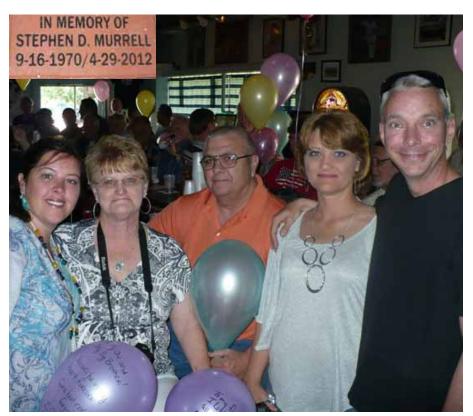
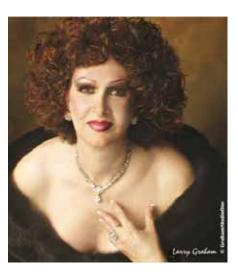


outhern Decadence Grand Marshals 37 Tiffany Alexander and Misael Rubio select Pat McArdle and TJ Conrad as SDGMs 38 at Coronation 2012 hosted at Oz New Orleans. The new grand marshals will lead the 41st Southern Decadence Labor Day Weekend and announced the official theme as *Peace, Love & Hope = Monkey Dance* with official colors of white, purple and silver. Visit the Official Southern Decadence website, <u>SouthernDecadence.COM</u>, for further information.



he late Stephen Murrell's Sisters, Mom and Dad join Jeff Mallon who hosted the Celebration of Life for Stephen at The Friendly Bar in New Orleans. A memorial brick was placed along with other commemoration bricks outside on the Friendly's sidewalk.



egina Ann Adams has been selected to receive the coveted 25th Lifetime Achievement Award presented by the Gay Appreciation Awards Board of Directors Lisa Beaumann, Teryl-Lynn Foxx, and Rip and Marsha Naquin-Delain at the 25th GAA Gala set for Saturday, July 21st, 8-10pm at Oz, 800 Bourbon Street. All proceeds from the gala benefits the William J. Fanning Foundation (Buzzy's Boys & Girls). VIP tables of 4 are \$200. Door admission is \$10. Visit AmbushMag.COM/GAA for additional information. (Photo by Larry Graham, GrahamStudioOne.COM)



iss AIDS Awareness Emeritus Summer Rayne, 1st runner-up Aubrey Synclaire, newly crowned 2012 Miss AIDS Awareness Mercedes Ellis Loreal, 2011 Miss AIDS Awareness Starr Alexander and 2010 Miss AIDS Awareness Gia GiaVanni celebrate following competition at Manning's in New Orleans. The event raised \$1,098 for the Southeast Louisiana AIDS Awareness (SELAA) organization.



obby Vallecillo celebrates his partner Andy Ehlers' birthday with a huge party including a buffet and show at Tubby's Golden Lantern in New Orleans. Andy is both the show coordinator and bartender at the Lantern.



rewe of Amon-Ra June
Birthday Bar Crawl ended
up at Cafe Lafitte in Exile
celebrating the birthdays of member
David Richerson and Lafitte's DJ Jeff
Waguespack in New Orleans. (Photo:
Ron Issler, President Deja Deja-Vue,
Stuart Nettles, DJ Jeff Waguespack,
David Richerson, Darwin Reed, Captain Opal Masters and Jerry Scavo)



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WHERE THE BOYS ARE DANCIN' NIGHTLY ON THE BAR

Celebrating 30 Years Boys On The Bar!

