

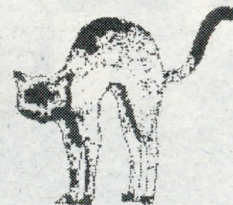
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c. Gulf Features Issue # **91**, October 17, 2008 281-650-3489 Montrose GEM @ Yahoo.com

WE HAVE MAPS TO HOUSTON & GALVESTON GAY BARS



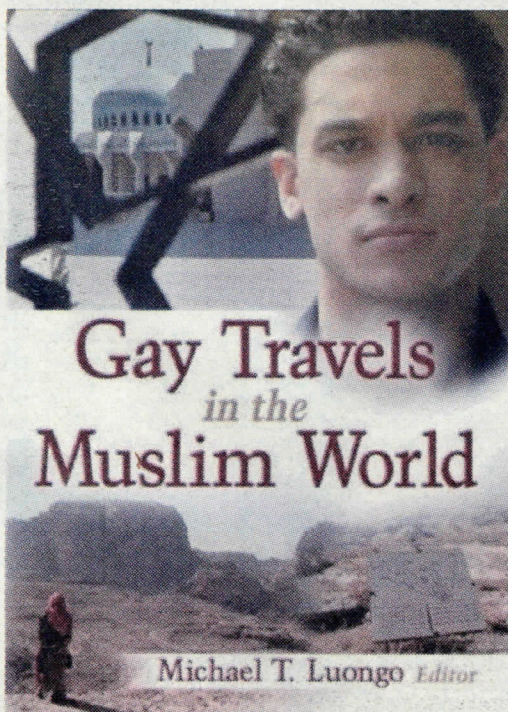
Halloween Prediction



Lots of Sarah Palins

PHOTO BY BOB HALLINEN, ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS

**Take Your
Date,
Paulie's
Satisfies**
Restaurant
Review, page 5



**Author to
Speak
in Houston**

Page 14

OTHER NEWS INSIDE

**Conn. to Recognize
Gay Marriages**

**Election News
from GLBT Political
Committee**

**The Gay President
and the Gay VP?**
THIS IS MONTROSE Column



Premium Vodka
at Well Prices
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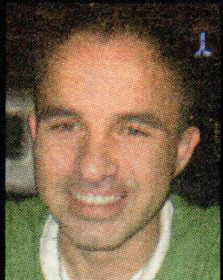
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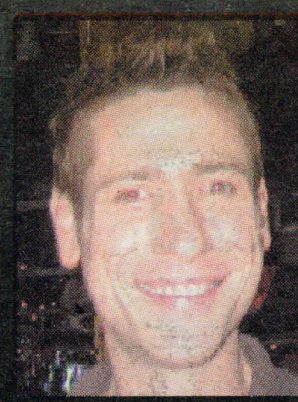


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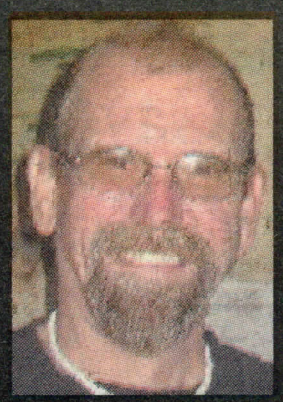


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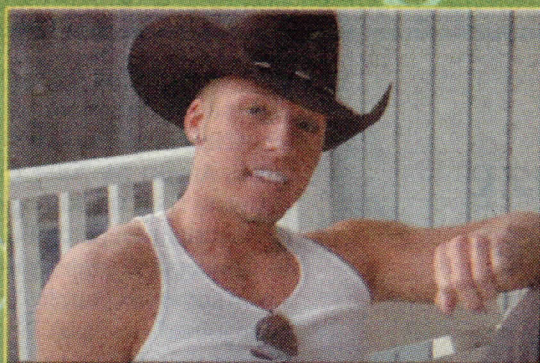


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State to Recognize Marriage Equality for Gay and Lesbian Couples

Press Release from HRC

On Oct. 10, the Connecticut Supreme Court reversed a lower court decision and ruled that same-sex couples enjoy the same right to marry as different-sex couples under the state constitution. The court ruled that it is a violation of the state constitution to deny gay and lesbian couples the right to marry, and that it is not enough to provide rights to gay and lesbian couples through a separate system of civil unions.

"The Connecticut Supreme Court recognized that gay and lesbian couples who form committed relationships and loving families deserve the same level of respect afforded to straight couples. The court did its job by making clear that the

state constitution guarantees the same rights and protections for everyone," said an official with Human Rights Campaign.

On August 24, 2004, Connecticut activists filed the Kerrigan & Mock v. Connecticut Dept. of Public Health case in Connecticut state court on behalf of seven same-sex couples (an eighth couple later joined the case). The plaintiffs argued that denying same-sex couples the right to marry violates the state constitution's guarantees of equal protection of law and due process.

On July 12, 2006, the Connecticut Superior Court ruled in favor of the state, denying same-sex couples the right to marry under the state constitution, and relying heavily on the fact that Connecticut, since 2005, has permitted same-sex couples to enter into civil unions.

