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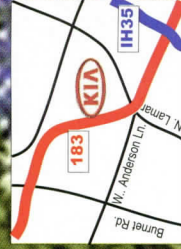


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See Page 22

Cyndi Lauper's True Colors

The Music Phenomenon Talks About Her
Summer Mega-Concert Event in Her Second
Exclusive Interview with SHOUT Magazine!



Alamo City
Men's Chorale
and Turtle Creek
Chorale End Their
Seasons on a
High Note

DIFFA'S
"Dining by
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Volume 3, Issue 17

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On the Cover - Cyndi Lauper;
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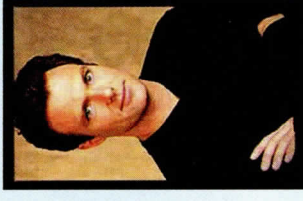
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CYNDI LAUPER'S TRUE COLORS SHINE THROUGH

Chris Allen catches up with the music sensation to talk about her huge True Colors Tour, which is coming to Dallas and Houston and benefiting the GLBT community

As an American, I was raised to believe that all people all people have the right to live with the same dignity, opportunity, and safety. This should include everyone - no matter what gender or sexual orientation.

- Cyndi Lauper

This year's hottest touring music festival - the True Colors Tour - stops in Texas for a couple days on Saturday, June 23rd in Dallas, and on Sunday, June 24th, in Houston. Headlining acts on the bill include the tour's mastermind Cyndi Lauper, the legendary diva Debbie Harry, 80's synth/pop duo Erasure, the always amazing Dresden Dolls, the electronically-inviting Misshapes, The Gossip, queer friendly comedian Margaret Cho, and a very special appearance from outspoken activist Rosie O'Donnell.

Other artists popping in to play at various points along the tour route include Rufus Wainwright, Jeffrey Star, Cazwell, The Clicks, Indigo Girls, and Amanda Lapore. It is an impressive lineup of talent.

The tour kicked off on June 8th at the MGM Grand Garden Arena to rave reviews and fabulous response. It will continue a relentless path across America for a full month, playing an impressive schedule: 16 cities in 23

days, performing to hundreds of thousands of people.

But the True Colors Tour is more than just a bunch of killer music acts jamming day-after-day in city-after-city. The True Colors Tour is a festival with a purpose, a message, and a goal.

The True Colors Tour was conceived by Cyndi Lauper stemming from her desire to give back to the gay and lesbian community for the love and support they have given her throughout her career. Through a joint program with the Human Rights Campaign - the nation's largest organization working for GLBT equality - as well as PFLAG and The Matthew Shepard Foundation, the True Colors Tour will bring together Americans across the country to voice solidarity toward issues facing the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community.

It is a celebration of the basic values and freedoms

that should be shared by all Americans. Lauper said in announcing the event that "...this tour was created to celebrate our differences by raising awareness for liberty, fairness, and dignity for everyone - not just some of us." I caught up with Cyndi just days before the tour kicked off in Vegas for a quick update from our October SHOUT Magazine interview.

Chris Allen: So when did you first come up with the idea of the True Colors Tour, and how long did it take to transform your dream into a reality?

Cyndi Lauper: I have wanted to do the True Colors Tour for the past five years, and it's taken that long for it to come to fruition.

CA: Now a reality, The True Colors Tour is offering a diverse and exciting line up of artists: you, Debbie Harry, Erasure, The Dresden Dolls, several alternative indie acts and even Margaret Cho. Some bands are with you through the whole tour, and others for just a date or two. How did you decide upon which acts to approach and which acts to book where?

CL: The acts that I chose were people that I have either worked with or have wanted to work with. Most of these bands are also involved in their own tours and crazy schedules, so we made the schedule fit for the various acts involved. Like Rufus Wainwright - Boston and DC dates are the only two dates that fit into his busy tour schedule. I am so glad to have him as part of the tour.

CA: How will your performances this summer differ from your stops in Texas last fall?

CL: I'm happy that we're bringing the message of this tour right to Bush's doorstep. And that is a massive amount of inspiration for an amazing performance.

CA: Rosie O'Donnell will be making a special appearance providing some comic relief and wise words at the Texas stops of the True Colors Tour. As we all know, Rosie has been a bit of a loud mouth and stirred up a lot of controversy lately by being so - at times - belligerently outspoken. The girl has balls and you have to give her props for taking a stand and asking the questions people are afraid to hear.

Do you think that all this press is muting her message? In other words, is she doing more harm than good to the fight for equal rights regardless of sexual orientation by being so very?

CL: (Emphatically) Rosie is expressing her freedom of speech - one of the principles that made this country great. We are less great now, less free - how could that be in 2007?! I love and support Rosie and am so proud

(Continued on Page 6)

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Cyndi Lauper (Continued from Page 7)

of her bravery.

CA: \$1 from every ticket sold on this tour will benefit the work of The Human Rights Campaign. That is incredibly generous considering the ultra high cost of producing a touring show of this size and the increase in gas prices. Outside of simply purchasing a ticket, will there be any other ways for attendees to chip in and help the cause?

CL: HRC will be on site, as well as PFLAG and Mathew Shepard Foundation. So you can chip in that way. Orbitz - who is one of our sponsors - is also doing an online auction for some of my favorite charities. You can go to www.Orbitz.com/gaytravel for that info.

I encourage people to not only donate money, but (to) donate time and become involved in these non-profit organizations. It's about chipping into that collective voice that needs to be heard by this administration and your local politicians.

Change won't happen unless

you open your mouth and speak out. Vote - locally

and nationally. Take

an interest in what

is - and isn't -

happening

with your

basic free-

doms and

rights.

Discuss, debate, change one

person's perception of what a gay

person is if they have the wrong

perception. Teach kids acceptance and

inclusion. Make sure your local laws protect

you from hate crimes and work

discrimination.

CA: During the shows, will we get to see

any overlapping performances? Like you

and Any Bell doing

a song or Debbie

Erasure; photo

courtesy Mute Records

CL: I'm

forward to

dropping in

other sets and

vice versa. It'll

be great to see

spontaneity in action.

CA: Is there anything you would like to add, Cyndi?

CL: I want to say that the True Colors Tour has a

powerful message. It's not a political rally. It's a kick

ass party with a message. It's great

music and we want all you there to

party and spread the message.



Cyndi Lauper
photos by
JoAnn Toy

The True Colors Tour is a family-friendly event, where all are welcome regardless of age, race, orientation, sex - or how many rugrats you can fit into your minivan. It is a celebration of our humanity and the power we all possess to make a difference and take part in change. It is also an opportunity to do just that: be proactive and make a difference.

