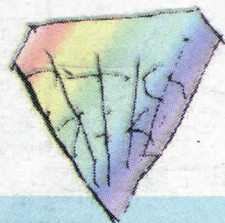


Montrose GEM

c. Gulf Features Issue # **81**, May 16, 2008 281-650-3489 Montrose GEM @ Yahoo.com

WE HAVE MAPS TO HOUSTON & GALVESTON GAY BARS



Welcome to the Lone Star Classic

**HOSTED BY THE
MONTROSE SOFTBALL LEAGUE**



Bat Boys, Austin
Hellcats, Houston
George's Outlaws, Houston
Hellraisers, Houston
Bullets, Dallas
Clippers, Houston
Crush, Dallas
Professionals, Houston
Rams, Austin
Storm, Dallas
Travelers, Dallas
Venom, Houston
ATK Rebels, Houston
Angels, Houston
Bam Bams, Houston

Bud Light, Houston
Dragons, Houston
Diablos, Houston
Eagle's Wings, New York City
Hitmen, Houston
Holy Moly, Dallas
Incredibles, Houston
Justice League, Houston
Oilcan's Chaos, Austin
Polar Bears, Austin
Predators, Houston
Round-up Diesel, Dallas
Splash, Houston
Ultra Herricanes, Houston
Vipers, Houston



***We Have Ads from
More Houston/Galveston
Gay Clubs than Anyone Else!***

Welcome Back
to Work, Brian Keever
(Local Activist and
GEM Ad Director)



Before
and After
His Surgery

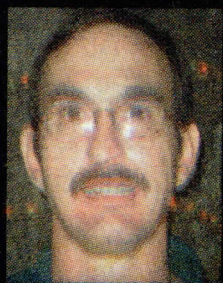
#611

Your Neighborhood Bar

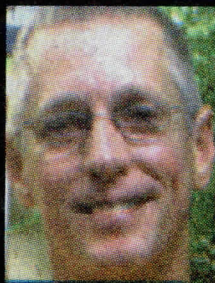
NEW!
Premium Vodka
at Well Prices
All the Time
611 HYDE PARK
at **STANFORD**
713-526-7070

The Breakfast Club

MONDAY-SATURDAY 7AM-1PM



\$1.50



with BARRY and AL

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

**Welcome Lone Star Classic
Softball Players**

**Monday, May 26
Memorial Day Buffet 2pm**



**HOME OF
The Nomads
AND
Houston Leather Boys**

MAKE-A-WISH FOUNDATION Charity BBQ

Sat., May 17, 3pm until

Enjoy the Food & Help the Kids \$5.00 Donation

Houston Leather Boys 3rd Birthday Party

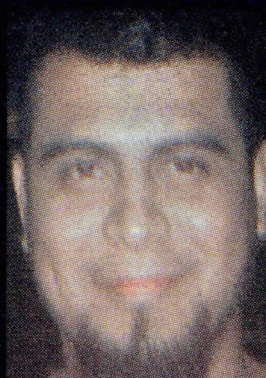
Saturday, May 17, @ 3:30

Friendly Staff!

(And They Are Pretty Too)



BRIAN



CARLOS



LARRY



JAKE



GILBERT



SEAN

Staging a Benefit?

Send The GEM your flyer (mail or E-mail) and we'll 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 PDF or TIFF file, made from the original art work (not from an already-compressed JPEG file). TIFF file may be compressed using LZW protocol.

We Want You to Look Your Best!

Imperial Prince XXIV
Falcon
presents

"Dragging Out the Leather"

CAN OPPOSITES ATTRACT?

May 24, 9pm at
The Ripcord
715 Fairview, Houston



ERSICSS is a 501(c)3 charity and gladly accepts the following cards for donations

VISA **MasterCard** **Discover**

Benefiting **Legacy** Community Health Services through Connection XXV

assisters

MONTESE

SUSAN HAYES, SHERI HARRELL, AND MISS GAY PRIDE HOUSTON 2007, SABRINA SIMS
PRESENT

HAPPY ANNIBIRTHSARYDAY

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE CELEBRATION AT TONY'S CORNER POCKET SUNDAY, MAY 18 AT 8 PM

SHERI HARRELL... "YEAH, IT'S OUR THIRD ANNIVERSARY!"
SUSAN HAYES... "THAT'S LIKE... 21 IN DOG YEARS"

SABRINA SIMS "I'M TURNING 21 AGAIN... IT'S TRUE!"

50/50 RAFFLE. JELLO SHOTS FOR CHARITY. GUEST MC'S AND FABULOUS ENTERTAINMENT BY. AND FOR OUR COMMUNITY.

A FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR THE CHARITIES OF:

PWA
HOLIDAY CHARITIES
Lifting Hearts Through The Year

WE HAPPILY ACCEPT **VISA** **MasterCard** **Discover**

Grand Duke 24 Matt Gill & Grand Duchess 24 Sheri Harrell
PRESENTS

REALLY!?!?

WITH MATT & SHERI

A NIGHT OF WONDER AND AMAZEMENT

Sunday June 1st
8:00pm
At The Brazos River Bottom

ERSICSS IS A 501(c)3 CHARITY AND GLADLY ACCEPTS

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Benefiting **Legacy** Community Health Services through Connection XXV

assisters

4.3.9. DVD Rentals
MONDAY-SUNDAY
711 FAIRVIEW
713-LEATHER

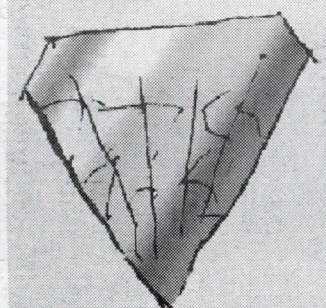


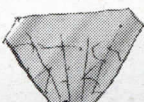
BLACK HAWK LEATHER

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Call 281-650-3489
OR

E-mail to montrosegem@yahoo.com
We can create for you a layout using our vast resources of art and photos at no charge. Then we will shock you with a very low advertising rate.

Thank You.





montrose GEM

ISSUE # **81**

MAY 16, 2008
OUR 4TH YEAR
"The Houston/Galveston
Gay Newspaper"
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Publisher
Brian Keever
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RATE CARD #5
(ADJUSTED) IS IN EFFECT

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908-232-2021

ICOH: Space City Empire
Proudly Presents:

Hail to the Queen Mum!

With your hosts,

Sean Carter,
aka Gemini Empress I,
Queen Mother Reign VI,
Chanel Cartier

And

Gemini Empress Rose

Sunday, May 18
Brazos River Bottom
7:30 p.m.

A fundraiser for Reign VI
Benefiting Bering Community Services
Hospice and Dental Clinic
15% of all fundraisers benefit the
Lexy Bowen Community Fund



Community Outreach Preven- tion Services

We are where you need us, when you need us!! 713-830-3070. FREE Rapid HIV testing: Results in 20 minutes! FREE Syphilis testing: Get the facts & protect yourself.

