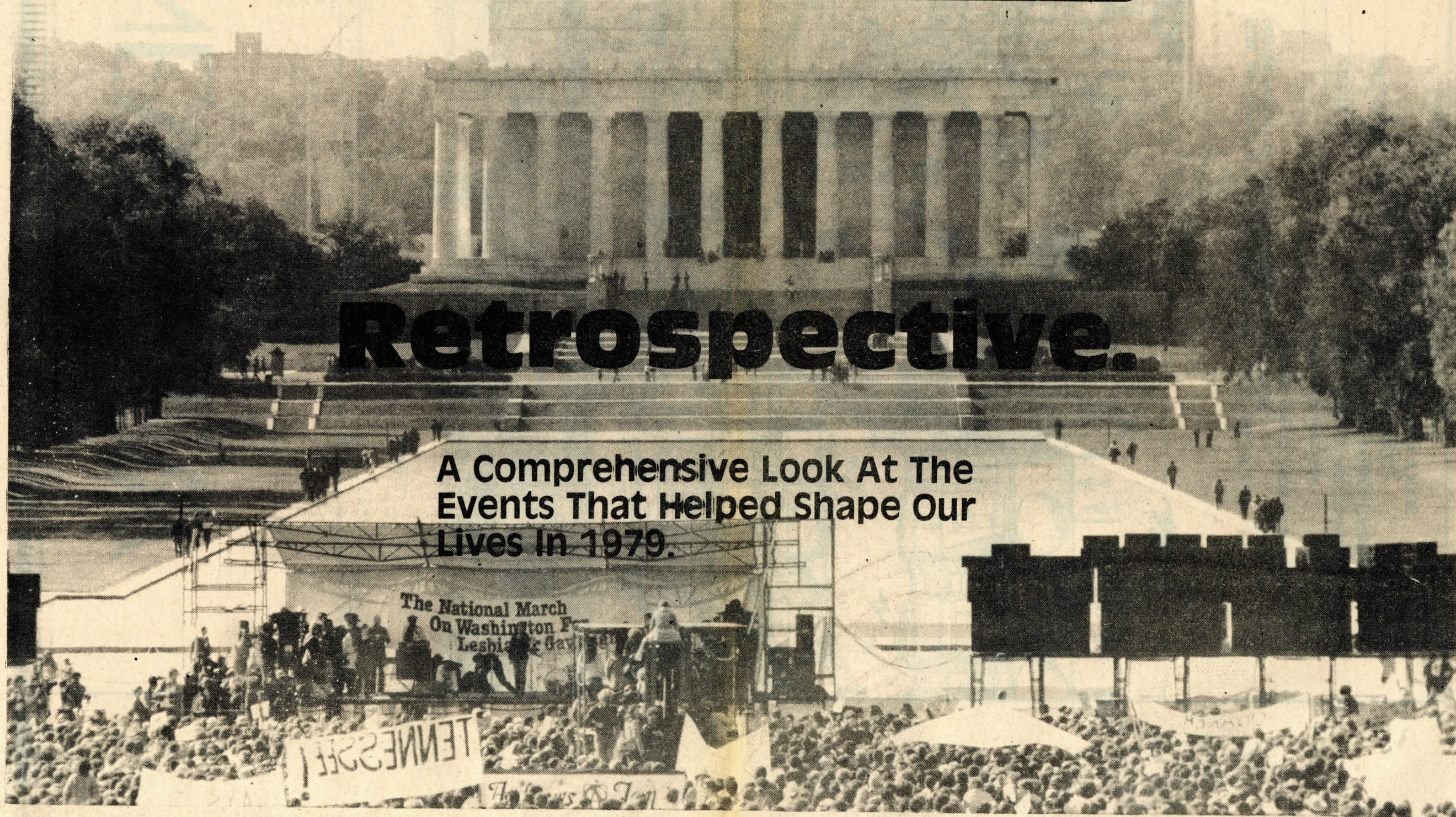


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VOL 1 NO 1
JANUARY 4, 1980

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Newsfront



NGTF GETS INSIDE WHITEHOUSE

new york, ny (IGNA) On December 19, the National Gay Task Force presented a petition signed by more than 51,000 people from every state in the union, asking for an Executive Order banning discrimination in Federal employment and programs. The petition also asks the President to endorse an amendment to the Civil Rights Acts that will bar discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

A large delegation of gays from around the country was received in the Roosevelt Room of the White House. Representing President Carter were Stuart Eizenstat, Director of the Domestic Policy Staff, and Ann Wexler, Assistant to the President for Public Liaison.

