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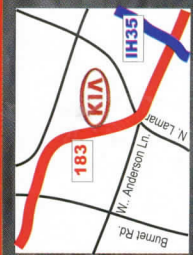
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Fort Worth Celebrates Tarrant County Gay Pride Week

Under the banner of "One Nation, United for Equality," Cow Town will be festooned in rainbow colors this Fall as the annual Pride celebrations take place through October 13th. Taking a cue from other major cities around the nation, the Tarrant County Gay Pride Week (TCGPW) Association moved the annual Fort Worth celebrations to October this year.

The TCGPW title holders "Past and Present" performed at Best Friends Club on October 4th, followed by the Imperial Court's "No Theme" show on the 5th at the Stampede Club. The first annual Harvest Moon Gala was also held on October 6th, in what organizers plan to be an annual Pride Week event.

On October 7th, the big TCGPW Pride Parade kicks off at 2 p.m. on South Jennings just north of Broadway. The Parade culminates at GayFest, the annual festival of food, fun and vendor booths. GayFest is held following the Parade at the Stampede Club's North 40 outdoor grounds.

At 4 p.m., the Parade Awards will be announced at GayFest. Also on the 7th, Best Friends Club will be hosting give-aways and entertainment, and the Pride Drag Show will be held at 10 p.m. at the Copa Cabana club.

On Tuesday, October 9th, the Gay Pride "Games Night"

will be held at Best Friends Club starting at 9 p.m. An evening of Bingo, Gay 21 Blackjack, and assorted carnival games will fill the club, with prizes all night. Over at the Stampede Club, the Buzz Time Poker Tournament will get underway at 8 p.m.

Wednesday night brings the weekly "Wall of Food Show" at the Stampede Club at 9 p.m., hosted by Rhonda Mae and benefiting the AIDS Outreach Center. Best Friends Club will host Pride Karaoke at 9:30 p.m.,

and the Copa Cabana club will present Koko Chanel in a special Pride drag show at 10 p.m.

In honor of National Coming Out Day on Thursday, October 11th, the Imperial Court will host Melody Lane's Texas Sweetheart Ball at the Best Friends Club starting at 8 p.m. On Friday the 12th, Stampede Club will be home to Caress and the Divas Show at 10 p.m.

Gay Pride Week culminates with the annual Gay Pride Picnic on Saturday, October 13th, from noon to 6 p.m. The big event will fill the Seventh Street Pavilion in Trinity Park with entertainment, contests, a special kids area, activities, a pet parade and more.

For complete TCGPW details and a detailed schedule of events, visit online at www.TCGPWA.org.



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Kristine W

By Chris Allen

During the past decade, Kristine W has become a major player in the dance music industry. Performing to sold-out crowds in time and time again, this stunningly beautiful chameleon is as visually stimulating as she is vocally. Every new look she dons is candy for the eyes - every new song is for the soul.

And she doesn't limit herself. Kristine W is just as happy and comfy singing her club hits - such as "Stronger," "Feel What You Want," and "Walk Away" - as she is getting up close and personal with a touch of jazz.

An accomplished musician, Kristine not only sings her heart out, but also plays piano, guitar, and sax. She began perfecting her craft at a young age, continuing to grow and expand her talents. After placing first in the talent competition at the Miss America Pageant, Kristine went on to headline her own show at the Las Vegas Hilton. After that, the awards recognizing her achievements started rolling in, including Las Vegas Entertainer of The Year, and an ASCAP Award for co-writing.

The rest is history. Kristine W continues to dazzle audiences and fans with her glamorous costumes, amazing videos, and flawless albums.

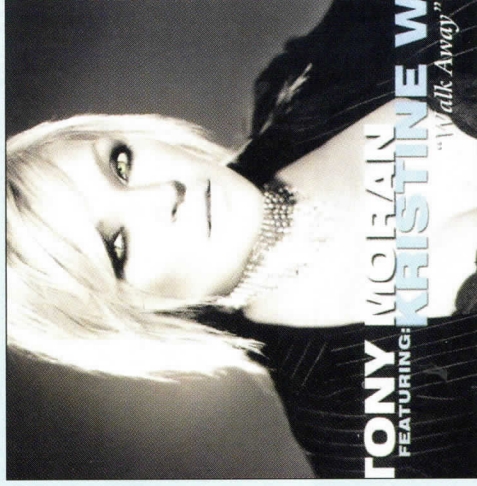
Chris Allen: You work with Tony Moran quite often; is he working with you on the new disc?

Kristine W: Tony and I bonded a long time ago, when he worked on my *Stronger* album in 2000. Ever since, I've been not only a fan, but now he and I are really good friends.

We've been through a lot together; the friendship has strengthened. You know, the closer you get to somebody, the more you get in tune with their style and the type of music they like to do and their passion. He's a very passionate person - very talented.

On my new album, I've got a very eclectic mix of producers. Hex Hector, the Virgo Brothers, DJ Escape, Twisted D - I mean it goes on and on. I've got a big eclectic group of fabulous producers.

And, of course, Tony Moran is one of them, and he's doing a new mix of "Land of the Living." There's a lot of great great musicians paired with a lot of great pop and dance producers. There's something for everyone.



CA: What would you call your most memorable gig to date - it was like a dream come true, just awesome?

KW: I would say performing on the lawn of the White House in 2000 when they had the March on Washington - a quarter of a million people sprawled out as far as the eye could see at the White House. I think that was one of my most memorable shows.

The gay community really came out that day and were there for each other and made a statement - a really strong statement. I was singing the song "Stronger;" it had just come out, and it was just timely - so timely.

I got goose bumps all over my body when I was singing the lyrics. It was one of those moments where you're like, "Okay, I wrote that song, and I'm singing that song, and I'm with these people at the right time and the right place and, my life has meaning."

CA: You are very well known for your glamorous costumes. Do you design the outfits yourself?

KW: I come up with the ideas, and a fellow out of San Diego - who just passed away Labor Day weekend - Michael Mercado, he's the one who actually executed them. He was amazing - the master of taking something that's simple and making it into something fabulous. He was my partner in crime in creating a lot of amazing outfits, and there's gonna be a huge void there.

Thankfully, I've got some friends in Seattle and a designer that works in San Diego, and we're gonna keep

his torch burning. But we definitely lost a brilliant person, again to AIDS. You've got to give credit where credits is due, and Michael Mercado was quite a professional.

CA: Do you have a particular line of make up you wear when you perform?

KW: I'm a huge MAC girl; MAC Cosmetics - I absolutely love it!

CA: Do you think it's important for an artist to continually update his or her image?

KW: Oh yeah, you have to constantly recreate yourself.

