

Lesbian filmmaker talks about the process—and her partner's short story—that led to 'The Girl.'

Page 17

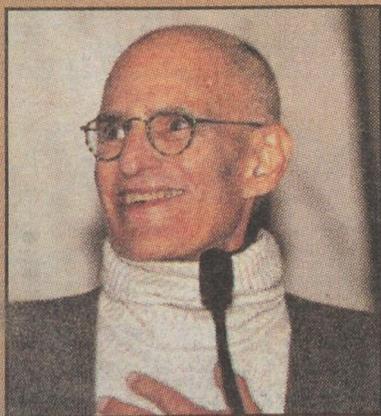


INSIDE



Local businesses frequented by gay men and lesbians have felt an economic pinch caused by the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the East Coast.

Page 3



Larry Kramer, author and AIDS activist, is one of a growing number of gay men with HIV and AIDS on a liver transplant waiting list.

Page 4



A pair of local productions feature strong female lead performances in stories of two very different queens.

Page 19

Anti-gay measure makes ballot

Despite protests by gay activists, City Council votes 9-5 to put conservative question to voters

by PENNY WEAVER

HOUSTON — Gay rights advocates said they are primed and ready to fight an anti-gay ballot referendum even more so now that the measure is officially slated to go before city voters Nov. 6.

The Houston City Council voted Wednesday to put the measure, backed by Dave Wilson's conservative Houstonians For Family Values, on the upcoming ballot.

If approved by voters, the proposal would prevent the city from offering same-sex domestic partner health and other benefits to city employees.

Houston does not currently offer the benefits, but Mayor Lee Brown flirted with making a proposal earlier this year. He withdrew the measure and instead pursued a non-discrimination ordinance approved by the Council in July.

The ballot measure from HFFV came in the wake of the approval of that ordinance, which outlaws discrimination on the basis of characteristics including sexual orientation.

>Continued on Page 2



Lesbian City Council member Annise Parker (left) said Thursday she actually feels a 'sense of relief' that an anti-gay measure backed by conservative Dave Wilson (right) is officially on the Nov. 6 ballot. 'Now we can go on with the fight' against the amendment, Parker said.

Is Falwell really that extreme?

Shared theology?

Christianity:
Southern Baptists
Mormons

Judaism:
Orthodox

Islam:
Sunni (Hambali school)
Taliban (Afghanistan)



Jerry Falwell is not alone in believing God will stop protecting a nation that accepts sin, and that homosexuality is a sin. These Christian, Jewish and Muslim groups agree on both counts.

The televangelist was marginalized for blaming gays and liberal groups for Sept. 11, but many faiths share similar beliefs about how a sinful nation risks losing God's protection

by LAURA DOUGLAS-BROWN

Conservative televangelists Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson drew widespread condemnation over the last two weeks for remarks suggesting gays and liberal groups bear some responsibility for the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

But while the comments, for which both have since apologized, were widely denounced as "extremist," are they really that extreme?

"I really believe that the pagans, and the abortionists, and the feminists, and the gays and the lesbians who are actively trying to make that an alternative lifestyle, the ACLU, People for the American Way — all of them who have tried to secularize America — I point the finger in their face and say, 'You helped this happen,'" Falwell said.

Political, cultural and religious leaders from President Bush to fellow Baptists condemned Falwell's remarks — which drew

> Continued on Page 6

HOUSTON ▼ DENVER ▼ PHILADELPHIA ▼ LOS ANGELES ▼ MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL

ALTERNATIVES

**DEPRESSION, ANXIETY, ALCOHOL, DRUGS
NOW, THERE'S LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL!**

ALTERNATIVES is the nation's only GAY OWNED AND OPERATED alcohol, drug and mental health program whose leadership has provided over 25 years of pride and service to the Gay, Lesbian, Bi-Sexual and Transgender Community.

ALTERNATIVES specializes in treating HIV/AIDS-related grief and loss. Our HIV specialists are available to address all medical concerns. Medicare, Medicaid & most insurance accepted. JCAHO Accredited

ALTERNATIVES Tips on Choosing Gay Treatment

Ask:

- ▼ Are you in a safe & secure Gay Owned and Operated facility?
- ▼ Will you be treated in a Dedicated Gay Unit?
- ▼ Will you be cared for by experienced Gay Professionals and Gay Support Staff?
- ▼ Is your Treatment Center dedicated to the Gay Community and supportive of our causes?

Beware of :

- ☒ Treatment centers and programs that exploit the gay community.

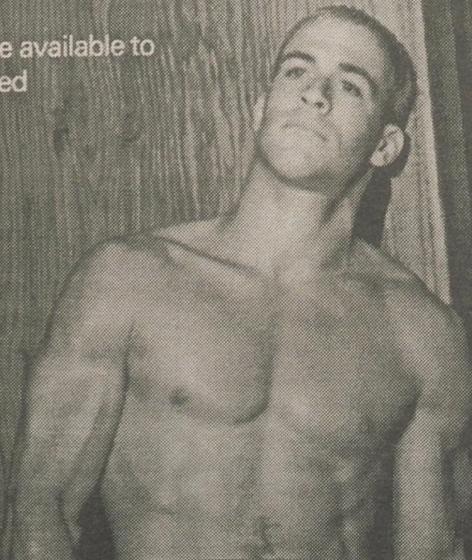


Photo: Martin Ryter

Call Today: 1-800-DIAL-GAY (1-800-342-5429) www.alternativesinc.com

**Need
An
HIV
Test?**

Montrose Clinic tests
in your community
call 713-830-3070
for locations.

M
MONTROSE CLINIC
bodypositive WELLNESS CENTER

www.montroseclinic.org



INSIDE

NEWS

Transplants lists expand 4
 National news 5
 Local news briefs 8

VOICES & ECHOES

Editorial: Comparing Falwell, the Taliban ... 10
 Gerber: Gays should get out now 11

SPECIAL

Restaurant Guide 13-16

OUT ON THE BAYOU

'The Girl's' girl speaks 17
 appts 18
 On Stage 19
 Eating Out at The Melting Pot 20
 Community Calendar 22
 Occasions 26
 My Stars! 27

Issue 1092



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
 www.houstonvoice.com

Effects of terrorist attacks hit home

Houston gay businesses feel strains of aftermath of East Coast trauma

by KAY DAYUS

HOUSTON—The economic effects of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in New York City and Washington D.C. almost immediately impacted the Bayou City and many businesses popular with gay men and lesbians.

The travel industry has been especially hit hard by the disaster, with many people afraid to fly or to leave the country in the wake of the terrorism.

Richard Todd, owner of River Oaks Travel, an agency catering to the lesbian and gay community, said his business has taken a dive since the strikes on the World Trade Towers and the Pentagon.

"We've had a big decrease in business and a lot of cancellations to Europe. There's not too much going on right now.

Todd estimated his business has been down by 50 percent since the terrorist attacks. "The last two weeks have been awful, but it is slowly picking up," he added.

But, Todd said, he tells his customers that now is probably very safe to fly. "The security is better than ever now," he said.

Owners of two local bed and breakfast



Customer Freddie Piegasa looks at merchandise at Lobo Bookstore and Coffee Shop, one of many local businesses with a large gay clientele that has been affected by economic fallout from the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in New York City and Washington, D.C.

inns have similar tales to tell.

Henry McClurg, owner of the Montrose Inn, said business has been down around 30 percent over the past two weeks.

"Business is greatly down for people who fly in, but we've picked up some business from Dallas, San Antonio, Austin and New Orleans," said McClurg. Given the current circumstances, "most people would rather drive than fly," he added.

Tom Frickey, owner of Lovett Inn, has felt the pinch, but not as much as the

Montrose Inn. "Yes, I've noticed a shift. We saw a lot of cancellations early on, but it's picking up. We're holding our own and staying pretty busy," said Frickey.

Restaurants in the heavily gay Montrose area seem to have fared somewhat better than other businesses. The Fox Diner on South Shepherd at first experienced a lull in business, especially on Sept. 11, said manager Tim Taylor.

"On the first day it was very quiet. We had a large day on the books, but it quickly evaporated. We were catering a party for 100 downtown, but it was understandably cancelled," he said.

Lobo Bookstore and Coffee Shop at first experience a drop in business, but it too has picked up, said owner Larry Lingle.

"Initially, yes for several days it was slow, but this past weekend it went back to normal," Lingle said.

Unanticipated victims of the backlash of the terrorist acts are some of the agencies that rely on donations to provide their services.

The Houston Area Women's Center on Waugh has seen an increase in requests for its services, according to Ellen Cohen, president and CEO of the facility.

"We have seen an increase in the demands on our services and we are concerned there isn't a decrease in giving," Cohen said.

Battle heats up with five weeks to Election Day

> Continued from Page 1

Annis Parker, the only openly gay member of the City Council, led opposition to placing the HFFV referendum on the November ballot.

But Parker said Thursday she was not surprised by the 9-5 City Council approving the referendum.

"That was really the only choice Council had," Parker said.

In fact, the council member said she is almost glad, in a way, to have the question put before voters.

"Now we know that we're going to face it," Parker said. "We've been preparing for it for months. I actually have a little bit of a sense of relief. That part's over with. Now we can go on with the fight."

Wilson said he is happy that Houston city residents will get to vote on the amendment.

"We're pleased. I'm a little surprised that the five people voted not to put it on the ballot. They don't understand what their job is," he said. "Whether there's anything wrong with it or not, it's not their job to certify that petition."

Wilson and HFFV presented seven boxes of petitions to City Secretary Anna Russell several weeks ago. In order to get the referendum on the ballot, supporters were required to garner the signatures of 20,000 registered city voters.

Russell validated 21,028 of those signatures. But Parker argued before the Council on Wednesday that errors or irregularities

on 1,101 signatures were missed by the city secretary's office.

Still, Parker said the main obstacle for Wilson and other supporters of the ballot measure was certification by Russell.

"The hurdle was when the city secretary certified the petitions initially," Parker said. "It's not that she did a terrible job or anything; it's that she's constrained to reviewing what is actually on the face of the petition and her policy has long been that even though anybody can look ... and see that some people are signing more petitions than they should," the city holds that only the courts can make that decision, she added.

"We found enough, in my opinion, to ask her to go back and check her initial certification," Parker said.

But the council member and other gay rights advocates understood that it was unlikely the City Council would ask Russell to do that.

Councilman Chris Bell, who voted in favor of putting the referendum on the ballot, said he nonetheless is against the measure.

"[Parker] had talked to all of us who have been supportive on this issue and told us that she was going to oppose it but did not expect others to do the same," said Bell, who is currently At Large 4 representative. He is also a candidate for mayor.

"The city attorney had made it very clear to us on Tuesday that we would simply be delaying the inevitable, that there was real-

ly no way to keep it off the ballot," Bell said. "[Referendum supporters] would have forced us to put it on the ballot."

But Bell said despite his vote to put the measure before voters, he hopes it is defeated in November.

"If there was a way to legally keep it off the ballot, then I would have been supportive of that because I don't think that this is the time that anyone wants to be talking about this kind of initiative given what we just witnessed driven by hate in New York and Washington D.C.," Bell said. "This initiative at a lot of different levels, I believe, is driven by hate."

Parker said the city has drafted its own version of the language for the ballot question. It will read: "Shall the charter of the city of Houston be amended to deny health care benefits to same sex domestic partners of city employees and to address other matters of employment and contracting practices based on sexual orientation?"

A win at the polls for gays in defeating the referendum will be a bigger victory than keeping the question off the ballot would have been, according to Parker.

"The problem with challenges to these kinds of petition efforts is that courts bend over backwards to allow access to the ballot box and if we go at it and win, as I trust we will, whether he had enough petition signatures or not is moot," she said. "I want to crush it ... cut off a lot of potential anti-gay efforts in the future [and] really drive a stake through it."

Liver transplants finally go to HIV-positive patients

HIV drugs may trigger liver problems but are also making transplants available for first time

by LISA KEEN

It's the kind of list no one wants to see their name on. But it is also a list that, once people land on it, they really want to be at the top: the waiting list for a liver transplant.

Because the overall health of a patient is among the factors that determine who gets to the top of that list, fewer than 40 HIV-positive patients have received life-saving liver transplants, even though many gay men with HIV are already infected with hepatitis B, which attacks the liver.

But with antiviral drug combinations prolonging the lives and improving the health of those HIV, more and more gay men with HIV are finding themselves on that precious list.

Hepatitis B, like HIV, often lies dormant for years and then relapses into life-threatening liver disease. Two studies early this year suggested that such relapses might even be associated with protease inhibitor combinations; a study late last year linked relapse to discontinuing the nucleoside 3TC.

But a potent anti-HIV cocktail isn't the only cause of resurgent hepatitis B. Ask famed gay author and AIDS activist Larry Kramer.

Kramer said his hepatitis had been inactive for years and that, although he has also lived with HIV infection for years, he has managed to keep his AIDS viral load relatively low (at about 700) using only two nucleosides.

Then, about six months ago, the hepatitis came roaring back.

"I was near death," Kramer said. "I weighed 120 pounds."

One out of every 20 Americans will become infected with the hepatitis B virus, according to the American Liver Foundation, many without knowing it. About 10 percent will develop chronic hepatitis. And about 5,000 Americans die each year of chronic liver disease caused by the hepatitis B virus.

How many people with HIV have hepatitis B infection, too? Like the AIDS virus, the hepatitis B virus can be transmitted through bodily fluids during sex, making co-infection "relatively common," says the National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases.

One study last year suggested 14 percent. And like other infections, hepatitis B disease both weakens a person with HIV and triggers replication of the AIDS virus.

"Everybody told me I had only a year left in my liver," Kramer said.

Seven days to live

Unfortunately, a patient's liver must have only about one week left to move that patient to the top of the list for receiving a donor liver. The "list" is maintained by a nonprofit charitable organization, the United Network for Organ Sharing.

To get on that list, a patient must be evaluated by a hospital that performs liver transplants. Although UNOS is revising its criteria this year, its current policy suggests that patients with "sudden liver failure that leaves them with a life expectancy of fewer than 7 days" go to the top of the list.

"When an organ donor becomes available," notes UNOS, all patients waiting for a liver are compared to the donor to determine which potential recipient is best suited for the donor liver.

"Factors such as medical urgency, time spent on the waiting list, organ size, blood type and genetic makeup are considered," says UNOS. "The organ is offered first to the candidate that is the best match."

UNOS policy requires HIV screening of all potential recipients but does not collect data on how many are on the waiting list. The policy suggests, however, that a potential candidate for organ transplantation who tests HIV positive and who hasn't yet registered any symptoms from the virus "should not necessarily be excluded from candidacy for organ transplantation."

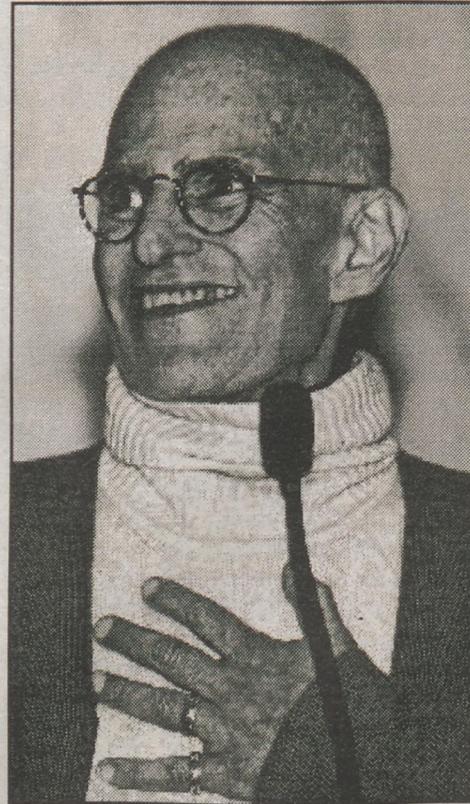
UNOS maintains the national waiting list under contract with the Health Resources & Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. And UNOS says it matches organ donations to recipients under a policy that "ensures that all patients have a fair chance at receiving the organ they need — regardless of age, sex, race, lifestyle, religion, financial or social status."

Since 1988, according to UNOS, only 37 liver transplants have been performed on people with HIV.

But UNOS also urges hospitals to advise a person with liver failure and HIV that "he or she may be at increased risk" of serious adverse reaction — even death — because of the transplant. Patients who receive transplanted organs must take drugs to suppress their immune systems. Such "immunosuppressive therapy" is critical to stopping the body from naturally rejecting the donated organ, which it perceives as a foreign object.

"I'm here to tell you [that] you'd better have somebody smart and indefatigable" helping with learning about and arranging for a liver transplant, said Kramer, because "it's like dealing in a foreign language and a foreign country."

