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JUNE 7, 1996 • ISSUE 815



1996 Colt 45's officers (l to r): Normand Seguin, Pres., Tony Dran, Vice-Pres., Spook Lewellyn, Vice-Pres., Joseph Carlsen, Sec., Dan Lindquist, Tres. along with Gale Clayton, Vice-Pres (not pictured) are ready to celebrate 20 years of community service.

## HGLPC hosts Power Brunch with Lee Brown

HOUSTON - Sunday, June 2, marked the debut of a series of Power Brunches, hosted by the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus (HGLPC) and co-sponsored by the Texas Human Rights Foundation (THRF). Dr. Lee P. Brown, former Clinton Administration drug czar, Houston Police Chief during the Whitmire administration, and presently a Rice University professor in the Psychology

Department, was the featured guest at the event attended by a diverse collection of community leaders and activists. He was escorted to the event by his new wife, Frances.

"The HGLPC was delighted to have Dr. Brown as its first guest for a great series of Power Brunches," said Pat Gandy, president of the Caucus. "Dr. Brown was very forthright about his life, beliefs, and ideas, and I was particularly impressed by his grasp of the problems facing the city. And his understanding of issues facing the lesbian and gay community."

Following his introductory presentation, which offered an up-close and personal overview of his life and career, Dr. Brown fielded a wide array of questions concerning crime, economics, education,

(Continued on page 19)

## Brides and Pride

By Deborah Bell

It's June and we all know what that means, June weddings of course and a month of celebrating our pride in being who we are. We certainly know how to show our pride but there is a bit of a problem with that other thing since we can not legally marry. In fact the option for that to be a possibility is under attack by Congress. We are continuing our reports in the Houston Voice regarding both the issue of same-sex marriage and the abhorrently named "Defense of Marriage Act" recently passed in House Committee.

The pink triangle banners are unfurled on  
(Continued on page 20)



Lobo Book Shop - Bigger and better, and now on Montrose Blvd.

## Colt 45's Inc. celebrates 20 years

### A Brief History

The Colt 45's was founded in the spring of 1976 as a western charitable organization whose basic goal was to serve the Houston community as a charity while still having a good time. At that time, annual meetings were held to determine local grant recipients. Some past recipients have included the Montrose Clinic, the Montrose Counseling Center, Ronald McDonald House, and Saint Anthony's Nursing Home.

In the recent past, community needs changed. The Colt 45's kept pace with those changes, especially in the area of AIDS and HIV. As a 501(c)3 charity, and in order to best serve the community, three different special funds were created to better serve the people in our community who needed it most.

Most importantly, the Colt 45's have committed themselves to providing charitable grants with absolutely NO administrative costs attached. Each and every dollar donated to the various special funds goes directly back to the community. The Colt 45's members themselves bear the cost of administration so that this goal of 100% charity can be maintained unequivocally.

### The Colt 45's Charitable Funds

The AIDS Troublefund (also known as ATF) provides emergency and temporary financial assistance to persons who are suffering from AIDS and are financially unable to meet their basic obligations for the necessities of life. Through payments

(Continued on page 20)



Lee Brown (2nd from l) with wife and HGLPC members.

## The Changing Face of The Montrose Area

By Deborah Bell

Remember the corner of Montrose and

Westheimer, circa 1972 or so? Long time residents remember when there was a Prince's Hamburger Shop on the NW corner where now there is a Stop 'n' Go. Movable Feast, now with store and restaurant on W. Alabama, used to be in the group of buildings that now house the Eye-Q Optical Shop and Legends Hair Salon on the NE corner next to Oh Boy Boots. Before there was a Taco Cabana on the SE corner, there was a Willie's Bar-B-Q (Formerly a gas station - the kind where an attendant came out, wiped your windshield and pumped your gas). Blockbusters was a Liberty Bank at one time and at the other end of that strip a was a Rexall Drug store, with a soda fountain and grill - that later became Bizmart (now closed). Many of us

remember going to the Tower Theater to

see first run films, many more remember it as a live concert or club space. Now of course it is a place to go rent movies, Hollywood Videos. Next door at Crossroads Market Bookstore and Cafe recently moved from it's W. Alabama address, you can find the latest gay and lesbian books, have a cup of java with your dessert, and starting June 8 can even make your travel plans. ADVance-Damron Vacations is joining with Crossroads to have a travel counselor on-premises to consult about upcoming cruises, tours, circuit events and gay/lesbian friendly destinations. The service will be available on selected weekends throughout the year.

One of the recent big changes has been the

(Continued on page 8)

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**Community Calendar** by Carolyn Roberts

If you would like an event listed in this section, please feel free to call me at 529-8490 or fax the facts to me at 529-9531.

**Friday, June 7**

- \* Borders Book Store Gay/Lesbian Book Club meets at the Espresso Bar at 9634 Westheimer. Call 782-6066.
- \* HIV Art classes at the Art League. Call 523-8817
- \* HATCH meets. Call 942-7002.
- \* 12 step program at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Houston Tennis Club meets at 7:15 p.m. Call 527-1348.
- \* Q-Patrol meets to walk the streets at 10:30 p.m. Call 528-SAFE.
- \* Free Buffet at the Brazos River Bottom. 4:00 p.m.
- \* The Women's Group meets at 10:45 a.m. Call 529-8571.
- \* Using the Resources of Business Incubators to Accelerate Business Growth Luncheon at 11:45. Call 932-7495 X 42.
- \* Juneteenth Blues Festival at Miller Outdoor Theater. 8:00 p.m. Call 645-HELP.
- \* Films at the Museum of Fine Arts: Shadows of our Forgotten Ancestors at 8:00 p.m. and Paradjanov: A Requiem at 9:45 p.m. Call 639-7515.
- \* Art Opening at the Art League. 6:00 p.m. Call 523-9530.
- \* Hole in the Wall Gang at Leisure Learning Unlimited. Call 877-1981 X 7010.
- \* Asia/America Identities in Contemporary Adian American Art: Opening Reception at 7:00 p.m. Call 743-9530.
- \* Pretty, Witty, and Wild-readings by Brian Freeman and Ana Sisnett. At DiverseWorks at 8:00 p.m. Call 223-8346.
- \* Estate Planning Workshop by Attorney Sharon Stoghill at Borders Book Shop at 8:00 p.m. Call 782-6066.

**Saturday, June 8**

- \* Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club rides. Call 863-1860.
- \* After Hours on KPFT 12:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m. 90.1 FM. Call 526-5738.
- \* Gulf Coast Transgender support group meets. Call 780-4282.
- \* Q-Patrol meets to walk the streets at 10:30 p.m. Call 528-SAFE.
- \* Visual Art Alliance meets at 10:00 a.m. Call 583-8408.
- \* Determining Your Entrepreneurial Exponents for Starting a Business. 9:00 a.m. Call 932-7495 X 40.
- \* Juneteenth Blues Festival at Miller Outdoor Theater. 8:00 p.m. Call 645-HELP.
- \* Films at the Museum of Fine Arts: Sweet Sweetback's Baadasssss Song at 7:30 p.m. and Sheba, Baby at 9:30 p.m. Call 639-7515.
- \* Automobile Literacy-A Car Care Seminar at Leisure Learning Unlimited. Call 877-1981 X 1005.
- \* Black Skimmer Open House at 9:00 a.m. Call 409/238-2276.
- \* HATCH (Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals) Prom. Call 942-7002.
- \* Keys to a Stress-free Life workshop at Borders Book Shop at 3:00 p.m. Call 782-6066.

**Sunday, June 9**

- \* Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club meets. Call 863-1860.
- \* Front Runners meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Tennis center in Memorial Park. Call 522-8021.
- \* HATCH meets. Call 942-7002.
- \* Inner Loop Sunday Bowling League. Call 522-9612.
- \* Out in Ft. Bend meets. Call 344-0638.
- \* Brunch at the 611 12:30 p.m. \$3
- \* Steak Night at the Brazos River Bottom. 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
- \* Montrose Ice Picks skate at noon. Call 629-1432.
- \* Pool Tournament at Chances. 6:00 p.m.
- \* Houston Tennis Club meets at 10:30 a.m. Call 537-1348.
- \* Montrose Softball League plays at Memorial Park fields 4 & 5. 10:00 a.m.
- \* Films at the Museum of Fine Arts: Sweet

Sweetback's Baadasssss Song at 7:30 p.m. and Sheba, Baby at 9:30 p.m. Call 639-7515.

- \* Films at the Museum of Fine Arts: Sweet Sweetback's Baadasssss Song at 5:00 p.m. and Sheba, Baby at 7:00 p.m. Call 639-7515.
- \* The Court's general meeting at Gentry. 2:00 p.m. Call 587-5428
- \* Houston Chain Gang's Woodlands Ride and Picnic. Call 537-0804.
- \* Houston Area Bears meets at 4:00 p.m. at the BRB. Call 867-9123.
- \* Dining Etiquette and More at Leisure Learning Unlimited. Call 877-1981 X 3050.
- \* Ani Difranco in Concert at Fitzgeralds. 8:30 p.m. Tickets at Inklings.
- \* Check it Out! Workshop on private investigations at Borders Book Shop at 3:00 p.m. Call 782-6066.

**Monday, June 10**

- \* Gay Fathers/Fathers First support group. 8:00 p.m. Call 861-6181.
- \* HeartSong open rehearsal at the First Unitarian Church at 7:00 p.m. Call 526-9095.
- \* Calendar/Computer workshop for Pride Week. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-1223.
- \* Positive Living Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 2:15 p.m. Call 539-0037.
- \* Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Women and HIV/AIDS Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Men Survivors of Sexual Abuse Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Lesbian Survivors of Cancer and their care givers at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Men's HIV Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Pool Tournament at the Brazos River Bottom. 8:00 p.m. Call 528-9192.
- \* The Borders Book Group meets again at 7:30 p.m. Call 782-6066.

**Tuesday, June 11**

- \* Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous meets at 239 Westheimer. 8:00 p.m. Call 495-8009.
- \* Basic Computer Skills Class at the Kolbe Project. Call 522-8182.
- \* Southern Country gives dance lesson at the Ranch. 9200 Buffalo Speedway. 8:00 p.m.
- \* Gay Men HIV+ Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 4:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* AIDA Alliance of the Bay Area meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 488-4492.
- \* Empowerment for Living meets for pot luck. Call 861-9149.
- \* PROTECT support group meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 520-7870.
- \* Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic at Club Body Center. 8:00 p.m. Call 520-2083.
- \* Women Survivors of Childhood Abuse at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Survivors of loss support group meets at 8:30 p.m. Call 778-2677.
- \* Free Dance Lessons and Karaoke at the Brazos River Bottom. 9:30 p.m. Call 528-9192.
- \* Live Jazz at Borders Book Shop. Call 782-6066.
- \* Women's Work: Textile and Needlework in the Bayou Bend Collection. Call 639-7750.
- \* Public Speaking for the Chicken-Hearted at Leisure Learning Unlimited. Call 877-1981 X 6412D.
- \* Tasty Tofu at Leisure Learning Unlimited. Call 877-1981 X 5322.
- \* Houston Gay and Lesbian Parents meet at 7:00 p.m. Call 980-7995.
- \* AIDS Equity League meets at noon at Charlie's. Call 871-0092.
- \* Voices of Aisa Poetry Readings at Inprint. Timothy Liu. Call 521-2026.

(Continued on page 15)

# Community Bulletin Board

## Parents Group

The Houston Gay and Lesbian Parents have a full month of activities for the month of June beginning with the JFU (Just For Us) youth group pool party Saturday June 8 and concluding with Family Activities Sunday June 23.

The Family Activities will begin with a brunch from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and then rejoin at 4:00 p.m. for the HGLP Float in the parade. Additionally, the support group is planning their monthly meeting Tuesday June 11 from 7 until 8:30 p.m. at the MCCR church located at 1919 Decatur.

For more information please contact 666-8260.

## Montrose Angels

A Don Gill fundraiser "Angels Over Montrose" is planned for Saturday June 15 at the Venture-N and is designed to benefit the Montrose Clinic Phoenix Program, funded through the Montrose Clinic Psychotherapy Fund.

The fund is designed to provide psychotherapy for persons infected and affected by HIV in an effort to avoid the depression and excessive anxiety that can wreak havoc on one's emotional, physical, and spiritual health.

Individuals wishing to support the fund can make checks payable to the Montrose Clinic Psychotherapy Fund and either bring them to the 9:30 p.m. show, or mail them to Don Gill, 911 Welch, Houston, 77006. For more information please telephone 521-0911.

## Thomas Street

Thomas St. Health Center (Citizen's Council (TSHCC) will meet Wednesday, June 12 at 2:00 p.m. in the 3rd floor conference room at 2015 Thomas St. (@Paschall off N. Main).

TSHCC is an elected advocacy group with 15 seats who advise the hospital district on matters concerning the single largest free standing AIDS clinic in the U.S. Open elections for 2 year terms will be held in the fall, and persons interested in running for a term should begin attending meetings now to familiarize themselves with the process.

Meetings are scheduled for the second Wednesday of each month and are open to public comment and participation. Future dates include July 10 and August 14.

## AVES Event

Tickets are still available for the June 22 "Latino Pride Gala," an official Pride Week event and semi-formal dance, which will be held at 2151 W. Holcombe from 8:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m.

Admission is a \$30 tax-deductible donation (\$40 at the door) which will include admission and open bar all night. Latino music (tejano, salsa, cumbia, etc.) as well as country western and other dance music will be provided by a live band and a DJ.

Please telephone 626-2837 for more information.

## Pumped Up On Art

The Pride Committee of Houston, Inc.,

will host the annual Pumped Up On Art gala and auction at JAGS, 5120 Woodway, June 21 at 7:00 p.m. to benefit Houston's Gay, Lesbian and HIV/AIDS affected communities.

Numerous celebrities donate autographed pairs of high heeled shoes or "Pumps" for this unique event. Local artists donate their time, talents, and materials to create a work of art from these pumps to showcase the celebrity. Celebrities participating this year include Gloria Estefan, The Pointer Sisters, Loni Anderson, Dionne Warwick, Ruth Buzzi, Sally Jesse Raphael, Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalaya, Elyse Lanier, "Mama" Ninfa, Olympian Carl Lewis and many other national and local celebrities.

Both silent and live auctions are held during the event with celebrity auctioneers and emcees displaying the finished artwork. Candace Gingrich will attend and assist with the live auction. KTRK Channel 13's Jan Glenn will serve as the emcee.

Proceeds from this year's gala will benefit Milam House, the Names Project, the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard,

Texas Lesbian Conference and Pride Committee of Houston, Inc. Tickets can be purchased by call the Pride Committee at 529-6979. A \$20 donation is requested.

## Seeking Musicians

The Houston Pride band is preparing for this year's Gay and Lesbian Pride Parade and is actively seeking local or out of town musicians of all skill levels to join them in this festive event.

Auditions are not required and rehearsals are held Wednesday evenings from 7 until 9:00 p.m. at Dignity Houston, 1307 Yale.

For more information, contact Russell Williams at 524-0218 or E-mail HousTxBand@aol.com.

## West Houston

The West Houston Gay & Lesbian Social Club was launched June 1, making it the fastest growing gay & lesbian organization in the state of Texas.

With a stated mission of celebrating diversity with our community, fostering excellence in literature, promotion of a positive image of our community, sharing and learning each

other's cultures and providing an alternative way to make new friends, the future plans include pot luck dinners, picnics, camping, movies, theaters, museums and a monthly newsletter.

Anyone interested is invited to attend the next meeting Friday June 14 at 8:00 p.m. Contact Jay Floyd at 556-6352 or Matt Shiradis at 589-7824 for more information.

## Poetry Contest

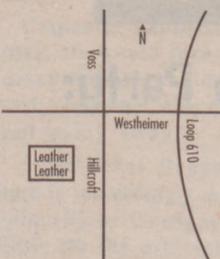
The Texas Poetry Alliance has announced a contest with a \$1,000 Grand Prize.

The guidelines are simple. Your poem may be written on any subject, using any style, and must be original. There is no entry fee and deadline for entry is July 21 with winner announced by the last week in September and a winner's list will be sent to all entrants.

The Alliance reserves the right to publish the winning poems. To enter, send one poem only (21 lines or less) to Poetry Contest, 1712 E.Riverside Dr. #147, Austin, TX 78741-1320.

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# In Loving Memory



## ROBERT MARTIN

Robert Martin died on April 25, 1996. He is survived by his parents, Wallace and Martha Ryne of Pasadena, Texas; sister, Pamela and brother-in-law

Steve Hansen of Pasadena, Texas; nephews and nieces, Bobby, Tiffany, Ty and Aaron.

Cremation took place and a memorial service was held at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Pasadena on Sunday, April 28, 1996. In lieu of flowers, donation may still be sent to Bering Care Center, 1440 Harold, Houston, TX 77006 (phone 520-7070). A celebration of Robert's life will be held on Sunday, June 9, 1996 at 2:00 pm at Rothko Chapel, 1409 Sul Ross at Yupon.

Robert fought his battle with AIDS displaying courage and dignity and continued to enrich peoples lives with his wit and humor. As Robert's battle grew, consuming more and more of his daily existence; he continued to reach out to others offering hope, guidance, comfort and sympathy.

Robert, I know we will meet once again where there is less hate, pain and suffering and more understanding, peace and unconditional love.

Until then, my brother -Parker Carroll



## ROY CISNEROS

Born: April 22, 1952  
Died: May 24, 1996

Roy Cisneros departed this life on May 24, 1996, at his parent's home in San Antonio, Texas, after a long battle with AIDS. He is survived by his loving family; parents, Mr. and Mrs. Raul Cisneros, Sr.; siblings, Andy, Margie, Sallie and their families and countless friends, whose lives were enriched by his many gifts.

His love of music was shared by the students of Crosby and Scarborough High Schools. Roy also used his talents to help raise funds for local community organizations.

Roy loved to play and often bit off more than he could chew and then amazingly pulled things together by motivating others to achieve a goal. He has been relieved of his pain and somewhere there is a band of angels with a new director making beautiful music to soothe all souls.

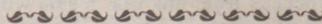
In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the charity of your choice.

## CHARLES EDWARD HILL

Charles Edward Hill, 45, of Houston,

passed away June 1, 1996 at Twelve Oaks Hospital. He fought a long and courageous battle and was called home after an extended illness. Despite his own pain and suffering, Chuck remained concerned for the needs of others and was a dedicated volunteer at the Bering Care Center. His friends and family are experiencing great loss, yet each take great comfort in knowing that Chuck's pain and suffering are over and that his soul is now with God.

Born in Lockport, New York, Chuck was preceded in death by his father, Bronson William Hill, and survived by his life long partner, Todd Donald Lambertus, and his dearest friend, Russ Macaluso. Chuck is also survived by his mother, Mrs. Mary Joyce Hill of Graham, North Carolina, and siblings Joyce Whatley and husband Dale, Barbara Hamrick and husband Lester, Rev. John Burns and wife Mary Jane, and Janet Sawden and husband Jim, William Hill and wife Yolanda, and Joan Rudd and husband Jerry. Chuck served in the U.S. Navy. Funeral services were held at the Bering Memorial United Methodist Church on Tuesday, June 4th. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Bering Care Center, 1440 Harold, Houston, TX 77006.



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## HOUSTON VOICE

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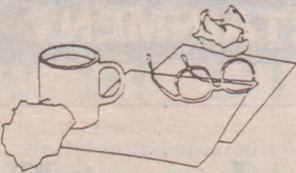
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# In My Own Voice

by Deborah Bell



## A Matter of Inclusion

Do you like the new masthead for The Houston Voice? The idea for this new design was in the works before I started working as the editor. I've joked that if it is well received, I'll claim it was my idea, but if it proves to be unpopular—then I'll blame it on them. But I want to give credit where it is due and while not one of the originators, I confess the use of this design and the new slogan met with my approval. I really like the sound of "The Voice of Houston's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Community." I know we will be accused of attempting to be "Politically Correct." That's ok because that's true. But more than that it is meant to be a matter of inclusion for those who consider themselves to be part of "Our Community," the Bisexual and Transgendered people who have always been our allies. More than just identifying as Lesbian or Gay, one has to make a conscious decision to be part of a community and it is time we embraced that. Working as the National Organizer for the 1993 March on Washington taught me about the strength of our community's diversity and the need for inclusion. Bisexuals and Transgendered people were there from the beginning, throughout the organizing process, and gave it their all. They were some of the best volunteers we had and people who became dear friends.

The term "Politically Correct" has been bashed quite a bit lately in academia, the media, and even in political circles. Back in the late seventies many women were discovering feminism through consciousness-raising groups sponsored by the local chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW). This was my first contact with "Political Correctness" or being "PC" as we called it. My association

with the term has not been negative. What it meant for us in NOW, a group seeking to overcome the injustices due to sexism, was forming alliances and building coalition. This was part of the organizing of the 1977 International Year of the Woman Conference that was held in Houston. It meant being inclusive of diversity and giving voice to those who have traditionally been disenfranchised. A good example of being politically correct would be a fund-raising effort for women candidates we organized. The event was held at a labor hall, all printing was done with union labor, catering was by a Mexican-American Woman, music provided by a lesbian DJ, flowers came from a Black-owned business, speakers included as much racial and ethnic diversity as possible. The concept is that while we all may be different, if we come together to work on common interest, we are all stronger for it and more likely to be successful. Very simple.

Self-determination is paramount to the concept of political correctness. In other words, call me what I ask you to call me because that is the way I have identified. We don't need to skirt around issues or be overly delicate, just conscious and sensitive to others about the impact our words can have. Those of us who belong to dominant groups (the ones with power) can be allies to targeted groups (the disenfranchised) by simply choosing our words carefully, thus not perpetuating an "ism." Philosopher Kenneth Burke who explored the significance of language devised the theory known as dramatism, suggesting language makes people capable of moral and ethical action. Words are powerful, not just as overt political weapons, but as subtle influencers of our perceptions of reality. Sometimes being politically correct just means being politically smart. Sometimes it just means doing the right thing.

## Log Cabin Sues Texas GOP

### Suit Charges Breach Of Contract

The Log Cabin Republicans of Texas (LCR-TX) has filed suit against the Republican Party of Texas over the party's decision to deny the group an exhibit booth at the state GOP convention.

The Suit charges that the party breached a contract to accept the booth and that denial of the application violates rights of free speech, due process and privacy under the Texas constitution. The suit was filed in Travis County court and seeks an injunction to require party officials to permit the booth as well as a full-page advertisement from the group in the convention program.

"Since we learned of the party officials' decision late last week, we have tried to persuade them to change their minds. The party's headquarters has been flooded with telephone calls, faxes and letters from Republicans and concerned Americans. All this has been to no avail," said Dale Carpenter, State President of LCR-TX at a press conference announcing the groups decision.

"Refusing to listen to reason, shutting their ears to the complaints of (others). ...Texas GOP officials have left us no choice. Today, the Log Cabin Republicans of Texas filed suit against the Republican Party of Texas, seeking an injunction to give us the same chance to be heard that all Republicans should have at our state convention," said Carpenter.

The group is represented by Patrick

Wiseman, an experienced and widely respected Austin attorney. The Texas Human Rights Foundation is also offering their support to Log Cabin throughout this endeavor. The group submitted their application and monies for a booth at the convention. The state GOP cashed the check and accepted the application and informed them that they had first choice for a booth location. Several weeks later GOP officials abruptly returned the money along with a rejection letter. Party officials sought to justify their action by claiming that sodomy is illegal in Texas. The Texas Penal code section 21.06 often cited as "the sodomy law" uses the term "Homosexual Conduct."

"That is a ridiculous argument, a mere pretext to cover the fact that party officials don't want to permit a full and fair debate on the issue of equality for gays and lesbians," retorted Carpenter. "Obviously, no one is going to commit an illegal act in the booth." He also noted that the state's sodomy law has been held unconstitutional by a state appellate court.

Carpenter expressed hope that party officials would reverse their "blatantly discriminatory decision." But, he said, "no matter what they say or do, we are not going away."

"The Texas Republican Party structure is increasingly the captive of a small minority of far-right activists who care little for the principle of freedom, less for the idea of limited government, and not all for the notion of tolerance," opined Carpenter.

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**Steve Moore**

*Laughter Really Is The Best Medicine*  
*We're Living With AIDS - Not Dying From It!!!*

# Are you a part of the 'Food Chain'?

By JAVIER TAMEZ  
Houston Voice/Houston

It's a dog-eat-dog world out there, and everybody but me seems to be going back for seconds.