CA: About the video for "Walk Away" - you look like you were having a really good-time shooting...

KW: Yes. I was having a really great time; great director, great producer - Mike Ruiz. He's very brilliant. We've worked together for over a decade. He knows me very well, and he knows all the glamour. He knows how I like to be over the top.

Nothing is to over the top for me generally. We have a lot of fun together. He is really an amazing creative entity.

CA: Is the "Walk Away" video on the compilation that's out on DVD?

KW: That's gonna be on the new one. We're gonna do a new one. We're debating what to call it. We're still toying around with names.

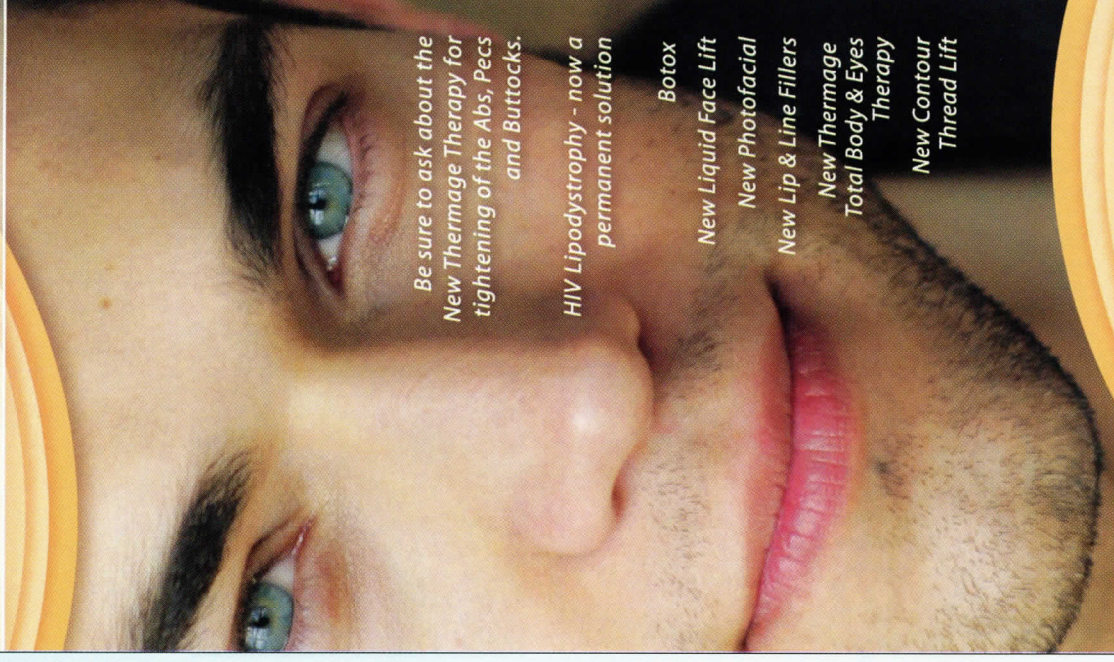
CA: What female artists or musicians have influenced you the most?

KW: Donna Summer, vocally, was a huge inspiration for me. Glamour-wise, Diana Ross was a huge influence to me. The way she conducted herself - very classy. She was always over the edge. She would always do things that were over the top. She was the one who first fused fashion and music together, I think, in a really unique way.

Check out Kristine W online at www.KristineW.com as well as www.MySpace.com/KristineW. You can purchase any of her albums or nine top ten singles at her website or the iTunes music store. This girl's got style!



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GROOVE LINES

BY DJ CHRIS ALLEN

Darren Hayes, the former lead singer of the Australian duo Savage Garden, has released a new solo album entitled *This Delicate Thing We Made*. This double disc collection of new work from the out-and-proud pop star is terrific. Styles on the CD range from grungy electro, to upbeat poppy, to full-on queer dance tracks - with several of those deep and meaningful balled things thrown in.

Highlights include "Listen All You People," "Bombs Up in My Face," "How to Build a Time Machine," and "Setting Sun." The album's first single, "Step into the Light," is already a huge hit, having been remixed by Tony Moran and Warren Rigg.

This Delicate Thing We've Made is the first album that Darren Hayes - recently married - wrote as an openly gay man. Check him out on the web



at www.MySpace.com/DarrenHayes.

Always the perfect picture of elegance and class, Annie Lennox, former lead singer for the 80's pop band The Eurythmics, will be performing in Dallas on October 14th at the McFarlin Memorial Auditorium. The diva's new solo album, *Songs of Mass Destruction*, was released on October 2nd.

The highly anticipated album is, as expected, a compelling and thought-provoking, beautifully executed piece of work. In a career that has spanned more than 25 years - including the 15 years since Annie first released her first solo album, *Diva* - no other British female artist has achieved so much recognition. She has accumulated more than \$78 million in global sales, 33 hit singles complimented by four Grammys, 11 BRITs, five Ivor Novellos, the Oscar, and two Golden Globes (amongst



other accolades).

With every track on *Songs of Mass Destruction* being absolutely flawless, it's hard to pick a favorite. My favorites - today - include "Womankind," "Coloured Bedshead," and "Sing." Learn more about Annie Lennox online at www.MySpace.com/AnnieLennox.

Deborah Harry's long awaited new album, *Necessary Evil*, comes out October 9th. A recent guest vocalist on the Moby track "New York, New York," Deborah also was involved in The True Colors Tour that traveled from city to city earlier this year with Cyndi Lauper and Erasure.

Many will recall that Deborah Harry was not only the former lead singer for 80's glam rock group Blondie, but once upon a time a Playboy Bunny as well. She still looks amazing, but more like somebody's mom than a Bunny.

With a variation of styles ranging from rock to electronic, *Necessary Evil* is nothing short awesome. And Harry's vocals may actually be much more polished (Continued on Page 10)





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Pride Week Highlights

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October 7th

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GAY PRIDE PARADE AWARDS
Stampede Club North 40, 4pm

Gay Pride Festivities - Food, Fun, Giveaways and Dancing
Following the Parade at Best Friends Club

Pride DRAG Show - The Copa Cabana, 10 pm

October 10th

Rhonda Mae's "Wall of Food Show" benefiting AOC Food Pantry
-Stampede Club, 9 pm

Pride Karaoke - Best Friends Club, 9:30 pm

October 11th - National Coming OUT Day
Texas Sweetheart Ball - Best Friends Club, 8 pm
Latino Nite Salsa Contest - Stampede Club, 11 pm
Pride Male Dancers - The Copa Cabana, 10 pm

October 12th

Caress and the Divas Show - Stampede Club, 10 pm

October 13th

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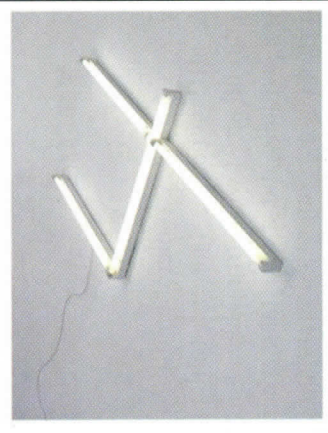
(Continued from Page 9)

and developed than on previous solo albums. Highlights on Necessary Evil include "Deep End," the first single "Two Times Blue," and "Dirty & Deep." Take a listen at www.MySpace.com/DebbieHarry.

