



OCTOBER 4, 1996 • ISSUE 832

## October is Lesbian & Gay History Month

### Educate and Celebrate

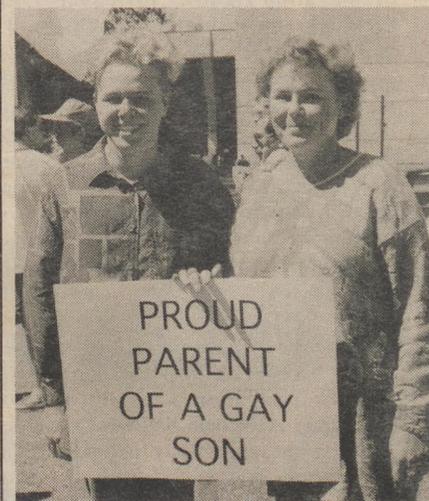
NEW YORK CITY, SEPTEMBER 27 1996-The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) announces October is "Lesbian & Gay History Month: A Celebration of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender History." The third annual event commemorates a global gay legacy too often ignored. Throughout the month, nationwide observances will honor the lesbian and gay historical figures and events that helped shape the modern world.

During Lesbian & Gay History Month, the lesbian and gay community examines its vast cultural achievements, collective creativity and its political struggle for equality. By telling the untold stories of gay men and lesbians throughout time, Lesbian & Gay History Month creates a more honest and complete understanding of history. The gay family tree is a who's who of the world's most celebrated scientists, artists, philosophers, musicians and authors. From poet Walt Whitman to writer James Baldwin, and from Broadway's Cole Porter to chanteuse k.d. lang, Gay men and Lesbians have enriched the American landscape and the lives of people worldwide.

"Reclaiming our history corrects the false perception of what was, and creates new possibilities for what will be," said William Waybourn, GLAAD's managing director. "Lesbians and Gay men have existed throughout time and Lesbian & Gay History Month reveals a heritage that is both rich and diverse."

Individuals and organizations will organize events to mark Lesbian & Gay

History Month. GLAAD's organizing primer and educational brochures and posters have been distributed to local community-based groups. GLAAD's official History Month World Wide Web



History was made this weekend when Waco celebrated its first ever Pride Event. See back page for more....  
(Photo by David Goetz)

page, with a challenging interactive quiz, is located at [www.glaad.org/glaad/history-month](http://www.glaad.org/glaad/history-month). National Coming Out Day takes place on October 11. On October 4, in the nation's capital, GLAAD, The Advocate and the House of Seagram present The Long Road to Freedom, a stirring scrapbook of modern lesbian and gay history. Other events will take place nationally on college campuses, bookstores and libraries and on the Internet.

In January 1994, a high school teacher in

(Continued on page 12)

## GLOBAL National Coming Out Week Activities

### UH Group Sponsors Coming Out Day Rally

The Gay Lesbian Bisexual Alliance at the University of Houston (GLOBAL) has announced a slate of activities to celebrate National Coming Out Week. National Coming Out Week is intended to create a positive environment for coming out by encouraging and motivating people to be honest about their sexual orientation.

Festivities kick off at 7pm on Sunday, October 6 with the Third Annual Triangle Ball at Cortes Restaurant, 1512 Alabama. The ball is a semi-formal celebration of coming out, being proud, and having fun. Over 200 attended last years Triangle Ball. Tickets are available at the door for \$6 or at any GLOBAL meeting. A Mexican buffet is included.

Tuesday will feature a lecture and

discussion entitled "Lesbian History 101" at 6pm in the Lone Star Room at the University Center. Pokey Anderson, owner of Inkling's Bookshop, and long time supporter of the Houston gay and lesbian community will be the presenter.

The highlight of the week's activities is the Ninth Annual Coming Out Day Rally at noon on Wednesday, October 9 on Satellite Hill at the University of Houston. Scheduled speakers include: Suzanne Anderson, Businesswoman and founder of Lesbians in Business (LiB); Michael Crawford, Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas (LGRL); Brandy Merritt, GLOBAL; Carolyn Mobley, Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection (MCCR); Francisco Sanchez, Gay Young Democrats; Kyle Young, Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG); a representative from the Houston Area Teen

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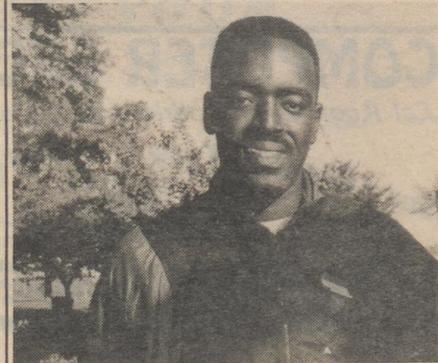
## Leadership Changes in African-American Group

### Commitments and Direction of Organization Redefined

The African-American Lesbian and Gay Alliance (AALGA) recently altered its leadership structure and expanded its Board of Directors. "The new structure illustrates a commitment to ensure that men and womyn are equally represented in the leadership of our organization, and our community," said Steve Walker, AALGA Co-Chair, "there must be a deliberate effort to promote gender equity at all levels of the community."

AALGA's board unanimously approved by-law revisions that abolished the one-leader system, and elected cogender Co-Chairs. "I look forward to an invigorating year," said AALGA Co-Chair Martina Cartwright, "There is much we need to do not only in the greater Gay and Lesbian Community of Houston, but our individual ethnic/racial communities, as well."

In addition to the new leadership structure, AALGA revised its mission statement and established a vision for empowering the African-American bisexual, gay, lesbian and transgender communities. "We realize the struggle must include equal representation from all portions of the community, especially



Steve Walker is new Co-Chair along with Martina Cartwright (not pictured) of AALGA.

womyn and transgender people," said Ken Harris, AALGA co-founder.

The redefined AALGA promises to be more visible in both Houston's Black and Lesbian and Gay communities. Plans will include formation of a community forum on homophobia and the Black Church, an event to recognize World AIDS Day, the opening of a local office and the formation of a Political Action Committee (PAC).

### Important Conference to be Held in Houston

The African-American Lesbian and Gay Alliance (AALGA) and the National

(Continued on page 10)

## An Evening of Celebration

### HGLPC Dinner Successful

By Curt Morrison

The Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus held their annual banquet at the Holiday Inn last weekend. This year's gala was a resounding success and demonstrated the organizations diversity and commitment towards achieving equality for Lesbians and Gays.

HGLPC President Pat Gandy presided over the evening's festivities and managed to maintain control throughout, despite the fact that the evenings keynote speaker, Jim McIngvale, was running late.

McIngvale, better known as 'Mattress Mac' to television viewers, arrived late and immediately was brought to the podium to deliver his address. McIngvale extolled the virtues of a free market economy in a captivating speech that encompassed self-reliance, determination and resilience. He is a motivating speaker who easily connects with his audience. McIngvale received thunderous applause and laughter when he intoned that he insists that each and everyone of his customers be treated as though they were a King or Queen. He explained to the group how he turned a paltry \$5,000 into an \$80 million empire over a 15-year period. McIngvale received the Business Award from the caucus. Through the years he has been a regular contributor to

Stone Soup and other AIDS organization.

"We did well," exclaimed Gandy. "Although McIngvale's speech was not heavy weight intellectual stuff, he stressed the importance of treating everybody equally," Gandy said. Attendance was high for the event, despite competing banquets. AVES and the ACLU were also hosting their annual galas on the same evening. Gandy implied that it was important that a local business person addressed the group and that McIngvale had accepted the invitation to speak immediately. She also said that most of



Pat Gandy, President of HGLPC, emceed the awards dinner.

(Continued on page 10)

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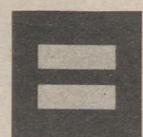
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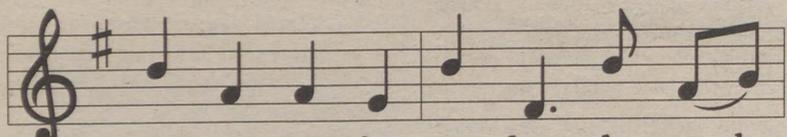
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# HGLPC PAC endorses Lee, Green and Bentsen

HOUSTON—The Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus Political Action Committee (HGLPCPAC) voted Wednesday to endorse three incumbent Democratic members of Congress as well as U.S. Representative Tom DeLay's Democratic opponent.

"Sheila Jackson Lee, Ken Bentsen and Gene Green have all strongly supported fair treatment for all people throughout their years of public service," HGLPC PAC Chair Clarence Bagby said after the endorsements. All three officials have non-discrimination policies banning discrimination based upon sexual orientation in their Congressional offices, according to the HGLPC PAC questionnaires they signed.

"Their stated commitments to continue fighting to end discrimination based upon sexual orientation, joining with us in our struggle for basic employment rights among others, made them worthy of endorsement by the South's oldest organization fighting for equal rights for gays and lesbians," Bagby said.

Scott Douglas Cunningham was also given the nod in his bid to unseat House Majority Whip DeLay, who did not respond to an invitation to screen with the group, according to Screening Committee Co-Chair Jay Seegers. Seegers said all candidates for Congressional districts in the greater Houston area, Republican, Democratic and Libertarian, were sent letters about the group's screening process.

"Mr. DeLay's unreasonable opposition to legislation like the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, which would do nothing more than ban workplace discrimination against gay people, is one more good reason to support a fair-minded candidate like Scott Douglas Cunningham for the 22nd District," Seegers said.

Lee, running to retain her seat representing the largely African-American 18th Congressional District, was the only Texas member of Congress that didn't vote for the so-called Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA). She voted present. Bentsen and Green were among over

350 House members who supported the legislation. All three voted to amend DOMA to include ENDA.

"While we were disappointed with the incumbents' stances on DOMA," screening panelist Annise Parker said, "they have proven tract records on equal rights issues." All three incumbents were questioned at length last week by the screening panel regarding their votes on DOMA, according to Seegers.

Bentsen's race for the 25th Congressional District seat, has reportedly been targeted by "radical religious right" activists including Republican activist Steve Hotze. State District Judge John Devine, a candidate for the 25th District, is allegedly receiving significant financial support from Hotze. Of the field of 11 candidates running for the 25th District seat, two are Democrats.

Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus President Pat Gandy praised all three candidates' records on civil rights, saying "These people have supported legislation near and dear to Gay and Lesbian interests and have looked after our interests well with the exception of DOMA. Ninety percent of 100 percent is 90 percent, but 100 percent of nothing is still nothing."

"While we're pleased that we did have Republicans, Libertarians and Democrats choose to screen with us, it's really unfortunate that only two Republicans chose to screen for the general election," Bagby said. "We're truly dismayed that the current environment being fostered by some in leadership in the Republican Party seems to be discouraging their candidates from screening. The Republicans that chose to screen did quite well and were imminently endorseable and might well have been if they had been running in different races."

The HGLPC is a non-profit educational and civil rights advocacy organization while the HGLPC PAC endorses candidates and organizes election activities including phone banking, election newsletters, push cards and block walking, according to Bagby.

**Focus group - wanted**  
 participants to critique and give direction to The Houston Voice. For details call 529-8490. Leave name and phone number.

## Triangle to Cease Publication

The Texas Triangle, a weekly gay newspaper with major markets in Austin and Houston, will cease publication with its Oct. 10 issue, editor/publisher Kay Longcope announced Sept. 26.

"We won the battle with Wyatt Roberts and the Texas branch of the American Family Association," said Longcope, but lost the war to increased printing costs. The Triangle's printing bill jumped 33 percent last January," Longcope said. "Despite increased revenues that came from Roberts' campaign against the Triangle, with many from the mainstream community taking ads to oppose perceived bigotry, the weekly could not overcome the increased cost of printing," she said.

Roberts a year ago initiated a campaign against Triangle advertisers, using an hourlong program he had on KIXL, a Christian radio station. Before the campaign ended last spring, with Roberts' contract not renewed by the station, his supporters picketed First Texas Honda, a prime AFA target. First Texas Honda retaliated by renewing a yearlong contract with the Triangle. The dealership said that Roberts' campaign, which was not publicized until

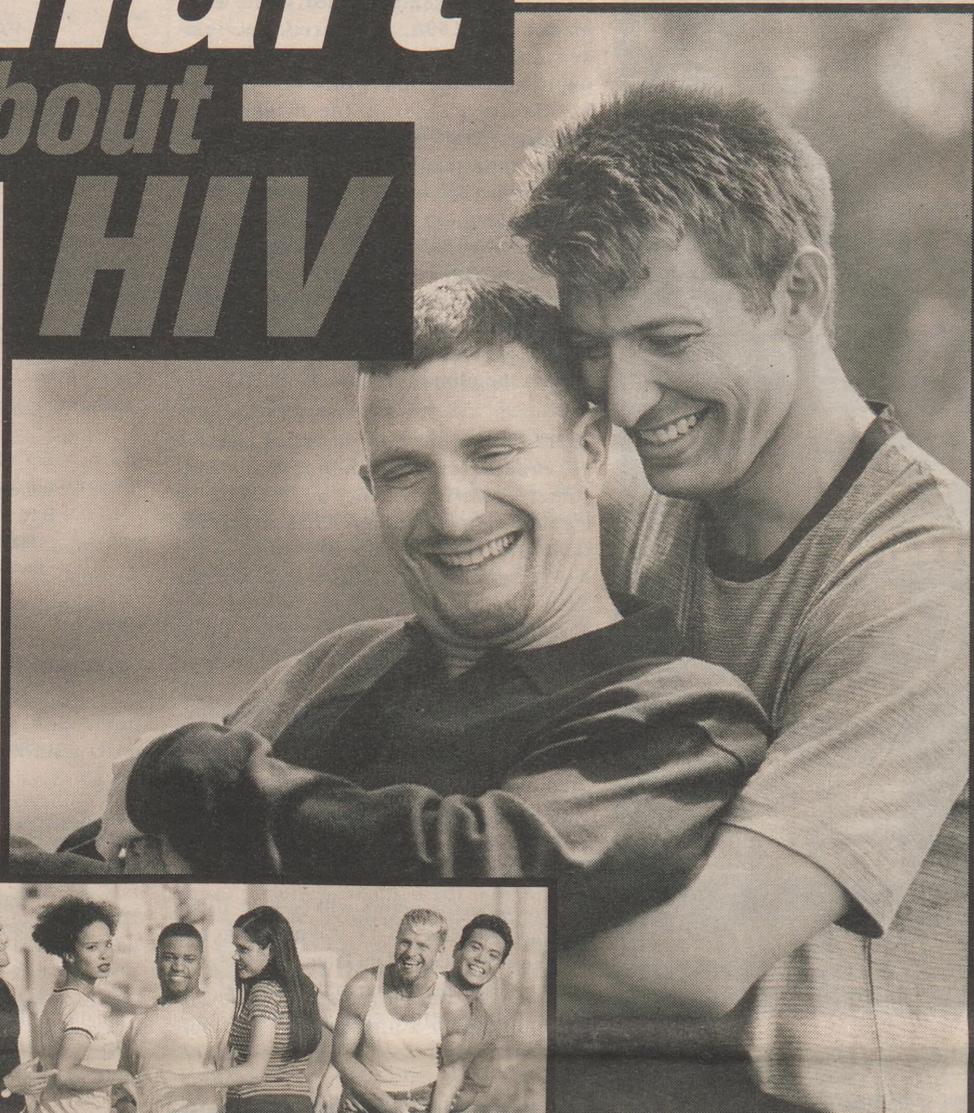
last December, boosted sales at a time of year when sales usually declined.

On Saturday, First Texas Honda will be among recipients of awards to be presented by former Gov. Ann Richards at the annual Austin Black Tie Affair benefiting the Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest political organization fighting for gay/lesbian civil rights. The award, for corporate courage, will be accepted by Mark Haworth, new car sales manager, and Jim Olmstead, general manager.

The Triangle, which began publishing in Oct. 1992, ceases publication on its fourth birthday.

EDITOR'S NOTE: We are sorry to see our sister publication close its doors. The competition that exists between the publications that serve our community have always been one that encouraged us to be better and to be supportive of one another as well. We wish the best to Kay and Barbara and all of those associated with the Texas Triangle. We are lucky to live at a time when there is so much material of interest to us. The Houston Voice will strive to meet the needs of the community and to serve it in the best possible way.—db

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A public health message from the National Minority AIDS Council and the National Lesbian and Gay Health Association in association with GlaxoWellcome

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# AIDS Clinic Advisory Council Elections

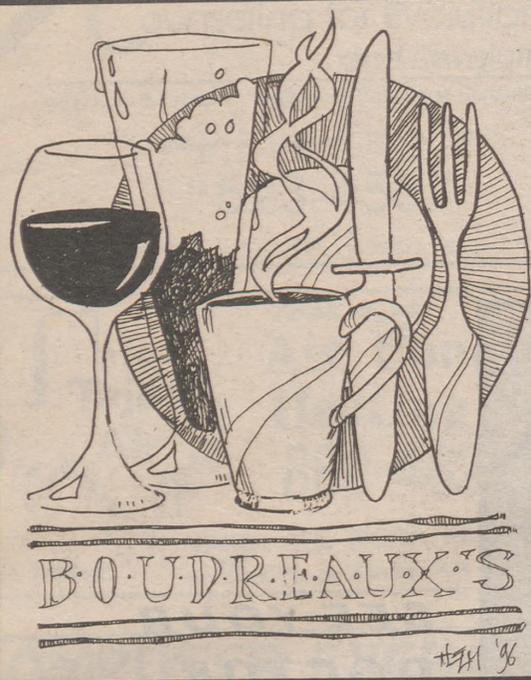
BY MATT LOCKLIN

Thomas St. Health Center Council/TSHCC will be holding its biannual election for representative seats the week of Oct. 14, 1996. All Harris Co. residents are eligible to vote in this very important election process. Thomas St. Health Center is the largest free standing AIDS clinic in the U.S. and serves more than 5000 patients per year. The 15 member board has elections every two years and will be held this year the week of Oct. 14-18, 1996. Council seat categories include Consumer: or person considered eligible for hospital district services and the other is Non-Consumer: persons who do not receive services at the clinic (regardless of HIV status).

There will be no non-consumer election as candidates ran unopposed. Consumer election voting booth will be manned by community AIDS organizations and will be on the first floor of the newly renovated health center. On the ballot please select eight choices for Consumer position seats. Must be at least 18 years old and a Harris Co. resident. Mail-in ballots must have a return address on the outside of the envelope. One vote per envelope. Mass duplicated pre-marked ballots not accepted. Hospital district employees are eligible and encouraged to vote.

Thomas St. Health Center is located at 2015 Thomas St. @ Paschall (off No. Main). In person voting will be held 10 am to 2 pm daily Oct. 14-18. All mailed-in ballots must be received no later than Oct. 18, 1996. Please mail your ballot today! For more information call 793-4160.

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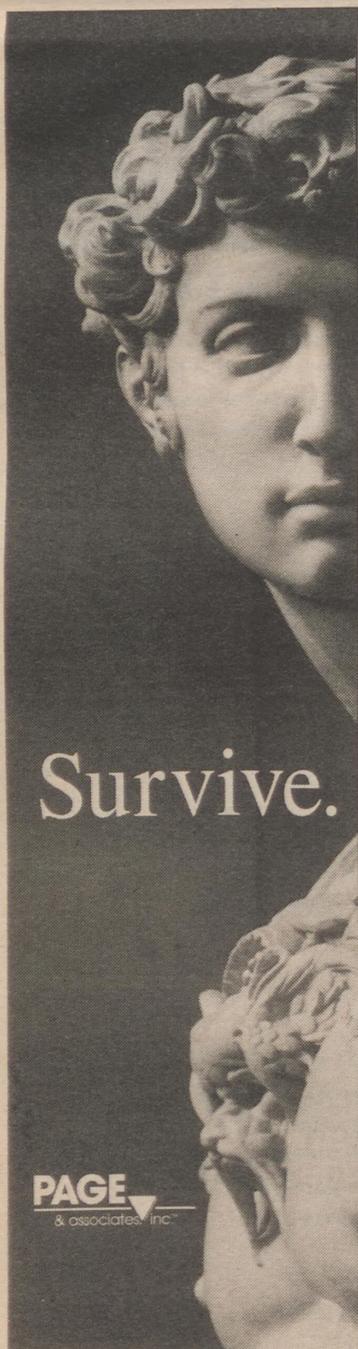
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William Hoffman—Small Business News, April, 1994

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HOUSTON

**VOICE MAIL**

Letters to the Editor

**Bad Hair Day**

FROM SHELLEY R. TANNER

Curt Morrison exhibits the male vision of gender equality in that he views shaved heads on women as a step towards equality (The Outsider 9/27/96).

The function of shaved heads in a military college serves the same function in institutions such as concentration camps and prisons—to enforce conformity by depriving the individual of his or her sense of identity.

Gender bias in measures of coerced conformity, always tends to favor that of the male gender. After all, when men entered the field of nursing, the here-to-fore rule in uniforms was the standard white dress. Men were not required to wear dresses so that they could obtain their "equality." Why then, should women who enter a male-dominated institution not be granted the same prerogative?

Is this measure intended to be punitive? We want parity—not coerced sameness.

**AFH Thanks Miss Camp**

FROM SARA SPEER SELBER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

AIDS Foundation Houston Inc. would like to publicly acknowledge Miss Camp America for their generosity in donating \$9,600 for Stone Soup.

The primary goal of Stone Soup Food Assistance Program is to provide non-perishable and other food items as well as toiletries to HIV symptomatic individuals. Thanks in large part to the generosity of Houstonians and charitable organizations such as Miss Camp America, Stone Soup is able to provide no cost food and toiletry items to over 1000 qualified clients on a regular basis throughout the year.

AIDS Foundation Houston congratulates Miss Camp America for a very successful event and sends heart felt thanks for its donation and tremendous support.

**Names Project Says Thanks Too!**

FROM DAVID B. JACKSON, CHAIR OF THE BOARD

It is a distinct honor to be named a beneficiary of the 28th Annual Miss Camp America Pageant. On behalf of our Board of Directors and volunteers, I would like to express our deepest gratitude for the \$6,400 we received. It will be used to continue our mission to use the AIDS Memorial Quilt to help bring an end to the AIDS pandemic.

Miss Camp America's ability to bring us laughter and at the same time raise a significant amount of money for local AIDS service organizations is admirable. The Pageant was truly an extraordinary evening of "campy" entertainment enjoyed by all.

The tireless dedication of the members of Miss Camp America is certainly remarkable. The NAMES Project Houston applauds all the members of the Miss Camp America Foundation for their grandiose efforts that continue to grow with every show.

**Attitude About Festival**

FROM RUBY MATTHEWS

We the owners and patrons of Club Attitude would like to know the individual or individuals responsible for having our representative removed from the property of the Houston Women's Festival (HWF).

It was bad enough that the HWF program printed our paid advertisement incorrectly but the "correction" inserted into the program was an insult to this establishment. This gesture in no way compensated for the problems we encountered with the Liquor License Bureau because of it.

The excuse given to our representative as to why she was being asked to leave by the HPD officer was that she was intoxicated and had to be removed from the premises. She asked to be given a sobriety test and was refused. The officer told her that they were not saying she was intoxicated but the coordinator had requested that she be removed. When requesting to speak to the coordinator the officer said that the coordinator did not want to talk to our representative or be identified to her.

The reason Club Attitude put an ad in the program was to promote the club for women and the diversity of all. It was our understanding this was the whole concept of the festival as their representative lead us to believe.

Our representative returned very upset, insulted, and was not intoxicated. We were very surprised when she told us the reason she was given for being asked to leave. We knew this could not be the case. We have the upmost respect for the HWF. We feel an explanation should be given for the conduct and misrepresentation of Club Attitude.

**HW Festival Responds**

FROM THE PRODUCERS

Wouldn't it be nice if we could always peaceably assemble? It has often been said that our community spends so much time and energy defending itself from attacks from the outside, that it is even more draining and disappointing when the attacks come from within.

The Houston Women's Festival will not pursue a professional relationship with Club Attitude, also known as Tammy's Tavern, also known as The Playground. There is much detail we could provide to support this decision; however, we do not feel a need to vent our grievances in public.

Suffice it to say that all ads in the Event Guide were printed as submitted or as amended and that Club Attitude's problems with their liquor license should be taken up with the appropriate authorities, instead of being taken out on the festival or its volunteers.

Also, the "representative" of Club Attitude who attended the festival was the owner/manager herself. Security officers were hired to keep the peace at the event. They did their jobs in such a way that no one was arrested.

Our goals are to build bridges within the community among reputable people, businesses and organizations, and to produce fun events for all of us to share. We are focused on these goals, and we invite others to join with us in this pursuit.

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**PLAIN SPEAKING**  
by Larry Lingle

**What If?**

What if Ellen Morgan came out of the television closet and nobody cared? What if gay marriages were legal and we, too, could have a spiraling divorce rate? What if we could adopt children and move to the suburbs? We have nothing to lose but the yoke of oppression. Or do we?

A beginning salvo in the latest debate of the future of the gay culture was fired by Daniel Mendelsohn in a recent issue of a New York magazine, a prelude to a larger study coming in book form from the same writer.

Essentially Mendelsohn is arguing that the emerging gay culture (and at this point he's limiting his vision to the confines of the new trendy gay Chelsea) is shedding the glitz of club-driven druggy days for coffee bars and no-nonsense clubs for the community. The outrageous days of outing *Outweek* have faded into the *Vanity Fair* wannabe *Out* magazine. And "Angels in America" was really the last cry from the radical '80s while "Love, Valour and Compassion" exemplifies a new era when the character Arthur proclaims: "I can catch a ball. I genuinely like both my parents. I hate opera. I don't know why I bother being gay."

