

UPFRONT

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 15

HOUSTON, TEXAS

OCTOBER 13, 1978

NO ON 6 HERE

Tax Protesters Seek Gay Assistance

Several speakers, including former State Democratic Executive Committeewoman Mary Schlett, spoke in favor of a tax reform issue that was being hotly debated on the floor of the Houston Gay Political Caucus (GPC) last week.

Early last month, Judson Robinson, Houston City Councilman, had first presented the tax reform question to the Executive and Professional Association of Houston at their monthly meeting. He was the guest speaker on that occasion. Councilman Robinson, however, sought the business group's assistance in **countering** the tax reform movement's attempt to control and limit taxation on property owners (which affect renters as well). He had claimed that city services might suffer from any such reduction in anticipated tax revenues. Elsewhere in his speech, he had noted that next year's proposed city budget included some increases in departmental budgets, including a sizeable increase in the police budget. The remarks became an issue in the community subsequent to the EPAH dinner, when the GPC president turned the situation around by stating that not only would he refuse to block the tax reform group's efforts, he might also add his support to the reform movement. (He had earlier commented to an UPFRONT reporter that the police were already doing an excellent harrassment job on gays, let alone having a budget increase.)

A small number of GPC members objected to taking a stand either way on this issue until more information could be obtained from other sources. The caucus passed a resolution to table the item until a later date to allow time to acquire such additional information.

In other GPC news, the support of John Hill for governor was causing small rumblings from at least one minority group within GPC led by Ray Hill. Hill stated that the Democratic candidate, John Hill (no relation), was not being responsive

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City Welcomes Gay Celebs



No-On-Six spokespersons Leonard Matlovich, Del Martin, David Kopay, and Rev. Troy Perry will answer questions from the press on Saturday morning, October 14, 1978, at 11:30 a.m. at the Montrose Activity Center, 1423 Holman (at LaBranch).

Matlovich, Martin and Perry have come from California and Kopay from Washington, D.C., as official representatives of the No-On-Six organization in California, which is combating passage of Proposition 6. The anti-gay initiative comes before the voters in California on November 7.

The four activists will be spearheading two days of activities here in Houston, organized as the No-On-Six Weekend.

The Montrose Activity Center was chosen as the news conference site to demonstrate the "up from the ground" efforts of Houston's gay community. Recently acquired, it is being renovated largely by volunteer labor and expertise, to provide a center for "self-help" activities. It will contain a performing stage, activity rooms, meeting rooms, a VD clinic, newspaper offices, archives collection, and other facilities and services as they are conceptualized.

Following the news conference, Matlovich, Martin, Kopay and Perry will be given a tour of the center, still very much in the renovation stage. The press is invited to join the tour.

Harris County Told To Pay Up!

Federal Judge Ross Sterling has ordered Harris County to pay former Harris County Comptroller, Gary Van Ooteghem, the sum of \$56,000, plus accrued interest, from last March when the suit was settled in Van Ooteghem's favor. The suit was originally brought by Van Ooteghem, in cooperation with the American Civil Liberties Union, against Harris County Treasurer Hartsell Gray. Gray fired Van Ooteghem on July 31, 1975 after the latter refused Gray's demand not to address Harris County Commissioners Court where he planned to seek affirmative action from the county by adding "affectional and sexual preference" to its employment nondiscrimination policy. The county refused.

The other part of the settlement included reinstatement of Van Ooteghem to his former position as Comptroller, a position created for Van Ooteghem by Gray shortly after his employment by the Treasurer's office. The former Comptroller was in charge of running the County Treasurer's Office, as one of his duties, at the time of his dismissal.

Judge Sterling awarded damages to Van Ooteghem last March. Between then and his recent order, the judge reviewed arguments as to who should pay the settlement; Hartsell Gray, acting as an individual or Hartsell Gray, acting as the County Treasurer in his official role. The judge found the county liable.

The County has until October 29th to appeal. As of press time, the county commissioners had instructed Joe Reweber, Harris County Attorney, to appeal the decision. Should this be done, the county must bear the cost of the appeal to a higher court. Included in that cost would be such items as interest running on the judgement during this time, additional attorney fees for Van Ooteghem (assuming the

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Second Bank Pledges Non-Discrimination

Four weeks after the TEXAS HUMAN RIGHTS FOUNDATION (THRF) obtained an agreement from the Chemical Bank not to discriminate in employment practices because of affectional or sexual preference, the foundation has announced that a second bank has now made a similar pledge. Dr. Mort Schwab, President of THRF, announced that South Main Bank, 3001 Main Street, Houston became the second bank to make such a pledge. THRF has put out several requests to local banks seeking their pledge to treat all people, including gays, fairly in their employment practices. One other bank is currently being asked to agree to this request. It is believed that their response will be forthcoming in the near future. Dr. Schwab declined to identify the bank's name until negotiations have progressed further.

Last weekend, DAIR, a Dallas group of fund-raisers helping many Movement organizations, held a fund-raisers at the Old Plantation in Dallas as part of a newly-targeted state-wide effort to fund the Texas Human Rights Foundation's efforts to repeal the Texas sodomy statute, Penal Code 21.06. Gay political organizations around the state are also attempting this through the lobbying of the Texas legislature. Both efforts are part of an overall combined endeavor by Texas gays. A spokesperson for DAIR said that approximately \$3,500 was raised in this first such event. Other individuals and organizations are currently working on other fund-raising proposals, including one to bring former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark to Houston and Dallas to address the issue.

TCLU Targets Repeal of 21.06

The TEXAS CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION (TCLU), in a late September meeting, has targeted the repeal of Penal Code 21.06 (Texas sodomy statute) as one of its lobbying efforts. Other areas for which TCLU will be lobbying are 1) grand jury reform, 2) removal of the death penalty, 3) liberalization of Marijuana laws, 4) E.R.A., 5) anti-abortion constitutional convention, 6) wiretapping, 7) S.B. 152, the senate version of a law which would require a mandatory 20 year sentence in any criminal case where the use of a weapon was used, and 8) the teaching of civil liberties in schools.