Kramer said he first sought help from



Author and AIDS activist Larry Kramer said he was 'near death' six months ago when hepatitis B wracked his liver; now he's one of a growing number of gay men with HIV and AIDS on a transplant waiting list.

Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York, but he said he was not put on that institution's waiting list because he did not want to comply with the hospital's requirement that he be taking protease inhibitors before the surgery.

Kramer's physician helped him find an institution that would consider a person with HIV for a liver transplant — the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.

Now, said Kramer, he's on its list. He carries a beeper and is poised to charter a plane to get to Pittsburgh from his homes in Connecticut or New York City within the four-hour time limit should he get the call.

'Moral claim' to transplant?

Although there has been no reported opposition to Kramer making the waiting list for a transplant, a series of articles about transplant issues, in the Cleveland Plain-Dealer three years ago, noted that the scarcity of donor organs coupled with "some people's disdain for homosexuals or IV drug users" have emboldened some to argue that "some people have a greater moral claim to a donor organ than others."

So far, those kinds of arguments do not appear to be the biggest obstruction to transplants for people with HIV. The biggest obstacles appear to be available organs and money.

As of Sept. 7, UNOS had more than 18,000 people on its waiting list for donor livers, more than 2,600 of them in Kramer's region of the country. Last

year, only 4,954 liver transplants were performed nationwide, and more than 1,600 people waiting for liver transplants died.

Only 122 medical centers in the country perform liver transplants, and, apparently, only 17 centers have performed them on people with confirmed HIV infection.

According to the latest information from UNOS, only 33 liver transplants have been performed on people with confirmed HIV infection since 1995; 11 of those were performed just last year. The 11 transplants represented less than one percent of the 4,955 liver transplants performed last year.

As of a year ago, hospitals affiliated with the University of Miami and University of Pittsburgh performed four each, University of California-San Francisco had performed two, and at least one was performed New York.

The National Institutes of Health has awarded UCSF a grant to study how well people with HIV do after transplants, according to a spokesperson for the National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases. The study involves UCSF; Cornell, Mt. Sinai in New York, Georgetown in Washington, D.C., and the universities of Maryland, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Pittsburgh; the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota; and EMMES, a biomedical research firm in Rockville, Md.

Pricing a liver

"And then," said Kramer, "there's the whole financial thing. You have to affiliate yourself with a medical center, and many people affiliate with several medical centers in different cities. ... Each hospital requires you to have this really expensive battery of blood tests, and CAT scans, and MRIs — you name it — thousands and thousands of dollars worth of tests which no insurance company will pay for until you get accepted by a hospital."

Kramer said hospitals can also require a deposit of as much as \$500,000.

"When we went [to UPMC] for tests, the place is filled with people who are begging to be accepted and can't afford it," he said. "I heard so many heart-breaking stories about people selling houses, family members selling houses so a person can get a transplant."

In testimony before a Congressional subcommittee three years ago, UNOS President Larry Hunsicker noted that some Medicaid programs do not cover the expenses for transplants, "which means that there will be no transplants for many poor or rural citizens."

Most recently, the chair of the National Association of People With AIDS, could not get insurance coverage for her transplant. Gay & Lesbian

➤ Continued on Page 7

Cher wins wrongful termination suit brought by gay man



A Los Angeles jury found in favor of Cher, who was accused in a lawsuit brought by a gay man of wrongful termination.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A jury found in favor of Cher on Sept. 21, dismissing a lawsuit by an accountant who said he lost his job and was harassed for noting labor violations during construction of the entertainer's Malibu mansion. Salvatore Sampino had accused Cher of wrongful termination, retaliation, sexual harassment, defamation, unfair competition, negligence and unpaid wages. He was seeking \$100,000 in lost wages and \$150,000 in emotional distress. He said he was forced to quit his job in May 2000 because of harassment after he brought attention to labor violations. Sampino, who is gay, said his co-workers made offensive comments about his sexual orientation and it got worse after he complained about it. Cher insisted that Sampino never actually worked for her but for a subcontractor and that she had nothing to do with his leaving his job. "I'm really happy with the verdict," the 55-year-old entertainer, who signed autographs for jurors after the trial, said outside court.

Mass. Senate panel passes bill offering DP benefits

BOSTON (AP) — Gay and unmarried state workers would be able to get health insurance for their domestic partners under a bill approved by a key Massachusetts state Senate committee on Sept. 21. The bill, approved by the Senate Ways & Means Committee, would also let cities and towns decide to offer domestic partner benefits as a local option. The Senate has approved two similar bills in recent years, but none have become law. "I approach it as a matter of basic fairness," said Senate President Thomas Birmingham. The full Senate was scheduled to vote on the bill this week. It is also expected to vote on bills that would allow Cambridge and Brookline to extend domestic partner benefits to their employees. In 1998, the legislature passed a bill allowing Boston to provide the benefits, known as a "home rule petition," but the bill was vetoed by former Gov. Paul Cellucci.

Gay marriage ban gets green light from Mass. AG

BOSTON — Massachusetts Attorney General Thomas Reilly approved two initiative petitions Sept. 4 that would ask voters in 2004 to ban gay marriage and limit domestic partner benefits for gays, the Boston Herald reported. "We believe his decision was colored by crass politics," Arline Isaacson, co-chair of the Massachusetts Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus, told the Herald. Gay civil rights activists claim the proposed ballot questions attack the power of the courts, which is prohibited under the law governing initiative petitions. "They would cripple the court's authority to decide on the validity of out-of-state marriages or civil unions or to interpret laws that include any non-traditional families, gay or not," said Mary Bonauto, an attorney for the Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders. But Reilly's office defended the certification, pointing to a recent Supreme County Judicial court ruling that a petition is not excluded on powers-of-courts grounds unless its "main design" is to affect the powers of courts. The group has to collect 57,100 signatures by Dec. 10 to put the petitions before the legislature.

First cleanup goes smoothly for gay group in S.D.

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Members of the Sioux Empire Gay & Lesbian Coalition say the first day of cleaning up their adopted highway went fairly smoothly. The group gathered last Saturday to pick up litter along Highway 38 west of Sioux Falls. "The ditches aren't that dirty," said Eileen Friest, a coalition member. "It's a beautiful day to do it." It was the first trash pickup since the group signed up to be a member of the state's Adopt-A-Highway program in December. After being approved for the program, the state Department of Transportation turned down the coalition's request for a sign, saying the group couldn't participate because it is an advocacy group. Gov. Bill Janklow decided last month to give the group a sign, but then said all Adopt-A-Highway signs would be taken down at the end of the year and replaced by generic signs without sponsor names on them. Of the 28 adults and eight children that helped collect trash, some were coalition members but many were friends and guests of members.

Corning to extend benefits to same-sex couples

CORNING, N.Y. (AP) — Starting next year, Corning Inc. will extend benefits to employees' same-sex domestic partners. Corning will be among 30 percent of Fortune 500 companies that offer domestic partner benefits, according to Pam Schneider, senior vice president of human resources and a diversity officer for Corning Inc. "This is increasingly a trend in terms of large companies," Schneider said. Extending benefits to domestic partners was a logical step to align the benefit structure to be consistent with Corning Inc.'s principles. "We looked at our whole program against our values and what we're trying to do," she said. "One of our values is we respect the dignity of every individual, and that we don't have any discrimination in the workplace based on sexual orientation."

—From staff and wire reports



For more news, visit
www.houstonvoice.com

Combining Commerce with Community

HOUSTON 1 EMPOWER 2001
the chamber
the greater houston gbt chamber of commerce

it's like...

*A party. A celebration.
Pride. Carnivál. Coming out.
Out on the town. An art opening.
The holidays. The State Fair.
A community celebration.
Seeing old friends and meeting new ones.
It's like, you know, fun. For everyone.
It's 2001 Empower. Don't like, you know, miss it!*

October 14, 2001

11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

(VIP Opening October 13, 2001 • 6 p.m. — 9 p.m.)

George R. Brown Convention Center in
beautiful downtown Houston.

For more information, please call **713.523.7576**

www.ghglcc.org



EQUIVA
TRADING COMPANY

CHASE

OutSmart

Triangle

HOUSTON
VOICE



Falwell dubbed 'American Taliban' after comments

➤ Continued from Page 1

agreement from Robertson when originally stated during a discussion on his "700 Club" television show — as everything from "inappropriate" (Bush) to "hurtful and divisive" (Rev. Timothy George, editor of Christianity Today).

Meanwhile, outraged gays may have been tempted to dismiss the comments as simply more of what they have come to expect from Falwell and Robertson, who frequently make headlines with outlandish charges about homosexuality.

Last year, Falwell's newsletter attempted to "out" children's television character Tinky Winky the Teletubby as gay. Two years ago, Robertson predicted everything from hurricanes to meteors would hit Orlando because the city allowed rainbow flags to fly during Gay Pride.

Those comments drew mainly laughter from mainstream America.

But this time, there may be more serious backing for what appeared to many as another outlandish anti-gay charge. Two of the main reasons that Falwell says he blamed gays for the Sept. 11 attacks — that God will remove his protection from a sinful nation, and that homosexuality is sinful — are not uncommon at all in conservative religious thought.

Millions of worshippers in the world's three major monotheistic religions — Christianity, Islam and Judaism — hold similar beliefs, although none has gone so far as to blame gays specifically for terrorist attacks.

God, gays and sin

Even as many national religious leaders condemned Falwell's comments about Sept. 11, others less in the spotlight expressed the same idea.

"The hedge [of divine protection] that God put around America is not there any-



Jerry Falwell's beliefs about the sin of homosexuality and God's judgment on a sinful nation are shared by the Southern Baptist Convention, whose anti-gay leadership, including Richard Land, enjoys significant political influence.

more. That is what this is all about," Rev. Ed Young, pastor of Second Baptist Church in Houston, told more than 2,000 worshippers at a prayer service in observance of the National Day of Prayer & Remembrance on Sept. 11, according to the Houston Chronicle.

Young did not respond to interview requests. Neither did leaders of the Southern Baptist Convention, with which Falwell is affiliated.

But in an interview with the New York Times, Rev. Albert Mohler, Jr., of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., said he agreed with the general argument that Falwell was making, even as he rejected that any human could know which tragedy was permitted by God because he was angered by the sins of the victims or their nation.

"There is no doubt that America has accommodated itself to so many sins that we should always fear God's judgment and expect in due that judgment will come," Mohler told the Times. "But we ought to be very careful about pointing to any circumstance and any specific tragedy and say that this thing has happened because this is God's direct punishment."

The idea that God will withdraw his protection from a nation that sins is a common view among many faiths that favor literal readings of scripture, according to religion professors who study Christianity, Judaism and Islam.

"It's simply Biblical," said Michael Broyde, a professor of law and expert on Judaism at Emory University Law School in Atlanta. He cited Deuteronomy 32:20: "Then He said, 'I will hide My face from them, I will see what their end shall be; For they are a perverse generation, Sons in whom is no faithfulness.'"

"Those religions that put a high emphasis on a literal reading of the Bible are going to find in the story of Israel a lot of support for the idea that God punishes his chosen people when they stray," agreed Kathleen Flake, a professor of American Religious History at Vanderbilt University's Divinity School.

The stories of Noah's ark and Sodom and Gomorrah are but two examples in the Hebrew Bible of God allowing tragedy to befall his people because of their sins, Flake said.

For religious groups that focus on literal scriptural readings, whether the Bible followed by Christians and Jews or the Muslim Koran, the idea that homosexuality is one of the sins for which God might remove his veil of protection also enjoys widespread acceptance.

And while these groups may be on the rightwing of religious thought within their faiths, that doesn't mean they don't have millions of followers: Within Christianity, "a lot of Baptist churches and the Latter-day Saints [also known as the Mormons] would fall into that category," Flake said.

In 1996, the Southern Baptist Convention voted to boycott the Walt Disney Company over its alleged support for homosexuality, including offering domestic partner benefits to gay employees and allowing Gay Days at its theme parks.

While Disney officials say the ongoing

Americans need to realize that, like the Afghan leaders accused of harboring Osama bin Laden, Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson have political power as well as religious power, argued the group TomPaine.com in a recent advertisement.

protest has had no effect, the Southern Baptist Convention remains America's largest Protestant denomination, citing more than 15.8 million members in 40,000 churches nationwide.

And Islam, overall the most conservative of the three religions on the question of homosexuality, is also the world's fastest growing religion, already followed by more than one billion people worldwide.

Unlike Christianity or Judaism, Islam doesn't divide neatly into denominations or sects, said John Voll, professor of Islamic history and associate director for the Center for Muslim Christian Understanding at Georgetown University.

The three major divisions—the Sunni, followed by most Muslims in the world; the Shiites, who are the majority only in Iran; and the Kharajites, who remain a significant population only in Oman — don't fit easily on a scale of conservative to liberal, because they also contain different "schools of law," Voll said.

The Hambali school of law within Sunni Islam holds the most "hard-nosed, literalist, puritanical" views, and it is to this school that the ruling Taliban government in Afghanistan belongs.

Under the Taliban, authorities still carry out the traditional death sentence for homosexuality in which, after a sham trial, a wall is collapsed on top of those convicted of sodomy.

Most "mainstream Muslims" don't take such an extreme view, but Islam as a whole remains centuries behind Christianity on the road to acceptance of same-sex relationships, Voll said.

Last year, the Central Conference of American Rabbis voted to bless gay rela-

tionships, making Reform Jews the largest and most influential religious group yet to formally sanction same-sex unions.

But the Orthodox branch of Judaism, largest in Israel, still adheres to a strong condemnation of homosexuality.

'The American Taliban'

In an ad in the Sept. 19 issue of the New York Times, the non-profit opinion Web site TomPaine.com described the pair as "the American Taliban."

Religious scholars also make the comparison between religious leaders on the rightwing of Christianity and Islam.

The U.S. military presence in Muslim holy lands in Saudi Arabia has been cited by many analysts as a key source of bin Laden's rage against America.

Falwell and Robertson see America as Christian country, and in that sense the modern "promised land" or holy land, said Vanderbilt's Flake.

"The irony is this point of view of America is not unlike the claims radical Islamists make about the Holy Land in the Middle East, and their rage at us for having military bases on the land," she said.

But Americans, including gay Americans, need to recognize that Falwell and Robertson, like the Taliban, reach beyond the religious sphere into the political, said John Moyers, editor and publisher of TomPaine.com.

In covering the controversy, the mainstream press has too often depicted Falwell and Robertson as quirky extremists, without acknowledging the power they hold, said Moyers, who is gay.

"It's important for people who are and are not allies of Robertson and Falwell to understand that these guys aren't just on TV trying to raise money. They are out there trying to shape public policy," he said, citing the work of Robertson's Christian Coalition in helping Bush win South Carolina's Republican primary.

"There is payback," Moyers said.

Additionally, the Southern Baptist Convention is now taking over the political role once played only by the Christian Coalition, said David Key, director of Baptist Studies for Emory's Candler School of Theology in Atlanta.

"The SBC has definitely become much more in line with Falwell and Robertson's methods," said Key. "The Southern Baptist Convention is taking the place of the Christian Coalition, and they can do more than the Christian Coalition. They can create Sunday school lessons to go along with the politics."

All of this could leave gays and gay activist groups in a difficult spot in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks, without friends on either side of the issue.

Gays, of course, want to join in outrage against bin Laden and the Taliban government accused of supporting him, which also happens to be virulently homophobic and anti-Semitic.

➤ Continued on Page 7

Falwell invited to national prayer service by Bush

➤ Continued from Page 6

But orchestrating the American response to bin Laden and the Taliban is the Bush administration, which even after distancing itself from Falwell's remarks invited the televangelist to the National Day of Prayer & Remembrance service at the National Cathedral, and recently appointed the Southern Baptist Convention's Richard Land to a commission on religious liberty.

While many would argue that gays have good reason to be wary of policies, such as new restrictions on civil liberties, proposed by the Bush administration, the current atmosphere in the wake of the Sept. 11 attacks could make challenging the president more difficult.

"We are using a lot more care, and I totally understand the emotional response to want to support everything our president does as a show of unity when under attack," said Lorri Jean, executive director of the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force. "But my job as head of a national political organization, like the head of the NAACP or the ACLU, remains to watch and analyze what is happening from the perspective our jobs require."

Bush taps gay ambassador

Michael Guest easily approved as new U.S. ambassador to Romania

by LOU CHIBBARO JR.

WASHINGTON — Secretary of State Colin Powell on Sept. 18 administered the oath of office to openly gay foreign service officer Michael E. Guest as the new U.S. ambassador to Romania.

Powell, who has emerged as a key figure in developing the U.S. response to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, administered the oath during a State Department ceremony in which he recognized Guest's domestic partner, along with Guest's parents.

The ceremony took place three months after President Bush submitted Guest's name in nomination to the Senate and seven weeks after the Senate confirmed the nomination by voice vote and without debate.