Of course, the playwright, Terrence McNally, in the latter case is giving voice to his concern for the future, while others may hear only doom for a gay way of life. McNally and Mendelsohn obviously share a common concern, only with a differing approach.

But what if Mendelsohn were to apply his vision to Houston? Where he sees ACT UP as the last now faded expression of gay radical chic our fair city would only verify his conclusion. Radicalism as a moving force for change is as faded as yesterday's fax. ACT UP is but a memory. Even the more establishment-oriented Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus is struggling against apathy and a dearth of leadership.

The political energy in the Houston community is now channeled through more traditional forms of action, from the Log Cabin Republicans to the Montrose Democrats. Nationally, the Human Rights Campaign is taking the political lead. Recently this organization held a national gay and lesbian political convention in Chicago—the only drawback was it hardly aimed for inclusion and certainly gave no pretense to representation, other than that of itself.

Also in our community here, the various organizations which provide cohesion are becoming unglued. One professional group overwhelmingly overruled its leadership by opposing visibility in the annual pride parade. Another long-established society canceled its annual "do" for lack of funds. The one bright spot is the continued popularity of the

campy parody of the pre-eminent beauty pageant.

If assimilation of our community means acceptability—such as receiving some form of seal of approval from a straight newspaper—by the formerly oppressive straight society then we would have to ask if it is all worth the past struggle.

A footnote of interest here: in the past the Houston Press, in picking the "best" of Houston, weighed in against my business, LOBO, for renting adult videos, but this year gave a special endorsement to a straight business for violating the law in the sale of certain "adult" items. Kudos to straight hypocrisy.

But back to Mendelsohn. Sure, drinking coffee is probably better than partaking of booze. And the mainstreaming of our publications wins them national advertising. But don't the battles over serving in the military and the right to marry bring down as many pillars within our community as in straight society? How far are we willing to carry assimilation.

As Mendelsohn notes: "Beyond the obvious sexual-orientation questions, it's no longer evident that gay identity will be much more compelling than straight identity—basically, a set of product choices." Is this what we have been fighting for all these years?

While AIDS is viewed as the uniting issue of our age, bringing together a once divided community, it may have also destroyed our heart. A new book edited by Patrick Merla, "Boys Like Us" in which several gay writers tell of coming out, is dedicated to a list of well over one hundred gay writers lost to AIDS. Just as the Great War of 1914-1918 was said to have killed a generation of England's future leaders, this epidemic may well have wiped out the voice of our community.

Where now is the rage of David Feinberg, the wisdom of Michel Foulcault, the grit of John Preston, or the poetic genius of Paul Monette? Unlike other minorities struggling for a place in the sun, the true leaders of the gay and lesbian community have not been drawn from politics but from the arts which have nourished us for generations. The gay political leadership in Washington may well gain us our equal rights, our equality before the law, our place at the national table of power, but hopefully not at the expense of the uniqueness which has fostered the gay sensibility through decades of oppression. Hopefully, there will always be writers who are Gay, there will always be playwrights who are Gay. And, hopefully, the viewing public will accept Ellen Morgan as a Lesbian, as long as she retains some of that special something which lies at the heart of gay sensibility, something beyond just the sexual. And what we hope for Ellen Morgan we equally wish for the rest of us, and all those who follow.

**President Receives Portrait In Houston**

Houston—President Clinton was presented his portrait during his recent visit to Houston. The artist, Larry Crawford was praised by the President for quality of the painting. The President autographed a smaller copy of the painting and returned it to the artist. The smaller painting is currently on display at Martin's Art Gallery located at 1641 Westheimer in the Montrose area of town.

Fifteen recent paintings by Larry Crawford are on view at Martin's from Sept. 21 through Oct. 21, 1996. Crawford is one of the highest regarded of the younger generation in American painters today who are working in the realistic figurative style.

Authorized, signed, and numbered editions by the artist will be available at the Gallery. Martin's was recently named in the Houston Press as the *Reader's Choice of the Best New Gallery*. Business hours are from 10 am to 6:30 pm Monday through Saturday, and Sunday 1:30pm to 6pm.

What happens if I take less than the amount of medication my doctor prescribed? If I skip a dose, can I take two doses to make up for it? Could the rash I've developed be a side effect of my medication? I'm on vacation and forgot one of my prescriptions — what do I do now? Will the side effects I'm experiencing go away in time? When I feel better, can I stop taking my medication? Will hot weather effect the stability of my medication capsules? Should non-nucleoside RTIs be used in conjunction with a protease inhibitor? With many prescriptions to keep track of, how can I remember to refill them every time? Will my insurance cover my new medication? Is being on a "drug cocktail" better for me? Is it safe to store my medications together? How can I best schedule my medications to take them as prescribed? Is there any way to relieve the nausea my medication gives me? Who can help me submit my insurance paperwork so I can get my medication costs reimbursed? When I feel better, can I stop taking my medication? Which over-the-counter medications are safe to take with my prescriptions? I've heard that herbal therapies can interact with certain medications — are the ones I'm taking safe? How do the new protease inhibitors work compared to other antiretrovirals?

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## Gay Today by Glen Webber



### Hate Crimes and Help

I had the distinct pleasure of meeting Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee at a Democratic party function last week. She is articulate, knowledgeable, and very friendly. She also reads my column so you know she is brilliant. She gave a very inspiring talk. She presents a very positive view of the economy. She feels Democrats will get things done -the Republicans won't. I agree. I am glad she is on our side. I asked her if she thought Hate Crime penalties were effective, considering the penalties for assault are very tough. She says she is working on legislation to increase the penalties for hate crimes. She feels it is important to label crimes against Gays as hate crimes. The public needs to understand that hate crimes are violent and dangerous. Speaking of hate crimes, the Montrose Counseling Center is now offering counseling for survivors of hate crimes. They will have groups and individual sessions. Only California, New Jersey, and California have more reported hate crimes than Texas. I believe that is a sad commentary on our society. It is important that all these crimes be reported so we can have an accurate count of the crimes. It is also important that the victim takes a good look at the bashers, and what kind of vehicle they are in so they can make a good report to the police. The emotional responses to hate crimes vary. They can range from fear that they will be targets again; guilt that they have

contributed to it; shame for admitting the crime happened; confusion about what to do next; anger against the perpetrators; sadness that their life is disrupted; isolation from community resources and withdrawal from family and friends.

Behavioral change can include moving to a new home or town; relationship problems; limiting travel; and difficulties at work. I urge all of you have been victimized to seek help through counseling. You can only feel better about yourself.

### Political Thoughts

I've been watching the political tug of war between the parties for several months. I will tell you, I think the Republicans are totally unaware of what is happening in this country. They are unaware of families losing their medical insurance. They are unaware of people having to live in the streets. And many of these people are families who once had homes. They are unaware of single family homes, in which the parent barely makes enough to feed the children. They are unaware that food banks are the only way many families can eat. Their lofty speeches don't cover the real issues that face many people. Their victory in November would drive many people out of jobs and into the streets. The Log Cabin Republicans must not realize this. They are supporting a party that is anti-black, anti-women, and anti-Gay. These attitudes do not serve the best interest of the people of America and certainly not the best interest of our community.

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*A Praise And  
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**Sunday, October 6, 1996 at 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM**

## United at United

Washington, DC, Sept. 22, 1996, United at United, The Independent Gay and Lesbian Employed Association at United Airlines (NYSE: UAL) has announced its first worldwide meeting and reception set for Saturday, Oct. 12, 1996 in Washington, DC set to coincide with the Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt display the same weekend. The meeting and reception will take place from 3pm-6pm, and will be followed immediately by the Candlelight Vigil.

"The purpose of this first informal meeting is primarily for members, potential members, and supporters from around the world to get to know one another and share personal experiences working for different divisions of the same corporation," explained United At United founder, David Tomb. "Additionally we will up date our members on our progress since February, as well as hold open forum regarding areas of concern and where we should target our energies."

The first open meeting is made possible

by generosity of several members of United at United, as well as The Damron Company, publisher of lesbian and gay travel guides. United of United was formally organized in February, 1996, by Los Angeles area employees. Membership has steadily increased with the highest concentration of members in Chicago (where United Airlines is headquartered), closely followed by the hub cities of San Francisco, Washington, DC, and Los Angeles. Its goals include recognition of the contributions of gay and lesbian employees, total quality in the work place, a written HIV/AIDS policy, domestic partner benefits, specific diversity/sensitivity training, and identifying marketing opportunities.

The meeting reception will be held at the United Airlines main City Ticket Office, 1600 K Street NW, in the World Center Building, located at the corner of 16th and K Streets, two blocks north of The White House. For more information contact United of United at 301-285-8821.



Curt Morrison did not submit a column this week. Morrison has been ill with the flu all week. His column will resume in next week's issue of The Houston Voice.

# Family Values

by Esperanza Lavender Jazz Paz



## Giving Credit Where Credit's Due

A couple of years ago, when I was a hospital nurse, my employer surprised me with a bonus check. It was a reward given at irregular intervals to unsuspecting employees who exhibited excellence in their field. I never knew who observed and nominated me, or what deed I did to deserve the honor, but it made me newly aware of people who should be recognized but aren't.

Last week I had an appointment to get my eyes examined for prescription glasses. I called to confirm my appointment before I left. When I arrived on time, the receptionist said I could not be seen because two patients in front of me were late and the office closed at 6pm.

Mad rushes to two other opticians were fruitless and I did not get my vision checked that evening. My final stop was at Venture on 290 at 43rd, where I threw myself at the mercy of salesperson Charlotte Hubbard and implored her to help me. "I have a new, full-time job," I sobbed, thinking that this was reason enough to merit special favor. "My hours are long and my schedule is full. If I don't get this taken care of this evening it will be weeks before I can get new glasses and the ones I have are giving me headaches!"

Venture has an optical office but the doctor was not in. Ms. Hubbard got on the phone and called competitors, telling my story and trying to wheedle an appointment for me even as it was growing later. It was too late to be seen anywhere, but her willingness to take my urgency seriously and try to accommodate me touched me. I wrote a letter to her manager expressing my appreciation. The manager called me and said she was negotiating with her boss to give Ms. Hubbard "something special" based on my compliment.

Ever since then I've been thinking of individuals I know who take their job very seriously and go above and beyond in their efforts to please their clients. Some of these people do their work in front of those who benefit, like nurses taking care of their patients. Some do it alone in an office where no one sees them sweat, and the only evidence of their labor is the finished product. When their work is

consistently well-crafted, when it is dependably available and enjoyably useful, we begin to expect it to continue, not even aware after awhile of the habit it has become, unless it fails us.

I never knew how much organization and dedicated skill it required to produce a newspaper before I began writing for this one. And I never knew this one to be as highly regarded or professionally done as this one has been since Deborah Bell became editor.

Her imprint on THE HOUSTON VOICE has been noted on every page, in the integrity of the stories and the high quality of the news reported. She has built bridges between The Outsider and all the insiders, and made a place for all the staff to feel included and respected. And that benefits the readers. Many friends and customers have remarked to me about the noted improvements of THE HOUSTON VOICE since Deborah has been in charge. I always urge them to call the office and tell her how they appreciate what she has done. The routine reply is, "Well, you see her all the time, tell her for me."

I do not see Deborah or any of my colleagues at the paper very often. I have a new job, with long hours, my schedule is full ... I write my column and fax it, or drop it off on my way to work on the morning of deadline. I am not a reliable messenger of applause or complaints.

But because I have been pressed, and because I endorse the sentiment, I extend congratulations and gratitude to editor Deborah Bell on doing a great job and public service, from Jan, Brandy, Julie, Claude, Sarah, Marva, Dawn, Kathy, Mark, Lawrence, Katie, Laura and Jose: Thanks, Deborah! We love what you're doing.

*Jazz did get her eyes examined and bought her new glasses at Venture. She thinks she looks mighty cute in them, and she recommends Ms. Hubbard to readers who need specs or who are just generally in a panic.*

EDITOR'S NOTE: To Jazz and friends—I am quite touched by your support and good wishes. Thank you so much for letting me know how you feel. We still need help here, so if any of you want to take part in our focus group, please let me know.—db

## Fais Do Do Fun-raiser

The fifth annual Fais Do Do fundraiser will be held by the Krewe of Olympus-Texas Inc. On Oct. 6, 1996 from 4pm to 8pm at the Lovett Inn at 501 Lovett Blvd. The Krewe will be raising funds for their ball to be held in January and this year's designated charities: Omega House and Steven's House. You may purchase tickets from Krewe members or a donation of \$10 is requested at the door.

Fais Do Do will feature Cajun food; zydeco and dixie land jazz music; cash bar; carnival games; and a raffle. The grand prize of the raffle is a weekend for two in New Orleans with accommodations. The airfare and travel arrangements are donated by Uniglobe First Choice Travel at 2236 W. Holcombe Blvd. Other prizes in

the raffle include: massages by Bill O'Rourke; tuxedo rental by Tuxedo Gallery; fragrance baskets by local fragrance reps; a plant; and a Cross pen. A big attraction will be the carnival games where participants can win beads or feather masks by playing games of skill. Also featured will be a whipped cream pie throw featuring several of our members who have been royalty and this year's current royalty.

The Krewe wishes to thank everyone who donated items for the raffle and the numerous bars that allowed them to sell raffle tickets in their business. The Krewe looks forward to seeing everyone Fais Do Do.

See ad on page 11.

the holidays are coming....

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**SATURDAY: 9 pm.**  
**LEATHER &  
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**NO Cover** in Erotic Leather!

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HOUSTON VOICE**

## Dinner continued...

(Continued from page 1)

the credit for the celebration's success should go to Dinner Chair and Coordinator of the event, Lane Lewis. "He did a really good job," said Gandy.

The group's awards presentation offered some surprises. The Presidential Award went to Log Cabin Houston (LCH) and Sue Lovell, Executive Committee member of the Democratic party. LCH President Gary Van Ootegham accepted the award Log Cabins behalf. The Baird Reston Civil Rights Award was bestowed upon Log Cabin Republicans of Texas State President Dale Carpenter, who accepted the award with a stirring speech on attaining civil rights and equality for all. The Don Hrachovy Life Achievement Award was given to Toni Knight, a former HGLPC President, who gave a poignant speech on the issue of tolerance and the fact that homophobia is simply

unacceptable. State Representative Garnet Coleman received the Harvey Milk Award as an honor for his work on behalf of the rights of our community and his own outness as a person suffering from chemical depression. Coleman acknowledged the help he received from his therapist for six years, the late Bill Scott and dedicated the award to Bill's memory. Coleman was recently featured in a story in Forbes Magazine which tells his story about the help he has gotten through medication.

Other recipients included: Gary Grant (Dennis Spencer Award); Miss Camp America (Naomi Simms Entertainment Award); James Grace and Lee Marsters (HGLPC Humanitarian Award), Patrick McIlvain (Barbara Cigainero Volunteer of the Year Award); and Jay Seegers (Jim Owens Newcomer Award).

The *Houston Voice* welcomes well-written, insightful and to the point commentaries for our opinion/editorial pages. "Counterpoint" articles representing a different view on issues already covered are encouraged. We reserve the right to edit for length, format and clarity. The views expressed in guest commentaries and letters to the editor are those of the writers. We seek to provide a broad-based forum which reflects the varying points of view of our rich and diverse community. Submissions must be type written, and/or provided on a IBM formatted disc with the document saved as text/ascii. Letters should be no longer than 200 words, articles should be 500 to 1000 words in length. While they may be published anonymously at the writer's request, their name, address and phone number must be included -- any submissions without this information will not be considered for publication. Selection for publication is at our discretion. Sent to Editor, The Houston Voice, 811 Westheimer #105, Houston TX 77006

## AALGA continued...

(Continued from page 1)

Black Lesbian and Gay Leadership Forum (NBLGLF) announce the UJIMA Conference in Houston, Texas, November 15 through November 17, 1996. The conference will be held at the Sheraton Astrodome Hotel, 8686 Kirby in Houston.

"UJIMA, the Swahili term meaning collective work and responsibility, is a most appropriate name for this conference," replied conference Co-Chair Rev. Carolyn Mobley. "It is our goal to create a culture that is truly tolerant of all persons, working towards a common goal." Workshops will focus on homophobia, empowerment, coming out issues, HIV/AIDS, working with families, and working with the Black Church. Hundreds of people are expected to attend this first ever effort in Texas.

Planned events include a fundraising reception on Friday, November 15, 1996, workshops and empowerment sessions on Saturday, November 16, 1996, and a spiritual service at a prominent African-American Church on Sunday, November 17, 1996.

"This is a landmark institute," said Steve Walker, conference Co-Chair, "it promotes a positive interaction between black homosexuals and bisexuals and the Black Church. We are at times forced to deny our lives, lose our families, and run from our churches by those who do not understand that God's love is unconditional."

A panel discussion will follow a screening

of the historic documentary "All God's Children," co-produced by Sylvia Rhue and Dee Mosbacher. Panelists will include both supportive and opposing views of inclusion of homosexuals in the Black Community, and in religious institutions. The documentary short examines the Black Church's embracement of gay men and lesbians of African descent, and has already won Best in Category Awards at the Night of Black Independents in Atlanta, and the Black International Cinema in Berlin.

Participants in the film share their compelling life stories of being both black and homosexual. Prominent African-American leaders, including Rev. Jesse Jackson, Harvard Professor Cornel West, Congresswoman Maxine Waters, Rev. Cecil Murray and Senator Carol Moseley-Braun each issue strong statements of support for Gays and Lesbians as being "All God's Children."

AALGA and the NBLGLF provide social support, education, empowerment and leadership to bisexuals, gay men, lesbians and transgendered people of African descent. AALGA represents more than 400 people in the greater Houston area; the NBLGLF has more than 5,000 members nationwide. The Church hosting the spiritual celebration will be announced at a future date. For more information, please contact AALGA at (713) 864-2242.

10/5 **Star Studded Saturday Show** 11:00pm

Hostess



Roxanne Lee Love

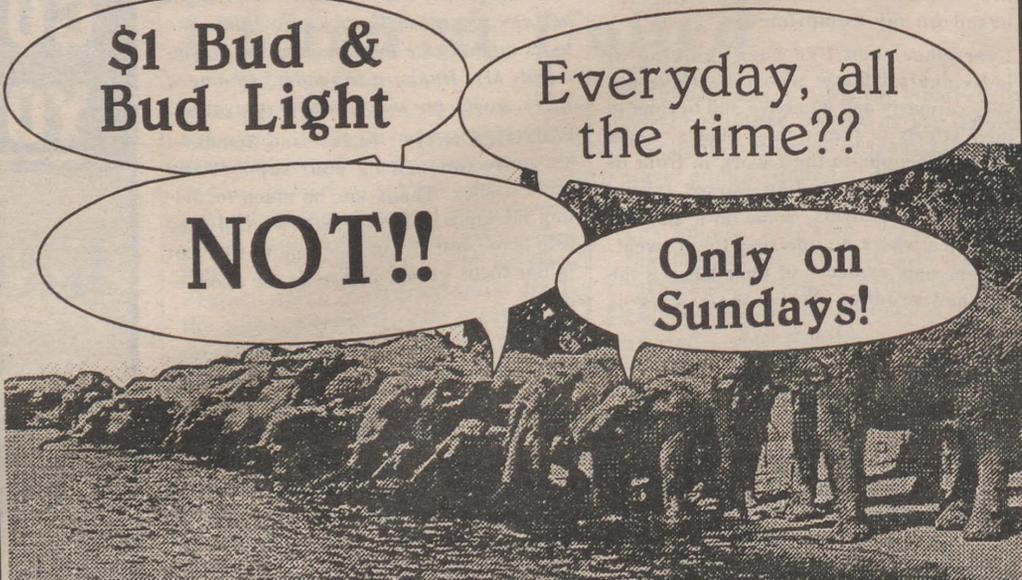
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SAT	10/5	SATURDAY SHOW at 11:00pm with Paivi
SUN	10/6	\$1 Budweiser & Bud Light All Day All Night
MON	10/7	MALE STRIP CONTEST at 11:00pm with Paivi
TUE	10/8	Amateur/Talent Night at 11:00pm with Paivi
WED	10/9	Granny's Burgers



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- Mug Club 7am-10pm
- \$3.75 Pitchers & \$1.75 Mugs

**South of the Border Night**

Thursday, October 10, 11:00pm

Hostess



Vanessa Raye

Susan Maser, Jackie, Dyan Michaels & Shelby St. John  
**ALSO Granny's Tacos!**

## Splendors of Ancient Egypt at MFA

By DAVID RICHARDSON

Recently I had the distinct privilege of attending a new exhibit at the Museum of Fine Arts entitled "The Splendors of Ancient Egypt." This exhibition covers a range of 3500 years of history and features over 200 objects of Egyptian art dating from the Old Kingdom period to the 7th Century A.D.

Highlights of the exhibit include a Mummy Mask from the late century B.C., a head from a statue of the Pharaoh Chephren, c. 2500 B.C., a striding figure of the god Anubis done in stucco and painted wood from the 3rd century B.C., plus gilded and painted mummy coffins, an 18 foot long papyrus scroll of the Book of the Dead, an array of jewelry composed of gold, lapis, lazuli and turquoise, various stelae and a breathtaking female mummy still wrapped in her original linen bandages.

The museum itself has been architecturally enhanced to have the galleries representative of the various dynastic periods and suggestive of temples, tombs and the beauty of ancient Egypt.

The Splendors of Ancient Egypt exhibit comes to Houston courtesy of the Roemer Pelizaeus Museum in Hildesheim, Germany. This museum began collecting these artifacts over a century ago and carries over 9000 objects, making this collection one of the world's most outstanding collections of ancient Egyptian art and culture outside of Egypt. Since Houston was overlooked on the Treasures of Tutankhamen and Ramses the Great, MFA Director Peter C. Marzio was quite pleased that they were able to bring the Pelizaeus exhibit to town and rightfully so as it gives us the opportunity to view a culture rich in history and tradition.

For those of you who might think history a bit boring, I can relate and simultane-



Enjoy the Splendors of Ancient Egypt at the Museum of Fine Arts

ously assure you that many fascinating and interesting facts were proffered during the tour. For example, did you know the following? Egyptians were responsible for the invention of beer. In ancient Egypt both men and women donned perfume, makeup and wigs. And, Egyptian burial practices dictated by belief that it was important to embalm and preserve soft organs of the human body, with the exception of the brain, which they thought was relatively unimportant.

Regardless of where your interests lie, there is most certainly something you will enjoy at this spectacular exhibit. The Splendors of Ancient Egypt will be on view for Sept. 22 through March of 1997 at the Museum of Fine Arts. Call 639-7300 for further information and ticket prices. Upcoming exhibitions include Masterpieces from the Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller 3D Collection of Asian Art from Oct. 27 to Jan. 1997 and Masterpieces from the Pier Pont Morgan Library from Oct. 6 to Jan. 1997.

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## I Dream of Jean...

By DAVID RICHARDSON

The fictionalized memoirs of actress Jean Seberg are stunningly brought to life in the new film entitled "From the Journals of Jean Seberg," by Mark Rappaport (most recently known for his work "Rock Hudson's Home Movies," a 1992 release).

His newest film has Mary Beth Hurt in the title role telling her life in a series of flashbacks. We are taken first to see a seventeen year old Seberg as she takes on the challenging role in Otto Preminger's 1957 film, Saint Joan. She was chosen, a yet unknown girl from the midwest, from thousands who were after the coveted role. Although a box office disaster, it would launch a career for the young woman that would last until 1979, when she took her own life.

Her career included Bonjour Tristesse, Breathless, Lilith, Birds in Peru, Let No Man Write My Epitaph, and Paint Your Wagon. She co-starred with such luminaries as David Niven, Jean-Paul Belmondo, James Mason, Lee Marvin and Clint Eastwood, to name a few.

Although much of the film is based on speculation, one cannot help but feel some sympathy for the life of Ms. Seberg. She was by and large exploited by her producers/directors, persecuted by the FBI for her involvement with the Black Panthers, lost a child after a premature birth, and suffered the slings and arrows of an actress having a rocky career.

Mr. Rappaport's film is insightful as it draws parallels between the actress and others such as Jane Fonda and Vanessa Redgrave, touching on their similarities in role choices, feminism, and political activism.

Jean Seberg is probably best remembered for an innovative acting style in which she would stare straight into the camera and breakdown what is known as the fourth wall, or that which separates the actor from the audience. In doing so, she gave us a look at herself that was both up-close and personal. Likewise, this movie sets out to achieve the same goal, and while at times it is almost painful to watch this sad life played out in celluloid, the viewer feels compelled to watch as it gives you an 'insider's' type view of a screen goddess. Mary Beth Hurt sums it ups best in a quote from the movie where she says "It's horrifying...but you want to see more."

"From the Journals of Jean Seberg" has its Houston premiere Friday, Saturday and Sunday on Oct. 4, 5, and 6 at 7:30pm at the Rice Cinema Media Center. This film is on a double bill with Lilith, in which Jean Seberg plays a schizophrenic patient under the care of an obsessed Warren Beatty. For more information, call the 24 hour film information line at 527-4853

David Richardson's "And there you have it" appears bi-weekly in the Houston Voice. David does occasional arts and entertainment pieces as well.

One taste of my fais do do and you'll think you're in New Orleans!