The American Civil Liberties Union (of which the TCLU is an affiliate state organization) is the nation's only permanent nonpartisan organization devoted exclusively to the defense of the Bill of Rights for everyone. In the words of Chief Justice Earl Warren, "The ACLU has

stood four-square against the recurring tides of hysteria that from time to time threaten freedoms everywhere... Indeed, it is difficult to appreciate how far our freedoms might have eroded had it not been for the Union's valiant representation in the courts of the constitutional rights of people of all persuasions, no matter how unpopular or even despised by the majority they were at the time."

The TCLU has recently fallen on hard times, partially as a result of a reaction to the ACLU's defense of free speech for the American Nazi Party in Skokie, Illinois. That controversy caused the other good deeds of the ACLU to go unnoticed by the general public at a time when they were defending thousands of other citizens in the fight for fairness and equality. People wishing to help the TCLU can contact them at their office at 600 West 7th Street, Austin, Texas 78701.

Study Says Gays OK

In a comprehensive review of the research literature comparing non-patient homosexuals with heterosexuals, a group of researchers publishing in the July issue of the JOURNAL OF CLINICAL PSYCHIATRY concluded "that findings to date have not demonstrated that the homosexual individual is any less psychologically adjusted than his or her heterosexual counterpart".

The authors criticized many past studies for having sloppy definitions of who is homosexual, for having poor control groups and for frequently reflecting the bias and prejudices of the experimenters.

The authors point out that employed, independent female homosexuals are very likely to be better adjusted than unemployed, dependent, married female heterosexuals. Similarly, it is suggested that effeminate men, whether heterosexual or homosexual, may have some adjustment problems that are not related to sexual orientation and which are not found among the majority of homosexual men. The authors look forward to a time when clinical judgements about homosexuality will have a purely scientific basis and not reflect personal opinions of researchers.

Van Ooteghem Elected To Local ACLU Board

The Houston chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union has elected a gay man, Gary Van Ooteghem, to sit on their Board of Directors during the upcoming year. Patrick Wiseman, former ACLU staff attorney, made the announcement

late last week. Van Ooteghem becomes the first gay person to hold such a position on the local board.

Six months earlier, Van Ooteghem was elected to a similar position with the Texas Civil Liberties Union, the state ACLU affiliate.

Straights Found To Be Greater Threat To Children Than Homosexuals

In an article published in the May issue of the ARCHIVES OF SEXUAL BEHAVIOR a Massachusetts psychiatrist cites evidence indicating that male heterosexuals with sexual identity problems pose a serious threat to young children of both sexes. In examining a random sample of 175 sexual offenders who were remanded for treatment by the courts he found no cases of adult peer-oriented homosexuals among the offenders. He found that female children were victims of sexual

abuse twice as often as males. In 12 years of clinical experience he has found evidence that homosexual abuse of children is more likely to be committed by a disturbed heterosexual and that homosexuality and homosexual child abuse may be mutually exclusive. On the basis of his clinical experience, experience this psychiatrist has concluded that heterosexual males constitute a greater risk to the young child as sex abusers than do homosexual males.

Metroplex TV To Explore Gay Activists

Beginning Monday, October 16, KXAS-TV (Channel 5) will begin a series of reports called "Gays in Politics." The series will run each evening for a week during Channel 5's late news programming. Willie Monroe, moderator, was in Houston last week covering a number of events and meetings that were taking place, including a GPC meeting, the MAC Building and what it is hoped to become, the production of UPFRONT (this issue, actually), and

a number of personal interviews with local gay activists. Mr. Monroe has also done similar coverage of the Dallas gay activists. All will be combined during this week-long showing.

The Houston GPC has requested anyone who has the ability to video tape this programming to do so for future reference. Arrangements can be made through HGPC by calling 526-2668.

National Gay Switchboard

The DALLAS GAY POLITICAL CAUCUS, in their October newsletter, has reported that the Gay National Education Switchboard, a 24-hour WATS-line service staffed by 75 highly trained volunteers, opened earlier this month. The switchboard will give free, accurate, non-judgemental and confidential information about the sexuality and lifestyles of gay men and women.

The switchboard will concentrate on resources in areas which do not have their own gay switchboard. Callers from areas having such resources already available will be referred to those organizations which can more readily and easily give assistance.

The project is that of the Human Rights Foundation in San Francisco. Their number is 800-227-0888.

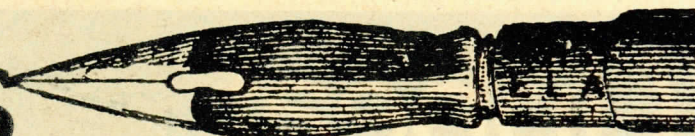
Parents Of Gays Group Forming

A group of parents are hoping to successfully create a Parents of Gays organization in Houston. Space is being sought in a "neutral" place for meetings. The YWCA (Allen Parkway at Dunlavy) is currently

being considered as one possible site.

Anyone interested in joining or knowing of someone that could benefit from this group should contact Annella Harrison at 664-5339.

Editorials



Frontlines

Expose Yourself Revisited

Your brief article, "Expose Yourself" (September 29, page 12), addressed to the gay business community raises a valid point: in order for UPFRONT to survive and grow it needs the revenue generated by advertising.

I urge you to repeat that article in the next issue, but with the addition of three crucial words, directed not to the businessmen, but to the gay community: SUPPORT UPFRONT ADVERTISERS!

In issues to come, Upfront will be contracting advertising from many businesses who have not previously advertised in a gay publication. They may be big, small, well-established, or brand-new, but they all need support, too. Unless a businessman can establish a positive response from his ads, he surely is not apt to continue to run them. Granted, it takes time for results to show, but a new advertiser taking a gamble to "expose himself" in a gay paper needs immediate assurance that his ad was seen, appreciated, and supported.

Upfront provides virtually the best advertising dollar buy in Houston, and as the distribution increases it will become even a better bargain. But to those of us, small business owners, who are operating our shops on impossible shoestring budgets, even the best buy goes sour if no one takes interest, and we cannot afford to continue.

Urge your readers to support Upfront advertisers and help promote your advertisers with an occasional story, article, or shop review. The gay business community is marvelously creative and is rich with interesting people, backgrounds, and talent. Help them "expose themselves" so they will have the satisfaction of feeling involved and the knowledge that they, too, belong.