That pretty much sums up the attitude of Otto, the screamingly corpulent creature who serves, for the most part, as the speaking voice of the playwright in "The Food Chain," by Nicky Silver, a current off-Broadway production which is having its first production outside New York City as the closing presentation of the 1995-96 season on the Alley Theatre's Neuhaus Arena Stage.

The short play, which is performed without an intermission, has a minimalist plot and is ingeniously crafted, such that the characters are, before all is said and done, revealed to be interconnected in a kind of sexual Mobius strip.

In the opening scene, "Amanda," we meet (you guessed it!) Amanda (Melissa Bowen), an attractive, published poet, living in Manhattan, who contacts a crisis hotline because her husband of three weeks has been missing for two. Bea (Marjorie Carroll), the crisis hotline operator who takes Amanda's call, is a fussy matron who doesn't tolerate rude callers and who couldn't be any more Jewish is she were a hot, steaming bowl of gefilte fish.

Amanda and Bea cover a myriad of topics, mostly from Amanda's personal experiences, without ever resolving anything vis-a-vis Amanda's missing

husband and courses of action Amanda might take. Finally in frustration, Amanda hangs-up on her hotline shoulder. But the lack of resolution is no longer relevant, because Amanda's husband, Ford (Gregory C. Watt), a striking, taciturn fellow, has returned.

In the second scene, Serge (Joe Kirkendall), a self-admiring, but glaringly dull-witted, mullethead, receives a surprise visitor, an unwelcome visitor. This is Otto (Jeffrey Bean), a comically obese, lovelorn soul, who carries (even nurtures) delusions of a former relationship with Serge and the possibility of its rekindling. Serge is hopelessly frustrated (there's a lot of that in this play) by Otto's amorous persistence and disgusted (who wouldn't be?) by his non-stop, garbage disposal style of eating. In one more attempt to permanently dissuade Otto from his ceaseless hectoring, Serge tells this rotund would-be Romeo that he is in love with someone else, someone he met two weeks ago (remember that time frame?).

When the third and final scene arrives, the stage has been set for the madcap confrontation that marks the work's denouement. Let there be no mistake, as a playwright goes, Silver must refine the depths of his stories so that there is a more substantive plot. While "The Food Chain" is exceptionally constructed, it seriously lacks a viable plot that can propel the motivation of the characters. But as a comic with a quick wit and all his senses primed for a joke wherever he can find it,

Silver is as good as it gets. This is reflected in the real strength of Silver's work—his dialogue, which is at the very least always good for a smirk, and at its very best is howlingly, knee-slapping funny.

Jeffery Bean is the shining star of this production. He couldn't have done a better job as Otto, and I doubt anyone else could have either. With revolting eating habits, a biting repartee, a determined quest and, most importantly, a sincere affection for Serge coupled with a petulant animosity for all people thin, Bean rolls through the part without missing a beat (or a doughnut); Bean is terrific.

Only slightly less ideal in her performance was Marjorie Carroll. She captures all the hilarious stereotypes attributed to aging, New York Jewish women and she does so with such a seamless characterization, that she gives a new and shamelessly funny spark to an old ember of a gag. Oy vey, she's a hoot.

Melissa Bowen did well as the sex-hungry poet with the creative repository of titles for her poetry (if you see the play you'll understand the remark). She easily mastered the screaming indignity of her character's situation, finding that rip-your-face-in-two-if-you-so-much-as-blink disposition and displaying it in near-flawless fashion.

Gregory C. Watt didn't have to do much in the show. Ford, his character, says hardly a word, mostly standing there as others fawn and fight over him. But he sure did look nice just standing there (and

would have looked better were it not for all that hair).

Joe Kirkendall is certainly physically appropriate for the role of Serge, but his performance stands as one of the evening's bigger jokes, coming as it does without the slightest bit of honesty. And this is all the stranger, because Kirkendall is a genuinely handsome man, who, one would think, might have shared some similar experience with his on-stage alter ego. Alas, if he has he could not recall enough to relay the emotions on stage. Such a pretty package, and there's nothing inside (at least not in the way of acting).

Gregory Boyd's directing is as adept in this production as I've ever seen it. His staging matches the play's overall minimalist contour, yet he is able to play for the gag at virtually every opportunity. If there is any shortcoming with his production, it comes with his cast. He seems to have allowed Watt and Kirkendall to ride through the production on the backs of their respective good looks.

"The Food Chain" is a very funny show. The pace is fast, the mood is jolly, and the play is a laugh out loud treat. I smiled the whole next day just thinking about it.

What: "The Food Chain"

Where: The Alley Theatre, Neuhaus Arena Stage

When: Tuesday-Sunday, through June 23.

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# Beyond Desire at DiverseWorks

## *Pretty, Witty and Wild! A Reading By Brian Freeman and Ana Sisnett*

Friday, June 7, 8:00 p.m.—DiverseWorks presents Brian Freeman, writer/director/performance artist, born in black Boston and based in gay San Francisco, Freeman pens personal narrative pieces that cover everything in between. He describes them as "Bell Hooks meets Mary J. Blige." In 1991 he formed the performance group Pomo Afro Homos, which toured the US, Canada and Europe for four years, creating scandals in North Carolina, battling censorship in Alaska, and selling out theaters from New York to Glasgow to Houston. Now solo, Brian is preparing a performance piece to be presented this June in San Francisco, where he leads an ongoing writing and performance workshop for lesbian, gay, bisexual and questioning youth called

DramaDivas. He recently appeared in the first black lesbian feature film, Watermelon Woman, which won a top award at the Berlin Film Festival. Brian will read from new work and past Pomo favorites.

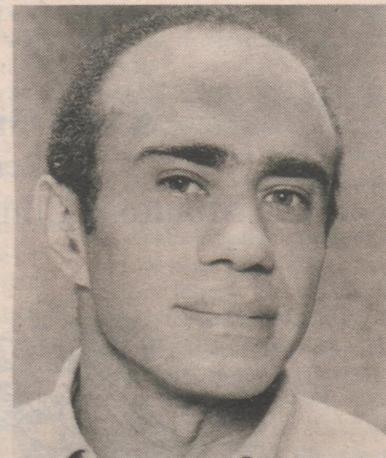
Panamanian-born poet, Ana Sisnett, now living in Austin, draws on African, Latin American and Caribbean oral traditions. Sisnett's "deep, brown cello" of a voice and mesmerizing presentation take her audience on a deep, woman-centered journey as she charts the emotional landscapes of love, sexuality, family and community, spirituality, race, class, and immigrant experience. But she is not all poet—she is also Technomama, head of a Foundation for a Compassionate Society program that trains women to use the Internet and links activists world wide. Sisnett, whose popular poem "Mango Tree Love Song" is available in The Arc of Love: An Anthology of Lesbian Love Poems, will read from her just released

cassette tape, Glimpses, and unpublished work.

## **OUTbursts!**

Saturday, June 8, 8:00 p.m.—Artist advisory board member and Alley Theatre dramaturg Travis Mader has brought together gay and lesbian young adults for this special Pride edition of 12 Minutes MAX!. Witness the emergence of the next generation of queer artists. OUTlandish performances include "Calling," Sixto Wagan's memorial for a friend who dies of AIDS; "Forced Flesh," Ray Ogar and Andrea Nitsch's multi-media dirge of obsession and loss; "Loss of Love," performance with pop sound environment by Tom Jackson; a special guest excerpt of School's OUT, and more! Each performer has only 12 minutes in which to entertain and enlighten you, so set your watch and be prepared to be Outraged.!

DiverseWorks is located at 1117 E.



Brian Freeman is *Pretty, Witty, and Wild!* at Diverseworks June 7.

Freeway (off N.Main at Naylor St.). Gallery hours are Wed.—Sat. 12 Noon—6 p.m., or by appt. 223-8346. Admission to the gallery is free. Call 223-8346 for appointments or ticket information.

# FDA warns seven states of defective condoms

WASHINGTON, Thursday, May 30 (AP)—The federal government says people in seven states, including Michigan, should not use certain brands of condoms imported from Malaysia because they might not

adequately protect against disease and pregnancy.

The brands, all made by Dongkuk Techno Rubber Industries, are Pamitex, Magic, Black Jack, Maxi and Ginza.

The condoms were shipped to California, Florida, Michigan, New York, Rhode Island, Tennessee and Texas.

An importer distributed the condoms in those states before Food and Drug

Administration import inspectors finished testing them. "An unacceptable percentage" of the condoms leaked during water testing, indicating they also could fail to block sperm or disease.

"Although most of the condoms sold under these five brands would probably not leak, FDA believes that it is prudent for consumers not to purchase or use these brands," the agency said Wednesday in a statement.

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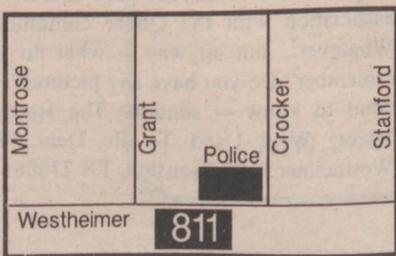


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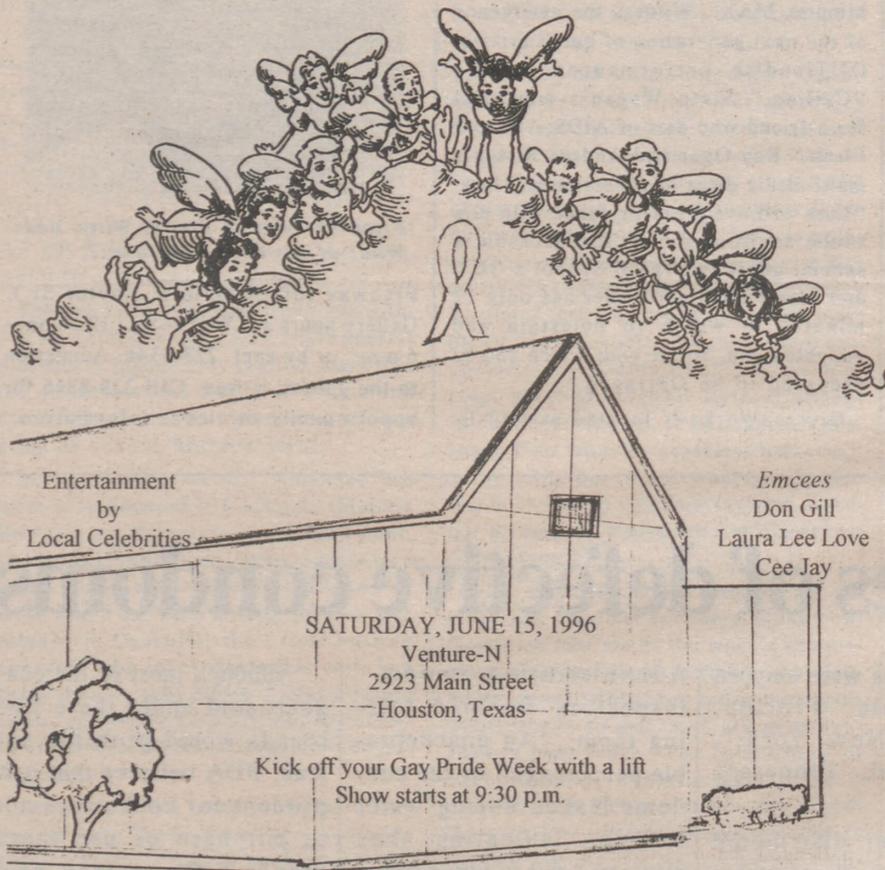
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# Angels Over Montrose Clinic

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# HOUSTON VOICE MAIL

Letters to the Editor

## To Fest Or Not To Fest

FROM DAVID JEZEK

It is my opinion, and I am certain that I am not alone in this, that the Westheimer Street Festival is one of the things that gives Montrose its unique character. It has been going on in one mutation or another since I moved here and it had been going on for some time before.

The attitude of the various civic associations is therefore puzzling to me. Is it somehow to the neighborhoods detriment to be known for this event instead of the former notoriety the area once suffered due to its crime and prostitution problem? I remember when people were afraid to come here for those reasons. I think the more likely explanation is that the popularity of the festival brings in too many outsiders.

As evidence of this, I would like to point out Annise Parker's conflicting arguments that the festival draws too many people while simultaneously cutting businesses off from their "normal" clientele. Which is it? Too many or not enough people? The answer is probably that it's just the wrong people.

Surely these homeowners aren't too lazy to pick up some stray beer cans off their lawns a couple of times a year and there is no way that anyone could have a problem with the way Westheimer itself looked after the festival. I've never seen it so clean. I've also never seen any evidence of permanent damage done by someone taking a leak in a flower bed. So if you're sick of hosing it down, don't. The stuff's biodegradable and will take care of itself if you are unwilling to do so.

I also have to say that anyone moronic enough to allow themselves to be trapped in their home when a tow truck is just a phone call away deserves what they get. Shutting down a street festival is not the answer to this kind of stupidity. (I'm not sure there is an answer for this kind of stupidity.)

If these busybodies were unaware of what neighborhood they were moving into when they chose to do so, or if they were unaware of the existence of this or the other festivals that occur here, I'm sorry for them but that's a personal problem. They certainly don't represent those of us who actually enjoy the things that a somewhat Bohemian inner city neighborhood has to offer. If those of us who are

renters were represented in these groups I am sure this would be different, but we are not because these groups are mainly about property values and keeping things sanitized for the protection of the future idiots who purchase those cardboard faux-Georgian monstrosities that are coming up all over the place.

I have no problem with folks who want to live in nice quiet suburban master-planned communities. I just think they should consider moving to one.

## No Time For Complacency

FROM ROBERT E. LEE

Hallelujah! In a country which is supposed to have a legal, historical tradition of fundamental human rights, it is regrettable that we in the gay community find ourselves "celebrating" the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in the Colorado gay rights case. Perhaps the guarantees of freedom and equal rights found in the U.S. Constitution and the Declaration of Independence can now be recognized and applied as they relate to gay citizens. This Supreme Court case is only the beginning, though. It did not directly address gay marriage, employment non-discrimination, meaningful enforcement of hate crimes laws, domestic partner benefits, housing, and a myriad of other specific legal concerns to lesbians and gays. Indeed, we read and hear that "our" President Clinton may well sign legislation allowing states to not legally recognize gay marriages performed in other states. Roll up your sleeves, boys and girls. This Supreme Court ruling simply lays the foundation for the work that remains ahead of us. We have to seize the opportunity the Court decision provides us to work and fight for our equal rights. Volunteer in the campaigns of political candidates who recognize and appreciate our equality and contributions to society. Then get out and vote in November for those supportive candidates.

These suggestions only scratch the surface of the things we as gays and lesbians can do to claim our rightful place in society. But do something! If we don't work to help ourselves, no one else will.

The stakes are too high for complacency.

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## The changing Montrose

(Continued from page 1)

relocation of LOBO Book Shop from its original location of nearly ten years to fancy new digs on Montrose Blvd. Closing at 10:00pm on Friday May 31 at it's off Westheimer, side street shop and opening the next day in the Montrose Commons Shopping Center, 3939S Montrose Blvd. (Gen. Joe's Chopstix and Marble Slab Creamery are neighbors). Besides a totally new appearance, LOBO now offers a separate shopping area for the adult videos section, including a rear entrance. The selection in all areas, from books to cards, have been expanded and browsing is easier than ever.

LOBO, Texas' oldest gay and lesbian bookstore, recently lost its president, Bill White. White's longtime partner and companion, Larry Lingle, has assumed that post. Lingle is a contributor to The Houston Voice with his weekly "Plain Speaking" Column. Other management changes have been initiated, including Kimberly Brinster

as vice president for administration and Albie Frizzle as vice president for merchandising. Brinster formerly lived in New York and attended high school with White. Frizzle has managed LOBO stores in Oklahoma City and Austin. It was also announced that Michael Denny has been promoted to manager of the store in Austin and Christine Johnson is the assistant manager.

Not only has the Montrose area changed physically, it is more and more being referred to as "The Museum District". Some believe the Visitor's/Convention and City folks have promoted this is an effort to drop the term "Montrose" due to it's close association with the Queer community. Whatever... but anyway -- what do you remember? Do you have any pictures? We want to know -- send to The Houston Voice, What Used To Be Dept., 811 Westheimer #105, Houston, TX 77006.

## MediAlert! by Al Kielwasser

### Ad Nausea

Aetna Insurance ran an ad in "The New York Times" (May 2), announcing recipients of the company's "Voice of Conscience Award." The advertisement explained that: "The Aetna Voice of Conscience Award was created in memory of Arthur Ashe, tennis great and citizen of the world. Arthur served on Aetna's Board of Directors from 1982 until 1993, when he succumbed to AIDS, the result of a blood transfusion."

Unfortunately, Aetna echoes a deeply-stigmatizing bias. As one critic of the ad points out: "The last part of that advertisement again reminds us, in case we need reminding, that there's still a difference being made between those who die of AIDS as a result of their sexual orientation and the 'innocent victims' of this disease. If Arthur Ashe had died of pneumonia, would Aetna have added that it was the result of standing out in a rainstorm? Maybe it's my paranoia, but I get so sick of this."

The criticism is more perceptive than paranoid. When individual AIDS cases "result" from blood transfusion, the mainstream media usually highlight cause—ad nauseam. This impulse contrasts the stark, continuing absence of certain other explanations. No corporate advertising memorializes gay citizens of the world who "suc-

cumbed to AIDS, the result of bigotry." Victims of homophobia do not qualify as media heroes.

The "innocent victims"—of accidental needle pricks, unclean dentists, and tainted transfusions—are real AIDS heroes, according to the mainstream media. Sexually-active "victims of promiscuity" are sometimes canonized, but only if they are fully repentant (i.e., inactive) AND heterosexual (currently at least). Entertainment, news and advertising media have all participated in dividing AIDS between "guilty" groups (e.g., young bisexual prostitutes) and their "innocent" counterparts (e.g., hemophiliacs like Ryan White). As in Aetna's ad, this division is simultaneously constructed and concealed. Arthur Ashe DID contract his illness through a blood transfusion, after all. The ad is ONLY stating a fact. Yet this is PRECISELY the problem. The mainstream media's constant and cumulative telling of ONLY CERTAIN FACTS is, in effect, telling a terrible lie.

Within the dominant media discourse, a specious causality is constructed from correlations that exist between AIDS and homosexuality. The subliminal reasoning argues that gays—because they are not innocent victims—must be perpetrators. The attitude is that Homosexuality IS disease. The oblique, repetitive telling of

this lie has apparently been effective. Disparate acts of hate violence and victimization escalate towards a common cause—homosexuality's "cure."

\*\*\*\* ACTION/OPTIONS! Comments and concerns should be sent to: Ronald E. Compton, Chair, Aetna Life & Casualty, 151 Farmington Ave., Hartford, CT 06156, 203-273-0123, fax 203-273-6348; correspondence can be copied as Letters to the Editor, "The New York Times," 229 W. 43rd St., New York, NY 10036, 212-556-1234, e-mail letters@nytimes.com. Lorren Elkins is Managing Director of Advertising at the "NY Times."

### Extra Points

"Extra" (May 1)—the popular entertainment news-magazine—broadcast yet another story on "those rumors" about Tom Cruise's sexual orientation. Once again, Cruise has denied the rumors and asserted his heterosexuality. This time, however, "Extra" seemed to focus more-selectively on the actor's fury. San Francisco-based media activist Tim Perkins reports: "'Extra' emphasized Cruise's anger over 'the accusations' and rumors, and even quoted an interview in 'Premiere Magazine' where Cruise curses the 'expletives deleted' who spread such garbage." According to Perkins, this problematic focus not only went unchallenged, but was actually exacerbated by the

on-camera appearance of Tamra King, a representative of Gays and Lesbians Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD), whose one line was "the public doesn't necessarily have the right to know what an actor does in the bedroom." King, "did nothing to explain why Cruise shouldn't be insulted by the idea that some people think he's gay," said Perkins.

King's suggestion that sexual orientation is a subject best kept "in the bedroom" is utterly homophobic. Asking or speculating about an actor's sexual orientation (a fact of life) is NOT the same as asking who, where, or what happened in his bed last night (a private life). The "right to know" is not really at issue here, but the RIGHT TO ASK. "Don't Ask," says GLAAD. "Don't Tell," says the Christian Coalition. What's the difference?

Of course Michelangelo Signorile and numerous others have already argued this case, years ago. "Homosexuality is not a PRIVATE issue (it's simply a fact of life)," Signorile explains. "Yes, gay public figures CAN have private lives and still be OPENLY gay (just as straight public figures can retain private lives and still be openly straight)." Even more to the point, Jeremiah McCarthy has suggested that "privacy" positions—like the one expounded by King—are not simply muddle-headed. They are, in

effect, claims for another right—"a right to oppress oneself and others."

"To the extent that one wants to protect sexual orientation as a non-disclosable trait of a person, as private, one has to argue as well, however, that honoring the closet promotes autonomy," says McCarthy. "There is no reason based on dignity to respect the celebrity closet. The only way to get rid of that is to encourage honest reporting, a policy which is morally unobjectionable, or at least less objectionable than the present arrangement, which is its only real alternative."

According to its mission statement, GLAAD is a national organization that "promotes fair, accurate and inclusive representation of individuals and events in the media as a means of combating homophobia and all forms of discrimination based on sexual orientation or identity."

\*\*\*\* ACTION/OPTIONS! Feedback can be sent to: Tamra King, Entertainment Media Director, GLAAD/National, 8455 Beverly Blvd. #305, Los Angeles, CA 90048, 213-658-6775, fax 213-658-6776, e-mail tamrak@glaad.org, URL http://www.glaad.org; David Friend, Executive Producer, "Extra," 1840 Victory Blvd., Glendale, CA 91201, e-mail extrapr@aol.com.

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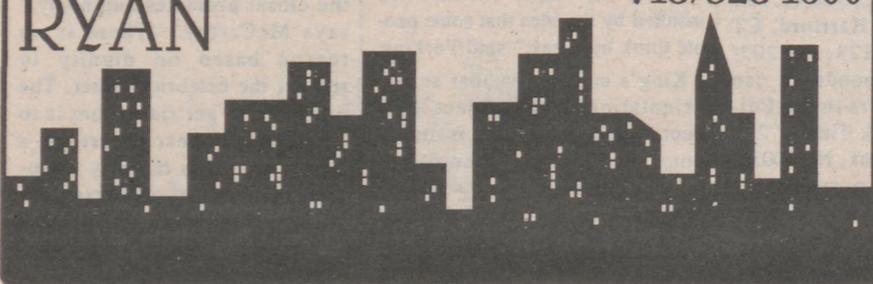
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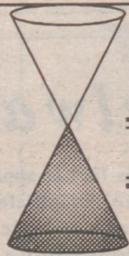
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# PLAIN SPEAKING

by Larry Lingle

It must have been a slow news day at The Houston Chronicle Monday when the front page left lead (in journalistic terms second only to the right lead—unless you are Chinese) was devoted to a commentary on the gay and lesbian reaction to President Clinton's support for the proposed (Bob Dull being one of the co-sponsors) Defense of Marriage Act. This bill is concerned only with protecting that great institution—marriage, not Congress, which is beyond redemption from same-sex couples.

Now I would think, given the current state of marriages in this country, that the minds of our leaders would better be spent on reducing the divorce rate, infant mortality, absent fathers, and assorted other ills confronting the fine institution of marriage. Certainly a number of these congressional leaders have more than a passing acquaintance with such toils and troubles—many of whom are on their second or third wives, or, like the distinguished junior senator from Texas acquainted with the tragedy of suicide when she married a recently divorced father.

In this age of instant news such a commentary should have been trodded out as a sidebar (more journalistic jargon) when the original same-sex story broke, so to speak. After all, the writer, Nancy Mathis, only revisited much the same information and quotes given at the time or during testimony in Congress. Only her brief exchange with local activists provided anything new.

Buried in that same issue of The Chronicle was the seed of a chapter in gay history as well as Houston's past and the nation's literary heritage. Among the obituaries that day was a lengthy tribute to the passing of Joseph Milton Glasco of Galveston. Now, granted, nowhere in that obituary would the causal reader discern a hint of such significance. Only a trivia collector such as myself was drawn to this exposition of an artist and sculptor.

