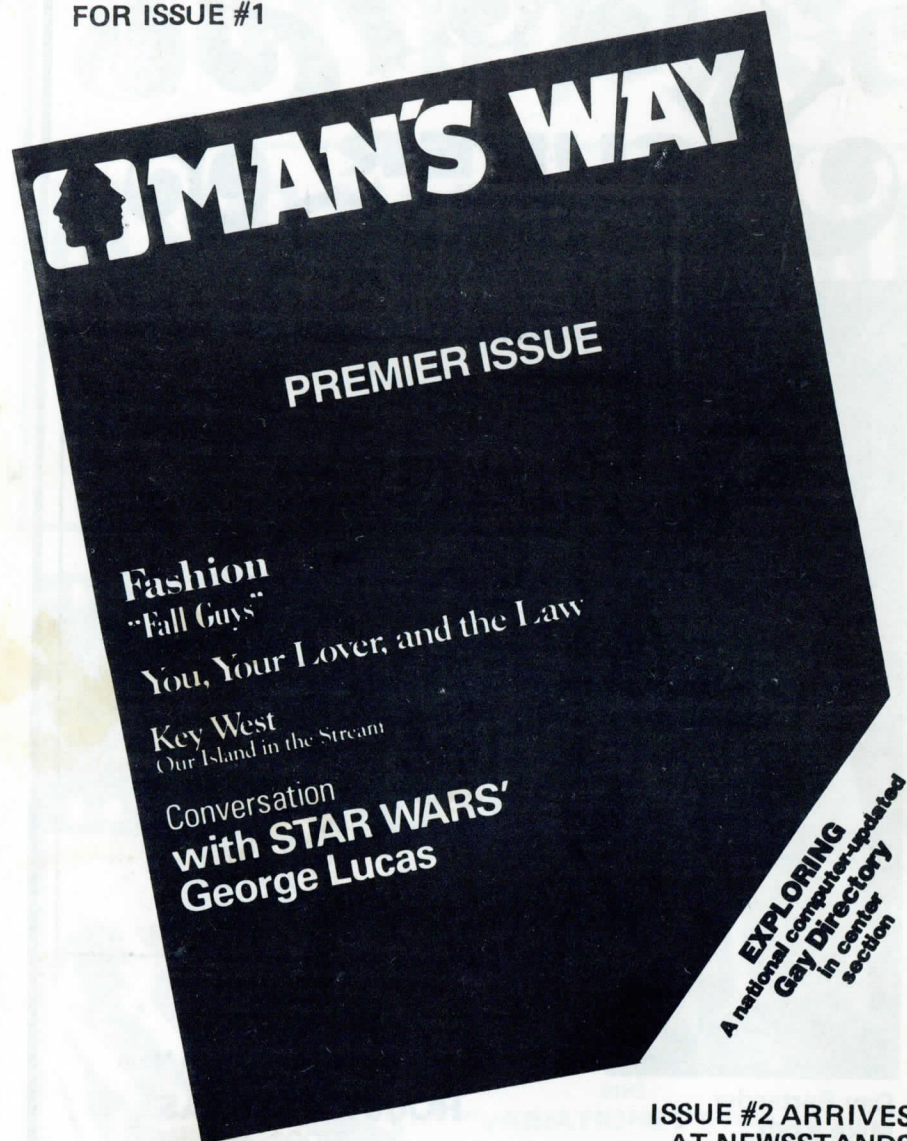


last call
FOR ISSUE #1



ISSUE #2 ARRIVES
AT NEWSSTANDS
& CLUBS IN A FEW DAYS

The STAR

Our
73rd
Issue
—
For
Dec. 16-22
1977





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THIS ISSUE

Spotlighted in this issue of The Star is a photo look at the Farmhouse Club in Beaumont (that's their disc jockey on the front cover). Also, a preview of an upcoming article in Man's Way magazine, and Mother gives us her final notes on her notorious California trip.

Farmhouse cruising	6	Horoscope	25
Mother's Column.	8	What's Goin' On	26
A visitors guide to Houston	15	Directory	28
Elsewhere in Texas, Louisiana	20	Houston Map	30
Figleaves	24	Want Ads.	32