GAYS EVICTED FROM BAR

pasco, wa. (IGNA) Tri-City homosexuals came close to emerging from their closets recently, but they were firmly pushed back in.

The manager of the Rivershore Motor Inn in Richland, Washington, according to a column in the **TRI-CITY HERALD**, confirmed that when he found out that homosexuals had been leasing his bar on Monday nights he put a stop to it.

Originally the manager had leased the bar because Monday nights are slow for business. But after two Mondays, he told the group that it couldn't use the bar anymore. Said Jim Wong, the manager: "I went in there and the men were dancing with the men, and the women with the women. I thought, 'What's going on here?'"

Wong took over the bar a year ago. It had a reputation as a gay bar. "But we don't allow that. The last thing I wanted was a reputation like that," he said.

Two parents expressed distress that the 400 teenagers who attended the disco nights at the bar might have to mix with the homosexuals.

Richland police chief Bernie Colligan said he had heard of the gay gatherings but had done nothing because there was no trouble and what they were doing "is not a crime." He said he was worried that news of the gatherings might get out and attract people who could cause trouble. "We have a lot of macho people in this area who it might offend," he said.

SUPREME COURT

washington, d.c. (IGNA) The United States Supreme Court has consistently avoided hearing cases concerned with homosexual rights. It does not wish to get involved.

According to a story in the **LOS ANGELES TIMES**, the reasons may be both a reluctance to contribute to a reduction of constitutional rights and the opposite risk of an unwanted expansion of rights.

The court majority may view homosexual cases as a no-win situation in which restrictive rulings could endanger constitutional rights generally, while expansive rulings could incite public wrath.

Whatever its reasons, the court has remained silent:

1) In 1976, the court affirmed, without comment, a conviction obtained under a Virginia law, making it a felony to commit "crimes against nature."

2) In 1977, again without comment, the court disposed of the case of James M. Gaylord, a teacher fired for being gay. Thus, the court let stand a Tacoma, Washington school board's decision to fire a teacher never charged with any crime, a man with an excellent professional work record.

3) In 1977, the court let stand the convictions of men arrested in stalls in a public restroom, although the sodomy convictions came about only because state troopers concealed themselves in the attic to watch through heating grates.

UPFRONT America

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Publisher and Acting Editor
GARY J. VAN OOTEGHEM

Graphic Design and Production
LARRY VAN PARIS

Assignment Editor
SYBIL LIBERMAN

Photographics Director
J. HARDY WILLIAMS

Copy Editor
NATALIE ROBERTS

Contributors
NATALIE ROBERTS, SYBIL LIBERMAN
RUE STARR, JIM LLOYD,
CRAIG PARKER, RICHARD HEBERT
Ruth Ravas Richard Dearborn

Photocontributors
ED DAVIS, SYBIL LIBERMAN
GARY J. VAN OOTEGHEM, GREG DAY
J. HARDY WILLIAMS, GREG REEDER
JEFF BAGGETT, LINDA HORTON
HAROLD SHAW, ROZ VECCHIO
Robert Pruzan David Osborn

Typesetting
SYBIL LIBERMAN

Correspondents
JEFF BAGGETT
San Francisco

Cinema Correspondent
BRENT NORTHUP

LOU CHIBBARO
Washington, D.C.

