



Parents & Family Association



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# Parents & Family Magazine

The University of Arizona Fall 2010



Dean Of Students Office

# Rare Student Property With a "No Party" Policy



Of all the selling points to publicize, one student property advertises a "quiet environment" and a "No Party" Policy.

If you research the student housing market in Tucson, AZ you will find that most

properties are very similar with only slight differences. Of course, each has its own advantages and disadvantages. Some properties include all utilities in the rent. Some do not. Some are luxurious (one even has a real mini movie theater). Some are miles away. Some are just steps away from the campus. Some rent to students only. Some will rent to anyone. Some are for students on a budget and offer no amenities. And some are similar to resorts in the range of amenities they offer...you get the idea. But Sahara Apartments stands alone by advertising a "No Party" Policy.

Sahara Apartments, located less than one mile west of the UofA campus on N. Stone Avenue, has had a "No Party" Policy in place since it opened five years ago. In that time there have been no wild parties, no accidents, no drunken or drug-related injuries, and no Red Tags given by the police. Red Tags are given to properties when the police are called for disturbances or illegal activity. Yes, not a single Red Tag in five years.

"Yes, some people view our 'No Party' Policy as a negative and frankly, some students choose not to live here because of the policy," says Ted Mehr, owner and developer of Sahara Apartments. "We look at Sahara Apartments as a sanctuary for students where they can feel safe, secure and free from the usual commotion that goes on in most student oriented apartment buildings. The kinds of things that can disturb a student's sleep or study time. As a student-only property, we do not consider ourselves to be in the nightclub business, or the bar and entertainment business. There are plenty of choices for those activities all around Tucson. We are a student's home away from home."

Sahara Apartments sponsors social events on a monthly basis. These social activities are held both on and offsite. When they are offsite, Sahara's shuttle provides free transportation to the events and brings the residents back. Residents can have their friends over and socialize with them in the student lounge, entertain them



in the game room, use the swimming and whirlpools, or study together in Sahara's study room with free use of the Internet connected terminals.

"Safety is the number one thing parents are concerned about when their child moves away from home," says Ted Mehr. "The concept of Sahara was born out of my concern for my own daughter's safety as she was preparing for college. I wanted her to be in a safe and comfortable living environment no matter where she lived. I simply asked myself, what kind of place would I want my daughter to live in for the times I could not be there to watch over her? Sahara Apartments was my answer to that question."

The concern for safety and security is evident as you approach the



entry gate, or when you step into the leasing office. Sahara Apartments steps up with state-of-the art fire safety and security measures that are unmatched by any building Tucson. The gated property includes an electronic key system with retrievable history of every entry into each apartment and through each gate. The property is equipped with 80 security cameras that monitor all public areas

on a 24/7 basis. There is even a network of infrared beams over the perimeter walls that sound an alarm and calls the owner on his cell phone if the perimeter walls are breached...regardless of the time of day or night. "If someone breaches the security of the building, I want to be the first one to know. If I wanted it for my daughter, I am sure you would want it for yours. It may be considered overly protective, but I would prefer to wake up and investigate in the middle of the night than to find out in the morning that something happened that could have been prevented," admits Ted Mehr.

What else needs to be said about Sahara Apartments? They have a good long list of modern amenities that the students want, such as ALL utilities included in the rent, VERY high-speed Internet, kitchens and private bathrooms in each apartment, FREE shuttle service to and from campus, FREE bicycles for use as long as you are a resident, lower prices than the on-campus residence halls and comparable off campus student apartments, and you might have guessed...Sahara Apartments is the one property with the mini-movie theater. Check out Sahara's Website for all the information about this unique student property at [www.SaharaApartments.com](http://www.SaharaApartments.com) or stop in and take a tour. The friendly staff at Sahara Apartments would be happy to show you around.

Sahara Apartments  
909 N. Stone Ave.  
Tucson, AZ 85701  
520-622-4102

Ted Mehr, Owner  
[Ted@saharaapartments.com](mailto:Ted@saharaapartments.com)



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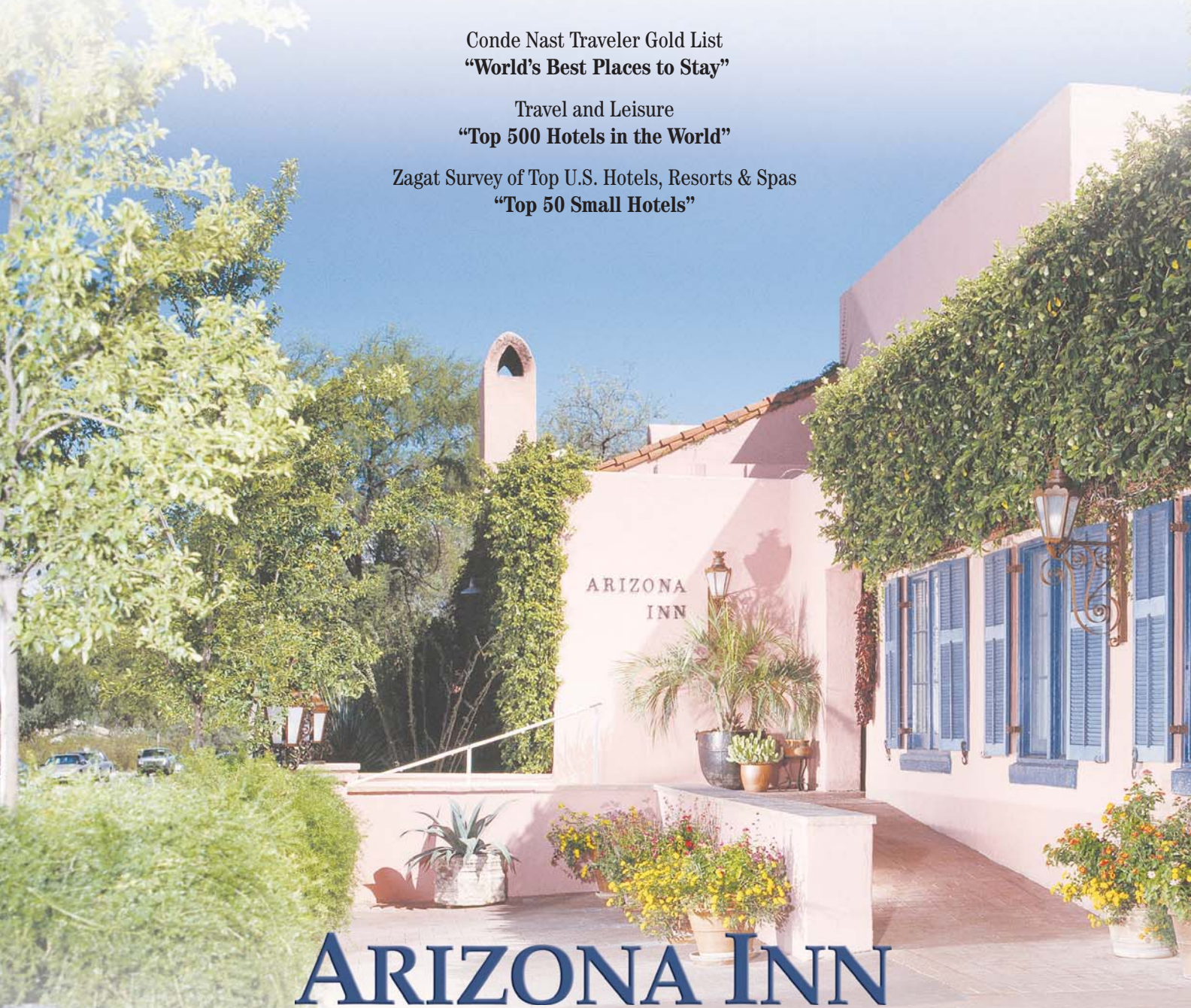
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# Parents & Family Magazine

