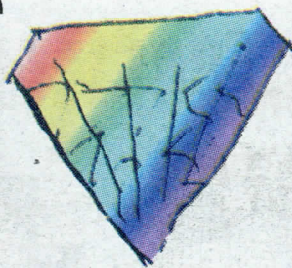


montrose GEM



**MAPS TO ALL
HOUSTON &
GALVESTON
GAY BARS!**

The Newspaper of Montrose Issue # **53** December 15, 2006 713-529-2325 MontroseGEM @ Yahoo.com



Shrimp & Crawfish at the Ripcord, The Crew at Tony's, Ma Gill at BRB

Amore's Italian Restaurant

MASON PLACE SHOPPING CENTER

430 S. Mason Rd., Katy • 281-392-2001

WWW.AMORESITALIAN.COM

CITY OF
KATY



Amore's is proud to present to you the recipes of the Macaluso and Giordano Family.

Nick Macaluso came to this country from Ribera Sicily in 1909 and settled in Galveston.

There he married Pauline Giordano and fathered 4 children: Anthony, Joseph, Jerome, and my mother Margaret.

Mama is the one that passed to me the family recipes that we now serve at Amore's.

It makes me very proud to present to you many of the specialties that I grew up with.

I think that grandpa Nick would be proud and, as all good Italian women, Grandma would be disappointed if anyone left the table hungry.



Sagittarius is Being Sought by a Pisces

HOROSCOPES by HELGA

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Let's all be happy. Be diplomatic but state the obvious truths to experience great pleasure. And this is a good time to make that phone call. You will not care what others think.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): And there's a rose in your immediate future. Don't be shy. Take a whiff. You are a little old-fashioned and this is what you need, along with a time of understanding.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21): By all means provide the pleasure and see the character beyond the grin. You will take the stage and bring others together with ideas and desires. And Helga sees several holiday party invitations heading your way.

CANCER (June 22-July 22): There's a tall person ... a Leo ... willing to "dance" with you. And you will be able to find the time. Look for dark and cozy places for Christmas.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): A friendly ghost, or Father Time, is on alert for a Leo. Pay attention or they can slip by without notice. Then take a hand in arranging for a Pisces to encounter the both of you. Get closer to your nature and Mother Nature.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Pick something with a spark to it for a gift to that someone. The world of Santa powers pulls on your trip through December. You are everywhere and with everyone! This is good. You remember it in your dreams at night.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23): You understand being on top is fun but you understand that listening and following others often gets you more of what you want. More pleasures await the next time. Be vague about the holiday issues in the forefront.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21): Hug your nearest Santa. Or an elf. There's a mystery about to present itself. When you feel you have it figured out, take a trip on a sleigh wagon.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your Christmas partner may be a Pisces. Be on the watch, and thankful, that another is on the prowl for a Sagittarian. That's Helga's advice.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): What would you like for Christmas? A juicy red apple? How about an apple carried by a juicy stud muffin? Don't wait around for an invitation. Also, think of your security. Then later, a short day trip may be in the offing.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You will have a magical time this magical season. You will not want to miss it. You have a co-worker who will add a bit of funny excitement in the next few days, Helga senses. Be strong and brave for the time being.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Satisfaction is your key word. Ah, the big moment is coming. It will be healthy and hot. Some mystery will be presented and you will have to figure out the clues. And you will.

Helga's lottery results from last issue: Justonenum, nomoney. Cumulative Down \$102. Here are Helga's picks for Dec. 15 and 16, 2006. Mega Millions Friday: 11, 40, 17, 26, 44. Mega Ball: 17. Megaplier? Yes. And for Lotto Texas Saturday: 12, 16, 47, 41, 19, 11.

#611

611 HYDE PARK at STANFORD

713-526-7070

Your Neighborhood Bar

The Breakfast Club

MONDAY-SATURDAY 7AM-1PM



with PAPA DEL

\$1.50



and ALAN

DOMESTIC BEER, WELL DRINKS,
MIMOSAS! & IRISH COFFEE!

Friendly Staff!

(And They Think They're Pretty Too)



LARRY



NICK



SHAUN



GILBERT



BRIAN



JAKE

Home of
The Nomads
AND
The 611 Cruisers

SUNDAYS!

\$1 Brunch at Noon
\$1 Vodka Special Noon-2am

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

MON-DEC-18TH
**FOOD, DRINK
SPECIALS & PRESENTS**

AND A VISIT FROM

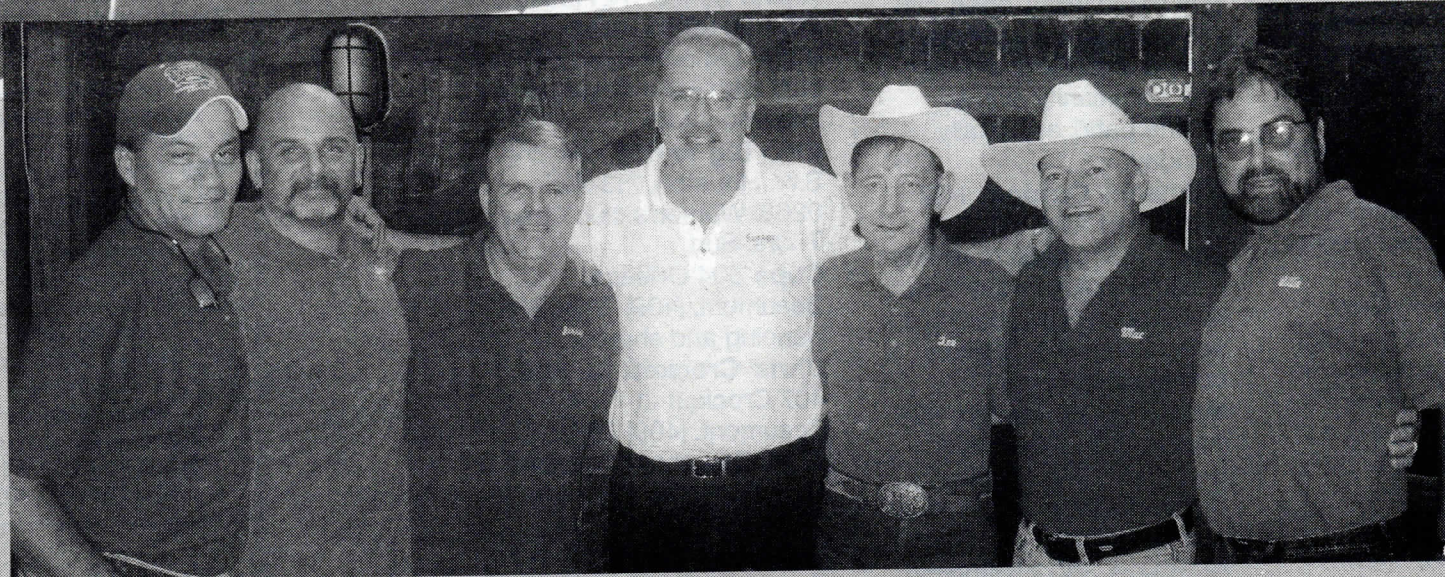
Santa



6 TO 11 PM



617 Fairview, Houston
 713-528-8102
 Open Daily 7am (noon Sundays) to 2am
\$1 Vodka All Day, All Night Sundays



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 the Men of The George**



**Peace on
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If E-mailing as a JPEG, send a copy that is condensed as "high," (7-10) quality, or better yet, send a TIFF file, made from the original art work (not from an already-compressed JPEG file).

