

## Marshaling Pride

Get to know the 2001 Pride  
Parade Grand Marshals: Mitchell  
Katine, Dalia Stokes and  
Blake and Gordon Weisser

Page 21



ISSUE 1078

www.houstonvoice.com

ALL THE NEWS FOR YOUR LIFE. AND YOUR STYLE.

JUNE 22, 2001

## INSIDE



Jack Valinski never expected to spend more than a few years in Houston, but 20 years after his arrival, he's still here and is a driving force behind Pride in Houston

Page 5



Ever wonder what it's like to build one of those elaborate Pride Parade floats? Go behind the scenes with the award-winning Krewe of Olympus team as they construct this year's entry.

Page 25



After a 5-year hiatus, the Pride Festival returns. The post-parade event will draw 45 vendors and live entertainment to Garden in the Heights, Sunday, June 24.

Page 25

## Mayor's non-discrimination order upheld



An executive order banning sexual orientation discrimination issued three years ago by Mayor Lee P. Brown, seen riding in last year's gay pride parade with wife Frances, has been upheld by the Texas Supreme Court. A lawsuit brought by City Councilman Robb Todd challenged the mayor's right to issue the order.

Texas Supreme Court dismisses Councilman Robb Todd's suit challenging policy to protect gay city employees

by WENDY K. MOHON

The Texas Supreme Court issued a ruling Thursday dismissing a lawsuit over Mayor Lee P. Brown's city hall policy banning discrimination based on sexual orientation.

The case began in February 1998 when Houston City Councilman Robb Todd and businessman Richard Hotze sued Brown and the city in an effort to invalidate the mayor's executive order banning sexual orientation discrimination. But the story goes back even farther.

In 1984, Houston City Council approved a ban on discrimination based on sexual orientation in city hiring, promotion and contracting. The event spawned an anti-gay group known as Campaign for Houston that spearheaded a petition drive for a referendum on the proposal.

The special election drew the largest turnout up to that point in Houston's history and the non-discrimination policy was soundly defeated by a 4-1 margin.

Todd argued that Brown's executive order nullified the

> Continued on Page 10

## CDC, AIDS groups defend study on young gay men

Critics say CDC data insufficient to support claim that HIV rate is 'alarming' among gay youth

by LOU CHIBBARO JR.

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention and leaders of some of the nation's most prominent AIDS organizations appeared surprised last week when gay critics challenged the findings of a recent CDC report asserting that HIV infections are rising at an alarming rate among young gay men, especially young African-American gay men.

Writers for gay newspapers in San Francisco and Chicago joined gay journalist and commentator Andrew Sullivan in arguing that the data on which the CDC based its conclusions was inadequate.

Sullivan, in an opinion column in the *New Republic*, noted that the CDC report appears to base its conclusion about the

incidence of new HIV infections among young gay men on a sample of only 38 people spread across six cities.

Sullivan also argued in his column that the timing of the CDC's release of the report might have been motivated by politics. At least one objective, he said, could be the desire to secure more funds for the CDC's programs in the upcoming congressional budget deliberations.

Officials with local and national AIDS organizations dismissed the criticism leveled by Sullivan and others, saying they have observed firsthand how young gay men, in particular young African-American gay males, appear to be affected disproportionately by AIDS.

CDC officials acknowledge the data they used to reach their conclusions were preliminary. But they insist that their findings are statistically valid, and they said they felt duty-bound to release the information quickly to enable prevention programs aimed at gay youth to respond.

Two experts in mathematics and statistics who reviewed the CDC report said the CDC's methodology in data analysis

appears sound and meets accepted scientific standards, although one of the two said the CDC may have inflated the significance of the data in statements to the press.

The criticism of the CDC findings so far has come from Sullivan's commentary and from articles by gay journalist Bob Roehr in the *San Francisco Bay Area Reporter*, and gay writer Paul Varnell in the *Chicago Free Press*. Both are gay newspapers.

Veteran gay and AIDS activist Michael Petrelis, a longtime critic of establishment AIDS organizations, has also weighed in with his own criticism of the CDC report.

### Debate over findings

The CDC published its report June 1 in the CDC journal *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. The report stated that 4.4 percent of men between the ages of 23 and 29 who have sex with other men—and 14.7 percent of African-American men who have sex with men in this age group—were being infected annually with HIV in six large cities.

The report pointed out that the latest

> Continued on Page 10





## *You won't need these at our nighttime pride parade.*

(Unless you happen to be standing under the 8 ½ ft. disco ball.)



It's the premier pride event of the year in Texas and the most exciting gay and lesbian community event in the entire Southwest. Pride Parade 2001 is a celebration of our community's diversity and unity. A night when the city of Houston sparkles with joy and togetherness. Last year, over 150,000 people gathered under the glow of an 8 ½ ft. disco ball, raising their voices as one. This year, we invite you to become a friend of pride and share in the vitality of our community. See you there on Saturday, June 23rd, at 8:45 pm. The parade is on lower Westheimer between Woodhead and Whitney.

The celebration continues on Sunday, June 24th, at 1:00 pm with the return of Pride Festival at Garden in the Heights, 3926 Feagan. Come experience the local GLBT culture first-hand on a lazy Sunday afternoon. Shop the vendor bazaar, speak with club representatives, enjoy the artists & entertainers, and be energized by motivational speeches. Tickets are available at Basic Brothers, 1232 Westheimer, and by mail from the Pride Committee of Houston, P.O. BOX 66071, Houston TX, 77266-6071. For information call the PrideLine at 713-529-6979.



[www.pridehouston.org](http://www.pridehouston.org)





**New Beginnings Start With  
A Commitment. It's The Same  
With HIV Therapy.**

**WHEN YOU COMMIT TO HIV COMBINATION THERAPY, INCLUDE ONCE DAILY SUSTIVA.**

- Proven power against HIV<sup>1</sup>
- Generally well-tolerated to help you stay on treatment
- "Strongly recommended" as part of a first line regimen in DHHS Guidelines<sup>2</sup>

**SAFETY INFORMATION** Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams a few hours after starting SUSTIVA. They tend to go away after you have taken the medicine for a few weeks. A small number of patients have had severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior. If you have these symptoms, you should contact your doctor immediately to discuss your therapy. There have been a few reports of suicide, but SUSTIVA has not been established as the cause. Mild to moderate rash is a common side effect of SUSTIVA. Women should not become pregnant while taking SUSTIVA, because birth defects have been seen in animals given SUSTIVA. SUSTIVA should not be taken by patients who are also taking any of the following: Hismanal<sup>®</sup> (astemizole), Propulsid<sup>®</sup> (cisapride), Versed<sup>®</sup> (midazolam), Halcion<sup>®</sup> (triazolam), or ergot derivatives as there is the potential for serious and/or life-threatening side effects. \* See Patient Information about SUSTIVA on the following pages.

Once Daily  
**SUSTIVA**<sup>™</sup>  
efavirenz



DuPont Pharmaceuticals Company

SUSTIVA<sup>™</sup> and the SUNBURST LOGO are trademarks of DuPont Pharmaceuticals Company.  
Copyright © 2001 DuPont Pharmaceuticals Company

\* The brands listed are registered trademarks of their respective owners and are not trademarks of DuPont Pharmaceuticals Company.  
References: 1. DPC Study 006, Sustiva/ZDV/3TC versus IDV/ZDV/3TC. 2. Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in HIV-Infected Adults and Adolescents. Panel on Clinical Practices for Treatment of HIV Infection, Dept of Health and Human Services; February 2001.

**Because Life Goes On**

**www.sustiva.com 1-800-4-PHARMA (1-800-474-2762)**





**SUSTIVA™**  
(efavirenz)  
capsules

Patient Information about SUSTIVA™ (sus-TEE-vah)  
for HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) Infection  
Generic name: efavirenz (eh-FAH-vih-rehnz)

Please read this information before you start taking SUSTIVA. Read it again each time you refill your prescription, in case there is any new information. Don't treat this leaflet as your only source of information about SUSTIVA. Always discuss SUSTIVA with your doctor when you start taking your medicine and at every visit. You should remain under a doctor's care when using SUSTIVA. You should not change or stop treatment without first talking to your doctor.

#### What is SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is a medicine used to help treat HIV, the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). SUSTIVA is a type of HIV drug called a "non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor" (NNRTI).

#### How does SUSTIVA work?

SUSTIVA works by lowering the amount of HIV in the blood (called "viral load"). SUSTIVA must be taken with other anti-HIV medicines. When taken with other anti-HIV medicines, SUSTIVA has been shown to reduce viral load and increase the number of CD4 cells (a type of immune cell in blood). SUSTIVA may not have these effects in every patient.

#### Does SUSTIVA cure HIV or AIDS?

SUSTIVA is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking SUSTIVA may still develop other infections associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important that you remain under the care of your doctor.

#### Does SUSTIVA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

SUSTIVA has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others. Continue to practice safe sex, and do not use or share dirty needles.

#### How should I take SUSTIVA?

- The dose of SUSTIVA for adults is 600 mg (three 200 mg capsules, taken together) once a day by mouth. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower (see **Can children take SUSTIVA?**).
- Take SUSTIVA at the same time each day. You should take SUSTIVA at bedtime during the first few weeks or if you have side effects, such as dizziness or trouble concentrating (see **What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?**).
- Swallow SUSTIVA with water, juice, milk, or soda. You may take SUSTIVA with or without meals; however, SUSTIVA should not be taken with a high fat meal.
- Do not miss a dose of SUSTIVA. If you forget to take SUSTIVA, take the missed dose right away. If you do miss a dose, do not double the next dose. Carry on with your regular dosing schedule. If you need help in planning the best times to take your medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- Take the exact amount of SUSTIVA your doctor prescribes. Never change the dose on your own. Do not stop this medicine unless your doctor tells you to stop.
- When your SUSTIVA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to SUSTIVA and become harder to treat.

#### Can children take SUSTIVA?

Yes, children who are able to swallow capsules can take SUSTIVA. Rash may be a serious problem in some children. Tell your child's doctor right away if you notice rash or any other side effects while your child is taking SUSTIVA. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower than the dose for adults. Capsules containing lower doses of SUSTIVA are available. Your child's doctor will determine the right dose based on your child's weight.

#### Who should not take SUSTIVA?

Do not take SUSTIVA if you are allergic to SUSTIVA or any of its ingredients.

#### What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?

Talk to your doctor right away if you:

- Are pregnant or want to become pregnant
- Are breast-feeding
- Have problems with your liver, or have had Hepatitis
- Start or change any medicine
- Have side effects while taking SUSTIVA
- Have a history of mental illness, substance or alcohol abuse

#### What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?

A small number of patients have had severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior. Some patients have had thoughts of suicide and a few patients have actually committed suicide. These problems tend to occur more often in patients with a history of mental illness. You should contact your doctor immediately if you think you are having these symptoms, so your doctor can decide whether you should continue to take SUSTIVA.

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams a few hours after starting treatment with SUSTIVA. These feelings may be less noticeable if you take SUSTIVA at bedtime. They also tend to go away after you've taken the medicine for a few weeks. If you have these side effects, such as dizziness, it does not mean that you will also

have severe depression, strange thoughts or angry behavior. Tell your doctor promptly if any of these side effects continue or if they bother you. There is the possibility that these symptoms may be more severe if SUSTIVA is used with alcohol or mood altering (street) drugs. You should avoid driving or operating machinery if you are having these side effects.

One of the most common side effects is rash. These rashes usually go away without any change in treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. If you develop a rash, call your doctor promptly.

Other common side effects include tiredness, upset stomach, vomiting, and diarrhea. However, this is not a complete list of side effects reported with SUSTIVA when taken with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss a more complete list of side effects with you.

Please contact your doctor immediately before stopping SUSTIVA because of side effects. Tell your doctor or other healthcare provider if you notice any side effects while taking SUSTIVA.

#### What about birth control, pregnancy, or breast-feeding?

Women should not become pregnant while taking SUSTIVA. Birth defects have been seen in animals treated with SUSTIVA. It is not known whether this could happen in humans. You should use a condom or diaphragm in addition to other methods of birth control while taking SUSTIVA. Inform your doctor immediately if you are pregnant. If you want to become pregnant, talk to your doctor. Do not take SUSTIVA if you are breast-feeding. Talk to your doctor if you are breast-feeding your baby.

#### Can I take other medicines with SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines (including ones for HIV). Your doctor may change your medicines or change their doses. For this reason, it is very important to:

- Let all your doctors and pharmacists know that you take SUSTIVA.
- Tell your doctors and pharmacists about all medicines you take. This includes those you buy over-the-counter and herbal or natural remedies.

Bring all your medicines when you see a doctor, or make a list of their names, how much you take, and how often you take them. This will give your doctor a complete picture of the medicines you use. Then he or she can decide the best approach for your situation.

The following medicines may cause serious and life-threatening side effects when taken with SUSTIVA. You should not take any of these medicines while taking SUSTIVA\*\*:

- Hismanal® (astemizole)
- Propulsid® (cisapride)
- Versed® (midazolam)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Ergot medications (for example, Wigraine® and Cafergot®)

The following medicines may need to be changed or have their dose changed when taken with SUSTIVA\*\*:

- Crixivan® (indinavir)
- Fortovase® (saquinavir)
- Biaxin® (clarithromycin)

#### How should I keep SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is available as 50 mg, 100 mg, and 200 mg capsules.

Keep SUSTIVA at room temperature (77°F) in the bottle given to you by your pharmacist. The temperature can range from 59°-86°F.

Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children.

#### How can I learn more about SUSTIVA?

Talk to your doctor or other healthcare provider if you have questions about either SUSTIVA or HIV. For additional information you can visit the SUSTIVA website at <http://www.sustiva.com>.

**This medicine was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children. If you suspect that more than the prescribed dose of this medicine has been taken, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.**

\* SUSTIVA™ is a trademark of DuPont Pharmaceuticals Company.

\*\* The brands listed are the registered trademarks of their respective owners and are not trademarks of DuPont Pharmaceuticals Company.



Distributed by:  
**DuPont Pharma**  
Wilmington, DE 19880

6495-03/Rev. February, 2000



## INSIDE

## NEWS

National news	6
Texas news	7
Quote/unquote	18
Health news	37

## PRIDE NEWS

Gay church groups	8
Meet the Pride Grand Marshals	21
Krewe of Olympus builds float	25
Pride Festival returns	25
Pride Fun Run cancelled	30
Parade route map	33
How is Pride funded?	33

## VOICES &amp; ECHOES

Crain: Picking gay rights battles	12
Arenschildt: Feting Pride in Allison's wake	13
'Ethan Green'	13

## OUT ON THE BAYOU

Bayou Calendar	31
On Stage: 'Oedipus Rex' and 'Night & Day'	35
Eating Out at King Biscuit	39
Community Calendar	42-43
Occasions	46
My Stars!	47

## CLASSIFIEDS 44-45

## Issue 1078

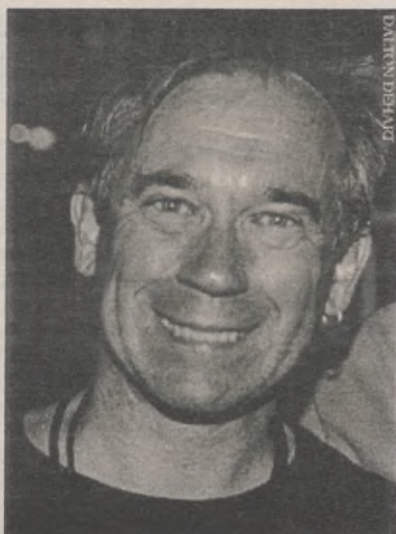
**houston  
voice**

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

Houston Voice accepts unsolicited editorial material but cannot take responsibility for its return. The editor reserves the right to accept, reject or edit any submission.

All rights revert to authors upon publication. Guidelines for freelance contributors are available upon request.

Houston Voice  
500 Lovett Blvd., Suite 200  
Houston, TX 77006  
713-529-8490



When Jack Valinski, volunteer executive director of the Pride Committee of Houston, moved here in the early '80s, he expected to move on a few years later. It's been 20 years and Valinski has taken root in the city and its gay pride celebration that he works to plan all year long.

# The man behind Pride

Jack Valinski never expected to become a longtime Houstonian, nor the director of the city's Pride Committee

by ELLA TYLER

Jack Valinski, volunteer executive director of the Pride Committee of Houston, came to Houston in 1981 on "the same day Kathy Whitmire was elected mayor."

At the time, Valinski says, he had no idea how significant Whitmire's election was. "I came to work for the ABC radio affiliate here, which was then 97 Rock, and planned to spend only a few years here before going to work in New York or L.A. I wasn't out."

"Houston grew on me," Valinski, a

native of Pennsylvania, admits. "I had lived in Syracuse, Hilton Head and New Orleans, and never expected to spend 20 years here."

Valinski says one of his favorite aspects of Houston life is that you can wear shorts anywhere (and he does), and the influence of "rednecks."

"They are 'good old boys,' and so it's not pretentious here, like Dallas," he said.

It was radio, but not his station, that led Valinski to activism. "When I began to settle in, I started to listen to Ray Hill's show, Wilde 'n Stein on KPFT. He always sounded 'off mike' since the equipment wasn't the best so I volunteered to 'run the [audio] board,'" he said.

"Larry Bagneris, president of the Political Caucus, was a frequent guest on Ray's show, so I got involved with the caucus and the parade."

Valinski also inherited the Wilde 'n

> Continued on Page 11

## Local gay group 'embrace diversity' all year

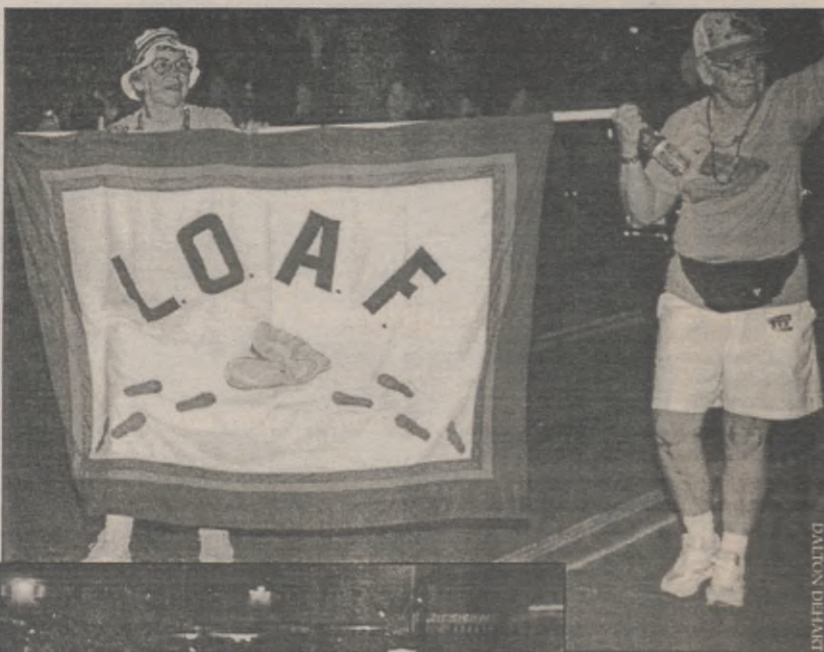
From car enthusiast to grandmas, there's a support network for everyone in the community

by KAY Y. DAYUS

Houston's large gay and lesbian community not only celebrates pride and diversity during the month of June, but all year round with its many and varied groups within a group.

For instance, there's LOAF, HOG, TATS, CATS, the Classic Chassis Car Club, BiNet Houston, Asians and Friends, Mizpachat Alizim and even the Lone Star Nudist

> Continued on Page 11



Lesbians Over Age Fifty (below), marched in last year's Pride parade chanting, 'Two, four, six, eight, how do you know your grandma's straight?' The Classic Chassis Car Club (left) offers gay shade tree mechanics fellowship and the chance to show off their wheels. These are just two of the many special interest and support groups within Houston's gay community.



# WALKER

TEXAS LAWYER

Personal  
Injury  
Attorney

Criminal Cases

DWI



**James S. Walker**  
*Committed, Experienced, Aggressive*

*Call me for a free no obligation,  
professional assessment of your case.*

**WALKER  
& HUNTER  
P.C.**

1924 Portsmouth  
Houston, Texas 77098

**713-552-1117**  
**1-800-732-2934**  
[www.walkertexaslawyer.com](http://www.walkertexaslawyer.com)

Not Certified by Texas Board of Legal Specialization

## around the nation

### Dramatic jump seen in LA same-sex couples reported in Census figures

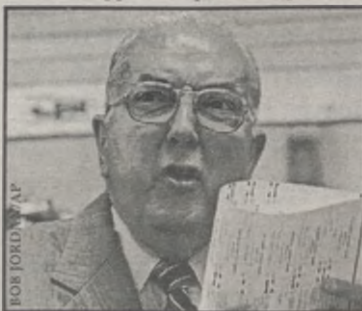
NEW ORLEANS—Census figures released Wednesday showed the number of same-sex partners rose by more than 650 percent in Louisiana—from 1,333 to about 8,800—since 1990. "There's been a pretty dramatic increase in acceptance in society in the last 10 years and a lot of people who were closeted prior to that are more open about their lifestyle now," said Elayne Angel, a lesbian who owns a body art and piercing business in the French Quarter. Nationally, unmarried partner homes, regardless of sexual orientation, increased 72 percent from 3.2 million in 1990 to 5.5 million in 2000. Fewer than 5 percent of the country's unmarried partner households consisted of same-sex couples in 1990. Comparable numbers for 2000 will not be known until all state figures are released. Other newly released Census figures showed that Nebraska's population includes 1,112 gay male couple households and 1,220 lesbian households. Direct comparable figures from 1990 were unavailable, since the option to indicate same-sex households was only a sample on some forms that year.

### NY judge says he marries convicts so they avoid 'deviant sex' behind bars

ALBANY—An upstate New York judge allows county convicts to marry to keep them from "getting trapped in deviant sexual behavior" behind bars, the *New York Post* reported. Last week, shortly after Robert S. Gorman, 51, was sentenced by another judge to 12 to 25 years in state prison for raping a 21-year-old woman, he married his victim's mother in the chambers of State Supreme Court Justice James Canfield. The judge said he weds "scores" of convicts each year to help them avoid gay experiences. "So we should turn [inmates] into homosexuals? The courts ruled that to be cruel and unusual punishment, no offense to the homosexuals. Rather than getting trapped in deviant sexual behavior, I'd rather they have heterosexual, conjugal opportunities," said Canfield, 60, a Democrat who's been a judge since 1992. He said he does it in part because no other judge in his county will perform such ceremonies.

### Senate okays two amendments about Boy Scouts for education measure

WASHINGTON—Two amendments to the Senate's version of this year's education bill could affect how the Boy Scouts of America and other groups gain access to school facilities. Last week, the Senate approved a provision sponsored by Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) that would withhold federal education funds from public schools that deny equal access to meeting space for the Scouts or other youth groups that "prohibit the acceptance of homosexuality." The second amendment, offered by Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.), said that no organization can be banned from using school facilities because of its beliefs on sexual orientation. It passed by a vote of 52-48. The bill still must go to conference committee. President Bush has said he does not favor the Helms' amendment.



A bill supporting the Boy Scouts from Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) was passed by the Senate last week.

### U.S. Agriculture Department advertises for specialist on gay issues

WASHINGTON—The Agriculture Department is advertising for a "gay and lesbian program specialist" who would help improve working conditions for the agency's gay employees, according to the *New York Times*. Gay civil rights advocates said Tuesday that they believed it was the first time an administration had sought to hire someone to handle gay and lesbian issues in the federal workplace. "It's a big deal. It takes an enormous amount of time to affect this kind of change within an administration," said E. Julian Potter, who was President Bill Clinton's gay liaison. Mimicking employee relations programs now common in corporate America, the specialist's duties will include dealing with barriers to recruitment, hiring and career advancement. The job posted Tuesday on the Office of Personnel Management's Web site ([www.usajobs.opm.gov](http://www.usajobs.opm.gov)) evolved from a series of employee advisory councils created last year by the secretary of agriculture, Dan Glickman, and inherited by his successor in the Bush administration, Ann M. Veneman. Over the years, federal agencies have created special positions to handle issues concerning employees who are Hispanic or women, for instance, but the Agriculture Department job appears to be the first comparable position for gay workers.

### Federal appeals court upholds sweeping San Fran domestic partner law

SAN FRANCISCO—Rejecting arguments by an Ohio company, the 9th U.S. Court of Appeals said that the city's domestic partner ordinance passed in 1997 does not interfere with interstate commerce or exceed the city's authority to regulate, the *San Francisco Chronicle* reported. The ordinance requires companies doing business with the city to provide the unmarried partners of employees with the same benefits they offer married spouses. The challenge was made by S.D. Myers, Inc., an Ohio company that has performed maintenance on the city's electric transformers, and was funded by the American Center for Law & Justice, a legal advocacy agency controlled by Rev. Pat Robertson. Similar laws have been passed by Seattle and Los Angeles, and laws in Berkeley and San Mateo County go into effect in July. A challenge to the law by the Air Transport Association is still pending.