Check out the festival's official website - www.TrueColorsTour.com - for more details about ticket availability, all of the artists, and the various organizations involved. A modern day saint, Cyndi Lauper's true colors are once again shining through.

"Music is such a powerful tool to help erase hate and educate people about the values of diversity, respect, and equality. I commend Cyndi and all of the artists involved for stepping up and using their extraordinary talents to help make this world a better place for all of us."

- Judy Shepard, Executive Director of
The Matthew Shepard Foundation

Chris Allen is a Texas-based DJ, musician, radio personality, and writer. Visit him online at www.Myspace.com/DJChrisAllen.

Austin GLBT Community to Construct Habitat for Humanity Home

The Austin GLBT community is working together to raise the funds and labor to construct an Austin Habitat for Humanity home this Fall. Dubbed "2007 Pride Build," the project will construct a new home of a local grandmother who will purchase the house with a zero-interest Habitat mortgage loan.



A coalition of GLBT and allied organizations is forming to raise the funds and the labor to construct an Austin Habitat for Humanity home in a new subdivision in East Austin. Organizers say they decided to take on this project as a way of allowing the GLBT and allied communities to join forces and work together on a non-partisan project that is a major issue in our community.

"Austin is such a great place to live, because its people have such big hearts and wide open arms," said David C. Smith, Founder of the Hill Country Ride for AIDS and coalition member. "It is because of this spirit that the GLBT community has thrived in Austin in such a unique and inclusive way."

"We reach our highest potential when we give back to those in need, and show that we are here to make the entire community a better place for everyone," he said.

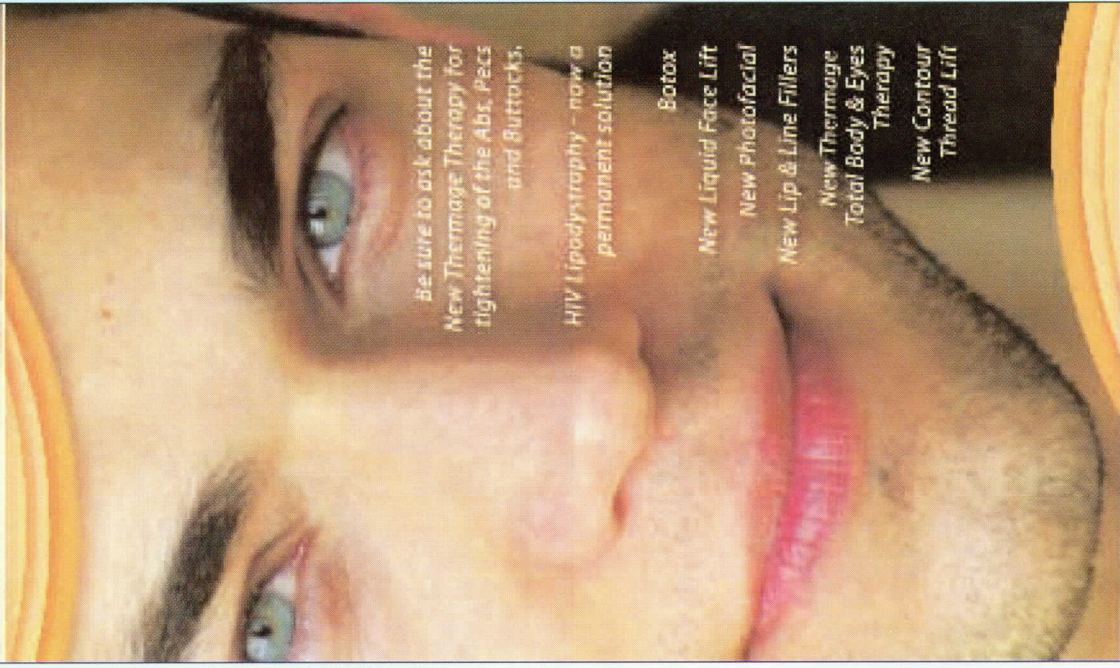
The wall raising for the Pride Build home is planned for September with fundraising efforts already underway. Some \$60,000 in materials and approximately 1,800 hours of volunteer labor will be needed to complete the home, organizers said.

The Pride Build will culminate in a new house for Marta Maldonado, a 64-year old grandmother who is living alone in an East Austin shack. Her current home - two-room house with broken windows, rotted floorboards and a leaky roof - costs \$175 a month in rent, which she will apply to the mortgage for her new home.

Organizations and individuals may participate by volunteering in the coming months to be a part of a work crew building the home, or may provide financial support by donating online at www.AustinHabitat.org. For more information, call (512) 472-8788.



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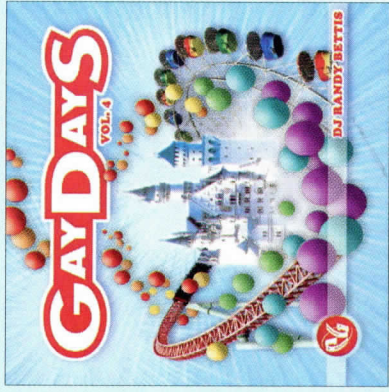
BY DJ CHRIS ALLEN

It would be crazy for me not to start off with a couple of out and proud acts this go around - it is Pride month after all. First up is *Release The Stars*, the latest piece of audible art from Rufus Wainwright. Released in mid-May, this new Rufus CD is a clever blending of styles and moods that fits into the mix on today's queer contemporary iPod perfectly.

Release The Stars is a wonderfully inspiring piece of



Rufus Wainwright



This pumpin' set

kicks off with a bang and a big burst of energy that continues until the end of the very last track. Full of classics, newbies, and familiars from in-between, *Gay Days 4* is a dance music enthusiast and clubber must-have. Highlights from Randy Bettis' fantastic new CD include dance floor fillers from Kathy Brown, Freemasons, Billie Myers, Suzanne Palmer, Viola Wills, Danielle Bollinger, and more.

Highlights on *Release The Stars* include "Rules and Regulations," "Between My Legs," and "Sanssouci." You can find Rufus Wainwright online at www.RufusWainwright.com.

"My goal was an uplifting tea dance vibe," claims Randy Bettis.

Pinky finger out, I have to say that he reached his goal and then some. This tasty tea pees puddles! You can listen to and purchase *Party Groove: Gay Days Volume 4* from DJ Randy Bettis online at CentaurMusic.com.



Is a circuit CD not quite the queer icing on your big gay cake? How about a diva? Better yet, how about a diva throwing down some smooth old school standards?

If that works for you, be sure to check out the latest disc from dance floor diva Deborah Cox, called *Destination Moon*. This one makes you want to fall in love all over again.

