

Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

June 20, 2012

Issue 1430

New campaign; tax Wall Street!

By Matt Kavanagh
HEALTHGAP

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Dozens of national organizations, celebrities, renowned economists, and global leaders joined Tuesday for an unprecedented coalition, calling for a "Robin Hood Tax" on Wall Street.

Economists estimate that we could generate hundreds of billions of dollars annually by placing a small tax of 50 cents on every \$100 of trades in stocks, and even less on bonds, derivatives and currencies. Experts also suggest that such a policy would help limit the reckless short-term speculation that threatens financial stability.

"The Robin Hood Tax will not just begin to bring basic tax

fairness to Wall Street, it will help curb the destructive gambling that drove the current crisis and continues to threaten our economic stability and security," said Liz Ryan Murray, policy director of the National People's Action.

In 15 cities across the country, including New York City, Washington, D.C., Chicago and Los Angeles, activists echoed that call, rallying outside of JP Morgan and other financial institutions in support of the Robin Hood Tax on Wall Street transactions.

Until 1966, the United States enforced a Robin Hood tax that raised revenue from every sale or transfer of stock. The tax benefited average Americans and helped grow the middle class.



Pentagon celebrates Gay Pride after death of 'don't ask, don't tell'

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta thanked gay and lesbian service members in a video address on June 15, as the Pentagon celebrates gay pride month for the first time.

The secretary of defense's recognition comes nine months after the repeal of "don't ask, don't tell" that had prohibited gay troops from serving openly and forced more than 13,500 service members out of the armed forces. Gay Pride month will now be added to a list of racial and ethnic celebrations at the Department of Defense.

"As we recognize Pride month," Panetta says in the video, "I want to personally thank all of our gay and lesbian service members, LGBT civilians, and their families for their dedicated service to our country. Before the repeal of "don't ask, don't tell," you faithfully served your country with professionalism and courage. And just like your fellow service members, you put your country before yourself."

Panetta said that diversity was one of the strengths of the armed forces. "Diversity is one of our greatest strengths. During Pride month -- and every month -- let us celebrate our rich diversity and renew our enduring commitment to equality for all."

Details are still being worked out, but officials say Panetta wants to honor the contributions of gay service members. This month's event will follow a long tradition at the Pentagon of recognizing diversity in America's armed forces. Hallway displays and activities, for example, have marked Black History Month and Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month.

Panetta's video joins those of other high profile government figures who have made public statements this month in support of the LGBT community. The growing list includes videos and press releases by First Lady Michelle Obama, Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, and President Barack Obama.

Kisses in uniform



Sean Sutton, right, greets his boyfriend of two years, U.S. Navy sailor Jonathan Jewell, E5, with a kiss after Jewell returned from a seven-month deployment aboard the USS Stennis in Bremerton, Wash.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Marrison Gaeta, left, kisses her girlfriend of two years, Petty Officer 3rd Class Citlalic Snell, at Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek in Virginia Beach, Va., after Gaeta's ship returned from 80 days at sea.



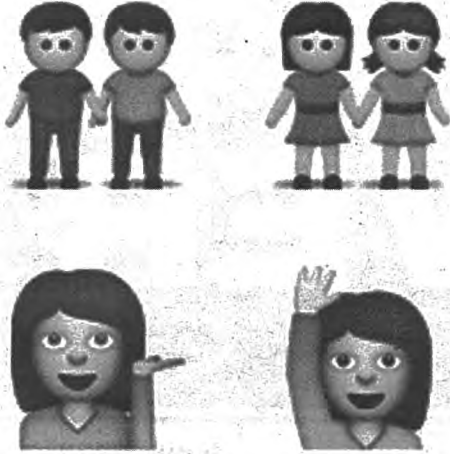
Marine Brandon Morgan, left, after three deployments shows his boyfriend of four years how much he missed him.



Two women, right, both active-duty sailors in the Navy who gave their names as Nikki, and Lisa, kiss as they march in the Gay Pride Parade in San Diego.



Briefs



Apple provides gay emoticons for iPhones, iPads

CUPERTINO, CA -- Apple has continued to associate itself with LGBT people with the introduction of same-sex couple related icons or emojis for the next version of its iPhone and iPad operating system, iOS 6.

The company's chief executive, Tim Cook, is considered the most powerful gay man in business, despite never publicly confirming his sexuality to reporters.

The new emojis or icons which are often used in texting and emails feature two same-sex couples, one gay and the other lesbian, for the first time.

The couples appear next to heterosexual couples with children in the list of emojis released by Apple. Some expect that by the release of the next version of the operating system, the gay couples will also have children.

Chamber sets Out and About dinner at Brio

TUCSON -- Please join the GLBT Chamber of Commerce for an evening of wonderful epicurean delights and culinary creations. Meet old friends and make new ones in an atmosphere of a country Tuscan villa.

On Thursday, June 28, the Chamber will be hosting their June Out and About dinner at Brio Tuscan Grille. Located in the Tucson Mall, 150 W. Wetmore Rd., the event begins at 5:30 PM.

Brio will provide: Food for the guests! A martini for everyone!

Bring your business card for a chance to win a voucher for dinner for four, up to a \$100 value!

GOP amicus brief supports DOMA

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Servicemembers Legal Defense Network (SLDN) June 12, responded to an amicus curiae brief filed by ten Republican U.S. senators in the case *Golinski v. Office of Personnel Management*. The brief asserts that no harm was intended to LGBT Americans through the passage of the so-called Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) and that the law is the result of significant government interest in clarifying the federal definition of marriage.

"There is absolutely no national interest in relegating gay and lesbian citizens to second-class status with the passage of the discriminatory Defense of Marriage Act, and to say that no harm was intended to LGBT Americans is absurd at best. At worst, it's a blatant and mean-spirited attempt to slow down the progress we are making on securing the freedom to marry for all Americans. I urge these senators - all of them from states with proud military traditions - to watch the video SLDN released June 11, of a brave service member and his husband; then, justify to the brave gay and lesbian patriots serving this nation in uniform why they should not receive the same respect, recognition, and support as their straight peers," said Army Veteran and SLDN Executive Director Aubrey Sarvis.

The GOP brief was filed by Senators Orrin Hatch (R-UT), Saxby Chambliss (R-GA), Dan Coats (R-IN), Thad Cochran (R-MS), Mike Crapo (R-ID), Charles Grassley (R-IA), Lindsey Graham (R-SC), Mitch McConnell (R-KY), Richard Shelby (R-AL), and Roger Wicker (R-MS).

Report details 'Growing Up LGBT in America'



WASHINGTON, D.C. -- This month the Human Rights Campaign released a groundbreaking report that examines the disparities between straight and LGBT-identified youth.

Their survey of more than 10,000 youth ages 13-17 provides a stark picture of the personal, social, emotional and educational difficulties that our youth face. It also highlights the incredible strength, resilience and optimism that LGBT-identified youth display in the face of these challenges.

Visit HRC to view the full report and share key statistics with friends, family and supporters.



World Wide Knit event scheduled

TUCSON - Grab those knitting needles, pick up that crochet hook, and go find some yarn!

Pima County Public Library invites you to learn how to knit, get your yarn-related questions answered and crochet with your community at World Wide Knit in Public Day at the Murphy-Wilmot Branch Library, 530 N. Wilmot Road, this Saturday, June 16, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event is free, and people of all ages, levels and abilities are welcome.

McCain: Obama immigration move a 'distraction'

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., on Sunday joined the list of GOP critics of the Obama administration's shift in deportation policy, arguing that it's a political ploy to distract from the poor economy.

"I think that this is obviously a way to divert attention from very bad news the president's had for the last three or four weeks," President Obama's 2008 presidential rival said on NBC's "Meet the Press."

