

UPFRONT

HOUSTON, TEXAS

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2

DECEMBER 22, 1978

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Murder Stalks Montrose

Less than one week after a man was slashed to death on West Drew Stephen Thomas Byrd, 23, of the 1400 block of Richmond, was found stabbed to death at the corner of Harold and Hazard. Byrd died Dec. 13 of a single stab wound in the chest.

Police reports indicate that Byrd had been in the Old Plantation earlier in the evening and upon returning to his Toyota found it unable to start. He allegedly returned to the club to call for help and then went back to his auto to wait. He was never seen alive again. As of

this writing, the HPD still had not determined if his pick-up had been tampered with or if indeed there was a mechanical problem.

Byrd was discovered lying face up on the sidewalk on Harold across the street from Lanier Junior High School by a local botanist. According to this witness he "appeared to have fallen and suffered a nose bleed. There was only minor bleeding and his shirt was not even heavily stained".

While attempting to render aid, the botanist was joined by a second

Cont'd page 14

Neighborhood Residents Battling Commercial Encroachment

Three businesses were recently informed by representatives of the Westmoreland Association that they were found to be in violation of deed covenants and that they should cease and desist any further prohibited activity. The three small operations are the Eastern Orthodox Church of St. Vladimir, A-ABC

Answering Service Company, and an architectural firm on Garrott Street. The neighborhood association has indicated that it might seek injunctive relief in the courts should these establishments not comply with the deed restrictions.

Two areas in the Montrose have covenants (deed restrictions) which

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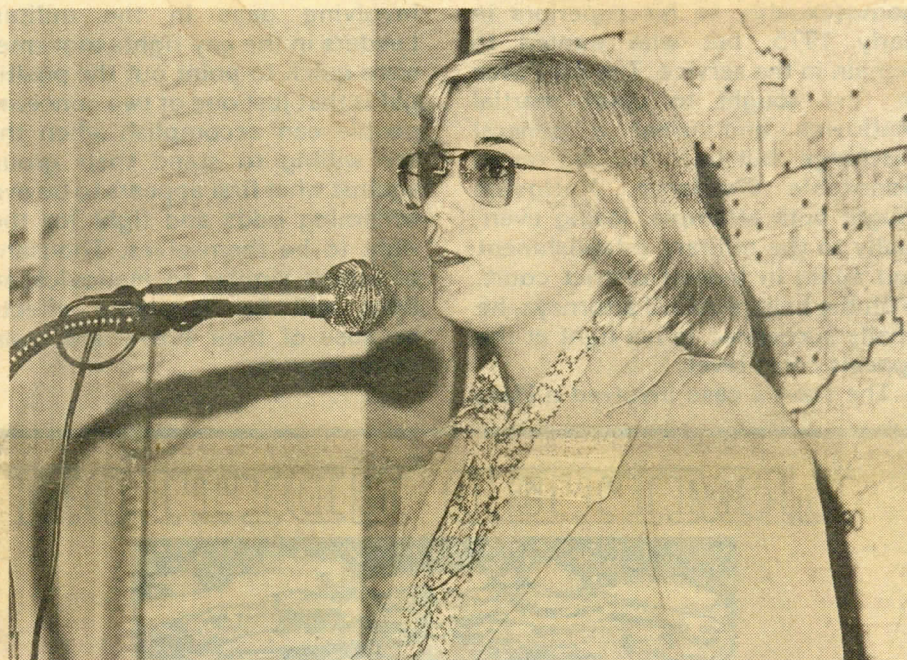
Van Ooteghem Returns To County Offices

Gary J. Van Ooteghem, former Comptroller of the Harris County Treasury, was escorted into the Harris County Treasurer's office on Friday morning, December 8th, by his ACLU attorney Patrick Wiseman. U.S. District Judge Ross Sterling ordered Harris County Treasurer Hartsell Gray to reinstate Van Ooteghem to his former position as number two man in the treasury department without further delay.

Gray and Van Ooteghem did not personally meet when Van Ooteghem appeared to start the reinstatement paperwork process in

motion. In Gray's place was C. Anthony Friloux, his personal attorney and representative, who reported to Van Ooteghem and Wiseman that he would personally walk the required paperwork through himself. In addition, Friloux indicated that he was requesting County Auditor S.J. (Grady) Fullerton to prepare other documents for submission to Harris County Commissioners Court asking for \$56,014 in back pay in comply with the other part of Judge Sterling's order. Harris County Assistant Attorneys have indicated that they will inform

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upfront photographer David Dahquist

Controversial City Comptroller Kathy Whitmire defends city against tax reformers at GPC meeting in early December. Whitmire, who is often embroiled in political battles with Mayor Jim McConn, appears before the GPC frequently after having received support there early in her career.



Upfront photographer Art Kelly

Van Ooteghem speaks with press outside County Treasurer's office.

Services to Examine Anti-Gay Procedures

A federal appeals court has ordered both the Navy and Air Force to reopen and re-examine their discharge procedures when it involves discharging individuals for nothing more than being gay. The appeals court did not attack directly the right of the services to discharge individuals for being gay, but did state that both cases had the same basic defect: the failure of the service to articulate adequately why it determined not to retain both men.

The case involving the Air Force dealt with Tech. Sgt. Leonard Matlovich who acknowledged his homosexuality to his superiors in early 1975, but who wanted to remain in the service. The Air Force at first sought to court martial Matlovich and grant a general discharge, but later decided on an honorable discharge. Matlovich fought both attempts, losing eventually to the military establishment and again in federal district court. With the help of ACLU attorneys, he finally succeeded in his fight at the appeals court level.

The Navy's case involved a Navy

ensign, Vernon E. Berg III, whose case is similar in principal, but different in facts. Berg was assigned to the USS Little Rock when an enlisted man accused him of attempting to perform a homosexual act. Berg admitted to being homosexual but denied the accusations of the enlisted man. He was discharged in June, 1976.

Both branches of the military are now reviewing past dismissals of individuals whose cases are similar with the possibility of upgrading and correcting the records of those involved. The impact of this recent decision is a major positive change involving gays in the military. Leaders in the gay rights movement were quick to point out the positive gains that just one or two concerned people can accomplish when they are willing to stand their ground against what first appears to be overwhelming odds and fight for their right to be themselves. Thousands of others similar to Matlovich and Berg will be favorably effected because of their brave and courageous stands.

Hill Appeals Conviction

Local activist Ray Hill filed a motion for retrial in Municipal Court following his conviction last week for interfering with the duties of a police officer. The motion for retrial is the first step toward filing an appeal of the Class C. Misdemeanor conviction.

Hill was arrested last September for turning on the lights in the arcade of the Asylum Bookstore 1201 Richmond. "A regular customer reported that another man in the store had a gun stuck in his belt. I checked the parking lot and discovered Vice Officer Barney, figured

out what was going on and turned on the lights," Hill said.

Following his arrest Hill was released on his personal recognizance by Judge Jungman in Municipal Court #8, and fired by his employer Montrose Ventures for violating company policy not to interfere with vice officers when they enter the store.

Hill noted that the September incident was his third arrest on the same charge since 1975. He won both of the other cases, and feels his appeal will be successful in the present case.