Nothing was said about Guest's sexual orientation during his July 1 confirmation hearing before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and the White House did not mention that Guest is gay in its own announcement of his nomination on June 19.

Washington Post columnist Lloyd Grove was the first to report the president's

latest openly gay appointee when he described the swearing-in ceremony in a Sept. 18 column in the Post's Style section.

"In a sign of the times," Grove wrote, "Powell publicly acknowledged Guest's partner of six years, teacher Alex Nevarez, who was onstage yesterday with the ambassador's parents and plans to join Guest in Bucharest."

A State Department spokesperson confirmed the Post's account of the swearing-in.

Guest becomes the nation's second openly gay U.S. ambassador. President Clinton appointed San Francisco philanthropist and longtime gay civil rights advocate James Hormel as ambassador to Luxembourg.

Guest's swift approval was in marked contrast to the hotly contested confirmation fight that Hormel faced during a time when the Senate was controlled by Republicans. Several GOP senators placed an indefinite "hold" on the Hormel nomination.

A White House statement on Guest's background says Guest is a career member of the Senior U.S. Foreign Service. According to the statement, he most recently held the post of principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs.

A South Carolina native, he is a graduate of Furman University and received a master's degree from the University of



With the recent appointment of Michael Guest as the new U.S. ambassador to Romania, President Bush brings to three the number of openly-gay, high-ranking members of his administration.

Virginia, the White House statement says.

"I chose this career out of love for America and what it represents," Guest said during his confirmation hearing. "The prospect now of representing the United States at the ambassadorial level is as exciting as it is humbling."

Guest could not be reached for comment at press time.

In April, Bush appointed Scott Evertz, a gay Republican activist from Wisconsin, as director of the White House National AIDS Policy Office. In August, the president named Donald Capoccia, an openly gay real estate developer from New York, as a member of the U.S. Commission on Fine Arts.

➤ Continued from Page 4

Advocates & Defenders filed an emergency lawsuit for Belynda Dunn, whose health maintenance organization refused to cover the cost of her transplant, contending that liver transplants for people with HIV are still "experimental."

Dunn has HIV and hepatitis C, which is relatively similar to hepatitis B but caused by a different virus. Just one state to the south, in Connecticut, Kramer said his insurance company, Blue Cross-Blue Shield, has agreed to pay for his transplant.

"The system sucks. The whole organ transplant system sucks," said Kramer, who said he is hopeful that, if his transplant goes well, it will help smooth the way for other people with HIV to get insurance coverage for the procedure.

It is, in other words, a system somewhat similar to the medical system gay men were forced to navigate with a pioneer spirit and a great urgency at the beginning of the AIDS epidemic. There are issues of costs, insurance coverage, and who can afford to be treated; issues of how the medical establishment works and how it might be reformed to insure the best treatment for the largest number of people; and issues of poli-

tics and publicity.

It is no surprise that Kramer, a pivotal figure in the success of ACT UP in marshalling the medical establishment against AIDS, is once again at the top of another important list — a growing list of gay men who are, and likely will be, trying to marshal the medical transplant establishment for themselves, their lovers and friends, and others in the coming years.

INFO

United Network for Organ Sharing

1100 Boulders Parkway, Suite 500

PO Box 13770

Richmond, VA 23225-8770

call: 804-330-8503

fax: 804-327-6769

www.unos.org

datarequest@unos.org

National Association of People With AIDS

1413 K Street, NW, 7th Floor

Washington, DC 20005

202-898-0414

202-898-0435



WE PRIDE OURSELVES ON OUR SUCCESSES —

even the ones you never hear about.

Pride Institute is the best place for gay men and lesbians to get help dealing with chemical dependency, depression, anxiety or other behavioral health issues. That's because many lesbians and gay men don't succeed in traditional, straight-run treatment programs. (How can you recover if you can't be yourself?)

But most patients do succeed at Pride.

Many of our graduates are eager to share the secret of their success. In fact, about a third of our new patients are referred to us by Pride alumni.

Visit www.pride-institute.com and find out why Pride is the place to deal with chemical dependency, sexual addiction or other mental health issues if you are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender.

Choose to recover where you can be yourself.

PRIDE INSTITUTE

800-54-PRIDE

www.pride-institute.com

Minneapolis — Fort Lauderdale — Chicago — New Jersey — New York City — Dallas/Fort Worth

**VIBRANT AND
EXCITING
COPIES
& GRAPHICS.
WE ARE
YOUR COPY
CENTER!**

copy.com

713/528-1201

1201 Westheimer

We Face Adversity by Supporting Diversity.

SCHMERLER AGENCY



*Introducing Our
Newest Associate
Jason Garcia*

*Your
Community
Insurance
Agency!*

**For Auto, Home & Health
713.661.7700**

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

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

www.SchmerlerAgency.com

Writer with ties to Bayou City to sign new book on queer history



Crossroads bookstore will host author James T. Sears on Wednesday as he signs copies of his new book on gay history in the South.

HOUSTON—Author James T. Sears will be at Crossroads Market Bookstore & Cafe next Wednesday to sign his new book, "Rebels, Rubyfruit and Rhinestones: Queering Space in the Stonewall South" (Rutgers, 2001). It is the second in Sears' series on queer Southern history. "Lonely Hunters," the first, covered events from 1945 to 1968. This one begins, with a few looks back, with the infamous Stonewall Riots and covers the '60s and early '70s. Back then, the fight was about matters such as being allowed to socialize in bars without being hauled off to jail for wearing clothes of the wrong gender, he relates. There are several stories about Houston events, including the time a bar owner hired Percy Foreman. Sears is an adviser to the local Gulf Coast Archives & Museum of GLBT History.

—Ella Tyler

INFO

Author Jim Sears

Book signing
3-7 p.m. Oct. 3
Crossroads Market
Bookstore & Cafe
1111 Westheimer
Houston, TX
713 942.0147

Gay men plan to focus on relationships, self-understanding

HOUSTON—The Men's Gathering of Houston, a group of African-American gay, bisexual and same-gender-loving men, is hosting Black Explosion Weekend in Houston from Oct. 5-7. The weekend begins with a club tour on Friday night. There will be poetry reading and educational seminars Saturday afternoon, followed by a dialogue meeting Saturday evening, according to organizers. After dinner, the night ends with recreation at the Realm/Incognito. Participants will attend services at Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church on Sunday morning. The weekend closes with a picnic. The purpose of the gathering is to discuss issues about healthy relationships and self understanding, according to Men's Gathering leaders.

—Ella Tyler

INFO

Men's Gathering of Houston

Black Explosion
Weekend
Oct. 5-7
For tickets, call Aaron
713-529-7978
For more information,
call 713-528-4461
e-mail themensgather-
ing@yahoo.com

Lesbian and gay center to host readings of banned books

HOUSTON—Banned Books Week will be commemorated with a Banned Books Readathon on Saturday at the Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center. The designated week was created by the American Library Association to call the public's attention to censorship and freedom-to-read issues. All are invited to join community activists in reading a selection from a once-forbidden book by a gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender or gay-friendly author. "We plan to make this an annual event," said Victor Schill, a member of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender Interest Group of the Texas Library Association, which is co-hosting the event. Schill; Tim Brookover, president of the Center, the other co-host of the event; and Karen Vargas from the Montrose Library will read selections during the evening. Writer and activist Pokey Anderson, Rev. Carolyn Mobley of Metropolitan Community Church, and Brenda Silva from Stonewall Lawyers are also confirmed as readers.

—Ella Tyler

INFO

Banned Books Readathon

7:30 p.m. Saturday
Lesbian & Gay
Community Center
803 Hawthorne
Houston, TX
713-524-3818

around houston

Arts & Crafts Fair benefits shelter, gay & lesbian center

HOUSTON—Two local organizations plan a free Arts & Crafts Fair on Oct. 6 as a benefit fund-raiser. Community Awareness for Transgender Support (CATS) and the Lesbian & Gay Community Center are co-hosting the event, which will feature local musical and artistic talent, along with a variety of vendor booths offering everything from jewelry and sculpture to housewares, food and apparel. All proceeds benefit the CATS 52nd St. Homeless Shelter and the Center, according to organizers. The CATS facility is the only one of its kind in the nation serving transgendered persons. It provides free emergency shelter to those whose physical makeup, emotional, sexual and/or self-expression do not fit current gender stereotypes, according to organizers. The Center, established in 1996, serves gay men and lesbians with a variety of events and drop-in hours on week-day evenings and on Saturday afternoon.

—Penny Weaver

INFO

CATS

P.O. Box 62
Galveston, TX 77553
www.tghelp.org
e-mail:
tghelp@tghelp.org
281-585-8089

Lesbian & Gay Community Center

803 Hawthorne
Houston, TX
713-524-3818

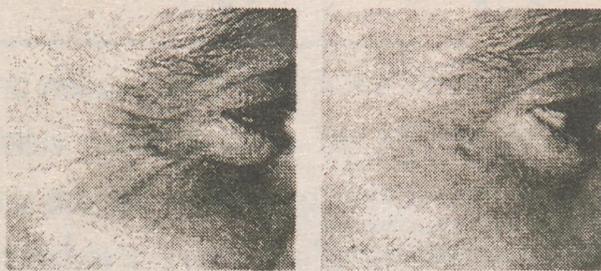
Over 79 natural extracts, vitamins, minerals and 14 antioxidants,— plus 20% Vitamin C for younger, healthier skin

Look Years Younger the Easy Natural Way with the Magic of Nutra-Lift® one step!

That's right! Both men and women can look years younger with the latest discoveries from science and nature. A *clinically proven* "Anti-Aging, Anti-Wrinkle Total Skin Therapy" is now available that actually reduces the look of wrinkles and dramatically improves the skin's texture, color, firmness and overall quality. *In fact, 93% of those tested had noticeable improvements within 2-3 weeks.*

An amazing *all-in-one* skin renewal cream replaces a *cabinet-full* of over-priced facial treatments. *How?* It's a blend of nearly every substance known to science that helps improve your skin. Over 79 time-released natural extracts, minerals, vitamins, 14 powerful anti-oxidants, plus 20% vitamin C Complex, liposomes and advanced delivery systems... guaranteeing penetration of all nutrients into the inner skin.

Nutra-Lift® *one step* performs well with most skin types. It contains ingredients all skin needs. Our customers and clinical trials tell us that *Nutra-lift®* appears to help the skin in the following ways: • Reduces the look of fine lines and wrinkles • Makes



Before

After 60 days

the skin firmer, thicker and more supple • Improves tone, color & clarity of skin • Gets rid of blemishes & acne • Makes the skin softer and smoother • Gets rid of dryness and improves hydration • Restores a youthful glow to the skin • Reduces pore size • Helps reduce undereye puffiness & dark circles • uva & uvb protection.

People are talking about *Nutra-Lift®* and this is what they are saying:
 • "Nothing performs as well as *Nutra-Lift®*... I noticed the most amazing transformation...the lines around my eyes began to disappear." **Edward A., WDC.**
 • "My acne has cleared up 95% and the red marks and scars are fading" **Courtney D., Johnstown, Pa.**
 • "My search for the perfect anti-aging cream is finally over." **Rebecca N., Los Angeles, CA**
 • "I am more pleased with the results from *Nutra-Lift®* than with my cosmetic laser surgery." **Ann S., New Orleans, LA**

See & Feel the Nutra-Lift® Difference Now!

At better Salons, Spas & Health Food Stores or Order Toll Free:

1 888 922 9523

\$49* 100ml Intro Offer
 Get a free \$15 cleanser with your first order

Order Now & Save \$15
 S & H Fee \$5.50, Major Credit Cards honored, FL. res. 6% tax
 *one / person / household



Nutra-Lift® products are cruelty free and are not tested on animals. Nutra-Lift® is a registered trademark of Younger You, Inc. Send mail orders to: Younger You, Inc. 1861 N. Federal Hwy, #136, Hollywood, FL 33020

Moisturizes • Exfoliates • Nourishes • Firms • Revitalizes • SPF15

Keep up the Pace with Premier

cingular WIRELESS

FREE PHONE FREE

Nights and Weekends with any Home Plan of \$29.99 or higher

Motorola 2282

200 Cellular Minutes Free Caller ID, Call Waiting and Voice Mail FREE Nights and Weekends	\$29.99 month	450 Cellular Minutes Free Caller ID, Call Waiting and Voice Mail FREE Nights and Weekends	\$49.99 month
900 Cellular Minutes Free Caller ID, Call Waiting and Voice Mail FREE Nights and Weekends	\$69.99 month	1500 Cellular Minutes Free Caller ID, Call Waiting and Voice Mail FREE Nights and Weekends	\$99.99 month

NEXTEL

How business gets done:

SAVE \$100 on the **NEW i50sx**

Now Only \$49.99

Get Right Through 5000
5000 TOTAL MINUTES

500 Anytime Minutes 2500 DirectConnect Minutes 2000 Night & Weekend Minutes FREE VOICE MAIL & CALLER ID INCLUDED!	\$49.99 month	Get Right Through 8000 8000 TOTAL MINUTES	1000 Anytime Minutes 4000 DirectConnect Minutes 3000 Night & Weekend Minutes FREE VOICE MAIL & CALLER ID INCLUDED!	\$79.99 month
--	----------------------	--	---	----------------------

VoiceStream WIRELESS

Authorized Dealer

FREE PHONE Save \$79

Motorola 2282

75 Whenever Minutes 500 Weekend Minutes Free Caller ID, Voice Mail and Detailed Billing	\$19.99 month	600 Whenever Minutes 2000 Weekend Minutes Free Caller ID, Voice Mail and Detailed Billing	\$39.99 month
1000 Whenever Minutes 2000 Weekend Minutes Free Caller ID, Voice Mail and Detailed Billing NO EXTRA CHARGE!!	\$69.99 month	2000 Whenever Minutes 2000 Weekend Minutes Free Caller ID, Voice Mail and Detailed Billing NO EXTRA CHARGE!!	\$99.99 month

Premier
PAGING & WIRELESS
 www.callpremier.com

Communicate with Us.
Houston
713.465.8883

Stafford
281.575.8500

Rate Plans subject to change without notice. Please call Premier Paging & Wireless for complete details. Discounts and coupons may not be combined. Approved credit and one year agreement are required.

houston VOICE

STAFF

Executive Editor
Chris Crain

Editor
Penny Weaver
editor@houstonvoice.com

Production
Senior Graphic Designer-Natasha Marquez

Contributors
Rich Arenschielt, Kay Y. Dayus, Trayce Diskin, Earl Dittman, Laura Douglas-Brown, Erik Erickson, Mike Fleming, D.L. Groover, Robert B. Henderson, Matthew A. Hennie, Kathreen Lee, Erin O'Briant, Gip Plaster, Ella Tyler

Webmaster: Douglas Wright

Photographers
Dalton DeHart, Kimberly Thompson

Advertising Sales
Wanda Faulkner
wfaulkner@houstonvoice.com

Jim Nixon
jnixon@houstonvoice.com

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

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



Publisher- Window Media LLC

President- William Waybourn

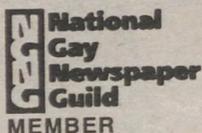
Editorial Director- Chris Crain

Financial Director- Kelly Smink

Sales Director- Peter Jackson

Art Director- Rob Boeger

Marketing Director- Eric May



the chamber
the greater houston glbt chamber of commerce
CHARTER MEMBER

Established 1974 as the *Montrose Star*.

500 Lovett Blvd., Suite 200
Houston, Texas 77006
(713) 529-8490

Fax: (713) 529-9531

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

Truth, justice and the Taliban way

by CHRIS CRAIN

If Jerry Falwell is right about the way God works, then our newly declared war on terrorism isn't looking too good for the home team. After all, there is no nation on earth less hospitable to and less accepting of gays, feminists and civil libertarians than Afghanistan.

Since the Taliban assumed control of that troubled country five years ago, they have crushed the wall separating church and state, and often quite literally on the backs of homosexuals. The punishment for sodomy in Afghanistan is to push over a stone wall on the offending sodomite, almost always resulting in his death. If the defendant somehow survives, God is considered to have commuted his sentence.

Certainly, Falwell is more likely to approve that sort of stone wall than the kind that launched a gay liberation in New York City back in 1969. That's not just being facetious. The stone walls of Afghanistan, like the burning pyres of Salem, Mass., before them, are intended to facilitate an active, angry God to decide who shall live and who shall die.

On that now-famous episode of "The 700 Club," featuring Falwell and host Pat Robertson, the two televangelists talked at length about just that philosophy, played out at the macro level. God has protected the U.S. from attack for more than two centuries, they agreed, because this country was founded as a Christian nation and has tried to adhere to Scripture.