A week that began with a focus on Obama's statement last Friday that the private sector economy is "doing fine" ended with a monumental shift in focus when the White House announced the Department of Homeland Security would no longer deport illegal immigrants who were brought to the U.S. when they were young and had received a high school diploma or served in the military. Though economic news has not been in Obama's favor, with unemployment rising to 8.2 percent last month, this new step could shore up his support among Latino voters.

The shift in policy largely mirrors a Republican immigration reform proposal spearheaded by Florida Republican Sen. Marco Rubio, making it difficult for some Republicans to attack the substance of the move -- though many have expressed outrage at the unilateral expression of power from Obama.



Glenn Beck plans anti-'Glee' show

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Glenn Beck says he's poised to destroy "Glee" with his own conservative virtuous version of the hit TV show.

The pundit and former Fox News host outlined his next move in the crusade to defend family values during the Faith & Freedom Coalition conference last Friday.

Beck said that he's appalled by "Glee," which tackles issues like bullying, teen sexuality and LGBT issues, but he's also in awe of its success.

"It's horrifying some of the things that they're teaching high schoolers," the talk radio host said. "But it's brilliantly done. All of it!"

Beck is cooking up a plan to create a counter- "Glee" -- a show that's just as well-produced and enjoyable to watch, but that pumps out conservative values to the youth of America, without any "stereotypical conservative Le Greenwood music," he explained at the conference.

Editors Note: Can we call this new show 'Bleck!'



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Barber won, but the fiesta can wait

By R.D. Smith
TUCSON OBSERVER

I'm trying to be ecstatic over Ron Barber's win in the race to succeed Rep. Gabrielle Giffords ... really I am.

Lord knows I'm glad Jesse Kelly didn't win. Can you imagine having a Pee Tarty person representing us? (Now there's a contradiction in terms -- "Tea Party" and "representing us." Such a spawner of mirth.)

With any luck, Barber's opponent in the November general election will be a little closer to mainstream, but in today's political climate, if his opponent has an "R" after her name, I'm sure I'll be shilling for Barber come fall.

That doesn't mean Barber should get a free ride. For years, Democrats in Congress have been quiet as church mice except when they're seeking re-

election. How many times do you read or hear about one of them actually speaking up like a Democrat on some issue that's important to you? Yeah, about that many times!

We constantly hear how important it is for Democrats to maintain control of the U.S. Senate. Do you know how many Democrats in the Senate voted NOT to allow U.S. citizens to be "detained" on any pretext for as long as somebody decides to detain them, and no charges even have to be filed? In other words, how many wouldn't support doing away with one of the cornerstones of what America has always been about, putting us on a level with the Guantanamo detainees?

Five.

Six Senate Republicans voted not to do it.

Now tell me again how important it is for Democrats to keep control of the Senate -- or how important they are in Congress. Yes, it could make a difference when it comes to a vote on marriage equality, BUT ... if the polls keep showing bigger majorities of the voters approving marriage equality, some Republicans are going to have to hold their noses and approve it. There's nothing "progressive" or "courageous" about going with the majority.

It's important to note that over in the House of Representatives, Tucson's Rep. Raul Grijalva and Phoenix's Rep. Ed Pastor were among the handful who refused to wipe out your rights. (Rep. Gabrielle Giffords was unable to be present.) Based on that vote alone, those two guys are undervalued by most Arizonans. The views expressed here don't apply to them.

We all wish Rep. Barber the best.

But he needs to vote like a Democrat and speak out like a Democrat, or we need to look elsewhere.

The day should have been long past when the voters tolerated keeping most of our congresscritters in office. What does it take to get through to people? MY GENERATION IN CONGRESS SOLD YOUR ASSES OUT YEARS AGO. STOP ELECTING US!

There have to be outstanding young black, Latino, female, GLBT, Asian and even Muslim potential candidates out there. (I heard that gasp -- am I saying that there are Muslims who would do a better job of representing you in Congress than most of the worthless dreck that's there now? That's exactly what I said, Bubba Don.)

If you don't vote, and vote intelligently, it ain't gonna change.

With bank rates nil, why rape students?

By R.D. Smith
TUCSON OBSERVER

There's been a lot of publicity lately about the battle in Congress over whether to allow student loan rates to skyrocket.

Seems to me the publicity (all of it that I've seen) has missed the point. Banks have been able to borrow money at zero or near zero interest rates for some time now, so why do they need to double interest rates for anybody? The student loan program provides publicly subsidized loans and has been one of our most successful government programs.

And if some loan rates have gone up, why would Congress help the banks undermine the program that keeps students in school so the U.S. can remain competitive -- assuming that our congresscritters leave us with any economy with which we can be competitive.

The GOP says it's willing to keep the loan rate at 3.4 percent but not if it means closing some tax loopholes to pay for it.

Well, in case you've been living under a rock, let me fill you in on something: According to GOP thinking, college students as a whole backed the wrong presidential candidate in 2008.

You hear a lot about Republicans' war on women. Nobody talks about a war on gays and lesbians, but even if you've been under a rock, you know one's going on. Nobody seems to be aware of a war on students, but what's happening to them is more than a rap on the knuckles.

Consider the GOP's success at passing laws to suppress the vote this November. According to the most recent count I read, 41 states have passed some type of law to make it more difficult to vote this fall than it was in 2008.

Florida has taken the brunt of the bad press because its voter purge targets mostly minority and other Democrat-leaning voters, but the coverage is centered there because Florida's purge list has actually been studied. I haven't read that any other state has been studied closely.

But among other purges that

have been publicized, college students are taking it in the nether parts. Look at Wisconsin's recall election last week: Reportedly, the new law there said students had to be a resident where they voted for at least 28 days before the election.

This particular election happened to come in June, the worst possible time for Wisconsin students. Anybody with a summer job in another town probably couldn't afford to hang around their college campus between the end of school and the election. When they got to the new town, they would have discovered that -- legally registered or not -- they couldn't vote where they ended up.

No doubt Wisconsin legislators would laugh it off and say the students should have voted before they left campus. With finals and term papers and the chaos that comes with the end of the spring term, gee ... maybe the students had other things to worry about.

In Texas, where I grew up and where the GOP Legislature has done as it pleases for years, the new voting law doesn't allow a college

photo ID to serve as a voter ID at all. But get this: Anybody can vote in Texas by presenting a gun permit.

Now which party is someone with a college ID likely to vote for, vs. which party is someone with a gun permit likely to vote for. Are you seeing a plan here?

Nobody makes more fun of conspiracy theories than I do. But facts is facts, Bubba Don!

This country started out limiting the vote to male property owners. Our entire history up until now has emphasized giving more and more people a voice. Now we're supposed to believe it's a good idea to start weeding out the voters who can't seem to endorse the right candidates.

The GOP insists on fighting a war against every demographic that's known to vote mainly Democrat. The question is, when the hell is the other side going to start fighting back?



A Head of Style Hair Salon

Workstations or a private suite in the stylish, air conditioned "A Head of Style Hair Salon" for rent to licensed Cosmetologist or Barber. Great location one block from 4th Ave, 3 houses from new college housing and 4 blocks from The District Student Complex holding 750 students. Booths start at \$100 per week. Don't miss out on this chance to build new clientele in an awesome location right in the heart of the downtown/college community!

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Arizona

ACLU hits Pinal jail on immigrant conditions

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FLORENCE, Ariz. -- American Civil Liberties Union is faulting the Pinal County Jail in Florence, Ariz. over jail conditions for immigrant detainees.

The ACLU of Arizona sent a letter this week to federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Department of Homeland Security officials that threatened litigation, calling the conditions at the jail "unconstitutional."

Victoria Lopez, program director for the ACLU of Arizona, said the complaint about the conditions specifically applies to a separate wing of the facility that has 625 beds set aside for immigrants detained by ICE. The group says those detainees have no access to outdoor exercise, no face-to-face contact with loved ones, and an unsanitary environment.

Sheriff Paul Babeu, above, said his jail is the best-run adult detention center in Arizona.