611 Hyde Park Pub

Tuesday 4-8pm (La' Quoiya)
611 Hyde Park, 713-526-7070

All Star News and Video Emporium

Monday 4-8pm (Oscar)
3415 Katy Freeway & Studewood

Brazos River Bottom

Thursday 8pm-Midnight (Tony)
2400 Brazos, 713-528-9192

Club Houston

Tuesday 8pm-Midnight (Jorge "Chely" & Oscar)
2205 Fannin, 713-659-4998

Cousin's

Thursday 8pm-Midnight (Jack & Jorge "Chely")
817 Fairview, 713-528-9204

E/P's

Wednesday 10pm-1am (Tony)
Friday 10pm-1am (Tony & La' Quoiya)
2517 Ralph, 713-527-9071

EROS 1207 Boutique

Tuesday 3-7pm (Juan)
7330 Southwest Fwy., 713-271-4999

George Sports Bar

Monday 6-10pm (Jorge "Chely")
617 Fairview, 713-528-8102

Mary's, Naturally

Fridays 4-8pm (Jack & Gilbert)
1022 Westheimer, 713-527-9669

Midtowne Spa

Tuesday 4-8pm (Tony)
Friday 10pm-1am (Carlos)
3100 Fannin, 713-522-2379

Guava Lamp

Thursday 6-10pm (Oscar)
570 Waugh Dr., 713-894-5417

Legacy

Community Health Services
formerly Montrose Clinic & TAF

215 Westheimer
713-830-3000
www.montroseclinic.org
www.legacycommunityhealth.org

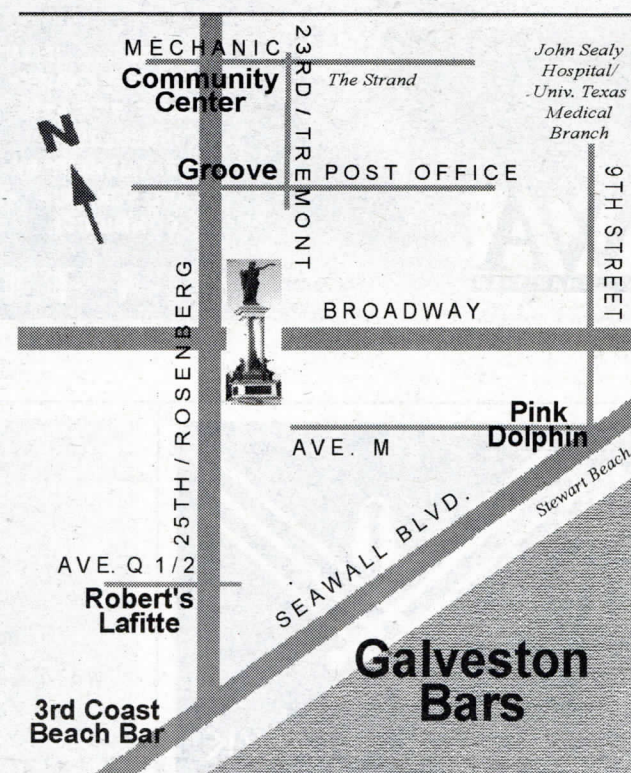
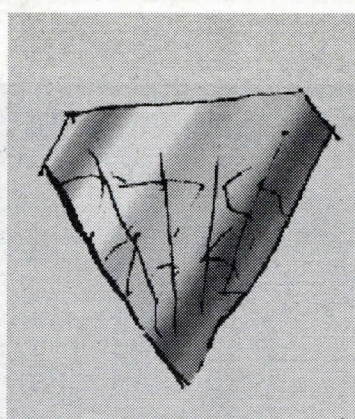
We Are FAMILY
An Evening of Pride

Hosted by...

Jeff Wallace
Rose Smith
Marc Cohen
Chanel Cartier
Craig Farrell
Sara Sjolander
Dennis Watson
Judy Reeves
and
Regina Dane

Saturday
May 31st, 2008
8:00pm at
EJ's

An ICOH Reign VI Fundraiser for
Bering Omega Dental Clinic and
Omega House, Bering Omega's Residential Hospice



3rd Annual Noche de Gala A Black Tie Affair



FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 2008

GREER & LOWDERMILK CONFERENCE CENTER
GRAND BALLROOM

4225 INTERWOOD N. PARKWAY

(NEAR JFK & BELTWAY 8)

HOUSTON, TEXAS

8:00 pm-1:00 AM

Individual Tickets	\$ 50.00
Reserved Tables of 8	\$ 400.00
VIP Seating (8)	\$ 1,000.00

Benefitting:
GALLO Scholarship Fund
Camp Hope, * Lazarus House,
Lexy Bowen Community Fund, * GLBT Community Center

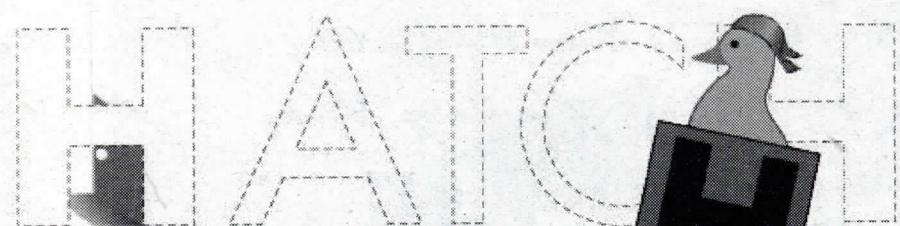
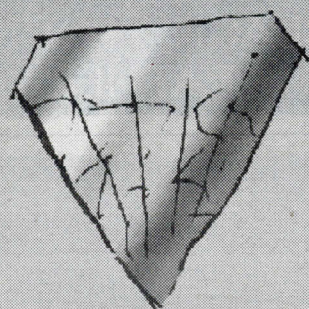
Music By:
Houston's Powerhouse
AVIZO BAND
www.avizoband.com



FMI: 713-658-5198
www.houstongallo.org
GALLO is a 501 (c) 3 charity

4.3.9. DVD Rentals
MONDAY-SUNDAY
711 FAIRVIEW
713-LEATHER

BLACK HAWK
LEATHER



We're moving the nest!

Beginning Friday, May 16

HATCH

will meet at its
NEW PERMANENT HOME

30 MONTROSE
COUNSELING
CENTER

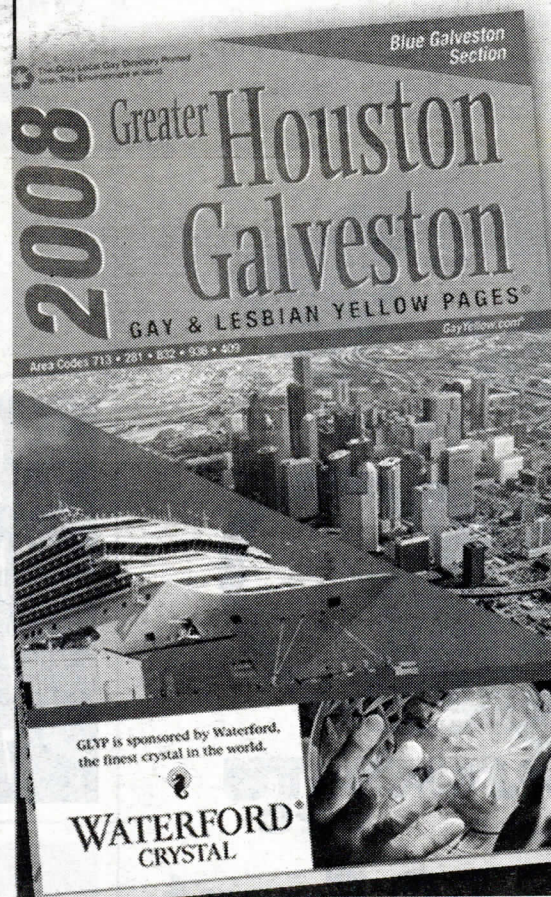
401 Branard Street, 1st Floor



For more information about HATCH, please call 713.529.3590.

