

UPFRONT

HOUSTON, TEXAS

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 17

NOVEMBER 10, 1978

GAY VICTORIES SCATTERED

SEATTLE NIXES HOMOPHOBES

PROP. 6 FAILS 3-1

Gay rights partisans in various parts of the country did well election day defeating two anti-gay ballots in Washington and California and doing better than previously in Miami, where the current fashion for human rights referenda began.

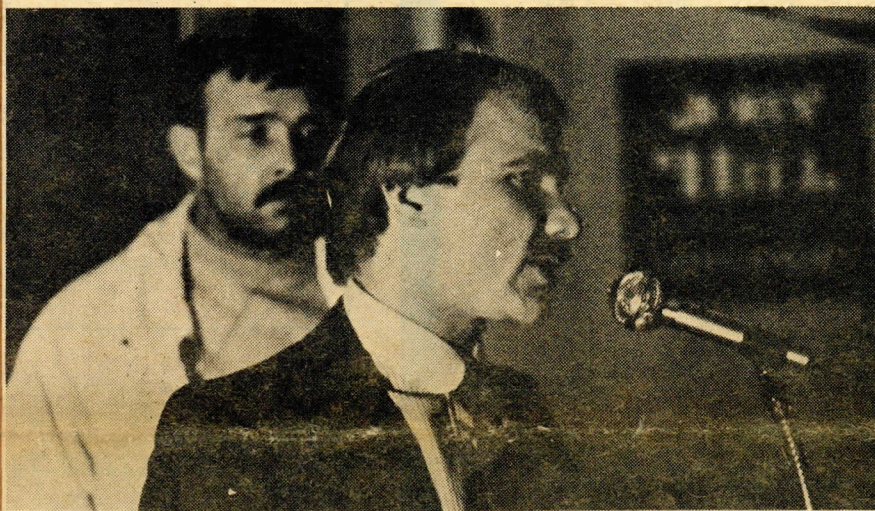
Proposition 6, the most widely known of the three ballots concerning gays, was soundly defeated in California by a 17 percentage point margin. Of the nearly 6½ million voting, 3,780,924 (58.5%) voted against and 2,679,619 (41.5%) voted for. In San Francisco, the voting became even more lopsided with a three-to-one vote against the constitutional amendment. Wednesday gay citizens across the country celebrated the defeat of Proposition 6 as an indication that the homophobic mania which, aided by sensationalist media coverage of Anita Bryant and her legions of zealots, swept the nation following the Miami debacle, is slowing and the general public is becoming more educated about and tolerant of gays.

Proposition 6, also known as the Brigg's Amendment, would have dealt a serious blow to the gay movement had the initiative passed. California State Senator John Briggs, author of the amendment, had sought popular approval of the law which would have prohibited the hiring and require the firing of public school teachers, teachers aides, school administrators or counselors for advocating, soliciting, imposing, encouraging or promoting homosexual acts in a manner likely to come to the attention of other employees or students. The measure also covered the firing of any of their heterosexual colleagues who support or tolerate homosexuality.

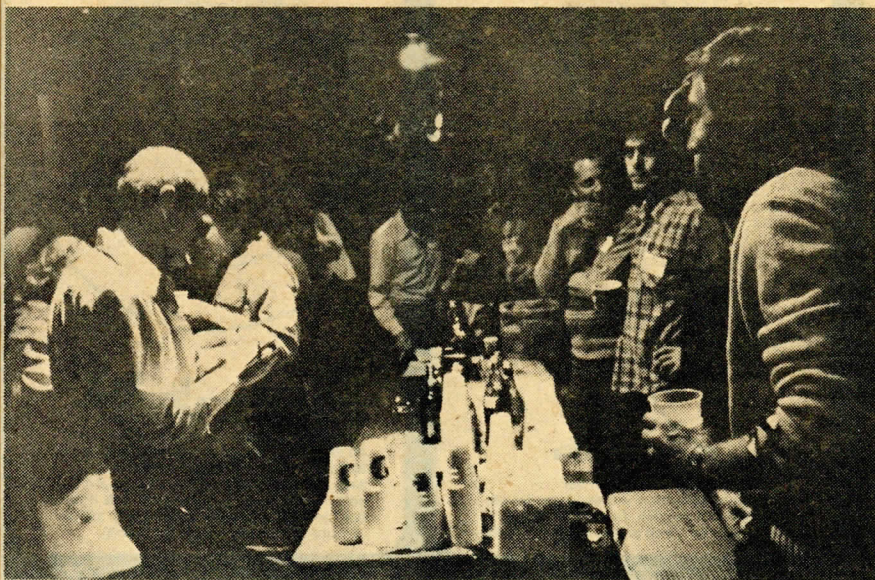
Seattle, Washington, had its own ballot battle being waged in the form of Proposition 13. Had it passed the proposition would have repealed a city gay rights ordinance that had been in existence for only a

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MAC—GPC ELECTION CENTRAL, 1978



GPC Pres. Steve Shiflett speaks to poll watchers gathered at the MAC as a newly de-whiskered Ray Hill prepares for his turn at the mike.



Participants in the first Poll Watch in the new MAC prepare for a long night as statewide returns trickle in slowly.

GPC VOTE FELT MOST IN LOCAL RACES

The major races in Harris County endorsed by Gay Political Caucus brought a mixed bag of results. The two top political offices endorsed by GPC saw those positions won by the unendorsed Republican candidates. John Hill, Democratic nominee for Governor, lost to millionaire Bill Clements of Dallas by approximately 20,000 votes out of more than 2 million cast. A similar 20,000 vote margin stopped Bob Krueger as he was defeated by the incumbent Republican John Tower in the U.S. Senate race.

Mickey Leland, Democratic candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives seat being vacated by Barbara Jordan, handily defeated Socialist Worker Party candidate Deborah Vernier as he took almost 97% of the votes cast.

Two state representative elections brought the GPC both a victory and a defeat: Texas House District 79 will return Ron Waters (D) to the House once again. Waters received a majority of 68.6% of the total vote as compared to his two opponents combined 31%. Texas House District 90 saw GPC endorsee Dick Jenkins lose by nearly 3 to 1. Two other GPC endorsed House candidates were reelected unopposed. Lance Lalor (D) won in District 80 and El Franco Lee (D) did the same in District 88.

In Harris County races, County Judge Jon Lindsay defeated GPC endorsed Joe Pentony, 61% to 39% while incumbent County Treasurer Hartsell Gray lost his bid for reelection when Henry E. Kriegel, Colonel Sanders look-a-like and current Houston City Treasurer, received 53.7% of the votes cast in that race. Gray gained notoriety in 1975 when he fired a high-ranking aide who openly professed his homosexuality. A lengthy and expensive court battle resulted and has not been settled yet. Neither Gray nor Kriegel received a GPC endorsement.

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ELECTION RESULTS

Governor:

Bill Clements(R)★	49.9%	John Tower(R)★	49.9%
John Hill*(D)	49.1%	Bob Krueger*(D)	49.2%

U.S. Rep.— Dist. 18:

Mickey Leland*(D)★	96.7%	Brad Wright(R)★	72.1%
Deborah Vernier(SW)	3.2%	Dick Jenkins*(D)	27.8%

State Rep.— Dist. 79:

Ron Waters*(D)★	68.6%	Jon Lindsay(R)★	60.8%
Art Dula(R)	28.6%	Joe Pentony*(D)	39.1%
Dan Bustamante(SW)	2.7%		

★ signifies victor

*signifies GPC endorsed candidate

U.S. Senate:

John Tower(R)★	49.9%
Bob Krueger*(D)	49.2%

State Rep.— Dist. 90:

Brad Wright(R)★	72.1%
Dick Jenkins*(D)	27.8%

Harris County Judge:

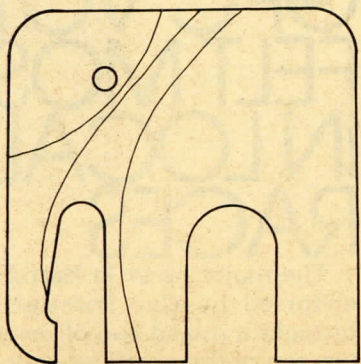
Jon Lindsay(R)★	60.8%
Joe Pentony*(D)	39.1%

Bert Hollister's

BERT HOLLISTER DESIGN

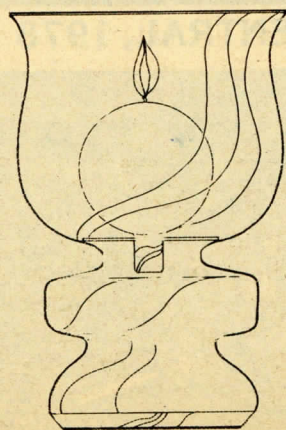
Bert Hollister wishes you a joyous Holiday and, in keeping with the traditions of the season, Bert would like to help make Houston's Christmas a little brighter. Present the Dove of

Peace from this Holiday Gift Guide when you make your purchase and Bert Hollister Design will donate \$1 from your total purchase price to the Montrose Activity Center.



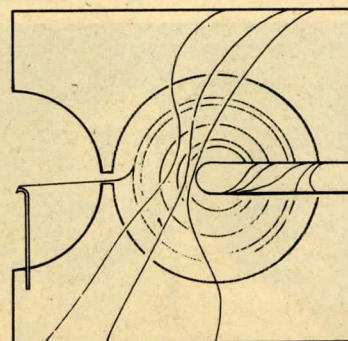
LE ELEFANT - One inch thick lucite. Hand-carved and polished in Italy. A pure and beautiful design & ever so elite. 8 inches square, 55.00. Others in our lucite zoo from 25.00.

1



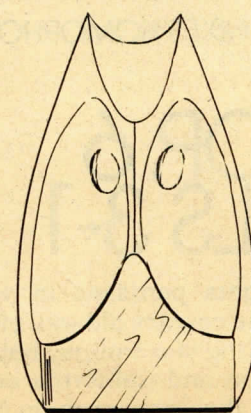
THE CLASSIC HURRICANE - In crystal from Helsinki. Holds assorted sized candles. 7 inches tall by 5 inch diameter. Comes with candle adapter, 17.95. Candle shown comes red, white or yellow, 2.95.