"I saw your ad in Upfront", doesn't cost a cent to say; doesn't mean you're obligated to buy. But as a morale booster, it's magic to the businessman's ears, and the simplest sign that his ad has reached an interested community which appreciates HIS support.

Marc Gould

Ed - We couldn't have said it better!

Burn Out

Since the beginning of the Gay Lib Movement in Houston, apathy has been our most devastating enemy. Not all of the Anita Bryants, Geneva Brooks, or Dean Corll affairs, put together, have slowed the progress of homophile rights as has the Gay Community itself. Apathy is one of the major contributors to "burn-out", which has claimed a good number of our leadership.

The very seeds of the gay movement in Houston, the parents of gay lib in "Space City", have, for the most part, been burned out in their seemingly tireless efforts towards obtaining rights for our people. Why? Because after working their asses off to try and accomplish some miniscule goal, Houston's gay community just sat back as if they really didn't care. Too many of us were too involved in our own personal lives to really give a damn about what those gay libbers were doing. We were too selfish to offer our help or support in some tangible way. We just couldn't be bothered.

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Vantage point A Matter of Principle

For the last three years, since Hartsell Gray, Treasurer of Harris County, fired me from my position as Harris County Comptroller, I have remained relatively quiet about the Treasurer and his office. Now I intend to speak out on the matter due mainly to the settlement of my suit against him at the trial court level and due to the upcoming election scheduled for Tuesday, November 7th. Gray is seeking re-election to his office.

Hartsell Gray, current Harris County Treasurer, hired me in January, 1975 to become the first Comptroller of Harris County. We worked well together, for awhile; that is, until he learned that I was homosexual. Then all hell broke loose. I became a danger, a burden to him. Mostly he reacted out of fear of what he thought others would say or do. He liked my work and said so in front of the press and others. But in his final analysis, he was more afraid than courageous about the matter. It was simply my being gay, not my work competence, that triggered his response - my dismissal. He reacted like a typical Texas politician. This brings me to a series of points that I have given thought to before deciding to speak out on the re-election of Hartsell Gray to the office of County Treasurer.

POINT NUMBER ONE: Does the above fact influence my opinion of Gray? Answer: Of course it does. But I have won my case in a court of law. He was found guilty of wrongdoing, not I. Vindicated? Yes. Vendetta? No. If he appeals this decision, which he has indicated he will do, the gay movement can only be better for it. If the appellate court upholds the decision rendered at the trial court level, then the entire South within the Fifth Appellate Circuit would be affected. For the money spent (all appeal costs will be borne by Harris County), we will obtain a great deal of PR from it and most of that is expected to be positive.

POINT NUMBER TWO: Is Hartsell Gray competent to hold this office? Answer: No. His background is religion, not accounting. He was an Episcopal minister. He had no prior knowledge of accounting when he first was appointed to this position, a fact which became quite apparent when I entered the scene less than two years after he was in office. Literally hundreds of bank reconciliations were not performed by his office. Many hundreds. No accurate bank balance was available or could be confirmed because of this lack of control, save a few small, inactive minor accounts. What kind of madness was this? The wealthiest county in Texas and they couldn't reconcile their bank balances to the books. Shame! This, however, was typical Hartsell style.

POINT NUMBER THREE: Who were all those people on the payroll when I first started? He had authorized (or instructed me to do it for him in his absence) the payment to some individuals for Treasury work. But who were they and did they earn it? I never saw them and I was in charge. Curious!

POINT NUMBER FOUR: Is the department necessary? No, I say. Gray has proven over the last five years that the County Treasury was a non-functioning department of the county. So why have it? What is their budget now? \$250,000? \$500,000? How much waste of taxpayer's money must we endure before we say enough is enough. If it's a charity payroll we want, then let's call it that. Don't play games.

The fact of the matter is that the County Auditor's office does everything that has to be done for the county: invest excess funds, record and pay the county's bills, payroll, budget preparation and such other functions necessary to run the county financially. An outside certified public accounting firm verifies the balances and records annually. So why do we have the Treasurer's Office anyway? Well, folks, that's politics!

Do I endorse Hartsell Gray? CERTAINLY NOT! The man did violate this gay writers' rights under the constitution and this was later affirmed by a federal court of law. In my professional opinion as a certified public accountant, he is not competent to hold this office and does more harm than good by being in it. Who were those people on the payroll early in 1975 and what function for the County Treasurer did they serve. Finally, I believe the department squanders county money which could otherwise be productively employed, so why have it? Well, it's my vantage point and this is my opinion. What's yours?

Gary J. Van Ooteghem
Gary J. Van Ooteghem
Publisher

UPFRONT

Publisher: Gary Van Ooteghem
Art Director: James Vilven
Contributors: William Alexander; W. Charles Laws; Phil Johnson (Dallas); Linus; Jim Lloyd; Bill Whiting
Photography: Virtle Bennett; Art Kelly; John Tillotson.
Distribution: Ken Erickson
Typesetting: Vilven, Whiting & Associates

Upfront is a bi-weekly publication dedicated to providing news of importance to Gay Houstonians. Upfront is published by the Upfront Corporation. Contents of this newspaper are copyrighted but feel free to reprint any or all of the contents of Upfront, but please credit Upfront as the source. Copy deadline is 6PM Wednesday nine (9) days prior to publication. We regret any inconvenience this may cause but there can be no exceptions. Upfront will consider any piece for publication but makes no assurances that all contributions will be used.