The Krewe of Olympus - Texas Inc. invites you to **Fais Do Do** a down-home Cajun feast. Featuring cajun Food, Music, Games, and the chance to throw a pie at our current and past royalty. Raffle grand prize: weekend for 2 in New Orleans includes airfare & accommodations. A portion of proceeds go to Steven's House and Omega House At the Lovett Inn, 501 Lovett Sunday, October 6, 1996, 4 - 8 \$10 at the door includes 1 free drink ticket.

The Krewe is a 501(c)(3) organization  
Travel Arrangements Courtesy of Uniglobe First Choice Travel

## History Month continued...

(Continued from page 1)

Missouri, appalled by the exclusion of lesbian and gay history from textbooks, set out to make a change. Rodney Wilson organized teachers and community leaders to educate the public about Lesbians and Gay men past and present. They formed a national grassroots network to create a celebration and education campaign that continues today. October was picked as Lesbian & Gay History Month to commemorate the anniversaries of the first two lesbian and gay marches on Washington in October 1979 and 1987.

Lesbian & Gay History Month is endorsed by leading lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered organizations, including the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Teachers Network, the Human Rights Campaign and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

GLAAD is the nation's lesbian and gay news bureau and the only national lesbian and gay media watchdog organization. GLAAD promotes fair, accurate, and inclusive representation as a means of challenging discrimination based on sexual orientation or identity.

## GLOBAL continued...

(Continued from page 1)

Coalition of Homosexuals (HATCH); and others to be announced. Hundreds of students and community members gather annually to witness this event, the largest Coming Out Day Rally in Houston. Parking is available in UH Lots 15 or 16, located off Cullen Blvd. Satellite Hill is in front of the University Center Satellite, located between Science and Research 2, The Wortham Theater Complex, The Social Work Building, and the Technology College Building.

Dianne Hardy-Garcia, Executive Director of LGRL and nationally known activist, will be the guest at a special meeting of GLOBAL at 5pm on Wednesday, October 9. She will be speaking about "Non-Discrimination in Education" at the Bayou City Room on the second floor of the University Center.

On Thursday, Global invites interested individuals to attend a coming out day party sponsored by the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) at Tootie's, 1830 West Alabama, from 6pm to 9pm.

The University Center is located at The University of Houston Entrance #1 at 4800 Calhoun. From I-45 South, exit Calhoun and park in Lot #1A. UC is the large building on the right.

GLOBAL, founded in 1973, is a gay and lesbian and bisexual support group which welcomes students of all sexual orientation from college and universities across Houston. Meetings are held Wednesdays at 4pm and 6pm at the University Center at U of H. For more information about the National Coming Out Week festivities, call Brandy Merritt at 808-0752.

## Houston Women Receive Grants

### Independent Southwest Artists

By DEBORAH BELL

DiverseWorks Artspace Houston and Mexic-Arte Museum, Multi-Cultural Works in Austin, Texas are pleased to announce the awardees of the 1995 New Forms Regional Initiatives Grants Program (NFRIG). This program, in its tenth and final year, provides project grants of up to \$5,000 to individual artists and artists working collaboratively in Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. In eleven years of funding, the NFRIG program has awarded approximately eight million nationally and well over \$500,000 to artists working in the region. NFRIG is funded by the Presenting and Commissioning Program of the National Endowment for the Arts, The Rockefeller Foundation, and The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Inc. The announcement of these grants coincides with the news that the program has been canceled because the National Endowment has ceased to give grants to individual artists working in non-traditional forms.

Suzanne Berberet and Anggela Williamston of Houston both were awarded grants for their projects. Berberet's "Police Action—Exhibition I: Words" is a planned exhibition related to the words which have become part of her experience as a Houston police officer. Using humor and witty juxtaposition,

Berberet (who is diminutive in stature) uses pictures of herself in uniform juxtaposed against the nicknames given to her, "Barney Fife," "Li'l Jedi," and "California." She plans to produce illustrations and signage suggestive of Houston's commercial landscape. The exhibition space will be enhanced by the light of a single revolving police care dome light and a television playing short clips of dramatic police shows from "NYPD Blue" to The Andy Griffith Show" interspersed with video from her police academy graduation.

"Blowin Up A Spot" Media Art Project" gained a grant for Anggela Williamston. The award will contribute towards the production of a multi-media program, "Blowing Up A Spot" for Houston and Austin's public television channels. The program provides a visual canvas and training ground on which emerging media artists from under-represented communities can express their views and ideas. Programs will include segments on poetry slams, graffiti art, art reviews, interviews, and "how to" workshops. "Blowing Up A Spot" will provide a venue for both emerging and established redefining;ti-media artists who are interested in redefining images.

Twelve projects were funded out of 179 applications received from artists in the four-state region. The funded projects reflect a broad range of artistic expression addressing diverse aesthetic, cultural and social concerns.

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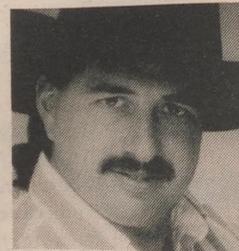
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## Beautiful Swan Lake



Sean Kelly as the Prince and Lauren Anderson as Odile in "Swan Lake"

### Lauren Anderson Center Stage is Cinderella Story

By RICH ARENSCHIEDT

Houston Ballet's sumptuously fluffy production of Swan Lake swam across the Wortham Center stage. The lush music of Tchaikovsky and classic choreography of Ben Stevenson make this work perhaps the most beloved of the ballet repertoire.

Even though Houston audiences may have seen this production before, sometimes surprises await even the most experienced balletomane. The surprise this time was the pairing of Lauren Anderson as Odette/Odile and Sean Kelly as Prince Siegfried.

Ms. Anderson, well known to us through her numerous performances, danced this role (one of the most demanding) for the first time. This is something of a 'Cinderella' story for her—Lauren is the only principal dancer to have been 'born and raised' with the Houston Ballet. She was trained at the Houston Ballet Academy, joined the corps de ballet in 1983, was promoted to soloist in 1986, and finally to principal dancer in 1990.

Swan Lake represents a technical and artistic plateau for Ms. Anderson. Known for her power prowess' this role also required a substantial emotional commitment from the dancer. Initially she must portray the shy, vulnerable Swan Queen, and then do an emotional 'about face' for the evil, even vicious Odile.

One of the surprises to the audience Mr. Kelly, as the Prince, gave us many of the emotional underpinnings of the drama within the work, while Ms. Anderson provided the technical flash. So many times, especially in the 'classic' repertoire the male dancer provides only an 'assist-

ing' role. We often watch as ballerinas spin like tops while the male dancer stands there looking, well, useless—like he's only around in case the ballerina falls over. Of the three Tchaikovsky Ballets 'Swan Lake' is the only one that provides the male lead with a prominent, even pivotal role. Mr. Kelly took full advantage of this, and in so doing, helped to convey the 'story' so often missing in a 'story' ballet.

Some of this dramatic intensity was certainly due to the 'tightening up' of the plot by Houston Ballet Artistic Director Ben Stevenson. Swan Lake, in spite of its present success had a dubious beginning. This was due in part to a somewhat wandering story line. Through numerous revisions and restagings the work now presents more dramatic impact.

In this production, the tension that exists between the Prince and his distant, overbearing mother (although it's difficult to be 'Ma' when you're encased in what is possibly the most extravagant ball gown ever created) is plainly apparent. Also obvious is the mental intertwine between the Prince and Odette/Odile. Even though much of the 'action' is interrupted by shorter dance sequences, principals Kelly and Anderson maintain the dramatic thread of the work.

As for the other dancers in 'Swan Lake' the company presented this classic with all the ease, beauty, and grace that one would expect from a company with a mentor like Ben Stevenson. Steeped in his approach like a 'pot of strong Earl Gray tea' this company exudes the 'English' style with thoughtful elegance.

The combination of richly colored sets and costumes and fine playing by the Houston Ballet Orchestra, (solo strings especially) made 'Swan Lake' an emotionally, visually, and aurally enjoyable offering.

## In Search of Hidden Treasure

### The Living Archives Interview Series

The Women's Archives and Research Center at the University of Houston, a project of the UH Women's Studies Program announces its 1996-97 Interview Series. All interviews are scheduled Tuesday evenings at 7pm at the Menil Collection at 1515 Sul Ross. The first in the series will be "Women on the Bench" featuring Judge Carolyn Garcia hosting a conversation with Judges Ruby Sondock and Michael O'Connor on Oct. 15.

Other programs will be: "Women in Medicine" on Nov. 12, 1996; "SouthEast Asian Women's Experience" on Feb. 11, 1997; "Women Writers" on April 8, 1997; and "Women in TV" on May 13, 1997. The program's purpose is to seek out, collect, preserve and share the too-long hid-

den treasure of Houston's women's histories and contributions to the life and culture of our region. There is a reception following each event.

Ticket information and reservations are available by calling 743-3214 and will be available at the door the evening of each lecture. Tickets are \$15 per lecture for the general public, \$10 for members of the Women's Studies Program, and \$5 for students and seniors or for the entire series they are \$50 for the series for the general public, \$40 for members and \$15 for students and seniors. Special arrangements can be made for persons with disabilities who require assistance. To purchase tickets in advance send a check to Living Archives, Women's Studies, University of Houston, Houston, TX 77204-3784.

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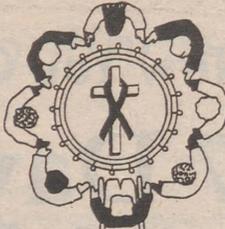




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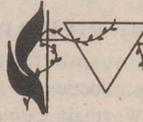
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## ASK THE PASTOR

### A FAREWELL MESSAGE



Rev. Janet Parker

As this column of questions and answers comes to a close, I want to say "thank you" for your support and encouragement. Many thanks are given to those who submitted questions, those who have written in or called in comments and reflections, and even those who have vehemently disagreed with the writing of such a column. The intent of this column was to get people to think about spiritual issues in their lives. Everyone needs a safe place to ask a question. Questions help us sort out our thoughts and look at life more clearly. I wish I had kept a record of the many comments received through this column. What stands out in my mind are the individuals who have called or written to say they have begun a journey of reconciling their spirituality and their sexuality. Some people have made a transition from a life of alcoholism and no friends at all, to feeling their significance and worth as a person of great worth, now living life through recovery. Others have reclaimed their spirituality and have begun walking with Christ once again. I'll never forget the letter I received from a woman who was asking about a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Through correspondence over a matter of weeks, she came to the realization that she does know Him personally. This person struggled with being a Christian and a lesbian. It was rewarding to help her walk through this time of uncertainty to a place of knowing for certain. If this column has been helpful to you, the readers, I am grateful. You, the writers of questions, have kept me busy thinking about so many things. I have enjoyed the challenges. I, too, have grown in this experience!

Maybe you are asking yourself, "So, what are the real reasons why you are discontinuing the column?" What I have come to understand about life is that everything is not meant to last forever. Some things are to pass away. Some things are resurrected later in life. At this time I am not sure if this column will re-emerge or not. There are many reasons for discontinuing the column. The first one is the tapering off of submitted questions. This lets me know that the need may not be that great for this column to continue. It may have served its purpose. The second reason is that our church is in a growth and development stage that requires additional financial support. We have evaluated our needs and have come to realize that funds are more critically needed within our organization at this time. Maranatha has always been a generous church and feels called to serve our community. There are times when a church needs to look within to see if the infrastructure is strong enough to handle the next stage of growth. We are putting up a few supporting beams to ready ourselves for our next growth spurt. Watch out!!!

Who knows what our next venture will be to keep in touch with you. If you care to write in a comment in regard to the ending of this column or any thoughts on a future column, please send them to Rev. Janet Parker, Maranatha Fellowship MCC, P.O. Box 667032, Houston, TX 77266-7032.

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## Church Calendar of Events

### Friday-10/04

- \* "Your Sacred Self"—study group using the best seller by Wayne Dyer. COME learn more about your sacred self, sacred sisters & brothers, & the sacred, loving Creator God who made it so. At Kingdom Community Church 862-7533
- \* Catholic Mass at 10:00 am. Opera Night at 7:00 pm. Kolbe Project 522-8182
- \* Eucharist and Healing Service with Anointing for PWA's. 7:00 pm. Christ Church. 432-0414.

### Saturday 10/05

- \* Solidarity Services at 7:30 pm at Dignity Church 880-2872

### Sunday-10/06

- \* Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church Services "A Study in the Gospel of Mark" and "The 'I' Factor." (How to be a positive influence on others as a witness for Christ) at 10:00 am Praise and Worship, Ministry of the Word, Drama and Personal Ministry. 11:00 am at Maranatha Fellowship 528-6756
- \* MCCR worship services 9:00 am & 11:00 am 861-9149
- \* Worship Service 11:00 am at Faith and Hope Fellowship 773-4429
- \* Grace Lutheran Church Sunday school for all ages at 9:30 am Worship Service at 10:30 am 528-3269
- \* First Unitarian Universalist Church Sunday Services at 9:30 am and 11:30 am 526-5200
- \* Services at 5:30 pm Dignity Church 880-2872
- \* Community Gospel Church worship service at 11:00 am & 7:00 pm SERVICE IN NEW LOCATION. 4305 LILLIAN 880-9235
- \* Houston Mission Church worship service at 10:30 am 529-8225
- \* Kingdom Community Church worship service at 11:00 am Sunday School at 10:00 am 862-7533 "The Celestine Prophecy. An Experiential Guide" at 10:00 am
- \* Ecumenical Catholic Church Mass at 10:15 am 526-8095
- \* Covenant Baptist Church Worship service 1:30 pm and education hour at 3:00 pm 668-8830
- \* Bering Memorial United Methodist Church Worship service. 10:50 am Seekers class 9:15 am 526-1017

### Monday-10/07

- \* Catholic Mass at 7:30 pm Kolbe Project 522-8182
- \* MCCR Handbell Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 pm 861-9149

### Tuesday-10/08

- \* MCCR: Empowerment for Living support group & pot luck dinner at 6:00 pm. Gloryland Singers at 8:00 pm, The Gospel Ensemble at 6:00 pm 861-9149
- \* PROTECT meets at Bering Church. 520-7870.
- \* AIDS Affected Group meets at Community Gospel Church. 7:00 pm 880-9235
- \* Small home groups meet to sing, share their faith and pray for one another at 7:30 pm These groups are open to all people. Maranatha Fellowship at 528-6756 for location each week.

### Wednesday 10/09

- \* MCCR Bible Study 7:30 pm 861-9149
- \* Worship Service 7:30 pm at Faith and Hope Fellowship 773-4429
- \* MCCR: Jubilation Mixed Ensemble meets at 6:30 pm Midweek uplift service at 7:00 pm. Bible Study, Lecture Series & Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm 861-9149
- \* "A Course in Miracles"—Study Group using the book, published by the Foundation for Inner Peace, which is aimed at removing the blocks to our awareness of one's presence. Kingdom Community Church 7:30 pm 862-7533.
- \* Ecumenical Catholic Church Mass at 7:00 pm 526-8095
- \* Maranatha Fellowship MCC meets to formulate its Mission Statement and Ministry Plan from 7:00 pm to 9:15 pm. Everyone is welcome. 528-6756.
- \* "Coming Out to Yourself" at Kolbe Project 7:30 pm. 522-8182.

### Thursday-10/10

- \* Bible Study 7 Pm At Faith And Hope Fellowship 773-4429
  - \* Community Gospel Church worship service 7:30 pm 880-9325
  - \* Bible Study at MCCR. 7:30 pm. 861-9149.
  - \* Service for Healing with Anointing at Kolbe Project. 7:30 pm. 522-8182
- If you want an event listed in this section, please call 529-8490*

## Half Day Workshop & Seminar at Crossroads

Crossroads, a spiritual educational, social, and confidential group for Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals, Transgendered, and friends in church work in any capacity in the past or present, will have a half day workshop and seminar Saturday, Oct. 19th. It will be based on the teaching of noted author, theologian, and lecturer John Bradshaw. At its September meeting, Crossroads viewed half of Bradshaw's first ever address to a gay and lesbian audience, entitled "Maintaining Consciousness and Healing the Pain." The remainder of the lecture will also be viewed and there will be group discussions. Bradshaw's primary emphasis in the address is that there be an awareness of the biblical and philosophical arguments as well as the anti christian rhetoric, which often comes from professing christian churches regarding homosexuality.

Bradshaw is a native Houstonian whose books have sold over five million world-

wide. He once taught at St. Thomas Catholic High School and at Palmer Episcopal Church, both in Houston. He studied for the Roman Catholic Priesthood but was never ordained. He currently has a daily television show aired Monday through Friday. In Houston, it may be seen on KNWS, Channel 51, entitled "The Bradshaw Difference."

The workshop and the seminar will begin at 9:30am with breakfast followed by the sessions, including lunch, until 2:30pm. For those who prefer to bring their own food, a refrigerator and microwave are available. Anyone wishing to attend, but who cannot stay the entire time, is invited to attend whatever portion of the seminar that fits your schedule. To protect the confidentiality of its members, the meeting place is not publicly disclosed. For further information, contact the founder of the group, Rev. Johnny Peden, a former Southern Baptist pastor and minister, at 681-9082.

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# VENTURE-N

## Lust and the Texas Renegades

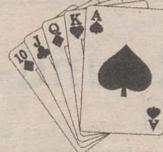
Saturday, October 5, 1996  
Venture-N

**Eighth Annual Lust in Las Vegas**

a portion of the proceeds to benefit

**Lady Victoria Lust PWA Holiday Fund**  
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Prizes for biggest winners




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Thurs: 4-8pm HIV Testing - Free & Confidential

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Mon-Thu 8-5:30 • Fri-Sat 8-6*What a World,  
What a World...*

by Nancy Ford appears bi-weekly in the Houston Voice.

**BYOJ (Bring Your Own Joke)**

The final '96 party season is upon us, starting any moment now with Halloween. This year I'm dressing as that progressive pioneer of dance, Isadora Duncan—Grecian robes, barefeet, and long, flowing scarves around my neck with a spoked hubcap dangling from the end of one of them. Lets Party!\*

Let's face it. The most important thing about attending any party, next to your outfit, is your joke. And, as by your outfit, other guests will long remember you, if not judge you, by your joke. Therefore it should be stylish, tasteful, and tailored to the individual. Unlike your outfit, it should be funny.

For those of you who love physical humor but hate the bitter aftertaste, here's something new: a Do-It-Yourself Guide to Comedy Impressions. One of them even calls for props.

Whether you're attending a Halloween bash or your first Christmas with your new lover's family (God help me), the following impressions are sure to...impress. Think of this as an Arthur Murray Dance Course without the dancing, but almost as many laughs. Just as you would a new recipe (or whatever), try these jokes a few times on yourself before offering them to friends. And good luck!

\* **Shannon Lucid**, on her first day back on Earth after spending 188 days in space: 1.) Lie flat on the floor, spread eagle, face down. 2.) Try to get up.

\* **Robert De Niro**, if he were a woman, getting his first pap test (I hate the word "smear," don't you?): 1.) Place feet in stirrups. 2.) Lie back. 3.) Scoot forward. 4.) Let your legs fall loosely to the sides. 5.) Squint. 6.) Shake head back and forth, as though watching a tennis match. 7.) Point to self. 8.) Say incredulously to attending doctor, "You lookin' at me?" 9.) Repeat.

\* **Bill Clinton**, the Prankster President (For this joke you will need a portable screwdriver. I've got one. (What were the odds?): 1.) Replace batteries in portable screwdriver. 2.) Crawl under stage at Dole/Kemp rally. 3.) Loosen railing in front of podium. 4.) Sit back and watch the fun.

\* **Ellen**, coming out of closet: 1.) Blink. 2.) Rub eyes. 3.) Smile.

**More Ellen Stuff**

So there it was, big as life, in The Globe (frequently my favorite cure for insomnia):

**ELLEN GAY PLOT SPARKS OUTRAGE**—Watchdog groups up in arms over lesbian character. First of all, those folks should never raise their arms and squeal the way they are often prone to do—little do they know that this visual creates an even stronger case for evolution of the species.

Second, we knew it was just a matter of time. In this story Robert Peters, President of *Morality in Media* spews, "We should not promote homosexuality as a normal lifestyle, because it is not. It's evil, it's harmful, and Hollywood shouldn't try to justify it." We might add that Florida's Disney World just turned twenty-five this week, making her plenty old enough to determine for herself what is "evil and harmful."

A cut-out mail-in coupon type thing in The Globe reads "Keep Ellen the way she is. I'm outraged at reports you're considering having Ellen become a lesbian." Name, address, blah, blah, blah. If they can do it, so can we. Please complete and send the following cut-out to Walt Disney Company attention Michael DiPasquale, Director of Publicity, 500 South Buena Vista Street., Burbank, California 91521.

Hi Mike—I encourage you to encourage Ellen's character to come out of the closet. It's stuffy in there. Name—Address—City—State—Zip—

P.S. Also, I'd like to suggest that Nancy Ford play the role of Ellen's love interest. Okay, Ellen's wacky neighbor. Okay, Ellen's other wacky neighbor. Okay, just have Ellen come out, and we'll call it even.

**More Political Stuff**

Overheard at recent DOMA signing ceremony—Bill Clinton: May I borrow your pen? Bob Dole: No. Bill Clinton: I promise I'll give it back this time. Bob Dole: No!

**P.S. —**

Note to Jazz: Yep, it's true. Not only am I in love, I am in hot, monkey love. Thanks for noticing, but I'm surprised anyone could see me at the Houston Women's Festival through all that smoke.

\*If you'd like to learn more about Isadora Duncan, visit the arts section of the U.S. Library of Congress.

Nancy Ford is a Houston-based comedian and writer. She hosts 'Friends Fest '96,' a three day music, comedy, sports and entertainment camping extravaganza Oct. 4-6 in Dripping Springs, Texas. For more information, call 512/894-0567. BYOJ.

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812 Westheimer (near Montrose Boulevard)  
(713) 529-6050**The All Ellen Media Round-up****Both Ellen and Rosie Come  
Out As "Lebanese"****FROM GLAAD**

On both the Sept. 24 Late Show with David Letterman and the Sept. 25 The Rosie O'Donnell Show, Ellen Degeneres responded to questions about her character's coming out by playing off the word "Lebanese." On both shows she said that there have been subtle clues—her character eating baba ganoush and hummus, being a fan of Casey Kasem and Kathy Nijmy—which will lead up to the character's coming out as openly Lebanese. On the Late Show, Dave said that he endorsed the idea of her character being a Lesbian, while Rosie responded by saying that since she was also a big fan of Casey Kasem, "maybe I'm Lebanese, too." Degeneres responded, "I pick up sometimes that you might be Lebanese."

In a week of rumors and speculation, a flurry of articles appeared in the press, including: The Sept. 28 TV Guide containing the article which began the buzz appeared on newsstands nationwide. The Oct. 1 *National Enquirer* quotes Degeneres telling a source, "I'm coming out of the closet with my TV show because I want to deal openly and honestly with the issues of real women-including gay women." The article also speculates on the nature of Degeneres' relationship with Teresa Boyd.

*Variety*, drawing a thoughtless and absurd conclusion, quips in a Sept. 20 item that "Ellen may be better off staying in the closet if the record low ratings for the show's season premiere are any indication."

An editorial in the Sept. 22 *San Francisco*

*Chronicle* entitled, "Just Let Ellen Be Ellen," says that Ellen would handle the coming out with a sense of propriety, adding, "come on out" *Boston Globe* columnist Ellen Goodman writes in her Sept. 23 column that, "this cycle of 'outness' is at the root of changed attitudes and policy. In a world where homosexuals are still demonized, it turns out that the most radical thing a woman can do is expose herself as a 'human being.' And to play one on TV."

Please continue to write both Disney and ABC and insist that the public deserves the chance to see an openly lesbian Ellen. Remind the sponsors that the lesbian and gay community has a long history of remembering its allies, and that economic strength of the community far outweighs any small-minded boycott from the fringe. Contact: Dean Valentine, President of Network TV and Television Animation, Walt Disney and Touchstone Television, 500 S. Bienna Vista St., Burbank, CA 91521-0001, phone: 818/560-5000 or go to Touchstone TV's comment page on the World Wide Web at <http://www.tvplex.com>Note>. For ABC: Ms. Jamie Tarses, President, ABC, 2040 Ave. of the Stars Los Angeles, CA 90067, fax: 310.557.7679, e-mail: [abc-audr@ccabc.com](mailto:abc-audr@ccabc.com). For sponsor contacts, visit GLAAD's website at <http://www.glaad.org> or call 415/861-2244. Contact GLAAD by e-mail at [glaad@glaad.org](mailto:glaad@glaad.org) or by phone at 213.658.6775 (Los Angeles), 212.807.1700 (New York), 413.586.8928 (Northampton), 503.224.5285 (Portland, Oregon), 202.986.1360 (Washington, DC) or 415.861.2244 (San Francisco). Report defamation in the media by calling GLAAD's Toll-Free AlertLine! 1-800-GAY-MEDIA (1-800-429-6334)

**Get a Grant**

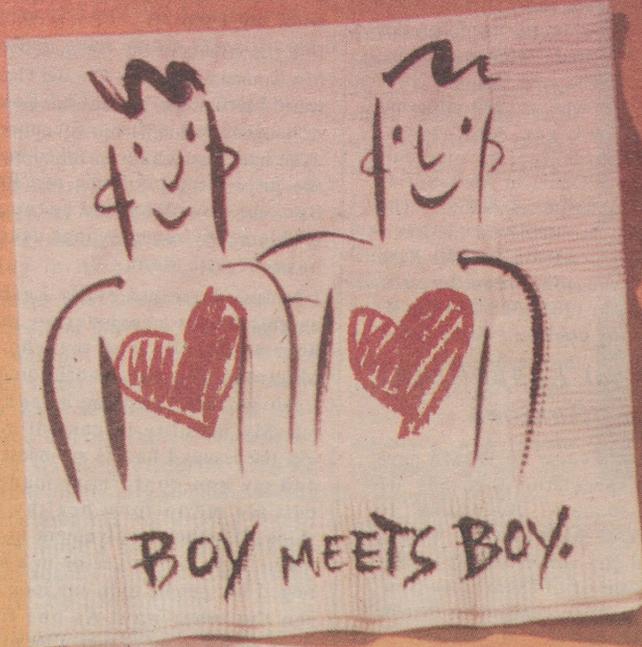
The Rotheudt/Dizinger Foundation is presently accepting grant requests in amounts of \$500 to \$5000 for the year 1997 from non-profit charity organizations designed as tax exempt by the I.R.S. under section 501(c)(3). Qualifying agencies may write to the Foundation at 3701 Montrose Blvd., Houston, Texas 77006 to request that APPLICATION DEADLINES be sent to them prior to the submission of their formal, written grant application.