Arpaio arrests 6-year-old for illegal immigration

By Judd Legum
THINKPROGRESS.ORG

Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio arrested a 6-year-old undocumented immigrant on June 17. The move came the same day President Obama announced a new policy halting deportations for young undocumented immigrants.

The girl was with 15 other people believed to be in the country illegally who were traveling to the Midwest and northeast United States, said Chris Hegstrom, spokesman for the Sheriff's Office.

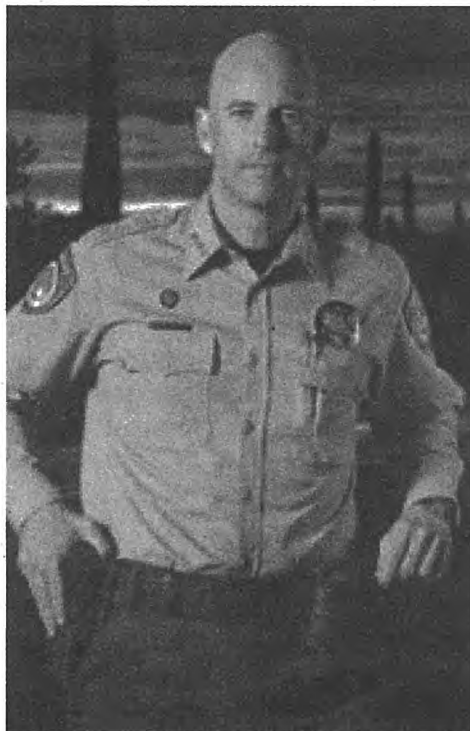
The arrest took place at an undisclosed location in northern Maricopa County.

"She's been turned over to ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) to try to determine where she's from. She told us she's from El Salvador. That's what she told us," he said.

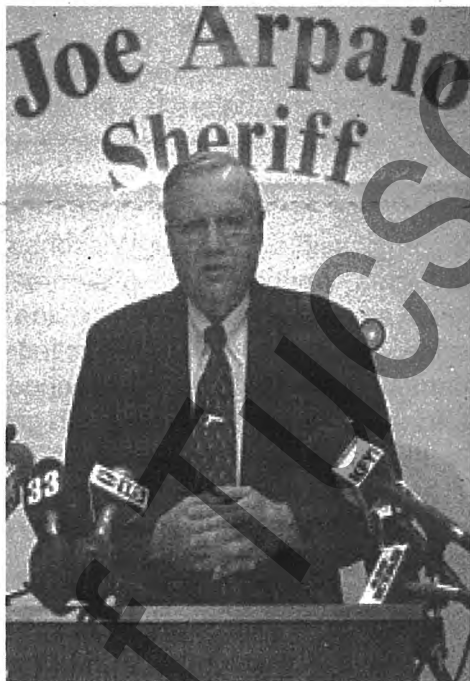
The sheriff said his deputies arrested a child suspected of being an illegal immigrant the same day Obama implemented the policy is a coincidence. But if more illegal children enter the country after hearing about the new policy, Arpaio said it may not be by happenstance.

"Are we going to get more of these situations where illegals feel like now they're going to be safe? I don't know," he said.

Immediately following the President's announcement Arpaio told a local ABC affiliate that it would not impact his approach toward young undocumented immigrants. "They will still be arrested," he said.



Paul Babeu/Pinal County Jail



Joe Arpaio/thinkprogress.org

Russell Pearce's fund-raiser too hot for venues to stomach

By Observer staff

A year ago he was so powerful in Arizona he was called "the ex-officio governor." Now he can't even hold a fund-raiser in public.

In yet another sign that Phoenix may not be the redneck haven it once was, former Senate President Russell Pearce scheduled a fund-raiser June 14 that ended up being announced for three different venues in a matter of hours, only to be canceled in the end.

The event had been announced in the first place only hours before it was to be held, presumably to avoid just this kind of public embarrassment following Pearce's recall by voters.

It was scheduled for 4:30 p.m. at the Macayo's restaurant on Central Avenue, just north of downtown. Several groups quickly sent out a call for protesters; Macayo's cancelled.

A new announcement went out: The event -- which a Phoenix New Times blogger called "the bigot bash" -- would be at 4:30 p.m. at Oaxaca restaurant on Van Buren Street, at the eastern edge of downtown. Oaxaca quickly announced that it wouldn't be there.

Then the third announcement: The event was set for the library at Central High School, on Central Avenue across from Macayo's. Once school district officials began getting word that several groups would be protesting,

they begged off with the excuse that they wouldn't be able to provide the security that would be required.

Pearce had scheduled the fund-raiser on the same day as one for Bob Worsley, Pearce's opponent in the Aug. 28 Republican primary in trying to regain his seat in the Legislature. Presumably this would have forced lobbyists and GOP notables to choose between the two early on.

More offensive than that, though, was using a well-known Mexican restaurant to stage a fund-raiser for one of America's best-known Latino bashers. Randy Parraz's Citizens for a Better Arizona, which had spearheaded the recall drive, and DeeDee Blase's Tequila Party didn't waste a minute in scheduling protests. But according to reports, people of all stripes were ready to join in, including a group of conservative Mormons. Pearce is an official in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The usual gaggle of Tea Party legislators allowed their names to be listed on Pearce's invitations (all three of them in one day), so to a lesser extent they also went down in flames. Two of them, Sen. Terri Proud of Tucson and Sen. Sylvia Allen of Payson, have announced that they'll retire from the Legislature rather than run in new districts that will be less favorable to Republicans.

Pearce's name will forever be associated with Senate Bill 1070, the immigration bill that garnered Arizona worldwide publicity and is now before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Wingspan Dinner



SEPTEMBER 29TH, 2012

www.wingspan.org/events/wingspan-dinner-2012

WINGSPAN

Tucson Pride is what we make it

By Observer staff

TUCSON – Results of the Pride in the Desert 2012 survey have been tabulated. Tucson's LGBT community has spoken! Well, 157 responded to the non-profit's request for ideas, suggestions, and request for help. Tsk, tsk.

On Saturday, let's hear the rest of the community's voices. At 9 a.m. Tucson Pride President, Karon Bolender and the dedicated board of the 2012 Pride will be at Armory Park, to continue making preparations for Pride. Let's join them. There's so much to do in preparation of Pride on Parade and Pride in the Desert events scheduled for Oct. 13.

Eighty-plus vendors still need to be organized. Ticket booth volunteers need to step forth. It takes over 100 volunteers to help ensure that the event is successful. Sure, planning and executing a party for 4,500 guests is challenging. But making Pride a memorial event for yourself and for the community will be immensely rewarding.

Pride has always been what we've made of it. This year, the 35th annual festival, is no different. Though Tucson Pride 2012 remains strapped for cash, board members opened their own wallets to square things with last years' creditors. Let's show them our appreciation by volunteering our skills and talents and make Pride 2012 the biggest bash yet.

"It's important to come together as a community regardless of our differences or our situations," says Bolender, "Even though things are better than they were in the '60s –

Pride may be the only safe place for some to embrace who they are." Karon reminds us, "This year's Pride will be someone's first Pride." It may be someone's first opportunity to stand among other LGBTs and feel safe and finally feel empowered. Let's not disappoint them.

Organizing Pride is a huge task - one that even 10 dedicated board members can't accomplish by themselves. Let's help. Let's attend the June 23 meeting at Armory Park. Let's volunteer.

There are many ways to get involved in making Pride 2012 a success. We can attend one or two or three of Pride History Week's fund-raisers. Money from these events held at locally owned LGBT and allied businesses help pay for Pride.

On Friday Solar Culture hosts a Second Chance Prom. Fun! Shhh . . . Friday, New Moon hosts a Silent Auction. And they're off - the Third Annual Big Gay Scavenger Hunt begins at Wingspan. Also on Saturday, the Bears of the Old Pueblo host a fundraiser at Venture-N for Tucson's LGBT youth. Wrapping things up on Sunday Wingspan and Tucson Pride present an anti-bullying community forum event at FLUXX Studio & Gallery.