ACLU Slashes Budget Again

The American Civil Liberties Union's national headquarters has started the process of trimming an already lean budget even more. At the December board meeting in New York City, board members decided to trim away still more budgetary items so as to be able to live within projected lower revenue in 1979. It is expected that in excess of \$200,000 would be cut before it is over. Some staff will have to be fired in the process. It was not ascertainable at this early date whether or not any gay related projects would be cut or done away with entirely.

The ACLU has been in a financial-ly troubled situation for the past two

years since it took the highly controversial stand concerning the Nazis march in Skokie, Illinois. Difficult as it was, the ACLU insisted that constitutional rights and guarantees are for *everyone*, including those people not popular nor in a majority. The courts upheld the ACLU's position on this matter.

The local ACLU office has asked that anyone wishing to help the organization financially should send in their donations to American Civil Liberties Union, 1236 West Gray Street, Houston, Texas 77019. Contributions above \$20 allow you to become a voting member of the organization.

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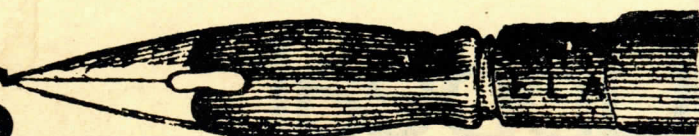
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Editorials



Frontlines

Dear UPFRONT:

We write to rebut comments embodied in a letter by "Bobby C.", appearing in the FRONTLINES section of your last issue. The letter disparaged to a damaging degree the Gay Concerns Weekend held on November 3, 4, and 5, 1978, under the aegis of the First Unitarian Church. The signatories are members of the Lambda Club, worked on the planning sessions for the weekend's events and one is a member of the First Unitarian Church. This letter sums up our personal thoughts.

We challenge writer C. to find any other major religious group which is making such solid, if not always expeditious, efforts to offer a ministry to its gay members, and, what is more, is seeking to make gay communicants full partners in the spiritual and secular work of the church. To be sure, as is true of any family, there are inevitable internal tensions. Yet, each member must in some measure cede part of his own sovereignty for the good of the whole.

It is also true that the conference did not attract the numbers of straight participants for which we had hoped. Still, that any showed up at all is a heartening sign of their support and our integration into the family of the First Unitarian Church. How many readers would spend an entire weekend attending a conference devoted to discussion of the slings and arrows of outrageous heterosexuality?

The myths entertained about us in the straight world--and those we harbor with respect to it--are being broken down. The process is at times painfully slow. The Gay Concerns Weekend is perhaps most valuable for the precedent it has laid down, than for the numbers of people it attracted. In any event, it has duly given notice to the community that gays and straights can, and will, work together on a host of issues of common concern, such as prison reform, women's rights and other civil liberties.

The Unitarian Universalist Association has, just within the last fifteen years, trodden where even the ACLU has hesitated. Civil rights, opposition to the Vietnam war and now gay rights. Its record of social consciousness is as far beyond reproach as any other organization, religious or secular, can be. We affirm our support of its sponsorship of the Lambda Club, the Gay Concerns Weekend, and any other activity it may seek, with our cooperation, to undertake.

Sincerely yours,

John M. Burch
3305 Yupon - 56
Houston, TX 77006

Don Paul
3737 Hillcroft - 145
Houston, TX 77081

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UPFRONT

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

Vantage Point

LOOKING BACK; LOOKING AHEAD

With 1978 fast coming to an end, we must take stock of our achievements during the past year and establish our goals for the new one.

What has 1978 accomplished? For gays, it meant many things. Reactions to anti-human rights advocates, such as the Anita Bryants, continued to dominate the news but not in the explosive manner of 1977. People around our country are *still* voting up and down human rights legislation, something that many people feel should be automatically granted rather than being voted upon. Significantly, restrictive laws are now being rejected (California's Proposition Six and Seattle's Proposition Thirteen) or are passing by smaller vote margins (yes, Miami again) than in earlier 1978 balloting (St. Paul, etc.) Voter education *does* make a difference!

Local and state politics, such as Houston's and Texas', have become open game. Houston's Gay Political Caucus made quite a stir and an impressive impact in successfully programming the capture of everything from local precinct delegates up to the near 10% showing of political clout at the state convention of the Texas Democratic Party where gays openly identified themselves and worked *within* the system, side-by-side, with non-gays.

Local and national court rulings positive to gay rights were obtained near year-end after having been fought in the federal courts for several years. Nationally, both Ensign Berg and T. Sgt. Matlovich have won favorable federal appeal's court decisions and the impact of that on the military establishment has just begun to be felt. Locally, this writer's federal court case was also successfully won and that case affirmed gays their right to be *heard* and *seen* in local government without fear of reprisal.

1978 will also be remembered for the loss of two good human rights advocates, George Moscone and Harvey Milk. Such losses are predictable. Even in this large movement, their absences will be noticed.

All in all, 1978 was quite a year. But what about 1979? What will it be like? There is no crystal ball to tell us; but then, going into the unpredictable future is what makes living exciting. We do know this, however: More people are pouring into the Human Rights Movement than ever before. It can be reasonably expected that gay rights activists will begin a massive transformation into human rights advocates, since greater civil liberty freedom and accomplishments can be more easily and quickly obtained by the broader group, whose individuals interests become one. Human rights, after all, *is* gay rights, too. And a whole lot more. 1979 will see the beginning of this change take place.

I believe this new mood of people caring about people will cause our ranks to swell many times larger than we previously thought possible. We must begin preparing today, perhaps just a New Year's Resolution for now, to target human rights as our personal and joint goal for 1979. We must remember that social change does not come easy. There will be many sacrifices made before we are done. Be prepared to take it in stride when it's your turn.

My remarks about 1979 have been limited to only human rights. That's because I believe it to be the single, most important issue of next year (not to mention the next decade). My New Year's Resolution for 1979 is to March on Our Nation's Capital on Sunday, May 6th. I encourage you to do likewise. Only if *each* and *everyone* of us go *together* will we be able to make change... or at least start the process. When we march in May, it will be for HUMAN RIGHTS.

That's just another way of saying EQUALITY IS FOR EVERYONE!

Reserve your place with us now, don't put it off till later. Together, we can make it work.

GVO
Gary J. Van Ooteghem
Publisher

P.S.

The March is only 19 weeks away from the date of this issue. Are you preparing?

Upbeat

HOLLY NEAR/Imagine My Surprise (RR 401)

Holly Near is a poet. Her new album, **Imagine My Surprise**, on Redwood Records proves it. She writes about the beauty, the joy, the frustration and the agony of the modern female experience. She speaks from the soul of the lesbian-feminist movement with a literate sensitivity that addresses itself to the real problems a minority person, especially a liberated, gay woman, faces on this often tiresome, often dangerous walk through life. Yet she still is able to maintain her humor and make her point with an economical style which enhances the drama of her storylines while pointing out the universal appeal of her truths. Near is a poet who chronicles the mood of our day, of our people, of ourselves.

Holly Near is also a singer. Her voice has a pleasant listenable quality not unlike the young Joni Mitchell. Still she retains enough of the undisciplined exuberance that comes from being as yet

unseasoned on the concert trails to allow her to experiment with modes, tempos, genres and personae. Near is not a polished performer. Instead, her tone and stylistic qualities closely resemble the coffee house minstrels of the beat and folk periods that were her immediate philosophical predecessors. She would not have been out of place in either the old Purple Onion or Anderson Fair with either her talents or her subject matter.

