

UPFRONT

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JUNE 27, 1979

HOUSTON, TEXAS

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 14



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Newsfront

gay publication's studio robbed

During the evening of June 6, while Upfront's Editor, Bill Whiting, and Design Director, James Vilven, celebrated Vilven's birthday only 50 feet away, phototypesetting equipment valued at \$8700 was taken from the Upfront Production Studio.

As a result of the burglary, Upfront's Volume 2 Issue 13, which was in production at the time of the theft, was cancelled but Issue 14 will be out June 22. When asked about the robbery, Whiting only commented, "Last year we skipped 13 because we were superstitious, maybe we should have done it again this year." The stolen fonts are used in creating the galleys from which the paper is printed. The burglar took only half of each piece of equipment and will be unable to use any of the stolen type fonts.

The robbery came at a time during which Upfront was running a three-part series noting Police interference in the internal affairs of the city and incompetent leadership on the part of the Mayor. Houston Police Officer J.W. Bullard termed the burglary malicious mischief and theorized that the thief had known what he was taking. \$1000 worth of stained glass was passed over by the thief as well as stereo equipment and several telephone answering devices.

In a possibly related event, during production of Issue 14, Publisher Gary Van Ooteghem discovered that the Upfront archives, located in a rented space on the second floor of the Montrose Activity Center, had been entered illegally and files stored there examined. Van Ooteghem was unable to estimate losses at that time though some photographic records of the past two years appeared to be missing.

Any one having information regarding either theft is urged to contact Upfront at 521-0685.

gay pride week arrives at last

Gay Pride Week in Houston this year will be celebrated during the last week of June with 10 days of scheduled activities, and will culminate on Sunday, July 1 with a parade through the Montrose, a political rally featuring former presidential aide Midge Costanza, and a fireworks display that evening. Sunday's rally, sponsored by the Gay Political Caucus of Houston, will take place at 7:30PM at Spotts Park (Waugh Drive at Memorial). Joining Costanza on the podium will be Mickey Leland, U.S. Representative, District 18 (inner city Houston); Kathy Whitmire, Comptroller for the City of Houston; Harry Britt, City Supervisor of San Francisco; and Jean O'Leary, recently resigned co-executive director of the National Gay Task Force. The \$2500 fireworks display will follow the rally at Spotts Park.

The parade on Sunday, July 1, will begin at 3PM and will run up Westheimer from Shepherd to Bagby. The parade units, including 22 floats and the Montrose Activity Center Marching Band, will assemble in the parking lot at the Old Plantation. Following the parade the floats will be taken to the rally site.

The "Thank You Miss Ima For Memorial Park Second Annual Gay Community Picnic" begins at 10AM in the park. At 11AM there will be a baseball game between members of the Houston Police Department and a gay team. Games of this sort have become traditions in New York City and San Francisco but this mark the first time the HPD has been willing to face a team of admitted homosexuals. The gay team is reportedly all male; Upfront urges any interested lesbians to be present as substitutions could be required.

Gay Pride Week begins in Houston on Friday, June 22, and among the week's events will be an ecumenical religious service June 27, a candlelight vigil downtown June 26, and a Lesbian Workshop at the University of Houston. All events are free and open to the public.

For a complete list of plans for Houston's Gay Pride Week events see page 14.

nat'l march travel plans set

Transportation coordinators for the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights plan to open a logistics office in the nations capitol soon. Plans for the office include a 24-hour toll-free information line. Final details of the plan will be distributed throughout the United States in July along with a poster advertising the line and promoting the march. A support staff will monitor transportation arrangements in over 50 locales across the country and will keep the information line staff up to date on details in area.

Additionally, a computer system at the disposal of the information center operators will help in arranging rides nationwide for March enthusiasts who prefer carpools to train, air, or bus carriers. Travel agencies and local transportation committees in many areas are already reserving and coordinating space on public carriers. Reportedly all Amtrak seats between the West Coast and the District of Columbia immediately before and after the March date have been taken by a California group which is said to be cooperating with March officials.

Agencies and others interested in organizing transit to and from the event should contact the temporary Transportation Office located until the first week of July in the national office in New York City at 212-924-2970.

March organizers are now turning their attention to the national conference at the University of Houston, July 6-8. Final planning for the March will be accomplished at that time. According to Ray Hill, Co-chair of the National Logistics Committee, delegations from each region of the U.S. will be ethnically representative of its home area. Says Hill, "Such a nationally representative body can guarantee the March of Washington speaks from the heart of the American lesbian and gay population."

it's a fake

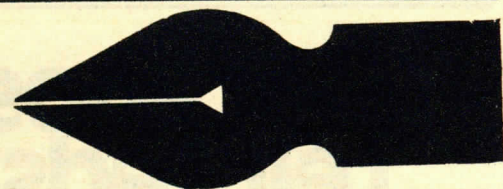
Steve Ault of the National Office of the gay rights march formally disassociated the March from an advertisement which appeared recently in Boston's Gay Community News. The ad, which depicts a political button emblazoned with the Statue of Liberty and a quote from gay martyr Harvey Milk, promises "50% proceeds will benefit 'The March on Washington'" but "was not produced or authorized" by the March organizers.

According to Ault, "The button advertised does not reflect the politics of (the March), in that it omits the word 'Lesbian', which ALL our materials include." He went on to point out that the official march button is currently under development and will be available soon. All the profits from the sale of the official button will go toward march expenses.

around the usa

National Gay Task Force has chosen Lucia Vasquez of New Mexico to fill the vacancy created by Co-Director Jean O'Leary's recent resignation... David P. Stewart, the only openly gay public official in California's Santa Clara County, has been elected President of the California Association of Human Rights Organizations... Jenelle Ashlie, transsexual schoolteacher from Media, Pennsylvania, won a federal court order to reinstate her pending a hearing; U.S. District Judge Don Van Artsdalen ordered that she be reinstated because she had been denied due process. Ashlie was placed immediately on suspension (GAY NEWS-Philadelphia)... Steve Endean, Executive Director of the Gay Rights National Lobby, termed Congressman Mickey Leland of Houston "one of the most committed members (of the US House) to gay civil rights." Calling Leland "eager to work", Endean stated "If all of our co-sponsors were as committed (to work for the advancement of gay rights), we would be far ahead of our current pace."

Editorials



Mayor McCann replies to requests for gays on the Police Advisory Committee

City Desk the pogrom

Last Sunday morning the front page of the Post included an account of the execution in Iran of one Hossein Amiri. His was the 300th official execution since February when Khomeini established his own version of Heaven on Earth—an Islamic Republic... almost three every day—Congratulations!

The condemned man had been convicted of "homosexual rape."

Now I have great faith in the American news media when it comes to gathering information and since I have seen no reports of executions for heterosexual rape and I doubt that Iranians are any more or less likely to commit rape than any other semi-civilized society, then the automatic assumption is that he was killed as much for his sexual preference as for his crime. The Ayatollah's courts revealed a penchant for eliminating divergent sexualities earlier this year when they executed six men for being homosexuals.

Iran's home-grown fanatics have begun the much discussed and often prophesied anti-gay pogrom.

At the same time they have begun eliminating prominent Jews who "communicated with Israel." They have sent death squads into the Bahamas and Mexico to carry out their death sentences on their former ruler, his wife, and even his mother. As we quickly learned during the revolution, Iranians feel no compunction about carrying their battles into other nations with complete disregard for their hosts' rights.

The Iranian government has degenerated into a bandit regime. How long will it be before they turn on their Armenian Christian minority or, for that matter, their Sunni Moslem citizens? ...or an American President or Senator they do not like? We executed people at Nuremberg and have embargoed Cuba for 18 years for doing what Iran is doing now. Shouldn't the U.S. at least say we don't like the killings and do not choose to support them? Don't we still have some principles, at least enough to keep us from dealing with murderers? When are we going to begin accepting gay refugees from Iran as we have Russian Jews, displaced Vietnamese, and formerly wealthy Cubans?

The time to speak out to save these people is now. And while he is talking with the turbaned shah, our Human Rights President should tell him to keep his oil. The blood in it pollutes our atmosphere.

—Editor

Vantage Point

Over the past ten years, Gay Pride Week has come to mean different things to different people. It is no longer just the anniversary of the June 1969 Stonewall Riots in New York City, the first time gays stood their ground against the overwhelming odds of the police force. This year some other parts of the country are referring to it as Gay Freedom Week. It is also a time to consider our future as a gay movement.

A new era has descended upon us. During the decade following the birth of Gay Pride at the Stonewall Inn, gays began to believe that being gay is OK. This Gay Pride Week, we should all individually and together reflect upon what we, as citizens, have done over this past decade to make this a better world for all to live in. We should, too, begin thinking about what we want to accomplish in the next decade, as well as how to achieve these goals. The 1970's saw thousands of separate small groups forming in hundreds of communities across our country. It still amazes me how so many gays intuitively knew it was time to start banding together and did so without any central influence or authority controlling or directing their efforts. Nearing the end of this decade, it became even more noticeable as gays recognized their political clout and began to experiment, develop, and mold their new discovery into a still stronger force; A United Front.

Again intuitively, other groups sprang from within our communities and became both supported and supportive of each other. Political, social, religious, business, legal defense, self-help, and educational groups took up varying positions of responsibilities and tasks that needed to be addressed. Our united front was coming together. It will be most interesting to see what and how we use our forces during the 1980's.

I believe it is now time for the "quiet gays" to take their places, too. It is time for all of us who have found our ways into positions of power and influence to stand ready to help whenever and wherever we are needed. Whether within business or government, gay men and women should seek those positions of influence which help assure a single standard for all, rather than the double standard we now find applied to us. Many of us are already there but are afraid to exercise our influence lest we be "found out." Standing up for fair play and equal standards does not flag anyone as GAY, but rather is the mark of a good citizen standing up for basic human dignity. That is, after all, what it is about—fair and equal treatment for everyone.

Openly gay people should begin setting an example for others to follow, also. We need good role models to help eradicate the old stereotyped images of "queers" still prevalent within society. Additionally, our gay organizations must work all the harder to train the leaders we will need in future days. In short, we still have a lot of hard work ahead of us.

Finally, I would like to wish all gays, closeted or not, a happy Gay Pride Week. And I would like to ask all of you to take a few moments to consider the role you can play in the coming decade. My best to all of you this Gay Pride Week.

Gary J. Van Ooteghem
Publisher

UPS PENDING

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chicanos & gays tell feds about police abuse

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights came to Houston June 12 to conduct the first of several hearings on police practices by the Houston Police Department. The Commission, which has already examined police actions in Philadelphia, was here to document cases of police abuse before further hearings scheduled for later in the year. The sessions, conducted at the University of Houston's Bates College of Law, featured testimony by representatives of this city's Mexican-American and gay communities as well as Police Chief Harry Caldwell.

At the hearing the Commission received records and documents concerning approximately 180 cases of police abuse from the gay community gathered during the Spring "Operation Documentation." Testifying for gay people were GPC President Steve Shiflett, Vice-President Larry Bagneris and transperson activist Phyllis Frye. Among the cases mentioned for investigation were the unresolved deaths of Gary Wayne Stock some two years ago and Tina Gentry less than two months ago. Stock was killed by an HPD officer whose statement, though accepted by a typical rubber stamp grand jury when he was no-billed, is considered by many observers to be not only improbable but impossible. Gentry was found dead in the Baytown jail recently and, though officially listed as suicide, the circumstances of her death raised as many questions as they answer. They also named Dwaine Alexander, Olen Whitlock, Jessie Skates, Les Manard, Gary Davis, and Harold Martin as police officers guilty of "use of excessive force (beatings)" against gay people.

Johnny Mata, District 8 Director for the League of United Latin American Citizens, testified for the Mexican-American community. He presented almost 400 cases of HPD abuse toward residents of

the barrios. There were no blacks present to testify because no black organizations could be found which had documented any cases of police abuse. According to some observers, this is evidence of the highly selective nature of the oppressive police behavior in Houston.