The Rotheudt/Dizinger Foundation was created in 1991 by Hans-Willi Rotheudt and Peter Dizinger. Dizinger died of AIDS related conditions in the fall of that year. Their private foundation was established to provide compassionate assistance to people living with HIV/AIDS, with the hope of helping to make their dreams a reality and to let them know they are neither alone or forgotten.

In considering request for grants, the directors of the Rotheudt/Dizinger Foundation place a priority on HIV/AIDS service organizations in the Houston Metropolitan area.

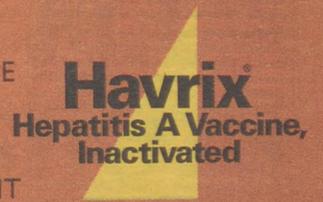
The Foundation supports a wide variety of charitable activities, strictly on a non-religious, non-political and non-ethnic basis. It has come to be known for its six year old program of holiday gifts to AIDS patients hospitalized on Christmas Day, Valentines Day and Easter Sunday. Numerous volunteers take time from their own celebrations of those holidays, deliver hundreds of teddy bears, roses and bunnies. Another, recently developed but rapidly expanding program is the weekly delivery of roses in dressed vases to hospitalized AIDS patients, through the efforts of the Kolbe House organization in cooperation with volunteers and those of the foundation.

IT'S A STORY WE'VE HEARD  
 MANY TIMES BEFORE. GAY MEN  
 ENGAGING IN WHAT THEY  
 THOUGHT WAS SAFE SEX,  
 ONLY TO CATCH HEPATITIS A  
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 LITTLE SORENESS IN YOUR ARM\*  
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 FOR MORE INFORMATION.  
 AND MAKE SURE YOUR STORY  
 HAS A HAPPY ENDING.

\*PLEASE SEE  
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PATIENT INFORMATION  
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## GLAAD News Review

## "Don't Pursue" On "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" Appeal

In a Sept. 20 brief, the Clinton administration told the U.S. Supreme Court not to review a case regarding the military's "don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue" policy. The court could make its decision as early as this week. The administration filed the brief late Friday evening so that it would not be available to the media until Monday, Sept. 23—a tactic used for the signing of the so-called Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA). The case involves Navy Lt. Paul Thomasson, who in 1994 informed his superiors that he is gay. After receiving an honorable discharge, he filed suit in the U.S. District Court in Alexandria, Virginia but the discharge was upheld. The 4th Circuit Court also affirmed the decision. For more information contact Kirk Childress (Servicemembers Legal Defense Network) at (202) 328-2344 or e-mail at sldn1@aol.com.

## Two Midwest Republicans Dodge Gay Rumors

Two politicians who voted for DOMA have faced increased speculation that they are closeted homosexuals. According to Shepherd Express, Milwaukee's weekly newspaper, local gay activists held a Sept. 11 protest outside of conservative Senator Herb Kohl's office demanding that he "come out of the closet." Meanwhile, in Columbus, Ohio, the Sept. 27 Gay People's Chronicle reported that pro-gay Democratic challenger Cynthia Ruccia has requested a Justice Department ethics review of 12th District Representative John Kasich (R). Kasich's chief of staff, Donald Thibaut, whose salary exceeds \$108,000, is also Kasich's housemate of 14 years. "It should not be permitted for a member of Congress to live with his own staffperson, whose salary and position he directly controls," Ruccia wrote in her letter. In the story, Bruce Cuthbertson, Kasich's press secretary, stated that, "Neither one of them is gay and no, they don't have any gay relationship." While she has received some criticism and been accused of "gay-baiting," Ruccia has denied that the allegations are anti-gay. For more information contact Doug Hissom (publisher, Shepherd Express) at (414) 276-2222 and Doreen Cudnik (editor, Gay People's Chronicle) at (216) 631-8646.

## San Francisco May Foot The Bill For Transsexual Change

In a major victory for transgender people, Martha Knutzen, president of the San Francisco Human Rights Commission, has recommended that the city make the groundbreaking move of covering sex change treatments and operations under city health plans. She says that as a legitimate health concern in a city which has pledged not to discriminate against its transsexual employees, the high costs of gender reassignment should be covered at least in part by the city. Supervisor Tom Ammanno considering advocating the move, noting in the San Francisco Chronicle that since there are only a few transsexual city workers, "the cost isn't that much. I think it's more of an institutional prejudice." While city employees can choose from a variety of private health plans, it is the city's own self-insurance plan that would be affected by the decision. For more information contact Supervisor Tom Ammanno at (415) 554-5144.

## Annual Gay Family Day Celebration

On Oct. 5, nearly 700 lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender parents, couples, their children, and friends are expected to attend the Second Annual Family Day Celebration in San Francisco. The event will include performances by comedian Sabrina Matthews, local musical groups and gay San Francisco Supervisor Tom Ammanno as well as a host of activities for kids. For more information contact Cheryl Deaner (Alternative Family Project) at (415) 566-5683.

## Personal Outlook

## Lesbian and Bipolar

By JEANA LEA

I came to Houston six and half years ago from Freeport, Texas to be out as a Lesbian. This was the only personal information I had about myself other than that dreadful little secret I carried with me—incest. I also had a "bipolar disorder" which is commonly called manic depression, but I did not know it at the time. I hit the streets of the Bayou City in search of a woman to squeeze. Oh, did I have a lot to learn! My first job was at Club Romeo. I was in heaven, coming from Freeport to a real dyke bar! The bar owner liked me so much she gave me a pet name of "Precious"! But, my disorder made keeping a job a problem. My mood swings caused me to have erratic behavior.

I bounced around every Lesbian/Gay establishment organization in town. I became familiar with the who's who of Montrose. Not only had I come out as a Lesbian, but I became a radical activist. My inability to control my behavior, the issues I had as an incest survivor, and my non-conformity made it difficult for me to form healthy relationships. Whether involvement in an organization, the workplace or in a social setting, I felt people took one look at me and ran the other way! As one friend has described it to me, I take a lot of energy to deal with at times.

During my manic and sometimes hypermanic periods I become loud, overbearing, and high strung. I would go in a bar ready to party down with the buzz I already had. While everyone else would do the bar scene to get the buzz. There is nothing lonelier than to be trying to socialize and not be able to connect on the same wavelength as those around you. I would be high or manic when they were still sober. Once my mania started it's decline (everything that goes up must come down) the other patrons would be on the incline.

I began my therapy at the Montrose Counseling Center not too long after I came to Houston at the recommendation of some folks who grew concerned about my behavior. They figured something must be wrong with a person who cries uncontrollably and has a hard time getting close to other people. So I sought help at MCC as an incest survivor. Unfortunately because of my chemical imbalance I could not sit still and concentrate long enough to work on my issues. For the next few years I was in and out MCC so frequently that my counselor, put in a requisition for a revolving door.

The Counseling Center suggested I look into the Mental Health Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County (MHMRA). This recommendation came in light of two factors, (1) my illness had progressed to the point that I could not concentrate on my therapy and (2) the behavior problems due to my illness kept me moving from job to job. I could barely pay rent or buy groceries, not to mention that meant not having money for therapy. Sometimes people would try to help me, but it would often become a burden for them. I would feel desperate and needed help but relied so heavily on some people that it became too much to ask for more help from them. Without an income, I even became homeless.

I have been on Lithium and Prozac for two years now and have been responding quite well, with the exceptions of occasional

relapses. I'm now taking my medication without fail. I also got some assistance financially, such as food stamps and a shelter to stay in. It is hard though. There are few accommodations for single women and none for Lesbians. Some of the shelters are "co-ed" and there have been places where I did not feel safe. Of course, now I can not get any therapy at MHMRA because as a radical, nonconforming lesbian activist I have a tendency to be "smart ass." It is not that I want to give people a hard time, but many people who work in the social services agencies are overworked and they want everyone to make their jobs easier by just having the clients "do what they are told." Funding cuts have meant that the case managers have lost their aides. Some are not committed to their jobs and make no effort to really help the people they are suppose to be there for, and while I understand these problems, it doesn't do a lot to help me. There have been times I have been in real crisis and have not been able to get the needed help. I have even gotten into trouble with the law. If the State Legislature was really concerned about crime, then why is Texas ranked 48th in mental health care? People with a mental illness do not mean to break the law, we just end up doing something that is a bad judgment.

I feel the medication has given my intelligence back to me. Some have labeled these drugs as "happy" pills. Actually, for someone who does not have the chemical imbalance that results in manic or chronic depression, these medicines don't have much of an effect. For those of us who do, it allows us to function on a "normal" level. I think they are "smart" pills. Some people mistakenly think this type of disorder means a mental retardation or a lower intelligence. I get very upset when people question my intelligence. Having a mental illness does not mean I'm stupid.

Sometimes I still get into trouble for talking too loud or acting inappropriately. At least now, most of the time, people can deal with me and work with me, and I them. Now I feel like I have some hope and a future. I think about all those years that went by that I was sick. My illness made it difficult for me to even know what was inappropriate or when I was acting that way. I coped with my illness with certain behaviors that I now have to unlearn—that's the hard part of therapy. And with government down sizing, there is not any money for people like me to get the therapy we need. A person with bipolar disorder getting meds (as our medications are called) but no therapy is like a horse without a jockey, or a fine car with gasoline but no oil.

In short let me add that having a mental illness is like needing a pair of eye glasses; you may not realize that you are not seeing as well as you should until you get tested. Free Depression screening is being offered by The Mental Health Association of Houston and Harris County on Thursday, Oct. 10. It includes a written self-test for depression, a screening interview with a Mental Health Professional and an educational presentation. Call 713/522-5161 for location and times in your area. If you think you may have a problem with depression, my suggestion would be to take advantage of this offer and get what help you can. It will change your life, for the better. It could even save your life.

## Hepatitis A Vaccine, Inactivated Havrix®

See complete prescribing information in SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals literature. The following is a brief summary.

**INDICATIONS AND USAGE:** Havrix is indicated for active immunization of persons ≥ 2 years of age against disease caused by hepatitis A virus (HAV).

**CONTRAINDICATIONS:** Havrix is contraindicated in people with known hypersensitivity to any component of the vaccine.

**WARNINGS:** Do not give additional injections to patients experiencing hypersensitivity reactions after a Havrix injection. (See CONTRAINDICATIONS.)

Hepatitis A has a relatively long incubation period. Hepatitis A vaccine may not prevent hepatitis A infection in those who have an unrecognized hepatitis A infection at the time of vaccination. Additionally, it may not prevent infection in those who do not achieve protective antibody titers (although the lowest titer needed to confer protection has not been determined).

**PRECAUTIONS:** As with any parenteral vaccine (1) keep epinephrine available for use in case of anaphylaxis or anaphylactoid reaction; (2) delay administration, if possible, in people with any febrile illness or active infection, except when the physician believes withholding vaccine entails the greater risk; (3) take all known precautions to prevent adverse reactions, including reviewing patients' history for hypersensitivity to this or similar vaccines.

Administer with caution to people with thrombocytopenia or a bleeding disorder, or people taking anticoagulants. Do not inject into a blood vessel. Use a separate, sterile needle or prefilled syringe for every patient. When giving concomitantly with other vaccines or IG, use separate needles and different injection sites.

As with any vaccine, if administered to immunosuppressed persons or persons receiving immunosuppressive therapy, the expected immune response may not be obtained.

**Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility:** Havrix has not been evaluated for its carcinogenic potential, mutagenic potential or potential for impairment of fertility.

**Pregnancy Category C:** Animal reproduction studies have not been conducted with Havrix. It is also not known whether Havrix can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman or can affect reproduction capacity. Give Havrix to a pregnant woman only if clearly needed. It is not known whether Havrix is excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, use caution when administering Havrix to a nursing woman.

Havrix is well tolerated and highly immunogenic and effective in children.

Fully inform patients, parents or guardians of the benefits and risks of immunization with Havrix. For persons traveling to endemic or epidemic areas, consult current CDC advisories regarding specific locales. Travelers should take all necessary precautions to avoid contact with, or ingestion of, contaminated food or water. Duration of immunity following a complete vaccination schedule has not been established.

**ADVERSE REACTIONS:** Havrix has been generally well tolerated. As with all pharmaceuticals, however, it is possible that expanded commercial use of the vaccine could reveal rare adverse events.

The most frequently reported by volunteers in clinical trials was injection-site soreness (56% of adults; 21% of children); headache (14% of adults; less than 9% of children). Other solicited and unsolicited events are listed below.

**Incidence 1% to 10% of Injections:** Induration, redness, swelling, fatigue, fever (>37.5°C), malaise, anorexia, nausea.

**Incidence <1% of Injections:** Hematoma, pruritus, rash, urticaria, pharyngitis, other upper respiratory tract infections, abdominal pain, diarrhea, dyspepsia, vomiting, arthralgia, elevation of creatine phosphokinase, myalgia, lymphadenopathy, hypertensive episode, insomnia, photophobia, vertigo.

**Additional safety data**

Safety data were obtained from two additional sources in which large populations were vaccinated. In an outbreak setting in which 4,930 individuals were immunized with a single dose of either 720 ELU or 1440 ELU of Havrix, the vaccine was well-tolerated and no serious adverse events due to vaccination were reported. Overall, less than 10% of vaccinees reported solicited general adverse events following the vaccine. The most common solicited local adverse event was pain at the injection site, reported in 22.3% of subjects at 24 hours and decreasing to 2.4% by 72 hours.

In a field efficacy trial, 19,037 children received the 360 ELU dose of Havrix. The most commonly reported adverse events were injection-site pain (9.5%) and tenderness (8.1%), reported following first doses of Havrix. Other adverse events were infrequent and comparable to the control vaccine Engerix-B® (Hepatitis B Vaccine, Recombinant).

**Postmarketing Reports:** Rare voluntary reports of adverse events in people receiving Havrix since market introduction include the following: localized edema; anaphylaxis/anaphylactoid reactions, somnolence, syncope; jaundice, hepatitis, erythema multiforme, hyperhydrosis, angioedema, dyspnea, lymphadenopathy, convulsions, encephalopathy, dizziness, neuropathy, myelitis, paresis, Guillain-Barré syndrome, multiple sclerosis, congenital abnormality.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has established the Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System (VAERS) to accept reports of suspected adverse events after the administration of any vaccine, including, but not limited to, the reporting of events required by the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986. The toll-free number for VAERS forms and information is 1-800-822-7967.

**HOW SUPPLIED:** 360 ELU/0.5 mL NDC 58160-836-01 Package of 1 single-dose vial.

720 ELU/0.5 mL NDC 58160-837-01 Package of 1 single-dose vial, NDC 58160-837-02 Package of 1 prefilled syringe.

1440 ELU/mL NDC 58160-835-01 Package of 1 single-dose vial, NDC 58160-835-02 Package of 1 prefilled syringe.

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# The City is a Jungle at Alley

By JAVIER TAMEZ

Houston Voice/Houston

Playwright Bertolt Brecht, whose seldom produced play, "In the Jungle of Cities," is the season-opening production on the Alley Theatre's Neuhaus Arena Stage, is one of the greatest playwrights of the 20th century. His highly complex works contain elements of Absurdism, Existentialism and Nihilism which are represented by wildly erratic characters struggling for survival and conquest in bleak landscapes.

"In the Jungle of Cities," which is subtitled "The Fight Between Two Men in the Gigantic City of Chicago," opens with Worm (Jeffrey Bean), an oily, shyster-like hotel owner, who sets each of the scenes, describing for the viewer the story about to unfold:

"You are in Chicago in 1912. You will witness an inexplicable wrestling match between two men and observe the downfall of a family that has moved from the prairies to the jungle of the big city. Don't worry about the motives for the fight; keep your minds on the stakes. Judge impartially the technique of the contenders, and be prepared to concentrate on the finish."

It is demonstrative of Brecht's genius that he includes these opening words (which are also printed in the program), for the metaphorical combat and all-too-real struggle of wills that is presented is a baffling, surreal tale that goes well beyond readily appreciable comprehension.

The premise for the plot is nowhere to be found; the viewer is admonished to be unconcerned with the motives because there are none. The action, the struggle, is simply engaged immediately. George Garga (John Felch) is a rather non-descript clerk in a library. On what would presumably have been an otherwise uneventful day, George is paid a visit by Schllink (James Black), the proprietor of a lumber business. (He is identified in the program and in some of the dialogue as a Malay, but he is also said to be from Yokohama and he operates his business out of what is called the Chinese hotel.) Schllink is accompanied by Skinny (Adrian Porter), a cackling, screeching toady, who serves as Schllink's clerk. Schllink, it seems, would like to buy George's opinion. Now mind you, not on any particular subject, Schllink just wants George's opinion in general. But George isn't selling. Schllink is persistent, asserting that he has chosen this moment to start his fight with George. The arrival of Worm and Baboon (Alex Allen Morris), a pimp, further exacerbates the situation for George, as both begin to destroy books. Worse yet, Baboon has with him Jane (Sherri Parker Lee), George's fiancée, and she unceremoniously informs George that she is leaving him and the prospect of a listless life with him for the adventure of working for Baboon.

Desperate and distraught, George realizes that he must confront Schllink on the businessperson's own terms. But those terms are not what George expects. Schllink categorically surrenders all title to his business and other assets to George. Even more astounding, Schllink offers himself to George as a slave. Surprised but determined to play along, George first commands Schllink to sell the same lumber to two different customers. Schllink complies over the objections of his business associates, who know the business will not survive proven allegations of fraud. George shows his sister, Mary (Shelley Williams), what it might be like if she were offered for sale. Then he surrenders the property to a Salvation Army preacher (Aaron Krohn), who must agree to let Schllink spit upon the preacher's face. Agonizing over the senseless struggle

in which he is engaged, George informs his dotardly parents (Krohn and Annalee Jefferies) that he is leaving, destroying their dreams of prosperity, as he abandons them to their squalor.

But George never really leaves. Rather he goes on a drinking binge and later discovers that Schllink has inserted himself into the lives of George's parents; Mary is in the throes of unrequited love for Schllink; and Jane is a whore, as are the female companions to the preacher, who is now nothing more than a whore-house gopher.

The story then descends into a disturbing denouement wherein this unwarranted, meaningless contest ends in a horrible draw...and death. The plot resolution is as unlikely as the story. It is unsatisfying and unrevealing and completely unrelenting in its surrealistic bent.

Artistic Director Gregory Boyd has done an excellent job here, adapting and updating without detracting from the playwright's text. Original music composed by Kim Scharnberg, and performed live during the performance, works as a startling effective staging device. From loping jazz to comic pulses and rock slammers to lounge-lizard torch songs, Boyd's use of Scharnberg's music is an adeptly planned and utilized addition to the production.

The same innovation Boyd employed in adding a score is also evident in the scenic and lighting design by Kevin Rigdon. It is altogether the most impressive use of the Neuhaus' smaller space I've ever seen. An iron gridwork platform sits center stage and rises to various levels depending on its use. The stage floor is the same iron gridwork, and this permits lighting effects to be utilized from below the actors, resulting in eerie, almost uncomfortable, shadows.

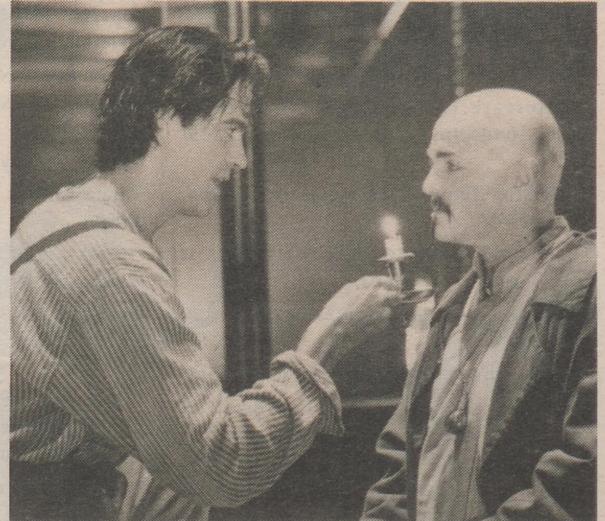
But it is with the majority of his cast that Boyd's work is most exemplary. Dis-

turbingly believable performances mark this production, as Boyd's players relishly portray the off-center characters of the script. First among these is James Black. Demonically calm with cold, unflinching eyes, Black reaches into a netherworld of Mephistophelian auras to sustain the stark, emotional vacuum that is the larger trait of his character.

John Felch is a sullen, angry and defiant George. Briefer, more tender moments are realized by Felch with the same vitality that is ever-present in his character's conflict. His efforts to maintain a palpable restraint under the pressure leveled upon him is an exceptional actualization of the torment faced by George.

Jeffery Bean gives his comically understated Worm a subdued flair, while Alex Allen Morris is evil and greasy as Baboon. Sherri Parker Lee brings unsated lust to her portrayal of the once-innocent Jane, and Shelley Williams gives an adequately unhappy and forlorn countenance as Mary. Charles Krohn and Annalee Jefferies were ideal as George's aging parents, more interested in money than in anything George is doing.

In fact, the only areas where the acting fell short, it fell into an abyss. Adrian Porter certainly looked the part of Skinny, but



John Felch (L) and James Black in "In the Jungle of Cities."

his efforts at capturing the heckling, crazed nature of Skinny failed abysmally. Even worse was Joe Kirkendall's losing characterization of Manky, a sailor in love with Mary. Attempts to display indifference, concern, anger and lust were so wholly transparent, they bordered on the pathetic.

"In the Jungle of Cities" is exciting, invigorating theater. The Alley's production is a triumph of directorial innovation and electrifying material. It's a great start for the Alley's next 50 years.



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# Community Calendar by Carolyn Roberts

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

## Friday, Oct. 4

- \* Borders Book Store Gay/Lesbian Book Club meets at the Espresso Bar at 9634 Westheimer. 782-6066.
- \* HIV+ Art classes at the Art League. 523-8817.
- \* HATCH meets. 942-7002.
- \* 12 step program at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- \* Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- \* Houston Tennis Club meets at 7:15 pm. 527-1348.
- \* Q-Patrol meets to walk the streets at 10:30 pm. 528-SAFE.
- \* Free Spaying and Neutering Program. 522-2337.
- \* Drag show at Cousin's. 11:00 pm.
- \* Artist Reception for Sally Jewell at Cafe Artist. 7:00 pm. 528-3704.
- \* Film at the Museum of Fine Arts Houston: Buckminster Fuller: Thinking out Loud at 7:30 pm. 639-7300.
- \* Imperial Court's celebrity silent auction opens at Gentry. 5:30. Auction runs thru 10/6.
- \* The Court guest bartends and Blackjack with Jackie at the Venture-N. 9:00 pm.
- \* Daddy's Box Auction at Mary's. 10:00 pm

## Saturday, Oct. 5

- \* Flu Shots at Mary's. 2:00 pm
- \* Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club rides. 863-1860.
- \* After Hours on KPFT 12:00 am. to 3:00 am. 90.1 FM. 526-5738.
- \* Gulf Coast Transgender support group meets. 780-4282.
- \* Q-Patrol meets to walk the streets at 10:30 pm. 528-SAFE.
- \* Visual Art Alliance meets at 10:00 am. 583-8408.
- \* Drag show at Cousin's. 11:00 pm.
- \* "Lust in Las Vegas" benefit at the Venture-N. 9:00 pm.
- \* Film at the Museum of Fine Arts Houston: Buckminster Fuller: Thinking out Loud at 7:30 pm. 639-7300.
- \* Pool party at Club Houston. 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm.
- \* Drag show at the Lazy J. 10:30 p.m.

## Sunday, Oct. 6

- \* Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club meets. 863-1860.
- \* The Women's Group meets at 10:45 am. 529-8571.
- \* FrontRunners meet at 9:00 am at the Tennis center in Memorial Park. 522-8021.
- \* HATCH meets. 942-7002.
- \* Inner Loop Sunday Bowling League.

522-9612.

- \* Drag show at Cousin's. 11:00 pm.
- \* Steak Night at the Brazos River Bottom. 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm.
- \* "Lean on Me IV" benefit show at the Brazos River Bottom. 8:00 ppm.
- \* Women Supporting Women Conference at the Wortham Center. 9:00 am. 789-3317.
- \* 8-ball tournament at 5:00 pm, "Celebrity Revue" benefit show at 9:00 pm. male strip contest at 11:00 pm. Gentry.
- \* Film at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston: The Mystery of Kaspar Hauser at 7:00 pm.
- \* Super Sunday show at Heaven. 11:00 pm.
- \* Beer Bust at the Montrose Mining Company.
- \* Cook-out at the Venture-N at 5:00 pm.
- \* Chocolate Covered Cherries Band at Chances. 9:00 pm

## Monday, Oct. 7

- \* Free HIV Testing and counseling by the Montrose Clinic at the Brazos River Bottom. 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm.
- \* Gay Fathers/Fathers First support group. 8:00 pm. 861-6181.
- \* HeartSong open rehearsal at the First Unitarian Church at 7:00 pm. 947-1488.
- \* Calendar/Computer workshop for Pride Week. 7:00 pm. 529-1223.
- \* Positive Living Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 2:15 pm. 539-0037.