2



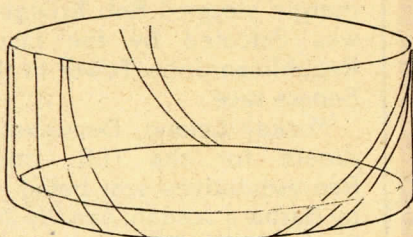
RECOGNIZED BY THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART: OUR LUCITE TAPE DISPENSER. A thoughtful and lovely stocking stuffer for everyone at home or the office. 4 by 4 inches of shimmering light, lightly priced in a silver gift box, 12.95.

3



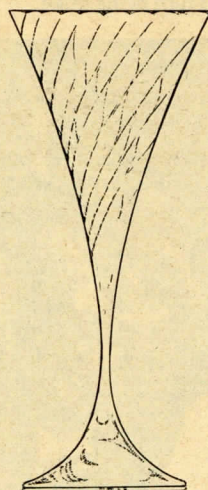
FROM FRANCE - ST. LOUIS VERY FINE CRYSTAL OWL. Hand cut prism to give a fine quality art piece. About three inches high, 79.95. Also see the steer, eagle, egret, and other fine pieces from our Sanctuary Collection.

4



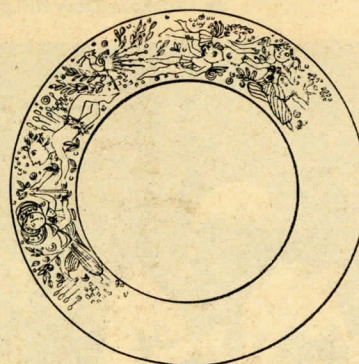
OUR FAMOUS CRYSTAL SALAD BOWL: Designed to be formal or casual, and practical and beautiful. 10 inch diameter, 4 inches deep. Complete with our own gold BH label, looks like it costs much more, 19.95.

5



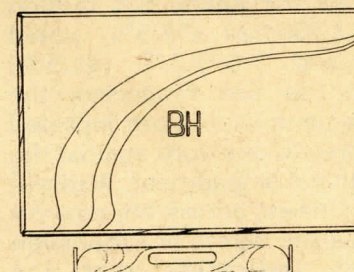
THE SPIRAL WINE GLASS - From our Tanglewood Collection. A totally new design from Orrefors/Sweden. Timeless in design. 9 inches tall, every inch is pure elegance, 17.95.

8



FROM OUR SOPHISTICATED *Rosenzweig* COLLECTION - THE MAGIC FLUTE. Exquisite scenes from the Mozart opera are embossed on each piece and signed in pure gold by Bjord Winblad. The characters depicted in each scene are listed on the back in pure gold! Also available in pure white - mix both gold and white. 5 piece place setting, 550.00. 12 place setting also available, 6,600.00.

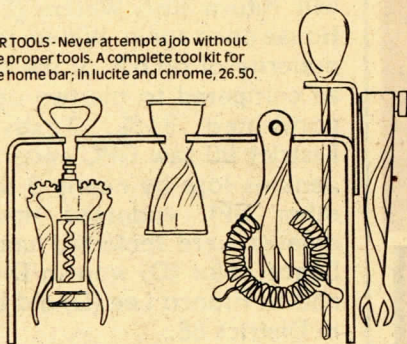
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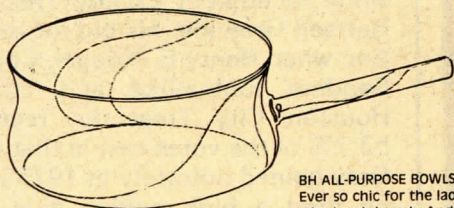
VERY PERSONAL: Our custom monogrammed lucite serving tray. Serve drinks or meat rolls. Print the name you want and underline the last name's initial (Example: Bert Hollister BH). 19 inches by 11 inches, 32.50.

11

BAR TOOLS - Never attempt a job without the proper tools. A complete tool kit for the home bar; in lucite and chrome, 26.50.

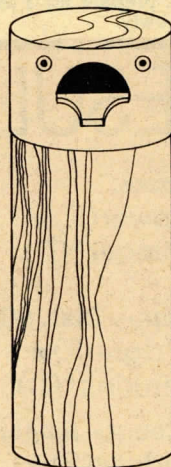


6



BH ALL-PURPOSE BOWLS: Ever so chic for the ladies who lunch bunch. And for the family too. Great for hot or cold soups, beef stew, chili, salad or fruit. You'll love those handles; easy to give a bunch, 5.95.

7

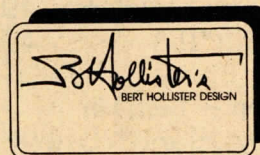


LOVE THOSE PEANUTS - and so will your friends when you let them "pour their own". Our very popular peanut dispenser from Germany; a charming stocking stuffer, boxed, 8.95.

9

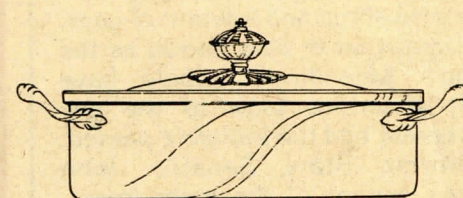
THE GRAND HOLIDAY SURPRISE FROM BERT HOLLISTER'S

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12

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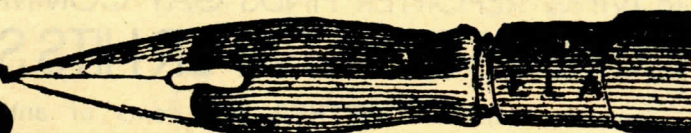
Name _____
Address _____
City & State _____ Zip _____

If you are sending purchases to another address, print complete name and address below (include zip).

Enclosed card to say _____ Zip _____

Items circle _____
Number _____
Amount _____
Gift wrap? _____
Total amount enclosed: (include 6% sales tax)
Purchases are to be charged to: my Bert Hollister Account. Visa. Mastercharge.
American Express. my check is enclosed. Charge card number is _____
expiration date is _____ MC Interbank No. is _____ Add 2.00 for gift wrap.
3.50 for postage and handling. No mailing after Dec. 7. Orders for monogrammed merchandise should be placed before Dec. 10 to insure delivery before Christmas. Deliveries will be at our convenience and only on purchases exceeding 20.00. Undeliverable items will be mailed unless you specify otherwise.

Editorials



Frontlines

To the Members of Houston's Gay Community:

I am pleased to take the position of Executive Director of the Gay Rights National Lobby. I am looking forward to the challenge ahead as we move into a new and important phase in the life on GRNL.

We are at a critical point not only in the life of the organization but in our movement in general. As you know, several cities have now repealed gay civil rights laws by referenda and the climate of the times appears to be one of reaction.

But it is important that we not lose sight of the many advantages we presently enjoy. Lesbian and gay male organizations are larger, stronger and better organized than ever before. Many gay people who had never been previously involved now understand the importance of this effort. There are many more non-gay people who have been made aware of the issue, with a resulting increase in the level of their support. The religious community is increasingly aware of the important role that they must play in support of the civil rights of gay people. In general, the reactionary strategy of attempting to demoralize us and stem our progress appears to be failing.

The Gay Rights National Lobby is committed to playing a major role in the progress toward a just society. There admittedly have been organizational problems in the past, but I hope that we might quickly resolve these problems and get on with the important work of establishing a strong and effective lobbying effort in the nation's Capitol.

I look forward to working for you and with you in the months and years ahead. If you have questions, concerns or suggestions on our efforts, please feel free to call me at (202)-543-2447 or drop me a note.

Sincerely,
Steve Endean
Executive Director

Gay Right National Lobby
Suite 210, 110 Maryland Ave.
Washington, D.C. 20002

Editor's note: For more information on recent and future events concerning Mr. Endean and GRNL, please see page 15 of this issue of UPFRONT.

Coming Up

Upfront is growing!

As a result of our expansion we are able to bring our readers new and interesting features. In this issue J. Lockey Love makes his debut with a subjective look at some Halloween madness.

Issue 18 will present another new addition, the oft promised but never before seen At Issue. Two well known locals, one a politico and the other a theorist, will examine the question "Should the gay community run its own candidates for public office?" We'll also have a special report from a noted local attorney on the bailbond racket and how it affects gays.

It's going to be a good issue. Don't miss it.
B.W.

Vantage Point

WE NEED A HALF-WAY HOUSE!

Back during the winter, just about when it was at its coldest, a young black man came to town from Memphis, Tennessee. His name was Michael Turner. Michael didn't bring much with him, just the clothes on his back and what small, precious personal belongings he had placed in a small suitcase. When I met him, he had already been sleeping on a park bench for a week at Hermann Park. His suitcase was in a locker down at the bus station. During that time, he later told me, he had tried to get work, but couldn't. He knew no one here. He had no money; none whatever. And he hadn't eaten in days.

He had called, one day, on the MAC line. At first he just wanted to talk. He was shy, proud, and hesitant to ask for help. But he did, finally, because he had to! He had no one else to turn to.

There he was: a gay man, black, in town, broke, no job, and not knowing what to do or where to go. What would you do if you got a call like that and were asked to help?

We took Michael to the Traveler's Aide Society but for a reason I cannot recollect, he only got assistance for a few days. It wasn't enough, I remember. A few people took it upon themselves to assist the young man for a little longer. He made it through all this on something less than no frills. His first couple of jobs he found paid very little for the janitorial and cleaning work he did. I guess I just plain forgot that those kind of jobs are still around. Anyway, he made it. It was hard and the odds were against him, but he persevered despite this.

Michael Turner eventually got a job at M.D. Anderson Hospital, where things started to look better for him. It wouldn't be long before he would be able to save up some money for improving his position in life. He already possessed the hope and desire to improve it.

I was saddened to receive a phone call a few days ago that came from the hospital. He had listed my name on a form as the person to contact in case of emergency. Michael Turner had been shot to death at 3:00 a.m. the morning before. The details of that murder and what actually happened are not yet clear or resolved. I subsequently discovered that he was also robbed in the afternoon of that same day, of everything he owned. I'm terribly sorry that Michael never got a chance to experience a better world.