—From staff and wire reports



For more news, visit  
[www.houstonvoice.com](http://www.houstonvoice.com)



# around texas

## El Paso PD says initiative to arrest drunks won't target gay bars

EL PASO (AP)—Police will be cruising bars over the next five weeks with plans to arrest anyone who has been drinking and appears violent or too drunk to drive. "These establishments are producing intoxicated persons, which not only leads to DWI, but assaults that lead to murder," said El Paso Police Chief Carlos Leon. If the program is successful, it will be extended, Leon said. "There is, on the face of it, no civil liberties violation here," said Melvin P. Straus, chairman of the local American Civil Liberties Union. "This assumes the police do this impartially." Straus said the police must visit bars randomly and not focus on a particular group, such as gay bars, bars frequented by a particular race or blue-collar bars. "We don't want anybody to panic and think we are raiding places," El Paso County Sheriff Leo Samaniego said. "Officers will be looking for intoxicated individuals and other things that may be going on in the establishment such as prostitution, drug sales."

## Floods destroys AIDS research at Houston Medical Center

HOUSTON (AP)—The loss of thousands of lab animals has wiped out millions of dollars worth of federally funded research into a broad spectrum of ailments, including cancer and AIDS. Nearly 80 monkeys and 35 dogs drowned when flooding from Tropical Storm Allison buried basement labs at the University of Texas Medical School at Houston. The school's veterinarians, researchers and staff members said they tried to reach the animals as the pouring rain began June 8, but Allison flared up too quickly. The medical school has raised its estimate of research animals lost from 2,500 to 4,700. The other area school with major losses, Baylor College of Medicine, says it lost 30,000 animals in the flooding, including rabbits and dogs, but its primates were above ground, a spokeswoman said. Nearly all animals lost at both facilities were mice and other rodents. However, 78 monkeys, 18 adult dogs, 17 puppies and several hundred rabbits were among the dead in the basement of the University of Texas Medical School at Houston, which housed the health science center's main animal care facility.



Tropical Storm Allison created severe flooding in several areas of Houston. Among the hardest hit was the Medical Center where thousands of lab animals drowned and millions of dollars of research was destroyed by floodwaters.

## San Antonio Sheriff, councilman help celebrate PrideFest 2001

SAN ANTONIO—More than 1,000 attended San Antonio's PrideFest 2001 June 16, which honored Sheriff Ralph Lopez and City Councilman Bobby Perez. Lopez served as grand marshal of the parade in appreciation of his public support of Lt. Brian Lunan, a Bexar County deputy who is transitioning from man to woman, the *San Antonio Express-News* reported. Lopez is the highest-profile politician to serve as the parade's grand marshal. "We pride ourselves on being a sensitive community," Lopez said before the parade started. "We pride ourselves on our diversity." Lopez, dressed in street clothes, rode in the front of a black convertible Corvette, while Christie Lee Littleton Van de Putte sat in the back. Littleton Van de Putte has been at the forefront of battles to secure the right of transsexuals to change their legal gender in Texas. Organizers also honored Perez for his contributions. Despite criticism from a conservative Christian radio host and others, Perez recently allocated \$1,000 from his City Council discretionary fund to pay for the mobile stage used during the PrideFest 2001 picnic. "I think we're all fortunate to live in a community that celebrates multiculturalism," Perez said. "But sometimes that multiculturalism doesn't cross the line where it needs to." The parade ended on a serious note with a candlelight vigil to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the AIDS epidemic.

## Dallas pastors divided after national Presbyterian vote on gay clergy

DALLAS—On Sunday, June 17, Presbyterians came to their churches to pray and to hear what their pastors would say about the possibility of noncelibate gays and lesbians serving as clergy, the *Dallas Morning News* reported. What they heard widely reflected the larger divide in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) nationwide. "We have the opportunity to be Christians at our best," said Dr. Blair Monie, pastor of Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church. "There is a way to disagree in a way that is respectful to the people with whom you disagree." Highland Park Presbyterian Church, one of the largest in the denomination, heard a different message. "This is a sad day in the life of the Presbyterian Church," the Rev. Ronald Scates, the church's pastor, said on Sunday. "This is very disconcerting." The General Assembly, the denomination's governing body, voted June 15 in Louisville, Ky., to open the possibility of noncelibate gays and lesbians serving as pastors, deacons and elders. The decision won't become church policy unless it is ratified by a majority of the denomination's 173 presbyteries, or regional districts. The voting isn't expected to be completed before next spring. If approved, the 2.5 million-member denomination would become the largest Christian denomination to welcome noncelibate gay clergy.

—From staff and wire reports

When you have issues to deal with, being gay shouldn't be one of them.

If you're struggling with addiction or depression, you need a treatment center where you can be yourself.... Where you can talk frankly and safely to people who understand you.

We're Pride Institute, the nation's leader in providing treatment for the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered communities. We have programs offering residential, outpatient and halfway house services. You have the power. Call us today.

FT. LAUDERDALE NEW YORK CHICAGO NEW JERSEY MINNEAPOLIS DALLAS

**PRIDE INSTITUTE**  
800-54-PRIDE

Medicare and most insurance plans cover our programs  
www.pride-institute.com

JCAHO Accredited

Depression  
Anxiety  
Drugs  
Alcohol  
Sex Addiction  
HIV-related Stress

Limited

Seating.

Register

Soon!

Tony Carroll,  
LMSW-ACP

Psychotherapist  
Counseling  
Consultation

713-527-0000

1006 Missouri St.

Houston, TX 77006

# Imagine love

WORKSHOPS  
NOW AVAILABLE!

Single Gay Men  
\$120 per person

Gay and  
Lesbian Couples  
\$155 per couple

Understanding and Improving  
Love Relationships

In this workshop learn about being attracted to more appropriate partners, eliminating incompatible people faster, identifying and overcoming what has kept you single, using the natural progression of relationships to predict the outcome, exploring new places and ways for meeting people, getting over going after the difficult ones, improving your dating skills, and finding and maintaining lasting, loving, relationships.

Most couples leave this workshop with better communication skills, reduced frustration and blame, specific plans for increasing happiness, greater compassion for themselves and their partners, increased certainty about their relationship, tools for shaping a happier future, and improved ways for working through the hot spots.

September 8/9

September 29/30

TONY CARROLL, LMSW-ACP  
Counseling, Psychotherapy, Workshops for Individuals and Couples

For more information or a free brochure, call or visit our web site:

713-527-0000  
www.HoustonTherapist.com

houston  
Therapist.com



For more news, visit  
www.houstonvoice.com



## More local churches offer gay-friendly services, groups

Goal of many gay religious groups is to make themselves obsolete

by ROBERT B. HENDERSON

Even though the religious community is often the source of benign, if not open, hostility to them, gay men and lesbians are often deeply religious. And fortunately, there are churches and other organizations of religious people who welcome members without regard to their sexual expression.

Among those is the Association of Metropolitan Community Churches. The stated goal of MCC is to go out of business when there is no longer a need for them, when the variety of denominations affirm full acceptance and full participation of gay men and lesbians.

There are two MCC congregations in Houston. Resurrection MCC is located at 2025 West 11th St. at T. C. Jester. They have Sunday worship at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. They also have a large and varied program to meet the life needs of gays and lesbians. Their telephone number is 713-861-9149.

The Maranatha Fellowship MCC is a more Pentecostal-focused congregation. It is located at 1311 Holman. The telephone number is 713-528-6746.

In addition to these churches all of the Unitarian Universalists congregations of the Houston Network encourage full acceptance and participation of gay men and lesbians. It



First Unitarian Universalist Church is one of many local gay-friendly churches that regularly participate in the Houston Gay Pride Parade.

is a part of the denominational order, though there are some congregations who find it more difficult to accept, according to Rev. Bill Clark, pastor of the Henry David Thoreau congregation in Stafford.

Clark is gay and a testimony to the openness of the denomination. He said since the denomination is accepting there is no need for an advocacy group.

Among the gay-friendly Unitarian Universalists congregations in the Houston area are First Unitarian Universalists downtown, Thoreau in Stafford, Emerson on Bering St., Galveston Fellowship, Wirt Road Fellowship, Northwest, Northwoods in the Woodlands and Bay Area.

The Houston Chapter of Lutherans Concerned is currently inactive, according to Madeline Manning, who had been an active member. She described the current situation as "awaiting interest."

Integrity/Houston is an official ministry of the Episcopal Church, according to Rob Rynerson, a spokesperson. They meet at Autry

House, adjacent to Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church on S. Main just north of the Texas Medical Center. The group meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. beginning with a celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

"Since 1986, Integrity has greatly influenced what the Episcopal Church has done with regard to gays and lesbians. We have raised a large lobbying process going on in our general convention every three years," Rynerson said.

Dignity/Houston is a Roman Catholic organization of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered Catholics, their family and friends. Dignity/Houston has their own center at 1307 Yale, Suite H in the Heights. The telephone number is 713-880-2872.

Dignity has a celebration of the Mass at 7:30 p.m. every Saturday evening with the exception of the Pride Parade weekend. Their attendance varies from 25 to 40 each Saturday evening. The group will be participate in the Pride Parade tomorrow evening so the Mass will be celebrated Sunday, June 24 at 4 p.m. and followed by an ice cream social. They have a rotating roster of priests for Mass and pastoral care.

"The priest are basically self-selected. They come to us because they want to minister to our community. We are 100 percent assured the priests who come to us to offer their services are sympathetic to us and anyone who would come to our organization. Our organization is based on the belief 'It's okay to be gay, to be lesbian, to be Catholic and active sexually as well,'" Joe Quinn, Dignity/Houston president.

### Gay-friendly churches

While there are many religious congregations that are undoubtedly a safe haven for gay men and lesbians, the following is a listing of those who are committed enough to have an entry in the 2001 Houston Gay and Lesbian Yellow Pages:

Bering Memorial United Methodist Church,  
1440 Harold St., 713-526-1017;

Buddhist Temple,  
1544 Westheimer, 713-289-0058;

Central Congregational Church,  
1311 Holman, 713-529-3589;

Community Gospel Church,  
4305 Lilian St., 713-880-9235;

Grace Lutheran Church,  
2515 Waugh Dr., 713-528-3269;

Houston Mission Church,  
1505 Nevada, 713-529-8225;

Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church,  
1805 W Alabama, 713-528-6665

Zion Lutheran Church,  
3606 Beauchamp, 713-869-1493.

## LOOKING FOR POSITIVE VOICES!

- Ryan White Planning Council is looking for volunteers to serve on the council.
- The primary responsibility of the Council is to determine what HIV/AIDS services are most needed.
- This year, the council will receive over \$17 million from the federal government for HIV/AIDS services in the greater Houston area.
- Your participation **DOES** make a difference!

Contact **Georgette Monaghan** at **713.572.3724**  
or email through our website: **www.rwpc.org**

Come celebrate your pride during our  
Grand Opening Weekend

Doors open Thursday 8 pm and the  
action continues until Monday  
morning.

For information or driving directions  
visit us on the web at  
**www.meatrack.org**

H • O • U • S • T • O • N

2915 San Jacinto • 713 528-2028

No Towels • No Tokens • No Attitude





At Shell Oil Company, we strive to create a safe and open work environment where everyone has the opportunity to achieve their full potential. This is exemplified by our leadership in extending company policies and benefits to include our gay and lesbian employees. We believe it is important that our actions reflect the communities where we live and work. Our future success is dependent on people from all walks of life.

good **TALENT**  
comes from all **WALKS**  
of **LIFE**

"Most deli owners go home at 8 p.m.  
Mere mortals!"



KATZ'S NEVER KLOSES



MARC KATZ FOUNDER

616 WESTHEIMER (2 BLOCKS EAST OF MONTROSE)

713.521.3838



# Equal Rights Rally will be held before Pride Parade

➤ Continued from Page 1

1985 referendum and usurped City Council's authority. In 1998, District Judge Patrick Mizell stopped Brown's order until the case could be decided and said that Hotze had no right to sue, removing him from the lawsuit. In 1999, the 14th Court of Appeals affirmed the district judge's rulings.

Brown said despite the initial defeats in the lower courts, he was confident the order would be upheld.

"This was more than just a legal issue," Brown said. "It was my duty to put forth an order that addressed fairness in our city. It was the right thing to do."

The court ruled 7-1 to dismiss the case. Justice Craig Enoch dissented in part, arguing that as a voter, Hotze should have been allowed to challenge the mayoral order.

Todd's office said the councilman declined comment until he had a chance to read the ruling.

The ruling notes that Todd's injury as a City Council member due to Brown's alleged encroachment of the Council's power "is vague and generalized, not personal and particularized."

"Todd does not and cannot challenge the anti-discrimination policy's actual operation because it does not apply to him," the ruling continues. "Nor does he sue as a representative of constituents who face actual or threatened injury because of the policy."

Hotze and Todd claim the suit revolved around what they believed to be an illegal order by the mayor and had nothing to do with gay rights.



Annise Parker

"All this lawsuit has succeeded in doing is to waste the city's time and money," Brown said. "I am now going to take the next step in making this a permanent part of city policy."

A new draft of Brown's executive order has been prepared and is expected to be presented to City Council as early as next week, Brown said.

If passed, the ordinance would prohibit discrimination based on race, color, national origin, religion, age, marital status, gender, disability, military service, sexual orientation and gender identity.

Openly gay Houston City Councilwoman Annise Parker said the timing of the high court ruling, issued two days before Houston's Gay Pride Parade, was "serendipitous" and called the ruling "a vic-

tory for fairness and common sense."

She said having a non-discrimination policy in place "is the necessary first step" toward eventually offering domestic partner benefits to city employees.

An Equal Rights Rally has been planned to precede the Pride Parade with the original intent of drawing support for an anticipated non-discrimination ordinance that would effectively enforce and replace Brown's executive order. Organizers say they still plan to hold the rally to celebrate the court ruling and to gather support for other gay rights, such as domestic partner benefits.

"It's still important to get elected officials and candidates on the record as being supportive of equal rights," Parker, one of the planned speakers for the rally, said.

"Politicians are not put on record enough," Parker said. "In the past, our community has been happy when they just showed up."

"In the early days, the parades were a

political event that evolved into a celebration," Parker said. "It was an integral part of Pride in the past. We're celebrating a violent political act in the Stonewall Riots. It's important to look back and celebrate the fact that we don't have to do that anymore."

The city will close down Westheimer an hour earlier than usual for the rally to precede the parade. The rally will take place at 6:30 p.m. at the intersection of Montrose and Westheimer.

Slated to speak at the event are Brown, Parker, Councilman and mayoral candidate Chris Bell, U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee, D-Houston and State Rep. Debra Danburg, D-Houston.

All speakers were required to sign a statement of support of equal rights for gay men and lesbians, said rally organizer, Grant Martin.

"We're trying to get people fired up; get people on record in support of what we do," Martin said.

## Non-discrimination policies

More than 1,800 employers in the nation have non-discrimination policies that protect gay men and lesbians. Among them are:

- 21 state, including Montana, Nevada and New Mexico
- 241 counties and cities, including Fort Worth and Austin
- 258 Fortune 500 companies
- 325 colleges and universities, including UT, UH and Rice

Houston-based firms with non-discrimination policies include:

- Baker & Botts
- Compaq
- Conoco
- Continental Airlines
- Shell Oil
- Vinson & Elkins

—Source: Human Rights Campaign

# AIDS groups not surprised by statistics

➤ Continued from Page 1

findings represent an update on a CDC study released in February, which was part of an ongoing CDC research project in six U.S. cities between 1998 and 2000: Baltimore, Dallas, Los Angeles, Miami, New York and Seattle.

CDC scientist Linda Valleroy and her team of researchers used a newly developed laboratory test on blood samples taken from participants in the Young Men's Study that distinguishes between two types of HIV antibodies.

According to the CDC report, of the 2,942 young MSMs in the study's overall sample, 373, or 13 percent, were HIV-positive. Of the 373 found to be HIV-positive, 290 were tested for an antibody indicating early infection. Of that group, only 38 were found to have the "early infection" antibody.

The report states that it was from this sample of 38 people that the CDC calculated a breakdown of the "incidence" of new infections among racial and ethnic groups.

It goes on to state that, using standard statistical methods, CDC researchers assigned a "confidence interval," or range of numbers above and below these figures, which they are 95 percent certain represents the true percentage of HIV incidence for each of the three racial/ethnic groups.

For the overall incidence of 4.4 percent,

the confidence interval was between 2.9 percent and 6.7 percent; for the 2.5 percent incidence among whites, the CI was 1.4 percent to 4.6 percent; for the 3.5 percent incidence among Latinos, the CI was 1.4 percent to 8.6 percent; and for the 14.7 percent incidence among African Americans, the CI was 7.9 percent to 27.1 percent.

Sullivan and Roehr seized on the wide range between the lower and higher figure in the sample of African Americans, saying this unusually large spread indicates the CDC data were insufficient. The two noted that CDC did not disclose how many African Americans were in the 38 participants on whom much of these calculations are based.

## CDC: Release not 'political'

Ronald Valdiserri, deputy director of the CDC's National Center for HIV, STD, & Tuberculosis Prevention, took strong exception to claims that the report's release was linked in any way to politics or funding.

Valdiserri pointed out that the 38 people who tested positive for new HIV infections were part of an overall sample of nearly 3,000. He said the preliminary findings are supported by other studies, including one conducted by officials in San Francisco, that show MSMs are engaging in unprotected anal intercourse.

But Sullivan argued in his *New Republic* col-

umn that both the CDC and AIDS organizations have a vested interest in a possible exaggeration of the severity of the HIV infection rate.

"Could it be, with the 20th anniversary of AIDS upon us, the CDC wanted to use the occasion to make headlines?" he wrote. "And could it be that the vast array of AIDS organizations that need the specter of a resurgent epidemic to keep the dollars flowing were only too glad to fuel the fire?"

Officials with organizations including Washington's Whitman-Walker Clinic, the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, the National Minority AIDS Council and the national lobbying coalition AIDS Action called such an assertion ridiculous.

Representatives of these groups, including Whitman-Walker Executive Director Cornelius Baker, said the CDC report confirms what they have observed firsthand for years—that young gay men, especially young African-American gay men, have been testing positive for HIV at rates much higher than other population groups.

"We don't need all the data in the world to tell us there's a problem here," said Baker. "It should be to no one's surprise that [it's] black young men who are affected so heavily by this epidemic."

Phill Wilson, founder of the Los Angeles-based African-American AIDS

Policy & Training Institute, said he is troubled that until recently, virtually all AIDS activists demanded the early release of research data, especially when it pertained to the development of new AIDS drugs, as soon as such data became known.



Gay commentator Andrew Sullivan charged that the CDC's recent release of a new HIV study may have been timed to help drum up funding.



# Valinski cast deciding vote to make parade a nighttime event

> Continued from Page 5

Stein show.

"I had been running the board, which was all I wanted to do, but one day Ray said 'I have other things to do. You do the show.'" Valinski did that show until the end of 1993, when KPFT canceled it. However, following protests by gay listeners, the show, now called Lesbian and Gay Voices, was reinstated early in 1994.

Valinski does Lesbian and Gay Voices as a volunteer. He no longer works professionally in radio, and is now working with computers for a friend's answering service.

Valinski describes his relationship with Pride Week and the Pride Parade as "sometimes in and sometimes out—friendly opposition" for several years.

"I would volunteer and help with media but nothing more, until one year in the early '90s, when Felix Garcia, who was a co-chair, announced that he was

It finally come down to one vote, and I voted in favor of the nighttime parade, but I was worried.

—Jack Valinski, Pride Committee of Houston volunteer executive director

sick and would have to resign. It was already late spring, so I said I would be co-chair with Carol Clark."

The pair co-managed the pride committee for years, but Clark retired two years ago. "She still helps, but said we have become to 'techie,' with computers and all, for her," Valinski said.

Since Valinski began working with the Pride Committee, there have been many changes. According to Valinski, it became an independent nonprofit group, separate from the now-defunct Montrose Activity

Center and expanded to a year-round operation. The Pride Week expanded to a month-long celebration and the parade has become a nighttime event.

"The parade was dying," Valinski said. "People were sick and it became harder and harder to get a crowd out in the heat. We were talking about moving it to another month, but Lee Harrington kept saying we should make it a nighttime parade."

The first night parade was in 1997. "It finally come down to one vote, and I

voted in favor of the nighttime parade, but I was worried," Valinski said. "We didn't even know if the city would let us do it like this, and there were security issues, but it has been wonderful."

When asked what his other hobbies are, Valinski laughs. "I'd like to go to a few more movies, but I really have a passion for this work. It doesn't all happen because of me. The Pride Committee is lucky to have a group of volunteers who have such expertise and passion for this work."

Valinski is excited about the parade. "It's so wonderful to see the mix of community and corporate groups. And after all these years, it's worth it when I hear the young people talk about hearing about the parade and then coming."

Valinski is predicting good weather for the parade. "We've always been very lucky with the weather," but isn't quite as optimistic about the mosquitoes. "Bring insect repellent," he said.

## Asians and Friends Houston to host international gathering this Fall

> Continued from Page 5

Club, to name just a few. In fact there's something for everybody—well, just about.

LOAF, the apt acronym for Lesbians Over Age Fifty, is a support group, but they aren't all loafing. Take Emma Lou (Scottie) Scott who has been in LOAF since 1989. She has 24 medals to her name from competing in the National Senior Games in badminton, discus and shot.

Scott said Arden Eversmeyer and others started LOAF about 14 years ago to find others in their "friendship group." Eversmeyer is still an active member.

LOAF holds regular club meetings every month and has a monthly social event.

"We meet without fail; whether there are three or four or 20 members," said Scott.

There are no membership fees, just donations. "We have garage sales and other fund-raisers to raise money for postage for the newsletter," said Scott.

BINET HOUSTON is a support and educational group for male and female bisexuals that meets every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

Gigi Wilbur formed the group in 1990 and says membership is about half male and half female of all ages.

Is there such thing as a true bisexual? "Absolutely," said Wilbur. "But most have a preference for one sex. Others just fall in love with a person no matter what their plumbing is," he added with a chuckle.

Wilbur believes that safe sex education is important for bisexuals and he holds workshops on the subject.

"Safe sex education is one of the real needs in the bisexual community where they have sex with both genders."

ASIANS AND FRIENDS HOUSTON is a group that has, in the past, been reclusive and elusive. But since Noel Boado



became president, he has been reaching out into the community to publicize the group and bring them more into the open.

"We've really been promoting ourselves for over a year and this year the International Friendship Weekend is going to be held in Houston Aug. 31 through Sept. 3," said Boado.

The IFW is an annual international gathering of Asians and their friends who share a weekend of friendship and fun. "We expect over 200 participants," said Boado.

MIZPACHAT ALIZIM, is an organization that provides a forum for gay and lesbian Jews, their families and friends to help understand Jewish heritage and roots. The group has social and educational activities, carries out charitable works and provides a place for Jewish worship.

THE CLASSIC CHASSIS CAR CLUB of Houston caters to those who love old cars or just love car and you don't even have to have a car, said president Joe Wilson.

The Car Club is one of four in Texas—the others are in Austin, Dallas, and San Antonio—with a combined membership of around 300. Houston boasts the largest

group with 110. Most are gay men, but there are lesbians in the group and they would like more.

"The club was traditionally male, but we have eight female members this year. It's been a male dominated hobby for so long in the gay community," said Wilson.

The Car Club meets monthly for dinner and has a yearly Texas state meet, which is in Houston next year.

"It's a big deal. A national invitational with lots of gays and lesbians from all over the world," Wilson said.

THE HOUSTON OUTDOOR GROUP, or HOG as they are affectionately called, is a group with a love of the outdoors, said president Jon Gray.

"We do lots of camping and canoeing and we have pot luck dinners every month at a member's house. We also meet monthly for breakfast," he said.

Members are lesbian and gay male, but they'd like more women. "They are a lot more fun on campouts and they cook better," said Wilson.

CATS in the Galveston area and TATS in Houston are both support groups for transgenders in all stages of transition

from male to female and vice-versa.

A group definitely not for all is the LONE STAR NUDIST GROUP, which is, sorry ladies, for gay men only.

Lone Star is a diverse group of Houston area gay men who "enjoy sharing nude experience," according to their literature. They meet every other month for totally nude socials and every other month for card and board games and prospective member night.

### INFO

LOAF

713.869.1482

### Asians and Friends

713-626-6300

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

### BiNet Houston

713-467-4380

[www.flash.net/~bihouse](http://www.flash.net/~bihouse)

### Mizpachat Alizim

713.748.7070

### Classic Chassis Car Club

713.797.8615

[www.ClassicChassisCarClub.org](http://www.ClassicChassisCarClub.org)

### Houston Outdoor Group

713.290.0220

### CATS

409.741.2501

### TATS

713.780.4282

### Lone Star Nudist Group

713.866.8847





## STAFF

**Executive Editor**  
Chris Crain

**Editor**  
Wendy K. Mohon  
editor@houstonvoice.com

**Production**  
**Senior Graphic Designer**-Nataasha Marquez  
**Graphic Designer**-Deborah Duplant

**Contributors**  
Rich Arenschioldt, Laura Brown,  
Kay Y. Dayus, Tracey Diskin, Earl Dittman,  
Erik Erickson, Mike Fleming, D.L. Groover,  
Robert B. Henderson, Kathleen Lee,  
D.L. Murphy, Erin O'Brian, Gip Plaster,  
Ella Tyler, Penny Weaver

**Photographers**  
Dalton DeHart, Kimberly Thompson

**Advertising Sales**  
Tom Robbins  
trobbins@houstonvoice.com

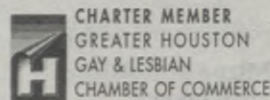
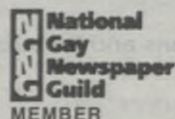
Wanda Faulkner  
wfaulkner@houstonvoice.com

**Administration & Sales Support**  
Carolyn A. Roberts  
croberts@houstonvoice.com

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

## A WindowMedia Publication

**Publisher**- Window Media LLC  
**President**- William Waybourn  
**Editorial Director**- Chris Crain  
**Financial Director**- Kelly Smink  
**Sales Director**- Peter Jackson  
**Art Director**- Rob Boeger  
**Marketing Director**- Eric May



Established 1974 as the Montrose Star.