Though both men have set track records for the speed with which they've run away from Falwell's finger-pointing diatribe, neither has renounced the theology behind it.

It was Robertson, remember, who warned the people of Orlando a few years ago that God would consider it a "poke in the eye" that they allowed Gay Pride flags to be hung from street poles. He specifically warned them to watch out for hurricanes, sent or allowed by the angered deity. (Robertson has never satisfactorily accounted for the fact that the next hurricane to hit the southeastern U.S. caused damage not in Orlando, but along the Virginia coast from which he launched his television empire.)

It's easy to dismiss Falwell as the Tinky Winky loon who no one takes seriously anymore, but consider the report in the week's *Voice* by Laura Douglas-Brown, on the number of like-minded Christians, including Southern Baptists, the country's largest Protestant denomination, and they're joined in those views as well by many Orthodox Jews and fundamentalist Muslims. (See story, p. 1)

The next time you find yourself wondering why religious conservatives worry so much about gay rights and tolerance of homosexuality, remember the Falwell sermon about the events of Sept. 11. To him and his fellow travelers, this isn't about what we do in the privacy of our bedrooms and in our lives. These people are driven by

Bin Laden and his keepers fear God's reprisal for allowing Western culture to corrupt the Islamic world, and that reads much like the standard stump sermon, preached every Sunday in conservative Christian churches across this country.



"Believe in God, for with the grace of God, the American rockets will go astray and we will be saved." — Mullah Mohammed Omar, the Taliban leader, in an Afghan radio address, Sept. 14

a genuine fear of the consequences for their families and their country if God is angered by the acceptance of homosexuality, as Falwell put it, as an "alternative lifestyle."

No more 'godless communists'

Since Sept. 11, Americans have been learning more and more about this new enemy that struck so viciously at our homeland, targeting civilians and other non-military targets like airplanes and office buildings. Much of the initial attention has focused on terrorism, but President Bush broadened that focus in his speech to Congress last week. He characterized the conflict as one of values, casting our Western style of government against the brutal repression of the Taliban in Afghanistan.

This new enemy isn't anything like the "godless Communists" of the Cold War. This time around, the bad guys are ultra God-fearing, albeit from another religious faith. And the Western values that the president says they hate and aim to destroy are not Christianity or religion — he was careful not to make this a religious war between Christians and Muslims. Instead, Bush cited democracy, religious and social tolerance and secular government as the aspects of American society that Osama bin Laden and Taliban keepers found so threatening.

It may have been subtext, but wasn't the president really criticizing these radical Muslims for acting on a theology remarkably close to that adhered to by Falwell and Robertson? Bin Laden and his followers fear God's reprisal for allowing Western culture to corrupt the Islamic world, and that reads much like the standard Falwell stump sermon, preached every Sunday at

conservative Christian churches across this country.

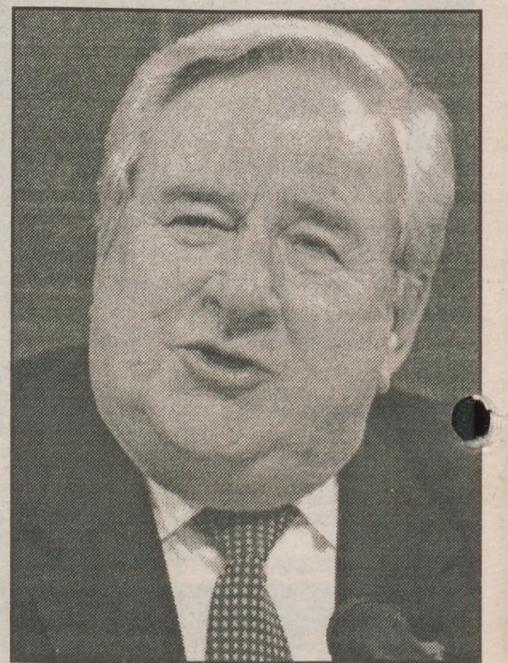
In his speech before Congress, the president "condemned" the Taliban for limiting opportunities for women and severely restricting the liberties of the Afghan people. That sounds remarkably like those groups at the other end of Jerry Falwell's pointed finger: feminists and the ACLU.

It's not gays and our civil rights movement that can be perceived on the wrong side this time. It's the Taliban, and their Shiite enemies who govern in Iran, that are the type of repressive religious rulers that will now be viewed as "un-American" and the antithesis of our ideals.

If Falwell and Robertson did not enjoy squirming and spinning out of harm's way the last two weeks, consider the future that lies ahead of them. If we gays and feminists and card-carrying members of the ACLU do our job well, this country will unite behind the very ideals of America that hold so much promise for us and our families.

Gay and lesbian Americans should rally around the president alongside our fellow citizens, and fight for a future that is free from the shackles of outdated fears and legislated morality. That is the Taliban way, not the American way.

Chris Crain is executive editor of the *Houston Voice* and can be reached at ccrain@window-media.com.



"The Lord has protected us so wonderfully these 225 years. And since 1812, this is the first time that we've been attacked on our soil and by far the worst results." — Rev. Jerry Falwell, on the "700 Club," Sept. 13



VIEWPOINT

Gay soldiers ought to come out and get out

by JUDY GERBER

As President Bush prepares for a holocaust in Afghanistan and possibly Iraq, it's time for gays in the military to get out, and stay out. No amount of mayhem brought down on other countries is going to bring back the people who died in the World Trade Center or the Pentagon.

I know the Defense Department is saying anti-gay discharges will now stop, but I hope the proponents of gays in the military aren't applauding the demise of the "don't pursue" portion of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue." To the contrary, this exposes how important it is that the self-appointed movement leaders who set the agenda must drop the demand for gays in the military faster than you can say Barney Frank.

The Pentagon recently made the announcement that all discharges for disclosing gay identity would be stopped because the U.S. armed forces need every competent service member they can get.

That's what happens when our movement tries to gain equality within a war machine. During peacetime, it may be alluring to fight for poor gay men or young lesbians stuck in a small town in the heartland to have a government-sponsored route to training and a college education. But the U.S. military doesn't just provide educations. What was that recruiting poster spoof from the '70s? Essentially: "Travel the world, meet interesting people and kill them."

At other points in history, the ban on gays in the military served us quite well. My very straight brother-in-law

Some of our leaders think we have to prove our mettle in battle to gain equality, but fighting to be cannon fodder in a so-called 'war against terrorism' that doesn't even have a clear political definition gets us nowhere.

sashayed down to Manhattan's military induction center in 1965 when the army tried to draft him. This six-foot young man in the prime of his life acted his way into a 4F classification by pretending to be gay. (For those of you too young to know draft lingo, a 4F classification meant the army would never want you.)

He caught some flak for his actions, but I say more power to him. He never had to go to Vietnam or serve a day in the U.S. armed forces. Instead, he worked as a college professor and served his country by joining the anti-war movement along with his students.

The freeze on Don't Ask, Don't Tell discharges has nothing to do with any change in the attitudes about homosexuality among Pentagon brass. According to Charles Moskos, a Northwestern University sociologist, the Pentagon is afraid that straight soldiers will claim to be gay so they can "bolt" from warfare. Just as people like my brother-in-law did before they ever set foot on a base during Vietnam.

I hope that every gay man and lesbian currently in the U.S. armed forces marches right up to their commanding officer and comes clean about their sexual orientation.

I'd like to see every one of those young men and women save their butts (and ours, the Afghanis, Iraqis,

Palestinians and more) with a reasonable package from the military arranged by one of those top-notch lawyers who've been helping gay people deal with discriminatory discharges all along. In my book, it's the most honorable thing to do. I know the lawyers will have a tougher time if the armed forces don't want to discharge people, but

the generals are hypocrites.

Some of our movement leaders think that gays have to prove their mettle in battle to gain equality. Fighting for the right to be cannon fodder in a so-called "war against terrorism" that doesn't even have a clear political definition gets us nowhere.

If enough soldiers refuse to fight in what looks like an inevitable war, we might have a chance to change the world before it's too late. Not to mention push forward a clearer concept of just what it is our movement is working towards.

Judy Gerber is a San Francisco-based freelance writer and can be reached through this publication.

Let us know what you think!

Send the editor your letters (400 words max) or op-ed submissions (800 words max). Include a name and phone number for verification.

Houston Voice,
500 Lovett, Suite 200,
Houston, TX 77006
fax: 713-529-9531

e-mail: editor@houstonvoice.com

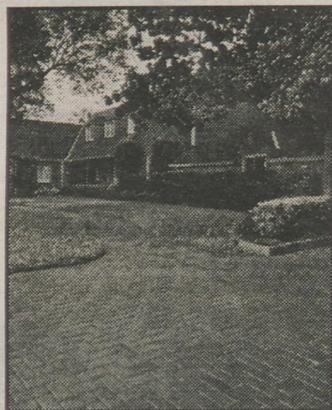


The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green

by eric orner

<p><i>Husband Material</i></p>	<p>Poor Doug. It's his fate to be exactly the kind of guy other guys want to marry.</p>	<p>They don't just want to hang with him. They don't just want to sleep with him. They want to grow old with him. They want him in their photo albums dancing with their moms at family weddings.</p>	<p>Doug's not sure where exactly this quality of his is located. If he knew, he'd have it cut off.</p>
<p>Because Doug has never wanted to couple up. Oh sure, he likes having a boyfriend. But he also likes having his own place.</p>	<p>He likes the idea of traveling alone. He likes drinking milk from the bottle.</p>	<p>SO CHECK OUT THESE FABRIC SAMPLE BOOKS. WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER 6 MONTHS. I'M THINKING WE SHOULD RE-UPHOLSTER..</p>	<p>All of which makes Doug's current situation kind of ironic.</p>

NORVELL ENTERPRISES



Charles Norvell

DESIGNERS AND INSTALLERS OF

- ▶ Interlocking Brick Driveways, Patios, Walkways, Pool Decks

- ▶ Surface Drains
- ▶ Retaining Walls



281.530.3749

Serving Houston for over 20 years

FREE DISABILITY SEMINAR



TIRED OF JUMPING THROUGH HOOPS?

KNOW THE LAW

Attorney Mitchell Katine will provide information for HIV positive individuals on disability.

- Do you still qualify for disability benefits?
- Do you know the legal issues that impact your disability status?
- Learn how to interact with insurance companies.
- Learn to decide when you are ready to return to work.

Montrose Clinic will present this seminar on Thursday, October 4, 2001 from 7 - 9 PM at the Museum of Health and Medical Sciences, 1515 Herman Dr at La Branch, next to Park Plaza Hospital.

Call the Montrose Clinic Special Events Line at 713-830-3006 to make your reservation.

THEATRE NEW WEST

PRESENTS

BOY MEETS BOY



"A 1930's Musical Love Story"

Music & Lyrics by Bill Solly

Book by Donald Ward

Directed by Joe Watts

Musical Director Charles Baker

September 28th thru November 17th
Fridays & Saturdays only - 8pm

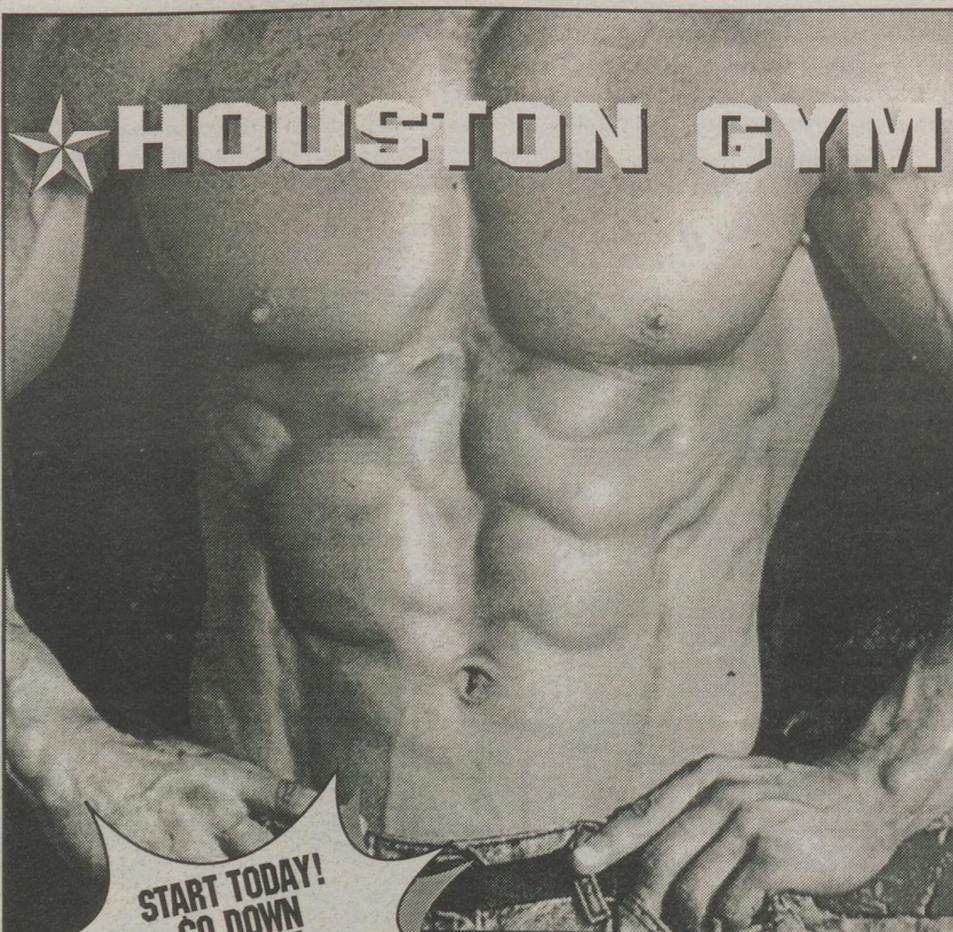
1415 California St.
Houston, Texas 77006

Reservations:
713-394-0464

copy.com

Starring: David Brett, Tanya Bryan, Steve Bullitt, Craig Bushey, Danien Dane, Dorothy Edwards, Kelly Greenwalt, James Loomis & Christopher Wright

★ HOUSTON GYM



START TODAY!
SO DOWN
\$27.95 /MO.

713-880-9191

233 BIRDSALL

(BETWEEN MEMORIAL PARK & DOWNTOWN)
M-F 6-10 • Sat 8-6 • Sun 10-6

Houston Voice Restaurant GUIDE

FIRE + ICE

An Improvisational Grill

More variations than
the Kama Sutra.



Join us for Saturday and Sunday brunch with create-your-own pancake and omelet bar featuring unlimited trips, the world feast experience, and bottomless peach bellinis and mimosas all for only **\$18.95**.

Located at 2801 Kirby between Westheimer and West Alabama next to the Page Parkes building.
For reservations call 713-522-4500.