## Issue 8

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The advertisements in this magazine are for information purposes and do not constitute endorsement of services by The University of Arizona.



# Welcome to the UA Wildcat Family!

Greetings Wildcat Parents & Families,

Welcome to our eighth issue of Parents & Family Magazine! You're receiving this magazine because you are one of our valued Parents Plus members or you have made a generous donation to support the goals of the UA Parents & Family Association. I thank you for your support!

The fall semester is always an exciting time here at UA. It is filled with new freshman learning their way around campus, the first chance to cheer on the Cats in Football and traditions like Family Weekend and Homecoming. This year was a particularly festive and memorable Homecoming celebration as the University of Arizona celebrates the 125th Anniversary of its founding.

I want to thank all our parents and family members who joined us on campus the weekend of October 8th-10th for Family Weekend. You can see a wrap up of this great event on page 25. I love having the opportunity to meet and interact with parents face to face during this weekend! So, thanks to everyone who stopped me, said hello and introduced themselves. I so enjoy meeting you and hearing how your student is doing here at UA.

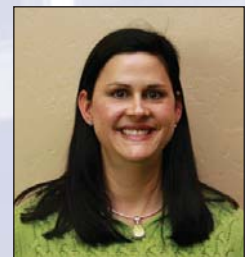
The Fall Edition of the Parents & Family Magazine is traditionally the time when we acknowledge parents and family members who have supported the UA Parents & Family Association during the past year by making a financial contribution. This year is no exception. I know that it has become increasingly difficult for some parents to make a contribution to PFA. As you will see in our Grants Article on page 7, the PFA was only able to award just under \$25,000 to our annual grants requests due to a significant decrease in parent donations over the past two years. So on behalf of myself, the PFA Board and our students – THANK YOU to everyone who made a contribution! I am hopeful that you will do so again this year. I am also hopeful if you weren't able to give last year that you will make a gift this year – every bit counts and makes a difference to supporting UA students' success.

The PFA is looking for some good volunteers who have a little bit of time and talent to give! If you are looking for ways to get more involved and connected to campus – PFA can help you – we love our parent volunteers! Be sure to bookmark our website: [www.uafamily.arizona.edu](http://www.uafamily.arizona.edu). It is an excellent source of information and support!

I also want to express my heartfelt thanks to all the wonderful parent volunteers who have served the association over the past year – I really appreciate your dedication and support – and so do our students!

As always, don't hesitate to give the Parents & Family Association a call or send us an email if you have a question, concern or if you would like to get more involved. Barbara Camp and I are happy to be of assistance. We can be reached at (520) 621-0884 or via email at [uafamily@email.arizona.edu](mailto:uafamily@email.arizona.edu)

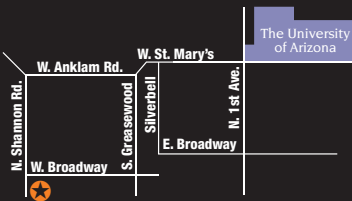
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**Kathy Adams Riester, M.S. Ed**  
Assistant Dean of Students  
Director UA Parents & Family Association



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# Fall Update

**By Kathy Adams Riester, M.S. Ed**  
*Assistant Dean of Students &  
 Director, UA Parents & Family  
 Association*



Fall is one of my favorite times at the University of Arizona! There are lots of fun activities to engage students and our parents such as Family Weekend and Homecoming and you can't beat the fact that our temperatures are now consistently below 90 degrees. Thanks to everyone who attended our Faculty/Staff Luncheon, Legacy Lunch, Committee Meetings and Board Meeting during Family Weekend! Here is an update on our PFA Committees.

## Committee Updates

▶ **The Public Affairs Committee**, Chaired by Beatrice Perry and Katherine Harmeyer, has been working hard to keep our parents informed about the up and coming November Elections. They are also working on the third Annual "Meet Your Legislator Night" with

the Maricopa County Legislators which will occur in the spring. If you want to become more informed and/or take a more active stance on Higher Education Issues in Arizona, they would love to have you join their committee!