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For updated daily Montrose Happenings,
read our blog.

Please.

www.montrose.blog.com

Mr. Tony's Corner Pocket 2008
Cubby Christopher "Sparkles boy" Prado
 Presents
I've Got My PRIDE!
Friday June 27, 2008
Tony's Corner Pocket Bar - 817 W. Dallas
Showtime 8pm
Bonglung:
 The Empire of The Royal Sovereign and Imperial Court of The Single Star
 Reign EXIV Reign beneficiary of Legacy Community Health Services & Assistants
Show is Open for all to come perform
 For more information contact Christopher - majestyprado2005@yahoo.com
And don't forget non-perishable can goods are Appreciated for local food pantries

Thursday Nights Mr. Spring Fling Finals June 26

HAPPY ANNIBIRTHSARYDAY



Susan Hayes, Sheri Harrell, Sabrina Sims

Sunday, May 18, 8pm
 Benefitting PWA Holiday Charities
 and charities of ERSICSS

10th Anniversary Party
May 25
 Houston TX
 Mary's
 1022 Westheimer
 10am to 1pm

Tony's
 817 W. Dallas
 7pm to 1am

WIP SOCIETY .net

Saturday, May 24: HGLPC Event

I SUPPORT THE DRAFT
Sunday
Beer Bust
starting 4pm



BUT ONLY IF I CAN DRINK IT

\$1⁰⁰ Draft
50¢ Hot Dogs

Open 12 Noon Daily
NO COVER
 817 W. Dallas 713-571-7870



Sordid Lives Party

May 31 2008
 7 - 11 pm

At the home of
 John Danielson III
 3618 Burlington

Parking along side streets

White Trash Attire

\$25 at the door
includes 1 cocktail &
heavy h'ors d'oevres



Shoot her in the head Wardell!



Costume Contest

Best Wardell,
 Best Tammy,
 Best Sissy, Biggest Hair
 Best Overall
 and much more

Proceeds benefit the Krewe of Olympus
 and its designated Charities

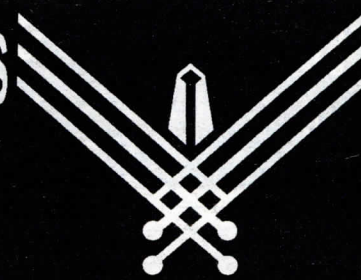


4.3.9. DVD Rentals

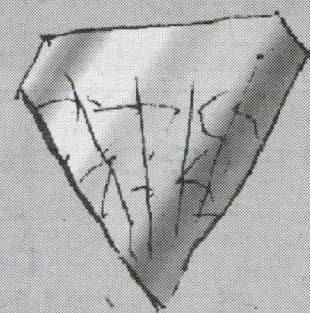
MONDAY-SUNDAY

711 FAIRVIEW

713-LEATHER



**BLACK HAWK
LEATHER**



Houston's Best Amateur Strip Contests
Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays
CASH PRIZES

Brunch by Troy
 Sat. & Sun. from 10am

Ed's

The Houston Original

2517 Ralph Street
 (Just Off Westheimer)
 Houston, TX 77006
 in Gay Montrose

713-527-9071

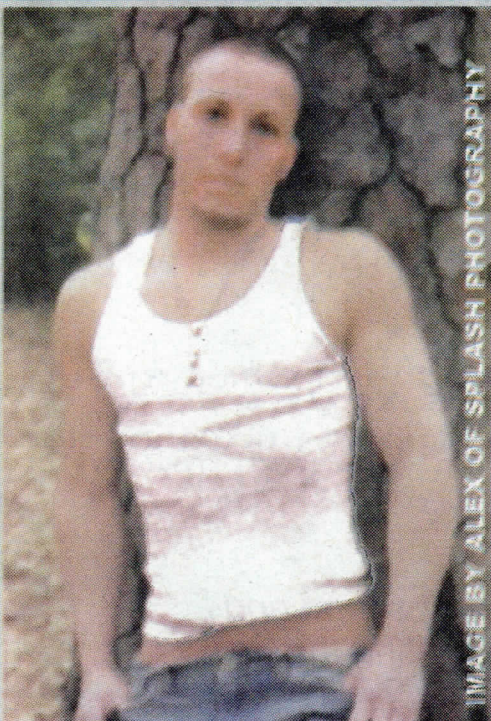
WE ARE FAMILY
Sat., May 31
An Evening of Pride

PASSOVER ON DRAG TIME
 ONLY A MONTH LATE!
 WHERE ON MARCIA'S BIRTHDAY WE ASK...
 CAN SHE REALLY FIND JESUS?
FRIDAY, MAY 16TH
 - PARTY AT 7 PM -
 - SHOW AT 830 PM -

Tues. & Thurs.
Shane's
Shadow Dancers
Saturday
Wet Jockey
Shorts
Contest



The Best Patio in Texas



And, In the Heights,
 a Metro-Social
 Atmosphere!
 Party with
Brian & The Boys
Join Us for Picnic Sundays
1537 North Shepherd
 (South of 610, North of I-10
 Between 15th & 16th Streets)
 Houston, Texas 77008
713-589-9780

In-N-Out

ROBERT'S LAFITTE

2501 Ave Q at 25th Street
Galveston 409-765-9092

Galveston's Original Drag

Saturday and Sunday Shows

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

The World Famous Puppet Show
featuring Robert the Mouth

Sat. May 24th @ 10:30 pm
Sun. May 25th @ 9:30 pm

Don't Miss This Show!

Come Visit Our Patio!

Mon-Sat 7 am - 2 am

Sun 10 am - 2 am

409-765-9092



The Pink Dolphin

BEACH BAR

904 Seawall Boulevard, Galveston Island
409-621-1808 Open Daily 10am-2am



Front Deck for Beach Viewing and Tropical
Garden Patio for Sunning & Relaxing



Sat. 10:30:
"Show of Stars"
FEATURING THE
DOLPHIN DOLLS,
JACKIE JAY,
COWBOY CHARLES

Tues. 8pm: Free Drag Bingo
PRIZES & A NEW DRAG HOSTESS EACH WEEK

Wed.: \$1.50 Wells & Domestic Beers

Fri. 9pm: "Raising Hell at the Dolphin"
A WILD KARAOKE NIGHT WITH DAVID

Sun.: Breakfast at the Pink
BISCUITS & SAUSAGE, GRAVY 10:30am 'TIL

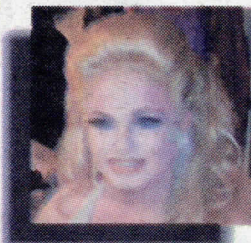
Honey, If We Don't Have It,
You Don't Need It!

