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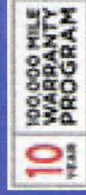


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Texas Gay & Lesbian Arts, Entertainment, Leisure and Lifestyle

Grace Slick

The rock and rock icon talks about why she will never perform again and her new passion for painting

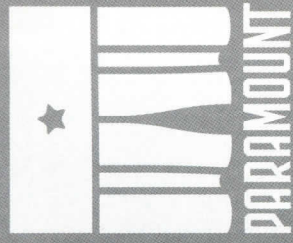


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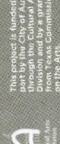
Altar BOYZ

ASA BENEFIT NIGHT! Wednesday, January 10th - 8 pm

On January 10, 2007, the Paramount Theatre and Shout Magazine invite you to a special night of entertainment and giving with the *Altar Boyz* and AIDS Services of Austin (ASA)! *Altar Boyz* is an award-winning off-Broadway musical satire – for more information about the show, visit www.altarboyzrcoming.com.

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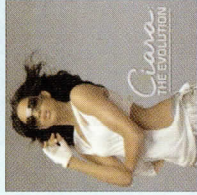
ON THE COVER: Grace Slick creates another masterpiece; photo by The national touring cast of the Off-Broadway hit *Altar Boyz*; photo by



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SHOUT Magazine

500 South Congress Avenue, Suite 340
Austin, Texas 78704
(512) 482-8252

On-line at www.ShoutTexas.com

Powered By QAVenue.net/Mach1Networks.com

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San Antonio: Don Jones • Fort Worth: Lohm Cearnal
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Publication is the currently the first Friday of each month. Each reader is entitled to one free copy of this issue. SHOUT Magazine is available at designated distribution locations throughout Texas, with primary distribution in Austin, San Antonio, Fort Worth, Dallas, Waco and Houston. Additional copies are available for a fee from the publication's offices while supplies last.

Subscriptions are available at \$50 annually, mailed first class postage, from the address listed above.



A Slick Wonderland

By Nick Manix

Grace Slick wakes up every morning at 4 a.m. - no matter what. If she is in Los Angeles and goes to New York, she wakes up at 4 a.m., Los Angeles time.

Strange, but that's Grace Slick - the iconic and rebellious rocker from the 60's, 70's, 80's and 90's. She hung out with Janis Joplin and was friends with David Crosby.

As part of the groups The Great Society, Jefferson Airplane, - later Jefferson Starship and even more recent, Starship - Grace has proven time and time again that her talent is endless. And we all know her songs: "White Rabbit," "Somebody to Love," "Nothing's Gonna Stop Us Now," and the song that was recently voted Worst Rock Song Ever - "We Built this City on Rock and Roll."

But those days of music making are over. Grace has turned her talent to the canvas and is creating some of the most elaborate and psychedelic paintings and drawings, which will be making a stop in Austin in January.

I recently got to talk to Grace about her artwork, her music, Madonna, orgies and the myth behind naming her daughter god. Yes, that's "god" with a little "g."

Nick Manix: You know, when I first heard "White Rabbit" as a kid, I thought it was a lullaby of sorts - you know, the whole "Alice In Wonderland" thing.

Grace Slick: A lullaby?! It's more of a march.

NM: And all these years later, the song and the underlying theme still plays a major roll in your life - looking at your artwork - seeing the Alice, The White Rabbit -

GS: First of all, I was born in the Year of the



Grace Slick circa 1968; photo by Herb Greene, courtesy JeffersonAirplane.com



Grace in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA, circa 1967. Photo by Jim Marshall; courtesy JeffersonAirplane.com

Rabbit. Second, as a kid, I lived next door to a guy that had 40 white rabbits. Now I didn't know what he was doing with them, and I would play with them all the time.

And the story of Alice in Wonderland is very much like my own life, in this sense. I was a kid in the 50's, and it was very straight and very rigid - the wife does that and the husband does this. And the story of Alice comes out of Victorian England, which was a very straight and rigid way of live.

Well, Alice goes down this rabbit hole into this nut job wonderland world, and I went through a rabbit hole into the 60's - which is like a nut job wonderland. Now, there is no prince that is going to save Alice, and she has to do it all on her own. You have to figure out who you are first, and then you hook up with some guy who knows who he is. Nobody is gonna save anybody. She has to handle all of this by herself, and she keeps on going.

NM: You have to rely on yourself.

GS: Exactly...she was, well, oh hell, I can't remember what I was going to say. I'm have a junior or senior moment - or what ever it's called. Okay, go on with your questions...

NM: I understand that you've decided not to go back to singing and to just concentrate on your painting.

GS: That's just because I'm not good at multi-tasking. They had orgies in the 60's and 70's, and I went to one, and it was just to confusing. Whose leg belongs to whom and am I supposed to... anyway, it was just too confusing.

I can smoke and drive, and I can smoke and eat, and it's just disgusting. I can listen to CNN and paint, but I can't listen to music and paint. It's because I'm so tied into



Jim Marshall photo of the original Jefferson Airplane, 1967. Photo by Jim Marshall; courtesy JeffersonAirplane.com

music, and I'll start thinking of the music rather than what I'm painting. But it's easy to listen to George Bush and keep right on painting.

One child, one car, one house, one man at a time; I don't do two things at once. I can't even talk on a cell phone and drive! So that's the reason I don't sing now.

Well, that's not the only reason. I also think that old people on a rock and roll stage look ridiculous. Rock and roll and rap are two things that you can do up to 35 or 40 - and after that, let it go! You can still be around music and be a writer or a producer, but leaping around on stage in spandex...no. I'm a fat, white haired old woman who's 67 years old. Singing rock and roll songs at my age is out of sync for who I am now.

But art has always been a part of my life - drawings of David Crosby, the Pope, stuff like that. But about nine years ago is when I started to really do the artwork.

What I do is very much like rock and roll; it's a commercial thing. I do half of what my agent wants me to do - which is stuff that will sell - and the other stuff is stuff that I like. I don't want to be a starving artist living in a loft painting shit that no one will want to look at until 2080.

NM: Tell me about the scratch board work you do.

GS: That's very unique - not many artists work with a scratch board. It's like a black board and when you scratch it, the white underneath shows through. It's an interesting form, and people really like it. It works great for animals.

NM: With a scratch board, you can't really make a mistake, because there's no way to fix it.

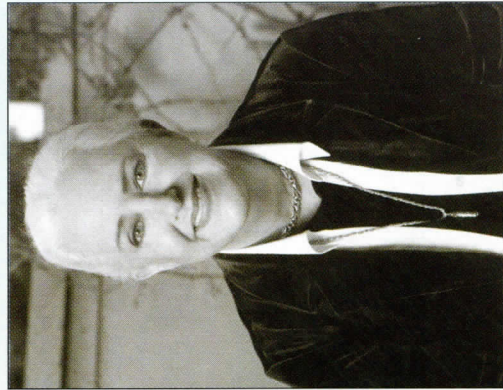
GS: Yeah, you're pretty much fucked if you make a mistake on that thing.