A pleasant warm reminiscent vibe runs throughout this flawless recording, with a fine selection of American classics as well. *Destination Moon* is as good as - if not better than - Natalie Cole's first torch album back in the (Continued on Page 10)

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Groovelines (Continued from Page 9)

early 90's, Unforgettable.

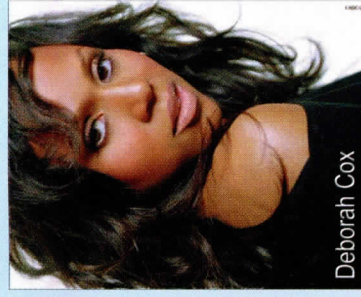
But where Nat's disc was more like a martini, *Destination Moon* is more like a glass of fine whiskey.

Every sip is naturally rough around the edges and still burns smooth all the way down as it warms your heart. It's a journey rather than an experience.

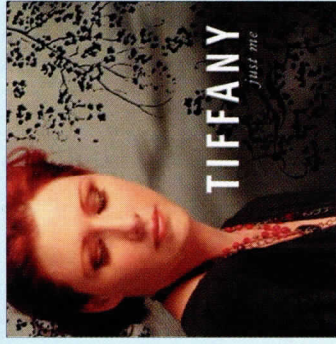
"This is a complete labor of love, a concept album that I've had in mind for years," Cox said of her new album. "This is a project that's an introduction to all of the styles that I grew up with. I think people will be pleasantly surprised."

Let Deborah Cox fly you to the moon with her interpretations of Dinah Washington gems such as "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes," "What A Difference A Day Made," "Squeeze Me," and more. Find this diva online at www.DeborahCox.com.

To celebrate the release of *Destination Moon*,



Deborah Cox



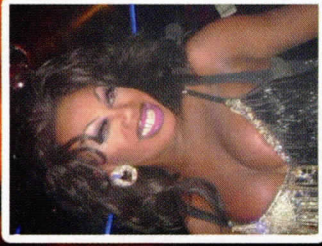
TIFFANY
Just Me

Remember: life may not always be the party we had hoped for, but while we're here, we might as well dance.

Chris Allen is a Texas-based DJ, musician, radio personality, and writer. Visit him online at www.Myspace.com/DJChrisAllen.

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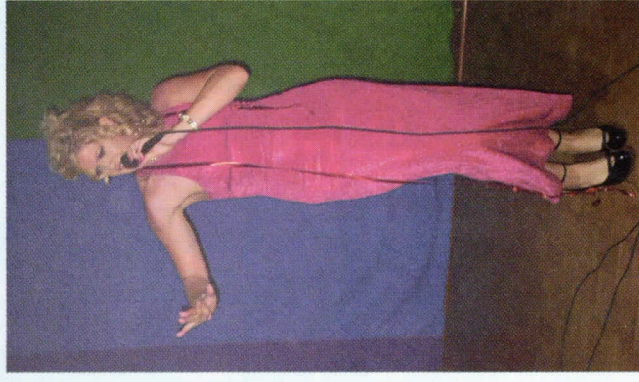


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Out and About

Pictures from the Gay Pride Block Party, Austin Pride Parade, and Texas Pride Festival - a full week of GLBT pride in Austin; photos by JoeLane Schumann



THEMUSES

BY ROB FAUBION

TexARTS Stages Star Filled Carousel in Austin

Austin's TexARTS Association will present a star-studded production of the classic musical *Carousel* on June 22nd and 23rd at the Paramount Theatre. Television and film star Patrick Cassidy will lead the musical, starring as Billy Bigelow.

Cassidy's mother - actress Shirley Jones - was also scheduled to star in the production and perform the role of Nettie Fowler. However, she will now be receiving the prestigious Richard Rogers Award on the same weekend as the Austin production. So she will revisit Austin on September 21st for a special concert event, to be held at the Riverbend Center.

Patrick Cassidy an accomplished Broadway, film and television performer in his own right. Cassidy starred in the Broadway revival of *42nd Street*, in the original cast and cast recording of Sondheim's *Assassins*, and in *AIDA* and *Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* - both on Broadway and on tour.

Joining Cassidy on stage will be Austin's esteemed Karen Kuykendall, marking her return to the Austin stage since battling cancer. Local favorite Jill Blackwood



Patrick Cassidy, photo from MySpace.com/PatrickCassidy

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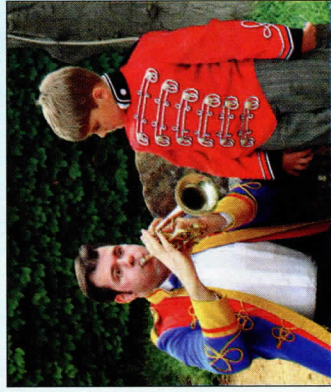
Due to the nature of live entertainment dates, times, prices, shows, actors, venues, and on sales are subject to change without notice. All tickets subject to convenience charges.

will also headline the show as Julie Jordan - the role that Cassidy's mother made famous in the film version 50 years ago.

The Austin cast also includes Ballet Austin star Paul Bloodgood, along with Austin singers and dances - including members of Ballet Austin and the Austin Lyric Opera. Broadway-dancer-turned-Austin-choreographer Robin Lewis will be joined by Broadway's Lincoln Center revival Dance Supervisor Ginger Thatcher for the show's ballets - originally choreographed by the great Agnes DeMille.

For tickets to this extraordinary event, call GET-TIX at 866-443-8849 or visit the Paramount Box office. For more information on TexARTS, visit www.TexARTS.org.

WaterTower Theatre to Stage Outdoor Concert Version of The Music Man



Addison will come alive as the sounds of 76 trombones echo through Addison Circle Park when WaterTower Theatre (WTT) and the Dallas Wind Symphony present a concert version of Meredith Willson's classic musical *The Music Man*. Presented outdoors in Addison (Continued on Page 14)

Shane Peterman and Jacob Remond in *The Music Man*; photo by Mike Wang.

musical *The Music Man*. Presented outdoors in Addison

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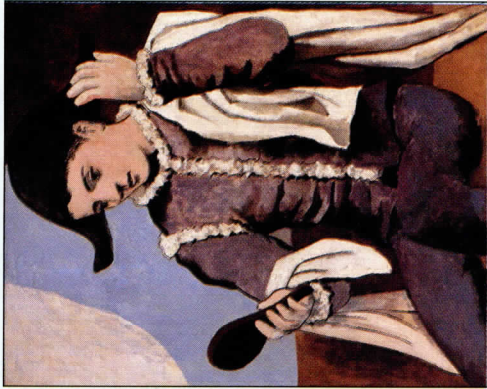
Circle Park on June 29th and 30th, this concert takes to the stage each night at 8:15 p.m..