When Caldwell testified following the appearance of the HPD's detractors he refused at first to make some records available to the Commission, ostensibly for security reasons. The matter was resolved when the Chief and Commissioners agreed upon a method of keeping the information off the public record. At one point in his testimony, Caldwell stated that there was no problem between the HPD and the gay community because he had appointed a liason person who had taken care of the situation. The HPD liason with gays is Assistant Chief McKeehan who angered homosexuals when he came to a GPC meeting and stated that gays were not hired to be police officers because it would be detrimental to other officers morale.

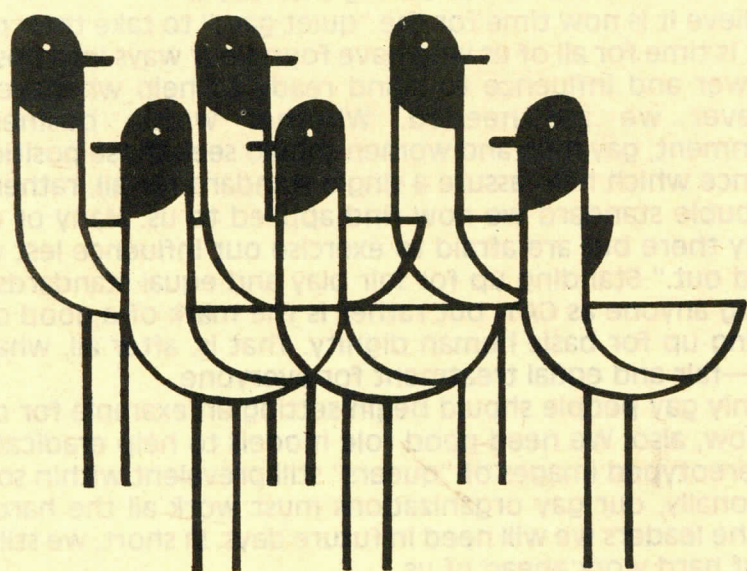
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"bigot" named ntsu regent

Eddie Chiles, an ultraconservative Fort Worth millionaire who supports homophobic TV evangelist James Robinson's campaign to overturn the FCC's Fairness Doctrine, is the new "token bigot" on the North Texas State University Board of Regents.

Before the confirmation vote May 25, State Sen. Chet Brooks of Pasadena called Chiles' radio attacks on public officials "intemperate and irresponsible" and suggested Chiles may have a problem serving as a regent because of his "closed mind." Brooks said, "There are those who say there ought to be a token bigot just to keep everything" fair.

According to the report in the Dallas Gay Political Caucus' **Dialog**, Chiles, a 69 year old president of an oil field service firm, donated \$25,000 to Governor Bill Clements campaign.



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And whether pigs have wings."

Lewis Carroll

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Lutherans Divided Over Gayness

gays should love ... but no sex!

The largest magazine of any religious denomination in the country has published an article advising gay people to express their sexuality in long-term relationships of love and fidelity. Dr. LeRoy H. Aden, a psychologist and professor of pastoral care at Lutheran Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, reached that conclusion in an article entitled "Homosexuality: What Can The Church Say;" it appeared in a May issue of The Lutheran, the biweekly publication of the Lutheran Church in America (LCA). While several other Christian denominations are larger than the 3 million member LCA, no official church magazine has a circulation larger than The Lutheran's 600,000.

Dr. Aden's article is a remarkable one for an official church journal, in that he finds any circumstances at all in which gay sexuality can be properly expressed. He does not contend that homosexuality is not unnatural, since he views heterosexuality as God's intention for all humankind. He does, however, conclude, "The church cannot expect the homosexual to change... If homosexuals find abstinence unnatural, they should live in an enduring relationship of love and commitment with one other person..."

"For whether we are male or female," he continues, "homosexual or heterosexual, we need to regain the ability to give ourselves to a person in a relationship of lifelong fidelity. It is only in that kind of context that human sexuality can move toward its fullest realization and can achieve its deepest meaning..."

"Love between persons of the same sex can be just as deep, tender, stable, intense and enduring as love between a man and a woman."

A committee of the American Lutheran Church, one of several Lutheran denominations operating within the United States issued a report earlier this month in which it condoned homosexuality as a sexual preference but condemned participation in "homosexual erotic behavior," i.e. sex. According to reports by the United Press in Minneapolis, the seven-member ALC Standing Committee for the Office of Research and Analysis approved a 16 page paper, entitled "Human Sexuality and Sexual Behavior, in which its positions on sex, marriage and homosexuality are expounded and will now submit it to the denominations 4,850 congregations for "comment, counsel, and criticism." Following revisions submitted by the local groups, it will be presented to the 1980 ALC convention for action.

The committee called upon members to exhibit understanding and sensitivity "to life as experienced by those who are homosexual... Homosexually oriented persons who do not practice their erotic preference in no way violate our understanding of Christian sexual behavior." It also suggested that members "take leadership roles in changing public opinion, civil laws and prevailing practices that deny justice and opportunity to any persons, homosexual or heterosexual."

While the committee claimed to have considered challenges to the traditional interpretation of Scripture proscribing gay sexual behavior but was unconvinced by the evidence submitted by challengers.

"We see no theological rationale for revising the church's traditional teaching that homosexual erotic behavior violates God's intent."

Cont'd page 32



MCCR*

Metropolitan Community
Church of the
Resurrection



Coming Events

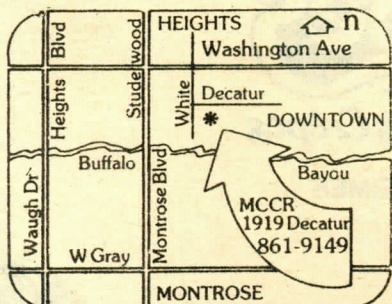
JUNE 27: Troy Perry will speak to MCCR and other interested individuals at the church 6:30pm-7pm
Mustang Band performs 7pm-7:35pm
National Day of Remembrance Services sponsored by the Homophile Interfaith Alliance 7:35pm

JULY 15: Auction—antiques & good things at the church 1:30pm-6pm

SEPTEMBER 21, 22, 23 Weekend: Parish Festival at Church

WATCH THIS SPACE
for further details of these events.

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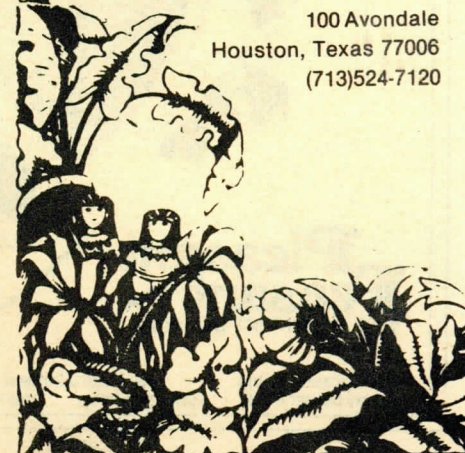
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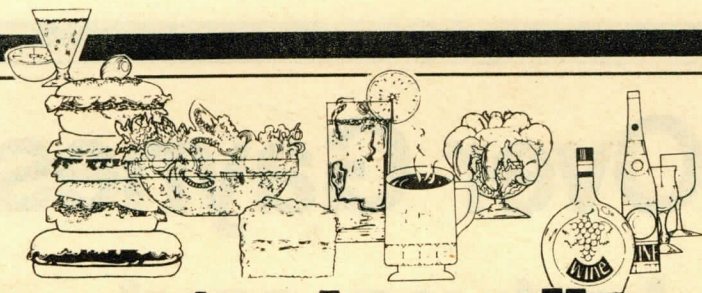
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Palma

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how to handle a hungry homo...

You can usually tell how long a person has been out in Houston by the names he or she will dredge up from the past. Whenever a gay person mentions the trials inherent in coming out at Tooters, the time period is the mid 70's. If the name mentioned is Armadillo, Carousel, Gay Nineties or the Morningside Club you have moved back to the early 70's. The mere mention of the Plantation, Rettig's Ice Cream, the Nugget or Art Wren's means you have come across a refugee from the mid sixties. Anyone discussing the Red Room, Pink Elephant, or Embassey is trying to talk about pre-history.

Whichever time period your friend chooses to talk about, one thing is certain—before a year or so ago there was virtually no place gay people could go for a meal without facing the possibility of harassment. The few cafes (restaurant would not describe those early attempts at gay eating establishments) catering to a predominantly gay clientele offered little more than a place to sit and a semi-edible meal... and they were packed.

With the rapid increase in numbers of homosexuals living here, as well as the realization of their large disposable incomes, we have witnessed a major change in the attitudes of restaurateurs, especially in the Montrose. Today the gay community is able to choose from among several types of restaurants when dining out. Houstonians may frequent any of several establishments operated exclusively for and by gays, or, places owned by gays but serving all comers, or those owned by straights who welcome gay clientele. We've come a long way from Simpsons Diner on Main Street.

The ambience ranges from Country & Western funky to nostalgic, from seedy to quietly elegant, and the cuisine varies between barely edible burgers and beans to the latest creations of a talented french chef. There are, in fact, so many restaurants where our gay bucks are welcomed that it is often difficult to make the choice. One of the best methods is to look into a gay publication. Support the advertisers. Even if a business is owned and operated by straights it does not preclude the possibility that gays are sought after customers. The most certain way to insure the loyalty of a straight businessman to the gay movement is to make him financially dependent upon YOU. When he becomes accustomed to living off the money of gays, you and the movement have a friend for life.

Look at the ads on the next three pages. Some of these restaurants are owned by gays while others are owned within the straight community. Frequent all of them and tell them Upfront sent you. They'll support you and your publications for years to come.

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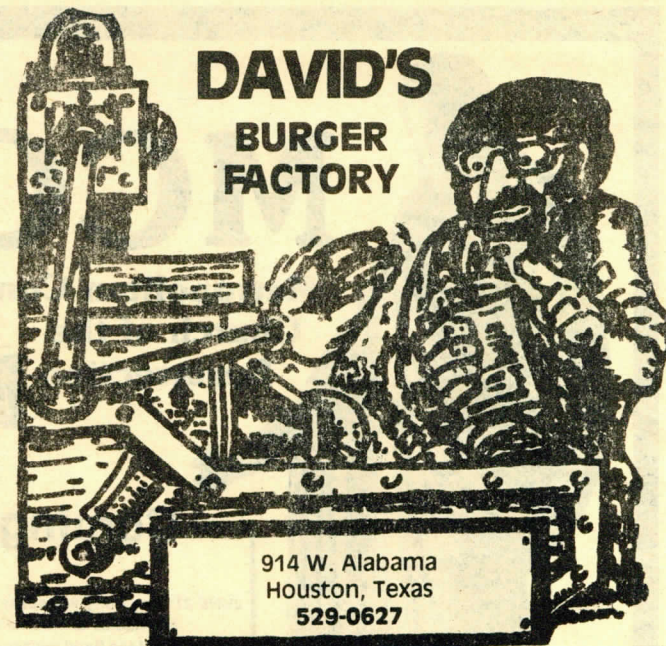


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prison isn't always a drag

Rumor has it that **Women Behind Bars**, the Montrose Players first production in the Montrose Activity Center, has been partially cast. Director Jack Lampert is said to have chosen veteran Houston actor Big Skinny Brown for the starring role which was created originally by Divine. Plans now call for an original interpretation rather than an imitation of previous productions.

Several other choice roles are still open though Fred Hinton appears to have cornered the other drag role, which could be the reason he has been all smiles the past couple of weeks. Then again it could just be the afterglow of his recent fortnight in San Francisco.

In **Women**, playwright Tom Eyen pulls off a hilarious satire of the typical Hollywood B-movies of the 1950's. Eyen shows us the seamy surreality beneath the glossy movie sentimentality by using dialogue crammed with movie cliches rendered delirious by situation and delivery. Mary-Eleanor, an innocent, wide-eyed Eleanor Parker type duped into crime lands in Greenwich Village's Women's House of Detention. Her cellmates include Blanche, with dialogue and personality right out of "Streetcar"; brassy, wise-cracking Gloria; Cheri, a voluptuous floozie; Guadalupe, a heel-clicking Hispanic type; Jo-Jo, a tough black girl; Granny, a homicidal grandmother and other stereotyped caricatures. Presiding over this pack of female flotsom is the massive matron who has a taste for sadism and female flesh.