nola pride

CELEBRATE
PRIDE WEEKEND
WITH OUR BOYS

FRI. SAT. SUN.
JUNE 22, 23, 24
EARLY DANCERS
AT 6:00 PM,

SUN JUNE 24 @10PM BARRY BAREASS SPINS THE LATEST HITS FOR THE BOYS TO DANCE

NEW DANCERS
WELCOME

ALL BOY REVUE

15 BOYS DANCIN' TIL DAWN

EVERY SAT. @ 10 PM

4TH OF JULY

6 DAYS OF
CELEBRATING
FRI. SAT. & SUN.

JUNE 29, 30 & JULY 1 EARLY DANCERS AT 6:00 PM

SUN. JULY 1ST@10PM BARRY BAREASS

HOSTS

OUR FAMOUS

WET JOCKEY
SHORTS CONTEST

\$100.00 IN CASH AND PRIZES

TUE. JULY 3⁸⁰@10PM
FULL MOON

\$50.00 TO WINNING BOOTY

WED. JULY 4TH
COOKOUT @ 5 PM
HAMBURGERS, HOT DOGS
AND ALL THE FIXINS

EVERY FRI @ 10 PM

NEW MEAT AMATEUR DANCE CONTEST

\$100 CASH PRIZE

TWO GREAT NIGHTS OF BOYS HOSTED BY LISA BEAUMANN

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the "official" dish ... from 4

The Park, Phoenix, Rawhide 2010

Cheridon Comedy Award-Zsa Zsa d'LaHor, Big Momma LaVouge, Princesse Stephaney, Persana Shoulders, Tittie Toulouse

Fly Fashion Glamour Award-Dusty Debris, Dominique DeLorean, Opal Masters Aubrey Synclaire, Monica Synclaire-Kennedy

GLBT Business of the Year-Bourbon Pride, La Mina Sterling, Mary's Hardware, Rab Dab Clothing & Gifts, Scully'z Recordz

Leather Person of the Year-Jason Ashford, Cathy Fox, Pat Johnson, Toby Lefort, Gary Vandeventer





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Transgender of the Year-Regina Adams, Dee Cooley, Jasmine Essex, Joann Guidos, Jessica Vanderhurst

Lesbian of the Year-Misti Ates, Marty Curtin, Pat McArdle, Debbie Rulh, Sandy Sachs,

Gay Man of the Year-Tommy Elias, Darrin Ferris, Ken Grandpre, Tony Leggio, Chuck Turner

Marcy Marcell Entertainer of the Year-Elizabeth Bouvier, Dusty Debris, Monique Michaels, Monica Synclaire-Kennedy, Tittie Toulouse

The Marsha Delain Award of Excellence, the "Drag Ambassador" award is presented by Marsha Naquin-Delain.

Pat McArdle & TJ Conrad Selected as 28th Southern Decadence Grand Marshals

outhern Decadence Grand Marshals XXXVII Tiffany Alexander and Misael Rubio selected Pat McArdle and TJ Conrad as 38th Southern Decadence Grand Marshals at Coronation 2012 hosted at oz.

The new grand marshals announced this year's Southern Decadence theme as **Peace**, **Love & Hope** = **Monkey Dance**. The official colors are white, purple and silver.

The wait is now over so revelers can start getting their costumes and/or ensembles together for the 38th Official Southern Decadence Parade on Sunday, September 3 celebrating 41st Southern Decadence celebration of gay life, music and culture.

The grand marshals poster and song will be released at the Official Press Party usually scheduled some-

time in July.

For additional information, visit SouthernDecadence.COM.

Oz Celebrates 20th Anniversary with Annual Neon Party

z presents "20 Years Dancing Over The Rainbow" celebrating the club's 20th milestone anniversary Neon Party. Set for Saturday, June 30th, 10pm, the spectacular party features early resident DJ Bull, followed by international superstar DJ Wayne G. (from the UK), ending with late resident DJ Tim Pflueger, and lights by Johnny Eubanks.

Persana Shoulders hosts the night's festivities with the colorful Oz Club Kids. Plus the hot Men of Oz will dance on the bar tops throughout the club.

Located at 800 Bourbon Street, Oz has won Gay Appreciation Awards' Dance Bar of the Year for over the past decade voted on by the readership of *Ambush Mag*. Visit OzNewOrleans.COM for additional information.

The Rainbow Flag Project Up June 22nd

he Rainbow Project, a nonprofit, 501-3c, acknowledges the following participants in donating funds for the Rainbow Flags to once again fly on N. Rampart Avenue from Toulouse Street to Esplanade Avenue. The Rainbow Flags will go up on June 22nd during New Orleans Pride week. "We gratefully acknowledge their commitment to the GLBT community and appreciate their altruism on our behalf."