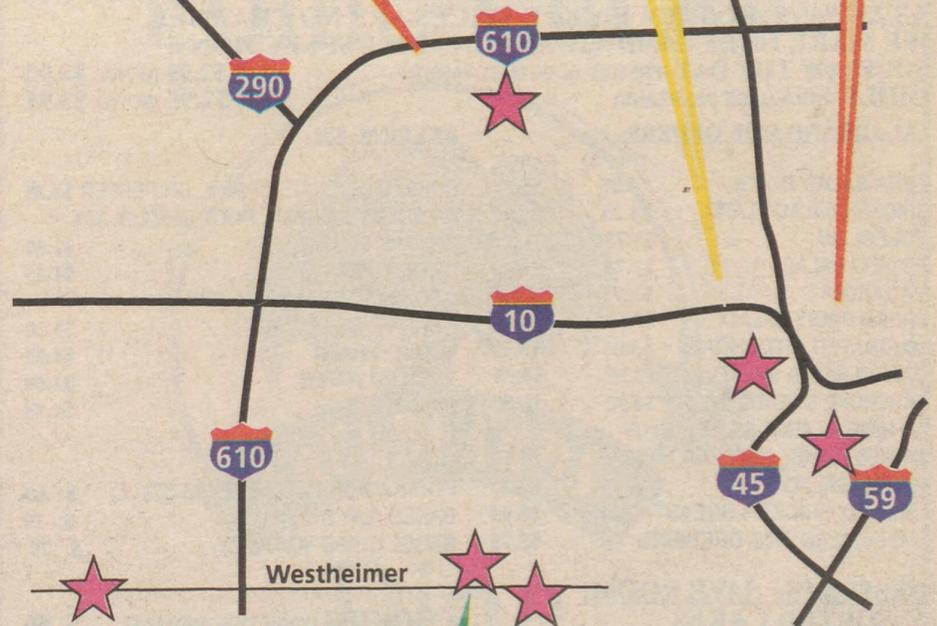


WHERE TO GO:

CARTER & COOLEY
375 W. 19th
713.864.3354

TREEBEARD'S
5 locations in Houston
including 315 Travis
713.228.2622

CAFE ZORRO
905 Taft
713.969.1528



FIRE + ICE
2801 Kirby
713.522.4500

THE MELTING POT
6100 Westheimer, Ste. 164
713.532.5011

FOX DINER
2815 S. Shepherd
713.523.5FOX

CARTER & COOLEY COMPANY

Sandwiches - Deli

713-864-3354 • 375 W.19th • Mon-Fri 9am-3:30pm, Sat 9am-5pm

SANDWICH SUGGESTIONS - OUR SPECIALTIES

B.L.T. - LOTS OF CRISP SMOKED BACON, FRESH LETTUCE, AND JUICY TOMATO	\$5.95
BOLOGNA - ALL BEEF BOLOGNA, LAYERED TO PERFECTION. A CLASSIC TREAT	\$5.25
CHEESEBURGER - 1/3 LB	\$6.50
CRACKED PEPPER TURKEY - THINLY SLICED CRACKED PEPPER TURKEY	\$6.25
EGG SALAD - HOME MADE, RICH WITH LOTS OF EGG, CELERY AND CREAMY MAYO.	\$5.25
GRILLED CHICKEN - A FULL BREAST OF CHICKEN, MARINATED, AND GRILLED	\$5.95
HAM & SWISS - MAKE QUITE A PAIR! DELICIOUS THINLY SLICED HAM AND SWISS	\$5.95
HONEY CHICKEN BREAST - WITH SWISS, BACON, & HONEY MUSTARD	\$6.50
HONEY CURED HAM - SUCCULENT SLICES WITH A SLIGHTLY SWEET	\$6.25
HONEY HAM & BRIE - SERVED HOT ON AN ONION ROLL	\$6.50
HOT CORNED BEEF - KOSHER STYLE CORNED BEEF BRISKET, THINLY SLICED	\$5.95
HOT PASTRAMI - EXTRA GENEROUS PORTION OF LEAN SLICES - PILED HIGH.	\$5.95
ITALIAN SALAMI - THE FINEST OF SALAMIES, SLICED PAPER THIN	\$5.25
LIVERWURST - PURE FLAVOR IN A CLASSIC GERMAN STYLE.	\$5.25
ROAST BEEF - THINLY SLICED PRIME ROASTED BEEF	\$5.95
MUFFELETTA - A NEW ORLEANS TRADITIONAL ONLY BETTER!	\$6.50
PIMENTO CHEESE - OUR HOMEMADE VERSION OF MOM'S RECIPE.	\$5.25
PORTABELLO MUSHROOM - WITH ROASTED PEPPERS	\$6.50
REUBEN CLASSIC - WE'VE BROUGHT NEW YORK TO TEXAS WITH THIS ONE!	\$5.95
ROAST BEEF & RONDELE - THINLY SLICED ROAST BEEF	\$6.25
SMOKED TURKEY BREAST - SMOKED TO PERFECTION, THINLY SLICED	\$6.25
SUBMARINE	SMALL \$6.50 LARGE \$7.95
TUNA MELT - HOT TUNA SALAD WITH MELTED PROVOLONE CHEESE ON TOASTED RYE.	\$6.25
TUNA SALAD	\$5.95
TURKEY BREAST - FLAVORFUL, THINLY SLICED ALL WHITE	\$5.75
TURKEY CLUB - AN ELITE SANDWICH WITH THREE SLICES OF BREAD, TURKEY	\$6.50
TURKEY REUBEN - SAME AS THE CLASSIC, ONLY WITH THINLY SLICED TURKEY.	\$5.95
VEGGIE DELICIOUS - FOR THE CHANGE OF PACE...DELICIOUS ASSORTMENT	\$5.95
VEGGIE SUPREME - SAME AS VEGGIE BUT ADD ROASTED RED PEPPERS AND	\$6.50

ALL FULL SANDWICHES NOW COME WITH GARNISH AND POTATO SALAD!
ADD CHEESE TO ANY SANDWICH (NOT LISTED) \$.50

BREADS: WHOLE WHEAT, SOUR DOUGH, RYE, PUMPERNICKEL, 5-GRAIN.
ADD \$1.50 FOR CROISSANT, \$.50 FOR ONION ROLL, OR WHEAT KAISER.

BAGELS AVAILABLE FOR SANDWICHES ADD \$.75

AS ALWAYS, KOSHER PICKLE SLICES ARE NO CHARGE!

WE MAKE HALF SANDWICHES ON MOST SELECTIONS!

SOUPS OF THE DAY - FRESHLY HOME MADE VARIETY (CUP) \$2.95 (BOWL) \$3.95

CHILI - HOMEMADE (NO BEANS) (CUP) \$2.95 (BOWL) \$3.95

SALADS AND SIDE ORDERS:

	(SMALL)	(LARGE)
TUNA SALAD PLATE	\$4.25	\$5.95
CHICKEN SALAD PLATE	\$4.25	\$5.95
COLESLAW	\$.75	
POTATO SALAD	\$.75	
MACARONI	\$.75	
FRESH FRUIT SALAD	\$3.25	\$5.50
MARINATED ARTICHOKE	\$3.95	\$5.50
ITALIAN PASTA SALAD	\$2.95	\$4.95
ARTICHOKE & PENNE' SALAD	\$3.95	\$5.50
WE HAVE A LARGE SELECTION OF		
SMOKED TURKEY AND SPINACH	\$3.95	\$5.50
GREEK SALAD	\$5.75	
GRILLED CHICKEN BREAST SALAD	\$5.95	
CHEF SALAD AND DRESSING	\$5.75	

BEVERAGES:

COKE, DIET COKE, SPRITE, DR.PEPPER	\$1.25
DR.BROWNS CREAM, ROOT BEER, BLACK	
CHERRY, PLUS MORE!	\$1.50
COFFEE/TEA	\$1.25
JUICES (APPLE, CRANBERRY,	
ORANGE, GRAPEFRUIT)	\$1.50
VOODOO RAIN	\$1.75
BOTTLED WATER	\$1.50
SNAPPLE	\$1.75
POTATO CHIPS (BOB'S TEXAS STYLE)	\$.69
BAKED LAY'S	\$.79
BAGEL CHIPS (GARLIC)	\$.79

DESSERTS: SAVE ROOM!

ASSORTED CAKES	
CARROT, ITALIAN CREAM & CHOCOLATE BROWNIE MOUSSE!	
SLICE \$3.95 *WHOLE \$38.00	
HAND MADE PIES \$2.50	
BLUEBERRY, PEACH, CHERRY, APPLE, PECAN &	
SWEET POTATO	
ICE CREAM (BLUEBELL-THE BEST!)	
CONES OR CUPS SINGLE \$1.50 DOUBLE \$1.95	
ADDITIONAL SCOOPS FOR PIGGIES \$.50	

COOKIES (VARIETY-HOMEMADE)	\$.60
BROWNIES	\$1.95
OUR EXTRA LARGE	
CHEESECAKES	
CLASSIC, STRAWBERRY & GERMAN CHOCOLATE	
SLICE \$4.95 *WHOLE CAKE \$45.00	

*NEED A TWO DAY NOTICE
FOR WHOLE CAKE

ASK ABOUT OUR CATERING EXPERTISE & DELUXE DESSERT IDEAS

WE ACCEPT AMERICAN EXPRESS, VISA, MASTER CARD, & DISCOVER

The Nellie Deli in the Heights!

Fox Diner offers 'Sundays with Diunna'

Fox Diner announced that Diunna Greenleaf will perform on Sundays at the diner for the Resurrection Brunch. Greenleaf, a prominent vocalist known for her strong voice, stage presence and sense of tradition, will be performing a variety of music, from her Gospel roots to the more famous style of blues that she has developed over her years in music.

Greenleaf has a heritage steeped in Gospel music. She combines the intricate pitches of jazz, the graphic pictures of gospel and some heartfelt soul to take the listener on a roller coaster ride of emotion and thrills. Influenced by her parents, Ben and Mary Ella Greenleaf, who were early vocal teachers to some of music's greatest stars, as well as the likes of Koko Taylor, Aretha Franklin, Same Cook and Rosetta Thorpe, she has developed her own style of blues that has a unique sound, a rich depth, an eye to the future and feet rooted in the traditions of the past.

Patrons may hear Greenleaf during brunch at Fox Diner from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. each Sunday.



2815 S. Shepherd
Houston TX

713.523.5FOX

www.foxdiner.com

New South Kitchen & Bar

WHERE LOW COUNTRY
MEETS HIGH COTTON!

In our historic 1936 Art Deco Location.

Fried Green Tomatoes, Daily Blue Plate Specials,
Houston's Best Fried Chicken Thursdays & Sunday Brunch!
Open 7 Days from 11 AM in the morning

Things to Do This Week:

Sunday, 11 AM-3 PM	Gospel Brunch
Sunday, 3 PM - 9 PM	Carolina Gumbo Evening
Monday 5 PM - 7PM	Wine of the Week Tasting
Tuesday 5 PM - 10 PM	\$5 Red Wine Glasses
Wednesday 5 PM - 10 PM	Acoustic Blues & \$4
Foxmopolitians	
Thursday, 5pm-10 pm	Ladies Night-\$2 Well Drinks at the bar
Friday 5pm-10pm	\$2.50 Blackberry Margaritas at the bar
Saturday, 11pm-6pm	\$1.50 Beer Day at the bar
Sunday, 3pm-9pm	\$1.50 Beer Day at the bar

Proudly Serving All Houstonians Since 1996

One of Houston's Few

Gay Owned and Operated Restaurants.

Houston Voice

Restaurant GUIDE



Café Zorro

713. 969.1528

905 Taft

Cocina Nuevo

Wavo Latino

Located in the Original Fox Diner!
Original Mexican Food with the
Creativity you expect from the Fox!

A few menu specialties:

A very spicy carne quisada pollo dona ninfa

Enchilladas a los hongos fantastic salads

Vegetarians welcomed!

Recreate the fun of the original Fox years
By visiting our newest member of the Fox family,

Café Zorro....the Mexican Fox!

Lunch: Mon-Fri 11am to 2pm

Also available for private events on
Evenings and Weekends!

Ask about full service Fox catering for any event!

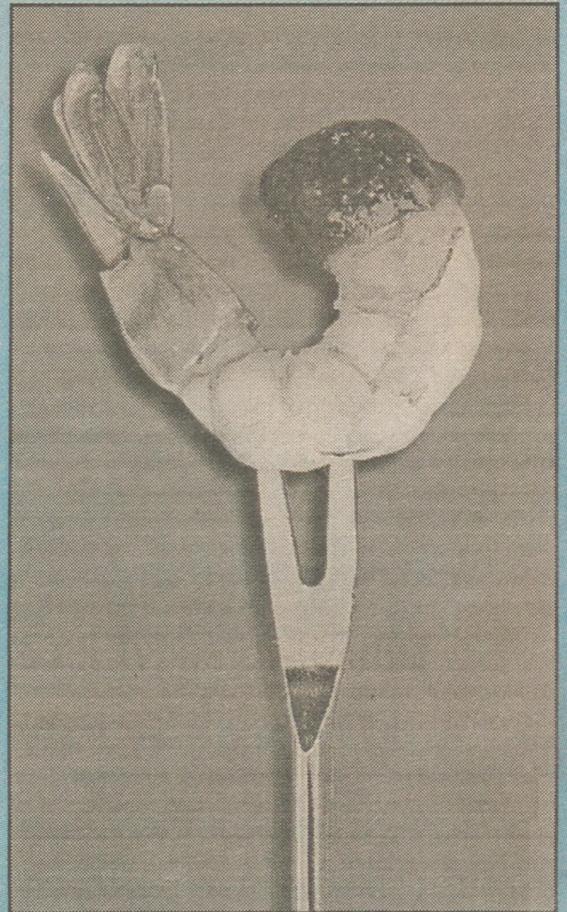
Melting Pot boasts all types of fondue

The Melting Pot offers a fondue experience, attentive service, the highest quality fresh ingredients, a variety of cooking styles, unique sauces, and favorite chocolate fondue.

At the Melting Pot, fondue begins with the finest quality cheeses, carefully aged to demanding specifications. Cheese fondues are rich in flavor, with a creamy smooth texture. A server prepares each fondue tabloids and seasons it to customers' tastes. Fresh breads, vegetables, and apples are served for dipping. Cheese fondue to choose from are cheddar cheese fondue, traditional Swiss cheese fondue or fiesta cheese fondue. Salads are included with all fondue and entree selections. All entrees include choice of a signature salad, entrees are accompanied by fresh broccoli, mushrooms, seasoned new potatoes, and a variety of featured sauces.

Strawberries, bananas, pineapple and other fresh fruit plus cheesecake, tasty nutty marshmallows, pound cake and brownies to dip into decadent chocolate fondue recipes are available.

Small size serves 1-2 people and regular size serves 3-4.



Point. Click.



Dine.

Lunch, Monday-Friday

www.treebeards.com

menus, directions, recipes,
catering information, and more

The Melting Pot[®]

a fondue restaurant

Dip into something different.SM

6100 Westheimer, Ste 164 • 713-532-5011



The Melting Pot, Houston's only fondue restaurant has been voted one of Houston's "Most Romantic Dining Experiences." Come join us for a unique and intimate dining experience in a casual but comfortable environment. We offer a wide variety of entrees as well as our wonderful cheese appetizers, but don't forget our chocolate desserts that have made us famous! We are now featuring the ultimate in dining pleasures.

"The Lobster Indulgence"

A four course feature that truly completes the fondue experience.

CHEESE FONDUE COURSE

Swiss or Cheddar Cheese Fondue, Seasoned To Perfection Table-Side

SALAD COURSE

Bitter Sweet-California Salad, Chef's Salad or Mushroom Salad

MAIN COURSE

Twin Maine Lobster Tails, Center-Cut Filet Mignon, Japanese Tiger Shrimp, Choice Sirloin Teriyaki, Breast Of Chicken.

Accompanied By An Exotic Assortment of Vegetables and Sauces.

DESSERT

Milk, White or Bitter-Sweet Dark Chocolate Fondue!

Accompanied By Fresh Fruits and Cakes for Dipping

\$67⁰⁰

Per couple (\$33⁵⁰ per person thereafter)



Out on the Bayou

A guide for your leisure time

HOUSTON VOICE • SEPTEMBER 28, 2001

'The Girl's'

girl

Filmmaker Sande Zeig talks about the journey behind lesbian movie

by D.L. GROOVER

It's taken New York gay filmmaker Sande Zeig seven years to make her low-budget film noir, "The Girl."

Her first feature film, it has been financed by Zeig herself, maxing out credit cards, calling on friends, deferring loans, suffering through a two-year hiatus when the first cast grew too old for their roles. She's still paying it off, even though the film opened to general release around the country last month.

It's been a project of love: her love for Paris, her love for cin-

ema and writing, her love for co-writer and life partner, author Monique Wittig. It's definitely been worth it.

"We've started to open around the country," Zeig said from her New York City office. "In New York, we've done great business. The critical reviews have been pretty good."

"People either like it or don't like it. I feel that people have been really interested. [I've received] lot of e-mail and [am] going to GLBT studies around the country. It's a great way to get the word out."

"The Girl," set in contemporary Paris, is a stylish, atmospheric, literary movie with a painterly look, conscious of itself, and ripe with gay sensuality. The affair between the lead women, Agathe de la Boulaye as the Narrator and Claire Keim as the Girl, creates tension and mystery to themselves and those around them.

The pair are extremely photogenic, and their love scenes are steamy and provocative. The mysteries of love are depicted with a stately, leisurely pace. Cerebral and cool, the violence engendered by the nature of the noirish movie genre is generally offscreen, except when the Narrator, an androgynous butch, beats up the nightclub's bouncer. She's one tough dyke under those men's suits and close-cropped hair.

Zeig is tough, too, having spent her life in the theater as actor, writer and producer, beginning her studies as a young acting student in Paris under the legendary mime Etienne Decroux.

Her theater work culminated in her one-person show, "Impersonators," a gender bending before-the-curve examination of drag kings. Currently, Zeig is president of Artistic License Films, a prestigious independent film distribution company in New York City.

Artistic License's roster evinces Zeig's strong personality and varied social interests: from Mark Rappaport's "Rock Hudson's Home Movies" to Josh Aronson's Academy Award Nominee for Best Documentary Feature, "Sound and Fury," to film's grandmaster Alain Resnais' "Same Old Song" and Michael Uys and Lexy Lovell's Great Depression

documentary, "Riding The Rails."

After meeting French writer Monique Wittig, who authored "The Lesbian Body" and "The Straight Mind and Other Essays," Zeig's work took on a more distinct lesbian slant. They collaborated on "Lesbian Peoples: Materials For A Dictionary" and Zeig's play "The Constant Journey." Wittig is a professor of Women's Studies at the University of Arizona in Tucson.

