last month, Servicemembers United released the total fiscal year 2009 "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" discharge numbers reported by the Department of Defense and the Department of Homeland Security. Those numbers were 428 and 15 respectively, bringing the "official" 17-year discharge numbers up to 13,425. These newly released numbers now bring the 17-year total number of discharges to at least 14,055.

# Gay Friendly Judge Wins Oregon Supreme Court Race

SALEM (Observer Update) - An appeals court judge who wrote a historic opinion extending gay and lesbian rights, has won a seat on the Oregon State Supreme Court.

Jack Landau, an Oregon Court of Appeals judge, defeated Allan J. Arlow, an administrative law judge with the Oregon Public Utilities Commission. Landau had 71 percent of the votes, with 56 percent of the expected vote counted.

As an appeals court judge, Landau wrote the opinion in Tanner v. OHSU, which ruled that employers cannot discriminate against gay and lesbian couples when providing health care benefits.

The Supreme Court seat opened with the retirement of Justice W. Michael Gillette.

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