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

## To submit a letter

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

## EDITORIAL

## Picking gay rights battles more wisely

by CHRIS CRAIN

Within the movement for gay civil rights, especially as it has become more organized and monied in recent years, zealous advocacy and calm-headed pragmatism have regularly conflicted and often competed for the hearts and minds of our activist organizations.

In any given skirmish in the ongoing Culture Wars, gay rights groups might jump in heart-first, consequences be damned, or opt for a more conservative strategy that bows to some political reality, even as it enrages the ideological purists among us.

Getting that mix of zeal and pragmatism exactly right is probably an impossible task, and is always subject to second-guessing and line-drawing. But the men and women who are running gay civil rights organizations make decisions of this sort every day, sometimes profoundly affecting our movement, and our lives.

Too many of these judgment calls happen below our radar, escaping any real scrutiny, and that's especially the case with gay rights battles fought in the courtroom.

With the shining example of the black civil rights movement, the temptation is to take to the courthouse to right every anti-gay wrong. But we live in a democratic system, where courts ought to be reserved for only the most important battles, where the political system has failed us.

Usually, the capable gay rights attorneys fighting on our behalf make the right calls, picking our battles wisely. But not always, and not in the case of Milagros Irizarry, an employee in the Chicago public schools.

She sued the city board of education, challenging the constitutionality of a domestic partner benefit plan enacted in 1999 that extended health insurance to same-sex couples only. Irizarry and her male partner had lived together for more than 20 years and raised two children together; and they argued that the DP program unfairly excluded them.

Most plaintiffs who challenge the legality of DP benefits find themselves up against the talented crew of litigators at the Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund. But in this case, Lambda Legal and Milagros Irizarry made for strange bedfellows.

Lambda Legal argued to the federal appeals court hearing Irizarry's case that the Chicago Board of Education could not extend DP benefits to gay couples unless unmarried straight couples received the same treatment. The DP program for gays, Lambda argued, violated the constitutional guarantee of equal protection.

The judges deciding the appeal expressed surprise that gay rights lawyers were claiming that DP benefits for gay couples were unconstitutional, but for Lambda Legal, the issue was one of ideological principle, whatever the real-world consequences.

Lambda Legal believes that the whole idea of providing one package of health benefits to married couples, while denying such benefits to unmarried couples, is wrongheaded and perhaps illegal—a remarkable proposition in itself. But if the Chicago Board of Education chooses to fix that inequity, Lambda argued, it is irrational and arbitrary—to the point of

offending the U.S. Constitution—for some benefits to go to gay couples and not to unmarried heterosexual couples as well.

The principle Lambda Legal was defending—that government has no business deciding which of our relationships is worth endorsing and subsidizing—is noble enough, however divorced it may be from political reality and centuries of legal tradition.

But it's worth asking: Is taking government out of the marriage business a core principle of the gay civil rights movement, or do we simply favor equal treatment for gays? Should our activists be arguing that providing even meager benefits for gay couples is unconstitutional unless unmarried straight couples get equal treatment?

In Vermont, the answer has been clearly no. The Republicans who control the state House there have passed legislation that would open up all the benefits of the landmark civil union law to other types of relationships, including unmarried heterosexual couples and others in

them to unmarried heterosexual couples. But even if the court had taken the latter option, which Irizarry and Lambda argued for, the Chicago school board would most likely have repealed DP benefits entirely.

There are a lot more unmarried straight couples out there than gay couples, and lots of employers, in the public and private sector, are understandably concerned about the cost associated with extending benefits to all unmarried couples. If Lambda Legal could write the rules, the inevitable result would be fewer gays with health insurance, as our ideological foes could point to the higher cost of meeting Lambda's hetero-fairness mandate.

This isn't the first time that gay rights lawyers have picked their battles poorly, letting their ideological zeal get the best of them. In 1995, the Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders, a Boston-based legal advocacy group, challenged the exclusion of gay marchers from that city's annual St. Patrick's Day parade.

It might surprise you to learn that gay rights lawyers are arguing, on behalf of heterosexuals, that DP benefits for gay couples are unconstitutional.

committed, domestic living arrangements.

Gay activists have bitterly opposed the GOP legislation, and rightly so, as an attempt to weaken an historic law giving legal validity and benefits to same-sex couples. Thank goodness Lambda Legal's lawyers haven't waded into that battle, testifying before the Vermont Legislature about how unmarried heterosexuals ought to enjoy the same benefits as gay couples who enter into civil unions.

In the case of Milagros Irizarry, the appeals court rejected her claim, and the position advocated by Lambda Legal, concluding that the Chicago school board could rationally draw a line between gay couples and unmarried straight couples because those in the latter group can always get married and gain access to the even more prized booty that is reserved for legal matrimony.

Of course, that rational difference is a temporary one, as the same will be true for homosexuals when we can legally tie the knot in Illinois. But until that happy day, must even interim DP benefits give way to Lambda Legal's ideological opposition to any sort of marital privilege?

And after we win the freedom to marry, making special treatment for unmarried gay couples less tenable, do we really want a gay rights group expending precious resources to fight the good fight on behalf of our privileged, heterosexual brethren? Would a little affirmative action for unmarried homosexual couples really be such a bad thing? That sounds like reparative therapy we can live with.

Gays everywhere should shiver at our near-miss in the Irizarry case. If Lambda Legal's position had won the day, the court would either have struck down the Chicago DP benefits or ordered the board to extend

If the U.S. Supreme Court hadn't unanimously ruled that the state's gay rights law couldn't trump parade organizers' First Amendment freedom of speech and association, Gay Pride festival organizers nationwide might have been forced to accept anyone wanting to march, including ex-gays and the pedophiles from the North American Man-Boy Love Association.

Even the heroic suit filed by Boy Scout leader James Dale, backed by Lambda Legal, was short-sighted and wrong-headed. The exclusion of gays from Scouting is undeniably evil and should be challenged, but not in court. Asking the government to second-guess the membership standards of private, non-profit organizations is not the way to win fair treatment.

Today, interference from the courts might mean removing the ban on gay scouts. Tomorrow, the courts might force gay youth groups to accept fundamentalist Christians who would try to convince gay teens to pray their way to heterosexuality, or the Michigan Womyn's Festival might be forced to admit men.

Even more importantly, a win for the "gay side" in the St. Patrick's Day case and the Boy Scout case would have made passing gay rights laws anywhere else that much more difficult, as opponents could focus on these dubious applications, rather than the core cases of anti-gay discrimination by the government and by businesses that are at the heart of our movement.

Fighting our battles in court ought to be an avenue of last resort, when basic fairness is at stake and the political process has failed. We would be better served if our zealous legal advocates kept their eyes on that prize, and left these more questionable battles to the messy public arena.





## VIEWPOINT

## Mildew, mosquitoes and Pride: Celebrating in Allison's wake

by RICH ARENSCHIELDT

It's difficult to discern the tears from the rain as the gentle Tom (screen writer/excellent massage therapist)

opens the door to his stylish Montrose digs only to be greeted by a waterfall flowing out from the inside.

Through the doorway we see sleek au courant furnishings practically floating. Grape colored sheetrock is sucking up moisture like a patron hearing "last call" at the Mining Company. Tom has the same bewildered expression as Grandma Bush must have had upon hearing that her favorite li'l coeds got nabbed for underage drinking, again.

As I see the lovely hardwood floor buckling, I recall something I learned in eighth grade science class about water and electricity. I become mildly concerned about the risk of electrocution, and wonder what would happen if I did suddenly succumb. Would my ashes end up in Greens Bayou via some primary school toilet in east Harris County? This would be a far cry from having them scattered over the English hamlet of Whatneyplumb-on-Thames, as I originally planned.

Fearing that my mortal remains would combine with toilet paper used on the butt of an 8-year-old destined to a vocabulary of nothing but double negatives, I charted a course for the closest dry television and squished upstairs. The weather was worsening and I was hoping that, in an effort to save the downtown theater district, Marvin Zindler's plastic surgery had been disassembled and was now shielding our cultural center from further destruction.

Switching on the tube, I see live television news doing what it does best: illuminating the obvious. After a few nanosec-

onds of viewing I realize that I am not the only one who missed basic science class. Newscasters by the dozen are gripping electrical equipment while standing in chest-high water.

I wonder if I'm watching a new game show, "Mediocre News Anchor Roulette"

forming natural disaster stand-up routines. Never have I seen television personalities so desperate for a drink.

The strain of showing the same water sodden video for seven hours and saying "It's raining" in 6,700 different ways was beginning to show. Makeup redos had

Trendy indoor aromatherapy candles will be replaced with buckets of citronella placed under the dining room table....

Deep Woods OFF® will be the powder room scent of choice, protecting attendees' more sensitive areas.

and I keep waiting to hear some frigid British female shout, "You ARE the weakest link!" Perhaps television management views natural calamity as an opportunity to trim their personnel cots.

Years ago, I remembered seeing news anchor, Sher Min Chow as she endured every hurricane, toxic petrochemical explosion and nuclear meltdown within a 500-mile radius of Houston. Her coverage of Chernobyl was hailed as "glowing" but I think she resides permanently in an apartment at the now darkened M.D. Anderson Cancer Center.

Following in that tradition, rumor has it that newsmen Wayne Dolcefino and Dave Ward collided and got stuck at the exit of Shepherd and the Southwest Freeway. This blocked the water flow and caused most of the resulting damage, creating the newly manmade "Bayou Montrose."

On the brighter side, no one had to go to their vacation home on Lake Conroe last weekend—they just used the Dunlavy overpass as a boat ramp.

I switch channels to see haggard looking weather men who should have left work long ago. At this late hour they would probably be guzzling cocktails instead of per-

reached the max factor and I wondered if these guys had Fiberglass bladders.

Meanwhile, downstairs, Tom vacillated between he-man, able to remove an entire "Barbie" display case without tussling a single synthetic hair, and disoriented lambkin. "Oh no," he proclaimed clutching a waterlogged scrap, "My recipe for rainbow petite fours is illegible—just days before my annual gay pride brunch!"

I feel his hostess angst. The only thing more unsettling to a guest's palette than black spore mold is when your 15-year-old arthritic cat takes six minutes to hack up a hairball under the buffet table while you're serving an aspic appetizer.

I realize that hosts all over Houston must be facing the same disaster-related party planning dilemma. Trendy indoor aromatherapy candles will be replaced with buckets of citronella placed under the dining room table. This is the only way to keep the "Yeah, we love standing water!" variety of muscular mosquito away from the major artery that crosses the bone in your guests' ankles.

Deep Woods OFF® will be the powder room scent of choice, protecting attendees'

more sensitive areas. Delicate menu items such as Eggs Florentine will be replaced by more pungent dishes. Five-curry had-dock with an anchovy and garlic glaze is guaranteed to mask any other mildew-inspired odor.

However, one must be careful of mucous membrane damage, especially since the current trauma team at the local hospital was burning powdered eggs in the dietary department a mere week ago.

After the meal, the parade festivities will be probably be altered somewhat. The disco ball will now be covered with flypaper to attract airborne pestilence of Biblical proportions. Previously scantily clad muscle boys will be covered in protective clothing (unless they want to emulate that guy in the insect repellent commercial by placing their private parts into a Plexiglas box full of gnawing insects).

Included in the parade will be a special marching unit of chromosomally confused hermaphrodite lab rats recently escaped from a Med Center's genetic research facility. These furries will be easily recognizable by their dreadfully layered makeup and oversized pumps.

After the parade, activist Ray Hill has agreed to lead the gamine vermin to City Hall where they will demand compensation for undergoing forced DNA conversion therapy—what they will convert back to is not entirely clear.

Okay, Mother Nature, you've proven that Houston really is the "Bayou City." In spite of flood, bugs and mold, Pride will continue. There are lots of folks that could use some bleach and a scrub brush (as could their homes).

Let's give them a helping hand.

Rich Arenschieldt is a freelance writer who is currently scouring every retail outlet in Houston for a tasteful bug light chandelier.

## The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green

by eric orner

STONEWALL  
in a  
NUTSHELL

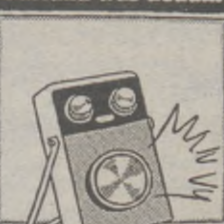
It was a steamy night  
in The Village. Italian  
ice guys were doing a  
big business.



People were hanging out  
on fire escapes & stoops,  
escaping the heat.



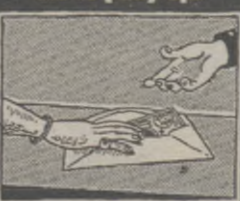
A transistor radio  
said that Judy  
Garland was dead...



...Which reminded a few  
cops that they'd gone  
easy on the fog bars  
lately. So they raided  
the first joint they  
came to.



Cracking down on  
queens always per-  
suaded mob bar own-  
ers to pony up.



The girls, however  
were in no mood.



A fierce one, Sylvia  
I think, poked one's  
eye. Kicked another  
in the balls.



The cops called for re-  
inforcements. The bar  
patrons did also.



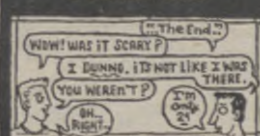
A big street battle went  
down. The cops vs. Stil-  
etto Heels & All-Borough  
Lesbian League Softball  
Bats.




In the end the drag  
queens, bull dykes &  
hippy faggot boys won.



Taking for themselves  
the right to have a  
beer (or hustle a john)  
in peace, and for you  
& me, the right to  
a better life.







Introducing

**TRIZIVIR®**

abacavir sulfate + lamivudine + zidovudine  
300 mg      150 mg      300 mg

ONE TABLET TWICE A DAY

**TRIZIVIR is for** adults and adolescents who weigh 88 pounds or more. TRIZIVIR does not cure HIV infection/AIDS or prevent passing HIV to others. At this time, it's not known whether taking TRIZIVIR will slow the progress of HIV disease or help you live longer.

**Important Safety Information**

TRIZIVIR contains abacavir, which is also called ZIAGEN. About 1 in 20 patients (5%) who take abacavir (as TRIZIVIR or ZIAGEN) will have a **serious allergic reaction** (hypersensitivity reaction) that **may cause death if the drug is not stopped right away.**

You may be having this reaction if:

(1) **you get a skin rash, or**

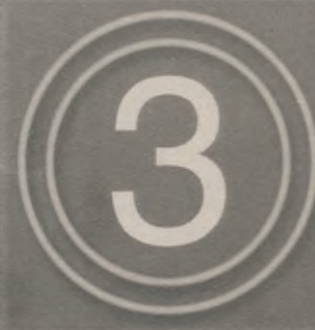
(2) **you get 1 or more symptoms from at least 2 of the following groups:**

- Fever
- Extreme tiredness, achiness, generally ill feeling
- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal (stomach area) pain
- Sore throat, shortness of breath, cough

If you think you may be having a reaction, **STOP taking TRIZIVIR and call your doctor right away.**

If you stop treatment with TRIZIVIR because of this serious reaction, **NEVER take abacavir (as TRIZIVIR or ZIAGEN) again.** If you take any of these medicines again after you have had this serious reaction, **you could die within hours.**



**NEW for HIV****1** tablet**2** times a day**3** medicines**3 HIV medicines in 1 tablet**

- One tablet, two times a day, with or without food
- TRIZIVIR contains ZIAGEN® (abacavir sulfate 300 mg), EPIVIR® (lamivudine 150 mg), and RETROVIR® (zidovudine 300 mg) in a single tablet

**3-in-1 therapy**

**Talk to your healthcare professional about whether TRIZIVIR may be right for you. For more information, call 1-888-825-5249.**

Some patients who have stopped taking abacavir (as TRIZIVIR or ZIAGEN) and who have then started taking abacavir again have had serious or life-threatening allergic (hypersensitivity) reactions. If you must stop treatment with TRIZIVIR for reasons other than symptoms of hypersensitivity, do not begin taking it again without talking to your healthcare provider. If your healthcare provider decides that you may begin taking abacavir (as TRIZIVIR or ZIAGEN) again, you should do so only in a setting with other people to get access to a doctor, if needed.

A written list of these symptoms is on the Warning Card your pharmacist gives you. Carry this Warning Card with you.

**Make sure to see your doctor regularly because serious side effects can occur, such as muscle damage and a decrease in red and/or white blood cells, especially in patients with advanced HIV disease or AIDS.**

**A buildup of lactic acid and severe liver problems, including fatal cases, have been reported with HIV drugs of this type, including the medicines in TRIZIVIR and other antiretrovirals.**

The most common side effects of taking the medicines in TRIZIVIR together are nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, loss of appetite, weakness or tiredness, headache, dizziness, pain or tingling of the hands or feet, and muscle and joint pain. Most of these side effects were mild to moderate and did not cause people to stop taking these medicines.<sup>1</sup>

Reference: 1. Data on file, GlaxoSmithKline.

Please see important information for TRIZIVIR on adjacent page.

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





**MEDICATION GUIDE****TRIZIVIR® (TRY-zih-veer) Tablets**

Generic name: abacavir sulfate, lamivudine, and zidovudine

*Read the Medication Guide you get each time you fill your prescription for Trizivir. There may be new information since you filled your last prescription.*

**What is the most important information I should know about Trizivir?**

Trizivir contains abacavir, which is also called Ziagen®. About 1 in 20 patients (5%) who take abacavir (as Trizivir or Ziagen) will have a **serious allergic reaction** (hypersensitivity reaction) that may cause death if the drug is not stopped right away.

*You may be having this reaction if:*

- (1) you get a skin rash, or
- (2) you get 1 or more symptoms from at least 2 of the following groups:

- Fever
- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal (stomach area) pain
- Extreme tiredness, achiness, generally ill feeling
- Sore throat, shortness of breath, cough

If you think you may be having a reaction, **STOP taking Trizivir and call your doctor right away.**

If you stop treatment with Trizivir because of this serious reaction, **NEVER take abacavir (as Trizivir or Ziagen) again.** If you take any of these medicines again after you have had this serious reaction, **you could die within hours.**

Some patients who have stopped taking abacavir (as Trizivir or Ziagen) and who have then started taking abacavir again have had serious or life-threatening allergic (hypersensitivity) reactions. If you must stop treatment with Trizivir for reasons other than symptoms of hypersensitivity, do not begin taking it again without talking to your health care provider. If your health care provider decides that you may begin taking abacavir (as Trizivir or Ziagen) again, you should do so only in a setting with other people to get access to a doctor if needed.

A written list of these symptoms is on the Warning Card your pharmacist gives you. Carry this Warning Card with you.

Trizivir can have other serious side effects. Be sure to read the section below entitled "What are the possible side effects of Trizivir?"

**What is Trizivir?**

Trizivir is a medicine used to treat HIV infection. Trizivir includes 3 medicines: Ziagen (abacavir), Epivir® (lamivudine or 3TC®), and Retrovir® (zidovudine, AZT, or ZDV).

All 3 of these medicines are called nucleoside analogue reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs). When used together, they help lower the amount of HIV in your blood. This helps to keep your immune system as healthy as possible so it can fight infection.

Different combinations of medicines are used to treat HIV infection. You and your doctor should discuss which combination of medicines is best for you.

Trizivir does not cure HIV infection or AIDS. Trizivir has not been studied long enough to know if it will help you live longer or have fewer of the medical problems that are associated with HIV infection or AIDS. Therefore, you must see your health care provider regularly.

**Who should not take Trizivir?**

Do not take Trizivir if you have ever had a serious allergic reaction (a hypersensitivity reaction) to any of the medicines that make up Trizivir, especially Ziagen (abacavir). If you have had such a reaction, return all of your unused Trizivir to your doctor or pharmacist.

Do not take Trizivir if you weigh less than 90 pounds.

**How should I take Trizivir?**

To help make sure that your anti-HIV therapy is as effective as possible, take your Trizivir exactly as your doctor prescribes it. Do not skip any doses.

The usual dosage is 1 tablet twice a day. You can take Trizivir with food or on an empty stomach.

If you miss a dose of Trizivir® (abacavir sulfate, lamivudine, and zidovudine), take the missed dose right away. Then, take the next dose at the usual scheduled time. Do not let your Trizivir run out. The amount of virus in your blood may increase if your anti-HIV drugs are stopped, even for a short time. Also, the virus in your body may become harder to treat.

**What should I avoid while taking Trizivir?**

Do not take Epivir, Retrovir, Combivir®, or Ziagen while taking Trizivir. These medicines are already in Trizivir.

Practice safe sex while using Trizivir. Do not use or share dirty needles. Trizivir does not reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Talk to your doctor if you are pregnant or if you become pregnant while taking Trizivir. Trizivir has not been studied in pregnant women. It is not known whether Trizivir will harm the unborn child.

Mothers with HIV should not breastfeed their babies because HIV is passed to the baby in breast milk. Also, Trizivir can be passed to babies in breast milk and could cause the child to have side effects.

**What are the possible side effects of Trizivir?**

**Life-threatening allergic reaction.** Trizivir contains abacavir, which is also called Ziagen. Abacavir has caused some people to have a life-threatening allergic reaction (hypersensitivity reaction) that can cause death. How to recognize a possible reaction and what to do are discussed in "What is the most important information I should know about Trizivir?" at the beginning of this Medication Guide.

**Lactic acidosis and severe liver problems.** The medicines in Trizivir can cause a serious condition called lactic acidosis and, in some cases, this condition can cause death. Nausea and tiredness that don't get better may be symptoms of lactic acidosis. Women are more likely than men to get this serious side effect.

**Blood problems.** Retrovir, one of the medicines in Trizivir, can cause serious blood cell problems. These include reduced numbers of white blood cells (neutropenia) and extremely reduced numbers of red blood cells (anemia). These blood cell problems are especially likely to happen in patients with advanced HIV disease or AIDS.

Your doctor should be checking your blood cell counts regularly while you are taking Trizivir. This is especially important if you have advanced HIV or AIDS. This is to make sure that any blood cell problems are found quickly.

**Muscle weakness.** Retrovir, one of the medicines in Trizivir, can cause muscle weakness. This can be a serious problem.

**Other side effects.** Trizivir can cause other side effects. The most common side effects of taking the medicines in Trizivir together are nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, loss of appetite, weakness or tiredness, headache, dizziness, pain or tingling of the hands or feet, and muscle and joint pain.

This listing of side effects is not complete. Your doctor or pharmacist can discuss with you a more complete list of side effects with Trizivir.

Ask a health care professional about any concerns about Trizivir. If you want more information, ask your doctor or pharmacist for the labeling for Trizivir that was written for health care professionals.

Do not use Trizivir for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give Trizivir to other persons.

**GlaxoWellcome**

Glaxo Wellcome Inc.  
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

November 2000

MG-011

*This Medication Guide has been approved by the US Food and Drug Administration.*

©2001 The GlaxoSmithKline Group of Companies

All rights reserved.

Printed in USA.

TR2022R0

April 2001



# SUMMER SIZZLE

Friday 6/22/01 - Final Show!!

*Chances*

on Westheimer - 713-523-7217

**Eros 1207**  
A Boutique

for men and women of all lifestyles

Menswear  
Lingerie  
Swimwear  
Novelites  
Videos  
DVD's  
Gifts  
Games  
Thongs  
Heels  
BDSM Gear  
Body Deco  
Viacreme

Open 7 days 10 am - midnight - One Hour XXX Photo Processing Here!

713-944-6010 eros1207@hotmail.com www.eros1207.com

1207 Spencer Highway in So. Houston. Take I-45 south to College/Airport exit and go east three miles to Spencer & Allen Genoa. Next to Video Ace



# copy.com

Bringing you the Versatility of Digital Printing

## Things we can do for you...

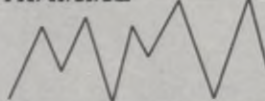
Make Fabulous  
Full-Color or B&W Business Cards  
including your Scanned Image  
or Digital Photo



Scan Images for your  
Web-Posting  
or Printing Needs

Take Your Digital Photo (or scanned  
traditional photo) and turn it into a  
wonderful Large Format Poster Display  
Great for Trade Shows & Conventions..

### JOHN'S PERSONAL TRAINING



FISCAL 2000 REPORT

Print Your Powerpoint Files  
(or other presentation files)  
to excellent glossy paper or  
transparencies for your next  
business presentation.

Make Beautiful Postcards or other Mail  
Pieces to promote your Business.  
We offer full color and greyscale printing  
on a wide variety of coated stocks.



1201 Westheimer 713/528-1201

For Auto, Home & Health  
Your  
Community  
Insurance  
Agency!

Ray Regina Jeffrey Gladys Rob

**ROB SCHMERLER & STAFF**  
713.661.7700

Business Insurance • Workers Compensation  
Group Health • Life Insurance & much more

www.SchmerlerAgency.com 6575 W. Loop South, Ste. 185 Bellaire, TX 77401

## "quote/unquote"

compiled from STAFF REPORTS

"I don't know that I would want to [continue], if my lover left. ... Should I have said that, about being your lover?"

—Matthew Broderick (far right), asked by *USA Today* in a joint interview how long he and Nathan Lane (right) would continue in co-starring roles in the Broadway hit "The Producers"



"It's too late. The rumors have started."

—Nathan Lane, responding to Broderick in the same *USA Today* interview

"Without him, I'm nothing."

—Nathan Lane, at the June 3 Tony Awards, after winning best actor; Lane invited Broderick on stage to share the award with him

"You should not express your romantic desire for 'Marcus.' Unless you believe your feelings are reciprocated, you should not make a pass at anyone. Gay or straight doesn't really come into it."