▶ **The Recruitment and Retention Committee** Co-Chaired by Alan and Janet Stein and and Josie Perez have been working hard to gather a solid group of parents to assist with recruiting the best and brightest students to UA. They are also working with UA Admissions staff to get parents signed up with PAWS (Parents and Alumni Working with Students) a new recruiting website. Parent can be involved by adopting a local high school in their area, by representing UA at a college fair and by contacting our newest Wildcats once they have been admitted to welcome them to UA.

▶ **The Ad-Hoc Phoenix Summer Send Off Committee**, Co-Chaired by

Patti Teter and Charlene Duff hosted a fabulous send off for new students in the Phoenix metropolitan area on August 1. With the help of Wilma, Wilbur, the Pride of Arizona Band and President and Mrs. Shelton we welcomed over 1200 new wildcats and their parents. We would love to have some more parents help in planning this event so please let us know if you are interested in joining the committee!!

▶ **The Campaign Committee** awarded over \$24,000 in grants for 2010-2011 academic year (see article on page 7). The committee is currently working on a French Cooking Class Fundraiser to benefit Safe Ride, Safe Walk and Think Tank and we are looking at the possibility of bringing back the Family Weekend Golf Tournament next year.

If you would like to get involved in any of these committees we would love to have you! Please contact me at uafamily@email.arizona.edu or by calling 520-621-0884.

# 2010 Phoenix Summer Send Off 100 Club Student Members



The PFA and Phoenix Summer Send Off Committee greatly appreciates the parents who supported the 2010 Phoenix Summer Send Off by sponsoring their new Wildcat! Thank You!



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# Parents Fund More Than \$24,000 in Grants for 2010-2011

By, *Kathy Adams Riestler*

One of the major parts of the Mission of the UA Parents & Family Association (PFA) is to “encourage and expedite philanthropic support to the University by UA parents and family members . . . to fund projects producing the greatest benefit to the largest number of students.” Each year our goal is to encourage UA parents to make a financial contribution to support these efforts. This year we plan to do this in a multitude of ways including: telephone outreach where current UA students call and ask for parents support; through mail and email; and we have just created an online way to give directly to the Parents & Family Association. We hope you are able to contribute in a way that is meaningful to your family and that helps to support the Mission of the Parents & Family Association as well as student success here at UA. The best part about giving to PFA is that our Campaign Committee (which is a group of parent volunteers) gets to recommend where the grant monies should be spent each year. So, you know that the money you donate goes to fund what parents think is important for their students.

This year the PFA received 25 grant applications requesting more than \$295,000. Due to a decrease in both donations and Parents Plus Memberships the PFA Board could only allocate \$25,000 to our grant

funding for 2010-2011 (in 2009-2010 we allocated over \$103,000). So, the Campaign Committee had some tough decisions to make.

I am proud to announce on behalf of the Campaign Committee and the PFA Board that we have awarded over \$24,000 to seven grant recipients for 2010-2011. The grant recipients are as follows:

- ▶ **ASUA - Safe Ride**
- ▶ **Arizona Assurance - Focus on Success Program**
- ▶ **Center for Exploratory Students - Meet Your Major Fair**
- ▶ **Dean of Students Office - Student Safety and Education Campaign**
- ▶ **Fraternity & Sorority Programs - Olympian Health & Wellness Health Advocate Program**
- ▶ **University of Arizona Police Department - Liaison Officer and Spring Break Safety Programs**
- ▶ **Women's Resource Center - Reflections Peer Education Program**

Due to the decrease in the amount of grant money that PFA was able to allocate, none of the chosen grants received full funding. However, each group was happy to be getting a portion of the money they requested. There were also five other grants that the Board would really have liked to give some funding but didn't have the resources to do so. These were:



## *National Collegiate Leadership Conference*

**Friday Night Live** (Alcohol Free Friday night activities)

## *Safe Zone Training*

## *Think Tank On-line Tutoring*

## *Matching Wildcats with Scholarships*

I am excited to share that we have been able to set up online giving for two of these unfunded grant applicants who said that they didn't need the grant money right away and would be able to utilize any money received throughout the academic year for the purpose stated in their grant application. These two grants are National Collegiate Leadership Conference and Friday Night Live. So, we would like to encourage you to help PFA support one of these two unfunded grants or to make a donation to our General Fund which will help to support our 2011-2012 grants. You can give online at [www.uafamily.arizona.edu/howtogive.php](http://www.uafamily.arizona.edu/howtogive.php).

We know that this is still a challenging financial time for many and we hope we can count on our UA parents and family members to continue to help support student success at UA by making a financial contribution. Every bit makes a difference!

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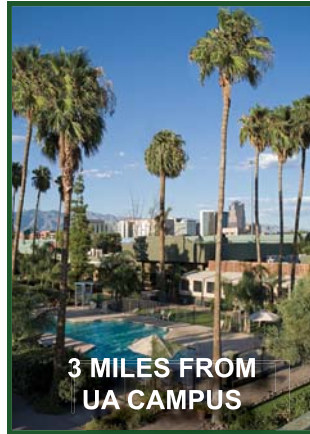
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# ZonaZoo Scholarship Donation Drive

By Alex Budish

ASUA: ZonaZoo Crew

College is a very important time in any young adult's life. The development and education that your children receive at the University of Arizona is truly an original experience. One of those areas that helps your children get the true college experience is the ZonaZoo. Established in 2002, the ZonaZoo allows students to be active in supporting athletic competition with their fellow students, developing a true student community unlike any other college around the country.

The ZonaZoo is a program run by students for students to give the best possible atmosphere at all athletic events. The size and culture of the ZonaZoo is the largest student section in all of the Pac-10 conference.

The ZonaZoo encourages student participation in all of the events and activities it runs, and offers great reward for those who show they are ready to take initiative and be a leader in the Wildcat community. For those interested in all sporting events available at the school, the ZonaZoo offers the "Red Pass," which gives students access to every sporting event. For those who aren't interested in men's basketball games, the ZonaZoo also offers an option in the "Blue Pass". The price of the "Red Pass" is \$135 while the "Blue Pass" is \$95. The ZonaZoo also offers tremendous scholarship opportunities for the student community, as well as for its



*Students in the ZonaZoo section cheer on the Wildcats as they take on Iowa.*

own members. The ZonaZoo Membership Scholarship gives each of its members a full Red Pass, allowing them to enjoy the benefit of every sport for free. The Erin A. Hertzog Scholarship is another option for students based on the student's merit and spirit towards the school.