Big
Mike,
direct
from
BRB
to the
Dolphin



OSCAR &
ELDRERGE,
OWNERS

The Painted Ladies



Shelby
&
SoFonda



St John
Sunday 8:00

VISIT GALVESTON

Map to Galveston
Gay Bars Elsewhere
This Issue

The Island's funkiest, edgy new dance club located on famed Post Office Street in historic downtown Galveston

18+ FREE PARKING

Tuesdays & Thursdays 8pm-12am Texas Hold'em Poker Free Darts & Pool Karaoke w/C.C. Ryder

Memorial Weekend PROM PARTY

Sunday, May 23:

Election of King & Queen

Monday, May 24:

Prom Party, Special DJ,
Crowning of King & Queen



groove

2416 Post Office Street
GALVESTON

Mon.-Tue. & Sun. 4pm-close
Fri. & Sat. 4pm-2am

AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE EVENTS MON.-WED.

Groove features 2 full-service bars, state-of-the-art sound and
lighting, oh so cool go-go dancers and comfortable seating throughout
info @ groovegalveston.com (409) 766-7771

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

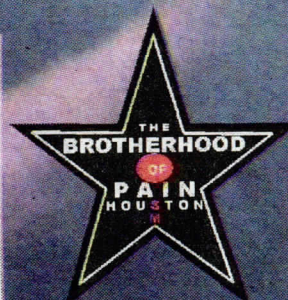
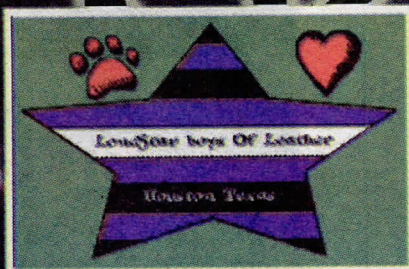
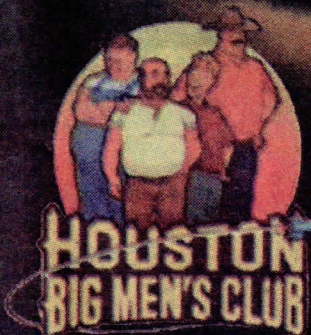
OPEN DAILY 1PM
HAPPY HOUR 1PM-8PM
EVERYDAY
BOXERS NIGHT
EVERY MONDAY
\$2.50 BEER & WELL
EVERY WEDNESDAY
ALL NIGHT
CLASSIC ROCK
EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT
SMOKING ON THE PATIO
WITH A FULL BAR OPEN
EVERY FRI. & SAT. NIGHT

"Dragging Out the Leather"
CAN OPPOSITES ATTRACT?
Sat., May 24, 9pm

RIPCORD

**Welcome Lone Star Classic
 Softball Players**

**Come Play with the
 Leather Men**





617 Fairview
Houston

713-528-8102

Open Daily 7am to 2am
(Sunday 10am to 2am)



Sunday Breakfast 10am with TGRA

NEW! Sunday Steak & Shrimp Night



**SUNDANCE
CATTLE COMPANY
HOUSTON, TEXAS**

**3-7pm
WITH
Sundance
Cattle
Company**

WEDNESDAYS

Beat the Summer Heat with Our New WET UNDERWEAR STRIP CONTEST

Emcee: KOFI

Showtime: 11PM

\$250 IN CASH PRIZES

Sponsored by

MALE UWEAR™

\$2 Domestic Longnecks
\$3 Corona and Corona Light
\$2.75 Premium Frozen Drinks

SUNDAY, MAY 18TH
5-8PM

JR.'s Hosts the
Male U Wear
Anniversary
Tropical Luau
Beachwear Encouraged

SUNDAY, MAY 25TH
8PM

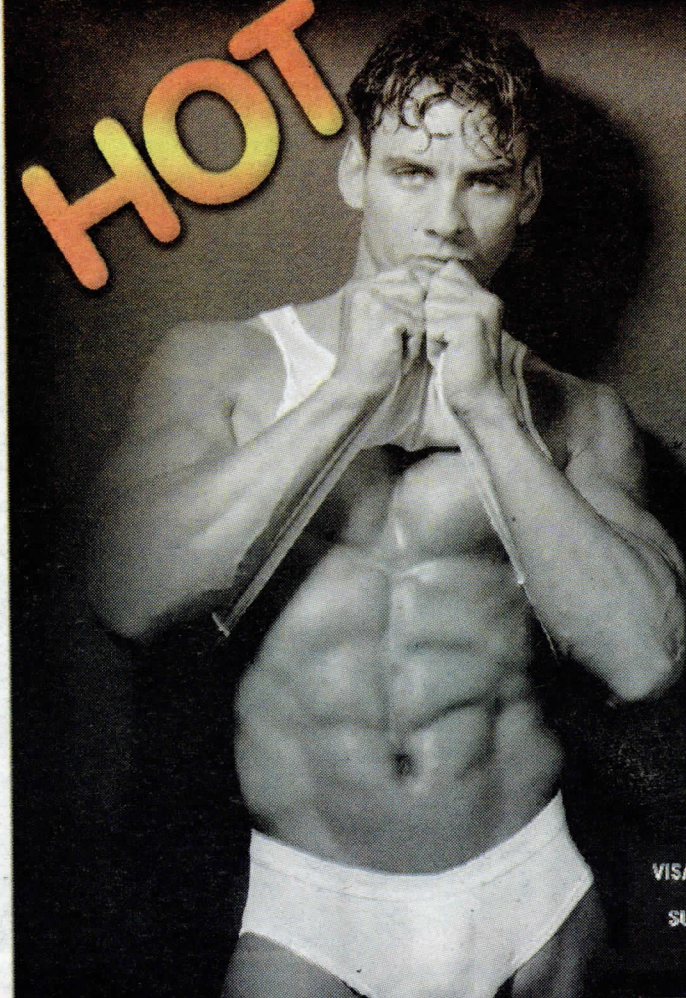
Male U Wear
Fashion Show
Hot Male Models,
Raffle Prizes and
Giveaways



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Gay Caucus Events

PRESS RELEASE

Set to take place on May 24th at Tony's Corner Pocket, 817 W. Dallas, it will include an exciting line up including Ms. Selena St. John as the Hostess of the evening and Houston's very own electronica pop star Royal Lush. Festivities are set to begin at 7:30

Pool Named to City Commission

The Houston GLBT Political Caucus is pleased to announce the appointment of Jennifer Pool, President of the Caucus, to the City of Houston's Building and Standards Commission.

Pool was appointed by Mayor Bill White and unanimously confirmed by City Council to serve on the Buildings and Standards Commission. The first transgendered person to serve in an elected position in the City of Houston, Jennifer's expertise will allow her to do her duties on the Commission, the purpose of which is hearing and determining cases concerning alleged violations of ordinances relating to dangerous buildings and vector conditions.

"As a Professional Engineer who could not get a job with the City in 1976 because I was transgendered, and as the architect of the 1980 repeal of the City ordinance that made all transgenders subject to

arrest, I am very satisfied with the positive changes in City government as evidenced by Ms. Pool's talents and education being fully utilized in this manner," said Phyllis Randolph Frye, a recognized leader in the national GLBT civil rights movement, and a partner in the Houston law firm of Simoneaux and Frye, PLLC. "To be nominated by the Mayor and unanimously elected by City Council, shows the high regard they hold for Jennifer's expertise and leadership skills in the Caucus and the community," said Maria C. Gonzalez, Vice President of the Houston GLBT Political Caucus. The Honorable Jennifer Pool will serve a two year term on the Commission.

