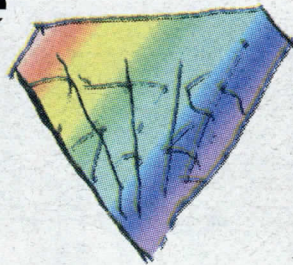


montrose GEM



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

The Newspaper of Montrose Issue # **54**, Our 2nd Year, January 5, 2007 713-529-2325 MontroseGEM @ Yahoo.com



PRESS RELEASES

**New Director
For Pride Fest**

**Capitol Lobby
Day is March 5**

**HERA Moves
to New Offices**

**Pride Committe
Debates
Parade Route
& Parade Date**

**Your GEM Goes
Weekly Starting
February 16**

26th Annual Galveston Mardi Gras Gay Party BUS

CONTINUING THE TRADITION OF THE KREWE OF
HYDRA AND THE KREWE OF THE MOONS OF URANUS

Departs Ripcord, Sat., Feb. 17, 11am, Non-Stop to "The Island,"

Returns to Houston About 9pm

Includes Breakfast, Cocktails, Lunch, Boys & Beads

Galveston Hosts: Robert's Lafitte, Pink Dolphin, Kon Tiki

PLUS! Curb-Side Viewing of Krewe of Momus Grand Night Parade

Tickets now on sale

Ripcord 1pm-2am Daily OR 713-529-2325 by Phone or for More Info

\$45: CASH, CHECK OR CREDIT CARD



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.



Capricorn and Romance, Together

HOROSCOPES by HELGA

Dear readers and followers of my column. We now enter our third year with these predictions and observations. When originally approached, I was just a little witchlet. Now I'm all grown up into ... well, you've never seen me. No one has. I live in a shack next to a bayou somewhere near Galveston. Someday, I'll expose myself.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): A new year and it's all about you. Well, it should be. But remember a sense of balance is required. January might involve something very flashy. But late January will bring you a golden opportunity.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A resolution: Be more alert for pleasures and work more for the good of us all. Then someone will appear without warning. Take this very seriously.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21): Helga sees your New Year's resolution coming to a peak in about a week. Someone from your past will assist. In this case you will gain by losing. There's no time now to describe everything in detail.

CANCER (June 22-July 22): Go ahead. Break all those New Year's resolutions! They were made to break anyway, right? Wrong. Keep the resolution about being more open to others. And keep the resolution about your health. Then stand there and enjoy the full experience that the Good Fairy is about to bestow upon you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): A friend or two will drop by and entice you with some ideas about love and sex. Helga says go ahead and be enticed. They will still fit within your guidelines you made in your New Year's resolutions.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Your resolution was to have happy sex more often in 2007? Helga thinks that's an excellent game plan. And it's a resolution you will find easy to keep.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23): Far-reaching schemes for 2007 will be waiting for you all year long. Mischief is your key word. Run toward it when you see it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21): How can you handle all of this excitement? A new year. People to meet. Places to go. Well, it is quite simple. You made a resolution to take it easy. (Okay, You should have.)

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Pay particular attention to others who, when talking, must bring up their New Year's resolutions. It is a cry from them for help in order to keep those resolutions. Depending on the individual, you will help or you will change the subject. You will do good.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You made an excellent choice by putting romance into your New Year's resolution. This is because in the next few weeks, a medley of opportunities will arise. Stay on top of it and don't accept the first offer. Helga sees that you will pick the right one.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your New Year's resolution was to be one step ahead of everyone else for awhile? Well, it should have been. It is easy to do and Helga sees that you do know how. Just observe, then move.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't question why you were tapped for your current job; the answer is unimportant. Just move on, do your work well, and look for deeper meaning. You will then understand.

Helga's lottery results from last issue: Two numbers in Mega Millions is all, but the old girl was still not in the money. Cumulative: Down \$105. Here are Helga's picks for Jan. 5 and 6. Mega Millions Friday: 51, 5, 35, 8, 48. Mega Ball: 42. Megaplier? Yes. And for Lotto Texas Saturday: 18, 47, 26, 53, 37, 19.

the 611

Your Neighborhood Bar

611 HYDE PARK
at STANFORD
713-526-7070

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)



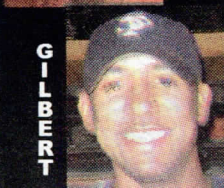
LARRY



NICK



SHAUN



GILBERT



BRIAN



JAKE

HOME OF
The Nomads
AND
The 611 Cruisers

SUNDAYS!

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



Sunday
Feb. 4
SUPER
BOWL
PARTY



Wednesday
Feb. 14
Will You
Be My
Valentine?

Official 2007
L.U.E.Y.
Host Bar



40th Birthday Bash Friday January 5, 2007 8:00 p.m. at BRB



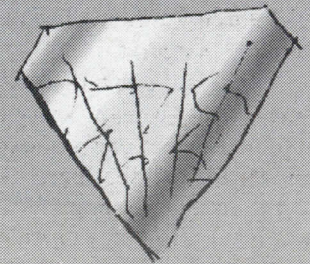
Hosted by:
Shy Anne
The Fire & Ice White Diamond
Phoenix

Candidate for Empress XXIII
Of E.R.S.I.C.S.S.

Benefiting: Legacy Community
Health Services – Body Positive and
AIDS Foundation Houston – Camp
Hope through ERSICSS Coronation
XXIII



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CORNER
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No Cover
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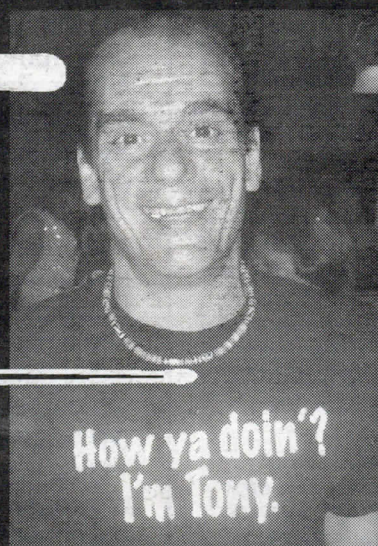
**HAPPY HOUR
DAILY**
\$1.50 Vodka
\$2.00 Well
\$1.75 Beer
**EVERY DAY
TO 8PM**

**AMATEUR
STRIP
CONTESTS
FRIDAY &
SATURDAY
NIGHTS**

Check Out Our
New Patio with
Awesome View!!

Thursdays!

Booze & Cruise Night
TOPS: \$2 Longnecks
BOTTOMS: \$2 Screws



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Send The GEM your flyer (mail, in person, or E-mail) and we'll (1) list you among our events and (2) publish your flyer as a display ad **FREE** as a quarter page (in color if available) **IF** benefit location is a GEM advertiser or if location is non-commercial.