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Season's Greetings

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Club Houston

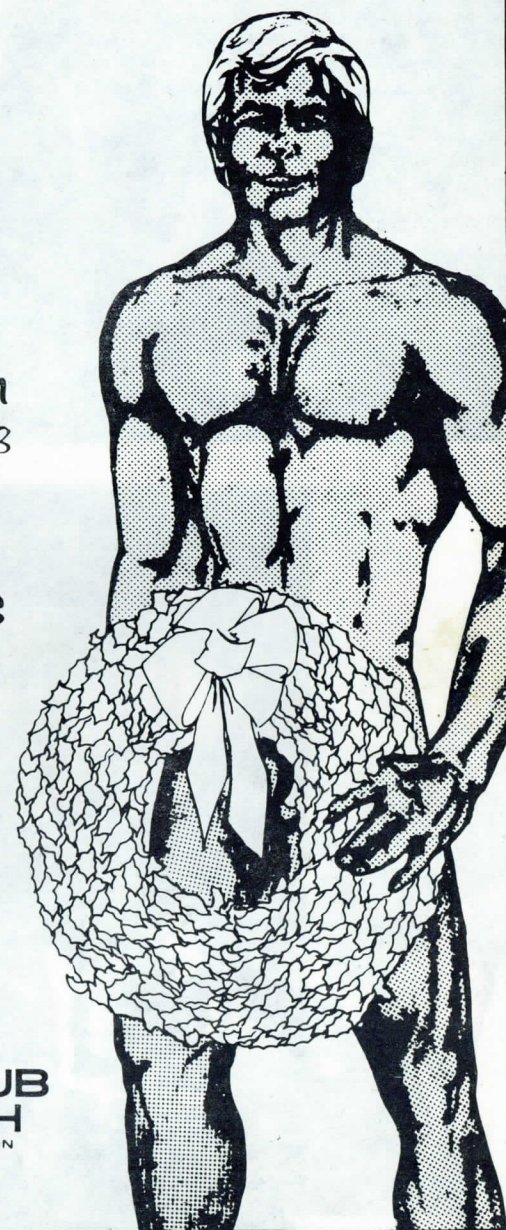
2205 Fannin, 659-4998

Club New Orleans

512 Toulouse, 581-2402

Club Austin

308 W.16th, 476-7986



CRUISING



Yes, the Farmhouse is alive and well in Beaumont, only an hour and a half from Houston. These photos were taken during a recent Saturday night.



MOTHER

Final week of notes from the jungles of California

I promise, this is the last week of me ranting and raving about my California trip. That is, unless I think of anything else.

Except for Marin County, just north of San Francisco, the widely publicized water shortage here has now become a joking matter. When Houstonian Esther Blodgett returned from the coast last year she was saying, "Oh, you don't want to go to Frisco while there's a water shortage. . . . It's terrible. . . . You can't leave the water running while you brush your teeth. . . . You can only flush the

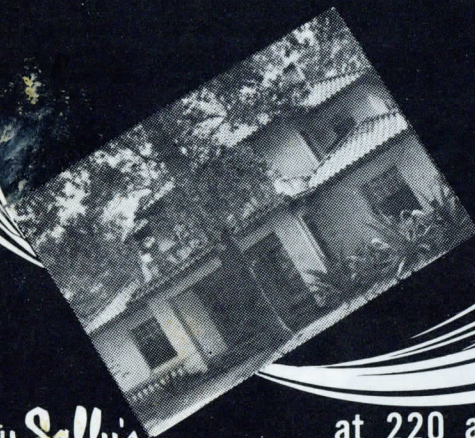
bloody commode twice a day. . . . And if you ask for water in a restaurant, they act like you just asked them to fuck you! It's just terrible!"

People still conserve, but only in Marin will someone snap at you if you flush without thinking twice. As one restroom sign smartly put it, "If it's yellow, it's mellow. If it's brown, flush it down!"

People told me it had not really rained in San Francisco for over a year, minor showers overlooked. After seven days of bright white sunshine, it absolutely poured my last 24 hours there.

Well, I would have been pissed, but these people just loved it. Some of them were puzzled, as if they hardly

**GET INTO THE SPIN OF THINGS...
GET DIZZY!**



Dirty Sally's

at 220 avondale in houston



**THEY
COME
AND
THEY GO
BUT YOU'LL
ALWAYS
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IT FOR
LOVE

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knew what was happening. It warmed this Mother's heart, but froze her tits off! It was cold!

Dropped back into LA to congratulate dear Marisa Berensen Randall on her new baby fish, whom she named Starlite Melody. She delivered a few days before I got there the first time, but I simply didn't have a minute to visit that weekend. Marisa looks lovely

as always, but she's been in a coma for a month now, poor thing! Birth can be so traumatic, especially for beautiful movie stars.

Willa Catheter had insisted I get in touch with her LA connections, and I was glad I did. My favorites were landscape designer Don and his assistant Scott (who is HOT). One day we went to Ryan O'Neal's house. It was a real mess, and Ryan was so

embarrassed, but Don said that all it would take was several thousand dollars to make it all better. He also offered to replace all the broken patio furniture that Tatum and her friends had destroyed during the wild orgy pool parties she is always throwing.

After Ryan's we were shisked to Rodeo Drive in Scott's pick-up to do a little Beverly Hills style shopping. Rodeo Drive is the stomping ground for movie stars, visiting jet-setters, foreign dignitaries and secretaries. Bob Barker calls it "The Half Mile of Style."

You can get a \$5000 sable-trimmed evening gown at Giorgio's, a \$2300 attaché case at Hermes (where I told a miffed saleslady I was "just looking at all the bric-a-brac"), and a \$123,000 bauble at Van Cleff & Arpels. The cheapest item at Edward Lowell (furs) is an \$800 fox stole, but if you decide on the \$30,000 Russian sable coat, you can accessorize with Gucci's \$8000 lizard necklace provided you are a key-carrying member of Gucci's new (at \$1000 a key) private boutique. Starlets have been known to spend up to \$100,000 in a day at Amelia Gray's fashion shoppe, and then get their new do at Jon Peters Salon across the street. Theodore's is known in Europe as the "St. Tropez sportswear store."

This little mall covers 2½ city blocks valued at two to three million dollars. And after all that shopping you just might want to rest your little tootsies, so there is the world-famous Beverly-Wilshire Hotel at the south end, on Wilshire Boulevard. Hit it, girls!

Later, at the Saloon, I was almost knocked over by Rona Barrett as she



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WE NEVER CLOSE

was leaving and I was exiting the powder room (she's a steam roller, honey). But if she only knew what I knew, she'd be some gossip!

Almost everyone in Los Angeles is a star, or acts like one. Everybody in Hollywood thinks she is a star. That is one of the most wonderful things about El Lay.

The thing to do in Los Angeles is to go to the art museum, stand in front of a painting you don't like, and say loudly, "Oh, how autistic!"

We didn't dare say that at the USSR exhibition in the Convention Center downtown, however, which featured some divine propaganda silk screens about forty feet high. There was also a Soviet Jewry exhibit in the building to balance it out, but they all looked alike to me.