On the tail of the True Colors Tour, Erasure has released another single from their latest album, *A Light at the End of the World*. The new EP is called "Storm Chaser" and features four bonus tracks - including the wonderfully peppy pop duet with Cyndi Lauper, "Early Bird." Listen to it online at www.MySpace.com/ErasureOfficial.



Also, be sure to check out *Disco 4* from The Pet Shop Boys. This import CD is due out October 15th, and it features collaborations with Madonna, David Bowie, and Yoko Ono.



Disco 4 the band's 18th album, and is the fourth in their "Disco" series. Check out www.PetShopBoys.co.uk for more info.

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.

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

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DATELINE

BY JENNIFER PARELLO

Ahhh, When I Was a Slut

I had a few friends over for dinner last night. All of them are in long-term relationships - 10, 20, 30 years. So, just to stir up trouble, I asked them all to tell me stories about their dating adventures before they met their current partners.

As soon as I mentioned the word "dating," they immediately stopped nagging their girlfriends about mowing the lawn or arguing about whose fault it was that Tivo hadn't recorded *Law and Order: Special Unit*. Their faces took on the beatific and slightly ravenous expression of a small child remembering her first ice cream sundae.

Cynthia - who possesses numerous marriage, holy union and civil partner certificates with Darlene, her partner of 30 years - gaily dominated the discussion, regaling us with tales of the many, many women she slept with before she met Darlene.

"Cynthia!" I exclaimed after she told of yet another episode in which she seduced a hapless suburban matron. "I had no idea you were such a slut."

Cynthia, a well-respected member of the gay/lesbian charity circuit elite who has a penchant for wearing corsages to college football games and refers to Darlene in public as "The Mrs.," giggled with delight and accepted my accusation as a compliment.

"Oh, honey, you have no idea," she said, staring off into mid-distance as she got lost in the parade of ghostly female bodies she caressed over the years.

She was slammed back to reality when Darlene slapped her across the back of her head.

Cynthia's scandalous yarns set off a competitive match of dating exploits - with each guest trying to outdo the others with alarming stories of unfulfilling sex, terrible breakups, unrequited passions, and every other nightmare dating scenario you can conjure in your



darkest moments.

The funny thing was that they remembered these events so fondly. We all laughed as Darlene told us about the emotionally-brutal artist who strung her along for seven years. And I actually did a spit take when another guest told a rollicking account of coming home early from work and finding her lover in bed with a 300-pound lesbian legend, who graciously offered to make breakfast for my cuckolded friend after she finished pleasuring her lover.

If you didn't know any better, you'd think that dating was actually fun. And you'd wonder why anyone would ever give it up to be in a long-term relationship - where the most interesting part of your day is having a two-hour debate about whether to buy a new brand of dog food.

After dinner, I told my Lady Friend that remembering past dating glories reminds me of our current vacation plans. Friends have asked us to spend a week with them on a small sailboat, cruising the Caribbean.

It sounds like an absolute nightmare, and neither my Lady Friend nor I want to go. We will whine and complain about it throughout the planning stages, and we'll continue whining and complaining about it throughout the trip.

The only reason we're even considering going is because we know that we'll romanticize it after we return. We'll forget about the fights that are bound to break out in such close quarters, the uncomfortable living conditions, the pirates. And we'll remember only the great fun we had with our friends and the mad adventure of it all.

It's the same thing about dating. I don't know too many women who actually enjoy it. It's often soul crushing and degrading. In the best of times you feel insecure, and at worst you feel homicidal.

And, yet, looking back at it from the comfort of a stable, emotionally secure - if sometimes boring - relationship, it's tempting to think of dating as a lark.

Hey! I wrote a book. It's a novel called "Dateland."

In the words of the great showman Mike Todd,

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WOMEN'S HEALTH

BY ROBYNN BETZ

Getting Healthy Sleep

What makes you lose sleep? Lately, my life has been filled with moving, changing jobs, family issues, personal challenges and everything else that could possibly keep me awake until the wee small hours of the night. "I'm sure you have a litany of your own little demons that jump in your brain just when your head hits the pillow!"

I did my usual search on the web, and what a Pandora's Box did I open! There is so much information on sleep disorders that it was dizzying. I did a little studying and felt I could give you a small synopsis of what I found.

Approximately one-third of all adult Americans - that's about 50 million people - complain about their sleep. Although one-third of our lives is spent asleep, most of us don't know much about sleep, not even our own. We don't even know exactly why we sleep, other than - much like a battery recharge - sleep promotes daytime alertness.

Sleep problems deeply disturb both sleeping and waking life. Recent research is beginning to explain the consequence of these problems and what can be done about them.

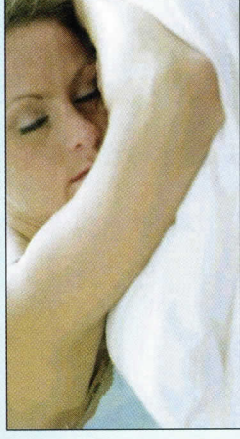
Most adults sleep between seven and eight hours per 24 hour period. But no one knows how much sleep we really need. Sleep duration varies widely; a natural "short sleeper" may sleep for only three or four hours - and actually function worse with more sleep - while a "long sleeper" may need more than 10 hours. "Variable sleepers" seem to need more sleep at times of stress and less during peaceful times.

In general, sleep is helped by two factors: being tired at bedtime, and being in tune with your own internal clock. Sleep may be difficult if it occurs at a time when the biological clock says, "It's time to be awake."

Insomnia seems to be the top affliction of the sleepless. It is defined as taking more than 30-45 minutes to get to sleep, waking frequently throughout the night, and/or waking early and not being able to get back to sleep.

Although it seems to be the problem - and in rare cases it is - actually it is only the symptom of problem. Sleep difficulties may be signaling you that there may be health concerns lurking.