TIFF file may be compressed using LZW protocol, which is "non-lossy" and allows for a clear and exact reproduction. Please avoid PDF and DOC files until we upgrade our Photoshop. (Sometimes we can read PDF's and DOC's, sometime not.)

We Want You to Look Your Best!

MontroseClubs

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 on Thursdays & Sundays. Dancing nightly. Open 10pm

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. The New Barn is open as this women's club repairs itself from the fire.

Club 1415 1415 California, 713-522-7066. Open for theme parties some nights. "The Dyke Show" Saturdays with Nancy Ford

Club Eve 2209 Richmond, 713-545-4574. Women's bar Thurs.-Sat. above Azteca restaurant

Cousins 817 Fairview, 713-528-9204. All types of customers, from the retired to the young. Drag shows Thurs.-Sun. Open 11am (noon Sun.)

George 617 Fairview, 713-528-8102. Your "Neighborhood Sports Bar." Open 7am (noon Sun.) with large morning crowd

La Cueva Tequila Lounge 2312 Crocker. Hispanic club specializing in tequila, of course

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

Griff's 3417 Roseland, 713-528-9912. Not a gay bar. Irish bar and a neighborhood institution

Guava Lamp 570 Waugh Dr., 713-524-3359. Open daily 4pm. Happy hour 4-8pm, piano playing sometimes, DJ other times

Helios Formerly the Mausoleum, 411 Westheimer, 713-526-4648. Eclectic customers, Slightly gay. House was the home of Howard Hughes as a toddler. Open nightly, every night

has a different crowd and atmosphere

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

Blur 710 Pacific, 713-713-529-3447. Nightly dance bar, Sunday Tea Dance, closed Mon. & Tues.

Lola's 2327 Grant, 713-528-8342. Not a gay bar but a Montrose neighborhood institution

Mary's 1022 Westheimer, 713-527-9669. The oldest gay bar in Texas, open 7am (10am Sun.) Good happy hour crowd. Frequent shows and community events on the patio, especially Sundays

Michael's Outpost 1419 Richmond Ave., 713-520-8446. Piano players nightly Tues.-Sat. plus Friday happy hour. Open 3pm (11am Sat., noon Sun.) Host of many community events

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

Numbers 300 Westheimer, 713-526-6551. (Not a gay bar.) Hosts occasional gay events

Prive' 910 Westheimer, 713-522-2542. Slightly gay sometimes. Great music, good viewing of Montrose & Westheimer from the rooftop patio

Rich's 2401 San Jacinto, 713-759-9606. Dance club gay on Fri. & Sat., sometimes other times. After-hours weekends

Ripcord 715 Fairview, 713-521-2792. Houston's leather bar, open 1pm daily. Man-hunting crowds at night. After hours weekends

Slider's 1424-B Westheimer, 713-528-2788. Not a gay bar. Great daiquiris

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. "How ya doin'?"

Galveston Clubs

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

Kon Tiki 315 Tremont, (409) 765-5805. Open mid-day to 2am. Dance club. Frequent shows

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

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

Undercurrent 2409 Market, (409) 750-8571. Open 2pm. Two dance floors, shows and strippers weekends

Outlying Clubs

within 100 miles

La Academia 5829 S. Gessner, 713-334-5422, dance club

Amazonia 11449 I-45 at Aldine Bender, N. Houston, 281-260-9885, 832-244-4354. Latin-flavored dance club with male strippers, impersonators

Club Big Yo 6305 Skyline, S.W. Houston, 713-953-0268. Women's club open Thurs.-Sun.

Copa 304 Orleans, Beaumont, (409) 832-4206. Dancing and shows

Chris' Crockett St. Pub 407 Crockett at Park, Beaumont, (409) 835-4243. Beaumont's general neighborhood, city-wide gay watering hole

Halo Video Bar 121 N. Main, Bryan, (979) 260-2437

House of Finesse 2912 Wentworth, near T.S.U. campus, 713-522-6074. Only open for special events

In-N-Out 1537 N. Shepherd, 713-589-9780. "MetroSocial" open daily 4pm

Inergy/Mango Lounge/Amnesia 5750 Chimney Rock, S.W. Houston, 713-660-7310. Latin-flavored dance club, Sunday impersonation shows

Mona Lisa 6101 Wilcrest at Harwin. Diamond Cut Sisters Thursdays

Ranch Hill Saloon 24704 I-45 N., #103, Spring, (936) 441-6426. Open 4pm Mon.-Thurs., 6pm Fri.-Sat., closed Sun.

Rainbow Room 527 Barren Springs, N. Houston, 281-872-0215. Neighborhood bar opens daily at noon, up past Bush airport

Toyz 5322 Glenmont, 713-632-2544, 281-451-2094. Open Tuesdays (shows and dancing) and Fridays ("girls night")

Viviana's 4624 Dacoma, 713-681-4104. Frequent impersonation shows

Private 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

montrose GEM

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Gay News & Bar Talk

By Henry

A Christmas Message

Be thankful, wherever you are in your life now. This is a journey we each are on and we each have passed through a long path so far, whether 18 or 81. You will not travel on those sections of the road of life ever again but you will always have the knowledge of everywhere you have been.

There are others around you here and around the world who know not of the memories you possess and that of which is on the horizon.

You will continue on this road to new stops along the way. Life is good and we wish you peace in your heart and peace on Earth.

Yet Another Issue

J.P. and Trish will be having a benefit for Trish's 13-year-old granddaughter, Donna Jean "D.J." Calvert. There will be food and a show at the Kon Tiki. Call the bar for the date.

Welcome to the 53rd edition of your favorite gay bar magazine. Oops. I mean newspaper. I have a whole lot of reading for you this issue. And there will be a quiz on all of it later.

Most of the information in Your GEM is 100% divine and godly inspired. Praise to the Great Female in the Sky. But some items here are of 100% bovine substance. Praise to the Great Male of the Underworld, the Bottom to All That There Is.

It's your job (if you choose to accept) to figure out here what is correct and what is not. Naturally, priorities (true and false) are bestowed upon GEM advertisers.

Did you hear about this guy who walked into the bar ... wait! We must interrupt here for some special announcements.

Christmas in Montrose

The Ripcord had their big customer appreciation shrimp-crawfish-etc. party earlier this month. There's a photo or two elsewhere this issue to prove it! You should of been there. (Oh, you were.)

Both The 611 and Michael's Outpost will be having theirs Monday, Dec. 18, which corresponds to birthdays for Tommy Sue of the BRB, Stephen Spielberg and Brad Pitt of Hollywood (the town, not the local restaurant), and someone else infamous and involved in writing this column.

Santa will be at "The Six" that Monday, 6:00 to 11:00 p.m., passing out presents (and then perhaps simply passing out) to the good boys and girls. He will supervise the drink specials and the food.