Imagine My Surprise is not an album that you will put on when you feel like making love; it is not designed for such. It is a political statement and seldom tries to hide that fact; Near gives away her game more than once in her songs. In the highly personal *You Bet*, she combines the talents of some of the California Lesbian Community's most accomplished musicians; Meg Christian, Linda Tillery, Barbara Cobb; to make a statement about her music:



Holly Near

You bet I sing love songs
Songs that carry me along
Through fearful times and tender times
Songs of motherlove
Songs of my lover's love
Singing the songs of loving myself

Linger on the details
The part that reflects the change
There lies revolution
Our everyday lives, the changes inside
Become our political songs

That's the way this record is: straight forward and to the point, whether dealing with today's relatively liberated society as seen through the envious eyes of an older, more inhibited gay person as in *Nina* or calling society's hand in *Put Away* for its brutalization of children when they possess a value structure different from that of the previous generations. Near runs the gamut from light-hearted fluffs of a

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Mabel

Mabel McGowan's

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Police Hearings Reset For Summer?

According to Hector Garcia, president of the Political Association of Spanish Speaking Organizations (PASO), hearings planned for Houston by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights have been set to occur in the summer. Original indications had been that the hearings would begin in March but Commission staffers are planning to begin preliminary investigations then instead.

The hearings, which will focus upon policies, practices and procedures rather than specific instances of police related terror tactics, were originally set for March 19 and 20. Four commission staffers have been in Houston this week preparing the community and tak-

ing testimony from Police Chief Harry Caldwell regarding reasons the hearings should be cancelled altogether. Caldwell, who recently was voted an ineffective leader by members of the Houston Police Officers Association, has bitterly opposed the plan to investigate the HPD. Community leaders continue to believe the hearings will be helpful.

According to Richard Baca, general council for the commission, "Community leaders think recent changes in the Police Department... have been well intended but not visibly effective. It is fairly clear there have been changes but I don't know if they will be long lasting."

Calendar

Lambda Club. Meetings are held each Friday evening at 7:30 p.m. in Rooms 8-9 on the second floor of the First Unitarian Church of Houston, 5210 Fannin

Abortion Meeting. Saturday, January 20, 1979. Contact Joan Glantz at the American Civil Liberties Union, 1236 W. Gray, 524-5925, regarding time & place.

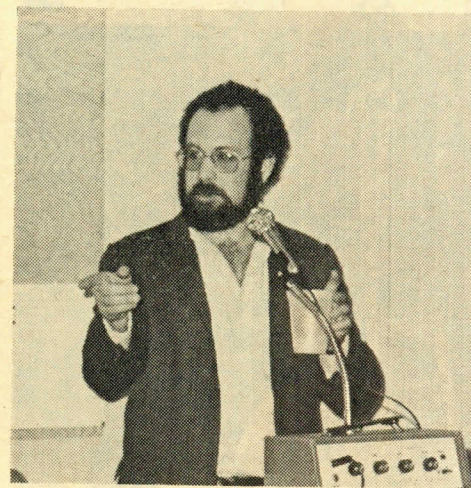
Sign Language Course begins at the MAC Building in early January, 1979. Call Lisa, 961-1813, for more information.

Gay Political Caucus, 1310 McDuffie, #28A, Houston, Texas 77019, (713) 526-2668. Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 8, 1979, in the Caucus Room, MAC Building, 1423 Holman (at LaBranch). The meetings start promptly at 7:30 p.m. and are open to all.

GPC Forum: Gays & The Law



Patty O'Kane



Education Coordinator Bob Fleischer

George Hazzard



Upfront photographer David Dahlquist

**A MARCH ON THE NATION'S CAPITAL
A MARCH ON THE NATION'S CAPITAL
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A MARCH ON THE NATION'S CAPITAL
SUNDAY, MAY 6, 1979**

Transportation, lodging and other information will be printed in UPFRONT as it becomes available. Everyone is asked to participate. Participants should begin planning for this event by allowing for vacation time off covering the weekend of Friday, May 4 through Monday, May 7.

For information write: MARCH, P.O. Box 66844, Houston, Texas 77006

TREE TRIMMERS ATTACK MAC



Upfront photographer J. Hardy Williams

Flu-like Symptoms Hit Montrose

Large numbers of Montrose citizens are coming down with colds of flu-like conditions lasting anywhere from 2 to 5 days. Normally not requiring bed rest, the uncomfortable symptoms are coughing, congestion, stomach cramps and/or repeated loose bowel movements during the day. Care should be

taken to not share smoke or drink with anyone you may suspect of having this problem. Conversely, anyone having this ailment should be careful to not infect friends and family. Turning away or covering your mouth when coughing is quite effective in this regard.

Advice Mother Never Gave You

The other day Mother was talking to a sweet thing and he said he was glad he didn't have to worry about getting syphilis because he was gay. I mean he believed that only straight people get syphilis. Let me tell you this almost put Mother into shock.

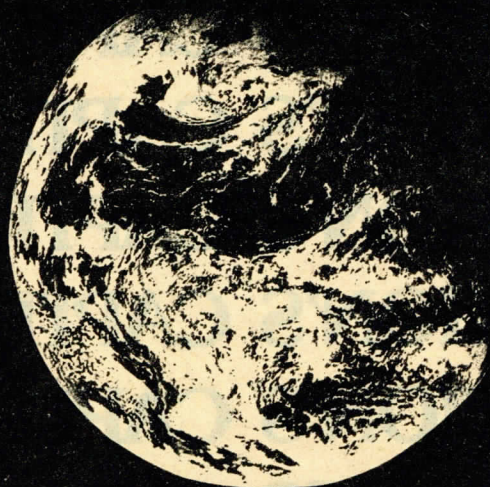
Darlings, let me tell you syphilis doesn't just grow in that hole that females have. So just because you don't find a sore on your penis don't think that you're clean. Syphilis can be in your mouth or your rectum.

If you haven't had a blood test in the last three months, man, you had better get one. I know, you don't have to worry--you have a steady lover. Come on, better to be safe than sorry.

Remember that syphilis is not just for straights---Queens can get it too.

If you have any questions about VD write to Mother, c/o UPFRONT. Just consider Mother the Dear Abbey of VD. TTFN (TA TA FOR NOW).

**PEACE
ON
EARTH
GOOD
WILL
TO ALL!**



HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE
WORSHIP SERVICE - 11:00 A.M.
POT LUCK DINNER - 1:00 P.M.
SPECIAL MUSIC PROGRAM & CANDLELIGHT SERVICE - 10:30 P.M.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY
CHURCH OPEN FOR FELLOWSHIP & MEDITATION
10:00 A.M. - 8:00 P.M.