Back before time began for most Houstonians the decade after the Second World War—this city fostered a thriving intellectual gay and lesbian community, centered around the theater and nourished by a handful of wealthy patrons, usually lesbians. Out of this milieu came a newly discharged naval officer, William Goyen, along with his companion, Walter Berns, who just happened to have been Goyen's commanding officer on the USS Casablanca (already reeks of romance).

Goyen had attended Rice before the war and had already begun to write and had established some important contacts—such as Margo Jones who developed the concept of theater in the round. Goyen and Berns soon found themselves in Taos, New Mexico. There they were befriended by Frieda Lawrence, the widow of D.H. Lawrence, who gave them a small parcel of land on which they proceeded to build a cabin. In light of the fact that years later Goyen, who would marry the actress Doris

Roberts, went to great lengths to obscure his gay past (although evidently not so past), their life there received only scattered notice. Tennessee Williams mentioned meeting them when he and a friend (one of those rare occasions when Williams actually traveled with a straight friend) visited Frieda Lawrence.

The single most important visitor, as concerned Goyen, was the arrival of Stephen Spender, the English poet and radical. Spender, though married, made little secret of his affairs with other men. He even wrote about them in his first autobiography in 1952. It was a literary piece which later led Spender to sue the American writer, David Leavitt, for appropriating facts of Spender's life for fictional purposes.

Spender and Goyen had a fling, which resulted in Goyen visiting Spender at his home in London. There he met a number of famous writers through W.H. Auden and Spender which led to the publication of his first book by Random House. Goyen seemed to have a knack for well-placed liaisons, including women—he carried on a brief affair, mostly from afar, with a much older Katherine Anne Porter. Porter, who was not hesitant to express her homophobia, expounded to all who would listen her profound disappointment in the wavering Goyen.

Again, thanks to Goyen's revisionism, the facts are unclear. But, by the early 1950's Goyen had left Berns to his graduate studies at the University of Oregon and was joined on his travels and in his cabin in Taos by Joe Glasco, of the obituary. This friendship quickly overshadowed the earlier relationship with Berns, so much so that several of the biographies of Lawrence always refer to the "boys" living next to Frieda Lawrence as always being Goyen and Glasco.

The "boys" were with Lawrence when she died on August 11, 1956. I have in my library her autobiography inscribed that day by her widower (her second husband) to Joe Glasco, along with the telegram Goyen sent to his parents telling of Frieda's passing.

Just last year the University of Texas published a collection of Goyen's letters edited by Professor Robert Phillips—with an afterword by Sir Stephen Spender. Phillips notes that Berns claimed not to have any Goyen letters, as did Glasco. His letters to Frieda Lawrence were lost, and Spender destroyed his Goyen correspondence. I sometimes think that writers are also the last letter writers. Certainly Goyen was a prolific letter writer—yet many of those with whom he corresponded—Porter, Truman Capote, Tennessee Williams—kept few, if any, of his letters.

With the passing of Joe Glasco yet another door to Goyen's gay past is closed. But since such knowledge seems academic to most, such loss will only be felt by the few that treasure the dynamics of gay sensitivity and a rich gay and lesbian literary heritage.

The *Houston Voice* welcomes well-written, insightful and to-the-point commentaries for our opinion/editorial pages. We also welcome "counterpoint" articles that represent a different view on the issues approached in articles we have already run. We reserve the right to edit for length, format and clarity. The views expressed in guest commentaries and letters to the editor published in the *Houston Voice* are those of the writers. We seek to provide a broad-based forum which reflects the varying points of view of our rich and diverse community. Selection for publication is at our discretion. Send articles to: The *Houston Voice*, Attn.: Editor, 811 Westheimer, Houston, TX 77006, or fax to 713-529-9531.

# THE OUTsider

by Curt Morrison

The recent decision by the gay civil rights group, Log Cabin Republicans of Texas, to sue the state GOP over their decision to deny the group a booth at the convention should lay to rest any doubts about the organization's ultimate purpose. This action clearly demonstrates their unwavering commitment in combating the bigotry that is prevalent in the party apparatus. What better way is there to confront bigotry than doing so on the home turf of our adversaries?

In Texas, religious right extremists account for 35% of the Republican electorate. Though not a majority, their dedication and commitment to participating in the political process has garnered them considerable clout. Similarly, polls show that 17% of the Democratic Party is comprised of left wing extremists. Again, their steadfast adherence to the political process enables them to wield strong influence, though not nearly as much as the religious right imposes upon the Republican party.

It is unfortunate that these small, yet powerful, factions within the two party system determine who becomes the respective nominee and the platform on which they will run. Regardless, it is a truism. The majority of people in this country are centrists, i.e. moderates. They do not sway to the far left or far right on that infamous pendulum of political ideology. They also do not get involved in the political process precisely because they are devoid of any blanket form of allegiance to party affiliation, hence, they are not nearly as passionate about their convictions as the fringe elements are. These are individuals who believe a common ground can be ascertained, however, they do not realize that until they actively participate in the political process, there is little chance that such form of compromise will indeed bear results.

Interestingly, it appears as though the general public does not appear to have any conflict with the fact that a small minority of each party has the power to select who they, the majority, will ultimately determine to be the victor in an election. This type of indifference is alarming and has serious ramifications. It is not conducive to the principle of democracy. As it stands, politicians are forced to cater to the fringe elements of their party in order to get the nomination. Once they've received the nomination, they must modify their rhetoric to appeal to mainstream America. As a result, the public monitors these shenanigans with a degree of pathos that transcends into a general disdain towards politicians and the entire political process.

The entire situation could be rectified if more individuals got involved in the political arena. Going to the polls once every two years and casting your ballot does not constitute heavy involvement. The lack of effort on behalf of most Americans is frightening. It's as though we take our liberty's for granted. Getting involved at the grass roots level is the catalyst for change. It requires commitment, dedication and active participation. It can be done, but rest assured, it is not easy to confront elements that are already in place within the apparatus. The current lawsuit between Log Cabin

Republicans and the Texas GOP is indicative of just how difficult the fight can be.

Many people in our community have commented that gay conservatives should have expected to be treated with indignation from the Republican Party and question why we would affiliate ourselves with a party that does not want us. In contrast, other organizations in the community such as the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus (HGLPC) have offered their support and should be commended for their generosity. Other's have suggested that it would be easier to change the Democratic Party's views on fiscal policy than it would to change the Republican Party's views on social policy. In both cases, our critics miss the point. Our country is a two party system. It is important that we as a community have representation in both major parties. It is equally important for our community to work towards achieving equality. We should have the same civil rights that are bestowed upon any other law abiding minority. To do so within one party and allow the bigotry to fester and perpetuate in the other party is preposterous. Furthermore, it's irrelevant whether or not the task is easy. Besides, why is it that it's always the people who are not directly involved that comment on how impossible or difficult it will be? If the people willing to fight the fight are not complaining about the obstacles, why are they so concerned?

Nothing worth fighting for is easy. Nor, is the fight for equality within the Republican Party impossible. The mere suggestion of such is ignorant. I would like to remind my readers that 35 years ago, the Democratic Party was not as socially liberal as it is today. The fact of the matter is that more Republicans voted for the Civil Rights Act in 1964 than Democrats did. And lest you forgot, Abraham Lincoln, a Republican, terminated the practice of slavery. Difficult as it may be to confront the religious right extremists, impossible it is not. Throughout history many people have had to fight for freedom and basic civil liberties. Giving up when the going gets tough has never been part of that heritage.

Finally, the dispute between the Log Cabin Republicans and the Texas GOP marks the first time in history that the religious right has had to deal with our community in a court of law. They will have to answer for their actions. In addition, they now know that we are a force to be reckoned with. We will not be silent. Whether we win the battle or lose the battle remains to be seen. Regardless of the outcome, the fight has just begun and we will not go away. Log Cabin is fortunate enough as a state organization to have a president who has demonstrated his remarkable resolve and impressive ability to stand up to principle and provide the leadership necessary to follow through with appropriate action when deemed necessary.

*Curt Morrison (a pseudonym) is a member of Log Cabin Houston and serves on the organization's state steering committee. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of Log Cabin or the Houston Voice.*

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# 'Out and Equal in the 90's' Conference draws 400

San Francisco, April 23, 1996 ... Despite a pernicious backlash to gay visibility and power by politicians and the Radical Right, including anti-marriage laws and attacks by Patrick Buchanan, Bob Dole and state legislators, some of the most dramatic change in terms of pro-gay policy is happening in corporate America. Indeed, when it comes to equal rights for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people, some would argue the boardroom is far outpacing the halls of government.

For example, more than 350 employers, many from corporate America—including such top companies as Disney, Eastman-Kodak, NYNEX and Xerox—currently have domestic partnership benefits or other recognition for their gay employees. And even though job discrimination based on sexual orientation is still pervasive, the list of supportive companies is expected to grow dramatically.

Which is why hundreds of representatives from the American workplace, including corporations, employee groups, human resource executives, labor organizers and others gathered in San Francisco for the 5th Annual "Out and Equal in the 90s" National Conference on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and

Transgender Workplace Issues, held April 19-21. The event was sponsored by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF).

Out and Equal in the 90's is the premier national educational forum for people dedicated to changing the work environment to be a safer, more productive place for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender employees," said Melinda Paras, NGLTF executive director. "Despite the fact that homophobic discrimination still exists, the face of the American workplace is changing. Our goal is to increase the visibility and strength of gay employees and help them battle discrimination in the workplace."

Several companies sponsored the conference and representatives from their gay employee groups attended. AT&T sponsored the event with a \$5,000 gift. Pacific Gas and Electric also contributed \$5,000. The Chevron Lesbian and Gay Employees Association, Pacific Bell, The Mentor Group and Federal GLOBE also signed up for sponsorships.

"AT&T, in partnership with LEAGUE, our lesbian/gay/bisexual employee resource group, is proud to support NGLTF's fifth annual conference on

workplace issues," said AT&T Community Involvement Manager Allen Scott and LEAGUE-Northern California Co-chair Michael Albert. "The conference's focus reflects AT&T's Common Bond values that include the importance of treating each other with respect and dignity, and valuing individual and cultural differences."

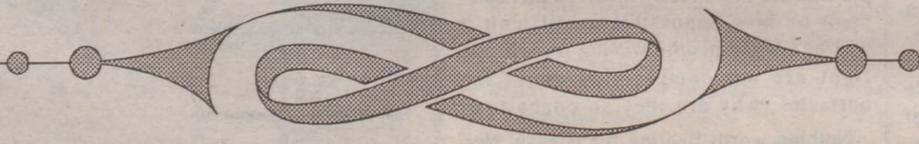
Keynoting the special pre-conference institute for human resources (HR) executives was Hector Motroni, Corporate Vice President of Human Resources and Quality, Xerox Corporation. Kate Butler, Founding Director of American Hummanagement Associates, a human resources consulting and training firm specializing in the integration of women and other "corporate cultural foreigners" into companies, provided the HR day lunch speech. Frank Kameny, long-time civil rights activist, delivered the conference keynote address.

The conference attracted about 400 people, who came from 20 states and attended some 40 workshops. Workshops included, "What's New In AIDS Education;" "Protecting Your Civil Rights;" "Case Study: Growing the Xerox Lesbian/Gay Employee Group;" "Dealing with Closeted People in Positions of Power;" "Gay Parents in

the Workplace;" "Diversity Training;" "Labor Dialogue: Fighting the Right;" "Activism and the Professional Career;" "Screening for Gay-friendly Workplaces;" and "Gays are Franchising!"

Some 175 groups and companies attended, including Lotus, Xerox, Disney, AT&T, Hewlett Packard, Prudential, General Mills, Kaiser-Permanente, USDA, Pacific Gas and Electric, American Express, Apple, the University of Louisville and the University of South Florida, SEIU, Pride At Work, Oracle, DHL, Intel, Outward Bound, the San Francisco Unified School District, Pacific Bell, United Airlines, Chevron, New York Public Library Guild, Novell, American Airlines, AFSCME, the United Way, and others.

A special NGLTF "Out and Equal in the 90's" Award was presented to Working Assets for its demonstrated commitment and progress on gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender employment issues. NGLTF also presented workplace awards to the Xerox and Chevron gay employee groups. Visit the "Out and Equal in the 90's" web page at <http://www.nglft.org/workplace.html>.





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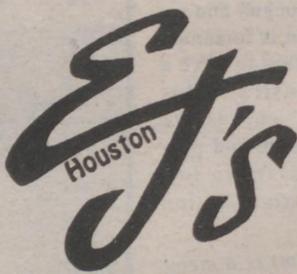
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# SPORTS NOTES

## Need Money?

The Montrose Softball League (MSL), a not-for-profit organization, is looking for benefactors for monies raised during the 1995-96 season. Last season, more than \$4,000 was distributed between four non-profit agencies serving the community after a successful season of fundraisers such as Casino Night and Jocks 'n Dresses (which takes place this Friday night at Heaven, beginning at 8:00 p.m. sharp).

If you are interested in your organization receiving monies from MSL, please call Lee Davis, Commissioner of MSL at 529-8490 by 3:00 p.m. Monday June 10. Instructions for applications will be given to those who call by the deadline.

A meeting will be held Tuesday June 11 at 7:00 p.m. where each organization will have the opportunity to present their operational strategies to the MSL Board of Directors. Monies will be distributed at the annual awards banquet planned for early July. If you have any questions, please call the number above, or call MSL's voice mail at 867-3913.

## Ice Skating

The 5th Annual Lesbian and Gay Pride Ice skating Celebration will be Thursday June 20 at the Galleria Ice Rink, 5015 Westheimer. The fun is from 8 until 10:00 p.m. and admission is \$5 plus \$2 for skate rental.

The ice rink will be open to the general public so gay and lesbian skaters are urged to wear red tank-tops, if possible, or your favorite lesbian/gay T-shirt.

For more information or to get on the free Montrose Ice Picks mailing list, call Angel at 522-3687. Persons interested in making the Ice Picks more active,

with regular monthly skates, are especially urged to telephone.

## Bowling Resumes

The Montrose Monday Night Men's League reports Division A standings in first, second, and third are Eight Balls, 1 Watches 4 Play and A Frickin Fairy Tale. Division B is headed by Mr. Dee Dee & Da Dahs, followed by The Meat to Beat and Four Mix Pieces. High scratch game of 245 was bowled by Mace Adams and series of 619 by Gardy Harvey. For more information call Gardy at 641-5424.

The Inner Loop Alternative Sunday Evening League reports Tough & Tight in 1st, Could, Should, Would and Did in 2nd place and Jerry's Kids in 3rd. For the men Chris Bennett bowled high scratch game of 245 and series of 659. For the women Diann Thomason bowled high scratch game of 214 and series of 563. For more information call Tom at 522-9612.

The Wednesday Night Mixers reports first place is held by Charlies' Tunas, second by 1 Gal & 3 Guys and third by Company Line. Daisy Mae Burken bowled high scratch game of 247 and series of 633 for the men. For the women Carol Clark bowled high scratch game of 203 and series of 547. For more information call Tom at 522-9612. Bowling is at AMF Southway at 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays.

The Monday Night Women's League reports first place team is Walking Wounded, second place is Half & Half, third place is Leave It To Beaver Again and fourth is M Power. For more information about the league call Pat at 437-6218.

## Softball Action

In the Competitive Division, the Ripcord continued their winning ways

with a double header win over Hyde Park Gallery and Briar Patch. In their first game Ripcord (11-1) defeated Hyde Park (2-10) by a score of 10-6. In the second game the Briar Patch (5-7) squandered an early 7-2 lead and lost to the Ripcord 9-8 in the final inning. In other action Briar Patch defeated Hyde Park 10-6.

In the Recreation Division, Rich's Prime (8-1) finally fell from the ranks of the unbeaten by suffering their first loss of the season in losing to J.R.'s 16-5. J.R.'s got out to a quick 6-0 lead and went on to dominate the Prime for an easy win. In an earlier game Rich's Prime defeated Club Inergy (1-8) 16-4.

Also in an earlier game J.R.'s defeated the Past Time Packers (6-3) in a close game, winning 5-4. The double header win by J.R.'s launched them into first place for the first time this season. In other action Club Inergy lost to the Packers 11-1; in a forfeit Nowlin Mortgage's Loan Rangers (3-6) defeated Rich's Boys Club 7-0; Gentry (4-4) split a double header by defeating the Loan Rangers 3-2 and then losing to Chances 15-5; Chances also defeated Positively Venture N (1-7) to better their record to 6-3; Pacific Street (6-3) defeated Venture N in a high scoring game, winning 23-4; Pacific Street also gained a 7-0 forfeit win over Rich's Boys Club.

The next league play resumes Sunday June 9 beginning at 10:00 a.m. at Memorial Park fields #4 and #5. Food and refreshments are available. Final games and playoffs for the Montrose Softball League take place Saturday and Sunday, June 15 and 16 also at Memorial Park.

## Lambda Rollers

The Lambda Rollerskating Club holds its next skate Night Wednesday June 12

from 8 until 10:00 p.m. at the Starlight Roller Rink, 8075 Cook Road. Admission is \$5 and if skate rental is necessary, add \$1. The theme for this skate night will be Leather & Lace, street legal of course. Everyone is welcome to skate, and a variety of events will be scheduled along with door prizes.

If your club or organization would like to hold a skate event, please contact us at the number listed. For more information about Lambda and its skating events, contact gayskatel@aol.com or call 933-5818 or at the new WEB page site: <http://members.aol.com/gayskatel/lambda.htm>.

## Billiard League Standings

The Houston Metropolitan Billiards League, Inc., (HMBL), with play taking place Tuesday evenings, finds the team Coalition still in first place with a won match average of .941 (losing only one of 17 matches played).

J.R.'s Cue Crew's won match average of .778 places them second while the Jackson 5 and Briar Patch teams are tied for third with an average of .722. Individually, Billy Lea, Carlos Romero and Keith Fussell (in that order) are leading the play with the best won game averages.

A special congratulations go to both Bob Cypert and Carlos Romero for achieving a Break & Run during last week's play.

The next monthly meeting is scheduled for June 16 at 2:00 p.m. at the Mining Company at which time nominations for all elected officers will be accepted. A possible 4th of July tournament is being planned, please contact the league secretary at 299-8969 with the number of players interested in participating before June 25.

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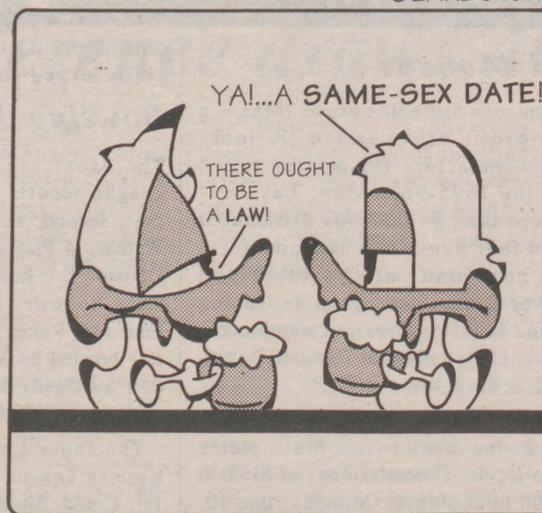
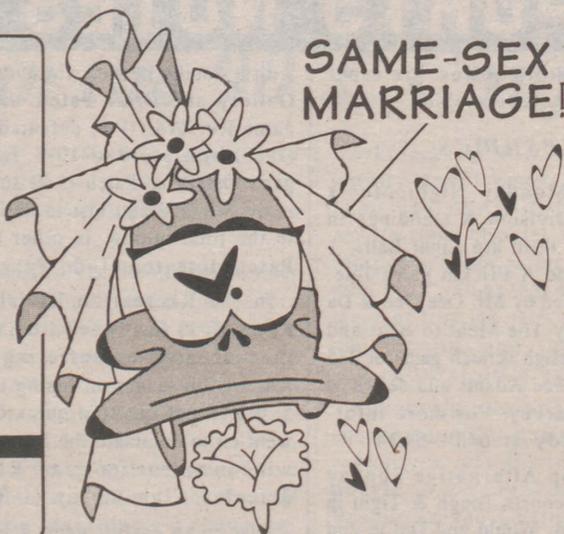
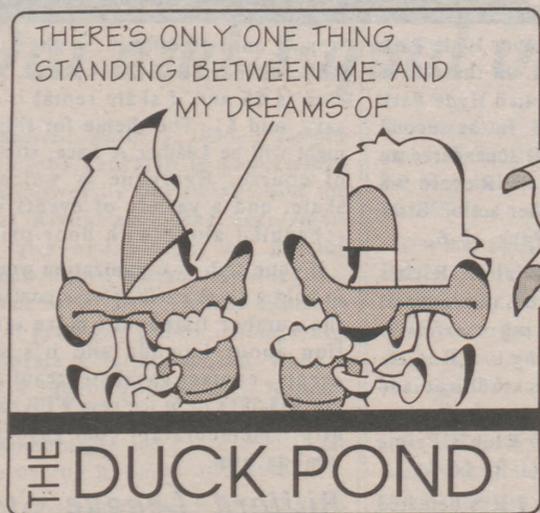
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## ASK THE PASTOR



Rev. Janet Parker

**Q:** "I am a big fan of Shirley McClain's book, "Out On A Limb". Tell me, is reincarnation consistent with the teachings of the Bible?"

**A:** Let me first define reincarnation as it is viewed by those who adhere to this experience. The idea behind reincarnation is that a person's soul lives a succession of lives which will eventually terminate when that person has, by their deeds, rid themselves of all sin. This experience where reincarnation is no longer necessary is known as nirvana in Eastern thought, or becoming one with the divine universe. The person born, lives and dies and comes back with a new body (hence, reincarnation). This cycle usually continues until that person reaches eternal bliss.

Many people turn to the Bible in an attempt to support the idea of reincarnation, but a study of the Scripture will reveal that the Bible is diametrically opposed to reincarnation. Rather than teach that we can have many deaths and rebirths, the Bible makes it clear that there is only one death per person. In the book of Hebrews (New Testament) 9:27,28 we read, "Just as humanity is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him."

Let me show you some of the differences between Christianity and reincarnation. Christianity believes in judgment that is eternal, following humanity's death. Reincarnation states we have many lives, even thousands, to perfect ourselves. Christianity believes that God judges us. Reincarnation believes that we judge ourselves. Christianity believes in the atonement of Jesus Christ for our sins. Reincarnation states that we need no savior, therefore denies the necessity of salvation; there is no need for it. Christianity believes in the existence of hell as a place, eternal (Matthew 10:28). Reincarnation states that everyone will be "saved" (absorbed into the divine) in the end. Christianity believes in the deity of Christ (John 1:1,14). Reincarnation has vague and contradictory views on "God." It states that there is no need for Jesus to be God - He was just more advanced ("He's been through more incarnations") than most. Christianity believes in the existence of Satan, and fallen angels - demons. Reincarnation states that all evil is a result of humanity's choosing. Reincarnation also states that Satan is devised by human institution and evil spirits are held to be regressed human spirits between incarnations, not demons. Christianity believes in the Bible as God's Word to humanity. Reincarnation opposes biblical concepts. Christianity believes in a personal God, revealed as the Trinity of God our Creator, Jesus Christ the Son and the Holy Spirit. Reincarnation denies a personal triune God. Ultimate reality is often impersonal karmic law. Christianity believes in Heaven as a distinct, eternal place. Reincarnation states various progressive spirit-realms. Christianity believes in a personal resurrection and immortality. Reincarnation states that the individual person is forever gone until the next reincarnation.

I would encourage you to pursue what you believe. It is important for a person to know what they believe and what they base it on. Reincarnation is another attempt to keep people from knowing what they believe. You can float around in life and be tossed about by every wind of doctrine if you don't take the time, effort and energy to pursue a spiritual life. Do you know what you believe and why you believe it?