—Randy Cohen, writer of the *New York Times* syndicated advice column "Everyday Ethics," in response to a gay reader interested in a man he thinks might be straight

"We started fighting the Nazis too late because we thought it was all about Jews. This is not a discussion of black, gay men; it's a discussion of 'World War III,' of which black gay men and women are a part."

—Rev. Jesse Jackson, at a Brown University meeting of Gay Men of African Descent, blaming homophobia for spreading HIV and AIDS among blacks and Hispanics, in the *Providence Journal*



"Sadly, homophobia is still a great problem throughout America, but in the African-American community it is even more threatening. This is an enormous obstacle for everyone involved in AIDS prevention, treatment and research. ... We have to launch a national campaign against homophobia in the black community."

—Coretta Scott King (left), speaking June 8 at the National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS

"I am appalled at the choice of entertainment for a community event. ... I cannot in good conscience suggest that we will provide further support, financially or otherwise."

—Ray L. Sandhagen, chairman of SunTrust Bank-Gulf Coast, complaining about three female impersonators who hosted a fund-raising event for the Sarasota, Fla., downtown association. Several members, including the president of Sarasota Bank, resigned over the flap, according to the *Sarasota Herald-Tribune*

"There was not one vulgar word said, and there was not one vulgar thing done. There was nothing different than if [Tina Turner, Diana Ross and Cher] themselves did the show."

—Lynn McDonald, co-chair for the Sarasota, Fla., fund-raiser, in the *Sarasota Herald-Tribune*

"I realize my life is unique and some people think it's a publicity stunt. Well, it isn't. The relationship with Sandy, Mandy, Jessica and Brandie was a normal one—except it involved five people. They were my girlfriends, and I was sleeping with all of them. It certainly wasn't gay porn."

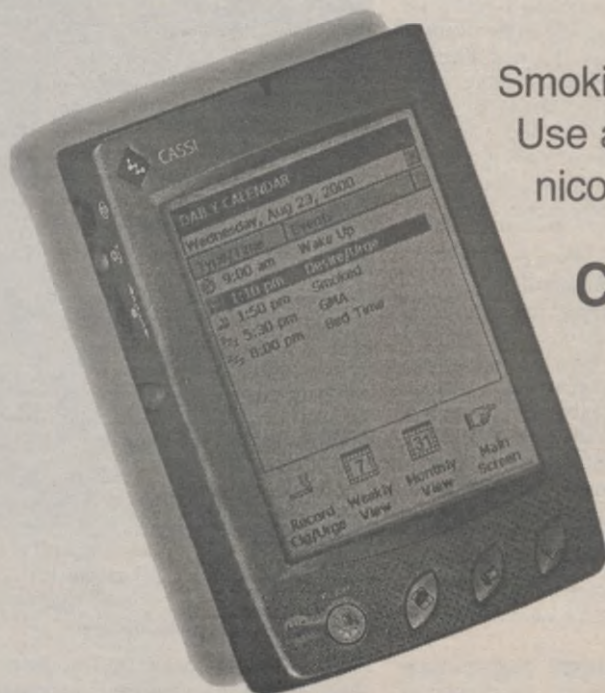
—Hugh Hefner (right), *Playboy* founder, responding to a *Philadelphia* magazine report that he takes Viagra and that, rather than have sex with his girlfriends, he instead "liked the girls to pleasure each other" while he watched gay porn, as reported in the *New York Post*





# Do You Want to Quit Smoking?

## Project CASSI



Smoking Cessation Research Study  
Use a hand-held computer and  
nicotine patch to quit smoking

**Call today 713-792-2265**

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS  
**MD ANDERSON  
CANCER CENTER**  
*Making Cancer History™*



Congratulations  
to Pride on 23  
years of great  
parades! Let's  
light up Houston  
and "Embrace  
Diversity" to fight  
for the rights of  
the GLBT  
communities.

**Let Your Voice  
be heard!**

(713)52-DEBRA Campaign  
(713)520-8068 District  
(713)463-0504 Austin  
[www.VoteDanburg.com](http://www.VoteDanburg.com)

## Debra Danburg

State Representative ★ District 137

*Congratulations  
on another  
wonderful  
celebration  
of Pride!*



## Annise Parker

Houston  
City Council  
Member

At-Large, Position 1

Paid for by the Annise Parker Campaign. Steve Kirkland, Treasurer



# Presbyterians take first step to reverse anti-gay policies

Assembly elects moderate leader, rejects ban on gay pastors

by RHONDA SMITH

The first sign that a gay-affirming policy change might be approved at the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s 213th General Assembly last week was the election of Rev. Dr. Jack Rogers, a theologian and historian who supports ordaining gay pastors, as the denomination's leader.

Several observers also said there were other less tangible signs that this annual conference, held in Louisville, Ky., might be different.

"The mood was very open," said the Rev. Dr. Janie Spahr, the ordained minister who in 1992 was barred by the denomination's highest court from becoming pastor at the Downtown United Presbyterian Church in Rochester, N.Y., because she is gay. "It just felt different."

California resident Mitzi Henderson, the mother of a gay son and co-moderator of More Light Presbyterians, echoed Spahr. More Light is a coalition of about 2,000 people and 106 congregations that want the denomination, which has 11,178 congregations, to fully welcome all its members.

"In Louisville, there was a change in demeanor and attitudes and less vilification. People were thoughtful and respectful," she said.

Last Friday, delegates at the annual conference voted 317-208 to delete an anti-gay provision in the denomination's *Book of Order* that requires pastors, deacons and elders to practice "fidelity within the covenant of marriage between a man and a woman or chastity in singleness."

In place of the "fidelity and chastity" provision, the delegates proposed adding a sentence that states local church bodies would determine church officials' suitability to hold office.

The delegates, who are elected by leaders in the denomination's 173 local presbyteries, or regional governing bodies, also voted to eliminate a 23-year-old "authoritative interpretation" of the church's constitution that prohibits the ordination of "self-affirming practicing homosexuals" as church officers.

"It was time," said Kim Rodrigue, one of eight commissioners, or delegates, elected by members of the National Capital Presbytery in metropolitan Washington, D.C., to represent them at the General Assembly.

She voted with the majority to overturn the anti-gay policies.

Before the proposed changes can take effect, members of each presbytery nationwide will have an opportunity to vote on them in the coming year. If a majority, or 87, of the presbyteries approve the gay-affirming proposals, they would be ratified at the denomination's General Assembly in Columbus, Ohio, next June.

In the *Layman Online*, a publication geared toward conservative Presbyterians, various church leaders opposed to deleting the anti-gay policies predicted the issue

would further divide the 2.5 million-member denomination.

"This certainly will be fought and debated in the presbyteries," said Joe Rightmyer, executive director of Presbyterians for Renewal, a conservative group that supports the denomination's current policies on homosexuality.

"There are many of us who are committed to faithfulness within this denomination for the long haul. I hope pastors will go home and find lots of their members ready and willing to work," he said.

In addition to the Presbyterian Lay Committee and Presbyterians for Renewal, other groups pushing to block the proposed changes include the Presbyterian Coalition, which has 5,000 subscribers on its mailing list, and the Confessing Church Movement, which was created in March and represents 452 congregations and more than 158,900 members.

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) news service reported that the Presbyterian Coalition, a group of anti-gay ordination organizations, described the vote last week as "deeply distressing."

Gay Presbyterians and their supporters said the victory at the recent General Assembly resulted in part from a successful effort among various gay-supportive individuals and groups to become more organized nationwide. They also predicted that the vote in various presbyteries on this issue would be close.

"I'd be surprised if this is ratified," said

Hamilton at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Washington. "But to have it voted on positively at the General Assembly shows there's been a change, or we were better organized."

Spahr, who also is director of That All May Freely Serve, a coalition pushing for full inclusion of gay people in the denomination, said this was the first General Assembly where her group, More Light Presbyterians, and The Shower of Stoles Project worked closely together.

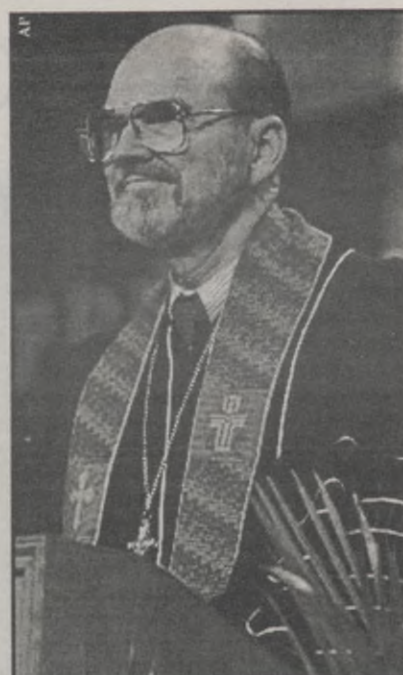
The three predominantly gay groups co-sponsored a dinner, operated booths, and shared a hospitality suite at the gathering in Kentucky last week.

The Covenant Network, a gay-affirming, predominantly heterosexual group for Presbyterians who support full inclusion of gays in the denomination, also worked more closely with the three groups this year.

More Light Presbyterians board member Marco Grimaldo, a Delaware resident and openly gay ordained elder in the denomination, said the Covenant Network helped, in part, by lobbying some of the most powerful leaders in the denomination to support the gay-affirming groups.

"They called these big churches and said, 'Let's create something supportive,'" he said. "They have a lot more money and people than we do."

Another development that pro-gay Presbyterians said signaled the denomination was becoming more gay friendly was the defeat in March of an anti-gay proposal



The election of Rev. Jack Rogers as head of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) on June 16 signaled a shift to more moderate turns during the denomination's annual meeting.

known as Amendment O. This proposal sought to prohibit ministers from presiding over holy unions for same-sex couples. A majority of the presbyteries voted against it.

## Baptists close session with assault on gays

Atlanta pastor who leads Southern Baptists calls gays 'tumor'

by MIKE FLEMING

NEW ORLEANS—The Southern Baptist Convention ended its annual meeting June 13 with a keynote address by Focus on the Family founder James Dobson, who said "the dam is broken" on the American family due in part to an increasingly gay-friendly culture.

"The homosexual agenda is destroying the family, and preserving and revitalizing the family is why we're called to our meeting this year," Dobson said.

And James Merritt, an Atlanta pastor who was elected to a second term as president of the Southern Baptist Convention, criticized gays, but did express concern for Southerner leader Mel White, who organized gay protests of the SBC during its meeting here last week.

"I love Mel White, and we love homosexuals," Merritt said. "But I believe that when a man goes to a doctor with a tumor, the most kind and loving thing that the doctor does [is not to] say, 'I'm okay and you're okay.' The most loving thing that a doctor can do is say, 'That tumor needs to come out.'"

Some 34 protestors were arrested June



Focus on the Family founder James Dobson closed the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting June 13 by asking Baptists to commit to the restoration of the traditional American family.

13 as they tried to carry a coffin into the conference after staging a jazz funeral for gays they said were hurt by Southern Baptists teachings about gays.

Last week, Dobson said the SBC is "at war with the American culture of sin." The traditional family is disintegrating, he said, and Christians may soon lose the ability to win younger generations of supporters.

"The dam has broken in regards to the family. Households with unmarried partners have increased 72 percent, and shockingly, most

respondents checking that field are of the homosexual lifestyle," Dobson said of figures recently released by the Census that show a rise in the number same-sex households.

Issues from last summer's controversial revision of the Baptist Faith & Mission statement—like declarations that women should "submit graciously" to their husbands, and that homosexuality is among sins like prostitution and pornography—were mentioned again this year, but not finalized into official statements.

"There is no major [controversial] issue on the table that's grabbing everyone's attention this year," said Danny Akin, chair of the Committee on Resolutions.

The only official word regarding gays came as the SBC offered to end its boycott of Walt Disney if the company met certain demands, including establishing a religious advisory committee.

Disney would have to stop sponsoring "Gay Day" in its theme parks, and censor its television programs and publications of gay material to have the ban lifted, said Richard Land, president of the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission.

The company said it's unlikely it will accept the SBC proposal.

—The Associated Press contributed to this report



# Marshaling Pride

Pride Committee, community choose activists to serve as Grand Marshals of nighttime parade

by D.L. GROOVER

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Each year, nominations, then votes are solicited by the Pride Committee of Houston for Pride Parade Grand Marshals. The following are profiles of the Pride Parade Grand Marshals for 2001.

## DALIA STOKES



In Hebrew, "Dalia" means branch or bough. In Arabic, "Dalia" means grapevine, as in Daliat El Carmel, a village Southeast of Haifa known since antiquity for the quality of its wine.

I don't know if Dalia Stokes' mother, Katherine, named her after Hebrew sources or Arabic, or perhaps some family antecedent, but "vine" suits her. A branch is dependent upon the tree trunk, and a bough, as we know from nursery rhymes, is easily broken. Dalia Stokes is most independent and not in any harm of breaking.

Whereas a vine spreads with the sun, its many shoots send forth fruit, it intertwines with its neighbors, it grows luxuriant with the season and grows stronger with age.

That is Dalia Stokes, female Grand Marshal for this year's Pride Parade.

Surprisingly, Stokes, whose name recognition has been synonymous with grassroots activism, is a relative newcomer to political life. She's the first to encourage anyone else to follow her example. You're help is needed, she urges, and anything you care to do as a volunteer is absolutely essential. Don't be afraid to volunteer.

"It's really bizarre how it happened. I was one of the people who always did what I thought was my part: which was go vote. You're not a good citizen unless you go vote, and I thought, well, this is great, I'm doing my part."

"It never occurred to me that I was needed. I had been so encouraged when I had

gone to the polls and actually voted for people who won, like Anne Richards and Bill Clinton. Two elections in a row, that's so cool. But after 1994, I was stunned, like so many people.

"I went to try to do something, offer some help, and the next thing I knew I was being asked if I would please consider running for judicial office."

A long-shot running against a very popular Republican, Stokes lost but it didn't stop her. Using the campaign and election experience as her education, she saw what one person could accomplish.

She also noticed that there were no political clubs for her peer group, business and professional Democrat women. In stark contrast, the Republicans had 41 active women's clubs in Harris County. So she floated a trial balloon, people signed up, paid dues, and overnight ROADWomen (River Oaks Area Democratic Women) was born.

And what is the message people should draw from this year's pride parade?

"Stand up for your rights. People need to be empowered, and the way to be empowered is to realize that they just have to do it themselves. One night a week you don't have to veg in front of the TV. They need to get out of their comfort zone and volunteer some time."

## MITCHELL KATINE



If there's anyone comparable to the Energizer Bunny in the gay community, he would have to be Mitchell Katine, ceaseless advocate for the unrepresented, champion of equal rights, law professor at South Texas Law College—his alma mater—and University of Houston, public speaker, AIDS activist, lead local attorney in the infamous Texas sodomy case, former Texas Real Estate Commissioner, partner in the law firm Williams, Birnberg and Anderson, and this year's male Grand Marshal.

Katine is a true activist: he's always moving. He rummages through file cabinets to retrieve the program from his first "AIDS and the Law" seminar from 1989; he rifles the pile of gay periodicals and newspapers under the table lamp to find the article on discrimination he wrote; somewhere from the crowded desk, he pulls the flyer he Xeroxed from the Pride Guide that he sends out with each office invoice, inviting the client to the Pride Parade; he scans the framed color photograph on his office wall of

German concentration camp Sachsenhausen, pointing out the pink triangles built into the chimney monument to the dead gays.

For being in constant motion, though, Katine is remarkably centered. There is a playful peace about him. He is happy where he is. Content. Maybe it's his own inner calm that drives him to help others unflinchingly. He's found something good and sees the injustice in others' not having it, too. Without his good works, though, he'd be mighty unhappy.

"Activists. The term activists has changed over the years. A lot of the true activists are no longer with us, so I feel that all of us who are here and well and capable, should get out and be the activists for people who used to be. I feel an obligation, a commitment. If nobody's protesting, that isn't right."

Katine's partner, Walter, and two friends will be riding down Westheimer with him, throwing the little frisbees to the eager crowd.

"With each parade it makes people feel more confident, more accepting, realizing there's a lot to be proud of as a gay and lesbian person. We should demand respect, we deserve respect; that's what the parade's about, that's what just being out and not being afraid to be public is about."

"It's okay to be gay. That's the message it sends. Do what you think is the best thing to do. Be free and live your life."

"That's what it is: a celebration of freedom."

## BLAKE AND GORDON WEISSER



If you've ever attended a meeting of Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, you're familiar with the small group sessions that occur after the general monthly meeting or presentation.

These intimate encounters are where the real work of PFLAG takes place, where confidences, tears and laughter are shared in true bond. It's where PFLAG's magic happens, where acceptance and knowledge fuse to banish grief and shame.

These sessions are known as the Heart of PFLAG, but this label justly applies to this year's Honorary Grand Marshals, Blake and Gordon Weisser.

This ravishingly adorable couple has been married for 25 years. Like most inseparable opposites, they overlap each other's conversations, fill in the blanks, turn to each other for support, and put up with each other's foibles with heart-affirming tolerance.

Blake talks a blue streak, Gordon answers with careful deliberation. Blake is a

live wire, Gordon more muted. Together, they're just as cute as Oscar and Felix. And if you want a living example of what PFLAG is all about, what incredible strength its heart has, you need look no farther than this loving straight couple.

Amid the chinoiserie on their coffee table in their spacious columned living room off Shepherd is the book "Walking a Sacred Path," by the Reverend Laura Artress of Grace Cathedral of San Francisco, creator of that church's popular canvas labyrinth. Using the idea of a labyrinth as metaphor for a spiritual journey of self-discovery, as a quest for inner peace and real meaning of it all, seems appropriate for the Weissers.

They have an abiding faith that has seen them through the trials of their grown daughter's coming out. For them, it was a long journey, but at the end they found not only acceptance but a missionary zeal to advocate for that acceptance. They are PFLAG.

To compute how long they've been with PFLAG, Blake uses her daughter's coming out as the benchmark event it obviously was.

"She came out at age 40, and she's almost 62, we were in the closet 11 years, so it's about 10 years," said Blake. Gordon nodded. Valerie is Blake's daughter from a previous marriage.

"I didn't know she was a lesbian, and neither did she. She was married and had three sons in high school when she came out. And she had not known she was a lesbian. There's a lot of that these days."

Apparently, going into the closet for a parent who discovers their child is gay is standard operating procedure.

"When the child comes out, the saying goes, the parent goes in," Gordon said.

"It was incredible what happened," said Blake. "We are very active at Christ Church Cathedral. At adult education hour, they had a panel of three PFLAG parents come to speak. Just think, that was 10 years ago. It was the first time I had ever heard of PFLAG."

It was the first time either of them had ever heard "I have a lesbian daughter" spoken out loud and in front of strangers. They joined immediately, but the closet door hardly fell off its hinges.

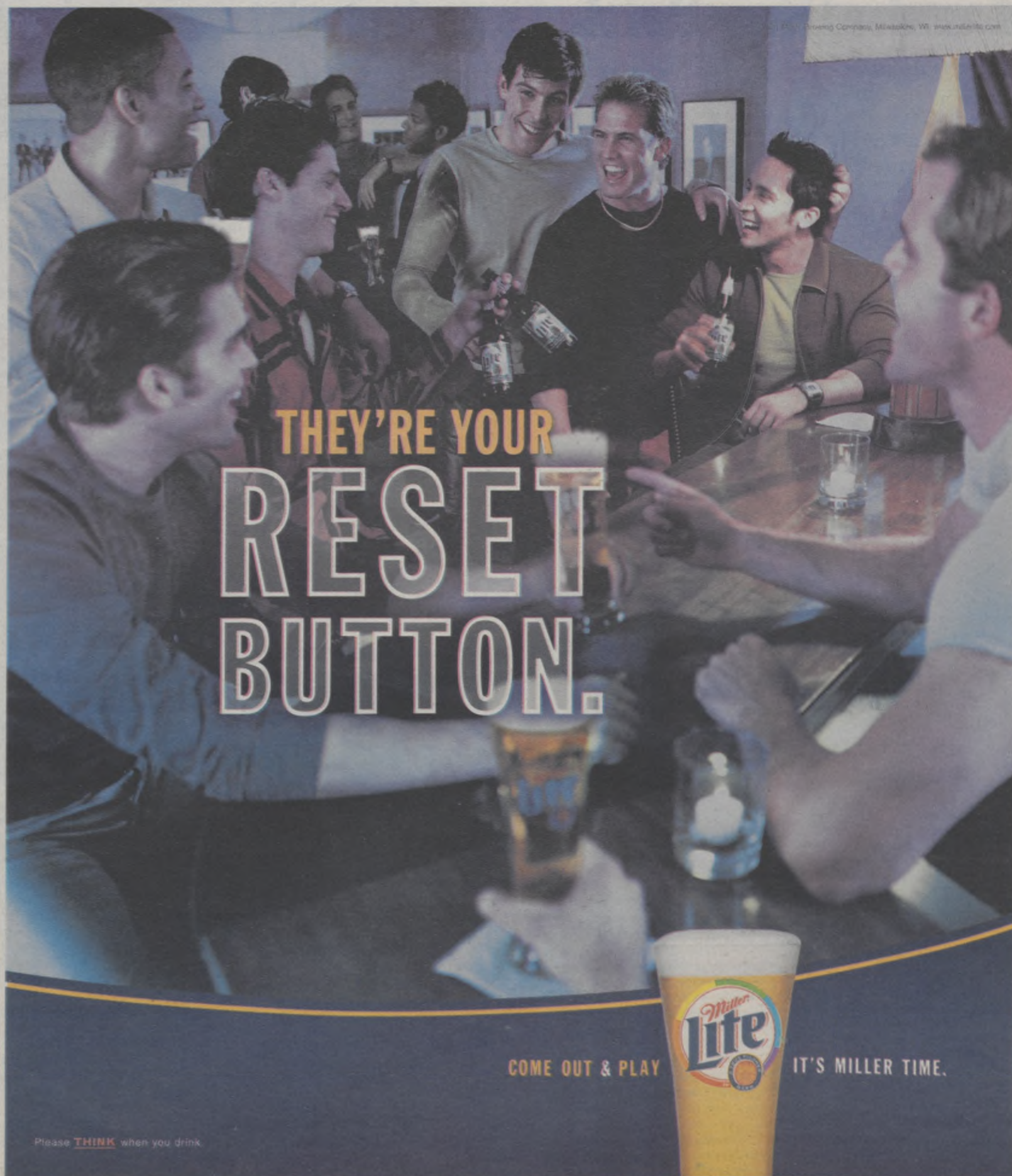
"You have to learn," Blake admitted. "PFLAG's mission is nurturing. The small groups are called the heart of PFLAG. That's where the sharing takes place, that's where the listening, the understanding, that's where you heal, that's where you grieve, that's where you move. It took a few years of that."

Ten years later, the Weissers have become the epitome of activists. Gordon's in his third year as treasurer, Blake's chair of the Help Line, PFLAG's telephone support system similar to the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard. Gordon was one of the founders of the PFLAG/HATCH Youth Scholarship program. They never stop their good works. Retirement is not in their vocabulary.

When asked what impact they hoped the parade would have on participants and observers, they both answered without hesitation, "Get involved."

the and-gay politics predicted the future





© 2001 Miller Brewing Company, Milwaukee, WI. www.millerlite.com

**THEY'RE YOUR  
RESET  
BUTTON.**

COME OUT & PLAY

**Miller  
Lite**

IT'S MILLER TIME.

Please **THINK** when you drink.



# Drive Proudly, Drive Massey.



**Don Massey Cadillac**

2520 Main, Houston • 713-874-0900

*Your caring, servicing, selling master dealer*

**SALES HOURS:**

7:30am-6:00pm Monday-Friday

9:00am-6:00pm Saturday

**SERVICE HOURS:**

7:30am-6:00pm Monday-Friday



# more variations than the kama sutra

harvard square • boston • houston

Create the perfect meal.  
Your choice of 18 different meats & fish,  
44 fresh vegetables, and 14 signature sauces  
on our 35 square foot grill.

**FIRE**

**+iCE**

Celebrate your  
freedom of choice.  
Eat what you want.

Now open  
for lunch

An Improvisational Grill  
Now open in Houston's River Oaks  
2801 Kirby Drive @ Westheimer  
713.522.4500

# PRIDE



## Celebrate Pride 2001

Join us during the PARADE  
8pm-10pm for Cold Drinks!  
\$2 Wells • \$2 Longnecks  
\$2 Drafts • \$1 Glow Shots!

Stay for the  
**AFTER PARADE PARTY!!**  
**Awesome drink specials**

8pm-2am Wednesday-Sunday  
Re-Inventing the Gay Club Scene!  
Never A Cover!!! • 21 & Up  
1417-B Westheimer • 713.522.5166



# Out on the Bayou

A guide for your leisure time

HOUSTON VOICE • JUNE 22, 2001

## floating on pride

**MONTHS OF EFFORT, PLANNING GO INTO KREWE OF OLYMPUS' PRIDE PARADE ENTRY**

by D.L. GROOVER

The Heights backyard of Annie Couch looks like Santa's workshop. Santa's gay workshop, that is, if his elves were members of the Krewe of Olympus.

Renown for their philanthropic largesse and fund-raising activity within our community, some of the Krewe might very well be Santa's elves. They'd certainly know how to whip up the costume. But right now, you see, these elves are making themselves a float for the Pride parade.

Tables on sawhorses are set up in the shade under the garage awning. Guys with X-Acto® knives cut out the



D.L. GROOVER

words Equality and Diversity using stencils. A small noisy fan on the driveway shoots a useless humid breeze into their faces as they squint and cut along the lines. Rainbow-hued 10-foot abstract pipe figures lean against the side of the garage.