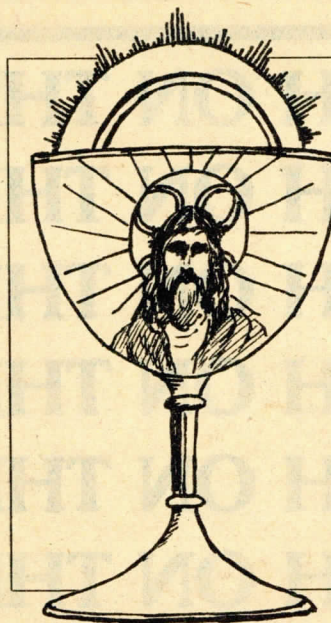
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Washington March for Human Rights Gains Momentum

The March on Our Nation's Capital (March) has reached a "hold position" in Houston until it is known whether or not the rest of the country will be able to catch up with the March plans developed to date. Other cities known to have committees (already formed or in development stages) considering the March plans are San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York, Dallas, Austin, and Chicago. Boston has been informed that plans to converge on Washington, D.C. are being prepared, but it is still not clear whether or not they have established a committee to assist in local planning. Notably absent is the support from the national organizations who have not publicly voiced their opinions one way or the other. Due to the complexity of their board make-up and the lack of detailed information available, no response was expected from them at this time.

There are scattered reports emanating out of the host city, Washington, which indicates that at least some activists there are against the March concept explaining that failure to muster a large

crowd, say in excess of 100,000, would cause us to look foolish in the eyes of the nation. A second opinion of Washington activists is that such a rally could hurt them locally--should a low turn-out occur--by creating the appearance of disinterest among gay people.

Houston organizers were quick to point out that the idea is to have a large turn-out, not small. "We're all concerned about that," explained one committee member. "But we have to start sometime to change out of this defensive posture. If it doesn't succeed the first time, we'll keep doing it until it does. Nobody expects total success; we just want to start the process and do it as best we can."

Who's to decide when is the best time? No time will ever be perfect. We can do it now and therefore we should go forward with our plans. Why put off till tomorrow what we can do today?"

Houston has offered its services to coordinate the logistics of the March. Already, Houston has arranged for one DC-10 (a jumbo jet) to be rented from World Airways

with others on reserve should they be needed. Houstonians will be staying at a large hotel only two blocks from the capitol. The Dallas contingent may join Houston in the hotel which has a meeting hall which will hold 1300 people if it is needed. Ground transportation at both ends have also been arranged. The expected travel and accommodation costs will range between \$275 to \$300 per person, double occupancy. Single occupancy rooms will be slightly higher.

The March Committee is asking each city to start preparing their own tentative transportation plans NOW, before it becomes too late, with special back-up plans to be eventually planned for changing circumstances or conditions during the interim. Details can be obtained from the March Committee by writing to them at P.O. Box 66844, Houston, Texas 77006.

Houston has also asked its congressional representatives to address its delegation on the issue of human rights, specifically concentrating on gay rights issues.

Logistics and March control plans are now under development by a select group of qualified professionals. It is expected that should any meeting occur with government officials, those activists normally involved in this area, such as NGTF and/or GRNL representatives, would be able to properly represent gay people in any discussions that might result.

Tea for Two Thousand Returns

Organizers and volunteers are hard at work on the next Tea for Two Thousand dance to be held at the Montrose Activity Center. A similar dance was held two months ago at the MAC and proved to be a tremendous success in its fund-raising attempt, obtaining several thousand dollars of net profit for the organization. This event, designed to be even larger than the former, will be limited to a first-come, first-served basis. Advance ticket sales will go on sale in early January and may be obtained from any of the many sponsors or from select business establishments that will be announced shortly.

New dance music, mostly never before heard here in Houston, will be used as was done previously. Beer and soft drinks will be available. While the dance is being billed as a "private" party to comply with certain legal and insurance requirements, everyone is welcome. All (100%) of net profits will remain with MAC.

★★★★ Teresa Trull ★★★★★ Willie Tyson ★★★★★ Holly Near ★★★★★ Jade & Sarsparilla ★★★★★

Theresa Edell ★★ Linda Tillery ★★ Mary Watkins ★★ Meg Christian ★★ Woody Simons ★★ Casse Culver



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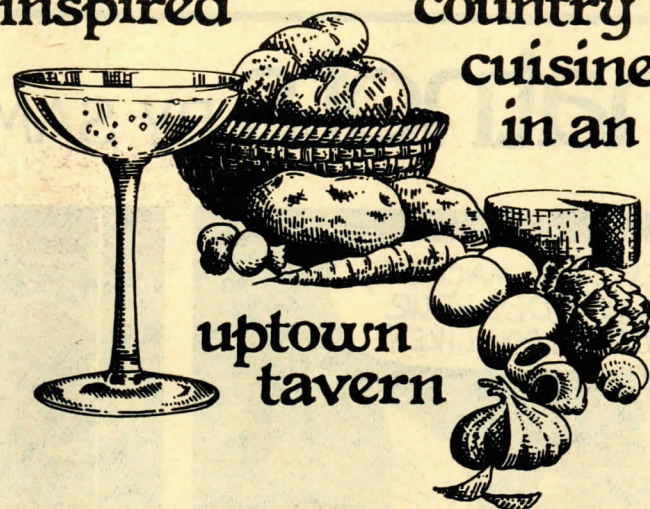
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★★ Trish Nugent ★★ Sweet Honey in the Rock ★★ Cris Williamson ★★ Kay Gardner ★★

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cuisine
in an



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Peasant

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS
from the boys at

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DEFEND YOURSELF AGAINST ATTACKERS

The following article appeared in the November 29, 1978 issue of San Francisco Crusader. Because of recent beatings and stabbings in our community, we urge you to read it closely and pay attention to what it says. This could well save your life someday.

The most important thing to remember is that you have an absolute right to defend yourself from any attacker. And, if you worry about the well-being of your attacker, you're lost. Fight to win, your attacker is not worried about your health or safety, so fight to win. In a defensive situation, there is no such thing as "fair fighting," you must fight to win, for you are fighting for your life.

Your attitude must be that of victory. You must be prepared to inflict serious injury, or even death, upon your attacker. For your attacker has these things in mind for you. Only a person with a vast amount of superiority over the attacker should consider "going light" on them.

You must remain calm, don't freak out, don't forget everything. Getting excited wastes energy and shows your weaknesses to the attacker. If you must work off nervous energy, make loud aggressive noises, yell, shout, gesture, try

and psych the attacker out.

You must make every move count. Don't waste energy by flailing or throwing blows that do not damage. For example, slaps, blows to the shoulders or chest do little good at all. One blow with focused energy is better than 20 ineffective blows. Learn one punch, strike, or kick, and practice it. Make it hard and if you can land it, it's all you need. Better, learn it well and then learn something else. Learning means practice many times until it becomes instinctual.

One of the most effective techniques to learn first is the eye-poke. If done correctly it will immediately disable the attacker and enable you to get away, which is the ultimate defense. Keep the fist right, and have a solid stance before throwing the punch. Practice in front of a mirror, it will be helpful. Coordination, focus, and strength, the big 3.

