

# Arizona Girls State Independent



June 11, 2009 – Volume 3 - Issue 4 – Tucson, Arizona

## *Yucca members seek county and state offices*

*Kyrra Richard  
Shauna Williams  
Yucca City Reporters*

Day 3 began with much excitement and eagerness to gain more knowledge. All of the girls attending Girls State went to their county courthouse, where they learned about the positions both the county and state offices, and the responsibilities that accompany those positions.

The girls ran for their desired jobs and tried to make them known; making many new friends along the way. A lot of fun was had by all!

In order for the campaign signs to be posted, the candidates had to fulfill a requirement set by the city, such as dancing and singing throughout the halls. Later on, the girls had an hour just to get to know each other.

The Nationalist, better known as the “Nats”, had an opportunity to gather with their County Chairman, Sarah Campbell, to discuss party issues.

A question was raised about the Nationalists platform - the “Four E’s” - “Education, Environment,

Economy and Equality”. Following the discussion, the Nationalists left with a new knowledge of their party’s platform and are now determined to get the Federalists to agree with their perspectives.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Feds are Fed up!

*Madison Freed  
Palo Verde City Reports*

The cheering and clapping fill the air as a group of girls proudly chant “Feds up, Feds up, Feds up!”

Yesterday the Federalist girls of Supai County met in Room 411 and worked together to determine how best to fill the ballot with Federalist nominees.

Under the proud leadership of Wafa Alfatesh, the Supai Federalist Chairman, and the overall leader Francesca Simmons, the Supai Feds manager, they were able to fill every blank on the Girls State ballot.

Though only being with the party for a few days, all the girls are very passionate and loyal to their party.

Our cheering filled up the halls with – “Be bright, Be bold, Be Fed!” And the girls say “Awwa” when faced with a candidate from the “Nat” party.

Thankfully, our party in no way reflect our political views. We are able to be passionate and excited about our party and our platform without running the risk of offending anybody!  
“We’re Fed up!”



## A circle of friendship....

Girls from around the state come to Arizona Girl State for a week of learning and fun! Hopefully, they’ll share their experiences with junior classmates when they get home. (Photo by Kali Bills)

## Three cheers for Governor

*Regina Cho and Alisha Chavez  
Mimosa City Reporters*

Congratulations to one of the Mesquites Monarch’s Annika Huish for passing the General Elections for our new Governor. Likewise, congrats to Emily Bartz who is a citizen of our beautiful sister city, Juniper.

We wish you both the best of luck and we are 100% positive either one would make a wonderful governor!

As our week goes by the Mimosa Mermaids have grown into a stronger city. I’m sure we are all starting to feel like a true family - together we can do anything!

# Arizona Girls State Independent



is published daily by American Legion Auxiliary Arizona Girls State Penny Maklary, Director Jeri Strande, Editor

**2009 Girls State Reporters**  
Palo Verde – Jessica Short  
Palo Verde – Madison Freed  
Juniper – Emily Tangeman  
Juniper – McKenna Lewellen  
Pinon – Patricia Tabamo  
Pinon – Samanta Cannady  
Ocotillo – Jessie Mohkami  
Ocotillo – Keely Petulsky  
Ocotillo – Amanda Beyer  
Cholla – Jesse Gomez  
Cholla – Rachel Corbin  
Manzanita – Alexis Robarge  
Manzanita – Brianna Pantilione  
Saguaro – Lauren Page  
Saguaro – Alda Dominguez  
Mesquite – Annika Huish  
Mesquite – Rachel Hiser  
Mesquite – Lauren Keen  
Sycamore – Brielle Giesemann  
Sycamore – Mariija Zaruba  
Ironwood – Eileen Leaser,  
Ironwood – Carolyn Gatti  
Yucca – Kyrra Richard  
Yucca – Raquel Denis  
Yucca – Koko Thomas  
Yucca – Shauna Williams  
Yucca – Lauren Tomlinson  
Mimosa – Regina Cho  
Mimosa – Alicia Chavez

## Remembering the poppy

*(Reprint from the American Legion Auxiliary Home Front – Vol II, 2009)*

The poppy is one of the most widely recognized American Legion Auxiliary programs. Each year, usually around Memorial Day, Auxiliary volunteers distribute millions of bright red crepe paper poppies in exchange for contributions to assist disabled and hospitalized veterans.

