

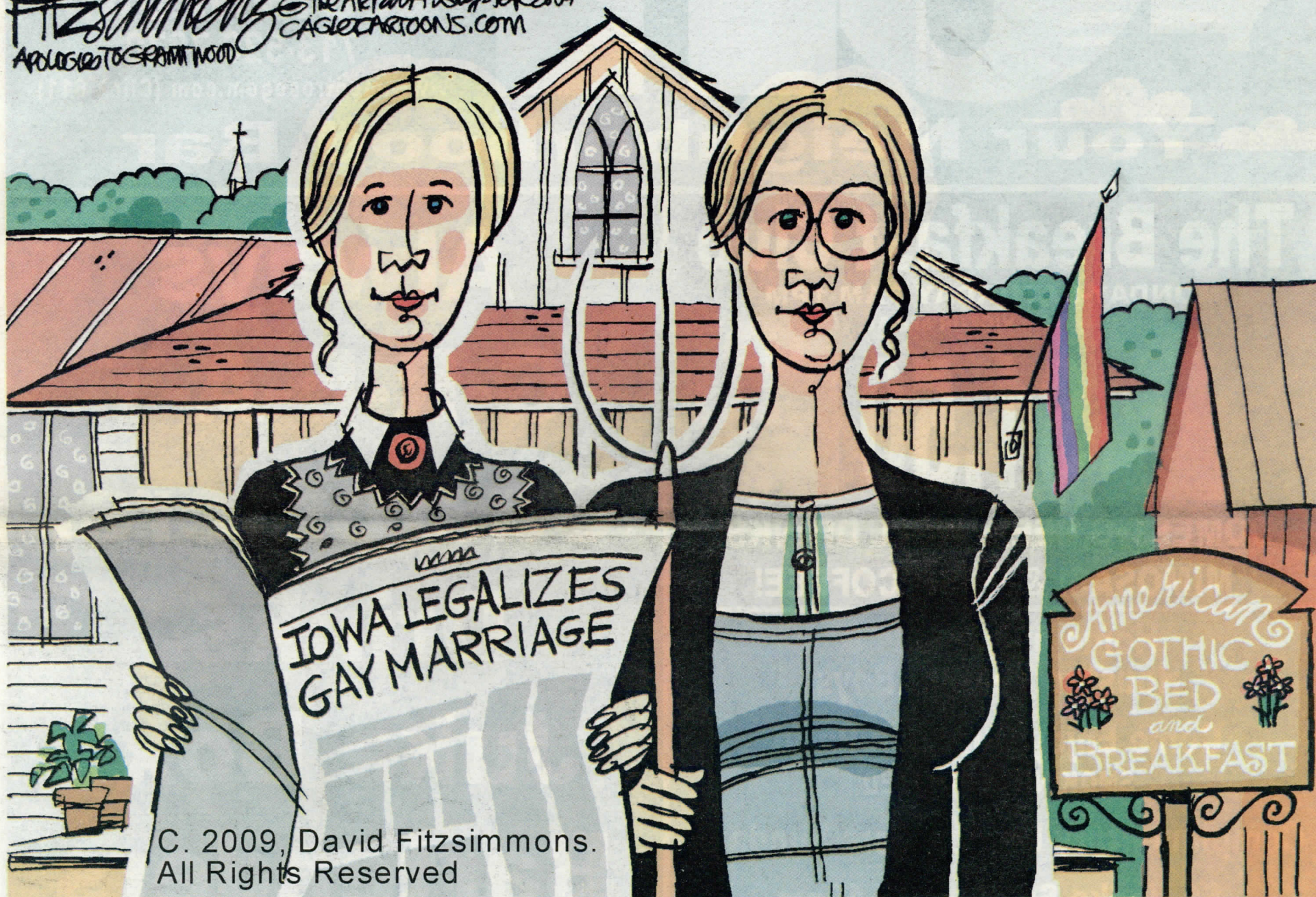
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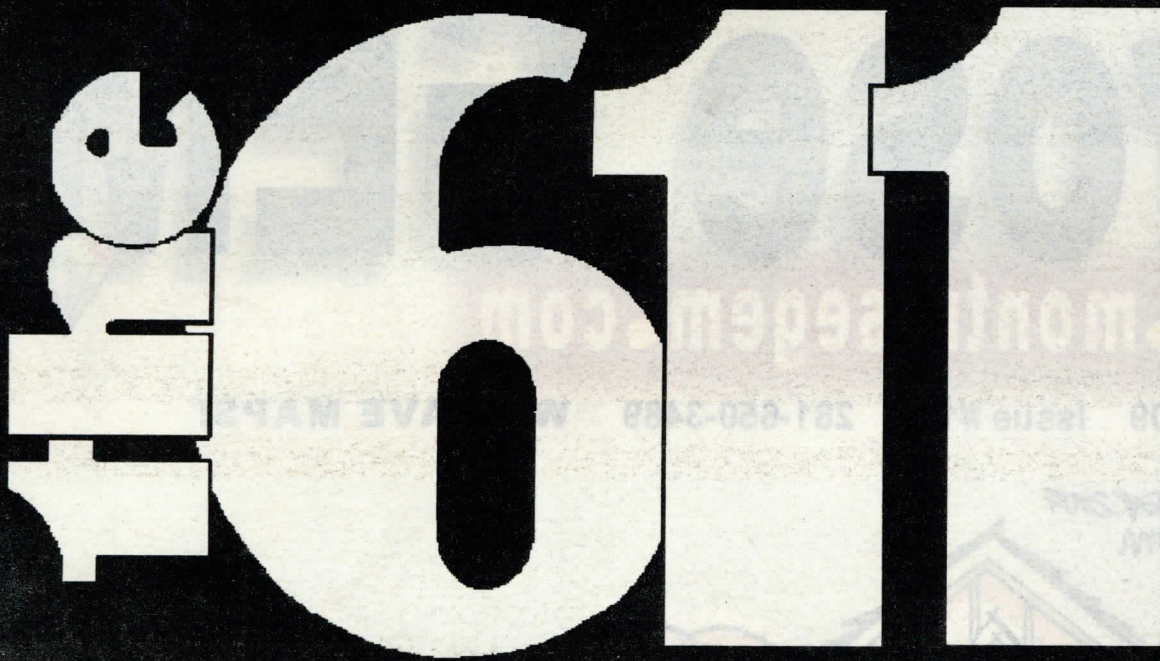