In order for the ZonaZoo to offer these great benefits to the student body at large, the necessity for help and funding has grown. As the student population grows, it is the ZonaZoo's main goal to try and reach out and help every student. In order to achieve our goal, we need your help. All donations given to ZonaZoo

will go directly to funding scholarships for student who couldn't otherwise participate in ZonaZoo. We are asking for any amount you can give, and all is appreciated.

If you plan on giving, please send all checks to: ZonaZoo Crew, ASUA Office, Bldg. 19, Ste. 325 W, Tucson, AZ 85721

Please make all checks payable to, The University of Arizona Foundation, and contact Aaron Wix at [awix@email.arizona.edu](mailto:awix@email.arizona.edu) with any questions or comments. Thank you for your time, and we look forward to seeing you and your children at the UA. Bear Down!



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# Putting PFA monies to good use

## SafeCats uses grants to reach students on issues of safety

By Bethany Conway

When the University of Arizona Dean of Students Office set out to develop the SafeCats brand, there was one prominent question on the minds of its founders: How do you reach students on issues of safety in a way that is both creative and meaningful?

More than a year later, the SafeCats brand is everywhere – on bookmarks, door decks, info cards, posters, brochures and banners – and its success is due in part to the generous funding provided by the UA Parents & Family Association.

“Without the support of the Parents & Family Association, we would not have been able to get this project off the ground,” said Jason Casares, assistant dean of students and campus safety coordinator. “Now we are close to becoming part of the student culture and can get safety-related information to students through outlets they enjoy

using like Facebook and YouTube.”

The branding of SafeCats began in fall 2009 with the creation of wallet-sized safety cards funded by the PFA. The cards, which include contact info for the UAPD, Campus Health, the Dean of Students Office, Safe Ride and Safe Walk, continue to be circulated around campus and were updated in spring of 2010.

Later, using funds from the PFA, the cards were converted to bookmarks, thousands of which were handed out at the U of A Bookstore during the first two weeks of the fall 2010 semester.

“The bookmarks were created at the right time and distributed to students when they purchased their books for the semester so they could easily access emergency information at all times,” Casares said.

Along with items suited for everyday use, PFA monies were used to create promotional pieces such as info cards and leaflets. In the spring of 2010, SafeCats debuted its “Cats for Consent” brochure, which included stats on sexual assault, a list of resources for sexual assault survivors and ways Wildcats could set an example for their peers.

Building on the safety tips SafeCats disseminates through Facebook, Twitter and YouTube, PFA monies were also used to create info cards on topics such as depression, campus safety and protecting yourself from online predators. The cards were handed out to residence hall assistants in the fall of 2010 to assist them in connecting students with important resources and safety information.

But support goes beyond the printing of promotional materials. PFA members such as President Earl Mendenhall have continued to support the program through excellent word of mouth.

“We look forward to a continued relationship with the Parents & Family Association. Parents ‘get it’ and realize the importance in

what we do for their students while here at the U of A,” Casares said. “We recognize the importance of developing this relationship with parents as key stakeholders and allies in our efforts for getting timely information to students through various outlets.”



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# Stepping Up for

By David Salafsky, MPH

“What are you doing to ensure campus safety?” This is a common question on the minds of parents as their students attend colleges and universities around the country. Here at the University of Arizona (UA), safety has been – and continues to be – a top priority, as evidenced by a wide range of departments, programs and services dedicated to this mission. From the University Police Department, Dean of Students Office and Campus Health Service, to the Campus Emergency Response Team, SafeCats, SafeWalk, SafeRide, the Oasis Program Against Sexual Assault and Relationship Violence, UAlert, and more, there are numerous people and programs across the UA committed to making our campus a safe place to live, work and study.

To this end, The University of Arizona Campus Health Service is encouraging the campus community to “Step Up” against interpersonal violence in a way that you might not have considered – giving students and staff the skills to safely be proactive bystanders. The list of just what comprises interpersonal violence is broader than most people’s assumptions. It includes not only physical violence and sexual assault, but also hate crimes, discrimination, bullying, hazing, emotional abuse and stalking as well.

Through a competitive U.S. Department of Education grant awarded in June 2009, Campus Health has trained over 900 students and staff in the Step Up violence prevention program in the past year alone and has spearheaded a campus-wide awareness campaign. How is this having an impact? According to Erin Strange, Project Coordinator on the grant, “As good as our violence prevention services are here, the fact is students and staff have the potential to see issues before they become problems, and that can make all the difference.”

Developed here through the UA C.A.T.S. Life Skills program in partnership with the NCAA for student athletes, Step Up was designed to help teammates take action to help each other on a range of issues, from alcohol use and sexual assault, to hazing, disordered eating, gambling and other related concerns. For this work, the program received a 2009 NASPA Excellence Gold Award for administrators

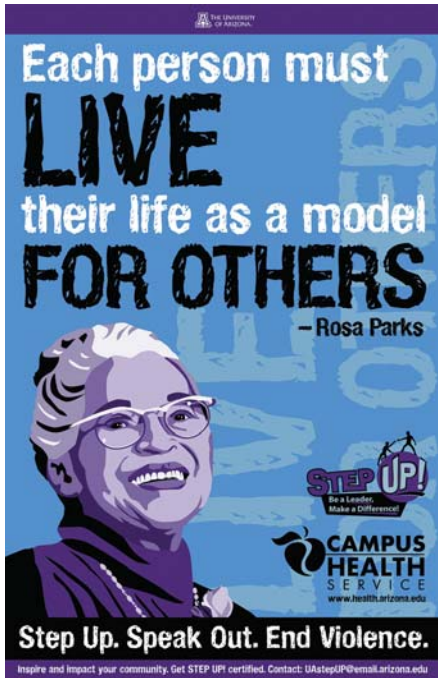


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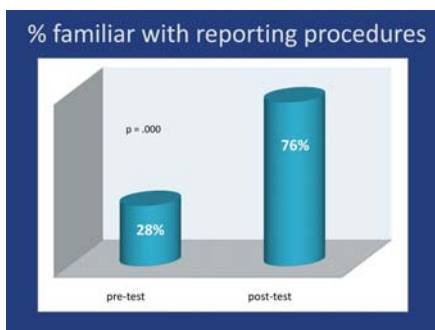
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# Campus Safety



in higher education.