NM: You know, my last two interviews have been with what I would consider some of the great women in the

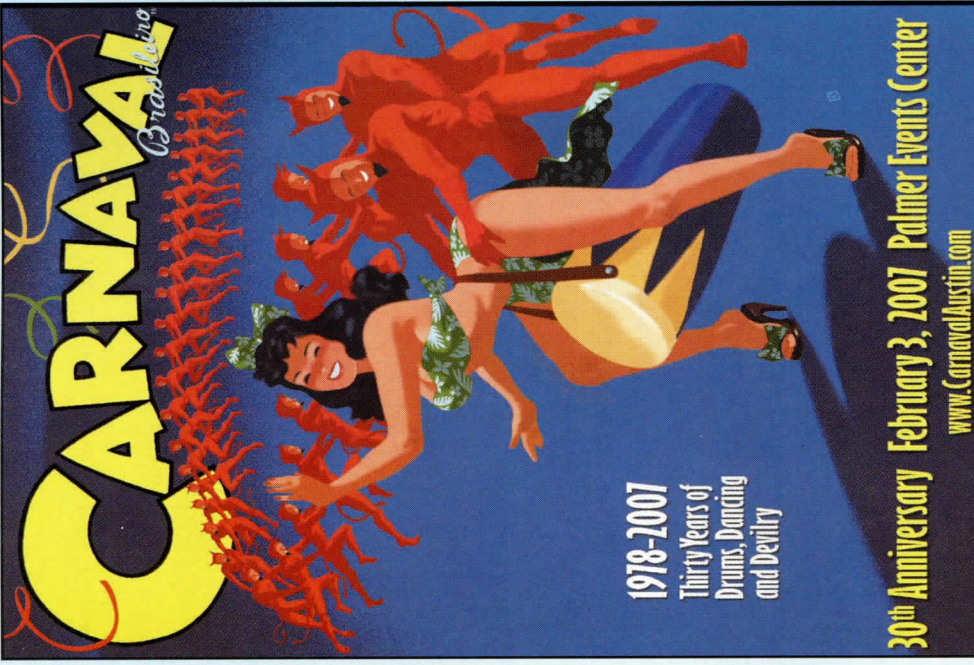
(Continued next page)



Grace playing the keyboard, 1977. Photo by Roger Ressmeyer; courtesy JeffersonAirplane.com



Grace Slick Knight today, photographed by Robert Knight



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Grace Slick (Continued from Page 5)

entertainment history. I interviewed Joan Jett in October, Eartha Kitt in July -

GS: Oh Eartha! Very interesting woman!

(At this point, Grace begins to sing Eartha Kitt's "Santa Baby" to me...)

NM: Tell me about your daughter - you know, "god" ...

GS: I was just playing with the nurse at the hospital. China, (her daughter) has had to answer for that her whole life. People come up to her, "Oh, you're god, right?" This nurse who spoke very broken English actually called Herb Caine, who was a San Francisco columnist - and how the hell did she even know who I was? I was just fucking around with her when I said that her name would be "god."

NM: In my opinion, your voice is a lot like Janis, in the sense that it isn't a polished voice; it's a rough honest voice and very distinct.

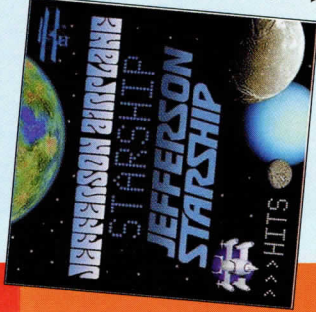
GS: Yeah, well, it's not Hillary Duff!

NM: Thank God!

GS: All these girls sound the same. I can't tell the difference between Paris Hilton and Hilary Duff and Brittany Spears and all those people.

And Madonna is the Queen of what I just said. She's not a great singer, she's not a great dancer, but she knows how to put the package together. And she has control of her own life - like these girls today. She is a better business woman, and she knew how to package the goods.

But all these young ones today - like Nicole Ritchie, arrested for going the wrong way on the highway. It's like, "Honey, take your drugs at home." And another thing - they have car seats for kids that weigh more than she does!



Anyway, Janis and I didn't package the goods. There were times (when) I went on stage in a bath towel that I pinned together - or an LAPD uniform. One time I went on stage dressed as Hitler.

But I won't record another album, because you have to tour, and I'm not going to do that. I don't go back to my old schools, I don't go back to old boyfriends, and I don't go back - I keep going forward. You know that "We Built this City" was recently voted Worst Rock Song Ever...

NM: Yeah, I didn't want to bring that up.

GS: Why not? It's true! It was God-awful. It was written by a British guy, about L.A., sung by a San Francisco group. There is no city that is built on rock and roll, because if it was, it's too new.

So for starters, the chorus is just fucked. And that song went to Number One. I had come out of the 60's and 70's of drugs and drinking, and I had to be a good girl and show up on time and do what I'm told.

But that song was horrible. Those songs are just dorky songs, and I didn't like any of those songs. We made it work. But my god, it was horrible.

NM: I can't wait for you to get to Austin. I understand that the last time you were here, you had a great time.

GS: Well, I have to tell you how much I love Austin. When I did a showing there years back, one of the gifts I got from the hotel was a Keep Austin Weird cup - and I loved it! Austin is San Francisco's sister city. A lot of the Texans I met are so well educated and so nice, and Anne Richards!

NM: I keep thinking that if our politicians had even half the balls that she did, then this country would be rocking!

GS: I couldn't agree more.

NM: Is there any little known secret that you would like to share with us?

GS: The only secret is a 67-year-old body that I hide. I live in Malibu and you see these old people walking around in short shorts and Speedos - and they need to cover up! No one wants to look at that shit. So I cover my body.

NM: It's like I've always said, "Leather pants; they are a privilege not a right."

GS: That is so true!

Grace laughed hard at that one. Man, I made Grace Slick laugh! How cool is that?

Grace's art work will be at Art on 5th from January 23rd to February 3rd, and Grace herself will be in attendance on January 26th until the 28th. For more information, log onto www.ArtOn5th.com

Nick Manix is an author and journalist living in Austin. He can be reached at manix@austin.rr.com

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leader of the pack; Mark, a sensitive young man with a deep faith in Cher; Luke, a bad-boy with an "interest" in communion wine; Juan, the hot-blooded crooner with a passion for pretty girls; and Abraham, a nice Jewish boy, who's not quite sure how he ended up here. During the show, the Boyz begin to question their faith in each other, and learn if fate is really holding them together or if it's just their extra-firm hair gel.

The national tour of the off-Broadway smash *Altar Boyz* blazes into Texas this month, playing Austin's Paramount Theatre on January 9th through 14th before heading to the Majestic Theatre in Dallas for a January 16th through 21st run. Full of sharp parody, sinfully spectacular dancing and irreverent humor, the acclaimed Off-Broadway musical production is now in its second year in New York - and Texas audiences will be treated to a first look at the recently launched a national tour.

The Off-Broadway smash musical-comedy spoof introduces a fictitious Christian boy band on the last night of their national "Raise the Praise" tour. As they perform their signature hits featuring lyrics such as "Girl, you make me wanna wait" and "Jesus called me on my cell phone," soul-wrenching secrets come tumbling out with hilarious results.