A growing number of states are providing relationship recognition to gay and lesbian couples. Connecticut joins Massachusetts and California as the third state to recognize civil marriage for gay and lesbian couples under state law. Four other states and Washington, D.C. provide same-sex couples with access to all the state level benefits and responsibilities of marriage, through either civil unions or domestic partnerships. Three other states provide gay and lesbian couples with at least some of the basic benefits and protections made available to married

heterosexual couples. New York recognizes marriages by gay and lesbian couples validly entered into outside of New York. Gay and lesbian couples do not receive any federal rights and benefits.

Key results from the ruling: Gay and lesbian couples in Connecticut will now be able to obtain a civil marriage license and receive the same respect and protections afforded to all married couples. Churches and other religious institutions will not have to recognize or perform ceremonies for these civil marriages. This ruling is not about religion; it's about the civil responsibilities and protections afforded through a government-issued civil marriage license.

The court's decision does not entitle gay and lesbian couples in Connecticut to receive the federal rights and benefits extended to married couples. The so-called federal Defense of Marriage Act discriminates against gay and lesbian married couples by denying them over 1000 federal rights and benefits, including social security benefits, the ability to file a joint federal tax return, and the right to petition for a spouse to immigrate.

Other states may legally recognize the civil marriages of same-sex couples performed in Connecticut in the same way they recognize out-of-state marriages by different-sex couples.

The court's decision today does not change the law in any other state, or federal law.

The Human Rights Campaign signed onto an amicus or "friend of the court" brief in the Kerrigan case to support and further explain the case for extending civil marriage rights to same-sex couples under the state constitution. A number of other civil rights organizations, religious groups, child welfare experts, law professors, family and legal historians and others also either signed or filed briefs of their own in favor of extending civil marriage laws to same-sex couples.

For Gay Texans, Halloween Isn't the Only Scary Day

Press Release from Equality Texas

The sad reality of the headline is the reason for our existence at Equality Texas.

Some Texas lawmakers have a history of ghoulish behavior toward lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Texans. They would seek to deny civil rights to Texans based solely upon sexual orientation and gender identity/expression.

At Equality Texas, we believe all 23 million residents of this great state deserve to be treated equally, with dignity and respect.

On Nov. 4, voters will choose all 150 members of the Texas House of Representatives. And, six days

later, on Nov. 10, these newly-elected representatives will begin filing proposed legislation for the 2009 Legislative Session.

It is imperative we have a full-time presence at the Texas State Capitol. Equality Texas is the only organization with a full-time lobbyist advocating for LGBT equality at the Texas Legislature.

That bears repeating. We lobby the Texas Legislature and only the Texas Legislature. We advocate and lobby for LGBT equality full-time, all-the-time.

Texas' 23 million residents are spread across 268,000 square miles. It is not feasible for us to reach every Texan where they live. But, with your help, we can reach the 150 members of the Texas House of Representatives who will be in session within walking distance of our Austin office.

Please support our work. Advocacy and lobbying are only possible with the financial support of individuals like you, people who share our belief that equality is a commitment to compassion, diversity, inclusivity, justice, respect, and responsibility.

As we prepare for the legislative session, your financial support is critical. Contribute now. Help us get to the day when Halloween is the only scary day in Texas.

Sincerely, Paul Scott, Executive Director

Houston Event

"Election 2008 and You" will be Oct. 25.

Just weeks away from the election, what will the impact be on the LGBT community and especially transgender members? Depending upon who becomes the next President and who is elected to the Texas House and Senate, how will the community be impacted?

Both presidential candidates talk about change, but what are they saying about change that will impact the our community? Texas may experience a critical shift in leadership at the Capitol in Austin, and how will that impact the LGBT community? Will progress be made in support of issues such as marriage equality, relationships issues, hate crime legislation, healthcare, ENDA and protection for gender identity and gender expression in the workplace?

Join us on Oct. 25 for a panel discussion about the issues.

Discussion will be facilitated by Meghan Stabler (Member of Sen. Obama's National LGBT Policy and Steering Committee). Panel members: State Representative Garnet Coleman; Houston City Comptroller Annise Parker; Jenifer Pool, President, Houston GLBT Political Caucus; and Lisa Scheps, Equality Texas Board Member.

For location, send email to info@equalitytexas.org.

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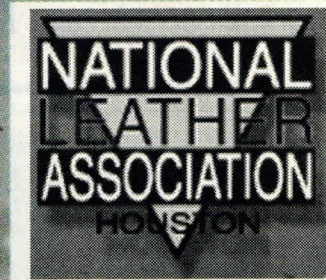
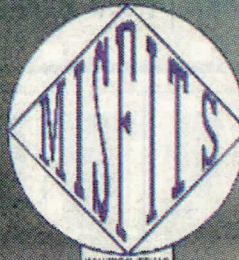


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SPOONING

Restaurant Review
With Damien Dane

damiendane@gmail.com

To Impress Someone, Take Them to Paulie's

Good day fellow Montrosians. I know I'm not the only one who got his rump royally kicked by the hurricane. I very seriously hope that if you are reading this right now that you have been able to make a successful recovery from Ike.