The party at The Outpost starts at 8:00 p.m. with goodies and irreverent drink specials.

Now, each club, The 611 and The Outpost, has its own set of regulars and irregulars who will all be in mandatory attendance. But *you*, a reader of The GEM, get to attend each. Just say the magic password, supercalfraglistic. Or just say "Party buns are here." That will get their attention.

The Outpost is open with its new outside wall. (The club briefly had a drive-through bar after a certain customer decided to use his car as a remodeling instrument. But that was eons ago, now.)

On The Island, put on your best Peter Graves tangerine lip gloss and partake of the Christmas feasts on Monday, Christmas Day, beginning at noon at Robert's LaFitte and at 5:00 p.m. at the Pink Dolphin.

You now have two choices for 24-hour sit-down dining in or near The Hood. Of course, there's West Gray Cafe. And now the 59 Diner, Greenbriar at the freeway, is open 24 hours. Drop by for an after-the-bars breakfast.

Squeezer or Plopper

In the above headline, I'm talking about your bartender not your boyfriend. Does your bartender squeeze your lime before adding it to your refreshing beverage or does he just plop it in? Each has an advantage.

Squeezing the lime by the bartender gets the flavor blended right in from the start. But with a plopper, you get to squeeze it yourself, to your own taste.

Also, with a plopper, at the end you could have a big juicy piece of lime to suck on. This is my favorite method. It puckers me up.

Back to the Bar Story

Did you hear about this guy who walked into the bar on a dark and stormy night? Wait ... this just in.

Dr. Dave of The Island has published his "Campy Cookbook" of savory soups and awesome appetizers. It's on sale, ten bucks, at the Galveston gay bars and several Houston gay clubs. Proceeds

are going to Mel's Kids. (Mel doesn't like that title. She prefers the Sleep Tight Fund. But Mel's Kids it is, as it is now too ingrained in our collective consciousnesses.)

Brian and I will cook up some pots of several of the doctor's soups and have a little buffet at a few of Houston's finest watering holes. You can sample the mixtures and give your opinions for a future review in The GEM.

Actually, we'll shanghai someone who knows what they're doing to make the soups. It will be advertised in the next issue of Your Gay Newspaper. And the book will be on sale, of course.

Back to the Bar Story

Did you hear about this guy who walked into this bar. He was beside himself. But wait. This just in.

It's another exciting episode of "Better Food By Henry." Pay attention. A valuable tip is about to follow.

You remember, it was here on this page that I informed you, dear reader, that a typical frozen food dinner, when added to your normal food intake, has enough salt in it for your daily nutritional needs for three days. Just that one dinner. Even those that advertise themselves as "healthy" and even those have that word in their brand name, add enough sodium to your normal diet for several people.

And Hungry Man products have more salt in them than a cow lick on a cold, rainy East Texas manure-covered pasture. (Was that a little too graphic?)

Well, guess what. I bought some beef jerky at Kroger, even though I figured it was bad for me. But I just wanted it. I had the craving.

Reading the ingredients later, I found that it had about 13 grams of protein per suggested serving. That's the exact same as Boost. And the jerky has a good bit of iron and small amounts of a few vitamins.

Fat? Hardly any. Ahh, you say, but it is loaded with sodium. Well, not more than just about anything else prepared you can buy, including many of your "healthy" frozen dinners.

A serving of beef jerky has about six grams of salt. 23% of your "daily value," as they now call it.

So, what is really bad for you in it? Surely something. Yes Shirley. You need *teeth* to eat it.

Now, here's your advice from this column. I, myself, have placed myself on a high protein diet to gain weight. So I started drinking Boost and the equivalent store brands which advertise "high protein" and "Helps You Gain Weight." That stuff is about a dollar a can (on sale). With the same amount of protein and nearly zilch fat, a serving of beef jerky is so-much-more enjoyable.

What did people do before the FDA forced food producers to put the ingredients on the containers? They ate bags of salt and fat and lived to the ripe old age of 42.

One More Food Thought

I bought a Granny Smith apple from Kroger. It had no seeds! It did have a trace of a core, but that was fully edible. Are they making seedless apples now? Were these grown somewhere near a nuclear power plant?

It tasted just fine, contrary to seedless watermelons and seedless oranges, which are just not as good as the fruit that nature intended, don't you think?

Back to the Bar Story

Did you hear about this guy who walked into the bar? He sat down on a barstool, and ... Wait. This just in.

This is the politics part with Henry's rants. Skip it if you like. I won't blame you.

Senator-elect Jim Webb was asked by the Prez as to how his boy was doing in Iraq. Webb responded, "Well, he could very well be dodging bullets right now. He might even be dead. And how are your military-age Twins doing on their vacation in Argentina? Drunk yet?"

That's not exactly the way it went down, but it should have, I think.

Here's how it happened. Bush was told in advance that Webb's son was just the object of a near-miss in Iraq. So it was proper for him to ask Webb, at a White House reception for incoming lawmakers, about his son.

He did and Webb responded, a little brusque but it was his son. He said the President should bring the troops home. So far, so good, but this is where "conservatives" parted company from everyone else as they continued engaging in Rovan politics as though the election never happened. (They imagine indignities and then proceed to pretend they're all outraged.)

The conservatives (who cannot describe what a conservative is except to say it has something

to do with building a fence along the Mexican border) say Webb was disrespectful right there by bringing up the whole war instead of just the health of Webb's son.

That's a valid argument for the Righties.

But Bush responded by putting on his crown and doing a "Do You Know Who I Am?"

That's where the non-conservatives say Bush stepped over the line lacking good manners and going on his own rather than listening to his handlers.

"So, how's your mother doing at (the publicly-funded) Ben Taub?"

"They need more of the equipment and one-on-one care that Park Plaza has."

"That's not what I asked!. Do You Know Who I Am?"

The 8-Liners

Remind me next issue to give you a free lesson in playing the 8-liners. But in the meantime, remember: The house always wins.

Having said that, I'd like to point out that I've turned in a wad of tickets recently and will be getting myself a new computer.

I want to then get a high-speed connection so I can watch C-SPAN and C-SPAN2 gavel-to-gavel of the new Dem-controlled House and Senate.

You say, "You get that on cable now."

I say, "I owe Time-Warner \$300+ and they won't reconnect me until I take care of it."

You say, "Just pay the money-Henry and get your cable back."

I say, "Well, there will be a deposit. And I'll have to provide cable to all the rooms here at The Inn. And that's going to probably cost over \$200 a month. And I'll probably just get behind again and they'll cut me off."

It's a vicious, expensive circle.

Plus, AT&T's high-speed on your phone line will be sending "cable" shows in selected neighborhoods in Houston soon. (They were supposed to start back in September, but didn't.) They already do this in San Antonio. (I love to use parentheses.) (I use a lot of them.) (It makes me feel good.)

Since we're talking about AT&T here, I want to pass on what I just read in one of my AARP periodicals. There are still little old ladies (and little old gentlemen, perhaps 100,000 of them) who lease their home phone for about \$10 a month. Some of them are going on near 50 years with this lease. This \$10 a month for 50 years is for a phone they can buy at Radio Shack for \$19.95. But they know not better. The bill comes in. Momma pays it.