Join the caucus Our message is simple. We need you to help us realize a better Houston by contributing to the Houston GLBT Political Caucus.

We're your neighbors and want very similar things for our homes and families.

If you're like us, you probably don't know everyone in your neighborhood. So, in case you don't know us, let us introduce ourselves. We've been working very hard to protect our most important rights 'to be who we are.

That is why we are writing on behalf of the Caucus. As past presidents of this organization, as proud active members, and as participants in the past election cycles, we have seen the Caucus work hard to mobilize

support for our candidacies and the candidacies of very supportive individuals throughout the city and county. We saw the Caucus help get Ellen Cohen elected to the State House of Texas. We benefited from the work of the Caucus to get us elected. We saw the Caucus elect a pro-equality Houston City Council majority. We opened up a dialogue with the Houston Independent School District, and its superintendent came and met with the Caucus and asked for our help in getting the school bond passed. Read the attached Houston Chronicle article or some of the blogs on what the Caucus has done just this past year.

And now in 2008 with an election that may be one of the biggest in history, the Caucus is poised to help get pro-equality candidates elected.

But they can't do it alone. You and I have to chip in. You can make the difference for Houston. By donating, you will help get pro-equality candidates into office. By becoming a member, you will make sure that the lights stay on and the precinct organizing gets done. By volunteering your most valuable asset, your time, you will change Houston for the better.

The way we look at it, it's all about being a good citizen and neighbor.

In hope and gratitude,

Sue Lovell, Houston Council Member At-Large 2, and Annise Parker Houston City Controller

EqualityTexas Houston Begins Work

PRESS RELEASE

With the integration of the Houston Equal Rights Alliance (HERA) and Equality Texas, Equality Texas-Houston was officially launched on April 24th at Saks Fifth Avenue. Over 200 attendees heard how we are committed to dedicating resources in the Houston area to educate the community about how we can advance LGBT equality in Houston and across Texas.

Here is an outline of our initial outreach efforts in Houston. We are

working to engage local Houston supporters in our work to achieve our objectives. Join our efforts and please encourage your family, friends, and co-workers to sign up to learn more about how they can get involved.

Sincerely,
Paul Scott, Executive Director
Equality Texas
Equality Texas Foundation
Hillary Dowdy Joins as Intern

Hillary Dowdy will receive a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, Policy Studies and Asian Studies from Rice University in 2010. She is currently coordinating Rice University's Urban Immersion program, which strives to place incoming Rice students in disadvantaged, minority settings to increase awareness about systemic inequalities in the Houston

area and provide the impetus for future change. Hillary is also involved in speech and debate at the varsity level, being nationally ranked. After graduation, Hillary hopes to work with the Peace Corps in Eastern Europe or South Asia and eventually attend law school.

She is excited about the opportunity to work with Equality Texas, and she says that, to her, "LGBT equality means looking out into a society that has eliminated institutional and social discrimination based on gender identity or sexual preference. Ideally, the ignorance and stereotypes associated with the LGBT community will be resolved through education, outreach and involvement of a growing ally population."

Help Eliminate Bullying

Equality Texas' Safe Schools Initiative

is working to create safe, nurturing learning environments where every child can succeed.

Sign the petition to help eliminate bullying, and join the postcard campaign by becoming a postcard captain. Captains are needed statewide. For more information on becoming a postcard captain, contact Judie Niskala at Judie @ EqualityTexas.org

Equality Federation

Equality Texas is a proud member of the Equality Federation, the national alliance of state-based lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender advocacy organizations. The Federation works to achieve equality for LGBT people in every state and territory by building strong and sustainable statewide organizations in a state-based movement.

The 'Magic' is Back!

PRESS RELEASE

Houston's most sensational fundraising event and riotous tongue-in-cheek musical comedy review returns to the Edwin Hornberger Conference Center on November 1, 2008 for its final performance.

Twenty years have passed since the event had its humble beginnings in 1988 as a series of dinner parties held to raise funds for HIV/AIDS organizations. In 1991 the parties evolved into an evening cocktail party with table seating and the performance of an original show written by a group of the organizers. The "Roxy Whorra Beaute Shoppe" was the first show that began an annual event that became one of the most popular fundraisers of the year. In 2004, Halloween Magic reached the 1 million dollar mark in funds distributed to area HIV/AIDS organizations.

This year Halloween Magic will honor Frank Staggs for his untiring support and

dedication to improving the quality of life for so many in the GLBT community and those impacted by HIV/AIDS. Staggs stated, "Volunteerism is a life value. We are in a very important sense measured not by what we earn or do, but by what and how we give back to our fellow men and women, whether young or old, ill or enjoying community." Gilbert Perez, president of Halloween Magic added, "Honoring Frank Staggs was a unanimous choice by the Board of Directors. His work has enriched the lives of so many in our community."

Many of the original writers, cast and crew will reunite to bring the show to its final bow. Returning are the three central characters around whom the shows have been built for the past 10 productions. Gilbert Perez, president of the Halloween Magic board, will once again bring the spicy Cuban spitfire Venezuela Maria Concepcion de Los Angeles Valdez Vallejo Gonzalez to life, along with Dr. Scott Sawyer who will resurrect Ida Lou Texas' favorite daughter Wanda June Smathers. And organizers are thrilled to announce that Brad Smith will return from Los Angeles to play perhaps the dumbest

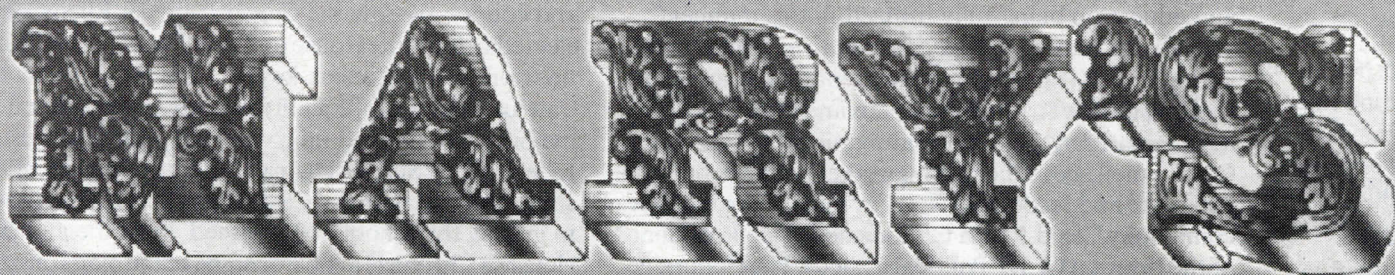
blonde in the history of the world, Pleasure Nouveau.

"The writers are meeting and tossing around ideas. We want this year to be special since it will be our last," Perez stated. "Not only will this be our last production, but it will also be the final event held at the Hornberger before the ballroom is demolished. The Hornberger is really where our event came into its own. I look upon November 1 as the date when two old friends walk hand-in-hand into the sunset. It's going to be a difficult night -but I'm so proud of what this organization has accomplished," Perez concluded. As in past years, the show will borrow a little from Broadway, a little from current events and loads from the Montrose GLBT community. Audiences can be assured to be treated to a production that will combine questionable singing, train-wreck dancing, biting satire and loads of laughter.