Remember: You have a right to defend yourself! Remain calm, and make every movement count. Get yourself in condition and practice at least one technique so that you can defend yourself. No matter what your size, your build, if you can learn the basics, you can knock the hell out of your attacker, no matter how big or strong.

information

For information on any of the following organizations, please check in the appropriate place:

- ☐ Affirmation/GMU (Gay Mormons United)
- ☐ Chicano Caucus
- ☐ Christ's Communion Church
- ☐ Dignity/Houston
- ☐ Executive and Professional Association Of Houston
- ☐ Gay Political Caucus
- ☐ Gay Rights National Lobby
- ☐ Integrity/Episcopal
- ☐ Integrity/Houston
- ☐ Lutherans Concerned for Gay People
- ☐ Metropolitan Community Church Of The Resurrection
- ☐ Montrose Activity Center
- ☐ Montrose Sports Association
- ☐ National Gay Task Force
- ☐ Speaker's Bureau

Name: _____

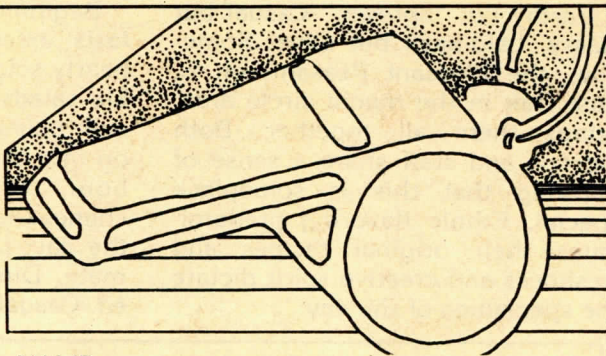
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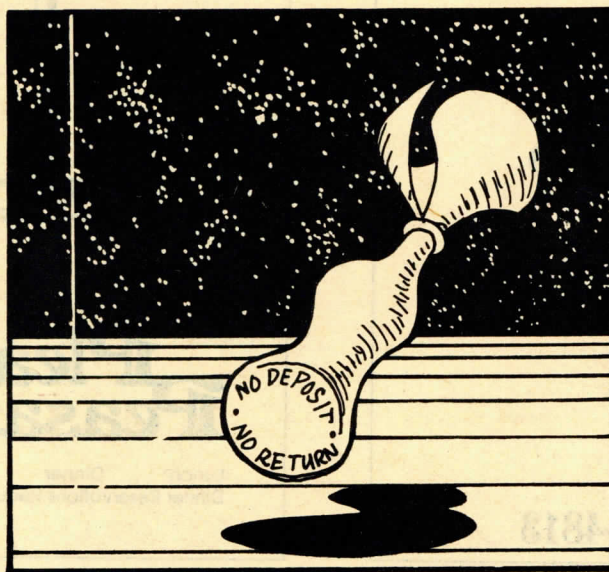
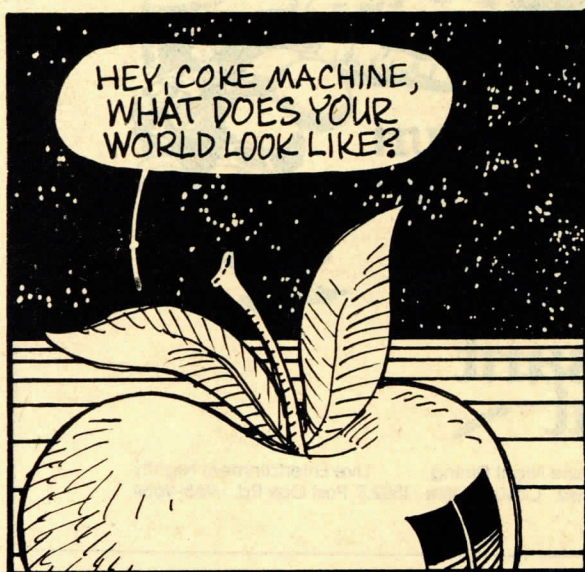
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Whatnots BY SAM



At the Front

Endean Reports: The GRNL Lobby

Steve Endean is the Executive Director of the Gay Rights National Lobby in Washington, D.C. He has been a gay activist for many years, concentrating for the last several on lobbying and influencing positive legislation in his home state of Minnesota. Steve is the first, full-time lobbyist of GRNL. This report is his first one to gay Americans concerning the state of gay legislation in the U.S. Congress.

(WASHINGTON, D.C.): The past two decades have seen substantial progress in the struggle to secure basic civil rights for gay people. However, it has only been recently that these accomplishments have reached the national scene and we have a long way to go to achieve national civil rights legislation.

The Gay Rights National Lobby has been in existence for only about two years and, unfortunately, during much of its early existence, it has been plagued by financial and orga-

nizational difficulties that kept GRNL from fulfilling its early promise. Steps have been taken, however, to eliminate those problems and the Lobby is getting on with the important business of establishing a strong and professional lobbying presence in our nation's capital for gay civil rights.

The top priority of the organization is to build such a presence. This will include a wide variety of things, such as the education of Members of Congress and their staffs on gay issues, demonstrating to them that support for the civil rights of gay men and women is *not* equivalent to political suicide, building a large, strong constituent network; and gaining--and increasing--the active support of progressive and public interest lobbies.

In addition to supporting positive legislation regarding gay civil rights, the Lobby must also be on the lookout for negative legislation

such as the so-called McDonald Amendment to the Legal Services Act of 1977. The Lobby will carefully watch seemingly non-gay legislation (such as HEW funding, sex education funding, etc.) to attempt to block any anti-gay efforts in these areas.

Virtually every group or issue in the country has a lobby working for its interests on the national level. The gay community must not be an exception. Because of the ever-increasing influence of federal laws on the lives of all Americans, the need for a professional and effective lobbying effort is acute.

But the process to gain national legislation will not be an easy one. Minnesota Senate Majority Leader Nick Coleman (a co-sponsor of state-wide gay civil rights) once said that it takes at least three or four times though the legislative process to pass controversial legislation. It will probably take even longer to secure federal legislation for us. We must begin now.

While the Gay Rights National Lobby has been around for a couple of years, the support for the Lobby has been inadequate and therefore it has been less effective than it could have been with more extensive funding.

LOBBYING VERSUS EDUCATION

Until recently, the string of referenda losses throughout the nation seemed to be giving rise to a growing call for "education" as opposed to a lobbying effort. While

the victories we have gained in California and Seattle in the November elections may have lessened this debate somewhat, there still seems to be a misconception that the two ideas are mutually exclusive.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

Clearly, the lobbying process requires the education of the Councilpersons, legislators, or Members of Congress and their staffs. The passage of legislation must also be accompanied by the development of support within the community. And it is here that criticism can most appropriately be leveled. Some lobbying efforts have failed when they have forgotten the necessity for both efforts taking place.

Currently, there are a number of fine organizations which work effectively on educational efforts. On the national level, they include the National Gay Task Force, the Human Rights Foundation, and others.

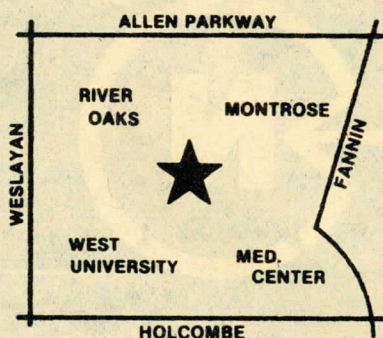
On the local level, there are countless organizations which are effectively working to dispell myths about gay people and to provide information about gay concerns. The Gay Rights National Lobby certainly does not view itself in competition with such organizations but rather it believes that communication and cooperation are imperative.