JACK BROWER
Miami, Florida

Computer Operation
CHARLES BOTTS

SALES

Houston
(713) 960-1611

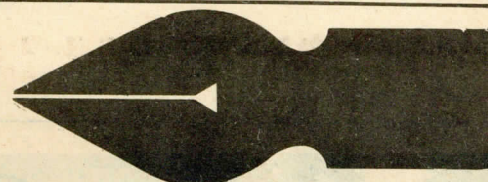
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Editorials



MAC/Family

houston,tx-While much press has been made about the initial Family/MAC schism, little has been written about their reconciliation and joint service to the community. The Houston gay community is a young community with tremendous vitality--to date, ALL gay activists are volunteers working with the GPC, MAC, Family, Montrose Patrol, the Wilde'n Stein radio show (KPFT), and numerous other entities are testimony to the energy and pride of the gay community.

Miscommunication, judgmental errors and nominal conflicts are both normal and essential aspects of social development. Growth is multi-directional and not uni-directional. Often organizations develop and mature when challenged by each other. It is a credit to the Houston gay leadership that such conflicts and challenges are constructive tools of growth and that misunderstandings and mistakes are resolved and corrected as they occur.

Stimulated by Gay Pride Week and inspired by Sister Sledge's popular song, "We Are Family," a new community organization called Family developed. Led by both business persons and activists, Family envisioned itself on two levels: as both a gay chamber of commerce and as a community-wide fund raising organization; and on the second level as a non-denominational entity providing symbols and activities embodying familial unity. Fueled by such successes as Gay Fest and Gay Day at Astroworld, Family naturally evolved into needing a home. At the time, MAC was not appropriate. The new Family center, at 3207 Montrose, houses the Montrose Patrol and has been the site of several events, including a Thanksgiving dinner for more than 200 and plans for a Christmas week.

MAC views itself as a principally gay community center with adequate space to house numerous offices as well as possessing a large hall for theatrical and community use. For a long time MAC was plagued by fears that they would lose their building at 1423 Holman. Such fears hampered fund raising efforts which resulted in barely enough money raised for rent--with little left over for capital improvements. The task is enormous, but with little capital and only volunteer efforts, the progress has been slow. To its credit the MAC Board has persevered on both long and short range goals. With the legal dispute over, MAC is going into dramatic change. First of all, a number of people are offering MAC loans of thousands of dollars to be used to repair the building. Second, several board members plan to take leave of absence from their jobs to volunteer full time with MAC. Finally, grants for federal funding are being formulated and will soon be put to use in our community.

The growth of Houston's gay community is so dramatic that there is ample reason to believe that we can sustain two centers with differing directions with both serving the needs of the gay community. At this time, both the MAC and Family Boards would firmly like to express their support for each other and mutual community development.

Submitted to and approved by the Boards of MAC and Family.

Vantage Point

WE'RE GOING NATIONAL!

Surprised? May I introduce you to **UPFRONT AMERICA**, a new, national publication that originates out of Houston, Texas. The former publication **UPFRONT** will not be printed any longer. News from Houston and from the rest of our community will be blended together and reported in a briefer, but more extensive format in issues to follow. Souvenir issues will still occur from time-to-time as events and space permit.

The 1980's promise to be a time when more of us get down to the serious business at hand--Human Rights-related activities. We at **UPFRONT AMERICA** share with you this responsibility. In forthcoming issues, we will be experimenting and introducing changes that we believe will improve the quality of our paper. It is our intention to do our best to keep you informed and educated in a no-nonsense approach, done in a professional manner for which we can all be proud.

For some time, we have been monitoring our reception both in Houston and in the other cities where we are distributed. To our delight, we discovered that we were received very well in these other cities. Repeated compliments on our graphics, writings, and photography came our way. Our advertising base mix and our non-sexual content policy made us unique. We were a publication that you could leave on your coffee table or send home to your family to assist in their education and understanding of who you are, what your community is like, and the common problems we all share. These things will remain as an integral part of our new publication.

No doubt, the competition we soon will face is going to be very challenging. We look forward to that. **UPFRONT AMERICA** will be the new standard bearer of what decent, responsible, gay publications can be...and should be. Success, however, will only be ours for as long as we have your continued support. Support our advertisers whenever you can, by patronizing their business establishments and telling them you saw their ad in **UPFRONT AMERICA**. That's important! Additionally, let us know of your organization's or community's activities. Don't assume we automatically know what's going on. We don't, not without your telling us.