When Zeig read her partner's short story, "The Girl," she immediately realized the cinematic possibilities.

"I'm very lucky to collaborate with her," Zeig said. "This short story was her first story written in English. She did it as an exercise for herself, and when I read it, I knew I wanted to make it as a film. I thought it would be an unusual project for us to do together."

With its Hemmingway-esque hard-boiled narration and laissez-faire attitude toward its same-gender love story, "The Girl" could be said to be a quintessential French film, except for a perverse mise-en-scene. The scenes of those uniquely Parisian landmarks are skewed and angled to eliminate extraneous background and people and recognizable monuments.

It was a conscious choice of the filmmaker.

"It's not a film for everyone," said Zeig. "It was a stylistic decision, the minimal style, the timelessness. It's a bit atmospheric. My intention was to represent the lesbian experience in a way that I hadn't seen it represented, sort of poetic realism. And sometimes that works for someone, and sometimes it doesn't."

Her partner lives full-time in Arizona, and Zeig flies out when she can, but her work is in The Big Apple.

"I'm in the film business and it's too difficult to do that out of Tucson," she said.

"But Monique and I are working on another script. It's a little premature to talk about it. We'll always do something that's homoerotic. I don't think we could do anything else."

The she laughed. "Other people can do those movies."



Finding romance in Sande Zeig's 'The Girl' are Agathe de la Boulaye (left) and Claire Keim.

A hotel with a locale so **HOT**
you'll need that cold shower!



Coming to Washington DC for a special event?

HRC Dinner, Aids Walk, Pride Day, or just a "Rainbow Getaway" then stay at our 'house' We're in the heart of it all.-Dupont Circle.

Amazing Rates

Single or Double

\$99-\$189

based upon availability

(10 rooms or more contact Sales)

When location, style & service does matter.

Radisson Barceló Hotel 202.293.3100

Special rate code: RAINBOW

2121 P St. NW Washington DC 20037

www.radisson.com/washingtondc

Out and About

Editor's Choice Award

2000 & 2001 for

solid gay family travel values



appts.

SEPT. 28-OCT. 4

by D.L. GROOVER

"You Should Be So Lucky"



Actor Herb Wells plays millionaire Mr. Rosenberg in The Fan Factory's 'You Should Be So Lucky,' starting this weekend.

Drag legend (and I'd better say "superstar" or he'll conk me with his spiked high heel) Charles Busch penned this Cinderella story in 1994. Shy electrologist Christopher gives comfort to an ailing millionaire, who just happens to

become his fairy godfather, sending him off to find his true love at a charity ball and, then, bequeathing to him half his estate. Unfortunately, the other half goes to his psychotic daughter Lenore, who could give lessons to the ugly step-sisters. Contemporary society gets justifiably screwed in this screamingly funny romp from the beloved twisted brain of Busch.

Sept. 28 -Oct. 20

The Fan Factory
Midtown Art Center
1423 Holman @ LaBranch
713-688-4631

"Boy Meets Boy"

An utterly charming gay musical from 1975 written by Bill Solly (music, lyrics, book) and Donald Ward (book). Although we're in London in 1936 for the campy story that's tinged with Coward with echoes of the black and white cinema world of Astaire and Rogers, it's really set in some gay fantasy Neverland where men meet, fall in love, get married, and reminisce over the Boy Scouts—all in white. There are times when such fairy tales uplift as well as entertain. Dreams can come true.

Sept. 28-Nov. 17

Theatre New West
1415 California Street
713-527-8219

"Texas Contemporary Dance"

This sprightly smorgasbord of modern dance makes its seventh annual appearance in this free celebration. There's hip hop "Metaphor" using music from Stravinsky's "Firebird" from Fly; pas de trois "Scented Thoughts" from Michele Brangwen Dance Ensemble; a dance for matress "Magazines & Seat Belts" from Psophonia Dance Company; and appearances from regulars Sandra Organ Dance Co. Suchu Dance and

Houston Metropolitan Dance Co. There won't be swan, happy dancing peasants, or toeshoe in sight.

Sept. 28 & 29; 8 p.m.

Miller Outdoor Theatre
100 Concert Drive, Hermann Park
713-284-8350

"Stop Kiss"

Callie, a native New Yorker and radio traffic reporter, befriends newcomer Sara, who's moved here to teach third grade. Although seemingly straight, they're drawn to each other. Their first kiss is observed, however, with drastic consequences for both. Diana Son's contemporary drama, using flashbacks and flashforwards, examines how we view our gay selves and each other. Honored by the NY Times as one of 1999's best plays, it receives its southwest premiere.

Sept. 28 -Oct. 27

Unhinged Productions
3304 LaBranch
713-524-8707

"The Diary of Anne Frank"

In these weeks of hideous terror and unspeakable evil, there's no better time to memorialize hope and universal goodness. Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett's 1955 Broadway adaptation of the world's most famous diary does just that. Dysfunction, grief, uplifting love, inef-fable sadness are but some of the emotional cries elicited by this true story of the Frank family and friends hiding for their lives in the Amsterdam attic from the Nazis. This is a co-production between the Alley Theatre and the University of Houston School of Theatre. Powerful and unrelenting.

Sept. 28-Oct. 7

University of Houston, Wortham Theatre
133 Wortham (Entrance No. 16, off Cullen Boulevard)
713-743-2929

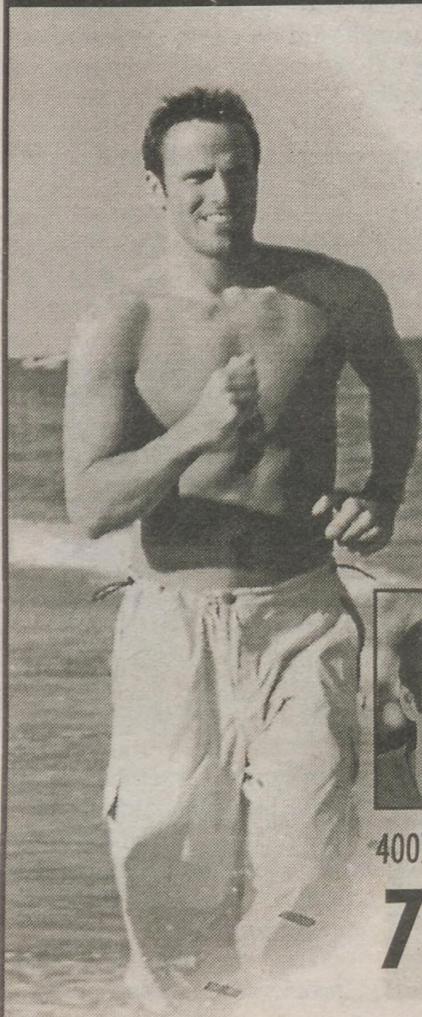
"Jekyll & Hyde"

The original tale of the man who can't make up his mind is given the glitzy Broadway treatment from Les Bricusse (book and lyrics) and Frank Wildhorn (music). Luther Chakurian, so impressive in Masquerade's "Kiss of the Spider Woman" and most recently in the benefit performance of "Falsettos," assays the dual lead roles of the good doctor and his alter-ego, the most heinous Hyde.

Oct. 4-29

Masquerade Theatre
1537 N. Shepherd
713-861-7045

Even you won't know



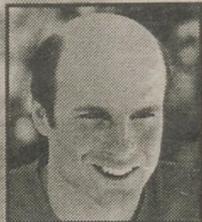
Like to look in the mirror and be shocked at how natural your hair looks?

Even with a magnifying glass, Virtual Reality looks real.

Look into the state-of-the-art-smart advance in hair replacement.

Easy. Comfortable. Quick. Real.

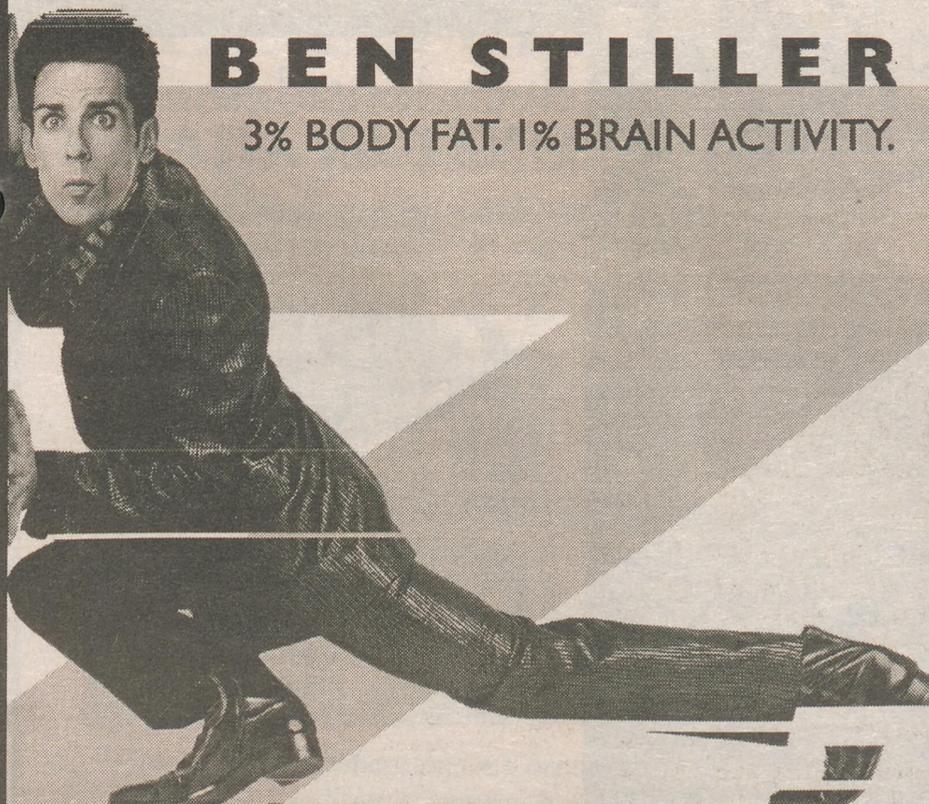
See for yourself — call your professional now.



Apollo
Image Enhancement Center

4007-A Bellaire Blvd • www.hairloss.com/houston

713-669-0031



BEN STILLER
3% BODY FAT. 1% BRAIN ACTIVITY.

ZOOLANDER

www.derekzoolander.com

PG-13 PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED
Some Material May Be Inappropriate for Children Under 13
SEXUAL CONTENT AND DRUG REFERENCES
For rating reasons, go to www.filmratings.com

VILLAGE ROADSHOW PICTURES
1 FILMS
TM & COPYRIGHT © 2001 BY PARAMOUNT PICTURES. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

STARTS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH!

AMC GULF POINTE 30 1455 & Bellway 8 281-319-4AMC	AMC STUDIO 30 2949 Dunvale 281-319-4AMC	AMC WILLOWBROOK 24 Hwy 249 @ 1960 281-319-4AMC	AMC DEERBROOK MALL 2 U.S. 59N & 1960 Eas 281-319-4AMC	AMC FIRST COLONY 24 Town Ctr. & First Colony Blvd. 281-319-4AMC
ENTERTAINMENT FILM WORKS MEYERLAND CINEMA 8 610 at Beechnut 713-666-5244	AMC KATY MILLS 20 At Katy Mills Mall 281-319-4AMC	CINEMARK THEATRES HOLLYWOOD - USA 2010 E. Bellway 8 713-475-0081	CINEMARK THEATRES TINSELTOWN - JACINTO CITY East Fwy. @ Holland 713-330-3946	CINEMARK THEATRES TINSELTOWN - WOODLANDS 1600 Lake Robbins 281-364-0600
CINEMARK THEATRES TINSELTOWN WESTCHASE 3600 W. Sam Houston Pkwy S. 713-952-1881	CINEMARK THEATRES TINSELTOWN 290 Hwy 290 @ NW 100 713-329-9975	CINEMARK THEATRES WEBSTER 18 I-45 @ NASA RD. 1 281-332-8400	CINEMARK THEATRES KATY W. Grand Pkwy. N. 281-371-6000	LOEWS THEATRES FOUNTAINS SW Fwy - north of 90A 281-240-1175
LOEWS THEATRES EASTON COMMONS Rt. 6, S. of 290 281-550-3966	LOEWS THEATRES SPRING I-45 & Holzwarth 281-288-7200	MAGIC JOHNSON THEATRES NORTHLINE MALL I-45 & CrossTimbers St. 713-692-4600	EDWARDS CINEMAS HOUSTON MARQ'E 23 N. of Katy Fwy. @ Silber Rd. 713-263-0808	EDWARDS CINEMAS GREENWAY GRAND PALACE N. of SW Fwy. on Westlayan 713-871-8880

RANDY E. ROLL
—Attorney-at-law—
713.869.7933

Experienced with more than 3000 criminal cases including:

- Possession
- DWI
- Theft
- Lewd conduct
- Indecent exposure
- Burglary
- Assault
- Driving while license suspended

EXPERIENCE COUNTS
http://home.houston.rr.com/randyroll • rroll@houston.rr.com
not certified by the Board of Professional Conduct

on stage

THEATER REVIEWS

Tales of two queens

Pair of local productions feature different female leads in equally strong showings

by D.L. GROOVER

One dresses in brocade and velvet; the other in feathers. One rules the known world; the other the world of fairy tale romance. One eats swan for dinner; the other is a swan.

These are two great dramatic characters on view through this weekend: Elizabeth I in Timothy Findley's "Elizabeth Rex," and the Swan Queen in Ben Stevenson's "Swan Lake." Both roles have extraordinary life breathed into them by their interpreters, Sally Edmundson and Mireille Hassenboehler, with the lofty productions further elevated by their presence.



Sally Edmundson takes on the lead role in Timothy Findley's 'Elizabeth Rex,' showing through Sunday.

"Elizabeth Rex"

Although Stages Repertory Theatre should be duly congratulated for scooping the competition and getting the U.S. premiere of Timothy Findley's Elizabethan-era drama, perhaps, had they waited, they would have received the eventual rewrite.

Right now, it's a memory play culled from the reminiscences of William Shakespeare, no less. His troupe has barely finished a command performance for the Virgin Queen when a city-wide curfew is imposed, confining them to the palace stables. Liz is quelling potential riots and protests over the impending execution of her former lover, the Earl of Essex.

Still in love with the traitor, she comes to the actors seeking advice as how "to act like a woman." That she asks the opinion of the Elizabethan theater's "roaring boys," the male impersonators of female characters, is one of the pleasures of this gay-infused play.

As history, it's bunk; as fiction, it's not

nearly as entertaining in its hokum as Warner Bros.' 1939 "Private Lives of Elizabeth and Essex" (with Bette Davis and Errol Flynn), but it gives Miss Edmundson and Joel Sandel (playing Ned Lowenscroft, Shakespeare's leading exponent of his mature women characters) the sublime opportunity to shine gloriously.

As a lead-white Elizabeth, Edmundson comes at you like a Tudor royal barge. Her words part the waters like a massive prow. She demands to be a woman, to be allowed to grieve her heartache, her betrayal, but she's first the queen, whose heart must belong to England.

Bumpy as an English Renaissance road, this production is paved with good intentions. That it doesn't lead to the obvious destination is due to Edmundson and Sandel's gloriously uplifting and theatrical work.

"Swan Lake"

We've seen this historic ballet in all forms: gay with all male fowl (Matthew Bourne), hideous neo-grunge with rape and swamp monster (James Kudelka), truncated (Balanchine); but give us the traditional (Ben Stevenson).

"Swan Lake" is the mother of all ballets. This classical work from 1877, with extensive choreographic and musical revisions in 1895 and 1901, is the dance equivalent of a Shakespeare play: one of the great works of art. Ben Stevenson's staging from 1984 only adds to the grandeur and drama inherent since the premiere.

David Walker's physical production with literal scenic lakeside, courtyard, and deep brown and red palace ballroom is faithful to the idea of what this ballet is all about—romance, faithfulness until death, unconquerable love.

There may be no better swan queen and evil antithesis, the black swan, than Mireille Hassenboehler. She melted, she glittered, she electrified throughout with effortless glamour and show-stopping technique. The entire company danced with excitement and purpose. What a performance. What a ballet.

INFO

"Elizabeth Rex"

Through Sept. 30
Stages Repertory Theatre
3201 Allen Parkway; Waugh at D'Amico
713-527-0123

"Swan Lake"

Through Sept. 30
Wortham Theater Center, Brown Theater
500 Texas
713-522-ARTS

eating out

RESTAURANT REVIEW

Fondue makes unique treat

West Houston restaurant offers active, cooperative dining experience

by KATHREEN LEE

Fondue is not necessarily the most commonplace culinary practice in Houston. So to find good fondue, you have to turn to a place that specializes in nothing but catering to fondue lovers. Located out in west Houston within a large strip mall, the Melting Pot, a national franchise, offers its patrons an interactive and informative dining experience.