Donors include: Bourbon Pub/Parade, Club New Orleans, The Corner Pocket, The Double Play, Good Friends Bar, JohnPaul's, Kajun's Pub, Cafe Lafitte in Exile, Michael's on the Park, Napoleon's Itch, Ninth Circle, Oz, Phoenix, Rawhide, Society Page, Voodoo Lounge, and Quartermaster Deli.

The work of this project could not have been accomplished without the legal expertise of Jack Sullivan, Attorney-at-Law, the cooperation of the Whitney Bank, Rip and Marsha-DeLain Naquin, owners/editors of *Ambush Mag* and Larry Bagneris, Jr., Chairman of The Rainbow Project.

FEMA \$\$\$ Continue to Support Crucial Health Care Services

he Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recently announced \$289,150 in Katrina-related recovery aid to the Metropolitan Human Services District, the lead Louisiana state agency charged with providing addiction, behavioral health and developmental disability service to citizens of Orleans, St. Bernard and Plaquemines parishes.

Pre-Katrina, the MHSD operated out of a facility owned by the Louisiana Office of Facility Planning and Control-

[continued on 10]



Friday, June 22nd 11pm Queens of Mardi Gras featuring Queen Amon-Ra XLVII Sydney Williams

Saturday & Sunday, June 23rd & 24th Happy Gay Pride Drink Specials All Weekend

Saturday, June 23rd 11pm

Bootsie & The Bitches
with Bootsie DeVille & Guests

Sun., June 25th & July 1st 9pm-1am Karaoke with Krazy Joe's

Friday, June 29th 11pm Les Femelles Fatale Show Director Princesse Stephaney & Guests

Saturday, June 30th 11pm
The Gumbo Revue
with Regina Adams & Guests

Wednesday, July 4th 4pm 4th of July Cookout



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Join Michael Cookmeyer plus Bartenders Princesse Stephaney & Dee

the "official" dish ...from 8

the New Orleans Mental Health Center, located at 3100 General DeGaulle Drive in New Orleans.

In addition to FEMA's recent funding for MHSD, FEMA previously obligated \$1.3 million directly to FP&C for work necessary to restore the actual New Orleans Mental Health Center facility, which was damaged significantly during Katrina. As a result, MHSD had to move its service-oriented operation to temporary facilities in order to continue providing services.

"Our recent funding to the Metropolitan Human Services District reimburses the agency for costs associated with using temporary facilities, including trailer rentals and land leases, following Katrina," said FEMA's Louisiana Recovery Office Deputy Director of Programs Andre Cadogan. "Our assistance is significant because, through supporting Louisiana's overall recovery, we are also supporting state efforts to offer vital public services, including mental health services, throughout Southeast Louisiana."

The building of the new, post-Katrina New Orleans Mental Health Center is scheduled for completion at the end of this summer; and once it's completed, MHSD plans to then move back into the facility at the same location as it was before Katrina.

"These FEMA funds help ensure that residents of New Orleans' West Bank can have their needs met in an appropriate setting. The opening of this facility also contributes significantly to MHSD's commitment to establish the first true continuum of care model for the communities we serve," said Judge Calvin Johnson (ret.), Metropolitan Human Services District executive director.

To date, FEMA has obligated approximately \$11.5 billion in public assistance funding for Katrina and Rita related recovery work throughout Louisiana.

When FEMA approves projects through its supplemental Public Assistance grant, the funds are made available to the Governor's Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness, who disburses them to the applicant for eligible work completed.

The Public Assistance program works with state and local officials to fund recovery measures and the rebuilding of government and certain private nonprofit organizations' buildings, as well as roads, bridges and water and sewer plants. In order for the process to be successful, federal, state and local partners coordinate to draw up project plans, fund these projects and oversee their completion.

FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate

all hazards.

New Orleans Pride Parade June 23rd

he Official Pride of New Orleans will present the Harrah's Pride Parade beginning at Washington Square Park at 6pm on Saturday, June 23rd. The Parade will weave through the Marigny and French Quarter before ending near Lafitte's. The parade is free to participate in, but you must register in advance on the Pride website at www.prideneworleans.org.