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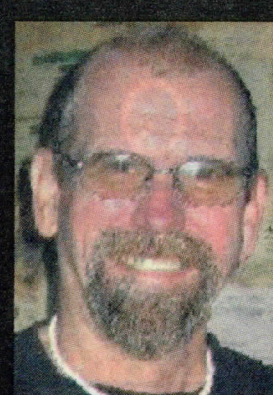
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APRIL 17, 2009
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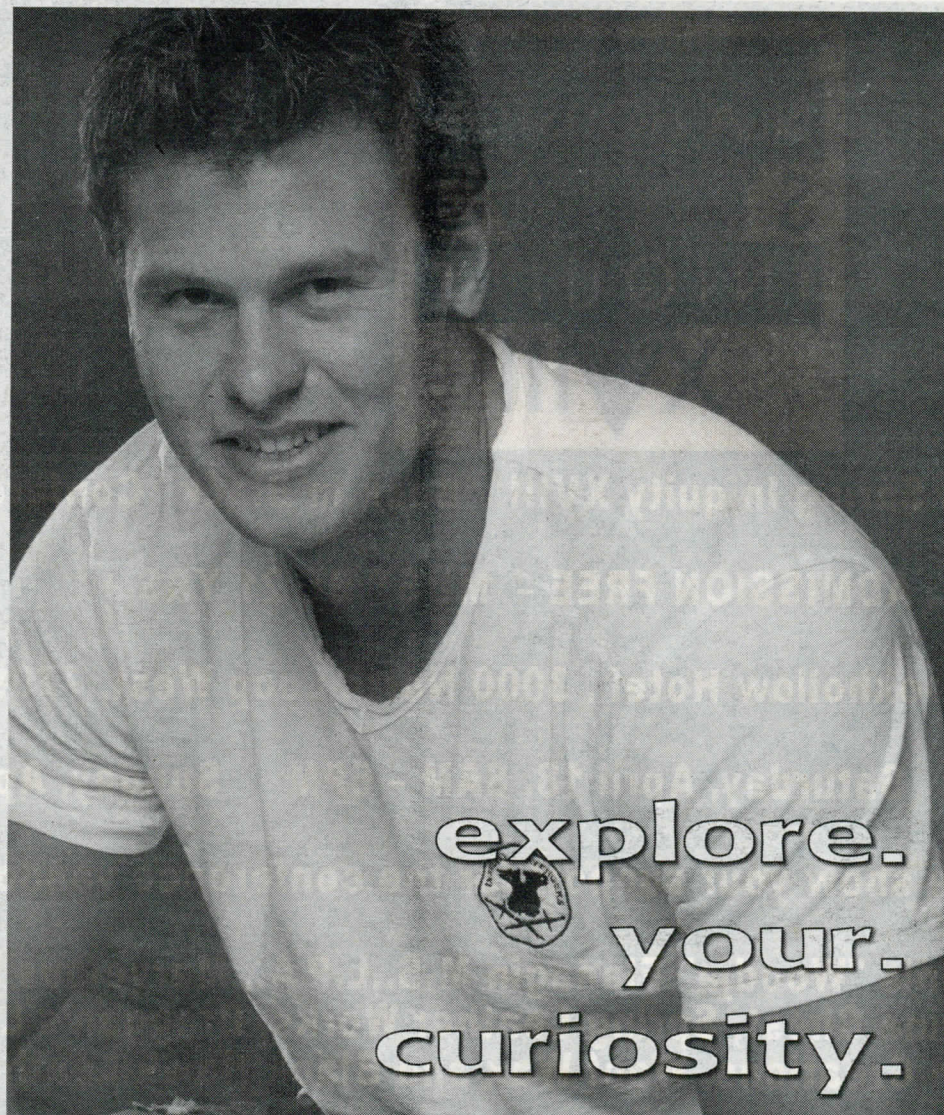
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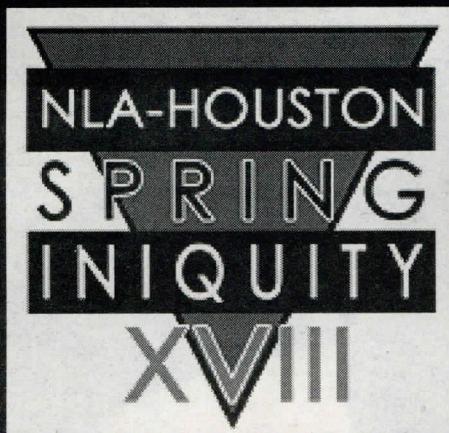
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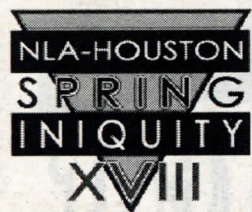
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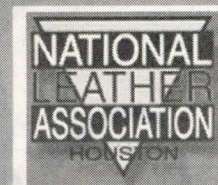
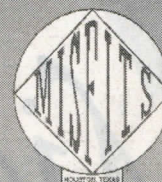
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COMMENTARY
By Billy Glover