P.O. BOX 66844 HOUSTON, TEXAS 77006 713-526-9719



Jimmy Cliff GIVE THANKX



Steve Kuhn NON-FICTION



Jerry Corbetta JERRY CORBETTA



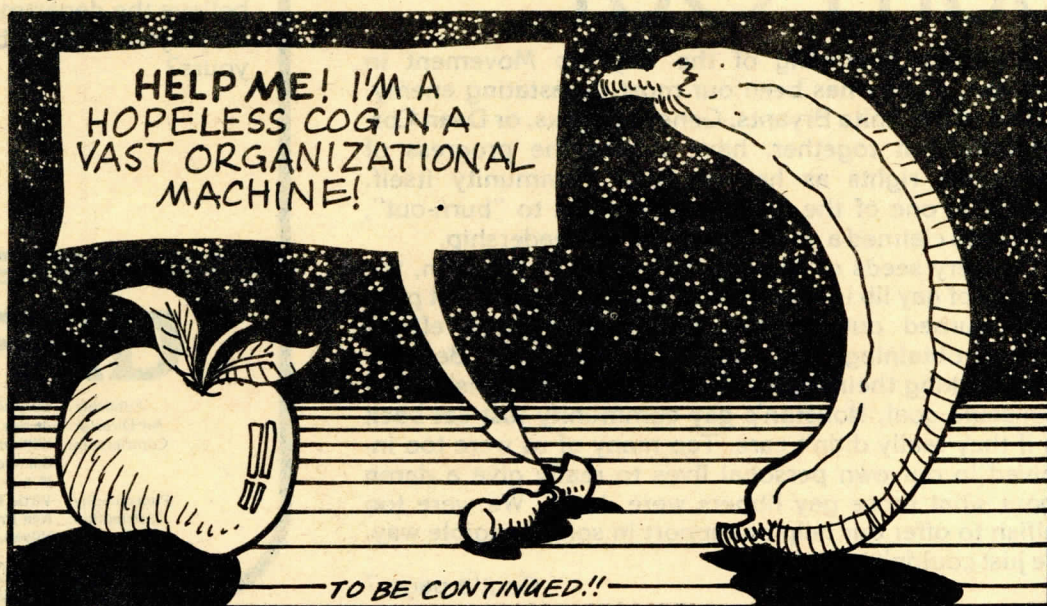
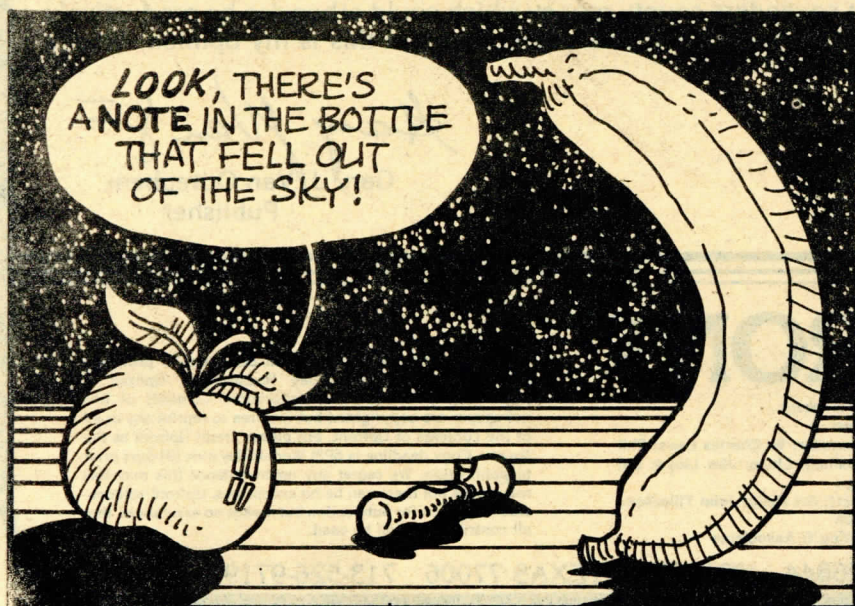
Tiger Okoshi, Gary Burton, Roy Haynes, Steve Swallow TIMES SQUARE



Jan Garbarek PLACES

The Whatnots

By Sam



TO BE CONTINUED!!

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Medifax

Anal Warts: A Pain In The A--

Anal warts often appear as clusters of lumps around the anal opening and frequently are mistaken for hemorrhoids. Occasionally the warts are painless but may bleed after a bowel movement or anal intercourse. The warts may be whitish in color and have a pus-like appearance in contrast to hemorrhoids which usually have some reddish color. The primary mode of transmission of anal warts is by receptive anal intercourse. The warts are caused by a virus and the incubation

period can be anywhere from three weeks to eight months after exposure. There are a variety of treatments for anal warts using antibiotics. Sometimes treatment is difficult because of the location of the warts. However, the condition can be treated and if done so properly is benign and self-limiting. Anyone having anal warts should also be screened for syphilis and rectal gonorrhea and refrain from intercourse until the warts are healed.

In the past several issues we have dealt with a number of sexually transmitted diseases in an effort to make our readers more aware of these dangers to their health and well being. There are a number of things we haven't mentioned. One is that the average heterosexual physician is not always alert or knowledgeable enough to properly diagnose some of these conditions. Frequently it is assumed that everybody appearing for treatment is heterosexual and many doctors are totally unattuned to gay medical problems. In other words, sometimes you need to educate your doctor about your life style. If your doctor can't handle the news that you're gay, find one who can. You do not have to be subjected to a doctor's moralizing about your life style and if he or she does

that to you, tell them you came to have your illness taken care of and not to be preached to. Also DO NOT TRY TO DIAGNOSE YOURSELF and don't let your friends tell you what you have either. Of very great importance, NEVER give medications that have been prescribed to you to someone else, DO NOT take medication given to you for something else and DON'T ever take medicine that was intended for a friend. Many people can have serious reactions to medicines and what is good for one person may be fatal for someone else. Always remember there are good doctors around and if you need help in finding one call GPC at 526-2668 or The Montrose Activity Center at 526-9719.

Jim Lloyd

Marihuana:

Local Study Announced

Volunteers Needed



A study of the effects of marihuana on lung function is being conducted at the University of Texas Medical School at Houston and volunteers are needed for the investigation. People who do not smoke

regular cigarettes, but who smoke a minimum of 5 joints a week, are needed for the study. Your participation will not require more than two hours of time, is strictly voluntary and will not involve any pain. The test requires the participant to breathe into a machine. All volun-

teers will be kept anonymous and confidential. If you are interested in participating call 797-4284. This will put you in touch with the page operator at Hermann Hospital. Ask for beeper number 338 and leave your name and number; you will be contacted later.

SEX

Information Service

Beginning in December the Crisis Hot Line of Houston will offer a Sex Information Service. People may call and ask questions about sex. Factual information about matters regarding sex will be provided without invading the privacy of the caller in any way. The phone number is: 228-1505.