AT&T's logic on this is that they can upgrade their phone anytime without charge. But no one does, or even knows they can. That's left off your AT&T bill. There are people out there with princess phones. Even some are still leasing rotary phones.

As reported by AARP, if you call them up and cancel your lease, they will tell you to mail them the phone and to pay a lease cancellation fee.

AT&T is by far the biggest offender since they inherited all the leases when Ma Bell was broken up. AARP tells you to have your mother, or you or whoever, if they're still in this trap, to simply call and cancel the lease. Then toss the phone in the garbage.

And tell AT&T what you've done and that your mother has already paid many times over for an obsolete telephone. Make your own "exact" estimate here over how long Mom has been paying this. \$3000, \$4000? They don't know any more than you do.

Tell them you're not wasting the postage, nor any more of your time, and you're not paying any lease cancellation fee and (holler this next part as you are probably dealing with a nitwit), if they don't like it, they can sue your mother and prepare for a public relations nightmare.

By hollering, says AARP, it gets the issue taken out of the hands of the nitwits and onto someone's desk who may recognize this for the absurdness that it is.

(This hollering part does not work with bill collectors. Hollering just *encourages* these dregs of the planet. They seem to like it when you holler. Just hang up on them.)

Don't say I'm sorry to the bill collectors. Don't excuse yourself. Don't say anything! Just hang up! Every time you "talk" to a bill collector, they add a dozen marks next to your account as to how many more times they will call you before pushing you off to next year. Just hang up. No conversations. No goodbyes. No excuses. You are under no obligation to talk to a perfect stranger on the phone about your personal financial information. Think about it!

Back to the Bar Story

This fine looking young man walks into this bar and, but wait, we have more breaking news.

ICOH stages a breakfast at Mary's Sundays beginning at 10:00 a.m. Your chef is the renowned Pierre du Pierre, schooled in Paris and sloshed in New Orleans.

I asked Pierre du Pierre if I could just call him Pierre.

"But of course," he said in his finest Orleans accent.

"I see you create your entrees on the table, Japanese-style, right in front of the customers. Chop, chop."

"But yes, of course. And with great flair. I might add."

"How many times did it take you, slicing and dicing, to get the hang of it without cutting off a finger?"

"Exactly ten," Pierre responded.

(Get it? Ten? Don't let this one slip over your head.)

Coon-Ass Crawfish Now in Season

I've been waiting for this for six months. Just got back from the Rajin' Cajun (out Richmond, on the right just after the railroad tracks) and got a bucket of crawfish. A bucket is enough mud bugs for three-plus meals for me.

The size of this current crop of southern Louisiana critters is medium to large. I'm glad they let the little devils grow before harvesting. (Last year, Rita had severely inhibited the crop and they went to market too small.)

In the off season you can still get crawfish. They're frozen from wherever (South Asia?) they're shipped frozen. The fresh ones now in season are alive until you order your serving. Then into the boiling water and Louisiana spices they go.

So, do you eat the crawfish the next day, cold right out of the fridge? Yes. Just like fried chicken and pizza, cold crawfish for breakfast is delicious.

(GEM Warning: Health Tip from Dr. O. Booty. Even though the crawfish are cooked, they can still "bite" you when being peeled. Those tough outer shells can cause a painful cut, something of the level of a Class One paper cut.)

(Wear gloves to protect your delicate hands. Walgreens has a box of 60 pairs of disposable Latex gloves for \$9.99. They're Dr. Booty recommended.)

(Thank you. I now return you to Henry's column of useless information.)

After dining with the Louisiana boys, you can head back to the hood on Richmond and stop off at The O.P. (a.k.a. Michael's OutPost) and Eileen's House of Special Favors (a.k.a. Decades) for a few beverages to wash down your creatures of the mud fields.

Windy Season Coming

The experts that be in the field of hurricanes are predicting 14 named storms for the coming season. That's a lot. (These experts are at Colorado State University, for some strange reason.)

The season of Katrina and Rita was the most destructive hurricane season on record.

Well, if it looks like a big one is heading our way, what can you do? Find a gay bar with a generator and join the hurricane party. We'll worry about all of this when it gets here.

Last Minute Shopping

Don't wait until Saturday, Dec. 23. You won't even be able to get a parking space at the big stores. The Saturday before Christmas has now the honor of being the busiest shopping day of the year, passing Black Friday in November as American Society procrastinates more and more.

Ah, but here's a better idea! Avoid the malls and the super stores. Buy your gifts here in Montrose at places like Male-U-Wear and the shops along the Westheimer curve. You'll be able to park right out front and they have unique items for people like you and me that the big places do not.

Jimmy James at E/J's

The legendary Jimmy James will be on stage at E/J's Saturday night, Dec. 30. One show only!

Back to the Bar Story

I think I can finish the story now. So this guy walks into this bar and plops himself down on a barstool. Then ... Wait, we have breaking news from Air Sky Eye Chopper GEM hovering over Montrose.

We'll have to put that on hold too as we are out of space. So I'll be giving you the good tips and a rant or two in our next issue.