LONG-TIME ACTIVIST, B. BOSSIER CITY, LA.

Thoughts after seeing Milk and Times of Milk

I think the Milk is important, and it is educational, and in a way, entertaining. And it is interesting to consider Milk and Brokeback Mountain as movies, their timing and what they say to and about homosexuals.

Like Stonewall, Milk, the man and "event" owe a little of their success to the media. As has been pointed out, not only did the movement for homosexual civil rights (and please, that covers, despite dear Morris Kight, et al—gay rights, lesbian rights, queer rights, dyke rights, etc.) start in Los Angeles—again, Henry Gerber and any others were a blip and died fast, but so were the first of everything, including riots, or as Stonewallers prefer, rebellions, happened in California but the media ignored them. And so lazy "historians" have ignored them. As they have ignored the founders of Mattachine and ONE. Has anyone wondered why there is no mention of Mattachine in the movie Milk?

Milk came to San Francisco, as hundreds of thousands of others came to California, some from New York, etc., perhaps because they knew that things were happening in California.

Hal Call came to California. He joined early Mattachine and immediately started taking over, using the clam that the founders were communists and this would hurt the cause. Probably true, although some think that ONE went too far in the other direction, being mainly conservative Republicans.

There should be no question that Harvey Milk was a great person, and inspired many people, including those who heard of him in other places. But it does not take away one iota from him and his co-workers to point out that this is true of Harry Hay, Don Slater, Dorr Legg, Jim Kepner, Frank Kameny, Del Martin, Phyllis Lyon, Frank Kameny, Barbara Grier, Barbara Gittings, et al.

Such people, publications and organizations had been preparing the way for Stonewall and Milk since the early 1950s.

And that is true of Mattachine in

San Francisco, and Hal Call, Don Lucas et al (Guy Strait, SIR, Tavern Guild, etc).

What worries me about Milk is its main point, success. All the marches, the victory of No on 6. How would people have thought of this if they had seen it before the loss of Prop 8? You can't miss the exact tactics used by the religious bigots on 6 and 8. Only time can tell if the people running No on 8 had learned nothing from the No on 6 people or if new times needed new tactics.

And if young people come away from Milk feeling good and hopeful, will they join an organization to continue Harvey's work? Or do they think, despite anti-gay marriage wins, Milk did it, so we can just enjoy it?

Again, Harvey, like others, came to California because they thought it was better there, and thankfully a few like Milk joined to help make it even better. I'm not sure, as the movie hints, that generic "David Goodsteins" (and his Advocate) did.

But, as in other civil rights movements, it takes many ways to a goal, education, picketing, entertainment, etc. Hal Call and his Mattachine was visible, certainly from that great good and terrible convention in Denver in 1959, when innocent people voted to praise the mayor of San Francisco for being gay-friendly, the purpose of the person who made the proposal was to defeat the mayor and what happened, as so often in life, sometimes good and sometimes bad, is that it had the opposite affect. The newspapers were not gay-friendly, but they shouted that this was a "attack" not only on the mayor but on the citizens and city of San Francisco. Think what that word meant. It sure didn't mean they were "gay-friendly."