When asked about the significance of Halloween Magic to the community, Frank Staggs stated, "Over the years, hundreds of people have devoted days, months and even years to producing this event, and thousands have benefited from

the fruits of their endeavors. The first and last shows of Halloween Magic in many ways serve as a set of bookends to an important era in the Houston GLBT community which has been galvanized by significant health issues affecting the women, men and youth of our community. In the '70s and early '80s we had a budding political community. Now, in this first decade of the 21st Century, we add to that a host of organizations and structures that address not only politics, human equality and the health concerns of our community, but other concerns such as GLBT youth, and other markers of a vibrant community like theater and the arts. Halloween Magic has been there all along the way and helped fund many of our most important organizations."

This year's event will benefit Legacy Community Health Services, Assist Hers, and Pet Patrol. In addition to the Saturday evening show there will be a silent auction, appetizers and beverages, and a private dinner for table sponsors of \$5,000.00. For more information about purchasing a table or tickets contact Halloween Magic at (713) 226-2342 or by email at info @ halloweenmagic.org.

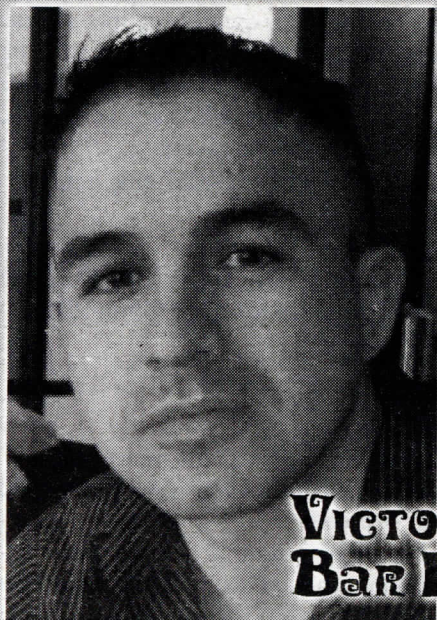


... Naturally

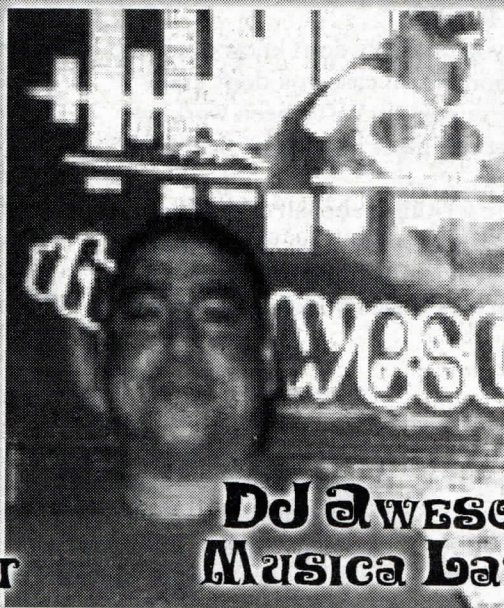
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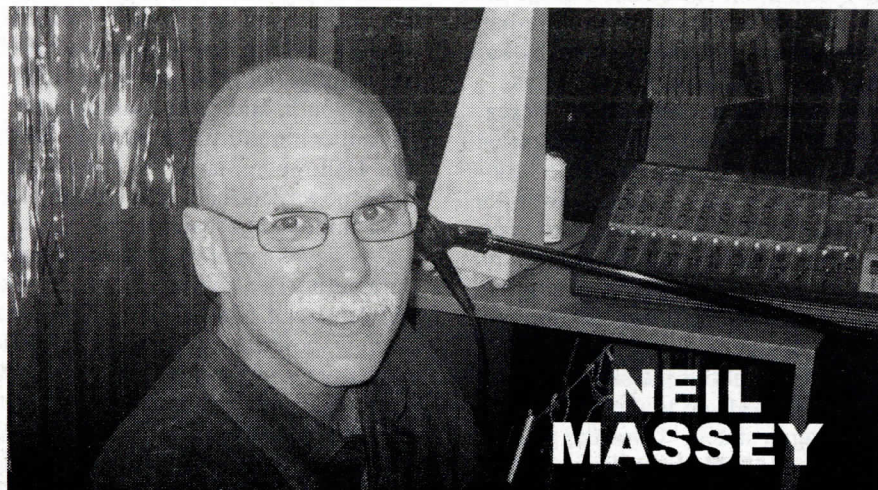
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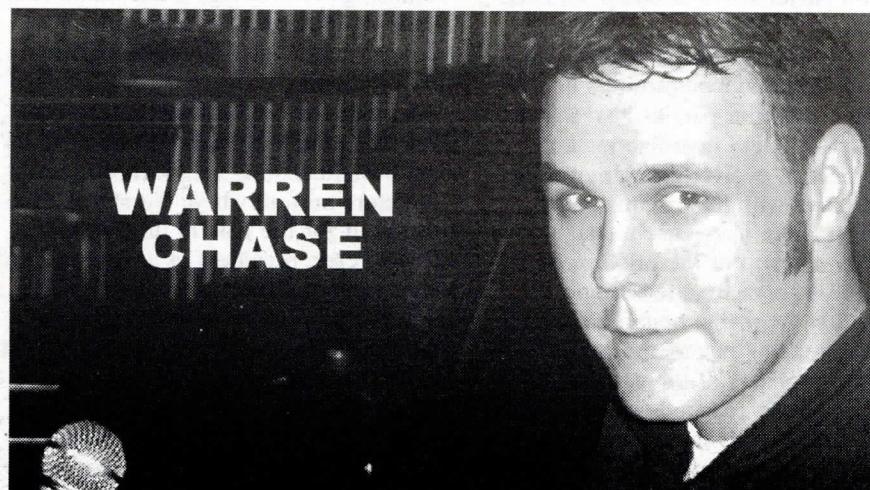
Houston 713-520-8446

OUTPOST

At the Keyboard: Warren Chase, Bill Cusack, Neil Massey

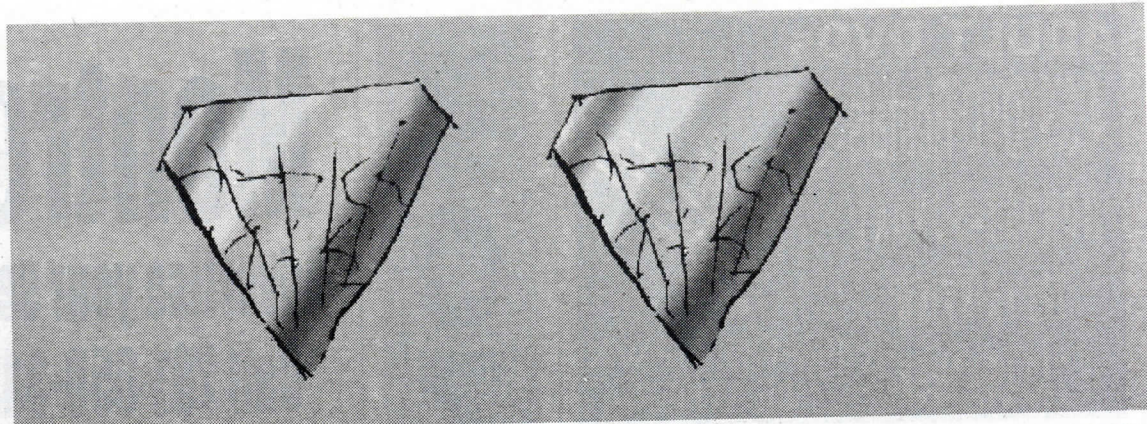


NEIL
MASSEY



WARREN
CHASE

4.3.9. DVD Rentals
MONDAY-SUNDAY
711 FAIRVIEW
713-LEATHER



Saga Food & Wine

Spooning with Damien Dane

Hey there Montrose! It's been a while, did you miss me? I have to say I missed you! At any rate, I'm back to make you open up and swallow another heaping bowlful of Montrose and the surrounding area's local dining flavor.