The point of this story is this: Michael Turner is an example of a problem which exists in the gay community just as in many others. People that are down on their luck, for whatever reason, need to have some friendly organization to turn to for help. Gays, in particular, must help and assist each other to get through those difficult periods in our lives when they occur. We must remember that some people do not handle crisis as well as others.

I firmly believe that we are in current need of a gay half-way house or at least some type of gay crisis intervention system; one that could give that personal, human touch to a person in need. I'm not sure that Michael Turner's life would have turned out any different than it did, but I believe it could have. And what of the others in need? Last week, a suicide call came in on that same line. Today, it was a young woman distraught over her recent break-up with her lover. We do need something, that is obvious.

Hopefully, someone or some group will soon decide to resolve this problem. I believe that the time to act is **NOW**, to help, before any more are hurt or lost simply because no one was there to help.

GVO

Gary J. Van Ooteghem
Publisher

UPFRONT

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P.O. BOX 66844 HOUSTON, TEXAS 77006 713-521-0685

ROVING REPORTER FINDS GAY COMMUNITY CORPUS GAY PAPER HITS STREETS

The first issue of TOGETHER, a monthly newsletter for Corpus Christi gay men and women, has just been published. Our reporter found it available for free in the Corpus disco The Quarter Horse (a fun place), but it is probably also available at the locations of other advertisers listed therein (see below). TOGETHER, whose address is P.O. Box 7258, Corpus Christi, TX. 78415, says that it was published in response to recent anti-gay acts and sentiments in order to keep the gay community informed of developments including those related to safety and well-being of local gay citizens. Readers are encouraged to patronize businesses advertising in TOGETHER, and to help with typing and art for future issues.

TOGETHER had 8 pages of 8" x 11½" size, with articles on local and national news of interest to gays. It discussed plans recently announced for remodeling two local bars, inci-

dents of anti-gay vandalism and advice on avoiding such problems in the future, and an opinion piece on what it's like to be gay (or straight, for that matter) in Corpus Christi. There were a number of photos, a calendar of events, and ads for five local bars, a restaurant, cleaners, hair stylist, plus a full page ad for "Word Is Out".

Although it's too bad that local harassment was apparently the impetus for starting TOGETHER, our reporter felt that it is an attractive and positive publication for gays in the "Coastal Bend" (and a helpful guide for the visitor - if you're planning a trip to Corpus or N. Padre Island, look it up.) UPFRONT is very pleased to welcome TOGETHER to journalism in support of Texas gays, wishes it great success in achieving and expanding its goals, and would be happy to provide advice and information to its publishers based on UPFRONT's experience.

HISTORICAL DATA TO BE PRESERVED

The Montrose Activity Center (MAC) has set aside four rooms in the new MAC Building to be used for permanent storage space for archives of the gay movement. Several gay activists and two organizations have requested such space to begin the storage process. It is expected

that only raw data in the form of files relating to events, newspaper clippings, and publications marking gay history in Houston will be deposited.

Standards for filing are now being developed and will be released when completed and approved.

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SWANK NEW CLUB CONSIDERS GAYS UNDESIRABLE

RITZ DISCO REJECTS GAY PATRONAGE

The Ritz, a new disco which is now housed in a former cafeteria, 4060 Westheimer, has done an apparent about face concerning its appeal to a straight/gay mixed clientele: it doesn't want the gays.

In a conversation with David Stedman, on November 2nd, UPFRONT was told that the manager is not interested in having the disco become a gay club. Mr. Stedman indicated that Becka Cason, PR representative, who had previously requested space in UPFRONT for coverage of their November 1st opening, had not

meant for that to become an open invitation for gays to frequent the establishment. Ms. Cason could not be reached for comment.

Several reports have been received concerning the November 1st opening indicating that some non-gays were taken aback when gay men danced with each other. The hosts dressed in tuxedos were equally shocked when these same gay men stripped down to their waists and got into their rhythmic dance gestures.

No anti-gay remarks or events were reported for the evening.

PURCHASE CONCLUDED ON MAC FACILITY

After several months of negotiations, the Montrose Activity Center officially obtained ownership of the MAC Building at 1423 Holman. The new board of the MAC concluded the deal just two days before the very successful TEA FOR TWO THOUSAND dance on October 29th at the center.

The board has already started its planning for the use of the forty-eight rooms on the second floor. Bill

Ramsey, President of MAC, has instructed some local, gay architect volunteers to evaluate the space and its eventual use as offices for gay organizations. It is intended to bring all of the gay organizations under one roof and allow gays to act as one community.

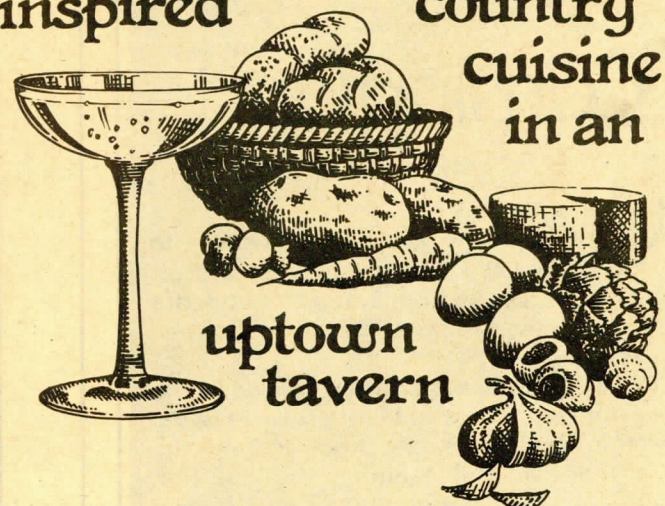
The downstairs of MAC will remain basically unchanged for now. It is currently comprised of large meeting rooms.

(Advertisement)

Earthy but "uptown." Casual but classy. Laid-back but alive. Somehow, the Pleasant Peasant, on S. Post Oak in the magic circle area, brings them all together. Both patrons and staff share a sense of knowing that this is someplace special. Ethnic flavoring predominates their original recipes and freshness and creative spirit dictate the specialties of the day.

Beginning with country breakfasts, extending through lunches of hearty soups, fresh fruit and vegetable salads, deli-packed sandwiches and un(sur)passable desserts, and on into the casually elegant dinner hour, the eclectic ambiance changes to fit the various moods of the day. Live entertainment is intimate. Dinner reservations requested. Casual attire.

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GRNL PLANS BENEFITS

With the appointment of a new Executive Director, Stephen Edean, the Gay Rights National Lobby is showing signs of having weathered the recent financial and organizational crisis which has afflicted the organization in the past year. However, GRNL is still not out of the woods financially and for it to be able to be an effective group it needs more members and more money.

There are several ways in which individuals can help GRNL. Cocktail

parties for fund-raising can be hosted by individual members in various parts of the country. Members can also pledge a sum of money each month to the organization and distribute information about membership to friends.

A regular membership in GRNL can be obtained for as little as \$15.00 a year. Other categories of membership are also available. For further information write to GRNL, Suite 210, 110 Maryland Avenue, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002.

RESULTS MIXED FOR GAY CANDIDATES ACROSS NATION

In a number of primary races around the country candidates who were openly supportive of and supported by gays did well. The most significant victory was Marion Barry's winning of the Democratic nomination in the mayoral race in Washington, D.C. Barry had wide gay support in terms of both votes and funds. The other race in the District that was important for gays was the defeat of anti-gay Douglas Moore for Council Chairman by pro-gay Arrington Dixon.

In New York all the incumbent members of Congress who were co-sponsors of the national gay rights bill easily won re-nomination. Rep.

Fred Richmond who was arrested in Washington, D.C. for solicitation of sex with a male easily won over his opponent who ran a strongly anti-gay campaign.

There were some disappointing losses too. In Minnesota, Donald Fraser, a co-sponsor of the national bill was defeated for nomination to the Senate by an anti-gay millionaire, Bob Short. The gay rights issue, however, did not play a major role in that campaign. Openly gay candidates such as Elaine Noble and Ginny Apuzzo lost their bids for seats in the U.S. Senate and New York Legislatures. However, Apuzzo will be on the General Election ballot as the Liberal Party candidate.

NAT'L TASK FORCE ANNOUNCES BOARD OPENINGS

The National Gay Task Force has announced that it is seeking recommendations from NGTF members and non-members from around the country for persons qualified to serve on the NGTF Board of Directors.

NGTF is interested in having a broad range of people serving on this Board: women and men who are active in the gay or feminist communities and persons who have particular skills or background in fund-raising, serving on other boards of community or national organizations, working cooperatively over long periods with others in organizational contexts.

The Board is especially interested in encouraging Third World people

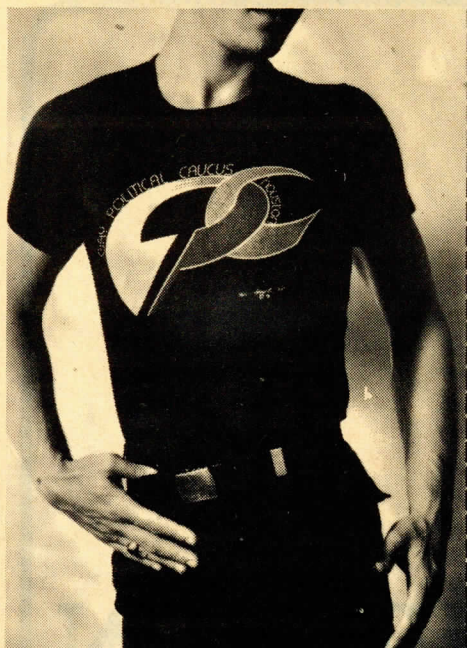
to apply to achieve a better racial balance and to more accurately reflect the make-up of the country. As the South and New England are presently under-represented, people from these areas are also especially encouraged to apply. There will be six women and four men elected for a three-year term commencing June, 1979.