Congratulations to the strength of Montrose. On another note, I want to let some of you who read my review of 369 Bistro in February know that a friend Rebecca brought in a load of take-out from there into 611 the other day and I will report that the food was nothing less than delicious.

There, I said it.

Now maybe those ladies will stop throwing old eggrolls at me when I go to Spec's! The place I'm reviewing in this issue though is Paulie's on Westheimer.

I know some of you may have been already been there but for those of you who haven't, I just want you to know what a pleasant experience you will have there. You can depend it.

Anyone who has been will tell you that it is all about the food! It's an adorable cafe perfectly nestled in Montrose near Mark's, E.J.'s, and some of the coffee shops that have become bohemian staples in our glorious neighborhood.

It's one open room with a glass wall facing the street, two adjacent brick walls, and the cafe bar where you order your food and wine.

Being a cafe style experience you order at the counter and wait for your

food.

There is no need for frills with food this good.

Simplicity is the key to this beauty's longevity in my humble opinion. Founders Kathy and Bernard Petronella opened Paulie's doors in April of 1998 and have had nothing but success since.

They even opened a sister location in 2004 on Holcombe that arrived with just as much of a splash as its predecessor.

Trust me, the Petronella's know food! Bernard worked in catering for Ninfa's for over 15 years and Kathy was the princess of Butera's for a whopping 20 years.

The menu bats its eyelashes at you with an abundance of salads, soups, pastas, cold sandwiches, paninis, dinner entrees, pizza, desserts and wine.

Some of you may be surprised but, this being a cafe, I didn't have wine here.

(Note: To those of you that have just fallen over in a panic attack, no ... I do dine sometimes without wine. Now get off the floor, Gertrude.

I've been there a few times but this time I went with three other friends and we just got a bunch of food and shared everything.

Some people think it's weird to share your food with others but honey, we've all slept with each other with only a couple of degrees of separation so I'm thinking it will be okay to share the same bowl of pasta.

I'm a huge fan of caprese salads and the fresh mozzarella, roma tomato, and basil salad (reg. 7.50 sm. 5.95). Definitely does not disappoint.

Thick slices of homemade buffalo mozzarella layered with fresh and

fragrant basil leaves and cold romas drizzled with olive oil and balsamic vinegar are an example of the type of simplicity aforementioned that requires years of experience to perfect.

The Caesar Salad (reg. 6.95 sm. 5.50) has an eggless dressing.

Finally all you veggiesaurus can enjoy a Caesar because there are no anchovies in it either.

It tasted just as good if not better than any other Caesar I've had. (I did notice however that the croutons were a bit harder to crunch into than I would've liked.)

So all of you with dentures will want order this one sans croutons, but that would leave you with just lettuce and dressing so why don't you stick with the caprese.



We ordered the Kathy's Piatto di Pasta (reg. 9.25 sm. 7.95). It's a magnificent marriage of penne pasta with roasted tomatoes, fresh basil and garlic topped with grilled

eggplant and imported parmesan.

The freshness of the basil conjoined with the unexpected density of the eggplant really surprised me.

I'm not much of an eggplant fan, but I would actually order this again if I were trying to impress a vegetarian on a date. We also had the penne and shrimp genovese (reg. 13.95 sm. 10.25). This damn dish had me at "Geno"! Once again, it's simply al dente penne pasta paired with juicy, plump seared Gulf shrimp bathing in a creamy pesto sauce.

I'm so proud of these two for this creation.

I can't tell you what they do, but they do it so right.

When I would bite into the tubular pasta the cream sauce would squirt out

into my mouth so delicately I thought I was back in San Francisco. As an added tip (pun intended), I've had the Penne Pasta with Pesto (reg. 9.95 sm. 7.25) before and it's my fave.

The whole pine nuts give a hearty burst to an otherwise soft and soothing experience.

One of my dining companions informed me also that they do a really mean ribeye at dinner with pesto gnocchi and grilled tomatoes.

Gnocchi is a hand formed potato based pasta that I know for a fact to be divine. Since the croutons on the Caesar hadn't totally knocked it loose I still had quite a sweet tooth.

We split two desserts, one being the Cream Cheese Brownie (2.25) which may well have been the most moist and delicious brownie I've had since college and God knows she didn't have the ingredients we did.

The other won the match for me though.

Bread Pudding with Amaretto Sauce (3.95). Friggin genius. If I ever have a date and don't get him into bed after dinner I'm gonna have one of these hiding in the fridge because it's just as good as getting laid. Seriously.

They also have assorted Gelatos in seasonal flavors.

Paulie's on Westheimer is closed on Sundays but the Holcombe location is open seven days a week. They take to-go orders and offer box lunches to cater your next luncheon.

They also have nightly specials. The two at the Westheimer location that popped out at me were the ossobuco on Thursdays and the cioppino on Fridays. Cioppino is seafood soup or stew depending on how its made. I'll have to come back to try.

Whether you're trying to impress a man, a woman, or you're just having a leisurely lunch or dinner with friends or clients, Paulie's totally rips away the cliché of cafe style dining with excellence in cuisine.

Paulie's, 1834 Westheimer, 11:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. Mon-Sat., 713-807-7271, paulies-restaurant.com.