Called "original... bold... and very funny" by The New Yorker, the show has become a camp classic of the theatre. Each "girls" story is typical and at the same time a parody of the 1950's story line. Poor Mary-Eleanor ends up hardened and cynical, but that's just the way it was in the movies.

"Sex is rampant and comically cheerful!"

—Clive Barnes, N.Y. Times

"Vintage Eyen... turns trash in to flash... a delirious evening of Grade-A Tom-foolery!"

—Gussow, N.Y. Times

"Historically, paradoxically, fascinatingly, diabolically funny!"

—N.Y. Daily News

Among others, Brown has appeared with the Reunion Theatre, including a production of **The Unseen Hand**, and the Equinox Theatre. Hinton is a Galveston native who has appeared in productions for Channing Players in addition to Montrose Players' **P.S. Your Cat Is Dead** and **El Grande de Coca Cola**.

Sam French



Mabel McGowan's

MORE THAN
JUST HOME COOKING

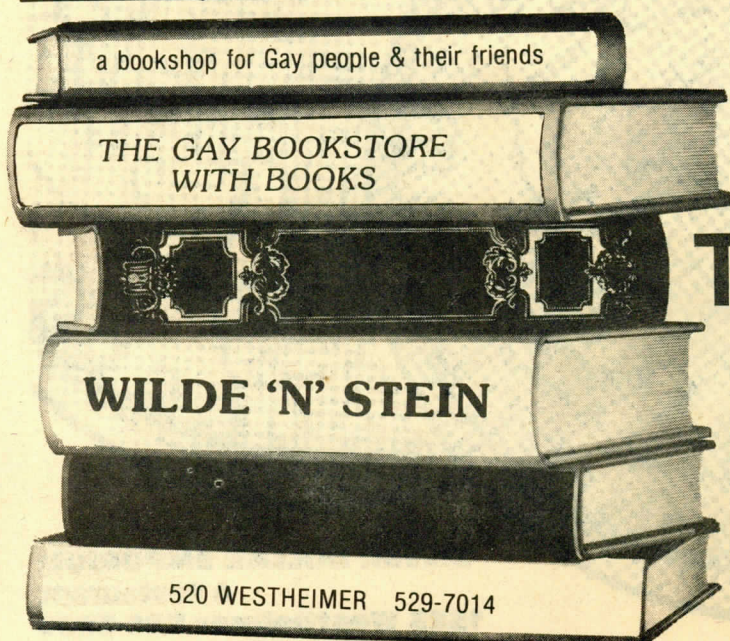
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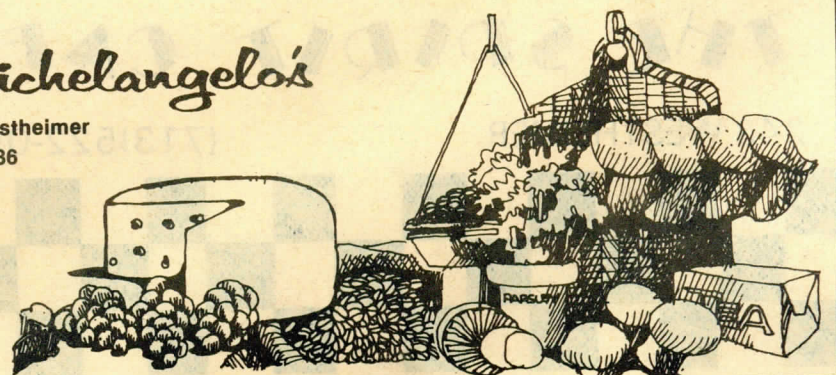


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helping women help themselves

Violence against an individual, whether originating within or without the family structure is no laughing matter. The concept for a women's shelter in Houston originated when it became evident that family violence was becoming a familiar problem with which social service agencies were trying to cope. In September, 1976, various agencies began to consider establishing a permanent shelter for women and children who were victims of such violence. The YWCA had received a temporary grant to plan and obtain other grants to fund such a shelter and in December, 1976, Del Martin, lesbian author of **Battered Wives** and long-time gay activist, appeared in Houston to raise funds. In January, 1978 a workshop on Abused Women was held to inform the public and to solicit donations for the Shelter. The Santa Maria Hostel offered the Houston Area Women's Center the use of a small shelter facility complete with furnishings for \$250 per month.

With \$6,000 and a six month lease, the Shelter for Abused Women opened on June 1, 1978. From the first week the Shelter was open, independent referral services received 3-15 calls each day from women who had to be turned away because of space limitations. That problem is still with the Shelter and in many respects has worsened.

Dr. Toby Meyers, an Executive Committee member and chairperson for the Council for Abused Women, has pointed to the need for increased funding to expand the facility. At present she says, "The Shelter is operated totally by volunteers, some of whom are mental health professionals." Dr. Meyers wants the Shelter to "provide women with relief from terror and a quiet freedom in which they can reconstruct their lives on their terms. We want to stress non-violent methods of child-rearing in hopes of breaking the cycle of family violence, and we want to offer these things in the absence of any extreme doctrinal pressure where a woman has left the complete dependency on her husband only to acquire a new dependency upon another group."

Currently the Shelter has 11 beds and has been over capacity almost every day since it opened. Because the children of the abused are frequently housed there as well, increases are needed in the level of services in order to provide them with health care and counseling, to say nothing of food and space. The children are frequently witnesses to the battering of the mother or have been battered themselves and therefore the juvenile counseling provided is considered particularly important. This activity becomes even more important when considered in the light of evidence suggesting that many of the women and almost all of the men involved in battering families were reared in battering families themselves. The Shelter aims at breaking the cycle.

The basic services supplied by the Shelter are food and lodging for a 21 day period though it is possible to receive an extension. As of March 1, 1979, the last date for which records are available, 126 women and 183 children have stayed there. 68% of those using the facility were classified racially white, 20% black, and the remainder, Mexican-American. The average stay lasts about 5 days.

Security at the Shelter is tight because of the nature of the refuge service offered. The exact location is not widely known and when a woman wishes to enter the facility, a staff member meets her elsewhere and, after an interview, takes her there. When asked how she felt about the Women's Center Shelter, one of the residents replied, "I never felt safer in my life... All of us help each other out." Regarding the volunteers who staff it, she described them as "really nice and helpful, but they don't let us feel sorry for ourselves. (Staffers) encourage us to be independent and that's good." Harris County Social Services provides small sums shelter women who qualify.

One Shelter success story is Ms. Carolina Galvan who originally arrived there as a battered wife. Since then she has joined the staff as Housemanager. Ms. Galvan can both understand and empathize with the women who must seek refuge there.

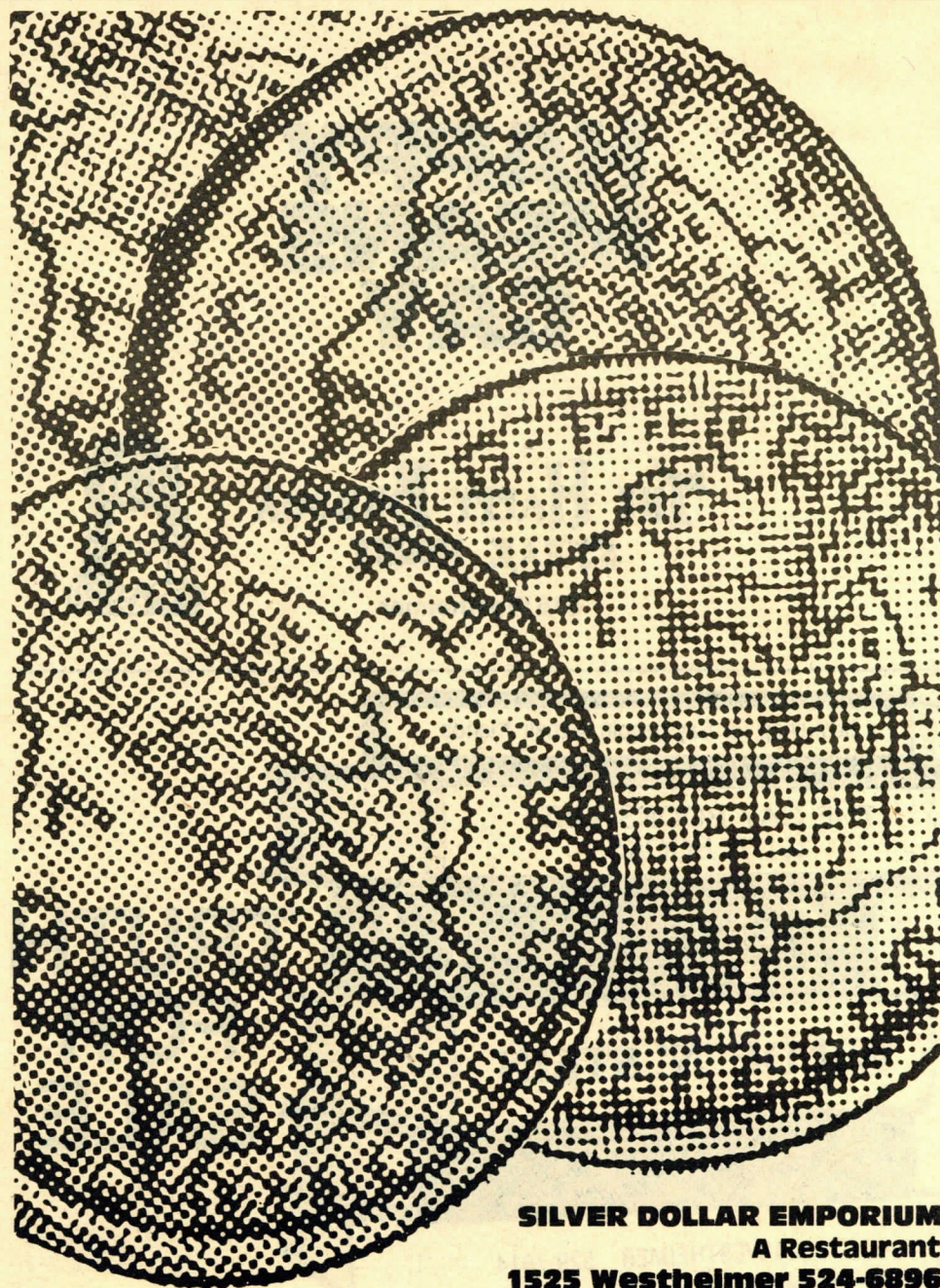
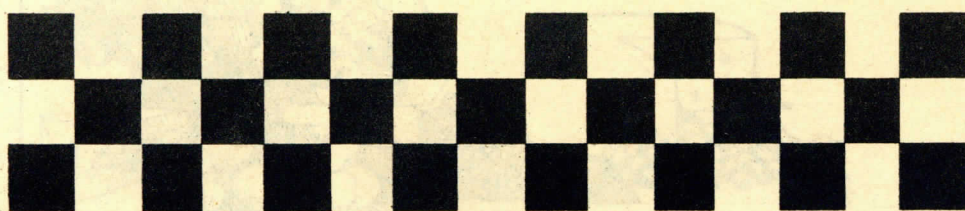


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all gay movies aren't rated x

Lambda Club of Houston's First Unitarian Church will sponsor its Gay Film Festival, Summer, 1979 on four Friday evenings in July and August. Among the titles to be shown are the 1931 classic **Maedchen in Uniform** and the Cockettes' **Patricia Nixon's Wedding**.

In announcing the schedule of eight films spanning five decades, Club Coordinator Larry Kemper noted the festival goals of obtaining gay oriented films never before shown to Houston audiences while maintaining high standards for entertainment value, aesthetics and intelligence. "We believe we have succeeded... We have avoided politically oriented material so that both gay and straight persons can enjoy the films for their intrinsic artistic merit."