Here are several methods you can try to help remedy



your sleeping problems:

Exercise. Regular exercise tends to benefit sleep, but not right at bedtime. Vigorous exercise, especially just before sleep, can cause arousal and delay sleep. Exercise in the morning also has little beneficial effect on sleep. The best time to exercise is in the afternoon or early evening. But, even then, it probably won't help you sleep unless you exercise on a regular schedule.

Trying Too Hard. Sleep cannot be forced, so you should not go to sleep until you are sleepy. If you turn in too early you could experience a disturbed night's rest or could wake early. If you go to bed when you feel sleepy but find that you can't fall asleep, don't stay in bed brooding about being awake. It is best to get out of bed. Leave the bedroom. Read, watch television, take a warm bath, or find some other way to relax before slipping between the sheets once more.

Naps. Tests have shown that naps disrupt normal nighttime sleep. Although many people feel like napping between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m., most sleep better if they don't nap during the day. Naps should not be used as a substitute for poor sleep at night.

Bedtime Snacks. If hunger keeps you awake, a light snack might help you sleep, unless it causes problems with digestion. Avoid heavy meals, alcohol, and caffeine-containing drinks such as coffee, tea, and cola.

Smoking at Bedtime. Nicotine stimulates the nervous system and can interfere with sleep. Sleep patterns also improved significantly among chronic smokers when they abstained from smoking.

Alcohol. The effect of alcohol is deceiving. It may induce sleep, but chances are it will be a fragmented sleep.

Regular Bedtime. The best way to sleep better is to keep a regular schedule for sleeping. Go to bed at about the same time every night, but only when you are tired. Set your alarm clock to awaken you about the same time every morning - including weekends and regardless of the amount of sleep you have had.

If you awaken before it is time to rise, get out of bed and start your day. Most insomniacs stay in bed too long and get up too late in the morning. By establishing a regular wake-up time, you help solidify the biological rhythms that establish your periods of peak efficiency during the 24-hour day.

Robynn Betz is a nurse living in Austin.

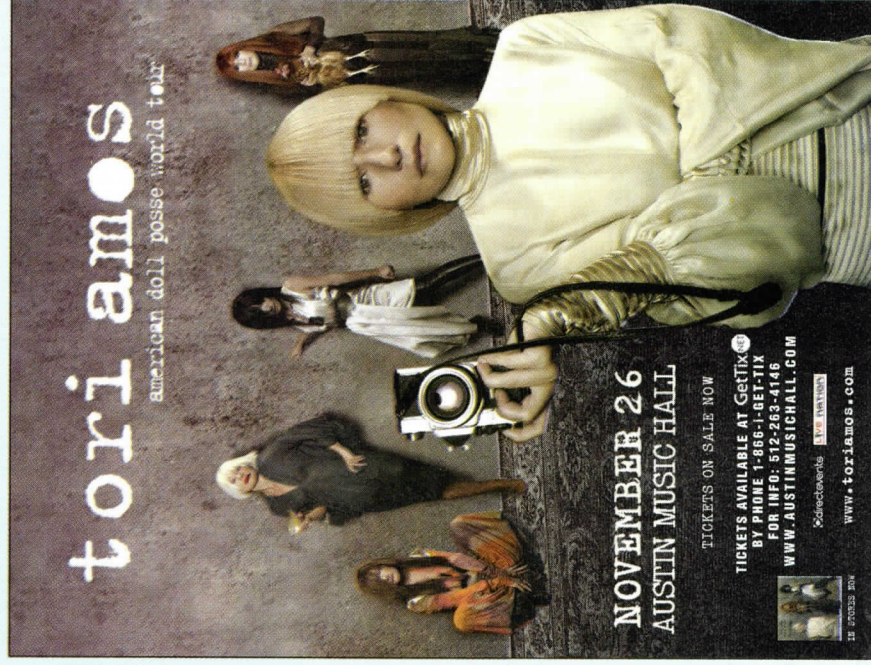
Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth Host After Hours

The Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth hosts "Modern 'til Midnight," a special evening of art and entertainment on Friday, October 16th, from 6 p.m. to midnight. Guests will enjoy extended hours, live music, special gallery activities, late-night shopping, and late-night fare from Café Modern.

The event is presented in conjunction with the special exhibitions *Declaring Space* and Ron Mueck. Special activities throughout the evening will include conceptual projects, interactive events, spotlight tours, and art explorations in the galleries.

Running through January 6th, the *Declaring Space* exhibit features the works of Mark Rothko, Barnett Newman, Lucio Fontana, and Yves Klein. All four artists made a dramatic impact on the complex development of abstract space and color in the years following World War II.

The curator, Michael Auping, notes that the work



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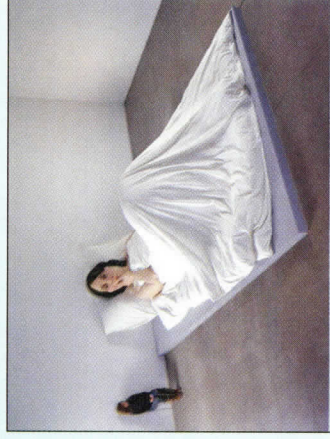
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• BY ROB FAUBION

of each of these artists represents a different stage in the expansion of the grand space abstract painters were imagining in the 1950s and 1960s.

"To my mind Rothko draws back the curtains on the opening up of this space," he said. "Newman 'declares' an almost totemic space, while



"In Bed," 2005-06 by Ron Mueck
Mixed media; Anthony d'Offay, London.
Photo courtesy The Modern.

October 21st and features works by the renowned contemporary artist. Considered a virtuoso of hyper-realistic sculpture, Mueck's *Untitled (Seated Woman)* - created in 1999 and a part of the Modern's permanent collection - became a community favorite when it was first put on exhibit for the opening of the Modern's new building in 2002.

Since that time, the Museum has continued to receive numerous comments, e-mail messages, and inquiries from visitors about this much-loved work of art. Twelve works are on view in the special exhibition, including *In Bed* (2005-06) - a twenty-foot-long sculpture of a woman lying tucked in bed - and *Baby* (2000), a ten-inch-long replica of a newborn infant. A thirty-minute video showing the artist at work is also part of the exhibition.



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along with examples of his working materials and casts.

The Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth is located at 3200 Darnell Street. For more information, call (817) 738-9215 or visit www.TheModern.org.

Houston Museum of Fine Art Features Menagerie Works

Now through January 6th, the Houston Museum of Fine Art presents *Oudry's Painted Menagerie: Portraits of Exotic Animals in Eighteenth-Century Europe*. The exhibit spotlights the work of Jean-Baptiste Oudry - the principal animal painter and one of the foremost decorative painters during the first half of Louis XV's reign.

Between 1739 and 1745, Oudry painted a series of "portraits" for Louis XV of some of the principal animals in the royal menagerie at Versailles.