Whispers Bar

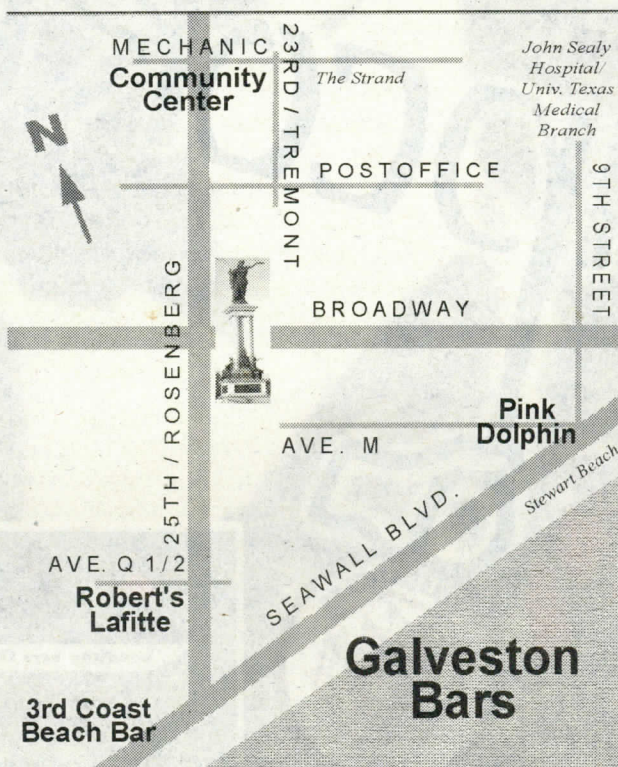
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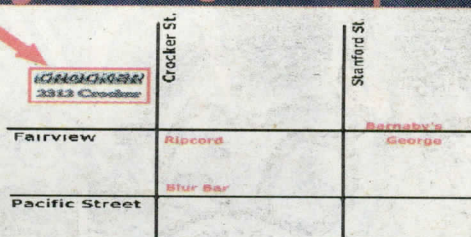
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Katy Freeway & Studewood, 4-8pm

George Sports Bar, 617 Fairview, 713-
528-8102, 6-10pm

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EROS 1207 Boutique, 7330 Southwest
Fwy., 713-271-4999, 3:30-7pm

Urban Zone, Sharpstown Mall, 7500
Bellaire Blvd., 4-7pm

611 Hyde Park Pub, 611 Hyde Park, 713-
526-7070, 4-8pm

Midtowne Spa, 3100 Fannin, 713-522-
2379, 4-8pm

Club Houston, 2205 Fannin, 713-659-
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WEDNESDAY

Club Houston, 2205 Fannin, 713-659-
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E/J's, 2517 Ralph, 713-527-9071, 10pm-1am

THURSDAY

Guava Lamp, 570 Waugh Dr., 713-524-
3359, 6-10pm

Brazos River Bottom, 2400 Brazos, 713-
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E/J's, 2517 Ralph, 713-527-9071, 10pm-1am