The deadline for receipt of recommendations is January 10, 1979. Anyone wishing to submit a name (or names) for consideration should request a "nominee application form" from: Nominating Committee, National Gay Task Force, 80 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10011. (Please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.)

NEW GPC OFFICES READIED

The Gay Political Caucus (GPC) has become the very first tenant of the MAC Building. The presidents of the two organizations, Bill Ramsey (MAC) and Steve Shiflett (GPC), worked out final details on November 2nd. Steve Shiflett indicated that GPC would be moving in to its new offices as soon as painting and other fix-up work was completed, estimated to take two to three months.

For several months, GPC has been using one of the large meeting rooms for its regular and special caucus meetings. The room, cleaned and painted by GPC volunteers, has unofficially been nicknamed The Caucus Room. Donated left-over paint of five different colors were all mixed together in a large tub to develop a single color sufficient to paint the large room. No one has yet decided what to call the new color.

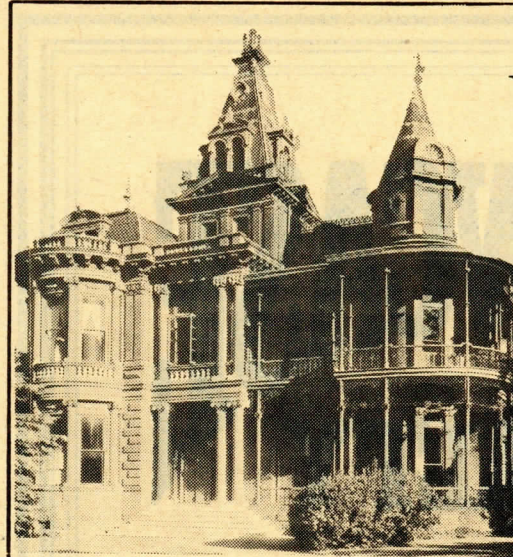


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THE TEXAS OBSERVER
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Medifax

FAD DIETS: YOU MAY LOSE MORE THAN WEIGHT

Food faddism in the United States has flourished recently because of the increased interest of the general public in nutrition and health. However, food faddism has become a serious public health problem and according to the Food and Drug Administration is probably the most widespread form of quackery in the United States. Nutrition quackery is not only a rip off but can be downright dangerous. Resorting to special foods and diets to deal with aches and pains or certain chronic medical conditions can often result in people failing to obtain adequate medical advice and treatment. In addition taking large doses of certain foods, particularly vitamins, can be very harmful and often dangerous. Also fad foods are usually terribly overpriced and frequently are sold with fantastic claims about their powers. Often these foods are purchased by the less well-educated who frequently can least afford them.

The attraction to food fads may be triggered by a preoccupation with losing weight or by attributing certain magical qualities to certain foods. Throughout history people have believed certain foods had certain power. Ancients often thought that they would receive the strength and power of the animal whose meat they ate. Laborers working on the pyramids were fed garlic to increase their strength and ancient Romans rubbed artichoke juice on their bald heads to restore hair. Nero cleared his voice by frequently eating leeks. In modern times many people believe eating wheat germ will make an infertile man fertile while others believe that large doses of vitamin E will increase sexual potency. Every culture and society has food fads and erroneous ideas about the magical powers of certain foods. Many of these ideas originated in primitive times but have been handed down while others are fostered by religious beliefs and practices. Some ideas about the dangers of certain food combinations have originated from the days when food preservation and storage were not as good as now. A constant preoccupation with the latest food fads and obsessional behavior about certain foods is often regarded as a sign of deep seated emotional problems.

Fallacies about food lead people to get involved in food fads. In some instances food fallacies stem from folklore and regional

customs but more frequently are the result of misinformation about food. The claims of advertisers frequently make matters worse for the average person. Some people, for example, believe that the only kind of sugar to be used is honey because it is a "natural" sugar. Not only is white sugar a non-synthetic, there is little difference in nutritive value between honey and sugar.

As a way of testing your own knowledge of ideas about food we have devised a little test. Answer "true" or "false" to each of the questions below. The answers will be at the end of the test. No cheating please. If you do well you are permitted to indulge your-self in your favorite food fad just one more time.

1. Onions will cure a cold.
2. Blackstrap molasses will cure rheumatism.
3. Milk is constipating.
4. Food cooked in aluminum causes cancer.
5. Milk and fish eaten together are poisonous.
6. Tomato juice is too acid for the system.
7. Celery is brain food.
8. Protein and starches should not be eaten at the same meal.
9. Only young children need milk.
10. Oysters increase sexual potency.
11. Brown eggs have greater nutritive value than white eggs.

Cont'd page 16

AMA POLL SAYS MD'S IGNORANT OF GAY NEEDS

In a recent poll of 1,000 medical doctors 84% responded "No" to the question "Do you feel you received enough education about human sexuality and the subject of homosexuality in medical school?" The results of the poll were published in the October issue of IMPACT, a publication of the American Medical Association. In the same poll 61% said they were not bothered by treating homosexuals, but 33.5% said they were sometimes uncomfortable and 2% were often uncomfortable with gay patients. A large number of the doctors (84%) said they think homosexual patients of both sexes hesitate to seek medical care because they fear physicians' disapproval.

In spite of the fact that many doctors feel uncomfortable with homosexual patients, 94% say they do not tell such a person that they would prefer that they go see another doctor.

Among doctors in fields close to the problem of sexually transmitted diseases 60% feel that these diseases are increasing among patients. Thirty-nine percent believe that an increasing number of cases of sexually transmitted diseases can be traced to contacts between male homosexuals.

Cont'd page 16

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Upbeat WHAT NOW?

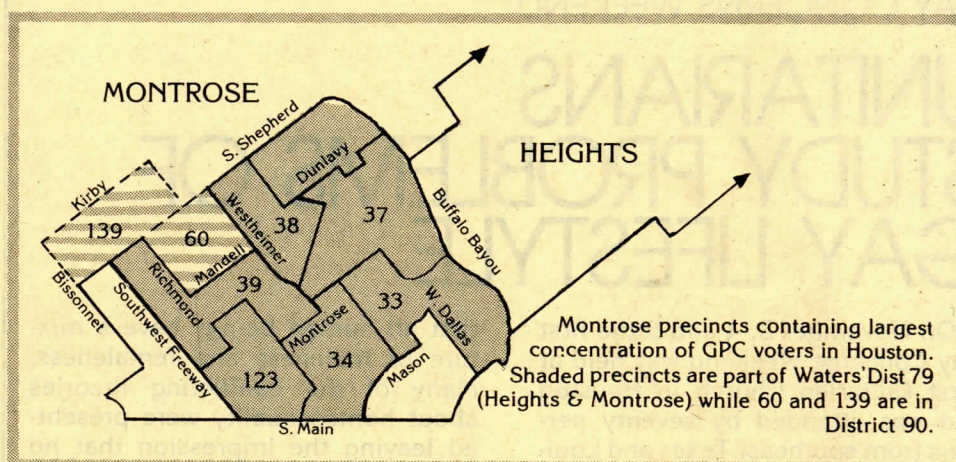
In this issue Upbeat is going to put aside the entertainment industry for a time and do a brief analysis of the election just past and the effect of the GPC endorsements so pay attention.

To begin with, despite the losses of Hill, Krueger and Pentony do not think for a moment that gays lost this election. What we have experienced is a qualified success. While our candidates did not do well on a county-wide basis, GPC endorsed candidates were successful in races for State Representative District 79, Ron Waters, and U.S. Congress District 18, Mickey Leland. GPC endorsed candidates ran unopposed in four races, two judgeships and two legislative berths. Additionally, the results of the polling have revealed some interesting possibilities which hopefully GPC leadership will waste no time in utilizing.

Probably the single most important bit of knowledge available from the balloting is the fact that GPCers are no different from anyone else. They tend to allow bad weather to keep them from the polls, too, but once there they don't vote the official ticket if it runs counter to

closely held beliefs. Witness the number of GPC defectors who voted for Tower and still more who simply didn't vote at all in that race. They are also most likely to vote when local issues are the primary concern. Note the larger GPC turnout in the May primary when the Waters-Noblet, Leland-Robinson-Hall, and Ann Greene et al races were of paramount importance. In the fall the spotlight was on statewide races where GPC voters apparently felt less influential.

By juggling figures among precincts in the Montrose and among the various endorsed races it is possible to come up with a fairly reliable estimate of the number of voters who followed the GPC endorsements. By comparing the Governor's race with the Attorney General's race, in which GPCers were instructed to not vote, we find that in the Montrose precincts encompassed in Legislative District 79, Ron Waters, about 1200 voters heeded the GPC endorsement cards. This is between 40 and 50 percent of the GPCers registered in these precincts and exceeds the percentage of registered voters who participated in the election county-



wide. This turnout was in spite of some of the coolest weather so far this year and a reduced GPC get out the vote effort, when compared to this past spring. Compared with the total Harris County vote of 360,000, 1200 seems insignificant. Even if the rest of the GPCers scattered around the county equalled the Montrose turnout, the total GPC vote would be less than 1% of the total. None-the-less, had we been located in Congressional District 22, Gammage and Paul, ours would have been the decisive votes.

Of course, we were not in that district so what do our votes mean. First, in the race for Texas Attorney General, if our percentages held throughout the county, GPCers accounted for about 2500 of the 3400 votes that John Hill received which Mark White missed. It did not significantly affect the outcome but the point is that in a very close race, it would have. That should not be

lost on the folks in Austin and surely will be discussed around City Hall.

The real impact of our votes will be felt on a local level for some time to come. In District 79 Ron Waters won with 68.6% of the votes cast. His Republican opponent, Arthur Dula, polled 28.6% with the remainder going to a minor candidate. Assuming that all those GPC votes for Hill and withheld from either AG candidate voted for Waters, and there is no reason to believe otherwise, the GPC votes in 79's Montrose precincts account for almost one fifth of Waters' total. This does not include GPC votes outside the eight Montrose precincts of 79 so the total GPC effect upon this race is actually somewhat larger.