If you just can't wait for these events and want to show your Pride now – you can contact Tucson Pride 2012 at: www.tucsonpride.org/get-involved, to volunteer.



Pride History Week 2012

Remembering our past, celebrating our future

Friday June 22:

Second Chance Prom at Solar Culture Gallery, located at 31 E. Toole, from 7 p.m. to midnight. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door.

Tucson Pride Fund-raiser hosted by New Moon Tucson at 915 W. Prince Rd. 8 p.m. to midnight. Silent auction items include a Diana Taurasi autographed jersey, deluxe survival backpack, and many more. There will be a 50/50 raffle as well as other raffles and prizes. The event is sponsored by Survival Preparedness Emergency Kits: www.surviveprepare.com


Saturday June 23:

The Third Annual Big Gay Scavenger Hunt, sponsored by Survival Preparedness Emergency Kits: www.surviveprepare.com, will challenge you and your friends to see who performs the tasks wearing the most creative costumes. Where else will you find so much fun for only \$10? Look for registration forms at local bars and for updates at www.tucsonpride.org.

Bear Bust Benefiting Homeless LGBT Youth at Venture-N. Go to Facebook and like the Bears of the Old Pueblo to get more information about all they do for Tucson LGBT youth.

Sunday June 24:

Wingspan and Tucson Pride present an anti-bullying community forum event at FLUXX Studio and Gallery located at 414 E. 9 St. Visit www.tucsonpride.org for details.



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Friday 6/22
PRIDE NIGHT
Raffles • Prizes
All Night
Jello Shots!

Saturday 6/23
mcc - Water of Life Church
Benefit Show - 8pm

Sunday 6/24
Glamour & Spice Show - 8pm
Rosie Cheeks, Raul Martinez, Jessica Michaels,
Suenos Santa Cruz, Rachelle Richards

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PROBATE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS

Bar Calendar

Thursday

BRODIES TAVERN - \$1.50 shots. \$3 margaritas. \$1 Coronitas & Pacificos, \$3 32 oz. Pitchers and \$6 64 oz. pitchers, \$2 domestic bottles and \$2 well cocktails. Thirsty Thursday 9-10 all single shot well drinks & mug draft beer \$1. Underwear night 9-close \$1.50 domestic beer.

COLORS - Open 4pm. Happy Hour 4-6p

IBT's - Happy Hour 12pm-8pm, Therapy every Thursday. 2-4-1 Drink Specials (excludes top shelf, wine & draft). DJ Sid the Kid Inside 9pm, Million \$ DJ on the Patio 9pm. GoGo's Dancing @11pm.

NEW MOON - Open at 4pm. Happy Hour 4-8pm: \$2 well, \$2 domestic longnecks and pints, \$2 New Moon shots. Kitchen open 5-9pm.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Bears Beer Bust and Chili Feed 3-7p.

WOODY's - Open 11am.

Friday

BRODIES TAVERN - \$1.50 shots. \$6 64 oz Pitchers, \$2 domestic bottles and \$2 well cocktails. Karaoke 9pm-close.

COLORS - Open 4pm-close. Happy Hour 4-6pm Melody Louise sings standards and favorites 6-9pm Honeybaked Glam 9pm hosted by Tempest DuJour

IBT's - Happy Hour 12pm-9pm, Flawless Fridays. Karaoke Inside 5pm-9pm.

NEW MOON - Open at 4pm. Happy Hour 4-8pm: \$2 well, \$2 domestic longnecks and pints, \$ New Moon shots. Kitchen open 5-9pm. 1st and 3rd Fridays there is a Country DJ playing 8:30-10:30pm, followed by the Shimmer Show at 10:30. 2nd Friday is Latin Music Night starting at 9pm.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Bear's Happy Hour 5:30-7:30pm: \$3 wells, domestic, pitchers, wine!

WOODY's - Open 11am.

Saturday

BRODIES TAVERN - A Taste of Mexico: \$2 Mexican Beers and \$3 margaritas all day. \$1 Coronitas & Pacificos, \$3 32 oz pitchers and \$6 64 oz pitchers, Post Big Gay Scavenger Hunt party at 6. Latino Night from 9pm-close. Men of Strut performing at 9.

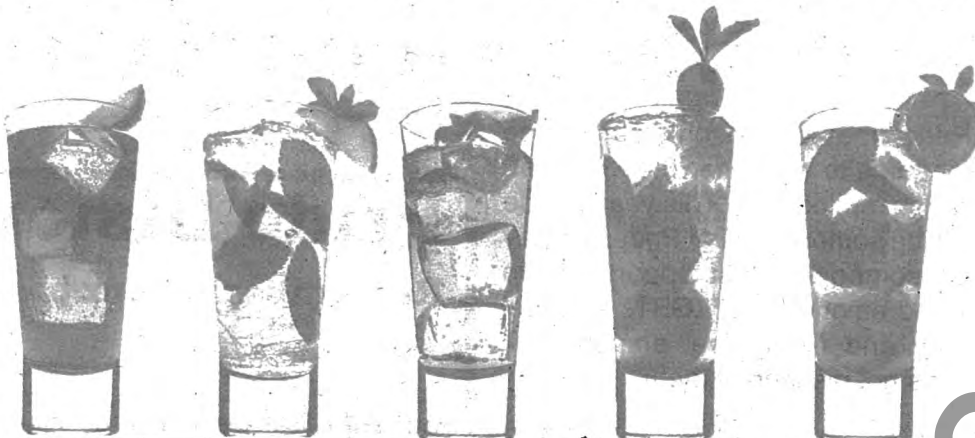
COLORS - Open 4pm-close. Happy Hour 4-6p. Not Burnt Out Just Unscrewed 7:30-9pm: Tucson's premiere improv comedy troupe brings the laughs to Colors. Free admission!

IBT's - Happy Hour 12pm-8pm, Karaoke on the Patio 5pm-8pm,

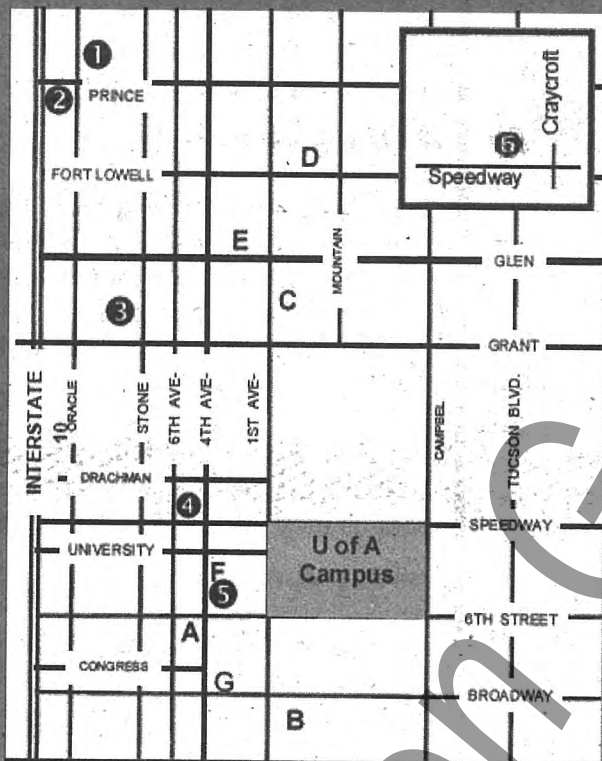
NEW MOON - Open at 4pm. Happy Hour 4-8pm Kitchen open 5 - 9pm. \$5 cheeseburger and fries.

VENTURE-N - Open 10am.

WOODY's - Open 11am.



