

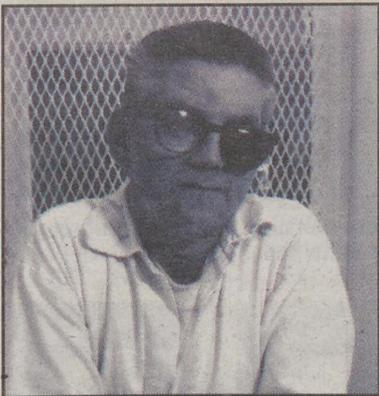


### INSIDE



Some state-level candidates, such as governor hopeful Tony Sanchez, appear more likely to be positive on gay issues than their opponents.

Page 3



Gay former death row inmate Calvin Burdine awaits a spring retrial and fights to keep his appellate attorney for that new proceeding.

Page 4



From 'Naked Boys' to White House politics, Houston stages host a variety of theatrical productions this fall.

Page 18

## Conservative political activist targets gay GOP candidate

Wilson, known for efforts on anti-gay City Prop. 2, urges fellow GOP voters to avoid gay judge candidate

By PENNY WEAVER

A political activist familiar to gay Houstonians for his anti-gay efforts has jumped into campaigning for Nov. 5 by urging his fellow Republicans not to vote a straight ballot in order to withhold their vote from a gay GOP candidate.

Dave Wilson is well known in the city for his conservative group, Houstonians For Family Values, which led support of the anti-gay City Prop. 2 last fall. That measure, narrowly approved by voters, denies domestic

partner benefits to City of Houston employees.

Now Wilson is sending automated phone calls to voters to encourage them to avoid voting a straight Republican ballot. That slate of candidates includes one gay GOP nominee, and Wilson wants voters to be sure they don't cast their ballot for that candidate.

"I feel like, whether you like it or not, there is a state law that prohibits sodomy in the state of Texas, and having a judge who professes to have a lifestyle that violates state law — whether it's pedophilia, stealing, [or sodomy] — is wrong," Wilson told the Voice this week.

Alex Wathen is the openly gay Republican candidate who is challenging incumbent Democrat Judge David Patronella for the justice of the peace seat for Precinct 1, Place 2, which includes the heavily gay Montrose neighborhood.

Wathen's candidacy also has caused rifts among gay political leaders. Many support Patronella, touting his qualifications and



The latest anti-gay effort by Houston political activist Dave Wilson (left) is to urge Republicans not to vote a straight ticket in order to avoid voting for gay GOP candidate Alex Wathen (right). Wathen opposes incumbent Judge David Patronella in Precinct 1, Place 2, which includes Montrose.

friendliness to gay voters, while others back Wathen as a natural candidate for gay voters because of his own sexual orientation.

Wathen compared gay political consultant

Please see REPUBLICAN, on Page 6

## State: Legislature should decide fate of sodomy law

State files response brief in case that challenges the Texas 'homosexual conduct' law

By PENNY WEAVER

The state of Texas has filed a new brief with the U.S. Supreme Court, the next step in the ongoing case that challenges the Texas sodomy law.

Gay Houston attorney Mitchell Katine, who represents two Houston men in the case of Lawrence and Garner v. Texas, said Thursday that the state's filing puts the issue one step closer to being heard by the highest court in the nation.

The state's brief is a reply to the peti-



Houston attorney Mitchell Katine said he and other attorneys representing two Houston men will file another brief with the U.S. Supreme Court by Nov. 5 in the sodomy law case.

tion filed on behalf of John Lawrence and Tyrone Garner. The Supreme Court had ordered the state to file a reply three weeks ago after attorneys for Texas originally filed a waiver, noting it did not intend to respond to the other side's brief.

In the new paperwork filed by the state,

attorneys contend that enforcement of the sodomy law is not a violation of equal protection and "has a rational basis" because the Texas legislature originated the statute.

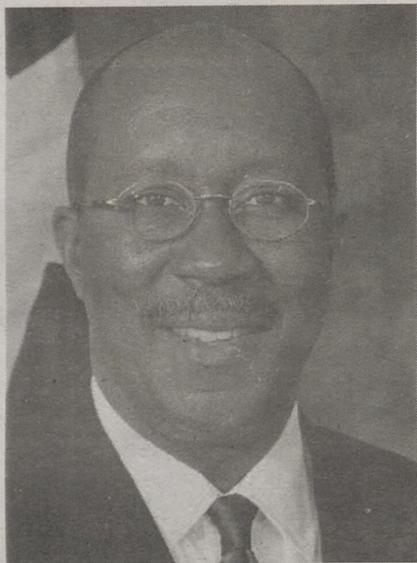
"Homosexuality and the homosexual conduct statute is a comment by the Texas legislature that homosexuality is immoral," Katine said, explaining the reasoning put forth in the state's brief. "The state is arguing that any change in [the sodomy law] should be left to the legislature and not the courts."

Attorneys for the state write: "Enforcement of the statute prohibiting homosexual conduct did not violate the respective Equal Protection Clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution ... because the statute

Please see SODOMY LAW, on Page 7

# Texas Democrats

## Fighting For Fairness, Fighting For Our Families



**Ron Kirk for U.S. Senate**



**Tony Sanchez for Texas Governor**



**John Sharp for Lt. Governor**



**Kirk Watson for Attorney**



**Sheila Jackson Lee for U.S. Rep. Dist. 18**



**Chris Bell for U.S. Rep. Dist. 25**



**John Whitmire for State Senator Dist. 15**



**Rodney Ellis for State Senator Dist. 13**



**Mario Gallegos for State Senator Dist. 6**



**Senronia Thompson for State Rep. Dist. 141**



**Debra Danburg for State Rep. Dist. 134**



**Ken Yarbrough for State Rep. Dist. 138**



**Garnet Coleman for State Rep. Dist. 133**



**Scott Hochberg for State Rep. Dist. 137**



**Jessica Ferrar for State Rep. Dist. 148**



**Sylvia Garcia for Cnty. Comm. Pct. 2**

Texas Democrats are fighting for human rights, dignity and freedom, for all people and all families.

Texas Democrats are working for lower insurance rates, good jobs with good benefits, and access to health care and prescription drugs we can afford.

Texas Democrats are fighting for us.

**Vote Democratic**  
**Early Voting Ends**  
**Friday, Nov. 1**  
**Election Day is**  
**Tuesday, Nov. 5**

## local news

## State-level candidates square off

Sanchez, Perry have mixed records on gay issues; Bell, Reiser have some similar stances

By PENNY WEAVER

Political issues vital to gay Texans may not be in the forefront of statewide races for the Nov. 5 election, but there remain some clear distinctions between top candidates on gay issues.

Wealthy oilman Tony Sanchez is the Democratic nominee for governor. He faces incumbent Gov. Rick Perry, a Republican, on the upcoming ballot.

Houston gay political consultant Grant Martin worked for Sanchez during the Democratic primary. According to Martin, Sanchez supports domestic partner benefits; opposes any bill that would outlaw gay and lesbian parenting and foster parenting; supports a state Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA); supports hate crimes laws; and favors maintaining or increasing funding for HIV prevention, intervention and education.

"I think Tony is good on gay issues generally speaking," Martin said. "[During the primary], he went on the record on a number of issues, including transgender issues. I was impressed that a statewide candidate would go on record on transgender issues.

"I think he's a man with a good heart and he believes in equal right and justice. I think that he's on our side," Martin added.

Perry's record includes the fact that in May 2001, he signed the James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Act into law, although he was noncommittal on the measure until he gave it his signature. The law strengthens the penalties for offenses against minorities including gays.

Most political observers, however, agree that Perry's overall support on gay issues is lukewarm.

The race for the Texas governor's office triggered a rift in February between leading gay groups in the state. Log Cabin Republicans of Texas criticized the Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus and the Austin Gay/Lesbian Political Caucus after both groups endorsed Sanchez.

"According to news reports, Sanchez was responsible for spreading rumors that Henry Cuellar is gay. Is this acceptable behavior in 2002 for any politician?" said Lorri Dennis, president of the Texas LCR. "We do not want to tell any group how to run their business. However, why can a candidate who plays upon homophobia fears to succeed receive caucus endorsements?"

In spring 2001, Sanchez sent a letter of apology to Cuellar, Texas Secretary of State, in relation to the incident to which Dennis referred. Private investigators hired by Sanchez's lawyer, who was looking into the origin of a reportedly threatening letter, told Cuellar's friends and family he is gay.



Democrat Tony Sanchez (left) is challenging incumbent Republican Gov. Rick Perry for the state's top post. Sanchez is seen by many political observers as more favorable on issues of importance to gay voters.

That prompted Sanchez's letter of apology, but he stopped short of apologizing to Cuellar for alleging that the secretary of state wrote the threatening letter to Sanchez, the Voice reported in April 2001.

Cuellar responded by saying that Sanchez needed to also apologize to Cuellar's family and publicly admit that he did suspect Cuellar of writing the letter.

At the time, the Associated Press reported that Kathy Walk, a spokeswoman for Perry, called the incident "character assassination." That prompted at least one gay activist to question why a person's sexual orientation would be perceived as so harmful.

Although Walk told the Voice at the time that she did not use the term attributed to her by the AP, Dianne Hardy-Garcia, then-executive director of the Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas, said that if Walk did call the accusation that Cuellar is gay "character assassination," her comment was "unfortunate."

"We still live in a society where even a suspicion that you're gay is seen as somehow harmful to people's reputation," Hardy-Garcia told the Voice. "It shouldn't be any big deal who you are."

In February, LCR's Dennis said Sanchez, either directly or indirectly, employed the power of homophobia to defeat a political opponent in the race against Cuellar.

"This is a significant issue," she said. "The story was reported in major state newspapers on their state and editorial pages during February and March of 2001. Why hasn't any of this been brought to light by any gay political organizations?"

But Kenneth Jones, HGLPC president, defended the caucus endorsement of Sanchez in the primary. He said Sanchez has offered positive feedback on many gay issues.

"He has publicly said that he would encourage passage of the repeal of the sodomy law and he would sign that bill when it comes across his desk, things that Rick Perry certainly hasn't said," Jones said.

### Bell, Reiser vie for seat in Congress

In another race on the upcoming ballot, Houstonians will choose a representative for U.S. Congress in District 25. Vying for that post are Democrat Chris Bell, a former Houston City Council member, and Republican Tom Reiser, an insurance company executive.

Bell won 54.3 percent of the Democratic vote in the primary to earn his party's nomination. Reiser was unopposed for the GOP nomination.

Having served two terms on the city council, Bell is known for several pro-gay stances. He supported the city's anti-bias bill, approved last year, which prohibits discrimination based on factors including sexual orientation. He also opposed City Prop. 2, which prevents the City of Houston from offering health insurance and other benefits to same-sex domestic partners of city employees.

Reiser also supports equal rights for all citizens, including gays, a spokesman for his campaign said this week.

Phaedra Dugan, press secretary for Reiser, said the candidate is against measures like City Prop. 2, and opposes discrimination against any group of people.

"Gays voting for Republicans — that's like chickens endorsing Colonel Sanders."

—Sue Lovell, member of the Democratic National Committee

"As someone who did provide health care benefits for employees for 18 years, regardless of sexual orientation, Tom is opposed to Prop. 2," Dugan said. "He personally does not believe that it's right to discriminate against someone based upon sexual orientation."

Reiser believes that issues such as hate crimes legislation and the proposed federal Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) should not be before the U.S. Congress.

"He believes the Constitution dictates that ENDA and hate crimes law should be handled at the state level," Dugan said.

The District 25 seat opened up when incumbent Democrat Ken Bentsen decided to run for U.S. Senate. But Bentsen garnered only 26.6 percent in the primary race, losing his party's nomination to former Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk.

The district includes River Oaks, Bellaire, Pasadena and Baytown.

### Activists plan to get the vote out

Gays enjoying the nightlife in the Montrose area this weekend likely also will have a chance to talk to candidates for the upcoming election.

Houston lesbian political activist Sue Lovell, a member of the Democratic National Committee, said about 50 candidates will converge in Montrose on Friday, Saturday and Sunday to encourage people to vote.

"They're going out into the bars to generate interest and excitement about voting," Lovell said. "It's part of the coordinated campaign effort. We've just got to raise their awareness. They have to understand the importance of this election."



Democrat Chris Bell (left) and Republican Tom Reiser are competing for the District 25 seat in the U.S. Congress. Bell is well known to gay Houstonians as an ally, but Reiser also has said he supports equal rights for all people.

Politicians joining the effort will include candidates for the state legislature and justice of the peace spots, she noted.

According to Lovell, Democrats like Rep. Debra Danburg, who is running against Martha Wong for the state District 134 seat, vitally need support from gay voters.

"Gays voting for Republicans — that's like chickens endorsing Colonel Sanders," Lovell said.

Members of the GOP, of course, disagree with that viewpoint. Steve Labinski, president of the Austin chapter of the Log Cabin Republicans, a gay GOP group, said this election is an important one in which gays can establish rapport with Republican office-holders.

"This year's redistricting has drawn Republican districts exclusively from the outlying suburbs into many of the state's urban areas, like central Austin, Dallas and Houston," Labinski said. "Consequently, Republicans will now be representing gays and lesbians at a higher level than ever before."

According to Labinski, Log Cabin is the only gay political group that sought to work with GOP candidates in Austin.

"Our endorsed candidates experienced nothing but hostile comments and cold shoulders from other local gay political organizations," he said. "This is a shame because if we are to improve the landscape for equal rights, we should be looking forward, educating new people."

"We urge gays and lesbians who have previously voted Democrat to take a close look this time at their ballot," Labinski added.

### MORE INFO

Tony Sanchez  
512-615-1300  
www.tonysanchez.com

Rick Perry  
512-478-3276  
www.rickperry.org

Chris Bell for Congress  
713-664-1200  
www.chrisbellforcongress.com

Tom Reiser for Congress  
713-665-4280  
www.tomreiserforcongress.com

# KEEP Judge David Patronella

*Justice of the Peace  
Precinct One, Place Two*

Judge David Patronella has been a friend of our community for two decades. For years, he has been the only Judge at the downtown courthouse with a written policy of non-discrimination. He is rated "Qualified" by 97% of the attorneys in the 2002 Houston Bar Association Qualification Poll ... the highest rating of any Judge in the County. In contrast, his opponent was rated "Unqualified" by 74% of attorneys in the same poll ... by far, the lowest rating of any of the judicial candidates on the November 5th ballot.

**We need Judge Patronella's  
experience, fairness, compassion  
and integrity.**

**Please join us in keeping this great Judge!**

Grant Martin	Ray Hill	Sue Lovell
Council Member	Annise Parker	Dalia Stokes
Janine Brunjes	Phyllis Frye	Brooks Ballard
Ben Montalbano	Jim Kovach	Mark Wood
Mitchell Katine	Charles Armstrong	
Dr. Ken Jones	Marion Coleman	

Paid Political Advertisement, Judge David Patronella Campaign,  
P.O. Box 10283, Houston, TX 77206

## local news

# Federal judge expected to rule on Burdine case

ACLU represents defendant as he attempts to keep his longtime attorney as counsel for his new capital murder trial

By PENNY WEAVER

Houston attorneys for a state judge and representatives for a gay former Texas death row inmate expect a federal judge's decision on their precedent-setting dispute any day.

The two sides are battling a civil suit that stems from the retrial of Calvin Burdine, whose murder conviction was overturned and whose new trial now is set for March 3.

Last week, U.S. District Judge David Hittner held a hearing in his courtroom at which he had ordered both State District Judge Joan Huffman and attorney Annette Lamoreaux to appear. Lamoreaux is East Texas regional director for the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and represents Burdine, who is fighting to keep Georgia attorney Robert McGlasson as his defense counsel.

Huffman had declined to appoint McGlasson as Burdine's attorney for the retrial, stating that he is not on the Harris County list of approved capital case lawyers.

At the Oct. 17 hearing, Hittner said he will decide by this week if he has the authority to order that McGlasson be appointed to represent Burdine in the new trial.

During the hearing, Hittner did not state how he will rule but noted his decision in the ongoing state case will set precedent, the Houston Chronicle reported.

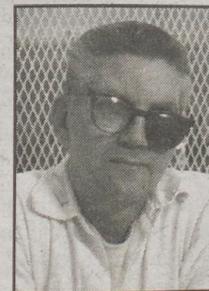
Dan Maeso, an assistant Texas attorney general representing Huffman, argued during last week's hearing that Hittner does not have authority to order McGlasson appointed for the retrial because Huffman has judicial immunity, the Chronicle reported.

The case reached this level after the U.S. Supreme Court in June refused to intervene in the ongoing case of Burdine, whose lawyer slept through portions of his 1984 capital murder trial.

The high court decision left Texas authorities to either retry Burdine or set him free. Burdine was found guilty of murdering his male lover during a 1983 domestic dispute in the home they shared.

Burdine originally confessed to the crime, but has since said he did not commit the killing and tried to stop the killer, a man who has already served a prison sentence for his role in the slaying.

The Supreme Court rejected an appeal from Texas authorities, who argued that the inattention of Burdine's lawyer, Joe Cannon, did not necessarily equal an unfair trial. Cannon is deceased.



Calvin Burdine, a gay former Texas death row inmate, is fighting to keep his appellate attorney as his counsel in his retrial next spring.

McGlasson has handled Burdine's death penalty appeal and appeared with him in Harris County court in mid-June for a hearing to determine Burdine's counsel for retrial.

But at that proceeding, Huffman refused to appoint McGlasson as Burdine's counsel.

Her stated reason was that he is not on the Harris County list of lawyers approved to represent defendants in capital murder cases.

McGlasson's own attorneys then filed an emergency appeal with the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals. The appeal, known as a mandamus petition, asked the court to force Huffman to appoint McGlasson as Burdine's counsel.

McGlasson's attorneys argue that Huffman's reasoning is flawed, especially since Burdine's appeal in the "sleeping lawyer" case helped lead to the creation of the qualifying list to begin with.

McGlasson was originally appointed by the state to represent Burdine. According to McGlasson's attorneys, existing case law supports the continuance of the attorney-client relationship where possible. Although no cases specifically addressed a lawyer who represented a defendant during his initial trial and then wanted to represent him at retrial, the principle is the same, they argue.

This week, McGlasson said the federal judge's decision could come at any time. He said Hittner expressed an interest in returning his decision quickly, but the issue before him is not an everyday ruling for a judge.

"It's not the most straight-forward, simple thing that he's ruling on," McGlasson said. "It's an interesting and unusual context."

Lamoreaux represents Burdine for the ACLU as he fights to keep McGlasson as his counsel for the retrial.

Two weeks ago, Huffman and Lamoreaux met for about three hours to argue whether or not McGlasson would represent Burdine in the retrial. Lamoreaux then filed the federal lawsuit over Huffman's refusal to appoint McGlasson.

Hittner ordered both sides to mediation last month with the threat of intervening if there was no resolution. Since the parties could not resolve their impasse, Hittner ordered last week's hearing.

Huffman has said that she abided by state and local rules when she refused to appoint McGlasson because he is not on the list of approved lawyers.

But Lamoreaux said McGlasson is not on that Harris County list because he now lives and works in Georgia. At the time he was originally appointed to represent Burdine, he practiced law in Texas.

A condition of his current employment allows McGlasson to continue to represent clients in ongoing cases, including Burdine's, Lamoreaux added.

"He has an unparalleled knowledge of the facts of this case, in addition to a good relationship with a client who had a very bad relationship with his trial lawyer," Lamoreaux has said.