Hal Call and Mattachine were well known in San Francisco. Later others started working the cause from different angles, SIR (social until the stupid police forced them to be activists along with the preachers and attorneys of the newly formed Council of Religion and the Homosexual), the Tavern Guild (Bill Plath, et al), Guy Strait (no comment, his wonderfully campy US News & Cruise news newspaper). And into the mix came Harvey.

But if people get a good feeling from Milk, did they get a realistic view? And how does that compare in promoting the cause of civil rights for homosexuals to Brokeback Mountain. That is not a "gay" movie. And while today many people say to those two men, and others like them, then and now, get out of that place and go to the big city. How realistic is that today, with our economy, as it was at the time of the movie?



THIS IS MONTROSE News, Nonsense, Rants By Henry McClurg

Quickies

The Obama girls have received a new pet, a Portuguese Wart Hog. ... Wait. I've been corrected. It's a Portuguese Water Dog.

Huffington Post, the website, reveals that men's underwear sales are undergoing an economic shrinkage in these economic times.

CNN reports that "just because they named their new CD 'Yes,' does not mean that British electro-pop duo, the Pet Shop Boys, will agree to just about anything.

PETA has asked the Pet Shop Boys to change the band's name to Rescue Shelter Boys.

They turned down the request.

I Love the Neighborhood

As you know from my writings here I live in the middle of the bar area of Montrose. It's a wonderful place. I do not mind the noise. It makes me feel like I'm not missing anything as I lay in my bed and listen the "conversations" outside.

But ... But ... There's one queen who every weekend has to stand in front of Blur and scream for 45 minutes each night. She goes "whooo, whooo, whooo" over the over. She sounds like a train with a high-pitched whistle. "Whooo, whooo, whooo."

I wish she would shut up. I wish her friends would slap her.

I live a block from Blur but there she is every weekend. "Whooo, whooo, whooo" loud and clear and obnoxious even a block away.

She's on drugs, or worse, she voted for McCain. She must be one of those.

Speaking of That

Speaking of that, remember Martha Wong? She was as Republican who ran to represent much of our district in the Texas Legislature, promising to be a friend of the gay community. Well, she got elected and proceeded to side with the rightwing nuts in the Texas House.

In a subsequent election, she was whupped. Tossed out. Good. One must dance with those who brung you. (Old Texas saying.)

Now that brings us to another person currently serving in our fine Texas Lower Chamber, Betty Brown.

Speaking on the subject of voter identification, she said that Asian-Americans should change their names because their names

are too hard to pronounce.

"Rather than everyone here having to learn Chinese, I understand it's a rather difficult language. Do you think that it would behoove you and your citizens to adopt a name that we could deal with more readily here," the Republican said.

Speaking to a Chinese community leader, Brown then said, "Can't you see that this is something that would make it a lot easier for you and the people who are poll workers if you could adopt a name just for identification purposes that's easier for Americans to deal with?"

I understand. Names like Martha Wong are just impossible to pronounce.

After about a week under pressure, she apologized and said that a better idea would be just to send them all to camps and forget about them.

No, no, no. She didn't say that last part. I made that up. After all, this column contains sarcasm.

But she did finally apologize, under pressure.

But back the her original statement. Website columnist Eli pointed out some assumptions that were not at first apparent.

1) All Asians speak Chinese.

2) It is necessary to master the Universal Asian Language of Chinese in order to pronounce difficult Asian names like "Ramey Ko."

3) Would Bruce Lee have had to change his name?

4) No one ever pronounces "Eli" correctly. Does that mean I have to change my name to Billy-Ray "Chicken and Dumplings" Brown?

5) Maybe Asian-Americans should wear masks and costumes too, for the people who can't tell them apart. They could totally have fun with it: "I'm Batman. Batman Jones." "And I'm Chad. Chad Vader."

More Quickies

The BRB, the cowboy bar on Brazos, now has Wi-Fi. So bring your laptop in, have a brewski, and wander the Web.

New on the Montrose GEM website: Classic Photos. Pictures from the archives of the GEM. We update the photos every few days. We update the website itself usually daily. And our national gay news feed from TOPIX is updated several times an hour. Log on!

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(All clubs are listed in Bold. Not all are gay all the time. Those with display ad shown with arrow & box. Selected other businesses also shown.)