The Boyz - five ultra-talented heartthrobs from Ohio - include: lead singer Matthew, the pretty-boy hunk and



The show has become so popular that it has spawned legions of "Altarholics" - extremely devoted fans around the nation that have their own website and can earn "communion wafers" by performing tasks that are redeemable for merchandise and tickets. Among the Altarholics are bold-faced names such as Kevin Bacon, Rosie O'Donnell, Rosario Dawson, Cynthia Nixon, and many others who have seen the show over and over.

For tickets to the Austin performances, call (866) 4GET-TIX or purchase tickets on-line at www.AustinTheatre.org. In Dallas, call (214) 631-ARTS (2787) or visit www.TicketMaster.com. For updates on Austin appearances by the Boyz, visit www.AltarBoyzRComing.com.

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GET OUTTA TOWN!

BY **AMY FORD, CTC**

New Year's Resolutions

Happy New Year! Welcome to 2007! I love the beginning of a new year. While other beginnings in life can be scary, the beginning of a New Year is full of possibilities.

The entire year is before you with a clean slate. While I am not a big fan of so called New Year's resolutions, I am a huge fan of setting goals. On January 1, 2006, I was stranded in the O'Hare Airport with nothing but time to kill. I made an extensive list of goals for 2006 - professional, personal, parenting, etc. Again, I was stranded with not much else to do.

I recently re-visited my list to discover some of my goals were met, while others were forgotten by February. Regardless of whether or not I reached the goals, I set goals for myself. And one of my re-occurring goals is to visit a new place in the world.

Where will you go in 2007? Will you discover a new favorite place? Will you experience a new culture or custom?

In February, I am going to San Juan, Puerto Rico, which is a place I have never visited. I am so excited to explore old San Juan and play on the beaches. And if I happen to run into Ricky Martin along the way, you better believe the readers of *SHOUT* will be the first to hear about it!

January is a planning month, so don't forget to schedule some fun time. Make taking a vacation one of your goals for the year. Rosie and Kelli O'Donnell - along with the R Family Vacations gang - will be sailing the Eastern Caribbean in February and visiting Bermuda in July. Gloria Estefan is the entertainment in February aboard the Norwegian Jewel.

You may remember I was just a fan of Cindy Lauper until she performed on the Rosie cruise last summer. After seeing her live, I became a worshipper of all things Cindy. I am sure experiencing Gloria Estefan up close and personal will have me singing her praises - "1-2-3-4,



Gloria Estefan; picture by R Family Vacations



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come on baby, say you love me!"

The entertainment for the July cruise to Bermuda has not been announced, but I am sure it will be someone fabulous. Remember - you don't have to be a family to take part in R Family Vacations. All are welcome.

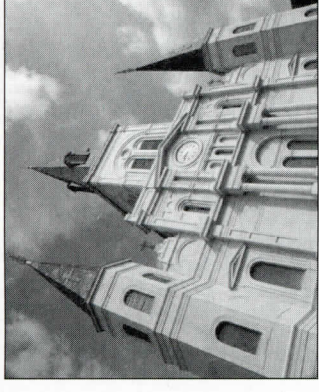
RSVP Vacations has a full line up of exciting travel opportunities in 2007, including the Mediterranean, Thailand - and don't forget the Queen Mary! RSVP has charted the amazing, the historic, the giant Queen Mary 2, and she is nearly sold out. This transatlantic voyage is not to be missed in May 2007 - she is the Queen of all Queens! RSVP is also doing an Alaska Gold Rush Cruise in September that should be lots of fun.

And don't forget about Pride celebrations around the country. Make plans to visit a Pride celebration in a Gay Metropolis - San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York, Chicago or Miami. Typically held in June every year, hotels sell out in a hurry surrounding Pride weekends. Beat the rush and make your reservations now; I guarantee this will be a Pride you never forget.

Maybe you would like to do something smaller that doesn't require as much travel. Take a cruise out of Galveston or visit one of the fabulous bed and breakfasts in the Hill Country.

Or take a trip to New Orleans. The Crescent City is working hard to bring the tourists back, so even if you have been to New Orleans before, experience the city again post Katrina. It's worth it!

Whether you travel near or far, the point is to make a plan to get away. Take care of you this year by disconnecting from the world and re-connecting with the one(s) you love. Try something new - such as a cruise or escorted tour - or stick with an old favorite such as the beach or skiing. Whatever you do, just get out there!



St. Louis Cathedral in New Orleans; picture by NewOrleansOnline.com

Amy Ford, CTC is the owner of *Signature Journeys* travel agency in Austin. Email her at Amy@signature-journeys.com

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DATELINE

BY JENNIFER PARELLO

Either/Or

My friend Greg and I have spent the entire morning recasting *I, Claudius* with people we work with. This is a really fun exercise and a great way to waste time at the office.

Our favorite movie to recast is *All About Eve*. Greg always - *always!* - casts himself as the acid-tongued (and very gay) theater critic Addison DeWitt. And I'm usually stuck in the role of the solid, sensible Karen, the long-suffering friend of the great Margot Channing.

The reason I bring this up is that it's a clever way to insult people you don't like. And, if they're not movie fans, they have no idea you are ridiculing them.

For example, we refer to a dreadful, perpetually pregnant woman we work with as Rosemary Woodhouse, the mother of the demon baby in *Rosemary's Baby*. We refer to our arch-enemy at the office - a woman with an unfortunate resemblance to a young Eleanor Roosevelt - as "little Miss Evil," which is what Margo Channing calls the scheming Eve Harrington in *All About Eve*.

We've created a lot of fun ways to get through the dreary work-a-day world. And I've decided to share one of our favorites with my readers, because I'm currently brain dead and can't think of one lesbian-related topic to address this week.

This game is called "Either/Or," and it's only objective is to spark hours of meaningless conversation such ridiculous topics as whether it's better to be a morning person or an evening person or whether you prefer Bette Midler over Barbra Streisand.

You can make up your own categories, but here are some of our favorites (I've put my choices in parenthesis after each parenthesis after each category):

- morning or evening (morning)
- Bette or Barbra (Bette)