**houston  
voice** DELIVERS  
direct to your door

6 months: \$45<sup>50</sup>  
1 year: \$91

For just the  
price of  
postage!



To subscribe, call 713.529.8490  
or fax 713.529.9531



## around houston

### Gays at risk for domestic violence, health leaders say

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Montrose Counseling Center, which has programs dealing with domestic abuse, reports that some estimates are that same-sex domestic violence occurs at approximately the same rate as it does among the general population – somewhere between 10 and 30 percent. A recent survey by the Gay & Lesbian Medical Association found that domestic violence is reported to occur in about 11 percent of lesbian homes. Gary Norman, coordinator of the center's anti-violence program, said gay men and bisexuals also are affected by domestic violence. However, he added, "transgender survivors of domestic violence are, arguably, the community facing the most barriers to leaving an abusive relationship." Because of the difficulties in finding shelters for gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered individuals, MCC has developed a scattered site emergency shelter program, using hotels instead of a traditional shelter. Survivors of domestic violence pay nothing for these services, and they are able to stay in their private room for up to 14 days. They are assigned an advocate/case manager who helps them with safety issues, securing more permanent housing, job placement, legal services and other referrals.

#### **i** MORE INFO

Montrose Counseling Center • 701 Richmond Ave.  
Houston, TX 77006-5511 • 713-529-0037  
www.montrosecounselingcenter.org

### Montrose center benefits from weekend 5k run/walk

Montrose Counseling Center is one of eight local organizations to be chosen as a beneficiary of "Come Join the Human Race," a 5k run/walk hosted by Holocaust Museum this weekend. "We are thrilled to be chosen as a beneficiary of this event, particularly because of Holocaust Museum Houston's reputation in promoting diversity and its dedication to educating the public about the dangers of prejudice, hatred and violence," said Ann J. Robison, executive director of Montrose Counseling Center. Robison said funds received from the event will be used for the center's hate crimes project, part of its anti-violence program. This project provides trauma counseling and case management services to anyone who is the victim of a hate or bias-related crime, not just those targeting gays. The public is invited to come watch the race. Registration forms are available at HEB, the prime sponsor, or at www.hmh.org. Montrose Counseling Center is a non-profit agency which provides affordable mental health and related services in a culturally affirming manner primarily to gays.

ELLA TYLER

### Donations sought for annual Christmas fund-raiser

A Christmas Songfest is looking for people to help with this year's fund-raiser by donating auction items, buying tickets to the event, or buying advertising in the Songfest program. A Christmas Songfest, a traditional Christmas gala in Houston, will be Dec. 8 this year. Guests sign up to sing Christmas songs on stage in groups or singles to sing for a prize at the end of the evening. Songs range from the reverent to the zany. Proceeds each year benefit local agencies providing direct health care and health services, particularly those for people affected by HIV/AIDS. Bering Omega Community Services and the Center for AIDS are this year's beneficiaries, according to Songfest organizers. Entertainers Sharon Montgomery, Terry Pierce, Bubba McNeely and Kim Yvette are slated to perform at the event, which also includes an open bar and a dinner buffet. Individual tickets are \$50 and are available only at the door. Tables for 10, which must be reserved ahead of time, are \$500, \$650 or \$800. A Christmas Songfest is an all-volunteer, non-profit charitable organization that has disbursed more \$400,000 to past beneficiaries, according to organizers.

PENNY WEAVER

#### **i** MORE INFO

Come Join the Human Race  
2:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 27  
University of Houston • www.hmh.org

#### **i** MORE INFO

Christmas Songfest • 5:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8  
Edwin Hornberger Conference Center  
For table reservations or information,  
Call John Walt • 713-868-9585

### Hull joins Houston Voice staff

Houstonian Donna Hull has joined the staff at the Houston Voice as an account executive.

In this new position, Hull is responsible for advertising sales, and she brings extensive sales and marketing experience to the newspaper's team of advertising representatives.

Hull has several years of experience in sales throughout the Houston area. Most recently, she served as a cruise consultant for Cruise Center. She also has worked in outside sales at Metro Networks.

Born in San Antonio, Hull was raised in Baytown. She has lived in Houston for a number of years.



"I'm thrilled to be part of the Houston Voice staff," Hull said. "I'm looking forward to helping introduce our newspaper to businesses throughout the city."

Hull joins a sales staff that also includes Brett Cullum, account executive.

"Donna has lots of enthusiasm and a can-do attitude," said Penny Weaver, editor of the Voice. "She's

a strong advocate for her clients, making sure they get the most for their advertising dollars. We're delighted to have her aboard."

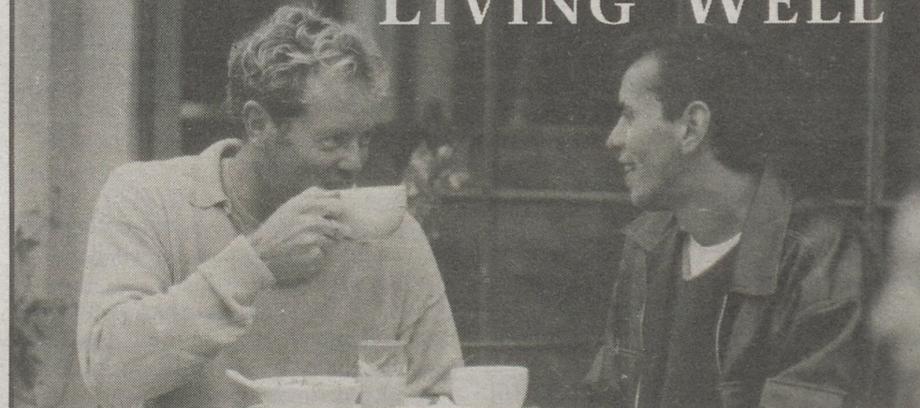
When not at work, Donna spends time with her 8-year-old son, other family members and many friends.

FROM STAFF REPORTS

## STATSCRIPT PHARMACY CHRONIMED

Specialty Pharmacy. Specialty Solutions.

IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT  
LIVING LONGER  
IT'S ABOUT  
LIVING WELL



StatScript is a leader in providing community-based pharmacy services for people with chronic health conditions such as:  
HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C, Organ Transplant and more.

One source for all your  
medication needs

The convenience  
of free delivery

Private one-on-one  
consultation

Complete insurance billing and  
coordination of benefits

4101 Greenbriar, Suite 235, Houston, TX 77098

**713-521-1700**

toll free: 866-523-5995

Fax: 713-521-5855

3407 Montrose, Suite A5, Houston, TX 77006

**713-522-7373**

toll free: 866-523-5998

Fax: 713-522-8696

For other StatScript Pharmacy locations call 800-320-2112 or visit [www.statscript.com](http://www.statscript.com)

You Are Invited To See  
**Mrs. Elaine**  
Psychic Advisor  
713-972-0251

Available  
for parties

One Free  
Question by  
Phone

**Tarot**  
**\$15** Reg. \$35.00  
**Palm**  
only with coupon

**Crystal**  
**\$25** Reg. \$55.00  
**Aura**  
only with coupon

Elaine will help you find a Higher Level of Fulfillment at conquering your inner-most desire. She will enter the energy of your Aura and answer all questions about Love, Career, Family, Health and Difficult Decisions. Elaine holds the key to overcome all obstacles and conditions that may be a part of your life. She also specializes in Healing of the Aura.

## local news

## Gay political activists split on judgeship race

REPUBLICAN, continued from Page 1

Grant Martin to Wilson, since Martin supports Patronella's re-election and Wilson opposes Wathen's election. Martin and Wilson, in fact, worked on opposite sides of the City Prop. 2 battle last fall, directly opposing each other in the political arena.

"Dave Wilson and his rather few followers want the same thing as Grant Martin: They would rather have a heterosexual Democrat than a gay Republican [judge]," Wathen said. "It's very interesting how Dave Wilson and Grant Martin have the exact same reasons here.

"I'm not running on the basis of sexual orientation," he added. "But I think that's very relevant when it comes to Grant Martin's efforts. He's trying to impede progress for our community."

Martin said he supports Patronella, but he dismissed Wathen's comparison of Wilson and himself.

"It's not personal against Alex," Martin said of his public support for Wathen's opponent. "But when he chose to enter public life, there's a set of responsibilities to his community that goes along with it, and I don't think he's up to the task."

## Wilson targets fellow GOP voters

Wilson has repeatedly stated that he is not anti-gay but is pro-family. That was the basis for his campaign in favor of City Prop. 2 last year.

"I characterize what we're doing as pro-family and pro-traditional marriage," Wilson said in support of the proposition. He emphasized that HFFV is not anti-gay. "As far as I'm concerned, anytime we're labeled as that, we're mischaracterized."

As the election nears, Wilson is sending GOP voters an automated telephone message. It urges them to avoid voting a straight Republican ticket because that slate includes Wathen, a gay candidate.

"I'm asking you to vote principles over party politics," Wilson said in the message.

The political activist and frequent candidate for office reiterated that stance this week.

"I am exercising my First Amendment rights — freedom of speech, and the most protected part of freedom of speech, political freedom of speech," Wilson said.

Republicans should put "principles over party," he added, and he expects to vote for Democrat Patronella over the GOP's Wathen.

"I probably will," Wilson said. "I didn't want to actually come out and endorse him. I am in favor of the best person winning."

Wilson has mailed a letter to Republican precinct chairs, asking them to direct party members away from straight ticket voting.

"Although the Democrats have a small lead in this JP precinct, a large turnout voting straight Republican ticket, along with pro-homosexual crossover votes, could elect Mr. Wathen," Wilson said in that letter.

Gay Republican political activists condemned Wilson's stance.

"It's gay-baiting," said Steve Labinski, president of the Austin chapter of Log Cabin Republicans, a gay GOP group. "This is gay-



The Nov. 5 election race between incumbent Judge David Patronella and challenger Alex Wathen, who is gay, has caused rifts among gay Houston political leaders.

baiting, exactly the style [Democratic governor candidate] Tony Sanchez employed in this year's Democrat primary.

"Wathen and Log Cabin have denounced the comments of the self-appointed precinct chair [Wilson]," Labinski added. "Has anyone in the gay Democrat community done this to Tony Sanchez?"

Wathen said he is somewhat surprised that he has become the target of some members of his own party.

"It's certainly an unexpected development," Wathen said. "All year, the religious right has left me alone. The real reason why is [that] I've campaigned not as a gay candidate but simply as a candidate who wants to reform the court. I don't think I've ever mentioned sexual orientation so far."

Wilson dismissed allegations by some Republicans that his crusade is dividing the party and that his efforts may hurt the GOP at the polls.

"I don't think it's me — I think it's the party hurting itself because they didn't get a credible candidate," Wilson said. "I'm just reporting the news; I didn't get them to do that."

Patronella told the Houston Chronicle that sexual orientation is not important to the judicial position and that it was inappropriate for Wilson to send out the phone messages.

Overall, Wathen said his political party has been supportive of his candidacy.

"The majority of people seem to be very supportive of me. The Republican Party has indicated that I am their nominee and they want people to vote straight ticket," he said. "I've really gotten nothing but support from the party."

Although the GOP is viewed as traditionally less friendly on gay issues than the Democratic Party, Republican activists like Wathen and Labinski contend that gays can still work within their party.

"[GOP] party leaders have distanced themselves from [Dave Wilson]," Labinski said. "We think that's important anytime gay-baiting comes up in political campaigns."

"There are differences, but we can still work together," Wathen said of the party and gays.

Wilson's effort against Wathen, and the notoriety his phone messages have brought to the race, may backfire for conservatives, the candidate said.

"It's actually strengthened my campaign and made me much more effective going into the last two weeks," Wathen said.



Gay political consultant Grant Martin (left) said he supports incumbent Judge David Patronella, who is straight, over challenger Alex Wathen, who is gay, based on each man's qualifications for the office.

## Gay leaders split on Wathen, Patronella

Wathen denounced what he called "attacks" on his campaign from Martin and other gay political leaders as divisive for gay Houstonians. He noted that some comments came from Martin via HAN-NET, the Houston Activist Network, a Yahoo Internet e-mail group.

"Overall, the GLBT community is supportive," Wathen said. "It's pretty well known that Grant Martin has sent out a rather nasty and untrue letter on HAN-NET over the weekend. The attacks take all shapes and forms.

"I really don't see how it would hurt our community if I was elected. I think it would help our community," he added.

Martin said his lack of support for Wathen is based on the candidate's qualifications for judgeship.

"I think that what's best for our community is when we elect out, qualified candidates. Both those things are important," Martin said. "If someone is gay or lesbian and they're not out or they're not qualified, they set our community back.

"Our candidates are judged more harshly than straight candidates," he added. "For us to make the strides that we need to make, we have to put our best people forward."

In the exchange on HAN-NET, Martin noted that Wathen did not include on his Web site during the GOP primary that he is gay, nor did he mention on that site that he is president of the Houston chapter of Log Cabin Republicans.

"We need to make sure that our candidates are OUT and QUALIFIED," Martin's posting read.

Wathen's response questioned why he should state that fact on his Web site when, for example, the Web site for Annise Parker, the first and only openly gay member of the Houston City Council, does not mention that she is gay. Also, Patronella does not point out that he is straight while campaigning, Wathen added.

"I don't understand why I should be held to other standards," Wathen said.

According to Martin, it is relevant to Wathen's campaign that he is president of the local Log Cabin chapter, and that fact was not brought up during the primary.

"That's something that really has formed his politics," Martin said. "He ran a closeted primary campaign."

And Martin offered no sympathy for Wathen as the candidate is targeted by

some members of his own party.

"Alex chose his path. Alex has chosen to lie down with dogs, and now he's got fleas," Martin said. "Alex chose to be with the Republicans, the party of Dave Wilson. I think he's a victim of circumstances of his own making.

"I think that what Dave Wilson did is despicable," Martin added. "I would prefer that Dave Wilson would not do what he is doing because I think he is going to be driving out people to vote that we don't want to be making public policy."

Martin, who has worked on campaigns including those of Parker, denied that his support for Patronella is about partisan politics.

"There have been other gay candidates that happen to be Democrats that I have not supported for public office," he said. "I've been in hot water over it. It's an ongoing debate in our community.

"My personal view is it's not enough just to be gay and it's not enough just to be a Democrat," Martin added. "I have a record of supporting openly gay Republicans who are qualified, but unfortunately, Alex doesn't meet that criteria in my mind."

Other leading gay political activists also support Patronella over Wathen. Parker is among those. In addition, the Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus endorsed Patronella.

Dr. Kenneth Jones, HGLPC president, could not be reached for comment on that endorsement choice by press time Thursday.

Wathen downplayed the importance of the HGLPC endorsement.

"I don't think that's a major thing. I think that their influence was great once upon a time but they're increasingly being viewed as a Democratic group," he said. "The caucus only serves a small segment of our community and is nowhere near where it was years ago when it was at its height."

Log Cabin's Labinski said he expects gay Democrats to reject a gay Republican candidate.

"This underscores the fact that gays hold different political views," Labinski said. "The gay Democrats are reluctant to support Alex because they're Democrats. I'm not surprised.

"That whole discussion just makes Log Cabin's point all along: There are gay Democrats, there are gay Republicans, and it shouldn't be assumed that we're a monolithic community."

Wathen said he prefers to see the race between the incumbent Patronella and himself stick to judicial topics.

"I'd like to see this campaign focus back on the issues," he said. "He's not running an effective court. That's what this campaign really is all about."

Wathen did point out the irony of the conservative, anti-gay Wilson voicing support for a candidate also supported by many gay political activists.

"Dave Wilson would rather Patronella, who was endorsed by the Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus, win than me," Wathen said, noting that stance not only puts Wilson on the same side as some gays, but also on the opposite side of his own party.

## local news

# Attorneys hope U.S. Supreme Court will hear case

SODOMY LAW, continued from Page 1

does not implicate fundamental rights or a suspect class, and it has a rational basis in the Legislature's determination that homosexual sodomy is immoral.

"The fact that heterosexual sodomy is no longer a criminal offense under Texas law is not constitutionally significant, since the Legislature could rationally distinguish between an act performed with a person of the same sex and a similar act performed with a person of different sex," the brief states.

The attorneys also argue that enforcement of the statute "did not violate the Equal Rights Amendment of the Texas Constitution, because the statute applied equally to both men and women who engaged in the prohibited conduct, and it was not the product of prejudice towards persons of either gender."

Katine said he and attorneys for Lambda Legal, which represents numerous gay clients across the nation, including Lawrence and Garner, will file a response brief within two weeks.

"I think that the brief is well written in a way that presents legal issues regarding equal protection so that the Supreme Court should resolve the issue of equal protection, as well as possibly comment on privacy issues," Katine said. "The brief presents the legal issues for the Supreme Court to rule on. We now have until Nov. 5 to file our reply to their response."

At that point, the state may file another response, and then the case would go

before the court.

"This is a question of law for the Supreme Court to answer," Katine said, noting he hopes the justices will agree to hear the case. "Their brief is right in line with what they should have done and presents a very good legal question for the Supreme Court to answer. I feel good about the whole thing."

The office of Harris County District Attorney Charles Rosenthal is representing the state of Texas in the matter. Rosenthal has said that although he has never handled a case before the U.S. Supreme Court, he does not necessarily see the justices' request for the state's latest brief as a sign they will hear the matter.

"I don't know that it means they're going to hear the case," Rosenthal has said. "This is virgin territory to me. I'm not surprised. I'm not drawing any conclusions whether they'll hear it or not."

### National effects

The case against the two gay men originated in a Houston bedroom in 1998 when sheriff's deputies, responding to a false report of an armed intruder, entered Lawrence's Houston apartment and found Lawrence and Garner having sex.

Both were arrested and jailed overnight. Both pleaded no contest to the Class C misdemeanor and paid a \$200 fine.

The Texas sodomy law under which the two were charged, section 21.06, bans intimate relations, including oral and anal sex,

between consenting adults of the same sex. It does not apply to heterosexual couples.

The case was appealed to the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, which refused in April to consider the matter.

In mid-July, attorneys filed an appeal with the U.S. Supreme Court in the case, and activists hope this may mean a national victory for gay civil rights.

Lambda Legal charges that the Texas law — known as the "homosexual conduct" law — violates lesbian and gay Texans' constitutional rights to privacy and equal protection. Lambda has asked the high court to review that statute and declare it unconstitutional.

Katine has emphasized the significance of the case.

"This is probably the most important legal case to gay and lesbian people in the last 20 years, since [Georgia's] Bowers v Hardwick," Katine said. "It's kind of history happening right now in our lifetime. What the court does with this case will affect generations to come."

The case presents the Supreme Court with two independent constitutional claims that Lambda Legal urges it to review: one based on equal protection and another based on privacy. As part of its privacy argument, Lambda Legal asks the court to reconsider Bowers v. Hardwick, a 1986 decision that upheld Georgia's sodomy law and rejected a federal right to privacy challenge brought by a gay man.

The Bowers decision has been widely criticized as anti-gay. The Georgia law applied to all couples and has since been

struck down by the Georgia Supreme Court. This week's state brief refers several times to Bowers v. Hardwick, including quoting that case as saying "sexual conduct between persons of the same sex is more 'immoral and unacceptable' than similar conduct occurring between persons of opposite sex."

Rosenthal said Texas officials will continue to fight to uphold the sodomy law.

"One of the things that we've done is we've sworn to uphold the constitution of the state and of the United States, and we're fulfilling our oath," he said.

In early July, an Arkansas sodomy law that Lambda officials have compared to the existing Texas law was struck down.