Mary's, 1022 Westheimer, 713-527-
9669, 4-8pm

Midtowne Spa, 3100 Fannin, 713-522-
2379, 5-9pm

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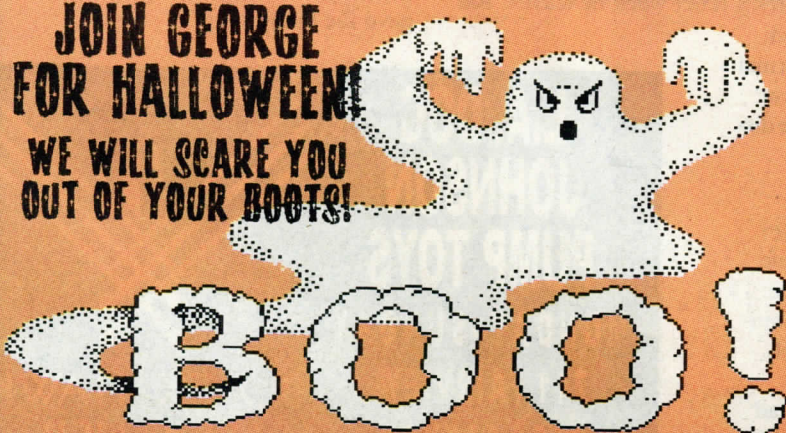
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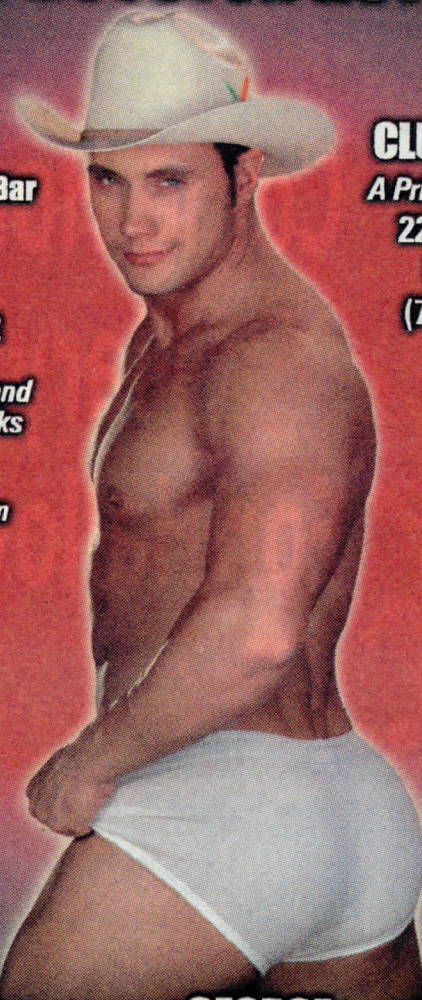
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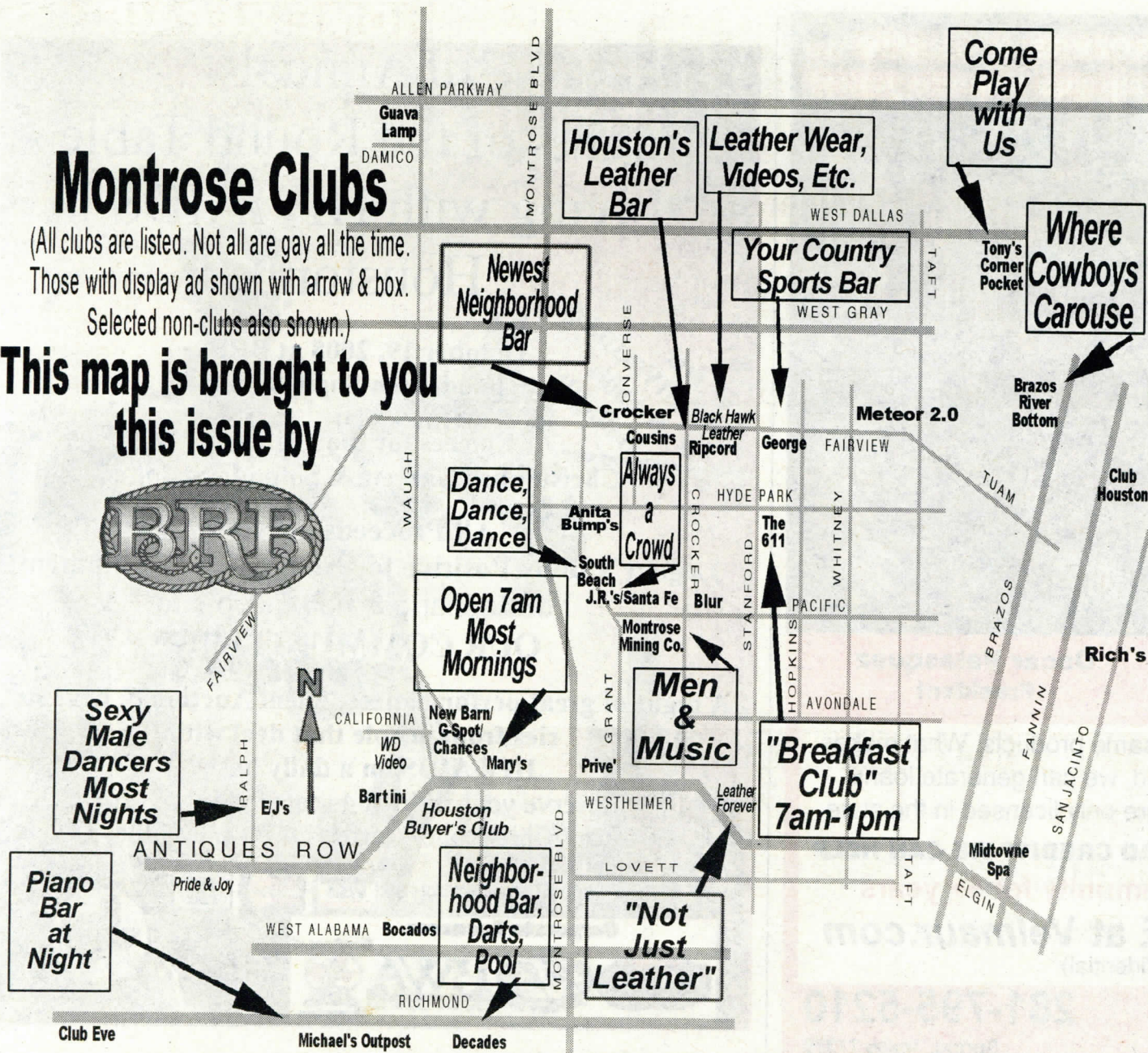
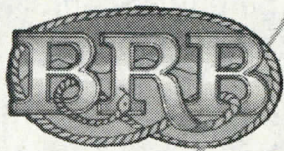
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Montrose Clubs

(All clubs are listed. Not all are gay all the time.
Those with display ad shown with arrow & box.
Selected non-clubs also shown.)

This map is brought to you
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they were named after "City of Houston" but I was wrong. From houstonradiohistory.blogspot.com I learn that it was named after the expression "Call of Houston" and was started in 1948 and then played "beautiful music."

In 1953 it changed and became the black-oriented radio station that it is today.