The program provides multiple benefits to veterans and community. Hospitalized veterans who make the flowers are able to earn a small wage and the physical and mental activity provides many therapeutic benefits.



The poppy's worldwide symbol of sacrifice is worn by Auxiliary members to honor the men and women who served and died for their country in all wars, including the Global way on Terrorism.

Donations are used exclusively to assist and support veteran and remind the community of the continuing needs of our veterans.

Hopefully next year when you see ladies from your local Auxiliary Unit with their poppies, you'll help them to help support our veterans who have given so much!

## In Flanders Fields

(A poem that has been associated with the American Legion Auxiliary since the inception of the poppy program)

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset  
glow,  
Loved, and were loved, and now we  
lie in Flanders Fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies  
grow  
In Flanders Fields.

Lt. Col. John McCrae (1872-1918)

## Girls State brings the best

*Jessica Short  
Palo Verde City Reporter*

“Eight, nine stop it’s Penguin time, go Penguins, go Penguins!” Several loud bursts of laughter fill the hall as girls provide necessary evidence for the honor of hanging signs within the City of Palo Verde.

Surprisingly...it seems to be more of a method to break the awkward silence, rather than an actual task for obligation.

It’s not as if anyone is complaining, it just seems to be that “certain moment” where everyone is breaking free from their self doubt and personal boundaries – it’s amazing!! Girls State has really managed to bring out the absolute best of 276 talented ladies and I sincerely hope to see such magic continue.  
PS

Thanks for going along with the requests for sign hanging!

# Arizona Girls State Talent Night participants announced

Grab your cameras and get ready for some real talent, for tonight you will witness the 62<sup>nd</sup> Arizona Girls State Talent Night. The event will take place following dinner at the State House – Social Science 100 beginning at 7:15pm.

With 22 various acts, the evening will be one to remember and talk about for years to come. Below is a list of the names of the performers in order of presentation:

## Arizona Girls State Talent Show June 11, 2009

1. Whitney Alger –song - “Small Enough”
2. Felicity Williams –song - “Broken Wing”
3. Shelby Frauen & Erica Tucker - Int Dance/Lip “Forever & Always”
4. Zoe Sorrell - flute song - “Mozart Concerto”
5. Alisha Chavez - dance - “Under the Sea”
6. Bailey Anzar – song - “Only Hope
7. Maria Chappell & Alexa Kirkpatrick – skit – “Who’s on First?”
8. Hira Ismail - Pakistani dance - Cultural Dance
9. Ashley Provost - song - Killing Me Softly
10. Courtney Smith - dramatic mono - “Blood Wedding”
11. Merisa Stefaniak - song - “Halo”
12. Savannah Martin - guitar - “Space Between the Spaces”
13. Nikole Robertson - Voice contortion - Chipmunk Voice
14. Emily Kleinkopf - dance - “The Great Escape”
15. Ariana Qayumi - violin - “Mendelsohn in E Minor”
16. Brianna Bojorquez, Jayme Miller, Katherin McKernan, Elliana Cabrera, Sabrina Hernandez, Brianna Pantilione, & Taylor Hanson - skit – King Burger”
17. Sabrina Rodriguez - martial arts - “Mixed Martial Arts
18. Ashley James - song - “Hurt”
19. Raquel Denis - guitar - “Such Great Heights”
20. Jordan Francom - dance - “Daydreamer”
21. Elizabeth Malone – song and jump - Jump Rope
22. Erica Moulton – song - “It Had to Be You”

Our Mistresses of Ceremonies are:

Lauren Page and Jamie Strand both City of Saguaro citizens.

Congratulations and thanks to all the girls who auditioned and shared your talents with us. You’ve added one more unforgettable memory to the Girl State experience. You are all truly remarkable young women!

# GS receives visit from 61<sup>st</sup> Girls Nation’s Senators

As if GS wasn’t exciting enough, each girl currently participating in the 62<sup>nd</sup> Arizona GS has been given the opportunity to be elected as one of the two Girls Nations (GN) Senators.