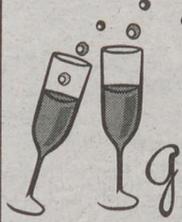
Lambda Legal helped litigate a case that led to the ruling by the Arkansas Supreme Court. The Arkansas decision recognizes that lesbians and gay men share the same constitutional rights as others to privacy, gay legal advocates said.

Texas earlier had a sodomy law that applied to everyone, but decriminalized such activities by different-sex partners in 1974.

Only three other states — Kansas, Oklahoma, and Missouri — still have consensual sex laws that target gay men and lesbians, according to Lambda. Similar to the recent decision in Arkansas, courts in many states, including Georgia, Kentucky, Montana, and Tennessee, have struck down so-called sodomy laws under their state constitutions.

Nine states criminalize private oral and anal sex for both gay and non-gay consenting adults.

Your Online GLBT Wedding Resource  
 Tips for Planning • Shared Stories



Wedding  
 Gift Registry

National Directory of GLBT Friendly Wedding Professionals

RainbowWeddingNetwork.com  
 866-251-1564

Visit The World's  
 Largest Clogstore




theClogstore.com  
 1-800-948-CLOG

**Alone again?**  
 Life After Separation,  
 Breakup or Divorce  
 5-Week Workshop

*This workshop is about picking up  
 the pieces after it all falls apart!*  
 Learn how to:

- Deal with anger, fear, guilt, rejection & loneliness
- Raise self-esteem
- Improve communication & relationship skills
- Build trust
- Get up, let go and move on
- Understand what a good relationship can be

And have some fun along the way!



We will start at ground zero on November 6th and wrap it up with dating and sex on December 4th, Wednesdays 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. 4040 Milam, Suite 310 (above Fitness Exchange)

**DONNIE DAY,**  
 PERSONAL COACH  
 REALITY THERAPY CERTIFIED

CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION &  
 REGISTRATION: 713.467.8748  
 OR E-MAIL: DONNIE@DONNIEDAY.COM

**GET THE VOTE OUT.  
 VOTE STRAIGHT DEMOCRATIC.**



**Randy Roll**  
 For Judge  
 County Criminal Court at Law #9  
 Fair... Experienced... Honest

Roll

E-mail me: rroll@houston.rr.com  
 or visit me: http://home.houston.rr.com/randyroll

**Randy Roll for Judge:**  
 Randy has 14 years of Criminal Law experience, and has tried over 4,000 cases. He is a member of 3 bar associations, is licensed in Texas and Washington, D.C., and is fluent in 4 languages. His experience and ideals make him the right choice to preside over County Criminal Court at Law #9!

Paid Political Advertising for Randy Roll Campaign for Judge, D Crenshaw, Treasurer  
 3730 Kirby #1200, Houston, TX 77098, 713-869-7933  
 In compliance with the voluntary limits of the Judicial Campaign Fairness Act.

## national news

# Vatican considers gay ban for priesthood

Catholic officials using gays as scapegoats for abuse scandal, critics say

By KATHI WOLFE

VATICAN CITY — In the wake of the Catholic sex abuse scandals, the Vatican prepared a draft proposal last week that would ban gay men from becoming priests.

Homosexuality is "objectively disordered," the statement said.

Catholic Reform groups, gay priests and seminarians immediately criticized the proposal, saying that it is based on an inaccurate understanding of theology and sexual orientation.

The Congregation for Catholic Education, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and other Vatican agencies developed the document, according to Catholic News Service.

A ban on gay priests is not expected to become effective in the immediate future. Vatican officials say there is no set time-frame for the publication of the document.

But even though the Vatican appears to be moving slowly on the proposal, Catholic Reform group representatives and Catholic priests said that gay Catholics

and their straight supporters should pay attention to the draft document now.

"The good thing is that Catholics in the pews are appalled by this tactic," said Marianne Duddy, executive director of Dignity USA, a gay Catholic group. "They need to make their feelings known to their bishops."

Sister Jeannine Gramick, a co-founder of New Ways Ministry, an organization in Mount Rainier, Md., that builds bridges between gays and lesbians and their supporters in the Roman Catholic Church, said that the draft proposal could have "a chilling effect."

"Priests are becoming closeted," said Gramick, now a member of the Sisters of Loretto. "They're not trusting their bishops. They're not coming out to them like they did before."

If people don't come out, "feelings get bottled up," she said. "An unhealthy acting out can happen."

It's unlikely that the proposal to ban gay priests could be enforced even if it is enacted, said Marc Fellman, a gay student at the University of Texas School of Law in Austin who was a seminarian at a Jesuit seminary in Syracuse, N.Y. before entering law school.

"It could be used to keep seminarians from being open about being gay," Fellman said. "Sexual orientation would be used as blackmail, an instrument of control."

Roman Catholic Church officials are

wrongly linking gay men with the denomination's sex abuse scandals, according to a report released this week by the Institute for Gay & Lesbian Strategic Studies.

"Blaming gay priests for the sexual abuse of children by pedophile priests in the Catholic Church is unfounded," said Michael Stevenson, author of the report "Understanding Child Sexual Abuse and the Catholic Church, Gay Priests Are Not the Problem."

"The accusation that pedophile priests are gay has no foundation in sound psychological research and amounts to the deliberative scapegoating of gays by church officials," he said. Scapegoating of gay people by the church isn't a new phenomenon, said Edward Ingebretsen, a gay Catholic priest and an associate professor of English at Georgetown University.

"Homophobia and anti-semitism go back to the 12th century," Ingebretsen said. "It's a fraud. It's looking for the perfect enemy."

Ingebretsen left the Roman Catholic Church for the American Catholic Church so that he would not have to lie about his sexual orientation, he said. The American Catholic Church allows both men and women to be ordained as priests and is supportive of gays.

A gay Roman Catholic priest who works with seminaries on the West Coast spoke on condition of anonymity.

If the proposal is adopted, "there will



Sister Jeannine Gramick, who was told by the Vatican to stop her ministry to gays, said the latest Vatican proposal to ban all gays from the priesthood will have 'chilling' consequences.

be questions," he said.

"What about the ordinations of existing gay priests are they valid? What about the ordinations of gay bishops? Are they valid?," the priest asked.

## MORE INFO

Dignity USA  
1500 Mass. Ave., N.W.  
Suite 11  
Washington, D.C. 2005-1894  
800-877-8797  
www.dignityusa.org

# Nev. voters to decide marriage initiative

National gay groups split on involvement in campaign to outlaw gay unions

By MIKE FLEMING

RENO, Nev. — A measure on the Nov. 5 ballot in Nevada would define marriage exclusively as a union between one man and one woman, barring recognition of same-sex commitments from any other state.

"We're doing everything we can think of to fight it, and we're receiving support from all over the country and the state," said Elizabeth Moore, director of Equal Rights Nevada, the statewide gay rights lobby.

That support includes help from the Washington, D.C.-based Human Rights Campaign, which stepped into the initiative fight to help squelch anti-gay opposition at the local level before it becomes a national concern, according to Seth Kilbourn, the HRC's national field director.

"We have done our best to activate our grassroots folks, made sure that our members are aware of the marriage proposal and encouraged those in the area to volun-

teer and get out the vote," Kilbourn said.

The National Gay & Lesbian Task Force, also based in Washington, met with a small team of Nevada activists early this year to do field training for the anti-initiative campaign, but that is the extent of the group's involvement, a spokesperson said this week.

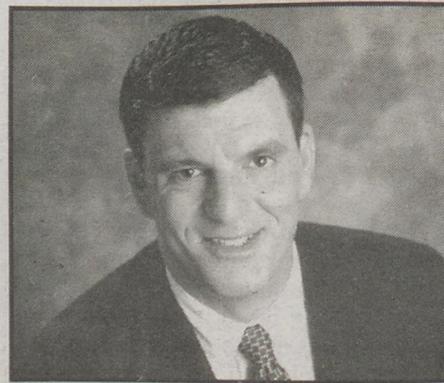
HRC and NGLTF allocated funds and sent field organizers and trainers to Alaska and Hawaii when those states faced marriage ballots similar to the one in Nevada. Voters in those two states banned gay marriages and recognition of same-sex unions from other states.

Both groups were also present in Miami-Dade County earlier this year to identify and motivate voters against a measure to overturn that county's gay rights law. The repeal effort failed.

The two national gay rights groups are also active with field initiatives in votes that will decide gay rights measures next month in Tacoma, Wash., Westbrook, Maine and Ypsilanti, Mich.

HRC spent up to \$70,000 in fighting those measures, Kilbourn said.

The Nevada bill opposes "all imitations of marriage," including "domestic partnerships and reciprocal beneficiary relationships." Backers say the law would deny partners such rights as hospital visitation and deci-



Seth Kilbourn, national field organizer for the Human Rights Campaign, said that national gay organizations should be 'beating back' locally-focused anti-gay efforts to show opponents that their efforts aren't worthwhile.

sion-making power on each other's behalf.

In 2000, some 70 percent of Nevada's voters overwhelmingly approved the measure, called "Question 2." But to be added to the state constitution, state law mandates a second vote this year.

The initial vote set Equal Rights Nevada into action organizing phone banks, yard signs, rallies and fund-raisers.

HRC contributed \$6,000 to Equal Rights Nevada to support a statewide poll and hired consultants to help develop a campaign plan to fight the initiative leading up

to the first vote in 2000.

But even with that support, Equal Rights Nevada raised just \$38,400, distributed relatively few yard signs and called media outlets to help publicize its effort.

But the Coalition for the Protection of Marriage, the main proponent of the ballot initiative, raised some \$1.6 million for its 2000 campaign, which included statewide television advertisements.

This year, HRC donated \$1,000 to Equal Rights Nevada as it geared up to battle the proposal. Moore said the statewide group has raised \$60,000 to fight Question 2 this year.

But the Coalition for 'Protection of Marriage again leads in fund-raising with an estimated \$1 million allocated to advertising alone, according to the Associated Press.

On Oct. 5, a candlelight vigil in Reno drew about 150 people, including religious leaders from several denominations, to oppose the measure. The event came a week after Nevada's Catholic bishops endorsed the marriage initiative.

Another fund-raiser Oct. 14 attracted several high profile politicians, celebrities and other heavy-hitters to the pro-gay group's aid.

Miss Nevada, Teresa Benitez, lent her name and voice to the fund-raiser after clearing her position with the Miss America Pageant.

If the initiative passes, Nevada would be the 36th state to have an anti-gay marriage law, according to the NGLTF Web site.

CAMPAIGN  
'02

## national news

# Bloomberg backpeddles support for equal benefits bill

## Mayor reverses campaign position as some suspect subtle strategy

By STEVE WEINSTEIN

NEW YORK — In his short tenure as New York mayor, Michael Bloomberg has become known as someone who speaks his mind, even when his view is contrarian.

But City Hall observers are scratching their heads over his apparent about-face regarding a proposed equal benefits ordinance that he backed during his recent campaign.

Council member Christine Quinn, a lesbian, rounded up support for the proposal, which would mandate that any company doing more than \$100,000 worth of business with the city provide domestic-partner benefits to its employees.

Similar measures are already in place in Seattle, San Francisco and Oakland, Calif., but activists say that New York would mark a huge step in pressuring private enterprise to extend benefits.

Bloomberg very publicly reversed himself Oct. 3 at the annual Empire State Pride Agenda Dinner. He argued in his speech that city contracts are the wrong avenue to make social policy.

"I don't think that trying to use the city's procurement policies to get our suppliers to provide domestic partner benefits for their employees would be effective at all," he said. "The trouble is that the city is not a big enough customer of most of our suppliers to really have any material impact."

Bloomberg also referred to the city's impending fiscal crunch.

"We're just trying to get the best services at the lowest price," he said, adding that "every company should provide [DP benefits]. I just don't think that this is an effective way to do it."

ESPA Executive Director Matt Foreman said that the mayor has been given misinformation about the fiscal impact and requested a meeting with the mayor where he can lay out ESPA's research.

Foreman said that the domestic-partner bill would not cost the city any more money, citing costs from the three cities where the measure is already in place.

When Albany County was considering a similar measure, Ross Levy, ESPA's legislative counsel, studied the costs. He concluded that for companies without domestic partner benefits, the costs of implementing them would be minimal.

The proposed legislation would require employers to provide domestic partner benefits to same-sex and opposite-sex couples, and the more broadly-worded measure would be more expensive to implement.



A spokesperson from the office of New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg says he's 'not afraid of alienating any particular group.' (Photo by Elise Amendola/AP)

Activists may have a difficult time dislodging Bloomberg's skepticism on the effectiveness of the measure.

"It would be nice if the city could change the world, but in a practical sense, I just don't think that it works," Bloomberg said. "I want to focus on where I think we can make progress rather than those areas where I think it would not be effective and would divert our attention from those places we can."

Foreman anticipates a long educational process involving the City Council, the mayor and the public. Supporters may bring in mayors of the three cities to testify, as

well as corporations doing business there.

"This is a really big bill, and it's going to take months to move it," Foreman said.

## A horse trade?

The mayor may be using the power of his veto for some old-fashioned horse-trading, because the fiscal crisis has already meant a reduction in services.

One knowledgeable gay observer noted that Bloomberg might be looking for votes on the council among its most liberal members, who are the least likely to support any cuts that would impact on their constituents.

Religious groups also factor into the equation. The Catholic Church and Orthodox Jewish groups oppose the bill, even though a religious "opt-out" may be included in the final draft.

But Foreman said the Catholic Church and Orthodox rabbis have had less political influence since the enactment of term limits, which means council members are less beholden to special-interest groups. Besides, he said, "Those obstacles have been overcome before," notably in the city's gay-rights ordinance.

For his part, Bloomberg seems to be playing his cards close to his vest.

"We'll see what the city council comes up with, and then what happens," he said. "Whatever the law is, clearly we'd enforce the law."

## Separate the men with your mouse.

Want a date that's more than a date? RequestADate.com is the smart, safe way to meet quality people. Far more than a typical dating site—we offer our 23,000 members unique ways to locate (and quiz) a great mate.

Log on and try out our Virtual Dating, the famous Date Quiz, the Date Manager and other fantastic features to help you sort out your cream of the crop. Go ahead, Request A Date today.



request  
a date  
.com

www.RequestADate.com

# \$27.95 MONTH

\$79 3 MONTHS  
TANNING

M-F  
5-10  
SAT-SUN  
8-6

★ HOUSTON GYM  
713.880.9191  
1501 DURHAM


**around the nation**
**Mont. human rights panel denies claim by lesbian couples**

BILLINGS, Mont. — A lawsuit filed by two lesbian couples claiming discrimination by the Montana University System was dismissed by the Montana Human Rights Commission, the Billings Gazette reported. The women claimed the university system's policy of refusing benefits to gay domestic partners is unfair. The denial, which activists expected, clears the way for a court fight, attorneys said. "The law requires exhaustion of discrimination claims before proceeding in District Court," said Beth Brenneman, an attorney with the ACLU. The case was filed in February by Carol Snetsinger, of the University of Montana's division of biological sciences, and her partner, Nancy Siegel, and University of Montana assistant professor Carla Grayson and her partner, Adrienne Neff. Less than a week later, arson destroyed the home of Grayson, Neff, and their toddler son. While the women and their supporters have called the fire a hate crime, police have investigated whether they set the fire themselves.



A lawsuit filed by two lesbian couples in Montana, including Carla Grayson and Adrienne Neff, was dismissed by a state panel, clearing the way for an expected court fight over allegations of employment discrimination. (Photo courtesy Chad Harder/Missoula Independent)

**Army discharges bisexual soldier accused of lying**

RALEIGH, N.C.— A soldier who tried for more than two years to resign, claiming he is bisexual, has been discharged from the Army, his lawyer told the Associated Press. The Army had turned down at least four resignation requests by Capt. David Donovan, and suggested the 17-year veteran was lying to get out of his active duty obligation. Donovan's lawyer, Todd Conormon, said Oct. 16 that his client was granted a discharge sometime over the last few weeks. Maj. Steven Stover, an Army spokesperson, said he could not confirm if or when Donovan had been discharged. Donovan, who was based at Fort Bragg, would not comment. "Obviously it was a difficult ordeal, so I think he just wants to pursue his civilian career," Conormon said. Donovan made his first resignation requests in 2000. He said he engaged in homosexual conduct in the past but refused to provide specifics for fear the Army might charge him with a crime. The Pentagon's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy bans openly gay service members.

**N.J. governor supports legal rights for gay couples**

NEWARK, N.J. — A bill expected to be introduced this month that would grant legal benefits to same-sex couples is likely to have the backing of Gov. James E. McGreevey. "Governor McGreevey supports legislation that would provide domestic partner benefits and protections," McGreevey spokesperson Jo Glading told the Sunday Star-Ledger of Newark. The bill sponsored would not recognize gay marriages, but would ensure that people living together, including same-sex couples, receive the same legal benefits as married couples under state law. If the new measure becomes law, New Jersey would be the third state in the country to allow many of the benefits of marriage to partners living together. California offers a limited version and Vermont has civil unions.

**Gay civil rights pioneer gravely ill, friends say**

SAN FRANCISCO — A circle of friends in California is taking care of 90-year-old gay civil rights activist Harry Hay, who recently was diagnosed with inoperable lung cancer. The "Harry n' John Caregivers Circle" in San Francisco also is providing support for Hay's partner of almost 40 years, John Burnside. He recently lost his sight due to macular degeneration. "Our job right now is to keep the space around Harry as serene and calm as possible to help him leave," Joey Cain, one of the couple's caregivers, told supporters in a widely circulated e-mail message on Oct. 18. In 1950, Hay co-founded the Mattachine Society, one of the first gay groups in the U.S. "In many ways Harry was at the beginning of the entire conversation about gay civil rights and understanding our cultural identity as queer people," said gay civil rights activist Dan Vera of Washington, D.C.

**Utah theater cast says 'Wizard of Oz' play too gay**

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah — The director of Draper Historic Theatre resigned after cast members complained that a production of "Wizard of Oz" had gay overtones, the Salt Lake Tribune reported. Director Jesse Dolce has asked cast members to hold red, orange, yellow and green flags at the final curtain call. But despite the show's central song of "Somewhere Over the Rainbow," some cast members noted the show's popularity with gay men, and said the flags were too much like the Gay Pride rainbow flag. "They are taking a simple, innocent rainbow, the theme of the whole show, and trying to see it as something that it is not," Dolce said. Kevin McClellan, spokesperson for the theater's board, said Dolce was not asked to resign.

From staff and wire reports

# You're Invited To A Fall Festival!

This Saturday -- October 26  
from 2pm to 4pm



\* Bible character or Veggie Tale character costume contest along with door prizes.

\* A Cake Walk, Let's Go Fishing Booth and lots more fun!

\* Refreshments will be served.

\* Free and open to the community!

## RESURRECTION

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Join us for worship services Sunday 9 & 11am • Wednesday 7pm •  
Noche Espiritual (Spanish services) Saturdays 6pm • 713-861-9149  
• 2025 W. 11th St. @ T.C. Jester • www.resurrectionmcc.org

October 27 •

"Busyness and the Spiritual Life"

Rev. Lace

**Maranatha  
Fellowship**  
Metropolitan  
Community Church



"Building Community Through Compassion"  
Visit Our New Improved & Larger Nursery/Children's area

Church Service  
begins at 10am and  
nursery is available  
for small children.  
Mid-week "Home  
Group" services on  
Tuesdays and  
Wednesdays.

Please Join Us For  
Praise and Worship at our  
Sunday Morning Service  
And Experience The Love  
That Maranatha Fellowship  
MCC Has To Offer!