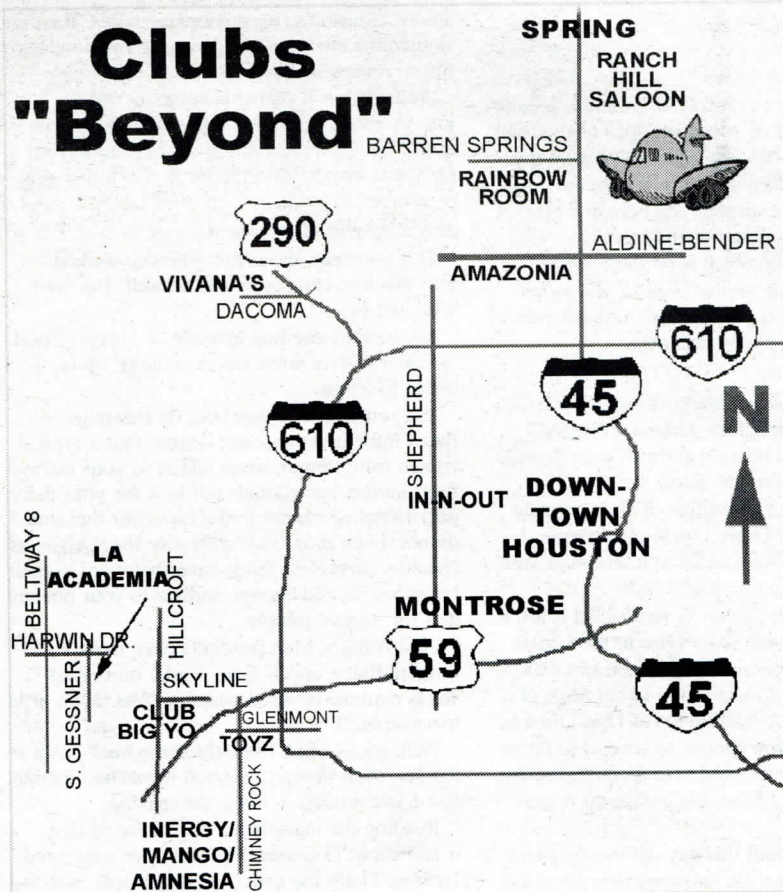
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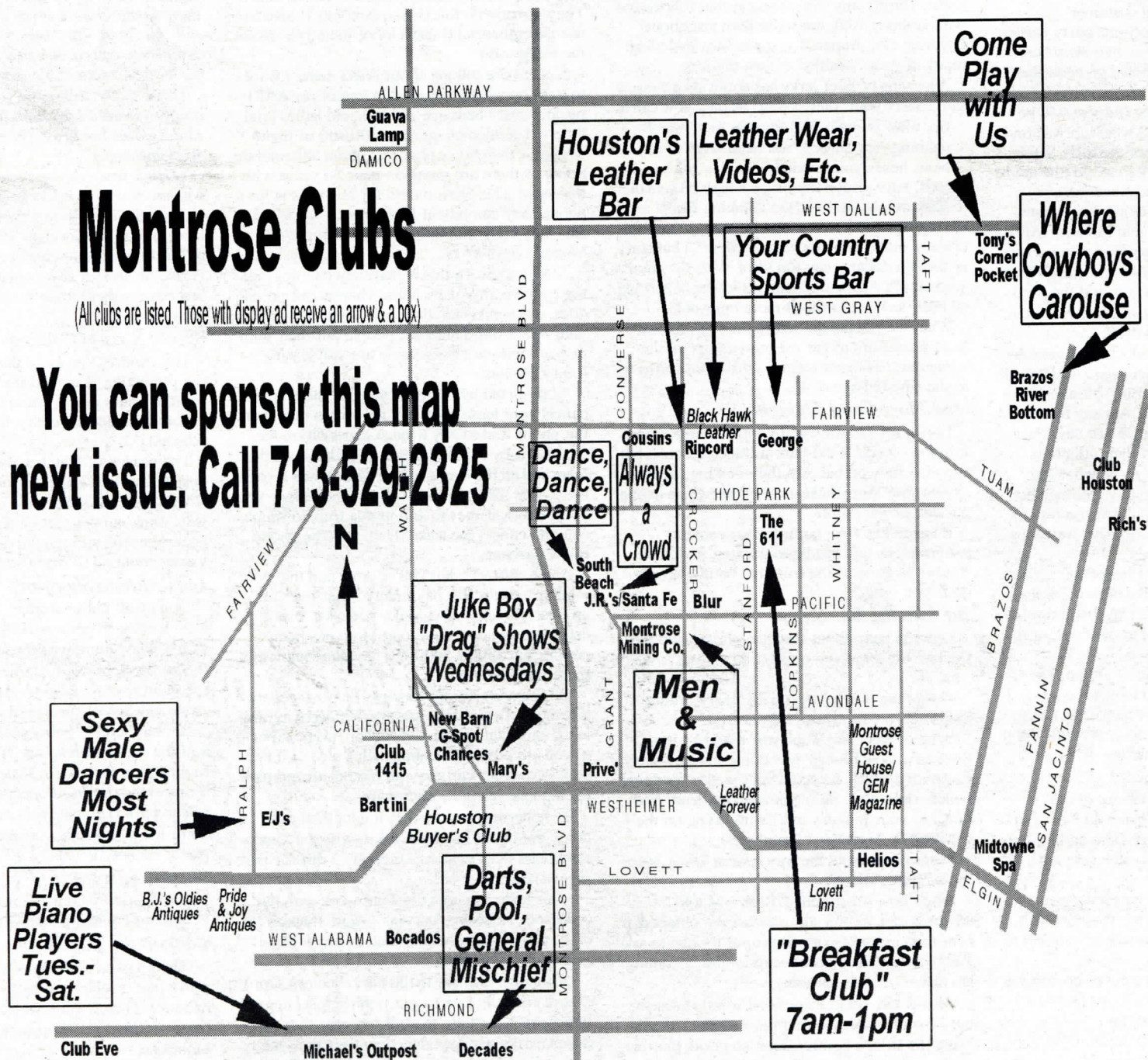
Clubs "Beyond"



Montrose Clubs

(All clubs are listed. Those with display ad receive an arrow & a box)

You can sponsor this map next issue. Call 713-529-2325



ONE PERFORMANCE! Saturday, December 30, 2006.

The One and Many Voices of

Jimmy James

Only at

EJ's

Nightly Specials at EJ's & Entertainment at EJ's

Monday, \$1.50 Vodka ALL DAY

Tuesday, \$2 Frozen Margaritas & Coronas

Wednesday, \$2 Domestic Beer & \$1 Schnapps

Thursday, \$2 Well Drinks

Friday & Saturday \$3 Long Island Teas

Sunday, \$2 Well Drinks & \$1 Schnapps

Monday, BOYS, Dance Contest

Tuesday, BOYS, TUL Guys

Wednesday, BOYS, Dance Contest

Thursday, BOYS, TUL Guys

Friday, BOYS, Dance Contest

Saturday & Sunday, BOYS, TUL Guys

NO COVER except for Special Events 18 & Older OK

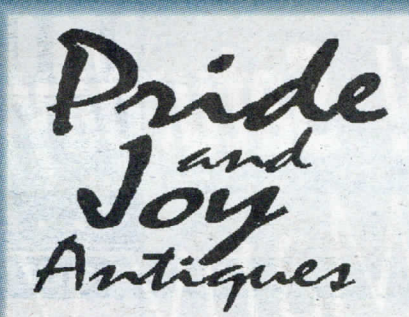
2517 Ralph Street, Houston, TX, 77006

713-527 9071

DVD Rentals 4.3.9
MON.-SAT. NOON-8PM, SUN. 2-7PM
711 FAIRVIEW
713-LEATHER **BLACK HAWK LEATHER**



Pride and Joy Antiques
 1727 Westheimer 713-522-8435



Free Ads

20 words or less, free IF ad is Emailed to montrosegem@yahoo.com or mailed or dropped off (but NOT phoned in) at 408 Avondale, Houston, TX 77006. (One-inch display ads available at \$19. Call 713-529-2325)

TEXAS VIDEO NETWORK We are beta testing. Check it out and upload your homemade videos for posting. www.TelevisionOne.net

NO LAW CAN be sacred to me but that of my nature ... Ralph Waldo Emerson, 19th century American author

M2M FULL BODY massage. Montrose location. Outcalls welcome. Clean, nice studio. 7 days/eve. Roland 713-942-2399. Visa/MC

MOVING SERVICE Low cost, gay owned, homes/apts./offices. Rainbow Moving. Jack Sheeks 713-942-2507

DECORATE! window treatments, shades, blinds, pillows, bedspreads. 50% off sale. Jimmy, JCPenneys, free in-home consultation, 281-974-1906

ADVERTISING HELP NEEDED Gay & Lesbian Yellow Pages seeking enthusiastic sales person. Good compensation for serious sales workers. Laura Villagran, 713-875-9088

ACTION TO BE effective must be directed to clearly conceived ends ... Jawaharlal Nehru, 20th century Indian nationalist leader