This year marks the 50th Anniversary of *The Music Man*, whose Tony Award-winning score introduced numerous musical numbers to the American songbook. The WTT production includes numerous Dallas-area favorite performers and a 26-piece wind orchestra.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students with a valid ID. For reservations and information, call (888) 512-SHOW or visit www.FrontGateTickets.com.

Kimbell Art Museum Hosts Major Modernism Exhibit

The Kimbell Art Museum hosts the major international exhibition *The Mirror and the Mask: Portraiture in the Age of Picasso*. This spectacular exhibition is on view at the Kimbell - its only U.S. venue - from June 17th to September 16th.



The exhibit looks at modernism from a new and unexpected point of view. Featuring works by Vincent van Gogh, Paul Cézanne, Gustav

(Continued on Page 22)

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First Person: Jesus Christ Superstar in Austin

The first musical I ever directed was *Jesus Christ Superstar*. So it was with a jaded eye that I approached Zachary Scott Theatre's new production, which is staged as a fresh, bi-lingual re-invention of the popular rock opera.

Inspired by a photography book of rural home altars throughout Mexico, director Dave Steakley has created an unique and extremely exciting production. Combining ancient and modern images with traditional and current Mexican musical styles, the show breathes new life into the often-staged musical.

New York guest artist Joseph Melendez does a nice job in the lead role, and Theresa Medina makes a wonderful Mary Magdalene. In addition, Janis Stinson's gospel soul brings a new twist to Simon Peter, and Greg Holt's turn



Janis Stinson leads the cast of Zach Scott's *Jesus Christ Superstar*, photo by Kirk R. Tuck.

as a Bush-like portrayal of Pontius Pilate is riveting. But the show belongs to John Pointer as Judas. His incredible vocal abilities and intense acting style command the stage every time he enters. This is without a doubt one of the best single performances of the season.

Steakley finds terrific moments of subtle drama and emotional heart in the show. Judas' betrayal of Jesus, which ends Act I, is especially well-staged and effective.

The production's cast of 26 powerhouse singers raise the roof, and Allen Robertson's orchestral rescoring and direction is superb. And although the show switches back and forth from English to Spanish, the show is simple to follow - even for gringos such as myself.

Jesus Christ Superstar runs through July 15th. For complete information and reservations, call (512) 476-0541, ext. 1, or visit www.ZachScott.com.

- Rob Faubion

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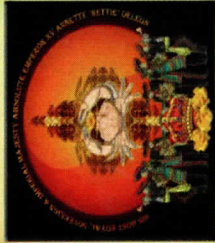
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Youthful Folly

For the past six months I've been certain - certain! - that a girl at the gym was in love with me. And when I say "girl," I mean girl. She's in her late twenties.

Generally, I'm attracted to older, matronly types - because I'm attracted to be the eternal ingénue. But these days I'll take what I can get.

Why did I think she was in love with me? Because she kept staring at me with a certain hostility that I interpreted as sexual hunger. And she kept walking past me in the gym for no apparent reason!

At first, I paid no attention to her. She was just one of the many cute kids who lingered in the locker room post-workout, applying lip gloss and merrily discussing the typical woes of their age: landlord problems, boys who forget to phone, hangers, and whether bridesmaids have the right - no! the duty - to tell the bride that her wedding color scheme is all wrong.

I don't socialize when I'm at the gym. I work out, tidy up, and get the hell out of there. So, for a long time, I ignored the kids in my locker aisle and refused to engage in their giddy small talk until - as mentioned above - I noticed the cute girl staring at me.

She has one of those cool, cruel, unwavering stares that usually signals a cool, cruel, unwavering soul. In other words, just my type.

So, I started looking back. While she certainly looked straight, her clothes suggested a different story. Unlike her compatriots, she didn't wear girly fashions.

Instead, she favored loafers and slacks made from the type of pragmatic fabrics only a young dyke would love.

"I think a girl at the gym is in love with me," I told my friend Stacy.

"You think everyone is in love with you," she said wearily.

And she was right. I do think everyone is in love with me - in spite of lots of evidence to the contrary.



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Roman tilework; photo by Barbara McManus

"What facts do you have to support your claim?"

"Well," I said, warming to the subject,

"I'm the only person in our locker aisle that she's not friendly to. She seems to be deliberately ignoring me."

"Sounds promising," said Stacy, who is just as attracted to willful ambivalence as I am. "What are you going to do about it?"

"I'm going to ignore her back," I said, triumphantly. "Brilliant!" Stacy said.

And she wasn't being sarcastic. Age has its benefits. Stacy and I have learned over the years - from much trial-and-error - that the surefire way to get someone's attention is to act like you don't like them.

So that's exactly what I did. And it worked. I moved my locker to a different aisle, and I staggered my workout times to throw her off balance. As a result, she began to circle closer to me.

Each time I'd catch her gazing at me in helpless confusion, I would quietly congratulate myself on the fact that I had finally learned how to play the game. I was in control of a romantic situation at last. But soon I grew too confident and overplayed my hand.

One morning, when I was feeling particularly cheeky, I decided to say something to her when I caught her looking at me in the locker room mirror.

"Hi," I said, reverting to playful, puppy-dog type.

Her gaze hardened and she quickly turned away from me.

I smiled at my own stupidity, but I knew the game hadn't ended. She may have youth, but I have experience. And my experience tells me that - eventually - I'll win.

You got somethin' to say to me?

Contact me at my web site:

www.JenniferParello.com

floor. Go for 24 to 30 total floor touches.

Cobras: Most exercises for the abdominals focus on flexing the muscles. The cobra works on the opposite movement pattern: extension. Start the movement by lying on your stomach with your arms out in front of you and your hands in a "thumbs down" position. Keeping your legs glued to the floor, slowly raise up your head and shoulders as you rotate your arms back behind you. You'll finish by raising your head and shoulders as high as possible and your hand in a "thumbs up" position by the sides of your hips. Try for 10 repetitions.



Side Plank Holds: Start by lying on your side. Place your elbow and forearm on the floor and stack your feet on one another. Push your hips forward, so that your body is as straight as possible from head to feet. From this position, raise your hips up as high as possible, so that you are balancing on your feet and forearm. Hold this position for 60 seconds. Switch sides and repeat.



Hanging Knee Raises: Grab a chin-up bar with both hands and let your arms fully extend - but try to keep your shoulder blades back. Keeping your stomach tight, slowly lift your knees up so that your thighs are parallel to the floor or higher and your feet are flexed. Hold for a second, then slowly extend your legs back down to the starting position. Do not use your momentum to get these reps out - that's cheating. Make sure your body is completely still at the bottom of the movement before you lift your knees up again. Perform 12 repetitions.