I took a trip over to SAGA FOOD & WINE on Milam. While breezing past there on the way to a party last week I saw that the party was right there! There was a d.j. spinning and a pile of beautiful people spilling out of the open doors.

I wanted to turn around and go back but I was hosting the party I was on the way to. I immediately made plans to make this place my next review. Upon arrival, I noticed

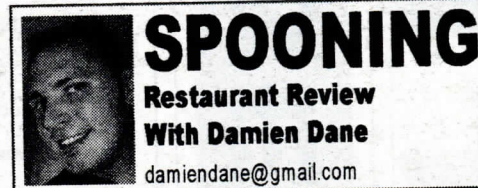
that it's right across the street from Van Loc Vietnamese which I visit regularly. My guest Amanda and I were seated by the window.

The interior was decorated quite minimally which worked because it served as a perfect canvas for the work of art which was our lunch. Gustavo, our waiter, was the first scrumptious morsel I saw. He was quite knowledgeable about the wine list and menu. I had a glass of Pinot Grigio and the waiter told us about the specials. I started with the gumbo. A dark roux based bowl of excellence was what followed. It seemed to have been pureed a bit, but it really worked because the flavors of the garlic and onion shined through with the spicy sausage and tender chicken.

We continued on to the appetizer fried shrimp and calimari. The were perfectly breaded in a panko tempura, fried to an absolutely flawless crisp. Served with a tart

remolade and chunky marinara they truly were spectacular. I wanted to try the mussels but Gustavo informed me that they were out at the time. I can just bet they would've been equally titillating.

As an entree, Amanda had the Mixed Nuts Chicken Breast. I told her I've had enough nut for one weekend but that she should go ahead. I did try it however. It was crusted and baked with a coating of regional nuts and served with an orange citrus sauce.



SPOONING

Restaurant Review
With Damien Dane

damiendane@gmail.com

The flavors of the orangy sauce married with the cashewey, almondy, peanutty wrap-around of the chicken made me instantly think of summer. I definitely will have that next time

I visit. I ordered the Milk-Braised Kurabota Pork Chop served with sauteed spinach and Madeira Sauce. You have not lived until you try this. You can't taste the milk obviously but you can taste, for SURE, what it does to the pork. I didn't have to use my knife very much, I'll say that.

There was a comforting sweetness to the madeira that made the pork the shining star of this meal for me. The spinach was very, very lightly sauteed which I love. We were so full that the only thing I could've eaten for desert was Gustavo. Saga is definitely high on my list of recommendations.

Along with a well put together menu, they have breakfast, they have buffet trays, serve a mean sunday brunch, have wine tastings and have a Thursday happy hour featuring Live D.J.'s and free food! For info on this call the dining room diva Carolina Chavarriaga at 713-523-1010.

So until next time. Keep those mouths and minds open!

Read Our Blog at www.montrose.blog.com

Well, welcome to issue #81 of Your Montrose GEM.

Supreme Court

Here are a few recollections of one Mildred Loving, who died recently at age 68. She was a successful plaintiff in a U.S. Supreme Court case.

"On June 12, 1967, the Supreme Court ruled unanimously that, 'The freedom to marry has long been recognized as one of the vital personal rights essential to the orderly pursuit of happiness by free men,' a 'basic civil right.' My generation was bitterly divided over something that should have been so clear and right. The majority believed that what the judge said, that it was God's plan to keep people apart, and that government should discriminate against people in love. But I have lived long enough now to see big changes.

"The older generation's fears and prejudices have given way, and today's young people realize that if someone loves someone they have a right to marry. Surrounded as I am now by wonderful children and grandchildren, not a day goes by that I don't think of Richard and our love, our right to marry, and how much it meant to me to have that freedom to marry the person precious to me, even if others thought he was the 'wrong kind of person' for me to marry.

"I believe all Americans, no matter their race, no matter their sex, no matter

their sexual orientation, should have that same freedom to marry. Government has no business imposing some people's religious beliefs over others. Especially if it denies people's civil rights. I am still not a political person, but I am proud that Richard's and my name is on a court case that can help reinforce the love, the commitment, the fairness, and the family that so many people, black or white, young or old, gay or straight seek in life. I support the freedom to marry for all. That's what living, and loving, are all about."

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in her favor striking down state laws that prohibited people of different races from marrying.

Vagina Monologues

Here's a note from the producers: Theatre New West takes great pride in presenting Eve Ensler's "The Vagina Monologues" at Montrose Counseling Center, 401 Branard St., 1st Floor, through May 31. In a unique twist and in celebration of the 10th anniversary of this theatrical phenomenon, the production will be performed by members of Houston's transgender community. Tickets are \$20 and may be reserved by calling 713-522-2204.

The Vagina Monologues is a poignant and hilarious tour of the last frontier, the ultimate forbidden zone, it is a celebration of female sexuality in all its

complexity and mystery. Hailed as the bible for a new generation of women, it has been performed in cities all across the world and at hundreds of college campuses, and has inspired a dynamic grassroots movement (V Day) to stop violence against women.

Witty and irreverent, compassionate and wise, Eve Ensler's Obie Award-winning masterpiece gives voice to real women's deepest fantasies and fears, guaranteeing that no one who sees it will ever look at a woman's body, or think of sex, in quite the same way again.

Director Joe Watts watched



THIS IS MONTROSE

News, Nonsense, Rants
By Henry McClurg

a documentary of a Los Angeles production of the show with an entire male-to-female transgender cast, and decided he'd like to do something similar; however he decided the Houston cast for The Vagina Monologues would not be as limited, opening the auditions up to both female-to-male and male-to-female transgender performers, as well as drag queens. "My intent is in no way meant to sensationalize the transgender community, but to give them a voice, one

of better understanding, acceptance, dignity, clarity and beauty."

WIPS Has a Birthday

Mary's (in the afternoon) and Tony's (in the evening) will be accommodating WIP Society's 10th Anniversary Celebration with door prizes from Michelle of Sinfest, Bob of Black Hawk Leather, Joe of Leather Forever, and more.

"We are ready to party with four hours of cocktail receptions beginning at 7:00 p.m., dinner from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. will be served with a little help from Houston's own Gendermyn, and dancing begins after dinner with DJ RossDaMan spinning inside.