- \* Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- \* Women and HIV/AIDS Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15 pm. 529-0037.
- \* Men Survivors of Sexual Abuse Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15 pm. 529-0037.
- \* Lesbian Survivors of Cancer and their care givers at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 pm. 529-0037.
- \* Men's HIV Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 pm. 529-0037.
- \* AVES sponsored free HIV testing from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm at 4125 SW Freeway, Suite 1717.
- \* Male strip contest at E/J's. 11:00 pm.
- \* Male dance contest at J.R.'s. 11:00 pm.
- \* Monday night football on the big screen at Rascals.
- \* Clubber's night at Pacific Street.
- \* Bad Boys dance at Gentry at 9:00 pm.
- \* Half-price night at Club Houston.

## Tuesday, Oct. 8

- \* Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous meets at 239 Westheimer. 8:00 pm. 495-8009.
- \* Basic Computer Skills Class at the Kolbe Project. 522-8182.
- \* Gay Men HIV+ Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 4:30 pm. 529-0037.

- \* Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- \* Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- \* AIDS Alliance of the Bay Area meets at 7:00 pm. 488-4492.
- \* Empowerment for Living meets for pot luck. 861-9149.
- \* PROTECT: an HIV negative support group meets at 7:00 pm. 520-7870.
- \* Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic at Club Body Center. 8:00 pm. 520-2083.
- \* Women Survivors of Childhood Abuse at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 pm. 529-0037.
- \* Survivors of loss support group meets at 8:30 pm. 778-2677.
- \* FrontRunners meet at 6:30 pm. 522-8021.
- \* Live Jazz at Borders Book Shop. 782-6066.
- \* Female Dancers at BerryHill II. 10:30 pm.
- \* Houston Gay and Lesbian Parents meet at 7:00 pm. 284-4939.
- \* Jockey shorts contest at J.R.'s. 11:00 pm.
- \* Young Executive night at Pacific Street.
- \* Bad Boys dance at Gentry at 9:00 pm.
- \* Talent Night at E/J's. 11:00 pm

## Wednesday, Oct. 9

- \* Free HIV testing and counseling by the Montrose Clinic at Mary's. 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm.
- \* Houston Tennis Club meets at 10:30 pm. 537-1348.
- \* Houston Pride Band practices at Dignity Houston. 524-0218.
- \* GLOBAL meets at 4:00 pm. 743-7539.
- \* Women's Action Coalition meets at Toopees. 7:00 pm. 867-9581.
- \* Men's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 pm. 529-0037.
- \* Houston Tennis Club meets at 7:15 pm. 537-1348.
- \* Lambda Rollerskating Club skates at 8:00 pm. 933-5818.
- \* Women's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 pm. 529-0037.
- \* Ongoing Mixed Living in Process Group for men and women. 622-7250 for more info.
- \* Living with Chronic Pain at Montrose Counseling Center. 9:30 pm. 529-0037.
- \* Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- \* Women's Issues Process Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 pm. 529-0037.
- \* HIV Survivor Support Group meets at 7:00 pm. 782-4050.
- \* Women's Clinic at the Montrose Clinic. 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Call 520-2000.

- \* AVES offers free HIV testing at 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. At 4125 SW Freeway, Suite 1717.
- \* Lesbian/Bisexual Survivors at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 pm. 529-0037.
- \* Male Strip Contest at Gentry. 11:00 pm.
- \* Showtunes night at J.R.'s. 10:00 pm.
- \* Lil' Rascals strip contest at Rascals 10:00 pm.
- \* Sheila Lennon on stage at Chances. 9:30 pm

## Thursday, Oct. 10

- \* Free HIV testing and counseling by the Montrose Clinic at the Venture-N. 4:00pm to 8:00 pm.
- \* Art Labs at The Art League. 1:00 pm. 225-9411
- \* Front Runners meet at Memorial Park. 6:30 pm. 522-8021.
- \* Gay Men's Chorus of Houston open rehearsal at 7:00 pm. 521-7464.
- \* Twentysomething meets at 7:30 pm. 315-6786.
- \* KPFT Lesbian and Gay Voices airs at 8:00 pm. to 10:00 pm. 866-6505.
- \* Ongoing gay men's Living in Process Group. 622-7250.
- \* Open Mike Night at Cafe Artiste. 1601 W. Main. 8:00 pm. 528-3704.
- \* HIV+ Men Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 1:15 pm. 529-0037.
- \* Relapse Prevention at Montrose Counseling Center. 2:00 pm. 529-0037.
- \* Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- \* Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- \* Meditation and Chanting Group meets at 7:00 pm. 942-0923.
- \* HIV Affected at CASA. 7:00 pm. 796-2272.
- \* Men's Therapy Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 pm. 529-0037.
- \* HIV survivor Support Group meets at 2929 Unity Drive. 7:00 pm. 782-4050
- \* Center for the Healing of Racism. 7:30 pm. 738-RACE.
- \* Gay Men's Chorus of Houston meets at 7:00 pm. 521-SING.
- \* Burger Night at the 611 Hyde Park Pub.
- \* Male Dancers at BerryHill II. 10:30 pm.
- \* South of the Border night at E/J's. 11:00 pm.
- \* Star Search Gold Karaoke at J.R.'s. 10:00 pm.
- \* Amateur strip contest at Heaven. 11:00 pm.
- \* Sexx Thursdays at Pacific Street.
- \* Half-price night at Club Houston.
- \* Bad Boys dance at Gentry at 9:00 pm.
- \* Talent contest at Cousin's. 11:00 pm

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## Celebration!

Celebration! is a new, special feature of the Houston Voice. Someone you love is having a birthday? Announce your engagement or holy union/Commitment Ceremony or your anniversary. How about that big job promotion or getting your Masters? Announce it to the world via the Houston Voice.

You must submit the material typed written, up to 100 words. You may submit a photo to be included (you must make arrangements if you want the photo returned).

Special rates on Display layout of special Celebration! announcements. Call for details, 529-8490.

## Obituary Policy

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you are submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on a label and stick on the back (writing directly on the back can damage the photo). Include a SASE for the photo's return and write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap or arrange for pickup at the Houston Voice office. All obituaries must be submitted by Tuesday 12 Noon to be included in Friday's paper and must include a contact name and phone number (not for publication).

# MCC Conference Aimed to Decrease Homophobia

By BARBARA BECKER

More than 120 health care providers, students, and consumers attended Montrose Counseling Center's Conference which focused on "Issues in Providing Services to Gays and Lesbians." The Conference was held on Friday, Sept. 27, at the Renaissance Houston Hotel.

The purpose of the event was to improve the quality of care provided to Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender health care consumers by decreasing homophobia and heterosexism among health care providers. There have been a number of studies nationwide which indicate that many physicians, nurses, and other health care providers are at best uncomfortable with Gays and Lesbians. Anecdotal information indicates that some providers refuse to serve Gays and Lesbians. Other surveys, including the report on the health care needs of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender women in Houston which was funded by the Lesbian Health Initiative, indicates that many Gays and Lesbians are not "out" to their doctors. Most of those who have not disclosed their sexual orientation have based their decision on either fear of being discriminated against, or because of how they were treated in the past by their physicians when they did disclose. Others reported that often they did not seek health care services when they needed them due to fear of discriminatory treatment.

In an effort to remove barriers in quality health care services, and to improve the quality of life for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender persons, Montrose Counseling Center hosted this conference. Bringing together our own Houston-based experts and national experts, the three keynote speeches and the three concurrent workshop sessions offered participants many opportunities for training and discussion of important

issues.

The morning keynote, David M. Hawkins, MD, president-elect of the American Group Psychotherapy Association, talked about the "continual and life-long" process of coming out faced by Gays and Lesbians. This process affects both gay and lesbian service providers, as well as non-gay providers who serve gay and lesbian clients.

The luncheon keynote, Dee Mosbacher, MD, PhD, showed two of her films on homophobia. She talked about using the films as teaching tools to open discussion of the issue. She was also present at the Inklings Bookshop exhibit booth to sign autographs. Her newer film "All God's Children" sold-out during the conference.



David Hawkins, MD, keynote speaker (center) gets a tour of the Montrose Counseling Center at 701 Richmond with MCC Program Coordinator Tom Strain and MCC Staff therapist and Women's Network Coordinator.

The closing keynote speaker, Karen A. Holmes, PhD, Dean of the Graduate School of Social Work at the University of Houston, discussed institutionalized homophobia and heterosexism in academic settings. The discussion focused on the students' perspectives, and their negative experiences which often lead to high drop-out rates.

The most popular workshops were those dealing with gay and lesbian relationships. Also, the workshops on attitudes about Gays and Lesbians in the African American community and Latino community were well-attended.

Those interested in being put on the mailing list for the next MCC Conference should call (713) 529-0037.

## A Miracle In Progress

By DON GARRISON JR.

No, I'm not in the closet about my recent diagnosis of being HIV+. My name is Don Garrison, and Yes, by not hiding my illness, I have had great support from my friends, family and my employer—Texas Commerce Bank.

I'm reaching out to others who are HIV+, to pass on to you what I call "Miracle Progress." On 8/1/96, I started treatments on the drugs Epivir and Retrovir and on 8/12/96 I started taking the drug Crixivan. My viral load went from 308,000 to less than (and what my doctor stressed) "Less Than" 500, which is at the level of being almost undetectable. My T-cell count rose 30%. I contribute my success to Crixivan, a positive attitude, a change of diet and lots of rest away from stress.

Crixivan is in short supply and I question our government for not getting more involved in helping Merck Pharmaceutical find a quicker way to pro-

duce this miracle drug. I have stayed in contact with Merck about my progress and about the side effects I was having. I did get bloated with gas and they recommended a gas reliever medication. Let me tell you—it worked and I am thankful that Merck and Statlanders Pharmacy have been right by my side. Statlanders is the only place anyone can get the drug because the drug is so new and is not yet mass produced. I am asking others to push to mass produce this drug more quickly—not only to have it more available but also to help lower the cost.

To those of you that keep your diagnosis from others, that's your choice. It's my choice to reveal my condition because I know I can whip this with my positive attitude and with support from others. Special thanks to Merck for making this drug and to my friends and relatives and to my employer for funding my two months off for complete rest.

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## Texas Young Democrats

### Gay and Lesbian Group To Be Chartered

Houston—Texas Young Democrats (TYD), the Democratic Party's umbrella organization for young Democratic clubs in Texas, will be chartering a group for gay and gay-friendly young Democrats in Houston. Bluebonnet Young Democrats will serve to support and promote the ideals of the National Democratic Party and emphasize the specific concerns of the gay and lesbian community. Texas Young Democrats and Bluebonnet Young Democrats recognize the humanitarian concern for the equal rights and opportunities of all people as primary concern of government.

"I am looking forward to building a strong working relationship with Bluebonnet Young Democrats. The involvement of the Houston group will be a strong and welcome addition to our organization," said President Gabe Acevedo. Bluebonnet Young Democrats hopes to charter similar groups in Austin, San Antonio, and Dallas by this time next year. The initial group in Houston will focus on grass roots campaigning for local Democrats and increasing gay/lesbian youth participation in the election process.

"There has been increased activity in the

Houston area among young Democrats and I am glad to see so much energy down there. I am glad to see that Bluebonnet Young Democrats will soon be joining the TYD family," said TYD Membership Vice President Marisa Schouten.

Texas Young Democrats has traditionally recognizes diversity as a cornerstone of the organization.

"I served a Chair of the Platform Committee for the 1995 TYD State Convention and the result of that work was a document that was comprehensive and fair in every aspect possible. It addressed issues of importance to all young Texans, including hate crimes and the Employment Non-Discrimination Act. TYD and the Democratic Party are right in line with the concerns we all share about equality," said Houston TYD Finance Vice President Francisco Sanchez Jr.

One of Bluebonnet Young Democrats' first projects will be to co-host an event with the Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas on Oct. 9th. Also on National Coming Out Day, Bluebonnet Young Democrats will be participating in a rally at the University of Houston. The first meeting of the Bluebonnet Young Democrats will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 8, at 7pm. The location will be Harris County Democratic Party Headquarters at 811 Westheimer Suite 208. For more information, please call Terence O'Neill at 713-523-9470.

Guidelines for community organizations or individual writers interested in having articles printed in The Houston Voice. Please stop by or send a self-addressed stamped business size envelope to:

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**MSL Fall League**

The Montrose Softball League (MSL) continued its Fall League on Sunday, Sept. 28 at Tim Hearn Field (corner Waugh & Memorial). The Green defeated both the Red 12-10 and the Yellow 13-0. The Blue lost to Red 7-8, but then rebounded for a 14-4 win over Orange. The Yellow defeated Purple 18-4 who also lost to the Orange 5-0.

On Sunday, Oct. 6, action continues with the Yellow (2-2) v. Blue (2-2) at 11am; Yellow v. Red (3-1) at 12pm; Red v. Orange (1-3) at 1pm; Orange v. Green (4-0) at 2pm; Purple (0-4) v. Blue at 3pm; and finally Green v. Purple at 4pm.

Remember, no experience is needed to participate in MSL. It is never too late to join the Fall Fun League. For info, call 867-3913.

**Skating Club**

Lambda Rollerskating Club holds its next Skate Night Wednesday, Oct. 9 from 8-10pm at the Starlight Roller Rink, 8075 Cook Road. Admission is \$5 plus \$1.50 skate rental.

If your club or organization would like to hold a skate event, please contact 787-0625, or gayskate1@aol.com or look at the WEB Page site at <http://members.aol.com/gayskate1/lambda.htm>.

**Cycle For Fun**

The Houston Chain Gang Cycling Club has their infamous "Fruit Loop" ride on Sunday, Oct. 6 at 9am. Meet at the Memorial Park picnic area's front gates for a 15-30 mile ride, starting and stopping as you please with plenty of drinks served. A planning meeting begins at 11am after the ride.

The Houston Chain Gang Cycling Club is a cooperative group; event organizers or leaders should not be considered experts. For info, call 863-1860.

**Bowling Results**

The Montrose Monday Night Men's League reports Division I Standings with Narcisisters, Team #6 and The Eclectic Twits in 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, respectively. In Division II, Pearlized Sisters, Five Easy Pieces and Not So Easy are tops. High Scratch game of 256 and series of 662 was

bowled by Ralph Sikes. Bowling is at Palace Lanes at 9pm on Monday. For info call 522-9612.

The Inner Loop Sunday Evening League reports the Palace Pussies in 1st, Macarena & Cheese in 2nd and Creamy Fillings in 3rd. High Scratch Game of 256 was bowled by Gardy Harvey for the men and series of 666 by Brian Elley. Michael Crabtree bowled high handicapped game and Gary Shope handicapped series. For the women, Terry Shannon bowled High Scratch Game of 234 and Peri Cain series of 597. Gayle Newcomb bowled high handicapped game and series. Bowling is at Palace Lanes at 7pm on Sunday. For info call 522-9612.

The Wednesday Night Mixers bowl at AMF Southway, Highway 59 at Gessner at 6:30 on Wednesday. Still need two individual bowlers for our league. The Rump Rangers are in 1st with Gutter Bumpers and Pin Busters right behind. High Scratch game of 212 was bowled by Tom O'Dell and series of 579 by Richard Dauchy for the men. For the women, Lynn Kelley bowled high scratch game of 212 and series of 507. Teams or individuals are being accepted for one more week. For info call 522-9612.

The Monday Night Women's League bowls at 6:15pm at AMF Southway on Mondays. Lesbordos are in 1st with Team #6 in 2nd and TAZ Club and Sappho Strikers in 3rd & 4th. For info call 437-6218.

**Rack 'em Up!**

The Houston Independent Billiard League reports Week 11 standings with Si Como No, Yo Mama's and Bad Boys topping the charts. The top three players for the week are Billy Lea from Yo Mama's, Richard Chew of Full Throttle and Carlos Romero from Si Como No.

**HOG News**

The Houston Outdoor Group is planning a camping trip to Lost Maples State Natural Area. Touted as their favorite backpacking trek, the park is near Vanderpool on RR 187 west of Austin. It has steep rugged limestone canyons some 300 feet high along the Sabinal River.

The pre-camp meeting will be held at the Cafe Express on Kirby at 7pm on Tuesday, Oct. 8th. For info, call KAMP-OUT (526-7688).

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## Community Organizations Bulletin Board

### Gay Gardeners Unite!

If you like roses, flowers & vegetables up close and personal, dirty fingernails or turned on by the idea of fresh compost, then join the Gay Gardening Club.

The first meeting is Friday, Oct. 11 at 7:30pm at 2415 McClendon (Holcombe/Greenbriar area). Bring a plant or cutting to share and exchange. Future plans include field trips, guest speakers and projects to beautify the community. For info call Regina at 862-3922 or Vickie & Clyde at 661-6378.

### 1996 Country Dinner

The Diana Foundation's social function of the year, the 1996 Country Dinner takes place on Saturday, Oct. 12 at 7pm at the Houston Polo Club. Everyone is invited to see old friends, meet new ones and have one heck of a good time. Mouth waterin' barbecue, a cash sasparrilla bar and dancin' to Liz Talley & the Texas Good Time Band all await you!

Tickets are \$20 and proceeds benefit the Colt 45 Trouble Fund. Call 639-2000 for info and tickets. Hurry—space is limited!

### AIDS Workshop

The AIDS Mastery Workshop, for anyone infected with or affected by HIV, is now available at no cost on Oct. 11, 12 and 13. The workshop is not about how to "do" AIDS, but addresses the quality of our life regardless of circumstances.

AIDS Foundation Houston completely underwrites all costs of the workshop. To be held at The Assistance Fund, 1116 Jackson Blvd., call 529-4788 for info.

### Women Supporting Women

On Oct. 6 from 9am to 5pm, Women Supporting Women & Associates presents the 2nd Annual Women Supporting Women Conference. In conjunction with the conference, a networking business fair is being held from 8am to 6pm. Featured speakers are Dr. Timothy Conway, Carol Porter, Marilyn J. Macha, Hitaji Aziz and Nan Hall, to name a few.

The Conference will be held at The Wortham Center, Cullen Theatre. For info call 789-3317.

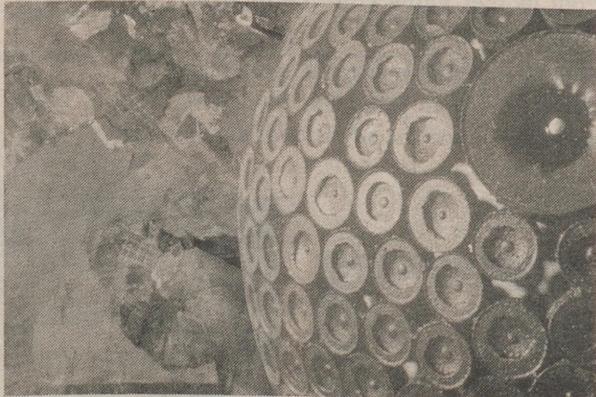
### Heights Festival

The 19th Annual Heights Festival occurs on Sunday, Oct. 6 from 12-6pm on Heights Blvd. between 14th & 20th streets. Admission is FREE. Over 300 booths offering antiques and collectibles, arts, crafts, clothing, services from local businesses and plenty of great food beckon you to be there.

At 1pm, one of the major attractions is the parade down the Boulevard. Floats, marching bands, art cars, vintage autos and local celebrities will be there. For vendor booth info, call 868-2302.

### Weekend Gallery

The Weekend Gallery, located at 1829 Arlington is having a reception for "Collage & Assemblage"



The Work of Mary Wilbanks and Rick Carpenter on display at the Weekend Gallery

on Friday, Oct. 4 from 6-8pm. The two-person show exhibits the works of Sculptor Rick Carpenter and Artist Mary Wilbanks. The exhibit runs until Oct. 26. Gallery hours are Friday & Saturday from 11 am-6 pm.

### Free Concert

The Houston Concert Band announces a free Autumn Concert on Sunday, Oct. 6 at 3pm. Directed by Dr. Ken Dye, the 80-piece band will play a program of classical and popular favorites arranged for wind band.

Take Entrance 13 onto the Rice campus and park in the visitors parking lot across the street from the Rice Memorial center. Reservations not required. For info call 530-3366.

### Walktoberest!

Join the fun and thousands of walkers all over America to raise money for the prevention and cure of diabetes at Walktoberest, Sunday, Oct. 6. Check-in time is at 7am at the Meyerland Plaza Shopping Center, West Loop 610 @ Beechnut, with the walk beginning at 8:15am. For info and registration, call 1-800-254-WALK or the American Diabetes Association at 977-7706.

### Opa! Opa!

Greek Festival XXX continues Oct 4-6 at the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral at 3511 Yoakum Blvd. Join hundreds of revelers until 10pm on Friday and Saturday and until 7pm on Sunday.

Admission is \$2 or pay \$12 for admission, the dinner plate, and choice of a shishkabob, a la carte Greek salad or pastry box. Pre-sale tickets can be purchased by calling 526-5377. Call the same number for info desired.

### Mineral Treasures

On Tuesday, Oct 8 at 2pm, the Houston Museum of Natural Science at One Hermann Circle Drive features the Grand Opening of the Cullen Hall of Earth Science. Featuring the world's premiere public display collection of natural crystalized mineral specimens, you must RSVP at 639-4796 to attend.

### Magic Wands

The Orange Show invites you to meet Rebecca Bass, a nationally recognized artist, and help them make gifts for their generous sponsors. On Oct. 6, from 2-4:30pm at a cost of \$1, learn to make enchanting magic wands. Wear your workclothes and bring your imagination! For info, call 926-6368.

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# Tiny Bubbles of Rodent Droppings!



Wesley (Rascals) enjoys fruit, or is that enjoys being a fruit?



Partying at PS

Jeff (DJ @ BRB): All "we" ask is that you push "play!"

Devon DeVasquez: Welcome to the family... need a drink?

Rodent Rooter: Yes, I have been called the Dirt Diva before! Just when I think I have figured out who you really are, I get stumped! Oh well, some day!

Ricky W. (hangs at the BRB): Really? You are still a virgin?



Betsy of the Ranch partying at Chances

Mary (QT's): How do you get over constipation?

John (BRB): How do you get Turkey out of an old rooster?

Don Dowden: I had a great time at your birthday party at Mary's last Friday! I can't believe you went thru the entire shift and stayed relatively sober! How did you do it? Or is old age sneaking up on you?

Lee Chardon (hangs at Mary's): Are you trying to get into a recent widow's pants?

Armmand (Ripcord): 1000 snails?

Marlene (Chances): You have such a big heart!

## Houston Soap

By CAROLYN ROBERTS

### Milestones

Happy birthday to Burgundy Woods, Mary Shannon, Alison Nelson, Bobby O'Brien, and Pec Grimes.

Happy anniversary to Donald (Daddy Don) and Douglas (Dog Lips) Robinson! 15 years together!

### Rodent Droppings

Well, as you can tell, this column is a bit short this week! It seems that when I put on this new set of nails, I got them a bit too long and typing is almost impossible! Not! If you want the real dirt, ask me in person!

Harvey and Ratrat are doing just fine! I am very glad that I have 3, yes, 3 locks on Harvey's cage! When I went in to check on them last night, Harvey had already opened one of the locks! He is such a little troublemaker sometimes! Both of the boys get their favorite treat this week: avocados! They love them! And for dessert, a chocolate chip cookie! No wonder Harvey is a bit on the chunky side!

My disclaimer is in force, so be afraid. Be very afraid!

Rodd Lindsey: What happens when you sneeze so hard your smile leaves your face? And I found that photo! Stop in and see me!

Devin and Wilma (Mary's): A date! really?

Nelly Kelly: Spilling beer is alcohol abuse!

Gary (Hans): Been hanging out at Mary's a lot lately? Any reason why?

Aaron (Rascals): I hear you love "people who need people!"

Woody (Gentry): Do new people really bother you?

Chuck (Rascals): Who is "Butt Boy?"

Mike (Gentry): So just how many dancers have you really been with?

Tiffany (FIST): Why are they calling you "I'll do anything for tips" Swanger? And which brand of panty liners was that you used for nipple covers?

Kenny (Rascals): So who is "Butt Boy" and what's it all about, Alfie?

Steven (Mr. BRB): I hear you did four fabu musical numbers in Waco this past weekend!

Julia Pearl (aka Jeff-Houston Area Bears): And I quote: "I need to loosen my garters, they are pulling my bustier down!"

Brook (aka Joseph): So you left the sheltering arms of Kofi and Matt Locklin and went back to your wife?

Byron (BRB): How is your sick pussy? Maybe you need to feed it Fancy Feast!

Evalita: Back ho or hoe? Would you please explain?

Jody (BRB): Blow your horn!

Mud Bug (hangs at the Briar-Patch): I hear you hosted both a going away party and a welcome home party on the same night! What's wrong? Don't know if you are coming or going?

Tommy Sue (BRB): I hear you are breaking in a new bartender! But really, sitting in the corner with your legs wide open screaming "here kitty, kitty, kitty!"

Xavier Luna: Remember, you're just a little Latin boy in a dress!