The 12 paintings on view are drawn principally from the Staatliches Museum Schwerin. These animal paintings are among the jewels of the collection of the Germany museum, which contains the largest and most representative collection of Oudry's pictures.

The exhibit coincides with an exhibition of works by Pompeo Batoni, who was widely known then as "the best painter in Italy" during the 1700s. Wealthy travelers desiring a portrait of themselves sought Batoni's skills when visiting Rome.

The exhibit features more than 60 paintings - a number of which have never been publicly exhibited in the United States.

Both exhibits are on display in the Audrey Jones Beck Building, 5601 Main Street. For more information, visit www.MFAH.org or call (713) 639-7300.

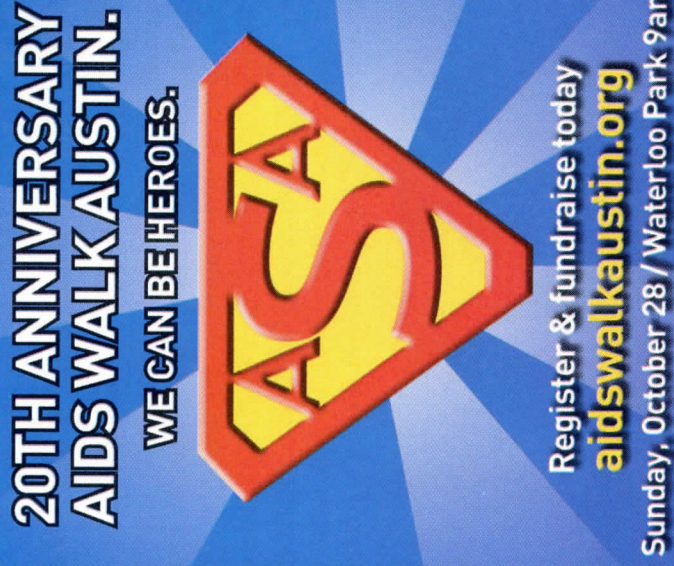


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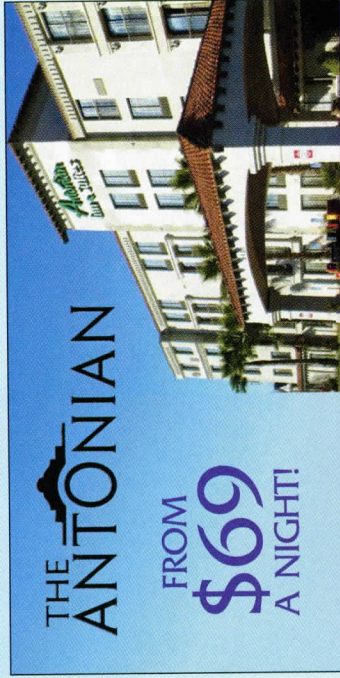
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GET OUTTA TOWN!

Texas Renaissance Festival Returns for Eight Weeks

The 33rd annual Texas Renaissance Festival, located on FM 1774 between Magnolia and Plantersville, returns from October 6th through November 25th. Billed as the nation's largest, most acclaimed Renaissance theme park, visitors can experience the sights, sounds, tastes and beauty of the 16th Century for eight themed weekends.



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The enchanted New Market Village - a permanent park covering more than 54 landscaped acres - comes to life as all of Europe's royal courts pay homage to Queen Katherine on her birthday. Each of the eight weekends sports a unique theme with the different courts vying for the Queen's favor by bestowing lavish amusements and gifts upon her.

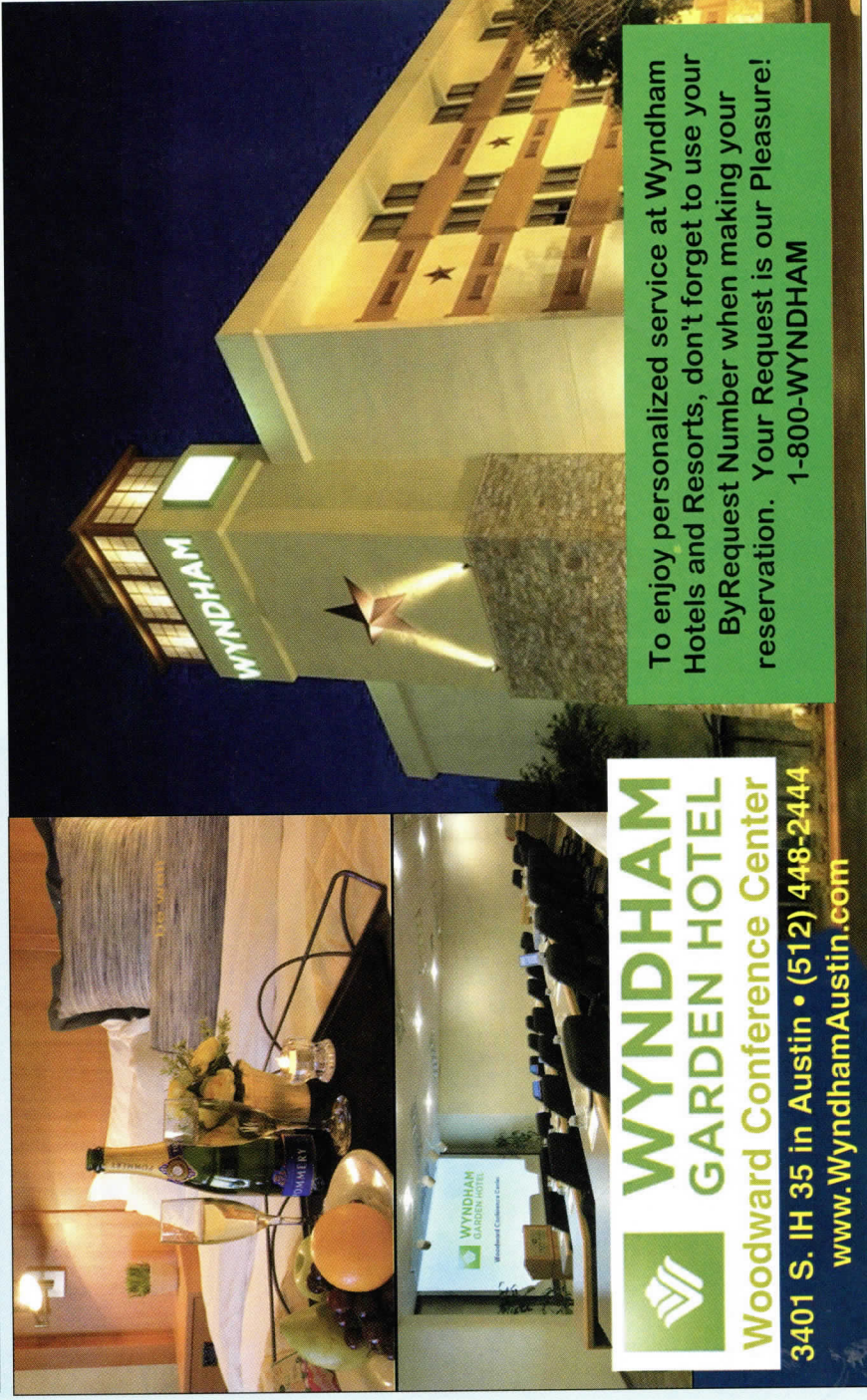
This year, the Festival includes a special Thanksgiving Friday for a Celtic Christmas weekend. Other special weekends will spotlight Oktoberfest, a pirate adventure, a Roman bacchanal, and All Hallows Eve.