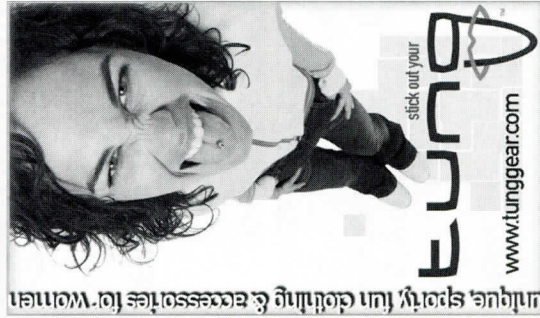


Photo by
HappyDogToys.com

- dogs or cats (dogs)
- Truman Capote or Gore Vidal (Capote)
- Diane Sawyer or Katie Couric (Oh, come on! No contest - Diane!)
- Blondes or brunettes (refer to answer above)
- Cole Porter or Irving Berlin (Cole Porter)
- Frank Sinatra or Tony Bennett (Sinatra)
- really smart or really sexy (really smart)
- *The Godfather I* or *The Godfather II* (*Godfather I*)
- Elizabeth Taylor or Marilyn Monroe (Elizabeth Taylor)
- Mary Richards or Rhoda (Mary)
- show tunes or opera (show tunes - duh!)
- fiction or non-fiction (fiction)
- angry, vengeful God or loving, forgiving God (angry God)
- Dorothy Parker or Edna St. Vincent Millay (Dorothy Parker)
- John Stewart or Stephen Colbert (Colbert by a nose)
- Cubs or Sox (who cares)
- Beatles or the Rolling Stones (Stones)
- The British or the French (Germans)
- root canal or colonoscopy (root canal)
- Richard Nixon or George W. Bush (Nixon)
- primary colors or pastels (primary)
- friend or lover (friend)
- David Mamet or Edward Albee (Albee)
- drunk or sober (depends on the time of day)
- Maggie Smith or Helen Mirren (love 'em both)
- Queen Elizabeth or Princess Diana (Queen Elizabeth)
- breast or thigh (breast...breast is always my answer - no matter what the other choice is)
- Christmas or Easter (Easter)
- Fred Astaire or Gene Kelly (Fred Astaire)
- plastic surgery or wrinkles (wrinkles)

(Continued on Page 26)



NATURALLY HEALTHY

BY DR. JEANNE GALLOWAY

Eat More Chocolate!

Okay, normally at the start of the year, you are going to hear all of us medical folks talk about weight loss and New Year's Resolutions...yadda, yadda, yadda. Here's the thing - you already know all of that.

So, get out there and do it. If you need help or some really easy ideas for dropping pounds, then drop me an email and I'll direct you to some good resources.

But, for this article, relax and grab some chocolate! Dark chocolate - the richer in cocoa the better - is not only a great treat, it's actually good for you.

Several studies have shown the heart-healthy effects of chocolate's antioxidants. One of these studies - led by Penny Kris-Etherton, PhD, RD, distinguished professor of nutrition at Penn State University - found that people who ate a diet rich in cocoa powder and dark chocolate had lower oxidation levels of bad LDL cholesterol, higher blood antioxidant levels, and 4% higher levels of good HDL cholesterol.

Dark chocolate is also thought to do a couple of other health-related things:

1. Keeps blood platelets from clumping.

This effect is similar to that of aspirin. It seems to have substances that can prevent clotting and therefore strokes and heart attacks.

2. Increases blood vessel flexibility.

Unlike aspirin, some of the procyanidins - a substance in chocolate - trigger the production of nitric oxide, which



helps keep arteries flexible and increases blood flow. "This connection has potential implications for blood pressure control," says one researcher.

"My research shows that a diet containing about an ounce of chocolate a day increases good cholesterol and prevents bad cholesterol from oxidizing - a process that may lead to heart disease," says Dr. Kris-Etherton.

Does this mean you should run to the supermarket and load your cart with Snickers and Ho Ho's for "medicinal purposes?" No. What we are talking about is high quality, high cocoa containing (close to 80-90% cocoa content) chocolate - so read the labels. So, do your best to slim down after the holiday "blow-out" and keep your heart healthy by taking a bit of dark, dark chocolate each day - as a little reward after you get off the treadmill.

Dr. Jeanne Galloway, ND is a medical-school trained naturopathic physician with practices in Austin and Dallas, Texas. Natural medicine has many tools to help you with chronic disease. Contact her with questions at: AustinsNaturalDoctor.com

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BY ROBYNN BETZ

The New Year's Resolutions That Keeps Giving

While the rest of the free gay word is busy trying to keep their resolutions to stop smoking, eat less, exercise more, blah, blah blah - I believe we "bois and grrls" need to resolve to take care of our hearts.

No, I don't mean do more cardio. I'm not talking about the actual heart muscle. I mean really try to take care of our hearts in the emotional sense.

All around me these past few months, I have been witness to - and been the victim of - lesbian break-up fallout. While Jack Daniels - which I don't recommend - may quell the immediate pain, the fact will still remain that she is gone and you must move on.

She was *the one*, so what happened? Where did it go so terribly wrong that it couldn't be fixed?

Was it my friends, too much wrestle mania, the monster truck rallies, the tractor pulls? These are questions that may never be answered.

During my search on how to prevent the ending of a relationship, I found a very interesting web site - www.LezBeOut.com - that has great insight on making a relationship last.

Living in a homophobic society makes it hard to take our relationships seriously and receive the support we need to keep them healthy. We're constantly inundated with the message that our relationships - and for that matter our lives - are doomed to fail. Even the most "out," politically-aware women can internalize these messages unconsciously and continue to believe - on some level - that our relationships are neither valuable nor viable.

Here are some of my ideas about how lesbians in committed relationships can fight this trend:

1. Treat your relationship like you expect it to last. This doesn't mean you should try to stay together at all cost, tolerate a relationship that is abusive, or settle for one that clearly isn't going to meet your needs. But try starting with the assumption that your problems can be worked out. If they really can't, you'll be proven wrong soon enough - and you can decide then what you need to do next.

2. Respect the boundaries around you. Don't treat your relationship - or your friends' relationships - as if commitments don't really matter and every woman you're attracted to is fair game. Talk to your partner and come to agreements - compromises, if necessary about what you're okay with in terms of flirting, non-monogamy, and close or even romantic friendships.

Feelings of attraction or jealousy are just that - feelings - and it isn't always possible, or necessary, to control them. Actions, on the other hand, are something we can each make responsible choices about.

3. Respect the boundaries between you. Give her space, honor her limits, and try to empathize with her feelings - even if you don't agree with her reasons. A lack of healthy individual privacy in a relationship - including social, intellectual, physical, and emotional privacy - will paradoxically lead to unhealthy secrets and distrust.



In the same way, too much togetherness ("merging") can lead to no togetherness at all. As lesbians in a homophobic society, it's easy to slip into a "you and me against the world" attitude that can create a suffocating expectation: that you and your partner have to meet all of each other's needs.

4. Talk. Pretending a problem isn't there just gives it more power over both of you. Don't be afraid to bring up conflicts. Your partner may already sense that something is wrong.

5. Rule out break-up threats as a tactic for winning leverage in an argument. If you are seriously thinking of leaving the relationship, bring it up when you're not angry and there is time to have a calm, respectful discussion. Better yet, go to a therapist together to talk about what it would take to stay together, or how to minimize emotional damage if a break-up is inevitable.

In a "fair fight," only the specific, current problem is discussed - no unresolved past issues or kitchen sinks. Each person uses "I feel" instead of "I think" statements as much as possible, and there is an effort on both sides to de-escalate the anger by avoiding name-calling, threats, yelling, interrupting, or physical intimidation.

6. Give a little, but don't give too much. As women, we're socialized to say "yes" a lot. You might say "yes" when you mean "no," because you don't want to hurt her feelings, or because you have a hidden agenda to receive something in return.

If this keeps up in a long-term relationship, you might find yourself in a knot of co-dependent resentments that could take years to untangle. On the other hand, love is about giving. Remain clear about your own needs, be assertive about what's important to you, and try letting go of what isn't.

7. Expect some disappointments. Yes, you heard right. Disappointment is a healthy, natural stage of any relationship that's on its way to being long-term.