Don't ever ask people in LA directions to where you want to go, as explained two weeks ago, and never ask for the time, either, because they will also be glad to give you the wrong time. Everybody wears a watch in LA, and they are always looking at them, but all their watches are wrong. We were always too late or too early. It was fun, but we should have worn a watch.

I took a Celebrity Cab (they have the cutest drivers) to the Century Plaza Hotel to wait for the airport bus, and just missed it, of course, so I watched the sun set over Century City. Daryl Dragon (the Captain and Tennille) drove a cab through and dropped a customer off. What could I do but laugh? Now you know.

Across the Avenue of the Stars and all the heavy-duty fountains, "A Chorus Line" was playing at the Shubert and "Star Wars" was playing at the movie theater, and people were playing tennis on every available rooftop, of course. In fact, the only building in LA that doesn't have a tennis court on top of it is the Dorthy Chandler Pavilion. Tennis, everyone?

I had to spend two extra days in LA just to get enough money together

*Don't Ever ask people
in LA directions . . . or
for the time*

to get my car out of the airport parking lot in Houston.

And I still didn't have enough money. Thank goodness they accepted a check, but in case they wouldn't I smoked some California before I even put my car in drive (just to avoid getting annoyed, which is IWS - Impossible When Stoned). Anyway,

*Driving 'IWS',
that's Impossible
When Stoned*

the lady could not accept my Sears credit card for reference but she thought my Lord & Taylor's was just dandy. Such taste! She would have loved my Saks Fifth, indeed!

I arrived home, and barely had time to pack for Thanksgiving in Waco with Willa!

And that was the week that was!

THANK YOU
to all bars that participated
in the Bartender's Drag

WE WISH EVERYONE
A MERRY CHRISTMAS
& HAPPY NEW YEAR

SUNDAY, DEC. 18
TOYS FOR TOTS
Bring a toy & enjoy a
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P.S., We didn't mean
to offend anyone
at the Bartender's Drag Show

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CRUISING

Welcome to Super City

Early next year, "Man's Way" magazine will have a feature article on Houston and its gay clubs. The article will be intended for out-of-town readers, hopefully encouraging a lot of new visitors to our city. So that you can't say you haven't been warned, here's part of the article, in advance, for Star readers:

Houston is where many gay people would rather be but perhaps they don't know it yet. This article will attempt to entice you to this city — called at times Space City, Astro City (after the Astrodome), Bayou City (after the assorted bayous that wind their way around town), and, most recently in a Newsweek cover story, Super City.

While the energy crisis is forcing the

cost of living up, up and away in most American cities, it is greatly benefiting Houston. There was a time when our country produced most of its own oil. (Remember those days?) When we did, Houston was centrally located among the major oil states of Louisiana, Texas and Oklahoma. It quickly established itself as the Oil Capital of America.

The city also did something else, way back in the early part of this century — it dredged a canal to the Gulf and thus Houston became a port city. Through that port today comes most of the foreign oil imported into the United States. Now that we are dependant upon foreign crude, Houston remains the Oil Capital of America.

What does all this mean to gay men? It means that Houston is Boom



A thousand new people move to Houston each week. If Kinsey was right in his research, that means around 80 gay people move to Houston each week.

LAST MINUTE WANT ADS

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**MORE WANT ADS
ON PAGE 32**

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City, U.S.A. It means that in this city there's the good life for all people. Perhaps because everyone seems to have plenty of money, there's less social tension. There's a live-and-let-live attitude.

"I will not tolerate anyone in the McConn administration harassing the gay community," said Mayor-elect Jim McConn when he was campaigning. And he said it openly, to newsmen. That's what I mean by the live-and-let-live attitude in Houston.

If you come to Houston, you're going to have a good time, anytime. There is always a crowd, always a gathering of gay men, at some social place, somewhere, anytime, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This article should help you locate those spots. We'll start with the baths.

The baths is a good place to start, for several reasons. First, you may very well meet someone special who would love to show you around Houston. We Houstonians are very hospitable and enjoy showing off our city to visitors. Another reason to start off at the baths is because there you can pick up a copy of the latest issues of The Star and This Week in Texas, Houston's two weekly gay magazines. They'll clue you in to new clubs opening up and new specials at old clubs.

Midtowne Spa and Club Houston are the two baths and both have all the necessary facilities for baths: swimming pool (an Olympic-sized indoor one at Midtowne, an outdoor one for sunbathing at Club Houston), steam and sauna rooms, whirlpool, workout equipment, color TV lounge ... and HUNKS. Both baths are popular, both open 24 hours, and both

usually "crowded" ... and that's because both also have assorted specials to entice customers in other-than-normal times. And both baths are squeaky clean. So no matter what time you arrive in Houston, head for the tubs.

Next stop, the western and leather bars. Mary's, the Barn and the Silver Bullet are within walking distance of each other, all in the heart of the Montrose section. (Montrose is the neighborhood where most gay people live and it's where most of the gay clubs are located.) All three of these clubs have a popular happy hour (generally 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. or thereabouts) and are open from midday to 2:00 a.m., except Mary's, which is open 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. normally and later on weekends.

A quick word here about Texas liquor laws. All clubs can serve booze

till 2:00 a.m., seven days, and can stay open later if desired, if they make sure no customers have anything stronger than Coke. Several bars do stay open to 4:00 a.m. on weekends.

Houston's most popular western-leather bar is the Locker, located a couple of blocks down the road from Mary's. This bar opens nightly at 8:00 p.m. except weekends when it opens at 3:00 p.m. and has its traditional beer busts (all you can drink till 9:00 p.m. for a buck). Saturday and Sunday afternoons, this is where your number one crowd will be in Houston.

Super City has no less than five large gay male discos, and you can expect to find a crowd at all five just about every night, although each club has "its" night.