Each weekend, more than 3,000 costumed characters fill the grounds. The Festival boasts 14 stages with more than 150 performances daily, dozens of period rides and games, and The Arena - housing full contact jousting four times daily.

The Gardens of New Market Village are some of the



Picture courtesy Tex Ren Fest



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and seafood offerings, and a huge assortment of pastries. The Royal Fireworks cap the day's adventures every evening. With so much to see and do, visitors are hard pressed to take in the whole Festival in just one day.

The Texas Renaissance Festival is located just 45 miles northwest of Houston. Discount tickets are available at HEB, Randalls, Market Basket, and Apple Tree stores. For directions, schedules, and detailed event information, visit www.TexRenFest.com or call 1 (800) 458-3435.



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best botanical exhibits in Texas, including a lavish water garden and a spectacular rose garden. The most recent addition is the new Magic Garden.

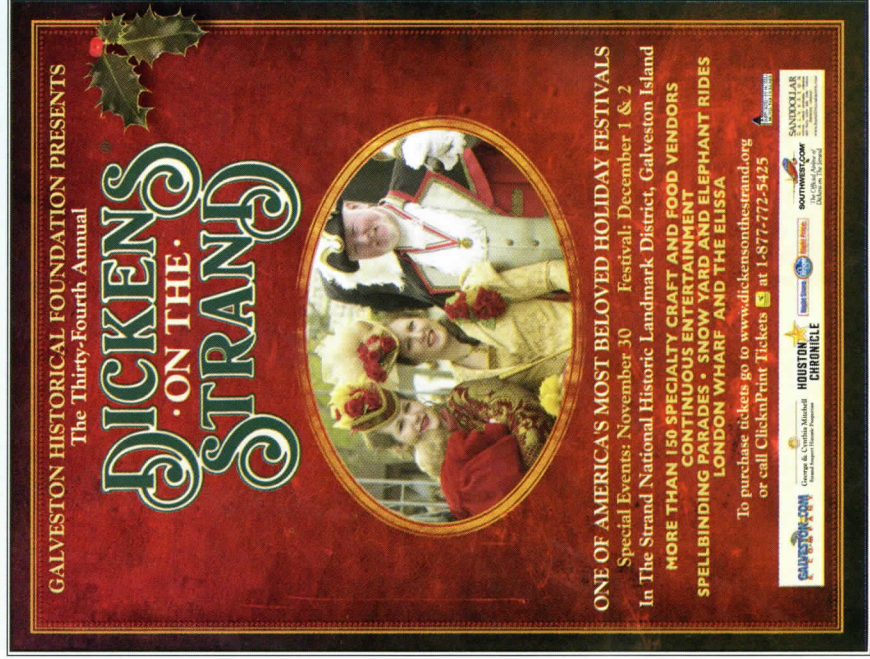
The grounds also house 330 arts and crafts shops in highly stylized period buildings. Hundreds of pines and other native trees have been carefully planted alongside shops that stay true to the architectural styles of the Renaissance Period - from their turrets to the deeply pitched roofs.

The festival continues to grow each year - from its humble beginnings of 33,000 patrons in the first year, to a current yearly attendance of more than 300,000.

Cuisine is also a highlight, with more than 60 food and beverage shops. Favorites include Scotch eggs, London broil, battered pig, turkey legs, many chicken



Picture courtesy Tex Ren Fest



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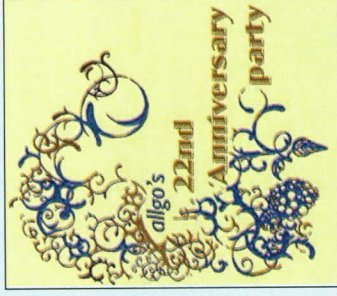
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ALLGO Celebrates 22 Years With Anniversary Party

October 13th marks the 22nd anniversary of when a group of more than 200 people gathered for a pool party that would launch the organization known today as ALLGO. To celebrate the



event, ALLGO will host an anniversary party on Saturday

the 13th at the historic Victory Grill, located at 1104 East 11th Street in Austin. Organizers say that during the past two decades, ALLGO has been touched and has touched the lives of countless lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people of color and allies.

They said the party will provide an opportunity to meet up with old friends and make new ones, find out about the exciting programming being launched, and hear all about what ALLGO has planned for the remainder of 2007 and all of 2008.

The event begins at 8 p.m., with dancing at 9 p.m. The party is free of charge but donations are accepted.

Proceeds from the dance will go to supporting ALLGO's programming - including an award-winning cultural arts program, featuring theatrical plays, poetry readings, artist workshops and visual art exhibitions. Funding also supports a health education, focusing on HIV/AIDS, breast care and domestic violence.

For more information, visit www.ALLGO.org or call (512) 472-2001.

Kings N Things Stage "Drag Kings: The Musical"

Kings N Things, Austin's premier drag king troupe, will stage *Drag Kings: The Musical* - a revue of your favorite tunes from stage and screen. The special event will be presented October 12th through 14th at the Off Center, located at 2211- A Hidalgo Street.

"We're moving our show into a theater, as opposed to a bar; that's brand new for us," said Allison Stelly, Kings N Things Producer. "And we're running for three nights,

which is also something we've never done before."



Kings N Things; photo courtesy Beau Toxic

Organizers say that all three shows are suitable for all ages, and tickets go on sale 30 minutes before show time. Tickets are \$15 for the general public, \$10 for students, youth under 21, artists, and drag-stars. An open reception at the Off Center will follow the Friday and Saturday night shows.

Seating is limited, so advance reservations are recommended. For more information and reservations, visit www.KingsNThings.org.