Now in its second and final year of funding, Campus Health's targeted version of Step Up has shown promising results campus-wide. Participant's familiarity with appropriate reporting procedures increased from 28% before the program to 76% following it, and willingness to "Step Up" to address interpersonal violence either directly or indirectly improved from 61% to 86%. Similarly, those participants who said they would not assist someone in



need decreased from 31% to 6%.

While the UA will continue to take the lead, it's clear that we all play an important role in creating a campus that is free from violence. As for that all-important question - "What are you doing to ensure campus safety?" - with students and staff stepping up to help each other and drawing upon available UA resources, the answer has to be "quite a lot."

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1. **Student Support** – In the past five years the Parents & Family Association has given more than \$1 million to campus programs and services that directly improve the quality of UA student life. We give where students and parents tell us it is important. Some of our support goes to Safe Walk, Career Services, student-faculty interaction, and leadership programs.
2. **Campus Programming** – The Parents & Family Association provides volunteer and financial support to key campus programs such as New Student & Parent Orientation and student recruitment events.
3. **Family Weekend** – The University of Arizona has one of the largest and most unique Family Weekend programs in the country. Our Family Weekend is planned and implemented completely by students for you – our valued parents and families.
4. **Parent & Family Communications** – The Parents & Family Association provides a number of ongoing communications to parents and family members including two yearly print magazines, two special Parents Plus publications and our monthly newsletter, “The Paw Print.”

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*\*Every care was taken to ensure the accuracy of this list. We would appreciate you sharing with us any omissions. Please contact Kathy Adams Riester, Director of the UA Parents & Family Association at (520) 621-0884 or uafamily@email.arizona.edu*

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**Left: Greg Byrne and Head Football Coach, Mike Stoops on the sideline during the UA vs. Toledo Game.**

Luke Adams photo



## MEET GREG BYRNE: UA's new Athletic Director

By **Tricia Don**,  
Coordinator, Special Projects for Student Life

Your first observation when meeting Greg Byrne may be to note how young he looks, or you may do a double take when you read there's only one athletic director out there younger, but once you meet the University of Arizona's new Athletic Director you understand why he was offered the position.

Greg Byrne has grown up around university sports programs. His father, Bill Byrne, has held a university position Greg's entire life, accepting his first athletic director position in 1984 at the University of Oregon. Although he may not have known exactly what his father did during his early years, Greg loved spending time around college sports and began to consider the prospect of following in his father's footsteps at an early age.

With his direction set at the start of his post-secondary education, Greg began his studies in psychology and received a bachelor's degree in 1994 (receiving his Master's in 2009). An internship following his bachelor's degree lead to a job with the Fiesta Bowl, and from there Greg's career took off. The University of Arizona hired Byrne this past March who prior to his acceptance held the Athletic Director position at Mississippi State University for the past two years.

The position of Athletic Director carries with it a lot of responsibility. Byrne sees his greatest role to be advocate and manager of a program that serves 500 student athletes. "My role and the role of my staff is to serve the University of Arizona, the

students and the fans. This is an opportunity we've been given and not a right," explains Byrne. To this end Greg has 5 goals for the UA's Athletic Department:

- ▶ Graduate student athletes
- ▶ Follow the rules
- ▶ Be 1st Class in how they represent the University of Arizona – both staff and students
- ▶ Have fiscal integrity and maximize their resources
- ▶ And if they accomplish the top four goals, then have the opportunity to compete for national championships.

Byrne finds his biggest challenge is funding the programs that serve the student athletes. With only two revenue generating programs, football and men's basketball, and tuition waivers the only break the athletic department receives from the university, Byrne must actively fund-raise to keep these programs vibrant. "Intercollegiate Athletics is one of the largest contributors to campus in that they house and feed students on campus, purchase books for them, as well as holding year round events that require the use of University catering," states Byrne. "We also run and maintain sport facilities, which adds greatly to the department's expenses." These challenges and Byrne's record as a fundraiser, makes Byrne a great fit at the UA.

In addition to his fundraising talent, Byrne brings an energy to his position which he says comes from being around student athletes. "They are so energized and the positive feeling you get having an impact on their lives is one of the greatest perks of my job," states Byrne. In addi-

tion, Greg finds the enthusiasm of the fans an added bonus, stating "the passion, enthusiasm and interest involved bring out the best of students – athletes and non athletes alike." Greg smilingly noted that these same three emotions can also bring out the worst of students – athletes and non athletes alike.

Byrne is already making his mark at UA by starting a new tradition called Wildcat Walk. Two hours before kick off at each home football game, the UA Football team is dropped off at the corner of University and Cherry and they walk south toward Arizona Stadium while being cheered on by the marching band, cheerleaders, mascots and their fans. Byrne states he is thrilled with the fans' reaction to this new tradition, stating over 5,000 fans lined the streets for the Arizona/Iowa game. When asked about the possibility of additional traditions, Greg stated there's more to come – so "stay tuned."

With a schedule daunting to say the

**"My role and the role of my staff is to serve the University of Arizona, the students and the fans. This is an opportunity we've been given and not a right,"**

**Greg Byrne,  
UA Athletic Director**

least, Greg still finds himself watching college sports. On bye weeks Greg admits to spending his Saturday watching college football from morning to night. A fan of all sports, Byrne has the good fortune of having a family who shares this love. Now active UA fans, the Byrne family enjoys attending games together.