Even larger figures stand guard around a tree. Colorful pieces of Coroplast® are stacked nearby, ready to be cut into geometric shapes for the figures' body parts. Papier-mâché globes, soon to be finials of columns made from heavy cardboard drum rolls, dry on a card table in the sun.

Inside Annie's house, Krewe members sew fabric panels to be attached to the giant figures. Denise, surrounded by a dozen helpers, is learning to balance the cumbersome giant she must wear and maneuver during the nighttime revels this Saturday. Everyone's busy, sweating, laughing, having a good time.

> Continued on Page 30



DAVID'S DELIGHT

## Pride Festival returns

**After 5-year absence, post-parade event returns with 45 vendors, live entertainment Sunday afternoon**

by KAY Y. DAYUS

The Pride Festival returns to Houston's Pride calendar this weekend for the first time in five years and it promises to be bigger and better than ever, said Jeffery Neaves, one of the festival organizers.

Neaves said the festival boasts both local and national entertainers and 45 vendors and social agencies selling everything from food and American Express financial services to custom-made jewelry and other crafts.

"We're proud of the 45 vendors who have decided to take part in the Pride Festival. They are taking a gamble for this new festival, but they are dedicated to us," Neaves said. He added that others were not so brave when asked to participate. "Some wanted to wait and see how it went and then maybe join next year."

"We'll have two stages continuously featuring national and local acts of all varieties. It's a great deal for \$5. We have a nice mix; something for everyone," said Neaves.

Festival-goers will have plenty of choices: comedian Bob Smith; Suede, "a jazz artist with a sultry voice," according to Neaves; Marcus Hutchinson and Dave West, country and western artists; the Front Alley Girls, an Ohio-based group that does a spoof on the Back Street Boys-get it? Then there's Houston's own Nancy Ford with her Dyke Show, True Soul, rhythm and blues, and much more.

And there will be some politicking in all likelihood, said Neaves. Invitations have been extended to Mayor Lee P. Brown, City Councilwoman Annise Parker, State Rep. Debra Danburg, D-Houston, and U.S.

> Continued on Page 31



Pride Fest offers a casual, picnic-like mood for post-Pride celebrations. The event returns this year, after a 5-year hiatus, and will be held Sunday from 1-7 p.m. at Garden in the Heights.





THE FUTURE IS YOURS.

**VoiceStream**  
WIRELESS

Authorized Dealer

\*Nokia 5190

### FAMILY TIME PLAN

- 3000 Total minutes – 69.99  
*That's 2 phones and 2 lines*
- 600 anytime – 2000 weekend also including  
600 anytime long distance – 39.99
- 1500 anytime–2500 weekend – to include  
1500 anytime long distance - 99.99

**25% discount on all  
phone accessories  
with this ad!**

*Proudly serving our community!!*

Call for nearest location:

**713-266-7779**

 **– free phone,  
leather case  
and car  
charger  
with activation!**

Photo courtesy of www.budguy.com



Because where I go  
from here is up to me.

**Think Ahead.  
Plan Your Future With VIRACEPT®.**

Because it's strong and effective. Keep your viral load down with the #1 prescribed HIV medication of its kind.\* VIRACEPT works with you to keep your life on track.

Because it's easy to live with. VIRACEPT's easy dosing schedule and manageable side effects have been helping all kinds of people continue to lead their lives on their own terms.

Because it saves future options. When choosing a treatment plan, it's important to consider what options you will have in the future. Studies show taking VIRACEPT early on leaves you with choices in treatment for later. Ask your doctor about your future with VIRACEPT.

**VIRACEPT®**  
nelfinavir mesylate  
tablets and oral powder

VIRACEPT is indicated in combination with other antiretroviral agents for the treatment of HIV infection. The most common side effect of VIRACEPT is diarrhea, which can usually be controlled with over-the-counter treatments. Some prescription and non-prescription drugs and supplements should not be taken with VIRACEPT, so talk to your doctor first. For some people, protease inhibitors have been associated with the onset or worsening of diabetes mellitus and hyperglycemia, changes in body fat, and increased bleeding in hemophiliacs. **HIV drugs do not cure HIV infection or prevent you from spreading the virus.**

Refer to the important information on the next page. For more information, call toll free 1-888-VIRACEPT or visit [www.viracept.com](http://www.viracept.com).

**Agouron®**  
Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
A Bristol-Myers Squibb Company

\*IMS HEALTH National Prescription Audit™ data for Protease Inhibitors, 1/00-12/00. VIRACEPT and Agouron are registered trademarks of Agouron Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Copyright © 2001, Agouron Pharmaceuticals, Inc. All rights reserved. 1-V01136-CC





## VIRACEPT® (nelfinavir mesylate)

Tablets and Oral Powder  
**Information for Patients**  
about VIRACEPT® (Vi-na-sept)  
Generic Name: nelfinavir (nelfinavir mesylate)  
For the Treatment of Human  
Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Infection

Please read this information carefully before taking VIRACEPT. Also, please read this leaflet each time you renew the prescription, just in case anything has changed. This is a summary and not a replacement for a careful discussion with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss VIRACEPT when you start taking this medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when taking VIRACEPT and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

**Alert: Find out about medicines that should NOT be taken with VIRACEPT.** Please also read the section "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH VIRACEPT".

### WHAT IS VIRACEPT AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

VIRACEPT is used in combination with other antiretroviral drugs in the treatment of people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. Infection with HIV leads to the destruction of CD4 T cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of CD4 cells have been destroyed, the infected person develops acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

VIRACEPT works by blocking HIV protease (a protein-cutting enzyme), which is required for HIV to multiply. VIRACEPT has been shown to significantly reduce the amount of HIV in the blood. Although VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV or AIDS, VIRACEPT can help reduce your risk for death and illness associated with HIV. Patients who took VIRACEPT also had significant increases in the number of CD4 cell count.

VIRACEPT should be taken together with other antiretroviral drugs such as Zidovudine (AZT), Zalcitabine (ddC), or Zalcitabine (ddI). Taking VIRACEPT in combination with other antiretroviral drugs reduces the amount of HIV in the body (viral load) and raises CD4 counts. VIRACEPT may be taken by adults, adolescents, and children 2 years of age or older. Studies in infants younger than 2 years of age are now taking place.

### DOES VIRACEPT CURE HIV OR AIDS?

VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV infection or AIDS. People taking VIRACEPT may still develop opportunistic infections or other conditions associated with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, Mycobacterium avium complex (MAC) infections, and Kaposi's sarcoma. There is no proof that VIRACEPT can reduce the risk of transmitting HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

### WHO SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT TAKE VIRACEPT?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether VIRACEPT is appropriate for you. In making your decision, the following should be considered:

**Allergies:** If you have had a serious allergic reaction to VIRACEPT, you must not take VIRACEPT. You should also inform your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist of any known allergies to substances such as other medicines, foods, preservatives, or dyes.

**If you are pregnant:** The effects of VIRACEPT on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known. If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

**If you are breast-feeding:** You should discuss with your doctor the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that it can be transmitted through breast-feeding. **Women should not breast-feed if they have HIV.**

**Children:** VIRACEPT is available for the treatment of children 2 through 13 years of age with HIV. There is a powder form of VIRACEPT that can be mixed with milk, baby formula, or foods like pudding. Instructions on how to take VIRACEPT powder can be found in a later section that discusses how VIRACEPT Oral Powder should be prepared.

**If you have liver disease:** VIRACEPT has not been studied in people with liver disease. If you have liver disease, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

**Other medical problems:** Certain medical problems may affect the use of VIRACEPT. Some people taking protease inhibitors have developed new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Some people with hemophilia have had increased bleeding. It is not known whether the protease inhibitors caused these problems. Be sure to tell your doctor if you have hemophilia types A and B, diabetes mellitus, or an increase in thirst and/or frequent urination.

Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients taking protease inhibitors. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the face, legs and arms may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

### CAN VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER MEDICATIONS?

VIRACEPT may interact with other drugs, including those you take without a prescription. You must discuss with your doctor any drugs that you are taking or are planning to take before you take VIRACEPT.

### Medicines you should not take with VIRACEPT:

Propulsid® (cisapride, for heartburn)  
Cordarone® (amiodarone, for irregular heartbeat)  
Quinidine (for irregular heartbeat), also known as Quinaglute®, Cardioquin®, Quinidex®, and others  
Ergot derivatives (Cafergot® and others, for migraine headache)  
Halcion® (triazolam)  
Versed® (midazolam)  
Mevacor® (lovastatin, for cholesterol lowering)  
Zocor® (simvastatin, for cholesterol lowering)

Taking the above drugs with VIRACEPT may cause serious and/or life-threatening adverse events.

Rifampin® (for tuberculosis), also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®  
This drug reduces blood levels of VIRACEPT.

**Dose reduction required if you take VIRACEPT with:** Mycobutin® (rifabutin, for MAC; you will need to take a lower dose of Mycobutin).

**A change of therapy should be considered if you are taking VIRACEPT with:**

Phenobarbital  
Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)  
Carbamazepine (Tegretol® and others)

These agents may reduce the amount of VIRACEPT in your blood and make it less effective.

Oral contraceptives ("the pill")

If you are taking the pill to prevent pregnancy, you should use a different type of contraception since VIRACEPT may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.

### Special considerations

Before you take Viagra® (sildenafil) with VIRACEPT, talk to your doctor about possible drug interactions and side effects. If you take Viagra and VIRACEPT together, you may be at increased risk of side effects of Viagra such as low blood pressure, visual changes, and penile erection lasting more than 4 hours. If an erection lasts longer than 4 hours, you should seek immediate medical assistance to avoid permanent damage to your penis. Your doctor can explain these symptoms to you.

It is not recommended to take VIRACEPT with the cholesterol-lowering drugs Mevacor® (lovastatin) or Zocor® (simvastatin) because of possible drug interactions. There is also an increased risk of drug interactions between VIRACEPT and Lipitor® (atorvastatin) and Baycol® (cerivastatin); talk to your doctor before you take either of these cholesterol reducing drugs with VIRACEPT.

Taking St. John's wort (hypericum perforatum), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort with VIRACEPT is not recommended. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or are planning to take St. John's wort. Taking St. John's wort may decrease VIRACEPT levels and lead to increased viral load and possible resistance to VIRACEPT or cross resistance to other antiretroviral drugs.

### HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER ANTI-HIV DRUGS?

Taking VIRACEPT together with other anti-HIV drugs increases their ability to fight the virus. It also reduces the opportunity for resistant viruses to grow. Based on your history of taking other anti-HIV medicine, your doctor will direct you on how to take VIRACEPT and other anti-HIV medicines. These drugs should be taken in a certain order or at specific times. This will depend on how many times a day each medicine should be taken. It will also depend on whether it should be taken with or without food.

**Nucleoside analogues:** No drug interaction problems were seen when VIRACEPT was given with:

Retrovir (zidovudine, AZT)  
Epidur (lamivudine, 3TC)  
Zerit (stavudine, d4T)  
Videx® (didanosine, ddI)

**If you are taking both Videx (ddI) and VIRACEPT:**

Videx should be taken without food, on an empty stomach. Therefore, you should take VIRACEPT with food one hour after or more than two hours before you take Videx.

### Nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs):

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

Viramune® (nevirapine)  
The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood is unchanged. A dose adjustment is not needed when VIRACEPT is used with Viramune.

Sustiva™ (efavirenz)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. A dose adjustment is not needed when VIRACEPT is used with Sustiva.

Other NNRTIs

VIRACEPT has not been studied with other NNRTIs.

### Other protease inhibitors:

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

Crixivan® (indinavir)

The amount of both drugs in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

Norvir™ (ritonavir)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

Inivase® (saquinavir)

The amount of saquinavir in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

### WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS OF VIRACEPT?

Like all medicines, VIRACEPT can cause side effects. Most of the side effects experienced with VIRACEPT have been mild to moderate. Diarrhea is the most common side effect in people taking VIRACEPT, and most adult patients had at least mild diarrhea at some point during treatment. In clinical studies, about 15-20% of patients receiving VIRACEPT 750 mg (three tablets) three times daily or 1250 mg (five tablets) two times daily had four or more loose stools a day. In most cases, diarrhea can be controlled using antidiarrheal medicines, such as Imodium® A-D (loperamide) and others, which are available without a prescription.

Other side effects that occurred in 2% or more of patients receiving VIRACEPT include nausea, gas and rash.

There were other side effects noted in clinical studies that occurred in less than 2% of patients receiving VIRACEPT. However, these side effects may have been due to other drugs that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Except for diarrhea, there were not many differences in side effects in patients who took VIRACEPT along with other drugs compared with those who took only the other drugs. For a complete list of side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

### HOW SHOULD I TAKE VIRACEPT?

VIRACEPT is available only with your doctor's prescription. Your doctor may prescribe the light blue VIRACEPT Tablets either as 1250 mg (five tablets) taken two times a day or as 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. VIRACEPT should always be taken with a meal or a light snack. VIRACEPT tablets are film-coated to help make the tablets easier to swallow.

**Take VIRACEPT exactly as directed by your doctor.** Do not increase or decrease any dose or the number of doses per day. Also, take this medicine for the exact period of time that your doctor has instructed. **Do not stop taking VIRACEPT without first consulting with your doctor, even if you are feeling better.**

Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give VIRACEPT to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

The dosing of VIRACEPT may be different for you than for other patients. **Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.** The amount of VIRACEPT in the blood should remain somewhat consistent over time. Missing doses will cause the concentration of VIRACEPT to decrease; therefore, **you should not miss any doses.** However, if you miss a dose, you should take the dose as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose and future doses as originally scheduled.

### Dosing in adults (including children 14 years of age and older)

The recommended adult dose of VIRACEPT is 1250 mg (five tablets) taken two times a day or 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. Each dose should be taken with a meal or light snack.

### Dosing in children 2 to 13 years of age

The VIRACEPT dose in children depends on their weight. The recommended dose is 20 to 30 mg/kg (or 9 to 14 mg/pound) per dose, taken three times daily with a meal or light snack. This can be administered either in tablet form or, in children unable to take tablets, as VIRACEPT Oral Powder.

Dose instructions will be provided by the child's doctor. The dose will be given three times daily using the measuring scoop provided, a measuring teaspoon, or one or more tablets depending on the weight and age of the child. The amount of oral powder or tablets to be given to a child is described in the chart below.

Pediatric Dose to Be Administered Three Times Daily				
Body Weight	Number of Level Scoops*	Number of Level Teaspoons†	Number of Tablets	
Kg	Lb			
7 to <8.5	15.5 to <18.5	4	1	—
8.5 to <10.5	18.5 to <23	5	1 1/4	—
10.5 to <12	23 to <26.5	6	1 1/2	—
12 to <14	26.5 to <31	7	1 3/4	—
14 to <16	31 to <35	8	2	—
16 to <18	35 to <39.5	9	2 1/4	—
18 to <23	39.5 to <50.5	10	2 1/2	2
≥23	≥50.5	15	3 3/4	3

In measuring oral powder, the scoop or teaspoon should be level.

\* 1 level scoop contains 50 mg of VIRACEPT. Use only the scoop provided with your VIRACEPT bottle.

† 1 level teaspoon contains 200 mg of VIRACEPT. Note: A measuring teaspoon used for dispensing medication should be used for measuring VIRACEPT Oral Powder. Ask your pharmacist to make sure you have a medication dispensing teaspoon.

### How should VIRACEPT Oral Powder be prepared?

The oral powder may be mixed with a small amount of water, milk, formula, soy formula, soy milk, dietary supplements, or dairy foods such as pudding or ice cream. Once mixed, the entire amount must be taken to obtain the full dose.

**Do not mix the powder with any acidic food or juice,** such as orange or grapefruit juice, apple juice, or apple sauce, because this may create a bitter taste.

Once the powder is mixed, it may be stored at room temperature or refrigerated for up to 6 hours. **Do not heat the mixed dose once it has been prepared.**

**Do not add water to bottles of oral powder.**

VIRACEPT powder is supplied with a scoop for measuring. For help in determining the exact dose of powder for your child, please ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

VIRACEPT Oral Powder contains aspartame, a low-calorie sweetener, and therefore should not be taken by children with phenylketonuria (PKU).

### HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE STORED?

Keep VIRACEPT and all other medicines out of the reach of children. Keep bottle closed and store at room temperature (between 59°F and 86°F) away from sources of moisture such as a sink or other damp place. Heat and moisture may reduce the effectiveness of VIRACEPT.

**Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need.** Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

Discuss all questions about your health with your doctor. If you have questions about VIRACEPT or any other medication you are taking, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You can also call 1.888.VIRACEPT (1.888.847.2237) toll free.

### Call 1.888.VIRACEPT

VIRACEPT and Agouron are registered trademarks of Agouron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Copyright ©2001, Agouron Pharmaceuticals, Inc. All rights reserved.



Agouron Pharmaceuticals Inc.  
La Jolla, California, 92037, USA  
1-800-171-BG

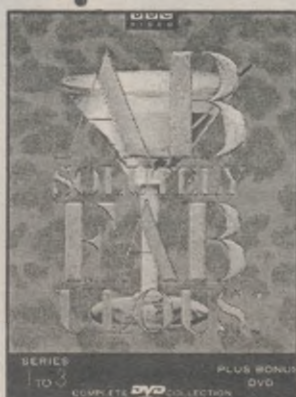
L203-0001 PPI  
Rev. 01/25/01



So many CDs/Videos/DVDs, so little to pay.



Queer As Folk  
Music from the original soundtrack  
Showtime/BMG/RCA Victor  
On Sale \$15.99



Absolutely FABulous  
Series 1 to 3, complete box set DVD  
BBC Video  
\$79.99



Rufus Wainwright  
Poses  
Dreamworks Records  
\$18.99



Sex & the City  
Complete 1st Season(VHS).....\$39.98  
(DVD).....\$29.99  
Complete 2nd Season(VHS).....\$49.92  
(DVD).....\$39.99

There's nothing like great music and movies. Especially at prices that allow you to get as much great music and movies as possible. So stop by Borders and listen.

**BORDERS®**

3025 Kirby • 713.524.0200  
[www.borders.com](http://www.borders.com)



**The Time is  
Ripe for  
Savings!**

**Sign up today...and save  
on thousands of items!**

A shopper's card should save you money . . . plain & simple! The Kroger Plus Shopping Card saves you money on thousands of products throughout the store, Double and Triple Manufacturer's Coupons, exclusive offers, discounts at area merchants and attractions, discounts for Senior Citizens and much, much more! This is one tomato you will want to put in your pocket! Sign up today!



Where It Costs Less To Get **MORE**



# Krewe of Olympus float captured lighting award last year

> Continued from Page 25

This year's float chairman is twinkling-eyed Annie, who served as the Krewe's float chairman last year and this year's Ball chairman. She's in constant motion, supervising, answering questions, just being there.

"We need wood," yells a Krewe member, removing his bandanna to wipe his face.

"Yeah, we need to go get that," she replies. "I can give you directions how to get there. Wait a minute and I'll go with you."

Although float chairman is a voted-on position with the Krewe, no one ran against her this time after her successful guidance last year.

"It's kind of who wants to do it. I'll do it one more year, then it's somebody else's turn."

The Krewe devotes four months to the Pride float, and it shows. They won Best Lighting in last year's parade. As in years past, their designer is Sands S., whose work begins when the National Pride Committee selects a theme. Once he's sketched out his design, it's up to the float committee to realize the dream. From extensive fund-raising efforts throughout the year, the parade budget is fairly hefty, but Annie keeps a tight rein on it nonetheless.

"It's probably a little bit more than most," Annie agrees, then adds with a smile, "but then we like to parade."

If you've ever been to one of their Mardi Gras extravaganzas, you know how much this unique group loves to strut their stuff and have fun.

"Do you have another battery for your drill?" shouts another Krewe worker.

"Yeah, right inside the workroom door. To the left."

After their first meeting on April 7, the float committee met for a few hours each week every month, until they reached this stage. Annie consults her war briefing manual, a thick binder with a first page spreadsheet of dates, times, and names of who's attended each workshop meeting. It's filled with checkmarks.

"My partner's a computer person, so she does all this," she confesses. "This gives us an idea, this decides who rides. The captain gets this, because we're a very work-oriented group, so we try to keep up with who all shows up and works, because a lot of perks are based on participation."

From the back yard, the group assisting Denise with her giant green costume breaks into laughter. "Is that gonna be too tall for Denise?" someone says. "It's not too tall, Denise's too short."

"How about platform shoes," another quips. "I've got my own, thank you."

Sands' final design, in color and partially rendered in 3D, is taped to the wall of the garage. Periodically, one of the workers comes up to check out a detail. The float itself is fashioned from a goose-neck trailer 24 feet long and 8 feet wide. Two electrical generators to power the lights and the sound system will be hidden inside, behind the rows of Keith Haring-look alike figures running along each side of the trailer.

The Krewe's royalty will stand in the stern, inside the encircling arms of an abstract embracing figure. This is big-time floatbuilding design.

Perhaps the most important consideration of all is the float's modularity. All the intricate pieces have to assemble with minimum fuss and break apart simply, economically, because Houston's not the Krewe's only parade. This juggernaut has to travel.

"After Houston, we go to Dallas for their Pride parade," Annie says. "We have two members from Dallas, so we use their front yard and they live real close to the parade site, so we just pull a big ol' truck into their front yard, spend Saturday to rebuild, and do the parade on Sunday up there."

But right now, their sights are set on this weekend, especially when they move all the pieces down to their space in Near Town to complete this floating leviathan. The modules, according to Annie's plan and Sands' blueprint, neither of which has failed them yet, will be completely assembled Saturday morning, in time for ultimate fine tuning before the parade's evening start.

Two Krewe men lug a heavy 2x4 modular frame, painted like a rainbow, toward the garage where other finished pieces are stored.

"Hey guys, is that one done? You'll have to store it behind the shed."

The co-workers don't bat an eye, while they maneuver the awkward wooden platform. As if seeing exactly where this piece fits into the intricate jigsaw parade puzzle, Sands watches the frame disappear behind the garage.

"We wanted to do this one real colorful," he says proudly. "It's fun to do something on paper and then see it actually come to life. It's like, wow."

He points to a one-inch dot on his artist's rendering and smiles "This theoretically's going to be a rotating globe. Of course, it may be nothing at all. It may be just a theory."

For sure, though, what you can count on with a Krewe float is its stunning illumination. The plans for this one will outshine all their past efforts: the figures along the sides outlined in twinkling Christmas lights, slogans backlit (that's why all the stencils), translucent panels, lights around the edges. And then there are the 12 large artful figures that walk next to the float.

"We'll do a little routine in front of the judges," Annie laughs, "if all the walkers are still alive at that point." She watches Denise handle the pipe figure. "It's more bulky than heavy. It looks a lot heavier than it is."

"We're gonna use about 30 people for the float. Two carry a banner; I recruit a friend of mine to drive the truck; at least two 'wheel monitors'; 12 guys riding, 12 guys walking; then we have a contingent that sells the rainbow beads and chains as part of our fund-raiser."

"This is my third year with the Krewe. We have a friend who's a charter member who came over from New Orleans, and we went to the Ball as his guest, and I said, 'This is the kind of group I want to be involved in.' They do good stuff, they have fun. Members of the Krewe are our best friends. One reason is that we spend so much time together."

"We're all a family; it's our extended family. That's the way I feel about it, and



Krewe of Olympus 2000.

that's the way everybody feels about it. I don't think there's anything anybody wouldn't do for another member."

The back door slams, and the man who asked for the wood approaches.

"Don't worry, I'll get your wood," she

waves. "We have a great time doing this. We work hard, but it's so much fun."

Then she's off with her extended family member to the lumber yard, another problem solved without fanfare and with a great wide smile.

## Pride fun run rained out

The winner of this year's Houston Gay and Lesbian Pride 5K Fun Run/Walk was T.S. Allison, better known as Tropical Storm Allison.

While more than 100 runners pre-registered, the race site along Memorial Drive was flooded by the storm, forcing cancellation of the event the morning of June 9.

"Having spent the past 10 months making preparations for the Pride Fun Run, the four other guys and I who comprise the Houston Montrose Athletic Association (HMAA) were extremely disappointed that the race could not be run," Mac Crone, race director, said. "Unfortunately, there is not enough time and we do not have the financial resources to reschedule the race."

Despite the devastating flood, Crone said, there was some good news.

"We were able to give food that had been donated for the race party to the American Red Cross to help victims of the flood."

"And once we finish paying bills for the shirts, advertising, permits, mailing, and other expenses, we still hope to be able to make a donation to the race beneficiary, AssistHers."

HMAA will mail T-shirts to registrants who were unable to pick up their race packets. Extra shirts are available for purchase from Crone at 713-661-8919.



# Bayou Calendar

## "Screen Queens"

To celebrate "Gay Pride Month," Hollywood Frame Gallery exhibits lithographic repros of what the American Film Institute thinks are the "100 greatest American movie poster classics." The posters, all printed on archival paper that will last longer than the nitrate antique flickers, are the same size as the original broadsides and have been printed from hand-drawn plates on antique presses from the artful S2 Atelier in NYC. Six lithos from the complete set, including "Tootsie," "Gilda," and "Cleopatra," can be bought. Since prices for the cinematic lithos start at \$325, as long as you're at Kathleen and Ricky Connaughton's fabulous and gay-friendly store, you might as well buy one of the real things. And what the hell's "Tootsie" doing on that list?