Comics to "Laugh Out Proud" For Outyouth

Central Texas comics will gather for an evening of entertainment to support OutYouth programming efforts. The "Laugh Out Proud" show and dinner will fill Patsy's

Cowgirl Café, located at 5001 E. Ben White, on Sunday, October 14th.

The show will feature comic Rob Nash, improv troupe Queertown, and the musical duo The Therapy Sisters. In addition, local comic and HBO star Amos Ewing will perform. Comedienne Megan Becker will be the evening's emcee.

Owned by Esther's Follies co-founders Shannon Sedwick and Michael Shelton, Patsy's Cowgirl Café will be serving up a buffet dinner starting at 6 p.m., followed by the show starting at 7 p.m.

OutYouth is a non-profit organization that provides support and services to gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youth ages 12 to 19 in Austin and Central Texas. The program offers peer support groups, counseling, educational programs, social activities and community outreach.

Tickets for "Laugh Out Proud" are \$35, and sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information, visit www.OutYouth.org or call (512) 419-1233.



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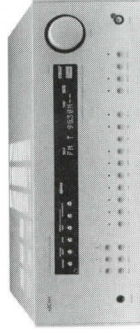
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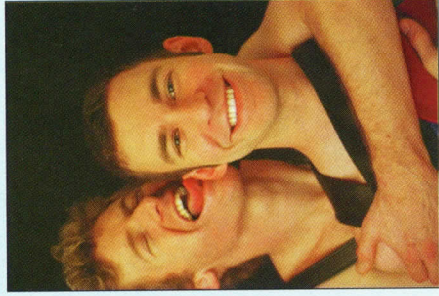
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“THEFT” Film World Premiere Benefits PRIDE Houston

The world premiere of the motion picture *THEFT* will light up the River Oaks Theatre screen on Thursday, October 18th. Hosted by PRIDE Houston, the exciting evening is part of the organization's fundraising efforts that serve the Houston area.

The event will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a pre-screening cocktail party and silent auction of memorabilia from the movie, including featured drag costumes from the movie. A “Meet the Cast” party at South Beach nightclub follows the screening at 9:30 p.m.

Written and directed by Austin-based filmmaker Paul Bright, *THEFT* is a riotous comedy about an



David La Duca and Matthew Burnett; photo courtesy Silly Bunny Pictures.

evangelical preacher's absurd attempts to shut down a gay club. Starring Matthew Charles Burnett, David La Duca, Cynthia Scheibel and Patrick Henderson, *THEFT* follows the plight of a small town bar caught in the cross-hairs of a church-building zealot.

The film features music performed by the international disco star Hedda Layne and the soulful ballads of Austin band Jelly Jar, with additional music from Kris Kimura Quarte. *THEFT* releases internationally in January 2008 through Water Bearer Films.

Although *THEFT* was filmed in Austin with some local actors and crew, the just-completed Austin Gay and Lesbian Film Festival was unable to handle the world premiere, according to director Bright. He said the film production company

sought a Texas non-profit organization with the skills to professionally handle the capacity expected for this event, and PRIDE Houston stepped up to the plate.

PRIDE Houston

organizers say they are pulling out all the stops to make the October 18th premiere a huge success. Event organizers say they anticipate an early sell-out.

Ticket prices are \$15 for the premiere and cast party, or \$10 for just the movie. Advance tickets are available online www.PrideHouston.org.



Photo courtesy Silly Bunny Pictures

Fall Homecoming Event in Bryan to Fund Scholarships

Brazos Valley Quest's annual Fall Homecoming scholarship fundraiser will be held on Saturday, October 13th, at Halo Bar, located at 121 N. Main, in downtown Bryan. Proceeds from the event support scholarships for Brazos Valley queer and ally college students.

The evening will feature a silent auction, door prizes, music, performances, and homemade hors d'oeuvres. The event is planned for 7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., and donations are tax deductible.

Brazos Valley Quest is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose name symbolizes its quest toward a Queer-Straight alliance for the Brazos Valley.

A minimum \$5 donation is requested at the door. For more information, call (979) 314-4532 or log on to www.BVQuest.org.

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Gay Fiesta Returns to the Alamo City on Oct. 14th

The 24th annual GLBT celebration Gay Fiesta returns on Sunday, October 14th, to the historic La Villita Assembly Hall in downtown San Antonio. True to its roots, Gay Fiesta provides a day for gay and lesbian San Antonions and visitors to come together for fun and social activities in an atmosphere different from other San Antonio events.

Behind the scenes, organizers say that individual volunteers, volunteers from various organizations and entertainers are



working hard to make Gay Fiesta fun and to raise funds for charity. Approximately 100 volunteers help out to make the event a reality, organizers said, including annual guest volunteers from as far away as Newark, New Jersey, Toronto and Ontario, Canada, and Dayton, Ohio.

The afternoon features information booths from area non-profits, numerous food booths, and vendor with GLBT-related merchandise. Dozens of area businesses, organizations, and non-profit groups participate each year, offering literature, merchandise and opportunities in the community.

Gay Fiesta is held indoors, so “come flood or heat wave, the event goes on,” organizers said. Inside the Hall, non-stop entertainment begins at approximately 3 p.m., featuring entertainers from across the state.

Dozens of actors, singers, dancers, and female impersonators are slated to entertain the crowds. The full day event includes food, drinks, information, artwork, games, karaoke, entertainment and dancing.

Funds raised through Gay Fiesta are dispersed to Alamo-area non-profit organizations. But organizers downplay the fund-raising aspect, instead emphasizing that the event is a day of fun and social activities.

Admission is \$8 for those 21 years of age and older, and \$10 for those under 21. A valid and non-expired picture ID is required of everyone who enters. Attendees under the age of 18 must be with their legal guardian and have valid proof. Attendees under the age of 18 must be with their legal guardian and have valid proof.

Gay Fiesta runs from noon until 8 p.m. at the historic La Villita Assembly Hall, located at 401 Villita Street

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FORT WORTH

HAPPENINGS

Artists Against AIDS Event Slated for October 20th

The 13th Annual Artists Against AIDS Silent Art Auction - benefiting the Tarrant County AIDS Interfaith Network (TCAIN) - will be held on Saturday, October 20th, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Fort Worth Community Arts Center, located at 1309 Gendy Street. The event funds AIDS and HIV programming in the Fort Worth and surrounding areas.

Food, music, an open bar with wine and beer, and a silent auction are highlights of the affair, which features a selection of high-quality art from local and regional artists. In addition to the silent auction, there will be a short live auction for a few selected pieces of art.

A selection of works included in the silent auction will be on view at the Fort Worth Community Arts Center beginning Monday, October 1st, and will remain on view through the event on October 20th. The Annual Artists Against AIDS Auction has raised more than \$270,000 for TCAIN during the past seven years.