Wayne Gray (BriarPatch): I hear you are selling "PSL," personal seat licenses to some of your favorite patrons! How much do they go for?

Vera (BRB): You ought to be ashamed of yourself, trying to buy that cute Latin boy at Kroger for only a dollar! I'm sure he is worth much more!

Tom (Ripcord): I understand you were sitting at the BRB with a "Ruff Rider" rubber rolled up in your shirt sleeve! Advertising or bragging?

Mike P. (BRB): What is this I hear about a "red snapper" between your legs?

Caledonia (hangs from trees): It is not nice to throw other people's fishing tackles in the lake just because they won't let you play with them!

Miss Dee (Cousin's): I hear you are back from a vacation! But really, isn't Main Street a little far away for you?

Don (new bartender at the BRB): What did you mean by "I'm gonna rock her world" when referring to Vera?

John (Venture-N): You looked very pretty Sunday night! Does your mother know you like to wear women's clothes?

Chris (new bartender at the Brazos River Bottom): I see you feel right at home at the BRB: both hands on your hips already!



At the HCC show at the Venture-N

Scott Lewis (Heaven): Next time we meet on the street, honk twice!

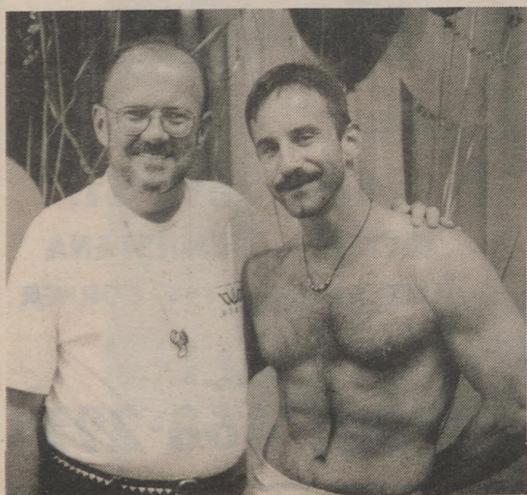
Bryan (TNT): I'm glad to hear you finally got laid! And by such a special one!

David (Boudreaux): I can't wait to try that 7-up cake!

Mark (Magnolia homemaker): What is this about emeralds making you hard?

Well, have a great week!

*Cuervolyn*



and porn star Steve Kelso



This photo needs NO caption!



Hazel and Gary Archer of Rich's

## Immune-Based Therapies:

### The Next Step

#### THE BOSTON AIDS WRITER'S GROUP

In this age of new and powerful antiviral combinations that lengthen lives, people living with HIV disease must be focused on helping their immune systems to win the war against the virus. Immune-Based Therapies are the best hope for ensuring that the ultimate benefits of antiviral treatment are realized. In fact, some scientists believe that IBT's are a necessary part of a treatment plan geared toward curing the disease.

Immune-Based Therapies (IBT's) have two distinct objectives for the treatment of HIV disease: they help the immune system to fight the virus, and they modify immune systems damaged by the virus so that they can function properly again.

Overall, there has been less progress to report in the development of IBT's, as they have not been the focus of significant federal or pharmaceutical company efforts. However, limited research into this branch of treatment has already resulted in new therapies and a better understanding of the disease that should not be lost in the emerging world of viral load tests and protease inhibitors. IBT's now need the kind of focused effort which antivirals have benefited from for the past 10 years.

#### What Is An Immune-Based Therapy?

Immune-Based Therapies are a response to the fact that HIV illness is a disease of the immune system. Although HIV disease is caused by a virus and might be cured by eradicating it, people living with the disease are most disabled by the way that HIV affects the immune system. IBT's are different from antivirals in that they do not directly attack HIV. Rather, IBT's try to give the immune system an edge in the war against the virus.

An Immune-Based Therapy is any treatment geared toward reestablishing proper functioning of the immune system or directly helping the immune system to fight HIV. Whether they are drugs, vaccines, or even substances that the body produces naturally, many of the IBT's in development look promising. Other everyday immune-based therapeutic approaches include proper nutrition, sleep, exercise, and stress reduction. All of these methods aid the immune system to function properly.

The theory behind IBT's is based upon a new understanding of HIV disease. The battle between the virus and the immune system is ferocious. Cells infected by HIV produce billions of new viruses every six hours, and the immune system kills off those new viruses and clears out hundreds of millions of infected cells at almost the same rate. Over many years of fighting this daily battle the immune system slowly wears out and is eventually crippled by HIV.

However, it is clear that the body's natural defenses are better than any antiviral

that has ever been developed by a scientist in a laboratory. Therefore, IBT's give those powerful natural defenses an extra push to help the immune system fight the war against HIV.

Furthermore, when the immune system gets damaged it goes into a state of chaos. It produces too much of some types of chemicals and not enough of others which are needed to coordinate the body's defenses. It simply no longer functions properly. As a result, Immune-Based Therapies are also designed to help the immune system to coordinate effective responses to attacks by HIV or any other agent threatening the health of people living with the disease.

#### Regulating The Immune System

Over time, the HIV throws the immune system out of balance. The immune system begins to overproduce some chemicals and underproduce others. In particular, the body stops making antibodies and other chemicals, called cytokines that specifically control the immune response. Immune-Based Therapies which reorganize how the immune system recognizes and attacks HIV could be extremely useful.

One such treatment is a therapeutic vaccine (a vaccine used for treatment as opposed to prevention) called Remune. This treatment reportedly increases those antibodies and chemicals which help stop HIV. Results from early testing are enough to warrant a larger study to ensure that it does help people with the disease. If you are interested in participating in this study, and you live in the Houston area, and your T cell count is between 300 and 550, contact Carol Thompson at the ONCOL Medical Association 713/961-7100 for more information. This is a very user friendly trial because the vaccine is given only once every three months, and you can simultaneously take any antivirals that you want. This therapy also has virtually no side effects. If your T cell count is above or below the range for the trial and you want access to this experimental therapy call 1-800-684-8624 for more information.

Therapeutic approaches have also been developed to cope with dysfunctional immune systems that don't work properly because they overproduce some substances. For example, Tumor Necrosis Factor (TNF), a significant participant in the immune response, is often overproduced by the immune systems of people with HIV illness. High levels of this cytokine in the body can lead to wasting syndrome, a life threatening condition. Thalidomide is one IBT which acts as an immunosuppressant, regulating the immune response by reducing the amount of TNF in the body and effectively preventing wasting syndrome. (Note: Although technically it is not an IBT, another effective treatment for wasting syndrome, Serostim, was recently approved by the FDA and will be available by prescrip-

tion in the upcoming weeks.)

#### Helping The Immune System Fight HIV

Over the course of HIV disease the immune system eventually runs out of T cells to fight the virus and other infections. The body's supply of T cells which are needed to fight illnesses is constantly depleted. Researchers have already started exploring ways to help the immune system to better fight HIV by increasing the number and quality of T cells in the body.

One effective effort has been the therapeutic use of a chemical that the body naturally produces, Interleukin-2 (IL-2). In the body, one function of this substance is to tell T cells to multiply. For the past two years scientists have used IL-2 as a therapy to produce astonishing increases in T cells for some people. Most people starting with more than 250 T cells have been able to boost their T cells up to normal levels for years. Scientists hope that by doing this, not only will the immune system be better at fighting HIV, but also it will continue to have enough T cells to protect itself from opportunistic infections.

Unfortunately, IL-2 sometimes temporarily increases viral load (the amount of virus in the bloodstream), since it makes infected T cells multiply too. This means IL-2 is most useful when T cells are high and viral load is low. However, last year scientists began using this IBT along with protease inhibitors, and discovered that this combination prevents viral increases and still boosts T cell levels up to the normal range (800-1200). These results were even better than using IL-2 or Protease Inhibitors alone.

There are many trials of this experimental therapy going on around the country. If you are interested in participating in a study using IL-2 you should call 1-800-TRIALS-A for more information. IL-2 is already licensed by the FDA, so your doctor can prescribe it for you, but you need to make sure that you use it correctly and are prepared for its serious side effects.

Theoretically, another prospect for IL-2 therapy is to clear the virus from the body much more quickly than by using antivirals alone. It is known that, if it is possible, it will take a long time for the body to get rid of cells infected with HIV while using powerful antiviral combinations to stop the virus from infecting new cells. Although most infected cells are cleared quickly, as much as one percent of virus-producing cells are much harder to eliminate. These cells are not cleared out because the immune system cannot tell that they are infected with HIV. For the immune system to know that they are infected the cells must be "activated" and produce new viruses. Using IL-2 to activate all of the infected T cells in conjunction with powerful antiviral combinations could be part of this possible solution for positively curing HIV disease.

Another way to help the immune system to fight HIV is T cell expansion. This process involves taking T cells from the body and making billions of copies of them. Then they are taught to kill HIV by exposing them to the virus. The cells that fight HIV energetically are then selected and put back into the body in hopes that they will keep the disease under control. For one type of T cells, CD4's, this procedure is still in the experimental phase. For another type, CD8's, preliminary results are promising enough to warrant a larger study of this type of therapy. If you are interested in participating and have a T cell count greater than 400 and have never taken any antivirals before call Dr. Judy Lieberman at 617/278-3464 for more information. (Note: This trial is in Boston, but Dr. Lieberman may be able to locate a trial of this technique at a site near you.)

#### The Future For IBT's

It will soon be known whether or not therapeutic vaccines might help slow progression to AIDS and help antivirals do their job. There is also reason to hope that a preventative vaccine can be created.

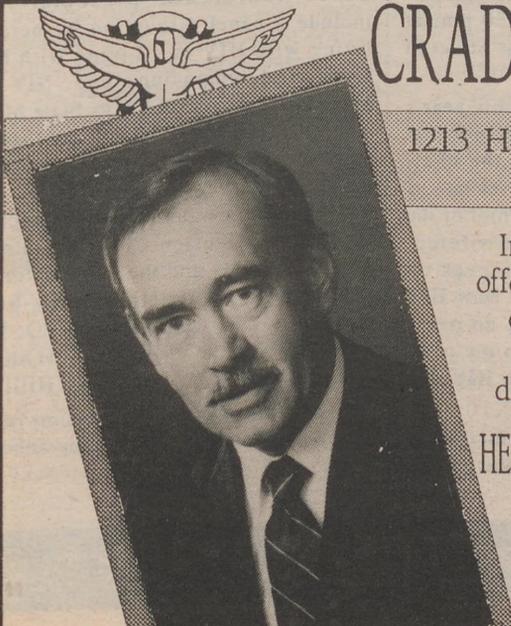
There are other efforts underway to rebuild the immune system. They include the famous transplant of a baboon's immune system into a human, efforts at gene therapy, and a fascinating new method of treating T cells that might make them very difficult to infect. Unfortunately, these therapies have not been studied sufficiently to say much about their potential usefulness.

For those people with immune systems that have been damaged so severely that stopping the virus will not be enough to stop opportunistic infections, scientists are optimistic about the possibility of rebuilding the immune system by teaching T cells how to fight illnesses.

IBT's are at an early stage of development, but they have already shown tremendous promise. It took over 10 years to develop effective antivirals. A commensurate effort into the development of IBT's may offer equally important hopes that the immune system can be restored and the virus can be contained.

The Boston AIDS Writers Group consists of Robert Folan and Lou Pesce of ACT UP Boston; David Scondras, Robert Krebs, Derek Libby, and Larry Bresslour from Search For A Cure. The Review Panel consists of Dr. Cal Cohen, Research Director of CRI, New England; Dr. Ken Mayor, Director of The Brown University AIDS Project; Dr. Steven Boswell, Medical Director at The Fenway Community Health Center; Stewart Landers, Senior Consultant at John Snow Inc.; John James, Editor and Publisher of AIDS Treatment News; and Karen Timour, Former Director of Education at Body Positive in New York.

The ideas expressed in this article are those of the Boston AIDS Writers Group and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Review Panel.



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### National Depression Screening Day

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- \* Educational Presentation

If the pleasure has gone out of your life, if you feel sad and empty or if you have trouble sleeping or eating, you may have clinical depression. Other symptoms include: thoughts of suicide or death, fatigue or loss of energy, inability to concentrate, and restlessness or decreased activity. Do you sometimes spend your day feeling at the top of the world and then sink into the depths of despair without any apparent reason?

Depression is a medical illness and effective treatments are available.

Call the Mental Health Association of Houston and Harris County for the location and times nearest you: 713/522-5161

# Bravo! The Territory goes State Wide!

"The Territory" celebrates its upcoming 21st season this fall by broadcasting to PBS stations throughout Texas. THE TERRITORY is the longest running public television showcase of independent short film and video in America. Always cutting edge and breaking new ground, "The Territory" has transformed from a community access format in 1975 to a curated showcase for the best alternative short film and video from around the world.

Ed Hugetz (Co-Producer/Co-Founder, "The Territory") described it best by saying, "When the program was first aired 20 years ago, we opened the program with the map of Texas placed above the title of THE TERRITORY. Our objective was that some day "The Territory" would be available to all PBS stations in Texas. Beginning this year the program will reach all the boundaries of Texas. "The Territory" refers to the frontier, and breaking new ground. As we enter this, our 21st season, once again we push the limit for the best alternative short film and video from around the world."

This upcoming season will premiere in October and will feature eight diverse sixty minute programs. Each program has its own theme featuring on camera

commentary by media critics, scholars and artists.

"The Territory" is a co-production between the Southwest Alternate Media Project, Austin Museum of Art, and Houston Public Television/KUHT-TV in cooperation with the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.

This season kicks-off with "Animation," a program by three award-winning animators: Suzan Pitt (Joy Street '95), Wendy Tilby (Strings '91) and Maureen Selwood (Flying Circus '94). Their varied and luscious animation brim with rich emotional life and illustrate their expertise in storytelling. Each piece is portrayed by beautiful imagery augmented by a haunting musical score and sound effects.

Future coming programs include, "Coming of Age," "Evolving Images," "Love Stories," "Digital Animation," "Video Pioneers," "Multicultural Collages" and "Video Essay."

The 21st season is full of new ideas, innovative productions and sterling commentary by its film and video guest.

Join us in welcoming this pioneering Series for its 21st season. For additional details on programing contact Liz Empleton Jenkins 713-522-8592.



**GALAXY GAYZER**  
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## HOROSCOPE FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 4 - 10, 1996



**IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY:** You don't like to be taken unaware by emotions, so be prepared. There is much about you that is never revealed, and you prefer it this way, your privacy is extremely important. Others may see you as being too picky. Welcome change in your life.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 20) Anything that you have previously started needs to be pushed to the next level now, so get on with it. Your personal life takes precedence this week, so don't hesitate to resolving any troubling situations. Keep your energies focused, your goal is at hand.

**TAURUS** (April 21 - May 21) You have a very sensible and practical philosophy on life, as long as you can avoid getting into a rut. Take a few chances. With just a little extra effort, you can charm most of the people around you to your way of thinking, so put on a big smile.

**GEMINI** (May 22 - June 21) Support for your ambitions will come from both your family and your friends. Money matters in general are not looking real bright lately, take the time to re-evaluate just where you spend your money. You are very flexible in your thinking, which will open up doors.

**CANCER** (June 22 - July 23) Your feelings towards those you love are deep, but you don't always agree with their ideas and actions. Having the tendency to go to extremes will cause some friction at home - let moderation be the key to keeping everyone and everything on an even keel.

**LEO** (July 24- August 23) It's time to let go of some of your past problems, which will bring a soothing influence on your present thinking. It may be best to modify your behavior in the workplace before problems arise. Having such a strong ego will get you in trouble over and over again.

**VIRGO** (August 24 - September 23) There may be conflict with someone you love, but it can be avoided if you listen before you speak. While you are practical by nature, you would never know it this week, since you seem to be spending money everywhere you go. Some quiet time will be good for you.

**LIBRA** (September 24 - October 23) Balance is really what works for you, so exercise moderation when dealing with your relatives and family members. Make your time count, especially when dealing with children. You seem to be taking a whole new look at yourself - rebuild your image in a positive way.

**SCORPIO** (October 24 - November 22) A smile will go a long way, so try to be tolerant of others, even if you strongly disagree with them. There are new doors of opportunity being thrown open for you, so be aware before the chance passes you by. Try to keep a low profile and you will be surprised at what gets accomplished.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23 - December 21) Make changes now in your financial picture, and money matters will start to look better almost immediately. Try to go against your most extravagant nature and steer towards conservative thinking instead. There is a positive exchange of energy in a partnership.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 - January 20) Your partner or members of the family may be impatient, so you should be at your best to deal with them correctly. Clear up any misunderstandings as soon as possible. You seem to have plenty of mental energy this week, use it to your advantage in the workplace.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21 - February 19) Avoid any impulsive spending, or it will put you more in the hole than you can imagine. But do follow your hunches in money matters, especially those in which you do not have much experience. Be candid in your communications and it will smooth out any snags.

**PISCES** (February 20 - March 20) You are in tune with the feelings of someone you love, making it easy to do just the right thing - how nice. If you are feeling a bit depressed and out of sorts, don't sit around and mope, start making new friends instead. The truth is hard to get at this week.

## Another way to reach us!

You can now send your letters, news leads, and other correspondence to the HOUSTON VOICE by e-mail.

Address to: HouVoice@aol.com.

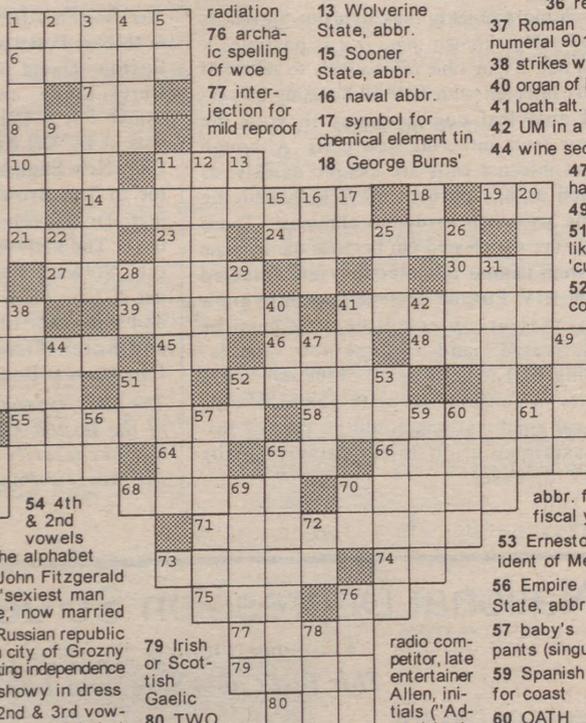
## The Great American Puzzle

### TEXAS EDITION

By Henry McClurg

#### ACROSS

- 1 broods
- 6 celebrity, fame
- 7 Land of Opportunity state, abbr.
- 8 poem describing peaceful country life
- 10 hack
- 11 ??? Il Sung, N. Korea's dead 'Great Leader,' & ??? Jong Il, their 'Dear Leader'



#### DOWN

- 19 not down
- 21 no
- 23 President after Kennedy, initials
- 24 state of Tara Dawn Holland, elected Miss America in 1996
- 27 institution for the insane
- 30 unmatched
- 32 Russian czarist cavalryman
- 39 concise
- 41 Dorothy, starred with Bob & Bing 'On the Road'
- 43 world's tallest, 114 feet, is in Littlefield, Texas
- 45 noun suffix for character or condition
- 46 monetary unit of Macao
- 48 remove the peg
- 50 inexperienced person
- 51 in football, abbr. for the quarterback
- 52 U.S. ambassador to Japan, former U.S. Vice President Walter Mondale

- 54 4th & 2nd vowels of the alphabet
- 55 John Fitzgerald Jr., 'sexiest man alive,' now married
- 58 Russian republic with city of Grozny seeking independence
- 62 showy in dress
- 64 2nd & 3rd vowels of the alphabet
- 65 the other Everly brother from Don, initials
- 66 marked with dots
- 67 noun suffix for quality
- 68 Japanese city
- 70 authorizations to enter a foreign country
- 71 battlefield near Brownsville where 1st shots of the Mexican War were fired, 2 words
- 73 Evita 'Don't Cry for Me Argentina'
- 74 Pelican State, abbr.
- 75 short for

- 79 Irish or Scottish Gaelic
- 80 TWO in a mirror

- radiation
- 76 archaic spelling of woe
- 77 interjection for mild reproof
- 13 Wolverine State, abbr.
- 15 Sooner State, abbr.
- 16 naval abbr.
- 17 symbol for chemical element tin
- 18 George Burns'

- 1 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ended this war
- 2 17th century English military, political & religious leader Cromwell, initials ("He who stops being better stops being good.")
- 3 Bob Wills' band
- 4 British nobleman
- 5 abbr. for saint
- 9 short for district attorney
- 11 popular name for Africanized honeybees now invading Texas
- 12 bodily harm
- 20 longest barrier island on Texas coast
- 22 group for alcoholics, abbr.
- 25 ocean
- 26 before long
- 28 official abbr. for Canada's Yukon area
- 29 Magnolia State, abbr.
- 31 heirs of the Dupont fortune
- 33 19th century Irish wit Wilde, initials ("To get into the best society nowadays, one has either to feed people,

- amuse people, or shock people.")
- 34 evil
- 35 small netlike cap for women
- 36 refer

- 37 Roman numeral 901
- 38 strikes with feet
- 40 organ of hearing
- 41 loath alt. spelling
- 42 UM in a mirror
- 44 wine sediment

- 47 bad habit
- 49 happy
- 51 sounds like 'cue in'
- 52 in accounting,

- abbr. for fiscal year
- 53 Ernesto, president of Mexico
- 56 Empire State, abbr.
- 57 baby's pants (singular)
- 59 Spanish for coast
- 60 OATH in a mirror
- 61 you
- 63 adjective suffix for 'characterized by'
- 65 largest state park in Texas, 15,104 acres
- 69 Japanese self-defense art
- 70 Old Dominion State, abbr.
- 72 over
- 76 sharpen
- 78 direction Austin to Laredo, abbr.

Solution elsewhere this issue  
c.1996 GULF FEATURES, PUZZLE TX199

## AIDS Researcher to Keynote Hospital District Conference

"New Treatments and New Hope" are the focus of the District's 5th Annual HIV Conference. Noted HIV researcher, Dr. Joseph Eron, will serve as the keynote speaker for the Harris County Hospital District's 5th Annual Confere on HIV/AIDS Impact on Health Care, on Friday, Oct. 11, 1996, from 8 am-4:30 pm, at Brady's Landing, 8505 Cypress Street in Houston.

Eron's address will highlight this year's conference theme of "New Treatments and New Hope," in meeting the challenges of HIV as the disease moves into its third decade. Eron, Division Chief of the University of North Carolina's Infectious Disease Division, will speak on "Conflict's and Challenges of New HIV Therapies" and will provide an overview of emerging therapies in the management of persons living with HIV disease.

Dr. Eron serves as principal investigator for Glaxo-Wellcome and has partic-

ipated in numerous clinical studies dealing with HIV drug resistance and disease development, safety and efficacy of combination therapy, and clinical management of persons living with HIV.

Other conference presentations include a panel discussion by persons living with HIV on "Living with New Hope, and symposiums on: "HIV and Managed Care" with Texas State Medicaid Director, Linda Wertz; and "Health Care Providers: Activism and Advocacy," by Barbara Aranda-Naranjo RN. The conference luncheon will include remarks by Houston City Councilman, Jew Don Boney and the presentation the Second Annual Bradley-Scott Awards to District President/CEO, Lois J. Moore and the District's Government Relations Director, R. King Hillier.

For more information regarding registration and cost contact Yvonne Toney at 713-636-5160.



# GLAAD

Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation

## Lesbian Trade-Off In The First Wives Club

The new Paramount studio release *The First Wives Club*, starring Goldie Hawn, Bette Midler and Diane Keaton, has undergone a sexuality switcheroo from the Olivia Goldsmith novel upon which it was based. The film does, however, wind up being both woman-positive and lesbian-sensitive. In the book, Bette Midler's character, Brenda, comes out as a lesbian, which has disappeared from the Hollywood hit. In the movie version Chris (Jennifer Dundas), the daughter of Annie (Keaton) is a Lesbian. When Chris encourages her mother to look past her rose-colored glasses and acknowledge her husband's infidelity, Chris comes out to her mother. Annie quickly assimilates the information and moves on without being thrown. At one point in the movie, Annie, Elise (Hawn) and Brenda look for Chris at a lesbian bar. While Annie looks for Chris, Elise dances away with other women, including lesbian comedian Lea DeLaria. Brenda sits down at the bar and meets a Lesbian who, like her, had her partner leave her for a younger lover, and the two commiserate over common ground.

The upside of the lesbian character-swap is that the newly released edition of Goldsmith's novel features a promotional picture from the movie on its cover and will now bring a major lesbian protagonist to many reading audiences who otherwise might not choose to buy a book with such a gay-positive emphasis. The downside, of course, is that while the Chris character is a strong one, she doesn't have the same star-quality as she would if she were a principle character like Brenda.

Please inform Paramount that while the recognition of Lesbians as a part of the women's community and the fabric of life in general is valuable, the movie celebrates a lesbian character even as it marginalizes her. Ask them why the lesbian role got downgraded from principle-character to a second-tier part, but thank them for the positive portrayal. Contact: Sherry Lansing, CEO, Paramount Pictures, 5555 Melrose Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90038, phone: 213.956.500, e-mail: clayton-carlisle@paramount.com.