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ASK THE PASTOR A QUESTION, WRITE: REV. JANET PARKER, MARANATHA FELLOWSHIP MCC, P.O. BOX 667032, HOUSTON, TX. 77266-7932**

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## Community Calendar

(Continued From Page 2)

### Wednesday, June 12

- \* Houston Tennis Club meets at 10:30 p.m. Call 537-1348.
- \* Shiela Lennon performs at Chances. 9:00 p.m. Call 523-7217.
- \* Houston Pride Band practices at Dignity Houston. Call 524-0218.
- \* GLOBAL meets at 4:00 p.m. Call 743-7539.
- \* Women's Action Coalition meets at Toopies. 7:00 p.m. Call 867-9581.
- \* Men's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Houston Tennis Club meets at 7:15 p.m. Call 537-1348.
- \* Lambda Rollerskating Club skates at 8:00 p.m. Call 933-5818.
- \* Women's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Ongoing Mixed Living in Process Group for men and women. Call 622-7250 for more info.
- \* Living with Chronic Pain at Montrose Counseling Center. 9:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Women's Issues Process Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Women's Action Coalition (WAC) meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 867-9581.
- \* Lesbian/Bisexual Survivors at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Bi-Net of Houston meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 467-4380.
- \* Accelerated Spanish for Beginners at Leisure Learning Unlimited. Call 877-1981 X 4015.
- \* Developing Business Skills workshop. 7:15 a.m. Call 932-7495 X 48.
- \* Outsiders on the Inside opens at the Texas Mime Theater. Call 520-6463.
- \* FUNDamentals of Faux Finishing at Leisure Learning Unlimited. Call 877-1981 X 111E.
- \* Basic Self-Hypnosis at Leisure Learning Unlimited. Call 877-1981 X 5820.
- \* Great Authors—Their Life and Their Works at Leisure Learning Unlimited. Call 877-1981 X 6212.
- \* The Do's and Don'ts of Buying Jewelry at Borders Book Shop at 8:00 p.m. Call 782-6066.

### Thursday, June 13

- \* Montrose Ice Picks skate at the Galleria. 8:00 p.m. Call 629-1432.
- \* Broadway Showtunes at J.R.'s. 9:00 p.m. Call 521-2519.
- \* Art Classes at The Art League. 1:00 p.m. Call 523-8817.
- \* Front Runners meet at Memorial Park. 6:30 p.m. Call 522-8021.
- \* Gay Men's Chorus of Houston open rehearsal at 7:00 p.m. Call 521-7464.
- \* Twentysomething meets at 7:30 p.m. Call 531-9396.
- \* KPFT Lesbian and Gay Voices airs at 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Call 866-6505.
- \* Burger and Chili night at the Brazos River Bottom. 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- \* Steak Night at the 611 Pub. 6:30 p.m.
- \* Dance lessons at the Brazos River Bottom. 9:30 p.m. Free. Call 880-0670.
- \* Ongoing gay men's Living in Process Group. Call 622-7250.
- \* Open Mike Night at Cafe Artiste. 1601 W. Main. 8:00 p.m. Call 528-3704.
- \* HIV+ Men Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 1:15 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Relapse Prevention at Montrose Counseling Center. 2:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Meditation and Chanting Group meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 942-0923.
- \* HIV Affected at CASA. 7:00 p.m. Call 796-2272.
- \* Men's Therapy Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* HIV survivor Support Group meets at 2929 Unity Drive. 7:00 p.m. Call 782-4050.
- \* Center for the Healing of Racism. 7:30 p.m. Call 738-RACE.
- \* Prosperity Workshop at Borders Book Shop at 8:00 p.m. Call 782-6066.

## Right to Suicide Upheld by Appeals Court

San Francisco—May 30—(staff/wires reports)—A federal appeals court Wednesday let stand its landmark ruling that the terminally ill have a right to a doctor's help to commit suicide.

In a controversial March ruling, the 9th US Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco struck down a Washington State law banning physician-assisted suicide, ruling that mentally competent, terminally ill adults have a constitutional right to seek a doctor's help in ending their lives.

The decision to strike down the law was made by an 11-judge panel of the court by an 8-3 majority.

The ruling stoked a fierce national debate over assisted suicide, with some

Americans applauding it and others saying it could lead to involuntary euthanasia.

Soon afterward the 9th Circuit Court took the unusual step of asking both sides in the assisted suicide case to submit briefs on whether the full appeals court—all 25 judges—should review the case.

Washington State officials, who are defending the law and who had already given notice that they plan to appeal to the US Supreme Court, said they did not ask the Appeals Court to reconsider the case and one or more of the Appeals Court's own judges may have asked for reconsideration.

But the Appeals Court announced in a brief ruling Wednesday that the pro-

posal to reconsider the case did not win the support of a majority of the judges, effectively letting stand its earlier ruling.

Bill Williams, senior assistant attorney-general for Washington state, said the Appeals Court's decision was "not unexpected."

The state plans to appeal to the US Supreme Court and must file its petition for review by July 4, he said.

Laurie Ness, founding member of Compassion in Dying, a Seattle-based right-to-die group that challenged the Washington law, said the group was elated at the appeals court's decision. The group joined with three terminally ill patients who have since died in filing the case.

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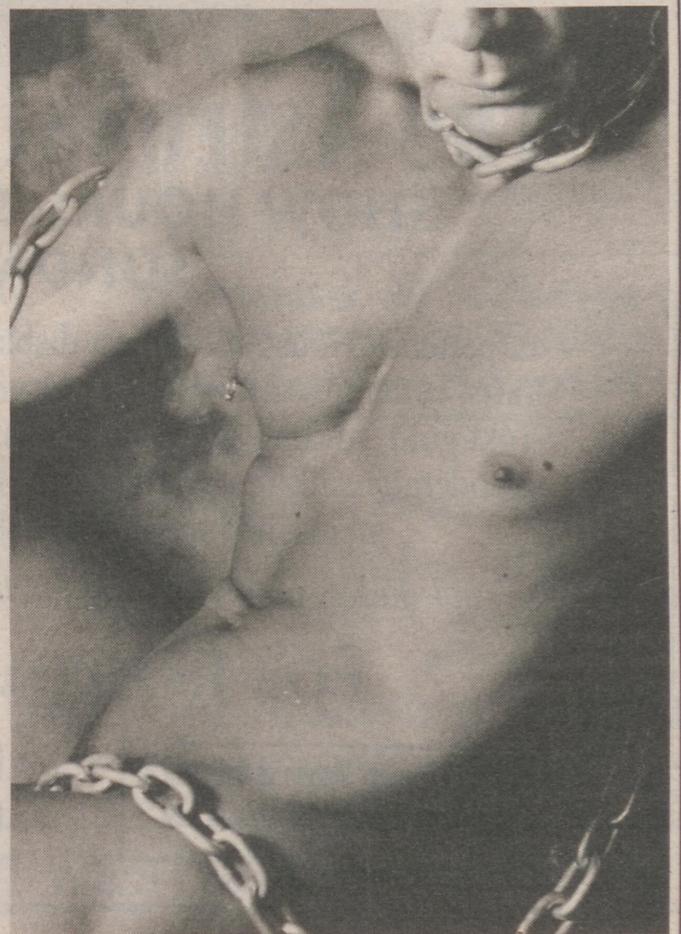


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# Task Force Reports

## Same Gender Marriage Ban Bill Passes House Committee

Washington, D.C., May 30, 1996 ... The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) encourages all fair-minded Americans to contact Congress and the President right away and urge them to oppose the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA). In response to today's vote by the House Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution in favor of the bill, the Task Force announced the launching of a Western Union hotline that will allow people across the country to send telegrams to their elected officials in Congress and the President urging them to stop DOMA.

NGLTF charged Senator Dole, Rep. Gingrich and Right-wing factions within the Republican Party with stirring up and feeding anti-gay sentiment for political gain and vowed to pull out all the stops to undermine their efforts. "DOMA manipulates and exploits people's fears and ignorance about gay people and gay families—pure and simple," stated NGLTF Executive Director Melinda Paras. "The legacy of the Republican-led 104th Congress is sure to be one of divisiveness and intolerance. The gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities will not be silent as Right-wing extremists, and their congressional supporters, seek to attack and undermine millions of American families, including gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender families," added Paras. "We will not stand by and be used as scapegoats in this election year."

Responding to President Clinton's stated intention to sign DOMA should it pass Congress, Paras said "We deplore the President's opposition to same-sex marriage and we have told him so. At the

same time, the gay and lesbian electorate is too sophisticated to take the bait of the Right. We will continue to pressure the President to oppose DOMA." In a letter to the President last week, Paras complained to Clinton that by endorsing DOMA he had "given support and momentum to the efforts and agenda" of Right-wing extremists.

The Republican leadership has clearly put DOMA on the fast track. The legislation was introduced less than a month ago, was heard in committee one week after its introduction, and is likely to be voted on the House floor in the near future. "NGLTF is mobilizing people throughout the country to derail this fast moving train. We are encouraging people to lobby and send telegrams to their Senators, Representatives and the President, urging them to stop this bill, stated Tracey Conaty, NGLTF Field Organizer. "It's time to crank up the volume," added Conaty.

The Task Force urges fair-minded people throughout the nation to participate in this telegram action. Individuals may send a telegram to their Representative, their Senators, and the President by calling 1-800-651-1482 for a total cost of \$9.95.

The telegram to the President follows:  
Dear Mr. President:

Please reconsider your decision to sign the so-called Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), which Congress is now considering.

This legislation was introduced only recently in Congress at the request of right-wing political extremists who had already been fighting this battle in the states. Now the House and Senate Republican leadership seem to have this bill on a fast track.

Gay, lesbian, bisexual and trans-

gender family issues, such as marriage, adoption and custody are here to stay because they speak to the aspirations of same-gender couples, just as they do for all committed couples. Most importantly, however, they reflect the real circumstances of lesbian and gay family lives.

Passage of DOMA will not change that fact and the right-wing extremists know that. As you have noted, this legislation is not just about same-gender marriage. It is clearly just one piece of a larger agenda to attack and undermine millions of American families, including gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender families, who do not meet the narrow definition of family put forth by a small group of political extremists.

Discrimination is wrong. Whatever your views on marriage, I urge you to stand up for the principles of tolerance, compassion and fairness—just as you have on other occasions—by vetoing this legislation if it is adopted by Congress. Your leadership on this issue can stop the campaign by right-wing extremists to divide the American people.

## NGLTF Denounces President's Intention to Support DOMA

Washington, D.C., May 22, 1996 ... According to news reports, the White House indicated today that President Clinton would sign the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) should it pass Congress.

NGLTF, the nation's criticized the President's decision as unnecessary, divisive, and an assault on the integrity of gay and lesbian families.

The following is a statement from NGLTF's Melinda Paras on news reports from the White House that the President will sign DOMA should it cross his desk.

"We are deeply disappointed and dismayed at the announcement today that the President is willing and ready to sign into law anti-marriage legislation. In making this decision, the President has abandoned his commitment to tolerance, compassion, and fairness. The President's support of DOMA is a slap in the face of gay and lesbian families across America. The President knows from his own family experience what it is like to be part of a 'non-traditional' family. He should reject this construct of second class citizenship for families that don't fit the narrow image of the 'traditional family' as defined by Right Wing extremists.

"President Clinton's support of DOMA is also a political misstep. By announcing now that he is willing to sign this unnecessary and divisive legislation, the President is giving undeserved momentum to this bill. The President also should understand that leadership and courage gains greater respect—and political support—than actions based on political expediency. "Mr. President, whatever possible political gain your handlers think you will achieve by this maneuver is not worth your abandonment of the principles of fairness and equality for all."

## NGLTF

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force is the country's oldest national gay and lesbian group. The Task Force is a progressive organization that has supported grassroots organizing and pioneered in national advocacy since 1973. Since its inception, NGLTF has been at the forefront of virtually every major initiative for lesbian and gay rights. In all its efforts, NGLTF helps to strengthen the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender movement at the state level while connecting these activities to a national vision for change.



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## Task Force Reports

### Savor The Victory!

OP-ED By JOHN D'EMILIO

Director, NGLTF Policy Institute

I confess. I was worried that we might either lose the Colorado Amendment 2 case, or that a bare majority would write an opinion that waffled so badly that we might as well have lost.

Imagine my pleasure, then, when I read Justice Kennedy's opinion, speaking for a 6-3 majority. The decision is a stunning victory for the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community. It states in unequivocal terms that state action rendering us second-class citizens is unconstitutional. The Supreme Court, for the first time, has unambiguously affirmed our moral claim to full citizenship.

Kennedy and the other five justices who supported the decision "got it" in some basic ways. The majority exposed the right-wing rhetoric of "special rights" and instead understood that Amendment 2 and measures like it in fact impose, in their words, "a special disability ... born of animosity" toward gays and lesbians. Their decision declared that the goals of Amendment 2 bore no rational relationship to any legitimate state interest, and violated the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution. The Court described Amendment 2 as "unprecedented in our jurisprudence."

But there was more. Justices choose their words carefully; they can be extremely attuned to the significance of a phrase. Surely, then, it was no accident that Justice Kennedy began his opinion by quoting Justice Harlan's dissent, a century ago, in *Plessy v. Ferguson*, the case that enunciated the "separate but equal" doctrine in American race relations. Was this his way of acknowledging that the Court sometimes changes its mind? That changes in cultural mores and social values lead to changes in the application of the Constitution to major issues? Even though there was no reference to *Hardwick*, was Kennedy suggesting—obliquely to be sure—that in time *Hardwick* might be overturned?

This decision is a victory, no doubt about it. We should savor it, especially since it came not simply through the constitutional reasoning of six Supreme Court justices, but through the actions that every one of us has taken in the years since *Hardwick*. In coming out, in taking action in the political process, in work-

places, in communities of faith, in schools, and elsewhere, we have changed the terms of the debate about sexual identity. Our work created a new environment in which the Court could, hear our case with fresh ears. The victory, in other words, comes from us as much as from them. Let's pat ourselves on the back because of it.

We also need to be clear about what this case does not do. It does not, for instance, prevent the extremist right wing from coming up with new language for ballot initiatives in an attempt to weasel around this decision. Victory in this case does not give us our full civil rights; in most parts of the country we can still be fired based on disapproval of our sexual identity. In 41 states and in most cities, we still need to work to pass civil rights laws. We still have sodomy laws to repeal, hate crimes to prevent, family relationships that need recognition.

The Amendment 2 case also does not speak to the marriage issue. A judge could easily accept every word of Justice Kennedy's reasoning and still come to the conclusion that the prohibition on same-sex marriage is constitutional. In other words, our work is still cut out for us.

Yet let's also recognize that the Court decision gives us a new plateau from which to do our work. Just as the right wing will redouble its efforts, so should we. This decision places the moral weight of a "traditional" institution on our side. It explicitly disavowed hate-inspired bigotry. This will mean something to the many Americans who are fair-minded, yet also confused about our issues. Now is the time to put our issues out there, to organize ourselves and educate the majority so that real institutional change comes our way.

This is an election year. Through voter registration and mobilization, we have the opportunity to place our community's needs on the political agenda—but on our terms. We can help build a political environment that will make the 1997 state legislative sessions an opportunity rather than a threat. We know the right wing will be there—in the election campaigns and in the nation's legislatures. Let's be there, too, in full strength, speaking to the citizens who may now be more willing to hear us. Victory and hope are better resources for a political movement than defeat and despair. Let's take the hope that the Amendment 2 victory fosters, and use it to generate more momentum.

## Survey of Violence in Same-Sex Relationships

Only recently has physical and sexual violence within our community been studied. It is indicated that anywhere from 25% to 50% of us have experienced physical violence in a committed relationship. In addition, at least one study indicated that 12% of gay men and 31% of lesbians have been coerced sexually by an intimate partner. Although illegal, such incidents are unlikely to be reported to law enforcement nor is the victim likely to seek help through social service agencies.

Dr. Susan C. Turell, Asst. Professor of Psychology at the University of Houston-Clear Lake, in cooperation with the Montrose Counseling Center, The

Houston Area Women's Center, and the Montgomery County Women's Center, is conducting a survey to determine the scope of this problem in the Houston area. This survey is designed to be the first step toward more education within the community, more victim/survivors seeking services, more efforts to end the violence, and better service from the service providers in agencies that serve the community.

Anyone willing to participate by filling out a survey or for more information, contact Dr. Turell at 713/283-3332. Surveys are available at the Montrose Counseling Center, 701 Richmond and at Inklings Bookstore, 1846 Richmond. All surveys are confidential and anonymous.

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Motel: The receptionist sneers at you.  
 Montrose Inn: The receptionist winks at you.

Motel: Washing machine? Ironing board? Hair dryer? Refrigerator? Stove? Microwave? VCR & gay movies? Are you kidding?  
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## Family Values

by Esperanza Lavender Jazz Paz



### "Mexican Eggs" and a Missed Friend

Every time I eat "Mexican eggs" of any variety, I think of him. And every time I see that billboard advertising beer. He liked beer, and the sign is in Spanish. *Sol y Sombra* is the part I recognize. Sun and Shade. That was the name of the first marching music he taught me to play (*mas o menos*) on my borrowed, second-hand sax.

That—and the *huevos*—were years ago. A clutch of friends-till-death were gathered on Galveston Island that weekend in a motel whose most attractive appeal was that the poorest of us could afford our share. The title of that establishment was The Rosenberg Inn which we affectionately dubbed "The Roachenburg." It was conveniently situated across the street from the King Saver Grocery (which of course we called The "Queen Saver").

To make the get-away even more affordable, each party assumed responsibility for providing one meal to share with the group. One couple triumphed with a lusty and sensual seafood gumbo, made with shrimp and crabs direct from the boat, only steps from our rooms. Another couple, less adventurous but much more "feeling" substituted "simulated" crab for their meal and didn't have nearly as much fun as the rest of us.

But everyone heartily ate the Mexican eggs on Sunday morning. Fluffy and mild, in a casserole with tomatoes and onions from the nearby Queen Saver market. That Roy was an epicurean cook was the second thing I learned about him. That he was a finely skilled master musician was the first thing. He was a music teacher and a band director. And this is the story of how I came to love him.

A bass was some kind of fish as far as I knew (spelled the same, pronounced differently), an oboe was something you could remedy at Hi/Lo if you were handy with a wrench. Nonetheless, when a friend asked Roy if I could sit with him at the next Lone Star Symphonic Band rehearsal, I was welcomed as family. That was the best family I've ever been in.

Every week I joined the real band members in practice, and many weekends followed them around like a groupie, to their fund-raising car washes and garage sales. To E/J's and to Dickens on the Strand (where they always "relaxed" between sets at the Kon Tiki); to the March on Aus-

tin, and the Heights Festival. I never was of any benefit to the band as a woodwind, but Roy never passed over me when he tuned the real musicians, always sitting me between the most confident and accomplished players so that if I ever did let a peep escape, it would be melodiously overcome by the pros.

Roy invited me to his house for a family Thanksgiving, and to his subsequent apartments for parties and meetings. He helped me move from a house so far outside the Loop that the neighborhood was known only by map makers, and brought me back to The Montrose, where he said I belonged.

Roy was one of my heroes. He was what my kids referred to as a "specimen" (that is one of the few men I genuinely loved). He was one of the men I wanted my sons to grow up and emulate. Roy loved his friends and he was loved by legions of them.

The summer afternoon Barbecue Concerts he organized on the patio at E/J's attracted droves of admirers who opened their hearts and their wallets to support the lesbian and gay community band he led. As far as I know, no one ever asked him for his autograph, or to have their picture taken with him at those festivities. It would have embarrassed him terribly.

Still, I wish I had.

Roy died recently of that scourge that has abducted too many of my friends. All I have to remember him by is a commemorative Marlboro lighter that he carelessly left in my car the last time I saw him. That evening he was pleasantly confused. During a lull in conversation among old companions late that night, he impulsively and effusively invited us all to his home for brunch the next day. Even though he was uncertain of the address, he was sure well all knew where he lived. He promised he would make us his famous "Mexican eggs."

The *tete-a-tete* meandered on, with Roy dozing on the couch, and then startling, guzzling and snorting, then dozing off again. Those infrequently reunited, far-flung and occasionally frail friends were loathe to hug and disperse, but I found my way home with the dawn and crashed.

Roy did revive to make brunch for the believers that morning. I heard that he made them the best Mexican eggs ever.

The lighter he left me no longer illuminates the dark. And I've never been able to duplicate those Mexican eggs.

## Gingrich says he wouldn't attend sister's marriage

By JIM ABRAMS

FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

WASHINGTON, Sunday, June 2 (AP)—House Speaker Newt Gingrich said Sunday he would refuse to attend the wedding if his lesbian half-sister were to marry another woman.

"I wouldn't regard it as a marriage, I think a marriage is between a man and a woman," the Georgia Republican said on NBC's "Meet The Press."

Gingrich said he expected Congress to pass by a wide margin a bill that would define marriage as a union between man and woman, making homosexual couples ineligible for a wide range of federal benefits, including Social Security payments.

President Clinton and congressional Democrats have accused the GOP sponsors of the bill of stirring up an anti-gay issue during this election year, but Clinton has said he would sign the same-sex marriage legislation in its current form.

Supporters say the legislation is needed because of a court case that could make Hawaii

the first state to recognize same sex marriages. If that happens, other states could have a legal obligation to recognize those marriages.

Gingrich said he had been with his sister, Candace Gingrich, "when she had girlfriends with her. That doesn't offend."

"That's her life and I don't think we want government or politics in the bedroom," he said.

He added that he opposed same-sex marriages "not as a puritan or a prude. I'm divorced and remarried, I was adopted, my mom was divorced and remarried. I understand life is complicated."

But he said that Americans "as a society have an interest in strengthening classic traditional marriages and defining that marriage" as between a man and a woman.

Candace Gingrich, in a pre-taped interview on NBC's "McLaughlin, One on One" Sunday, said that denying gays legally recognized unions "is a form of discrimination, much in the same way that allowing us to be fired based on our orientation is discrimination."

# Gay Today

by Glen Webber



## Remember The Names

It's been two years since Linda's son died from AIDS. As with most AIDS deaths, the end was pretty horrible and painful. Linda's acceptance of Chad's death did not come easy. But finally she was accepting it, and life goes on.

The idea for making a panel for Chad came when she viewed The NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt showing at the convention center. One of her friends asked her which panel was Chad's. She turned her head and walked away, ashamed she hadn't done one. She felt guilty. Over by the side of the display was a table set up to give information about making panels. She went over and got all the information they had and was introduced to a woman who would work with her in making the panel. Linda also had five friends who wanted to help.

The hardest part of making the panel was deciding what was important in Chad's life. What could they put on the panel that would celebrate him? What would people see when they looked at his panel. Linda wanted to show her son was a happy man who loved life.

Linda thought the best way to show her son's personality was to make the panel with many different colors. Colors that showed the beauty of the world. Chad loved the outdoors and his favorite thing to do was sit in the yard and watch the sunset.

The blank multi-color panel alone was beautiful and very inspiring. Next they put a picture of Chad, wrapped in protective plastic on the right side of the panel. He was a handsome soulful man who did a lot of thinking about the world. The invasion of his body by AIDS did not change his view of the world, only about life. He tried everyday to enjoy the world, and most days he did. It was only when his last days were near did he accept his fate and he let himself enjoy the peaceful feeling of death.

On the left side of the panel were pictures of a basketball, bowling ball and skates (for ice hockey). This was Chad's favorite sport. Although he didn't play it, he

enjoyed the strength of the game.

His only serious relationship lasted five years. Then his lover left for another man. That only lasted six months. The lover wanted another chance, but Chad refused to take him back. He once asked, "How much more can you hurt the one you love?" He never got involved with anyone else. His family thought he could never trust anyone again.

The love Chad gave and the love he received was special. Chad valued friendships and enjoyed making new ones. He was always smiling. Even when he was having personal problems.

Chad's greatest dreams were never realized. His accomplishments were few, although his intentions were good. Like many of us, we work hard till we get tired and then we slow down to enjoy what we have. That is okay. If you earned it, enjoy it! And this colorful panel reflects that spirit. You should see it next time you view the Quilt. It somehow stands out from the other panels. You know it was made with love and pride. Of course, every panel was made that way. That's what makes this event so meaningful.

To show you the scope of how AIDS has devastated our community and America, there will be 450,000 panels on display in Washington, DC the weekend of Oct. 11-13. Try to imagine that as people. Your friends, your community, barely holding on. Those numbers are astounding. 130 panels will be from South Texas. They are expecting 5000 more panels as the opening date approaches. The local NAMES Project Committee can help you if you want to make a panel or to get involved as a volunteer. Their number is 713/729-9662.

If this does not wake up America, nothing will. If this does not shock people into the reality of AIDS, nothing will. If this does not encourage people to stay negative and play safe, nothing will. Every time you bury a friend or lover who died from AIDS you bury a piece of your heart.

If you see me at the display, come and give me a hug. I'll probably be needing one by then. I love you all.

## HGLPC Power Brunches

(Continued from page 1)

and gay and lesbian equal rights, as well as other issues of concern. The question and answer session was moderated by community activist Clarence Bagby.