RADICOMICS Cartooning and graphic design: logos, business cards, illustrations. Email darryllathan@hotmail.com. 713-376-9193

SPEAK CLEARLY, IF you speak at all; carve every word before you let it fall ... Oliver Wendell Holmes, 19th-20th century American jurist

HELP WANTED Art student proficient in Adobe Illustrator II for project in evenings. Call Don after 7pm, 713-863-0313

IF A MAN be gracious and courteous to strangers, it shows he is a citizen of the world ... Francis Bacon, 15th-16th century English philosopher, essayist

PLUMERIA and other exotic tropicals for sale in Galveston. 832-628-6722

GEORGE IN THE MORNINGS with Ms. Jones, 7am-noon Thurs.-Fri.-Sat. \$1.50 well & beer

ONE DOLLAR VODKA all day, all night Sundays at The 611. \$1 brunch noon-2pm

CAREGIVER available any hours, rates are negotiable. Call Brian 832-767-6109

HAVE FUN Serve others, gain exposure. Seeking volunteer massage therapist (R.M.T.) for LVL-PWA Campout Sept. 22-24. Master Steve, 832-474-8845 or mstrstevenlloyd@yahoo.com

DESPERATELY SEEKING SUZY? Find her Thurs. 7am-1pm & Fri. 1pm-8pm at Mary's, Naturally. And at Michael's Outpost Sat. & Sun. afternoons

BOB at Pink Dolphin Galveston, Sun.-Mon.-Tues. days

PLOWBOY AT PINK DOLPHIN Galveston, Mon. & Wed. 6pm-2am

HANDYMAN No job too small. List 5 home projects you hate to even think about. Now call Ken & Obama 713-922-5626

WE COME TO reason, not to dominate. We do not seek to have our way, but to find a common way ... Lyndon Baines Johnson, 36th U.S. president, following Kennedy

PAW PAW PET Sitting Service for your convenience and your pet's complete needs. Please call RENE at 713-682-6844

ALAN AT 611 Come see me Fri. & Sat. mornings 7am-1pm at The 611

EVERYTHING COMES TO him who hustles while he waits ... Thomas A Edison, American inventor

STIFFIES with Papa Del at The 611 Club, Mon.-Thurs. 7am-1pm, \$1.50 well & domestic longnecks

HELP WANTED Tony's (formerly Keys West) now accepting applications. Apply in person afternoons 817 W. Dallas

SUMMIT HOUSE HOUSTON Bodywork groups and classes, leather groups and classes, Reiki, Tarot and more! Near Keys West. www.sumhou.com

FREE SNACKS at The 611 Tues., Wed. & Thurs. with Gilbert, Nacho Man. And Fabulous drinks!!!

HOUSE CLEANER personal assistant available in Montrose or surrounding area. Reasonable rates. Contact Tom at TJM719 @ SBCGlobal.Net or 281-813-2699

I NEVER THINK of the future. It comes soon enough ... Albert Einstein, German-born American theoretical physicist

MEN'S AA GROUP meets 7pm Sundays, 2515 Waugh (rear parking lot entrance)

LOYAL AND EFFICIENT work in a great cause, even though it may not be immediately recognized, ultimately bears fruit ... Jawaharlal Nehru, 20th century Indian nationalist leader

PRIDE & JOY Stop and see Don & Dan for a great deal on cool bars & vintage furniture, 1727 Westheimer

**Would YOU ingest
 drain cleaner
 and
 antifreeze?**



If you use crystal meth you already do, along with hydrochloric acid, battery fluid and lead acetate. Meth: your biological weapon of self-destruction!

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Call 713-830-3070 or visit

www.legacycommunityhealth.org



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Get Your Image of the Past



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Houston
713-520-8446



Michael's OUTPOST

**Annual Christmas &
Customer Appreciation Party**
MONDAY, DEC. 18, 8PM

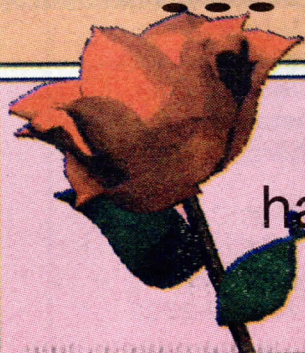
Then Come Back for a Real Good Time!
New Year's Eve Celebration
SUNDAY, DEC. 30