What is Girls Nation? It is a continuation of the Girls State session, but with concentration on national government and being selected as one of the GN Senators is truly prestigious.



## Delegates from Girl’s Nation return to GS.....

GN Senators Christen Brown (l) and Cassandra Isme (r) pose with Kali Bills during their visit to the 62<sup>nd</sup> Arizona Girls State. Christen and Cassandra spent the day visiting with the current citizens and gave their Girls Nation report. All three girls were members of the 61<sup>st</sup> Arizona Girls State and enjoyed their brief reunion

What are some of the included activities girls can expect at Girls Nation?

- Organizing political parties
- Working “in committee”
- Electing party and federal officials
- Holding a national convention
- Participating in Senate sessions
- Debating bills
- Learning federal government procedures
- Some of the optional activities include:
- Visiting Capital Hill and the White House
- Tours of Monuments
- Changing of the guard: Tomb of the Unknowns, Arlington Cemetery
- Distinguished speakers
- And last but not least, a visit with the Arizona U.S. Senator and Representative
- 

This year’s Girl’s Nation will take place July 18- 25, 2009 at the National 4-H Center Chevy Chase, MD.

# Monarchs Making Memories

Annika Huish  
Mesquite City Reporter

Okay, so we didn't exactly finish first for the Primary Elections – or even second. In fact, we were dead last, but all of the city bonding that occurred during this time was totally worth the last finish.

While waiting to vote, Monarchs showed off pictures of sexy “special – someone’s” on Facebook and sang Britney Spears and Avril Lavigne at the top of their lungs and “ooh”ed and “ahh”ed at the tear-jerking tales of romance that were told.

And as these girls of Mesquite opened up to each other and shared parts of their lives, they created entirely new memories of bonding at Girls State that they will cherish forever.



## Know any of these characters?

Say thanks to the Junior Councilor for helping to make this week at the 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Girls State a learning and fun time.

Remember, all GS citizens will get an opportunity to request a return visit next year and serve as a junior councilors and a member of the staff.

If you're interested, talk to your assigned JC and then get the form from the appropriate city advisor. Thanks JCs couldn't do it without you and if we could, it wouldn't be as much fun!

# A blast from the past

Eileen Leaser  
Carolyn Gatti  
Ironwood City Reporters

All of the cities have expressed their creativity and talent in their hallway decorations.

Ironwood picked a medieval theme to go with their mascot, the Dragons. Ye Old Ironwood was inspired by Christine Poorten, the decorator of the most complimented door, the dragon in the cave.

As you enter the hallway you



*Ironwood's Ye Ole Witch Hut.....* walk into a magical forest filled with butterflies and flowers, each representing the Ironwood family.

When you emerge from the forest you come upon the Princess Inn and the Dungeon.

You then find yourself in the local market where business is booming with the Magic Store, the Ice Cream Shop, the local blacksmith's work-shop and the Witch Hut.

At the end of the hall is the local village, which is the home of our medieval family.

Ye Old Ironwood is a blast of the past!

# Community Service is a great consideration

(Excerpts from Home Front Vol. II,  
2009 American Legion Auxiliary)

When the citizens of the 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Arizona Girls State return to their homes, I hope that each of them will volunteer time to their local communities.

Consider starting or joining an existing *Adopt-A-Highway* or *Habitat for Humanity* group.

## *Adopt-A-Highway*

Roadside litter costs millions of dollars annually to control. *Adopt-A-Highway* is a service program that utilizes volunteer teams to pick up trash along American's roadways.

Participation also may include planting and establishing trees for wildlife, removing graffiti or controlling vegetation.

Many states will install a sign recognizing the adopting group's name for their contribution to keeping roads litter-free.

To get involved, contact your state's Department of Transportation.

## *Habitat for Humanity, Int.*

*Habitat for Humanity International* is a nonprofit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry that seeks to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness from the world and to make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action.

One of the more well-known service organizations, Habitat's work is accomplished at the community level through volunteer labor and donations. To see how you or your group can get involved, visit [www.habitat.org](http://www.habitat.org).