But education alone will not

Cont'd page 12



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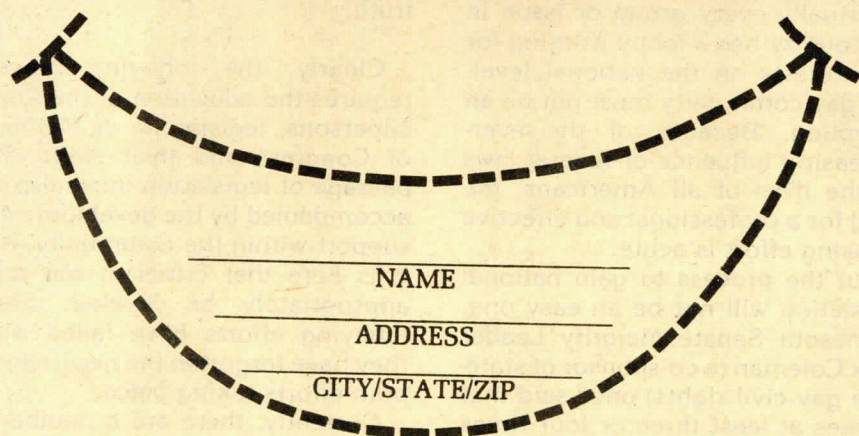
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SEND A FRIEND A SMILE TODAY!

Frontlines Cont'd from page 3

Dear UPFRONT:

In the past two issues of your paper, you have editorialized on the subject of a march on Washington D.C. Although you have stated certain reasons for the march, it is not clear to me exactly what you believe will be accomplished by such a march. If, for instance, one hundred thousand gay people converge on Washington in mid 1979, what will we do when we get there. Certainly the members of the United States Congress and the President are well aware of our existence is multiples of one hundred thousand.

It seems to me that there are alternative courses of action which should be considered. One possible alternative would be marches on the respective state capitals on a given date. In terms of the total number of people involved in the effort, surely there would be many more people who could participate. It would seem to me that marches on the state capitals would have at least as much impact on the non-gay population of the country since non-gays in fifty cities would witness the marches as opposed to non-gays in one city witnessing one event.

Why not march on the state capitals in July of 1979 and postpone the Washington march, thus allowing more time for organizing the march on Washington. I would not be surprised if the marches on the state capitals might generate a great deal

of enthusiasm for the Washington march.

Max Blakney

Endean Cont'd from page 11

suffice. The history of education eliminating discrimination suffered by oppressed groups is not a good one. While the goal of legislation is, of course, civil rights, the struggle for legislation can provide an excellent vehicle for the educational process.

Based on the experiences of other groups, no matter how much education takes place, there will always be some discrimination. At the present time, there is no legal recourse for gay people. Most gay people who are discovered to be gay or who choose to "come out" may still be fired from their jobs simply because they are gay. Education alone will not solve this problem.

Legislation, on the other hand, can provide the recourse necessary to respond to this arbitrary discrimination.

In future columns, some of the nitty-gitty aspects of the legislative process will be discussed. If there are areas of concern that readers would like to see covered, please drop me a line, in care of this newspaper, and I will try to answer those questions.

(Steve Endean is the Executive Director of the Gay Rights National Lobby. For information, write GRNL, 110 Maryland Ave. N.E., Suite 210, Washington, D.C. 20002, or call (202) 543-2447).

Steve Endean

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Venture-N, 2923 Main, Houston

Ads Up

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'66 Karmann Ghia, \$200, after 5 pm, 782-0492.

'75 Fiat 124 Spyder Convertible, 5 speed, am/fm, low miles, excel. condition., best offer, 529-5721.

Jeep Renegade CJ-7, '76, 4-spd., ps, am/fm stereo, hard and soft top, excellent condition 961-5730.

'63 Lincoln Continental excel., original condition, white with black leather interior, \$2000, 688-1568, Ind.

Help Wanted

Wanted: Girl Friday. Part-time to run errands. Own transportation. Lt. bookkeeping. 665-8888.

Dept. Supervisor. Must have good background in management skills. salary open, 681-7551.

Young businessman retiring next year - looking for someone to manage portion of my business. Start part-time 774-9328.

Need warehouse manager in shipping and receiving. Call for appt. 664-6477.

Hillcroft Richmond area - file clerk, entry level position, will train, \$3.10 hr. Full Benefits. Judy or Tom. 781-7781.

People needed to do final or rough cleaning in a newly constructed apt. building; for more info. call only between 9 a.m. - 12 or 3 - 5 p.m. Mon. - Fri. only. 988-9589 Ms. Jones.

Handyman needed, small repairs, salary based on ability. 682-0211.

Rapidly expanding company needs full-time Field Rep. for career opportunity making insurance inspections. Good benefits. 777-3586 for appt.

Waitresses/Waiters, bus help, cocktail waitresses, lunch and dinner. Apply in person. Bull 'n Anchor Restaurant, 656 Westbury Square. 721-2550.

Work in interesting & exciting Galeria Center. New exclusive toy store. The Toy Maker. 840-1099.

Decorator's assistant, will train full or part-time, excellent commissions, 783-2708.

Typist needed. Must be very fast and very accurate (at least 80 wpm) full-time, 3 1/2 day work week. For details call Mr. Bergdahl 526-6091.

Production Artist: small local advertising agency needs dependable production person. Experience nice but not required — we will train. Salary commensurate with experience and skills but probably \$3.50/hr. Call Jim 524-9360. Equal opportunity employer.

Local gay health club needs experienced floor personnel, evenings. Call Mr. Kelly, 522-2379, and make an interview for an appointment.

Cashiers needed, experience helpful but not required. Apply in person only. Midtowne Spa, 3100 Fannin at Elgin.

Clerks: Apply in person only. Health Seekers, S. Shepherd at W. Alabama, next to Cactus Records.

Reporters & Writers: Feature and investigative reporting for community oriented newspaper. Work is gratis but lots of stroking. Contact Gary, 521-0685.

Photographers needed, experience helpful. Varied assignments. Work is gratis but lots of stroking for you, too. Send resumes to Director of Photography; c/o UPFRONT, P.O. Box 66844, Houston, Tx 77006.

Cartoonists: Original and previously unpublished works for publication in UPFRONT, syndication possible if warranted. Call Gary, 521-0685.

Maintenance person: Montrose area apartments; must have own transportation. Salary open. Call Bill, 528-5218.

For Sale

Crystal, China, Gifts, Accessories and more at Bert Hollister Design, 1343 S. Voss at Woodway. Ask about our *Lovers' Registry*.

Washer. 1 year old, Ward's gold, nice. \$175. 783-7170.

FENDER Rhodes 73-key electric piano; ladie's Schwinn 10-spd. bike; both in excellent condition. Will take best offer. 464-3250.

Four pieces Samsonite luggage, Blue. Used once \$125.00. 524-6877 Canon auto zoom movie camera, \$130 mint cond. 721-7577.

19.2 Cu. ft. Sears refrig. Less than 1 yr. old. Asking \$400. 783-4320 aft. 5 pm.

Wooden desk. 30 x 60 almost new. \$120.00 665-5523.