The parade goes down Royal Street to Dumaine, right on Dumaine to Dauphine, left on Dauphine to Iberville, left on Iberville to Bourbon, left on Bourbon ending at St. Phillip.

The route passes in front of Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee Reviewing Stand hosted on the balcony of the *Ambush* Mansion at 828 Bourbon Street.

Same-Sex Couples Seek To Strengthen Families By Expanding Adoption Rights In North Carolina

reensboro, N.C. – The American Civil Liberties Union and the ACLU of North Carolina Legal Foundation filed a lawsuit on behalf of six same-sex couples and their children seeking the right to obtain second parent adoptions.

A second parent adoption occurs when one partner in an unmarried couple adopts the other partner's biological or adoptive child. This can occur in both gay and straight relationships. In December 2010, the North Carolina Supreme Court banned second parent adoptions for same-sex couples.

"North Carolina's law denies children the permanency and security of a loving home simply because their parents are lesbian or gay," said Jennifer Rudinger, Executive Director of the ACLU of North Carolina. "This is fundamentally wrong. No parent should have to worry about what will happen to their children if something happens to their partner."

Marcie and Chantelle Fisher-Borne, one of the couples in the case, have been together for 15 years and live in Durham. Each woman carried one of their two children — a three-year-old girl and a newborn boy. When their daughter was born, the couple was treated rudely by a hospital staff member who demanded their legal paperwork. If both women were able to be fully-recognized legal parents to their children, such encounters could be avoided.

"We were treated as if our family was less than other families during what should have been one of the



Pride Parade Map Courtesy of Official Pride of New Orleans

happiest occasions of our lives," said Marcie Fisher-Borne. "We don't ever want there to be any question as to who should care for our children. If something were to happen to either one of us, it could tear our family apart."

Some of the protections that come with a second parent adoption include: ensuring that all children in the family are covered if one partner lacks health insurance, ensuring that families will stay together and children will not be torn from the only home they've known if something should happen to the biological parent, ensuring that either parent will be allowed to make medical decisions or be able to be by their child's bedside if one their children is hospitalized.

"The current policy is discriminatory and doesn't take into account what's best for a child," said Elizabeth Gill, senior staff attorney with the ACLU Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Project. "These parents want the same thing as any other parents: to be able to provide the best possible care and protection for their children. The law

should not stand in the way of allowing loving couples to share responsibility for their families."

The full list of plaintiffs in the case are: Marcie and Chantelle Fisher-Borne, Durham; Crystal Hendrix and Leigh Smith, Asheville; Lee Knight Caffery and Dana Draa, Charlotte; Shana Carignan and Megan Parker, Greensboro; Leslie Zanaglio and Terri Beck, Morrisville; and Shawn Long and Craig Johnson, Wake Forest.

Lawyers on the case include James Esseks, Rose Saxe and Gill of the American Civil Liberties Union; Christopher Brook of the ACLU of North Carolina; Garrard R. Beeney, David A. Castleman, C. Megan Bradley, W. Rudolph Kleysteuber IV, Daniel W. Meyler and Dustin F. Guzior of Sullivan & Cromwell LLP; and Jonathan D. Sasser and Jeremy M. Falcone at Ellis & Winters LLP.

For more information on this case, including video of some of the clients, please visit: www.aclu.org/second-parent-adoption-NC.

World's Leading Scientists, President Bill Clinton, South African Health Minister Aaron Motsoaledi, Philanthropist Bill Gates & Humanitarian Sir Elton John to Address XIX International AIDS Conference in Washington, D.C. (AIDS 2012)

rganizers of the XIX International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2012) announced that President Bill Clinton, founder of the William J. Clinton Foundation and 42nd President of the United States, South African Health Minister Aaron Motsoaledi, philanthropist Bill Gates, and humanitarian Sir Elton John, founder of the Elton John AIDS Foundation, will be among the high-level speakers who will join thousands of the world's top AIDS researchers, community leaders, and other stakeholders in Washington, D.C. this summer. An estimated 25,000 attendees are expected to attend AIDS 2012, which will take place from July 22 to 27 under the theme *Turning the Tide Together*.

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