I originally wrote about KCOH because I noticed they were broadcasting what seemed like a lot of "gay music" at night. They had more Diana Ross playing than that of the juke box at Crocker, Mary's, 611 or EJ's.

Of course, I write about the old radio days here at times because I used to be in radio in the old days. I was semi-famous back in the 1970's (ARB-rated #1 in afternoon drive).

The Prez and the Vice

Here's something I bet you didn't know. I found it on the website for National Review.

In 1852, William King was Franklin Pierce's running mate and the only U.S. vice president who never married.

"For 15 years during his career in Congress, he was the roommate, constant companion, and very close personal friend of James Buchanan, who later became the only U.S. president who never married."

You don't have to be a rocket scientist to figure this one out. Back then, there was plenty of talk about those two, though the precise nature of their friendship remained unclear (or unsaid), said the website.

"During the fall of 1852 King was sick with tuberculosis and after a futile trip to Cuba meant to regain his health, he came home and died in April 1853 after 45 days in office."

Cindy to John: I'm Hungry

This is from Bill in Portland, Maine, as posted on Daily Kos:

"John, would you please go in the kitchen and fix me a ham sandwich?"

"Let me say this, Cindy. I know how to fix a ham sandwich, and I will fix a ham sandwich when I'm elected president. For starters, I know where the kitchen is and I know how to find it. I know where the plates are. I know where the bread is, and I will be the one to pull out the right number of slices and place them on the plate in such a way that the mustard can be spread. Yes, my friends, I know where the mustard is and as president I will have a plan to spread it effectively. I know this stuff because I am a maverick. I can do it and I will do it."

"Let's talk about lettuce. My opponent is inexperienced on this issue. I've been around long enough to know about Romaine, butter, iceberg, bib, Boston and celtuce, as well as loose greens like mesclun. But I promise you this: I will fight every day against the advancing red tide of commie cabbage and I'm not afraid to use force if necessary. I know how to lead this nation in these dangerous leafy times, my friends. Now, I see the yellow light on my lectern is blinking, but if I may for a moment address another critical issue facing this country today, and that is the thickness of domestic pre-packaged ham slices. When I was a POW, we didn't have ham, my friends, or even a chair ..."

Cindy: "Oh fer god's sake, never mind. I'll have the butler do it."

MARY'S

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THIS IS MONTROSE

News, Nonsense, Rants
By Henry McClurg

We keep moving along. Here's Montrose GEM #91.

Quickies

The world-renowned patio at The 611 is back open, less one very large tree; and hamburgers are back on Sundays.

Ripcord and Black Hawk Leather are re-starting fetish nights on the third Fridays, beginning 10:00 p.m. That means tonight, Oct. 17, as most of you are reading this. And then again on Nov. 21.

Too Pretty

You have walked into a bar, settled in, looked around, and then: Wow! Look at that pretty one.

You hate it when it happens, right? He's always with someone else. But you spend the whole time, every 30 seconds, turning around and gawking. You can't help it.

Finally, it's a relief when he leaves. You can get back to your normal bar business without the distraction.

Update

on KCOH
Sometime back I wrote that radio station KCOH (1430 AM) probably had those call letters because

L.A./DOC
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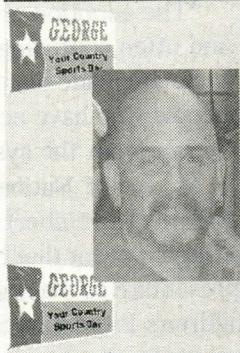
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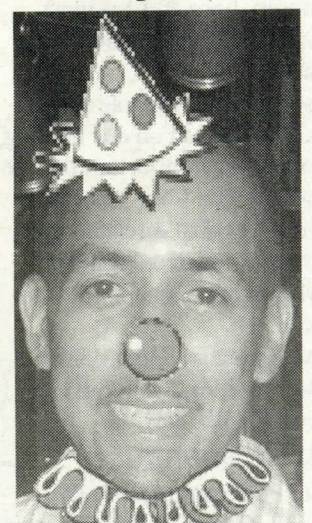
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611

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Election News from The Caucus

PRESS RELEASE from Houston GLBT Political Committee

The Caucus will be out during early voting and election day handing out our endorsement cards. We need your help, if you are available any time during early vote or election please sign up and we will contact you.

The Caucus will be mailing out over 33,000 endorsement cards. We will also be placing cards in community bars and business. And many will be downloading the card.

However some people forget the card or are not on our mailing list, so it is very important that we are there to hand out cards.

If you even just a few hours, your help is needed. Sign Up.

Early voting is October 20 to October 31.

In Montrose, the location is the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center, 1475 W. Gray.

Up in Oklahoma

State Representative Sally Kern defended earlier statements against gays and lesbians in a debate with Democratic challenger Ron Marlett.

Kern, who is running for a

third term, defended her position against the "gay agenda," and repeated her statement that gays represent the biggest threat to the nation.

"While terrorism has killed more than 3,000 people in the continental United States in the last 15 years, homosexual behavior has killed more than 100,000," the Republican representative said. "It's a danger to life. It is a danger to health."