All of the Melting Pot's fares, except for the salads, are prepared in one fashion: fondue style. For instance, for appetizers, the diners are limited to selecting from four different cheese fondues—cheddar cheese, Swiss cheese, traditional Swiss cheese, and Fiesta cheese. Since there is only one burner per table, everyone in your dinner party must agree to one flavor.

On our server's recommendation to stay away from the Fiesta option, we ordered the Traditional Swiss Cheese Fondue (\$10 for one or two, \$5 for each extra person). The server prepared the cheese dip at our table by slowly and methodically blending white wine, garlic, nutmeg, lemon and Gruyere and Emmenthaler Swiss Cheese. Small chunks of rye and white bread, cauliflower, carrot, celery and Granny Apple are served with your fondue (which literally means "melted cheese") for dipping.

While I found the cheese/bread combination a bit dry, the tangy flavor of the sour apples mixed with the warm cheese provided a jolting juxtaposition of flavors.

Like the cheese fondues, one entree cooking style must also be agreed upon by all members of the group since everyone shares the one burner per table. Each patron can individually choose from a variety of entree options, but everyone must prepare it in the same cauldron. The cooking varieties offered are Fondue Court Bouillon Style, which is a seasoned vegetable broth low in salt and cholesterol; Traditional Fondue Style, which is a fondue batter made with cholesterol-free canola oil; and Coq Au Vin style, which is a broth seasoned with herbs, garlic, mushrooms, spices and burgundy wine.

Entree choices range from a variety of meats and seafoods, such as Twin Lobster Tails (market price), Shrimp and Sirloin (\$19), and the French Quarter (\$19). The chosen broth, pre-prepared in the kitchen, is brought out to your table and heated until boiling. The patrons are then responsible for cooking their own dishes in the broth according to a handy chart that assigns different cooking times based on choice of cooking style and items.

For instance, an entree item called the Seafood Trio (\$18) comes with fresh raw scallops, shrimp and salmon. If prepared in

FOOD FILE

The Melting Pot

a fondue restaurant

6100 Westheimer, Ste 164

713-532-5011

www.meltingpot.net

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

the Fondue Court Bouillon Style, then cooking time for seafoods is one and a half minutes, while cooking time for potatoes is two minutes.

The presentation of the raw meats and vegetables showed the freshness of the ingredients in my entree. Furthermore, the saturation and jostling of each fare in the boiling cauldron allowed the seasoned broth to completely permeate the food and thereby create an excellent mix of flavor and tender texture.

The high-priced menu items with no entree choices under \$15 exclude any fondue lovers who may be on a more limited budget from visiting frequently. Which, in that case, I would recommend you skip all the other fares and make a beeline for the chocolate fondue desserts.

The Melting pot offers more than five different varieties of chocolate fondue desserts (\$10 small, \$20 large), including Amaretto Meltdown, Yin and Yang, a blend of dark and white chocolate, and Chocolate Símores. My friend and I shared the Flaming Turtle, which is an incredible blend of rich milk chocolate, caramel, crushed walnuts and rum flambe. The small plate comes with bite-size slices of strawberries, bananas, pineapples, pound cake, brownies and cheesecake that can be dipped into the warm oozing savory chocolate syrup.

The fresh cold fruit or dense rich brownies blanketed in such luscious decadence will incite your taste buds to unspeakable revelry.

Whether you go as a large group or night out for two, The Melting Pot offers a unique culinary experience. Make sure that whoever you go with understands your preferences in cuisine, because sharing is The Melting Pot's common theme.



A special AssistHers fundraiser

Decadent Dessert Extravaganza is a party of sweet indulgence.

The night will feature several tables of decadent desserts created by local restaurant chefs.

Please join us for delightful company, mouth-watering treats and trash disco music.

For further information or advance ticket purchase please call AssistHers at:

713.521.4628

you are invited to the
decadent dessert
EXTRAVAGANZA
september 30, 2001

meteor.

Urban | Video | Lounge

2306 Genesee
4pm -7pm
\$20 in advance
\$25 at door

Free Valet Parking
Cash Bar

featuring decadent desserts by:

Acadian Bakers • Baba Yega's
Cafe Zorro • Fabio's • Fox Diner
Mo Mong/Decapo's
Three Dog Bakery
Urbana Restaurant & Bar
Bering Memorial United Methodist
D.C. in the Heights/don Carlos Catering

"A STRONG, FEARLESS FILM!"

- Stephen Holden, THE NEW YORK TIMES

"ONE OF THE MOST PROFOUNDLY MOVING MOTION PICTURES OF THE YEAR. L.I.E LEFT ME SHAKING LONG AFTER I LEFT THE THEATRE."

- Rex Reed, NEW YORK OBSERVER

"A POWERFUL AND PROVOCATIVE ACHIEVEMENT!"

- Peter Travers, ROLLING STONE MAGAZINE

"BRILLIANT!"

- Peter Koough, BOSTON PHOENIX

L.I.E.

Lot47.com

NC-17

LOT 47

LANDMARK'S
RIVER OAKS

2009 W. Gray St. • (713) 524-2175

**EXCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENT
NOW PLAYING**

For showtimes visit www.LandmarkTheatres.com

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!



*Gay Owned and Operated
Proudly Serving "Our" Community.*

2318 S. Shepherd • 713-528-9080

AMERICAN PRIDE Dry Cleaners

Store Hours: 7am to 7pm (Mon-Fri) • 10am to 3pm (Sat)

MORGAN ROCKWELL'S FEATURED HOME

WESTMORELAND



**morgan
rockwell**
PROPERTIES

**DECORATOR SHOWPLACE
3/2-1/2 PLUS MEDIA ROOM
IN THE HEART OF MONTROSE
\$379,119**

713.526.5777
www.morganrockwell.com

BRING ON THE SINGING MEN



No Auditions!

All men are welcome to join the
Gay Men's Chorus of Houston
in our exciting new season
with new director Mr. James Knapp

Rehearsals are Monday evenings (7pm-10pm)
at Bering Memorial United Methodist Church
1440 Harold Street
(off of Westheimer in Montrose)

For more info,
(713) 521 SING
info@gmch.org

The Montrose Singers, Inc. d.b.a. Gay Men's Chorus of Houston is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization.

SINGLES LET'S WINGLE!



www.edwina.com

the internet's funnest lesbian and gay dating service!
try it for free!

community calendar

saturday, sept 29

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. • Banned Books Week Readathon. 7:30 p.m. • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.
"Back to Spoiled." Circuit party continues. DJ Mark MacEwan. M2M Entertainment. 713-978-5247.

sunday, sept 30

Rainbow Riders. A bicycle club for women. 713-869-1686.
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Holy Rite Eucharist I 7:45 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 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 & 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. 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. to noon. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center. houstontennisclub@aol.com
Houston Gay & Lesbian Community Center. Drop in Hours 2-5 p.m. 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.
Pet Blessing. Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Kolbe Project. 3 p.m. 713-861-1800.

monday, oct 1

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 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.
Gay Men's Chorus of Houston. Open rehearsals. 7 p.m. 713-521-7464.
Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours from 6 to 9 p.m. • Positive Art Workshop Photography exhibition • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.

tuesday, oct 2

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 development 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.
Rainbow Ringers free C&W dance lessons. Brazos River Bottom. two-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. • Gay & Lesbian Switchboard Houston Training Class 6 to 10 p.m. • Lesbian Power Dating. 7:30 p.m. • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.

wednesday, oct 3

Free HIV Testing. Thomas Street Clinic. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 2015 Thomas Street 713-793-4026.
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.
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. 7:30-9 p.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center. houstontennisclub@aol.com
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.
Blessed Sacrament Church. Workshop Series for Christian Faith and Ecumenical Old Catholicism. 713-476-9776.

Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours 6 to 9 p.m. • Positive Art Workshop Photography exhibition • Free HIV testing and counseling 6-9 p.m. • Houston Committee for People's Radio. 6:30 p.m. • Bi-Net Houston. 7:30 p.m. 713-524-3818.
Classic Chassis Car Club. Monthly meeting. 1340 Waugh. 713-797-8615.

thursday, oct 4

Rainbow Ringers free C&W dance lessons. Two 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. AVES. 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.
Gay Houston. New social group for all ages. 7 p.m. 713-526-9318.
Houston Lesbian and Gay Community. Drop in hours 6 to 9 p.m. 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.

friday, oct 5

Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals (H.A.T.C.H.) Meeting. 713-942-7002.
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. • Movie Night. "Much Ado About Nothing." 7 p.m. 713-861-1800.
Houston Tennis Club. Houston Tennis Club. 7:30-9 p.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center. houstontennisclub@aol.com
Lesbian and Gay Voices. KPFT 90.1 FM. 7 p.m. 713-526-5738.
Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours 6 to 9 p.m. • Positive Art Workshop Photography exhibition. • Lesbian Film Night. 6 to 9 p.m. 803 Hawthorne. • 713-524-3818.
WIVLA (Women in the Visual and Literary Arts) Weekend starts. 713-956-4111.
Service of Healing for persons living with HIV/AIDS. Christ Church Cathedral Golding Chapel. 7 p.m. 281-331-4851.

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.

When those you trust harm the ones you love—
You need experienced and knowledgeable representation



Nursing Home Abuse/Neglect
Wrongful Death
Catastrophic Injuries
Sexual Assault/Abuse
Medical Malpractice
Abuse/Neglect of the Handicapped
Day Care Abuse/Neglect

Steve Powell, Attorney at Law

713-869-5512; 713-869-6712 (fax); spowell@earthlink.net

BARRISTER RECORDS & REPORTING, INC.

- Medical & Business Records
- Certified Shorthand Reporters
- Notices; Subpoenas
- Photo/X-Ray Duplication
- Affidavits; Notary
- E-transcript
- Copy Services
- ASCII
- Bates Numbering
- Video Services
- Custom Indexing
- Condensed Transcripts



• RUSH Services Available

Serving Harris, Fort Bend, Galveston, Montgomery, and surrounding counties

506 Heights Blvd • Houston, TX 77007
713-861-1921 • Fax 713-861-3164



THE KOLBE PROJECT

e-mail: info@kolbeproject.org
or visit our Web site at
www.kolbeproject.org

PH.(713)861-1800 • 1030 Heights Blvd.
Houston, TX 77008

CALENDAR

<p>Friday • Sept 28 Morning Prayer 10am Movie Night 7pm "Much Ado About Nothing"</p> <p>Sunday • Sept 30 Pet Blessing 3-5pm</p> <p>Monday • Oct 1 Eucharist 7:30pm</p> <p>Wednesday • Oct 3 Vigil of St. Francis Feast-7pm</p> <p>Thursday • Oct 4 Potluck 7pm Lawyer Bill Green addresses DWI</p>	<p>Friday • Oct 5 Morning Prayer 10am</p> <p>Monday • Oct 8 Eucharist 7:30pm</p> <p>Friday • Oct 12 Morning Prayer 10am Movie Night 7pm "Broken Hearts Club"</p> <p>Saturday • Oct 13 Breakfast Club 9:30am</p>
---	---

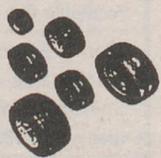
Patrick's Pottery & Collectibles

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

Automotive



THE TIRE PLACE Inc.

- Alignment
- Brakes



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

Professional Services

Don't lose your valuable investments. Photographic documentation of your insured, personal possessions will afford your receiving a fair price for replacement.

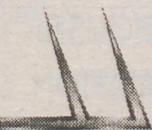
A picture is worth a thousand words, and a picture can be worth \$1,000





*FIRE *THEFT *FLOOD

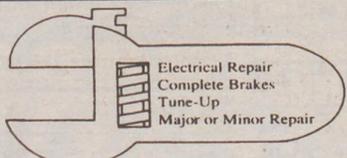
Wild Kat Unlimited • Kathy "Kat" Frazer
713-981-8958 • Kat2travel@msn.com
Photographer • BONDED



MOLITOR GLASS & MIRROR
MIRRORED WALLS • WET BARS • SUNSCREENS
HEAVY GLASS SHOWER ENCLOSURES



BODIE MOLITOR
713.880.0309
713.304.9890 cell



American & Foreign TAFT STREET AUTO

Auto Repair & Service

713-526-3723
1411 Taft Houston, TX. 77019



MASSAGE
Absolute Let-Go
manmassage.net
713.942.2399

- Montrose Location
- 7 days/evenings
- Visa/Mastercard
- Outcalls welcome

Roland

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

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

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.)

Appointments: Monday-Saturday

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.)

Se Habla Espanol

PROFESSIONAL MASSAGE

RELIEVE YOUR STRESS WITH A SWEDISH MASSAGE



Thom Loch • In/Out • 9am-9pm daily
Gift Certificates Available • RMT#026584
713-256-9490



Alignments
Brakes

2314 Washington
713-880-4747

Call Carolyn at 713-529-8490

to place your directory ad in the Houston Voice today!

houston classifieds

Houston Classifieds deadline is Monday at noon

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOUSTON WOMEN'S FESTIVAL 10/27/01

The annual Houston women's Festival happens Saturday, October 27 at the Garden in the Heights • Music • Art • Market Place • www.hwfestival.org

BUTCH-FEM

Starting Butch-Fem group for Lesbians • If interested call 713-917-8987 Press 4 to leave a message for us.

EROTIC MASSAGE WORKSHOP

CELEBRATING THE BODY EROTIC • 2 days of erotic exploration and sexual initiations • For Gay & bisexual men • Experiment with sacred sex rituals based on Tantric and Taoist traditions • Relearn human sexuality as sacred, transcend & healthy • October 27 & 28 • Call 713-426-5196 or visit www.bodyelectric.org.

HOUSTON HUMANE SOCIETY

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

CITIZENS FOR ANIMAL PROTECTION

CAP offers a Pet Yearbook. Your \$25 donation will place your critter's name & photo in the "Class of 2001" pet yearbook • Tickets for the Celebrity PAWS Gala 2001 are available • For more information, call Lyn Robertson • 713-729-9316.

MONTROSE SOCCER CLUB

NEW • Needs players and coach • Local and out-of-town tournaments • montrose5G@soccer.com • 832-489-9004.

EMPLOYMENT

Interior Green Plant Maintenance tech. Xmas decorations • Fabrication & installation personnel Full Time • Greenspace • 713-868-5159.

IMMEDIATE OPENING HAIR-DRESSER ASSISTANT

and 2nd assistant needed in Hair Replacement • Must pay attention to details • West University Salon • Nuvo by Muchael • 713-522-8502

GRAPHIC DESIGNER WANTED

The Houston Voice is looking for an experienced graphic designer. See our ad on page 21 for more information on this great opportunity!



MILAM HOUSE PWA COALITION

Housing Assistance needed for Knowledge of HIV/AIDS and substance abuse (recovery) preferred • Fax resume to 713-522-2674

RYAN WHITE PLANNING COUNCIL

seeks a highly organized individual with excellent telephone, writing and computer skills to fill position of Support Staff secretary/receptionist • Must be fluent in English/Spanish • Requirements: Knowledge in Microsoft Office and typing 45wpm • Starting salary \$1900 per month • View job description at www.rwpc.org • Apply at 1310 Prairie, Suite 240 • Reference #7982-C

SALES/MARKETING ASSISTANT

Entertainment Production Co. needs energetic, well organized marketing assistant. Telephone sales, event marketing, and some administration duties • Good computer skills required • 30-40 hours per week • \$8-\$10 per hour based on qualifications • Fax resume to 713-522-7078

STREET OUTREACH EDUCATOR

Needed for part time to educate Houston's GLBT through street, workshops, & recruitment • Bilingual a plus • HIV/AIDS education preferred, but not required • 10-15 hours a week • Fax or mail resume to:

Director of Education
AIDS Foundation Houston
3202 Wesleyan Annex
Houston, Texas 77027
Fax 713-623-6796
No phone call, please.

SOUTH BEACH 800 PACIFIC AVE

Taking applications for all positions • High volume • Gay night club • Group health insurance offered • Interviews Monday • 1pm-5 pm

CLUB HOUSTON

Accepting applications for certified personal trainers. Apply in person @ 2205 Fannin or 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.

FOR SALE/RENT

38 1.5 ba • Hardwoods • Double Garage • Fenced yard • Spring Branch • Call for appointment • \$900 • 713-682-9634 or 713-688-4925

Two 1 bedroom apartments in small quiet 8 unit complex • Want a mature person • No pets • \$500 +\$525 • plus electric • 713-529-8178

Westbury Square Town home • 2/1.5 • 1300 sf • New carpet, flooring & paint • CAC/Heat • W/D • large rooms • Gated complex • Utilities included • \$900/mo +deposit • Available 10/15 • 713-501-6229

1/1 Condo • 700 SF • New appliances • Custom Paint • Gated Community • Lots of closets • \$550 mo. + Deposit • Bills paid • Noon-9 p.m. • 713-721-9432

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.