3333 Fannin, Suite 106, at 10AM

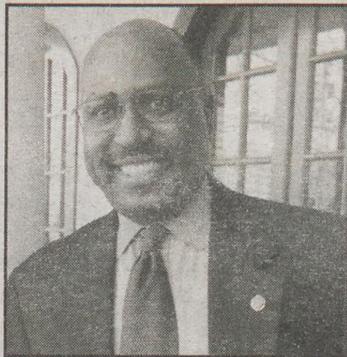
Church office 713-528-6756 • E-mail maranatha@ev1.net  
www.maranathamcc.com



## medical report

### Gay parents win support from family doctor group

WASHINGTON — The American Academy of Family Physicians, representing more than 93,000 doctors around the country, approved a resolution Oct. 16 supporting legal rights for gay parents. The measure approved by the academy's Congress of Delegates says the group should to "establish policy and be supportive of legislation which promotes a safe and nurturing environment, including psychological and legal security, for all children, including those of adoptive parents, regardless of the parents' sexual orientation." The group approved support for medical and life insurance coverage for domestic partners, as well as joint and second-parent adoptions, according to the Human Rights Campaign, a gay rights group. "As family physicians who care for all ages, we believe the health of American's children is one of the utmost importance," Dr. Warren A. Jones, president of the academy, said in a written statement. "Children deserve to be raised and protected in a safe and nurturing environment. This policy advocates for the family in all its complexities and particularly for children." The American Academy of Pediatrics has a similar policy.



Warren Jones, president of the American Academy of Family Physicians, said the group's new policy supporting gay adoptions 'advocates for the family in all its complexities.' (Photo by J.D. Schwalm/AP)

### Democrats accuse HHS of deleting health info

WASHINGTON — Two Democratic members of Congress charged on Monday that the Bush administration is putting ideology over science, citing appointments to advisory committees and the removal of information from Web sites, according to the Associated Press. Reps. Henry Waxman (D-Calif.) and Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio) demanded explanations in a letter to Health & Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson. They complained that information about the effectiveness of condoms had been removed from a Centers for Disease Control & Prevention Web site; that experts serving on advisory committees were being replaced because their views do not match the administration's; and that HHS is singling out AIDS groups with probing audits. "Scientific information ... has been removed, apparently because it does not fit with the administration's ideological agenda," Waxman and Brown wrote. HHS spokesperson Bill Pierce said it is Thompson's prerogative to appoint advisory committees.

### FDA grants priority review to new AIDS drug Fuzeon

New York — Swiss pharmaceutical giant Roche and its U.S. partner Trimeris Inc. said Oct. 18 that the U.S. Food & Drug Administration granted a priority review to their AIDS drug, Fuzeon, according to the Associated Press. The priority review means the drug will go through the approval process within six months instead of up to 12 months. Fuzeon is a potentially expensive drug that represents a new class of AIDS medicines that attacks the virus in a different way from existing treatments. It will be targeted for patients with drug-resistant strands of the virus, and be used in combination with other drugs. AIDS activists are excited about the new treatment but fear its cost will put it beyond the reach of many patients. Basel-based Roche and Durham, N.C.-based Trimeris will not discuss price, but experts have said the

drug will cost between \$10,000 and \$15,000 a year. Fuzeon is the first in a class known as fusion inhibitors, which are designed to block HIV from entering blood cells.

### CDC says syphilis at all-time low in U.S.

PITTSBURGH — Quick responses to outbreaks, bolstered by a public-awareness push the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention began in 1998, are likely to put sexually transmitted diseases like syphilis on the endangered list nationwide by 2005, the CDC says, according to the Associated Press. Syphilis is most prevalent among prostitutes, addicts who trade sex for drugs and among gay men, experts say. It can make those infected far more susceptible to HIV. The disease is spread only by sexual contact. After peaking at 20.3 cases per 100,000 people in 1990, the U.S. rate bottomed out at 2.2 cases per 100,000 people in 2000 — the lowest since the government started tracking the disease in 1941. The CDC believes that number could drop to 0.4 cases per 100,000, or 4 in 1 million, by 2005 with continued education and vigilance.

### Cheaper AIDS test shows disease progression

NEW YORK — A less expensive test can predict the speed at which someone infected with HIV will develop full-blown AIDS, Reuters reported. The test, which is also easier to store and transport, would be helpful in countries with small health care budgets, according to research led by Dr. Timothy R. Sterling of Baltimore's Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Sterling and his team demonstrated that a test which looks for an HIV protein called p24 antigen offers a "statistically equivalent" prediction of when someone will develop AIDS, compared to the more expensive test that measures levels of CD4 T-cells. For Johns Hopkins, the "heat-denatured p24 antigen" test costs \$20 to \$30, while the CD4 test costs \$88 and a companion viral load test costs \$152.

From staff and wire reports



**THE REFORM CHURCH  
OF GALVESTON**  
*an Inclusive Christian Church*

**Services are on Sundays  
at 11AM**

Rev. Thomas Martin

**3712 Broadway**  
(across from Star Furniture)  
Galveston, Texas (409) 765-8500



**Celebrating 26 Years  
in the Community**

**COME WORSHIP WITH PRIDE!**

**Catholic Mass Celebrated**  
Saturdays at 7:30pm

1307-H Yale • 713-880-2872

**A diverse Christian Community  
that honors tradition**



**Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
2515 Waugh @ Missouri • 713.528.3269

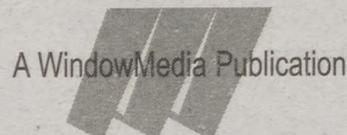
**Sundays: 9am • Adult Education Studying the Epistle of St. James  
10:30am • Liturgy of Holy Communion**  
e-mail office@gracelutheran-houston.org

## STAFF

Executive Editor CHRIS CRAIN  
 Editor PENNY WEAVER  
 editor@houstonvoice.com  
 Production BONNIE NAUGLE  
 Contributors LEE DAVIS, TRAYCE DISKIN,  
 MIKE FLEMING, RHONDA SMITH, KATHI WOLFE

Webmaster JED DEMPSEY  
 Photographers DALTON DEHART,  
 KIMBERLY THOMPSON  
 Advertising Sales  
 BRETT CULLUM—Account Executive  
 bcullum@houstonvoice.com  
 DONNA HULL—Account Executive  
 dhull@houstonvoice.com  
 Administration  
 STEVEN EWING ALFORD—Administrative Assistant  
 salford@houstonvoice.com

National Advertising Representative  
 Rivendell Marketing Company, Inc.  
 212-242-6863



A WindowMedia Publication

Publisher- WINDOW MEDIA LLC  
 President- WILLIAM WAYBOURN  
 Editorial Director- CHRIS CRAIN  
 Corporate Controller- PATRICK SUMMERS  
 Art Director- ROB BOEGER  
 Marketing Director- ERIC MAY  
 General Manager- MICHAEL KITCHENS



MEMBER

**the chamber**  
 the greater houston glibt chamber of commerce

## CHARTER MEMBER

Established 1974 as the *Montrose Star*.

500 Lovett Blvd., Suite 200  
 Houston, Texas 77006  
 (713) 529-8490  
 Fax: (713) 529-9531  
 www.houstonvoice.com  
 Contents copyright 2000  
 Office hours: 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekdays

## To submit a letter

Letters should be fewer than 400 words. We reserve the right to edit for content and length. We will withhold names upon request, but you must include your name and phone number for verification. Please send mail to Houston Voice, 500 Lovett Blvd., Suite 200, Houston, Texas 77006; fax (713) 529-9531 or e-mail to editor@houstonvoice.com. Opinions expressed therein do not reflect those of the *Houston Voice*.

All material in *Houston Voice* is protected by federal copyright law and may not be reproduced without the written consent of *Houston Voice*. The sexual orientation of advertisers, photographers, writers and cartoonists published herein is neither inferred or implied. The appearance of names or pictorial representation does not necessarily indicate the sexual orientation of that person or persons.

*Houston Voice* accepts unsolicited editorial material but cannot take responsibility for its return. The editor reserves the right to accept, reject or edit any submission. All rights revert to authors upon publication. Guidelines for freelance contributors are available upon request.

Issue 1148

# Forum

HOUSTON VOICE

OCTOBER 25, 2002

## viewpoint

# War with Iraq is not our issue

Once more, gay radicals try to hijack our movement for their own ends, but this time at least, fewer are going along.

By RICHARD J. ROSENDALL

**I**N HIS GUEST editorial, Faisal Alam laments the absence of gay voices from recent anti-war rallies. ("War with Iraq is a gay issue," Oct. 18). I, on the contrary, regard this as a

sign of our community's maturity and good sense.

We have been here before. Twelve years ago, several fellow activists and I met with the board of the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force to criticize its formal opposition to the Persian Gulf War. In brief, we said that the war was not a gay issue, and that in any case appeasement was not the way toward peace anymore than it was in World War II.

Then, to counter the radical gays who had joined anti-war protests, my friend Barrett Brick and I formed a group called GAIA, which alternately stood for Gays Against Iraqi Aggression and Gays Against Isolationism & Appeasement.

With a large, hand-made placard, Brick applied the slogan "Silence = Death" to those who favored a passive response to Saddam's reckless aggression. This upset the radicals, but it also got the attention of other groups defending the war effort, who were surprised to find gays on their side.

We told them that gays have been fighting for America since its founding. We cited polls showing that most gays agreed with the overwhelming majority of Americans who supported the war, not the few who opposed it.

THIS TIME AROUND, WITH NGLTF thus far avoiding its earlier mistake, Alam has taken up the anti-war standard. Remarkably, he manages to write an entire column opposing war with Iraq without once mentioning Saddam Hussein.

Instead, he complains that spending money on war would take money from "social welfare programs." But this is as arbitrary as pitting housing needs against mental health needs.

Alam ignores the primacy of national defense as a responsibility of government, preferring to call for an unspecified "peaceful solution." The fact that Iraq has violated 16 United Nations resolutions does not convince him that peaceful efforts have failed.

Alam ignores Saddam's long record of international mayhem that brought us to this point. The only country he is willing to blame for anything is the United States. This upside-down worldview would be comical if Alam and others on the anti-American left were not in dead earnest.

And because he includes every conceivable issue in the gay agenda, he declares the war with Iraq a "queer" issue, without showing the slightest awareness of which side actually treats gays better. (Hint: It's the one that allows gay Muslims to organize and publish op-eds.)

ALAM WRITES AS IF GAYS WHO disagree with his anti-war stand are all going to "\$250 tuxedo dinners" — ignoring the fact that these events are fund-raisers for gay causes — and as if enjoying the fruits of our labor is disreputable. He gratuitously insults an extraordinarily generous community, while asserting that "the real fight for freedom" occurs elsewhere.

How are the downtrodden helped by this ridiculous, mendacious class warfare?

Alam says we once "understood that single-issue politics would not win us anything." Here he falsifies the history of the gay rights movement to portray us as having fallen away from a nobler early period.

In fact, some of our movement's pioneers, like D.C.'s Frank Kameny (another critic of NGLTF 12 years ago), maintained a laser-like focus on gay issues.

Alam should check out the Web site of the Gay & Lesbian Activists Alliance of Washington, DC (of which Kameny and I are members) at [www.glaa.org](http://www.glaa.org), and review our timeline for examples of how much a group singly focused on gay rights can accomplish.

Alam could also learn a lot from British gay-rights activist Peter Tatchell, who opposes war with Iraq but says, "It is disturbing the way the anti-war campaign is ignoring the Iraqi government's monstrous human rights abuses, and is offering no counter-plan for overthrowing the murderous regime in Baghdad."

To the extent that past American policies have contributed to the problem that now threatens the Middle East, we make a fine choice for the ones to do something about it. As even Tatchell says, "A democratic Iraq would be a beacon for human rights throughout the Middle East. It could give lesbian and gay people their first taste of freedom in a region that is dominated by brutal Islamic fundamentalist regimes."

Alam brazenly invokes an early flashpoint of our movement in support of his untimely pacifism. Pardon me, but at Stonewall they fought back.

**@** Richard J. Rosendall is a past president of the Gay & Lesbian Activists Alliance of Washington, D.C. He can be reached at [rrosendall@starpower.net](mailto:rrosendall@starpower.net).



**viewpoint** JENNIFER VANASCO



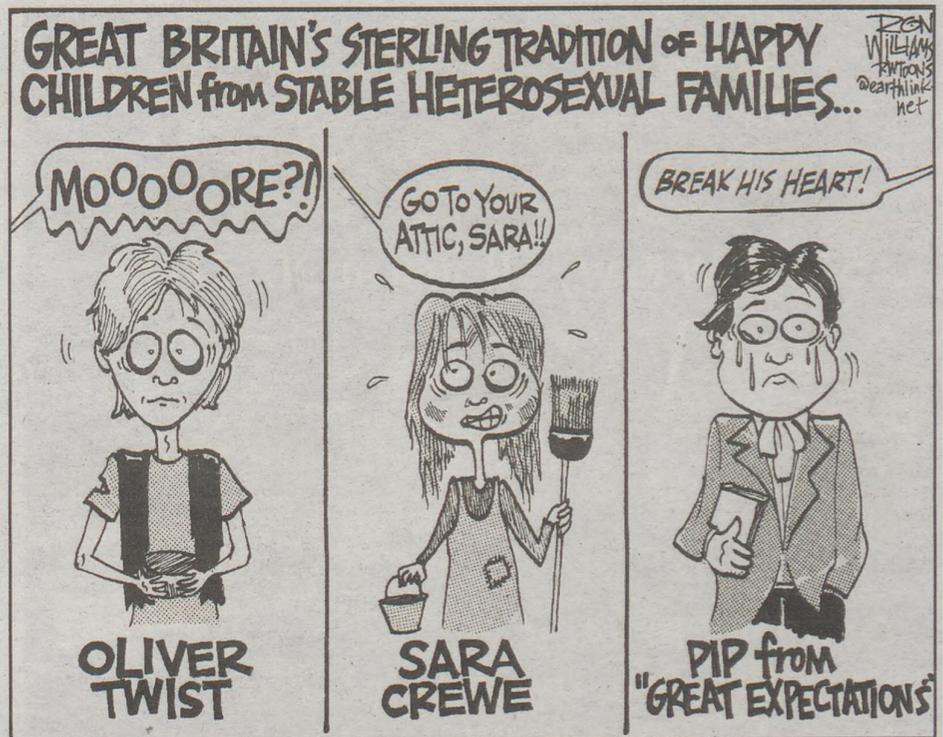
The Green Party helped elect Bush in 2000 and almost sabotaged Democratic Senate control. Is this any way for supposed liberals to be acting?

# Green Party spoilers fall short this time

SEN. PAUL WELLSTONE (D-MINN.) IS one of the good guys. He was the only senator to speak at the 1993 March on Washington for gay rights. He supports domestic partnership legislation, even though he backed the Defense of Marriage Act in 1996. He is a co-sponsor of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, the Ryan White CARE Reauthorization Act, which expanded AIDS funding, and a strong hate crimes prevention measure. Last year, the Human Rights Campaign rated him 100 percent on our issues. Besides that, he is progressive on a host of issues, from the environment to abortion rights. The Los Angeles Times, in fact, called him "the most liberal, the most 'Green-ish' member of the U.S. Senate."

SO NATURALLY, THE MINNESOTA Green Party tried to sabotage him. Some members of the Green Party, including Winona LaDuke, Ralph Nader's running mate in the 2000 elections, advocated for Wellstone as their candidate. But the Greens decided instead to endorse Ed McGaa, an activist who had almost identical positions to Wellstone on issues that

the Green Party cares about. Minnesota faces a close race for the Senate. Wellstone is up against former St. Paul Mayor Norm Coleman, a Republican who declares he's not a bigot but has promised to excise sexual orientation as a protected category from the Minnesota Human Rights Act. A Coleman victory would not just be bad for Minnesota — it would be disastrous for us all. Minnesota is a crucial race. If Coleman wins, the Republicans are likely to regain control of the Senate, which means that the virulently anti-gay conservative Trent Lott will be majority leader. If that happens, the Green Party, and the rest of us, can say goodbye to the introduction of pro-gay legislation. For a while, it looked like the Green Party was hurtling us toward a repeat of the 2000 Presidential elections: a close race between a Democrat who is good on our issues and a Republican who is not. Instead of supporting the Democrat, the Green Party runs a Democrat-like candidate and walks away with a few percentage points of the vote, which means that



the conservative wins. Hooray for liberal infighting.

LUCKILY FOR US, THIS IS NOT WHAT'S going to happen. In September, there was more infighting, this time within the ranks of the Green Party. Greens started pulling away from McGaa.

Instead, the winner of the Green primary is an unemployed educator, Ray Tricomo, a fruitcake with less than \$1,000 in his treasury. Tricomo has called for the impeachment of President Bush and says things like, "There is a block called Earth Mother. There is a street called the Milky Way. There is a city called the Universe. There are many bullies on this block, but there is one particularly huge bully, and its name is the United States."

For now, the Green Party threat is

gone. Tricomo won't win; in fact, he won't even carry many percentage points. Wellstone is free to duke it out with Coleman on his own.

But the specter of the Green Party will rise again. It will rise in elections for governor; it will come up in other senate races; and heaven forbid, it might rise again when next we seek to elect a pro-gay president.

The Wellstone fiasco-that-wasn't is a good reminder that the Green Party isn't on our side; it isn't always on its own side. The Green Party isn't about change; it's about furthering its own name and status at the expense of the rest of us.

@ Jennifer Vanasco is Chicago-based syndicated columnist and can be reached at [vanasco@chicagofreepress.com](mailto:vanasco@chicagofreepress.com).

**ETHAN Encore**

by Eric Orner



Recovering from back injury—hope you wont mind revisiting some old favorites until I'm back with new stories soon.

## on the record



**TEAM  
AUTOPLEX**

**5712 SW Frwy., Houston, TX 77057**





Centrally located,  
High line, Pre-Owned Mercedes  
Benz, Porsche, BMW, Jaguar, Lexus,  
Hummer & Many More...

Look forward to meeting you soon!



Visit us today on the Web at  
[www.teamautoplex.com](http://www.teamautoplex.com) or  
call Michael Roa at 713-789-0000  
or his cell 832-347-TEAM

SALES SERVICE BODYWORK

"It's a man."

*A report by a teenage girl to partygoers that Eddie "Gwen" Araujo, 17, who came to a Newark, Calif., party dressed in a denim skirt. Three enraged males subsequently beat and strangled Araujo to death, according to police (Associated Press, Oct. 19)*

"I think it works, except in the long shots where I have these great big mammoth hockey-player calves that don't do that great with a skirt. I brought Polaroids back to show my buddies, and they all said, 'Man, you are sooo ugly.' I just let 'em laugh. They've all dated women much uglier than me."



*Matt LeBlanc of NBC's "Friends," on his role as an undercover World War II spy forced to wear a dress in the upcoming big screen comedy "All the Queen's Men" (TV Guide, Oct. 26)*

"I could not believe as a taxpaying, law-abiding citizen born and reared in the United States of America that I had no right to keep Carlos with me in my country."

*Houstonian Chris Rigdon, 30, on his inability to win U.S. citizenship for Carlos, 38, his partner of three years, a Venezuelan citizen (Houston Chronicle, Oct. 13)*

"What they leave behind is vile and destructive and Christians need to be aware of what they are selling and who they represent."