LGBTQ Directory



BARS

- 1 Woody's
3710 N. Oracle Rd.
(520)292.6702
- 2 The New Moon
915 W. Prince Rd.
(520)293.7339
- 3 Brodie's Tavern
2449 N. Stone
(520)622.0447
- 4 Venture-N
1239 N. 6th Ave.
(520)882.8224
- 5 IBT's
616 N. 4th Ave.
(520)882.3053
- 6 Colors
5305 E. Speedway
(520)323.1840

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- A. Wingspan: 430 E. 7th St. (520)624.1779
- B. SAAF: 375 S. Euclid Ave. (520)628.7223
- C. TIHAN: 2660 N. 1st Ave. (520)299.6647
- D. Metropolitan Community Church: 3269 N. Mountain
- E. Cornerstone Fellowship: 2902 N. Geronimo
- F. Trinity Presbyterian Church, 400 E. University Blvd.
- G. Fluxx Productions: 414 E. 9th St.

Sunday

BRODIES TAVERN - \$1 Coronitas and Pacificos, \$3 32 oz. pitchers & \$6 64oz pitchers, \$2 domestic bottles & \$2 well cocktails. Sunday Recovery Session (back bar) 2pm-7pm: \$2 Zest Bloody Marys, Screwdrivers, \$5 red cup draft beer with 50 cent refills. Patio Party 2-9.

COLORS - Open 11am.

Colors Brunch 11-3p.

IBT's - Happy Hour 12pm-9pm, Karaoke on the Patio 4pm-8:30pm. "Cheap Ass Sunday's" 9pm-Close featuring 2-4-1 Drinks and Bottle Beer (exclude top shelf, wine & draft), Karaoke Inside 9pm, Dancing on the Patio w/ DJ Sid the Kid 9pm.

NEW MOON - Open at 4pm. Happy Hour 4-8pm: \$2 well, \$2 domestic longnecks and pints, \$2 New Moon shots. Kitchen open 5-9pm. \$5 Cheeseburger

and fries. Check our ad for events. **VENTURE-N** - Open noon. BBQ on the patio 5-7pm: \$4 Hamburgers, Cheeseburgers, Turkeyburgers, Boca Veggie Burger or Hot Dog w/ fries.

WOODY's - Open 11am. BBQ Beer Bust 2-6pm: \$3.50 Burgers, Bratwurst, Veggie Burgers, \$8.50 with domestic draft beer.

Monday

BRODIES TAVERN - Open 10 am. 2-4-1 All drinks from open till close! \$1.50 shots. Brodie-rita Monday: \$3 margaritas all day. \$1 Coronitas & Pacificos, \$3 32 oz. Pitchers and \$6 64 oz. pitchers, \$2 domestic bottles and \$2 well cocktails.

COLORS - Closed.

IBT's - Happy Hour 12pm-8pm. Reverse Happy Hour Monday's 8pm-Close. Dance to All Request Music or Lounge on the Patio 9pm.

NEW MOON - Closed.

VENTURE-N - Open noon.

WOODY's - Open 11am.

Tuesday

BRODIES TAVERN - \$1.50 shots. \$1 Coronitas and Pacificos, \$3 32 oz. pitchers & \$6 64oz pitchers, \$2 domestic bottles & \$2 well cocktails.

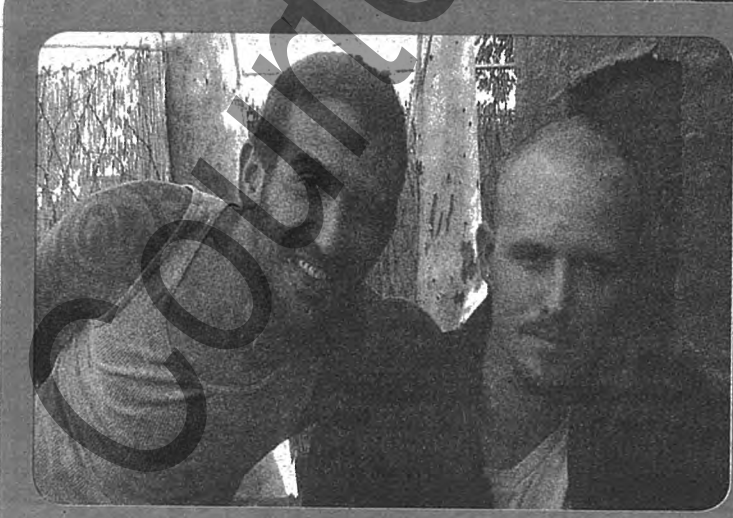
COLORS - Open 4pm. Happy Hour 4-6p. 9p close.

IBT's - Happy Hour 12pm-8pm, Taco Tuesdays. \$1 Tacos. Drink Specials 9pm-Close: Mix-n-Match Mexican Beer Special, Tequila Specials (Patron \$6, Milagro \$4.50, Hornitos \$4, Cuervo \$3.50), Million \$ DJ Inside 9pm.

NEW MOON - Open at 4pm. Happy Hour 4-8pm: \$2 well, \$2 domestic longnecks and pints, \$2 New Moon shots. Kitchen open 5-9pm. Ladies Poker at 6pm. Karaoke at 9pm.

VENTURE-N - Open noon. Double Darts 7pm: \$3 entry, Bar matches pot!

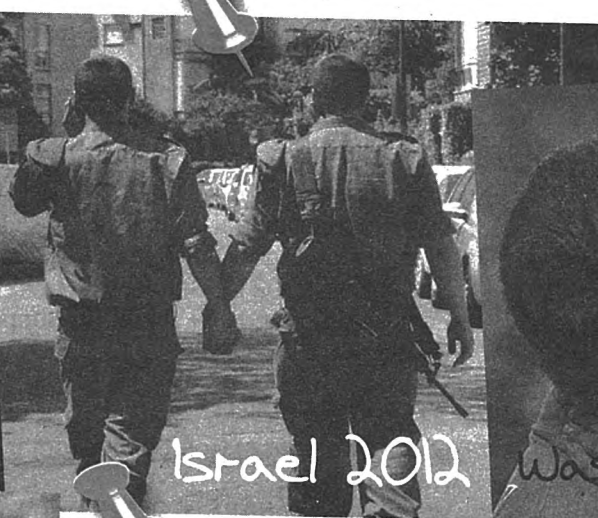
WOODY's - Open 11am. 2-4-1 Tuesdays 9-close: excludes top shelf and draught beer.



Pride



Proud in Amsterdam



Israel 2012



Was it love in New Delhi



Paris - the summer of 2012



Mi Guatemala



Barcelona Pride!



New York



The Gay Parade



Global Pride 2012



White House Pride

WASHINGTON D.C. — President Barack Obama hosted his third LGBT Pride Month Reception at the White House on June 15, marking the occasion with a speech that received the loudest applause for its mentions of “don’t ask, don’t tell” repeal and his administration’s decision to stop defending the Defense of Marriage Act.

The invitation-only crowd, which included a sizable contingent of service members in uniform for the first time, erupted into applause when the president said that “last year we finally put an end to ‘don’t ask, don’t tell’ so that nobody would ever have to ever again hide who they love in order to serve the country they love.”

“I’m happy to see you with your partners here,” said Obama to the service members. “We thank you for your service. We thank your families for their service, and we share your joy at being able to come with your spouses or partners here to the White House with your commander-in-chief.”

“We’ve supported efforts in Congress to end the so-called Defense of Marriage Act,” he said to increasing applause. “And as we wait for that law to be cast aside, we’ve stopped defending its constitutionality in the courts.”

“Now, I’ve said before that I would never counsel patience; that it wasn’t right to tell you to be patient any more than it was right for others to tell women to be patient a century ago, or African-Americans to be patient a half century ago,” he said. “After decades of inaction and indifference, you have every reason and right to push, loudly and forcefully, for equality.”