In the beginning, it may seem as if you've finally found that ideal partner who once existed only in fantasy. Then, after a couple of years - or maybe less - you lose that honeymoon feeling.

All of a sudden she's a real person with real problems, and you have to decide if you're "in" or "out." Some women mistake this stage of the relationship for failure, and/or mistake the thrill of some new attraction for true love - thus, the trend toward serial monogamy.

8. Get help sooner rather than later. Going to couples therapy as a last resort - to rescue a relationship you're already feeling hopeless about - is a bit like signing up for swimming lessons while you're falling off a boat.

(Continued on Page 24)

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Austin Lyric Presents American Premiere of Philip Glass Opera

Austin Lyric Opera presents the American premiere of Philip Glass' *Waiting for the Barbarians*, January 19th, 21th, 27th and 29th at Bass Concert Hall located on the campus of the University of Texas at Austin. Based on the 1982 novel by South African writer John Michael Coetzee - a Nobel laureate who received his PhD in English, linguistics, and Germanic languages at the University of Texas at Austin in 1969 - *Waiting for the Barbarians* marks the 15th opera by composer Glass.

The opera presents harrowing allegory of oppressor and oppressed, set in a nameless frontier town on the desert fringes of an "Empire" that serves as a symbol for all state oppression. The story's main protagonist - the Magistrate - is a loyal servant of the Empire, running the affairs of the settlement for years and

BY ROB FAUBION

ignoring the ever-present threat of war with the "barbarians," a nomadic people demonized by his own regime.

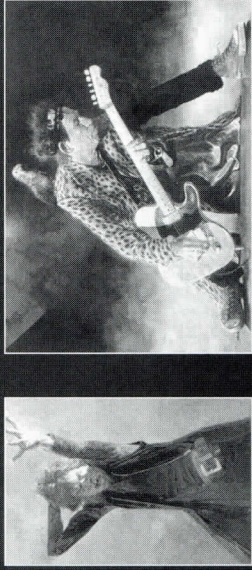
Colonel Joll arrives from the Capital with his henchmen and use the fabricated outside threat of the attacking Barbarians - who never arrive - to inflict their own brand of terror on the people of the town. Jolted into sympathy for the victims, the Magistrate decides to take a stand.

Austin's production will feature artists from the original Erfurt (Germany) cast, including Stage Director Guy Montavon, British Baritone Richard Salter in the role of the Magistrate, and Eugene Perry as the intimidating Colonel Joll. The set design - described as "distinctly post-modern" - is by Russian theater designer George Tsypin, a sculptor, architect and designer of opera, film and video.

The opera will be sung in English with English Supertitles. Renowned conductor Maestro Richard Buckley will conduct the Austin Lyric Opera and Chorus. Single tickets are available by calling (512) 472-5992 or (800)-31-OPERA, or on-line at www.AustinLyricOpera.org.

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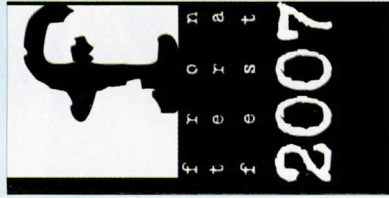
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FronteraFest 2007 Celebrates 14th Year of Showcasing Austin Performing Arts

Hyde Park Theatre in conjunction with Austin Script Works presents the 14th Annual FronteraFest, taking place January 16 through February 17, 2007. Every year, FronteraFest showcases Austin's dynamic and diverse performing arts community by opening its stages to participants ranging from actors to dancers to performance artists and beyond.



A nationally recognized event that has been called "the fringe theatre event of the Southwest," FronteraFest offers the Short Fringe portion of the festival through February 17th - with performances of up to 25 minutes each. The Long Fringe plays January 23 through February 4, showcasing performances up to 90 minutes in length at the Blue Theatre and City Theatre.

"There have been many changes with FronteraFest since it began in 1993, but one thing hasn't changed - every year audiences will see performances and plays by

established and well respected local artists, as well as works by some of the brightest undiscovered talent in Austin and the country," said Ken Webster, Producing Artistic Director of Hyde Park Theatre.

Nontraditional locations throughout the city - such as people's homes - will play host to the Mi Casa Es Su Teatro portion of FronteraFest. In all, it's weeks of alternative, offbeat, new, and just plain off-the-wall fringe theatre. For more information - including showtimes, venues and ticket prices - visit www.HydeParkTheatre.org.



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GROOVE LINES

BY DJ CHRIS ALLEN

First off, I would like to wish all of you a Happy New Year! Last year was filled with some awesome new music. I cannot wait to see what 2007 has in store for us all.

The end of 2006 presented a few amazing last minute releases that truly deserve a mention. The first couple of recommendations - I am sure - by this point need no introduction. I'm talking about the latest hit-packed concert DVD and second solo album from Gwen Stefani. The DVD is called *Harajuku Lovers Live* and features flawless performances of her earlier hits "Rich Girl," "Luxurious," and "Hollaback Girl," to name a few. This DVD also features a couple of tracks from Gwen's new CD, entitled *The Sweet*



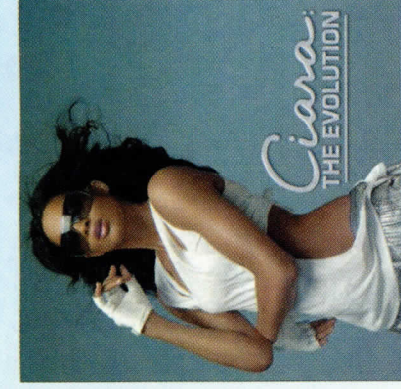
Escape - including the smash hit "Wind It Up." *Harajuku Lovers Live* is as much a visual treat as it is aurally. The entire show is perfectly choreographed and executed by a cast of thousands.

Gwen's new CD *The Sweet Escape* - her second solo release since leaving No Doubt - is packed full of potential hits. Every song has its place - be it a woof-thumping, hands-in-the-air dance track, a heart wrenching bubblegum power ballad, or a rocking Reaggeaton anthem - they all kick ass.

My faves here include "Breakin' Up," "Don't Get It Twisted," and "4 In Tha Mornin'." You can buy Gwen Stefani's new CD online at the iTunes music store or at Amazon.com, where you can also pick



up a copy of her DVD *Harajuku Lovers Live*. Check out www.GwenStefani.com to learn more.



I've also got to tell you about *The Evolution*. Wow - Ciara's second album is absolutely delicious. The liner notes define the word "evolution," a noun, as "a graded process in which something or someone changes into a different and usually more complex or better form." If you dug Ciara's previous hits such as "Oh!" and "Goodies," then you are so in for a treat. Taking things a few steps further, Ciara's new album truly does represent the evolution of an artist. Hot picks on *The Evolution* include "That's Right," "Bang It Up," and the chart-topping single "Get Up." Guest artists include Lil John and 50 Cent. Evolve alongside this super talented gal online at www.CiaraWorld.com.