*Michael Johnston, president of Kerusso Ministries, on plans by gay activist Mel White and his Soulforce organization to protest televangelist Jerry Falwell's church in Lynchburg, Va. (Online essay, Oct. 8)*



"It is gay — there's rainbow flags all over this movie! Steve-o says as long as the cameras are rolling, it's not gay."

*MTV's Johnny Knoxville, in response to an observation by radio talk show host Howard Stern's that Knoxville's upcoming "Jackass: The Movie" "sounds very gay." Knoxville described the movie as including "lots of naked guys," "man ass," and "penetration and extraction"*

"I'm so grateful. It's given me and my family everything I could ever dream of. ... But that's only part of who I am and after a while it ... became a little oppressive. Everyone thought, 'Oh, you're so nice.' I'm not that nice. I'm a very biting, caustic, sarcastic person."

*Rosie O'Donnell, on why she cancelled her top-rated daytime talk show (New York Post, Oct. 10)*

"Somebody has got to talk to that boy about his love of the straights."

*Jen (Michelle Williams), about the crush that gay character Jack (Kerr Smith) had on his married professor ("Dawson's Creek," WB network, Oct. 9)*

"The only image is the hairdresser who's a ditz queen. ... I cannot tell you how many times when I speak to my mother she says, 'That's them. That's not us.' That creates more of a closet for ourselves, because we don't want to be the only ones."

*Martin Ornelas-Quintero, executive director of LLEGÓ, the National Latina/Latino Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Organization (Miami Herald, Oct. 10)*

"George Bush is reading better, did you notice that? They must have increased the font size."

*Lesbian comedian Kate Clinton, in an Oct. 11 performance at the University of Northern Colorado (Greeley Tribune, Greeley, Colo., Oct. 12)*





**Tom Tinsley**  
Realtor®

Free home service contract if you purchase a home through Tom!



**BETH WOLFF**  
REALTORS



Open Sunday, Oct. 27, 2-5 p.m.  
**2009 WHITNEY**  
*One of a kind patio home in Montrose. Artistic 3/2.5 surrounded by lush trees.*

Call Tom or Marilyn at  
**(713) 622-9339**



**Marilyn McMurty, GRI**  
Realtor®

Call Marilyn for a FREE Market Analysis

**Endorsed by the Gay & Lesbian Political Action Committee**



**TERESA RAMIREZ**  
FOR JUDGE  
313th Juvenile Court

**Exceptionally Qualified**  
26 years working with Youth and Families  
19 years in the Juvenile Justice System  
15 years as a Licensed Attorney

P.O. Box 924383 • Houston, Texas 77292 • (713) 263-7306

Political Advertising paid for by the Teresa V. Ramirez Judicial Campaign in compliance with the voluntary limits of the Judicial Campaign Fairness Act. Jeanine M. Crain, Treasurer.

# Out on the Bayou

HOUSTON VOICE  
OCTOBER 25, 2002  
PAGE 15

## Embracing 'otherness'

### Gay groups help interracial couples face obstacles beyond sexual orientation

By **MIKE FLEMING**

**E**VEN IF THEY DON'T LET IT INTERFERE with their lives, most gays of any race acknowledge a lack of understanding — even outright prejudice and discrimination — about sexual orientation from their families, acquaintances and society.

And as most same-sex couples grapple with "the gay thing," interracial couples say they face at least some racial ignorance as well.

"Some of it is subtle," says Vern Lewis, a 60-year-old white diversity consultant and member of Black & White Men Together (BWMT) with his African-American partner of 10 years, Vic Jackson, 45. BWMT is a sister organization to Men of All Colors Together (MACT) of Houston.

"For example, we enter a nice restaurant and stand side by side waiting for the hostess who is seating another party," Lewis says. "As she returns to us, she looks at [me], smiles and asks 'Just one?'"

The implication is that Jackson, the black partner, is "totally invisible," and just being recognized as a couple becomes a challenge, Lewis says.

That kind of incidental prejudice is best addressed as it happens, say David and Walter, an interracial couple in their 40s who have been together for 13 years and say that they are sometimes followed in stores or treated rudely by waiters because David is black.

"We do not ignore the racist comments and/or actions in our day-to-day existence," Walter says. "When a white waiter only speaks to me and ignores my partner, we point it out."

David agrees.

"We confront it in situations where we feel we can make a difference, [but] we do not allow the racism in society to negatively affect our relationship," he says.

Self-acceptance is the key to overcoming the prejudices of others, according to Lewis.

"I guess having accepted ourselves, we are beyond seeking acceptance from anyone else," he says.

Most of the couples concur that they are generally well accepted among gay sets of all races, but are even more comfortable in diverse environments.

"We spent years conducting workshops

combating oppression and discrimination," Lewis says. "To be in any setting which feels discriminatory just feels bad."

BWMT OFFERS "AN ENVIRONMENT where it is not only acceptable for gay men to form interracial relationships, but the norm," Lewis says.

The group meets each month to provide a common experience for interracial couples.

Providing an oasis of diversity and acceptance is also the goal of a monthly discussion sponsored by Charis Books & More, says Cherie Lyons, co-owner of the lesbian, feminist bookstore in Atlanta, one of the few of its kind in the South. A female interracial couple leads the group once a month, providing a forum for lesbian partners of mixed races.

"It started as a book reading and signing for 'Your Loving Arms,' a novel about an interracial relationship by Gwendolyn Biki," Lyons says. "But we ended up not talking so much about the book as raising our own issues about relationships we've had with people outside our race."

The lesbian couples in the group do note that there are internal challenges, including certain members who avoid mixing their partner with their family. But most of the pressure is from a society that doesn't understand interracial attraction, Lyons says.

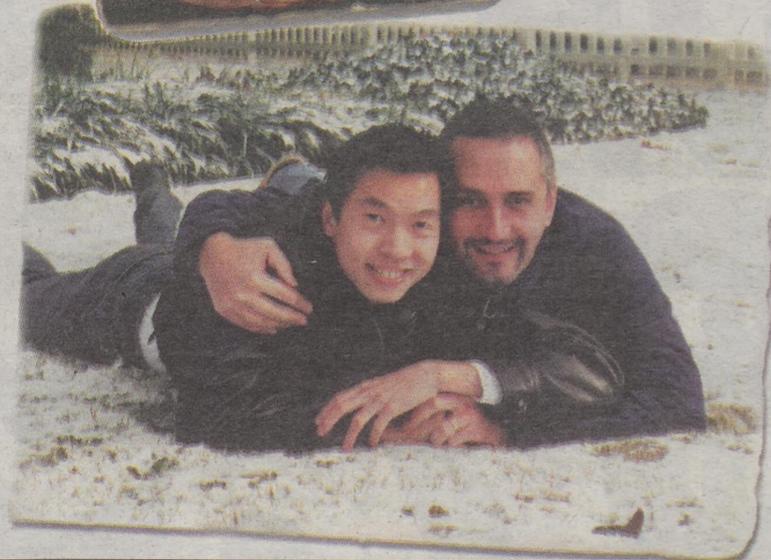
"We realized that by sharing stories, people can feel like they are not alone," she says. "When you see other couples who are going through the same thing — that the community, families, friends and even ourselves are still so divided — it helps you to deal with it by just talking about it."

IN ADDITION TO FENDING OFF OUT-right bigotry, the couples cited myths among gays that they'd like to dispel.

There is a common misconception that the white partner in a black-white relationship is "the decision maker, the one with the money, the man in charge," Lewis says.

All of the couples acknowledge an attraction to the "otherness" of a different race or culture, but they also say they are attracted to people of various races, just as some people are subjectively attracted to blondes, redheads or both. They don't want to be pigeonholed into

Please see **INTERRACIAL** on **Page 16**



Snapshots from the lives of Vern Lewis and Vic Jackson, Decatur, Ga., City Commissioner Kecia Cunningham and her partner Lenny Lasater, and Manapat Kachintagsa and Steve Koval, show how cultural and societal obstacles can be overcome to find happiness in interracial gay relationships.

## out on the bayou

# Mixed couples transcend race, accept selves first

**INTERRACIAL**, continued from Page 15

only liking one "type" and resent implications that they are so narrow, because ultimately, relationships transcend race.

"Everything does not have to be black and white," David and Walter say. "Our experience has been that where there are problems in a relationship, it has more to do with the individuals as opposed to their race. Some people are more distracted by external influences than being focused on nurturing the relationship with their partner."

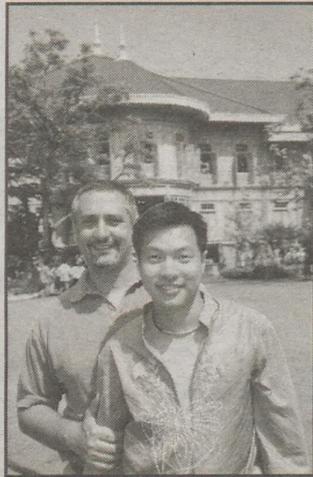
Manapat Kachintagsa, a 30-year-old Thai man in a three-year relationship with his 41-year-old white partner, says that people commonly presume he and other gay Asian men are "passive bottoms."

"You can't generalize a whole race," Kachintagsa says.

BESIDES EXTERNAL PRESSURES FROM society at large, some interracial couples cite obstacles when combining cultural differences into a cohesive, working relationship.

"For us, it's not just that we're from different races," says Steve Koval, Kachintagsa's partner. "We're from very different cultures, and those cultures affect how we view things. So, we have to be mindful of that and try to understand that our cultural perspectives are different."

Visiting Kachintagsa's native country helped Koval understand some very



Some cultural differences eased in their relationship after Steve Koval (left) visited partner Manapat Kachintagsa's native country of Thailand.

important aspects of living with and loving his partner, he says.

"In general, Thai people are much more private and avoid confrontation," Koval says. "I tend to be very direct and don't mind confrontation. Sometimes I feel like I have to encourage Manapat to be more communicative."

Koval and Kachintagsa also face immigration issues since U.S. laws don't recognize same-sex partners from foreign countries like they do married spouses.

But struggles between cultures aren't limited to the gay relationships of people from different countries. Black and white American pairs also note a few minor

obstacles that same-race couples might not encounter.

"The big cultural difference that we experience occurs when factoring in my same-race friends and both our families of origin," Jackson says. "I grew up in a culture where CPT — Colored People's Time — was the norm and not the exception."

"On many occasions, we have sent formal, professionally prepared invitations to an eclectic group of friends to a dinner party," he says. "Invariably, the people who arrive one to two hours late are my same-race friends. In some cases, they arrive late and bring one to two uninvited guests with them. Vern almost goes ballistic when this happens."

Another issue for Lewis and Jackson at dinner parties is the "whole idea of 'fixin' a plate,'" where guests expect to take home food from the party, Jackson says.

"My family is at the top of the list on the 'fixin' a plate' deal," he says. "One dear aunt brings her Tupperware in as she arrives."

BUT ALL THE COUPLES AGREE THAT these cultural variances are minor obstacles, with similarities between them far outweighing their differences. And they say differences are really just opportunities for personal growth and learning.

"One of the primary ways I have handled cultural differences in my relationships is by first recognizing that they do

exist," says Nat Martin, black co-chair for BWMT. "You can't love those differences away, and I think you ignore them at your relationships peril."

Lewis says that he and Jackson share tastes in most of the things they do, even if being both a gay and an interracial couple would make them "different" in the eyes of many.

"Vic and I agree, however, that our shared life is quite normal and often mundane — doing laundry, grocery shopping, paying taxes, etc.," he says. "We are not consciously keyed into skin color or sexual orientation."

"We're just experiencing life together," he says.

### **i** MORE INFO

**Men of All Colors Together-Houston**  
713-528-4293  
E-mail: mjepsen2002@yahoo.com

**Black & White Men Together/Atlanta**  
P.O. BOX 1334  
Atlanta, GA 3030  
404-892-BWMT(2968)  
www.geocities.com/BWMTAtlanta/

**Charis Books & More**  
1189 Euclid Ave., NE  
Atlanta, GA 30703  
404-524-0304  
www.chariscircle.org

FIND A  
DATE  
\$7.98

The internet's funnest  
lesbian and gay  
dating service!

**Try it  
for Free!**

[www.edwina.com](http://www.edwina.com)

\$7.98 monthly charge. Price subject to change.



Edwina and Edwina character are trademarks of Mediapolis, Inc.

**dish**

There's a Fine Line Between Telling the Truth and Talking Trash

# A Star is born

Even without many gay characters on TV, gay Hollywood heavyweights making major deals

It must be hard to have the major television networks fighting over you. Just ask **DARREN STAR**, the gay producer and writer behind the hit shows "Melrose Place" and "Sex and the City."

Variety reports that Star recently signed a seven figure deal with NBC to produce a pilot. This time around, Star will be creating a series based on real-life lawyer Samantha Daniels, a New Yorker who not only wheels and deals in the courtroom, but is also a high-class matchmaker.

Star collaborates with writer Jeff Rake on the show, which will look at the main character setting up couples, her practice as a divorce lawyer, and her personal life.

"It's all about relationships — getting into them and getting out of them," Star said. "It's a hopeful show at its core. She believes that even divorce is just one step in the path to finding your soulmate."

Star better get to work getting the show together, since there is a significant monetary penalty written into his contract if the show doesn't get produced.

Another gay creator who is hard at work behind the scenes is **KEVIN WILLIAMSON**, the writer behind the "Scream" franchise and WB's hit teeny-bopper show "Dawson's Creek."

Williamson just signed a deal with Dimension Films for his script "Cursed," a modernization of the werewolf legend and will be directed by horror genre giant Wes Craven, who directed the "Scream" movies.

"I'm beyond thrilled Wes and I will be working together again," Williamson said in a press release. "The first 'Scream' was the most fun I've ever had making a movie ... I've always thought Wes' unique touches of horror and humor fit perfectly with my writing."

Dimension should be thrilled that the two are reunited, especially since "Scream" was the most profitable horror movie series of all time.

## Don't cry for her

Unfortunately, **MADONNA** is also working on a new movie. After the debacle that was "Swept Away," the gay icon still won't give up on being a movie mogul.

Why, oh why, Madonna? Just make it stop. We love you, but just stick to singing and being fabulous.

All pleas aside,



Madonna



Gay television magnate **Darren Star** is back at the drawing board, creating a new series about a lawyer cum matchmaker for NBC.

Ms. Ciccone-Ritchie is writing — yes, you heard that correctly — a movie roughly based on her own experiences with fame.

"It's about a girl who's incredibly famous and all the insanity of her life," she said in the U.K. paper the Sun. "She lives in Hollywood and is well known, but she's not well respected."

The script still isn't finished, but Madonna has high hopes.

"I think it's hysterically funny," she said. "Didn't she say the same thing about 'The Next Best Thing?'"

## Playing with balls

So, an ex-NFL football player is going to come out on HBO's "Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel" on Oct. 29.

The network is being mum about who the star is. Nah, Dish doesn't want to know who it is, either.

## Setting it straight

Hunky Aussie movie hero **HEATH LEDGER** wants to set the record straight about his first TV appearance.

While Ledger was on "Live with Regis and Kathie Lee" promoting his film "10 Things I Hate About You," Regis asked what Ledger did for Christmas in Australia.

"Me and my mates like to put on our thongs and grab weenies ... and that was our perfect way to male bond."

Ledger recently explained the homoerotic comment to celebrity researcher Baird Jones.

"In Australia, Christmas is our summer and thongs to us are flip-flops, not G-strings. And I had just meant putting hot dogs on the barbie."

Dish would make a joke, but we're too busy thinking about Heath in a G-String.



Heath Ledger (photo by Jaap Buitendijk)

Before you buy ... Pre-Qualify



713-446-0303

diversified

HOME LENDING



Jose McDonald  
Senior Loan Officer

- ❖ Conventional, FHA, & VA loans
- ❖ 0 Down Payment loans
- ❖ No Closing Cost options
- ❖ 107% Financing Available
- ❖ No Cost Refinancing!
- ❖ 80% Cash-out Loans
- ❖ 5%-down investment/rental property loans

Available 7 days a week  
10am-10pm

5444 Westheimer • Suite 1560 • Houston, Texas 77056

**ON YOUR  
NEXT VISIT  
TO**

**HOUSTON**  
Stay with us!  
**Montrose Inn**

**A 7-ROOM ALL-GAY B&B**

**We're right IN the neighborhood.**

**And priced right!**

**Queen bed, cable TV,  
phone. Walk to 15 gay bars.**

**408 AVONDALE**

**800-357-1228**

**713-520-0206**

**montroseinn.com**



Send comments, suggestions to  
Dish@sovo.com.

Show Houstonians that  
you support their Voice.



Advertise in the

**houston  
voice**



To reserve ad space  
in the Houston Voice,  
call Brett at 713.529.8490

Call me to give your business  
a boost through advertising!

**You 'AUTO' CALL Us!**

Your  
Community  
Insurance  
Agency!



For Auto, Home, Renters, Life, Health,  
Business Insurance and much more.

**For Great Car  
Insurance!**

713.661.7700

713.661.7700

www.SchmerlerAgency.com

6575 W. Loop South, Ste. 185  
Bellaire, TX 77401

**SCHMERLER AGENCY**

**Pet Sitting by Loyal**

Don't worry about your pets when you have  
to travel without them. I provide in-home  
TLC for your pets. They get daily walks and  
play while you vacation without worry!

Plan ahead! Call now for a holiday sure to  
be stress-free for both you and your pets!

Established 1995



loyal989@aol.com  
713-942-8816

**out on the aisle** PENNY WEAVER



Theaters host topics from  
White House drama to 'Coming Out'  
to nakedness in fall productions

## Politics, parties on stage

### 'Lips'

Unhinged Productions this weekend ends its run of "Lips," Constance Congdon's comedy drama, which opened its fifth season. In the play, the country has a new president and difficult issues it has never quite faced before. That new president is the first woman elected to the office, and she works for the benefit of gays and lesbians in America. She fights for equal rights, and her tactics spark rumors that she is a lesbian. The repercussions force her to re-evaluate her principles.

### on stage 'Lips'

8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 5 p.m. Sundays  
Through Oct. 27 • Tickets: \$15 or \$12 for  
seniors and students, or \$10 on Sundays  
Atomic Café • 1320 Nance St.  
713-547-0440 • www.u-p.org

### 'What Ever Happened to Baby Jane'

Wrapping up this weekend, Theatre Under The Stars offers the world premiere of the musical production "What Ever happened to Baby Jane," based on the 1960 novel by Henry Farrell and immortalized by the legendary Bette Davis and Joan Crawford in the film of the same name. The play stars two-time Tony Award nominee Millicent Martin. American audiences may know Martin best from her roles on "Frasier," "Days of our Lives," "Murphy Brown" and "Gilmore Girls." The piece is the creepy drama of two aging sisters in the 1920s. Original author Henry Farrell, well-known composer Lee Pockriss and Broadway lyricist Hal Hackaday offer up a show with suspense, dark comedy and Hollywood glamour.

### on stage 'What Ever Happened To Baby Jane'

8 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays  
2 & 8 p.m. Saturdays • 2 & 7:30 p.m. Sundays  
Through Oct. 27 • Tickets: \$25-68  
Hobby Center for the Performing Arts  
800 Bagby at Walker • 713-558-2600  
www.tuts.com

### 'Kingdom of Earth'

One more week on stage, Theatre Lab Houston presents "Kingdom of Earth," a look at life in the Mississippi Delta that offers both comedy and tragedy. Written by Tennessee Williams in 1967, the play centers on the sibling rivalry between two brothers and the fight over their family farm amidst the dangers of rising floodwaters.