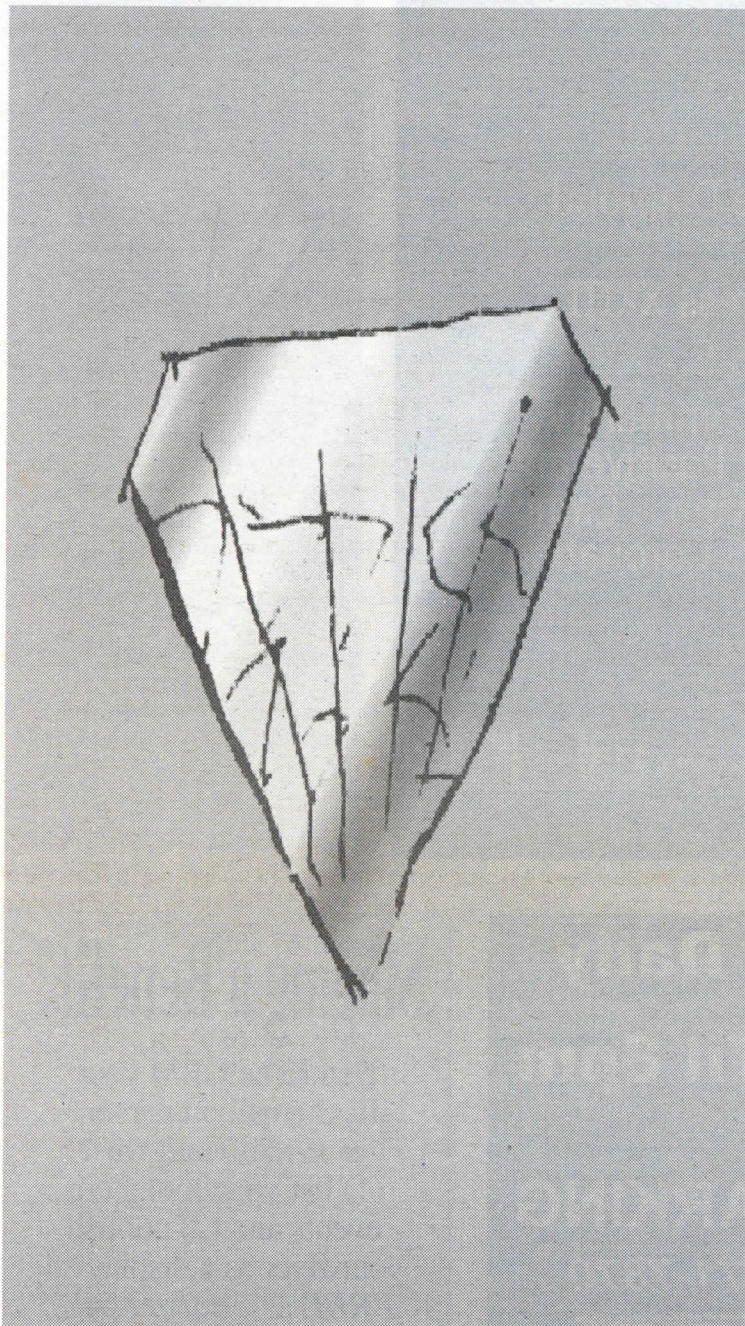
Special Rates Available for Bigger Ads in GEM-Bars or for Benefits at Other Locations.

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!

4.3.9. DVD Rentals
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711 FAIRVIEW
713-LEATHER **BLACK HAWK LEATHER**

montrose
GEM
54

ISSUE # **54**
 JANUARY 5, 2007
 OUR 2ND YEAR
 "The Newspaper of Montrose"
 & "The Houston/Galveston
 Gay Newspaper"
 Published Every 3 Weeks
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 Feb. 16, 2007)
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 408 Avondale, Houston,
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Brian Kever
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 RATE CARD #5 IS
 NOW IN EFFECT

Montrose Clubs

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.

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

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, S.W. Houston, 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 69 6121 Hillcroft, S.W. Houston, 832-891-2241, Latino.

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

Crystal U.S. 59 at Hillcroft, S.W. Houston, 713-278-2582. Drag shows Wed. & Thurs., dancing Fri. & Sat.

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

Gay News & Bar Talk

By Henry

Welcome to issue #54 of The GEM, your favorite gay publication. And welcome to 2007, which, our horoscope lady says, will be your favorite year.

I was a little verbose last issue in this column. Well, I got started and couldn't stop, like drinking eggnog. Thank god the family holiday season is over. Now it's coming up time for the other party season: Mardi Gras and L.U.E.Y. *Shop 'till You're Done*

What passes as fun at 5:00 a.m. in Montrose if you're not lucky enough to be sleeping with someone? Shopping at our Kroger and our Walgreens.

Here's the trick. Get a shopping cart and go down every aisle. Every aisle. You will spot one-of-a-kind specials and you'll jog your memory into buying things you've been wanting but forget about every other time you are in the store, such as pickled pigs feet and Mongolian-imported peanut butter and onion soup.

Don't try this every-aisle thing at our 99-cent store. I went in there to get a soup ladle and could not get out without spending \$50.00.

The Next Events

The grand holiday season is over and not a minute too soon. We can slow down now for a month. Can we? Of course not. We're the gay community. We were born to party.

In January we will have MLK Day and Presidents' Day. Shirley, we can make parties out of these days.

And we will have Dr. Dave's Soup Tasting parties, benefiting Mel's Kids, at several places.

Then there's the ol' Super Bowl. Then Valentine's. Pre-order your roses today from Guenther Floral for the best deal. See their ad with Mary's and the Outpost in this issue.

Then there is Mardi Gras. Wear those beads from last year! No one will remember them anyway.

The Ripcord and the GEM newspaper will stage the annual Mardi

Gras Galveston bus trip this year, continuing the tradition originally started by the Krewe of Hydra and picked up recently by the Krewe of the Moons of Uranus.

Tickets now are on sale at The Ripcord, \$45. They take checks, credit cards and genuine American money.

The trip includes breakfast at the Rip, party bus to The Island, A sumptuous lunch at the Pink Dolphin, dancing at Kon Tiki, and beads and boys at Robert's Lafitte for curb side viewing of the Krewe of Momus Grand Night Parade.

Then, we'll give all who make it back to the bus by departure time a quiet ride back to the Bayou City. On the bus, the winner of the annual Slut of the Bus contest will be announced and an appropriate prize will be awarded.

Then there is L.U.E.Y., one of America's biggest gay events. That's two months from now but never too early to register yourself. Pick up a form at any of the official L.U.E.Y. bars.