Now for the sake of argument let us suppose the GPC decided to withhold its endorsement from Waters and had given it to a more attractive candidate, in this instance Mr. Dula. Subtracting the Montrose

Cont'd page 16

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information

For information on any of the following organizations,
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- ☐ Christ's Communion Church
- ☐ Dignity/Houston
- ☐ Executive and Professional Association Of Houston
- ☐ Gay Political Caucus
- ☐ Gay Rights National Lobby
- ☐ Integrity/Episcopal
- ☐ Integrity/Houston
- ☐ Metropolitan Community Church Of The Resurrection
- ☐ Montrose Activity Center
- ☐ National Gay Task Force
- ☐ Speaker's Bureau

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GAY CONCERNS WEEKEND

UNITARIANS
STUDY PROBLEMS OF
GAY LIFESTYLE

On November 3, 4 and 5 the first Gay Concerns Weekend was held at First Unitarian Church in Houston and was attended by seventy persons from southeast Texas and Louisiana. A coordinating committee drawn from the Lambda Club, The Women's Group and The Life-Long Learning Committee (all committees of First Unitarian Church) coordinated the Weekend.

The Weekend began with a Friday evening lecture on Destiny, Decision or Disease. On Saturday participants chose from eight different workshops and attended a party and dance that night. Sunday morning Robert Wheatly, Director of the Unitarian-Universalist Association Office of Gay Concerns, addressed the Sunday morning Fellowship Service.

On Friday evening Dr. Charles Powell of the University of Texas at Galveston spoke on the wide range of human sexuality. Using slides, Dr. Powell showed the continuum of human sexual variety and how we place ourselves upon the range from exclusive heterosexuality to exclusive homosexuality. The reality is

that all human beings have a mixture of maleness and femaleness. Many of the conflicting theories about homosexuality were presented leaving the impression that no one really knows what causes one to be of a particular sexual orientation.

The workshop on Saturday dealt with homophobia, gay parents, parenting gays, self-destruction, polarization, the problems we have on first encounters and long term relationships and the role of the church in its ministry to gay people.

Special guest of the Weekend was Robert Wheatly who conducted two workshops and the Sunday Fellowship Service. Wheatly discussed his own homosexuality and his role in promoting the concerns of gay people in the Unitarian-Universalist denomination. He also pointed out some of the ways in which gay people have suffered discrimination, brutality and murder. He did emphasize that times have gotten better for young gays since his own realization that he was a homosexual nearly forty years ago.

Homosexuality in the family was

Cont'd page 18

INDEPENDENT "GAY" CHURCHES
ATTEND CONFERENCE IN DALLAS

On November 10, 11 and 12, 1978, the Third General Conference of the United Christians Fellowship will convene in Dallas. The host church is United Community Church.

There will be representatives from Christ's Communion Church, Houston, Cascade Community Church, Akron, Ohio, Holy Trinity Church, Austin, United Christian Fellowship Church, Dallas as well as representatives from interested congregations from Los Angeles, and others.

The fellowship is made up of inde-

pendent churches which are congregational in organization. Each Church is self-governing and the Fellowship is merely an alliance of Christian churches dedicated to spreading the good news of Christ throughout the community.

The churches have a primary outreach to the gay community, but do not subscribe to the term "gay church." The member churches invite all people who are interested in a bible-based, Christian faith to attend, not only the fellowship meeting, but also each of the Congregations.

THANKSGIVING POTLUCK
DINNER COMING TO MCCR

Thanksgiving is a day for sharing, and the Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection (MCCR) wants to share that day with you.

Starting at 2:00 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day (November 23, 1978), at MCCR, 1214 Joe Annie, there will be a potluck dinner. The turkey will be supplied by the church, and the rest of the goodies will come from those attending. Come and bring a pan of stuffing, a bowl of salad, some cranberries, or anything else (like pumpkin pie) which might tickle your fancy.

Now there will be no reason for anyone to sit at home all alone, eating stale cheese and crackers.

Come enjoy the fellowship, warmth, and good food that always abounds at an MCCR potluck. MCCR promises to make you a part of the family as soon as you walk in the door. One word of warning to those who have never been to the Church before--MCCR has been dubbed the "hugging church," so be prepared to get a big one while you are there.

Should you need directions, a ride, or want additional information about this or any other function at MCCR, call the church office at 526-8233, Monday through Friday between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Please come and share with MCCR.

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SPECIAL REPORT

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Part II *Cont'd from last issue.*

The Texas officials, represented by a team of lawyers headed by Ed Ildar of Attorney General John Hill's staff, have fought the inmates and the Feds tooth and nail since the beginning. They have tried to get the case thrown out of court; they have tried to prevent the federal intervention; and they have tried desperately to get the case out of Judge Justice's courtroom. None of their ploys has worked, but they have managed to keep the case in a procedural tangle for years.

And it did look, for a while, as though they would achieve at least one of their goals: in May of this year, TDC managed to get the case moved from Tyler to Houston. Attorneys for the state said the venue change was needed because the Justice Department plans to call about 200 inmates to the witness stand, all of whom will have to be housed near

the courtroom during the trial. TDC argued that the Smith County jail in Tyler wasn't up to the job, that the trial should be in Houston so they could use the Harris County jail. Judge Justice granted the motion, at last putting the case outside his jurisdiction. But TDC's stratagem for getting away from the Tyler judge came a cropper a few days later when Judge Reynaldo Garza, who controls the assignment of cases in the Houston federal courts, designated Justice to conduct the relocated trial.

The public record

The case is complex and the trial promises to be long and acrimonious, with the outcome hinging on the contradictory opinions of experts and outside observers, the assertions of inmates and a handful of ex-employees, and the vehement

denials of TDC officials and employees, and the vehement denials of TDC officials and employees. The attorneys, who keep saying they "don't want to try the case in the press," are evasive or downright close-mouthed when questioned about what will go on at the trial; so are most of the hundreds of people whose names appear on the witness list submitted by both sides. Transcripts of witnesses' oral depositions are not open to the public; they're sealed under a special rule of the Houston federal courts. (*The Houston Chronicle* has filed suit to open them, but Judge Justice has not yet ruled on the paper's request.)

But, depositions aside, a unique arrangement for the gathering of evidence and marshalling of expert opinion has put a staggering amount of material in the public record already. The Feds wanted to bring in a number of professionals with expertise on various subjects relevant to the issues in the case—penologists, doctors experienced with institutional medical practices, nutritionists, industrial hygienists, public health consultants, and so on—and let them inspect the prisons at will. TDC wanted not only to restrict this sort of activity but to

field its own experts to counter such testimony. The judge ordered a compromise. Each side could have its experts, and the experts could inspect, talk to inmates in private, request records they needed—but they'd have to do it together. These teams—a typical team might consist of two experts (one for each side), several attorneys (at least one for each side), perhaps a photographer or two, and a few TDC employees (some from the central office, some from the individual institution)—spent weeks, mainly in the summer and fall of 1976, traveling around East Texas inspecting each of the 15 prisons. The experts each submitted to the court reports of their findings and opinions, varying in bulk from a few pages to stacks of paper several inches thick, that afford a preview of their coming trial testimony.

What to expect from another large group of witnesses, the 200 or so prisoners who are slated to testify, is no secret either. That's because interviews conducted with more than 500 potential inmate witnesses are also on the record. The civil rights division called in the FBI to help with the screening, and the agents interviewing each one at some length, asking a standard set

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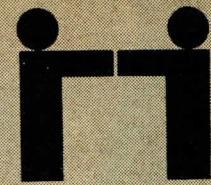
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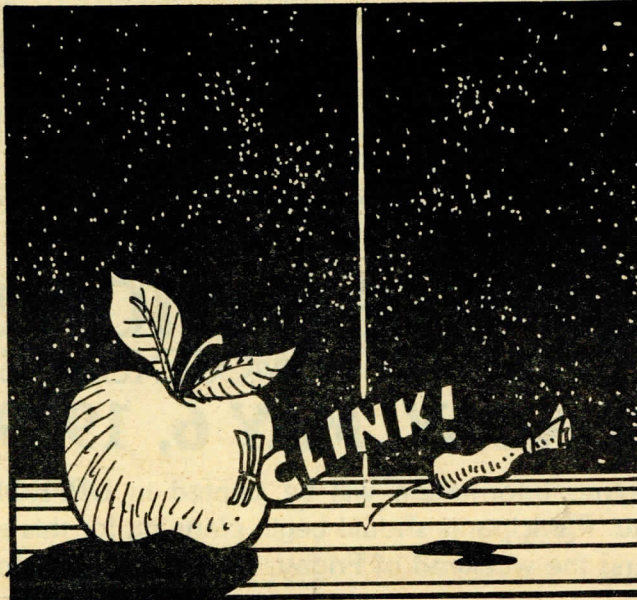
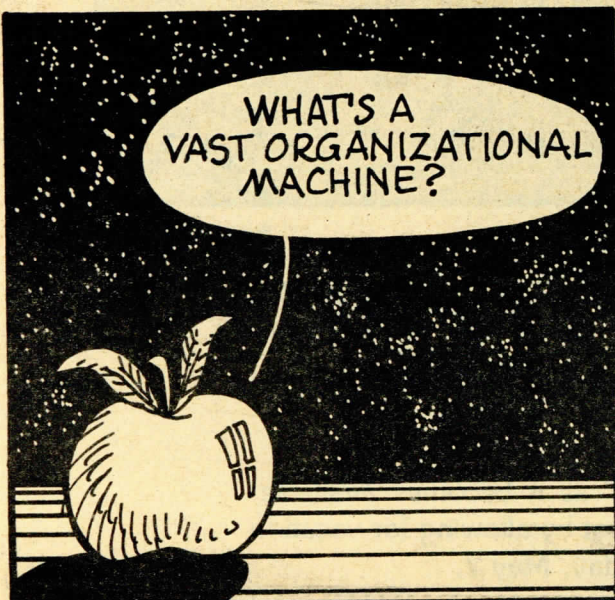
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MUCH MALIGNED SEX EDUCATION UNDER ATTACK

In an article in the JOURNAL OF NATIONAL FAMILY SEX EDUCATION WEEK, Carol Cassell reports that although eight out of 10 Americans old enough to have teenagers favor the teaching of sex education in the schools, only six states and the District of Columbia mandate some form of sex education. The opposition to such education is supported by a number of groups who have raised a "howl, vibrating fear into the hearts of local school systems everywhere." A major irony is that although most parents favor sex education for their children, school administrators withhold it because they say parents don't want it. Sex education is legal in all states except Louisiana, but most states specify that it is up to local option. Consequently in hundreds of localities pressure from anti-sex education groups has resulted in schools forbidding sex education or severely restricting it. Even in locales where there are some courses, the topics of contraception and homosexuality are almost always excluded.