The once illiterate single mother with a dream - whose life changed forever when she won the title of "American

(Continued on Page 20)

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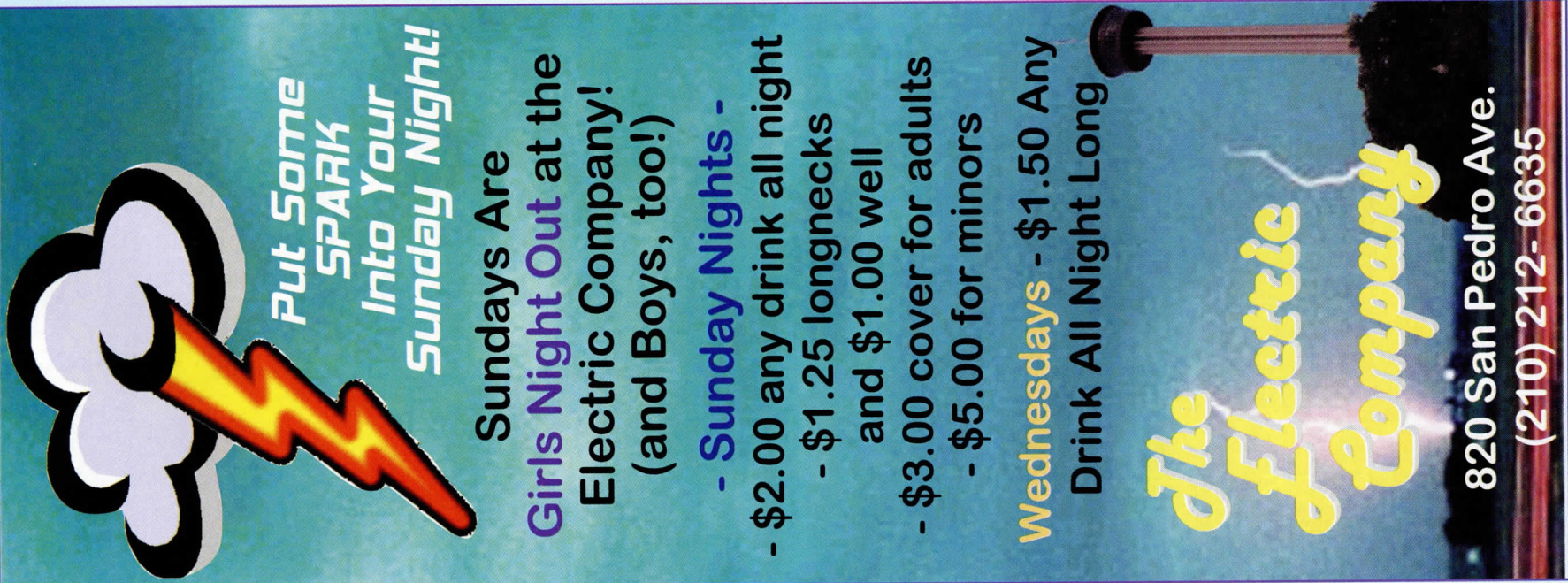
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Groovelines (Continued from Page 19)

Idol" back in 2004 - has released her highly-anticipated second album simply titled *Fantasia*. A diva from the get go, Fantasia won audiences night after night on the hit series with one flawless performance after another.

Fantasia's raw voice and style grabbed our souls, while her story dug even deeper into our hearts. Fantasia's *New York Times* best-selling autobiography, *Life Is Not A Fairy Tale*, was transformed into a hit Lifetime original movie - starring Fantasia herself - and in 2006 was the cable channel's second most watched movie ever in its 22 year history.

This new body of work shows a liberated artist who has let go of the past and is having a good time nurturing her talents. Never falling short of that deeper groove, highlights on *Fantasia* include three tracks co-written by Missy Elliott. I really dig "I See You," "I'm Not That Type," and "Bore Me." Fall in love with Fantasia all over again at www.FantasiaBarrinoOfficial.com.

Deep in the heart of Texas, that's the groove lines for now. Remember, life may not always be the party you had hoped for, but while you're here, you might as well dance. Peace.

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SAN ANTONIO HAPPENINGS

SA Group Sees End to "Don't Ask - Don't Tell"

The American Veterans for Equal Rights is celebrating a recent perceived change in the national military's attitudes toward gays in the service. John M. Shalikashvili - a retired army general and chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from 1993 to 1997 - stated in a New York Times article recently "that the military is now ready to accept gay and lesbians as peers."

"The time has finally come!" said Ron Clarke, Media Relations for South Texas - AVER. "A true military leader has stood up for the rights and freedoms of all."

AVER is a nationwide organization with many local chapters to support the defeat of the "Don't Ask - Don't Tell" policy.

"Veterans and our active duty forces have fought long and hard for such an acknowledgement," Clarke said. "GLBT veterans are finally beginning to realize their dream of being recognized for their fight while on active duty and for the rights of GLBT active duty members of the United States Armed Forces."

For more information, visit on-line at www.AVER.us or www.AVERSanAntonio.com.

Show to Benefit Efforts of We Are Alive

On January 13th, Mr. GDLSA - K.C. Montana - hosts a show and dance at the Boss Nightclub benefiting We Are Alive. The club is located at 1006 VFW Boulevard in San Antonio.

We Are Alive's Show Director, Autumn Summers, will serve as the emcee for the evening. The event follows the recent Christmas Show, which helped the organization to donate baskets of food and personal care items to area families.

"We are grateful for the assistance received from Annette Empressor of the Royal Sovereign Imperial Court of the Alamo Empire and Lupita the Empress of 2004," said Fran Mendez of We Are Alive, "along with the Metropolitan Community Church of San Antonio."

For more information, call (210) 737-1411 or email at Mail@WeAreAlive.org.

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BY ROB FABUION

Hill Country AIDS Ride Kicks Off with Jan. 11th Registration Event

One of the largest annual Texas AIDS fundraising events will launch its 2007 efforts on January 11th when the Hill Country Ride for AIDS host their annual Kick Off Party. The festivities will be held at La Zona Rosa: 612 West 4th Street, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Organizers say the Kick Off Party is a chance to meet and talk to other riders, and learn more about the transformational event. The Ride participants tour the Texas Hill Country on April 28th, raising funds for ten Central Texas AIDS/HIV non-profits.

"Our goal in 2007 is to raise \$500,000," said David C. Smith, Director of the Hill Country Ride for AIDS. Participating riders individually raise a minimum of \$500 in donations to be a part of the Ride.

"This sounds like a lot to people, but our web site makes it so easy to raise money," Smith said. "In fact, even with a \$500 minimum, the average rider has raised more than \$1,000 every year of the Ride!"

Last year's efforts raised \$493,000 - the most ever raised for an AIDS fundraiser in Central Texas, Smith said. Since its inception in 2000, the Ride has raised more than two million dollars.

The Kick Off Party will feature free food, a cash bar, and live music by the TRES Latin Jazz Trio. A short presentation on the 2007 Hill Country Ride will take place at 8:30 p.m.

"Training rides start in late January, with a free training program that is open to everyone," said Smith. "It can take you from training wheels to being ready for the Ride with no problem."

Beneficiaries of the annual event include AIDS Services of Austin, ALLGO, CARE Program, Community Action, David Powell Health Center, Interfaith Care Alliance, OutYouth, Project Transitions, Waterloo Counseling Center, and Wright House Wellness Center. Organizers noted that these agencies provide vital care and services to thousands of people with HIV/AIDS for 365 days out of the year.