### on stage 'Kingdom of Earth'

8 p.m. Fridays & Saturdays • Through Nov. 2  
Tickets: \$20 in advance, \$22 at the door,  
Theatre LaB Houston • 1706 Alamo  
713-868-7516 • www.theatrelabhoust.com

### 'The General From America'

Tony Award winning playwright Richard Nelson launches the 2002-03 Large Stage season at Alley Theatre with the historical "General from America." Starring British actor and Alley Associative Artist Colin Redgrave as Benedict Arnold, the play focuses on the general's betrayal of his country. Though Arnold returns to assist in American efforts, he is found guilty of profiteering and subsequently loses his post as governor of Philadelphia. The piece explores the life of this notorious traitor.

### on stage 'The General From America'

Through Nov. 9 • Tickets: \$20-\$50  
Alley Theatre • 615 Texas Avenue  
713-228-8421 • www.alleytheatre.org

### 'Naked Boys Singing'

Bienvenue Theatre presents "Naked Boys Singing," a 16-song musical revue that offers tunes ranging from the bawdy ("Gratuitous Nudity") to the ballad ("Window to Window"). This production has had one of the most successful runs for a gay theater production in Houston. Though the eight to 10 performers appear nude in most of the scenes, audiences often are surprised by how much their talent supercedes their nudity. The Daily News calls the piece "laugh out loud funny... surprisingly sophisticated."

### on stage 'Naked Boys Singing'

8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays • Through Nov. 16  
Tickets: \$25-\$35 • Bienvenue Theatre  
3722 Washington • 713-426-2626  
www.nakedboyssinging.com

### 'The Coming Out Party'

Despite a postponed opening date, Theatre New West plans to bring to the stage the southwest premiere of the comedy "The Coming Out Party," written by John Michael Caffey. Directed by Joe Watts, artistic director of Theatre New West, the play is set in 1977 and has been called an interesting combination of "My Fair Lady" meets "Pretty Woman." After leaving an annual drag ball, an older gay couple befriend a young hustler on the streets of West Hollywood and decide to take him home and turn him into a suave and sophisticated hunk. This "gay Pygmalion" is about the physical and emotional changes that the young man undergoes in his journey of growth. Along his path of discovery, he learns some fascinating and humorous things about himself and gay life.

### on stage 'The Coming Out Party'

Call the theater for play dates • Tickets: \$20  
Theatre New West • 1415 California Street  
713-394-0464

## dining TRAYCE DISKIN

Inviting atmosphere at Wasabi hosts some hits, a few misses in dishes from the ocean

### Seafood success is mixed

WHEN I FIRST DECIDED TO DINE AT Wasabi, in downtown's eclectic Market Square, I was nervous that we wouldn't be seated in time to make a performance at the nearby Wortham.

Based on my experience in many of downtown's newest ventures, I pictured hordes of trendy downtowners and theater-goers waiting endlessly for a table against the backdrop of a booming bass and low, swanky lights. What a pleasure it was, then, to walk into Wasabi's smart, stylish (and quiet) dining room and find it well attended, but hardly overcrowded.

Although the white tablecloths and dark oak paneling make the large space warm and inviting, the small courtyard is far more cozy with its wrought iron fence, shady trees, and strings of tiny white, red, and blue lights. The huge round tables detract a bit from the intimacy, but the bustling rush of traffic on the corner reminded us that this was urban-style zen.

Both the host and our server came out immediately to take our appetizer and drink orders. Unfortunately, our Fried Calamari (\$5.75) was a disappointment. Instead of tender rings lightly dusted in batter, these square half-dollar size pieces were deep fried in an overbearingly thick and flaky crust that offered the texture and overbearing crunch of fast food hash browns. Although the plum-accented dipping sauce was tasty, it never touched the squid itself, whose shape remained something of a mystery.

We were much happier chomping away on the more easily prepared Edamame (\$5.75). With these plump, nutritious soybeans, boiling time is everything, and these were perfectly tender without being overcooked, and I appreciated the mild dose of sea salt.

WASABI FEATURES A SPRAWLING menu of Teriyaki (including separate tuna, scallop, tuna, and shrimp varieties, and seafood and meat combinations, \$14.95), Tempura (\$11.95-\$16.95), and Teppan Grilled Dishes (including a sumptuous-sounding Filet Mignon and Lobster Grill, \$27.50), and Udon and Soba Noodles (\$9.95-\$13.95). However, after reading about the Sashimi Special with an abundance of salmon, tuna, and eel rolls (\$8.50), we opted to indulge our sushi obsession unabashedly. The Sashimi featured fresh and amazingly succulent fish, as did the single nigiri pieces (mostly \$2 per piece). The only exception was a rather dry mackerel. Certainly not everyone loves this fish's infamous gamey quality, but for those who do, a tender, moist texture is essential.

The Dancing Eel Roll (\$11.95) is an eel-lover's delight, with juicy, sweet cooked eel in the center, wrapped in rice and coated with more delicious eel. The Spicy Tuna Avocado Roll (\$3.75) was a bit skimpy on both ingredients, but the silky slivers of avocado tempered the bite of the tuna.

Wasabi deserves credit for attempting to win over those who bristle at the thought of eating raw fish.

With more than 20 varieties of cooked sushi, there are bound to be some clunkers, such as the dissonant Lion King (\$10.95), which makes the mistake of placing cold cream cheese next to sizzling eel and a consequently soggy eel tempura. Rolls with crabstick, such as the Anthony Roll (\$7), tend to taste rather pedestrian and insipid.

MUCH IS FORGIVEN, HOWEVER, WITH one bite of the Volcano Roll (\$9.95), a decadent deep-fried roll with salmon, tuna, yellowtail, and eel, topped with scallions and sesame. Many of the best options feature a satisfyingly simple combination of smoked or grilled fish, cucumber, and rice, such as the Grilled Fish Roll (\$5.75) or Spring Roll (\$8).

After a mostly enjoyable and healthy meal, washed down with steaming and smooth sake, we were ready for something sweet and messy. Our attentive server suggested the Fried Bananas (\$5.95), and we awaited what we pictured as a sizzling, cinnamon-drenched affair. So we were rather disappointed when the dish suffered from the same predicament as the squid. Arranged in a pinwheel fashion, room-temperature strips of tough and greasy fried dough yielded limp, mushy bananas. The accompanying chocolate sauce was akin to microwaved Hersheys and did little to awaken the texture or flavor of the overly fried dish.

Although there certainly are a few drawbacks to consider, Wasabi does fill a niche as a more reasonably priced and tranquil alternative to Bayou Place's Sake Lounge. How successful an alternative it becomes depends on how much it improves as it settles into its new and welcoming space.



#### Wasabi

908 Congress  
713-226-7210

Food: ●●●●●  
Service: ●●●●●  
Value: ●●●●●  
Scene: ●●●●●

● = Stay home and eat cereal  
●● = Well, if you really must  
●●● = Fine for all but the finicky  
●●●● = Worth more than a 20-minute drive  
●●●●● = As good as you'll find in this city

**NOW GOING BANANAS!**

**SUNDAY BRUNCH 11:30 - 2:30**

**MARGARITAS \$3.95**

4:30PM - 7:30PM • 7 DAYS A WEEK

713-521-2815 | 2815 SOUTH SHEPHERD (off Westheimer)

## Love Relationships

### Finding & Keeping the Right Partner

A Houston Workshop for Single Gay Men

Join a real gay couple for an in-depth workshop in which you will learn about:

- ▶ Being attracted to better partners.
- ▶ Identifying and overcoming what has kept you single.
- ▶ Getting over going after the wrong ones.
- ▶ Improving your dating skills.
- ▶ Eliminating incompatible people sooner.
- ▶ Predicting the outcome via the natural progression of relationships.
- ▶ Exploring new places and ways for meeting the right men.

Saturday, 10-5 with lunch ♦ Sunday, 1-5 with wine & cheese  
\$115 ♦ Limited Seating ♦ Reservation Required

November 16 & 17, 2002  
September 27 & 28, 2003

Tony@HoustonTherapist.com  
**713.527.0000**  
For RSVP or More Information

**TONY CARROLL, LMSW-ACP**

# Executive Adult Video Superstore

## MAGAZINE SALE!

• Buy any 2  
mag-pack  
(3 magazines)  
and get 1  
mag-pack FREE

## MAGAZINE SALE!

14002 Northwest Fwy • Off Hwy. 290 at W. Tidwell!  
713.462.5100 • 713.462.5152



# ISN'T IT TIME?



## GET TESTED

### FREE ANONYMOUS HIV/STD TESTING

Houston Area Community Services  
3730 Kirby Dr. Suite 1165 • Houston, TX 77098  
713-526-0555 ext. 226

## sports LEE DAVIS

HOG plans trip to rural-Texas gardens; fall  
sports continue as outdoor conditions allow

# Come out, come out

### The great outdoors

Join the Houston Outdoor Group at Luby's café off of 290 and W. 34th street for breakfast on Nov. 2 at 9 a.m. Then HOG members are off to Peckerwood Garden in Hempstead. Peckerwood Garden lies about 50 minutes from downtown Houston and two hours from Austin off of Highway 290. The business, at 20571 FM 359, and reachable via phone at 979-826-3232, even has its own Web site, [www.peckerwoodgarden.com](http://www.peckerwoodgarden.com). HOG members Howard and Terry are sponsors for this event and will provide maps. The gardens are open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and a \$5 donation is required for admittance. Parking is at Yucca Do Nursery just south of Peckerwood. Contact HOG at 713-KAMP-OUT.

### A few good men

Michael's Outpost is looking for a few good men: no experience necessary, just a desire to have fun. The Outpost is forming a "D" Division softball team for participation in the Montrose Softball League (MSL) Spring League.

MSL's "D" Division exists for persons interested in learning the fundamentals of softball, or, for those who have some softball experience, to hone those skills for upward advancement in the league.

The first meeting of the team will be held in November, with its first fund-raiser in December. Perks for this season's team will include the chance for members to earn a free trip to Washington, D.C., next August for the Gay Softball World Series. For information on the team, pick up an application and team info sheet at the bar, 1419 Richmond, or call 713-520-8446 and speak to Jamie.

### Rugged play

Gay rugby in Houston has a new Web site, [www.roughnecksrugby.org](http://www.roughnecksrugby.org).

Player beware — rugby is a physical sport and injuries do occur. No rugby experience is necessary and newcomers will be treated with the utmost in care. Men of all shapes and sizes are welcome.

### Time's a wastin'

The Lone Star Volleyball Association (LSVA) recently released standings for the fall division. In the Recreational Division, Diego's Team leads the way with a record of 13-1, followed by Buck's team at 9-5, Alex's Team and Desi's Team with records of 8-6 and 3-11, respectively, and Greg's Team at 1-11.

The Competitive Division has been busy as Perez's People pulls away from the pack with a record of 8-4 and the Slayers are at 5-7, as are Ritter's Critters.

The Power Division still has Texas Exes in the lead at 10-2, Scrubbs at 8-4, Chaos at 7-5, Assault at 5-7, followed by Aerial Attack and Handful both at 1-9.

Anyone interested in playing volleyball and meeting new friends can stop by the Jarabeck Center on the University of St. Thomas campus at 3800 Mount Vernon Blvd. from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Sundays. First-time

players and visitors can play with LSVA free, so go out and join the fun! For information, log on to [www.lsva.org](http://www.lsva.org) or call 713-717-LSVA.

### No common snake!

Our readers are looking for persons planning to attend the Gay Games in Sydney, Australia. Because of privacy constraints, the organizers of the games are unable to submit a list of registrants.

Contact Tim Martinez via e-mail at [timmyhou@aol.com](mailto:timmyhou@aol.com).

### Skating season

Looking for great fun and an opportunity to skate like Tai and Randy, Dorothy Hammill, Rudy? Whoever your skating idol is, join the Lambda Roller Skating club while getting great cardio stimulation. They can be found at <http://www.neosoft.com/lrsc> or via e-mail at [lrsc@neosoft.com](mailto:lrsc@neosoft.com).

### Future Hamm?

The Montrose Soccer Club of Houston is open to men and women who have experience playing soccer. For information, send an e-mail to [MontroseSC@soccer.com](mailto:MontroseSC@soccer.com) or go to <http://www.geocities.com/MontroseSoccer>.

### Serve you?

The Houston Tennis Club meets on Wednesday and Friday evenings from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Weekends not good for you? Meet the club on Sundays from 9 a.m. until noon. For more information, contact the Houston Tennis Club at 713-692-2701 or log on to [houstontennisclub@aol.com](mailto:houstontennisclub@aol.com).

### Power play

Don't forget there are many opportunities out there for all levels of bowling fun. Contact Tom O'Dell at 713-861-1187 or 713-220-5700, extension 331, for information on the Inner Loop Alternatives (four-person mixed teams) at palace lanes on Sundays at 7 p.m. Tom's also in the know for the leagues on Monday at 9 p.m., Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday at 9 p.m.

Call Pat at 281-437-6218 for information on the Monday Night Women's League. Bowling begins at 6:45 p.m. at the Dynamic Lanes, 6121 Tarneff. Go roll a few.

### Muddy puddles

The Houston Women's Flag Football League begins a new season. For more information, call 713-981-6753.

### Fall league

As can be expected with any outdoor activity in Houston in the fall, the Montrose Softball League announces that any games postponed Sunday, Oct. 28, will be made up at the end of the season. The schedule for Oct. 27 remains as planned.

The Fall Fun League continues every Sunday through Oct. 27. Games start at 10 a.m. and run until 3 p.m. Games are played at Tim Hearne field, located near the northwest quadrant of Memorial and Waugh drives.

# community calendar

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

**Classic Chassis Car Club.** Tour of National Museum of Funeral History. Meet at Corvettes & Classics at 11 a.m. 713-797-8615. www.classicchassisclub.org.

### EVERY SATURDAY

**All-Spanish Worship Service/Noche Espiritual.** 6 p.m. Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church, 2026 W. 11th. 713-303-3409 or 713-861-9149.

**After Hours.** KPFT 90.1 FM. 1-4 a.m.

**Dignity mass.** 7:30 p.m. for gay Catholics. 713-880-2872.

**Free HIV Testing.** Montrose Clinic. 11 p.m.-2 a.m. at Viviana's. 713-830-3000.

**Gay & Lesbian Breakfast Club.** 9:30 a.m. 281-437-0636.

**Houston Wrestling Club.** Practice. 1:30 p.m. 713-453-7406.

**Q-Patrol.** Volunteers walk the streets to help prevent hate crimes. 9:30 p.m. Convene at community center. 713-528-SAFE. E-mail: qpatrolinc@aol.com

**St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.** Rosary 8 a.m. 1805 W. Alabama. 713-528-6665.

**Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center.** Drop-in, noon-5 p.m. • Community Awareness for Transgender Support (CATS) board of directors meeting, 2 p.m. • Texas Association for Transsexual Support (TATS), 6 p.m. • Avid Rainbow Gamers (ARG), 7 p.m. • Bewitched Ball, a gala benefit for the center, will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Galleria. For more information, contact Hillary Woest at 713-569-2023 or e-mail bewitchedball@hotmail.com. • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818. www.hlgcc.org.

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

**Classic Chassis Car Club.** Annual awards banquet, 5 p.m. Mockingbird Restaurant, 1985 Welch. 713-797-8615. www.classicchassisclub.org.

### EVERY SUNDAY

**Bering Memorial United Methodist Church.** Services at 8:30 & 10:50 a.m. Sunday school 9:45 a.m. 713-526-1017.

**Community Gospel.** Service at 11 a.m. & 7 p.m. Sunday School for children 10 a.m. 713-880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org.

**Community of Kindred Spirits in Beaumont.** Worship at 6 p.m. 1575 Spindletop Ave., Beaumont, Texas. 409-813-2055. E-mail: cksrev3@netzero.net

**Covenant Church, Ecumenical, Liberal Baptist.** Service 9:30 a.m. & education hour 11 a.m. 713-668-8830.

**Emerson Unitarian Church.** Adult education, 10 a.m. Service, 11 a.m. Lunch at noon. www.emersonhou.org.

**First Congregational Church (Memorial).** Service at 10 a.m. Christian Education, 11:30 a.m. 713-468-9543 or fcc-houston.org.

**First Unitarian Universalist Church.** Services at 9:30 & 11:30 a.m. Brunch at 10:30 a.m. 713-526-5200. church@firstuu.org.

**Free HIV Testing.** Montrose Clinic. 9 p.m.-midnight at Club Inergy. 713-830-3000.

**Gay Catholics of St. Anne's-Houston.** 5 p.m. worship service. Dinner and social. alexcam@wt.net. 713-623-0930.

**GLOBAL.** Gay Lesbian Or Bisexual Alliance. University of Houston GLBT student group meeting, 2 p.m. at the Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center, 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818. www.uh.edu/~global. E-mail: global@bayou.uh.edu.

**Grace Lutheran Church.** Sunday school for all ages 9 a.m. Service 10:30 a.m. 713-528-3269.

**Houston Tennis Club.** 9 a.m.-noon. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center. houstontennisclub@aol.com

**Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church.** 10 a.m. service. 3333 Fannin, Suite 106. 713-528-6756.

**Resurrection MCC.** Services, 9 and 11 a.m. Children and Youth Sunday School, 10 a.m. Children's service, 11 a.m. 713-861-9149.

**St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.** Holy Eucharist, Rite I, 7:45 a.m.; Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 8:55 a.m.; Education hour, 10 a.m.; Choral Eucharist, 11 a.m. 713-528-6665.

**Sunday Brunch.** For HIV-positive men. 11 a.m. Riva's, 1117 Missouri St. Paul, 713-880-0690. e-mail: PoznBuff@aol.com.

**The Women's Group.** Meeting and discussion. 10:45 a.m. 713-529-8571.

**Thoreau Unitarian Universalist Congregation.** Adult discussion, 9 a.m. Service, 11:15 a.m. 281-277-8882. www.tuuc.org.

**Unitarian Fellowship of Galveston County.** 502 Church St. Service, 10:30 a.m. 409-765-8330.

**Unitarian Fellowship of Houston.** Adult forum, 10 a.m. Service, 11 a.m. 713-686-5876.

**Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center.** Drop-in, 2-6 p.m. • GLBT Community Church with Rev. Melissa Wood: Bible study, 10-10:45 a.m., worship 11 a.m. www.geocities.com/glbtc • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818. www.hlgcc.org.

## MONDAY, OCTOBER 28

## EVERY MONDAY

**Free HIV Testing.** Houston Area Community Services. 9 a.m.-noon at Joseph-Hines Clinic, 1710 West 25th St. 713-526-0555, ext. 231, 227 or 226.

**Free HIV Testing.** Montrose Clinic. 8 p.m.-midnight. Keys West. 713-830-3000.

**Frost Eye Clinic.** Free eye exams for people with HIV. 713-830-3000.

**Gay Fathers/Fathers First.** Support group. 8-9:30 p.m. Grace Lutheran Church. Tom, 713-726-8736. www.geocities.com/gaydadshouston/

**Grief & Divorce Support Groups.** 7 p.m. Bering. 713-526-1017, ext. 208.

**Kolbe Project.** Eucharist 7:30 p.m. 713-861-1800.

**Queer Voices Radio Show.** 8-10 p.m. KPFT 90.1.

**Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center.** Drop-in 2-9 p.m. • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818. www.hlgcc.org.

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29

**Houston Outdoor Group.** General meeting and newsletter mailout, 7:30 p.m. Non-members welcome. Don and Ray's. 713-522-7809.