The Light Company is the new
please turn to page 22



Lined up in a neat little row on South Main, between Cuddle's and downtown, is the Venture-N, the Old Surf and the Mini Park Theater.

the light co.

HOT NEW DISCO

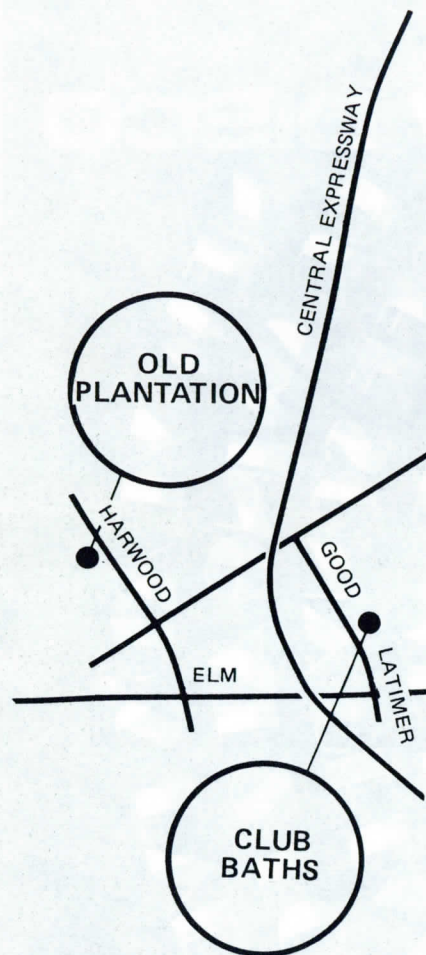
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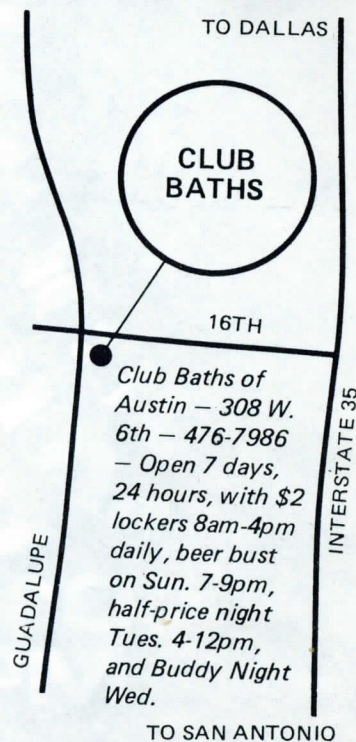
401 MCGOWEN

DALLAS



The Old Plantation — 1807 N. Harwood — 651-1988 — Open 7 days, 9pm-2am, with after-hours disco on Fri. & Sat. to 4am, and 45¢ drinks with \$1 cover Sun., Mon., Tue., Thurs.

AUSTIN

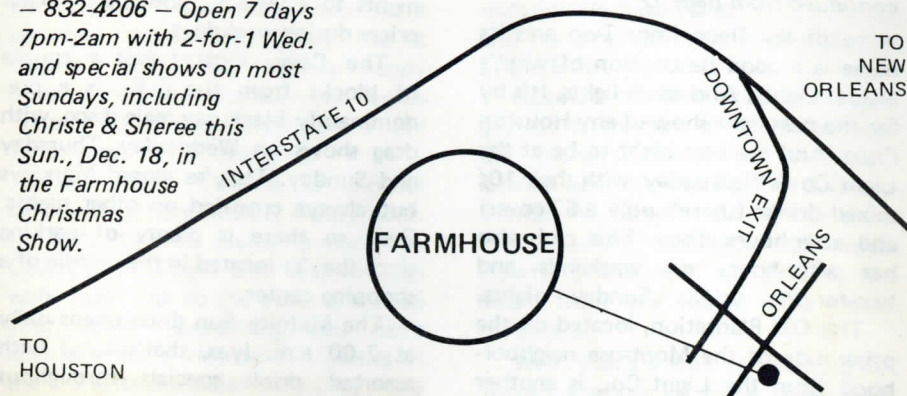


Club Baths of Austin — 308 W. 6th — 476-7986 — Open 7 days, 24 hours, with \$2 lockers 8am-4pm daily, beer bust on Sun. 7-9pm, half-price night Tues. 4-12pm, and Buddy Night Wed.

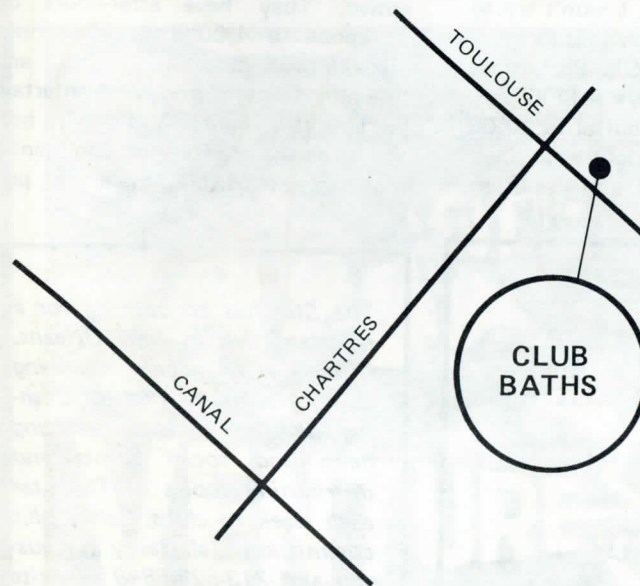
Club Baths of Dallas — 2616 Swiss — 821-1990 — Open 7 days, 24 hours, with 2-for-1 Buddy Night Tues. 6pm-2am, \$3 lockers Wed. night after the bars close 2-4am, & Chicken Night Thurs. 4-12pm with free lockers for 18-21-year-olds.

