

Arizona Daily Star®

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Published: 04.05.2009

Letters to the editor

Your letters count

Letters received in past week: 293

Letters published: 63

Hot issues: From March 28 to April 3, the Star received 29 letters concerning the UA men's basketball loss to Louisville (two were critical of the Star's coverage). Eleven letters were critical of the capture and killing of the jaguar Macho B (three were critical of the Star's coverage). Four letters were critical of the JROTC program at Catalina Magnet High School (two were supportive).

To read tips on how to comment, visit us online at www.azstarnet.com/opinion

Read HOA's rules before buying

Re: the March 30 editorial "Don't buy home in HOA if you can't heed rules."

Thank you for your lead editorial regarding homeowners associations. As one who has spent more than 20 years on the boards of such communities and also some years in the Recorder's Office, this is a timely reminder that buyers who fail to read the governing documents have no legitimate complaint when their wishes do not comply with well-thought-out restrictions.

Although some newer HOAs have boards that sometimes overreach their authority, I commend your recommendation that members volunteer to serve on their boards to keep balance and to assure that their elected officers are responsible to all the homeowners.

A ham radio tower is, in the cited case, a distractive element to neighbors' views (an element of the property's value) and not necessary for the stated reasons of emergency communication. My guess is that a judge would so find and the case would be dismissed.

Sue Jamison

Retired, Tucson

Sparklers, buffelgrass won't mix well

Re: the March 27 article "Fireworks bill gets preliminary OK."

I see where the braintrust in Phoenix wants to approve the sale of "sparkler" fireworks.

Growing up in Minnesota in the 1930s we had access to them. I remember how hot they burned, so hot that when they burned your hand you quickly threw them to the ground. Or, when we threw them into the air how pretty they looked. These things burn hot. In Minnesota when they landed in the wet grass they still continued to burn.

Since they will not be allowed within the city limits here in Arizona, this should help with the buffelgrass problem out on the desert. What are they thinking?

Gene Le Vitre

Retired CEO, Tucson

UA should pursue a moral 'Cadillac'

Re: the March 31 column "Arizona fans: Please no Chevy" by Greg Hansen.

In the worst economic times this country has seen since the 1929 meltdown, Hansen is worried about the UA hiring a lower-tier basketball coach, "a Chevy." I'm sure this is a priority for all those who have lost jobs, had their homes foreclosed and can't afford college for their children.

Russ Pennell did an outstanding job this year considering the adversity that surrounded the team. Hansen should be advocating hiring him back and suggesting that players Jordan Hill , Chase Budinger and Nic Wise should remain and get their degrees. This would be the moral "Cadillac" for the University of Arizona.

Chuck Cabrera

Retired, Oro Valley

Judging Obama's first 100 days

What is so important about the first 100 days of the presidency? Perhaps in the past this period of time has provided political pundits, politicians and the press with inane fodder for articles or television face time.

It most certainly is not a litmus test to measure a president's ultimate popularity, fidelity, obsessions, mentality or productivity over the broader duration of his term.

If you must measure what a president has or has not done during his first 100 days, then you must, also, comparatively measure what each senator and representative in Congress has done for the American people during this same period of time.

William Debelak

Tucson

Make better use of Rio Nuevo dollars

I don't believe that projects like Rio Nuevo are what the city needs over the next several years. Tucson businesses are comprised of thousands of small start-up, high-tech, low-tech and service companies that may grow to become very successful.

People move to Tucson for the improved quality of life you can have here. That means access to good income, shopping, inside and outside activities, and especially a great exposure to an outstanding continuing education for themselves and their children.

I feel that the Rio Nuevo funds could be better spent on filling the education funding deficits and making it easier for new small-business startups. More small businesses mean opportunities for higher paying jobs for our children and will attract people to Tucson.

Educate our children and help small business. That will help ensure Tucson's future more than Rio Nuevo. We don't need more tourists.

Larry Adams

Tucson

Real-estate event was worth covering

I find the Arizona Daily Star to be factual in their reporting, but incomplete in their coverage. Headlines stating dark times in Tucson's real-estate market have adorned the front page on many occasions. Yet when invited to the Southern Arizona Mortgage Lenders Association's press conference stating that "interest rates have hit the bottom" and that this is the perfect intersection of low rates, affordable homes and available inventory, the Star did not attend.

The association statement was covered in a local business publication and on a local television news broadcast. A follow-up story aired on another station's television news broadcast, but not a word can be found in the Star.

I hope the Star will continue to print factual information and add a completeness component that will create an accurate portrayal of Tucson's real- estate market.

Tom Heath

Vice president of advocacy, Southern Arizona Mortgage Lenders Association, Sahuarita

Thanks for great basketball season

The real estate market in Tucson is down, unemployment is way up and construction has slowed to a crawl, but what a great March we had in Tucson. Thanks to coach Russ Pennell and the Wildcats basketball team.

They were up and down all season but somehow slipped into the NCAA tournament much to the chagrin of Dick Vitale.

The players and the coaches seemed to be having fun, something you never saw last year. We will miss Pennell and his enthusiastic, positive coaching style.

Hopefully the powers that be will keep all this in mind during their search for a new basketball coach.

Jack Hewitt

Tucson

Point of study was pointless

Re: the March 10 article "Children of older fathers found to have lower IQs."

I believe this study is as insufficient as the study that states that children born to young parents will commit crimes, become teen parents themselves and not go on to higher education.

Is there ever a happy medium? Tell me, when is the right age to have a child?

I am a teen mother as well as a child born to an older father. He conceived me when he was 40. I graduated a year early from high school and I am continuing my education with a degree in nursing. I might have made mistakes in my life, but by no means am I mentally incompetent. I think this study is just trying to make a point where one isn't needed.

Audrey Abrams

Student, Tucson

how To Comment

The Arizona Daily Star welcomes original letters and guest opinions with ideas, viewpoints, criticism and news analysis that encourage discussion on issues that have an impact on the community.

E-mail letters to: letters@azstarnet.com (no text attachments please)

Write to: P.O. Box 26807, Tucson, AZ 85726-6807.

Please include: Author's full name, address, daytime phone, occupation and e-mail address. When writing about political issues, authors should fully disclose their relationship with an issue, campaign or candidate.

Facts must be annotated. Letters containing information that cannot be easily verified, libelous statements or name calling will be rejected.

Frequency: Any author may have a letter or guest opinion every 30 days.

Submissions: Letters should be on a single topic, no more than 150 words. Guest opinions can be up to 500 words. Guest opinions should include a line describing the author and a head-and-shoulders photograph.

Submissions may be edited for clarity or length. All submissions become property of the Arizona Daily Star.

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