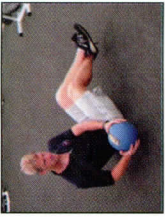
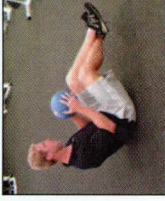


Jon Speakman is certified personal trainer living in Austin. Reach him at www.JonSpeakman.com.

Russian Twists: Balance on your hips and cross your legs. Keep your chest up and your back straight. Grab an 8 or 10-pound medicine ball with both hands - or if you think you're strong enough, go for that 25 pound plate. Take the ball and move it from side to side and touch it down on the



V-Ups: This is a good exercise to start with, because it works the upper and lower abdominals at the same time. Start lying flat on the floor with your arms straight over your head. Keep your legs as straight as possible as you lift them up to a 45-degree angle. At the same time, slowly raise your upper body and try to touch your fingers to your ankles. Lower both your upper and lower body back down flat on the floor and start again. Complete 12 slow and painful repetitions if you can - make sure you touch the ankles!





BY **ROBYNN BETZ**

The Body's Largest Organ

Your liver? Your heart? No - it's your skin!

Your skin is a self-repairing organ that covers and protects your body. And now that summer is upon us - and this being bug breeding time in Texas - it's time to think about skin care. Repeat after me: "sunscreen and insect repellent."

Summer means warmer weather, family vacations, and a chance to enjoy the great outdoors. But being outdoors also means exposure to intense sunlight, hot, humid temperatures, parasites, mites and poisonous plants.

Skin conditions common in the summer can be bothersome, uncomfortable and even painful. Some - such as heat rash and swimmers' itch - clear up on their own. Others, including Lyme disease, require medical treatment.

On the website MayoClinic.com, you can find an excellent resource for understanding summer skin maladies. The site provides information on seasonal skin conditions, their causes, and when you might need

to see your doctor.

Summer is bug season, and in Texas that particularly means chiggers. Chiggers are tiny mites found in tall grass and weeds. They attach to your skin with their little claws and feed on juices inside your skin cells.

After a few days, they fall off, leaving behind an itchy, red welt where they attached. Even with treatment, redness and intense itching can last several weeks for each bite.

Over-the-counter treatments may temporarily relieve itching. If your skin appears infected - or if bites appear to be spreading to other parts of your body - see your doctor. He or she may recommend additional treatment, such as antihistamines or antibiotics.

Poisonous plants are another common problem this time of year. Contact with poison ivy or poison oak usually causes red, swollen skin, blisters and severe itching. The rash - a form of contact dermatitis - can erupt within eight hours of exposure or appear several weeks later. The reaction is caused by exposure to resin - a colorless, oily substance contained in all parts of these plants. Resin transfers easily from clothing or from pet



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hair to your skin.

The rash usually resolves within one to two weeks without medical treatment. Calamine lotion and hydrocortisone cream can help ease the itching. If you have a severe reaction - or if your eyes, face or genital area is involved - see your doctor. Additional treatment may be recommended, such as prescription cortisone cream or antihistamines.

Heat rash is another summer ailment. Caused by active sweat glands, heat rash usually develops on the neck, upper chest and groin, under the breasts and in the elbow creases.

Miliaria rubra, one type of heat rash, appears as red clusters of small blister-like bumps that can produce a stinging sensation. Miliaria crystallina appears as clear, fluid-filled bumps that produce no other signs or symptoms.

These rashes aren't serious. They often resolve with proper self-care methods, such as keeping the affected areas cool and dry, avoiding tight, restrictive clothes, and not using heavy ointments or creams when you expect



heavy perspiration.

If you swim at the lake, you might experience swimmer's itch. Parasites in contaminated water can enter the superficial layers of exposed skin - skin not covered by your clothing or shoes. The organisms soon die and cause a skin reaction called swimmers' itch.

Initially, the reaction is mild and consists of redness of the affected skin followed by itchy, red, raised areas. On subsequent exposures to the organisms, the reaction can be more severe and persistent, sometimes causing blisters.

Swimmers' itch isn't serious and usually resolves within a week without medical treatment. See your doctor if the rash doesn't clear up in this time frame, or if you're uncomfortable or in pain.

I hope this information is helpful while you enjoy all the great outdoor activities that Texas has to offer. Just remember - "sunscreen and insect repellent." They are your first line of defense against post-party misery.

Robynn Betz is a nurse living in Austin.

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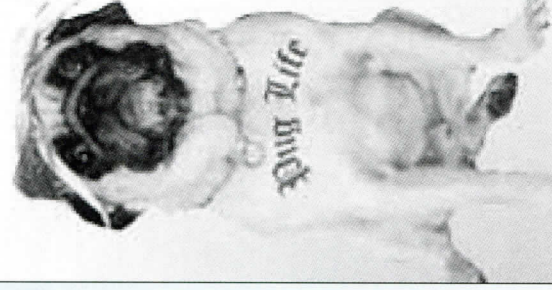
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Same Sex and Real Estate Seminar Returns June 19th

The seventh annual

Same Sex and Real Estate Seminar returns to Central Texas on June 19th. Entitled "Same Sex Property Ownership in Texas: Protecting Your Partner and Your Assets," the free event will be held at 6:30 p.m. at 1801 South Mopac, Second Floor.

Panel members for the seminar include Jan Hill Mortgage, Lisa Thomas of Merrill Lynch, Julie Nelson of Keller Williams Realty, and Bethann Eccles, attorney at law. Organizers say the free community service seminar is designed to educate the community on the legal tools needed to protect our partners and our

Photo courtesy www.BirthdayCards.com



assets.

"We have specifically placed this after Pride so we can use Pride to attract attention to this important topic," said Julie Nelson, Austin realtor and organizer of the event.

"Did you know that if you own property with your partner - and do not have the proper legal documents in place - that if one of you were to die or become disabled, that the laws of Texas will default to their definition of 'their' and your partner's family may now own half of your house?" she noted. "This is usually not the intention, and this seminar is designed to address these issues - its intricacies and challenges."

Seating for the event is limited. For more information or to RSVP, call (512) 794-6706 or email TheNelsonProject@austin.rr.com.

GLBT Catholic Convention Comes to Austin for First Time

DignityUSA's biennial convention will be held at Austin's Hyatt Regency Hotel from July 5th through July 8th. The theme for this convention is "A Morning Star Awakens Us as Prophets."

DignityUSA is the nation's foremost movement of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender Catholics, their families, and friends. The national organization includes chapters throughout the United States and more than 2,800 members.

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Organizers say the organization works for respect and justice for all GLBT persons in the Catholic Church and the world. The group's missions include education, advocacy, and support.

The biennial convention will feature opening night ceremonies, keynote speakers, educational workshops, liturgies and social events. The Austin convention will be the first such event held in the South since 1993 and the first to be held in Texas.