SHOUT Magazine sponsors the Hill Country AIDS Ride each year. To learn more or to register now, visit www.HillCountryRide.org or call (512) 371-RIDE.



Two of the 2006 Hill Country AIDS Ride participants; photo by Wayne Bookman.

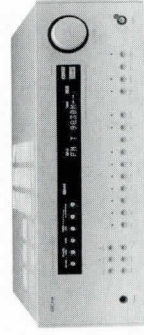
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5th Annual Austin Jewish Film Festival Screens January 20th - 26th

Under the banner "Coming Apart...Coming Together," the 5th Annual Austin Jewish Film Festival promises an incredible mix of dramas, comedies, documentaries, and short subjects from around the world dealing with the joys and complexities of Jewish life. The annual festival screens on January 20th through 26th at the Regal Arbor Cinema at Great Hills, 9828 Great Hills Trail in Austin. This year, more than two dozen films will be screened, with several filmmakers scheduled to attend. The event will also offer panel discussions with regional experts following select screenings.

The Austin Gay and Lesbian Film Festival will co-sponsor the screening of *Only Human*, a screwball comedy from Spain about a young woman who brings her Palestinian boyfriend home to her Jewish family. Written and directed by Dominic Harari and Teresa De Pelegri, the film screens January 22nd at 9 p.m.

Organizers say that the Austin Jewish Film Festival is designed to use the power of film and video to entertain and educate. The films selected for screening "challenge conventional perspectives on complex and dynamic issues facing the Jewish people and the world community," they said, and provide a forum for the Austin community to dialogue with filmmakers, actors, creators and expert panels.

The screens also offer a cinematic examination of Jewish life and culture, universal themes - including human rights, global peace, religious freedom, and tolerance - and an open and inviting forum for student and independent filmmakers to present their work.

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A special concert event featuring cantor Jackie Mendelson in an exclusive live performance will be held on Sunday, January 21st at 2 p.m. at Congregation Agudas Achim, located at 7300 Hart Lane. Mendelson is featured in the film *A Cantor's Tale*, which will be screened during the festival.



Cantor Jackie Mendelson - star of the film *A Cantor's Tale* - who will present a live concert on January 21st.

Tickets for the concert are \$25 for general admission and \$20 for students and seniors. Individual tickets for individual festival films will be available 15 minutes prior to each screening at \$8 for adults and \$6 for students and seniors.

For a complete daily itineraries - plus festival badges and Flex-Passes - visit on-line at www.AustinJFF.org. For more information, call (512) 735-8426.

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FORT WORTH HAPPENINGS

BY TIMOTHY J. NIEHAY

Stock Show and Rodeo Enters 110th Year



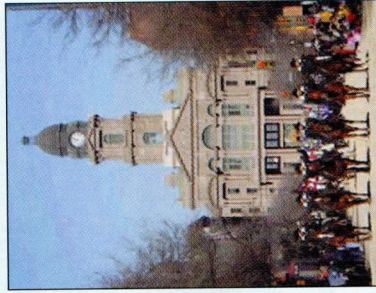
It attracts nearly one million people from around the globe every year. A veritable financial pillar for the City and area students, the Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo enters its 110th year beginning January 12th.

Continuing until February 4th, the nation's oldest livestock show still knows how to ride. Daily performances of the world's original indoor rodeo are featured during the three-week festival.

"This event represents what's unique about our city and reminds us why Fort Worth is such a special place," said Edward P. Bass, Stock Show Chairman. "It's important for every generation to celebrate our roots and traditions, and at the Stock Show we all do it together - ages three to a-hundred-and-three."

The All Western Parade will be held January 13th at 11 a.m. Representing the tradition and heritage of Cowtown, horses and other livestock will line the streets of downtown.

Many know the Stock Show for its tasty foods, Wild West Show performers and thrilling carnival rides, but the event represents much more. The event annually exhibits new breeds of livestock coupled with new



All Western Parade, Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo



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programs and events, and vows to serve the livestock industry with world-class facilities and top-flight educational and entertainment opportunities.

Renamed the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show in 1988, the annual event represents a civic and educational enterprise that has been incorporated as a non-profit organization. Founded in 1896 as "an educational showcase for the great livestock industry," the concept continues today.

All profits from the festival are either returned to Fort Worth in the form of facility improvements or used to aid in advanced education, catering to a host of young people. Since 2000, the Stock Show has provided more than \$1,600,000 in educational grants.

The Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce recently honored the Show for "helping to build a modern Fort Worth, boosting agribusiness education with grants and scholarships, and demonstrating a strong spirit of enterprise." Based on a recent survey, the Stock Show generates an economic impact in excess of \$100 million for the Fort Worth area.

For a head start on rodeo tickets and a complete Show line-up, visit on-line at www.FWSSR.com.



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Friday: \$2.50 "Almost Anything" in the House - 9-11 pm

Saturday & Sunday: Male Dancers

Open Everyday 6 pm - 2 am
Happy Hour 6 pm - 11 pm

We Welcome ALL Members of the Gay Community

New National Cowgirl Museum Exhibit Captures Character

The National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame presents the new exhibit *Revealing Character: Robb Kendrick's Texas Tintypes*, featuring the images of more than 100 cowboys and their families through tintypes, a 19th-century photographic method. Kendrick's wet plate photography on tin exhibit runs until February 11th.



"Tintypes are a challenging medium, because they require the subject to stay still for a number of seconds as the image burns onto the plate," said photographer Robb Kendrick at the opening of his exhibition. "But the process provides so much reward in terms of truly capturing someone's soul."

The exhibit includes 66 tintypes of cowboys taken throughout the Lone Star State, plus highlights four cowgirls primarily from West Texas.

(Continued on the Next Page)

NEW YEARS BEGINNINGS

Start It Out Right With



Fort Worth, Texas

January 7th - Mr. Fort Worth US of A - 9 pm

January 11th - Gay Pride Week Show - 9 pm

January 14th - Imperial Court Meeting - 3 pm

January 14th - Miss TROT 2007 Pageant - 9 pm

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- WEDNESDAY** - Wall of Food Show
- THURSDAY** - Latino Night
- FRIDAY** - Organizational Shows
- SATURDAY** - Dance Night with Your Favorite Music
- SUNDAYS** - Organizational Cook-Outs - 4 to 7 p.m.