Bisexual Community

I have long, in our heated political conversations at the bars, argued that there is no such animal as the bisexual community. So, allow me to argue about it once again in order to fill space in the GEM.

What is a community? It's a group of people with like-minded ideas or characteristics who socialize at times among just themselves.

There is a Little People community. They have their own conventions. No doubt, in every big city, they have some social areas that they and not others gather. There are communities of every different race and nationality. There are communities of stamp collectors.

There is of course the gay community. And the lesbian community. And the trans community. Each has its own clubs and other social events. Each is an individual community and we all three combine and call ourselves either the gay community or the GLBT community. (In this last sentence, the word gay is being used in a broader context.)

Now, there is no straight community. This term would mean

everything, altogether. By definition, that's everything and just part of everything. There are places that you and I would not want to go (Hooters, I suppose, is an example) but we're not being excluded as a group.

But the subject of these paragraphs is the bisexual community. There is no such animal. A bisexual person can hang out in the gay community and be accepted readily. And he can go to Hooters and perhaps have a good time.

But there are no bisexual-only nightclubs. No national bisexual conventions. A bisexual is a person but not a social group unto themselves.

I've been on the losing end of this argument for years among gay activist types who insist that our movement is a combination of four different sub-communities. No! It's three different sub-communities plus some people who enjoy just mixing in with us.

This is Cute

George Patton (at least as played by George C. Scott in the movie) said no one ever won a war by dying for his country. You win a war by making the other sucker die for his country.

The 8-Liners

I promised last issue to give you the secrets of the 8-liners, those spinning bandits in the bars. Here goes.

Relative to lotteries, 8-liners pay pretty well. Roughly a third of the money going in is returned to the players in the form of specified prizes. You can name those prizes yourself. Lots of people end up taking vacations or buying a high-end item such as a computer with their tickets. Yes, they dispense tickets toward prizes. You can save your tickets until you reach the goal of your desire. Unless the goal of your desire is that guy across the bar from you. Each ticket counts as \$5.00.

To play a game, you put in your money. \$5.00 is a good recommended amount and gives you 100 credits. set the value per spin to at least 10 credits and spin away. (Many vendors require you to be spinning at least ten or it will not pay out.)

Do some games pay better than others? It depends on which vendor is providing your favorite

club with the machines, but generally yes.

At my favorite place to play, which has five 8-liners, it seems to me they have the most visible one on the end set for a higher payout. That's just the way Las Vegas does it with slot machines. They want someone whopping and hollering in the most visible locations and are willing to pay for it.

And, on the opposite side of this argument, just like Las Vegas, they havemachines that hardly ever "pay out." Which is which? you ask. That's where prolonged research with cocktail in hand can help.

Most machines have progressive (accumulating) jackpots. They have those that build up to 2000, 3000 or 4000 credits. (4000 credits would have a prize value of \$200.00.) When (well, if) you win, you ask for a special envelope from your bartender, fill it out, including your prize choice, and give it back to the handsome, sexy man serving you.

The vendor comes by once a week to pick up the turned-in tickets and sometimes two days later to drop off the prizes.

My experience reveals to me that these machines are programmed to pay and not pay based on a mathematical curve. That curve could be in favor of the player, even-stein, or in favor of the machine. your observations will guide you to which one's are on the top of the curve.

Even if someone just won big and takes their tickets, it could still be at the top of the curve and has more tickets to spew your way.

Quickies

The first Mr. and Miss Tony's Corner Pocket will be Sunday, Feb. 18, 7:00 p.m. This will be a benefit for PWA Holiday Charities. Entry forms are now available at TCP. ("TCP," that's short for Tony's Corner Pocket.)

Citrine will step down as Miss Keys West (the former name of the club).

The Lypsynka Divas are on stage at George the second and fourth Sundays, 8:00 p.m.

Elvis & Food

On Sunday, Jan. 7, at 7:00 p.m., Michael's Outpost will presents steak night and a show. I.C.O.H.'s Craig Farrel and Sara Sjolander are your hosts as they pay tribute to the King of Rock 'n Roll.

Free Ads (& Stuff)

To place your Free Ad of 20 words or less, Email ad to MontroseGem@yahoo.com or drop off or mail to (but NOT phoned in) 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

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

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

TALK NOT OF wasted affection; affection never was wasted ... Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, 19th century American poet

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

PAINTING & YARD work. Inside, outside, apt. & house painting, raking leaves, waxing hardwood floors. Charles Cummings, 713-737-1745. Leave message, checked daily

LIFE IS NOT a static thing. The only people who do not change their minds are incompetents in asylums, who can't, and those in cemeteries ... Everett M Dirksen, 20th century American legislator, Senate GOP minority leader, orator

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

THERE ARE TWO insults no human being will endure: that he has no sense of humor, and that he has never known trouble ... Sinclair Lewis, 20th century American novelist

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

PASSION, THOUGH A bad regulator, is a powerful spring ... Ralph Waldo Emerson, 19th century American author

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

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

THE BEST WAY to make children good is to make them happy ... Oscar Wilde, 19th century Irish wit

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

ALAN AT 611 Come see me Fri. & Sat. mornings 7am-1pm at The 611 **OUR HIGH RESPECT** for a well-read man is praise enough of literature ... Ralph Waldo Emerson, 19th century American author

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

IT BEHOVES EVERY man who values liberty of conscience for himself, to resist invasions of it in the case of others: or their case may, by change of circumstances, become his own ... Thomas Jefferson, 3rd U.S. President

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

WRINKLES SHOULD MERELY indicate where smiles have been ... Mark Twain, pseudonym of Samuel Clemens, 19th century American author

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

OTHER LANDS HAVE their vitality in a few, a class, but we have it in the bulk of our people ... Walt Whitman, 19th century American poet

PLOWBOY AT PINK DOLPHIN Galveston, Mon. & Wed. 6pm-2am **IT IS HARD** to fail, but it is worse never to have tried to succeed ... Theodore Roosevelt, 26th U.S. President, soldier

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

THE BEST WAY to know God is to love many things ... Vincent van Gogh, Dutch painter

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

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

MEN LOVE TO wonder and that is the seed of our science ... Ralph Waldo Emerson, 19th century American author

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

THERE ARE TWO kinds of light-the glow that illumines, and the glare that obscures ... James Thurber, 20th century American author & artist

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

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

A SINGLE MAN has not nearly the value he would have in a state of union. He is an incomplete animal. He resembles the odd half of a pair of scissors ... Benjamin Franklin, 18th century American statesman, diplomat, author, scientist & printer

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

BROAD-MINDED IS JUST another way of saying a fellow's too lazy to form an opinion ... Will Rogers, early 20th century American author & actor

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

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

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

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

Parade Proposals Band to Stage Carnival

PRESS RELEASE from Pride Houston

The Houston Pride parade and festival could be changing dates and location. Community feedback is requested. Pride Houston will be hosting the third in a series of community feedback sessions Jan. 13, 1:00 p.m. At Resurrection MCC. The purpose is to hear from the GLBT community regarding a proposed change of date and location for the Houston Pride parade and festival.