Kern drew a firestorm of protest from gay groups in March when she said, "I honestly think it's (homosexuality) the biggest threat our nation has, even more so than terrorism or Islam," at a gathering of Republicans in Oklahoma City.

At the two-hour debate hosted by the Northwest Chamber of Commerce in Bethany, an unidentified man was escorted out of the building by police after asking Kern about the gun she brought into the state Capitol building. The man was referring to two separate Summer incidents where Kern was caught attempting to enter the building with a handgun.

Marlett has said he entered the race because of Kern's anti-gay remarks. "To compare certain members of our community to a cancer that might need to be removed or amputated is chilling to me," he said.

Kern, however, stood her ground even as Marlett's wife stood up and called her a liar. "Our

country is united pretty much against terrorism, but homosexuality is being promoted in schools and by the government," Kern said.

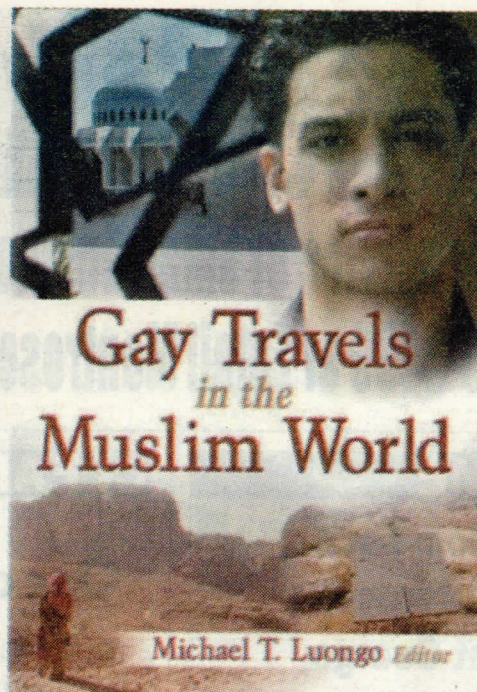
Election Night Celebration

Join the Caucus for Election Watch at Meteor on Tuesday, Nov. 4, 8:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. Live TV coverage, local election updates and more.

Got Milk, Get it

The movie trailer for Gus Van Sant's *Milk* is online and it looks like we could have an outside Oscar contender on our hands. The movie stars Sean Penn as the first openly gay elected official in San Francisco and looks to have the right combination of grit, power and acting to propel it into awards season. Honestly, I haven't heard any buzz about this film one way or the other, and in fact hadn't even heard of the movie itself until the trailer was released. *Milk* is not exactly a title that stands out to me, though now that I know the film is about Harvey Milk, makes sense.

The *Milk* movie trailer has everything working in its favor. Sean Penn automatically adds legitimacy to the project, but the film has quite a few recognizable faces, including suddenly hot Josh Brolin as the antagonist and James



'Gay Travels in the Muslim World'

From Press Release from Houston Public Library

Michael Luongo is going to read from his most recent book "Gay Travels In the Muslim World" (Haworth Press) on Thursday, Oct. 23, 7:00-9:00 p.m., in the 4th floor meeting room of the Central Library.

Luongo, MCRP, is senior editor of The Haworth Press' "Out in the World" Gay Travel Literature series. A New York-based travel writer and photographer with experience in 75 countries and all seven continents, he has written for The New York Times, the Chicago Tribune, Conde Nast Traveler, National Geographic Traveler, the

Advocate, Out Traveler, Passport, and many other publications.

Mr. Luongo has written or edited several travel books, including Frommer's 2005 Buenos Aires, Gay Tourism: Culture, Identity and Sex; and Haworth's Between the Palms, a collection of gay travel erotica.

Also at the Library

The November program, set for Thursday, Nov. 6th, 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the 4th floor meeting room of the Central Library, is on adoption and the LGBT Community.

"The adoption process is complex and often confusing for everyone. It can be made doubly so for LGBT people who have no idea what to expect from 'the system.'"

As part of National Adoption Month (November), HPL is hosting an event that brings together representatives from adoption agencies, Children's Protective Services and the legal profession to provide information on adoption in the LGBT community.

The forum is being facilitated by LGBT adoptive parents who have been through the process and now share their experience as adoption advocates. This open-panel discussion brings the various players in the process together in one place, at one time, for prospective LGBT parents to learn who plays what role and how to navigate the process.

Each panel member will present a brief 10-minute overview of what they do then there will be an open-forum session to take questions from anyone in attendance. Panelists will function as resources for people who may be considering adoption, but who so far may have concerns or are unsure about how to start, and what to expect.

Franco as a gay friend of Harvey's. The cast, look and feel and subject matter all have the makings of a quality project, and Gus Van Sant, who is a bit hit or miss when it comes to overall impact but rarely misses in delivering at least decent projects, gives it another impressive mark.

White Supremacist Gets Life

Rewritten from Daily Oklahoman article

Darrell Lynn Madden pleaded guilty to killing an Edmond man he abducted in Oklahoma City last fall. He also admitted to assaulting and spitting on guards at the Oklahoma County jail.

On Oct. 9, Madden pleaded guilty to killing Steven Domer in a possible gay bashing.

He will not be eligible for parole on the sentence he received in the murder case.