Microwave, Amana RR10. Like new. \$475. 664-5851.

Canon F-1 35mm lens and speed finder \$100.00 each. 529-4838.

Sound system- Shure vocal master amp with 4 speaker columns, 6 mikes, stands etc. Also 4 channel Yamaha amp \$850.00. Antique conover cabinet grand piano. Last pat. date Dec. 1885 \$325.00. 1421 Richmond. 528-0716.

Bicycle, ladies. New 26" \$40.00 cash. Individual. 782-0617.

10 Speed 2 yr. old Varsity (Schwin) bike. Excellent condition. \$100.00. 467-4804.

Winterize your plants. Give your favorite plants a warm home for the winter. 467-5985.

Natural mink stole. Value \$795.00 cash- \$325.00. 723-0758.

Singer fashionmate 257, zigzag sewing machine \$75.00. 526-0466, 658-6056.

Four Pioneer 901 Speakers \$125.00 a-piece. 437-6389.

Washer & dryer, 2 yrs., Kenmore. Both work good. \$250. Lynn Anderson, 776-3059, (Individual).

IBM Electric typewriter, like new \$195.00 cash. 373-1182.

Pioneer turntable, dust cover, audio technica cartridge. 6 mo. old. \$100.00 981-9481 after 6 pm.

Nikkor 28mm F2.0 lens, \$300, 465-0563, after 6.

78 Super La Tour 12.2 10 speed, excellent condition. \$130.00. Call 774-3525.

Montgomery Ward's Microwave oven, paid \$475. Will sacrifice for \$300. 6 months old 944-5899.

Minolta Auto-pak 8d zoom lens, Bell-howell autoloader projector. Super 8 + accessories \$250. aft. 6 PM. 861-7126.

Daiwa ski's, poles & bindings. Man's 6 ft. & woman's 5'4" to 5'8". Boots size 9 1/2 to 10 and 8 to 8 1/2. \$100. 431-2062. Individual.

14.2 cubic feet Hotpoint frost-free refrig. Brand new, almond, \$225. Ind. 493-1420.

ECI Image 111 Loud Speakers, 2 weeks old. \$175. each. Must sell, wrecked car. 781-4435.

Whirlpool Compactor - new - \$195. Must sell. Private 988-2298.

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Large Montrose area flat, one bedroom, one bath featuring wood-burning fireplace, hardwood floors, skylights, built-in cabinets in bedroom, dishwasher, disposal, cruisy complex. Call Bill 528-5218.

For rent: Two bedrooms in private home. Furnished or unfurnished, share house & expenses, 529-0730.

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Two male roommates seek person 25 to 35 years to share living accommodations and interests. Your own bedroom. \$125 includes utilities—in southwest Houston. Prefer non-smoker, intelligent, discreet, stable and sincere person. Only serious individuals need apply. 988-4858

Jack C. Did you go to El Campo? Give me a call and let me know your safe. Jim

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the mac phone is being moved and will be disconnected for a short time

Murder Cont'd from page 1

person. Together they threw Byrd into a pick-up and took him to the Old Plantation in an attempt to gain medical attention. The pair reportedly encountered some difficulty in convincing club security personnel, actually off-duty patrolmen of HPD, of the seriousness of the problem and in an attempt to educate the officer, one of them created enough of a disturbance to be charged with assaulting an officer and public intoxication. This witness it should be noted, is not a resident of Houston and was

visiting friends while looking for a job in the city.

Police report no leads in this or the previous murder. When pressed as to the likelihood that they were committed by the same person, officers unofficially admitted that this could be true but there was currently no evidence of a person or persons systematically attacking people in the Montrose. None-the-less, residents are warned to be on the lookout for anyone or anything out of the ordinary and report it at once to the Houston police.

Van Ooteghem Cont'd from page 1

Commissioners Court to not pay the award claiming that Hartsell Gray, not the county, was responsible for all this and therefore he, not the county, should be held liable.

Not so says the Judge's order. "There can be no doubt that Defendant Hartsell Gray was acting in an official capacity when he discharged the Plaintiff (Van Ooteghem). Hartsell Gray was acting as the County Treasurer when he discharged the Plaintiff, such decision needing no further approval to become effective. Therefore an official act of a governing body which deprived Plaintiff of his constitutional rights is quite evident in this case."

At press time, the County Commissioners had not acted upon the formal request to make payment.

Upbeat Cont'd from page 4

song to serious philosophical statements. She sidesteps nothing and if you share a similar *weltanschauung* you will find this an eminently worthwhile recording. If you do not see the world through Near's eyes, she won't be surprised. After all she provided her own most telling criticism in *Lady at the Piano*:

Lady it seems, you write a pretty melody
But your words are too full of pain
People come to be entertained
They don't want want to see you act as
they are...so be a star
Be sparkle, be glitter, be taller, be
thinner, be sure.

If you agree with this limiting view of her art, then perhaps you should wait until her next Houston appearance to make your judgement. You might find something there you could like.

Bill Whiting

Westmoreland Cont'd from page 1

prohibit any type of commercial or religious operations from doing business within its boundaries. They are the Courtland Association (comprised principally of Courtland Street property owners) and its neighbor to the south, Westmoreland Association (whose boundaries are Alabama Street on the south, the expressway feeder road on the east, the alley immediately north of Hawthorne Street, and the alley immediately west of Garrott Street). UPFRONT investigations have discovered several other businesses operating inside the neighborhood but who are apparently exempt from the restrictions since they consist of small owner/employee enterprises. The three operations singled-out for enforcement have "outside" employees working inside the locations in question. Apartment houses are exempt from this rule.