Pride Houston is proposing a location change from the Montrose area to a downtown location. In addition, a change of date from late June to the end of September is under consideration. We invite the public to join us for a discussion of these topics. Pride Houston will present the proposed change at that time, including detailed information for community consideration.

We encourage anyone with question, concerns, objections or observations to attend. Please be reminded that this is still a proposal. No final decisions will be made until we hear from the members of the community who wish to be involved in the decision.

Please do not miss this important opportunity for your voice to shape the future of the Houston Pride parade and festival.

If you do not speak, we cannot hear.

Carnaval

PRESS RELEASE from Houston Pride Band

The Houston Pride Band, under the direction of its newly appointed artistic director, Jason Stephens, will present its winter concert on Thursday, Jan. 25, at 7:30 p.m., Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church, located 2025 W. 11th.

Admission to the concert is \$10. Tickets will be available at the door.

Entitled Carnavall, the Houston Pride Band will voyage from New Orleans to Rio de Janeiro, with many stops in between. The Krewe of Olympus will be special guests and partner with the Houston Pride Band for this festive celebration.

On the program will be Frank Ticheli's Cajun Folk Songs II and Alfred Reed's Second Suite for Band. Other concert highlights include standards such as The Girl from Ipanema, One Note Samba, and When the Saints Go Marchin' In. This concert is B.Y.O.B., so bring Your Own Beads.

For more information: www.houston-prideband.org or call 832-265-3346.

4.3.9. DVD Rentals

MONDAY-SUNDAY

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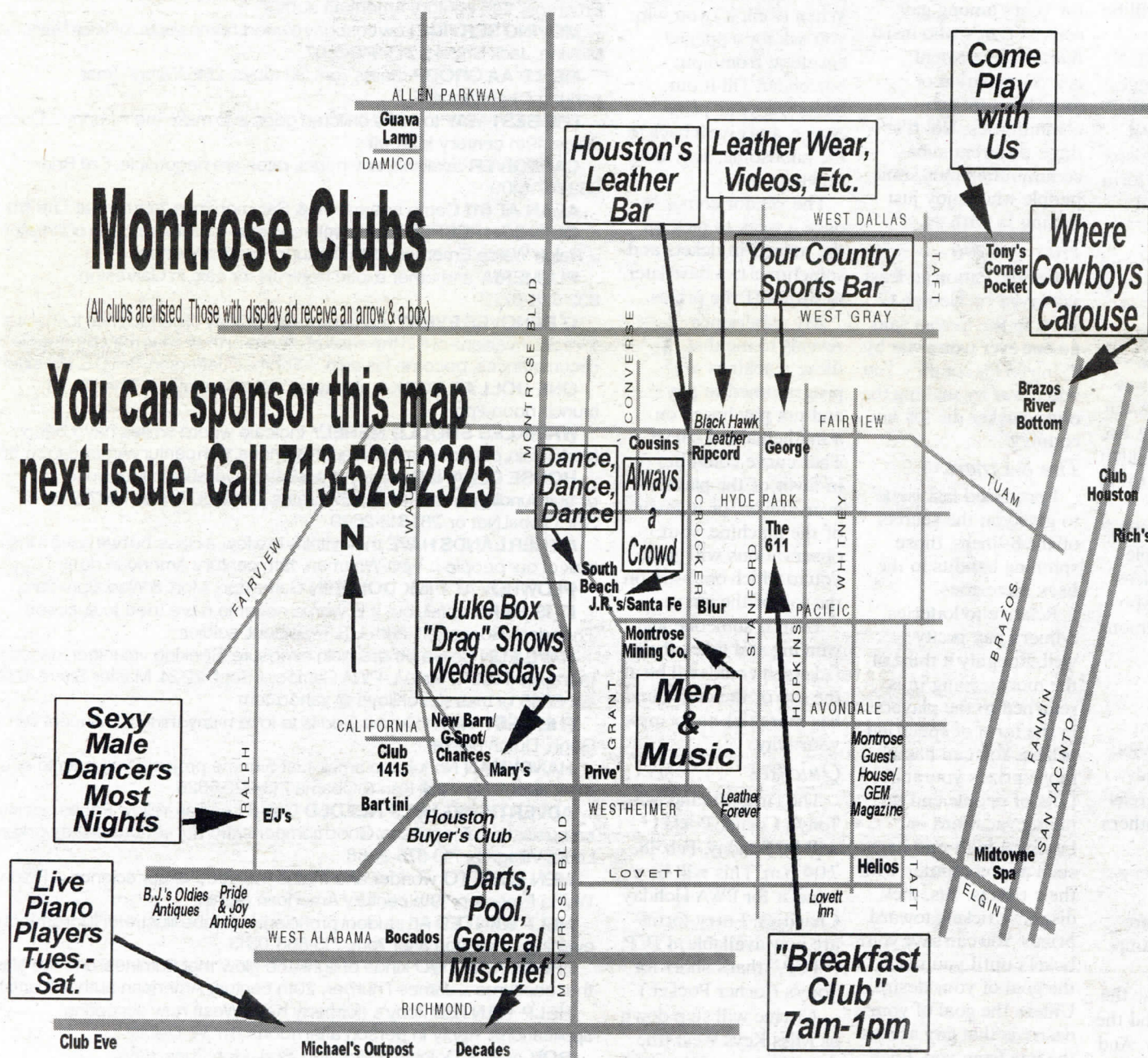
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'Pride In Action' is New Program

PRESS RELEASE from Pride Houston

There is no doubt about it. Houston's GLBT community is one of the largest in the country. We are in the supermarket. We go to the movies. We are seen at the post office and the doctor's office. We live next door and work across the hall. We take orders at the diner and sit on the board of directors. We are everywhere.

The time has come, therefore, to ask ourselves a probing question. What are we contributing to the community? If we are to continue making strides toward equality and acceptance, we must make an effort to show our neighbors that we are more than just a stereotype. It is not enough to be spectators in our community, mindlessly cheering or booing with no power to affect the outcome of the game. We must become participants who try, in spite of risk, to make even the smallest stride toward the goal. It is with this in mind that Pride Houston has introduced Pride In Action.