All showings will be Friday at 7:30 PM in Channing Hall of the First Unitarian Church at 5210 Fannin at Southmore. Series tickets are \$6.50 and are available at Wilde'n'Stein Books or the Church office. Individual tickets are \$2 at the door.

July 6

LOT IN SODOM— An experimental 1933 film telling in completely cinematic terms the Old Testament story of the destruction of Sodom. While transparently depicting sexual perversity and excess as mortal sins, the work uses all its creative accents to depict the sensual responses of the male homosexuals of Sodom to the physical beauty of the foremost angel. 27 minutes

MAEDCHEN IN UNIFORM— Temporarily obstructed by the censors, voted best film of 1931 by the New York press, this film is one of the first candid displays of lesbianism on the screen. A sensitive

young girl in a fashionable school is unhappy under the harsh, Prussian discipline. She flowers when a sympathetic teacher gives her special consideration and the plot thickens when the girl publically proclaims her love for the teacher. 99 minutes

July 13

VICTIM— A 1962 film protesting the English law by which homosexuality was a criminal act. A brilliant lawyer (Dirk Bogarde), happily married to a devoted woman but secretly involved with a man, is threatened by a blackmail gang. 100 minutes

July 27

THE BITTER TEARS OF PETRA VON KANT— Petra, a successful dress designer, falls in love with a working class woman who abandons her. Werner Fassbinder's highly theatrical 1972 study of the consequences is confined to Von Kant's bedroom-studio, which is filled with mannequins and the music of Verdi and The Platters. Life-size Corregio nudes paper the walls. Beyond its importance as a narrative melodrama of lesbianism, the film is a masterpiece of mise en scene, allowing the exaggerated sets to interact with the characters (all women) and create their own meaning. Fassbinder, openly gay, is a leader in the new school of German filmmakers.— 124 minutes

August 3

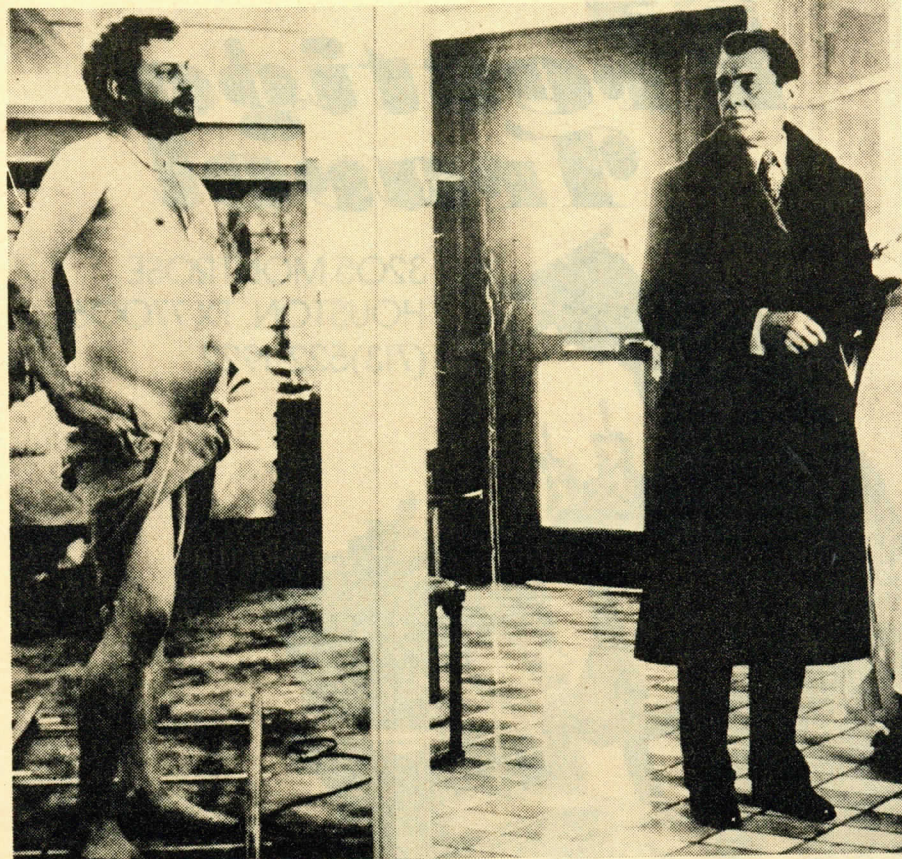
SILVERPOINT— A 1974 film by Barbara Linkevitch involving the clashing emotions of three women dancers within the confines of a practice room. Nikki has designed costumes for Sue who prefers to dance with Ann, her new acquaintance. Nikki's reaction to the intruder is hostility, coldness, confusion and anger. It paints a deep and troubling picture of a woman suffering from the love of another woman. 25 minutes

PATRICIA NIXON'S WEDDING— A satirical comedy by the Cockettes, an underground troupe of outrageous bearded drag queens and their friends who were the hit of San Francisco in the early 70's. 35 minutes

I'M NOT HERE— A 1978 "coming out" story of a young man filmed without sensationalism, stereotype or sentimentality. A hitchhiker provides Ryan, 19, with his pivotal experience, forcing him to come to terms with the contradictions of his various feelings and to begin to affirm his identity. 45 minutes



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COMING SOON
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Despair
An "hysterical" comedy

the gay tourist

It's a simple fact of modern life—gay Americans travel relatively more often than non-gay. No one knows why gay people exhibit such a wanderlust nor does it matter. All that concerns us here is that gay people in general are constantly on the go. A reader poll released last year by a West Coast gay newsmagazine found that 69% of their respondents had taken between one and three vacation trips the previous summer and a whopping 91% claimed to have taken at least one weekend trip during the same period. While the automobile was the preferred means of transportation (86%), it was closely followed by commercial airlines which had been chosen by 72% of the respondents.

As almost any one will admit (ask Mae West), gays are known for their discerning taste and their frequently noted ability to live much better on similar salaries than their non-gay counterparts. They have learned how to find bargains in almost everything they do, any place they go. Their reputation as zany free spirits with lots of disposable income (how many gay people take their children with them to Acapulco?) has resulted in literally hundreds of vacation spots that cater to the gay traveler... from Hippy Hollow to Fire Island, from San Francisco to Amsterdam.

Is it any wonder then that so many chose to employ travel agents on their journeys? After all why would they want to waste their time planning the most minute details of a trip when the services of a qualified professional can be acquired for free? That one little fact—free service—keeps the travel agents busy planning gay excursions. Actually, a travel agent's services are not free; rather, they are paid for by the airline, hotel, etc. to which the agent will direct his or her clients. In other words, the office, employees, pictures and travel posters are paid for by a percent-commission of the total travel bill. People not using a travel agent will pay just as much but the carriers and hotels will keep it all and the traveler will have to do all the planning, make all the arrangements and suffer all the headaches. With that in mind, it becomes obvious why the gay travel agency has become such a mainstay of our business community.



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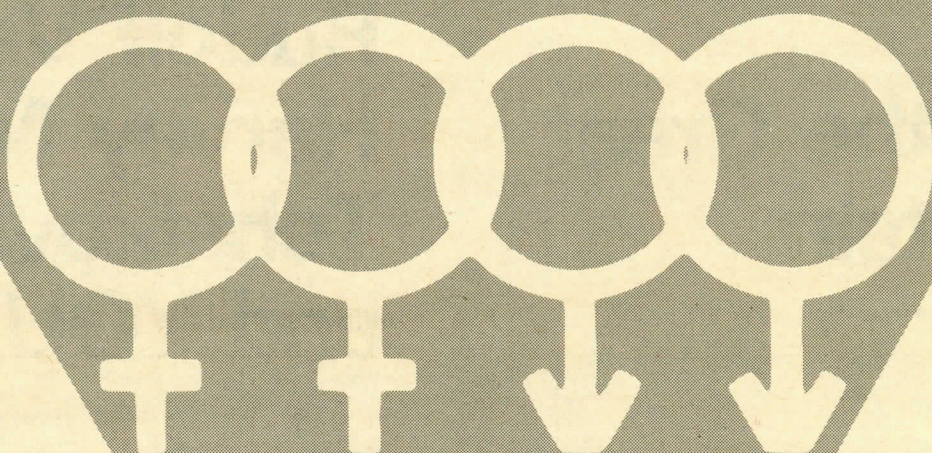
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PRIDE WEEK '79



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Sappho
Alexander the Great
Gertrude Stein
Cole Porter

Socrates
Leonardo da Vinci
Colette
Rudolf Valentino
Harvey Milk
Tchaikovsky
and YOU!

HAPPY GAY PRIDE WEEK
FROM THE STAFF OF

UPFRONT

some thoughts for gay pride week

Gay Pride Week 1979 is here and months of anticipation, planning, and hard work by hundreds of gay citizens in this community are about to bear fruit (no pun intended). During the next 8 days there will be more than a score of events across Houston. Like many other minority group celebrations, there will be parties, fairs, special performances of movies and plays, a parade and even fireworks — all of them intended for the same purpose — to tell straights we are as good, as wonderful, as desirable and as patriotic as they.

Not a little of it is also intended to reinforce our own images of ourselves — as well as the self-images of our closeted sisters and brothers.

Even as we mark this special occasion let us all remember why these dates have a particular meaning to us. Gay Pride Week marks the anniversary, this year the tenth, of the Stonewall Riots in New York City. Until that June night a decade ago, gay people accepted whatever treatment was sent their way, whether malice, mayhem or murder. The Stonewall Freedom Fighters said "no more" and backed it up with their bodies and their lives.

Only two short years ago, Houston gays said "no," too. Anita Bryant came to our city to spread her particular brand of hatred and injustice from a convention stage downtown. We didn't tell her not to come but we did tell her to keep her mouth shut while she was in Houston. 10,000 people marched from the old Depository 2 on McGowen, past hundreds of police in riot gear, armed and aching for action. From my position on the security force it was possible to look the police directly in the eyes. We watched their contemptuous sneers change into looks of shock as thousands of singing, clapping, NORMAL LOOKING people streamed by for hours.

Houston had its own Stonewall on the sidewalks around the Hyatt Regency that June night in 1977. Ours was peaceful but just as effective. We told the oppressors we had beaten them... and we did it without raising a single hand in anger. Things haven't been the same in Houston since. We earned our gay pride that night and we celebrate it gladly now. The forces of repression will never be able to force that closet door shut again. Our advancement, our freedom are limited only by our own imaginations.

This issue of Upfront is dedicated to the spirit of freedom that was born then. We have made no effort to completely examine the gay scene in Houston; we haven't made any attempt to balance the coverage sexually nor have we recounted the history of the movement or the riots. Our aim here is to simply tell a few more people that we are okay. Our movement is growing in sophistication and talent. We will not be stopped.

Be Gay — Be Proud — Be Yourself

Bill Whiting
Editor



gay pride week calendar of events

FRIDAY, JUNE 22

KICK-OFF NIGHT...The celebration of Houston Gay Pride Week '79 will begin officially at 10 PM at Mary's and will include a production of GAYPLAY, a series of theatrical sketches.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23

GAY MALE DAY...Second Annual Thank You Miss Ima for Memorial Park Gay Community Picnic, 10 AM to 2 PM, Memorial Park.

Houston Police Department vs. Houston Gay Community in baseball, 11:30 AM, South Picnic Lane, Memorial Park.

Bikini Weenie Dance, sponsored by Integrity/Houston, at Montrose Activity Center, 9 PM (free beer; \$4 door donation).

SUNDAY, JUNE 24

TEXAS DAY...An outdoor celebration of our pride as gay Texans. THE BRAZOS RIVER BOTTOM, THE BARN, & THE EXILE are jointly sponsoring an all-day outdoor festival at Alexander-Deussen Park in Harris County.

MONDAY, JUNE 25

GAY AWARENESS DAY...Forum: **Minorities Within a Minority**, at Montrose Activity Center.

TUESDAY, JUNE 26

EVE OF NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE...Celebration of the Spirit of Stonewall Inn/Christopher Street at Sam Houston Park, downtown Houston, at 8:30. A celebration of important events in gay history during the past ten years (including a candlelight vigil).