## A Very Gay People

The Sept. 30th *People* has three affirming pieces about Gay men. In addition to naming *The Death of Friends*, the new mystery by gay author Michael Nava, "Page-Turner of the Week," there are stories about Ty Ross, the openly gay HIV-positive grandson of Barry Goldwater, and about a Gay male couple who refurbished a dilapidated South Carolina mansion into their dream house.

The Ty Ross story explains how he was instrumental to his famous conservative grandfather's support of Lesbians and Gay men in the military. It also details Ross' coming out at 15 to his supportive mother. The story carried a photo of Ross with his lover, ending with Ross quoting his grandfather, saying, "The day is going to come when whether a person is Gay or not isn't going to matter."

In "This Old M&L Bldg., Rockefeller Center, New York, NY 10020, fax: 212-552-0794, e-mail: editor@people.com.

## For Many Gay Couples, It's Doma-Schmoma

An excellent Los Angeles Times article from Sept. 22 entitled "No Wedding Bell Blues for Gay Couples" tells how many Lesbians and Gay men are creating strong unions, planning families and building homes together regardless of

# lines

the recent passage of the anti-gay Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA). Focusing on several lesbian and gay couples from Oklahoma City, author Melissa Healy notes that "the Senate's rhetoric, the subsequent votes and Clinton's signature are strangely irrelevant. ... In places such as Oklahoma City, gay and lesbian couples took the news with a measure of both resignation and equanimity.

...(DOMA) is but a temporary setback in the gradual assimilation of same-sex couples into mainstream culture. Judging from the experiences of same-sex partners here in America's heartland, that process is proceeding with or without the nation's political consent." Helen and Tina Stiemiller are budgeting new plumbing bills into the month's expenses as they discuss the possibility of having children. Don Hanks and Jack Wozniak have been together for 13 years.

Still, the story notes, while DOMA has no effect on their relationship, it does affect their attitude. "I forget that it's an issue with people," Wozniak says in the article, "that there are people who hate me or are frightened by me. When something like this happens, I'm looking at it all over again for the first time. We should be able to use the same terms that everybody else uses."

Amid all of the theorizing, political posturing and fire-and-brimstone Bible thumping of the recent debate, much of the mainstream media overlooked the very real people who live in committed, loving same-sex relationships, and Healy's article serves as a reminder that who wins the individual battles isn't as important as who wins the war. And for Lesbians and Gay men, time, social progress and justice are on our side.

Thank the Los Angeles Times for a strong story about the humans who, while singled out by the political process for discrimination, are hardly single. Contact: Shelby Coffey, editor in chief, Los Angeles Times, Times Mirror Square, Los Angeles, CA 90053, fax: 213.237.4712, e-mail: letters@latimes.com.

## Abby Is Pro-Choice

The Sept. 26 "Dear Abby" included a letter from a 40-year-old gay man in Bellevue, Washington, who asked Abby, "What is a 'gay lifestyle'?" He continues, "Once a friend told me what he thought was a gay lifestyle, but by the sound of it, he was describing a single's lifestyle, gay or straight. Is that what some people mean, that is, a gay lifestyle is synonymous with a single lifestyle?" Abby answers by referring the man to the Eric Marcus book *Is It A Choice?*. The book concludes that "There is no such thing as a 'gay lifestyle,' just as there is no such thing as a heterosexual lifestyle. Gay and lesbian people, like heterosexual people, live in a variety of ways, from poor to middle-class to nouveau riche, from urban to rural."

Thank Abby once again for her clarity about lesbian and gay issues. Contact: Dear Abby, Universal Press Syndicate, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, California 90069.

Contact GLAAD by e-mail at [glaad@glaad.org](mailto:glaad@glaad.org) or by phone at 213.658.6775 (Los Angeles), 212.807.1700 (New York), 413.586.8928 (Northampton), 503.224.5285 (Portland, Oregon), 202.986.1360 (Washington, DC) or 415.861.2244 (San Francisco). Report defamation in the media by calling GLAAD's Toll-Free AlertLine! 1-800-GAY-MEDIA (1-800-429-6334)



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Montrose Inn: Walk to the gay bars. Or take a \$3 cab.

Motel: Drive back from the gay bars and risk the cops making you walk the straight line. Or take a \$15 cab.  
Montrose Inn: Walk back from the gay bars. Or take a \$3 cab.

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Montrose Inn: Pay \$41 to \$79 a night for a room.

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

Motel: Washing machine? Ironing board? Hair dryer? Refrigerator? Stove? Microwave? VCR & gay movies? Are you kidding?  
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Motel: Full size bed, everything else is plastic.  
Montrose Inn: Queen size bed, hardwood floors, hardly any plastic.

Motel: Maid knocking 8 a.m., you moan but she's coming in anyway. Checkout 11 a.m.  
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**This & That...**

by Jon Anthony

International superstars **Jennifer Saunders** and **Joanna Lumley** of the hit BBC comedy *Absolutely Fabulous* will guest star on this year's Halloween episode of ABC's *Roseanne*. **Marlo Thomas** will also appear in the upcoming episode. Series creator and star **Roseanne** has indicated this will be the show's last season. For years a Tuesday night staple for the network, *Roseanne* has regularly been lost out in the ratings by NBC's *Mad About You* this season... Warner Bros. has purchased the rights to **Michael J. Norton's** screenplay *Boyfriends* for an undisclosed sum. Billed as a gay *Animal House*, the coming of age comedy takes place at a small, conservative university where a group of students try to come to terms with their sexuality by forming a gay fraternity, an offshoot of Delta Lambda Phi, a real-life national gay fraternity. According to producer **Al Duncan**, this will be the first major studio film about Gays that does not delve into stereotypes. No word yet as to a release date...

**RuPaul's** new dance CD, *Foxy Lady* hits stores later this month. The world's most famous drag queen does a cover version of **Diana Ross' Work That Body** on the album that promises to fill dance floors at nightclubs everywhere. A review is forthcoming...



**Laura Dern, Mary Kay Place, Swoosie Kurtz, Kelly Preston** and **Burt Reynolds** all star in Miramax's *Citizen Ruth* slated for theatrical release in December. The film promises to be controversial as it is a comic tour de force about abortion foes and supporters... **K.T. Oslin's** new album, *My Roots Are Showing*, brings the 55 year old country diva back into the mainstream. Oslin bares all on the cover of the album shot by Rolling Stone photographer **Mark Seliger**. *Roots*, released this week, is Oslin's first studio album in five years... **Ben Stiller** and **Janeane Garofalo** offer their perspectives on dating, mating and love in an upcoming book published by Ballantine. The couple's last collaborative effort was in the feature film *Reality*

*Bites...* **Curtis Mayfield** releases his first album since his tragic accident six years ago that left him a quadriplegic. On August 30, 1990, a lighting tower was blown down on him during preparations for a concert in a Brooklyn park, which permanently injured his spine. As a result, the prolific singer-songwriter is unable to use his arms and legs. Despite his paralysis, Mayfield recorded *New World Order* in a reclining position in order to maintain enough breath to sing. Order hits outlets this week... **Robert Wilson**, a famed artist, designer, director and author, is this year's lucky recipient of the Dorothy and Lillian Gish Prize. Wilson, renowned for such projects as the docu-drama film *The Life and Times of Joseph Stalin* and the opera *Einstein on the Beach*, will receive the \$200,000 endowment in New York on October 17... **Tiny Tim** is in a Massachusetts hospital in serious but stable condition. Tim, 66, suffered a heart attack during a concert last Saturday... The mystery buyer who purchased **Paul McCartney's** recording notes for the Beatles' classic *Hey Jude* at a London auction earlier this month is none other than fellow Beatle **John Lennon's** son **Julian**, who cited "personal reasons" for the purchase. Meanwhile, the Beatles *Anthology 3* album, the last of the trilogy, hits stores Oct. 28, just in time for holiday gift giving... **McCartney** produced a nine minute film on the **Grateful Dead** which he premiered at the New York Film Festival last weekend. No word on when it will be made available to the public... **Lily Tomlin** has signed a deal with ABC to produce six more *Edith Ann* prime-time specials. Tomlin, who is garnering raves for her performance as **Candace Bergen's** nemesis on CBS' *Murphy Brown*, has been meeting with the network brass to discuss ideas for her own show sans *Murphy*... The just released soundtrack to the upcoming movie *Set It Off* starring **Queen Latifah** and **Jada Pinkett** is already climbing the charts thanks to new ditties by **En Vogue (Don't Let Go (Love))** and **Brandy, Tamia, Gladys Knight and Chaka Kahn (Missing You)**. Off hits



theaters this November... **Mandy Patinkin, Dawn Upshaw, Tony Award winners Donna Murphy and Audra McDonald, Judy Blazer and Richard Muenz** are some of the highly acclaimed performers on the new CD *Leonard Bernstein's New York (Nonesuch)*. The album features fresh interpretations of many of Bernstein's most popular songs. A delightful recording... Speaking of legends, Grammy nominated pianist and composer **Fred Hersch** has just released an album of **Rodgers & Hammerstein** music that is inspiring and expressive. A must for pianist fans... *Big*, the musical, closes shop on Broadway October 13. Based on the hit film starring **Tom Hanks**, the musical has the dubious distinction of being the biggest financial flop in New York theater history. The show, which has lost its \$10.3 million investment, lasted less than six months... The highly anticipated *Evita* soundtrack featuring **Madonna** hits stores Nov. 12. *You Must Love Me*, the first collaboration by **Tim Rice** and **Andrew Lloyd Webber** in more than a decade, will be the album's first single which is due out next month. Meanwhile, *Evita* hits theaters Dec. 25... It's official: **John Travolta** will portray the President in the film adaptation of *Primary Colors*, written by the formerly Anonymous **Joe Klein**... **Frederick Forsyth**, latest tome, *Icon* (Bantam) about political conspiracies in Moscow hits bookstores this week. Forsyth, author of the mega-selling *Day of the Jackal* and others, informs that this will be his last book, lamenting that he wants to retire while he is at the "top of his game." A remake of the film version of *Jackal* is currently in production... *Initials B.B.* is the title of **Brigitte Bardot's** scintillating memoirs that was released last week. In the book, the former sex symbol and actress laments on her one surviving passion - animal rights. Bardot, 62, has starred in 46 films, the last of which was in 1973, suffered broken marriages, an unwanted son and unsuccessful suicide attempts during her illustrious career. She has been a recluse in Saint Tropez on the French Riviera for many years... **McDonald's** has hired **Debbie Allen** to create the next dance craze in the country. In what can only be construed as one of the most clever marketing campaigns in recent years, the world's leading restaurant organization has released *The Deluxe*, a new dance that spawns

from the Macarena dance craze, choreographed by former Houstonian **Debbie Allen**. A single of the



song has been shipped to radio stations and dance clubs throughout the U.S. **McDonald's** will be simultaneously releasing their new line of *Deluxe* sandwiches... **Making the Rounds: Cloris Leachman** guests on CBS' *Promise Land* Oct. 8 at 7pm. **Ellen DeGeneres** visits the *Tonight Show* on NBC Oct. 8 at 10:35pm. **Faye Dunaway** talks about her new film *"The Chamber"* on CBS' *This Morning* Oct. 9 at 8am. **Demi Moore, Sissy Spacek** and **Cher** discuss their HBO film *If These Walls Could Talk* on Oprah Oct. 11 at 4pm on CBS affiliate Channel 11... **Top of the Charts: The First Wives Club** was number one at the box-office for the second week in a row raking in \$15 million. *Wives* has amassed \$41 million to date. *Extreme Measures* was second with a dismal \$6 million weekend tally, according to Exhibitor Relations Inc. *Seinfeld* was the highest rated show of the week according to the Nielsens. *Macarena* is still the hottest selling song in the country. **Celine Dion's** album *Falling Into You* finally makes it to #1 months after its release on the album chart, according to *Billboard Magazine*. **Ty Herndon's Living in a Moment** tops the country charts. **Oprah Winfrey's** new book co-authored by fitness guru **Bob Greene, Make the Connection**, is by far the best-selling book of the week, according to the *New York Times* best-sellers list... **Quote of the Week: "I'm a cipher, wrapped in an enigma, smothered in secret sauce."** - **Jimmy James (Stephen Root)** informing resident reporter **Lisa (Maura Tierney)** she'll never uncover his prior indiscretions on NBC's *NewsRadio*

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## Redemption or Rip-off

Spectrum '96

By DEBORAH BELL

Houston, Texas—In case you are curious, Spectrum '96 the Business & Art Expo scheduled for Oct. 5 and 6 is on target according to a release from Town Meeting, Inc. This year gives the group a chance for redemption from the events of last year or will be viewed as a rip-off of the community. Little publicity of this year's event has occurred due to the debts the group owes to all the community publications and the reputation made from the activities of the group's director, B. Alan Bourgeois. The only publicity has been two billboards and an ad in a small "community paper" called *Good News*. No individual names are associated with the publication, although the publisher is Monticello Entertainment.

Spectrum '96 will be at the George R. Brown Convention Center. For this year's event the Directors of Town Meeting Inc. report that they have created a circular design of the booth floor plan, giving exhibitors opportunity to attract clients to their booth and business. One of the most notable exhibitors at Spectrum '96 will be West Point Auto dealership featuring numerous vehicles from several vehicle lines.

After a disastrous first attempt, many doubted that a second Spectrum event would actually happen. Due to many problems that were perceived to be due to mismanagement by Bourgeois several business and individuals agreed to be involved only if Bourgeois was not associated with the event. Bourgeois even spent time in jail due to a bad check that was given as payment to an entertainer. \$13,000 of debt remains from Spectrum '95. Promissory notes have been sent to all those to whom the group owes over \$1,000 with a three to five year payment plan attached to each.

The group also held a "Concert of the Stars" event that featured RuPaul in May of 1996. Bourgeois again found himself inmeshed with difficulties when RuPaul failed to show at a \$100 per plate brunch fundraiser at La Strada.

Tickets had been sold on the basis of the star's attendance at the event, however RuPaul maintains that he never agreed to attend and was never contracted to do so.

Bourgeois blames the media and lack of community support for his woes. He claims articles appearing in The Houston Voice were negative towards him. Interviewed by then Editor Sheri Cohen Darbonne and Jon Anthony, Bourgeois was quoted verbatim. Monticello Entertainment is Bourgeois' company by the way.

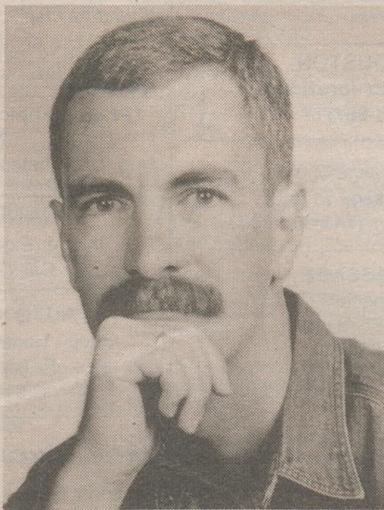
The acting board of Town Meeting Inc. met on August 26 to elect new board members. At that meeting, attended only by four people, the interim board reluctantly became the elected board. Alan Bourgeois was named as Vice President/Director. The Director position is the only position designated as paid staff. Other officers are Charles Mc-

Kenzie, Secretary/Treasurer; Harold Myrick, open board seat; and D.J. Jecker, at-large board member.

A press conference is scheduled for 9:30am on Saturday to kick off the event. Guest speakers are State Representative Debra Danberg and Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee. Founder and Director, Alan Bourgeois is also scheduled to speak to introduce two new programs, one directed to consumers and one

directed to businesses.

Spectrum '95 was a bad investment for some, and payment is still owed to many people. The business expo that took place was viewed as successful by those who participated. When asked why they would support the event this year they all indicated that they felt it was good PR for them within the community. Entertainers, vendors and others lost out last year. This year the loss could be for those businesses who are taking their chances to be part of the Business Expo if the event doesn't draw the attendance required. When asked what it meant if the event loses money this year and is unable to pay its debts, Bourgeois responded by saying that "there are no guarantees, but the only way that will happen (not to pay the debts) is if Town Meeting Inc. dissolves as an organization or if he declares personal bankruptcy."



B. Alan Bourgeois

## 3rd Annual Bedtime Story Contest

Houston—To promote literacy and education, Half Price Books is sponsoring its Third Annual Bedtime Story Contest for amateur creative writers of all ages. Entry forms and official rules are available at Half Price Books locations beginning Oct. 1. Deadline for entry is Dec. 31, 1996.

To celebrate Half Price Books 25th Anniversary, 25 national finalist will be named. The finalist will have their bedtime stories published in a children's book, and will receive books and gift certificates from Half Price Books. The proceeds from the sale of these books will benefit literacy and education projects. Stories should be no longer than 300 words

and previously unpublished. They must be typed and include the author's name, address, and phone number.

"We are committed to improving literacy and education throughout the country," said Kathy Doyle Thomas, Vice President of Marketing. "The response to last year's contest was tremendous, and we are looking forward to more wonderful, creative stories this year."

Half Price Books is the nation's largest new and used bookstore chain with 53 stores in eight states, including 11920 Westheimer, 2410 Waugh, 2537 University Blvd. in Rice Village, 1811 Egret Bay Blvd. in Clear Lake, and 3203 Hwy 6 South in Sugar Land, open seven days a week

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15 rooms and suites with AC/ceiling fans, TV/VCR, telephone, pool, giant jacuzzi, two bars, restaurant, clothing optional, huge terraces, two minutes to gay bars and beach. Call Bob or Dave for color brochure, dial direct 011-52-74-87-08-43 or FAX 011-52-74-87-12-82.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Westheimer Street Festival booth space available in MARY'S parking lot. Call Mon.-Fri., 9am - 3pm. 527-9669.

### GREY PARTY 14

If you have moved or want more information please write to: P.O. Box 130773, Houston, TX 77219 or E-Mail Grey Party@AOL.com

## COUNSELING/PSYCHOTHERAPY

**Deborah L. McLeod, M.A., L.P.C.**  
Individual, Group, Family and Relationship Psychotherapy. (713) 621-8855.

**Linda J. Harris, M.Ed., L.P.C.**  
Individual, Group, Family and Relationship Psychotherapy. (713) 529-7440.

## FOR RENT

**SHARON PARK VILLAGE** - Galleria area - Offering 1 & 2 bedroom apartments with 8 sparkling pools, fitness center and on-site store and dry cleaners. A gated community set in lush courtyards will complement your lifestyle. No application fee with this ad. Prices start at \$395. 1 Free Month with 12 month lease. Call 667-5620 or stop by 5600 Chimney Rock, just south of 59. Open 9-6 daily.

**GAY MONTROSE** - Large, upscale 2/2 with new high efficiency appliances, central a/c, w/d and icemaker. Small pet OK. Covered parking. Immediate move-in. \$850 per month. 521-3624

**RIVER OAKS/MONTROSE** - Spacious 2 br. Updated new kitchen and appliances with icemaker. Small pet ok. Small complex with pool. \$575 month. NOW AVAILABLE. 521-3624

House in Heights - 2 -1, den. 863-9906 or 536-5441 (pager). Peggy.

**WESTBURY GARDENS:**  
2 bedroom townhouse condo, \$600.00.  
1 poolside efficiency, \$325.00.  
Call 729-9316. Agent.

1 bdrm. condo - San Felipe @ Post Oak.  
\$600/mo A.B.P. 528-1197.

## FOR SALE

**Timbergrove Townhome** - totally updated, 2BR, 2 1/2 bath, low maintenance. A STEAL at \$83,500. 787 Worthshire. Call Roye Shackelford, Prudential Premier Properties, 686-5454.

## HELP WANTED

**HOUSTON VOICE HELP WANTED:**  
Advertising professional with proven record of success wanted to carve new territory in Greater Houston Market for weekly gay publication. Commission basis. Must be aggressive and have a positive attitude. Call Deborah Bell at 529-8490.

### ALSO:

We are hiring for a part-time help in Tuesday and Wednesdays. Will do paste-up, overflow typing, proofing, layout and other help as needed. \$10/hour. Experience preferred. Please call Deborah Bell at (713) 529-8490 to set up an appointment.

Part Time Childcare referral specialist. 20 Hours a wk. Bilingual; Computer skills. Fax Resume 522-2674. Or mail resume to PWAC 3400 Montrose #106 Houston, TX 77006.

Desperately seeking doorman for Houston's #1 location Leather, Levi dance club. Call 523-0213, 10am to 2pm, Mon. - Fri.

Video store clerk wanted. Will train. Good chance for advancement. Salary + commission. Must be at least 21 yrs. old. 447-9513.

**HOUSTON'S #1 LEVI-LEATHER CRUISE BAR - THE MONTROSE MINING COMPANY** - is accepting applications for honest, hardworking team players to work as bartenders, barbacks and doorstaff. Apply Mondays 12-2 p.m. with a recent photo. No phone calls. **MONTROSE MINING COMPANY, 805 Pacific, Houston**

Here's your chance! **CHANCES** is looking for bartenders, barback & waitstaff. Call 523-7217 after 2pm. Ask for Marlene.

The **CLUB HOUSTON** now accepting applications for all positions. Apply in person, Mon. - Thurs., 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. 2205 Fannin

**GENTRY** is accepting applications for door, barbacks and bartenders. Please apply in person at 2303 Richmond Ave. from 2 pm to 6 pm. A recent photo is required. No telephone calls please.

Seeking energetic, honest, dependable, and hard working individuals who want the opportunity to grow with a service oriented company. Positions available include floor/desk staff. Apply in person only. No phone calls. **MIDTOWNE SPA, 3100 Fannin.**

The **BRB** is accepting applications for all positions. Apply between 9am - 4pm at 2400 Brazos. Photo required. No phone calls.

## INSURANCE

**DALE ENGLEFIELD**  
AGENT

**Farmers Insurance Group of Companies**  
Workers Comp  
Homeowners  
Automobiles  
Restaurant  
Computers  
Mortgage  
Business  
Disability  
Renters  
Flood  
Life  
Charter Member Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce  
In Houston: (713) 439-1700  
Statewide: 1-888-439-1700

## LICENSED MASSAGE

**THOM OF HOUSTON**  
Central Montrose location  
(#4251) 523-6577

One - 1 Hour Massage \$50.00.  
Four - 1 Hour massage \$125.00.  
Bill O'Rourke(MT0431) (713)864-2233.

### SERIOUS MASSAGE

Package Specials  
529-8808. 603-5568 (pgr).  
Louis-MT #010270

## MEN'S RESOURCES

### PENIS-NIPPLE ENLARGEMENT

Professional vacuum pumps with instructions. Gain 1" to 3". Permanent, safe. Enhance erection. Free brochures. Dr. Joel Kaplan (312) 409-5557. Latest surgical/non-surgical enlargement information: 1-900-976-PUMP (\$2.95/min)

## MORTGAGE/FINANCING

**DEVINE MORTGAGE CAPITAL**  
Mortgage Financing/Refinancing  
(713) 916-2906

## PERSONALS

### WANTED

Weekday companion: Masculine white male, 20-45, HIV-, cut, not overweight. Play dominoes, cards, etc.: FREE. Warm bath, shampoo, shave: FREE. Oster swedish massage vibrator machine, full body: FREE. Revealing Polaroid photos of you: FREE. I am masculine, white male senior, 5'11", 161 lbs, HIV-, brown hair, brown eyes, fair white skin, uncut. Located near Westheimer/Dairy Ashford. Call Mark (713) 493-4803. 10 am - 2 pm.

### VERSATILE REALITY™

Match, Browse, Chat. Houston's Hottest Guys on Club VoiceMail™. Try it FREE! Use code 7124. Call 713/850-7900.

**MEET GAY/BI MEN & WOMEN**  
Post/ Listen to personals FREE on the Confidential Connection®!  
Use Code 7122. 713/ 892-5757

## PETS

### HOUSTON AREA FERRET ASSOCIATION

An organization devoted to ferrets and the people who love them.  
Margaret 364-8822.

### ROTWEILLER RESCUE

has Rotts for adoption. Foster parents also urgently needed. You can make a difference! Call Mary (713) 641-1040.

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

### STUDIO 911 - HAIR

If your hair isn't beaming to you, then you should be coming to me...Don Gill. By app't. only. (713) 521-0911 - 77006.

**Photographic Art by Steven David**  
787-0625

<http://www.netcom.com/~d.cards/art.html>

### HANDY PEOPLE

Interior/Exterior Paint & Repair  
Call (713) 880-3282

### AUTO REPAIR BY LES

Good - Honest - Dependable Work  
References Available  
814-1850 (pgr)

### The Domestic Connection

A janitorial housekeeping service. Est. 1983. To leave message call Don at (713) 903-0923.

## ROOMMATE WANTED

WANTED: Mature male to share house. Heights area. \$300. 862-3989

## WANTED TO BUY

**FAST CASH**  
Highest Prices Paid  
We buy Antiques, Estates, furniture, collectibles, jewelry, etc. We come to you. 391-7515 or 994-5986 (pgr).

## MODELS AND ESCORTS

**BEST OF BOTH WORLDS**  
**HOT LATIN TRANSSEXUAL**  
Angie (713) 529-6937

**YOUNG BLOND BLUE**  
**EYED TATTOOED DISCRETE**  
Calvin (713) 522-4452

At your door with a romantic kiss or in my dungeon with...!  
Daddy Blade (713)864-2233  
Travel (888)SM-Daddy.

## Teachers Network to Meet

The Houston Chapter of The Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Teacher's Network (GLSTN) will meet Oct. 16th at 7:30pm at the First Unitarian Universalist

Church, 5200 Fannin at Southmore. They start with a business meeting and at 8pm there will be a Gay Youth Panel Presentation.