The National Bar
of Texas
1022 Westheimer
713-527-9669

... Naturally

**Come Help Us
Bring in 2007
The Mary's Way
... Naturally**



Guenther Floral Gaitz

has all your Holiday Floral Needs covered.
Call us at 713-523-2828

Community Outreach Prevention Services

Free HIV and Syphilis Testing

Results in 20 Minutes and Lots of Incentives!
713-830-3070

1415 Bar & Grill

1415 California
Thursday
8pm-Midn.
Carlos

Decades

1205 Richmond
Monday 6-10pm
Dennis

E/J's

2517 Ralph
Wednesday 10pm-lam
Friday 10pm-lam
Rhonda & Lourdes

611 Hyde
Park Pub
611 Hyde Park
Tuesday 4-8pm
Quincy

Inergy/Mango Lounge

5750 Chimney Rock
Monday 10pm-2am
Carlos

All Star News
& Video
Emporium
3415 Katy Fwy.
Monday 4-8pm
Thursday 4-8pm
Jack

Mary's, Naturally

1022 Westheimer
Wednesday 4-8pm
Jack

Brazos River Bottom

2400 Brazos
Thursday
8pm-Midn.
Lourdes

Midtowne Spa

3100 Fannin
Tuesday 10pm-lam
Carlos

Club Houston

2205 Fannin
Tuesday, 8pm-Midn.
Dennis

Wednesday 10pm-lam
Juan

Friday 10pm-lam
Quincy

Club Big Yo

9347 1/2 Richmond
Saturday 11pm-2am
Carlos

Ripcord

715 Fairview
Wednesday
9pm-Midn.
Jack

Cousins

817 Fairview
Thursday
8pm-Midn.
Jack

Viviana's

4624 Dacoma
Friday 10pm-lam
Carlos

Legacy

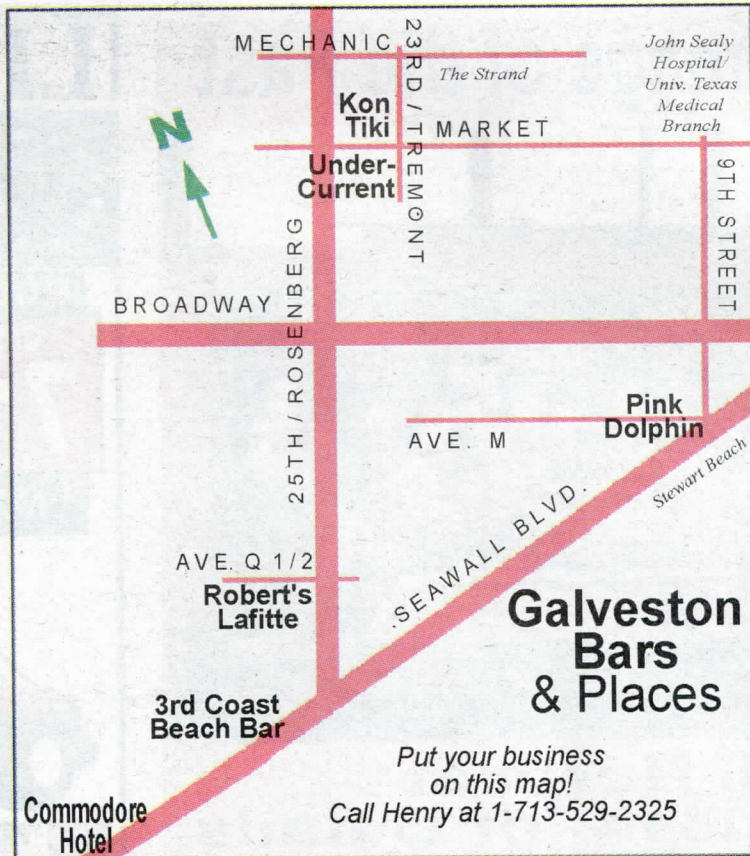
Community Health Services
formerly Montrose Clinic & TAF

215 Westheimer
713-830-3000

www.montrosecclinic.org
www.legacycommunityhealth.org



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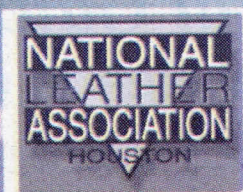


RIPCORD

Happy Holidays
 from Houston's
 Leather Community

Open Daily 1pm After-Hours Fri. & Sat.

715 Fairview 713-521-2792 www.theripcord.com



JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT GEM Newspaper & Montrose Inn (Guest House)

Montrose Inn
 JANITORIAL/MAID & LIGHT MAINTENANCE,
 Part-Time, \$10/Hour, about 10 Hours a Week
 Clean Rooms and Other Areas
 Flexible Hours, Mostly Weekends

GEM Newspaper
 Publisher Assistant, Consists of Routine Bookkeeping, Paperwork & Physical Distribution Help.
 \$10/Hour, about 30 Hours a Month.
 Driver's License Required.
 Can Be Combined with Above Cleaning Work.

GEM Newspaper
 Advertising Representative. Earn Generous Commission, Leads Provided. Car Required.

Montrose Inn
 1-Time Only
 Replace 1 Toilet, Clear Another, Install Security Cameras & Cables.

E.E.O.C. Compliant, Of Course.
 Henry McClurg
 713-529-2325

How to Place a Display Advertisement in the Next Montrose GEM:

Call 713-529-2325

OR

E-mail to montrosegem@yahoo.com

Tell Us What Kind of Business You Have and We Will Shock You With a Very Low Advertising Rate.

Thank You.

Holidays, Benefits & Other Occasions

Some dates are tentative. Email MontroseGem@yahoo.com with additions and corrections.

Sat., Dec. 16 GLBT Community Center Queer Bingo, Club 1415, 5:00 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 16 Misfits bartend on Ripcord patio

Wed., Dec. 20 Houston Council of Clubs meeting 8pm, Mary's

Fri., Dec. 22 First day of winter

Sat., Dec. 23

NLA monthly membership meeting, 7:30pm, then members bartend 9:30pm-1:30am, Ripcord patio

Mon., Dec. 25 Christmas

Fri., Dec. 29 Colt 45's benefit, "Hell-N's Birthday, Come Hell & High water, Anything Goes," BRB

Sun., Dec. 31 New Year's Eve

2007

Mon., Jan. 1 New Year's Day

Mon., Perhaps Jan. 1

GALLO general assembly meeting, Resurrection MCC, 7pm

Wed., Jan. 3 Houston GLBT Political Caucus meets 7pm

Jan. 6 GALLO presents Dia de los Reyes Magos, Rosca de Reyes

Jan. 7 PFLAG meeting, St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 2pm

Jan. 9 Houston GLBT Community Center night, Hollywood

2076

Jan. 11 Houston Leather Boys' membership meeting, 7:30pm, Ripcord

2007

Jan. 13 Houston GLBT Political Caucus community workday

Jan. 15 Martin Luther King Day

Jan. 17 Houston Council of Clubs meeting 8pm, Ripcord

Jan. 20 Houston Leather Boys' bartend, Ripcord Beer Shack, 10pm

Feb. 2 Groundhog Day

Feb. 4 Super Bowl XLI, Miami

Feb. 9-20 Mardi Gras Galveston

Feb. 12 Lincoln's birthday

Feb. 14 Valentine's Day

Feb. 17 Krewe of the Moons of Uranus 25th annual Galveston gay bus trip for Mardi Gras

Feb. 19 Presidents' Day

Feb. 20 Mardi Gras Fat Tuesday

Feb. 22 Washington's birthday

Feb. 22-25

Houston Council of Clubs 34th annual Let Us Entertain You Weekend

Feb. 27-March 18

Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo

March 2-4 73rd annual River Oaks Garden Club's Azalea Trail

March 1-4 International Gay & Lesbian Travel Assn. Spring Fam/Symposium Antwerp Belgium.

March 18th Annual Houston AIDS Walk

March FotoFest at 100 Houston sites

March Bayou City Art Festival, Memorial Park

March 17 St. Patrick's Day

March 20 First Day of Spring

April 1 April Fool's Day

April 2 Daylight Savings Time Begins

(lose an hour)

April 2 Palm Sunday

April NLA's Spring Iniquity XVI

April 40th Worldfest-Houston International Film Festival

April 18th annual Lone Star Volleyball Classic

April Houston International Festival

April National Arbor Day

April 22 Earth Day

April 22 Easter Sunday; 28th annual Bunnies on the Bayou

May 5 Cinco de Mayo

May Galveston Historic Homes Tour

May Art Car Parade

May 14 Mother's Day

May 24-28 International Mr. Leather in Chicago

May 28 Memorial Day

c. June 11th annual Houston Billiards Open

c. June Colt 45s 31st Anniversary Run

June 6 D Day

June 17 Father's Day

June 14 Flag Day

June 19 Juneteenth Day. In 1865, a Union general stepped ashore in Galveston to tell the last slaves in the Confederacy that they were free

c. June 21 First Day of Summer

June 23 Houston Gay Pride Festival & Parade

July 4 Independence Day

July 4 Concerts & Fireworks, Eleanor Tinsley Park, 4pm-10pm

July 7 Seventh day of the seventh month of year seven in 2000

July 14 Bastille Day

July Christmas in July, BRB, a "Miss A" production

July 24th annual Denim Party, BRB

August 1 possible date for 24th annual National Night Out

August? 17th annual Houston International Jazz Festival

Legacy's Resale Outlet

A Legacy Community Health Services Affiliation

Store opens December 15th:

Located at:

1232 Westheimer @ Commonwealth

Tues.—Sat. 10 am—6 pm

Sunday 11 am—5 pm

Donation drop off location:

1002 Taft @ W. Dallas

Fri. 11 am—4 pm

Sat. 11 am—4 pm

Sun. 11 am—4 pm

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Furniture, clothing, small appliances and much, much more!