Through July  
Hollywood Frame  
Gallery, 2431  
Bissonnet St.  
713-942-8885



## "Comanche Station"

What gay and lesbian film festival would be complete without some tribute to Randolph Scott? The man with the Mt. Rushmore kisser set up weekend good housekeeping with Cary Grant in their Malibu beach cottage during the '30s. They were the most fun-loving (i.e. gayest) of Hollywood bachelors, just ask George Cukor. When RKO offered Grant a contract renewal if he'd drop Scott, Randy got the boot. Though nowhere as suave as Grant, Scott came into his own later in his career, especially in a series of cult Westerns directed by Budd Boetticher, who with Sam Fuller could make a movie with the sim-

plest of grammar—somewhat like Hemmingway with a camera. Boetticher always said that he didn't make westerns, just movies set in the American west. His work is worth a visit, if only to gaze upon that fabulous stone face of Scott's. A face made for the movies.

June 22, 7:30 p.m.  
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston 1001 Bissonnet  
713-639-7531

## "Danes on the Move"

Do you sit down? Are you a sucker for a really comfortable chair when you do? Do you like Danish modern? Then this exhibit is right up your alley. Here are 17 of the newest, innovative chairs created by the next generation of Scandinavian designers. Once you've seen these, you'll know more about furniture design, compression, plasticized wood, and Bonnellycke, Volf, and Leth than you ever wanted to.

June 23 to July 1  
Danish Inspirations, 2775 Fondren  
713-782-4911

## "Family Matters"

As part of its tribute to Edinburgh's Fringe Festival, Theater LaB continues its own offbeat and daring repertory with Houston-based Women's Works. Directed by Marta Lychlyter, this "multi-discipline" theater production features new works by Donna Garrett, Mary Robb, Sara Draper, Laura Lopez, Elizabeth Gilbert and others, as it intimately probes through dissonance, deviation, confusion, and connection, as only the all-women writers can.

Through June 24  
Theater LaB Houston, 1706 Alamo  
713-868-7516

## "Judy Garland Festival"

Turner Classic Movies ends their exemplary

Pride salute with a day-long celebration to Judy Garland. Some chroniclers have assumed that St. Judy's death on June 22, 1969, was partly responsible for the drag queens being in such a bitchy mood that June 27 evening when NY's finest flatfoots tried to harass them at the Stonewall Inn. We still love Judy, regardless, and these four movies are highlights in her career.

June 27 (TCM, Ch. 39 on Warner Cable)  
"The Pirate," 10 a.m.  
"Summer Stock," 12 p.m.  
"A Star is Born," 2 p.m.  
"I Could Go On Singing," 5 p.m.

## HLGCC Benefit Performance of "Key West"

Although Jack Heifner's sexy romp doesn't officially open until next week, why not support the Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center and come to this special benefit performance? Two mis-matched buddies decide to visit Key West for their routine yearly vacation, and situations become much more than routine. How could they not with horny houseboys, Swedish hunks, and randy priests sharing the guest quarters? Tickets are \$25, and you get to see brief nudity. Hey, nakedness for a cause, what a great idea.

June 28  
Theatre New West, 1415 California St.  
713-524-3818 (HLGCC)

## Special Pride Events:

### "Stonewall"

Celebrate the anniversary of our history with a screening of Nigel Finch's 1996 adaptation of Martin Duberman's "Stonewall." A very special treat, other than the hors d'oeuvres and wine, will be the guest appearance by Roy McCarthy, one of our brave ancestors who was there that historic late night evening of June 27, 1969, when the queers fought back. He might not have

known it at the time, but he won our freedom.

June 22, 7 p.m.  
HLGCC, 403 Hawthorne  
713-524-3818

### T-Dance at Sonoma

This is one hot spot these days. And on Pride Day, the sweaty club kids cut a rug all day long. June 23, 2-8:30 p.m.  
Sonoma, 1415 California  
713-522-7066

### Parade Party at Katz's

Grab a seat, a foot-long hot dog, and watch the parade NY-style. Cash bar not included in \$30 ticket, but all the pickles are. The party benefits Pride Committee and AIDS Foundation Houston.

June 23, 6-11 p.m.  
Katz Deli, 616 Westheimer  
713-623-6796

### The Big Kahuna @ 8:45 p.m.

If you don't know what this is, hang your head in shame and turn in your GLBT membership card immediately. You are the weakest link, goodbye.

### Pride Festival

All things gay and beautiful on display at the long-overdue revival of the Pride Festival. If you can't find what you're looking for, you haven't looked long enough. Booths of rainbow stuff, food for days, speakers to motivate, and fellow team players to ogle are just some of the benefits of celebrating diversity. Tickets (\$10) available at Basic Brothers, 1232 Westheimer.

June 24, 1-7 p.m.  
Garden in the Heights, 3926 Feagan  
713-529-6979

## Comedian Bob Smith to entertain this Sunday during Pride Festival

> Continued from Page 25

Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, D-Houston. He is not sure exactly who will be there, but space is reserved on the stage for them all.

The festival disappeared from the Pride scene in 1997 when the parade switched to a nighttime event. Before the switch, the festival was held directly after the parade, in the punishing Houston heat. "People had been standing outside in the heat for hours watching the parade and then went to the festival and it was still hot," said Neaves.

When the Pride Committee opted to go to a nighttime parade because of the intense daytime heat, they decided to discontinue the festival to concentrate on the parade since running a nighttime event required more resources. Plus, the committee wanted to focus on making the parade bigger and proving its value to the community.

But now that the parade has run for a few years at night and is attracting huge crowds, the committee realized it was time to bring back the festival, said Neaves.

"It really needs to be done to help complete the culture here in Houston," said Neaves of the festival. He said the festival is

We'll have two stages continuously featuring national and local acts of all varieties. It's a great deal for \$5. We have a nice mix; something for everyone

especially important here since Houston is the fourth-largest city in the U.S. and has the largest lesbian and gay parade in the southwest and, for the past five years, was the only major city without a Pride Festival.

### Pride Festival

Sunday, June 24, 1-7 p.m.

Garden in the Heights Tickets: \$5 in advance, \$8 at the door.

Tickets may be purchased from Basic Brothers and M 2 M.

PrideLine at 713.529.6969

www.PrideHouston.org.

INFO

## YOUR NEW VOICE ON THE WEB

WWW.  
houston  
voice  
.com



houston  
voice

to sign up for a weekly email preview,  
send your address to editor@houstonvoice.com

visit us on-line today at  
www.houstonvoice.com





# River Oaks Chrysler-Plymouth Jeep

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

*Houston's most conveniently located dealer, serving the community for over 30 years!*  
—Family Owned & Operated—

## Second Chance Financing Available



For a Hassle-Free  
Auto Loan  
Apply by Phone

**713.831.1578**

*email: [preowned@riveroakschrysler.com](mailto:preowned@riveroakschrysler.com)*



**SHERIDAN WILLIAMS • Finance Manager**

### Pre-Approval Loan Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

SSN \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

*by signing this application, you authorize  
River Oaks Chrysler to run a credit check*

Fax to: 713.831.1513 or mail to:  
River Oaks Chrysler  
4807 Kirby Dr., Houston, TX 77098

**713.831.1578 • fax: 713.831.1513**  
**4807 Kirby Dr. @ Southwest Freeway**



# Corporate sponsorships fund Pride Parade

Committee works year round on fund-raising, planning of annual event

by ELLA TYLER

The Pride Committee of Houston is a nonprofit corporation which, each June, sponsors a month of events celebrating and honoring Houston's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered community and its allies. The high point of the month is the Pride Parade, to be held this Saturday.

The parade, according to the committee's executive director, Jack Valinski, is now the second largest in Houston, "after the Rodeo parade."

The committee's major expenditures are for the parade and pride guide. "The parade permit costs about \$1,300, which covers the cost of the police," Valinski said. "However, the best thing is that getting a permit takes care of all the other details—rerouting traffic, rerouting metro, getting police and constables. The city is really wonderful about that."

The Pride Committee is responsible for neighborhood cleanup though.

"I think that is one of the reasons that we have good relations with the neighborhoods and city," Valinski said.

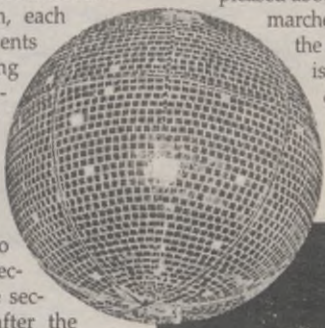
Funding comes from a variety of corporate and individual donations, merchandise and ad sales, and entry fees for the parade. "The entry fees don't pay for the parade, though," Valinski said. "It is something we do for the community."

Valinski said that a major sponsor, chose not to participate this year, "and that has been our toughest challenge, but we're working on replacing those funds."

While Valinski wouldn't name the company that dropped out this year, Gallery Furniture is not on the list of sponsors for this year's event. Last year, the company was a major contributor and entered a float in the parade.

"The beer distributors, like Silver Eagle, have been with us since day one," Valinski said. "Chase Bank has given us a nice contribution, and one of the things that we are pleased about is that their Pride Team marches in our parade but not in the New York parade, which is where they are head quartered."

The Pride Committee tries to maximize community involvement, Valinski said.



While the annual nighttime Pride Parade with its giant mirrored disco ball is what draws thousands to the Montrose each year, the Pride Committee works year-round to plan and raise funds for the event.

"There is a self-perpetuating board of directors, and voting membership in the committee is open to anyone who attends two meetings in a row. If they miss two meetings in a row, voting privileges are suspended. Everything is voted on by the members, and may be vetoed by the board only because of cost or do-ability," he explained.

"We opened up the process of voting for marshals beyond the committee to the entire community," he added, "and chose judges from our community, like the Voice's Carolyn Roberts."

The committee has an office in the Lesbian and Gay Community Center.

## INFO Pride Committee of Houston

713.529.6969

www.PrideHouston.org

## Pride Parade Route, 8:45pm, June 23



# HOUSTON GYM

START TODAY!  
\$27<sup>95</sup>/MO.

**713-880-9191**  
**233 BIRDSALL**  
(BETWEEN MEMORIAL PARK & DOWNTOWN)  
M-F 6-10 • Sat 8-6 • Sun 10-6

## EMBRACE YOUR COMMUNITY... EMBRACE YOUR DIVERSITY

Join Katz's Deli in embracing AIDS Foundation Houston and the Pride Committee of Houston in an exclusive Pride Parade fun-raising event. Pick up your tickets to the hottest official pride parade party of the year!

**\$30.00 in advance (\$40 day of) includes:**

- Prime parade viewing
- Complimentary buffet
- Beverages (cash bar)



### KATZ'S DELI & BAR

616 Westheimer

Saturday, June 23, 2001

6 p.m. until the last float passes you by

Arrive early for choice parking.

Advance tickets available by visiting Katz's Deli & Bar or call 713-623-6796 to charge by phone before June 20.



For more information contact (713)623-6796 or visit [www.aidshep.org](http://www.aidshep.org)



**EMBRACE DIVERSITY**  
 LOVE ALL, RESPECT ALL • BE PROUD OF YOURSELF



**LBS BROTHERS**

EROTIC WEAR • UNDERWEAR • BODY WEAR • SWIM WEAR • CLUB WEAR • GYM WEAR • CASUAL WEAR • ACCESSORIES

• 1232 WESTHEIMER • HOUSTON, TX • MONTROSE • 713.522.1626 • MON-SAT 10-9, SUN 12-6 •

• LIVE JAZZ • TUESDAY NIGHT & SUNDAY BRUNCH •

**ALWAYS YOUR BEST WEEKEND BRUNCH**

*The River Cafe*

3615 MONTROSE BOULEVARD • 713-529-0088

• LIVE JAZZ • TUESDAY NIGHT & SUNDAY BRUNCH •

**THE POT PIE PIZZERIA**



Pizza • Pasta • Entrees • Salads  
 Sandwiches • Desserts

Serving fine PIZZA and PASTA  
 to Houstonians for 15 years!

Clubs, Organizations, etc. Call  
 today to reserve space in our  
 large meeting area!!

- **Sunday Brunch 11-2pm** (a country breakfast buffet)  
 Try our bottomless mimosas!
- **"New" Pizza, Pasta, Salad Buffet**  
 All you can eat, M-F, 11-2pm .....\$5.99
- **Spaghetti Special** (6 sauces to choose from!)  
 All you can eat, all the time .....\$4.99
- Party Room

Great Specials on Buckets of Beer!

**2207 Richmond**  
**713.526.1702**

**COME TO THE TABLE**



*A Sanctuary for Soul & Spirit*

Join Us Easter Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup> for Services at  
 Sunrise - 6:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m. or 10:50 a.m.

**BERING MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

*Rev. Marilyn Meeker-Williams, Senior Pastor*

1440 Harold Street at Mulberry • Houston, TX 77006 • 713.526.1017 • www.beringume.org



# On Stage

THEATER REVIEW

## Sophocles, Sophocles, he's our man, if he can't do it, Stoppard can!

'Oedipus' gets complex update, Main Street pulls out Stoppard

by D.L. GROOVER

What a nifty, perverse little show dos chicas productions puts on this month at the Midtown Art Center. It's Sophocles' giant tragedy, *OEDIPUS REX*, as well as Freud's cash cow and the mother of all dramas.

What gives this Attic classic that unique dos chicas mischievous touch is director Ron Reeder's setting of this timeless play in the era of Watergate. Who greets us but Tricky Dick, Pat, Henry Kissinger, Gerald Ford, Barbara Jordan, G. Gordon Liddy, and the Washington press corps as the chorus. It's a neat take on the old Greeks, and works fairly well.

To be honest, who's our most tragic hero in recent memory if not R.M.N.? To some he was, and still is, the devil incarnate, but this most American of politicians had a sad trajectory and tragic flaw not unlike that dramatic, mythic antecedent from the wine dark sea. It really does make sense to let Milhous roam the streets of Thebes, I mean Washington.

With theatrical fillip, Alan Hall as Oedipus wears a mask in homage to Greek stage convention. That it happens to be a Nixon mask, of course, with Cyrano-nose adds a large chunk of irony to the tongue already firmly planted in dos chicas' cheek.

Television screens play an evocative greatest-hits-of-the-Nixon-era video presentation by David Harlan. This brilliant compilation is one of the highlights of this show, and worth seeing on its own. During the heightened dramatic moments, live footage of the stage action is televised, as if breaking news. It's very clever and a great deal of fun.

Granted, when you take a colossal drama like this one and modernize it (or deconstruct it) with winks and elbows to the ribs, you remove much of its residual power to shock. Pity and terror no longer are the sought-after effects when the First Elder salutes you with a German accent as Kissinger, or blind prophet Tiresias is played like Barbara Jordan does the Statue of Liberty.

The concept is better than the execution, but when was the last time you saw a production of "Oedipus Rex" when Oedipus and the First Elder prayed to the gods just like a tableaux of Nixon and Kissinger's infamous oval office prayer scene. Perfect.

A bit of Greek myth. This whole Theban thunderstorm is predicated upon the curse that the son (Oedipus) would kill his father (Laius). What prompted the curse, you ask, which Sophocles omits? According to Euripides, young Laius was so smitten with Chrysippus ("golden horse"), the beauteous son of Pelops, that he kidnapped him and kept him as his lover.

Pelops hurled his curse at the abductor,



Alan Hall as Oedipus wears a Richard Nixon mask in dos chicas production's of the classic set in the Watergate era.

which later came to pass in no uncertain terms. Euripides called Laius the first man to love another man, yet Pelops' curse never stopped any of Laius' ancestors.

The Greeks really did have a word for it.

### 'Night and Day'

After the baroqueries of "Jumpers" ('72), "Travesties" ('74), and "Every Good Boy Deserves Favor" ('77), Tom Stoppard shifted to a more subtle, drawing room comedy style on the order of Noel Coward and even Oscar Wilde for his colonials-in-the-cauldron *NIGHT AND DAY*.

It's lesser Stoppard, which still means it's better than almost anyone else's, yet replete with his arching dialogue, theatrical flair and surprise (Ruth's asides), and curlicues on love and the difficulty of sustaining it.

When three journalists invade the home of Ruth and Geoffrey in hopes of scooping the story of an impending revolution against tyrannical President Mageeba, journalism—yellow, tabloid, opportunistic—gets a good thrashing also.

Everyone uses each other for their own ends. Bored, distracted, Ruth seeks love whenever the scotch runs out. She's had a meaningless affair with hard-boiled Dick Wagner, the professional scribe, when she seduces the naive tabloid man Jacob, and probably would jump Mageeba if he stayed for dinner. She is ruthless, and played sublimely by Leslie Maness.

Joel Sandel, tanned and trim, plays Dick Wagner with an attractive cynical edge right out of a Warner Bros. film noir.

Although the uneven accents in this rarely performed Stoppard come and go (and should stay gone for my money), the play haunts with seductive power. Like Cole Porter wrote, "Night and Day, you are the one."

INFO

#### "Oedipus Rex"

Through June 30  
Midtown Art Center, 1423 Holman  
@ LaBranch  
713-927-4623

#### "Night and Day"

Through June 30  
Main Street Theater, 2540 Times  
Blvd.  
713-524-6706

**THEATRE NEW WEST**  
Presents

**June 29 thru August 18**  
(Fridays & Saturdays only)  
Curtains: 8:00 P.M.  
Tickets \$20.00

**Reservations:**  
713-394-0464

**Special performance on**  
June 28, benefiting  
Houston Lesbian & Gay  
Community Center

**1415 California St.**  
Houston, Texas 77006  
(Located on the ground floor of the  
Sonoma Restaurant Bldg.)

**by Jack Heifner**  
**Directed by Joe Watts**

**"A comedy more fun than a barrel of monkeys!"**  
Brief Nudity...OH MY!

**Starring: David Haynes, Taavi Mark, Tracy Barcelona,**  
**Erik Soliz, Jason Barker & Jack George**

## Theater LaB Houston presents

They're Back!

## The Kathy & Mo Show Parallel Lives

written by Mo Gaffney & Kathy Najimy

Our hit returns for summer fun!

An Off-Broadway hit, this hilarious and biting comedy explores the plight of women & men and the pandemonium that ensues when the two sexes try to get together for more than a drink! *Parallel Lives* provides a fresh take on the oldest battle of the human race, as the audience is whisked through the outrageous universe of Kathy and Mo where two actresses play men and women struggling through the common rituals of modern life: teenagers on a date, a man and woman in a country-western bar, a wild and crazy lesbian performance art piece and two mature women coming to terms with today's gay lifestyles.

"very funny...a neat blend of laughter and pathos"

Houston Chronicle

featuring Michelle Britton & Leslie Maness

Directed by Bill McDonald

Limited Run!

Fridays & Saturdays July 13th thru August 4th @ 8pm

Group Discounts and Private Parties available

**Tickets call (713) 868-7516**





# UNLIMITED CELLULAR MINUTES

# Only \$99<sup>99</sup> per month

Sign up by March 31, 2001 and get **UNLIMITED** cellular minutes for one year, **UNLIMITED** Nextel Direct Connect, our digital 2-way radio feature. **FREE** Nextel Online. **FREE** Voice Mail. **FREE** Caller ID. Call Premier Paging and Wireless for Details.

## FREE, FREE and More FREE

Choose from  
**Free Nights and Weekends,**  
- or -  
**Free Nationwide Long Distance**  
- or -  
**Free Nextel Online™**

Get one of these free options when you sign up for a Performance Plus rate plan by March 31, 2001. You'll get 300 cellular minutes and 100 Direct Connect minutes for as little as \$39.99 per month! And there's still more! Buy a Nextel phone and get an identical phone **FREE!** Call Premier Paging and Wireless for Details.



NEXTEL online

**NEXTEL**  
AUTHORIZED RETAILER

How business gets done.™

2 Convenient Locations to Serve You  
1450 W. Sam Houston 12220 Murphy Road  
Pkwy North, Suite 111 Stafford  
713.465.8883 281.575.8500

www.callpremier.com

**Premier  
PAGING & WIRELESS**  
Communicate With Us.

limited time offer expires 3/31/2001. New subscribers of Performance Plus 300 to 300 plan for FREE activation or activation fee and credit approval required. Subject to terms of 1-year or 2-year agreement respectively. Carrier restrictions may apply. \$350 early termination fee applies. Nationwide long distance charged at 13¢ per minute on \$19.99 plan; after 12 months, plan includes 900 cellular minutes per month, but nationwide long distance and long distance calls on long or plan remain on the \$39.99 promotional rate plan. This rate per minute is based on \$17.99 to \$19.99 on the \$39.99 plan, and \$19.99 for the \$39.99 plan. Current prices subject to change. Cellular coverage charged at \$35¢/minute. © 2001 Nextel Communications. All rights reserved. Nextel, the Nextel logo, Nextel Online, Nextel Direct Connect, and Nextel Business Call Store are registered trademarks and/or service marks of Nextel Communications. Motorola, the stylized 'M' and all other trademarks are trademarks of Motorola, Inc.

## Maranatha Fellowship MCC

### 1311 Holman

(across from HCC-Downtown Campus)

meets in the home of Central Congregational Church

6:30pm Sunday Evenings

JOIN US AS WE BUILD COMMUNITY THROUGH COMPASSION

- Experience the presence of God
- Celebrate your faith
- Sing and make music in your heart to God
- Grow in the knowledge of God's word

June 24<sup>th</sup>

"Staying On Course"

Rev. Janet Parker

July 1<sup>st</sup>

TBA

Guest Preacher

July 8<sup>th</sup>

"From Isolation to Community"

Rev. Janet Parker

July 15<sup>th</sup>

"Who Is My Neighbor?"

Rev. Janet Parker

Please Join Us For Evening Services And Experience  
The Love That Maranatha Fellowship MCC Has To Offer!

Church Service begins at 6:30pm and  
nursery is available for small children.  
Mid-week "Home Group" services on  
Tuesdays and Wednesdays


For more info...  
713-528-6756 or email  
maranatha@ev1.net

**Maranatha  
Fellowship**  
Metropolitan  
Community Church

"Building Community Through Compassion"



Enjoy worship at your home church in the morning and  
visit us in the evening for an alternate worship experience!

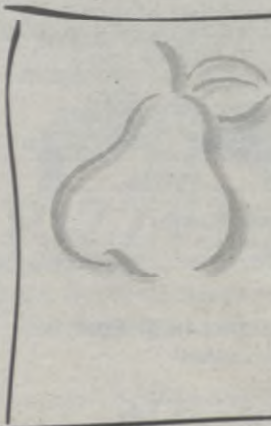


## Celebrating 25 Years in the Community

Come Worship with PRIDE!

Catholic Mass Celebrated  
Saturdays at 7:30pm

1307-H Yale • 713-880-2872



Is this...  
the shape you're in?  
Is it the shape you want?

**MUSCLE MECHANICS™**  
PERSONAL TRAINING STUDIO  
713.523.5330  
BY APPOINTMENT. CALL NOW.  
617 Richmond Avenue in Montrose

## THE LOVETT INN

Distinctive Lodging and Catering Accommodations

Call us for your next out-of-town guest!



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

We do catered events for up to 200 people!

501 Lovett Blvd. Houston, TX 77006

(713) 522-5224 • (800) 779-5224

Fax (713) 528-6708 • lovettinn.com

YOU'LL LOVE IT!



# health news

## Significant drug use, risky sex found at circuit parties, study shows

WASHINGTON—A survey conducted by the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention of gay and bisexual men who attend circuit parties has found significant drug use and risky sex at the events, GayHealth.com reported. The results were published in the gay-themed June edition of *American Journal of Public Health*. The study surveyed 295 gay or bisexual men who had attended at least one party during the previous year, and found that 95 percent of them used at least one drug, while 61 percent used three or more. The most popular drugs were ecstasy (used by 75 percent of respondents), followed by ketamine and alcohol. When queried about sex, 29 percent admitted multiple sex partners over the weekend of the event; of that number, 24 percent said they had engaged in unprotected anal sex. "As a whole, these findings suggest that a substantial drug culture permeates the circuit party environment, a drug culture that is distinct from broader communities of gay and bisexual men," the study said.

## Federal health chief pledges review of \$10 billion in AIDS programs

WASHINGTON (AP)—Health & Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson said his department will review the \$10.2 billion the government spends on AIDS programs to find out what's working and "how we can best use the dollars to do the job better." Thompson told three caucuses of minority lawmakers, "Just sending money down there may be the right thing to do. ... But a different program, maybe a different way of handling the situation may be better." The review will be conducted by a panel led by HHS Deputy Secretary Claude Allen. President Bush's budget designates \$358 million for programs to fight AIDS among minorities, including \$66 million for the National Institutes of Health, the Office of Minority Health and the HIV/AIDS Minority Communities Fund. U.S. Rep. Nancy Pelosi told Thompson "we need dramatically more money." The minority caucuses have asked for \$540 million. A Thompson spokesperson said there are no plans to cut programs.



HHS Secretary Tommy Thompson said his department will review the \$10.2 billion the federal government spends on AIDS programs, though no programs will be cut.

## Children of gays show more empathy, less tied to gender, study says

NEW YORK (AP)—A new report that finds differences between children raised by gay and straight parents offers both good news and cause for worry. The new study by two California sociologists and published in the *American Sociological Review* said children with gay parents show more empathy for social diversity, are less confined by gender stereotypes and are probably more likely to explore homosexual activity themselves. "We say there are some differences, and that people have shied away from acknowledging them for fear that this would inflame homophobia," said Judith Stacey, who co-authored the report with Timothy Biblarz. Some gays said they are concerned that the report will provide ammunition for opponents of gay adoption and foster-parenting. Kate Kendall, head of the San Francisco-based National Center for Lesbian Rights, who is raising two children with her partner, urged lesbians and gays to overcome any uneasiness they might have about the report. "There's only one response to a study that children raised by lesbian and gay parents may be somewhat more likely to reject notions of rigid sexual orientation—that response has to be elation," Kendall said.