Speaking of family, Byrne's family includes his wife Regina and two sons Nicholas (15) and Davis (12). Meeting their senior year in high school, while working as cashiers for a food warehouse, Greg states Regina was "the first girl he ever asked out on a date." Four years later they married and Greg and Regina celebrated their 16th year of marriage this year.

Growing up around sports has given

*Continued on page 19*

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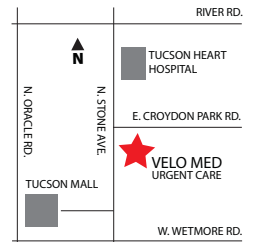
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## Greg Byrne...

Continued from page 17



**UA Athletic Director, Greg Byrne**

Luke Adams photo

Greg a candid outlook on athletics. When asked what kind of "sideline" parent he is, Greg states he's very reserved. He lets his sons' coaches know that he appreciates what they do for the kids, and then he watches quietly from the sidelines. Byrne states that all he and Regina require of their kids is to be active, it doesn't matter whether its basketball, chess, or a musical instrument, only that they're involved.

Along this vein, Byrne states that as an Athletic Director he recognizes that very few high school athletes go on to play college athletics, especially at the Division I level and encourages parents to be realistic about their son's or daughter's talents.

Greg Byrne's passion for the University of Arizona is evident upon meeting him. He feels very fortunate to be a part of Wildcat Athletics and hopes to encourage students and parents to become engaged with UA athletics. The athletic department hopes that the activities they offer students encourages them to become fans –engaged and involved with the university, now and in the future.

And parents—consider buying season tickets for one or more UA sport – it's a great excuse to visit your student on campus.

Oh, and one more thing, if your student sees Greg Byrne on campus – "tell them to say hello." He loves getting to know UA students!

Follow Greg Byrne on facebook and twitter or subscribe to his Wildcat Wednesday email.

**Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com/GregByrneAD>

**Twitter:** [http://twitter.com/Greg\\_Byrne](http://twitter.com/Greg_Byrne)

**Subscribe to email:** <http://www.arizonawildcats.com/sports/inside-athletics/spec-rel/wildcat-wednesday-signup2.html>



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# Living off Campus Next Year: What to Consider

The chance that a student will live off-campus sometime in their college career is almost a guarantee. There are a few things to consider in helping find that perfect place to call home.

**Start Early:** Begin searching at least 2 months before your planned move-in date. If you are looking at a place for the spring, try to have a lease signed before winter break. Most properties will allow you to move in when you return in January.

**Budget:** What will your monthly expenses look like? Include rent, utilities, groceries, transportation, and entertainment expenses in your budget.

**Roommates:** Determine how many roommates you would like and who they will be. It is a great way to offset costs. Be careful of who you choose for roommates as you may not really know a person until you live with them.

**Inspect the Condition:** When you visit a complex, ask to see the unit you will be renting, not a model. Check areas such as appliances, doors, lights, faucets, storage spaces, and other areas. If you want the apartment only under the conditions that there are repairs, get a written agreement from your landlord that includes dates of completion.

**Inspect for Security:** Inspect the outside of the complex to check for adequate lighting in parking lots and other areas. Ask about security measures on the property and if any incidents have occurred recently. Also, inspect the unit to make sure all of the windows and doors lock properly and there is a peep hole in the front door.

**Deposits:** Be prepared to put down a deposit, as most properties require one. It is usually the first month's rent. Most utilities also require a deposit for new services.

**Pets:** If you own or want a pet, know the policies of the housing provider before signing a lease. Some places allow only certain types of pets while others do not even allow them.

**Leases:** Leases come in many different lengths. Some are month to month while others are for a specified amount of time (i.e. 12 month, 6 month). Make sure you understand everything in your lease.

## Investigate these resources!

**The Center for Student Involvement & Leadership Commuter and Off-Campus Housing Resources**

Phone: 520-621-5859

Email: [housing@email.arizona.edu](mailto:housing@email.arizona.edu)

Website: <http://offcampus.arizona.edu/>

**Housing Guide** <http://offcampus.arizona.edu/downloads/UAhousingguide09.pdf>

**ASUA Legal Services:** This is a free service to UofA students. The attorney can help to interpret your lease, advise you on landlord-tenant conflicts, and other legal issues. Call 520-621-ASUA to make an appointment.

**Pima County:** [www.jp.pima.gov/](http://www.jp.pima.gov/)

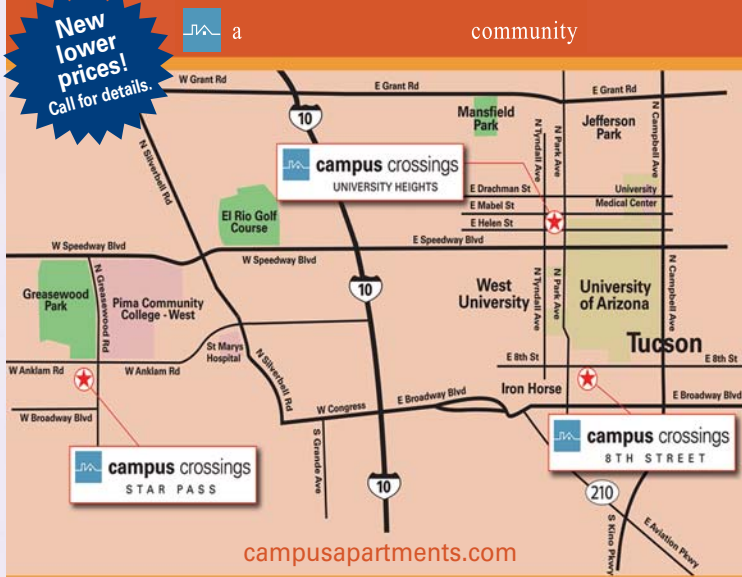
**Arizona Attorney General:** [www.azag.gov/](http://www.azag.gov/)

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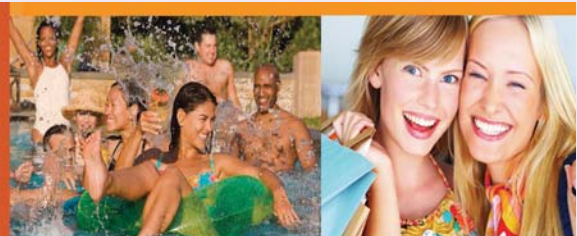
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**Note:** Searching for off-campus living in Tucson can be challenging. You may be living in UA Housing or considering a change of your current off-campus arrangement. The Off-Campus Housing & Commuter Resources Office works with our featured listings to help create a living environment that works for you. There are many housing providers beyond our featured listings but our office keeps in close contact with our featured listings and provides workshops to educate them on the resources the University of Arizona has available to better serve you. Please contact us if you need help with any commuter related issues.