J. Ross

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HALLOWEEN

TEA DANCE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29
4:00 PM - 10:00 PM

MONTROSE ACTIVITY CENTER
1423 HOLMAN AT LA BRANCH

Update From NGTF

SEATTLE: What's going on in Seattle is essentially a rerun of the other municipal gay-rights referendum fights, but in Seattle there is a serious possibility to score a win (a recent poll suggests victory is possible). Initiative 13 on the November ballot would, if passed, repeal the city ordinance now in force that prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of sexual preference. Fighting the good fight to uphold the ordinance is a group called **Citizens to Retain Fair Employment**, at P.O.Box 21772, Seattle, WA 98111; telephone (206)-622-9144.

HARVESTING THE GRASS ROOTS: Joan M. Flanagan, a veteran fund-raiser for NOW, has put her experience together with that of hundreds of others and come up with **The Gras Roots Fund-raising Book**. This how-to manual focuses on raising money from events, such as plant sales, auctions,

house tours, theater parties, and concerts, but there is much other useful advice as well. Published by Swallow Press (Chicago), it is available in bookstores for \$4.75, or for \$5.25 postpaid from the Youth Project, P.O. Box 988, Hicksville, NY 18802.

POLICE PRACTICES: The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is currently engaged in a nationwide study of police practices, and information is needed about police practices as they affect gay citizens. NGTF is collecting information to forward to the Commission; please send any information you have pertaining to police practices in your community (with documentation if possible) in the following areas: (1) **Harassment**--raiding of gay bars and gathering places; arrests for holding hands or same-sex dancing; verbal and other abuse; brutality; extortion; spying on gay political organizations; (2) **Unequal enforcement of laws**--"sodomy"

arrests for gays only; arrests of gay prostitutes or "johns" only; enforcement of building codes, etc. against gay places only; (3) **Entrapment**; (4) **Crimes against gays**--failure to protect gay people against assaults; ignoring or failing to prosecute murders, assaults, rapes, or thefts committed against gay men; (5) **Discriminatory practices**--refusal to hire gay police; firing of officers discovered to be gay; department or police-union opposition to gay civil rights; failure to respond to complaints by gay citizens; inflammatory statements about "homosexual crimes"; etc.

In addition to its report on current practices, the Commission will prepare a set of suggestions as to how matters can be improved. Therefore, please send NGTF any suggestions you have in the following areas: (1) **Qualifications for police officers**--includes attitudes and suggestions for attitude training; (2) **Operations**--parameters for police discretion; internal supervision by police commissioners and supervisory officers; external controls by courts and local-government review boards; expunging of arrest records; (3) **Complaint and redress procedures**; (4) **Role of the community**; (5) **Research**--what further research by the Commission is needed to determine the state of gay-police relations in your community?

You may also send information and suggestions relating to practices of the Department of Justice and the FBI. Finally, suggestions for witnesses (or volunteers)

are needed for a series of hearings the Commission is planning on this matter. Regional hearings are planned for Philadelphia in February and Houston in March; there will be a later national hearing in Washington, plus a "consultation" in Washington with "expert" witnesses in December 1978. Please send your replies to "Police Practices", NGTF, Suite 1601, 80 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10011.

FLAUNTING IT: The generosity of Man's Cuntly baths in New York City has enabled NYPAC, a local gay political group focused on the struggle to enact a municipal anti-discrimination ordinance, to bring its message to the public in a big way. Man's Country owns a large double billboard facing Sheridan Square, a major Greenwich Village intersection and entrance point to the "gay ghetto" along Christopher Street. From mid-August through the November election, the billboards are NYPAC's to use for political advertising. The first message was simply "GAY RIGHTS" and "REGISTER AND VOTE" in huge letters, but exhortations specifically relating to Intro. 384, the gay-rights bill languishing in a City Council committee, will also be displayed. In any case, it is marvelous to have such an unmistakable gesture of gay pride and determination on view daily before tens of thousands of gay and non-gay New Yorkers, and groups elsewhere might do well to look for a similarly community-minded billboard advertiser willing to donate space temporarily for local efforts.

STACHA & THE PILGRIM

LINUS always thought of himself as a gentle person. Pressured at times, but gentle.

LINUS always thought of himself as broadminded too. Perhaps it was the way he was brought up -- badly. Perhaps it was his unusual (some say queer) childhood experiences that taught him the value of multi-cultural experiences, of varied points of view, of intelligent discourse. Or, perhaps he was just a smartass.

Yet none of these admirable qualities could have prepared him for his Waterloo. His own personal moment of truth. In his mind he had known that one day life would challenge his constitution. He had known that in every life, one was inevitably met with a decision affecting the broader concerns of life, the welfare of personkind, the very nature of the universe.

What he didn't know was that it would concern the toilet training of purebred cocker spaniels.

TRICK'S MOTHER

LINUS was just going along for the ride. To the airport that is,

Houston Intercontinental Airport. It seems that TRICK'S MOTHER was coming in. LINUS thought to himself, "Why is it that TRICK'S MOTHER is always coming in? Why is it that I always go along for the ride? Could LINUS just not say NO? Was he a mouse or a person?"

STACHA

Nonetheless, on went TRICK and LINUS to the airport, and also went STACHA, TRICK'S purebred cocker spaniel. Not that there weren't laws against pets in airports. (and for good reason!) But wherever TRICK went STACHA was sure to follow, TRICK demanded it.

FLIGHT 687

Parking at IAH (airline talk) was always difficult. 300 thousand people all wanting to board the same plane, broken underground trains, crying babies -- it was enough to take a Valium, maybe two. Yet LINUS persevered. STACHA however, grew more excited. After all,

TRICK'S MOTHER was arriving, flight 687.

TRICK, of course, pushed off STACHA to LINUS. "Well I have to have both hands free to kiss MOTHER", said TRICK. And as STACHA and TRICK grew more and more excited, LINUS grew more and more depressed.

LINUS noticed the snickers, the looks, the disapproving glances the crowd gave him with STACHA. He thought, "Should I pretend STACHA is a famous dog actress? A sort of Morris the dog? A veritable Jackie O of the canine set? If only he had sunglasses for himself and STACHA. Then they would think it was OK. Maybe even want her paw print. It was no good. LINUS knew he couldn't fool anyone. He was doomed to hatred from the crowd. All of this for TRICK'S MOTHER. What more pain would that Babushka extract from him?"