He and Bradley Qualls killed Steven Domer and then dumped his body in a creek in McClain County. Madden later killed Qualls

to keep him from talking about the crime, prosecutors said.

Madden, who told authorities he was a member of the Chaos Squad Skinheads, already is serving a life sentence for killing Qualls.

He spent about 30 minutes prior to the court ruling talking to Domer's brother, Mort Domer, before pleading guilty to first-degree murder and kidnapping charges.

Trailblazing State

Senator Dies

Press Release from Human Rights Campaign

Allan Spear, who served as a Minnesota State Senator for nearly 30 years, eight of them as president of the Senate, has died at age 71. Spear was the first openly gay state legislator and one of the first openly gay elected officials in the nation.

Spear's decision to publicly announce that he was gay made headlines nationally. Today, there are approximately 400 openly LGBT state legislators nationwide.



**montrose
GEM**

91

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ASTROLOGY TAROT AND MORE
By Joseph Molina

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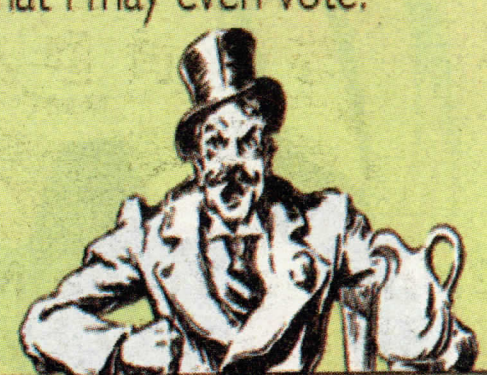
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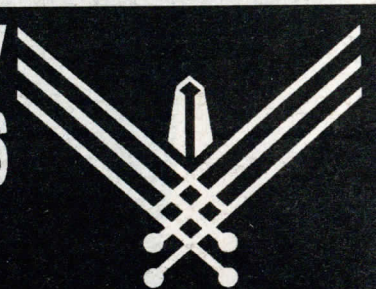
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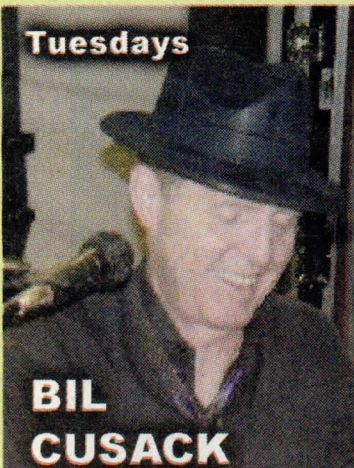
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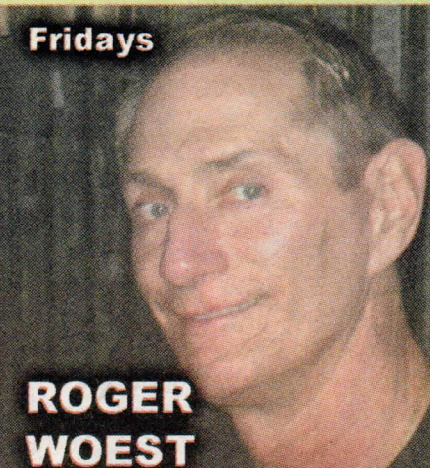
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VOTE TUESDAY, NOV. 4 (Or, Vote Early, Today!)

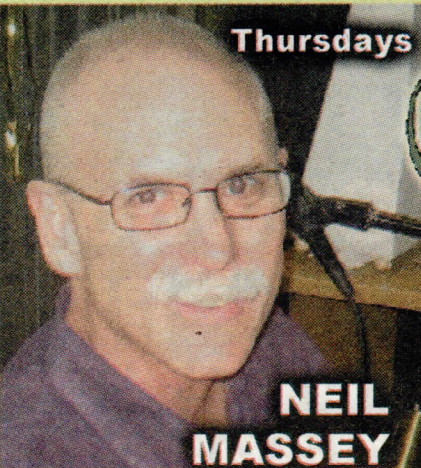
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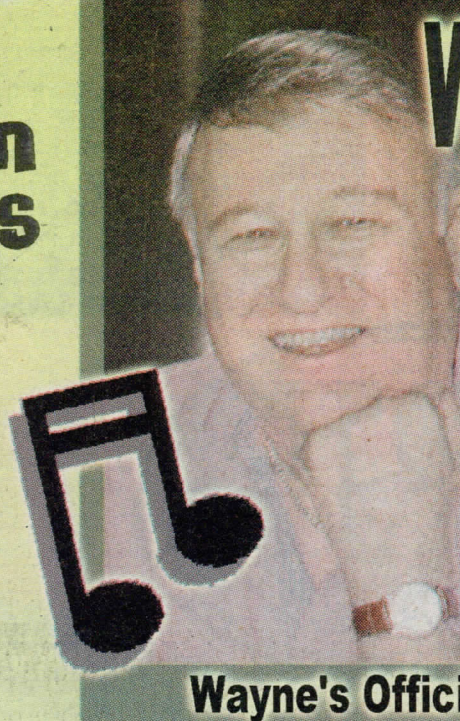
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