AUSTIN

Live above Hippie Hollow • 3B/2b • Great views • \$1500/mo • Gary @713-522-9077.

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 inquires welcomed. Call Tim Brookover @ 713-524-3818.

PRIDEREALTY.COM SALES/RELOCATION

MASSAGE THERAPY

Relax your mind, body and soul with a sensual Swedish massage • RMT# 016479 • Tim • 713-876-3811.

A MAN'S TOUCH

Body waxing • Cuts • Full Body Massage • RMT # 013532 • Male Lopez • 713-406-1023



MASSAGE Absolute Let-Go

Houston Metro
713.942.2399
• Montrose Location
• 7 days/evenings
• Visa/Mastercard
• Outcalls welcome

A BODY TOUCH

Experienced man4man massage • Sports • Swedish • Deep Tissue • Erotic • Mature, strong & tanned In-calls only Mature clients welcomed • \$65 to \$125 • 713-914-0833.

TOCAR

therapeutic touch
massage for men
www.inkworkx.com/massage.htm
713.802.0439
Heights studio • #28496, 28430

MASSAGE

Treat sore, stiff muscles, tension and stress • Renewed flexibility and wellness • RMT #4397 • Tom • 713-520-6018.

SWEDISH MASSAGE BY PATRICK

• Relaxation • Myotherapy • Deep tissue • (RMT#024589) 713-807-7109 • 713-501-9852. • 1 1/2 hours for \$50. 1 Hr. \$40.

MASSAGE

Therapeutic • Deep tissue • Jason • College guy • 713-863-8888 • 713-908-8020.

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.

JOB STRESS?

TOUGH WORKOUTS?

Call now for a relaxing therapeutic Swedish massage • Body builder & licensed therapist • RMT#005930 • Randal • 713-529-3348

Massage by David Rangel • Swedish • Neuro Muscular Therapy • Montrose area • MCVISA/AMEX welcomed • RMT #8069 • Appointments 713-523-0738

MOVING SERVICE

PLANNING TO MOVE?

We'll move you in the right direction • American Movers • Experienced • Trusted • Insured • Tx Dot # 5282035C • 713-522-1717 • www.americanmovers.org • 800-522-2670 •

PETS

AFGHAN HOUND PUPPIES

Cyan and Devashunii Kennels • AKC Black • Black & tan • Cream • Blue • Blue & Cream • White • Hand raised • Championship lines • Starting at \$1500 • www.devashunii.com • 202-546-0854

COSTUMES & CLOTHING FOR YOUR DOG

Rainbow Pride & Halloween vests for your dog • Custom clothing and costumes available • \$8 and up • Call Carolyn Roberts at 713-529-8490



PET SITTING

BOOK FOR YOUR VACATION

PLAN YOUR FALL GETAWAY NOW!!

"Pets love their own home even when you can't be there" Established 1995.
Book your vacation now
E-mail: loyal989@aol.com
Call Loyal at 713-942-8816.

PRODUCTS & SERVICES

QUEEN PILLOW TOP MATTRESS SET

Brand new • List \$699 • Sell \$200 • 832-435-2677 • Can Deliver.

WWW.EROTIC ATTIRE.COM

Huge variety of sexy wear at Basic Brothers • 1232 Westheimer • 713-522-1626.

Rent-To-Own 50" Big Screen TVs! Starting at \$29.99 a week • 800-774-4553

Rent-to-own Computers! Starting at \$19.95 a week • 1-800-422-3368

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

LEGAL PROBLEM?

Call attorney Randy Roll at 713-869-7933 or email him at rroll@houston.rr.com

M2M BODY GROOMING

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

PSYCHIC EDUCATION

LEARN YOUR CHAKRAS CLEAN YOUR KARMA

8 Taped, guided meditations & much much more!! • Mail \$35 Money Order to:

Bill O'Rourke
314 Morris #37 77009-7740
rainbowprod.com/bilbo.

ROOMMATES

GM to share beautiful 4/3 home on park-like setting in SW Houston • Large private yard with 40' pool • Great location and neighborhood • Available Oct. 1 • 281-575-7369.

Share 2/2 remodeled home in the Heights area with 30s WM • Non-smoker • Hardwoods • \$425 + utilities • 832-309-0822

Seeking Gm to share 3/2 house in Timbergrove Manor • Jest west of heights • Neighborhood is quiet and secure • Amenities include: Private bath • DW • Microwave • Cable TV • W/D • Garage Parking • large patio • Seeking Nonsmoker • \$425/mo + deposit • 1/2 utilities • Pets negotiable • 713-868-2750

Seeking male roommate, non-smoker, to share 3/2 house in NW Houston near 610 loop • Private fenced-in back yard with pool • Maid service • Cable • Private Bath • microwave • Unfurnished room • All bills paid \$440/mo.+ deposit • Available Sept. 3 • 713-290-0353.

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 • 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

THIS SPACE COULD BE YOURS!!

Place your classified ad in the Houston Voice today! Call Carolyn Roberts at 713-529-8490, email croberts@houstonvoice.com, or mail your order form to:

Houston Voice classifieds
500 Lovett Blvd, Suite 200
Houston, TX 77006

Occasions birthdays

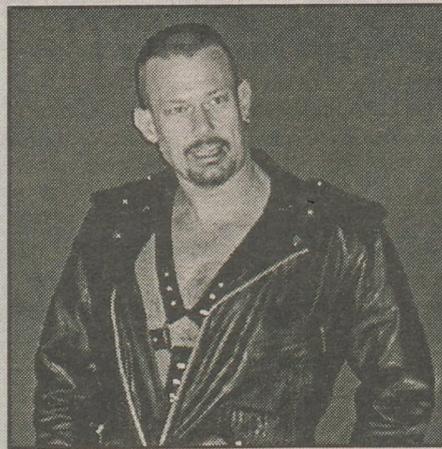
A big belated Happy Birthday (09/19) to the one and only now 40 years old Michael Pruitt.

Fabulous lesbian with a heart of gold Dot Thompson celebrates her birthday on Oct. 1.

Houston Area Bear Steven D. claws to get a piece of birthday cake on his Sept. 29 birthday.

Asians and Friends members Michael T. (9/28), Rick F. (09/30) and David C. (10/04) share good times with friends this week celebrating their birthdays.

An "Old Fashioned" birthday greeting to David Stewart as he slings the birthday fairy around by her big hair on Oct. 2.



Who let the Big Dog out? Big Dog Leather founder Creath Robinson growls at the birthday fairy on Oct. 1. Woof Woof!!

Make a wish...
in the
Houston Voice
Occasions page

Publish your
birthday greetings
in the *Houston*
Occasions page.
It's thoughtful.
It's easy.
It's free!

Call 713-529-8490

*Celebrating 25 Years
in the Community*

Come Worship with PRIDE!

*Catholic Mass Celebrated
Saturdays at 7:30pm*

1307-H Yale • 713-880-2872

**Gay & Lesbian
Jewish Study Group**

Thursdays
7:30-9:00 PM
September 6
October 4
November 1
December 6

Cosponsored by
Congregation Beth Israel &
Mispachah Alzian

5600 N. Braeswood Blvd.
Facilitators: Rabbi David Whiman
Rabbi Brenner Glickman

For further information:
713/523-3673 or e-mail:
ahur111@aol.com

Urban Tails L.L.C.

The urban dog's dream

One stop shopping!
Convenient!

Dog daycare
Cage-free sleepovers
Grooming
Training
Cat boarding
Pet supplies

1618 Webster St. • 713.658.0900 • www.urbantails.cc

Tony Carroll,
LMSW-ACP
Psychotherapist
Counseling
Consultation
713-527-0000
1006 Missouri St.
Houston, TX 77006

**Imagine
love**

WORKSHOPS
NOW AVAILABLE!

Limited seating, Register soon!

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

Serving Houston's Gay and Lesbian
Community Since 1983

**Gay and
Lesbian Couples**
\$155 per couple

Understanding and
Improving Love
Relationships

September 29/30

houston
Therapist.com
www.HoustonTherapist.com

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

MUSCLE MECHANICSSM
PERSONAL TRAINING STUDIO
713.523.5330
BY APPOINTMENT. CALL NOW.
617 Richmond Avenue in Montrose

Time Line

What's your Hair Loss Rate?
How much will be left tomorrow?

The sooner you look into
Virtual Reality, the better.

And even when you look into it,
you won't see it.

Science has found a way to
give you that natural hairline.

Affordably. Comfortably. Quickly. Really!

Apollo
Image Enhancement Center

4007-A Bellaire Blvd • www.hairloss.com/houston
713-669-0031

My Stars!

by JILL DEARMAN



YOUR WEEKLY HOROSCOPE

Sept. 28 - Oct. 4



ARIES (March 21 to April 20)

Mercury retrograde in your house of love could make this a confusing time for Mars-ruled lovers. Try to choose your words carefully, and don't make promises you can't keep. A Virgo will hold you to your intentions, so make sure they are honorable—and realistic.



TAURUS (April 21 to May 20)

The emotionally generous moon in your sign on Oct. 5 and 6 gets into a tiny tiff with nervous Mercury. Take this irritation as a sign from above. You can have it all and still feel a tinge of dissatisfaction. Maybe that discontent is the inspiration to make life and love (with another Taurus perhaps) even better. Raise the bar, don't just go to one!



GEMINI (May 21 to June 21)

Pluto in your house of love really wants you to push the envelope in your relationship. That means demanding the most of yourself first, and then your lover. If you're single, seek out a higher love from an Aries whose very touch makes you feel high and mighty—real.



CANCER (June 22 to July 22)

If you are feeling lonesome, all you have to do is reach out to the person who's been trying to break down your walls for weeks, maybe months! An Aquarius understands you deeply but may not be able to articulate it. Do you need to hear the words every second?



LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22)

There's a feeling of melancholy surrounding all your material possessions during this cycle. Venus wants you to create love from the inside out, not the other way around. So lighten up on the greed and get in touch with a deeper need. A Capricorn can help.



VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)

This is a good time for you to work on your career, darling. Love happens at its own pace (and more quickly than you can imagine with a Gemini), but you need to push yourself to succeed, no matter how many people annoy you and stand (sort of) in your way. There's no conspiracy, sweetie, but there are plenty of second chances.



LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)

This is your time to put yourself first and follow a dream to its magical conclusion, baby. Don't allow the overly rational wet-blanket side of your nature to crush your fantasies. A Leo wants to bring a fantasy to life for you and with you.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)

Jupiter in your adventurous and travel-loving ninth house is bringing you luck with International and intellectual affairs. And yes, anyone who beats you at verbal foreplay is bound to make the lion in your pocket ready to roar as well. A Pisces may be just verbal and vexing enough to utterly whet your appetite, you animal.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)

Your Pluto issues are like that Energizer Bunny, honey: they keep going and going and going. So why not actually deal with them? Pluto's going to be on you for years still—and wants you to face your demons and leave your self-destructive ways behind. Don't worry. You can have plenty of naughty fun without them, and with an Aquarius.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)

Had enough drama? I hope not. You're still in the middle of an eclipse cycle that began this summer, and now the Sun is transiting your house of family as Jupiter transits your love sector. The key is for you to create a love relationship that echoes the best potential of your family, not the actual gritty, screwy reality. A Sag can teach you how to play house in a most beautiful way.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)

Mercury retrograde in your ninth house could bring your ability to speak passionately to people of other cultures to the surface. You are about to broaden your horizons, work-wise, and need to think a whole lot bigger. A Scorpio can act as your guide and simultaneous translator.



PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20)

Stop trying to figure out what's going on inside the head of a mysterious Libra lover, and turn some of that stalking psychic energy onto yourself. You are not dealing with an important and dark side of your nature. Let it into the light, lad!

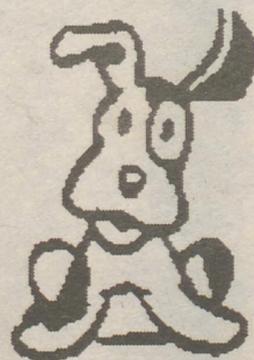
Jill Dearman is the author of the best-selling "Queer Astrology for Men" and "Queer Astrology for Women" (both from St. Martin's Griffin). For information on charts and consultations, call 212-841-0177 or e-mail QScopes@aol.com.

Resurrection MCC's

Annual Blessing of the Animals

October 6, 2001 • 11:30am–12:30pm

You will have an opportunity to have your pet's picture taken by J. Roe Photography, a chiropractic exam will be available from Dr. Jackie Doval of the Alternative Health and Wellness Center and Dr. Jackie Marshall of Kleinbrook Animal Hospital will also be on hand for consultations.



RESURRECTION
METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

2025 W. 11th St. @ T.C. Jester

713-861-9149 ♦ www.resurrectionmcc.org

UNHINGED PRODUCTIONS

presents

Stop Kiss

by Diana Son

Opens Friday,
Sept. 28 at 8 p.m.

3304
LaBranch

Plays Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. through October 27

Tickets \$15, \$12 Seniors and Students

Callie and Sara are falling in love. Will a hate crime end it?

Call 713-524-8707

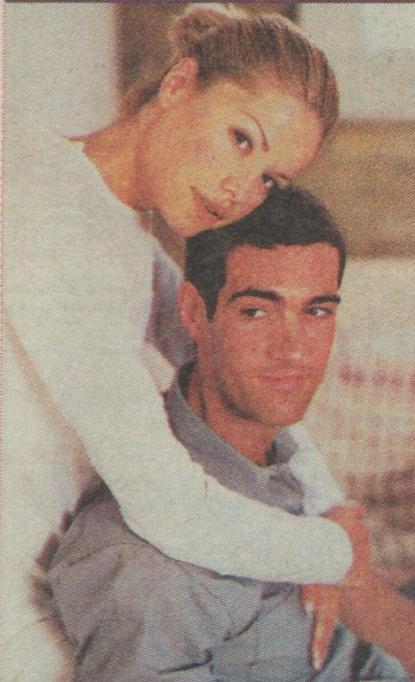


THE MARK
condominium

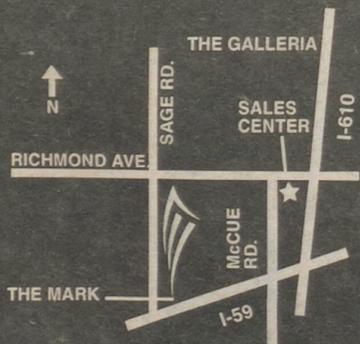
**THREE
MODELS
NOW OPEN.**



**Downtown Living.
Uptown Style.**



- Spectacular Cityscape Views
- 24-Hour Front Desk Security
- Concierge / Valet Services
- 10 Foot Ceilings
- Slate Kitchen Floors
- Granite Countertops



**READY FOR MOVE-IN
SEPTEMBER 2001!**

FROM THE 170'S TO THE 300'S

THE MARK CONDOMINIUM
3505 Sage Houston, Texas 77056
Sales Center Open Mon-Sat 10-6, Sun 11-6
www.TheMarkCondo.com

713.888.0188

EXCLUSIVELY MARKETING BY CLARION REALTY GROUP, INC.

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY



ani difranco
with special guest bitch and animal

revelling reckoning
available now on righteous babe records

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6

HoustonPress LAS VEGAS

Aerial Theater
Aerial Theater Box Office 520 Texas Ave. 713-225-8551
SEE IT FIRST, BUY IT FIRST - aerialtheater.com

get tickets at sfx.com Call for Tickets 713-629-3709 (automated), or online at ticketmaster.com. Tickets also available at all ~~authorized~~ outlets and the Aerial Theater Box Office. All dates, acts, and ticket prices subject to change without notice. A service charge is added to each ticket. A Clear Channel Entertainment Event.

SFX, and the SFX logo are service marks of SFX Entertainment, Inc.

Σrōs 1207
A Boutique

for men and women of all lifestyles

Swimwear, Thongs, Boxers ...
C/B Toys & Adult Novelties
Videos, DVD's & Books
Romantic Gifts
Lotions, Oils & Lubes
Lingerie & Sexywear
BDSM Gear & Clothes

Club Xscape
Friday - Ladies Dart League
Sunday - Style Night
Monday - \$1 Beer & Amateur Str
Getaway today!
Richey & Allen Genoa
in So. Houston 713-944-7663

Open 7 days 10 am - midnight 713-944-6010
1207 Spencer Highway, So. Houston. Take I-45 south to College / Airport exit.
Go east two miles to Spencer Highway & Allen Genoa. Next to Video Ace.