“But three years ago, I also promised you this: I said that even if it took more time than we would like, we would see progress, we would see success, we would see real and lasting change,” he said. “And together, that’s what we’re witnessing.”

June 23rd

Brodie's
BBQ FUNDRAISER FOR PRIDE
 Hosted by Vivika D'Angelo

Brodie's
TAVERN The **MEN** are back!

A & E

The Big Gay Scavenger Hunt this weekend!



By Observer staff

Anyone who has ever been to a frat party will tell you: "If there aren't any photos, it didn't happen!" Fortunately for the judges at this weekend's Big Gay Scavenger Hunt, pictures are a requirement.

This Saturday teams of four will meet up at Wingspan to receive their scavenger hunt lists and set out across the city competing to find all the locations and perform wacky and embarrassing stunts - all of which must be photographed as evidence.

So if you happen to see some odd characters racing around taking staged pictures in odd situations, there is no need to worry, they are just sacrificing their own dignity to raise money for a worthy cause.

The winning cadre will be awarded a lush package including hotel accommodations and VIP event passes for October's Pride in the Desert.

To register your team, visit tucsonpride.com and submit an entry fee of ten dollars. The event starts at Wingspan and lasts from 2-6pm, followed by a celebration at Brodie's Tavern, during which no shortage of priceless stories will be shared.

TV's hottest woman touts marriage equality!

By Observer staff

Lately it seems like everyone and their mother is jumping on the band wagon of tolerance and support for equal marriage rights, and to report on all of the allies coming out of the woodwork would require a publication of encyclopedic proportions.

But when television's smart and stunning Sofia Vergara came out in passionate support of the movement, we can be sure the couch potatoes across America started listening.

The *Modern Family* star has risen to the top of every straight man's list of favorite babes and, thanks to her recent bilingual PSA's supporting marriage equality, she probably picked up a heap of new lesbian fans as well.

The PSA is part of GLAAD's "Be an ally and a friend" campaign and is currently airing on Telemundo.

Community Calendar

Wednesday June 20

- 12-1p Pink Triangle AA Meeting, 439 N. 6th Ave.
 4-6p Eon Youth Hot Meal, Wingspan.
 6:30-7:30p Wednesday Night Christian Bible Study, Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N. Geronimo Ave.
 7-8p Positively Sober, HIV+ Alcoholic Support Group, 840 S. Campbell
 7-9p Weekly Bears Coffee at Crave, 4530 E. Broadway Blvd.

Thursday June 21

- 7:30-9a GLBT Chamber of Commerce Monthly Breakfast. 450 W. Paseo Redondo #212
 8a-8p HIV Testing at SAAF. Call 520.628.7223
 12-1p Pink Triangle AA Meeting, 439 N. 6th Ave.
 4-5:30p Support Group for Transgender Survivors of Sexual Trauma, SACS, 1600 N. Country Club
 4:30-6p LGBT Grief Support Group. Unitarian, Universalist Church, 4831 E 22nd St.
 6-8p Desert Partnerz, Wingspan.
 6:30-7:30p Regardless of... NA LGBT Meeting, Trinity Presbyterian Church, 400 E. University Blvd.
 7-10p Triangle Tribe, Men's Support Group. Call 520.207.5336
 7-8:30p Tucson Women's Chorus Rehearsal/Enrollment, 520.743.0991

Friday June 22

- 12-1p Pink Triangle AA Meeting 439 N. 6th Ave.
 5-8p Eon Youth Fridays, Wingspan, 430 E. 7th St
 5:30-6:30 Oasis LGBT Social Group. Email oasis.wingspan@gmail.com

Saturday June 23

- 9:30a-11a 40s and Better Breakfast, a gathering for Lesbians 40+ at the Royal Sun Best Western, 1003 N. Stone Ave.
 10a-12p Mamasitas! Gay men's sports club meets at Menlo Park, 427 N. Grande
 2-6p Big Gay Scavenger Hunt starting at Wingspan (see left column)

Sunday June 24

- 8-11a Rainbow Riders Cycling Group. Location varies, check health. groups.yahoo.com/group/wingspan_fun2bhealthy for details.
 9-11a Co-ed Softball, all abilities welcome. Oury Park, 600 W. St. Mary's
 12-1p Pink Triangles AA Meeting, 439 N. 6th Ave.
 4-6p The Men's Massage Group. Call 881-4582 or email- bleu55@gmail.com at least 3 days in advance to sign up.

Monday June 25

- 12-1p Pink Triangles AA Meeting, 439 N. 6th Ave.
 12-3p Senior Games at Himmel Park Library. Ages 50+, 1035 N. Treat
 4-5:30p In Our Own Voices, Women's therapy group for survivors of sexual trauma, SACS, 1600 N. Country Club, 520.327.1171
 4:30-6:30p Cancer Support Group for LGBT People, Arizona Cancer Center at UMC-North, Rm 1127, 3838 N. Campbell Ave. 520.694.0347
 4:30-5:30p Eon Youth Support Group, Wingspan.
 6:30-7:30p Regardless of... NA LGBT Meeting, Trinity Presbyterian Church, 400 E. University Blvd.
 7-9p Desert Voices, weekly rehearsal open to all. Water of Life MCC
 7-10p Reveille Men's Chorus Open Rehearsal, Rincon Congregational Church, 122 N. Craycroft
 7-8:30p Tucson Women's Chorus rehearsal. Call for details: 520.743.0991

Tuesday June 26

- 8-10a Iron Horse Park Clean Up 10th St between 1st and 4th Ave.
 12-1p Pink Triangles AA Meeting, 439 N. 6th Ave.
 5p-7p City of Tucson Commission on GLBT Issues at Ward 1 Office, 924 W Alameda.
 4-5:30p Eon Youth Peer Working Group, all youth welcome. Wingspan.
 6:30-9p T-Squares Dance Club, LGBT Square Dancing free and open to all, Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N. Geronimo.
 7p-9p Desert Boys Support Group for all people on the Female to Male continuum. Open to all. Takes place at Wingspan
 8:30-10p Community Bike Ride, All welcome, Meet at the UofA Flagpole in front of Old Main, 1200 E. University Blvd.



"Hazte Amigo y Aliado"

Entertainment Calendar

Theater, Film & Stand Up

Laffs Comedy Survivor continues through June 21 at Laffs Comedy Caffe. Comedians compete to avoid elimination. 8pm each Thursday at 8pm Finals on Saturday June 23.

Back to the Past, or Its About Time opens June 21 at 7pm at Gaslight Theatre on Broadway and Kolb.

Psycho Beach Party opens with a preview Thursday, June 14, and continues through Sunday, June 24. Showtimes are 10:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday; and 7:30 p.m., Thursday preview; \$10. Call 327-4242, or visit liveshowtheatreworkshop.org

Joan Is Burning, a new play devised by The Next Theatre, is staged at 7:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday, June 22, 23 and 29; \$18, \$8 student, \$15 senior, military and teacher. beowulfalley.org

Soup to Nuts! an Invisible Theatre production at the Arizona Inn, June 29 at 8pm. \$30 at the door if you mention Wingspan.

Not Burnt Out Just Unscrewed Tucson's premiere improv comedy troupe brings the laughs to Colors Food and Spirits 7:30-9pm June 23. Free admission!

Music, Dancing & Drag:

Honey Baked Glam Fridays, 9pm at Colors.

Janee Starr's 21st Birthday.. Again June 22 at 9pm. \$5 donation at Fluxx Studio.

DragVision by Powhaus Productions (Television Show Screening) at La Cocina, 201 N. Court. June 22 from 10:30p-2am

Men of Strut will be heating up the stage at Brodies on June 23 at 9p Hosted by Vivika D'Angelo

Glamor and Spice hosted by Rachele Richards and Rosie Cheeks at New Moon June 24 at 8pm

T-Squares Dance Club Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N. Geronimo. June 26 at 6:30p.