Designed as an informal and intimate affair absent the news camera lights and microphones, the event satisfied the goals of organizing host LuJack Tyler. "We broke bread with one of the President's men who truly appeared grateful to have a seat at our table," said Mr. Tyler. "Events such as this have gained other groups of people - such as Hispanics, Afro-Americans, and women - power in the political world. And I think that it's time for gay and lesbian human beings to seize the advantage early on in this historic race."

This will be the first time in 100 years of Houston's history that there will not be an incumbent mayor running for re-election. Rumored to be running for city mayor, Dr. Brown exercised caution to clarify that he is not, as of now, an announced candidate for the mayor's race. Dr. Brown did share with his audience that he returned to Houston to ensure that, "the next mayor will be someone whom I have known intimately for over 50 years."

The event featured a wide range of civic

and community activists and prominent citizens, such as Annise Parker, Jack Jackson, Steve Walker, and Shelley Porter, who is the Vice President of the Board of Trustees for THRF. "I'm really excited about the HGLPC Power Brunch and round table discussion with mayoral probables," Porter said. "It gives us a chance to meet on a one-to-one basis with individuals who would be mayor."

Among the questions addressed to Dr. Brown, Anjela Larkin-Byer asked the former Houston Police Chief about what he was going to commit himself to do about affirmative action.

Dr. Brown responded, "It isn't working for the people it was designed to work for and I want to make it work better."

"We are witnessing the evolution of a new generation of the HGLPC," stated Norm Thompson, Caucus vice president. "These events will surely serve as the foundation upon which we may sponsor televised debates or forums in the future high profile races."

Future HGLPC Power Brunches hope to feature Sylvester Turner, George Greanias, Helen Huey, and even "Mattress Mac" MacInvale, all of whom have been rumored as possible mayoral candidates.

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Showtimes 11:00pm

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Miss Zack  
Kara Dion  
Frankie Lane  
Leah Halston

Saturday, June 8th  
Miss Zack  
Crystal Rae Lee Love  
Rage  
Paivi Lee Love

Sunday, June 9th  
Miss Zack  
Leah Halston  
Sivi Ross  
Michaelay

Friday, June 14th  
Miss Zack  
Leah Halston  
Tricia Blake  
Erica Lane

Saturday, June 15th  
Miss Zack  
Rage  
Brandi Houston  
Sivi Ross

Sunday, June 16th  
Miss Zack  
Ashley Houston  
Kara Dion  
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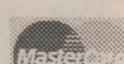
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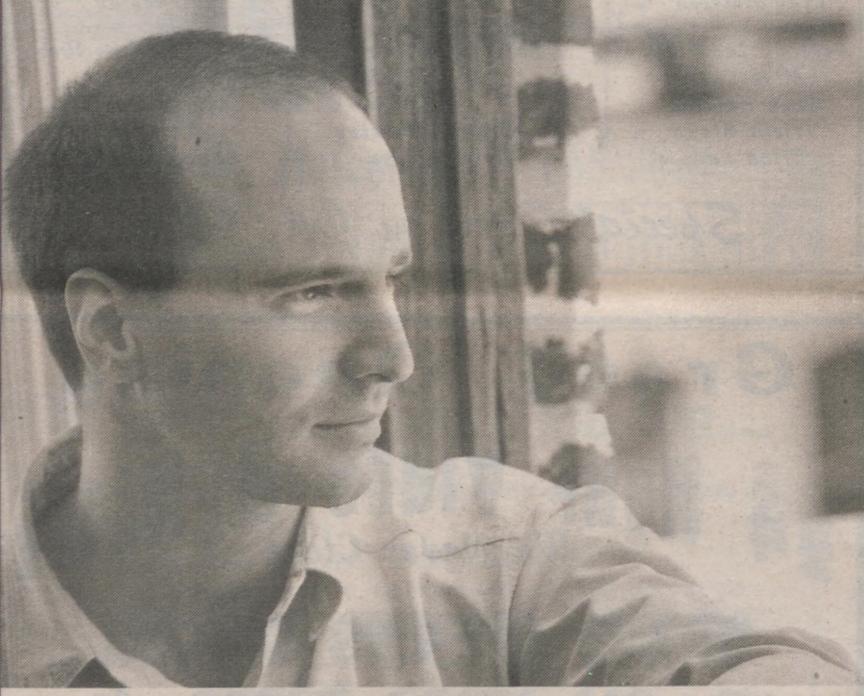
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Wednesday Worship... 7 PM  
 "Spiritual Uplift"  
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**Colt 45's Inc. celebrates**

(Continued from page 1)  
 made directly to the service provider, grants are made to help with rent, utilities, eye exams and eyeglasses. In the past ten years, ATF has distributed approximately \$323,000.00 in direct assistance to a client group whose number exceeds 1,100 persons living with AIDS.

The Colt 45's Stone Soup Program provides perishable foods (namely meat, poultry, vegetables, fruit and other sundries) to supplement the AIDS Foundation Houston (AFH) Stone Soup Pantry on a weekly basis. The Stone Soup Pantry is a food bank for people with AIDS.

The Till Thacker III General Charity handles other worthy charitable causes not covered by the funds listed above. Past grant recipients include the Houston Clinical Research Network, Omega House (an AIDS hospice) and the Montrose Counseling Center.

Moneys for each of the Colt 45's Charitable Funds are obtained through voluntary contributions from private individuals, organizations and/or local fund-raising activities. The group receives no governmental assistance of any kind. In the past 10 years, through these three charitable arms, the Colt 45's have distributed over \$510,000.00 in community funds directly back to the community itself, and with NO administrative costs.

**Getting Involved**

Despite the name, you don't have to have an overwhelming love of western attire, lore or even guns to be considered for membership in the Colt 45's. All you need is a big heart and a willingness to help others when they need it the most. Along the way, you get to meet some great folks (both men and women). If you are interested in continuing this fine tradition of charity and fun by becoming a member of the Colt 45's, please leave a phone message with Norm at 783-9516.

The need in our community to help those with AIDS and HIV is overwhelming, and no end is in sight. Even though the Colts have been able to provide assistance in the past, it is never as much as they would like to help. Every little bit helps. You can help the people who need it most by sending a tax-deductible charitable donation to the

Colt 45's at: The Colt 45's, Inc., PO Box 66084, Houston, TX 77266-0804.

**The 20th Anniversary Celebration Run**

Twenty years of charitable work deserves a celebration! And to that end, a three-day event is planned, which includes cocktail parties, dinner, games, a commemorative pin and an award ceremony. Registration for the Anniversary Run begins on Friday, June 7th from 8:00pm until 1:00am at the Brazos River Bottom, 2400 Brazos, Houston, TX 77006, and continues on Saturday, June 8th at Mary's, Naturally 1022 Westheimer, Houston, TX 77006 at 10:00am to 1:00pm. ALL are invited to attend and help the Colt's celebrate this mighty achievement. The total cost to attend the event is \$20.00.

**Tentative Itinerary of Anniversary Events**

- Friday June 7th**  
 Brazos River Bottom  
 8:00pm to 1:00am  
 Registration, Cocktails, Games and Hors d'oeuvres
- Saturday, June 8th**  
 Mary's, Naturally  
 10:00am to 1:00pm  
 Registration, Cocktails and Games
- Saturday, June 8th**  
 Gentry  
 2:00pm to 4:00pm  
 Cocktails, Games and Hors d'oeuvres
- Saturday, June 8th**  
 Brazos River Bottom  
 6:00pm to 8:00pm  
 Anniversary Dinner
- Saturday, June 8th**  
 Venture-N  
 8:30pm to 1:00am  
 Cocktails and Games
- Sunday, June 9th**  
 Brazos River Bottom  
 12:00 noon to ??  
 Awards Ceremony

**The Houston Voice Salutes The Colt 45's On Their 20 Years of Brotherhood and Charity.**

**June Brides**

(Continued from page 1)  
 the lamp-posts along the Pride Parade route on Westheimer. Artist Ken Stone is trying to decide how to express her personality in the 4" heel, eggplant pumps donated by State Rep. Debra Danburg for "Pumped Up on Art". The Pride Guides are being distributed and floats are being built. We are preparing the celebration. The slogan this year for Pride Week is "Pride knows no borders." It would seem that there are those who want to border our rights as citizens. Well, we can still have a wedding even if we can't be married, and we do love to play "dress-up." One of the ways to show pride this month would be to honor your commitment with your partner by having a wedding ceremony. Do it up right too, with flowers, cake, family & friends, announcements and pictures in the papers. The greatest way for us to show our pride

is through our visibility and what a perfect way to be visible and counter homophobia. This Sunday, June 9th from 2 until 6pm the People with AIDS Coalition of Houston (PWACH) requests the honour of your presence at the June Bride Party at the Lovett Inn, 501 Lovett. A suggested donation of a mere \$10 benefits the organization and provides an fun-filled afternoon of nuptial spoof. Wedding attire is encouraged, but not required. Dame Marsha Carlton proudly (and with great relief) gives the brides away -- unfortunately to date there are no takers. The brides will be attended by their ladies in waiting. Persons unable to attend may make a donation by sending their tax-deductible donation to PWACH, 3400 Montrose Blvd #106, Houston, TX 77006, Attn: June Bride Fundraiser.

## 'America Needs A Raise' Town Hall Meeting

By DEBORAH BELL

Houston Voice/Houston

Houston workers, including union and non-union members, employed and currently unemployed attended the "America Needs A Raise" Town Hall Meeting on Saturday, June 1, sponsored by the Harris County AFL-CIO. The cafeteria of Austin High School housed some 300 people and put some real faces on the people affected by what is taking place in the economy. The Houston event was one of 25 being held around the country. Justice of the Peace Al Green facilitated the event and the keynote speaker was Linda Chavez-Thompson. Executive Vice-President of the AFL-CIO. Ms. Chavez-Thompson is the highest ranking woman and person of color in the organization.

Workers from all walks of life gave public testimony about their jobs, the impact of wages, or loss of wages on their lives. Many people who have lost their jobs have spent many years with the same company and are forced to use their retirement savings, undergo retraining and/or take positions that offer lower pay and no benefits to care for their families. Many have been faced with job loss due to health or injury problems, and additionally are forced to depend on public services and government assistance. Availability of such services has also been under attack. Concern about the economy is one of the main concerns in all age groups. "It's a fact that we are all working harder than ever just to get by," says Julie Byrom, who works two jobs while attending school. It is hoped that such demonstrations will transform individual concerns into a national cause by sensitizing politicians/policy-makers and mounting an educational campaign to motivate communities. The intent is to build a grassroots movement against cuts in programs working families depend upon and that will work to persuade employers to practice corporate responsibility for their employees and communities as well as stockholders and executives. Organizers fearful of being charged with using union dues to mount bipartisan actions quickly hushed down any speakers who started to speak out against the Republican Party, such as referring to "Newt and his Kooks." Despite their insistence the "This is not a Political event," it was stated that the rally and a survey that is being conducted were to help devise a policy agenda and to provide legislative direction.

Since 1979, real earnings for workers have declined 12%. During that same period, 97% of the increase in households, with middle income families and the poor left to scramble over the remaining 3%. During that same period, productivity went up 24%. Yet American workers have not yet been able to enjoy increased buying power. Instead, productivity was converted into increases in corporate profits (64% between 1989 & 1995) and in executive compensation (up 360% since 1980).

## Police release composite of Park Attacker

Houston Police sex crimes investigators released on June 3 a composite drawing of a man believed to be the Memorial Park attacker. The man has attacked and tried to sexually assault two women while they were on the jogging path. The latest attack occurred on Tuesday, May 28. The women screamed and fought, one drawing the attention of another jogger who came to her aid and the other being able to break away and run to the tennis courts where she called the police.

The result is an alarming mis-distribution of wealth. The top 20% of households in our country now get half of the nation's total income and control 85% of all wealth. The rest—80% of all households—split the other half of total income and share 15% of the nation's wealth, mainly our mortgaged homes.

Women make up 63% of wage earners whose pay is at or below minimum wage. Median weekly earnings for full-time working women are only two-thirds those of full-time working men, or \$132 less. Some women are drawn to "blue-collar" jobs that have been traditionally held by men. These jobs are higher paying than the clerical positions or "pink collar" service jobs that most women are employed in. Even those these jobs have opened up to women (thanks to affirmative action), the number of women actually employed in them remains very low.

Contrary to the popular and totally inaccurate view of being "upwardly mobile, with loads of discretionary income," Gays and Lesbians are finding themselves faced with the layoffs, company downsizings, and plant closures like all other Americans. While many Gays and Lesbians have secure positions as executives, lucrative careers as attorneys, doctors, computer programmers, engineers, and entrepreneurs, many others are in low wage, part-time, contract labor, or temporary work situations. Some have chosen jobs that allow them to be out. Some have left positions that offered them higher incomes, but less personal freedom, realizing that they could not continue in working for companies that do not share their ideals and work ethics. Some have been faced with on the job discrimination, unable to file suit since there is no protection for persons who are discriminated against due to their sexual orientation. The American with Disabilities Act offers some protection to persons with AIDS who have been dismissed if it is found that they were fired due to their HIV status. Many companies are still discriminating and using underhanded tactics to find ways around the AWDA. Often, a person with AIDS does not have the two or three years it may take to battle the case in court. They may retain their insurance and some pension benefits. Retaining benefits can often be handled out of court in a mediation process, which is all many of them want, as their health forces them into full-time disability.

Organizing efforts have begun for the "Living Wage" Campaign, an effort to collect 30,000+ signatures from Sept. 1 to 30 in order to allow the voters in Houston to determine whether businesses within the city limits should pay a "living wage" to their employees. Under the present minimum wage, employees, working full-time, year round, are paid only \$8,840 per year, which is \$3,000 less than what is considered the poverty level for a family of three.

The suspect is described as a Hispanic male, 28 to 32 years old, 5'5" to 5'6" tall and between 145 to 155 pounds. He has a small to medium build and straight black hair. He was wearing a torn, dirty, white T-shirt, gray sweat pants, and white tennis shoes.

CrimeStoppers is offering up to \$2,000 for information leading to the arrest of this suspect and charges being filed on him. Anyone with any information regarding this man is asked to contact CrimeStoppers at 222-TIPS.

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# Robert Harwood-The New Mr. Prime Choice!



Participants from the Mr. Prime Choice Contest

## Houston Soap

By CAROLYN ROBERTS

### Past Events

Congrats to Robert Harwood on winning the coveted title of Mr. Prime Choice '96. Robert and the other 3 contestants, Armon Brown, John O'Donnell, and Reed Hunsdorfer were extremely successful by raising \$9500 to be donated to local HIV/AIDS charities! This event was hosted by Don Gill Productions! I'm glad I was not a judge, this was fierce competition! Congrats to Don, once again, for a truly successful and entertaining fund raising event!

Congrats to Sean Carter on winning the title of Mr. Chances.

### Colt 45's Celebrate 20 Years This Weekend!

Twenty years of charitable work deserves a celebration! And to that end, a three-day event is planned. Registration is on Friday, June 7, from 8:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. at the Brazos River Bottom and continues at Mary's, naturally on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The total cost for the weekend is \$20. The run starts Friday, 8:00 p.m. at the Brazos River Bottom with registration, cocktails, games, and hors d'oeuvres. Saturday's event starts at 10:00 a.m. at Mary's, with late registration, cocktails, and games. At 2:00 p.m. the run runs to Gentry for more cocktails, games, and hors d'oeuvres. There is free time from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Then at 6:00 p.m. there will be an anniversary dinner until 8:00 p.m. at the Brazos River Bottom. After dinner, the run heads to the Venture-N from 8:30 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. for, once again, more cocktails and games. The run concludes on Sunday, starting at noon with the awards ceremony. Congrats to the hard-working men and women of the Colt 45's. Our community would



Grand Marshalls Bill Havard and Jeanette Vaughn share a smile!

be lost without your leadership and charity work.

### Friday, June 7

On May 20, the Supreme Court ruled that the Colorado law discriminating against gays was unconstitutional. This landmark decision directly opposes a Supreme Court decision ten years ago and has many implications. Join Ray Hill, first openly gay activist to win a Supreme Court decision on gay rights, a repre-



Jody likes tasty toes!

sentative from the Gay-Lesbian-Bisexual Alliance of the University of Houston, and Aaron Ruby, National Committee-Socialist Workers Party for a panel discussion tonight, 7:00 p.m. at Pathfinder Bookstore (3260 S. Loop West.) If you would like more info, call 349-0090.

Miss Zack, Kara Dion, Frankie Lane, and Leah Halston grace the stage of Cousin's tonight starting at 11:00 p.m.

"Jocks in Dresses," a drag review by members of the Montrose Softball League (MSL) hits a home run tonight at Heaven. The \$5 cover is donated to the MSL's charities. The doors open at 7:30 p.m. and the first "jock" is "dressed" starting at 8:00 p.m.

Clint has turned over his topless repertoire to Roger on Friday nights at the BriarPatch. It seems that the piano players sometimes get too hot and have to take something off!

Black Leather Emperor Jim Halbert and Guardian Angel Ruby Stone host a mind-bending drag show for all tastes to night at Chances. This show benefits the memory of "Cal Moran, the Man, Part II." This truly twisted show

starts at 9:00 p.m.

China Doll Productions presents a male strip/talent contest tonight at the Lazy J. Show time is 9:00 p.m.

### Saturday, June 8

Stop in Bacchus II tonight for drink specials and \$1 Jello shots. Enjoy the blues sounds of Colleen and Sandy from 9:00 to midnight.

Those hot men of the National Leather Association: Houston will be whipping up cocktails and such tonight at Pacific Street! Don't forget that you can get in free to Pacific Street on Saturdays if you wear erotic leather and show lots and lots of flesh. The doors open at 9:00 p.m.

The spot light of Cousin's shines on Miss Zack, Rage, Paivi Lee Love, and Crystal Rae Lee Love tonight at 11:00 p.m.

Cool down this afternoon at the 611 Hyde Park Pub with the beer bust. There is an \$2 optional buy-in that gets you refills of icy cold draft beer for only 25¢.

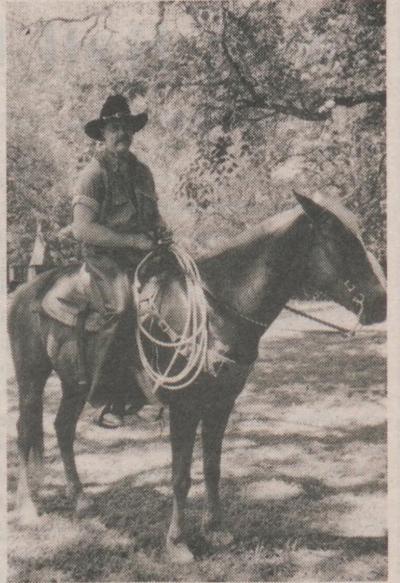
It is party time at Gentry! Help Papa Del celebrate Gentry's 6th anniversary tonight from 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. with 50¢ well cocktails and 75¢ domestic longnecks! The Boy Toys will

of icy cold Miller Lite Draft for a quarter or refills of frozen Ritas for a buck! The men. The music. The Mine!

Rhythm and Blues are on the menu this afternoon at Chances. Stop in to hear the sounds of Gistano and Chaney. They will be on stage from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The well cocktails and domestic beers are only \$1.50 all day and all night this and every Sunday at the Ripcord!

The honour of your presence is requested at a reception celebrating the first annual nuptials of Miss Buffy Bayou, Miss Tina Casserole, Miss Hada Lei, Miss Magnolia Hempstead, Miss Trish Le-Dish, Miss Faye Raye, and Miss Sushi Wong today at 2:00 p.m. at the Lovett Inn. In lieu of gifts, a \$10 donation is suggested. All proceeds benefit the PWA Coalition. Dame Marsha Carlton proudly (and with great relief) gives them all away. Unfortunately, to date, there are no takers. They will be attended by their Ladies in Waiting: Miss Liz Beth Ambercrombie, Miss Lotus Blossom, Miss Edna G., Miss Cal-



Mr. Prime Choice Robert Harwood

contest starts at 11:00 p.m.

### Tuesday, June 11

The Montrose Clinic provides free HIV testing and counseling at the Club Houston this and every Tuesday from 8:00 p.m. to midnight.

Looking for a tasty Kamikaze today? Head over to Gentry and try one of their tasty \$2 Kamikazes this and every Tuesday! Even better, the tasty tempting Boy Toys dance starting at 9:00 p.m.

There is a special birthday show for twins Tara and Kara Dion tonight at E/J's. Join hostess Catia Lee Love and her guests Paivi Lee Love, the birthday girls, and the winner from the Saturday night talent contest! The birthday candles are lit starting at 11:00 p.m.

### Wednesday, June 12

"Drink 'till he is cute" drink specials run all day and all night at Mary's, naturally!

Stop in Chances tonight to join Shiela Lennon on stage for karaoke! Sheila's sultry sounds start at 9:00 p.m.

The Ripcord offers \$2 well cocktails and domestic beer all day and all night this and every Wednesday. What a great way to make it thru your hump day!

Susan Maser will be sending her sultry sounds out tonight at Mela's Tejano bar. There are also beer specials and hors d'oeuvres from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

keep the action hot from 9:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m.

### Sunday, June 9

It is a first! Mr. BriarPatch 1996! See the "BP Boys" as they compete for the first ever Mr. BriarPatch title. Show time is 8:00 p.m. sharp and will be packed full of surprises. Reigning Miss BriarPatch Bunny O'Hare will be hosting the show!

Who will it be? Who will be the new Miss Mary's? The contest starts at 4:00 p.m., naturally at Mary's.

A full line up at Gentry today! The Boy Toys start at 5:00 p.m. The Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star presents "Anything You Can Do, I Can Do Better" show at 9:00 p.m. And at 11:00 p.m. the bump and grind starts with the male strip contest!

Join Miss Zack, Leah Halston, Sivi Ross, and Michaelay tonight at Cousin's for their Sunday night drag show! The curtain rises at 11:00 p.m.

Sundays are for trash disco at the Montrose Mining Company. You can enjoy a well Bloody Mary, Screwdriver, Cape Cod, Madras, or a hand-shaken Kamikaze for a measly \$1.75. Also, on the patio there is the double bust! For an optional \$2, you can enjoy refills

edonia, Miss Bayla Cotton, Miss Sue Fle, Miss Dora Jarr, Miss Hassie Lane, Miss Tequila Lane, Miss Deserva Lei, Miss Needa Lei, Miss Wanna Lei, Miss Mattie Morris, Miss Patti O'Chair, Miss Sheri Turnover, and Miss Waugh-Sabi. (Where did they come up with those names?)

Earth Galleries at 2515 W. Holcombe present Gay and Lesbian Funday! Please bring personal hygiene items for Stone Soup. This party starts at 1:00 p.m. The after party continues at J.R.'s Santa Fe Bar and Patio. If you would like more info, call 668-0099.

### Monday, June 10

The crowds at the BriarPatch always are fun! Be sure you get there early. You never know who might come in to sing and play a tune. Lou Diamond Phillips, Liza, and even Hello Dolly herself have been in a time or two!

The domestic longnecks are only \$2 all day and all night at Gentry. The Boy Toys dance the night away starting at 9:00 p.m.

Paivi Lee Love lures luscious lewd lads to launch laundry at 11:00 p.m. In other words, the male strip

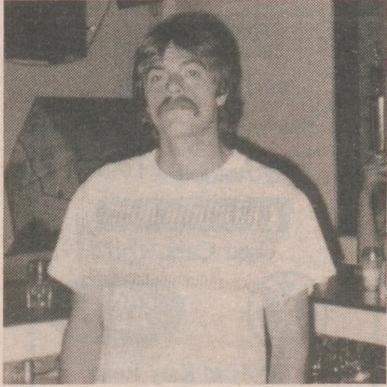


Ms.-Barbara, Mr.-Sean, and Miss-Vanna (Chances)



We NEED to rest!

# Other Important Stuff to do with Rodent Droppings!



Victor at the Lazy J.

## Thursday, June 13

There is no cover tonight at Pacific Street if you show that hunky doorman your valid membership card for the Club Houston or any other health club! The doors open at 9:00 p.m. for the hottest sounds in town and a mesmerizing light show by the Lazer Wizard.

Want to do something different? Head up to BerryHill II and enjoy happy hour from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. This and every Thursday, they have nearly naked male dancers on the stage!

Marilyn Marx presents South of the Border tonight at E/J's. Join Marilyn and her guests China Doll, Blanca DeBris, Jade Mykels, and Katrina LaShawn for this 11:00 p.m. show. You can get ready by enjoying \$1.25 test tube shots of Tequila!