In the past, organizers said attendance has reached more than 500 GLBT people, friends, families and supporters. For this year's event, they anticipate a substantial draw from chapters and supporters in Austin, Dallas, Houston and San Antonio.

For more information, visit www.DignityUSA.org or call toll free 1-800-877-8797.

Austin GayTV to Feature Recaps of Pride Events

Austin's only GLBT broadcast show - Austin GayTV (AGTV) - will air highlights from this year's Austin Pride celebrations during its upcoming broadcasts. The shows air on ACTV Channels 10 and 16 on Austin's Time Warner cable carrier.

Founded in 2005, AGTV is an all-volunteer group interested in all aspects of video production, with experience levels ranging from professional to amateur. The shows are generally produced and taped weekly.

During this month's Pride celebrations, crews taped numerous hours of interviews and features during the recent Austin Pride Parade and Block Party. The group also taped extensive coverage of the Texas Pride Festival, including interviews with numerous non-profit organizations and participating businesses.

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Regular show segments on AGTV generally include reviews and clips of GLBT films, in-studio interviews with entertainers, health professionals, non-profit spokespeople, and commentaries on current events, organizers said. The programming also provides an

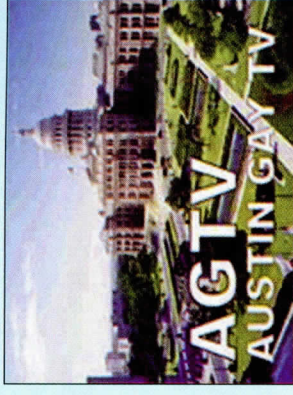
opportunity for non-profit organizations to announce their upcoming events and programs.

AGTV has been one of the driving forces behind the new Austin Pride Center, located at

427 Sterling in downtown Austin. The Center was conceived as a central Austin location for support groups, GLBT organizations, and social events.

The Center has been suffering financial problems since its inception, due mainly to a lack of support from the local GLBT community. Organizers hope that upcoming fundraising events will help offset the costs incurred with opening and running the Center.

For more information, call (512) 902-0657, visit www.MySpace.com/AustinPrideCenter.



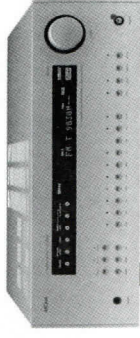
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The Muses (Continued from Page 14)

Klimt, Pablo Picasso, Henri Matisse, Joan Miró, Oskar Kokoschka, Max Beckmann, Chaim Soutine, Frida Kahlo, Jean Dubuffet, Alberto Giacometti, Francis Bacon, David Hockney, and many others. *The Mirror and the Mask* uses the work of Picasso as its recurrent theme, following the changes in his style in relation to trends in portraiture throughout Europe.

The exhibition comprises about 100 paintings and 10 sculptures from 75 collections, public and private, across Europe and North America. For more information, call (817) 332-8451 or visit www.KimbellArt.org.

Two Landmark Concert Events For the Turtle Creek Chorale

Two landmark concerts this June and July mark the end of an era for the Turtle Creek Chorale, prefacing the change in artistic leadership. Before the final page of the chapter is turned, the chorus reprises audience favorites in two spectacular concert experiences - back-to-back.

On June 22nd and 24th, the Chorale gathers a festive mood for "Fabulous Favorites." Representing some of

the groups crazy antics through the years, highlights will include Patsy Cline on yet another "Back to Earth" tour, the monks, the "dancing waters" and even a Strangerette or two. To top it all off, Tuna, Texas' own Vera Carp, played by Jaston Williams, will perform the beloved "Baptist on a Roof."

On July 8th, the final concert of Dr. Timothy Seelig's 20 year tenure as the Artistic Director of the Chorale will conclude in a special concert event and end a part of the group's 27 year history. The evening will feature video and live



Dr. Timothy Seelig

tributes, plus songs from the 20-year span of Dr. Seelig's musical guidance. Former members will be returning for this special event, along with The Women's Chorus of Dallas, One Achord, the New Texas Symphony Orchestra, Russ Rieger on the Lay Family Organ and the Tesoro String Ensemble.

Both concert events will be staged at the Meyerson Symphony Center. For tickets call (214) 526-3214, extension 102, or visit www.TurtleCreek.org.

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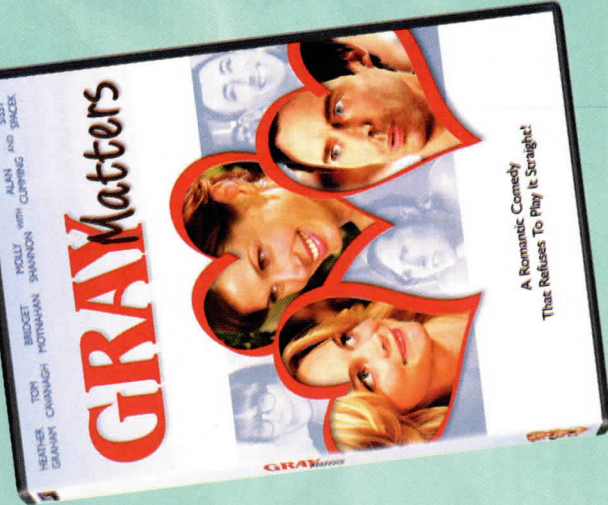
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SAN ANTONIO HAPPENINGS

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Alamo City Men's Chorale Closes 20th Anniversary with Regional Premiere Concert

The Alamo City Men's Chorale will present the final concert of their 20th Anniversary season on June 23rd. Entitled "HISTORY - The Quest for Human Rights," the event will be staged at 8 p.m. in the Travis Park United Methodist Church of San Antonio, located at 230 East Travis Street.

The concert will feature the San Antonio premier of Robert Seeley's "Naked Man," an acclaimed song cycle of dramatic expression. Since it was first performed in 1996, it has become a staple of men's choruses nationwide.

In addition to "Naked Man," the performance will include five other compositions - each of which speak to every man's yearning for equality and freedom, organizers said. The Chorale will perform "The God Who Gave Us Life" from Randall Thompson's *Testament of Freedom*, "How Do I Love Thee" by James Mulholland, "Sufferin' Until Suffrage" by Bob Dorrough and "The Quest Unending" by Joseph Martin.

The Alamo City Ensemble Singers - a smaller group within the ACMC - will be joined by soprano Melody Rich to perform "I Ain't Afraid" by Holly Near. The concert also will feature a special guest appearance by the Capitol City Men's Chorale from Austin.

Tickets are available at On Main/Off Main Cards &



Avenue. Organizers said the event will feature numerous GLBT organizations with information booths, several non-profit organizations with food and beverage booths, plus games and entertainment.

