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## SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

# Reception celebrates 5 unions

*Sun-News report*

**SILVER CITY »** LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) Grant County hosted a wedding reception this past weekend to celebrate marriage equality in Grant County. "It has been a great couple months for the LGBT Community," said LGBT Grant County Board Vice-President Elizabeth Rockey, "We opened a community center we call Rainbow Village and then

same-sex couples were issued marriage licenses in Grant County on Sept. 9. We had a quadruple wedding topped off with a wedding reception for all our newlyweds this past weekend. I'm really proud to be a Grant County resident. Grant County is becoming a place that is accepting of all people."

The wedding reception hosted five newlywed same-sex couples and their friends and families. There was Champagne, cake and

a live version of "The Newlywed Game."

"It was a truly joyous occasion," said LGBT President Ted Tufares, "This was a great step forward for the LGBT community. First the Defense of Marriage Act is overturned and then a few weeks later same-sex couples can get married in Grant County. I am confident New Mexico's Supreme Court is



Samantha and Jen Almaraz celebrate their marriage at LGBT Grant County's Wedding Reception after winning "The Newlywed Game," with host Hugh Epping.

COURTESY PHOTO