Through this exciting and progressive outreach program we will be offering the GLBT community the opportunity to show Houston that we care. From feeding the homeless at the George R. Brown Convention Center to planting trees for Arbor Day, we will be exercising the proverbial golden rule: to treat others as we ourselves wish to be treated. If you would like to make a difference in your community, please thoughtfully consider one or more of the following opportunities:

Consider the following Pride event: Arbor Day tree planting Jan. 27. To register contact Ruth Ann Ethridge, Outreach Coordinator, at outreach2006@yahoo.com or MacCine Lewis, Volunteer Coordinator, at Butafly584@prodigy.net. We will continue to keep you posted as we select opportunities throughout the new year. There is no time like the present, so get involved today

4.3.9. DVD Rentals

MONDAY-SUNDAY

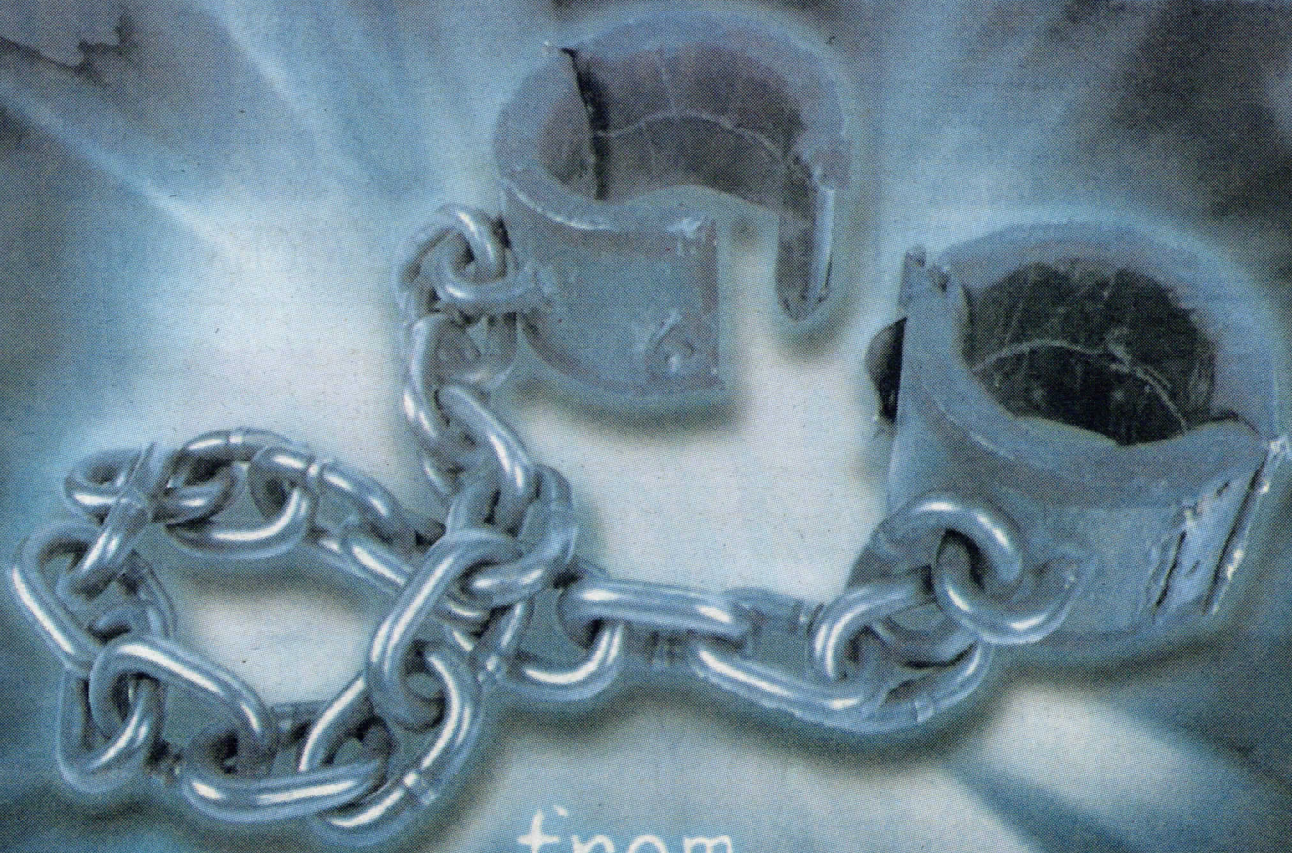
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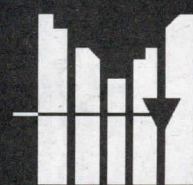
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SATURDAY 8 BALL 2PM

SUNDAY

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9 BALL 4PM 301 DARTS 4PM

MONDAY 8 BALL 9PM

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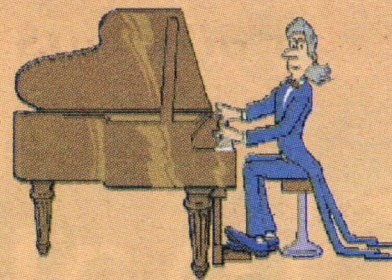
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OUTPOST

Steak and a Show

Sunday, Jan. 7, 6pm

"Elvis' Birthday Party"



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Official 2007 Host Bar

LUEY WEEKEND

Presented By Houston Council

34

February
22-25, 2007

HERA's New Offices

*PRESS RELEASE from
Houston Equal Rights
Alliance*

The Houston Equal Rights Alliance (HERA) has moved into our new office at 1915 Commonwealth, Suite 104. We need volunteers to help us get organized.

If you have some extra time, please join us! We need help with organizing, cleaning and moving a few items from our old location. Easy work that will make a BIG difference. Snacks and drinks will be available.

Your help is greatly appreciated. Thank you for supporting the Houston Equal Rights Alliance (HERA).