BEAUMONT

The Farmhouse — 304 Orleans — 832-4206 — Open 7 days 7pm-2am with 2-for-1 Wed. and special shows on most Sundays, including Christie & Sheree this Sun., Dec. 18, in the Farmhouse Christmas Show.



NEW ORLEANS



Club Baths of New Orleans — 515 Toulouse — 581-2402 — Open 7 days, 24 hours, with \$1 lockers Tues. noon-midnight & Thurs. 6:30-7:30pm.

Super City

continued from page 17

name of the Depository Two and its name is a good description of what's inside. Lights. And more lights. It's by far the best light show of any Houston disco. And the best night to be at the Light Co. is Wednesday, with their 10¢ mixed drinks (there's only a \$2 cover) and after-hours disco. This club also has after-hours on weekends and two-for-one drinks Sunday nights.

The Old Plantation, located on the other side of the Montrose neighborhood from the Light Co., is another of the major Houston clubs. Their biggest night is Sundays, when they present the O.P. Follies headed by "Ernestine." I don't know if you've noticed what I've noticed, but the best-looking guys seem to turn out to watch the drag shows. I won't try to explain it, but it's an obvious fact any Sunday night at the Old Plantation. The O.P. opens Sundays at 8:00 p.m. with a beer bust and buffet to 10:00 and the Follies start right after that.

The Old Plantation also has after-

hours disco Friday and Saturday nights to 4:00 a.m., and special drink prices during weekdays.

The Cove, located just a couple of blocks from the O.P., is a predominantly black gay male disco, with drag shows on Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday. They're closed Mondays but always crowded on other nights. Even so there is plenty of parking since they're located in the middle of a shopping center.

The Midnite Sun disco opens daily at 7:00 a.m. (yes, that's a.m.) with assorted drink specials throughout the day. The club will soon open its back room, more than doubling its size.

The newest of the discos is Cuddle's, which seems to be currently enjoying the largest, regular nightly crowd. They have after-hours on weekends to 4:00 a.m., 50¢ drinks on Sundays and weeknights, and "Jennifer George" and We 4 entertain on Thursday nights. And they're hot, and so is the crowd — predominantly (but not exclusively) male and pre-

dominantly hunky.

As this article is being written, Dirty Sally's has not re-opened. But it certainly should be shortly and it certainly will have the top happy hour crowd in Houston. The words "happy hour" and "Dirty Sally's" are synonymous in Houston.

The Inside Outside is another club with a very healthy happy hour. In fact, it's two clubs in one. The Countryside is next door and you can walk from one to the other and keep your drink (something you can't normally do in Houston). Upstairs at the I/O is its piano bar. Very cozy, very intimate.

What else in Houston? Oh, much, much more. On South Main, just down the street from Cuddle's, is the Venture-N and Old Surf and

downtown is the Exile. All three are generally western-flavored and occasionally have bands. Bob Williams and his band currently play weekends at the Exile.

Houston has two all-male, X-rated gay movie theaters, the Mini-Park and the French Quarter. The Mini-Park, located next door to the Old Surf and Venture-N, usually has a double or triple feature running. The French Quarter prides itself on showing the latest from the major male movie producers.

Well, that's a look at Houston, but there's a whole lot more. There's the Briar Patch, the Hi Lite Ranch, La Caja, Our Place, Typhoon Tessie's, the Male Boxx, Uncle Charlie's, and (as Andre True would sing) more, more, more.

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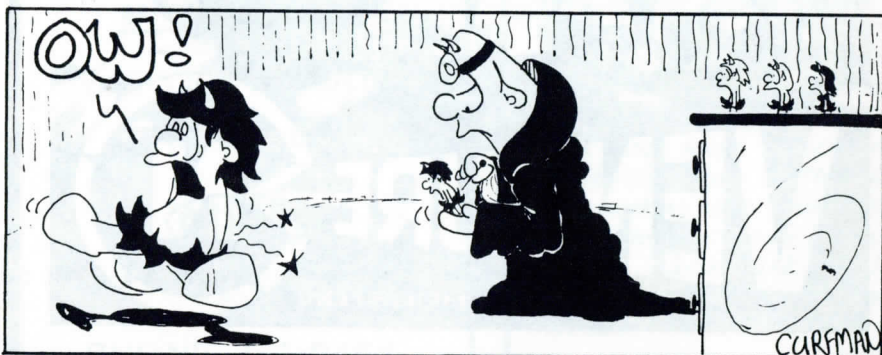
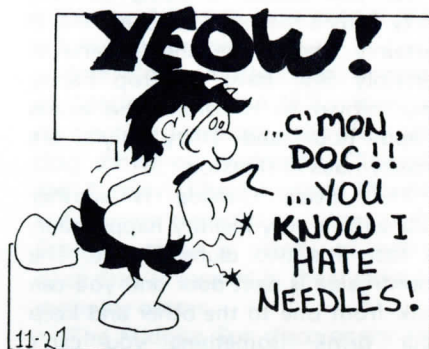
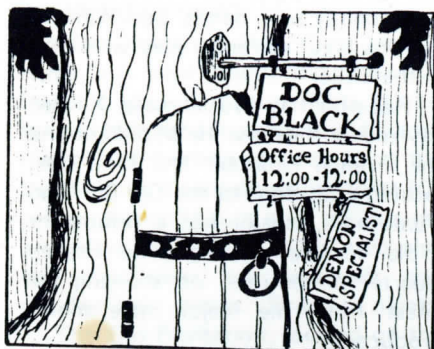
PHONE 271-0464

The Star has an opening for a representative in New Orleans. Duties will include servicing existing accounts and establishing new ones. Also reporting news and social events and distributing copies of The Star each week to clubs. Salary plus commission. Call Henry in Houston at 1-713-528-6848 or write The Star, 2003 Allen Parkway, Houston, TX 77019.