## Other Important Stuff

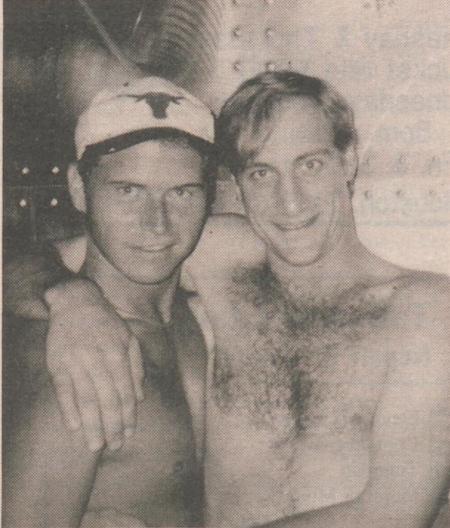
The Houston Voice would like to welcome Leather Leather to our family of advertisers. Leather Leather is located at 7519 Westheimer. You can purchase any leather sofa in any grade leather in any color in stock for only \$1499 only at Leather Leather. Yes, you can actually purchase the most expensive leather in the showroom and still save over \$1000. Stop in their showroom and tell 'em you saw their ad (on page 3) in the Houston Voice! If you would like more info, call 977-9393.

Mary's has roof-top tickets available for the parade! And the new Mary's t-shirt is also on sale!

Tickets are now on sale for the official pride event "Beauty and the Butch," starring "Super Dyke" Lea DeLaria, at the Houston Laff Stop. This show is on June 17. On June 18, "Out, Positive and Proud" comics Kevin Maye and Steve Moore will keep you rolling on the floor laughing at the Laff Stop. Tickets are available by calling 524-2333.

The Spring Edition of Antiques, Collectibles, and Craft Market will be at the Astrohall on June 15 and 16. Admission is only \$2. For more info, call 799-9632.

For all of you who are into leather goods, check out the rainbow colored flogger



Pretty faces behind the bar at Pacific Street!

made by Raven's Lair. They are on sale for only \$89.99 and are absolutely gorgeous. Call Raven's Lair at 616-4297.

Mark your calendar for June 14! The Brotherhood of Pain and the Ripcord will be presenting a "Slave" auction at 10:00 p.m. This is an event not to be missed!

Keep your calendar out! Mela's Tejano Country invites you to "Casino Night," a benefit for Steven's House on June 14. Also at Mela's, the Ms. Butch-Ms. Femme Contest will be on June 21. If you would like more info on either event, call 880-1770.

Literacy Advance of Houston is holding a two-part workshop on July 27 and August 3 to instruct volunteers how to teach English as a second language to non-English speakers. You do not have to be bilingual or need previous teaching experience. To register, please call 266-8777.

"Angels Over Montrose" Clinic, a Don Gill Production fundraiser for the Montrose Clinic's Psychotherapy Fund, will be flying high at the Venture-N on June 15. Kick off your Gay/Lesbian Pride Week with a lift.

Did anyone notice that the Houston Voice changed the masthead? Check out page one and let us know what you think!

"Poor Super Man," the play the Cincinnati vice squad tried to close down, is showing at Theater LaB starting June 26. For ticket info, call 868-7516.

Stephen David is looking for male and female models for his photography. The Houston Voice uses a bunch of Steven's photos in our ad copy. If you are interested in becoming a model for him, please call 787-0625.

The Gentry Gaps (MSL) will be selling BBQ plates at Gentry on June 14 for only \$4. Go early and come hungry! Also, on June 16, the Gentry Gaps will be strutting their stuff on the stage of Gentry at 9:00 p.m.

## Birthday Corner

A very special happy birthday to my darling hubby the Lazer Wizard!

A happy bear hug birthday to Houston Area Bear Tim C.

A happy birthday to an old, dear friend Tom Fry!

A double happy birthday to twins Kara and Tara Dion!

A happy birthday to Wendi of Alternative Visions!

## Rodent Droppings

Well, Rratrat was pestering me so much to get him that new sailor hat, so I did! Now, the little varmint will not let me put it on him! It went on ok

the first and second time, but by the third, he was over it! Oh well, maybe Harvey will like it! We have had to stop giving Harvey chocolate chip cookies! I swear he has gained a pound in the last month!

The disclaimer is in force!

Jack (Houston Voice): Did you really "fork" Sammy (Mary's) in our office?

Gaye (Mary's): We know that you are fifty 'cuz all your toys are latex!

Barbara Walker (Montrose Clinic): I hear that you finally got a new pair of panties! But really, showing them to everyone at Walgreens?

Max (Charlie's): Why is it that you have such roving hands?

Charlie (BriarPatch): Is it true you have the "stairway to heaven" installed in your house? Or is it the stairway to hell?

Creath (Garden Party): Karma will get you every time! How was your run in with the urinal?

Pumpkin (PS): So glad to learn you made a new friend at Lake Austin! So, how is Flipper?

Mike (Gentry): I hope your winky gets better!

Lee Davis (Houston Voice & MSL): I understand that you received lots of new tableware! But doesn't that usually include knives, not just forks and spoons?

Reed H. (Mr. Prime Choice contestant): Now, that is what I call a round-up!

Buck (Mary's): What is this about your switch being broken and you can't turn it off?

P.B.: It was great to see you! And don't worry, I have been saved!

Alan Gibson: I hope that when I get over the rainbow, there will be good souls like you there!

Don Gill (Mr. Wonderful): Do you know the difference between fishing and fishing?

Papa Del (Gentry): Remember that you ride the horse, the horse doesn't ride you!

John O. (Mr. Prime Choice contestant): You are like an animal!

Matt (PS): Why is Rusty your "Boo-Boo?"

Armon Brown (Mr. Prime Choice contestant): You give new meaning to "yard work!"

Don Dowden: And I quote: "I'll do anything you want!"

John Dye (Colt 45's): So, Boots was your pimp for the weekend? And how did you hurt your big toe? Were your fu\*k-me pumps too high?

JT (PS): I have a message from some of



Stop in River Oaks Fine Cars and get a beauty like this one!

your co-workers: "We have an Uncle Fester waiting for you!"

Thumper (Cowghurls): After those bites on your butt, you tricks are confused as to which hole to use!

Mike (Chances): Is it true you have 3 sets of dimples? And is it true you and Jim Halbert were sharing the same piece of chewing gum?

Jim Watts: What is this I hear about you doing water ballet in a big green dress?

Victor (Gentry): Did you forget your panties at Darla K.'s again?

Robert (The Club Houston): How do weebles wobble and do they fall down the stairs of Rich's?

Scott Lewis (Heaven): And I quote: "I was desperate last weekend, until I met Jorge!"

Mark (PS): So, you had Chuck's (PS) thing between your legs and you did not even notice?

Miss A (BRB): It is a shame you were in such a hurry to get to work that you put your t-shirt on inside out and wondered why everyone at the bus stop was staring at you?

Michael (Venture-N): And I quote "I did something so bad last week that I can't remember!"

Glen (PS): A message from a fan: "Put it in slower next time. These things must not be rushed!"

Mark (Colt 45's): Have you been intimate with a car's trunk?

Don (hangs at BRB): One day without Narene and you are drinking Scotch.

John (Venture-N): And I quote "I used to be a lesbian, but I had a sex change!"

Lazer Wizard (PS): I have a message from Nikki for you! "I've got a quarter if you've got the time!"

Dave W. (hangs at Gentry): I guess the first date went ok: I hear you are going on a second! I guess you did not "do the deed" on your first date!

Papa Del (Gentry): I understand that if the doctors needed to give you a catheter, they would not need a long piece of tube!

Hope (hangs at Chances): Dumber and Dumber or just a Riddler?

Rob Miller (Venture-N): So, Dominoes Pizza really does deliver!

Have a great week!

## Cuervolyn



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Our little (95 lb.) Sally



Happy Birthday Lazer Wizard

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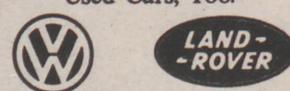
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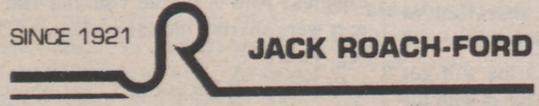


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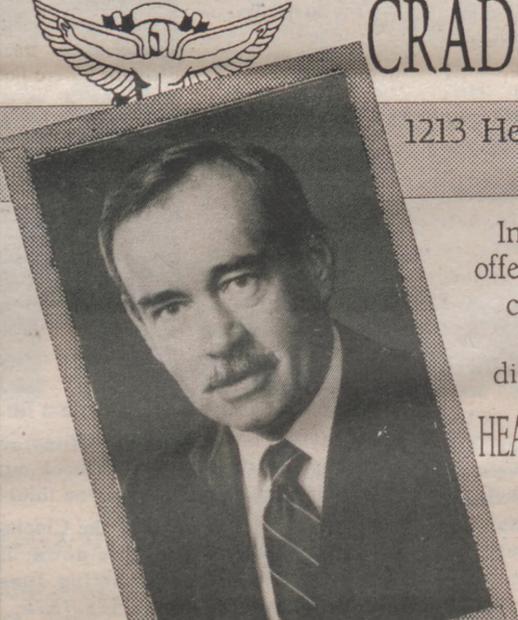
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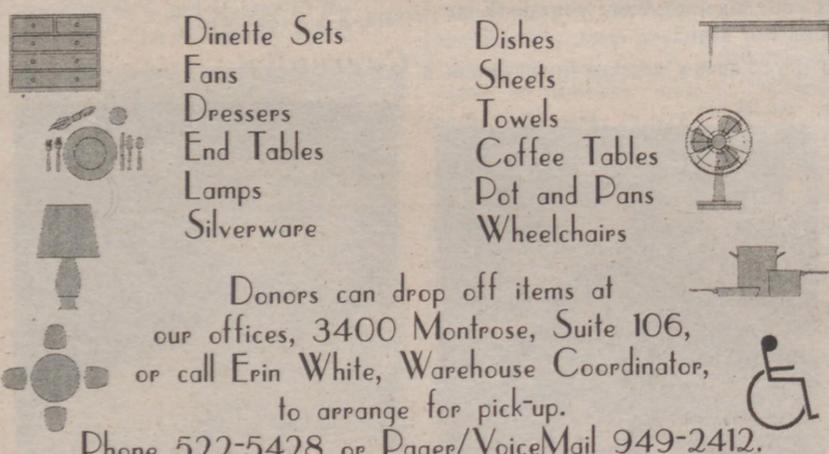
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- Trust your instincts. Only you know whether or when to fight back.
- If you are attacked, respond quickly (in the first 30 seconds): Yell, blow a whistle, fight - kick knees, gouge eyes, stomp on feet, knee groin - RUN.
- Call the police as soon as possible.
- If you hear a call for help or witness violence, yell out at the attacker, call police - gather other people and rush to the scene - not to intervene, but to scare off the attacker(s).

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**Q-PATROL - Call 871-8519**



by Jon Anthony

The legendary **Chaka Khan** is laying down tracks for her next Warner Bros. collection of tunes, tentatively due this winter.... **Cher's** hot



new single, *One By One*, has just been released on Reprise records and is currently available at all major music outlets. A huge hit internationally, *One* is presently climbing the dance charts in the

U.S. and the diva, 50, is currently collaborating on the video for the song with daughter **Chastity Bono**. Plans are underway for the sultry songstress to embark on whirlwind tour to promote her highly touted (and often delayed) release of *It's A Man's World*, her first album in six years. World is slated to definitely hit the streets June 25 amidst much fanfare.... **Gloria Estefan's** first non-spanish album of original songs in 5 years was released earlier this week. *Reach*, the first single and official theme song of the '96 Olympics, is currently climbing the adult contemporary and dance charts. Estefan will guest on CBS' *Late Nite with David Letterman* June 11.... **Vince Gill's** new CD *High Lonesome Sound* (MCA) has just been released to critical praise. The album, a highly polished songfest rich in tone and replete with his trademark high-tenor vocal acrobatics, is a must for fans.... **Carly Simon** has been tapped by CBS to pen and sing the theme song for the newly revamped *This Morning* program.... The 1995-96 season is over and the networks are planning some original programming to keep viewers from tuning out or sampling too much cable fare. NBC won the ratings race for the season hands down. ABC finished second and CBS came in a close third. FOX and fledgling WB and UPN networks were next in descending order. NBC claimed six of the top ten shows for the season. ABC and CBS had three and one, respectively, in the top ten. The number one show of the season was NBC's smash *E.R.* with an average weekly audience of 32 million viewers. Rounding out the top ten in descending order were *Seinfeld* (NBC); *Friends* (NBC);

*Caroline in the City* (NBC); *Home Improvement* (ABC); *The Single Guy* (NBC); *Monday Night Football* (ABC); *Boston Common* (NBC); *NYPD Blue* (ABC) and *60 Minutes* (CBS).... Seen enough of Kathie Lee lately? Is anyone else besides myself sick of **Kathie Lee Gifford's** self-pitying tirades. I mean, please. It is quite apparent that Mrs. Gifford will go to any lengths to protect her squeaky clean reputation. On a recent *PrimeTime Live* (ABC), Gifford labeled her controversial association with Wal-Mart as "an obscenity", managed to shed some tears, talk about her son Cody as usual and recite a prayer. If Gifford was truly unaware of the labor elements involved in her clothes line for the retailer, then fine. A simple press release would suffice. Instead, Ms. Gifford turned the situation into a media event bordering on frenzy, which seems a little suspect in itself. The entire situation is nauseating and belies credibility. "I'm a talk show hostess, but I'm learning, boy," said Gifford during her latest press conference. Apparently she hasn't learned that she's not behaving like your typical talk show hostess. No one could possibly be that self-righteous and naive. Gifford claims that if things don't change, she's going to get out of the garment business. Great, as if anyone cares, just do it already -- please. Better yet Kathie, do us all a favor and be quiet.... **Carmen Miranda**, the Brazilian bombshell and 1940's superstar who was the highest paid woman during her reign, is back in the limelight with a new video. *Carmen Miranda: Bananas Is My Business* (Fox) is an enlightening documentary that includes vintage footage of the immortalized legend of Hollywood musicals who died of a heart attack at the age of 46. The tape also includes interviews with Miranda's family, friends and lovers. *Bananas* is a welcome and fantastic addition to any musical lovers collection.... **Barbara Walters** will remain at ABC. The two camps came to a "long-term" contract agreement. Terms of the contract were not released. Walters will continue her duties as co-host of *20/20* and produce her occasional high-rated specials.... **Rodney Dangerfield** beware. You have some competition. It seems as though **O.J. Simpson** just can't seem to get

any respect either. Poor O.J., his much ballyhooed video in which he proclaims his innocence has been a major sales flop. The video, entitled *O.J. Simpson: The Interview* has sold less than 40,000 copies in the past three months according to Informercial Marketing Report. Maybe next time.... Are you ready for this. A new ballet is touring the country titled *Blue Suede Shoes*. And guess what? Its a ballet set to the music of **Elvis Presley**. I don't know about you, but I'm just trembling with excitement in anticipation for its Houston run. There is one redeeming aspect that might make this ballet somewhat interesting: **Bob Mackie**, who has designed the costumes.... *Wildest Dreams*, **Tina Turner's** new CD, currently a smash in Europe, is slated for release in the U.S. this August. The album is vintage Tina and includes a steamy duet with **Sting**. The CD includes her international smash *GoldenEye* and the current Euro-hit *Whatever You Want*. The 57 year old superstar is also planning a promotional tour.... **Lorrie Morgan** and Senator **Fred Thompson** have parted ways and nullified their tumultuous tabloid infested relationship.... Nepotism is prevalent in the fashion industry, at least where **Tommy Hilfiger** is concerned. Designer extraordinaire Hilfiger's models for upcoming advertisements to promote his fall line of clothing includes the offspring of **Donald and Ivana Trump**, **Quincy Jones** and **Peggy Lipton**, **Rod and Alana Stewart**, **Foreigner's Mick Jones** and **Jackson Browne**. The lineup consists of **Ivanka Trump**, **Kidada Jones**, **Kimberly Stewart**, **Mark Ronson** and **Ethan Browne**.... **Alan Alda** turned down an offer of \$250,000 per episode to star in ABC's revamped *Murder One*. It seems as though those *M\*A\*S\*H* residuals are paying nicely.... **Alan King** chats with **Larry King** on the weekend edition of his show this Saturday June 8 at 8 p.m.... AMC airs the classic 1961 movie *The Sins of Rachel Cade*



starring **Angie Dickinson** June 10.... **Rosie O'Donnell's** syndicated talk show debuts this week on Channel 13 at 9 a.m. Out Lesbian comic, **Kate Clinton** has been hired as a writer for the show and Kate reported when she was recently here that she and her lover, Activist/Writer **Urvashi Vaid** had just signed a year's sub-lease in the Big Apple. The weekly variety show will focus on celebrity guests. **Matthew Broderick** and **Nathan Lane** visit with O'Donnell during the first week. The show airs weekdays.... **Raquel Welch** and **Linda Ronstadt** visit with **Jay Leno** on NBC's *The Tonight Show* June 10 at 10:35 p.m.... AIDS is the topic of *Larry King Live* on June 10 at 8 p.m. Live encores at 1 a.m.... *Yanni in Concert* airs on PBS June 12 at 7:30 p.m. Yanni performs his classic new-age music in a delightful concert taped in Athens, Greece with the London Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.... The incomparable **Patsy Cline** will be profiled on A&E's *Biography* June 13 and **Jim Carrey** is the topic on June 14. *Biography* airs at 7 and 11 p.m.... **Oleta Adam** sings and chats with **Lauren Hutton** on June 13 at 1 a.m.... **Top of the Charts: Home Improvement** topped the Nielsen ratings. *Mission: Impossible* and *Twister* continue to dominate at the box office. *The Score* by **Fugees** is the best selling album and **Bone Thugs-N-Harmony's** *The Crossroads* is the top selling single according to Billboard. As expected, **John Grisham's** *The Runaway Jury* debuted as the #1 fiction title and **Dennis Rodman's** tome *Bad As I Wanna Be* remains atop the non-fiction list according to The New York Times. **Quote of the Week:** "I like the man I'm with to know he's getting something that nobody else in the whole world gets." - **Raquel Welch**, responding to a question in an interview with TV Guide asking why she never did explicit sex scenes or posed nude during her illustrious career. interview in this week's Entertainment Weekly.



responding to a question in an interview with TV Guide asking why she never did explicit sex scenes or posed nude during her illustrious career. interview in this week's Entertainment Weekly.

## CHURCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### FRIDAY - 6/7

- \* "Your Sacred Self" - study group using the best seller by Wayne Dyer. COME learn more about your sacred self, sacred sisters & brothers, & the sacred, loving Creator God who made it so. Kingdom Community Church. 4404 Blossom. Call 862-7533.
- \* Catholic Mass at 10:00 a.m. Kolbe Project. 1509 Fairview. Call 522-8182

### SATURDAY - 6/8

- \* Services at 7:30 p.m.. Dignity Church, 1307 Yale. Call 880-2872

### SUNDAY - 6/9

- \* Grace Lutheran Church. Sunday school for all ages at 9:30 a.m. Worship Service at 10:30am. 2515 Waugh Dr. (@ Missouri)
- \* First Unitarian Universalist Church Sunday Services at 9:30am and 11:30am. 5200 Fannin at Southmore. 526-5200.
- \* Services at 5:30 p.m.. Dignity Church, 1307 Yale. Call 880-2872
- \* Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church Services "A Study in the Gospel of Mark" and "The 'I' Factor," (How to be a positive

- influence on others as a witness for Christ) at 10:00 a.m. Praise and Worship, Ministry of the Word, Drama and Personal Ministry. 11:00 a.m. Maranatha Fellowship, 3400 Montrose, Suite 600, 528-6756.
- \* MCCR worship services with Rev. Jim Burns. 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. 1919 Decatur. Call 861-9149.
- \* Community Gospel Church worship service at 11:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. 501 E. 18th. Call 880-9235.
- \* Houston Mission Church worship service at 10:30 a.m. 1505 Nevada. Call 529-8225.
- \* Kingdom Community Church worship service at 11:00 a.m., Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. Call 862-7533. "The Celestine Prophecy, An Experiential Guide" at 10:00 a.m.
- \* Ecumenical Catholic Church Mass at 10:15. 1405 palm. Call 526-8095.
- \* Covenant Baptist Church. Worship service - 1:30 p.m. and education hour at 3:00pm. 6610 Alder. Call 668-8830.
- \* Bering Memorial United Methodist Church Worship service. 10:50 a.m. Seekers class 9:15 a.m. 1440 Harold. Call 526-1017.

### MONDAY - 6/10

- \* Catholic Mass at 7:30 p.m. Kolbe Project, 1509 Fairview. Call 522-8182
- \* MCCR Handbell Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 p.m., 1919 Decatur. Call 861-9149.

### TUESDAY - 6/11

- \* MCCR: Empowerment for Living support group & pot luck dinner at 6:00 p.m., Gloryland Singers at 8:00 p.m., The Gospel Ensemble at 6:00 p.m. Call 861-9149.
- \* PROTECT meets at Bering Church. Call 520-7870.
- \* Small home groups meet to sing, share their faith and pray for one another at 7:30 p.m.. These groups are open to all people. Call Maranatha Fellowship at 528-6756 for location each week.

### WEDNESDAY - 6/12

- \* Relationship Lecture Series by Patrick Vauchon at MCCR. 1919 Decatur. 7:30 p.m. Call 861-9149.
- \* MCCR: Jubilation Mixed Ensemble meets at 6:30 p.m., Midweek uplift service at 7:00

- p.m., Bible Study, Lecture Series & Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. 1919 Decatur. 861-9149.
- \* "A Course in Miracles"- Study Group using the book, published by the Foundation for Inner Peace, which is aimed at removing the blocks to our awareness of one's presence. Kingdom Community Church 7:30 p.m. Call 862-7533.
- \* Ecumenical Catholic Church Mass at 7:00 p.m. 1405 palm. Call 526-8095.
- \* Small home groups meet to sing, share their faith and pray for one another at 7:30 p.m.. These groups are open to all people. Call Maranatha Fellowship at 528-6756 for location each week.

### THURSDAY - 6/13

- \* Healing Prayer and Anointing, 7:30 p.m. at Kolbe Project. 1509 Fairview, 522-8182.
- \* Community Gospel Church worship service. 7:30 p.m. 501 E. 18th. Call 880-9325.
- \* MCCR worship services, 7:00 p.m. 1919 Decatur. Call 861-9149.

If you want an event listed in this section, please call (713) 529-8490.

### TELL US HOW WE'RE DOING!

The HOUSTON VOICE is your Voice in Houston, and we value your input and suggestions. Write us at 811 Westheimer, Suite 105, Houston TX 77006 (Fax: 529-9531) to tell us what you like and don't like or to share your own creative ideas. (Please indicate if your letter is for input only, as we also receive numerous letters for publication).



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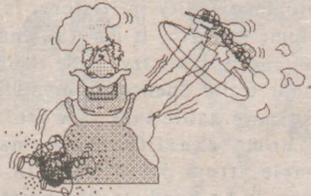


## RECIPES BY KUNTRY KIDD

I discovered something last night that I believe I have known for quite sometime, but it was reinforced again last night. I don't care a whole lot for baked fish. I also don't care for salt-water fish like I do fresh water, but in either case, I prefer them fried. Not as healthy I know, but tastier to me. The following is what I fixed last night, and my significant other thought it was quite good. Oh well, to each his own. It's not something I will ever crave, but will probably fix it again for him. I'm just a thoughtful kind of guy.

### Red Snapper With Fresh Tomato Sauce

- 1 small onion, chopped
- 8 Tbs. dry white wine
- 1 large garlic clove, chopped
- 3 large tomatoes, chopped
- 1-1/2 tsp. dried oregano
- 2 8-ounce red snapper fillets



Spray bottom of large nonstick skillet with vegetable oil spray. Place onion, 2 Tbs. wine and garlic in skillet. Cover skillet; cook over medium-low heat until onion is tender, stirring occasionally, about 10 minutes. Add tomatoes, 1 tsp. oregano and 6 Tbs. wine; simmer uncovered until mixture is reduced to thick sauce, about 10 minutes. Place fish on sauce. Sprinkle fish with 1/2 tsp. oregano, salt and pepper. Cover skillet; simmer until fish is just opaque in center, about 6 minutes.