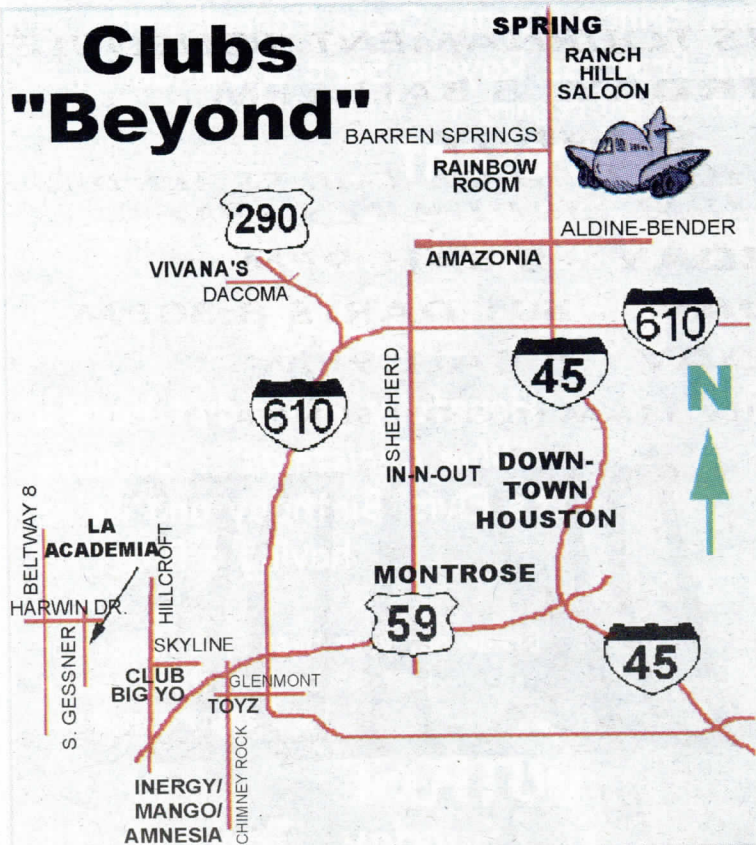
(The Houston Equal Rights Alliance (HERA) is an alliance of individuals and organizations committed to developing a sustainable strategy through community building to promote equality and respect for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people through education and advocacy. 713-522-HERA; volunteer @ houstonera.org; www.houstonera.org.



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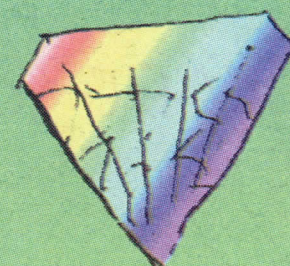
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Friday, Feb. 2

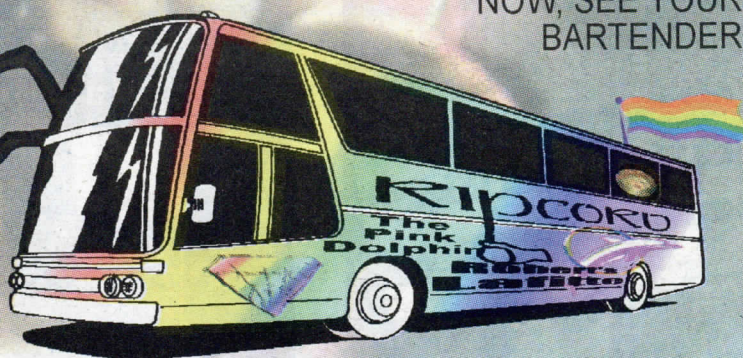
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New Director for Pride

PRESS RELEASE from Pride Houston

Pride Houston Has a New Director of Operations. Reach for the stars, catch the moon! The search is over. after months of interviews, resumes and seemingly endless games of phone tag, Pride Houston is proud to announce a new Director of Operations. Geoffrey Cuellar officially joined the Pride Houston team Nov. 8. With extensive experience in event coordination on a global scale, Geoffrey was the perfect candidate to help position Pride Houston to become one of the most exciting GLBT organizations in the country. His experience in volunteer coordination has taken him around the world, working in Russia, South Korea, Sweden and Australia. In 1996, Geoffrey helped coordinate a massive volunteer campaign for the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta.

In addition, Geoffrey has more than just a flair for the theatrical. He has performed on stages around the world and music directed for theaters including The Second City, Theater Under the Stars and the award winning Theo Ubique Theater in Chicago.

He has performed with an impressive list of entertainers including Liza Minelli, Sammy Davis Jr., Freddie Hubbard, and Bill Watrous.

"I believe that my unique combination of experience can help to increase the entertainment value of the Houston parade and festival," Geoffrey says.

"There is no good reason why Pride Houston should not be so exciting, so entertaining, that we become one of the top GLBT destinations for people from the four corners of the globe. If we reach for the stars, at the very least we may catch the moon!"

Geoffrey can be reached at the Pride office at 713-529-6979 or at gcuelar @ pridehouston.org.

Chris Beck

CANDIDATE FOR EMPEROR XXIII
OF E.R.S.I.C.S.S.

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OUTPOST
Sunday, January 7th
6:00pm
Michael's Outpost

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Fundraiser for ICCH Reign V, Proceeds benefiting Legacy Community
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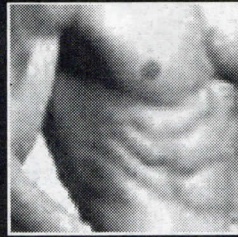
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Holidays, Benefits & Other Occasions

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

Sat., Jan. 6 GALLO
presents Dia de los Reyes
Magos, Rosca de Reyes
Sun., Jan. 7 PFLAG
meeting, St. Paul's United
Methodist Church, 2pm
Tues., Jan. 9 Houston
GLBT Community
Center night, Hollywood
Thurs., Jan. 11
Houston Leather Boys'
membership meeting,
7:30pm, Ripcord
Sat., Jan. 13 Houston
GLBT Political Caucus
community workday
Jan. 17 Houston Council
of Clubs meeting 8pm,
Ripcord
Sat., Jan. 20 Houston
Leather Boys' bartend,
Ripcord Beer Shack,
10pm

Sun., Jan. 21 GLBT
Community Center
Queer Bingo, Club 1415,
5:00 p.m.
Sat., Jan. 20 Misfits
bartend on Ripcord patio
Jan. 27 NLA monthly
membership meeting,
7:30pm, then members
bartend 9:30pm-1:30am,
Ripcord patio
Feb. 2 Groundhog Day
Feb. 4 Super Bowl XLI,
Miami
Feb. 5 GALLO general
assembly meeting,
Resurrection MCC, 7pm
Feb. 7 Houston GLBT
Political Caucus meets
7pm
Feb. 9-20 Mardi Gras
Galveston
Feb. 12 Lincoln's
birthday
Feb. 14 Valentine's Day
Feb. 17 Ripcord/GEM
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 5 Equality Texas
2007 Lobby Day at State
Capitol
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

Montrose GEM #54, Jan. 5, 2007
April 40th Worldfest-
Houston International
Film Festival
April 18th annual Lone
Star Volleyball Classic
April Houston
International Festival
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

11
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
August Gay Softball
World Series
August Sundance Cattle
Co 27th anniversary
August Don Gill's
"Live"
Sept. 3 Labor Day
Sept. Grandparents'
Day
Sept. 11 Patriot Day

Capitol Lobby Day

PRESS RELEASE from Houston
GLBT Political Caucus

The Houston GLBT Political
Caucus is proud to serve as the local
partner with Equality Texas for the
2007 Lobby Day to be held at the
State Capitol on Monday, March 5.