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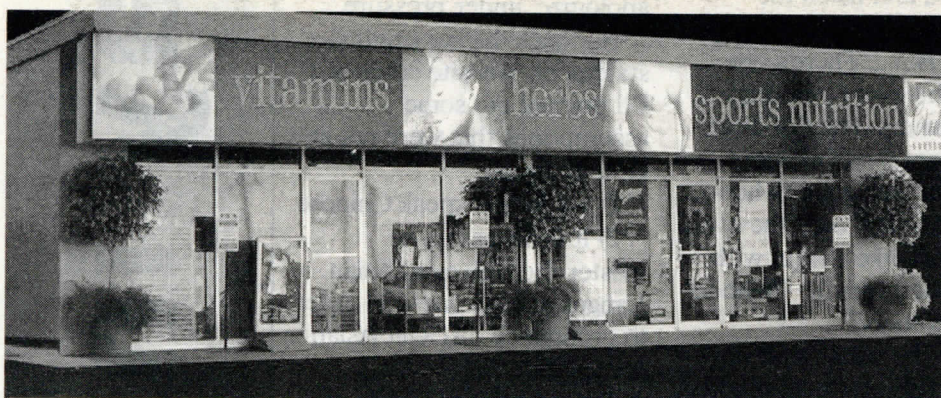
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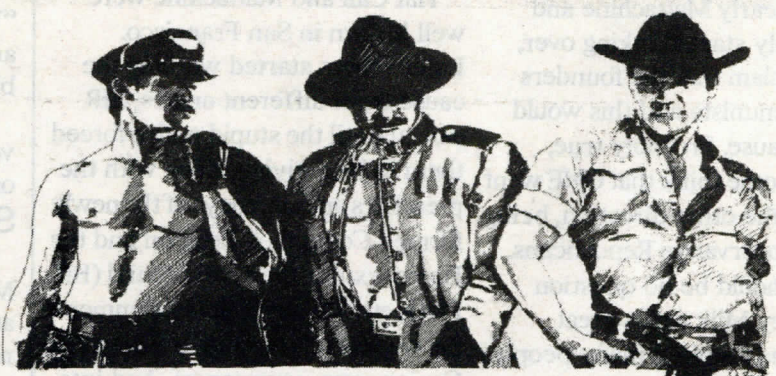
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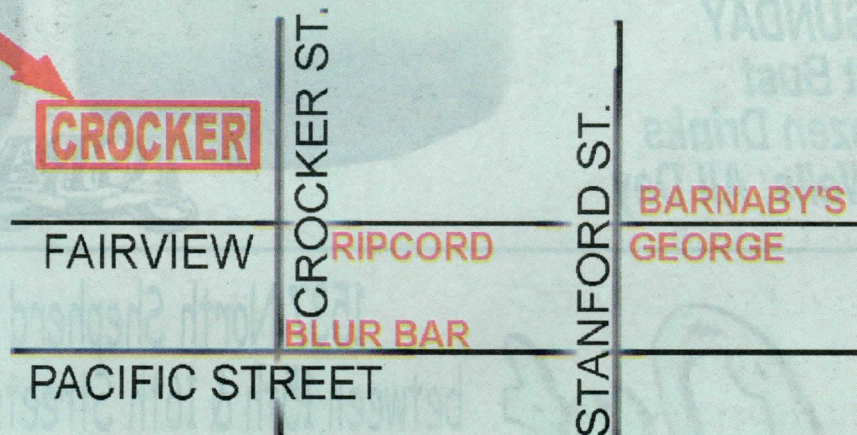


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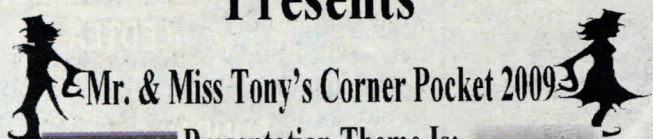
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COMMENTARY

By Trevor Kacedon

I Do, Iowa?

Well this whole gay marriage thing certainly is moving along faster than I thought it would; Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Oregon all recognize some form of gay union or another, and I'm sure I'm forgetting one or two. But now Iowa, a state with an entire population only slightly larger than our own quaint Houston, has ruled that a law banning same-sex marriage was unconstitutional. Gather up your overalls and threshers, America's Corn Belt has gone liberal!

Iowa? Really? I don't see gay people flocking to Iowa for some reason. Is there some underground phenomenon I should know about? Would now be the time to establish a cute little coffee bar in the middle of nowhere? Is this really a victory in a state that has on average fewer than 10 people per square mile? I smell a conspiracy!

Iowa's been sneakily reinventing itself and pushing its economy into new and sustainable businesses. Not being content with the titles of Food Capital of the World and the buckle on the Corn Belt of America, Iowa had to go and transform itself into a diversified economy of advanced manufacturing, biotechnology, and green energy production! C'mon Iowa, wasn't it good enough being one of the safest states to live in, did you have to go and "gay up" your industry too?