## Leading health journal dedicates June edition to gay health issues

WASHINGTON—With its June issue, the *American Public Health Association* has become the first major public health journal to dedicate an entire issue to gay health. Editor Mary Northridge noted that the journal had gotten away from publishing entire issues on one specific topic, but said the "time has come" to recognize gay health. Ilan Meyer, assistant professor at Columbia University, acted as guest editor for the edition. "For many years the majority of LGBT research published focused on HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases. The publication of this issue broadens the scope of research and reveals areas where research is needed," she said. Northridge said that some advertisers backed out of the issue, and her own staff questioned the initiative. But, in the end, "all populations have a place in this journal," Northridge said.

## New RI community center reaches out to black, Hispanic gay men

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP)—A new community center for minority gay men is working to prevent the spread of AIDS by reaching out to some who would rather stay in hiding. The OMEGA Project, believed to be the only community center for minority gay men, opened June 14 with hopes of getting black and Hispanic males to practice safe sex. Project secretary Luis Rodriguez, 31, knows the center has a challenge ahead: trying to reach men who were raised in cultures where machismo and masculinity rule, and where ties to the church are important. The stigma is so great that the OMEGA Project—the Organization for Men of Ethnicity Geared to Advancement—avoids references to sexual orientation. "In our

fliers, we don't say 'gay' or anything that is going to alarm them and keep them from participating," said Rodriguez.

—From staff and wire reports

# Be sure your fire works. Get tested!

National HIV Testing Day  
Wednesday, 27 June

Federal health officials  
estimate that 300,000  
Americans are HIV-positive  
and don't know it.

FREE ANONYMOUS  
HIV TESTING

713-830-3000  
215 Westheimer • Houston, TX 77006

**MONTROSE CLINIC**  
bodypositive WELLNESS CENTER



Our Reputation  
is built on OUR MEMBERS!

**FITNESS  
Exchange**

**Voted #1**  
in Customer Satisfaction!

4040 MILAM 77006  
(713) 524-9932

Let us show you  
how our program  
will work for you!

Monday to Friday 5 am – 10 pm  
Saturday & Sunday 8 am – 8 pm

MEMBER ANTHONY RAMOS  
BODY BUILDING CHAMPION



For more news, visit  
[www.houstonvoice.com](http://www.houstonvoice.com)





## MASTERS IN ECONOMICS.

### IBM NetVista A20i

Performance on a budget

Intel® Celeron™ processor 766MHz\*  
64MB SDRAM  
20GB\* hard drive  
48X-20X\* CD-ROM  
Integrated modem  
Integrated Intel 2X AGP graphics  
Microsoft® Windows® Millennium Edition  
Lotus® SmartSuite® Millennium License\*  
Microsoft Works 2000  
Microsoft Money 2000  
15" monitor (13.6" viewable, Part #24P4555)  
3-year parts and onsite labor limited warranty\*  
Part #628015U

**\$759<sup>7</sup>**

SuccessLease™  
for Small Business **\$27/MO.\***, 36 MOS.

### IBM ThinkPad i Series

Most affordable ThinkPad notebook series

Mobile Intel Pentium® III processor 750MHz\*  
featuring Intel SpeedStep™ technology  
13.3" XGA TFT display  
64MB SDRAM  
10GB hard drive  
24X-16X CD-ROM  
10/100 Ethernet adapter and integrated modem  
Up to 8MB Trident CyberBlade 2X AGP 3D graphics  
Microsoft Windows 2000  
Lotus SmartSuite Millennium Edition  
Easy Launch buttons  
ThinkPad Button  
3.7-hr.\* Li-Ion battery  
6.1 lbs.\* travel weight  
1-year limited warranty  
Part #11716MU

**\$1,599**

SuccessLease™  
for Small Business **\$57/MO.\***, 36 MOS.

Don't see Microsoft Office 2000 or XP Small Business on the system you want?  
Simply contact us to add it.

#### CUSTOMIZE YOURS:

Lexmark Z32 Color Jetprinter  
(Steady Black, Part #22P5337) \$79.99 or \$3/month  
IBM Office Professional 280 UPS\*  
(Part #10K1910) \$89 or \$3/month

#### CUSTOMIZE YOURS:

ThinkPad i Series Carrying Case\*  
(Part #00N7382) \$99.99 or \$4/month  
IBM 8MB USB Memory Key  
(Part #19K4513) \$49 or \$2/month

Just because it's **IBM technology**  
doesn't mean it's more expensive.

If you ever thought IBM wasn't affordable, you owe it to yourself to take another look. Because when it comes to price, IBM can compete with anyone out there. Sure, we're not *always* the cheapest – but is cheap really what you want? Call them intangibles, but when you consider things like technical support, value-added services and genuine e-business expertise – now that's where IBM stands alone. You see, every system we sell, whether it's one of these remarkably affordable ThinkPad® i Series notebooks or NetVista™ A20i desktops, comes with the kind of assurance and backing that's uniquely IBM. After all, we wrote the book on personal computing – and that definitely counts for something. When you really get down to it, IBM technology isn't for people who spend big – it's for people who think big.



## DIRECT TO YOU

Call toll free **1 866 426-9548** or  
Click [www.ibm.com/smallbusiness/L037](http://www.ibm.com/smallbusiness/L037)  
to buy direct or to locate an IBM reseller.

IBM PCs use genuine Microsoft® Windows®  
[www.microsoft.com/piracy/howtotell](http://www.microsoft.com/piracy/howtotell)

\*MHz/GHz only measures microprocessor internal clock speed; many factors affect application performance. For mobile Intel Pentium III processors featuring SpeedStep technology, this denotes maximum performance mode; battery optimization mode is approximately 80% of maximum performance mode. \*System includes chipset that uses some main memory for the video subsystem. The amount used will vary depending on video mode and may be as much as 8MB. Thus, accessible system memory is less than the amount stated. \*GB equals one billion bytes when referring to storage capacity; accessible capacity may be less. \*Variable read rate. Actual speeds will vary and are often less than the maximum possible. \*Some software may differ from its retail version (if available), and may not include user manuals or all program functionality. For non-IBM software, applicable third-party licenses may apply. Warranty, service and support for non-IBM products, if any, are provided by third parties, not IBM. IBM makes no representations or warranties regarding non-IBM products. \*For terms and conditions or copies of IBM's Statement of Limited Warranty, call 1 800 772-2227 in the US and in Canada call 1 800 426-2255. Telephone support may be subject to additional charges. For warranties including onsite labor, customer may be asked certain diagnostic questions before a technician is sent. Warranty does not include ThinkPad battery, which is covered by a separate, one-year limited warranty. \*Pricing shown is price available from IBM directly; reseller prices may vary. IBM price does not include tax or shipping and is subject to change without notice. \*SuccessLease is offered by third-party providers of business financing approved by IBM Global Financing. SuccessLease terms and conditions provided by the third party. Featured monthly lease payments include prespecified purchase option at end of lease, to qualified business customers only, installing in the US. Documentation fee and first month's payment due at lease signing; taxes are additional. Offer may be withdrawn or changed without notice. Options cannot be leased separately. \*The UPS System is distributed and sold by Tripp Lite. The ThinkPad Carrying Case is distributed and sold by Port/Targus. IBM, the IBM logo and IBM trade dress are owned by International Business Machines Corporation and are used under license from IBM. IBM does not manufacture these products and provides no warranty or support for these products. Please contact the respective manufacturers for all questions/comments and service or support related to these products. \*These model numbers achieved a 2D BatteryMark™ Version 3.0 or 4.0 Battery Run-down Time of the times shown above. This test was performed without independent verification by ZD. ZD makes no representations or warranties as to these test results. BatteryMark™ is a trademark of ZD Inc. in the US and other countries. A description of the environment under which the test was performed is available at [ibm.com/pc/thinkpad/batterylife.html](http://ibm.com/pc/thinkpad/batterylife.html). Battery life (and recharge times) will vary based on many factors including screen brightness, applications, features, power management, battery conditioning and other customer preferences. \*Includes battery. Weight may vary due to vendor components, manufacturing process and options. IBM reserves the right to alter product offerings and specifications at any time, without notice. IBM cannot be responsible for photographic or typographic errors. SuccessLease and all IBM product names are registered trademarks or trademarks of International Business Machines Corporation. Lotus and SmartSuite are registered trademarks of Lotus Development Corporation, an IBM company. Intel, the Intel Inside logo and Pentium are registered trademarks and Celeron and SpeedStep are trademarks of Intel Corporation. Microsoft and Windows are registered trademarks of Microsoft Corporation. Other company, product and service names may be trademarks or service marks of others. ©2001 IBM Corp. All rights reserved.



# Eating Out

RESTAURANT REVIEW

## Good to be King

Heights patio restaurant offers neighborhood feel, view, great Tex-Mex

by TRAYCE DISKIN

A quick drive through Montrose, Rice Village or Southwest Houston easily unearths many restaurants that loyally belong to their neighborhood. These places may not have the swankiest barstools or the slickest granite paneling, but they offer affordable, authentic cuisine in a familiar, comfy setting.

Nestled in a ramshackle house on the windy portion of White Oak in the Woodland Heights, KING BISCUIT is the kind of place where the neighborhood belongs to it. The legendary patio restaurant/bar has been serving neighborhood locals since before the Heights became a popular destination for brunching, antiques and apartment restoring.

In the colorful barroom, regulars chat with the bartender and help deliver food to a forgotten table. Outside, among sultry, overgrown yuccas and palm fronds, diners can dive into hearty, unpretentious meals while taking in a crisp view of the downtown skyline (despite an obstructing tree or two).

You can't go wrong with the Killer Quesadillas, with choices of fajita beef, grilled chicken, barbecued pork and the astoundingly good blackened shrimp. The caramelized onions and cilantro give each an added kick...

The menu is literally Tex-Mex, featuring the staple quesadillas, burritos and enchiladas, as well as solid Texas fare such as po-boys, burgers and bar-b-que pork sandwiches. Beers are cheap, cold and plentiful.

Although the food runs from acceptable to incredible tasty, the best dishes transcend the Tex or the Mex. Try, for instance, the Shrimp Stuffed Mushrooms (\$5.99) as an appetizer. Moist, succulent mushrooms are packed generously with a crab meat, shrimp, bread crumb mixture, sprinkled with fresh herbs and baked to a golden brown.

The New Potato Enchiladas (\$7.99) feature tender, flavorful potatoes, cooked in their red skins, with red onion, bell peppers and cheese in soft tortillas. So what if the texture is a little starchy when you think about it? Substitute the queso topping for the piquant verde and you'll be too busy eating to notice.

The Hot Spinach Salad (\$7.99) is delicious with Blackened Tuna (\$10.99) and the plump tomatoes and juicy olives mingle nicely with the conservative dose of bacon dressing.

### FOOD FILE



1606 White Oak Dr.  
713.861.2328

Food:

Service:

Value:

Scene:

Opt for bread, water at home

OK, if you really must

Fine for most

Worth the drive, so live a little

As good as it gets

While the Grilled Vegetable Hoagie (\$5.99) may be a safe vegetarian choice, it's not the healthiest with its gobs of oily, but fresh mozzarella and nutty basil pesto. The vegetables, however, retain their zest thanks to a well-seasoned marinade that lightly coats each strip of zucchini, squash, mushrooms and onions.

Some other seemingly reliable selections tend to miss the mark. The Bow Tie Blackened Tuna (\$12.99), for instance, has it down perfect, with spicy fish, farafalle pasta and fresh mushrooms and spinach. Then the smoked jalapeno cheddar cheese sauce casts a jarring finish. While the kitchen will gladly hold the sauce, the dish isn't quite right dry either—perhaps a simple vinaigrette could remedy such a promising choice.

The Catfish Po-Boy (\$6.99), served fried (grilled or blackened also available) possesses such a thick rind of crust that the meat suffers from uneven cooking.

You can't go wrong with the Killer Quesadillas (\$5.99), with choices of fajita beef, grilled chicken, barbecued pork and the astoundingly good blackened shrimp. The caramelized onions and cilantro give each an added kick and unlike the veggie sandwich, the cheese's main function is to hold the generous portions of fillings together.

The King Veggie Burrito (\$6.99) and Tostadas (\$5.49), which beat the quesadillas by two choices, with black bean, blackened shrimp, beef, blackened catfish, chicken and pork and the Thai Chicken Salad (\$7.99) with penne pasta, peppers, snow peas and peanuts, are all surprisingly light, fresh and filling.

On several weeknights and Saturday nights as well, King Biscuit features live, acoustic music from many of Houston's best singer-songwriters.

Reliable stand-bys are easy to forget and pass up in favor of newer, ritzier establishments. But when you're feeling casual and courageous enough to brave the heat, arm yourself with an ice cold drink and let King Biscuit remind you what magic a true Houston establishment can create with a neighborhood menu and a distinctly neighborhood view.

happy  
pride  
2001



1117 Missouri St. • 713-529-3450  
One block North of Westheimer, off Montrose

Proudly serving  
the community  
since 1977



The Gods say...  
Have Pride.  
Eat Well.

©  
NIKO NIKO'S

GREEK & AMERICAN CAFE  
2520 Montrose • 713.528.1308

Winner of 12 Marvin Zindler  
Blue Ribbon Awards!



# Got a match?

Doll, my matches  
are so right, you'll  
wanna go BANG!

100% Free!  
thru Aug 1.  
Use coupon code:  
Hovo2

"Fun!"  
- The Advocate

"Cool Site!"  
- Yahoo

"Best online matchmaker!"  
- HX Magazine, NYC

"America's favorite!"  
- Next, NYC

"A true matchmaker!"  
- Southern Voice

## Edwina®

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

•Private Photos! •More Photos! •New Mail Features!  
**The Funnest Lesbian and Gay Online Dating Service!**



# WALKER

TEXAS LAWYER



**James S. Walker**  
Committed, Experienced, Aggressive

Call me for a free no obligation,  
professional assessment of your case.

**WALKER  
& HUNTER  
P.C.**

Call now for a **FREE** consultation  
**(713)552-1117 or (800)732-2934**

Not Certified by Texas Board of Legal Specialization

## *Important Notice* Homeowners

If your home is insured and you have had a homeowners claim for foundation problems or Mold Buildup resulting from a plumbing leak or other water damage to your home, you may not have been paid what you deserve. If your loss has just happened, or occurred within the last four years, you may still have a claim.

1924 Portsmouth  
Houston



**LEATHER  
FOREVER**

604 Westheimer  
Houston, TX 77006  
**713.526.6940**

**New Convenient Location!**

**Best Selection!**

**Friendly, Experienced Service!**

**LederSkins**

custom Leathers beyond belief

Now offering custom leather and  
leather repair by LederSkins  
**713.942.8480**



## Body, Mind and Spirit

• LOUNGE WEAR • THONGS •  
• NOVELTIES • LUBRICANTS • OILS •  
• ENHANCEMENT TOOLS • LEATHER •

**NEW DVDS**  
BUY 1 GET 1 FREE!

**ADULT VIDEOS**  
2 FOR \$19.90

**ONE HOUR XXX PHOTO LAB**

**ΣTOS 1207 713.944.6010**  
1207 SPENCER HWY • ALLEN GARD  
15 MINUTES SOUTH OF DOWNTOWN  
TAKE I-45 SOUTH, EXIT  
COLLEGE FAIRPORT, GO EAST 3 MILES  
• CLUB WEAR • SWIM WEAR •

**Penis-Enlargement.net**  
FDA Approved vacuum  
pumps/surgical. Gain 1-3".  
Permanent & safe. Enhance  
erection. FREE Brochures!  
Latest enlargement info:  
(619)295-HUNG or  
900-976-PUMP (\$2.95/min.)

Call 713-529-8490 for Directory Ad Sales

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

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



**MASSAGE**  
**Absolute Let-Go**  
Houston Metro  
**713.942.2399**  
• Montrose Location  
• 7 days/evenings  
• Visa/Mastercard  
• Outcalls welcome

# community

## saturday, june 23

After Hours. KPFT 90.1 FM. 12 a.m. to 3 a.m. 713-526-5738.  
Q-Patrol walks the streets 8:45 p.m. 713-528-SAFE.  
Dignity mass. 7:30 p.m. for gay Catholics. 713-880-2872.  
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Rosary 8 a.m. 1805 W. Alabama.  
713-528-6665.  
Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club. Call for ride locations. 713-863-1860.  
Gay & Lesbian Breakfast Club. 9:30 a.m. 281-437-0636.  
Houston Wrestling Club. Practice. 1:30 p.m. 713-453-7406.  
Rainbow Fishing Club. Meeting. 713-526-7070. 713-880-9235.  
Houston Gay & Lesbian Community Center Drop-in hours noon  
to 4 p.m. • Positive Art Workshop Photography exhibition • 803  
Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.

## sunday, june 24

Rainbow Riders. A bicycle club for women. 713-869-1686.  
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Holy Rite Eucharist 1:45 a.m.;  
Holy Rite Eucharist II 8:55 a.m.; Education hour 10 a.m.; Choral  
Eucharist 11 a.m. 713-528-6665.  
Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church. Service. 6:30 p.m.  
713-528-6756.  
Resurrection MCC. Services. 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Adult Sunday  
School 10 a.m. Youth Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Handbell Choir  
rehearsal 1:30 p.m. 713-861-9149.  
Grace Lutheran Church. Sunday school for all ages 9 a.m. Service  
10:30 a.m. 713-528-3269.  
Community Gospel. Service at 11 a.m. & 7 p.m. Sunday School for  
children 10 a.m. 713-880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org.  
Houston Mission Church. Service 10:30 a.m. 713-529-8225.  
Covenant Church. Ecumenical. Liberal Baptist. Service 9:30 a.m. &  
education hour 11 a.m. 713-668-8830.  
Bering Memorial United Methodist Church. Services at 8:30 a.m.  
& 10:50 a.m. Sunday school 9:45 a.m. 713-526-1017.  
The Women's Group. Meeting & Discussion. 10:45 a.m. 713-529-8571.  
Unitarian Fellowship of Galveston County. 502 Church St. Service  
10:30 a.m. 409-765-8330.  
First Congregational Church (Memorial). Service at 10 a.m.  
Christian Education. 11:30 p.m. 713-468-9543 or fcc-houston.org.  
Unitarian Fellowship of Houston. Adult forum 10 a.m. Service 11  
a.m. 713-686-5876.  
Gay Catholics of St. Anne's-Houston. 5 p.m. worship service.  
Dinner and social. alexcam@wt.net. 713-623-0930  
Thoreau Unitarian Universalist Congregation: Adult discussion  
9:45 a.m. Service 11 a.m. 281-277-8882. www.tuuc.org.  
First Unitarian Universalist Church. Services at 9:30 & 11:30 a.m.  
Brunch available 10:30 a.m. Panel Discussion: Bisexuality. 1:30  
p.m. 713-526-5200. church@firstuu.org.

Anarchist Black Cross Federation/Anarchist Reading Group. 1  
p.m. www.houstonabc.org. 713-595-2103  
Houston Tennis Club. 9 a.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center.  
713-692-2703.  
Houston Gay & Lesbian Community Center. • Positive Art  
Workshop Photography exhibition. • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-  
3818.

## monday, june 25

Gay Fathers/Fathers First. Support group. 8 p.m.  
www.GayFathers-Houston.org or 281-505-1788.  
Frost Eye Clinic. Free eye exams for people with HIV. 713-830-  
3000.  
HIV testing. STD Exams & treatment. Free. AVES. 1 p.m. to 6:15  
p.m. 713-626-2837.  
Kolbe Project. Eucharist 7:30 p.m. 713-861-1800.  
Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry Open. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
936-441-1614.  
Houston Tennis Club. 9 a.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center.  
713-692-2703.  
Lesbian & Gay Voices Radio Show. 8 to 10 p.m. KPFT 90.1. 713-  
529-1223.  
AIDS Mastery. 7 p.m. Montrose Counseling Center. 713-529-0037.  
Grief & Divorce Support Groups. 7 p.m. Bering. 713-526-1017.  
Ext. 208.  
gayDAR. Wellness Community. Support Group. 7 p.m. 713-526-  
1017. Ext. 211.  
Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours from  
6 to 9 p.m. • Positive Art Workshop Photography exhibition •  
Dream Weavers: The Craft of Writing Fiction. 6-9 p.m. • 803  
Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.

## tuesday, june 26

For Mature Audiences Only. Support group. 7 p.m. Bering  
Memorial UMC. 713-526-1017.  
HTGA Support Group. 7 p.m. 713-520-0439.  
Free HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic. 8 p.m. to midnight. Club  
Houston. 713-830-3000.  
Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous. Support Group. 7 p.m. 713-  
524-0439.  
Bering Support Network. Lunch Bunch Gang 11 a.m. 713-526-  
1017.  
Gay Men's Process Group. 7 p.m. 3316 Mt. Vernon. 713-526-8390.  
Men's Network. Discussion group for social, educational develop-  
ment of gay and bisexual men. 7 p.m. Montrose Counseling  
Center. 713-529-0037.  
Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry Open. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
281-633-2555.

**THE TIRE PLACE**  
Inc.

- Alignment
- Brakes

**Cooper TIRES**

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

**American & Foreign**  
**TAFT STREET**  
**AUTO**

Auto Repair & Service  
**713-526-3723**  
1411 Taft Houston, TX. 77019

Call 713-529-8490 for Directory Ad Sales

## Automotive Services



**The Tire Man**

**Alignments**  
**Brakes**

2314 Washington  
**713-880-4747**

## Professional Services

**FA\$TCASH**

We buy anything of value!  
Antiques, Estates, Furniture, Collectibles,  
Jewelry, Automobiles, and Glassware.

**BUY • SELL • CONSIGN**  
Highest Prices Paid for  
anything of value!!  
**713-994-5986 pgr.**  
**281-391-7515**

**LAWRENCE CONSTRUCTION**  
Carpentry • Repairs  
• Remodeling •  
**936.563.5180 / 936.760.5531**  
Lawrence Gilstrap  
Serving Houston's Gay  
Community for 15 years

**CHIROPRACTOR**  
**Dr. Richard W. Fletcher**

- Neck/Back Pain
- Auto/Work Injury
- Medicare/Medicaid

1245 Yale • 713-862-3897  
In The "Heights" at 13th & Yale  
(Yale is 1 Block West of and parallel to HEIGHTS BLVD.)

Call 713-529-8490 for Directory Ad Sales



# calendar

Rainbow Ringers free C&W dance lessons. Brazos River Bottom. @ hour free dance workshops. No partner needed. Beginner, 2 Step, Waltz, Shuffle & Swing Drop in anytime. 8:30 p.m. 713-528-9192. CPR Classes. 3 p.m. 713-607-7700. Bi-Net Houston. Men's Social. 7 p.m. 713-467-4380. Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours 6 to 9 p.m. • Positive Art Workshop Photography exhibition. • Lesbian Power Dating. 7:30 p.m. • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.

## wednesday, june 27

Free HIV Testing. Thomas Street Clinic. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 2015 Thomas Street 713-793-4026. STD Exams & treatment. HIV Testing. Free. AVE5. Free. AVE5. 713-626-2837. Free HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic. 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Mary's. Venture-N & E's. 713-830-3000. BiNet Houston. 7:30 p.m. Women's Social. 713-467-4380. Women's Network. Montrose Counseling Center Discussion group for social, educational development of gay and bisexual women. 7 p.m. Montrose Counseling Center. 713-529-0037. Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry open. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 936-441-1614. Project: Caesar. Workshops. AFH. 3203 Wesleyan. 713-623-6796. Out Skate Rollerskating Club. 8 to 10 p.m. 8075 Cook Road. 281-933-5818. Bible Study. Noon & 6:30 p.m. St. Stephen's Episcopal. 713-526-6665. Spiritual Uplift service. 7 p.m. Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Resurrection MCC. 713-861-9149. Freelance Art Classes by Kermit Eisenhut for HIV+ individuals. 1 to 4 p.m. Lunch provided. 713-523-9530. Houston Tennis Club. 9 a.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center. 713-692-2703. Lesbian Literature Discussion Group. 7 p.m. 713-523-3037. Houston Pride Band. Open rehearsal. 1307 Yale. 713-527-0931. www.houstonprideband.org. Bering Memorial United Methodist Church. Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Various Support Groups 7 p.m. 713-526-1017. Center for AIDS. Women's mixer. 7 p.m. 713-527-8210. Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours 6 to 9 p.m. • Positive Art Workshop Photography exhibition • Montrose Clinic Free HIV testing & counseling 6-9 p.m. • 803 Hawthorne • 713-524-3818. Houston Area Bears. Dine Out. 713-867-9123.

## thursday, june 28

Gay Men's Chorus of Houston. Open rehearsal. 7 p.m. 4807 San Felipe. 713-521-7464.

Rainbow Ringers free C&W dance lessons. 2 hours free Line Dance instruction. No partner required. Drop in anytime. Brazos River Bottom. 8:30 p.m. 713-528-9192. Hep C Recovery. Support Group. 6:30 p.m. Bering. 713-526-1017. Ext. 211. STD Exams & treatment. Free. AVE5. 713-626-2837. Free HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic. 8 p.m. to midnight. Toyz Disco. 713-830-3000. Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry open. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 281-633-2555. Lambda Skating Club skates. 8 p.m. Tradewinds. Skating Rink. www.lambdaroll.org. 713-410-7215. FrontRunners. Running Club. 6:30 p.m. 713-522-8021. HIV Art Therapy Program. 1 to 4 p.m. Kermit Eisenhut. 713-523-9530. Women's Clinic. Montrose Clinic. 713-830-3000. Community Gospel. Service. 7:30 p.m. 713-880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org. Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours 6 to 9 p.m. • Positive Art Workshop Photography exhibition 6:30 p.m. • Theatre New West benefit performance of Key West at Sonoma. 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.