### EVERY TUESDAY

**Bering Support Network.** Lunch Bunch Gang, 11 a.m. 713-526-1017.

**Free HIV Testing.** Houston Area Community Services. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Joseph-Hines Clinic, 1710 West 25th St. 713-526-0555, ext. 231, 227 or 226.

**Free HIV Testing.** Montrose Clinic. 8 p.m.-midnight. Club Houston. 713-830-3000.

**Gay youth.** New program for young gay males, ages 18-29. 7 p.m. 614 Avondale. 713-533-9786.

**Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous.** Support group. 7 p.m.

**Houston Women's Rugby Team.** No experience necessary. Practice, 6:30-8:30. Westland YMCA. Kay, 713-208-1529.

**Rainbow Ranglers.** Free C&W dance lessons. Brazos River Bottom. No partner needed. Beginner 2 Step, Waltz, Shuffle & Swing. 8:30 p.m. 713-528-9192.

**Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center.** Drop-in 2-9 p.m. • Lesbian Coming Out Group, 7 p.m. • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818. www.hlgcc.org.

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30

**Integrity Houston.** Rev. Susan Russell, executive director of "Claiming the Blessing," a national coalition working for passage of liturgical rights for same-sex and unmarried heterosexual couples, will speak. Potluck supper. 6:30 p.m. St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 1805 W. Alabama. For information, call Sharon Hamman at 713-290-9488 or Muffie Moroney at 713-622-2255. www.claimingtheblessing.org.

### EVERY WEDNESDAY

**Bering Memorial United Methodist Church.** Support Network Pot Luck Dinner, 6:30 p.m. Various support groups, 7 p.m. 713-526-1017.

**Bible Study.** Noon & 6:30 p.m. St. Stephen's Episcopal. 713-526-6665.

**Free HIV Testing.** Montrose Clinic. 4-8 p.m. at Mary's; 9 p.m.-midnight at Ripcord; 10 p.m.-1 a.m. at EJ's; 10 p.m.-1 a.m. at Midtowne Spa. 713-830-3000.

**Free HIV Testing.** Thomas Street Clinic. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. 2015 Thomas St. OraSure method. Call for appointment. Sharon, 713-873-4157.

**Houston Pride Band.** Open rehearsal, 7-9 p.m. 1307 Yale. 713-528-4379.

**Houston Tennis Club.** 7:00-9 p.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center. houstontennisclub@aol.com

**Spiritual Uplift service.** 7 p.m. Resurrection MCC. 713-861-9149.

**Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center.** Drop-in, 2-9 p.m. • Houston Black Lesbian, Gay, Transgender Coalition office hours 10 a.m.-noon • Free HIV testing, counseling, 6-9 p.m. • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818. www.hlgcc.org.

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31

### EVERY THURSDAY

**BiNet Houston.** Group for bisexuals; everyone welcome. 7:30 p.m. Hobbit Café, 2240 Portsmouth. www.flash.net/~bihouse. 713-467-4380.

**Community Gospel.** Service. 7:30 p.m. 713-880-9235. www.communitygospel.org.

**Free HIV Testing.** Houston Area Community Services. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Joseph-Hines Clinic, 1710 West 25th St. Also 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at Gallery Medical Clinic, 5900 North Freeway, and Club Toyz from 9 p.m.-midnight. 713-526-0555, ext. 231, 227 or 226.

**Free HIV Testing.** Montrose Clinic. 4-8 p.m. at The Outpost; 8 p.m.-midnight at Brazos River Bottom and Cousins; 10 p.m.-1 a.m. at Toyz Disco. 713-830-3000.

**FrontRunners.** Running club. 6:30 p.m. 713-522-8021. Web site: http://home.swbell.net/larathon/houfr.htm. E-mail: larathon@swbell.net.

**GLOBAL.** Gay, Lesbian or Bisexual Alliance at the University of Houston-Central Campus. Weekly meeting, 6 p.m. E-mail: nguy0023@hotmail.com.

**Hep C Recovery.** Support group. 6:30 p.m. Bering. 713-526-1017, Ext. 211.

**Houston Women's Rugby Team.** No experience necessary. Practice, 6:30-8:30. Westland YMCA. Kay, 713-208-1529.

**Lambda Skating Club.** 8 p.m. Tradewinds. Skating Rink. www.lambdaroll.org. 713-410-7215.

**Rainbow Ranglers.** Free C&W dance lessons. No partner required. Brazos River Bottom. 8:30 p.m. 713-528-9192.

**Recovery From Food Addiction (RFA).** Meeting for 12-step program open to all. Noon-1 p.m. St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 1805 W. Alabama St. RFA: 713-673-2848. www.geocities.com/rfa77235/. E-mail: rfaworldservice@aol.com.

**Spanish Charla Conversation Group.** Café Agora, 7 p.m. E-mail charlahouston@msn.com. 713-416-7203.

**Women's Clinic.** Montrose Clinic. 713-830-3000.

**Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center.** Drop in 2-9 p.m. • Houston Black Lesbian, Gay, Transgender Coalition office hours 10 a.m.-noon • Creepy Movie Night with "Dracula" and more, 7 p.m. Treats served. Donations encouraged to support the center • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818. www.hlgcc.org.

## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1

### EVERY FRIDAY

**Free HIV Testing.** Montrose Clinic. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. at The Meatrack; 10 p.m.-1 a.m. at EJ's and at Midtowne Spa. 713-830-3000.

**Free HIV Testing.** Thomas Street Clinic. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. 2015 Thomas St. OraSure method. Call for appointment. Sharon, 713-873-4157.

**Frost Eye Clinic.** Free eye exams for people with HIV. 713-830-3000.

**Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals (H.A.T.C.H.) Meeting.** 7-10 p.m. 713-942-7002.

**Houston Tennis Club.** 7:00-9 p.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center. houstontennisclub.org

**Kolbe Project.** Morning prayer, 10 a.m. 713-861-1800.

**Mishpachath Alizim.** GLBT Jewish congregation. Sabbath services at 8 p.m. on the second Friday of each month at Baby Barnabys, 602 Fairview. Monthly study groups with Congregation Beth Israel, 5600 North Braeswood. Mishpachath Alizim, P.O. Box 980136, Houston, TX 77098. 866-841-9139, ext. 1834.

**Q-Patrol.** Volunteers walk the streets to help prevent hate crimes. 9:30 p.m. Convene at community center. 713-528-SAFE. E-mail: qpatrolinc@aol.com

**Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center.** Drop-in 2-9 p.m. • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818. www.hlgcc.org.

## VOLUNTEER/SELF-HELP

**Gay & Lesbian Help Line.** For gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth. Staffed by volunteers of all ages. 6-11 p.m. Monday-Friday, 5-10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. 888-340-GLBT.

**Gay & Lesbian Switchboard Houston.** Volunteers offer a friendly ear to callers in need of information, nonjudgmental support, crisis intervention and referral services, emergency shelter and advocacy services to crime survivors who may need someone to accompany them to a hospital for medical attention or assistance in filing a police report. 713-529-3211.

**HoP-ON.** Anyone can join this non-profit moderated e-mail announcement list that helps facilitate advocacy work and organizing efforts for gay Houstonians. Quantity of postings is strictly limited. Postings include press releases and action alerts from national, state and local gay and allied organizations. For info or to join, access www.groups.yahoo.com/group/HoP-ON/.

**Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center.** Volunteers perform a variety of critical tasks which include staffing the information desk during drop-in hours; helping with Center programming and events; working on community outreach efforts, fund-raising and publicity. Card players, writers and artists in particular are needed. 713-524-3818.

**Peer Listening Line.** Youth only. Staffed by GLBT youth for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth. 5-10 p.m. Monday-Friday. 800-399-PEER.



To list an event, call 713-529-8490, fax at 713-529-9531, or e-mail [editor@houstonvoice.com](mailto:editor@houstonvoice.com). Deadline is Monday at 5 p.m.

# appts

a weekly guide to arts & entertainment activities for gay Houstonians

## SPECIAL SATURDAY, OCT. 26

"Unity Monster Bash" is set for this weekend. The Houston Transgendered Unity Committee plans a Halloween costume party and fund-raiser, including a drag show, auction and prizes. \$3 cover charge. 8:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. Diamond Jimm's, 13331 Kuykendahl. www.theresabathory.com/halloween.html.

## FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, OCT. 25 AND 26

"Tell Me A Story" is a cabaret evening with Deborah Boily and Annalee Jefferies, who present stories in song and verse. Also, the new Gay Men's Chorus of Houston Small Ensemble will debut. 713-521-7464. E-mail: tickets@gmch.org. www.gmch.org.

## SATURDAY, OCT. 26

"Bewitched Ball" is a night of music, food and fun to benefit the Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center. The evening will include live music, a DJ and dancing, a costume contest, silent auction and light fare with a cash bar. Tickets: \$20. 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, Galleria. 713-569-2023. E-mail: bewitchedball@hotmail.com.

## FILM

### THIS WEEKEND

"I'm Going Home" is the latest film from the prolific Manoel de Oliveira, still going strong at age 93. The story centers on a successful theater actor, his family tragedy and how he deals with the grief and attempts to go on with his career. 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25, and Saturday, Oct. 26. Tickets: \$6. Museum of Fine Arts Houston, Caroline Wiess Law Building, corner of Main Street and Bissonnet/Bin. 713-639-7515. www.mfah.org.

"It Came From Outer Space" stars Richard Carlson and Barbara Rush in this adaptation of Ray Bradbury's "The Meteor," in which a group of space aliens take on human form in order to repair their spacecraft, which has crashed in a small Arizona town. Presented in 3-D. 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26, and Sunday, Oct. 27. Tickets: \$6. Rice Cinema, Rice University Campus, Entrance No. 8, University Boulevard and Stockton Drive. 713-348-4853. www.ruf.rice.edu/~cinema.

## GALLERIES

### THROUGH OCT. 31

"PhoneWorks" on these dates features Gloria Vando at DiverseWorks. The celebrated Puerto Rican poet is the author of "Shadows and Supposes and Promesas: Geography of the Impossible," and this live recording is brought courtesy of Arte Publico Press. Free. 713-335-3443. DiverseWorks Inc., 1117 East Freeway. www.diverseworks.org.

### ONGOING

**Gulf Coast Archives & Museum of GLBT History Satellite Exhibition.** The first exhibition from the GCAM collection presented at the Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center honors the NAMES Project Houston. Community Center, 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.

**Positive Art Workshop Photography Exhibition.** Artists living with HIV/AIDS created these pictures with accompanying text. Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center, 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.

## MUSIC

### THIS WEEKEND

"An Evening of Ellington" will be presented by the Texas Tap Ensemble. The performances reveal the evolution of two of America's greatest art forms: tap dancing and jazz music, all showcasing the talents of Duke Ellington. Tunes featured will include "Satin Doll" and "Mood Indigo." 8 p.m. Oct. 25-27. Miller Outdoor Theatre in Hermann Park. 713-686-9184.

# PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

**Customers are out there!**



Help them find you by advertising here  
Call 713-529-8490

**Houston Photographer**  
www.davidlewisimages.com  
Photography for GLBT Houston

- Full Privacy
- Events
- Single, Couples, & Family Pics

**713.240.5508**

Serving the Houston Metropolitan Area  
Arrangements in the comfort and privacy of your home.

**Jim Choate**  
Funeral Director  
Owner

**Cypress-Fairbanks**  
FUNERAL HOME

9926 Jones Road 281.897.9823

**BUYERS NEEDED!**

Need extra money to own the new home you want? If not, please tell someone who does. Get 2% cash back to pay for closing costs, builder decorator options, window treatments or whatever you want when you purchase any new home. As your buyer agent, I'm interested in only one thing — saving you money! I have 14 years of new home sales experience. I've saved buyers thousands on new home purchases all over the Houston area. Let me save you money, too!

**Call 713-661-1800**  
or visit  
[www.newhomehouston.com](http://www.newhomehouston.com)

**Jerry Simoneaux** **attorney at law**

**Houston**

- Criminal Defense
- Civil Litigation
- GLBT Issues
- Estate Planning
- Domestic Partnerships

**call 713-227-1717**  
[law.Simoneaux.com](http://law.Simoneaux.com)  
not certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization

**TXCasting.com**  
**Acting, Modeling, & Talent Agency**  
is looking for you.  
Online or call for appointments,  
**713.683.8272**

**Creative Lighting**

- Indoor/Outdoor
- Accent
- Chandeliers
- Security

For all your lighting needs!  
**832.274.7141** professor\_busa@msn.com

**TRAFFIC TICKET DEFENSE**

DWI • Bad Checks • All Other Criminal Cases

**Law Offices of Benavides & Kelly**  
**713-226-7889**  
Former Prosecutors Working For YOU!  
Not certified by the Board of Legal Specialization

**WEST END CLEANERS**  
YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANERS

4918 Washington Ave.  
(at Durham)  
Houston, TX 77007  
713-864-2365

**MENTION THIS AD AND RECEIVE 20% OFF DRY CLEANING**

**THE TIRE PLACE** Inc.

- Alignment
- Brakes

1307 Fairview  
(3 blocks west of Montrose)  
**713-529-1414**

**Mrs. Gray**  
**Psychic Reader**

- Brings back lover
- Answers all questions

Mention Houston Voice for \$10 off!  
713-528-9675  
2119 S. Shepherd

• Lounge Wear • Thongs • Enhancement Tools • Leather • Club Wear • Swim Wear

**New DVDs Buy 1 get 1 free!**

**Adult Videos 2 for \$19.90**

**One Hour XXX Photo Lab**

**1207** 713.944.6010  
1207 Spencer Hwy @ Allen Genoa 15 minutes south of downtown Take I-45 South, exit College/Airport, go east 3 miles

**JRs Discount Dungeon.com**  
*Definitely Not Toys for TOTS!!*

- Leather • Medical • Videos • Pride
- Novelties • Electro • Bondage Toys & More

(954) 565-5465 (KINK)  
[www.JRsDiscountDungeon.com](http://www.JRsDiscountDungeon.com)

**New World Design**  
Specializing in Interior & Exterior Painting Residential/Commercial

Pressure Washing: Mildew Removal, Buildings, or Homes  
Home Improvements: Carpentry Repair, New Sheetrock, or Replacement

**The Dancin' Painter**  
Historical Restorator, Chemical Applicator

References available upon request  
**713.670.0426**

**LAWRENCE CONSTRUCTION**  
Carpentry • Repairs • Remodeling •

**936.563.5180 / 936.760.5531**  
**Lawrence Gilstrap**

Serving Houston's Gay Community for 15 years

**Tell them you found them in the Directory!**

**Support our Advertisers!**

**Get results! Call now at 713.529.8490 to place your ad in the directory!**

# HEALTH & BEAUTY

## Pleasure Yourself!

with a Swedish massage  
by a young attractive  
male. RMT #016479

**(713) 876-3811**

if your hair isn't  
**BECOMING** to you, then  
you should **BE COMING** to me.

**DON GILL**  
**STUDIO 911**  
713-521-0911  
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

**NATIONAL MASSAGE THERAPY  
AWARENESS WEEK!**  
OCTOBER 20-26, 2002

SPECIAL 1<sup>1/2</sup> HOUR RATE

**\$45.00!**  
(this week only)

**MASSAGE**  
*by rail*

BACK FROM NEW YORK!

Gift Certificates also available  
at this price

**"GIVE THE GIFT  
YOU'D LIKE TO GET!"**

713-527-0400 or 832-524-7700



**Shawn Penn**  
@ Avondales Hair Salon  
2702 Crocker  
Houston, Tx. 77006  
**(713) 521-2444**  
**(713) 992-6264**  
Tues-Fri 10a-7p & Sat 9a-6p

Join the Fun!  
The Directory is  
where it's at!  
713.529.8490



**MASSAGE**  
FULLBODY RELAXATION  
manmassage.net  
**713.942.2399**  
• Montrose Location  
• 7 days/evenings  
• Visa/Mastercard  
• Outcalls welcome

**Roland**

Tell them you found  
them in the directory!  
Support our  
Advertisers!



**Alignments  
Brakes**  
2314 Washington  
713-880-4747

**! The Directory  
gets results!  
Reserve your  
space and  
watch your  
business  
EXPAND!  
Call Steven today at  
713.529.8490!**

Customers are out there!



Help them find you  
by advertising here  
Call 713-529-8490



**KAEHLER CLEANING**  
Make Ready •  
Residential & Commercial •  
Continually the Best  
713.861.6181



**Divine**  
—Portrait  
of a Sex  
Goddess  
Coming  
Soon!  
Starring Randall Jobe as 'Divine'



**Mrs. Gray**  
Psychic Reader  
• Brings back lover  
• Answers all questions  
Mention  
Houston Voice  
for \$10 off!  
713-528-9675  
2119 S. Shepherd



**Houston  
Photographer**  
www.davidlewisimages.com  
Photography for GLBT Houston  
• Full Privacy  
• Events,  
• Single, Couples,  
& Family Pics  
**713.240.5508**

**Call now at 713.529.8490  
to place your ad in the directory!**

# houston classifieds

**Houston Classifieds deadline is Monday at 11 a.m.**

### ADULT SERVICES

ADDRESS4SEX.COM  
Worldwide directory. Adult SexShops, theaters, topless clubs, cruising & gloryhole locations, bathhouses, swingers, gay & bisexual sex clubs, backrooms, private listings.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

WRITER LOOKING FOR STORIES of local heroes/people who have made a difference to another individual, their city or their community. Contact Paul Dunn; 3030 McKinney Ave.; Dallas, TX, 75204 or contact me via e-mail: PD200@aol.com

PRIME CHOICE BENEFIT IN MEMORY OF MR. PRIME CHOICE 2001-2002 CREATH ROBINSON Nov. 10, 2002, 8pm at the RIPCORD benefiting GULF COAST ARCHIVES AND MUSEUM & COLT 45's For more info, call Robert Harwood M-F 3-9 p.m. / 713-571-7870

### NIGHT IN BLACK LEATHER 2003

Saturday, March 22, 2003, 7 p.m. at Rich's. Benefiting Houston Buyers Club. For more info, contact Don Gill at 713-521-0911. Silent auction item donations welcomed.

RFA  
"Recovery From Food Addiction"  
A Twelve Step Program Open to ALL  
Thursdays,  
12-noon to 1:00-pm  
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church  
1805 W. Alabama  
(Woodhead @ W. Alabama)  
RFA - 713-673-2848  
www.geocities.com/rfa77235/  
E-mail: rfaworldservice@aol.com

### FOOD EMERGENCY HOU. HUMANE SOCIETY

The cupboards are bare at HHS. They need puppy and kitten food • Any kind • Any quantity • Drop donations at 14700 Almeda Rd. or send monetary donations to:

Houston Humane Society • PO BOX 450428 • Houston, Texas 77245-0528 • For information, call 713-434-5555.

### DAY SHELTER

Needs new or used clothing and shoes in good condition • Contact Etalia or Ruth at 713-528-5667 • 402 Pacific

### EMPLOYMENT

Houseboy Wanted in Southwest Houston. Room, Board, and Salary. Contact Jerry @ 713-249-7811.

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Gay Men's Chorus of Houston is seeking applications for the newly created job of Executive Director. Position is initially part time. The ideal candidate has nonprofit management & fundraising experience. Salary negotiable based on experience. An application & full job description may be found at www.gmch.org. Deadline: 10/31/02. Contact 713-667-5969. E.O.E.

### CLASSIFIED ADS WORK!

Get results! Call toll-free 1-877-966-3342 ext. 15 to place your classified ad on these pages. Deadline is Monday at 11 a.m.