It's working, they're growing in gays. Year over year, Iowa's population and diversity has grown, not just from interstate immigration but international immigration. Who moves to Iowa!? Are the drug wars in Mexico that bad? The weather isn't particularly attractive, with lows of 6 in January. SIX! Iowa, I'm on to you! You're trying to lure the gays into your woefully under-populated state, create your cute, quaint towns, and redevelop your rundown manufacturing districts. Then, just when we're comfortable and property values peak, BAM! In come the yuppies, just like in Montrose!

You may have your progressive industries, Iowa, and you may have some of the largest green-energy production in this country, and the most literate and best-educated population as well, but (wait) progressive industry? High literacy rates? Highly educated population? Iowa hasn't gone gay, Iowa's come out of the closet!

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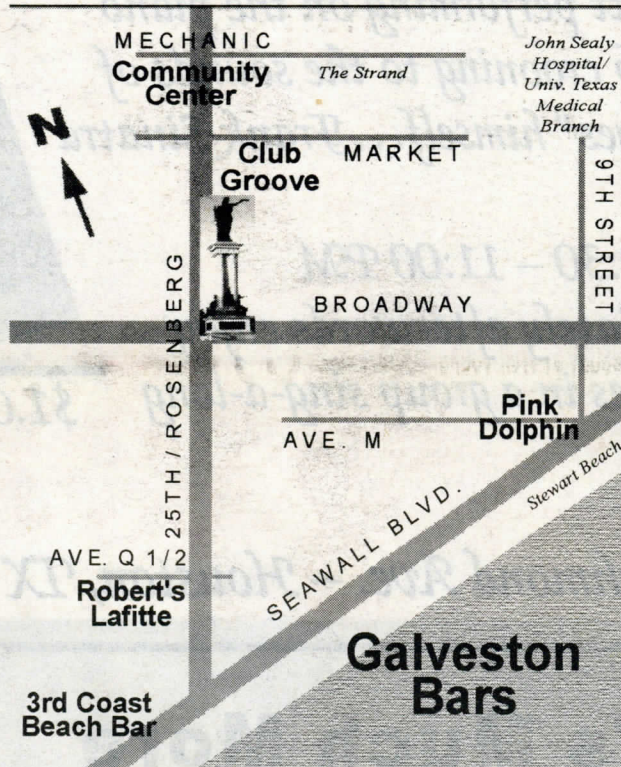
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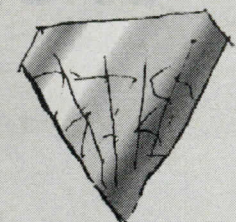
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Sun. 10am-2am
Patio
Open Every Day



Montrose

611 Hyde Park Pub
611 Hyde Park, 713-526-7070. Customers are a wide mix of all types. Open 7am (noon Sun.). One of the more popular bars for happy hour and into the night
Bartini 1318 Westheimer, 713-526-2271. Lots of soul. Shows. Dancing nightly. Open 10pm
Blur 710 Pacific, 713-713-529-3447. Nightly dance bar, Sunday Tea Dance, closed Mon. & Tues.

Brazos River Bottom (BRB) 2400 Brazos, 713-528-9192. Cowboys are here. Open every day noon-2am. Dancing at night. Various Sunday shows. \$2.50 drinks all day, all night Fridays
Bocados 1312 W. Alabama, 713-523-5230. Ladies nights on Wednesdays
Chances/G--
Spot/New Barn 1100 Westheimer, 713-523-7217. Mega women's club
Club 1415 1415 California, 713-522-7066. Open for theme parties some nights.
Cousins 817 Fairview, 713-528-9204. All types of customers, from the retired to the young, some rough. Drag shows Thurs.-Sun. Open 11am (noon Sun.)

Crocker 2312 Crocker, 713-523-0026. Wii game, newest neighborhood watering hole. Open 11am-2am

Decades 1205 Richmond Ave., 713-521-2224. A neighborhood bar. Open 11am (noon Sun.). Pool tables, darts, a great jukebox
E/J's 2517 Ralph, 713-527-9071. Open 7am (10am Sun. with breakfast). Male strippers most nights. Frequent shows and benefits

George 617 Fairview, 713-528-8102. Your "Neighborhood Sports Bar." Open 7am (10am Sun.). Constant crowd morning, afternoon, night

Guava Lamp 570

4pm. Happy hour 4-8pm, piano playing sometimes, DJ other times

J.R.'s/Santa Fe 808 Pacific, 713-521-2519. Always a crowd. All types of people but generally younger. Open mid-day to 2am

Mary's 1022 Westheimer, 713-527-9669. The oldest gay bar in Texas, open 7am (10am Sun.). Occasional shows and community events

Meteor 2306 Genesee at Fairview. Upscale crowd, open 1pm

Michael's Outpost 1419 Richmond Ave., 713-520-8446. Piano players some nights. Open 3pm (11am Sat., noon Sun.)