Off-Campus Housing Hotline: **520-621-5859**

E-mail Address: [housing@email.arizona.edu](mailto:housing@email.arizona.edu)

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When you live in one of Sahara's single-occupancy studio apartments (with your own kitchen and private bath), you pay only \$5,805 to live there for 9 months (from August 15, 2011 to May 15th 2012). And, you DON'T HAVE to leave during Christmas holiday breaks!

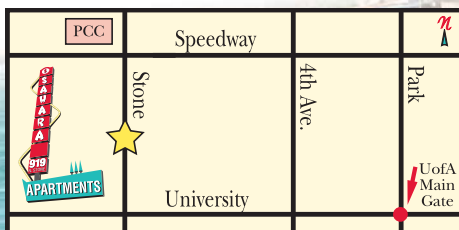
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(and still get 9 months of residency instead of 8)

\* New rates for Residence Halls will not be announced until mid April 2011, so for our comparison we have used the 2010-2011 Residence Hall rates, as the base, and increased them by only 5%.

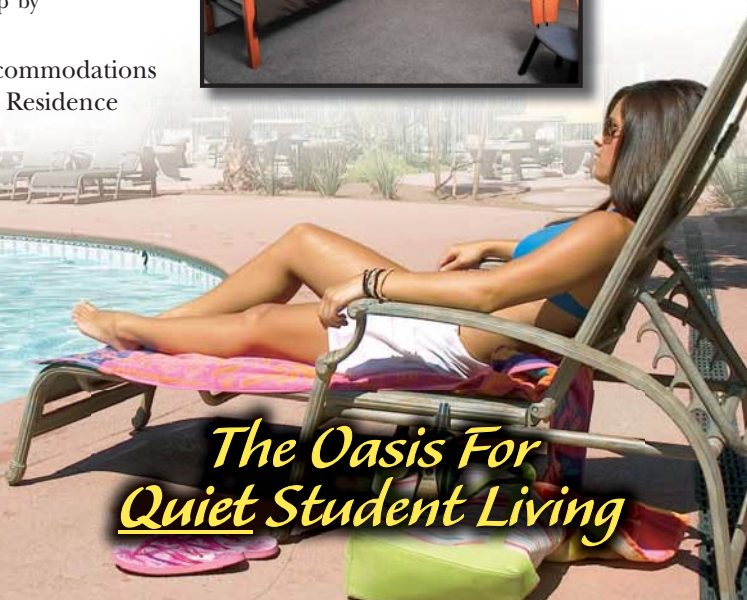
Over the last few years the Residence Hall rates have typically gone up by between 5 to 7 percent per year.

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# Family Weekend 2010: A Snap Shot

Ernie Somoza photos

**By Karen Flores**  
*Family Weekend Director*

With the success of Family Weekend 2010, the student run committee is now able to recover after countless hours of hard work and dedication. With an attendance of over three thousand individuals, this memorable weekend positions itself as one of the most vital events at the University of Arizona. Family Weekend not only attracts locals, but families from all over the country and even overseas. Families come together to take part in the university's oldest traditions and other unforgettable events such as the Wildcat World Fair, Bear Down Friday, Family Weekend BBQ, the Football Game and many more.

All of those involved in making this enormous occasion possible strive to provide each family member with a unique experience that they will never forget. Furthermore, they strive to provide activities that every member of the family can enjoy. This year's highlights included inflatable slides and obstacle courses, along with a breathtaking fireworks show! Family Weekend's mission is to create an enriching experience for families and to bring them together. It is under this idea that the planning of this event is based upon. Months and months of preparation and development occurs behind the scenes to make this event as best as it can be.

This year's Family Weekend Executive

***Top: Family Weekend BBQ attendees were treated to a fantastic fireworks display over the UA Mall***

***Right: Students and their families participated in the Wildcat World Fair***

Director, Karen Flores, along with Family Weekend Associate Directors, Laura Patricia Gamez and Lindsay Baille, made sure this year's event ran as smoothly as possible. They assessed in great detail the possible threats and opportunities that each stage of the weekend would impose. A new initiative was put forward by this year's students to offer two different pricing packages, a \$20 Basic Package and a \$30 Premium Package. The reason behind the new registration packages was to make Family Weekend more accessible for families of all economic backgrounds. As a result, Family Weekend had record attendance in all its events! Logistics also played a key role in the coordination of high traffic events such as the Family Weekend BBQ which seated approximately two thousand individuals.

A great amount of time was also spent

on customer relations and in making sure every single person that the staff came in contact with, left with a positive experience. In order to achieve the highest performance possible, the Associate Directors created and delivered a detailed training for all volunteers which covered the weekend's layout, registration procedures, and customer friendly tips. Family Weekend 2010 would not have been possible without the dedication of its student leaders, advisors, the collaboration of departments and organizations on campus, and the massive number of volunteers. For those of you who missed this year's festivities, the Associated Students of the University of Arizona looks forward to welcoming you next year, as they are now wrapping up this year's successful Family Weekend and setting ground to make next year's event even more successful!





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## UA's Veterans Education and Transitions Services:

# Supporting U.S. Veterans in Higher Education

By Amanda Kraus, Ph. D.