## friday, june 29

Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals (H.A.T.C.H.) Meeting. 713-942-7002. Free HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic. 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. Rich's. 713-830-3000. STD Exams & treatment. Free. AVE5. 713-626-2837. Frost Eye Clinic. Free eye exams for people with HIV. 713-830-3000. Q-Patrol walks the streets. 9 p.m. 713-528-SAFE. Kolbe Project. Morning Prayer. 10 a.m. 713-861-1800. Houston Tennis Club. 9 a.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center. 713-692-2703. Positive Art Workshop. 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Patrick Palmer. 713-526-1118. Lesbian and Gay Voices. KPFT 90.1 FM. 7 p.m. 713-526-5738. Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. • Positive Art Workshop Photography exhibition • Myk's Butch Night, late night action flicks: Gladiator. • 803 Hawthorne. • 713-524-3818.

To list an event, call Carolyn Roberts at 713-529-8490, fax at 713-529-9531, or e-mail editor@houstonvoice.com. Deadline is Friday at 5 p.m.

## RESURRECTION

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH



Join us for Worship Services  
Sunday 9 & 11am • Wednesday 7pm

2025 W. 11th St. @ T.C.Jester  
713-861-9149 ♦ www.resurrectionmcc.org

**"TWO THUMBS UP!"**  
— EBERT & ROEPER AND THE MOVIES  
**"THE MOST INCISIVE AND REALISTIC COMEDY OF MANNERS TO EMERGE FROM HOLLYWOOD IN QUITE A WHILE, AND THAT'S SAYING A LOT!"**  
— Stephen Holden, THE NEW YORK TIMES

JANE ADAMS  
ALAN CUMMING  
GWYNETH PALTROW

JENNIFER BEALS  
KEVIN KLINE  
PARKER POSEY

PHOEBE CATES  
JENNIFER JASON LEIGH  
JOHN C. REILLY

ANNIVERSARY PARTY

EXCLUSIVE HOUSTON ENGAGEMENT  
THE PARTY STARTS TODAY!

ANGELIKA FILM CENTER & CAFE  
BAYOU PLACE • 510 TEXAS AVENUE • PHONE: CALL-ATC

CHECK THEATRE DIRECTORIES OR CALL FOR SHOWTIMES. NO PASSES OR DISCOUNT TICKETS ACCEPTED.

## Patrick's Pottery & Collectibles

Featuring McCoy Pottery

Located inside Past Connections  
235 W. 19th St. Open 7 days 10 – 5  
Houston, TX 77008 713-802-1992

Present this ad and receive 15% OFF  
good thru 7/5/01

## Home Sweet Home

**Detail Cleaning Service**

- Residential
- Commercial
- Make Ready
- Since 1994
- Insured
- References

832.251.0723 • Cell 713.851.3425

**B BAR W CONTRACTING**

Interior/Exterior Painting  
Power Washing  
Carpentry  
Sheetrock Repairs  
Household Repairs  
Ceramic Tile  
Carpeting  
Vinyl Floors  
Decks  
Patio covers

Sandy Baker  
Owner/Operator  
Ph: 281-352-9252  
Email: bbarw@aol.com  
Rt.1 Box 625-A  
Hockley, Texas 77447-9771

Call 713-529-8490 for Directory Ad Sales

## Celebrating Pride Together

from your friends at the "NELI DELI" in the Heights

CARTER & COOLEY  
375 W. 19th • 713-864-3354



# houston classifieds

Houston Classifieds deadline is Monday at 5pm

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### EROTIC MASSAGE WORKSHOP

Celebrating the Body Erotic welcomes pioneering men of all ages and types who want to relearn human sexuality as sacred, transcendent & healthy. July 14 & 15. 713-426-5196 or visit [www.bodyelectric.org](http://www.bodyelectric.org).

### COMMUNITY RESALE CLOSING

On August 15, 2001 after 16 years. We wish to thank our donors and volunteers. This is a good and strong community which cares for its neighbors. We are seeking someone who has the capital and energy for to begin a new program. The present site will not be available. Please contact us between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. Wednesday thru Saturday. 713-528-2555

### COMPUTER PRO VOLUNTEER

Advisor needed to help set up Quick Books 2001 • AIDS Housing Coalition of Houston • 713-521-1613 •

### MONTROSE COTTAGES

Seeking new or gently worn items for AIDS Transitional Housing Program. Furniture • TV • Radio • Twin size sheets & blankets • Household items • Drop off by appointment • 713-521-1613

### GAY WALKERS

Saturday mornings • <http://members.aol.com/morningclub/index.htm> • 281-437-0636.

### Youth Empowering Advocates

Outreach center for homeless youths is seeking donations: Clothing hygiene supplies towels books videos & backpacks. Call Andrea @ 713-523-9324

## EDUCATION

### SOOTHES YOUR BODY

Helps tame mind storms and raging emotions • It's REIKI! • I also teach sensual Tantra & beginning leather • Reiki master Bill O'Rourke • [www.rainbowprod.com/bilbo](http://www.rainbowprod.com/bilbo) 713-864-2233.

## EMPLOYMENT

### MEATRACK DOOR PERSON

Hiring • Full or part time • Apply online at [www.meatrack.org](http://www.meatrack.org) or call 713.409.0587

### A MEANINGFUL CAREER

Get paid for helping clients solve their financial problems • High earnings potential • Set your own hours and start part-time • Fax resume to 281-457-6904 or call 713-427-7853.

Experienced bartender needed • Apply in person after 4 p.m. • EJ's • 2517 Ralph • NO phone calls PLEASE.

### RESURRECTION MCC PARTTIME PIANIST

Responsible for 2 Sunday services • Choir rehearsals • special events • Will work with Dir. of Music & Worship and Organist • Experiences in church and different styles of music • Excellent piano skills • Send resume to 2025 W. 11th, Houston, Tx, 77008, Attn: Mark Unbehagen • For more info, call 713-861-9149 X110 or [marku@neosoft.com](mailto:marku@neosoft.com).

### NEW CLUB/ LOUNGE ON FANNIN

All positions • Floor • Door • Bartenders • Barbacks • Call Robert @ 713-526-3333 • Noon to 6 p.m.

### WARE HOUSE ASSISTANCE

Part-Time • Good driving record • HIV/AIDS knowledge preferred • 1-5 p.m. • Mon-Fri • Fax resume to PWA Coalition • 713-522-2674.

### MIDTOWNE SPA

Apply in person. Start at \$6.50 per hour.

### CLUB HOUSTON

Accepting applications for certified personal trainers. Apply in person @ 2205 Fannin or [www.the-clubs.com](http://www.the-clubs.com).

### FREE EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE

Offering free employment assistance to HIV+ individuals. Including job preparedness, training, resume development, and job searching assistance. For more info call 713-981-1543.

## PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Creative dynamic professional with experience community outreach, group & individual counseling, and program development and management. LC or MSW-ACP. Forward resume and qualifications to: Bering memorial UM, c/o COSM. 1440 Harold St., Houston, Texas 77006. NO phone calls please.

## FOR SALE/RENT

Upscale 1/1 • Gated • Contemporary • \$595 • Craig • 713.446.3976

### MONTROSE @ FAIRVIEW

Secluded 1 bedroom garden apartment • Great location • 12 windows • Security • \$695 • 713.253.2791

### GALVESTON

1/1 Duplex • 3 blocks from seawall • 1 block over from Blvd. Saloon • Refrigerator • Stove • 1 ac unit • W/D hookups • \$350/mo. • deposit & utilities • Call Dennis @ 713-598-0713.

### WE STAYED HIGH & DRY

Beautiful Montrose 1 & 2 bedrooms • Free T-1 access • Rents from \$450 • Agent • 713-521-9345.

Westbury • 1/1 condo • Aprox. 700 SF • W/D • \$525/mo • deposit & elec. • 713-721-0763.

### HEIGHTS

Very large garage apartment • 2/1 • W/D included • \$550/mo. • same security deposit • Steve • 281-660-9182.

### MARVELOUS MONTROSE MUSEUM AREA

1/1 & 2/1 available in quiet little 50's complex • Recently updated interiors • Large closets • Laundry on-site • Good maintenance • Security gate • Lease • Deposit • No dogs • \$495 & 645 • Bills • 713-929-0462.

### MONTROSE COTTAGES

1/1 Garden Cottage • \$300 and up • Reserved for People Living with AIDS • 90 day MAX • Phone, furnished, AC • Maid paid • No deposit • Sliding scale fee • No drugs or Alcohol on property • AIDS Housing Coalition AHCH • 713-521-1613.

## ALL NEW!

• Near Intercontinental Airport  
• Value packed apartment homes for the luxury shopper  
• Please call us today for information on our outstanding specials  
281-820-9342  
[www.cityview-apts.com](http://www.cityview-apts.com)



### AUSTIN

Live above Hippie Hollow • 3B/2b • Great views • \$1500/mo • Gary @ 713-522-9077.

### HEIGHTS DUPLEX

1/1 • Hardwoods • Carpet • Central AC/H • Water paid • \$650/mo • deposit • Small pet ok • 713-864-0039.

### PRIDEREALTY.COM SALES/RELOCATION

### OFFICE SPACE FOR LEASE

1700 SF • Great Heights location • 713-443-9494.

### OFFICE FOR RENT

Second floor office available at Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center • 803 Hawthorne • 14'x12'6" • Nonprofit GLBT organizations preferred as tenant partners, but all inquiries welcomed. Call Tim Brookover @ 713-524-3818.

### Massage Therapy

### LET YOURSELF GO

Relax to an hour of Swedish massage • RMT# 013700 • Dewayne • 713-521-0654.

### BODY THERAPY

Deep Tissue at its finest! Centrally located • Out call specialist • 16 years • Chaz Kolb • 713-712-0270.

### A BODY TOUCH.COM

Experienced man4man massage • Sports • Swedish • Deep Tissue • Erotic • Mature, strong & tanned • In-calls only • Mature clients welcomed • \$65 to \$125 • 713-914-0833.

### THE BODYWORKER

Professional Body work for professionals only • I work strictly with regular, repeat clientele only • Accepting new clients at this time • Timothy • Evenings & weekends • 832-687-5786 • 713-523-7375.

### JOB STRESS? TOUGH WORKOUTS?

Call now to make your appointment for a relaxing, therapeutic Swedish massage • Body builder & licensed therapist • Randal • RMT#005930 • 713-529-3348.

## TOCAR

therapeutic touch  
massage for men  
[www.inkworkx.com/massage.htm](http://www.inkworkx.com/massage.htm)  
713.302.0439  
Heights studio • #28496, 28430

## TAYLOR MADE

Experience full & total and total relaxation • Swedish • Deep Tissue • Sports • My hands...Your pleasure • RMT#015640 • TAYLOR • Julionus@msn.com 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. 281-798-9576.

### MASSAGE THERAPY AT IT'S FINEST

Swedish • Deep tissue • Sports • Reflexology • Don't settle for less • In/Out • Hotels • 7 day • Nationally certified # 016074 • Jeff • 713-825-4062.

### MANSSAGE

Do your self a favor • Effective • Therapeutic • Relaxing • Deep tissue • Don't settle for less • What are you waiting for? • RMT# 4397 • Tom • 713-520-6018

Swedish massage by Patrick • Relaxation • Myotherapy • Deep tissue • (RMT#024589) 713-807-7109 • 1 1/2 hours for \$50. 1 Hr. \$40.

Therapeutic • Deep tissue • Jason • College guy • 713-863-8888 • 713-908-8020.

## MOVING SERVICE

### WWW.AHOUSTON MOVER.COM

Chuck French  
TxDot 5344388  
713-861-1212  
281-536-8530

## PET SITTING

### BOOK FOR YOUR VACATION

"Pets love their own home even when you can't be there" Established 1995. Book your vacation now • loyal989@aol.com Call Loyal@713-942-8816.

## PRODUCTS & SERVICES

Violin • Mint Condition • All wood • Complete with bow & case • \$150, • 713-921-5729.

### WWW.EROTIC ATTIRE.COM

Huge variety of sexy wear at Basic Brothers • 1232 Westheimer • 713-522-1626.

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

### NEED A LAWYER?

Trivedi Law Firm • Any problem • Any accident • Any injury • 713.294.4833

## BODY WAXING FOR MEN

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

## LANDSCAPING

Beds Shrubs Color Reasonable 713-861-9949

## PRESSURE WASHING

Driveways • Walkways • Patios • Brick & more! Call Jason, college guy @ 713-863-8888 • Pager 713-908-8020.

## LAMBDA BOOKKEEPING SERVICES

Restaurants • Bars • Small businesses • \$12/hr. • John Hubert • 713-523-6381

## Rainbow ComputerService

Need a little help with your computer? I offer in home repair, service and training. 713-880-0072.

## ROOMMATES

GM Roommate needed • Condominium home • 2/2.5 • 2 car electric garage • W/D • Pool • Free cable • \$495 bills paid • Randy 713-780-1136

2/1 Garage apartment • \$350 + 1/2 utilities • W. Gray & Dunlavy • 18-25 yo preferred • Mario @ 832-563-5107 • Immediate move in available.

GM • Seeks roommate for house in Montrose • \$450/mo. • W/D • Small yard • Lots of room for furniture • Call David @ 713-523-8197 • Leave message.

Montrose • Share luxury townhome • Private bedroom & bath • Garage parking • Security • Extras • Steve • 713-201-3921.

## STUDIO TO LET

### MASSAGE THERAPIST

Needed to lease space in multidiscipline wellness center • Low Rent • Historic Heights • 713-861-6186.

## TRAVEL

IF YOU LIKE KEY WEST OR HAWAII, YOU'LL "LOVE" PARADISE • Accepting reservations • 409-762-6677 • Toll Free 877-919-6677 • 2317 Ave. P • Galveston • [www.galveston.com/paradise](http://www.galveston.com/paradise) • [paradise@galveston.com](mailto:paradise@galveston.com).

## HOLLYWOOD AT GALVESTON

The island's 1st Gay resort • Clothing optional • Complimentary breakfast & happy hour • Seawall @ 31st. 409-750-8900 • 1-888-899-0899 • [www.galveston.com/hollywood](http://www.galveston.com/hollywood)



# ON YOUR NEXT VISIT TO HOUSTON

**Stay with us!  
Montrose Inn**

**A 7-ROOM ALL-GAY B&B**  
We're right *IN* the neighborhood.  
And priced right!  
Queen bed, cable TV,  
phone. Walk to 15 gay bars.


**408 AVONDALE**  
**800-357-1228**  
**713-520-0206**  
**montroseinn.com**

## exile

Leather in Exile  
(713) 524-1029

1533 Westheimer  
Houston, TX 77006

Leathers Accessories Dungeon Supplies



**Avondale's**  
hair salon  
2702 Crocker • Houston TX 77006  
713-521-2444 • Shawn Penn  
Appointments are appreciated  
Tuesday-Friday 10am-7pm  
Saturday 9am-6pm  
Closed Sunday & Monday

# houston voice

**Classified Order Form Fax: 713-529-9531, Phone: 713-529-8490**

#### TO PLACE AN AD:

**IN PERSON:** Bring completed order form with payment to Houston Voice offices (M-F, 9-5:30 pm) 500 Lovett, suite 200. **BY MAIL:** Mail completed order form with payment to Houston Voice Classifieds, 500 Lovett, Suite 200, Houston, TX, 77006. **BY PHONE:** Call in with completed order form to 713-529-8490. **BY FAX:** Fax completed order form and credit card information to Classifieds 713-529-9531. **BY E-MAIL:** croberts@houstonvoice.com  
**AD POLICY:** Houston Voice reserves the right to edit, reclassify or reject ads not meeting Houston Voice standards. No refunds for early cancellation. Misprints: Houston Voice is not responsible for misprints appearing after first week. Check ads promptly.

**Deadline for ad submission is: MONDAY at 12 NOON**

### 1 PICK YOUR CATEGORY

**FREE:** Call for guidelines  
— HIV Services & Education  
— Volunteers  
— Non-Profit Organizations  
\*First 20 words

#### INDIVIDUAL RATE \$10:

— Announcements  
— Auditions  
— Employment-Seeking  
— Pets-Free or Lost & Found  
— Roommates  
— Personal Websites

#### BUSINESS RATE \$18:

— Auto Repair  
— Business Opportunities  
— Entertainment  
— Help Wanted  
— Help Wanted-Seeking  
— Home Improvement  
— Items For Sale  
— Licensed Massage  
— Moving Services  
— Professional Services  
— Real Estate For Rent  
— Real Estate For Sale

Call 713-529-8490  
for other categories

### 2 WRITE YOUR AD

Please print clearly

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

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### 3 TOTAL YOUR COST

CALL FOR DIRECTORY AD RATES

#### INDIVIDUAL RATE ADS

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

Up to 20 words: \$10.00

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

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

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

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

#### BUSINESS RATE ADS

Up to 20 words for \$18.00 per week.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



## Occasions

### Birthdays

Asians and Friends member Joe D. has a "proud" birthday on June 24.

*Houston Voice's* former editor Sheri Cohen Darbonne scribes another birthday chapter June 25.

Artist Norman U. paints the town in rainbow hues on his June 25 birthday.

Houston Area Bear member Jim K. has a birthday on June 25.

Maranatha Fellowship MCC member Robbie B. will have a birthday on June 26.

Franki (no E) will be celebrating her birthday on June 28.

Classic Chassis Car Club Paul R. races to celebrate his June 29 birthday.

### Anniversaries

Mark K. and Ken B. celebrate another year together on June 28.



*Houston Voice's* super salesperson Wanda Faulkner and lover Denise Rivera are out and proudly celebrating their 2-year anniversary on June 23.

### In Memory



Eldon D. Bucher, Jr. left this life on June 17, 2001. Born Aug. 18, 1933, Eldon is survived by his family, a host of friends and Ricky Don.

### COMING SOON:

## Haus Edelweiss LTD

*Fine Gifts: Collectibles*

Seasonal Design • Decorating Services

### GRAND OPENING

**Sat. July 21 • 7pm - 11pm**

1833 West Alabama

(next to Chocolate Bar across from Divino Italian Restaurant)

**713-522-1948 R.S.V.P.**

- Live Music by Marshall Maxwell of Marshall Entertainment
- Refreshments • Drawings/Door Prizes

We specialize in:

- Christopher Radko Ornaments • Department 56 Villages
- Nutcrackers/Smokers • Fresh Flowers ... and other fine gifts

Visit our website: [www.hausedelweissltd.com](http://www.hausedelweissltd.com)

*Charlie Corley/Owner*

2nd location: Town & Country

**713-465-5858**

## DRESS TO EXPRESS

PRIDE — HOUSTON VOICE READERS

## MIDNIGHT MADNESS SALE!

**FRIDAY, JUNE 22**  
**9 P.M. - 12 MIDNIGHT**

**20% OFF**  
(with this ad)  
offer expires 6/30/01

11am - 7pm Mon-Sat • 1-5pm Sunday  
3113 Fountainview • Houston  
(Between Richmond and Westheimer)  
713.334.8383

## LederSkins

custom leathers beyond belief

604 1/2 WESTHEIMER  
HOUSTON, TX 77006  
713.942.8480

## Alternative Interiors

"Your personal satisfaction guaranteed"

Interior Trim & Finish Carpentry  
Interior Painting & Custom Finish Design

Allan Nelson  
713-528-9388



# My Stars!

by JILL DEARMAN

YOUR WEEKLY HOROSCOPE



June 22 - 28

**ARIES (MARCH 21—APRIL 20)**

You may have a chance to really get to know the person you like. You're more approachable than usual as the Sun transits your cuddly fourth house. Suddenly you want to network, for business and pleasure. Follow that instinct, babe. You just may find yourself on the speed-dial of a comely Cancer.

**TAURUS (APRIL 21—MAY 20)**

Venus' square to Uranus during late June may make you want to radically change your relationship status. Try to calm yourself down. It's your own psyche that needs exploring. You need to train yourself to block out that negative voice in your head. A Scorpio will give you a sexy phrase and image to replace them with.

**GEMINI (MAY 21—JUNE 21)**

Jupiter and Saturn are giving you the perfect balance of inspiration and dedication during late June. You might long for someone you once loved deeply. Before you act, ask yourself this: Are you really mourning a younger (and stupider!) version of yourself? Let a Taurus bring you back into the present.

**CANCER (JUNE 22—JULY 22)**

Venus in your house of group experiences could make you oh-so-attractive to your entire community. You appear to be constructing a whole new identity, darling. And it's an exciting one. A Capricorn is able to slip gracefully between your old world and your new one.

**LEO (JULY 23—AUG. 22)**

Mars and Pluto in your house of creativity could bring your latent talent for performing back up to the surface. Just make sure you do it loud and big and in public. You should indulge your need for comfort during this cycle. A Gemini will make the mundane seem thrilling to you.

**VIRGO (AUG. 23—SEPT. 22)**

You could have a chance to improve your career status if you are willing to sacrifice some of your free time. Just don't take old friends for granted. Send an e-mail or pick up your beloved cell phone. It's time for you to hold up your end of the friendship. An Aquarius claims to just want friendship but really wants sex, too.

**LIBRA (SEPT. 23—OCT. 22)**

Sarcasm is a better weapon than aggressive action when it comes to dealing with ornery colleagues and psycho relatives. The late-June Venus/Uranus square will help you to find a way to achieve both material and creative success. Blow off steam with an Aries.

**SCORPIO (OCT. 23—NOV. 21)**

The Sun is transiting the most adventurous sector of your chart right now, so please break out of your silly little routines. Do something really wild based on one of your intense dreams or visions. Your life most certainly needs a little shaking up. Romance with another Scorpio is shaky, at best, but sure is dreamy while it lasts.

**SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22—DEC. 21)**

You have to walk a fine line between passion and total insanity during late June. Remember the last person you were really obsessed with? Rather than stalking that person (especially if said person is a hard-to-pin-down Pisces), try putting that energy into something constructive that will feed your life, not just your fantasies.

**CAPRICORN (DEC. 22—JAN. 19)**

Feelings of intense vulnerability may seem like too much to bear as the recent eclipse (on June 21) still resonates in your life. Be strong enough to be raw, baby. An Aries may seem naughty on the outside but is remarkably pure on the inside. Expect more contradictions to come.

**AQUARIUS (JAN. 20—FEB. 18)**

You may be closer to getting it on with an elusive crush than you realize, you little vixen! Your sign is closely associated with freedom and friendship. Now is the time to bring these high-minded ideals down to earth, though. Don't sell out; just deal in reality. A Virgo can show you how to live your theories, sweetie.

**PISCES (FEB. 19—MARCH 20)**

If a psychic premonition about your career seems too good to be true—believe it. Get ready to cross over into the mainstream. Something from the past could come crashing through your brain during this cycle. Keep pen and paper on hand at all times. A Libra plays an important role.

Jill Dearman is the author of "Queer Astrology for Men" and "Queer Astrology for Women." For information on charts and consultations, call 212-841-0177 or e-mail QScopes@aol.com.

IF YOU LIKE KEY WEST,  
ACAPULCO, OR HAWAII,  
YOU'LL LOVE

## Paradise

A GALVESTON ISLAND GUEST HOUSE

- Lush tropical gardens
- Beautiful birds
- Heated pool and spa
- Impressive rooms & suites

Plus much more!

Accepting Reservations

Call 409.762.6677 or

toll free 877.919.6677

2317 Ave. P • Galveston

www.galveston.com/paradise

email: paradise@galveston.com

PROUDLY  
SERVING  
THE GAY  
COMMUNITY  
IN THE SPIRIT  
OF KEY WEST  
& ACAPULCO

## BE A NAME, NOT A NUMBER!

At Capital Bank, we know our customers by name, not a number. We don't even have an 800 number. And when you call, you'll get a person, not a menu.

If you want a small bank atmosphere with big bank capabilities, visit us on Shepherd at Alabama. We take banking personally.

# CAPITAL BANK

YOUR FULL-SERVICE COMMUNITY BANK

Member  
FDIC

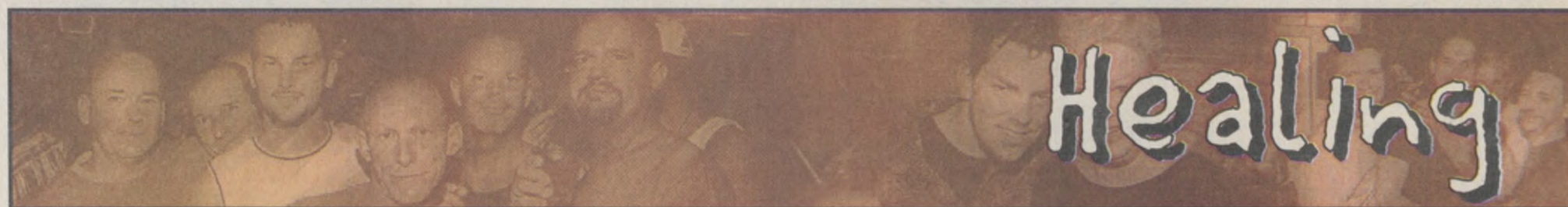
3007 S. Shepherd  
@ W. Alabama  
713/529-0001







Life



Healing



Love



Serenity



Harmony



Spirit