Montrose Mining Co. 805 Pacific, 713-529-7488. A butch bar. Lots of cruising. Crowd, mostly men, is of all ages. Draft beer on the patio

Ripcord 715 Fairview, 713-521-2792.

Houston's leather bar, open 1pm daily. Man-hunting crowds at night. After hours weekends

South Beach 810 Pacific, 713-521-9123. Major dance club. Get there early to get ahead of the line. Open Wed.-Sun. with after-hours weekends

Tony's Corner Pocket 817 W. Dallas, 713-571-7870. Pool and other games, open noon daily. Frequent shows & benefits

Other Inner Loop In-N-Out 1537 N. Shepherd, 713-589-9780. "MetroSocial" open daily 11am with lunch

Galveston

3rd Coast Beach Bar 3102 Seawall Blvd., (409) 765-6911. Overlooking the Gulf.

Club Groove 2409 Market, (409) 789-9134. Dance club with different themes different nights

Pink Dolphin 904 Ave. M at Stewart Beach, (409) 621-1808. Patio overlooks the Gulf. Open 10am to 2am. Frequent drag shows

Robert's Lafitte 2501 Ave. Q, (409) 765-9092.

A down-to-earth bar open 7am (10am Sun.). All ages of people. Drag shows Sat. & Sun. nights. Swimming pool

Other Areas

Southwest Houston

La Academia 5829 S. Gessner, 713-334-5422, dance club
Club 69 6121 Hillcroft, 832-891-2241, Latino.
Club Big Yo 6305 Skyline, 713-953-0268. Women's club open Thurs.-Sun.
Crystal U.S. 59 at Hillcroft, 713-278-2582. Drag shows Wed. & Thurs., dancing Fri. & Sat. Latin

North Houston & Spring

Amazonia 11449 I-45 at Aldine Bender, N. Houston, 281-260-9885, 832-244-4354. Latin-flavored dance club with male strippers, impersonators
Ranch Hill Saloon 247041-45N #103, 281-298-9035

Northeast Houston

Viviana's 4624 Dacoma, 713-681-4104. Frequent impersonation shows
Whispers 226 First St. E., Humble, 281-359-2900. DJ on Fri. & Sat., Burgers Sun.
La Raza 3869 Mangum Rd., 713-680-8911 Open 5pm-5am Wed.-Sun. Shows & strippers

Beaumont

Copa 304 Orleans, (409) 832-4206. Dancing and shows
Bryan/College Station Halo Video Bar 121 N. Main, Bryan, (979) 260-2437

Revolution Cafe & Bar 211B. S. Main. Bryan, (979) 823-4044, "gay-friendly," live music nightly
Webster

Club Eve & Club Adam 522 NASA Rd. One, 281-554-EDEN or 281-557-0434. Two clubs in one, one for women, one for men

Private Houston Clubs

Club Houston 2200 Fannin, 713-659-4998. Open 24 hours. Gym, pool, whirlpool, sauna. Private rooms and lockers
Midtowne Spa 3100 Fannin, 713-522-2379. Open 24 hours. Gym, pool, whirlpool, sauna. Private rooms and lockers

Tony's Corner Pocket Presents



Mr. & Miss Tony's Corner Pocket 2009

Presentation Theme Is:
Angel & Demon
Portray Good or Bad

Sunday April 26th
8:00 PM

Presentation-Good or Bad
White or Black Costume
Talent (10 Minutes Max)
Formal/Evening Wear
Question & Answer

Entry Application Available
From Bartender
or online at:

www.tonyscornerpocketbar.com/Mr_Miss_TCP.php

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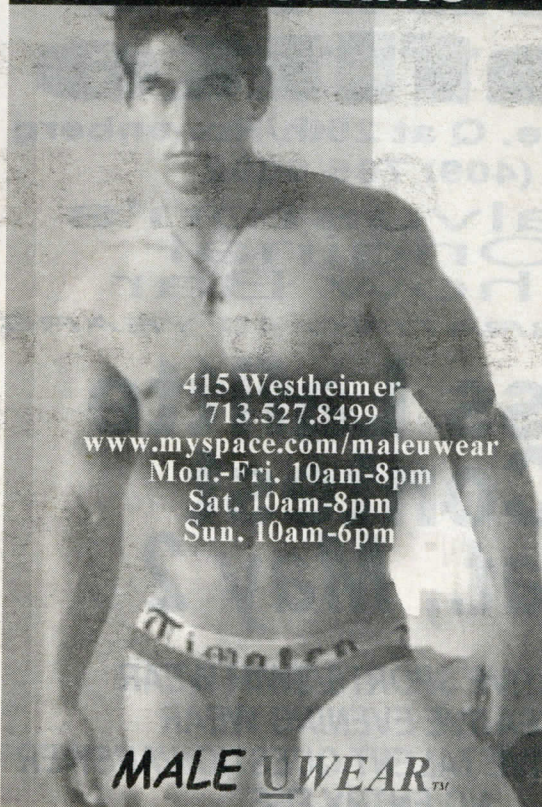
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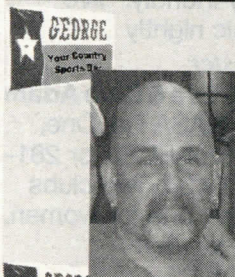
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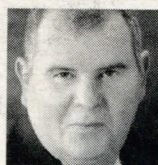
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**TS The Social
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The POZ Social has been renamed to The Social.
For more information on location, date, and time
please send email to PozSocialHouston@gmail.com.
The Social welcomes all GAY POZ Men & Friends.
We meet the 3rd Thursday of each month.