If you are in the Greater
Houston area and are interested in
participating, please contact info @
hglbtpc.org.

Direct, in-person
communication with your legislator
is an incredibly powerful action.

Join hundreds of lesbian, gay,
bisexual, and transgender Texans,
and our allies, at the Texas Capitol
for this opportunity to share our
concerns and our lives with the Texas
lawmakers elected to represent us.

Lobby Day 2007 is our single
greatest opportunity to:

*Advocate for safe, loving, and
caring homes for all children
regardless of their parent's sexual
orientation or gender identity.*

*Advocate for safe learning
environments for all Texas school
students.*

*Advocate for a statewide study
to determine the incident rates and*

causes of bullying and harassment.

*Advocate for training for Texas
teachers and administrators to give
them the resources necessary to
recognize, address and stop acts of
bullying and harassment.*

*Advocate for a prohibition of
discrimination based upon sexual
orientation and gender identity and
expression.*

*Advocate for legislation which
would add sexual orientation, gender
identity and expression, and marital
status to the definition of an unlawful
employment practice in the Texas
Labor Code.*

We hope to ensure that each of
the 150 Texas Representatives and
the 31 Texas Senators receives a
visit from a constituent who has a
personal and immediate stake in
legislative policy affecting LGBT
Texans.

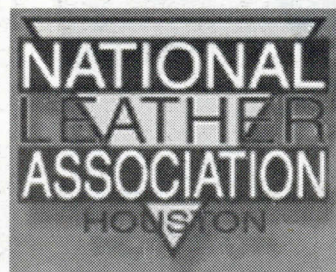
Lobby Day events will start the
day before, Sunday, March 4, with a
reception at the host hotel. Breakfast
and training will kick off Monday
morning, followed by team lobbying
visits in Capitol offices.

For more information, please
visit the Equality Texas website.

(The Houston GLBT Political
Caucus has moved our offices. They
are located at 1915 Commonwealth at
Welch, suite 104. Monthly meetings
will still be held at the Community
Center at 3400 Montrose, suite 207.)

*The Board of Directors and members of the
National Leather Association-Houston Would like
to thank the Houston area gay, lesbian, bisexual
and transgender Community for their support of
the 2006 NLA-H Toy Drive benefiting AFH, Tho-
mas Street Clinic and the Houston Women's Center.*

*We would also like to thank the following
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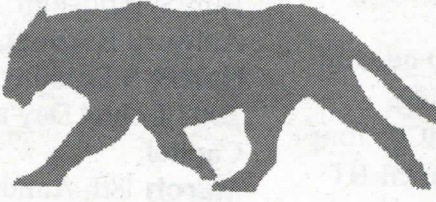
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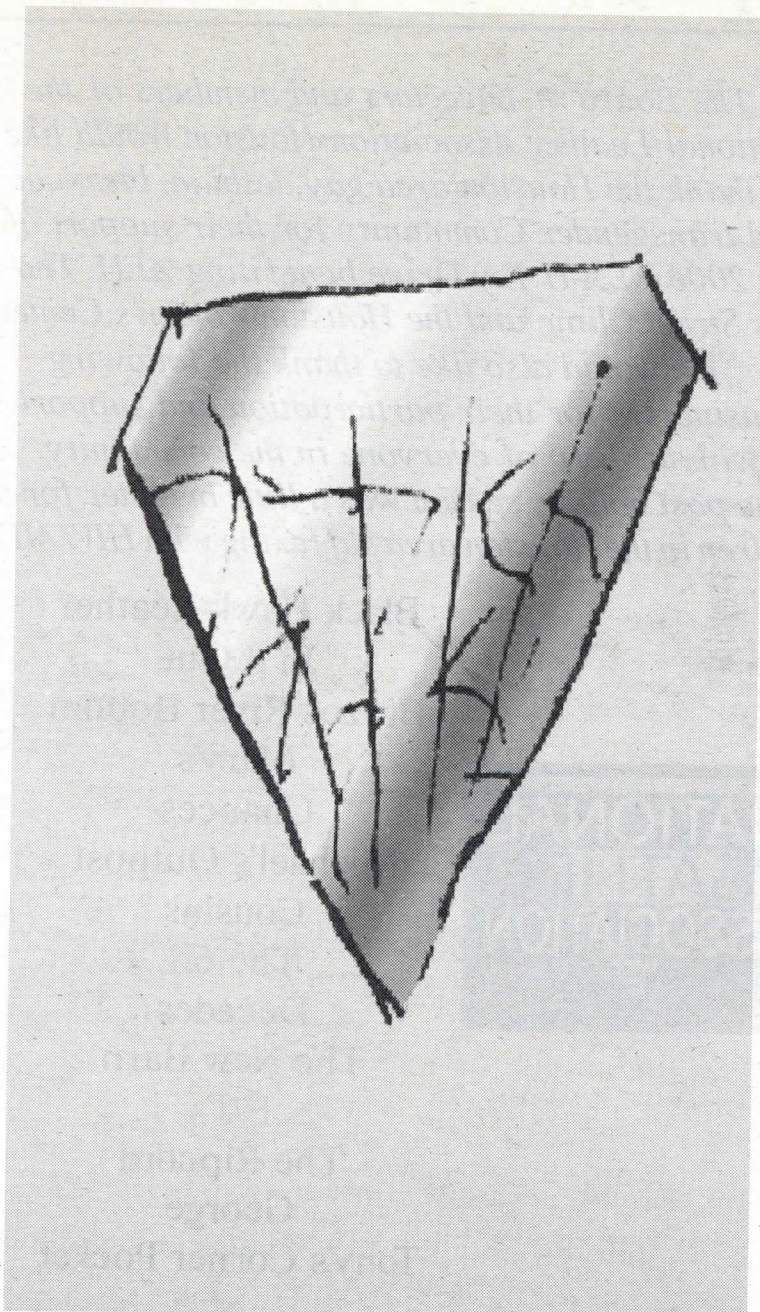



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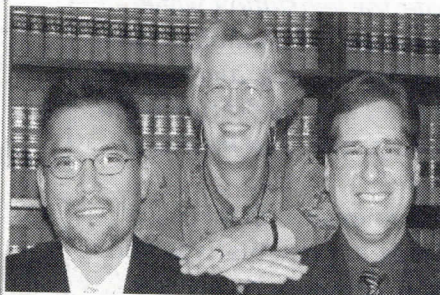
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**Sheena
Latasha Ross**

One of the community's long-time divas, Sheena Latasha Ross, passed away Dec. 28, 2006. Many people remember Sheena as a female impersonator, often illuminating Diana Ross. Sheena was a kind, energetic, loving, giving person and helped other girls start performing.