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27

NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE...Ecumenical religious service in the tradition of the Houston Gay Community, to be held at Metropolitan Community Church, 1919 Decatur, at 7:30 PM. Rev. Elder Troy Perry will participate with others from the local community.

Wilde'n'Stein Radio Show: special commemorative broadcast, 6 PM to midnight, KPFT, 90.1 FM.

THURSDAY, JUNE 28

GAY YOUNG PEOPLES DAY...Gay Young People's Festival, Montrose Activity Center, 6:30 PM (\$1 donation).

Two free films, sponsored by Integrity/Houston, **WHAT ABOUT MCBRIDE** and **ATTITUDES IN TRANSITION**, at 7:30 PM at 3405 Mulberry.

FRIDAY, JUNE 29

MINORITIES DAY...Sidewalk Art Show at the Spirit Cafe, 11 AM to 6 PM; Fiesta, 7:30 PM to 11 PM at 2504 Mason - live entertainment and dancing.

SATURDAY, JUNE 30

WOMEN'S DAY...Lesbian Workshop, sponsored by Gay Resource Services, at the University of Houston, University Center, from 9 AM to 5 PM; Dallas, El Paso & San Antonio Rooms.

- 9 AM: Women in small business administration
Women in non-traditional roles
- 10:45 AM Blue collar lesbians
Lesbians in Mental Health
- 1:30 PM Lesbians in literature
Lesbian Mothers & Lesbian Rights
- 3:15 PM Consciousness-raising session
- 6:30 - 8 PM Concert by Lee McCormick at MARION'S TOO.

SUNDAY, JULY 1

PARADE DOWN WESTHEIMER... 3 PM, from Shepherd to Bagby.

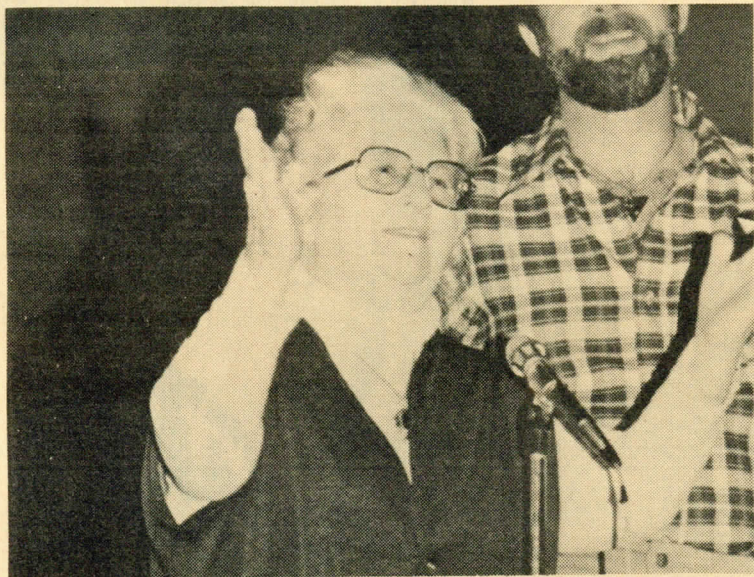
RALLY... 6:30 PM: **An Expression of Freedom** at Spotts Park (Waugh Drive at Memorial). Entertainment begins at 7:30 PM; Rally at 9 PM, featuring Midge Costanza, Mickey Leland, Jean O'Leary and Harry Britt. Immediately following the rally there will be a Summer Spectacle Fireworks Display, to conclude our week of Pride & Celebration.

local gay radio show enters net

Wilde'n'Stein, Houston's gay radio show broadcast by the local Pacifica Network affiliate, KPFT, will be the central unit of a five station gay radio network. The two hour weekly program will feature live news reports from each member city. Member cities are now New York City, Washington, D.C., Houston, San Francisco and Los Angeles. The first broadcast is expected to be in August.

Gay Pride Means...

“...helping these young people coming up today. They must know that they're alright.”



Mary Thelma "Disco Granny" Hansel

all gays are not in montrose

Last January, when a small number of gay men and lesbians gathered in League City, their original purpose was to create a local organization so that members could meet other gay persons from their own West Galveston Bay region. Bay Area Gays is now six months old and has met that original goal and a number of others.

One of the most important functions the BAG has addressed in this first half-year is the alienation with which closeted gays are often afflicted. Even today a frequently heard lament of gays is that they thought they were the "only ones in town." To alleviate this situation the organization has hosted several lectures to provide communication among bay gays. They also sponsor picnics both on the beach and in parks, occasional theater parties in Houston and pool parties in members' homes. BAG has already taken two trips to Hippie Hollow in Austin and plans to continue the practice at least monthly throughout the remainder of the summer.

Members include the young, old, professional and blue collar of both sexes. They can point proudly to a number of persons for whom BAG has eased the traditionally difficult "coming out" process.

Communication is an important focus of the 80-member group which is spread throughout the Galveston, Brazoria and lower Harris Counties region. An informal monthly newsletter is mailed to members to keep them up to date on BAG activities as well as events in the city (Houston). Recently they have also been giving members progress reports on the National March on Washington. They also helped establish a Lesbian Network for the support of women in the area.

BAG's most ambitious project to date has been the founding of the National Gay Broadcasting Service. This network of professionals and amateurs produces a weekly radio report on national and international gay news and documentaries on gay related subjects. The service has affiliates in Houston, Dallas and San Francisco and is broadcast locally on KPFT-FM.

In an effort to keep the organization vital, Bay Area Gays is planning to evaluate its effectiveness during BAG's first six months of life. The business meeting scheduled for July 12 will be used to decide if the group is adequately meeting the needs of local residents. Plans will be made at that time for future growth and improvement.

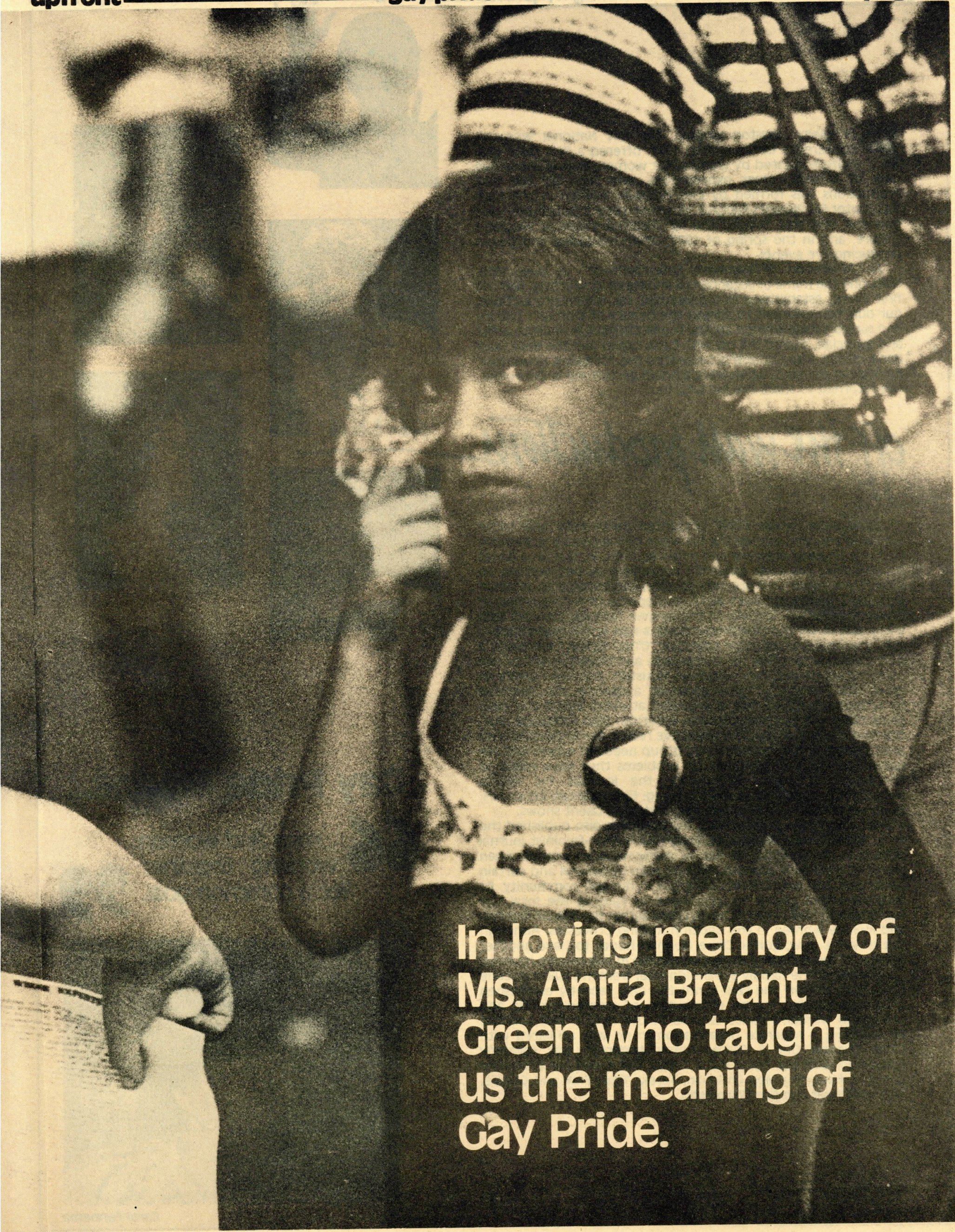
Without a doubt, the group has been a success. A sense of gay community now exists in an area where it did not exist before, and this community extends beyond the boundaries of BAG's planned events. In addition, city Gays have been made more aware that gay people do exist outside of Montrose, and their views need to be accounted for when planning is made for major Houston-area events.

Bay Area Gays is open to all lesbians and gay men in the area of Galveston, Texas City, League City, Clear Lake, Pasadena, Dickinson, Hitchcock, Alvin or anywhere in the Tri-counties. Although its focus is rural and suburban, city residents are invited to attend all functions so that they can learn what the "other gay community" is like.

Bay Area Gays meets every first Thursday at the League City Civic Center to conduct business and all other Thursdays at members homes for socializing. For information contact Larry evenings at 332-1647 or 481-2892.

Tom Doyle





In loving memory of
Ms. Anita Bryant
Green who taught
us the meaning of
Gay Pride.

For many Houston women, the IWY National Women's Conference in November, 1977, offered a first taste of a culture created by women, for women. During those five days of turmoil, great expectations, and fun, Off the Wall Productions was formed by two Houston women as the local distributor for Pleiades Records. However, record distribution was only the first step toward the IWY-inspired vision of women's culture, and in the spring of 1978, OTWP expanded and began producing live events.

"An Afternoon of Women's Entertainment" in May, 1978, featuring the mime of Suzanne Fox and three local artists, was the first event, establishing as a precedent for future productions, our dual commitment to spread the beauty of women's culture and support local women artists. Lee McCormick, a Houston artist and musician, shared the bill with Casse Culver and the Belle Starr Band during three concerts presented the following November. By popular demand, when Margie Adam performed in December, Lee returned to share the bill with her.

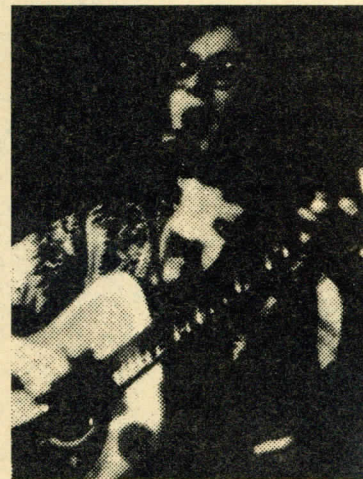
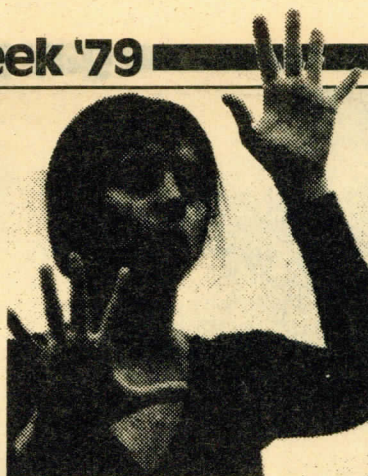
off the wall productions

Last January, when OTWP presented Betsy Rose and Cathy Winter in concert, sharing the bill was a new local talent, Rawslyn Ruffin, a singer-songwriter and music student. By this time it was evident that the idea originally conceived by two women to integrate women's culture into Houston was become an actuality through the efforts, hard work, and energy of a core group of dedicated women. Last March the women formally incorporated the group as Off the Wall Productions, a non-profit organization.