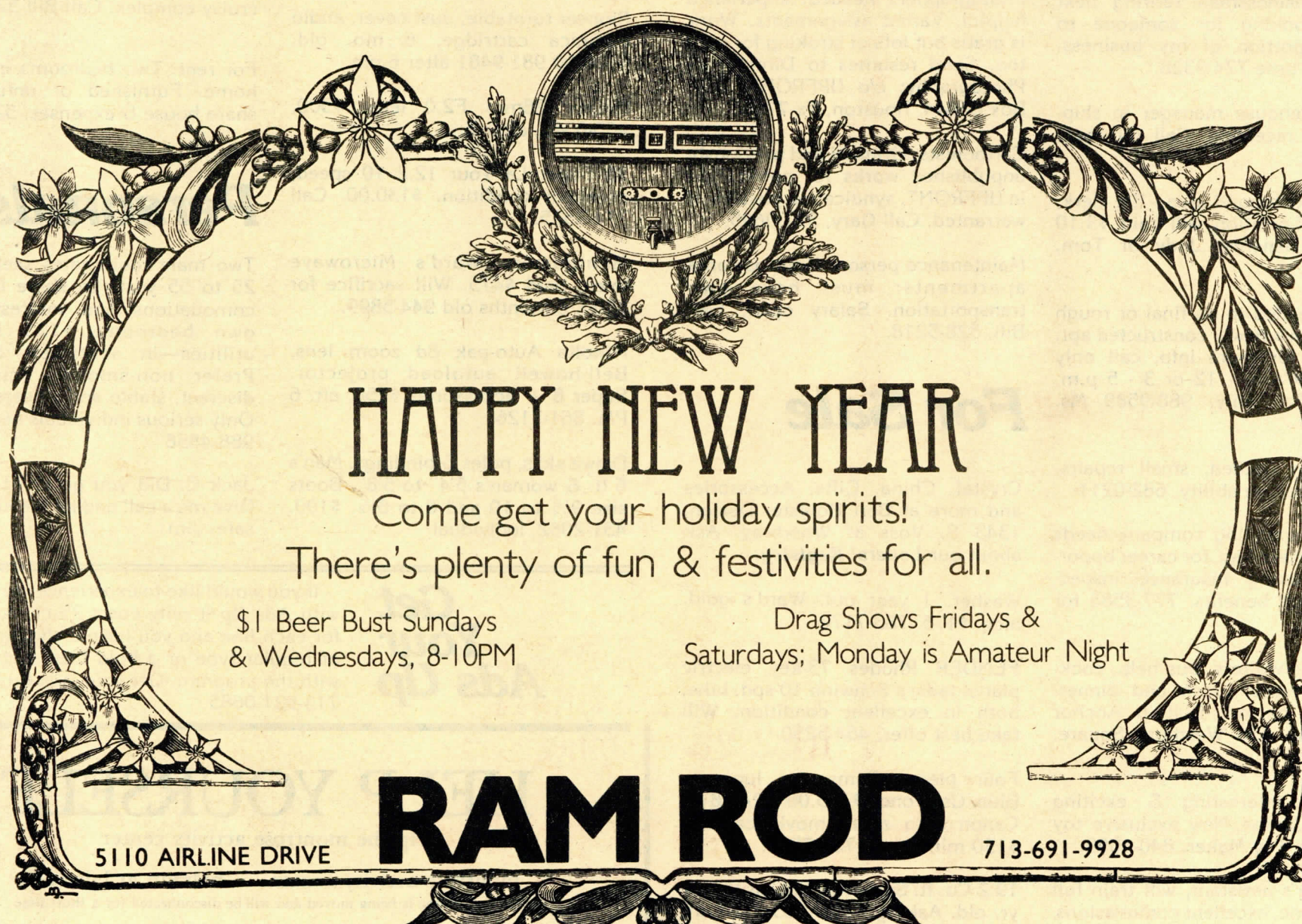
When questioned as to the reason such measures are being taken a spokesman for the Westmoreland Association stated that the policy of the organization is to retain the character of the neighborhood and not let it become developed like the rest of Montrose appears to be headed.

The architect in question moved into his home/office three years ago and immediately began improving

both inside and outside of his home, including obscured offstreet parking to reduce traffic congestion on the street outside his home. The architect even won an award for this noticeable improvement and contribution to his community. Ironically, the association has figuratively slapped his wrist and given no consideration to his accomplishments. The architect was quick to point out that, in effect, they have told him that while he was not acceptable--according to the *literal* interpretation of the rules--a rooming house with any number of residents (and consequently cars requiring street parking) would be allowed. Quipped the designer, "I've spent thousands of dollars on improvements and have helped make the community more attractive and they're upset. But another owner could easily create a bad situation within the literal interpretation of the rules and nobody would care at all. What sense does that make?" At press time, it was not clear whether any of the affected property owners would resist the association's enforcement attempt.

The association has also targeted abandoned and run-down houses and empty, littered lots as projects needing more attention and care in the future.

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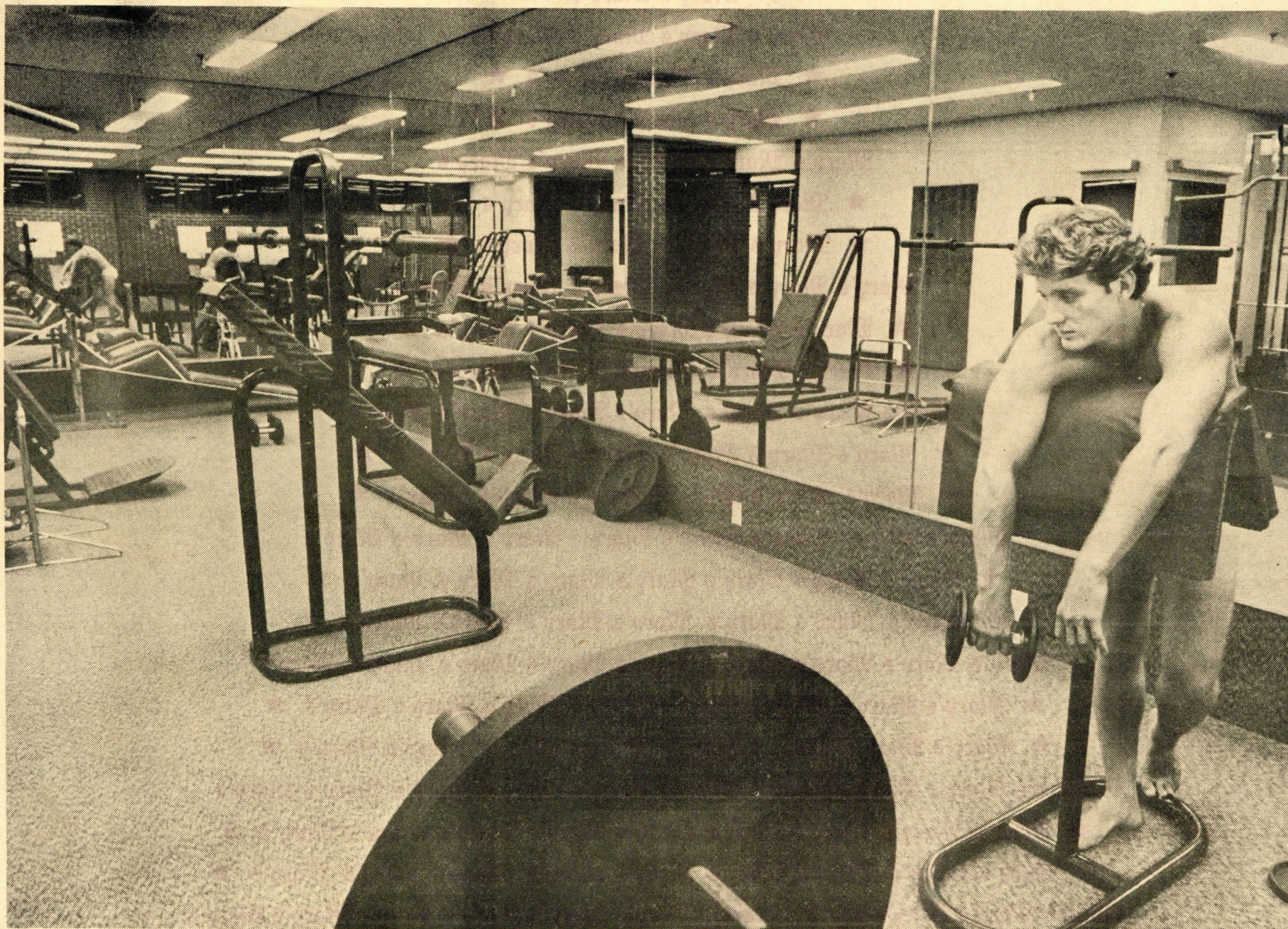
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