When asked who is a fault, everybody blames everybody else in a footloose buck-passing scenario. However, the well financed and highly organized opposition has been identified in most places. The opposition essentially falls into three categories:

1. Organizations such as Right-to-Life, Christian Crusade, Christian Freedom Foundation and the John Birch Society.

2. Local Ad-hoc Committees such as our local Citizens Against Pornography. These groups are usually affiliated with other conservative political and religious organizations.

3. Well-intended and responsible citizens with a genuine concern for the quality and content of sex education.

Unfortunately most of the criticism of sex education is not constructive responsible criticism but is more of the irrational emotional type. Almost all of the anti-sex literature is peddling a funda-

mentalist, conservative, moralistic point of view and is based on private beliefs rather than facts. A tactic of the Antis is to claim special relationships with God, Family and Country even though sex education is supported by The National Council of Churches, The United States Catholic Conference and the Synagogue Council of America.

The major problem and somewhat frightening reality is the irresponsible and unethical tactics used by opponents of sex education. A favorite technique is to malign individuals and organizations who support such programs. A classic attack quoted in the Journal of American Medicine illustrates this technique: "It should be evident that the sex educators are in league with sexologists who represent every shade of muddy gray morality, ministers colored atheistic pink, and camp followers of every persuasion-offbeat psychiatrists to ruthless publishers of pornography." The Institute for Family Research and Education reports that almost all of the hate mail that they receive is anti-semitic in tone. A typical example is as follows: "Sex education in the schools is a filthy and obscene thing. No stranger has a right to talk about fornication to any child or teenager. To do so is to contribute to the delinquency of a minor. It's just a plot on the part of the Jews to first destroy the Gentile family and then this Gentile nation. It is succeeding only too well. May a curse be upon all of these sons of bitches."

The tactics of the Antis also include open intimidation of school boards and administrators as illustrated in these instructions given to members of an anti-sex education organization on how to behave at school board meetings: "...to school board meetings in your town and other towns-applaud and groan at the right times, and if necessary, stomp your feet and scream. The more brazen you are, the more attention you'll get. Don't refer to school programs as family life and sex education but simply call them sex programs. It infuriates people in the program when you refer to it as a sex program. It'll upset them and when they're upset they don't think as well." These people also make a lot of noise publicly blaming sex education for everything from rising crime, to drug abuse and the demise of the family. They are very good at using quotes and misquotes to make their points. Politicians quail in front of them and allow themselves to be intimidated in voting in opposition to majority views.

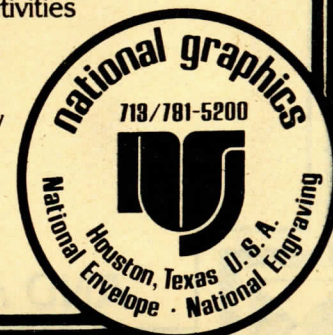
Sex educators make the point that the only way to counter the opposition to sex education is for responsible citizens to make their opinions known to their legislators and school board members just as forcefully as the opponents do. Until that is done the sexual ignorance, bigotry and stereotypes will continue to cause a lot of unnecessary struggle and suffering not only among our young people but in the entire society.

CARLO'S HAIR FAIR



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RELIGIONISTS FIGHT GAY ASCERTAINMENT

NGTF has just learned that as a result of Anita Bryant's campaign, letters are now coming in to the Federal Communications Commission at a ratio of 25 to 1 against a "Proposal for Rulemaking" issued recently by the GCC that would benefit the gay community.

Also, because of a request from the National Association of Religious Broadcasters (which opposes the proposal), the deadline for submitting comments to the FCC regarding the proposal has been extended from October 16 to **November 16**.

We urge all individuals and groups throughout the gay and non-gay communities to write letters of support for the "Notice of Proposal for Rulemaking" issued by the FCC in response to a petition submitted by NGTF on behalf of 143 lesbian and gay organizations.

The proposal recommends that leaders of all significant community groups in a broadcast area (includ-

ing leaders of the gay community) must be interviewed by local broadcasters to determine their needs and interests. The purpose of such interviews is to assist stations in fulfilling their legal obligation to create programming that is "in the public interest."

Letters supporting the proposal should refer to "BC Docket No. 78-237," and should be addressed to: Secretary, FCC, 1919 M St., NW, Washington, DC. 20054.

After comments have been received, the FCC staff and the Commission will examine them and make a final decision, possibly this spring, on whether to formally adopt the proposal. **PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF ANITA BRYANT'S CAMPAIGN, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT A LARGE NUMBER OF LETTERS BE SUBMITTED.**

Local broadcasters which have voluntarily ascertained gay leaders in the past should also be encouraged to submit letters of support.

OBITUARY

TURNER, EDDIE, 27, long time resident of this city despite stays on the West Coast, died November 3 in the Southeast Houston home he shared with his parents of unknown causes. His parents requested that his friends not attend the memorial services!

TURNER, MICHAEL, a recent arrival to Houston, was murdered by unknown assailant or assailants October 31, 1978, after having been robbed earlier in the day. A native of Memphis, Tenn., he is survived by several siblings and his remains are expected to be returned there for interment.

CALENDAR

Executive and Professional Association of Houston, P.O. Box 13726, Houston, Texas 77019, 526-7287. Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 27, 1978. Cocktails at 6:30 p.m., dinner at 7:30 p.m., at Pleasant Peasant, 1502 South Post Oak Road.

Gay Political Caucus, 1310 McDuffie, #28A, Houston, Texas 77019, 526-2668. Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 15, 1978, in The Caucus Room, MAC Building, 1423 Holman Street.

Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection, 1214 Joe Annie Street, Houston, Texas 77006,

526-8233. Services every Sunday, 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

Christ Communion Church, 8106 Helmers, 697-5348. Services every Sunday, 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., Bible Study on Wednesdays at 7p.m.

Tea for Two Thousand, MAC Building, 1423 Holman Street, 526-9719. Date and time to be announced.

Other organizations wishing to be listed are cordially invited to submit such information to UPFRONT for publication. Mail to UPFRONT, P.O. Box 66844, Houston, Texas 77006.

GAY PAPER SOLD

The first official act of the newly seated Board of the Montrose Activity Center was the sale of UPFRONT, a non-profit, gay-oriented community newspaper published by MAC, to the Upfront Corporation, a local publishing firm owned by Gary Van Ooteghem, Houston based human rights advocate who founded MAC. The purchase involved a transfer of assets and liabilities and, according to inside sources, the purchase price was

well above fair market value.

Van Ooteghem pledged Upfront would continue to serve the gay public as the voice of the Texas human rights movement but would now be operated according to standard business practices. He went on to say that the MAC decision to divest itself of its publishing arm was the result of the Boards wish to concentrate their energies on restoration of their new building and related activities.

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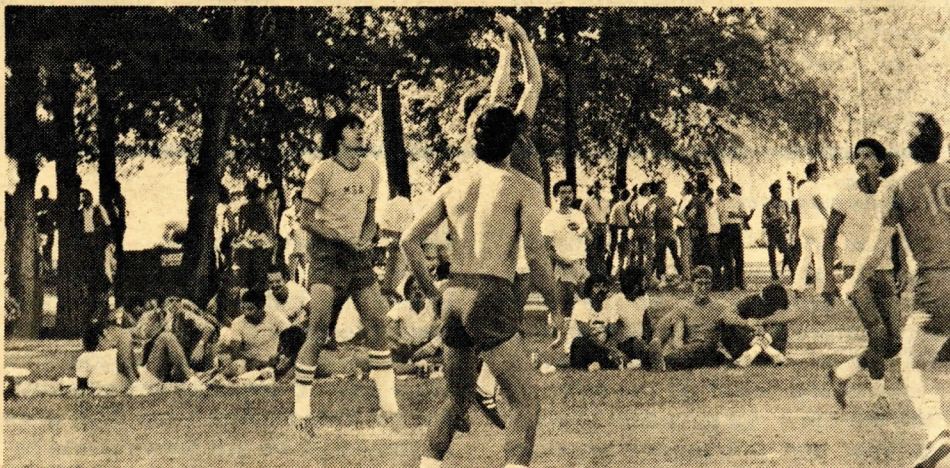
ENDEAN TO DEVELOP GRNL DC LOBBY EFFORT

The Gay Rights National Lobby has appointed Stephen Endean to the position of Executive Director of the organization. Steve's responsibilities will include the broad areas of legislative advocacy, fund-raising and administration. His appointment is seen as a major step forward to resolve some of the organizational difficulties in the recent past and to establish the strong lobbying presence necessary for passage of national civil rights legislation for gay men & women.

Although GRNL has had an Office Manager in the past, Steve Endean's appointment to the Executive Director's position marks the first time GRNL has employed an individual with broad authority and responsibility over the lobbying effort. GRNL's last Office Manager, Joe Totten, left the position last May and, because of extreme financial crisis, the position has remained vacant. This has, as members have seen, caused major problems in communications to members and organizational maintenance. Because of this financial crisis and lack of full-time staff, these problems have not been overcome despite the best efforts of the members of the Board of Directors. It is hoped that Steve's appointment will now resolve these problems.