The San Antonio Gay Pride Parade heads up North Main Street at 9 p.m., leaving out of the parking lot at Essence Bar, 1010 North Main Street. The Parade travels up the street past the Block Party to the intersection of Dewey Street.

Organizers say there is still time for businesses and groups to become involved. For vendor information, email Fran Mendez at GayFiesta@yahoo.com. To have an entry in the Parade, contact Monica Montana at Monica_SATX212@yahoo.com.

2007 Gay Pride SA Block Party Slated for July 1st

The fourth annual Gay Pride San Antonio Block Party and Parade will fill the parking lot along North Main Avenue's popular gay club district on July 1st.

This year's festival also includes the third year of the popular Gay Pride Parade.

The Block Party will be held from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. along the 1400 block of North Main

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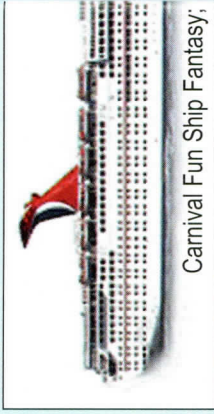
HAPPENINGS

TCAIN Cruise Against AIDS To Set Sail in January

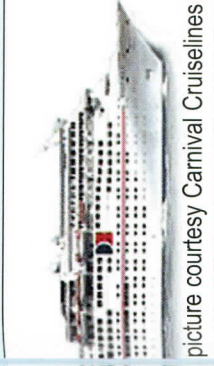
Tarrant County AIDS Interfaith Network (TCAIN) third annual Cruise Against AIDS will leave New Orleans on January 7th aboard the Carnival Fun Ship Fantasy. The five day Caribbean cruise will raise awareness and support for TCAIN and people living with HIV/AIDS.

Organizers said the first year of the Cruise Against AIDS in 2004 was "an awesome success," but the hurricanes of 2005 forced the agency to skip that year and loose momentum. They expect this year's cruise to be just as exciting as the first year.

Ports of call for the cruise include Costa Maya and Cozumel, Mexico. Organizers say shop highlights include three pools, the Club 21 casino, a day spa and fitness center, Vegas-style shows, and the usual dining



Carnival Fun Ship Fantasy;



picture courtesy Carnival Cruiselines

number of paid staff. Organizers said 95% of TCAIN clients have an income at/or below the poverty level, and many having little or no insurance

Prices start at \$324 for an inside cabin, and prices include all taxes and port charges. For more information, call Journeys with Suzanne at (817) 222-3900 or email sales@journeyswithsuzanne.com.

and entertainment experiences. In addition, the ship offers special facilities and activities for children.

While on the ship TCAIN guests will have a private meet-n-greet, organizers said. In addition, a private cocktail party during the cruise is planned for those that are not familiar with TCAIN and its programs.

Tarrant County AIDS Interfaith Network served more than 577 active clients in 2006, with most receiving multiple services and an additional 2,150 persons receiving educational services.

TCAIN serves the second-largest number of HIV+ clients in the Fort Worth Service Delivery Area - with the smallest

number of paid staff. Organizers said 95% of TCAIN clients have an income at/or below the poverty level, and many having little or no insurance

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All Well Drinks - \$2.50**

**Thursdays - \$2.50 Domestic Bottle
Beer and \$2.50 UV Vodka**

**Friday and Saturday - Dance with
your favorite DJ until 2 am**

**Sunday - Reduced drink prices all day
and all night, and \$1.25 domestic draft**

**Open 3 pm to 2 am
Reduced Prices 3 pm to 9 pm**

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

Saturday: Bartender's Choice Specials

Sunday: \$3.25 Absolute Vodka, \$1.25 Draft Beer

Male Dancers - Friday and Saturday

Wed. - Sun. : DJ Anthony playing top music and video

Open Everyday 6 pm - 2 am

Happy Hour 6 pm - 11 pm

We Welcome ALL Members of the Gay Community

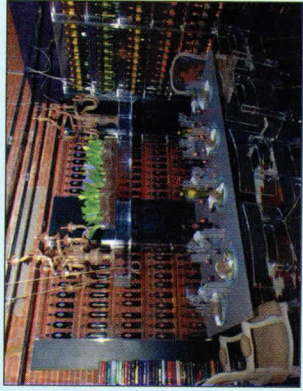
Tarrant County Gay Pride Week
is making a MOVE
From 1st Week in June
TO
1st Week in October
Parade - Oct. 7, 2007
Picnic - Oct. 13, 2007
Visit www.TCGPWA.org
for further info

DIFFA Brings "Dining by Design" to Dallas

The Design Industries Foundation Fighting AIDS - DIFFA - will bring their annual "Dining by Design" tour to Dallas to highlight the June International Gift and Home Accessories Market. Events will take place at the Dallas Market Center on Wednesday, June 20th, Friday, June 22nd and Saturday, June 23rd.

According to event organizers, Dining by Design event will bring together some of the most talented and celebrated individuals in the worlds of fashion, interior design, art, and architecture to create spectacular, over-the-top dining environments.

The multi-city tour - which in the past 10 years has raised more than \$12 million for DIFFA - will feature dining installations by design luminaries such as David Rockwell/Rockwell Group for GE Monogram, Margaret Russell for ELLE DECOR, Marc Blackwell for Rosemount Estate, and noted Dallas designers David Nelson, Shane Walker, Mary Ann



THE DIFFA Rosemount installation; photo courtesy DIFFA

by dancing with music by DJ Lady Bunny.

DIFFA/Dallas has granted millions of dollars to North Texas AIDS service organizations during its 18-year history. For more information or reservations, visit www.DIFFADallas.org or call (214) 748-8580.

Thompson-Frenk and John Pfifer Marrs.

Each designer/sponsor will receive a dining space within which the creative possibilities are endless, organizers said. The only requirement is that each table accommodates at least ten dinner guests.

The tables will open for the public to view on Wednesday evening at the Grand Pavilion in the Trade Mart. During the Preview Cocktail Party on Friday evening, guests will again have the opportunity to view the magnificent table creations while tasting Rosemount Estate wines and libations including cocktails by CORZO tequila and tunes by DJ Lady Bunny.

Guests at the gala dinner on Saturday, June 23rd, will actually dine at the tables. The evening will feature a catered dinner, entertainment and an alluring auction amidst the breathtaking table environments, followed by dancing with music by DJ Lady Bunny.

DIFFA/Dallas has granted millions of dollars to North Texas AIDS service organizations during its 18-year history. For more information or reservations, visit www.DIFFADallas.org or call (214) 748-8580.