Hallelujah Musical Mayhem Revival June 27 at 7pm at Colors

It has been estimated that the LGBTQ community has a net disposable income totaling:

\$835,000,000,000.00



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Once upon a time at Broadway Bares!

By Christopher L. Pankratz
TUCSON OBSERVER

"The way is clear, the light is good, I have no fear nor no one should. The woods are just trees - the trees are just wood." - Or so Little Red Riding Hood thought as she ventured out into the woods in Sondheim's dark musical adaptation of our best-loved fairy tales.

If she were to stray off her path and into the Roseland Ballroom in New York last Sunday night she might have had more fun.

Over 200 of the sexiest dancers from New York hit the stage often wearing little more than their riding hoods as part of *Broadway Bares XXII: Happy Endings* benefit which played to an unsurprisingly sold out theatre of fantasy seekers.

Broadway Bares was created by Tony Award-winner Jerry Mitchell who serves as a continual co-producer of the event alongside Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS.

The first event had only seven

dancers but raised an admirable sum of \$8,000. Last year's production *Broadway Bares XXI: Masterpiece*, raised a record-breaking \$1,103,072 bringing the running total, before this weekend, to more than \$8.6 million!

This year's installment of the charity burlesque was directed by Lee Wilkins and featured special performances by Kyle Dean Massey (*Next to Normal*) Rachel Potter (*Evita*) and countless other Broadway stars shedding their clothes to raise awareness.

While Sondheim's *Into the Woods* tossed aside "happily ever after" for a more complicated, broken and disturbing second act, Sunday night's fairy-tale performance left everyone grinning after a night of scintillating modern burlesque all for an incredibly worthy cause.

Can LGBT hip-hop be the last taboo?

By Alexis Garret Stodghill
THEGRIO

Outside of rare instances the worlds of rap and homosexuality rarely meet — or at least so it appears on the surface. Queen Latifah recently headlined a Gay Pride celebration in California, and when President Obama changed his stance to favor same-sex marriage, "hard" artists such as Jay-Z, 50 Cent and Beenie Man echoed his sentiments.

These were kind, if superficial gestures. Yet, the gay and hip-hop worlds have blended much more intimately for quite some time in the sphere of underground rap. TheGrio spoke with three gay, African-American hip-hop artists based in New York City — two gay men and one transgender woman — to discuss this cultural mixing.

"I think that people tend to forget that hip-hop is a culture," rapper, Baron explained. "It was born in urban areas where people of all sorts of backgrounds and orientations come from, so to say that gay people aren't involved is a misnomer, because we are involved. It's part of who I am."

Despite this lack of support, these artists do not blame hip-hop for homophobia. "No, no," Baron said in response to this idea. "I think the homophobia is a bit fabricated — only because it's easier to sell a homophobic artist. I don't think hip-hop itself is homophobic."

Foxxjazell, a transgender female rapper, disagreed. "I'm going to go out on a limb and say I do think it does come from hip-hop to a certain extent." When she got started in entertainment as a teen in an all-male group, she was very "stealth," as she put it, about being a transgender woman. She soon came out.

"I think it does start in hip-hop," Foxxjazell said of homophobia, "because a lot of hip-hop fans, if they hear one of their favorite rappers over and over again talking about 'fag this' or 'fag that,' it's going to be instilled into their head. A lot of people are raised by hip-hop culture."

Thus, big name artists who say negative things about gays are not harshly criticized by some out gay rappers, because often gay rappers in their scene do the same thing — indulge in homophobic lyrics as part



Rap Artist, 'Baron'

of hip-hop's "dis" aesthetic. Rap artist DDM sees this homophobia in black gay hip-hop as a reflection of the self-hatred that exists in every part of black culture.

"I think the self-hatred goes so deep. This is one of the reasons why we have in our culture a pastime called 'reading' — very popular in the ballroom scene," DDM explained. "Two people will tear down each other. [Other black people] call it the dirty dozens," he added, drawing a parallel. "We tear down our own people."

DDM "outed" predominantly gay events that fail to support their brothers and sisters in rap. "What I have a problem with is — case in point — at these Prides, why don't we ever get an artist performing who is hot at the time? Why are we booking — no

shade — no tea, no shade — why are we booking [artists like] Deborah Cox NOW? When they don't have any hits? Why are we paying them, when we don't pay an out rapper?," DDM demanded. "They don't really [support us] at those types of events. It's like pulling teeth to get booked for them. And if you do get booked for them, they don't want to give you anything. But if you are a drag queen, if you're some kind of washed-up, coked-up R&B diva, oh they're going to pay you. They're going to fly you in. They're going to have a hotel, and they're going to be falling out [and] doing dips all out in the crowd. I'm really very irritated by that. It's caused me to not concentrate so much on booking prides and gay events, because I get treated better in the hood!"



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World



China putting its first woman into orbit



GANSU, China -- Liu Yang, China's first female astronaut, waves during a departure ceremony at Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center, Gansu province. China sent its first woman into outer space, prompting a surge of national pride as the rising power takes its latest step towards putting a space station in orbit within the decade. Liu, a 33-year-old fighter pilot, joins two other astronauts aboard the Shenzhou 9 spacecraft when it lifted off from a remote Gobi Desert launch site on June 16.

Gays make wax figure of ex-prime minister



Wax effigy of Silvio Berlusconi

By Edmund Broch
PINKNEWS.CO.UK

The work, called 'Il Sogno degli Italiani,' ('The Dream of the Italians'), is the creation of Antonio Garullo and Mario Ottocento, who were the first gay couple to tie the knot in Amsterdam, back in 2002.

The title is of course a reference to what former Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi is thought to have called himself on the phone to one of his young girlfriends.

The artwork shows Berlusconi lying dead in a glass coffin, eyes closed, face smiling, wearing a pair of giant Mickey Mouse slippers, with one hand resting on the History of Italy, and the other nested deep down his unzipped trousers.

The artwork is exhibited at the Ferrajoli Palace, which is just a few yards away from Palazzo Chigi, the official residence of the Italian prime minister.

Of the installation, the artist couple said in a statement: "We put Berlusconi's body into a glass case to emphasize the personality cult that he has been creating for all these years and which will possibly remain for years to come," adding: "At the same time we put a screen between the contingent reality and historical judgment."

Poll indicates record support for equal marriage in Scotland

By Edmund Broch
PINKNEWS.CO.UK

through easily. Three more MSPs have since added their support to the measure.

A new survey of Scottish people suggests that almost two in three support equal marriage, with only one in four expressing opposition, reports PinkNews.co.uk.

A poll conducted by Ipsos-MORI on behalf of the Equality Network, an advocacy group, reveals that 64% of Scots supported equal marriage, with only 26% remaining opposed. In addition, the survey finds that 68% believe that religious organisations should be given the right to marry gay couples, if they want to, with only 21% opposed.

This is the first major survey on equal marriage since 2010.

The poll also found that the support increased significantly among women and younger people (below 55 years of age), with 70% of the former, and 76% of the latter favoring a change in the law.

The news comes just days after a major survey of MSPs found that at least 69 out of the 129 members have pledged support to marriage equality, which meant that, even if introduced as a private members' bill, the legislation would pass

Findings of this survey have been welcomed by all major political parties in the Scottish Parliament, and from those religious groups that have expressed an interest in performing same-sex ceremonies, such as the Unitarians and Liberal Judaism.

Commenting on the results, Tom French, policy coordinator for Equality Network, said: "Scotland has spoken and the message is clear; there is now overwhelming support for equal marriage across the country and in the Scottish Parliament. This record level of support gives the Scottish Government the green light they need to announce legislation that will give lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people full marriage equality, both civil and religious."

The Scottish government's consultation on equal marriage received some 50,000 responses, the findings of which are expected to be published later this month. Equality Network tells PinkNews.co.uk that Nicola Sturgeon MSP will be introducing a measure in the parliament to bring forth a change in law to allow gay couples to marry.