TRICK, of course, had long since "gone up ahead to check the schedule" and left LINUS behind. Children stopped to pet the "puppy". Other dogs in airline crates started

barking. Ticket agents raised their eyebrows in disapproval. LINUS yanked the leash and walked faster.

Flight 687 was early. TRICK had already hugged TRICK'S MOTHER (a sizable task) and taken the hand luggage (Four bags of sand tarts. "Typical", LINUS thought, "she probably forgot the sugar").

At the very moment of seeing TRICK'S MOTHER, STACHA broke free and ran across the gate, across the gate, across a 747 full of people, across the glares of 20 be-wigged Pasadena matrons. At the moment of greeting, the pinnacle of excitement -- STACHA looked behind her, winked at LINUS, and in cocker spaniel fashion, relieved herself in a 21 gun tribute to TRICK'S MOTHER.

It was done. Unforgivable faux pas. Undeniable public embarrassment, TRICK, TRICK'S MOTHER, STACHA, and 20 be-wigged Pasadena matrons all turned to LINUS and simultaneously yelled, "How could you!"

LINUS was ready to go home.

by LINUS

Hotlines For Help

Following is a list of toll free hotlines which citizens can use throughout the United States to obtain consumer information and to make complaints to government agencies.

FAIR HOUSING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY HOTLINE. - accepts complaints about discrimination in housing due to race, religion, sex or national origin. 800-424-8590.

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION. - A federal agency which receives reports on injuries, deaths due to dangerous products and which also gives information about the safety of products. 800-638-2666.

PEACE CORPS/VISTA. - Information about these volunteer Action agencies. 800-424-8580.

NATIONAL RUNAWAY HOTLINE. - Advisory services for runaways and parents on a 24 hour, confidential basis. 800-621-4000.

OPERATION PEACE OF MIND. - Confidential 24 hour message relay service accepts calls from runaways and forwards messages to parents. Also provides counseling and confidential referrals for medical assistance and shelter. 800-231-6946.

V.D. HOTLINE. - Facts about V.D.

and referrals for treatment. 800-523-1885.

EDUCATIONAL GRANTS HOTLINE. - Information about financial aid for post-high school education to students who qualify as needy. 800-638-6700.

FEDERAL CRIME INSURANCE HOTLINE. - Information and applications regarding federal low cost commercial and residential crime insurance. 800-638-8780.

NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION. - Gives information on recalled autos and receives complaints about specific makes and models. 800-424-9393.

INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION. - Accepts complaints about problems in interstate moving, rail and bus carrier problems. Also provides independent truckers with information on equipment leasing and ways to get into the trucking business. 800-424-9312.

VETERAN'S INFORMATION SERVICE. - Information about benefits available to veterans. 800-555-1212.

CANCER INFORMATION SERVICE. - Information for cancer patients and their families. 800-638-6694.

CRISIS HOTLINE OF HOUSTON. - Provides counseling, referrals for help in the Houston area. Trained Gay volunteers are usually available. Ask to speak with one of them. 228-1505.



PITCH IN! Montrose residents are requested to report squalor to your Solid Waste Management Department. Help clean up the Montrose.

BURN OUT Cont'd from page 3

I have witnessed, and am still witnessing, many of our gay brothers and sisters, who at one time were the roots of the movement in our city, begin to fade out and slip back into their respective closets. Some are hiding their homosexuality from the world now. Some are in closets that will only allow personal love life to enter in. Whatever the purpose, a closet is a closet.

One of the most common excuses for giving out (and up) is the old classic: "Let someone younger have a chance."

Bull! Now who's being selfish and uncaring?

It is true that after a while, the apathy can get to you, but climbing back into a closet is a self-centered copout. Slowly but surely, Houston's gay community is becoming more and more open and out. But I say to all of you that have been involved and active in the community, but have now become victims of "burn-

out", that the fight is just beginning. Anita Bryant has started her campaign of hatred and bigotry, gay rights ordinances have fallen to the bigots and moralists in many cities, and this is only the beginning, folks. If Proposition 6 should happen to pass in California, you can look for something similar to pop up its ugly head in Texas. We need you now more than we ever did.

What would have happened to the movement and the progress that we have made, though slow and painful at times, if all of the Morty Manfords, Morris Kites, Barbara Gittings, Bruce Voellers, etc. had burned out and climbed back into their closets?

We need the experience and wisdom of these older leaders to complement the enthusiasm and drive of our younger ones. It's up to all of us to combat apathy and get it all together once and for all.

R. Burckhardt

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- ★ Most Original Costume
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- ★ You need not enter contest come in costume for the fun of it.

**Judging of
Great Pumpkin
Contest**

**Drawing for
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Tickets on sale till drawing.

Religious Service every Sunday at 11:00AM &
Every Sunday and Wednesday at 7:30PM.
For information call 526-8233.

Rev. Elder Troy Perry
At the pulpit October 15 at 11:AM



Book Review

The Dave Kopay Story

David Kopay and Perry Deane Young. Arbor House Publishing Co., Inc., 1977. \$8.95; also in paperback by Bantam.

When David Kopay, a famous NFL football star, publicly proclaimed his homosexuality, it made big waves and caused quite a sensation in the sports world. Kopay's story paints a vivid portrait of the frustrations and tensions created by being a "closeted" football hero. The tortuous road to identity which he experienced in his young years, culminating in his finally being able to express his true sexuality is well documented. Of particular interest is his portrayal of the extreme homophobia in the world of sports writers. After his announcement he was severely criticized by many reporters and writers and summarily ignored as a non person by others. One cannot help wondering about what sort of demons lurk in the minds of people who make a living being professional "macho" watchers.

For those interested in football, the book reveals some of the behind-the-scenes activity in the world of professional sports. Kopay talks a lot about his own experiences as a player and the image of a very macho man emerges. Some of the dehumanizing practices of professional football are portrayed and there is an undercurrent of severely repressed sexuality that may be the driving force behind what we see out there on the gridiron. Kopay also makes it clear that there are a lot of others like himself but all the way through he is very careful not to reveal the identities of anyone, leaving the choice of being public up to the individuals.

David Kopay now spends a lot of his time and energy promoting gay rights and has become a valuable asset to the movement. We are lucky to have him spend part of this time here with us in Houston. If you want to read the story of a brave man who has the courage of his convictions check out this book- it will give you a lift.