### FOR RENT

1 Bedroom/1Bath Loft-Apartment in GALVESTON. Great View. Parking \$625/mo. http://www.cinelandia.com/galveston.html 830-931-9888.

### PRIDEREALTY.COM SALES/RELOCATION

### WESTBURY GARDENS

Spacious Upstairs Condo in The Chateau with Beautiful Hardwood Floors, Ceramic Tile in Kitchen & Bathroom, Washer & Dryer & Private Balcony. Assigned Covered Parking. \$600/mo. 713-729-9316. Agent on Site.

### FOR SALE

1920's Duplex & Garage Apartment - Prairie Style - 1.5 miles from Ball Park. 3.0 miles from Montrose. Nice Hardwoods, Formal Dining Room, Nice Yard, W/D hookups in Duplex. Live in One; Rent from Others Pays Mortgage. 281-485-8363 / 713-926-1777.

### PRIDEREALTY.COM SALES/RELOCATION

### MASSAGE THERAPY

### MASSAGE BY BILL

All Knotted Up Massage \* Incalls \* Outcalls \* 8 a.m. 'til 10 p.m. \* 7-Days/week \* Excellent Rates \* Call Bill 713-283-8378 or pager: 713-326-3279.

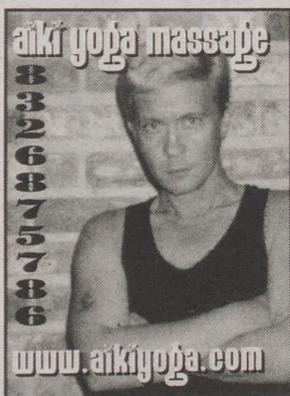
### MASSAGE

Therapeutic • Swedish • Sports • Deep tissue • Myotherapy • Relaxation therapy • Jason • College guy • Memorial Park and Montrose Studios • www.sizzlingmassage.com • 713-524-5400.



**MASSAGE**  
Absolute Let-Go  
713.942.2399  
manmassage.net  
• Montrose Location  
• 7 days/evenings  
• Visa/Mastercard  
• Outcalls welcome

**Roland**



aiki yoga massage  
www.aikiyoga.com



estevan jeff  
inkworkx.com/massage.htm  
hands TO CAR  
713 802 0439

## Q Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15				16			
17					18				19			
20				21				22	23			
			24				25					
26	27	28				29						
30					31	32			33	34	35	36
37					38			39	40			
41				42	43				44			
			45		46			47	48			
	49	50					51					
52						53				54	55	56
57					58	59			60			
61					62				63			
64					65				66			

### "Pansies"

#### Across

- Main character of "Zero Patience"
- Vowels of Sappho
- B.D. Wong and k.d. lang
- The sound of music?
- That's bull, to Gloria Anzaldua
- Start of an Roy Cohn memo
- Popular gay hotel in Amsterdam
- Janis Joplin's "Down \_\_\_\_\_"
- Carrier to Copenhagen
- Cheryl of "Charlie's Angels"
- More like Beth Chayim Chadashim
- Like many a "Cats" review
- 1992 Presidential also-ran Myles
- Sit for Tee Corinne again
- Acknowledged a queen
- "The Unicorn" author Murdoch
- Give a good beating to
- Waters near Sitges
- Bean's team
- George of "Robot Monsters"
- Gay Talese's "\_\_\_\_\_ the Sons"
- Ferro's "The Family of Max \_\_\_\_\_"
- Needing BenGay
- Ryan of porn
- Events at Barney's
- Oscar Wilde tragedy (1893)
- Earhart transportation
- Boat bottom
- "West Side Story" gang

#### Down

- Emulates Caroline Rhea
- Type of skirt worn by a Hawaiian man
- Whoopi's "Ghost" role and others
- Nero's thus
- Stein steady
- Piece of Schubert
- Outed, for example
- Maria Callas wooer Onassis
- First name among lesbian singers
- Group of prominent gay writers
- Fetish of a mauve hanky carrier
- Promoters, for short
- Greek oracle, e.g.
- The Timberline in Seattle

- Heterogeneous mixture
- Start (or end) of a Stein quote
- Penetrate
- Fruit cover
- Lake traveled by Ohio ferries
- Sonny and Cher's "Needles and \_\_\_\_\_"
- Tony awards for "Rent", e.g.
- Sites for dates
- Disengage a bra hook
- "Exotica" director Egoyan
- Foot fetish target
- Upshot
- Colonel, to Cammermeyer
- "Stone Butch Blues" novelist Feinberg
- Mark of pop music
- Sex toy, for some
- Pet Shop Boys' "\_\_\_\_\_ Tonight"
- McFarland portrayer on "Will & Grace"
- Margaret Cho's "Can't \_\_\_\_\_ Dancing"
- Map of a piece of land
- Crooner of George and Lorenz tunes
- Poppers packaging
- Bannon and Northrop
- "I Got Rhythm" writer Gershwin
- He had a threesome with Larry and a bald guy

Answers on Page 25

**PLEASURE YOURSELF!**

with a Swedish Massage by a Young Attractive Male. RMT # 016479. In or Out. 713-876-3811.

**MASSAGE BY KEN**

Experience stress relief • Convenient Montrose location • By appointment only • 11 am to 8 pm • RMT #028519 • KEN CLAUDE • 713-240-9598.

**SWEDISH MASSAGE BY PATRICK**

Relaxation • Myotherapy • Deep tissue (RMT#024589) 713-807-7109 • 713-501-9852 • 1 1/2 hours for \$60. 1 Hr. \$50.

**MOVING SERVICES**

**WWW.AHOUSTON-MOVER.COM**

Chuck French • TXDOT 534438B • 713-861-1212

**PRODUCTS & SERVICES**

**WWW.RAINBOWPROD.COM /BILBO**

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

**M2M BODY GROOMING**

Body Waxing • Clippings • Coloring • Personal grooming by Dale. Waxing specialist & licensed Cosmetologist. Private location in Montrose. Call 713-529-5952 for appointment.

**GET RESULTS!**

Call toll-free 1-877-966-3342 ext. 15 to place your classified ad on these pages. Deadline is Monday at 11 a.m.

**PETS**

**ADOPT A PET**

NO ANIMAL TURNED AWAY!! The Houston Humane Society relies solely on donations. They receive NO local, state, or federal government funding. Call 713-434-5555 to find out the many ways YOU can help, or for adoption information.

**ROOMMATES**

Share 2-Bedroom House in Heights with Artist & Big Dog. Will Trade Rent for Help in Remodeling. \$410/mo. All Bills. Evenings 8-9. 713-880-9983.

**VOLUNTEERS**

**STEVEN'S HOUSE**

Seeking caregivers for transitional housing program for HIV+ adults • Must have high school diploma and experience as a caregiver • Contact Ms. Straham @ 713-522-5757 or fax resume to 713-522-1910.

**FOOD EMERGENCY HOUSTON HUMANE SOCIETY**

The cupboards are bare at HHS. They need puppy and kitten food • Drop donations at 14700 Alameda Rd. or send monetary donations to:

Houston Humane Society • PO BOX 450428 • Houston, Texas 77245-0528 • For information, call 713-434-5555.

**DAY SHELTER**

Needs new or used clothing and shoes in good condition • Contact Etalia or Ruth at 713-528-5667 • 402 Pacific

**WANTED TO BUY**

**CASH FOR BOOKS**  
713-659-5266

Answers to Q puzzle on page 24

S	L	A	D	S	E	A	P	E	R	E	P
N	V	L	O	N	E	I	R	A	S	E	O
N	I	L	M	O	L	L	O	T	O	T	O
A	V	E	M	L	P	S	K	R	A	S	H
		L	L	H	S	E	N	V	L	A	P
E	M	O	A	S	S	E	S	A	L	S	
L	O	I		E	R	O	S	R	I	S	D
O	N	U		R	E	R	A	D	E	N	N
S	V	A	Q	V	T	O	R	S	I	R	I
		T	L	E	N	K	S	E	S	O	R
	N	E	E	L	E	E	V	A	R	A	
R	E	L	I	E	H	D	D	L	A	S	S
E	M	N	O		P	L	I	T	K	C	B
E	R	I	N		O	R	O		I	O	A
S	I	P		S	A	S	E	T	S	T	G



**Classified Order Form Fax: 713-529-9531, Phone: 1-877-966-3342, ext. 15**

**TO PLACE AN AD:**

**IN PERSON:** Bring completed order form with payment to Houston Voice offices (M-F, 9-5:30 pm) 500 Lovett, Suite 200. **BY MAIL:** Mail completed order form with payment to Houston Voice Classifieds, 500 Lovett, Suite 200, Houston, TX, 77006. **BY PHONE:** Call in with completed order form to 1-877-966-3342, ext. 15. **BY FAX:** Fax completed order form and credit card information to Classifieds 713-529-9531. **BY E-MAIL:** E-mail complete order to Classifieds@sovo.com **AD POLICY:** Houston Voice reserves the right to edit, reclassify or reject ads not meeting Houston Voice standards. No refunds for early cancellation. Misprints: Houston Voice is not responsible for misprints appearing after first week. Check ads promptly.

**Deadline for ad submission is: MONDAY at 11 a.m.**

- 1 PICK YOUR CATEGORY**
- FREE:** Call for guidelines
    - HIV Services & Education
    - Volunteers
    - Non-Profit Organizations
    - \*First 20 words
  - INDIVIDUAL RATE \$10:**
    - Announcements
    - Auditions
    - Employment-Seeking
    - Pets-Free or Lost & Found
    - Roommates
    - Personal Web sites
  - BUSINESS RATE \$18:**
    - Auto Repair
    - Business Opportunities
    - Entertainment
    - Help Wanted
    - Help Wanted-Seeking
    - Home Improvement
    - Items For Sale
    - Licensed Massage
    - Moving Services
    - Professional Services
    - Real Estate For Rent
    - Real Estate For Sale
- Call 1-877-966-3342, ext. 15 for other categories

**2 WRITE YOUR AD**  
Please print clearly

**CATEGORY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **# OF ISSUES:** \_\_\_\_\_

Giant or Bold Headline – Not to exceed 14 characters and spaces

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

**TEXT:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**3 TOTAL YOUR COST**  
CALL FOR DIRECTORY AD RATES

**INDIVIDUAL RATE ADS**  
Up to 20 words for \$10.00 per week. Additional words at 50¢ each per week.

Up to 20 words: \$10.00

Additional words \_\_\_\_\_ x 50¢: \_\_\_\_\_

Bold headline: 5.00 (per week) \_\_\_\_\_

**Subtotal:** \_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_ # of issues

**Total:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**BUSINESS RATE ADS**  
Up to 20 words for \$18.00 per week.

Additional words \_\_\_\_\_ x 75¢ per word (per week): \_\_\_\_\_

Bold headline: 5.00 (per week) \_\_\_\_\_

**Subtotal:** \_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_ # of issues

**Total:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Check Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Charge to my  AMEX  MC  VISA

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**DA CHOCOLATE FACTORY** visit our new website today!!!  
[WWW.DACHOCOLATEFACTORY.COM](http://WWW.DACHOCOLATEFACTORY.COM)

SPECIAL EVENTS  
 CONTEST  
 EROTIC LETTERS  
 STORIES  
 NEW ORLEANS

Select Chocolate Models ♡ Exotic Dancers ♡ Videos ♡ Live Feeds  
 Merchandise ♡ TV Talk Show ♡ Escort Service ♡ Party Planner  
 Live Chats ♡ Photo Gallery ♡ Limo Service ♡ On-Screen Games

FOR THAT SPECIAL CHOCOLATE ECLAIR WITH EXTRA SWEET, CREAMY FILLING...

WHAT KIND OF CHOCOLATES DO YOU LIKE? COME TO **DA CHOCOLATE FACTORY**

NEW ORLEANS OFFICE. 504.367.0871  
 EMAIL: CREAM@DACHOCOLATEFACTORY.COM

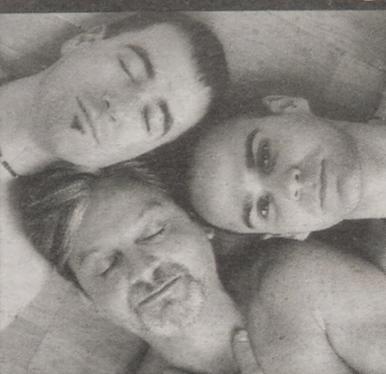
streaming videos - hot pictures



**LatinGuyZ.com**

www.LatinGuyZ.com www.LatinGuyZ.com

*Celebrating the Body Erotic*



**NOVEMBER 9-10 / HOUSTON**  
 Come alive to the power of your erotic energy. Open your body, mind and spirit to a world of pleasure. Discover deeper levels of communication with yourself and others. Honor yourself with the gift of touch.

**be** Body Electric School

(713) 854-1988 • [www.bodyelectric.ORG](http://www.bodyelectric.ORG)

**THE LOVETT INN**  
 Distinctive Lodging and Catering Accommodations  
 Call us for your next out-of-town guest!






Historic Accommodations • Corporate Meeting Rooms  
 Banquet Facilities • Jacuzzi Suites • Pool/Hot Tub  
 Near Downtown, Museums and Medical Center

**We do catered events for up to 200 people!**

501 Lovett Blvd. Houston, TX 77006  
 (713) 522-5224 • (800) 779-5224  
 Fax (713) 528-6708 • [lovettinn.com](http://lovettinn.com)  
**YOU'LL LOVE IT!**

**astrology** JILL DEARMAN



**My Stars!**

October 25 - 31



**ARIES (March 21 to April 20)**

Better to be aggressive than passive-aggressive this week, honey. Your mixed messages are confusing those closest to you. Come out and say what's on your mind. Another Aries knows just how you feel, but everyone else is in the dark.



**TAURUS (April 21 to May 20)**

This is a rare time in your life when you can actually make a new friend. You only trust people you've known a million years. But now you can open up to someone new and learn a little bit about yourself in the process. A Sag finds you irresistibly seductive.



**GEMINI (May 21 to June 21)**

Things are not what they seem on the home front, so make an effort to delve deeper into the truth behind a loved one's behavior. Use your emotional intelligence as well as your brainpower. A Scorpio is sending you signs, you oblivious idiot savant!



**CANCER (June 22 to July 22)**

Stop acting as if you can change the problems of your life in a day. Put the drama of your heart into your art, darling. You'll get quicker, more satisfying results! An Aries will start to change when you do. Be a living example of courage, baby.



**LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22)**

Seduce another Leo into submission. Make this the game of the century. Your competitive streak works well for you in romance this week. It's all right to push for what you want. You just need to know that others may push back ... hard!



**VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)**

This is a sexy time of year for you, darling, as Mercury, Venus, and the Sun all gather in your social, flirty third house. Dress as many different characters for Halloween. A Taurus wants to rip off your masks.



**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)**

Money is yours for the asking, Libra. You just have to figure out who to ask. Re-assess who your allies are. It may be time for a changing of the guard. A Virgo wants to assist you, but pride could get in the way. Be the diplomat you're capable of being.



**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)**

The Sun's exact square to Neptune should make Halloween a holiday to remember. You may be tempted by an old flame who wants to burn you again! Wear flame-retardant clothing, you reckless fool! A Taurus is ready to love you forever.



**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)**

Psychic visions come to you during this Halloween time. Don't get spooked. Use the messages you receive to spread some universal love. A Pisces wants some of that action, and pronto.



**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)**

You're close to realizing a career goal, but you need help from someone who has been difficult (if not outright impossible) in the past. It's time to take another bite of the apple. A Libra wants to fulfill all your desires.



**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)**

Your career is in your hands, sweetie. Which direction do you want to go in? You can be a hybrid, but perhaps you'd be better off being a specialist. The time to move is now. Another Aquarius can help you figure out your long-term plans.



**PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20)**

You'll benefit from a class or other intellectually stimulating endeavor in November. Wrap your mind around difficult-to-grasp material. A Sag loves your taste for the esoteric.

Jill Dearman is the author of the best-selling "Queer Astrology for Men" and "Queer Astrology for Women" (both from St. Martin's Griffin). For information on charts and consultations, call 212-841-0177 or e-mail [QScopes@aol.com](mailto:QScopes@aol.com).

PRECOR · LIFE FITNESS · CYBEX · NAUTILUS · HAMMERSTRENGTH · EXTENSIVE FREE WEIGHTS · DRY SAUNA · STEAM SAUNA · JACUZZI · FREE PARKING · ROWING MACHINES · NORDIC TRACK

**GET YOUR ABS IN HERE!**

**FITNESS EXCHANGE**

4040 Milam      Mon-Fri 5am-10pm  
713.524.9932      Sat-Sun 8am-8pm

WEIGHTS · DRY SAUNA · STEAM SAUNA · JACUZZI · FREE PARKING · ROWING MACHINES · NORDIC TRACK · PRECOR · LIFE FITNESS · CYBEX · NAUTILUS · HAMMERSTRENGTH · EXTENSIVE FREE

**Local Phone Chat**  
Try it **FREE!**

**interactive male**

**Fort Worth**  
817-289-1234

**Dallas**  
972-993-1000

**Austin**  
512-735-5002

**San Antonio**  
210-933-1234

**Corpus Christi**  
361-561-5000

**Other local TX #'s**  
1-888-272-7277

**Houston**  
**713-595-9952**  
Use **FREE code 7073**

1-900-446-1212 (\$1.99/min.) 18+      Browse at [www.interactivemale.com](http://www.interactivemale.com)

# Show Your Pride at the Ballot Box! Vote Democratic!

We support the entire Democratic ticket.  
These three local candidates are particularly  
deserving of our efforts and support.

## Chris Bell

*for U.S. Representative,  
District 25*

Chris Bell is running in the seat currently held by Congressman Ken Bentsen. Bell has shown his commitment to our community, particularly on issues of fairness. Conversely, his opponent has proven that he is no friend of ours.

## Debra Danburg

*for State Representative,  
District 134*

A 20-year veteran, Debra Danburg is one of the most powerful women in state government. She was targeted for redistricting by our foes, losing the Heights and half of Montrose. She sits on the three most important legislative committees and has been one of our best defenders.

## Scott Hochberg

*for State Representative,  
District 137*

Scott Hochberg has been a staunch defender of many issues of interest to our community. Like Debra Danburg, Hochberg's foes tried to divide his district's constituent voting groups and weaken his chances for re-election. We can't allow this to happen.

## The Best Candidates at the Top of the Ticket



## Ron Kirk

*for U.S. Senator*



## Tony Sanchez

*for Governor*

## John Sharp

*for Lt. Governor*



## Kirk Watson

*for Attorney General*



## ...plus other outstanding statewide candidates...

**Marty Akins**  
Comptroller

**Sherry Boyles**  
Railroad Commissioner

**Jim Parsons**  
Supreme Court Justice, Place 2

**John Bull**  
Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 1

**David Bernsen**  
Land Commissioner

**Richard G. Baker**  
Supreme Court Chief Justice

**William Moody**  
Supreme Court Justice, Place 3

**Pat Montgomery**  
Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 2

**Tom Ramsay**  
Agriculture Commissioner

**Linda Yañez**  
Supreme Court Justice, Place 1

**Margaret Mirabal**  
Supreme Court Justice, Place 4

**J.R. Molina**  
Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 3

## ...and all the wonderful local candidates!

**Avoid Long Lines!  
Vote Early through  
Friday, November 1**

For early vote locations, call  
**713-368-2200**



Get involved in the political process!  
**Stonewall Democrats of Houston**

Pol. Adv. Paid by Texas Democratic Party, 701 Rio Grande, Austin, TX 78701, 512-478-9800. Not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee.