



By Andrew Stephens
Palm Beach Editor

Palm Beach Beat

Palm Beach County Beware! The Gays are Coming!

Ed Heeney is the Republican candidate for the Florida House district that represents parts of Royal Palm Beach, Greenacres and West Palm Beach. Heeney was also an unintentionally-hilarious hit on Comedy Central's *The Daily Show*, when he outlined one of the main points of his campaign platform: Beware, the gays are coming, the gays are coming! "The gays are an alien army, within. I stand opposed to any further push of the gay movement," said Heeney during the episode.

"The people in Palm Beach County don't have a clue what's going on down in Fort Lauderdale," said Heeney during a recent interview with *The Express* newspaper.

"I'm here to tell you I'm sick of the bastards."

On *The Daily Show*, Heeney described his apparent sickness not as "homophobic," but simply homo-"nausic." Moreover, "gays have made it difficult for me to shoot pool," Heeney lamented, because of the "gayification" of his favorite pool hall. Clearly, this is a man that is his own punch line.

The interviewer, Samantha Bee, probed into Heeney's own unmarried status. "The attractive girls have been predated [sic] on by the lesbians" complained Heeney. "I can't find a pretty, straight, white girl." But after Heeney demonstrates his physical prowess on camera, reporter Bee quips that Heeney is enough to make any woman "hetero-nausic."

Visit *The Daily Show* web site at www.dailyshow.com to find the hilarious video of Heeney in "Tropical Repression." (Or e-mail me, and I'll forward it to you.) Interestingly enough, during the video segment, a pool hall patron can clearly be seen reading this gay newspaper, *The Independent*.

"Vote Early, Vote Often"

As humorous as Ed Heeney may seem to most of us, we must remember that he is seriously attempting to represent Palm Beach County in the State House of Representatives. He is unopposed in the upcoming primary, meaning that he will be on the ballot in November. Please take your privilege of voting seriously during the primary this month, and help to pick a suitable opponent for Mr. Heeney. Let's make sure that after November, he still has plenty of time to go shoot pool!

Closeted County? Part 2

While some are ranting about our county becoming too gay, many gays here still feel it is too straight.

In the last issue of *The Independent*, we interviewed several residents with opinions, pro and con, about the perception that gays are forced to be more secretive while in PB County. We continue that series in this issue, beginning on page 24.

Pet Peeves About Pets

Although this is the Pet Issue, I should disclose that I do not have one. Sadly, I'm just not good with pets. Back in the 70's, my "pet rock" actually ran away from home. You see? I am just not good with pets. But for those of you who are, Palm Beach County is a haven for pet lovers. Please see "The Doctors Are OUT" on page 13 for one such example.

Your read it here first...

As predicted in the last issue of this column, the gay pride icons have been removed from the front of Club 2730 in West Palm Beach. The club marquee is back, after comments that it came down two weeks ago only for "cleaning." But the rainbow flag on the roof and the pride sticker on the door are both now gone. Are they only down for "cleaning," as well? Or has PB County lost another gay venue?

Hungry and Thirsty?

If you are out and about this Sunday around 5pm, and looking for a watering hole that features free food, there are plenty of options in West Palm Beach. Our newest club, Fuel, at Datura and Sapodilla, does a poolside BBQ, complete with new video monitors playing the latest music videos. After Bob whips up some tasty hot dogs, you can head back inside to their Pride Bar, where the ever-happy Joseph (aka "Coach") will be happy to pour you a tall one.

Kozlow's, at 6205 Georgia, is a country western-style bar that offers a full buffet of burgers, hot dogs, salads and more. Once in awhile, Brian will even cook up excellent lasagna as well!

Gay Chorus To Hold Auditions

Voices Of Pride: The Gay Chorus Of The Palm Beaches will be holding a final round of auditions before their holiday season performances. The new auditions are on Wednesday Aug. 25 starting at 6:30pm. Call Steve or Preston at 561.371.3361 to make an appointment.

Keep your comments coming! Drop me a line at astephens@ourindependent.com