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Dowden
(here with
Eileen)
now serves
you at
Decades

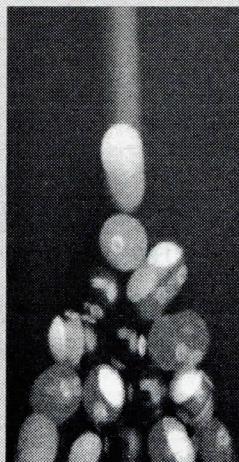
**POOL & DARTS
TOURNAMENT
SCHEDULE**

SATURDAY
8 BALL 2PM

SUNDAY
INDUSTRY NIGHT!
OPEN TABLES ALL DAY
9 BALL 4PM
301 DARTS 4PM

MONDAY
8 BALL 9PM
WEDNESDAY
301 DARTS 8:30PM

FRIDAY
8 BALL 9PM
OPEN DAILY 11AM
(NOON SUNDAY)



DECADES

1205 RICHMOND 713-521-2224

DVD Rentals 4.3.9

MON.-SAT. NOON-8PM, SUN. 2-7PM

711 FAIRVIEW

713-LEATHER



BLACK HAWK LEATHER

Rooms by the Month

\$150 Weekly, No Deposit, Free Utilities,
TV, Queen Bed, Free Laundry,
Free Breakfast, Near the Bars

MONTROSE GUESTHOUSE



Stay With Us

Rate quoted is
for nice, quiet single
person, shared bath.

Private & Shared Bathrooms Newly Remodeled!
408 Avondale 713-520-0206

"A Very Colt Christmas"



Our Annual Christmas Show
and Community Awards

At Our Home Bar
The BRB • 2400 Brazos
December 17, 2006 @7pm

Fun • Food • Prizes
Wreath Contest

All proceeds benefit
The Colt 45's AIDS
TroubleFund

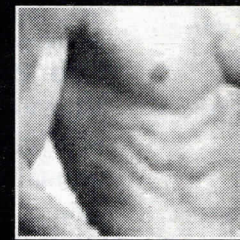
www.colt45s.org

The Colt 45's is a 501(c)(3) Charity

vitamins



sports nutrition



herbs



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Houston Buyers Club

3224 Yoakum Blvd. houstonbuyersclub.com 713.520.5288



Don
Dowden
(here with
Eileen)
now serves
you at
Decades

**POOL & DARTS
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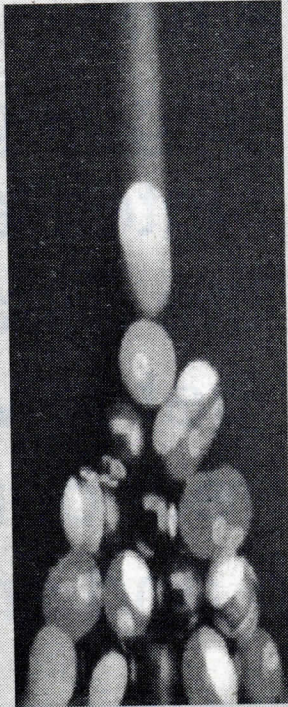
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711 FAIRVIEW

713-LEATHER

BLACK HAWK LEATHER



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Galveston

Commerical Building

For Lease, 2107 Rosenberg
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Scott

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MON.-SAT. NOON-8PM, SUN. 2-7PM
711 FAIRVIEW
713-LEATHER **BLACK HAWK LEATHER**



**Galveston
Commerical Building**

For Lease, 2107 Rosenberg
 1300 sq.ft., Recently Remodeled
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CALL US TODAY!

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1-800-275-3090
 LINKED VIATICAL BENEFITS

Working Out the Bugs!
 We're turning professional
 and going weekly in
 late February.
 In the meantime, you
 get to watch us
 perfect our production
 system and smush the Bugs!

**"A Very
Colt
Christmas"**



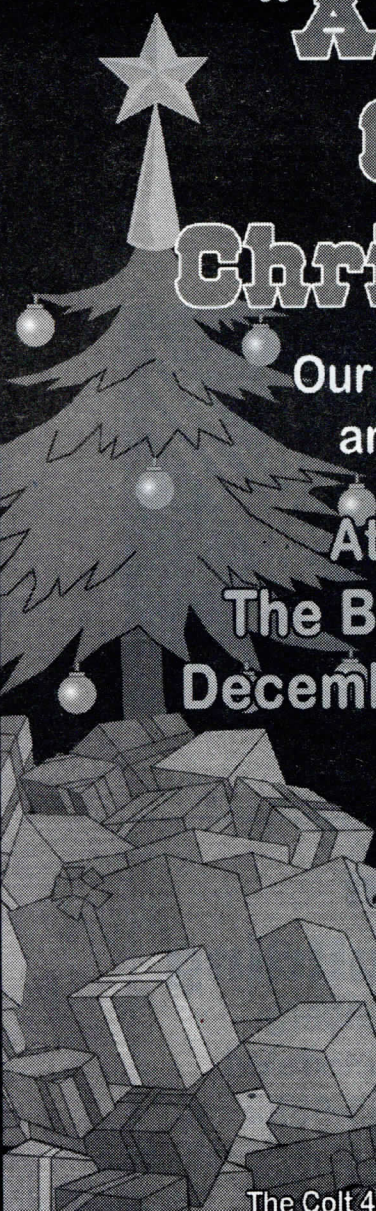
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 TroubleFund

www.colt45s.org

The Colt 45's is a 501(c)(3) Charity



vitamins 	sports nutrition 
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Houston Buyers Club

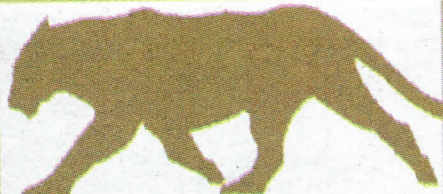
3224 Yoakum Blvd. houstonbuyersclub.com 713.520.5288

**MARC COHEN
and
SPACE CITY EMPIRE**

**BACK FROM
SAFARI
PART II**

**Saturday
Aug. 27, 2005
EJ's
2517 Ralph
8 p.m.**

Benefiting AIDS Foundation Houston Camp Hope through Entrenement IV

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**Don Gill's
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**Robert's
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Galveston's Original Show Bar

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Hanukah Celebration
Southern Matzah Ball Soup**

**Christmas Day
Celebrate with Your
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POT LUCK Noon-til**



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Princess Saigon Sapphire
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Swimming Pool,
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Dolphin
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Galveston Island 409-621-1808
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**Monday Night Football
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**Pool Tournament
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**Wednesdays 9pm
"Idol-ette Amateur
Drag Show"**
**Country Music
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Thursdays 8-10pm**
**Drag Shows
Fridays 10:30pm**

**A Good Drag Show
Saturdays 10:30pm
Miss Gay Galveston
Pageant Dec. 16;
Christmas Show Dec. 23**
**Sundays
Texans Football at Noon
\$1 Vodka Wells 7pm-til**
**Sunday, Dec. 24
Chinese Gift Exchange**
**Monday, Dec. 25
Christmas Dinner 5pm**

Back Patio for Sunning or Relaxing




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FRIDAYS: \$2.50 Well & Domestic Beer Noon to 2am



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