This year, the artist's awards have been increased to

\$2,000. Dr. Frances Colpitt, the Deedie Potter Rose Chair of Art History at TCU and a corresponding editor of Art in America, will judge all submitted pieces for these awards.

Jennifer Casler Price will serve as the Honorary Chairwoman of this year's event. She has held the position of curator for Asian and non-Western art at the Kimbell Art Museum since 1993.

This year's featured artists are Daniel Blagg and Robert McAn. Blagg lives and works in Fort Worth, and his work is in many corporate, private and museum collections - including the Museum of South Texas, the Tyler Art Museum, and Deloitte & Touche. McAn also lives and works in Fort Worth, and his artwork has been included in several important exhibitions at William Campbell Contemporary Art in Fort Worth, the REM Gallery in San Antonio and the Arlington Museum of Art.

Tickets for the silent auction on October 20th are \$50, and are available in advance or at the door. To reserve tickets in advance, call (817) 923-2800. For more information, visit online at www.TCAIN.org or call the TCAIN offices at (817) 923-2800.



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SUNSIGNS

• • • • • BY **TRAVIS ROGERS**

Libra (September 23 - October 22)

Home is where your heart will be these next few weeks. With the cooler temperatures on the way, you want to experience the finer things of domestic life with good food, beautiful decor, and great friends around the dinner table. Venus and her charming nature is giving you this great sense of domestic bliss, which is great for the holidays.

Scorpio (October 23 - November 21)

Friendships will mean much to you these next few weeks, both as old friends become more important to you and as you develop new friendships. If you do go to a holiday party or function during these next few weeks, new friendships will arise. These will be deep and meaningful friendships filled with great conversation. This is also a good time to sign contracts of a legal or financial nature.

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21)

December will be a month filled with errands, travel to visit family and friends, and a start to new ventures relating to either business or profession - so start preparing now. If you are challenged in the near future to stand your ground on a matter, you will be articulate, sharp, and decisive. Because of your talent to express yourself well, this will only lead to esteem from others.

Capricorn (December 22 - January 19)

Until December 15th, Venus is shining bright for you - bringing you romance, great times with friends, and a hankering for the finer things in life. Along with this feeling comes the attitude that you can do it all. Watch for excess in drink, all-night parties, and living the "high life" - you may do too much and pay for it later.

Aquarius (January 20- February 18)

Mars is playing an important role in your quest to gain recognition in your career and in any areas of your life where you deal with the public. Butting heads with someone else is probable during these next few weeks, so watch out; depending on how you treat others, your drive for recognition can be beneficial or a complete failure. Treat others with care and consider their feelings, and you will make great strides in your quest.

Pisces (February 19- March 19)

You feel wonderful right now, as you feel your life is humming along nicely. Use this time to reflect on what you can do to prepare for any troubles that may happen in the near future - because you know that this feeling will not last forever. Save a little money, and

invest in your friendships and family. They may be the people that will help you later.

Aries (March 20 - April 19)

At least once this week, you will receive kudos at your job. Considering your frequent "get up and go" attitude, people will see you as dedicated and hard-working. Also watch for a new love interest with an older partner, which will give you social status and esteem.

Taurus (April 20- May 20)

I have not been picking on you these last few weeks; I just report what is in the planets. So as you have probably noticed, that agitating feeling that you've been having - the feeling that others just get on your nerves and the susceptibility toward accidents - is about finished. This will be replaced with a more laid-back attitude that is more characteristic of your personality.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)

Often during the next few weeks, you will have an argument with others, especially at the workplace. You feel that other people misunderstand your position and motives, so your first reaction will be to stand your ground at any cost. Instead, it would be better to listen to them first before you say something that can hurt you later.

Cancer (June 21 - July 22)

Two important trends will effect you strongly in the next few weeks. First, be careful of quarrels with the boss and others in power at the office - or authority figures in general. Second, watch out for shopping way too much. You are not in the mood to be frugal nor save for the coming holidays. Try hard not to overspend, as you may not have the money later when you need it.

Leo (July 23 - August 22)

You have come to realize that all that everything you had planned to do these last few weeks cannot get done. Some individuals around you thwart your efforts - not out of malice, but because of their own interests are different from yours. This maybe a good time for a real attitude change and to appreciate what great things you have already done these last few months.

Virgo (August 23 - September 22)

Have you been getting behind at work? If you are a student, do your books have cobwebs? Well, that's because you just want to party and develop more and more love affairs. Enjoy this time, Virgo, but it will end - and you will be left with more work later if you don't pay attention to your actions.

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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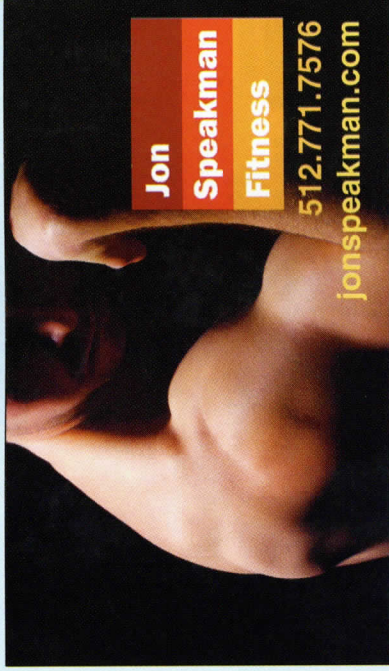
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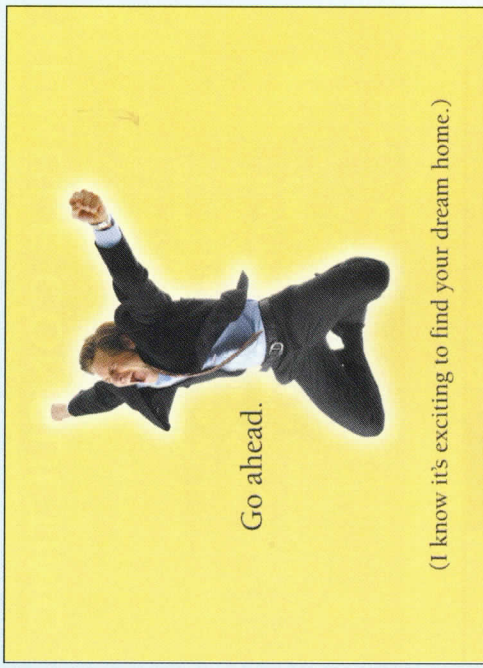
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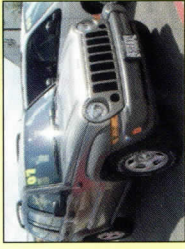
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