Jim Lloyd

Texas Ballet Academy Opens

The Texas Ballet Academy has now opened for classes at 5505 San Jacinto. Major instructors will be Leo Ahonen and Soili Arvola, the husband and wife team who performed as principle dancers for the Houston Ballet until ending their association with the company last winter.

Arvola and Ahonen will dance together in West Palm Beach, Fla., this weekend and then Ahonen will fly to Richmond, Va., to choreograph and stage "The Nutcracker". In Richmond Ahonen will again be working with Barbara Russell, Texas Ballet Academy founding board member now Artistic Director for the Richmond Ballet.

Meanwhile, Arvola will return to Houston immediately after the West Palm Beach appearance so that she may teach at the academy. Classes will include instruction in classical ballet to students over 8 years old. When both Ahonen and Arvola are out of the city classes will be taught by guest professionals specializing in classical ballet.

UH Recital Set

Robert Moon will perform in a Graduate Composition Recital at the University of Houston, October 29 at 6:30 pm in the Dudley Recital Hall of the UH Fine Arts Building. Mr. Moon will perform two song cycles: UP AND CUMMINS SONGS - three poems by e.e.cummings - and Three By Emily - three poems of Emily Dickinson - as well as a number of other pieces. The recital will feature "Who burned the Silver Bullet?"... the composer's angry reaction to the burning of his favorite watering spot.

The Gay Resource Services of the UH is sponsoring Mr. Moon's publicity and anyone interested in attending is welcome. Admission is free.

TUTS Course

The Humphreys School of Musical Theatre, a division of Houston's well known Theatre Under The Stars, is currently offering a five week course designed to provide intensive work in preparing scenes from a variety of musical comedies. The classes meet at the Humphreys School studios at 1999 West Gray, Wednesdays from 6:30 to 7:30 pm and Saturdays from 9 am until noon. The first class met Oct. 11 and anyone interested in joining is advised to call 522-0701. The course will run through Nov. 11.

P KALEIDOSCOPE

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* Nov. 9 opening date delayed due to construction

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RECRUITING?

The Executive and Professional Association of Houston is actively seeking new members involved in Houston's dynamic Gay business community. If you would like to become involved in an organization that provides a forum for the interchange of ideas and information important to the entire Gay community contact us today.

Executive and Professional Association of Houston P.O. Box 66844 Houston, Tx 77019 526-7287

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A MONTH OF SUNDAYS

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8:00AM until 6:00PM \$5.00
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MIDTOWNE SPA

3100 Fannin at Elgin 522-2379

EPAH Elects New Chief

The September dinner meeting of the EXECUTIVE AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HOUSTON saw the election of Warren Duncanson to the office President, replacing Founding President Bill Ramsey.

During the past six months, Bill Ramsey has enlarged the organization from a handful of businessmen and women to a group now in excess of one hundred, paralleling in size other similar organizations around the country that have been in existence much longer. EPAH is one of the fastest growing Human Rights oriented organizations in the country.

Warren Duncanson has pledged to continue this growth pattern during his upcoming administration. He has openly stated his goal of attaining a membership of 500 within the next year. Duncanson plans to aggressively seek new members by utilizing an imaginative advertising campaign which will be created by one of members of the group that is an advertising agency.

Both Ramsey and Duncanson have been active for some time in assisting other organizations involved in the Human Rights Movement to establish respect and a sound financial base from which to operate. Both men also own their own businesses.

TAX cont'd from Page 1

enough to gay issues and concerns. Ray Hill also alledged that the politician was taking the gay vote for granted since the other choice was an even worse one, in his opinion; that GPC should ask the SDEC members from Senatorial District 15 to push for a change in the state's method in which delegates are allocated to precincts, currently done by computations based on the number of votes cast in the governor's race; and that GPC should withhold its support of John Hill this next election. While Shiflett agreed that the gubernatorial candidate was appearing to take the

gays for granted, he did believe that Hill should be supported by gays now if, for no other reason, than to assure GPC's influence and delegate strength two years hence, when these same computations will create new and additional delegate positions at the precinct level. For each 300 votes cast in the governors race within each precinct, one delegate and alternate position is created. GPC intends to grab those positions in targeted precinct conventions as an effort to create even more influence within the established political parties in a presidential election year, 1980.

HARRIS cont'd from Page 1

decision is upheld at the appellate level), court costs (including reproduction of all court documents for the appeal) and the possibility that the appellate court could instruct the County to pay up to \$150,000 in

additional awards as part of punitive damages (not granted in the original trial). The higher the decision goes in the judicial system, the larger the geographic area covered by the favorable ruling.

EPAH Meets

The Executive and Professional Association of Houston will be meeting at the MAC BUILDING on

Tuesday evening, 6:30 p.m., October 17th. The meeting will be directed at introducing MAC to the business leaders of the community with an explanation of where we are, where we are going, and what we need to get there.

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Tea for 2
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HALLOWEEN TEA DANCE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29
4:00 PM - 10:00 PM

MONTROSE ACTIVITY CENTER
1423 HOLMAN AT LA BRANCH

Houston Happenings

HOUSTON SYMPHONY

October 21 at 8:00 p.m., October 22 at 2:30 p.m., Michael Palmer, Conductor; Shirley Verrett, Soprano. Verdi arias from **La Forza del Destino** and **Un Ballo in Maschera**. Wagner, Prelude and Liebestod from **Tristan and Isolde**. Bartok, Concerto for Orchestra. October 28 at 8:00 p.m., October 29 at 2:30 p.m. Michael Palmer, Conductor; Ronald Patterson, Violin. Beethoven's Overture to **Coriolanus**, Concerto in D Major for Violin and Orchestra, Op. 61, Symphony No. 7 in A Major, Op. 92. 224-4240.

HOUSTON GRAND OPERA

October 15 at 2:30 p.m., October 17 and 20 at 8:00 p.m. Bellini's **Norma** with Renata Scotto and Tatiana Troyanos.

RICE UNIVERSITY, THE SHEPHERD SCHOOL OF MUSIC

October 18, Electronic Music- Free. October 19, The Prague Quartet, \$6.00 Admission. October 25, The Shepherd Brass Quintet- Free. November 1, The Paillard Chamber Orchestra, \$6.00 Admission. All concerts are at 8:00 p.m. in Hamman Hall on the Rice campus. Information 527-4933.