As a women's production company, OTWP strives to provide a nurturing environment for the growth and development of the many facets of women's culture in Houston. It is their desire to meet the needs of the growing audience for feminist entertainment. Child care is provided at every event and each production will be interpreted in American Sign Language. Still, the 14 members of the OTW Collective realize the impossibility of anticipating all the individual and group needs of others and are genuinely soliciting feedback on problems they have failed to address. They are constantly on the lookout for events Houstonians would like to see including: films; dances; art shows; poetry readings; concerts; lectures; and, local talent shows.

Until about nine months ago, the collective also published the Point Blank Times. PBT was an insightful lesbian-feminist journal reflecting the frustrations felt by many Houston women when trying to deal with gay and non-gay men in general and certain businesses and political organizations in our gay community. Its greatest effect seems to have been in causing the local gay leadership to take note of the diversity within the lesbian lifestyle and include women in the decision making processes. Although out of print now, Editor Claire Noonan hopes to have another edition of the quarterly appear sometime in the coming months.

Evidence of the rapidly expanding local women's cultural scene is the fact the Off the Wall is not the only recently established group specializing in the distribution of women's music and producing women's concerts. Also in the field is Out and Out Productions, a separate organization in no way affiliated with OTWP though Out & Out'er Pokey Anderson was formerly associated with the Point Blank Times. Out & Out has produced concerts featuring Meg Christian, Teresa Trull, Fink and Grippo, and Holly Near and Cris Williamson.



Gay Pride Means...

“...men and women working together for a common goal.”



Carol Fennema

11 years of activism at

Newcomers to a city often choose to thumb through a local paper or bar guide as a means of getting acquainted with its gay lifestyle. In Houston, their curiosity is often stirred by references to the Gay Resource Services. "What," they ask, "is a gay resource service?" Those who take the time to search out the answer find a University of Houston Central Campus organization dedicated to spreading knowledge about gay lifestyles and based upon the principle of education through communication. Its members are students, non-students and professors involved in some way with gay life though they are not all necessarily gay.

GRS began in 1977 when the previous homosexual student group, the Gay Activists Alliance, became a predominantly male social organization. Katy Feller, lesbian activist and leader of the GAA, founded the GRS in order to preserve the educational service at the university, something which had existed since 1968 and UH's first homosexual group-the Gay Liberation Front. Feller, now a UH employee, believed in the importance of providing equal access to the university's resources. The GAA became inactive the next Spring leaving the Gay Resource Services as the only gay organization on the Central Campus.

GRS was only beginning. In the fall of 1978, 100 misspelled flyers appeared announcing its first meeting of the semester in September. By October a core of active members was established and policy was beginning to take shape. Members decided upon a leadership structure which gave everyone equal footing. This egalitarian arrangement has allowed the group to maintain a high level of activities while still operating without the usual set of officers. They are guided by an Executive Council where each person is allowed a voice. Projects and ideas are discussed and agreed upon at large meetings, usually held in circles. Frequently a single person will take responsibility for a specific project while other members contribute whatever special talents they may possess.

“gay pride means being an individual who won't be stereotyped... everyone has the right to be whatever they damn well please!”

Tim Gaudet



the university of HOUSTON HOUSTON HOUSTON

The Student Association (government) selected the GRS the second most effective organization on campus, giving it a 90% effectiveness rating. Seldom do its members fail to get an approved project to its final stages. Some of their activities during the past year have included the Patricia Nell Warren Reception held in cooperation with Wilde'n'Stein Books, three very successful bake sales, and uncountable presentations about gay people to classes and groups on campus and off. GRS has enjoyed similar successes providing a reference service for legal advice and medical help, meeting space for gay groups around Houston and Texas, information to visitors and new residents of the Houston Community, and assisting in research about the Gay Lifestyle. Currently members are busy preparing to host the July Leadership Conference for the March on Washington as well as the Gay Pride Week Lesbian Workshop, the preceding weekend.

In attempting to implement its motto of "education through communication", GRS performs the not-so simple function of visibility at the university. In so-doing its members have mastered the art of coalition politics and successfully placed themselves in leadership positions throughout the Student Association structure. Grady Cockrell has become well known for her work on the sensitive Campus Police Advisory Board; John Crocker is a Justice on the Student Traffic Court and Tim Gaudet serves on the Undergraduate Council, an organization charged with the responsibility for developing Central Campus policy on education. Other GRS'ers active within campus boardrooms include Robbie Johnson and Kyle Norman who are members of the Program Council's Ideas and Issues Forum. Service persons belong to Young Democrats, University Feminists, and the Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee as well as many others too numerous to mention.

GRS members have worked to establish a rapport with individuals throughout the university administration, staff, faculty and student body in order to present gays as individuals rather than a faceless mass of stereotypes. They are constantly on the lookout for new members willing and able to share their time and talents. The organization is dynamic, growing and changing as it conforms with each additional personality. If GRS can not meet an individual's needs it will help create an organization that will. The Fall of 1979 represents 11 years of gay activism on the UH campus. Gay Resources Service persons are proudly continuing that tradition by participating, growing, learning and spreading the word that all persons have the right to be whatever they are.

Tim Gaudet

ACLU

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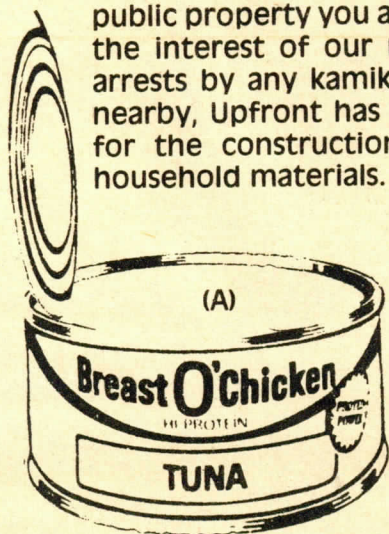
Have the assistance of a person who is familiar with the system.

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LAW**

Gay Pride is...

Candlelight tips

Going to the candlelight vigil downtown during GPW? If you are going remember to take a collecting device to make sure that your candlewax does not damage any of the public property you are standing on during the evening. In the interest of our readers safety and to prevent mass arrests by any kamikaze kops who happen to be lurking nearby, Upfront has prepared easy to follow instructions for the construction of such a device using common household materials.



- (1) Remove top — ordinary electric can opener will work well for this step but be sure to do it before you leave home as you may experience difficulty finding an outlet in the Library Plaza.
- (2) Empty contents; wash can.
- (3) Place candle here (A).



Photo courtesy Houston Post; Photo by King Chou Wong

Steve Shiflett and Larry Bagneris testifying before the US Civil Rights Commission.

Gay Pride means...

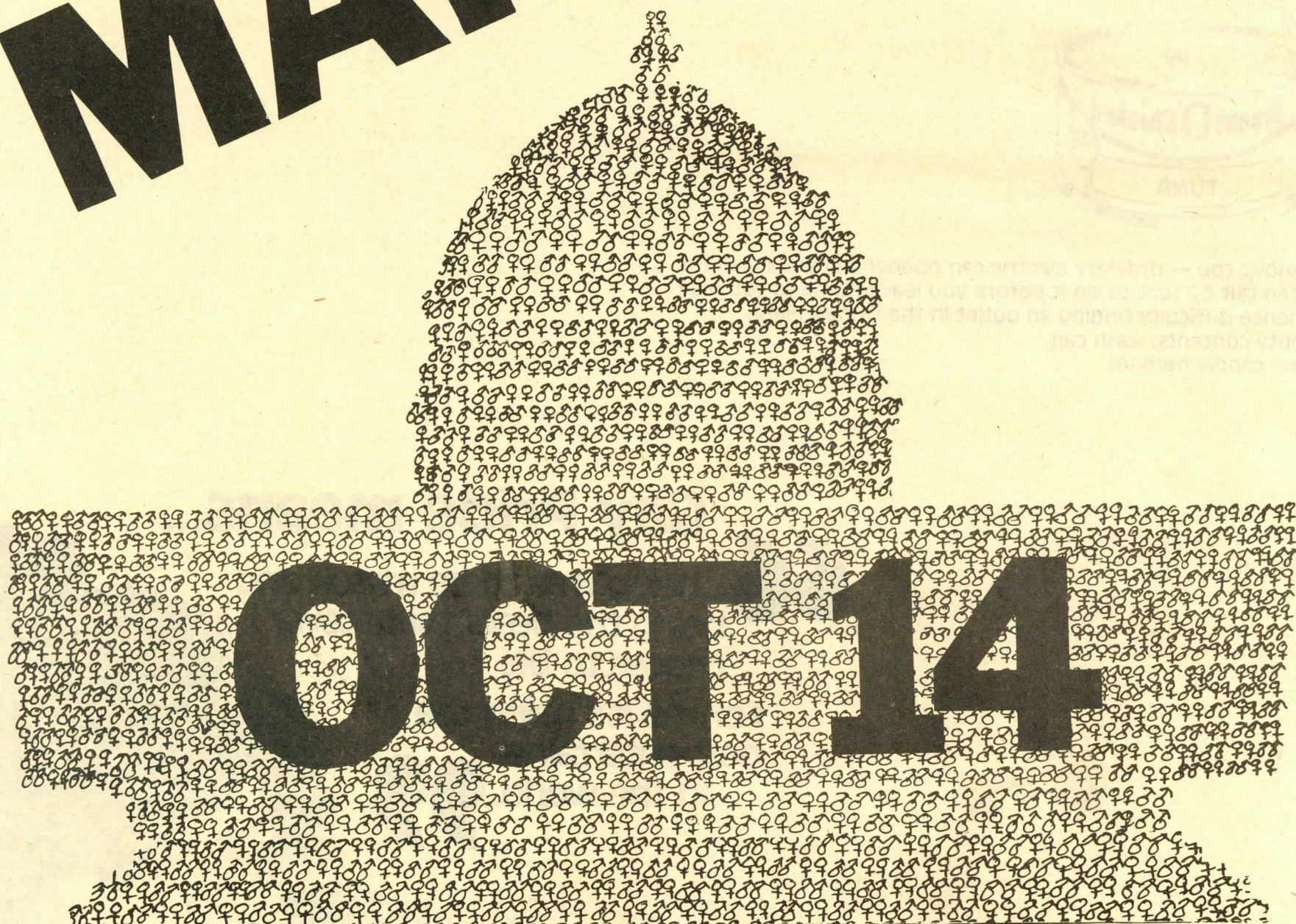
“...being free to be myself and being the best at whatever I choose to be.

For me it's being the best entertainer in the world.”