The number of veterans enrolling in higher education over the last few years has increased significantly. This trend holds true here at UA. As higher education prepares nationally for this influx of student veterans, UA is committed to supporting their success and to helping create a national climate for veterans in higher education that is inclusive of their unique talents and experiences. Established in

**“The living breathing proof that I am not alone in my nontraditional attempt at college emboldens me at every turn. I doubt I would be here today if not for the [SVC] and the support it provides me.”**

*Matt Randle, UA junior*

2008, Veterans Education and Transitions Services (VETS) is an integrated, comprehensive series of programs and services that support the success of student veterans as they transition and integrate to campus. Student veterans provide input and feedback that shape our program development. Their perspectives are invaluable in creating a veteran-friendly campus.

Central to VETS is providing individualized service to every enrolled and prospective student veteran. Veterans may be navigating various systems, so personalized attention may make the transition to our large campus smoother and more positive. The staff of Student Veterans Center (SVC), located in the Student Union Memorial

Center, embodies this philosophy. Run by student veterans who have successfully transitioned to University, the SVC is a hub of resources and information, and provides a casual, safe place for student

*Continued on page 29*



**The UA Chapter of Student Veterans of America was named Chapter of the Year. Pictured accepting the Award: Glen Lacroix, Matt Randle, Duan Copeland, Jeremiah Boeckman, Jamie Jansen and Kim Shroyer.** Photo courtesy of Matt Randle

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Call the Ombuds Program Director in the President's Office, 626-5589, to match your situation to an Ombuds who can most readily assist you. You can also visit the Ombuds website at <http://ombuds.arizona.edu> to see a complete list of Ombuds, telephone numbers and their locations on campus.

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# U.S. Veterans...

*Continued from page 27*

veterans to relax, study, or visit with other student veterans. The SVC sees over 100 visitors each day. Matt Randle, a senior at UA and SVC Student Director who served as an Army medic in Iraq says, "The [SVC] has kept me socially and academically involved. The living breathing proof that I am not alone in my nontraditional attempt at college emboldens me at every turn. I doubt I would be here today if not for the [SVC] and the support it provides me." A sense of community is critical to veterans. SERV- Supportive Education for the Returning Veteran- are cohort-based academic courses offered to incoming student veterans and help them translate their valuable military experience to success in college. These courses are at maximum enrollment each semester. Students find the structure and content invaluable to their transition to the University.

Institutionally, UA is creating a culture of appreciation for veterans. Veterans Services offers individualized GI Bill certification and counseling, working with each student to register and enroll in ap-

propriate classes, making sure to effectively operationalize the benefits they have earned. UA participates in the Yellow Ribbon GI Education Enhancement Program, known as the Yellow Ribbon Program—a voluntary agreement with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to offset tuition expenses that are not covered by the Post-9/11 GI Bill. UA honors priority registration for students who, in order to utilize the GI Bill, require certain classes. And, now in its third year, the Congressionally-directed Disabled Veterans Reintegration and Education Project looks at how disabled veterans access and experience higher education through research and outreach initiatives.

VETS hosted the Inaugural Veterans in Higher Ed Conference and launched the online Veterans in Higher Education National Clearinghouse in September 2010. UA believes that in addition to developing our own campus, it is necessary to work with our colleagues from across the country to advance our thinking and understanding of student veterans nationally.

For additional information on other VETS initiatives, please visit the VETS website at: [studentaffairs.arizona.edu/vets](http://studentaffairs.arizona.edu/vets)

# UA By the Numbers

**89** The percentage of UA Students who arrange to have a designated driver if they plan to consume alcohol (according to the 2010 Health & Wellness Survey n=2931)

**3187** The number of parents and family members who participated in Family Weekend 2010—thanks for coming to visit!

**7,369** The number of visits the Think Tank, UA's center for academic support services, experienced in the first seven weeks of fall 2010.

**\$24,388**

The amount of money the Parents & Family Association awarded for the 2010-2011 academic year, to UA programs and departments that support various student programs—all thanks to parents like you!

**76,882**

The number of escorts Safe Ride provided to UA students during the 2009-2010 academic year.

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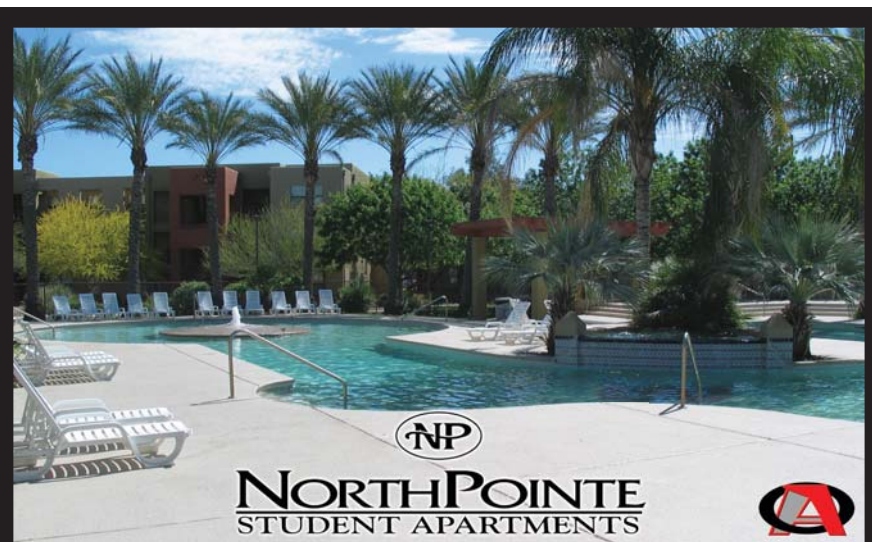
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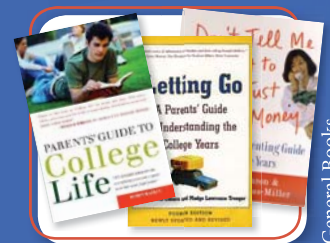
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