Outside in the WIPS Playground we have music from two DJ's to get you in the mood to play so wear something cool and comfy!

The Playground will feature 5 play stations with equipment from Black Hawk Leather, Serpentarium, Raven's Lair and WIP Sanctuary; so don't forget your toy bags!

Play Ball!

The Lone Star Classic is in Houston for Memorial weekend this year and 30 teams will be participating. That's a lot of ball players. The BRB will be hosting registration Friday night. And the several hundred players in town will be all over the city. So be nice to them and take several home.

ADULT DVDs

4.3.9. DVD Rentals

MONDAY-SUNDAY

711 FAIRVIEW

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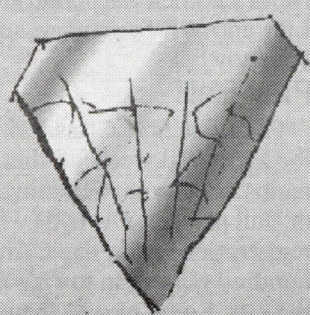
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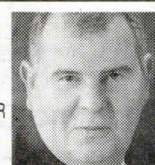
Lady Lee

Welcomes TGRA for our
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10am until ?Come and get it,
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10th Anniversary Party
May 25
Houston TX
Mary's
1022 Westheimer
10am to 1pm
Tony's
817 W. Dallas
7pm to 1am
\$15
Pin+brunch+dinner
Play Party & Hosted Cocktail Receptions included



WIPSociety made its debut in 1998 at the now defunct VentureN with about 200 guests in attendance from other like minded social clubs with many well seasoned members and the curious; people who heard about WIPSociety and thought it might be what they've been looking for in their quests to fulfill long closeted fetishes, fantasies and wishes. 10 years later, WIPSociety enjoys a great reputation for being the one that has introduced many to the world of safe sane consensual pansexual leather levi bdsm fetish legal adult entertainment social clubs, *their very first time*. WIPSociety is 10 years older, still going strong and throwing two parties in the same day to celebrate! Sunday, May 25 2008, we begin with Brunch at 10am at Mary's...Naturally! and end with a party at Tony's Corner Pocket including Dinner 7-9pm, Hosted Cocktails from 7-11pm and a Play Party from 9pm-1am.
\$15 for Pin+Brunch+Dinner * Cocktails & Play Party included * WIPSOCIETY.net

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Houston Buyers Club

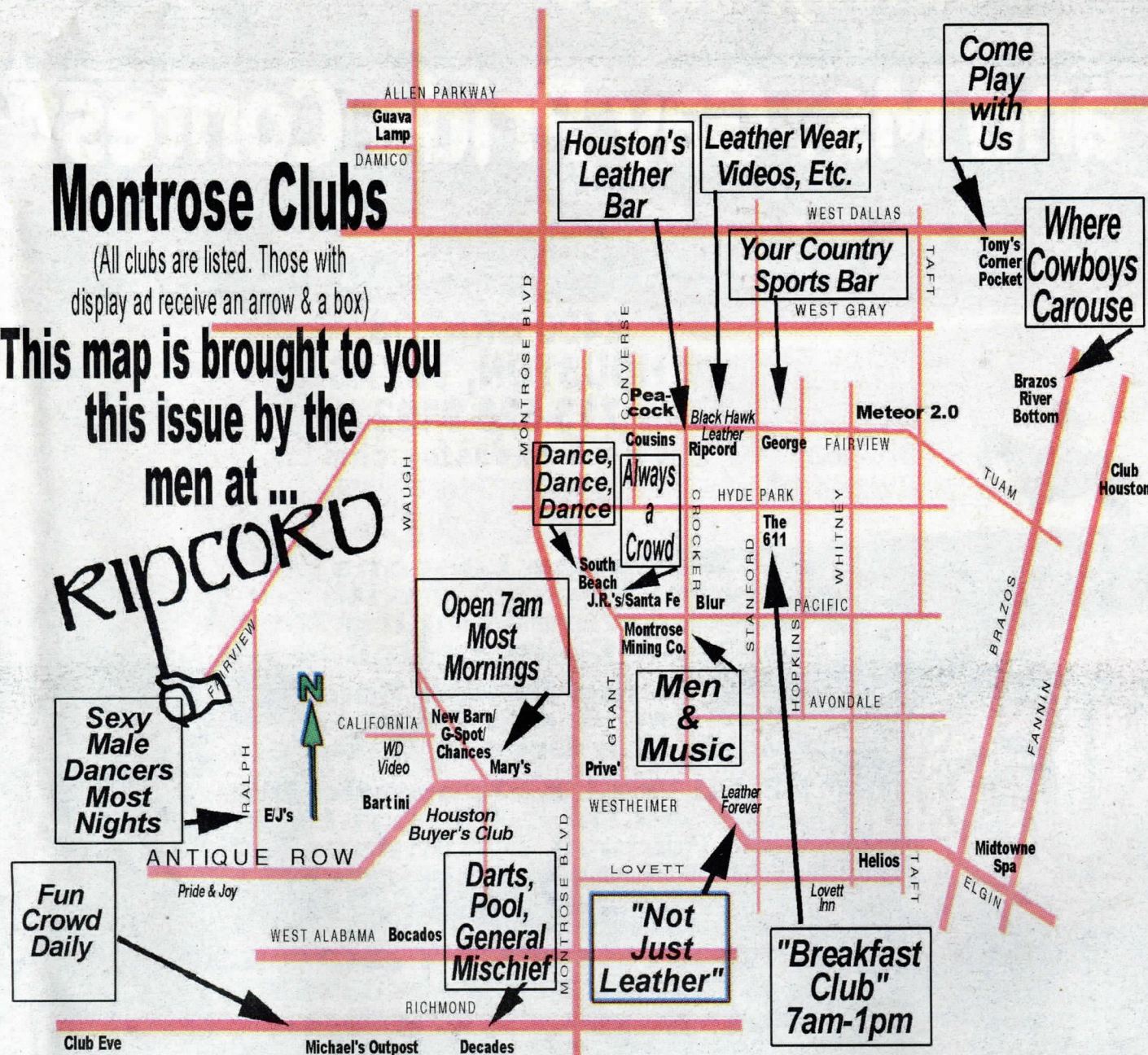
3224 Yoakum Blvd. houstonbuyersclub.com 713.520.5288

Montrose Clubs

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

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RIPCORD



Pride News

PRESS RELEASE from Pride Houston

Volunteer Today: We Are Family!

Come join the celebration! June 28, 2008 marks 30 years of GLBT Pride in Houston. Featuring a colorful disco theme, Pride 2008 reminds us that for the past 30 years, and into the distant future, We Are Family!

The 2008 Pride Celebration will feature the traditional Parade down Westheimer, between Dunlavy and Crocker. The 2008 Houston Pride Parade is the largest in the southwest, and the only one held at night, starting promptly at 8:45 PM. At night, the Parade takes on a new dimension. A spectacular fusion of light and sound, the resonant excitement of thousands of energized celebrants fills the air. Want more information? For general Parade info, click *here*. If you wish to participate in this year's parade, click *here* for the online application.



Welcome Lone Star Classic Softball Players Memorial Weekend

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Sunday, May 25

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