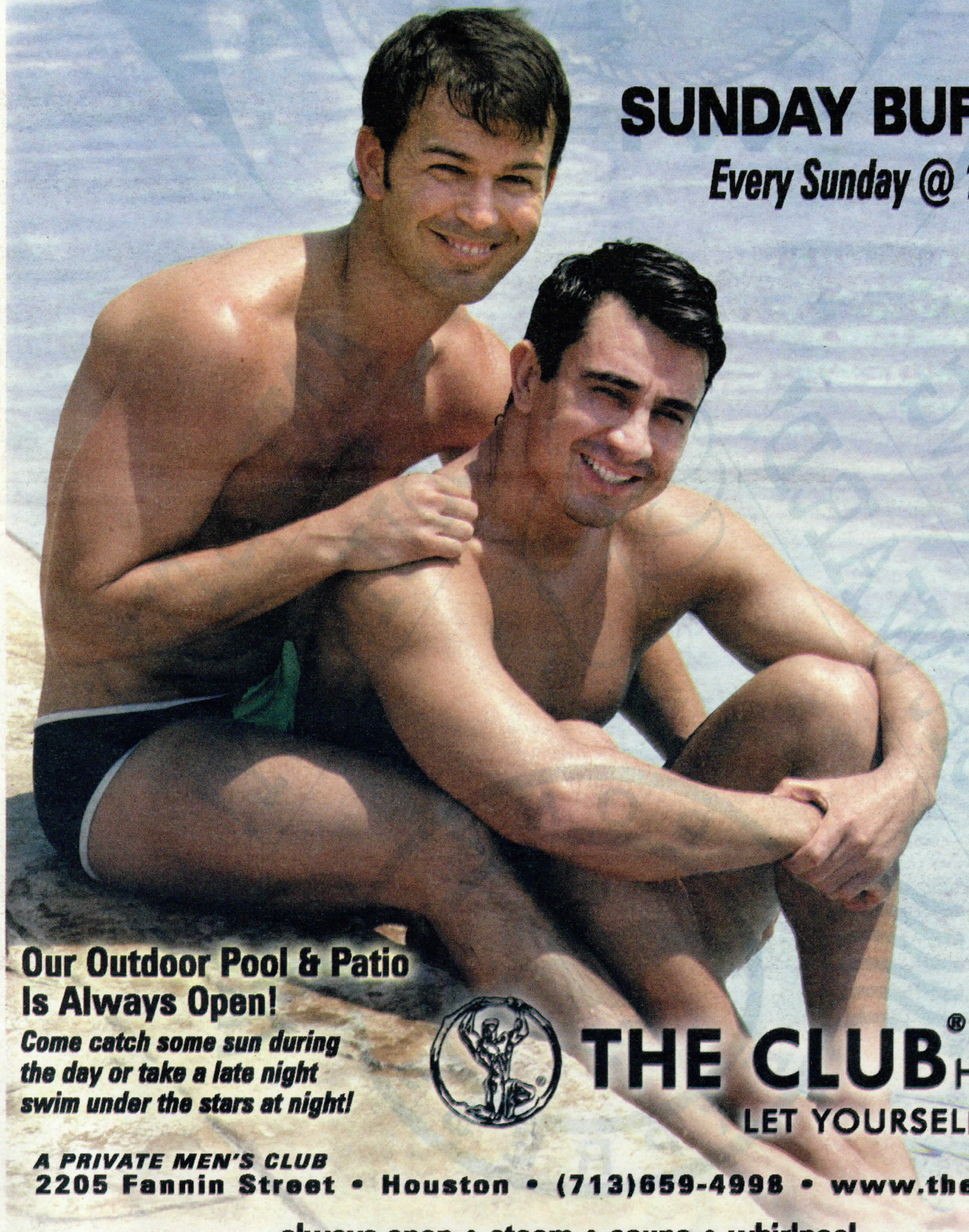
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