Steve formerly was the Coordina-

tor for the Minnesota Committee for Gay Rights and, in this capacity, he has considerable experience in fund-raising and administration of a gay organization. But he is quick to point out that his primary strength is in the area of lobbying. In his position with the Minnesota group, he served as the chief lobbyist for civil rights for gay people at the Minnesota State Legislature. Although they did not pass the legislation, in 1977 they came within two votes of passage. He also served as the lobbyist for successful passage of the Minneapolis and St. Paul gay rights ordinances. Steve has been involved in the gay movement since 1970 and some of his past involvement includes having been a volunteer in the final weeks in Dade County; having served as the Assistant Campaign Manager in the campaign against repeal of the St. Paul ordinance; and having served as the past Co-Chairperson of the Board of Directors of National Gay Task Force (NGTF). His experience is not, however, limited to gay rights as he has also worked as a lobbyist for the Minnesota Chapter of Americans for Democratic Action (ADA) and for H.I.R.E.D., a Minnesota organization specializing in public interest employment legislation. He is a past member of the Minneapolis Human Rights Commission.



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THE LOST WEEKEND

With this my first official column I must suggest we petition to make Halloween a new national holiday-----one of those serious ones when everyone closes except the discos and Goodwill Industries. Seems we take October 31st more seriously than the Easter Bunny or Stuffed Turkey. This year it continued approximately 5¼ days with no time off for bad behavior.

Friday the 27th started it off for my entourage with a festive "Gone With The Wind" party where more than a few dozen Scarlett O'Haras and Melanies pettily promenaded. The highlight of this affair had to be our very own Prissy who gaily swept the floors no fewer than seventeen times.

I hail from Austinland and am quite comfortable hosting bizarre costume parties, but you Houston guys turn one into insanity. Saturday eve my home was filled with a nun, 3 gurus, 2 popes, 4 lumberjacks, 1 caveman, no Leroy Littles, 7 cowgirls, 5 gypsies, 2 brownies, Cloris Leachman, the Shah of Cherryhurst Park, an effeminate bullfighter, Jackie Kennedy (in that pink dress), this year's winner of the "Betcha I'm Butcher than You" contest, Robin minus Batman, 1½ coneheads, and an estimated 87 reasonable facsimiles of showgirls. Am very glad to report no one stumbled into the backyard campfire. (There were two

unidentified wiglettes found in the guest bedroom and one tattered cocktail dress-----name it and claim it.)

As if that were not enough the Tea For Two Thousand brunch and Tea Dance occurred Sunday, so naturally more vitamins had to be eaten to keep our smiles from fading. The fund-raiser was a tremendous success thus more good times are soon to be. Hugs and kisses to Bill and Cary who pulled it off magnificently, to Bill B. whose music would not let us stop dancing and to the other 38 sponsors for putting so much love and energy into the event. A tea dance like this one makes those on Fire Island appear timid.

Monday morning I knew exactly how Jane Fonda felt in "They Shoot Horses, Don't They?". Danced to death, my legs whimpered for relief. Prissy would not hear of it and whisked me away for still two more evenings of trick or treating. The bar parties were superb with both gorgeous and outrageous caricatures which climaxed an unbelievably beautiful weekend. Never had I seen so many peacock feathers and glitter.

I'm now off to the hill country for a bit of much deserved R. & R. Write your congressman today.

J. Lockey Love

Cont'd from page 1
GPC: Some successes

All in all 10 key Montrose precincts appear to have doubled their delegate strength for the 1980 party conventions. This past spring GPC dominated these same precincts and could do the same in 1980 though it is a presidential election year and will require an even greater effort due to the increased interest.

GPC is now beginning to target new precincts outside the regular, predominately gay areas as future delegate positions to be sought after

for additional strength.

GPC President Steve Shiflett issued the following official statement regarding election results: "This election turnout is going to allow gays to organize and establish a more broad power base. This goes to show that we are growing and expanding and are able to deliver votes consistently. By knowing this now, we are less vulnerable to a district reapportionment which could happen in 1981 when the state Senate sits to consider the matter."

Cont'd from page 7 Upbeat

votes from Waters and giving them to Dula gives Dula a percentage of 42 and Waters one of 57. Now again for the sake of argument, let us suppose a more stringent and effective get out the vote effort by the GPC as well as additional GPC votes from the Heights, a growing gay residential center. The net result of all this assuming is simply that Ron Waters would be hard put to win reelection against an attractive opponent with GPC backing.

What then are the lessons of this election? First, so far as Waters is concerned, it would be wise for him to actually produce something of interest to gay people in the next legislature. It has been some time since gay Houstonians have felt completely sure of Waters. More than once in the spring the question

came up "What has he done for us lately?" That coupled with the fact that Waters was not present at the state convention to speak for the gay rights issue when the time came has led to a serious rumbling within the gay community. Should a more competent and politically attractive candidate run next time Waters will have his work cut out for him.

Secondly, this year's policy of rejecting possible Republican candidates in favor of the all Democrat slate which down to defeat has been repudiated. Whatever the internal reasons for the choices of the screening committee, the policy did not work. Acceptable Republican candidates were rejected for highly questionable reasons. In the case of County Judge Lindsay, he was rejected on the basis of his promise to

Cont'd from page 1 Gay Rights Results

short time. Again, gays and non-gays alike were able to vote down that legislation by a sizeable margin. 60,000 votes were cast in favor of the proposition and 102,000 against. Seattle's gay rights forces gathered their strength and then directed it towards a single goal: educating the general populace through a professionally orchestrated series of media campaigns.

Miami was the only defeat scored against human rights. In that election, a new Dade County ordinance concerning the civil rights of many minority groups, including homosexuals and pregnant women, was defeated. The vote was 58.2% opposed and 41.8% in favor. In Miami's first and most famous gay

rights referendum, held June 7, 1977, human rights were defeated 69.3% to 30.7%.

Steve Shiflett, President of the Houston Gay Political Caucus, considers the results of these elections to be a "clear mandate to the U.S. Supreme Court, state-wide candidates, and those candidates considering the presidency, that human rights for gays are inevitable and that they must reckon with it now like never before." As for the defeat in Florida, Shiflett attributed it to the "scars of debate on the single, most controversial minority (gays), but that results do show that in the last year thousands more people were educated and voted in favor of the ordinance" than did 18 months ago.

Cont'd from page 6 Medifax

12. Gelatin is the best source of protein.
13. Diabetes is caused by eating too many sweets.
14. Skipping breakfast is the best way to reduce.
15. Margarine is harder to digest than butter.
16. Honey is not fattening.
17. Dark bread contains fewer calories than white bread.
18. Milk, potatoes and bread are high in calories.
19. Vegetable fats and oils can be used in any amount and are not fattening.
20. Sour cream contains fewer calories than sweet cream.
21. High protein foods are low in calories.
22. Homogenized milk contains no fat.
23. Water is fattening.
24. Fish is good brain food.
25. Celery is good for the nerves.
26. Arthritis and cancer are caused by deficiencies of vitamins and minerals.

27. Extra vitamins provide more pep and energy.
28. Large amounts of protein promote vigor and endurance.
29. Large amounts of fat with small amounts of carbohydrate will aid in weight reduction.

All of the above statements are false. There is at the moment no well documented scientific evidence to support any of these statements, although many of them are vehemently believed by large portions of the general public. Recently the government published information indicating that almost half the population of this country is malnourished, not because of poverty, but because of poor food choices and erroneous ideas about dieting and weight control. In short, many Americans, no matter what their overall intelligence and educational level, harbor many incorrect ideas about food and nutrition. In future articles in this series weight reduction plans, the balanced diet, vitamins and health foods will be discussed.

Jim Lloyd

Cont'd from page 10
Texas Prisons

of questions covering the inmate's knowledge of incidents and conditions bearing upon allegations made in the suit, and often followed up with investigations of the inmates' charges. The FBI summaries of these interviews typically recite details of reported mental and

physical abuses or dangers; much of what's alleged seems unbelievable on first reading, but gains credibility as the same sorts of events and situations are mentioned again and again through thousands of pages by inmates all over the TDC system and by former Texas prisoners scattered from Florida to Alaska.

give us our rights and nothing more whether we supported him or not. This being the case the logic was that Pentony, if elected would be more positive toward us in the areas of hiring (patronage). Yet it was admitted that Pentony was a long shot at best. We had nothing to lose supposedly so why not go with Pentony.

I am sorry but I think we lost a fine opportunity to show our support and gratitude for someone who would take an unpopular stand and still give us our due. I thought that was all we were asking for anyway. When did we change the rules to getting all that we can? That doesn't sound like a one issue pressure group. That sounds like partisan, pork-barrel politics. As things stand now the GPC looks like an adjunct to one faction of the Democrat Party. Will

we oppose Kathy Whitmire next time because of her relationship with Al Leal?

Finally, we can see the need to begin grooming an alternative to Ron Waters within the GPC. I would hope that the GPC would look to both parties to bring us acceptable candidates who will take positive steps toward liberation and human rights. If we spend the next year looking for such a candidate, perhaps Mr. Waters will be a bit more energetic in our behalf. Currently he knows we have no other real choice but if he saw the GPC actively courting an attractive, competent gay Republican perhaps...now, the most I can say for Ron Waters is that now at least he dresses like he has some respect for his position.

Bill Whiting

BOOK REVIEW

LOVING SOMEONE GAY, by Don Clark, Ph.D., Celestial Arts, California 1977. \$8.95.

Dr. Don Clark, writer, teacher and clinical psychologist has written a very sensitive, intelligent and perceptive guide for gay people, especially very young ones and for their families and friends.

In the early portion of the book Clark documents the realities of being gay in America. Unlike members of other minorities the young gay cannot seek refuge in and solace from their own families when they are hassled by the outside world. Indeed, more often than not the gay's own family may dole out venomous insults and severe physical abuse in a way that no one else would. Teachers, clergy, other relatives and even one's best friends are often not to be trusted with the GREAT SECRET. So for most gay people, especially the very young, there is only isolation, fear of disclosure and hostile rejection.

The burden of being gay is further increased because the developing gay person has no suitable model—only very negative stereotypes. Frequently gays fall into the trap of believing the stereotypes and feel that if they are gay they must act in a

certain way. The consciousness-raising fallout from the gay movement is making more gays aware that being homosexual has little, if anything, to do with externals but everything to do with internal awareness and that a person does not have to conform to anyone else's ideas, be they gay or non-gay, about how to act.