Stampede T-Shirts & Caps - \$5 each -

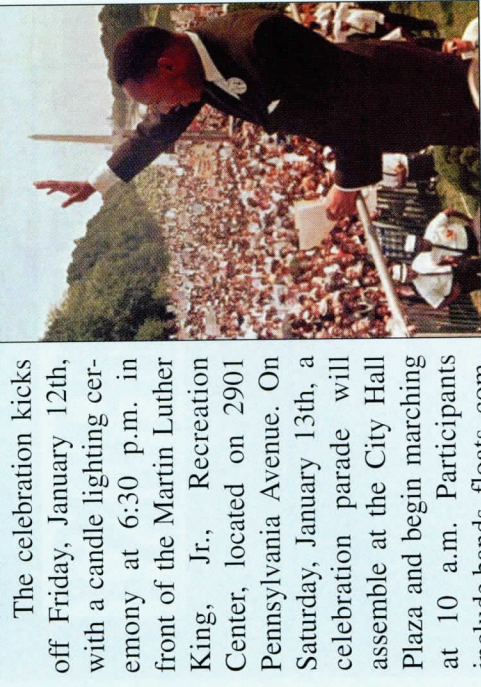
Stampede Calendar of Men - \$10 each -

50 CENT DRAFT BEER - ALL DAY AND NIGHT EVERY DAY!

BY TIMOTHY J. NIEHAY

MLK Celebrations Slated for Jan. 12th and 13th

His entire adult life was spent in the struggle for equality. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., had a dream where social and political injustice did not exist. While much has been accomplished in the civil rights movement since the time of Dr. King's life, the dream still continues and will be celebrated at the 26th annual Martin Luther King, Jr., Birthday Celebration January 12th and 13th in Dallas.



The celebration kicks off Friday, January 12th, with a candle lighting ceremony at 6:30 p.m. in front of the Martin Luther King, Jr., Recreation Center, located on 2901 Pennsylvania Avenue. On Saturday, January 13th, a celebration parade will assemble at the City Hall Plaza and begin marching at 10 a.m. Participants include bands, floats, community and civic groups, churches and a live broadcast featuring Radio One 97.9 FM and 94.5 FM radio personalities.

At 7:30 p.m., a Martin Luther King, Jr., Awards Banquet will be held at the Adams Hotel, located on 400 North Olive Street. The Honorable Craig Watkins, District Attorney of Dallas County, will be the keynote speaker for the evening.

"We're really excited," said Patrick N. Jackson, manager at the Martin Luther King, Jr., Community Center. "Craig Watkins has been in this community for many years and has worked and struggled for the causes that Martin Luther King believed in."

Recently elected and Dallas' first African American to serve as district attorney, Watkins says that he strives to embody Dr King's legacy and will fight hard for justice as district attorney.

"Dr. King's legacy is such an important part of American history - celebrating his life is a privilege and an honor that I am proud to be a part of," said Watkins. "Dr. King once said, 'Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.' We must keep his dream alive

and continue to pursue justice and equality for all."

All money raised by the banquet goes back into the Martin Luther King, Jr., Community Center's social services programs, which supply impoverished Dallas citizens with emergency funds. For more information about events and banquet tickets, call (214) 670-8438 or (214) 670-8422.

Women's Health (Cont. from Page 13)

Homophobia contributes to this delay in seeking help in a couple of ways.

First, some lesbians may feel they have to prove to the straight world that we're all just fine - thank you, very much - and so they deny having any problems. Second, with so many negative messages from society about our "sick" and "sinful" lifestyle, we may unconsciously believe our relationships aren't worth saving. But they are. Really.

Robynn Betz is a nurse living in Austin.

Fort Worth Happenings (Cont. from Page 24)

"We are delighted to host Revealing Character: Robb Kendrick's Texas Tintypes," said Tricia Taylor Dixon, curator of the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame. "Though the images are of modern-day people, their faces possess an intriguing timeless quality. Western values and western heritage is a huge component of our mission, and Robb captures those in each frame."

Through hours of tedious work, Kendrick creates each tintype by coating a thin metal plate with emulsion, sensitizing it in silver nitrate, and exposing it in the camera before the emulsion dries. Finally, a lavender varnish is flowed onto the tintypes to preserve the image.

The National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame honors and documents the lives of women who have distinguished themselves while exemplifying the pioneer spirit of the American West. Located at 1720 Gendy Street in Fort Worth's Cultural District, the museum includes interactive exhibit galleries, three theaters, a retail store and a grand rotunda housing the Hall of Fame.

The museum is open seven days a week, and adult admission is \$8. For more information, visit www.Cowgirl.net on-line, or call (817) 336-4475 or 1-800-476-FAME (3263).



SUNSIGNS

BY TRAVIS ROGERS

Capricorn (December 22 - January 19)

With a Mercury conjunct your Sun, you will excel at work and in your career. While it may not bring you more money, you will benefit from networking with others and discovering new contacts.

Aquarius (January 20- February 18)

Much is happening in the love department. However, while you feel loved, you also feel that you give more in the affair than your partner - and you could kick yourself for knowing better.

Pisces (February 19- March 19)

You may need to watch for hurt feelings because of unkind words from others. You have great dreams for future projects, etc., but you feel others "pooh-pooh" them. So share your dreams with others carefully.

Aries (March 20 - April 19)

You should watch for accidents, especially with long distance travel or involving sporting activities. Also during this current transit, you may find an interest in traveling to places that are different from your usual favorite places.

Taurus (April 20- May 20)

Maybe it was the holiday season, but you are really in a social mood. This is a good time for any new job prospects or career advancements. This is also a good time to take any kind of classes or educational workshops.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)

As you were born with a silver tongue, transits during the last two months really show how you excel in areas where you need to persuade. This persuasiveness will help you with the boss or higher-ups at work.

Dear Readers,

I would like to take this time and wish everyone a great New Year to come.

Travis Rogers

Cancer (June 21 - July 22)

The holidays have made you question some relationships and how strong they really are. You feel as if all the love and responsibility that you showed during the holidays were not appreciated by everyone.

Leo (July 23 - August 22)

A Pluto conjunct with Mars is affecting all of the fire signs: Aries, Leo and Sagittarius. This is giving you a lot of energy and stamina. Sports and anything that calls for physical activity will help burn off this extra energy.

Virgo (August 23 - September 22)

You may sign a contract or buy a large appliance or car - anything that calls for signing paperwork. Watch for over spending of any kind, because you are really confident right now - and may not realize how expensive you purchases really can be.

Libra (September 23 - October 22)

It would not surprise me if you take an art class or any course that calls for you to be creative. During the current transit, you feel really creative and innovative. Also watch for the possibility of love and romance.

Scorpio (October 23 - November 21)

You may find that you are strongly enamored of another, but you interests may not be shared. Well, it's only lust and not the real thing; so if your feelings are not reciprocated by the other, it is okay.

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21)

The explosive nature of a Mars/Pluto conjunction will cause some interesting weeks ahead. Watch for accidents of any kind, especially in regards to travel. Another possibility is unexpected injuries from everyday activity.

Travis is a bilingual teacher of early childhood with a Masters in Education. He likes to study Astrology and writes children's story in his free time.

CLASSIFIEDS

Dateline (Continued from Page 10)

- singing or dancing (singing)
- impressionism or expressionism (impressionism)
- glasses or contacts (glasses)
- potatoes or rice (rice)
- white sauce or red sauce (red sauce)
- city or country (country)
- water or desert (water)
- nurturing or demanding (demanding)
- email or phone (email)
- massage or facial (facial)
- summer or winter (winter)
- East Coast or West Coast (East Coast)
- The Algonquin or The Royalton (The Algonquin)
- tulips or roses (tulips)
- authority or anarchy (authority)
- young, slim Catherine Deneuve or aging, fat Catherine Deneuve (aging, fat Deneuve)

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