Spoon sauce onto plates, dividing equally. Place fish atop sauce and serve. 2 servings.

### Parmesan Polenta

- 4 C. canned vegetable broth
- 1-1/2 C. yellow cornmeal
- 3/4 C. grated parmesan cheese

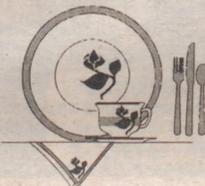
Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Spray 8x8x2 inch glass baking dish with vegetable oil spray. Bring broth to boil in heavy medium saucepan over medium heat. Gradually whisk in cornmeal. Continue to whisk until mixture is very thick, about 3 minutes. Mix in cheese. Pour into prepared dish.

Bake polenta until top begins to brown, about 30 minutes. Serve hot. Makes 4-6 servings.

These recipes were printed in "Bon Appetit."

UNTIL NEXT WE EAT!

KUNTRY KIDD



## The Great American Puzzle

### TEXAS EDITION

By Henry McClurg

#### ACROSS

- 1 famous for roses, area nurseries propagate more than half the nation's field-grown rose bushes
- 6 belonging to the officer of the deck
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- 11 Canadian national

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- 13 highway emergency signaling devices
- 15 passenger airplane
- 17 wine sediment
- 18 dashed

- 42 move air on, 2 words
- 43 adjective suffix for 'characterized by'
- 46 half of crying sound ??? hoo
- 48 minds or brains

- 51 acronym for approximate time of reaching a destination
- 52 criti-

- 45 only major league sports league with 3 Texas teams
- 47 20th century U.S. politician Willkie, initials ("Only the strong can be free. And only the productive can be strong.")
- 49 once around the sun
- 50 one form of the letter U phonetically
- 51 20th century American poet Pound, initials ("Literature is news that stays news.")
- 53 petroleum
- 55 1st & 3rd vowels of the alphabet
- 56 southern French city of Roman ruins
- 59 Mexican city across from Brownsville
- 63 largest river wholly in Texas & 1 of 2 U.S. rivers with this same name
- 66 prohibits

- lessness
- 73 the coconut palm
- 75 800,000 acre national park in Texas on Mexican border, 2 words
- 78 belonging to Y
- 79 application
- 80 disrespectful speech
- 82 hurt

- DOWN
- 2 contraction for 'you would'
- 3 'the' in Spanish
- 4 dropsy
- 5 O.J. attorney Shapiro, initials
- 7 Texas' smallest county in physical size
- 10 introduce into by

- 19 Ft. Worth-based Texas-wide bakery, 2 words
- 20 4th & 5th vowels
- 22 group for alcoholics, abbr.
- 24 in Greek mythology, maiden loved by Zeus
- 26 major Texas storm of 1961
- 28 talk freely
- 30 official abbrev. for Canada's Yukon area, capital Whitehorse
- 31 1st & 4th vowels of the alphabet
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- 34 merry
- 35 Scottish for one
- 36 weirdly

- 38 plant genus for the rose family
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## GALAXY GAYZER

A HOUSTON VOICE EXCLUSIVE



### HOROSCOPE FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 7 - 13, 1996

**IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY:** You are unusually witty, adventurous, skillful and personable - so use this to your advantage. Social happenings will lead you to new friends who will liven up your life and boost your morale.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 20) It's time to consider the difference between balance and basic stagnation... and to take note of just what state you are really in. You tend to be quite critical of yourself, and judging yourself so harshly could be holding you back from bigger and better things.

**TAURUS** (April 21 - May 21) A loved one may unknowingly hurt your feelings this week. Let them know what has hurt you,

and how to avoid such problems in the future. Be willing to look at any oversensitivity on your part. A personal philosophy you hold dear may be questioned, so try to go with the flow.

**GEMINI** (May 22 - June 21) There is no such thing as perfection, so don't expect as much from yourself, and those around you. Stop being so critical and learn to be good to yourself and to others. Follow your hunches this week, you will be glad you did, or sorry you didn't. Delegate responsibilities.

**CANCER** (June 22 - July 23) Your belief system may seem to be disintegrating before your eyes, and although this does not seem to be good news at the present time, it will in the long run. Take advantage of the support and care family members want to give you... family has always been there for you.

**LEO** (July 24- August 23) Try to set aside time during the week to explore any new ways of self-expression, you may uncover creative avenues that you never had previously thought of. Let a special person in your life know that they are appreciated and loved. Spend some time alone.

**VIRGO** (August 24 - September 23) Facing the truth in a situation may not be as damaging as you may think. Relax into the newness and you will find that it really isn't so bad, there are advantages to a new way of looking at situations. Someone may put you in your place if you monopolize others.

**LIBRA** (September 24 - October 23) Gather all that excessive and positive energy to get a task accomplished this week - there is no use in putting off what needs to be done eventually. Do not get caught up in a situation which is going nowhere. You can accomplish quite a bit if you put your heart to it.

**SCORPIO** (October 24 - November 22) It's time for a well deserved rest this week. Along with rest should come self introspection. Pay attention to any health matters, no matter how trivial they may seem. Romance may be on hold for the time being until you review your feelings and options for how you want to proceed.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23 - December 21) This week you probably come to some important conclusions regarding the best use of your money. Lively discussions with family members will bring new information to the group. Be cautious of letting another know your feelings, you may just need to sit on this one awhile.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 - January 20) Any information you may be able to glean from a family member, no matter how authoritarian this figure may seem, will be well worth any uncomfortableness. Daydreams do serve a very useful function, but try not to get caught up in such fantasies. Financial juggling is in order.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21 - February 19) You may be able to teach another the lesson of focusing energies to profitable ends. You have good ideas for the workplace, but you need to soften your approach so that you don't turn off others. A cherished part of your life is coming apart at the seams.

**PISCES** (February 20 - March 20) Bask in the admiration of others for a job well done, and then start a clean slate. Time alone can be a real treat, so surround yourself with quietness, beauty and serenity. If you are working only for money, find additional work which will leave you satisfied.

### Personal Instructions

**TO RECEIVE RESPONSES TO YOUR AD:** A toll-free 800 number will let you know if you have recorded telephone responses. You can then listen to these responses on a 900 number using your personal code and pin (personal identification number). Responses can also be received by mail, see below.

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**TO ANSWER AN AD BY MAIL:** Each ad has a five digit code. Write your response and seal it in a stamped envelope with the five digit code in the address place. Place your sealed response and \$2.00 in an envelope and mail it to us, we will affix a mailing label and the intended person will receive your

response. This service costs \$2.00 plus postage per numbered envelope, and is available only with the Houston Voice Personals.

**ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:** To place a Houston Voice personal ad you are required to participate in the "live voice" aspect of our Personals by calling the special 800 toll-free number. You must record, in your voice, your Ad. If you do not participate in the voice aspect, your ad may be discontinued without reimbursement. The voice message can be as simple as "You read the ad, leave a message" to complex and informative. The ads, both print and voice, can not contain references to sexual acts or organs (FCC et al. regulations). If you are having difficulty recording your message, phone 1-800-780-4947, for assistance. Ads should be positive, describe what you want, undesirable qualities/characteristics need not be listed.

G - Gay, M - male; F - female;  
W - white; B - black;  
H - hispanic, A - asian,  
HWP - height, weight, proportionate,  
DDF - disease, drug free

# Friends and Lovers



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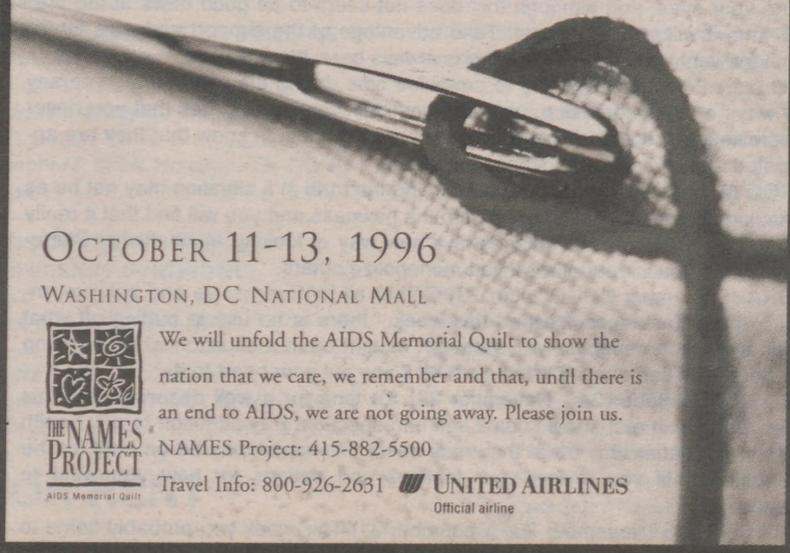
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*The Voice of Houston's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Community*

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CAMERA READY & ONE COLOR ADS  
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### Homosexuality In History

by Colin Spencer, Harcourt Brace, \$29.00

Homosexuality in History. Is it a ten volume set? No, it isn't an encyclopedia, and doesn't try to be one, though author Colin Spencer attempts a nearly insurmountable task; a world history of homosexuality, both male and female, from pre-history to modern times. It's a good starting point for any reader interested in the topic and a readable, concise history of a complex subject.

If you have been intimidated by more scholarly texts with dense references and scores of notes at the back, this is a book for you. In the forward Spencer states, "homosexuality should not be explained away, it just is." With this he dispenses with causes, nature or nurture, and gets down to the meat of the matter—what happened. And despite what you may have read in school history courses, plenty happened.

In the first chapters, covering pre-history, early civilization, and matriarchies, the author has little to work with. After all, it wouldn't be called pre-history if they left a lot of documents about themselves. Here Spencer seems to make a few unsupported guesses about what the evidence means, but no more than any archaeologist. As a model to fill in the gaps of knowledge, he uses ethnographic studies of primitive tribes in Africa, New Guinea, etc. This information is fascinating, especially as it applies to the modern world.

The chapters covering the ancient world through the Renaissance read like a synopsis of books already published, but who said there was anything wrong with a nice, short, synopsis? Spencer's focus is on the gap between law, whether religious or secular, and actual public practice. Most modern gay readers can't help but feel some satisfaction from knowing that several popes and kings had relationships with men. Unfortunately for modern lesbians, much of the historical information in these chapters is based on criminal codes which were ignorant of female sexuality. The information about female/female relations is brief and largely guesswork.

Thankfully, once we get beyond the Enlightenment, there are plenty of diary entries and recorded gossip to inform us on the private feelings of people in marginalized relationships. We are introduced to personalities perhaps more pertinent to modern morality and prejudices, including Oscar Wilde, Magnus Hirschfeld and well known lesbians from the literary circles of their day. The seeds of dissent against the majority is palpable in Spencer's choice of quotes and biographical data. Stonewall may have been the first time that physical resistance took place, but it is clear that moral and intellectual skirmishes took place much earlier.

The chapter covering the last 50 years is short, filled with interviews of average people. As there are dozens of books on the market covering the post-World War II era in much more depth, the information here is just an appetizer.

Homosexuality In History is a readable introduction to our history, with information on Japan, China, and India, as well as the western world. A bibliography is on hand to point readers toward more comprehensive articles and books about countries and eras that interest them. In this clear, concise, book there is much to capture the attention.

### Not Like Other Boys

by Marlene Fanta Shyer & Christopher

Shyer, Houghton Mifflin, \$21.95

In 1966, when her son Chris was five years old, Marlene Shyer went to speak to his kindergarten teacher. She was worried. Did Chris play with trucks? With building blocks? Chris was a joy to have in class, his teacher said, but no, he didn't play with those toys, instead he seemed to prefer setting the table at recess. Why? "I'm afraid he may grow up to be a homosexual."

Thirty years later Chris, who did turn out to be gay, and his mother sat down to write a book about their differing experiences during the years to his adulthood. Each takes a turn writing a chapter; often they write about the same events from their own point of view. They seem determined to tell the truth, to not spare themselves embarrassment, to finally come clean with each other and to the world with the mistakes and chances for true closeness they missed all those years. Their accounts make for a fascinating examination of family dynamics and a potent warning to other parents who may be going through the same conflict now.

It seems that Chris, who by all accounts was a model child who did no wrong, could also do no right. His perfect manners were a sign of femininity to his watchful mother. Her determination to make him fight his own battles in order to strengthen him, instead gave him the message that no protection would be given by his family. If he showed an interest in any pursuit that might be considered feminine, like cooking, she stifled it. She thought what she did was for his own good. She would make him a man.

For his part, Chris realized he harbored homosexual desires from the time he was in elementary school. Some psychologists have written that the earlier a child identifies as gay the more problems it causes, as they don't have the safety of being 'like everyone else' to help them through the stressful adolescent years. This was certainly true of Chris Shyer. For him, every schoolyard taunt of 'fag' was public recognition of his secret. Every rejection on the playing field or from school social groups only reinforced his feelings of guilt and shame. He resorted to rich-boy showing off and snobbery for self-worth while his mother vacillated from feeling he was "normal" to being almost sure her youngest son was homosexual, something she dreaded. Neither could share their fears with the other, neither could be honest. That it had to continue till Chris was in his twenties is a true shame.

Not Like Other Boys will read to some gay men as a history they could have written themselves. To others it may give insight into pain they were lucky to miss. For the parents of gay children it may be the tonic necessary for them to see the value and distinct qualities they may have overlooked because things did not turn out as they planned. If at times it is hard not to feel anger at Marlene Shyer for her actions, though well-intentioned, in the end her honesty and her shame allowed Chris, and allows the reader, to forgive her mistakes. If future generations of parents can learn from her, the world may yet be a better place.

The Rainbow Reader Reviewer for this week was Jerry Miller. Jerry has been a bookseller for over 9 years and is currently associated with Crossroads Market. Other readers interested in submitting reviews should contact the editor at 529-8490.



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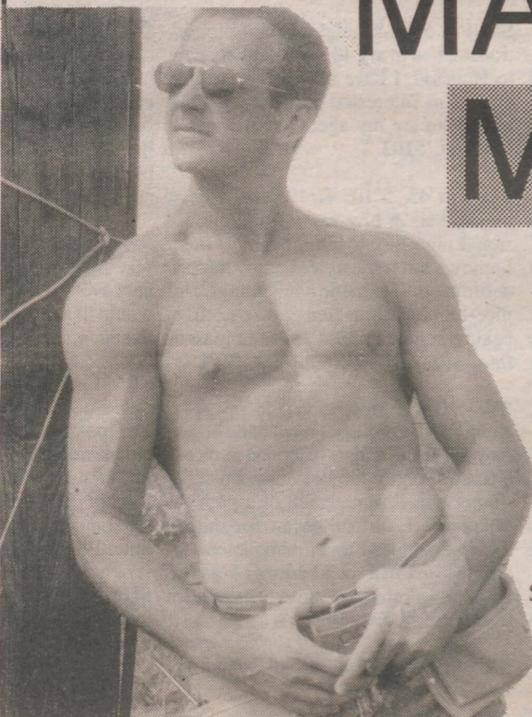
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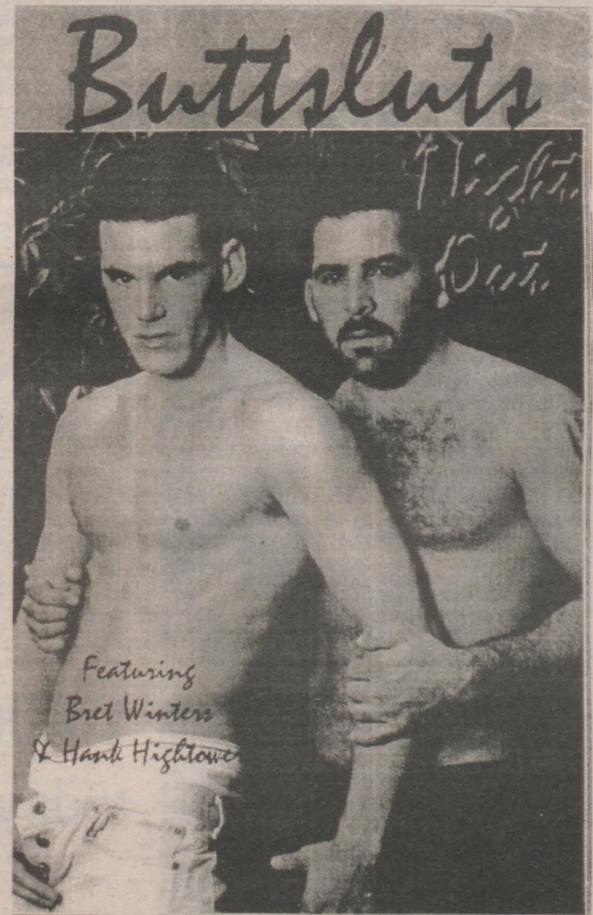


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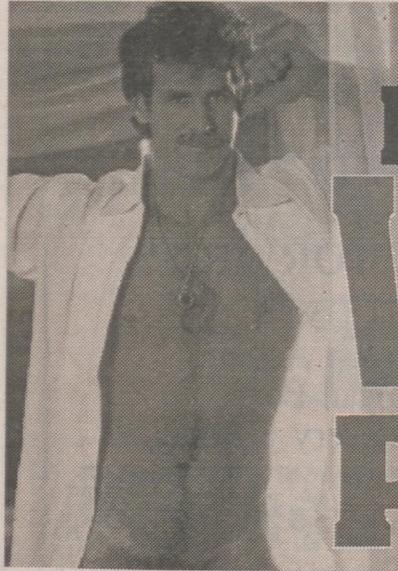
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# HOUSTON VOICE PERSONALS



## Women SEEKING Women

**SBF** I'm lonely, 34 & 5'4". I have short, black, curly hair. I enjoy outdoor sports, biking, swimming & fishing. I play the drums. I'm looking for a single, feminine Black female who is serious about life. She should have career goals. Call Ext. 5092

**SF** I'm from England. I'm 5'2" & 32. I'm new to Houston. I'm looking for friends to hang out & spend time with. I enjoy the theater, films & more. I'm open-minded. If I'm lucky, I hope to find someone who is more than a friend. Call Ext. 5062

**SF** I'm 23, 5'2" & 93 lbs. I have very short brown hair & blue eyes. So, if you're looking for a cute GQ-looking little boy, it's me. Call Ext. 5048

**SBF** Kidnap me. Take me on a hot air balloon ride. Seeking a female. Race & age are not important. Call Ext. 5037

**SF** I'm a short 5'2" brunette who is very active. I enjoy traveling, dining out, the outdoors, bike riding, etc. I'm looking for friendship & to have a lot of fun with people. Call Ext. 5025

**SF** I am 36, 5'4" & 115 lbs. I have gray hair & hazel eyes. I enjoy outdoor activities, camping, kayaking, canoeing, walking in the country & riding my motorcycle. I love animals. I like all types of music, except rap & hard rock. I'm interested in meeting someone 35-45, for friendship or dating. I'm not looking for a hard butch, but I am looking for a soft butch, androgynous or feminine woman. I would prefer to meet a non-smoker. No drugs, please. Light drinking is okay. Call Ext. 5020

## Men SEEKING Men

**SM** I'm 32 & 200 lbs. I'm a bottom. Call me soon if you are interested. Call Ext. 5095

**SM** I'm 5'8" & height/weight proportionate. I'm in my 40's & relatively new to Houston. I have brown hair & blue eyes. I'm interested in meeting other guys who are my age. Give me a call. Call Ext. 5102

**SM** I'm 43, 5'10" & 175 lbs. I have blonde hair & blue eyes. I'm a professional man in the administrative field. I enjoy a quiet lifestyle. I enjoy movies & dining out, to name a few things. I'm nice-looking, drug-free & disease-free. Seeking someone 30-45 who is masculine, with dark hair. Call Ext. 5101

**SWM** I'm a professional in my 40's. I'm 5'10" & 165 lbs. I have dark-brown hair & eyes. I'm darkly tanned & nicely shaped. I enjoy movies, cars, music & dining out. I'm in search of a younger Hispanic, Latin or Asian for dating which could lead to a monogamous relationship. I'm a social drinker & a non-smoker. I prefer the same. I have a lot to offer. Call Ext. 5099

**SM** Please give me a call sometime. Call Ext. 5097

**SWM** I'm 35. I'm looking for a bottom. Call me if you are interested. Call Ext. 5096

**SM** I'm 5'9" & 130 lbs. I'm masculine & outgoing. I'm looking for a Black man who would be interested in different cultures, since I come from Europe. He must be masculine & height/weight proportionate. Call Ext. 5094

**SWM** I'm 45, 6' & 160 lbs. I'm healthy, down-to-earth & HIV-. I'm seeking an older Black male who is a non-smoker, for friendship. Call Ext. 5089

**SHM** I'm 5'4" & 130 lbs. I have light skin, brown hair & hazel eyes. I have a semi-muscular build. I like playing tennis, movies & working out. I'm looking for a single White male 20-35 who has a semi-muscular build. Call Ext. 5075

**SM** I'm 25 & 5'6". I have brown hair & brown eyes. I have a gymnast's build. I'm looking for someone 25-35, for a long-term relationship. Call Ext. 5064

**SM** I'm 40, 5'6" & 155 lbs. I have brown hair & brown eyes. I have a mustache & a hairy chest. I'm a loving & caring, but demanding guy. My son must be young, handsome, healthy & masculine. He must be intelligent, self-supporting & willing to satisfy my every need. Call Ext. 5083

**SM** Where are you? If you are like me, you are getting tired of driving to the bars every Friday night to meet guys. I would like to meet some nice guys from this area. Call Ext. 5082

**SBM** I'm 26, 6'2" & 262 lbs. I'm a part-time student, with a professional career. I'm looking for a masculine top. Blue-collar worker is preferred. Race is not important. I like traveling & reading. I'm not into the club scene. I'm looking for someone who wants to have a good time. Life is short. Call Ext. 5087

**SHM** I'm 31, 5'11" & 240 lbs. I'm seeking an older White male who is 55+, for discreet encounters. I'm disease & drug-free. I have nice legs. I like to kiss. Call Ext. 5085

**SM** Can a high-grade guy like me, 6' & 182 lbs., find a super guy around here? I would like to find a friend & a top lover. You must be professional, sincere & normal. Must act straight & talk straight. I would prefer to meet someone 38-50. If you are out there, give me a call. Call Ext. 5080

**SWM** I'm 6' & 150 lbs. I have dark-brown hair & brown eyes. I'm 38. I'm looking for guys who are into bare-bottom spanking. Call Ext. 5079

**SM** I'm 50, 6' & 180 lbs. I can walk & talk normally. I'm looking for other tops who are normal & who would want to meet me. Please leave me your phone number. Call Ext. 5078

**SM** I'm 31, 5'10" & 155 lbs. I'm seeking someone who is interested in having fun. I'm looking for someone who is not a bodybuilder, but who works out on a regular basis. He should be 5'10" or taller. A sense of humor & a sense of adventure are great. Call Ext. 5072

**SM** I'm 19, 5'7" & 190 lbs. I'm looking for other guys who are 18-30. I'm a college student. I have brown hair & brown eyes. Call Ext. 5069

**SM** I'm looking for a masculine man who is height/weight proportionate & 40-50, for a possible relationship. I'm 34, 5'11" & 145 lbs. I have brown hair & green eyes. I'm easygoing, energetic & new to Houston. I would like to walk on a moonlit beach with someone special. Call Ext. 5067

**SHM** I'm seeking a 35-50-year-old White male. I would like to share ideas & more. I'm 35, 5'10" & 167 lbs. I have a mustache, black hair & brown eyes. If you are this White man, call me. Call Ext. 5066

**SM** I'm a hot, hunky bear cub looking for aggressive & demanding men who can satisfy me. If you are looking for a 220 lb. linebacker-type who is 6' & ready to serve you, give me a call. I will worship you. Call Ext. 5063

**SHM** I'm seeking a one-on-one, monogamous relationship with a male who is older than I am. I'm 5'10" & 165 lbs. I have a swimmer's build. I work out on a weekly basis. I have short brown hair & medium-brown skin. I enjoy dancing, going out, staying home & cuddling. I'm a bottom. I'm seeking a 100% pure top. I'm seeking a male 25-35, who is masculine. He must have a nice body & personality. Call Ext. 5065

**SWM** I'm 37, 5'8" & 160 lbs. I have blonde hair & blue eyes. I'm in good shape. I play tennis & golf. I also enjoy watching basketball. I'm looking for a guy 30-45, who enjoys sports, movies, dining out & the theater. He must be employed & have direction in his life. Call Ext. 5060

**SM** If you know how to follow orders & you want to discuss possibilities, you can call me. Call Ext. 5018

**SBM** I'm middle-aged, 6'1" & 190 lbs. I'm interested in meeting a height/weight proportionate, middle-aged White male 35+. He should want to get together for fun & a possible friendship. I'm not looking for a relationship. I'm looking for pure indulgence. I'm versatile. If you are healthy & masculine, give me a call. I would prefer to meet a versatile man, but at least someone who is capable of being a top. Call Ext. 5057

**SM** I'm 6'4". I have brown hair, blue eyes & a mustache. I'm nice-looking & masculine, with a football-player's build. I'm interested in meeting other guys who are 40 or younger, for a good time. Call Ext. 5056

**SAM** I'm 20, 5'6" & 137 lbs. I have brown eyes & black hair. I'm cute. I'm looking for a boyfriend who is a White male, 24-34. He must be handsome. Call Ext. 5049

**SHM** I'm 32, 5'11" & 165 lbs. I have black hair & light brown eyes. I love the outdoors, sports, cooking & dining out. I'm full of joy. I'm seeking a White male for friendship or a possible long-term relationship. Call Ext. 5055

**SM** 50, 5'9" & 190 lbs. I'm looking for someone who likes to cuddle. I would like to meet someone who lives in the Waco or Houston area. Call Ext. 5054

**SM** I'm a 39-year-old native Houstonian. I like dancing & 70's disco. I love hanging out & walking. I love art & writing. I also love festivals & politics. I'm a libertarian who is interested in global topics. I'm a Virgo & I'm really looking for a Taurus. Age is not important to me. I'm 5'5" & 120 lbs. Everyone says that I look about 10 years younger than my age. I can speak Spanish. I love French, German & other languages. Call Ext. 5052

**SAM** I'm 20, 5'6" & 135 lbs. I have brown eyes & black hair. I'm looking for a White male 24-30 who is handsome. Call Ext. 5051

**SWM** I'm 40. Seeking submissive men. If you are interested, leave me a message. Call Ext. 5050

**SWM** I'm a muscular, professional, endowed man. I'm 39, 5'10" & HIV negative. I enjoy bodybuilding, sports, the arts & romance. I'm seeking a long-term, monogamous relationship with someone who is honest, passionate, endowed & HIV negative. Please, no bar flies, smokers or one-nighters. A Black male is a plus. Call Ext. 5045

**SM** I'm a snowbird in Houston, Texas. I'm a snowbird in search of Texas cowboy snowbirds who are gay White males, gay Hispanic males, 21-41, non-smokers, drug & disease free & masculine. I'm looking for someone to share love & life with. I'm a gay White male who is 45, 5'9", 191 lbs., a non-smoker & disease free. I have brown hair & brown eyes. I'm an honest, caring & loving man. I enjoy movies, theater, country-western music, dining out & quiet evenings. Let's melt our lives together soon. Call Ext. 5039

**SWM** I'm 40, over 6' tall & height/weight proportionate. I'm looking for a Hispanic or Black male who is 35-50, over 6' tall & height/weight proportionate. Leave me a message & I'll get back to you. Call Ext. 5034



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# HOUSTON VOICE *Personals*

## GALVESTON: LOOKING FOR SEXUAL BUDDIES

I'm in my 40's, married, 5'10", 160lbs., average looks, DDF, clean, top-cut-discreet. Ad 25598.