DECEMBER 16-22, 1977

PAGE 23

FIGLEAVES



HOROSCOPE

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 22): Life expands in circles, Saj, not in straight lines. Twosome you have enjoyed for some time is breaking up. A fleeting sorrow only strengthens your resolve to enjoy. A little "shuffle, ball, change" opens ranks for a fascinating stranger. On last day expect invitation you can't refuse.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): If everything had an "A" priority, Cap, the universe would have been created in one day. Order "pressing problems" from one to ten. Throw out last three and go from there. The mind doth boggle, but the spirit endures as your week ends with a few tiddlies and almost no winks.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): True love only knocks once, Aquari. After that it rings the doorbell, rattles the shutters, and taps on the bathroom window. Noisy week ends with a holler.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Recent set-backs aren't nearly as disastrous as you think Pisces my pet. Ride with the tide, it may wash up a surprise treasure that will make all else seem like "fool's gold." Week ends on key of D for dazzle.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): The racket you hear is that of your own wheels spinning, Ari. Set a single goal for yourself and finish it. On last day of week, all gears mesh with a "purr."

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Ah, ah, ah, don't touch that dial, Taurus, you're tuned to the right station. Old familiar tune is playing and you feel the beat. Keep toe tapping 'cause week ends with a tumultuous tango for two.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Remember those old boots you hung up a few years ago, Gem? They're still

made for walking. Don't be shy, you can cover a lot of territory now. Some of the grass on the other side of the fence is greener. Last day finds you rolling in clover.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Simplicity can be a vice as well as a virtue, Moonbaby. Complicate your life a little. Accepting an added responsibility now brings fresh dimensions to your somewhat limited horizon. If all fails, try translating the first page of James Joyce's "Ulysses."

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You may have forgotten to include provisions for "that rainy day" Leo. Money matters are tight. Juggle finances in a unique way. You'll squeeze by, but expect to feel the pinch. On last day, seek council from trusted friend. A word to the wise should be sufficient.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You're spinning like the proverbial top, Virg, which is exhilarating to you, but may be upsetting to others. Remember, you still need a string to get you started. Give some overdue thanks to that certain someone who makes all this foolishness possible.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Old woes will make new wounds for you Lib unless you go right to the source. A frank talk with someone who's a burr in your side will keep them from becoming a thorn. You'll be doing them a favor. Nobody likes to stick in the same side forever! Week ends with a fresh breeze.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Fair days ahead for you, Scorp, as a recent upswing in private and professional life gives you a boost you haven't felt in a long time. Have no fear of flying; if need be, catch the nearest chandelier. Week ends with the tinkling of glass.

HOUSTON

WHAT'S GOIN' ON

Friday Afternoon

Movie day at Club Baths with free movies. "Hot Flashes" starts at the French Quarter Theater.

Friday Night

Bob Williams band performs at the Exile. After-hours disco to 4am at Cuddle's, the Old Plantation & the Light Co. Free movies continue into the night at Club Baths in celebration of grand opening week. Drag show starts 8pm at the Old Surf.

Saturday Afternoon

Beer bust starts at noon at Club Houston, followed at 6pm with drawing for color TV, luggage and discount cards. Special on Bloody Marys & screwdrivers at the Barn. Happy hour noon-3pm at the Venture-N.

Saturday Night

Bob Williams band performs again at the Exile. After-hours disco at the Light Co., Old Plantation and Cuddle's. Drag show 8pm at the Old Surf.

Sunday Afternoon

Happy hour noon-3pm at Venture-N. T-dance at Cuddle's disco starting 4pm with 50¢ drinks & \$1 cover. Free buffet at the Barn with special on Bloody Marys & screwdrivers. "The Jerry Vanover Review" starts 4pm at the Midnite Sun.

Sunday Night

Mike Edwards presents Ms. Dee & guests at the Cove. 2-for-1 drinks at the Light Co. 50¢ drinks with \$1 cover at Cuddle's. Beer bust, buffet & drag show with Ernestine at the Old Plantation. Drag show also tonight at the Old Surf.

Monday through Friday

Sunworshippers & bodybuilders special at Midtowne Spa, 8am-8pm. Happy hour 4-8pm at the Old Surf, noon-7pm (except Tues.) at Cuddle's Quiet Bar, 4-7pm at the Barn, 4-6pm at the Exile, 2-8pm at the Venture-N. 25¢ Bloody Marys & screwdrivers in the mornings & 25¢ beer in the afternoons at Midnite Sun. \$2 lockers at Club Baths 8am-4pm.

Monday Night

50¢ beer at the Midnite Sun. Special drink prices with \$1 cover at the Old Plantation, Light Co. & Cuddle's. T-shirt night at Club Baths.

Tuesday Night

Chicken night at Club Baths. Special on sunrises & screwdrivers at the Midnite Sun. Special drink prices with \$1 cover at the Light Co., Cuddle's & the Old Plantation.

Wednesday Night

Buddy night at Club Baths. Amateur drag nights at the Midnite Sun & Old Surf. 10¢ drinks with \$2 cover at the Light Co. 50¢ drinks with \$1 cover at

Cuddle's. 45¢ drinks with \$1 cover at the Old Plantation. Drag show at the Cove with Champagne, Dachele, Abby.

Thursday Night

Special on sunrises & screwdrivers at the Midnite Sun. Jennifer George & We 4 are on stage at Cuddle's. \$1 cover and special prices on drinks

at the Old Plantation & the Light Co. "Queen for a Day" amateur drag show contest at the Cove with \$50 in prizes. "Unemployment Night" at Club Baths.