MARIE-CLAIRE ALAIN, organist. October 24 at 8:00 p.m. at Pilgrim Lutheran Church, Chimney Rock at Beechnut. 527-4933.

KEITH JARRETT, solo piano. October 19 at 8:00 p.m. in Jones Hall.

EQUINOX THEATER, 3017 Washington at Heights.

Solitaire/Double Solitaire, two one-act plays by Robert Anderson. Thursday thru Saturday at 8:30 p.m. 868-5829.

COMEDY WORKSHOP, 2015 San Felipe at Shepherd. Comedy revue **So What If I'm Apathetic**. Wednesday thru Sunday at 8:30 p.m. Late night improvisational show at 11:00 p.m. Monday and Tuesday open stage for local stand-up comedians. 524-7333.

TUTS CABARET THEATER, Shamrock Hilton Hotel, Main at Holcombe.

Through November 19, **Pippin**. Tuesdays thru Thursdays at 8:30 p.m., Fridays at 9:00 p.m., Saturdays at 5:00 and 9:00 p.m., Sundays at 2:30 and 7:45 p.m. 664-3344.

THEATER UNDER THE STARS, Downtown Music Hall

The Music Man - opens October 27, runs thru November 4. Wednesday thru Saturday 8:00 p.m., Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2:00 p.m., Sunday at 7:30 p.m. 664-3344.

ALLEY THEATRE, 615 Texas Avenue.

Scream, a world premiere by Arthur Laurents, October 19 thru November 26. 228-2333.

BLACKLIGHT THEATRE OF PRAGUE

Saturday, November 4 at 8:00 p.m. at Jones Hall. 227-3625.

THE OXFORD-CAMBRIDGE SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

A Comedy of Errors, October 23 at 8:00 p.m. Ball High School Auditorium, Galveston. (713)763-6459.

WORLD WAR II

A multi-media live adventure with singing, dancing, film and a live orchestra. October 23 thru October 26 at the Numbers Disco Theater at 300 Westheimer at 9:00 p.m.

TEXAS RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL Weekends in October, first weekend in November. 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Take I-45 North, Exit 1488 West, North on 1774. 45 miles from Houston. 467-9731.

OCTOBER FEST

At Bavarian Gardens, 3926 Feagan. A German festival of food and music. 861-6300.

BURKE BAKER PLANETARIUM

The Loneliness Factor- story of the creation of life. Wednesday and Friday at 4:00 p.m., Friday and Saturday at 8:00 p.m., Saturday and Sunday at 2,3 and 4:00 p.m. For reservations 526-4273.

THETA CHARITY ANTIQUES SHOW October 13-14, 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. and October 15, 12-8:00 p.m. Albert Thomas Convention Center. 780-3808 or 782-5460.

SALE AND EXHIBITION OF NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN ART

Sponsored by the Benefit 7 College Fund at Houston Center 909 Fannin from October 30 to November 3 from 9:00 to 5:00 p.m. Admission is free.

ART EXHIBITION AND AUCTION

Works of Chagall, Miro, Picasso and other international artists, as well as new talent, will be exhibited and

auctioned on October 20 at Texas Art Supply at 2001 Montrose. For ticket information 493-6759 or 497-5889. Sponsored by the First Junior Woman's Club of Houston.

EXHIBITS

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, Bissonnet at Montrose.

Nijinsky's, **L'apres-midi d'une Faune**, thirty three photographs of the Diaghilev dancers in **The Afternoon of a Faun**; Prints and Drawings from the collection; Illustrated books from the Romansky collection and **Photography: The Selected Image**.

CONTEMPORARY ARTS MUSEUM, Bissonnet at Montrose.

Until October 24 **Peasant Paintings from Huhsien County of the People's Republic of China**. At the end of October the CAM will begin celebrating its 30th anniversary with a Design Exhibit which will include items illustrating contemporary design from 1948 until the present.

INSTITUTE FOR THE ARTS,

Rice University, Stockton at University Blvd.

Embroidery Through the Ages, an exhibit of over 200 pieces dating from the 14th through the 20th centuries. Tuesday thru Saturday, 10:00 - 5:00 p.m., Sunday Noon to 6:00 p.m.

THE SARAH CAMPBELL

BLAFFLER GALLERY, University of Houston,

Frida Kahlo's first American exhibit of paintings since 1938. Also prints by Jorg Schmeisser. Tuesday thru Saturday 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Sunday 1:00 to 6:00 p.m.

EXPOSE Yourself

UPFRONT is six months old and we're celebrating. We began with four pages and a dream; now Upfront can boast twelve pages of news, features and, yes, we admit it, controversial editorials as well as a rapidly expanding distribution of 15,000. In just six months Upfront has established itself as a viable, responsible newspaper for the gay community of Houston, and soon Texas.

We're proud of all that, but what makes us proudest is the support we've received from our gay brothers and sisters. These six months have been expensive but we're ready for the next six. Are you?

Ever since the gay movement began in Houston three years ago we've heard gay businesspeople bemoan the lack of a professional, attractive advertising medium that can reach gay women as well as men without offending the straight world in which all our businesses must operate. Upfront has solved that problem. At this moment Upfront is sitting on thousands of coffee tables and countertops throughout the West Side of Houston. Upfront doesn't hide in the closet or under the mattress. Upfront is a newspaper.

We've been fortunate enough to have some far-sighted supporters who have advertised in Upfront almost from our start because they share our dream and because the gay community supports those who support it. If we're to continue growing, if we're to continue our part of the battle for personal freedom in Texas, Upfront is going to need more revenue. Advertising is the lifeblood of every newspaper and Upfront is no exception.

Upfront is here to serve everyone, labor and management, businessmen and women, gay and straight but you have to do YOUR part. The simple truth is the gay community needs Upfront and Upfront needs advertisers. So, how about it?

Advertising rates are available by calling Upfront at 713-526-9719 (in off hours leave a message with the answering service) or by writing to us at P.O. Box 66844, Houston, Texas 77006.

Now it's your turn to EXPOSE YOURSELF!

Gary J. Van Ooteghem
Publisher