## ATTENTION -NUDIST

GWM, 45, 5'6", 142#, br/hazel with salt and pepper beard, DDF, smoker and a nudist. This nudist would like to get together for social non-sexual encounters. Just the enjoyment of viewing each other's bodies. Ad 25772

## AFFECTIONATE TEDDY BEAR WANTS CUDDLY CUB

GWM, 56, 6'2", 285, big bear, professional, clean cut seeks loving cub for companion, fun, and a devoted monogamous relationship. I want what I am: sincere, loyal, sense of humor, honest, masculine, caring, sensitive, trusting, lots of T.L.C., respect, genuine and unlimited passion. Interests: Movies, art galleries/museums, dining out, quiet evenings at home, and lots of candlelight conversation and sharing. Discreet, NS, and DDF. U B 2. If you can relate, please respond. Prefer mail responses. Ad 25745

Mature GM, French active, HIV-, ISO other M, HIV-for your enjoyment. Ad 25762

## I HAVE EVERYTHING I NEED EXCEPT YOU!!!

GWM executive, 40, 5'10", 170, attractive, seeks special guy for serious dating relationship. Enjoy movies, theater, travel, dining out, quiet romantic evenings. Prefer mature younger guy, 24-30, who needs that special person to make their life complete. If you think you deserve the best, call. Humble/Kingwood area a plus! Ad 25741

## WANTED: MASCULINE WHITE MALE COMPANION

HIV-Negative, 18-45, not overweight, to play dominoes, cards, ETC. 10am-2pm, weekdays, in my home. I am divorced masculine WM, 5'11", 155# ("skinny"), 40+ short brown hair, receding hair line, brown eyes, glasses, clean-shaven, smooth. Will exchange (revealing) photos. I have a Polaroid. Mail responses preferred. Immediate reply. Ad 25766

## "NOT ONLY ON WEEKENDS"

Single, black, female romantic seeks friend for possible relationship. Seeks woman who is certain of herself; her wants and desires. Interests include: movies, parks, special getaways, moonlit nights. Quality time very important; also hand-holding, good conversation, and a sense of humor. Must be stable, sincere and spiritually motivated. Ad 25740

## HIV+ HISPANIC MALE

Mid 30's, professional, healthy, sincere, good sense of humor. Seeking other HIV+ men for friendship but I'm primarily interested in entering a serious relationship with an honest, caring and loving man. Ad 25632

## MAN OF PASSION

Hi quality GWM, 6'1", 178, 38, brown/blue, stable professional, healthy, honest, adventuresome, fun, intelligent, passionate, warm heart and soul, HIV-. I'm looking for one GWM who is 30-45ish, HIV-, stable, reasonably well adjusted and compatible. I hope to share excitement, laughter, support, intimacy and growth. Ad 25720

## FULL SERVICE BOTTOM WANTED

Should be compulsive GM whose needs can only be met by one-to-one relationship with mature, stable GWM top. Prefer slim, quiet type, but am not racist or ageist. I am 6'2", 175, brown hair & eyes, DDF, mature, stable and like quiet times with compulsive bottom rather than bars. Prefer mail responses. Ad 25773

## KIDNAP ME

Take me to your playroom. Bind me, use me, then release me in a couple of days. My captor(s): attractive, HWP, HIV-, serious master(s) and/or mistress(es). I am a successful intelligent WBIM, handsome, nice body & highly sensual, HIV-, HWP, with a weakness for the smell of leather who desires to be totally dominated. Ad 25711

## SERIOUS & SINCERE ONLY

Tall/Handsome/GWM. Loves to look, dance, & shop. Former LSU student turned paraprofessional. I.S.O. spontaneous, intellectual, politically incorrect friends. You must keep up w/fashion, latest dance music, and me! HWP & DDF. Ad 25702

## POSITIVE MIND, BODY & SOUL

Extremely handsome Gay Latin Male, 34, 5'6", 165#, bk/brw, mustache is currently seeking special friend. Me: Financially stable, very healthy, swimmers build, smooth body, versatile bottom, romantic, honest, passionate with high pos. attitude & self esteem, easy going man with great sense of humor & sensitivity. You: GWM 28-45, 5'8" plus, HWP, good looking, financially stable & healthy versatile top. If you've been searching for a man above average, with similar values & sincerity, here's your chance! No fems or druggies. Letters preferred, photo requested. Ad 25748

## GWM PROFESSIONAL

40's, 5'11", 165 lbs, good looks, nice tanned body (HIV-). Enjoy movies, sports, cars, the beach, music & dining in & out. ISO younger HWP hispanic for dating. Desire monogamous relationship. Be DDF. I've a lot to offer. You will be pleased you answered. Ad 25705

## TOPS LOOKING FOR SEX TOY

Two GWM lovers, both tops, one 42, one 26, trim, HWP, seeking a rear end submissive bottom for three way - just plain trashy fun. Mail responses preferred or phone. Ad 25709

## PASADENA: 3 CAN BE GOOD COMPANY

And lot's of fun! GWC, barely 30's, one's versatile, one's top only. Both well endowed, HWP, DDF, tired of bars. You: GWM, 18-30, HWP, DDF, versatile or bottom. For: Safe 3-Way Fun, Friendship and Companionship. Ad 25695

## VERY WELL ENDOWED

Attractive GWM, 39, 6'1", 175 and HIV-. Dominant top/daddy type. Seeking the intimacy lacking in a world of casual encounters. I.S.O. younger masculine bottom "boy" that's muscular and attractive. Interests include movies, clubs, intimate evenings, and camping. Respond by letters only; with phone and photo please. Ad 25700

## BOYISH & SMOOTH

GWM, 28, HIV+ seeks GM over 30 for friendship, dating, and more. Interests include boating, bicycling, video games. Prefer large, endowed, hairy men. Photo please. Ad 25771

## LOOKING FOR A TALL GUY

Well built GWM, over 6', HWP, DDF/NS, 40's seeks aggressive G/B/H/M of similar size. You are HIV-, HWP, 35-50, employed professional and know what you want. I'm discreet, masculine, well-dressed, stable and employed. Also romantic, versatile and attractive. Brown/brown/mustache. Inside the loop home owner. All responses answered promptly. Ad 25759

## LET ME MAKE YOUR HEART SMILE

I'm 5'10", 165 lbs, extra nice legs, warm smile, big heart with lots of love to offer our chemistry is right. I'm open to all inquiries, but prefer 25-35 bottom with smooth skin as I have a hairy chest. Now please note I'm also HIV+, but very healthy, active & loving. Please give me a chance & I promise you won't be disappointed. Prefer mail response. Ad 25754

## LOOKING FOR LIKE/PROF. FOR LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP

Looking for a fellow professional with a strong work ethic. Interested in a long term relationship with someone who enjoys nice quiet weekday nights, followed by busy weekends. I'm 36, 6'1" and 175lbs., DDF. You should be between 28 and 38, established in your career, DDF and proportionately built. Life is good and I would like it to get better with the right man. Ad 25656

## SEEK SUBMISSIVE OLDER WHITE MEN

Oriental male looking for submissive older white men. Possible long term. I'm 34, 5'6", 160#, clean, discreet and HIV-; aggressive and demanding. Letters preferred. Phone and photos a plus. Let's fulfill both of our fantasies. Ad 25737

## WANTED: WHITE MALE

Indian male, 30, attractive, very shy and not into an active gay lifestyle. DDF, enjoys hiking, sports, long drives in the country, quiet evenings at home, interesting conversation and an overall active lifestyle. ISO white male over 35 with similar interests for long term monogamous relationship. Looks not important. Let's exchange letters and photo. Ad 25752

## BOTTOM SEEKS TOP

I.S.O.: Masculine, hairy, HWP, HIV-, well endowed GWM for safe fun. No strings. Pure indulgence. ME: 40 yr., HIV-, 5'7", 160 lbs, brown hair, brown eyes, w/S & P beard. Average guy. No hang-ups. Photo w/letter for response. Ad 25724

## WANTED: BLACK MAN

GWM, 29, 5'5", well proportioned, hazel eyes/dark blond hair, and big smile. I love outdoors, cooking, walking, movies, novels, and working out. Most of all I love to spend quality time with someone special. I am honest, caring and sincere. I would like to meet a GBM, 29-45, who is single, funny and charming, but most of all has a sense of humor. If you would like to talk or possibly meet give me a call. Maybe you can add a little laughter to my life. Ad 25770

## FEMALES IN SEARCH OF TROUBLE ...

are searching for you. All female SM/BD/fetish social group. We might have the answers to your questions. Ad 25736

## HISPANIC WANTED

GWM 34, black hair/brown eyes, 180 lbs, attractive masculine looking, great sense of humor, down to earth, enjoys dancing, movies - a true romantic ISO a very cute hispanic male who has a smooth swimmers build, great personality and who is looking for a best friend first and lasting relationship later. Ad 25769

## FRIENDLY YOUNG MAN WANTED

Affectionate older GWM seeks a young man for discreet and safe fun. I like to please young men, especially if they are slender, boyish and smooth. DDF please. Ad 25693

## EUROPEAN GUY

I am 27 years old, 5'7", 132, brown hair and brown eyes, healthy (HIV-), warm and caring. I enjoy movies (foreign), music, animals, cars, etc. I'm looking for a compatible, masculine, professional man who is single, smart, funny and charming. Ad 25715

## CARING FUNNY & GOOD-LOOKING

Attractive & muscular, GWM, 38, 5'8", 175, HIV+, masculine, smooth skin, and clean shaven with dark brown hair and green eyes. I am romantic, very healthy, active, and love the outdoors. I'm a versatile bottom and prefer a masculine, lean or muscular, top with a hairy chest, mustache or beard a plus. Prefer mail response. Ad 25767

Attractive male, 32, 5'9", 145#, sincere professional. Seeking monogamous relationship with someone who is sincere, HWP, non-smoker, and values family life. Interests: museums, traveling, dining out, and quiet conversation. Prefer mail responses. Ad 25722

## DAD WANTED (FOR REAL)

Loving, professional, attractive white lesbian couple seeking a willing, loving, giving GWM or couple who wants to share and enjoy the gift of parenthood. Joint custody or custody to the lesbian couple with visitation rights for the male frequently. We love children and want to bring one into this world. Share in the joy! Ad 25765

## LISTEN TO THE WIND BLOW

WATCH THE SUN RISE. GWM, good looking and professional seeking soul mate. Come out of hiding and enjoy the good life! Two males together can form a synergism and conquer the world. What are you waiting for? Ad 25761

## CHRISTIAN SEEKS LIFEMATE

GWM, 33, 6'1", 285, christian, professional with big heart. I'm nice looking, short brown hair and mustache. Seeking that special someone with lots of love to give for monogamous relationship. Interests include movies, intimate evenings, helping people in need, yard sales, flea markets, and my church. Ad 25708

## GIVING MY HEART

GHM attractive, spiritual, realistic, looking for new contacts for friendship and future romance. Discover within this loving heart the great chances of meeting, talking, and sharing with me the magnificent gift of all times LOVE. Respond soon, letters are greatly appreciated. Ad 25756

## AFTERNOON DELIGHT

Professional GWM, 49, blonde-blue, clean shaven, 6', 165, swimmers body. I.S.O. part-time play buddy. You are good-looking, 30 to 50, HWP, drug free, without hangups. CALLS ONLY. Ad 25704

## GO FOR IT!

GWM seeks man of color to make my dreams come true. Looking for love. Tired of games and one night stands. You can't lose what you don't have. Ad 25692

## SOUL/LIFE MATE WANTED

GWM, 51, 5'10", 205 lbs. stocky weightlifter, HIV-, professional demeanor, active Christian, conservative straight lifestyle, seeks brawny, bear, linebacker, beefy hunk/chunk with similar attributes. Physically challenged encouraged to reply. Thanks! Ad 25727

## NO STRINGS -NO RINGS

GWM, 31, 5'10", 155. Seeking someone who doesn't want or desperately need to be married but would like to just have fun. I would prefer someone who isn't necessarily a body-builder, but at least works out on a regular basis as I do. If you have a positive attitude and a sense of humor, I would like to hear from you. Written responses with phone number preferred. Ad 25768

## FURTHER INVESTIGATION NECESSARY

I can't be defined in a personal ad. It's merely an introduction. You must listen to my voice, look into my eyes, feel the gentle touch of my hand to truly get to know me. I am a man who enjoys being with a man. I'm 31 GBM who sports goatee and short hair. I'm employed, have several other interests and there's a bit more to me than meets the eye. Want to find out how much more, drop me a detailed letter. My only request is that you are attractive, sexy, intelligent and compassionate. I have a slight preference to fuzzy navels and goatees. C'mon, cross over. Ad 25755

## SWEET AND SPICY LOOKING FOR YOU!

SBF seeking healthy happy woman. I am looking for a loving friendship. Enjoy dancing, candlelight, music, laughing and a Southern Lady. Put a little spice in your life! I do want truth in all correspondence. Ad 25731

## GORGEOUS EUROPEAN ISO AMERICAN STUD

Very handsome European, 5'10", 165 lbs, nice body, HIV-, masculine, very sexy & hot, seeks good looking bi-males for fun times & more. You must be good looking, nice body & "big", dominant, straight acting, age 20-40. I'm looking for American honky-tonk, cornfed type. I'm 29 yrs. old & ready to satisfy. Ad 25760

## SOMEONE TO SHARE LIFE

Looking for someone to share life with me. A home, pets and comfortable closeness. Would like monogamous, almost platonic relationship. Tired of dinner alone? Respond. Maybe we can both finally "exhale." Please be over 30 years. Photo will get mine. Ad 25757

## WANTED: BOY

For long-term monogamous relationship with "gifted" GWM in early 40s. I am 6', 170#, auburn/hazel, w/moustache. A true "daddy". I am healthy and HIV-. You should be younger, attractive, masculine and DDF. Letter only w/photo and phone #. Ad 25719

## LOOKING FOR THAT SPECIAL PERSON

GWF, early 30's, non-smoker, looking for GWF, 30-45. I enjoy movies, intimate dinners & the outdoors. Ad 25730

## SEEKING TO MAKE NEW FRIENDS

New to the gay scene. Recently divorced. Looking to make new friends/acquaintances. I am a WM early 50's but people say I look 40. DDF, non-smoker, permanently employed. I am average looking, tall and slim, hazel eyes, blond hair. I like quiet evenings, enjoy cooking, gardening, country and western music, the beach, and the outdoors. If interested, respond to Ad 25674.

## IF YOU KNOW...

how to follow orders, contact me. I am 46, 5'9", 190, hairy, aggressive and demanding. Ad 25673

## TWICE THE FUN!

Two good looking masculine guys, 25 & 30, interested in meeting business professional (25-45) for occasional hot, safe, discreet fun. Must be successful, masculine and in shape. Prefer mail responses, letter/photo. Ad 25721

## PARENTING, ANYONE?

Sincere, mature, responsible, stable, attractive, professional GWM desires to be apart of the parenting process. Lesbian couple, or lesbian single preferred to participate in one of life's greatest treasures. Joint-custody or custody to the couple with visitation for male frequently. With so much to give to a child, why waste it when gay couples and singles have proven that we are unbeatable as parents with more depth and love to give. Ad 25723

## GENTLE LEATHER "DAD" SEEKS NOVICE "BOY"

Attractive GWM physician, 35, 5'10", 160, new in town, seeks boy 18-24 with interest in light S/M, B/D. Very understanding and patient. If you ever thought of getting into "leather" with a gentle but firm master, give me a call. Ad 25744

## LONELY GHM

31, 5'7", 135#, seeks GW or GHM for life-mate, monogamous relationship. Must be honest, sincere, 32+ year of age. I'm HIV-, short black hair. Enjoy travelling, being adventurous. You must be the same and versatile. No games. Photo please. Physical must be terrific. Ad 25739

## GHM, 31, 5'11", 170, BLACK HAIR/BROWN EYES

My interests are cooking, working out, jogging, sports, the outdoors and gardening. I would like to spend time with that special man. Oh, by the way, it's so hard to meet men in Houston who are honest and sincere. I am seeking GWM for friendship and possibly a longterm relationship. I have a lot to offer. You will be pleased you answered. Ad 25763

## SPECIAL BOTTOMS, GIVE ME A CALL

Submissive? Provide dedicated service and do it right? Take instructions and behave obediently? Boy/slave in need of bindings and discipline? Enjoy it all and more? Need put in your place with a demanding top? If serious GM, 25-40, fit, clean, easy going, nice guy, you call now! Ad 25653

## QUALITY MAN...

That's what I want. Dark complexion, Middle East/Mediterranean a big plus. Me: GWM, very fit, masculine, 5'8", 155 lbs, good looking. You: Masculine, "addiction-free", SERIOUS. I'm educated, professional, stable, healthy, great morals/values. Desire same. Letters preferred; all answered. Take a chance; let's talk, meet, dance. Photo gets mine. Ad 25694

## EAST SIDE GWM SEEKS FRIENDS/POSSIBLE RELATIONSHIP

I am 35, 5'8", 145, brown hair, blue eyes, healthy, HIV-, happy, well built, attractive, masculine, and successful with strong work ethic. Interested in movies, music, plants, pets, dance, intimate evenings, versatile "top." Seeking HIV-honest, sincere, attractive, healthy, financially stable GM with strong work ethic for friendships and possibly loyal, long term monogamous relationship. Not looking for someone well endowed, just intelligent with a kind heart. Send photo -mail responses preferred. Ad 25750

# Celebrate Gay Pride Month by the book!

## HOUSTON

### Hear Gay Writers From Your Own Backyard!



Wednesday, June 12  
8:00-9:30pm

Vanderbilt Square  
3003 West Holcombe Boulevard  
at the corner of Buffalo Speedway

Join us as gay and lesbian writers and poets from the Houston area read from their works. What better way to celebrate Gay Pride Month than with a little local color!

HOUSTON ☺  
5000 Westheimer Road  
across from the Galleria  
(713) 629-8828

THE VILLAGE AT WEST OAKS ☺☺☺  
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at Westheimer Road  
across from West Oaks Mall  
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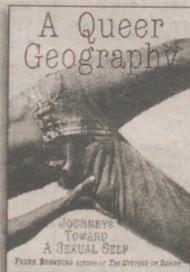
### Virtual Equality

by Urvashi Vaid

A landmark critique of the true nature of the gay presence in the American main-

stream. Veteran gay activist Urvashi Vaid tackles tough questions with a unique combination of visionary politics and earned pragmatism.

Anchor Books \$14.95



### A Queer Geography

by Frank Browning

From the author of the bestselling *The Culture of Desire* comes this ground-

breaking look at the effect of geography on sexuality. From the streets of Brooklyn to a small town in Kentucky, Browning uncovers the roots of today's gay rights movement.

Crown \$24.00

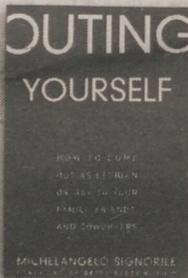


### And Say Hi to Joyce

by Deb Price and Joyce Murdoch

Nationally syndicated columnist Deb Price and journalist Joyce Murdoch offer this warm chronicle of their life as a couple. An honest look at the day-to-day realities of a permanent, monogamous and loving gay relationship.

Main Street Books \$12.95



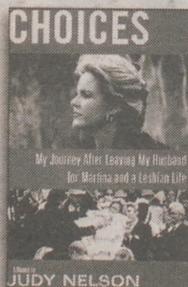
### Outing Yourself

by Michelangelo Signorile

A sensitive 14-step program for coming out, written by the

author of *Queer in America*. This no-nonsense book includes exercises, meditation notes and anger checks, along with anecdotal coming-out accounts from all over the country.

Fireside \$11.00

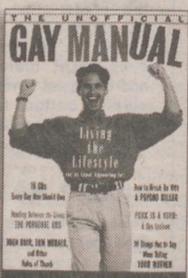


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by Judy Nelson

Deeply personal and frank, this is the autobiography of the former Texas beauty queen who left her husband for a much-publicized relationship with Martina Navratilova. A heart-felt story of one woman's choices—and their powerful results.

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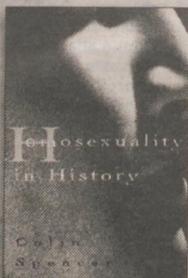


### Sex Between Men

by Douglas Sadownick

A sexual odyssey through the last fifty years of gay history. Combining personal testimony and thoughtful commentary, this book tracks the sexual history of the modern gay man—from the trenches of World War II to the clubs of the 90s.

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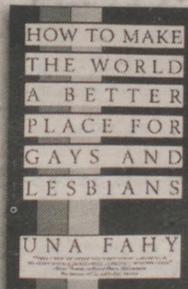


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by Colin Spencer

British author Colin Spencer cuts through myth and misunderstanding to examine same-sex love and its place in society throughout history—from the ancient world to today's gay pride parades.

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### How to Make the World a Better Place for Gays and Lesbians

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How can you make a difference in the fight to help homosexuals achieve basic civil rights and respect? This practical guide offers 50 simple strategies and tips to help you battle homophobia at all levels of society.

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