The author points out that a major challenge for the gay struggling for identity and self-acceptance lies in unlearning negative associations. One avenue for developing self esteem lies in developing positive relationships with other gays. Gays are singular in that they are on one hand very much like most other people but on the other have a uniqueness all their own. Gay people are products not only of the general culture but also of the gay sub-culture. These days both cultures are undergoing drastic revisions of their value systems providing special challenges to the functioning gay.

In addressing the non-gay reader Clark points out what society's oppression and hatred of homosexuals means to their own children, friends, siblings, parents and spouses. For some it means a life of squalid self-hatred, for there are many who never make it beyond accepting society's script that gay is evil incarnate. For some it may mean suicide although the author makes this sound much more frequent than it really is.

Clark draws an interesting map of the road to becoming gay. One of the most difficult times in any gay person's life is the period of "coming out". The new consciousness has made all of us aware that this is a process that can go on at many levels for a number of years. Good suggestions about how to handle disclosure to the significant non-gays in our lives are made. In documenting his own experiences Clark relates what many other have experienced—that the further out of the closet with one's family and friends you are, the better you feel and the more liberated you are. He gives some good advice about how to prepare yourself for negative reactions when you let somebody know you're gay.

There is an informative section on how to go about getting in touch with your own feelings. A major problem many gays have is depression. Often the feelings leading to it are masked and frequently stem from years of repressing anger. Clark offers some good first-aid for handling depression. For starts he suggests decreasing the use of alcohol and drugs and increasing exercise. He also recommends his "N3" approach, a program of forcing yourself to (1) do something new that you've been wanting to do (2) do something that is emotionally nourishing that involves someone else and (3) try saying "no" as a way of expressing your anger—cancel a day at work and go to the beach or

leave the phone off the hook. If the first-aid doesn't work, he suggests getting professional help.

A considerable part of this book contains instructions and advice to non-gays about how to love a significant gay person. There is excellent guidance about how to handle the news that an important person in their lives is gay. Clark makes suggestions about how non-gays can expand their own consciousness so that they can truly share in the life of a loved gay person. For those who can't get a handle on their homophobia he recommends appropriate therapy.

The last part of the book provides guidelines for therapists who feel they want to work with gays. Clark spells out a twelve point plan of sensitivity training for therapists who want to help gays with problems. He cautions both gay and non-gay therapists who still retain negative feelings about being gay against giving therapy to gays until they have worked through their own feelings.

Written in a very readable style this book is probably one of the best around for anyone looking for something to help an important straight understand where you're coming from as a gay person. It is also a good source book for a young developing gay who hasn't established gay relationships but who could use some wholesome guidance and reassurance.

Jim Lloyd

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Cont'd from page 6 MD's ignorant of gay needs

Although many doctors are aware of an increase in venereal diseases many of them fail to take a sexual history from patients. Many doctors are inadequately trained to do this and often can't handle their own or their patient's feelings of embarrassment about asking such questions. Among general and family practitioners 92% say they take sexual histories and 81% of internists do. However, only 50% of public health physicians report taking such histories. Urologists, pediatricians, colon and rectal surgeons and dermatologists are even less likely to do so.

Fewer than half of the doctors polled said they do an anal examination in male patients with anal gonorrhea. Two thirds of the doctors said they do appropriate cultures of male homosexuals when they know about their sexual practices but almost 20% said they don't even when they know their patient is gay.

Dr. Yehudi Felman, Director of the New York City Health Department laments the fact that government allocation of funds for VD control is way below what it should be. He points out that the Center for Disease Control spent \$130 million

in 1977 for swine flu which didn't hurt anybody but only \$18 million on sexually transmitted diseases even though there were millions of cases.

Dr. Felman also points out that high risk populations such as gay males should be the target of special allocations of funds. He says the gay community has not been successfully reached by conventional control programs. Dr. Walter J. Lear of the Pennsylvania Department of Health advocates supporting separate gay clinics. Where they exist they have been more successful than regular health clinics, he said, but pointed out that even the gay clinics are only reaching a small portion of the homosexual population. Such facilities tend to exist in only a few large cities such as New York and San Francisco. Gays in smaller communities are not reached at all. Dr. Lear warns that "the experience of young gay men with sexually transmitted diseases is a forecast of what to expect for all sexually active people unless the nation makes a commitment to prevent these very preventable diseases."

ANOTHER GAY CRIME?

Federal officials in Oklahoma City report that local homosexuals are defacing money. They warned in a recent public statement that stamping currency with "GAY BUCK" is a

criminal activity and that perpetrators would be prosecuted.

They did not mention how they intended catch the person(s) responsible.

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Cont'd from page 8 Unitarians hosts workshops on gay needs

an important issue covered at the Weekend. Mary Jane Hurlbert, family counselor, led a discussion on the problems of being a parent and being gay and the effect which it can have not only on the individual but on a spouse and children.

Kris Halsted, sex counselor, led a group concerned with the interrelationship of two persons on physical, sexual and sensual levels and how these aspects for some people are difficult to balance in their lives and often lead to conflicts in ourselves. Miriam Elelman, Social worker, demonstrated ways of approaching others with openness, and how with honesty and concern for one's self as well as others, relationships can continue to grow.

Travis Peterson and Tony Marchesi, both social workers, discussed the traps which lead many people, especially gays, to destroying themselves emotionally and physically. Presented were means to take control of your own life and reverse the destructive process.

Dr. Jerome Sherman, Professor of Behavioral Science and Psychology,

lead a group concerned with the fear that leads to the polarization of people into homosexual and heterosexual categories. Overcoming the fear of one's sexuality leads to the acceptance of the variety of lifestyles in others.

At the Sunday service following the conference, the Rev. Dr. Webster Kitchell, minister of the First Unitarian Church commented to the assemblage, "Many straight members of the congregation have wondered why we should have a commitment to minister to the gay community. I learned why this weekend. It's because there is something terribly wrong with the way gay people are treated in our society. People we know and people we don't know are being deeply hurt by oppression. Our church has to be concerned with making things better. A church has to be concerned with making things better. A church that would be afraid to do that does not deserve the support of even its straight members. Therefore we have a commitment to minister to gay people."

Manuel Lepp

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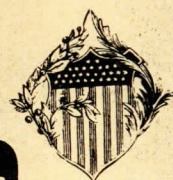
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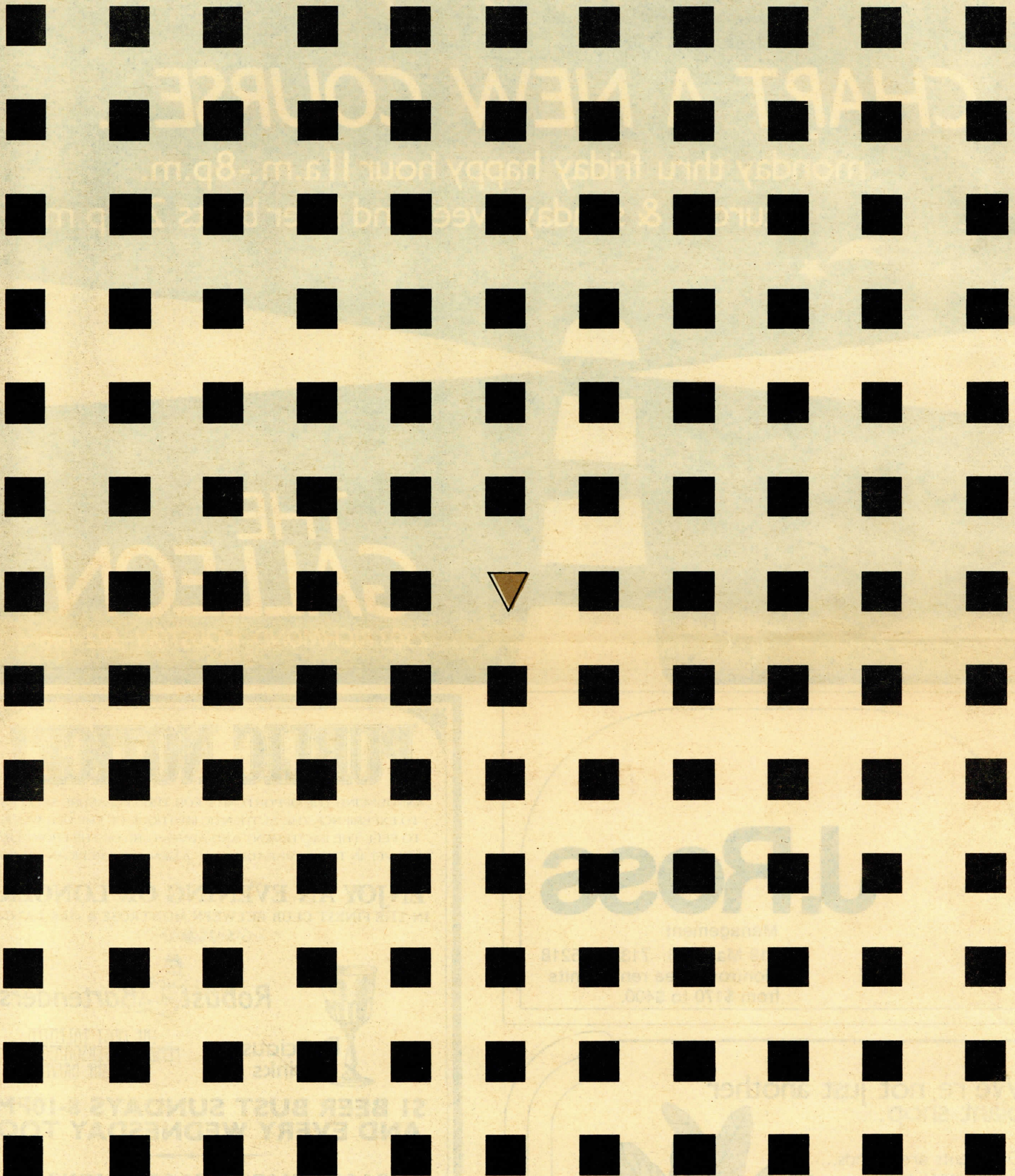
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