They added: "If Italians are ultimately 'a people of saints, poets, seafarers' then the arch-Italian Silvio is a worthy simulacrum of this people."

Berlusconi stepped down last year over the debt crisis that had affected Italy, though he was also facing growing calls for resignation over his alleged liaisons with under-age girls.

The former prime minister is also openly homophobic, once promising Italian Catholics that gay couples will never be permitted to marry nor adopt children, and once saying that it was better to like pretty women, in the context of personal or professional failings, than being gay.

A trial is under way on allegations that he paid for sleeping with a young woman, Karima El Mahroug (known as Ruby the Heartbreaker), when she was just 17 years old.

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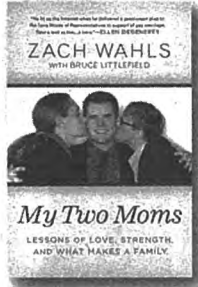
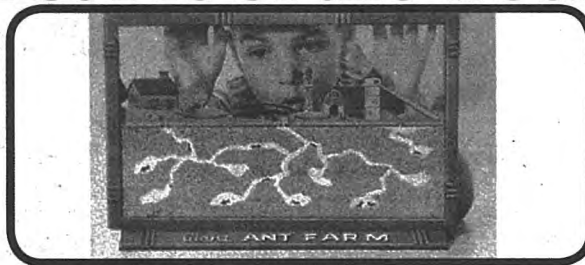
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The Way Clark Saw it! By Gary Clark



Pet Pic of the week



"MY TWO MOMS" By Zach Wahls with Bruce Littlefield (Penguin Group 2011)

A true story of a young straight man, Eagle Scout, college-educated business owner raised by two lesbians.

As a student at the University of Iowa, Zach scores a win when speaking to the legislature of Iowa for the right of two same-sex people to marry.

This book is an honest account of growing up in a family with two moms and relates everyday family issues and trials and tribulations. This is a story that challenges society to educate itself on relationships and aims directly at Fred Phelps and prejudiced politics.

I highly recommend this book to those that agree with same-sex marriage and especially for those that do not.

Ramon Leon

Fun

Poet's Corner

January 2011

By Ron Rose

Shots ring out in Tucson on a cold and windy day
Bodies slumping lifelessly, in pools of blood they lay
Heroes rush to comfort them, horror in their eyes
The sound of death is in the air, surprise, surprise, surprise
The shooter with a crooked grin, is trying to reload
While others wrestle, jump on him, and crush him on the road
Horror in the parking lot, in Tucson, Saturday
A brain, diseased, short circuited, let's make the gunman pay
Lives, six ended senselessly, some are still alive
Will wonder, with each breath they take, how they managed to survive

Apocalypse Cafe By Sisol Hendrix



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30-33

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30-33

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Aries

- L. Contagions are contagious.
- G. Try adding a new spice to an old recipe.
- B. Stick with it; they're still working the kinks in.
- T. Stop. Drop. Roll-out!
- Q. What's that in the air?

Taurus

- L.
- G. Let the Joneses keep up with you for once.
- B. Better to have a cold shoulder than a hot head.
- T. If you're in a pickle, be sure it's a Vlasic.
- Q. If Genghis Kahn, then why can't I?

Gemini

- L. Lean on your better half this week.
- G. Don't let the right hand steal from the left.
- B. Set it, but don't forget it.
- T. It's as easy as try!
- Q. Who is the fairest of the tall?

Cancer

- L. Beware of hazards.
- G. Take heed of dangers.
- B. Use caution with threats.
- T. Know your boundaries in sticky situations.
- Q. What's the worst that could happen?

Leo

- L. Treat yourself to some zany office supplies.
- G. Rarr!
- B. Failure is a source of inspiration.
- T. Throw a breakfast party!
- Q. Where would we be without a sense of direction?

Virgo

- L. Celebrate the mundane.
- G. Journal today.
- B. The future is forthcoming.
- T. Better to be born with a silver spoon in your mouth than a gold fork up your arse.
- Q. Why aren't we investigating all these dead doornails?



Libra

- L. Add a few paragraphs to your novel tonight.
- G. Send a thank-you letter to a politician of little or no significance.
- B. Bookmarks are in short supply.
- T. Avoid superglue; opt for scotch tape.
- Q. When are we?

Scorpio

- L. Results unclear.
- G. Put procrastination off for a later day.
- B. Your inner child called; ordered a pizza.
- T. Watch for stationary rocks.
- Q. Are we square yet?

Sagittarius

- L. Write down your thoughts or risk losing your mind.
- G. Follow someone on Twitter; stalking is less creepy online.
- B. Your fridge needs cleaning.
- T. Doodle more, erase less.
- Q. Where have all my pens gone?

Capricorn

- L. Throw a breakfast party!
- G. Sunglasses at night are a must.
- B. Write a novel about pirates who open a thrift store in Iowa.
- T. I've got something for you, inquire within...
- Q. Why doesn't anyone throw garden parties anymore?

Aquarius

- L. Ask again later.
- G. Schedule time for spontaneity.
- B. Play more, complain less.
- T. Find a new hobby and bring a friend.
- Q. When did everyone get to be personal?

Pisces

- L. The best worms are upstream.
- G. Occasionally occasions occur.
- B. Land Ho!
- T. Try out a new shampoo. Lather, rinse, enjoy!
- Q. What smells like tuna?

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FYI

Arizona invokes the power of poetry to promote highway safety

By Tony Phillips
HUFFINGTONPOST.COM

Y'all tweeters with an urge to wax poetic might like to know that the Arizona Department of Transportation has invited folks to submit haikus to call attention to the risk posed by summer storms known as haboobs -- fiendish gales that can turn day into night under a blanket of dust that reduces highway visibility to zero.

Says one department spokesman, "The challenge... is really designed to raise awareness that this is a problem and that drivers shouldn't expect to sail through a dust storm."

Using the hashtag #haboobhaiku, writers have posted more than 100 entries so far, among them being: "You're not a Jedi/This is not Tatooine, Luke/Pull over now, man."

Obviously anything called a haboob has to be pretty bad. Had Tolkien thought of such a name, he'd have based a trilogy on it. I, for one, can attest to how nasty a thing a haboob is.

About 15 years ago my sister



Haboob in Chandler, Ariz./iWitnessWeather

and I decided to drive from Oklahoma City to San Diego when we were stuck flightless in the former and desperate to get home to the latter. The next day found us chewing up road like Grant took Richmond and about an hour into Arizona, tearing along at right near 100 miles per hour, one monster of a haboob decides to raise itself on high and scour the earth in hell sand.

The Arizona Department of Transportation would be pleased to know that I, a San Diegan to whom bad weather means wearing a shirt at the beach, pulled over and let the monster run its destructive course. I did not think to pen a haiku at the time, but if I had it would have gone something like this:

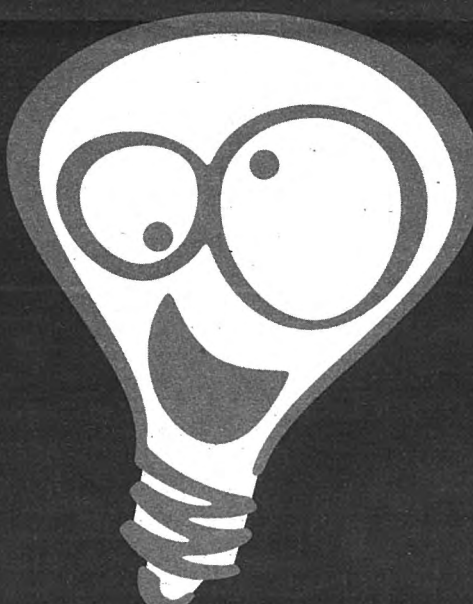
Oh Arizona!
Fierce haboob thou remind'st me
why I don't live here.

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