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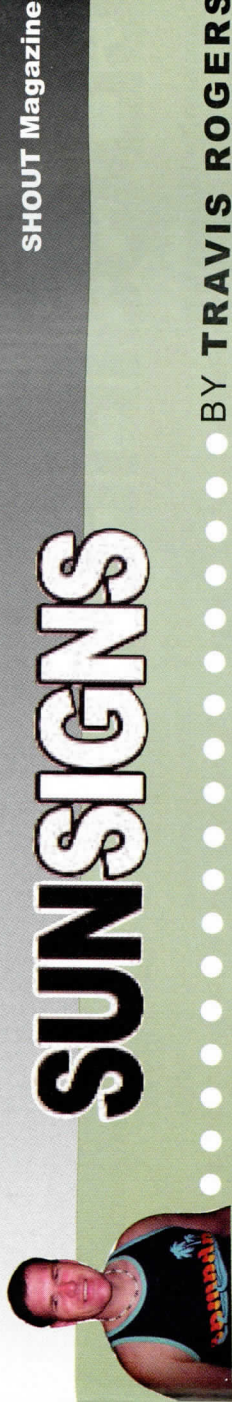
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SUNSIGNS

BY TRAVIS ROGERS

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)

As you Gemini's finish celebrating your birthdays, Jupiter is shining on you. A year-long transit that will continue for several months is producing benefits in the realms of education, politics, social activism, and travel.

Cancer (June 21 - July 22)

You have a desire to create right now - especially poetry, song writing, and/or creative writing. Also, you may want to communicate about social issues and causes that are important to your sense of social justice.

Leo (July 23 - August 22)

You know that you are a charmer and love to be the center of the party. People either love you and your "larger-than-life" persona - or they feel that you gregarious personality is bombastic. So watch how you come across these next few weeks.

Virgo (August 23 - September 22)

Virgos are known for being pragmatic realists. Uranus - the planet that shakes your from the norm - is giving you spiritual insights right now. Your dreams are filled with psychic insights, so trust your instincts.

Libra (September 23 - October 22)

Things are not going your way, I'm sorry to say. You must watch for physical dangers and accidents. Libras are typically peacemakers and hate discord, but with Mars - the god of war - transiting your natal Sun, you must learn to deal with tension right now.

Scorpio (October 23 - November 21)

You will receive very important and life-changing news from an unsuspected person. You must communicate with family members and friends, because you are being called to make amends with others.

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21)

This month, you will enjoy the fruits of your labor. Something that you have been working on for many months is drawing your attention. Finish the job, and those around you will give you praise and kudos for your great work.

Capricorn (December 22 - January 19)

Your attention to detail and rules will pay off soon. In times of crisis many depend on you as the bedrock that doesn't crack under pressure. So your love methodology will make you the star attraction this month

Aquarius (January 20- February 18)

You may experience strife within the family or among a group of friends during the next few weeks. People around you may tend to irritate you - and you just want to be left alone. These feelings are actually symptoms of deeper issues between you and those you love.

Pisces (February 19- March 19)

You are the "go-to guy" for anything involving religion or matters of the spirit. Others will see you as a spiritual sage who holds a wealth of knowledge. You may even surprise yourself by how much you know.

Aries (March 20 - April 19)

Mars, your ruling planet, is in your sign. This gives you a drive and an energy that may seem obsessive. You may find that you want to be alone and don't want to socialize - since you are dedicated to other things.

Taurus (April 20- May 20)

You may attract the attention of others this month, especially because of your charm and physical beauty. However, you may attract unwanted admirers who have feelings for you that you cannot reciprocate - so keep your guard up.

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.

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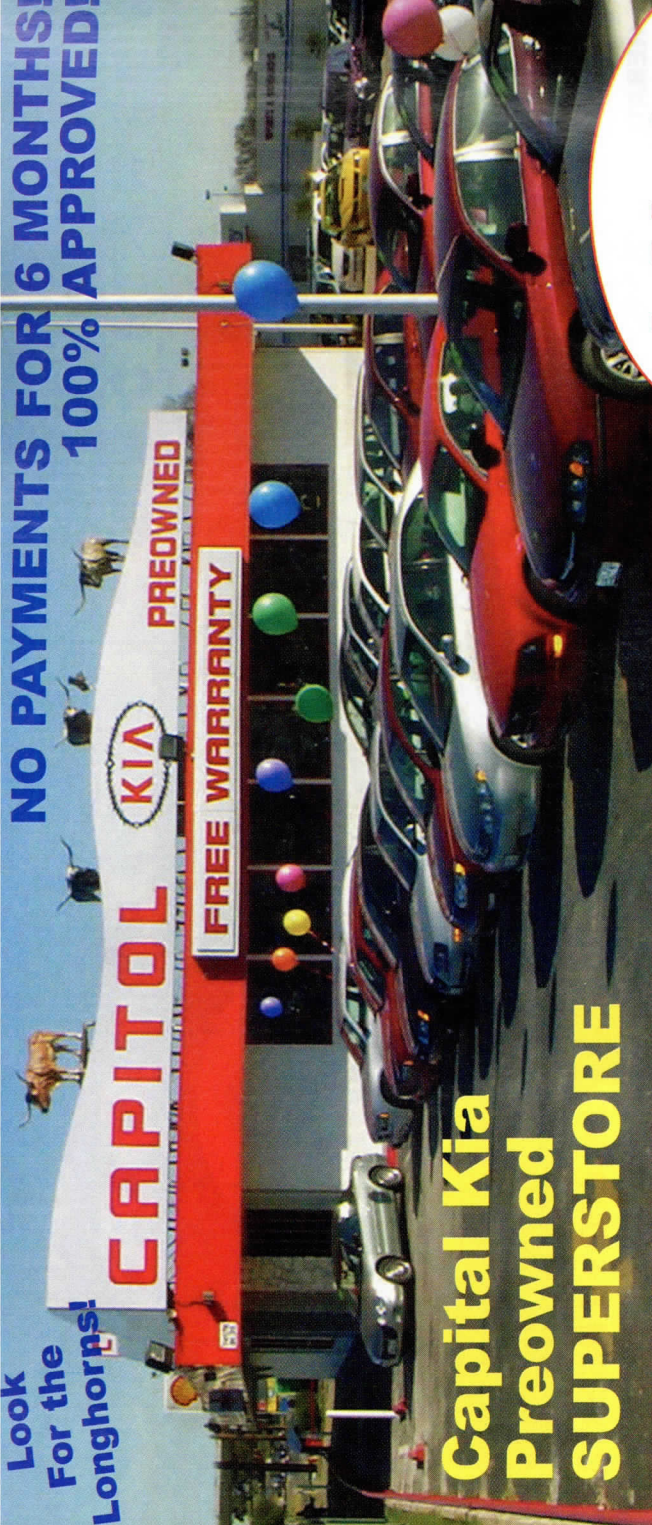
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