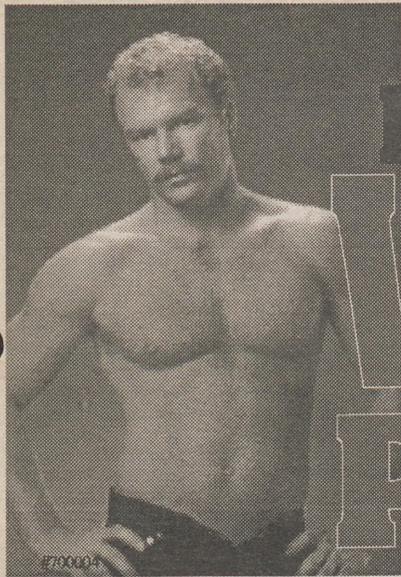
Making schools safe for

everyone—straight and gay—is the goal of GLSTN. All interested persons are invited to attend the meetings.

The wrong contact infor-

mation was inadvertently printed in an earlier issue of the Voice, the correct information is 713/529-4571 or via mail GLSTN-Houston, P.O. Box 541871,

Houston, TX 77264. We apologize for any inconvenience the incorrect number may have caused to the individual with that number or to our readers.



# HOUSTON VOICE PERSONALS



## Women Seeking Women

**SWF 30, 5'3"**, blonde hair, blue eyes. Looking for a female, between 28-40, who is a soft butch. Wanting to date or hang-out. Like going to movies, boating, fishing, etc. I'm drug-free, alcohol-free & a non-smoker. Call Ext. 5215

**SWF 43, non-smoker.** Enjoy cooking, the mall & parks. Looking for love. Should be interesting & White or biracial. Call Ext. 5208

**SWF 5'7"**, 130 lbs., blonde hair, blue eyes, 20. Looking for a beautiful, feminine woman who is preferably the same as me. Wanting to share life, should like going to the beach, the movies & anywhere our hearts desire. I'm very attractive, so you must be also. No jokes or running around. Call Ext. 5207

**SF** Looking for a feminine Black female to have a relationship with. I would like for her to be gay, height/weight proportionate & in her mid-40's. I'm available for a long-term relationship & friendship. Please call. Call Ext. 5197

**SBF 45, 6'.** Looking for companionship & romance. I like sex. I'd like to meet some interesting people. I like music & I live on the west side of town. Looking for a woman, no butch. Call Ext. 5194

**SWF** My hobbies are playing pool, shooting darts, dancing & clubbing. Looking for a female in the age group of 25-40. I'm 190 lbs., 5'11" & a security guard. Call Ext. 5173

**SBF** I'm a 21-year-old, horny, Black female. If you want to know more, call & leave me a message. Call Ext. 5164

**SWF** I'm 5'3", with blonde hair & brown eyes. I'm a professional in the health care field. I enjoy the beach, the woods, the theater, movies & different restaurants. I'm a soft butch. I'd like to meet some new friends. I enjoy the company of a feminine woman. I'm drug-free, alcohol-free & smoke-free. Leave a message. Call Ext. 5119



**SWF 33, 5'3"**, 135 lbs. Looking for a single White female, soft butch or fem to hang out with or date. I like to dancing, theaters & going to antique stores. Call Ext. 5169

**SWF** Late 40's, 160 lbs., 5'8", green eyes, gray & brown hair. Seeking a relationship with a single gay female who is height/weight proportionate. Race is not important for companionship, friendship & possible romance. I'd like to meet a non-smoker. I'm considered soft butch. I'd like to meet a very feminine female. Call Ext. 5162

**SF** If you like to be wined & dined, I'm the one. I'm cute, with a wonderful personality. Check me out. Desiring a sincere, honest & intelligent female. Call Ext. 5161

**SF 44, 5'11"**, 120 lbs. I love animals, gardening, reading & trying new things. I'd like to meet some women, 30-45, in the Houston area, for friendship, hanging out & a possible long-term relationship. No smokers, drugs or heavy drinkers. Call Ext. 5138

**SF** I'm sexy, 21, 5'6" & 152 lbs. I'm bi curious & in search of a sexy, bisexual female of any race. She should be 120-170 lbs, big-breasted & very elegant. Call Ext. 5117

**SWF** I'm 40. I'm looking for someone who is butch & romantic. I'd like to make a friend or more. Call Ext. 5114

**SF** Do you like dumpster diving, junking, camping or biking? I'm gainfully employed & looking for the same. She should be 35-50 & a non-smoker. No drugs, please. Call Ext. 5108

## Men Seeking Men

**SWM 27, 6'3"**, 195 lbs., in very good shape. Looking for a gay White man who is 27 or older, tall & masculine, to have fun with. Call Ext. 5231

**SBM 22, 5'11"**, 143 lbs. In search of a single White male, 18-30, who is pretty masculine, handsome & not into games. Call Ext. 5229

I'm a **married man**, 40's, 5'9", 165 lbs., clean, discreet & HIV-. Looking for sexual buddies who are the same & want to go out & have fun. Call Ext. 5228

**White male**, 38, blonde hair, blue eyes, athletic. I'm wealthy, married & bored. You must be young, hot & a little wild. I'm a healthy, imaginative top. Call Ext. 5227

**SM** I'd like to meet a big, aggressive man who is HIV+ & would like to go at it like rabbits. Call Ext. 5156

**SWM 37**, dark olive complexion, very muscular, husky, 168 lbs. Looking for a guy who is larger than myself, very masculine & enjoys being a top. I would like to talk to you in person, if this fits your description. Call Ext. 5201

**SM 32**, Caucasian, very muscular, husky, smooth build, nice tan, greenish eyes, medium-to-short dark brown hair, nice tits, good-looking arms. Looking for a guy who will be a top man. If you're a daddy that's cool, please call. Looking for a guy who is larger & taller than myself who likes to be aggressive & have a lot of fun. Call Ext. 5190

**SWM 40, 5'11"**, 230 lbs., football player build, professional, HIV+, excellent health. Looking for someone 30-50, for friendship & a possible relationship. Enjoy traveling, the theater, cooking & quiet evenings at home. Prefer a non-smoker, non-drug user who can enjoy life to the fullest. Call Ext. 5223

**SWM 37, 5'8"**, 165 lbs., muscular, smooth build, nice-looking, short dark brown hair, bottom. Would like to meet a man who is my age or older. Should be mature, fun, good-looking, well-built & have body and facial hair. I like tops. Prefer someone over 5'11" & over 190 lbs. If this is you, leave a message. Call Ext. 5123

**SWM 31**, muscular, tan, smooth, 156 lbs. Like to meet a man who is stockier than I am. Not looking for a chubby guy. Would like to meet a top. If I sound attractive, leave a message. Call Ext. 5175

**SM 5'11"**, 190 lbs., goatee, blue eyes, salt 'n pepper hair, hairy body. Like to have fun with friends. Interested in Hispanics. Leave a message. Call Ext. 5219

**SHM 5'7"**, 170 lbs. Looking for Black males, 23-35, who want to have fun. Give me a call. Call Ext. 5218

**SBM** Well-hung. Looking for someone to have a good time with. Call Ext. 5216

**SWM 6'1"**, green eyes, mustache, goatee, 39, tall, smooth body. I'd like to meet White or Hispanic guys. Give me a call. Call Ext. 5221

**#5178** - Would like to get in contact with you. Call my box. Call Ext. 5204

**SWM Gay**, 41, 5'5", green eyes, reddish-blonde hair. Enjoy quiet evenings at home, movies, rock 'n roll music & playing board games on occasion. Looking for a White or Hispanic male to spend some time with. Call Ext. 5220

**SM** I'm 50 years old, straight-acting & straight-talking. I'm looking for a professional, sincere & normal person who is 38-50. If you are this person, straight-acting & straight-talking, please call. Call Ext. 5253

**SM** I'm a cross-dressing transvestite. Looking for other transvestites who enjoy conversations, getting together, being sisters & having girl talk. I enjoy dressing up, going out, having drinks & pajama parties. Looking for a sister or close friend. Call Ext. 5203

**SWM** I'm a very young 43-year-old, sailing skipper looking for a sailing captain. I'm a 6', 220 lb. teddy bear. I'm considered stocky, beefy & a linebacker build. I have red, strawberry-blonde hair, hazel-green eyes, a mustache & a hairy chest. Looking for guys with similar qualities, or those who are attracted to my qualities. Also looking for a gay sailing club & interested in forming one if one is not out there. Call Ext. 5212

**SWM 50, 6'**, 190 lbs., brown eyes, brown hair. I'm HIV+ & a top daddy only. I prefer a single White male who is over 40 & less than 5'10". Must be a non-smoker. No drugs or femmes. Seeking someone who enjoys quiet life, movies, theaters & sci-fi. Call Ext. 5200

**SM 6'2"**, 190 lbs. Looking for football player build type of guys who are under 40. Call me soon. Call Ext. 5196

**Gay male**, 23, 6'1", 172 lbs., dark hair, dark eyes, well-toned, smooth. Looking for bodybuilders to have good times with. I'll call you back. Call Ext. 5195

**SM 46, 6'**, 280 lbs., graying hair. Seeking a gay White, Asian or Hispanic male, 25-50, who is drug & disease-free. He should be slim-to-medium-built, with fuzzy legs. I enjoy friends, music & honesty. I'm compassionate & affectionate. Call Ext. 5192

**SM Asian**. In search of a Married White cop who needs to relieve the stress of work & family life. If you want some mid-day encounters, give me a call. Call Ext. 5189

**SWM 60, 5'8"**, 290 lbs., brown hair, blue eyes. I'm a bottom. Looking for guys in their 20's or 40's. Race is not important. Honesty & sincerity are prime factors. Let's share respect, love & an active physical relationship. I enjoy quiet times at home, dancing, traveling, the beach, dining in, dining out & the company of an affectionate friend. Call Ext. 5187

**SHM 34**, attractive, bottom. Looking for masculine guys for friendship, romance or simple encounters. I like guys who are taller than 5'7". Race is not important. Positive attitude is a plus. I'm discreet & friendly. Please be over the age of 25 & confident of your own needs. Call Ext. 5143

**SWM 34, 6'1"**, 275 lbs., brown hair, brown eyes. I own my own business. I enjoy movies, dining in, dining out & intimacy. I have a lot of love to give. Looking for someone to love & get to know. Possible long-term relationship. Call Ext. 5186

**SWM Attractive**, 38, HIV+, long brown hair, brown eyes, mustache & beard. I'm straight-acting & appearing. I like to enjoy life, concerts, movies, traveling & good friends. I'm retired, healthy & financially secure. Looking for that special friend who is also straight-acting & appearing, with similar interests. Looking for someone who wants to get out & enjoy life. Call Ext. 5178

**SM 6'1"**, 200 lbs., brown hair, brown eyes, Cuban/French. Interested in guys who are versatile & 20-30. Race is not important. Looking for someone to really have a good time with. Sex would be great! Let's get good & nasty. Call Ext. 5177

**SWM** I'm 5'9", 130 lbs. & masculine. Looking for a Black brother who is the same. Someone who is 18-28, self-assured, masculine & not into games. Call Ext. 5094

**SM 35, 5'10"**, 175 lbs., blue-gray eyes, dark brown hair, goatee. Considered very attractive & well-endowed, with an athletic build. Gentleman, I'm only looking for this & the description must be precise. You're handsome, under 35, muscular, with a small waist & 10" or more. Call Ext. 5172

**SM 31**, blonde hair, blue eyes. Looking for a good time. Call me. Call Ext. 5133

**SM** Looking for someone for drinks & walks on the beach. Someone who is single, Black & manly to hang out & have a good time with. Call Ext. 5171

**SWM 5'7"**, 195 lbs., 45, furry, Italian, brown hair, attractive, easygoing, romantic. Enjoy the quiet life, movies, dining, entertaining & being a homebody. Looking for someone to develop a special friendship & long-term relationship with. If you're my ideal guy you'll be 35-40, able to support yourself & enjoy being a bottom. Blonde hair & blue eyes are a huge plus! Give me a call. Call Ext. 5170

**SWM 40** & a lively 270 lbs. I have a goatee & love to disco down. Looking for a dance partner for disco night. No strings attached. Why sit & watch others dance, when you can boogie-down? Call Ext. 5168

**SHM** Looking for a 30-something White or Hispanic male to explore possibilities with. Call Ext. 5166

**SWM 41, 6'**, 190 lbs. Looking for a top daddy who is 40-50, to take care of. Also looking for a top cowboy to ride me all night & then hold me. Must be open-minded, with above-average equipment. Willing to wear collar for the right daddy. Call Ext. 5163

**SHM 32**, thin. Seeking a gay White or Hispanic male who is 32 or older. Seeking a lifemate. Serious replies only. No games. I don't drink or smoke. I need sincerity & stability. Call Ext. 5160

**SBM 27**. Seeking other males who want to have fun. Give me a call. Call Ext. 5159

**SBM 27**. Seeking other Black males. I'd like to meet a top. I enjoy swimming, bowling, reading & having fun. I'd prefer to meet someone 20-30. Call Ext. 5158

**SWM** I'm a chubby nudist in search of other chubby nudists. I'm 38, 5'7" & 228 lbs., with strawberry-blonde hair & blue eyes. Race is not important. Call Ext. 5157

**SWM 5'11"**, 155 lbs., blonde hair, bluish-green eyes. Seeking Hispanic males 18-35. I enjoy going to the beach & hanging out with friends. Call Ext. 5155

**SBM** In search of other masculine Black males who are 19-45. Seeking someone who is well-endowed & masculine. Call Ext. 5154

**SWM** I'm a certified sailing skipper. I lost my captain to the North Carolina waters. Looking for a captain with a crew. I'm also interested in forming a gay sailing club. Call Ext. 5149

**SHM 5'8"**, 175 lbs. I have dimples & a pretty smile. Looking for someone who has a good personality. Looks are not important. Call Ext. 5141

**SM** I'm 27, 5'7", 155 lbs. & from Spain. I have brown hair & brown eyes. I'm looking for friends. I'd like to meet a blonde guy who is under 30. I'd prefer to meet a bottom. Must be straight-acting. Call Ext. 5113

**SWM** Late 30's, cute. Looking to meet an athletic Black guy who knows what he wants. Call me for more information. Call Ext. 5145

**SAM 21, 5'6"**, 135 lbs. I'm very cute. I enjoy movies, dinner & occasionally going to bars. Looking for a gay White male, between 22-28, who is handsome. Call Ext. 5140

**SWM 39**, dark hair, blue eyes, 5'6", 170 lbs., hairy chest. I'm romantic, loyal, sincere & gentle, yet strong. I'm outgoing, with a quiet side. I love music, art & life in general. I'm HIV- & seeking a younger gay male who is Asian, Hispanic or White. Looking for fun & a relationship. Call Ext. 5137

**SBM** I'm 26. Race is not important to me if it is not a problem to you. Give me a call if you are interested. Call Ext. 5087

**SWM 38, 6'2"**, 180 lbs., salt-and-pepper hair, mustache, goatee. I have a smooth body & I'm in good shape. I'm HIV+. Looking for a Hispanic top who is HIV+ & interested in trying to develop a relationship. Call Ext. 5135

**SM** I'm 28, 5'6" & 128 lbs. I have brown hair & brown eyes. I enjoy music, cooking, wine tasting, walking on the beach & quiet nights at home. I'm an accounting professional seeking someone 30-40. A beard & a mustache are a plus. I'm hairless. I have a slight mustache. Call Ext. 5110

**SWM 29, 6'2"**, nice-looking. I have long hair. I enjoy alternative music. In search of a Hispanic male, 18-29 who likes the same things. Call Ext. 5131

**SWM 36, 5'9"**, 148 lbs. Looking for a drug-free, slender, gay White male. He should not be into the bar scene. Call Ext. 5128

**SWM 40**, red hair, blue eyes. I'm a gay transvestite looking for some young transsexuals to have get-togethers with, dressing & undressing. If you need a place to dress or you need clothes & make-up, give me a call. I love to get all dressed up. Looking for a playmate. Call Ext. 5126

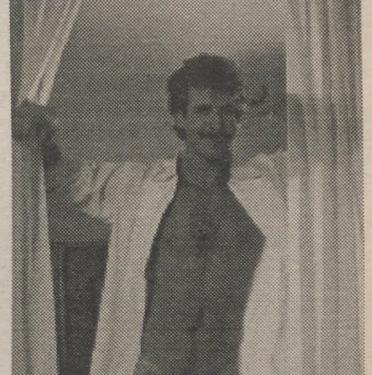
**SBM** I'm a professional. I'm 36, 5'11" & 165 lbs. I'm looking for someone to spend some time with. I enjoy movies, listening to music, cooking & quiet nights at home. Call Ext. 5124

**SM** I'm 5'9" & 160 lbs. I have dark hair & blue eyes. I'm a physical education teacher. I enjoy all sports. I'm looking for a masculine man who enjoys sports. Call Ext. 5118

**SM** I'm 25 & straight-acting. I'm ready to experiment with the bottom since I have been on the top. Give me a call. I'm looking for well-endowed Black men to have a good time with. Call Ext. 5116

**SM** I'm 6'2" & 210 lbs. I'm looking for a hairy-chested top who would be interested in a lot of anal intercourse. Call Ext. 5115

**SM** I'm 5'6". I have blue eyes & blonde hair. I'm looking for a guy who is a jock. I like to give blow jobs. I enjoy anal sex, kissing & hugging. Call Ext. 5104



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\$1.69/min.\* Must be 18 or older to call.

**HOW TO USE THIS SYSTEM** - Dear Reader: Enjoy reading all the ads in the category of your choice, highlighting the ones you'd like to respond to. Then just call 1-900-772-3085 (\$1.69/min.\*) and follow the instructions. Ads are kept 8 weeks, replies kept 7 days and then erased. If you need help using the system, call Customer Service at 1-360-636-9267. What you see here is only a small portion of the ads currently on our Voice Personal system, so you might wish to call and browse through the newest ads. To record your own FREE voice personal, call 1-800-461-5930. You'll automatically be assigned a voice box number. Remember, we screen our ads daily, but we are not responsible for the advertisers. We urge you to screen people yourself. Talk by phone, and meet first in a public place. Publisher reserves the right to review, revise or refuse any ads. Must be 18 or older to use this system. Touchtone phone required. \*Average length of call is 3 minutes, total cost determined by caller. Have fun and good luck! (Houston Voice, Houston, TX)

## Reader's Survey

Please assist us by filling out and mail in this reader's survey. This will help us decide the direction of the paper and ways to improve it. Please answer all questions you are comfortable with. None are intended to offend, the only intent is to help us to better serve our community. If you have something additional to say please include it typed on a separate piece of paper. Remember, we also are interested in forming a diverse focus group, so please call us at 529-8490 if you are interested in serving on it.

### I READ THE HOUSTON VOICE:

- Every Week  At least once a month  
 Every Now and then  
 This is my first time

**COLUMNS:** Please rate on a 1 to 5 scale with 5 being the high score. Put a zero if you don't read it at all.

### COLUMNS:

- Gay Today \_\_\_\_\_ Plain Speaking \_\_\_\_\_  
 Family Values \_\_\_\_\_ In My Own Voice \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Outsider \_\_\_\_\_

### ENTERTAINMENT:

- This n'That \_\_\_\_\_ Movie Reviews \_\_\_\_\_  
 Music Reviews \_\_\_\_\_  
 Celebrity Interviews \_\_\_\_\_  
 Soap/Rodent Droppings \_\_\_\_\_

### HUMOR:

- What a World, What a World! \_\_\_\_\_  
 And There You Have it \_\_\_\_\_  
 Such is Life! (cartoon) \_\_\_\_\_

### THEATRE/PERFORMANCE/ARTS:

- Play Reviews \_\_\_\_\_ Ballet/Dance \_\_\_\_\_  
 Opera \_\_\_\_\_ Symphony \_\_\_\_\_  
 Concerts \_\_\_\_\_ Art Galleries/Shows \_\_\_\_\_

### MISC:

- Sports \_\_\_\_\_ Community Calendar \_\_\_\_\_  
 Health \_\_\_\_\_ Bulletin Board \_\_\_\_\_  
 Church Events/Calendar \_\_\_\_\_  
 Horoscope \_\_\_\_\_ Crossword \_\_\_\_\_  
 Book Reviews \_\_\_\_\_  
 GlaadLines/GLAADAlert! \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pastout (History) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Classifieds \_\_\_\_\_ Personals \_\_\_\_\_  
 Personal Outlook \_\_\_\_\_  
 Voice Mail (letters to the Editor) \_\_\_\_\_

I could do without (name two):  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

I am most interested in (topics):  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

### Consumer information:

(check all that apply)

- Lesbian \_\_\_\_\_ Bisexual Woman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Non-Lesbian Woman \_\_\_\_\_

- Gay Man \_\_\_\_\_ Bisexual Man \_\_\_\_\_  
 Non-Gay Man \_\_\_\_\_

Transgendered  
 female to male \_\_\_\_\_ male to female \_\_\_\_\_

Leather/Levi \_\_\_\_\_ S/M \_\_\_\_\_ Drag \_\_\_\_\_

Butch \_\_\_\_\_ Femme \_\_\_\_\_ Not into roles \_\_\_\_\_

Single \_\_\_\_\_ In Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Monogamous? Yes / No

Would marry my partner if Same-sex marriage were legal? Yes / No

Live with roommate(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Live alone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Live with partner \_\_\_\_\_  
 Have children \_\_\_\_\_

Do children live with you? Yes / No

### Ethnic/Racial Identity:

### Language:

English Only \_\_\_\_\_ Bi/Multi-lingual \_\_\_\_\_

What Language(s)  
 \_\_\_\_\_

I am: very out \_\_\_\_\_ Somewhat out \_\_\_\_\_  
 Closeted \_\_\_\_\_ Not out at work \_\_\_\_\_  
 Not out to most of family \_\_\_\_\_

Household Income level (annual): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Circle where appropriate)

Use one or more of the Voice advertisers on a regular basis. Yes / No

I have attended an event/or purchased an item due to a review I saw in The Houston Voice during the last three months: Yes / No

I read \_\_\_\_\_ local free publications each week.

Which ones?  
 \_\_\_\_\_

I buy/read \_\_\_\_\_ Gay/Lesbian Magazines Monthly.

I read \_\_\_\_\_ books a year.

I go to the movies \_\_\_\_\_ per month.

I attend plays \_\_\_\_\_ per year.

Ballet/Opera/Symphony \_\_\_\_\_ per year

Favorite TV shows:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

I buy/rent \_\_\_\_\_ videos per year

I buy \_\_\_\_\_ CD/Albums per month or year

Have personal Computer? Yes / No

On the Internet? Yes / No

More than one phoneline in Household \_\_\_\_\_

My car is \_\_\_\_\_ Year

Car Model \_\_\_\_\_

I rent \_\_\_\_\_ own \_\_\_\_\_ my house/condo/apartment

I dine out \_\_\_\_\_ per week \_\_\_\_\_ per month

I go to clubs \_\_\_\_\_ per week \_\_\_\_\_ per month

I smoke. Yes / No

I drink alcoholic beverages. Yes / No

Hobbies:  
 \_\_\_\_\_

I am a member of \_\_\_\_\_ community organizations.

What type: Political \_\_\_\_\_ Feminist \_\_\_\_\_  
 Social \_\_\_\_\_ Sports \_\_\_\_\_ Charity \_\_\_\_\_  
 Religious \_\_\_\_\_ Service \_\_\_\_\_

I serve as a volunteer for at least one community organization: Yes / No

Registered Voter: Yes / No

**Politically I am:** Circle all that apply

Democrat \_\_\_\_\_ Republican \_\_\_\_\_ Reform \_\_\_\_\_  
 Liberterian \_\_\_\_\_ Independent \_\_\_\_\_

Liberal \_\_\_\_\_ Progressive \_\_\_\_\_ Moderate \_\_\_\_\_  
 Conservative \_\_\_\_\_ Apathetic \_\_\_\_\_

Pro-choice: Yes / No

Religion: \_\_\_\_\_

Denomination: \_\_\_\_\_

Atheist \_\_\_\_\_ Agnostic \_\_\_\_\_ Pagan \_\_\_\_\_

Please cut out and mail to us or drop them by at:  
 811 Westheimer, Suite 105  
 Houston, Texas, 77006

# Pride Activities in Dallas and Waco

## Waco Holds First Ever!

Waco held its first time Pride Parade on Saturday, Sept. 26. They had about 150 people take part in the festivities that began at city hall and ended at a park downtown. The event was mired by a few teenage boys along the parade route waving a confederate flag while booing and shouting 'queer' and 'faggot.'

Dale Carpenter, Attorney and State President of the Log Cabin Republicans of Texas was the keynote speaker. "It took a tremendous amount of courage from the Waco community for putting on their first march and attending a rally. Any move for equality will only be successful by making efforts in the smaller city's and towns, like they were doing in Waco," remarked Carpenter.

Dallas celebrated Pride this past Sunday, Sept. 27. While Houston and most other cities hold their pride week events during the month of June, other cities choose other days. They usually do this to take advantage of better weather conditions, which they certainly had this weekend. The June date celebrates a remembrance of the Stonewall Rebellion which occurred in late June.



Houston Pride (Committee) does Dallas! (unidentified photographer)



OutYouth took part in the Waco event (Photo by David Goetz)



PFLAG had this colorful entry in the Dallas Parade (Photo by David Goetz)



Dale Carpenter spoke at Waco's first ever Pride Event and then drove back to Houston in time to receive an award from HGLPC. (Photo by David Goetz)