She entertained in Texas and abroad, holding titles such as Ms. Sweetheart at E/J's, Ms. Cousins, and was show director at Rainbow's and MC for the annual Ms. Cousin pageant every year.

Sheena will be remembered for her laughter smile and for always being there to support others in the community.

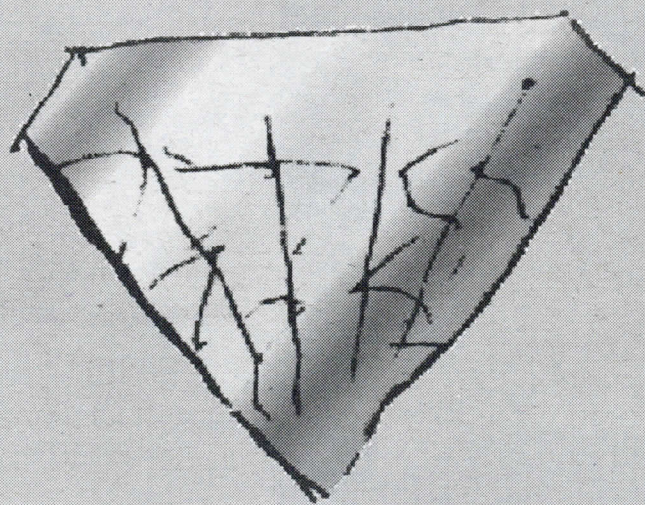
Truly she will always be remembered as well for serving and contributing yearly Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners in Montrose, where she resided.

Hyde Park is grateful and will always remember her legacy.

Sheena, we miss you and love you. You were a class act.

Michael Pruitt

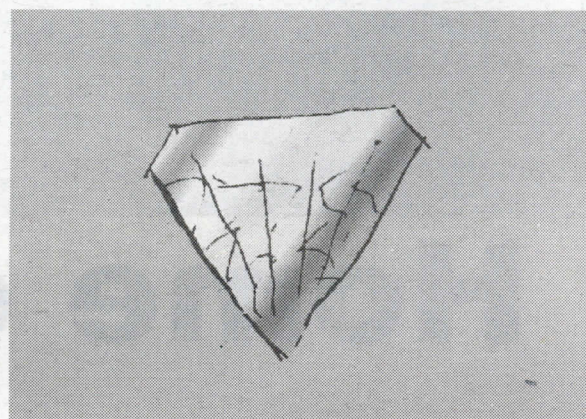
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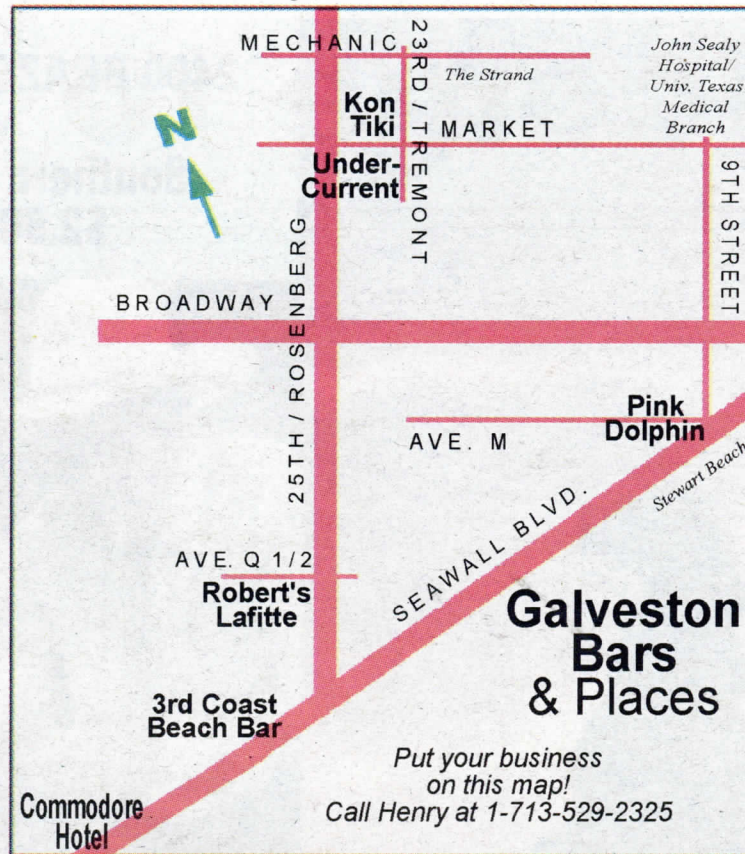


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**Official
Mardi Gras
Houston
Gay BUS Host**
Boys, Beads,
Buffet
Starting Noon
Sat., Feb. 17



**Super Bowl
Party
Sun., Feb. 4**

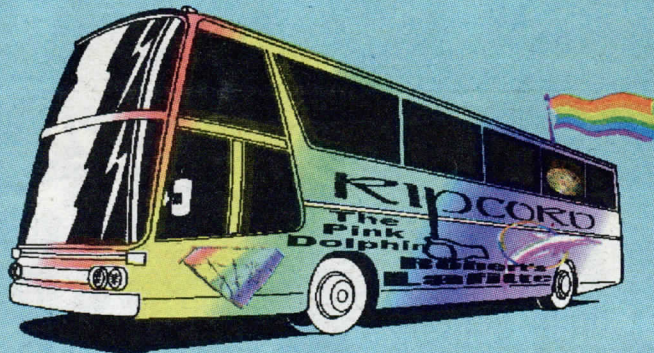
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for
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Mardi Gras
Party BUS
Sat., Feb. 17**

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Misty Valdez Myra Sanchez

Princess Saigon Sapphire

Mon.-Sat. 7am-2am

Sun. 10am-2am

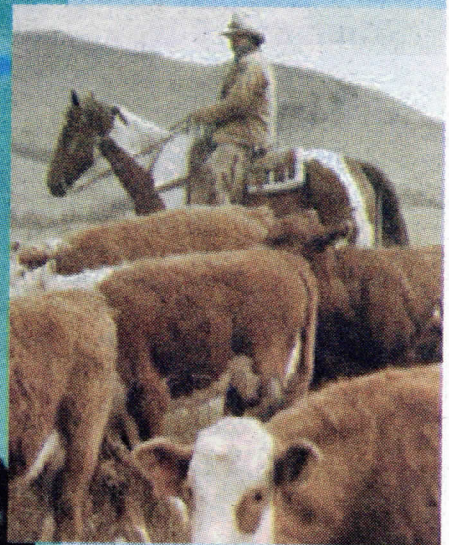
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LUEY WEEKEND
34
February
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