Club managers: Send your items for this listing to *The Star*, 2003 Allen Parkway, Houston, TX 77019. Or just call us up at (713) 528-6848, now with 24-hour answering service.

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HOUSTON

DIRECTORY

Discos

Cove — 2912 S. Shepherd — 524-0170
 Cuddle's — 4714 Main — 528-5054
 Light Co. — 401 McGowan — 524-7532
 Midnite Sun — 534 Westheimer — 526-7519
 Old Plantation — 2020 Kipling — 522-2353

Neighborhood Bars

Barn — 710 Pacific — 528-9427
 Dirty Sally's — 220 Avondale — opening soon
 The Exile — 1011 Bell — 659-0453
 Old Surf — 2909 Main — 528-9164
 Our Place — 1419 Richmond — 528-8903
 Venture-N — 2923 Main — 522-9019

Baths

Club Houston — 2205 Fannin — 659-4998
 Midtowne Spa — 3100 Fannin — 522-2379

Adult Bookstores & Movie Arcades

Adultz News — 227 Calvacade St.
 Adultz News — 2421 Holcombe Blvd.
 Adultz News — 714 West Alabama
 After Dark — 3400 Travis — 521-9857
 Bellaire News — 5807 Bellaire Blvd. — 661-8840

Adult 16mm Theaters

French Quarter — 3201 Louisiana — 527-0782
 Mini Park — 2907 Main — 528-5881

Carpet Cleaning Service

Delta Pure Inc. — call 688-2263

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Butler's Westheimer Pet Center — 1638 Westheimer — 522-8832

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GG Printing — 1985 Welch — 521-0846

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Telephone Answering Service

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The Star — 2003 Allen Parkway — 528-6848