Donna Day

MARCH ON



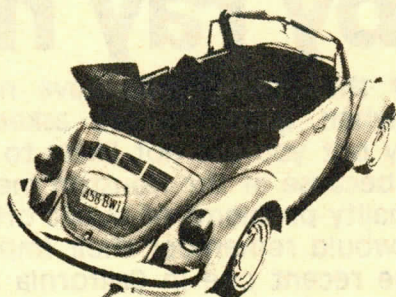
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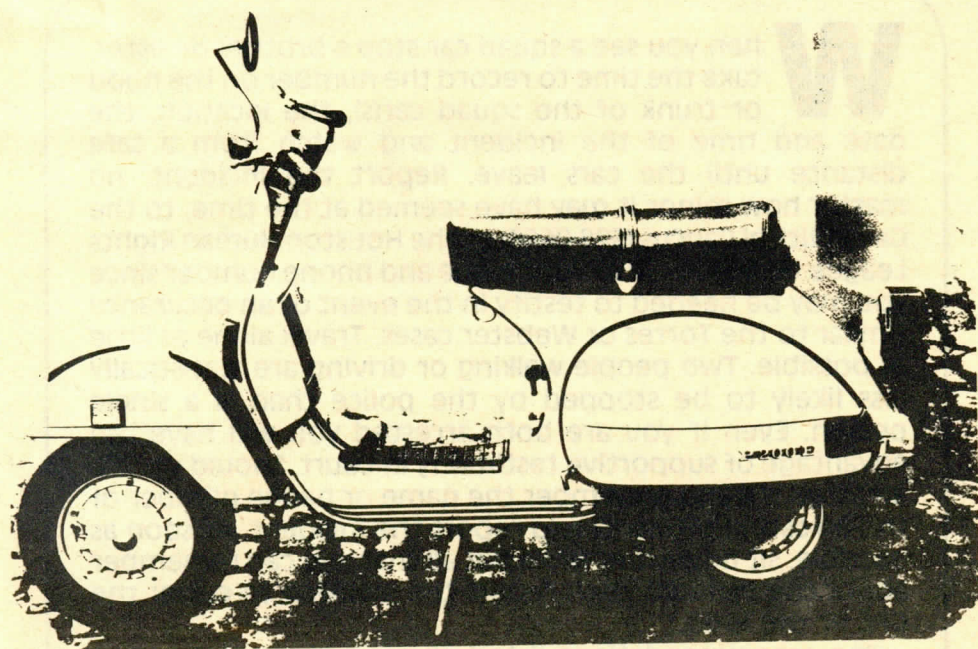
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—Ralph Waldo Emerson

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the chief... as seen by ray hill



San Francisco Supervisor Dan White was so personally challenged by the advances made by the San Francisco gay community that he lost control of his own life. The phenomenon is clinically known as homophobia. It is a mental disorder inhibiting normal functioning. Radical racism is the same kind of phenomenon.

Houston Police Chief Harry Caldwell shows strong symptoms of the same disorder. When confronted by gay people or pro-gay positions taken by non-gay supporters Caldwell loses control. He turns red in the face, raises his voice to a shout, and sounds confused and angry. Caldwell does not understand that many heterosexuals do not share his fear/hate for homosexuals. He seems to take any disagreement with his position on the subject as a personal attack.

Harry Caldwell needs professional help to overcome his problem, but he is not likely to seek help because he thinks homophobia is the norm and tries to transfer his sickness to others by insisting that homosexuals are all sick and should not be accepted as citizens or participants in the political process. He encourages and perpetuates police policies that systematically deny gay people basic constitutional rights. The vice squad can seduce patrons in bookstore arcades and adult theaters and perjure themselves to get convictions. The chicken hawk squad can intimidate delinquents to perjure themselves so that gay men and lesbians can be brought to court on baseless charges. Even when it is proven in court that officers have committed perjury or have illegally influenced witnesses, their jobs are secure and pressure is put on prosecutors not to charge the officers under perjury laws.

Harry Caldwell is not the only homophobic in the Houston Police Department but he is the only one that protects and perpetuates homophobia as a characteristic of basic HPD policy. His position and statements on the subject encourage police violence against gay men and lesbians, and police abuse of our basic rights as citizens. There cannot be any substantive reform within HPD affecting the attitude toward and treatment of homosexuals until Harry Caldwell deals with his own homophobia.

The situation is dangerous. Should Caldwell become frustrated in his inability to keep the gay/lesbian community in what he defines as "their place," he could order an attack on the community resulting in a massive tragedy. Harry Caldwell's homophobia and the progress we are making guarantees his frustration and precludes that he will be able to deal with it in a rational way.

Some of the news media have noticed Caldwell's unusual behavior when questions are asked about the gay/lesbian community but you are not likely to see it in print or hear it broadcast because of the Houston media's reluctance to report the personality problems of public officials. However, it is likely that they would remember their impressions should a tragedy such as the recent one in California actually occur. So far the media has been insensitive to individual incidents demonstrating institutional homophobia for two basic reasons: a reluctance on the part of the individuals affected to speak out; and when the media ask questions of the officers, they lie just like they do in court.

The treatment of psychotic homophobia takes a long time after the therapy has begun. After the individual therapy has been successful, the institutional homophobia can then be treated by a process of strict discipline, which does not presently exist in the HPD. Be advised that at present and for the foreseeable future, Harry Caldwell's sickness, and as a result, Houston police officers, as a class, constitute a clear and present threat to our safety and our rights as citizens as well as those of our friends visiting from other cities. Los Angeles survived Police Chief Ed Davis with the help of Mayor Bradley, but Houston does not have a mayor with similar strength or commitment, nor does one seem likely in the near future.

There is no indication that our community's problems with the HPD will be resolved soon. There are a few officers at various levels in the HPD who are beginning to question the official policy toward homosexuals. Give them encouragement and keep their names secret because they too can become victims of pathological homophobia.

Houston is beginning to emerge as a major center of the national gay movement. Gay and lesbian Houstonians should take some pride and spirit of cooperation toward our community and our city. And, of course, show a lot of love and support for one another.

Ray Hill

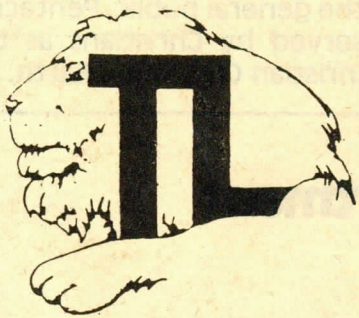
When you see a squad car stop a brother or sister, take the time to record the number on the hood or trunk of the squad car(s), the location, the date and time of the incident and watch from a safe distance until the cars leave. Report the incident, no matter how minor it may have seemed at the time, to the Gay Political Caucus (526-2668) or the Houston Human Rights League (523-6969). Give your name and phone number since you may be needed to testify in the event of an occurrence similar to the Torres or Webster cases. Travel alone as little as possible. Two people walking or driving are statistically less likely to be stopped by the police than is a single person. Even if you are both arrested you will have the advantage of supportive testimony in court. Should you be arrested try and remember the name or badge number of the arresting officer(s) and report the incident. As soon as possible, sit down and write out all that you can remember about the incident then report the incident to either the GPC or the HHRL.

The recommendations listed above will minimize your dangers of arrest; provide help when arrested; help a brother or sister facing the awesome power of government, perhaps for the first and worst time; provide community organizations with a list of arresting officers that can be taken to court; and, furnish our gay leadership with badly needed tools to protect the community from attack.

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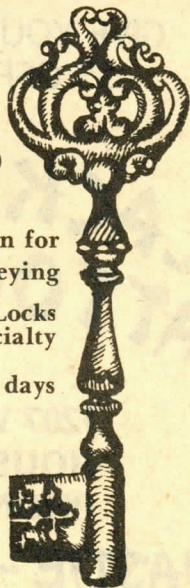


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mother talks about hepatitis

Do you feel run-down, fatigued? Have a loss of appetite, fever, and your muscles feel achey? Well, Mother wants you to know these are all signs of hepatitis. Hepatitis is a viral infection which attacks the liver and intestines of human beings. It is acquired by close intimate contact, such as during sexual relations. There is a greater risk of acquiring the disease if you engage in anal sex. Since the virus can be found in body wastes of the infected person, it is presumed that the fecal-oral route of transmission occurs in a majority of cases.

In adults, hepatitis commonly occurs in two stages. The first may last from one to 20 days, but more usually about a week. Toward the end of this phase the urine usually turns dark and the bowel movement is almost white in color. Then for a day or two you usually feel better.

During the second stage the skin and eyes may look yellow (jaundiced) and there may be some pain or "heavy feeling" in the stomach. The commonly described jaundice or yellowing does NOT occur in all cases however. Loss in weight of 10 pounds or more is usual. Relapses may occur in any case, but they are particularly likely in patients who resume excessive activity too early in the course of the illness.

Rest in bed, sometimes for several weeks, and proper diet are essential to recovery. Isolation during the first week of the infection is required.

To prevent the spread of hepatitis to others in the household, sanitary disposal of body wastes and strict cleanliness are imperative. All phases of personal hygiene, especially washing your hands after visits to the bathroom, and, washing hands and penis **immediately** after sexual contact are important.

Mother says that if you suspect that you have hepatitis, go to your doctor immediately. Remember that cleanliness is the best preventive measure you can take to control the spread of this disease.

Ruth Ravis

agape begins hotline service

Crisis Intervention Center, a twenty-four hour hotline for the homosexual community, has been established to receive calls from any person needing help in a crisis situation. The center is an outreach ministry of Houston's Agape Church.

According to Rev. Daniel Larsen, Associate Pastor of Agape, "the center has been established because of the growing number of incidents of alleged harassment and brutality to gays, particularly by officers of the police departments. Persons in crisis are encouraged to call 522-6776 and the Crisis Intervention Center will take information and contact others on behalf of the caller. This will be very valuable to jailed persons who can now make one call and be sure to get an answer. Follow-up on individual cases will include recommendations on medical examination with pictures of injuries and reports to the Internal Affairs Division and the FBI." Announcing the center's existence on Pentecost Sunday, Larsen promised efforts by the Agape Church aimed at increasing public awareness by publishing anonymous case reports. The reports will be distributed to public officials and the general public. Pentecost Sunday is the day traditionally observed by Christians as the anniversary of the founding of the Christian Church on Earth.

texas health department vd testing

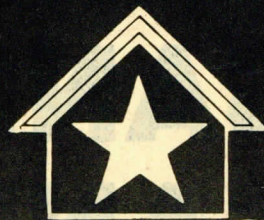
Friday, June 22...Mobile unit at many gay bars
Saturday, June 23...Thank You Miss Ima Picnic; Memorial Park
Saturday Evening, June 23...Bikini Weenie Dance at MAC
Monday, June 25...Minority Forum at MAC
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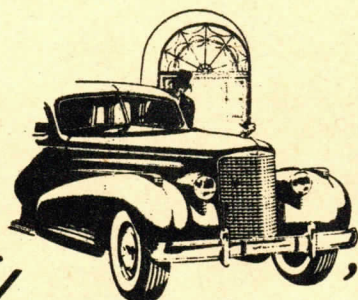
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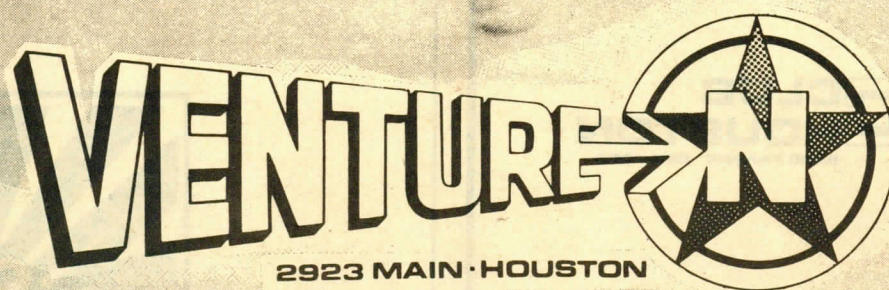
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hearings Cont'd from page 6

In his statement to the Commission, Shiflett cited the use of statutes regarding homosexual sexual relations (deviate sexual intercourse) and cross-dressing (disguising... true sex) as being used frequently to harass members of the gay community. Also noted was an article in the Texas Law Review in which the author makes five assertions about police policy in Texas:

"(1) Much of it is illegal or of doubtful legality. (2) Subordinates at or near the bottom of the organization, not top officers, make much of the policy. (3) Most of it is kept secret from those who are affected by it (the public). (4) Police policy is characteristically based on superficial guesswork and rarely if at all on systematic studies by qualified staffs. (5) It is almost completely exempt from the kind of judicial review deemed necessary for almost all other administrative agencies.

"HPD will assert that its own Internal Affairs Division (IAD) should review complaints. Yet, if HPD were the recipient of its own routine form letters whitewashing the complaints, it would surely scream. HPD should not be left to its own discretion to review these complaints."