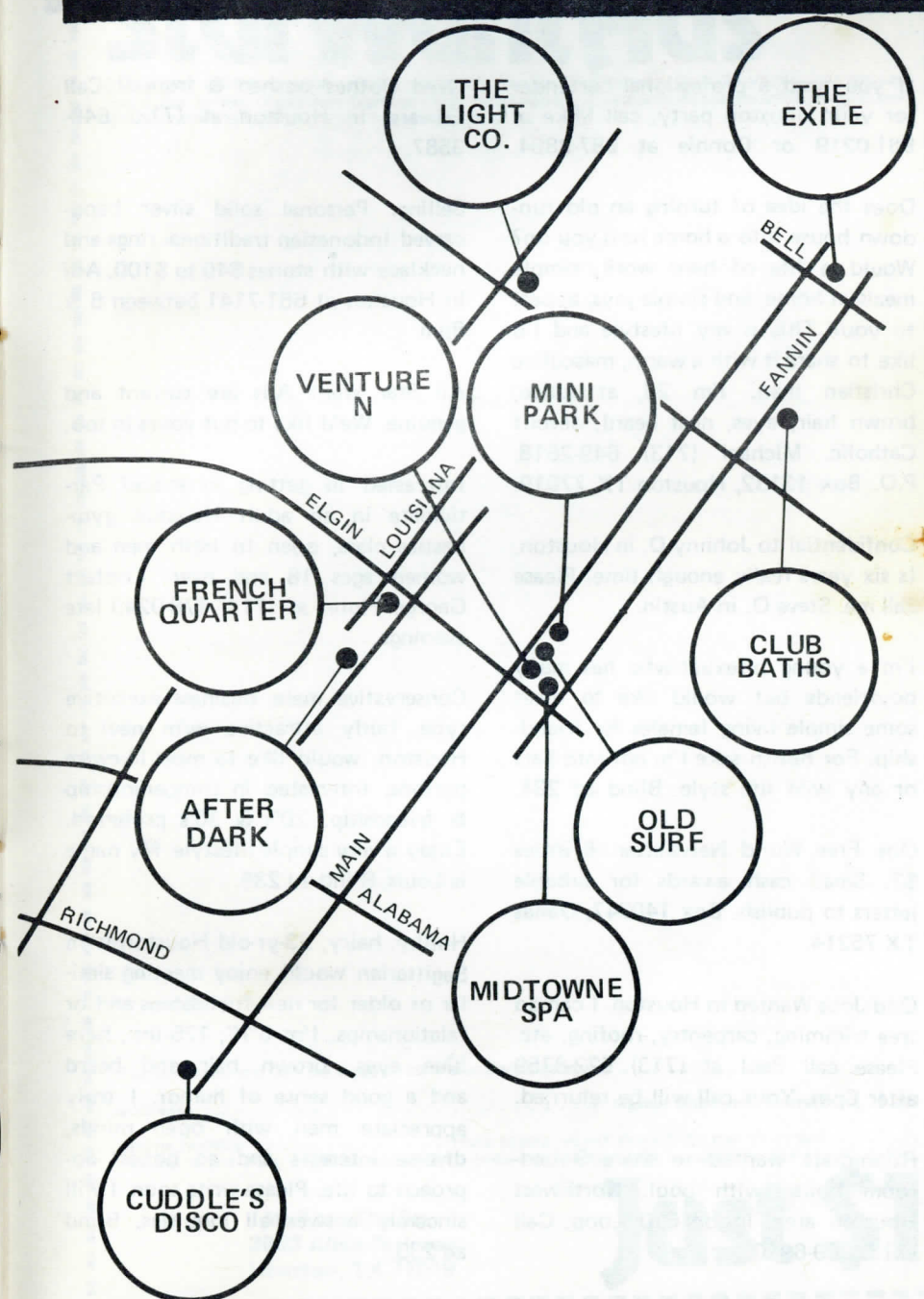
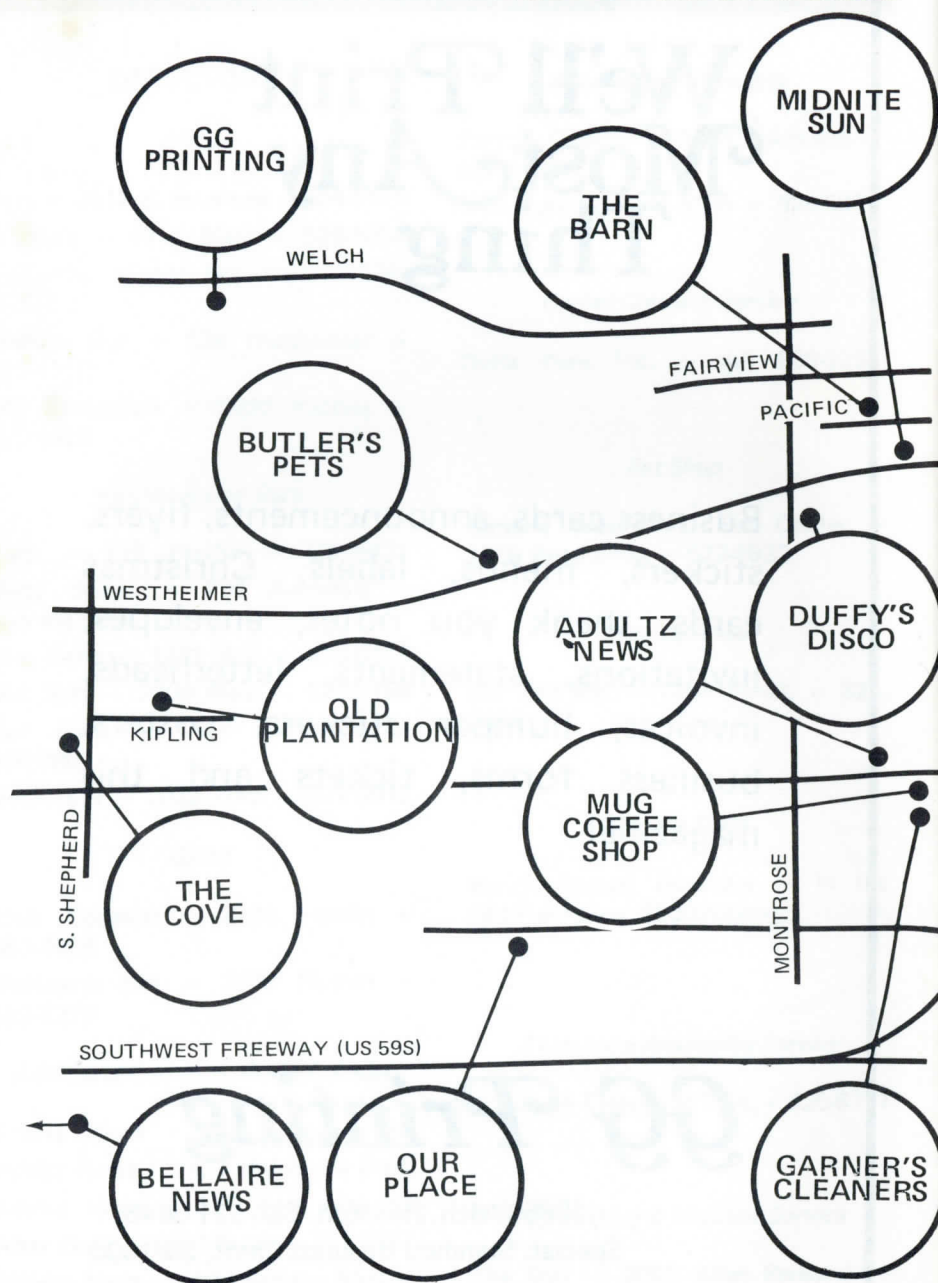
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Confidential to Johnny D. in Houston. Is six years really enough time? Please call me. Steve O. in Austin.

I'm a young bisexual who has many boyfriends but would like to meet some simple living females for friendship. For health sake I'm not into bars or any wild life style. Blind ad 234.

One Free World Newsletter. 5 issues \$2. Small cash awards for suitable letters to publish. Box 140247, Dallas TX 75214.

Odd Jobs Wanted in Houston. I can do tree trimming, carpentry, roofing, etc. Please call Paul at (713) 522-8759 after 6pm. Your call will be returned.

Roommate wanted to share 3 bedroom house with pool. Northwest Houston area, inside 610 Loop. Call (713) 869-6920.

Need clothes washed & ironed? Call Edward in Houston at (713) 649-3587.

Selling: Personal solid silver hand-carved Indonesian traditional rings and necklace with stones \$40 to \$100. Adi in Houston at 661-7141 between 6 & 8pm.

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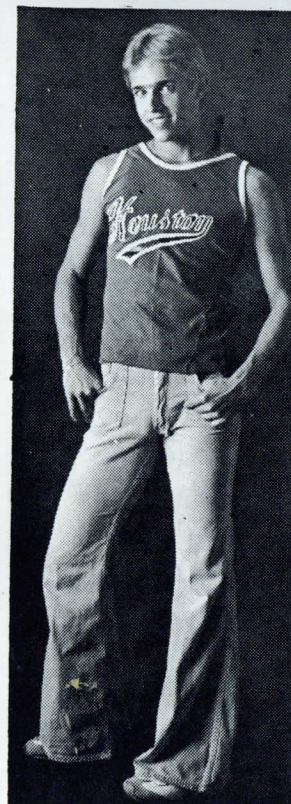
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