The Commission on Civil Rights is an independent, bipartisan, factfinding agency concerned with the rights of minorities and women. It was established by Congress under the Civil Rights Act of 1957. It studies civil rights issues, appraises laws and policies of the Federal government, and submits its findings and recommendations to the President and the Congress.



THE HEAD GARDENER

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lutherans Cont'd from page 7

"We believe that Scriptures and human experience largely support the idea of a lifelong monogamous marriage of one man and one woman... We further believe that sexual intercourse reaches its greatest potential only within the committed trust relationship of marriage."

It concluded saying the human capacity to take part in sex is "God's design for continuing the human race" and is "part of the divine design for enhancing the joy and renewing the vows of love and marriage."

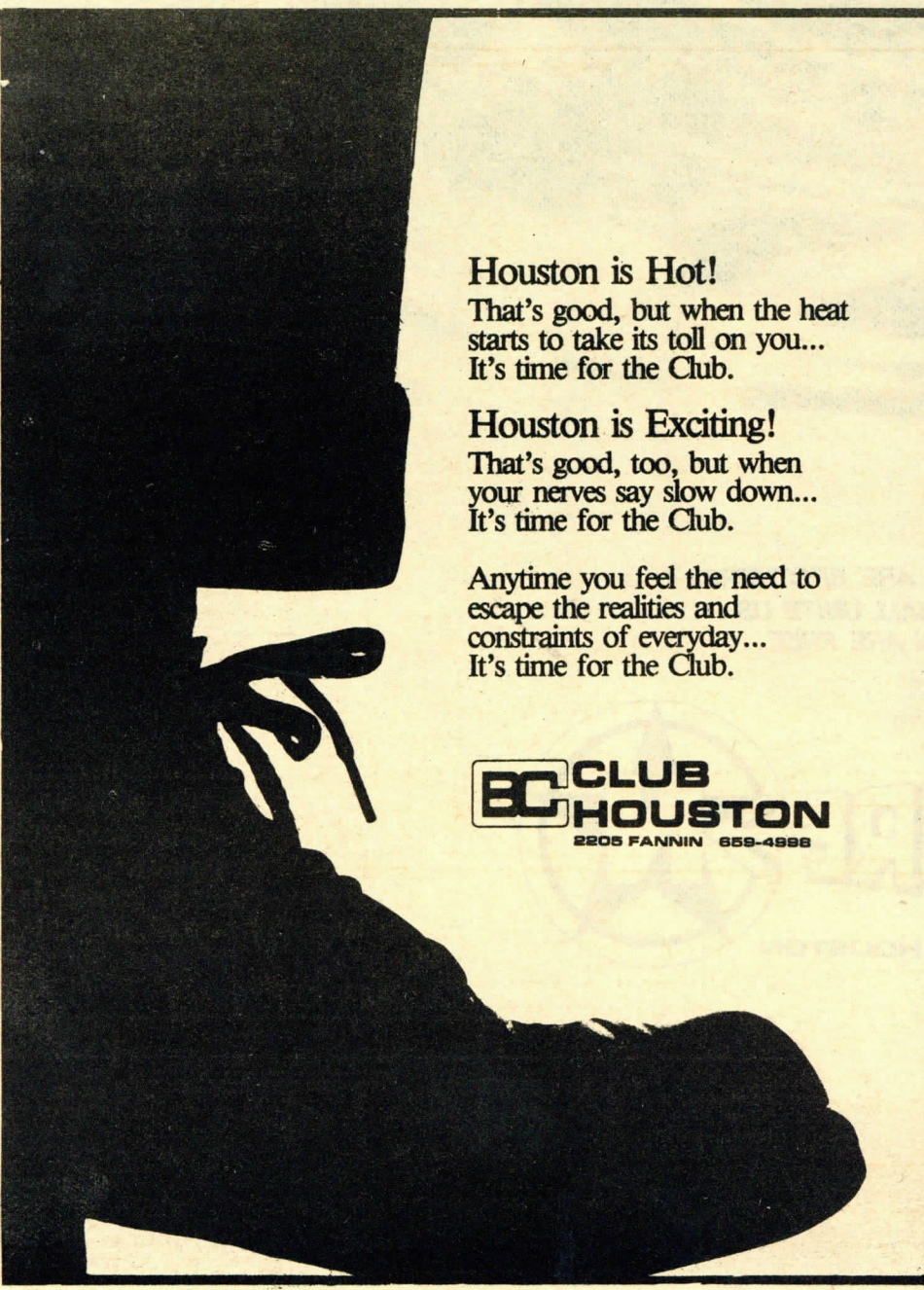
gay liberation on the frontier ...and you think it's tough here

Gay liberation came late to North Dakota. As recently as last October there were no homophile organizations in the state and only one gay bar. Last fall gay Catholics in Fargo, the state's largest city, joined with representatives of Lutherans Concerned, the national social interaction and gay consciousness raising organization, to form a joint chapter called Dignity-Lutherans Concerned of Fargo-Moorhead.

North Dakota is the most heavily Lutheran state in the country with 36% of its 600,000 residents listed as members of Lutheran churches. In February a Lutherans Concerned chapter was established in Minot. This group is affiliated with the Missouri Synod of the fragmented American Lutheran movement.

Both chapters include both gay and non-gay women and men, including several clergy. Each group meets once or twice every month for socializing, education and worship. A lecture on the historical roles played by well known gays was attended by 19 people last January in Fargo where D-LC meets in the office of the Lutheran Social Services, the church's family and counseling agency.

Lutherans Concerned now has 20 chapters across the country.



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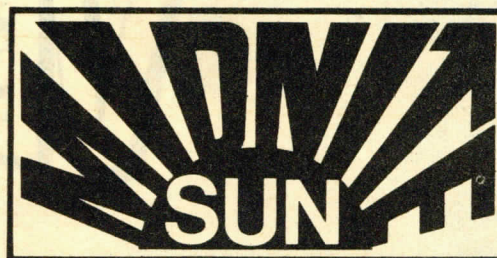
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Report From Los Angeles

council adopts gay rights measure

The Los Angeles City Council surprised the city and the world by adopting a gay-rights ordinance on its final reading by a 13-2 margin. The measure forbids discrimination based on sexual orientation in jobs, housing and real estate, city services, public accommodations, credit and business practices. When it takes effect early in July Los Angeles will be the largest city in the world with a gay rights ordinance.

Introduced by Council members Joel Wachs of North Hollywood and Peggy Stevenson of Hollywood, the new law closely resembles a measure recently adopted in Berkeley except that religious organizations are exempted from coverage at Wachs' suggestion. It provides for civil relief of damages up to \$400 for persons able to prove discrimination. There were no criminal penalties established.

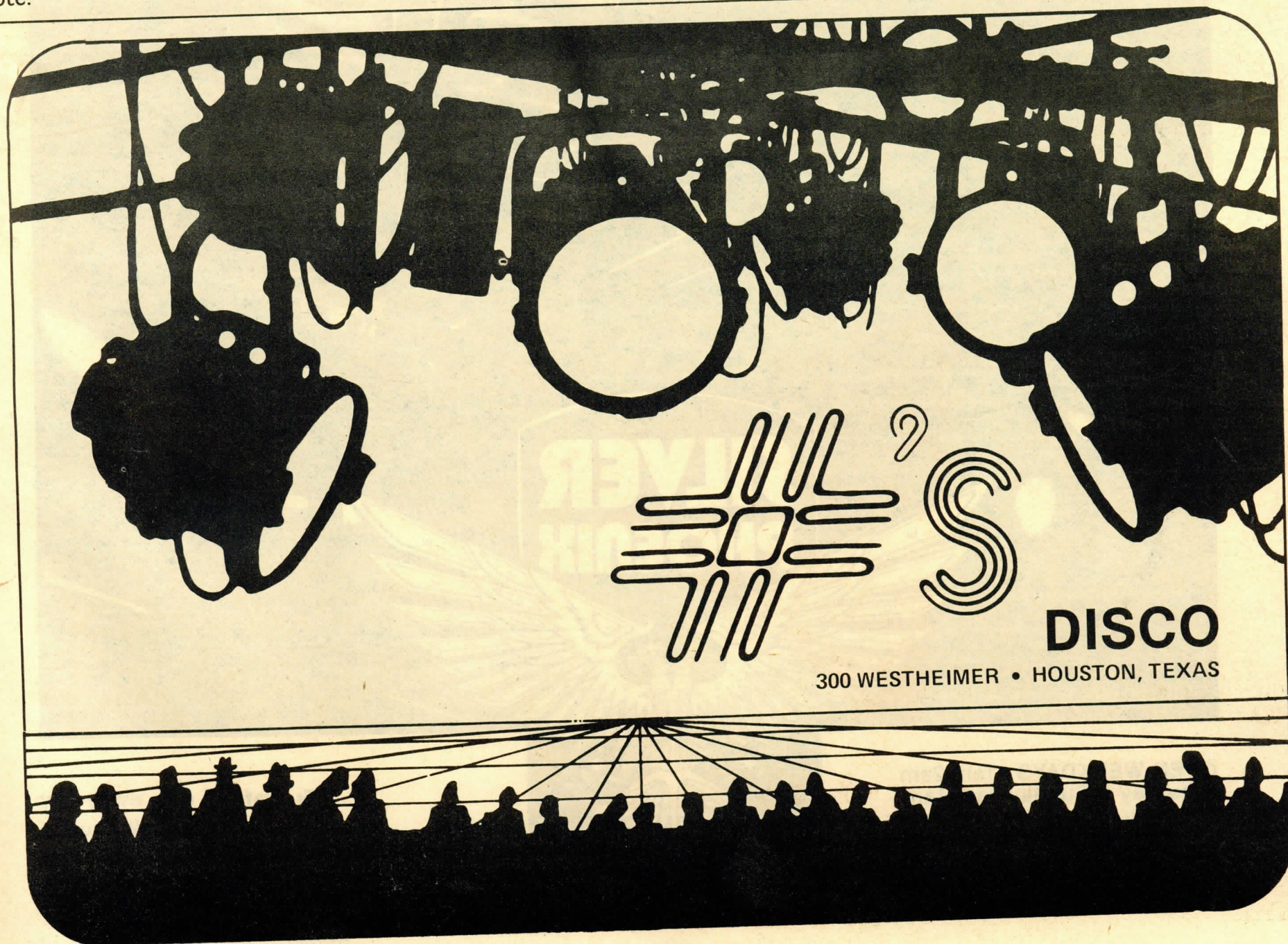
Many gay leaders were surprised at the bills passage and had privately expected years to pass before Angelenos would enjoy such protections. The bill was introduced following an all-day Gay Constituents' Day on April 10, when almost 100 gay women and men, some accompanied by their parents, visited City Council representatives from their respective districts. The vote was 10-1 on the first reading May 23. A 40-minute public hearing punctuated by occasional emotional outbursts, preceded the final vote.

city official in gay day parade

Grace Montanez Davis, Deputy Mayor of Los Angeles, will be grand marshal of the annual Gay Pride Parade in that city July 1. According to parade spokesperson Terry Luton, "Gay Pride Everywhere is the theme this year, marking not only the 10th anniversary of the Greenwich Village demonstrations which gave birth to the gay liberation movement, but also the growth and maturity within the movement during the 10 years since." The event is sponsored by the Christopher Street West Association, a non-profit gay charitable organization active in Los Angeles since 1970.

The parade will travel down Santa Monica Blvd. in the La Cienega-Robertson Blvd. area of West Hollywood, considered by many to be a "gay ghetto." All previous parades have occurred in central Hollywood. The Los Angeles parade will be accompanied by a two-day Gay Pride Festival June 30 and July 1 on the expansive parking lot of the Pacific Design Center on Melrose Avenue.

Davis, 52, is the third government official to serve as grand marshal. State Senator Allan Spear of Minneapolis appeared in 1975 as did the late Harvey Milk of San Francisco in 1978. Davis joined black Mayor Tom Bradley's staff in 1973, becoming deputy mayor two years later. Since then she has become a familiar face at gay community events, including last years Gay Pride Parade.



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