This issue contains a cross section sampling of the 15,000 plus photographs snapped by **UPFRONT** photographers during 1979. While most of our photos originated, naturally, in Houston, we have attempted to represent other events and locations as best we could. Next year **UPFRONT AMERICA** will publish an issue of select photographs from 1980 highlighting this year's activity. We think you're going to be impressed.

Until then, enjoy our newspaper as we begin to gather and report information relevant to you and your lifestyle during 1980.

Happy New Year,

Gary Van Ooteghem
Publisher

SCOTTISH HANDYMAN FIRED

aberfoyle, scotland (IGNA) A 43-year-old handyman who has worked for two and half years at a Scottish youth camp has been dismissed from his job because it became known that he is gay. John E. Saunders contested his dismissal in a hearing November 13 before an industrial tribunal in Glasgow, but the tribunal upheld the right of the camp to discharge him.

"I am bitterly disappointed by the decision of the tribunal," Saunders said, "and I consider the circumstances in which the decision could be reached as a type of blackmailer's charter which affects all gay people working in proximity with children."

Saunders told Spartacus that he has no sexual interest in youths or anyone under the age of about 25.

Robert Ralston, spokesman for Dounan's Camp in Aberfoyle, admitted that, as far as he knew, no homosexual acts had taken place on the premises and that Saunders' homosexuality came to light from information outside the camp.

Since the hearing, the local residents have given Saunders a rough time. Most belong to the church of Scotland, with members of the Catholic Church comprising a strong minority.

Saunders, a quiet man who had formerly kept the nature of his sexuality inconspicuous, has now become an enthusiastic supporter of gay rights. He intends to appeal the dismissal.

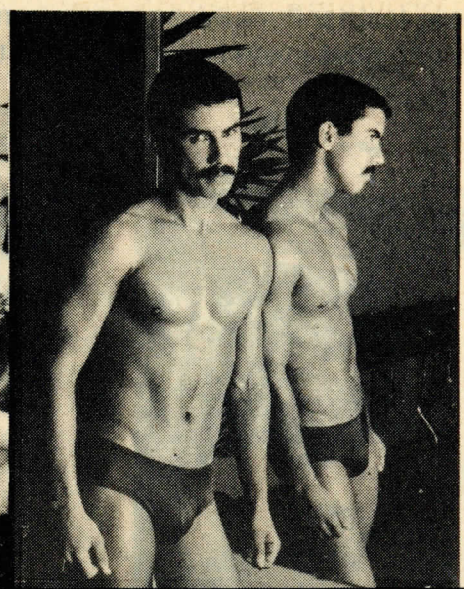
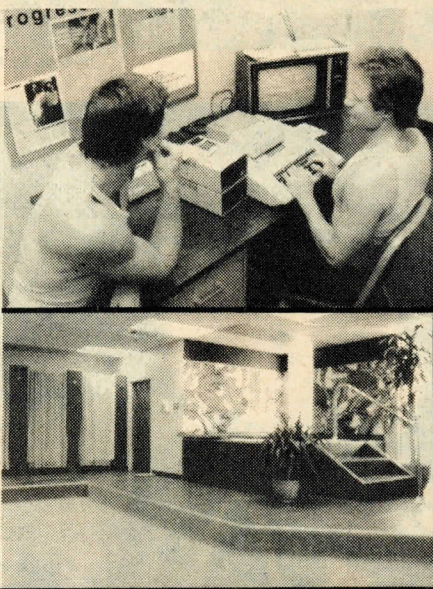
In This Issue

by J. Hardy Williams

It has been my task to sort through the **UPFRONT** photographic files to bring you a representative selection of the events of 1979. It was no easy chore but an exceedingly enjoyable one. As I looked through the stacks of photos I recalled the wonderful and the painful feelings the events of '79 evoked in me. I only regret that we could not print more photos from the year that we all will remember as one of pride and achievement. As **UPFRONT** was mainly a Houston paper, we have a predominance of Houston photos. **UPFRONT AMERICA** will be more national in its outlook and, with the assistance of photographers throughout the United States, will present you with more photos from all of the **UPFRONT AMERICA** cities.

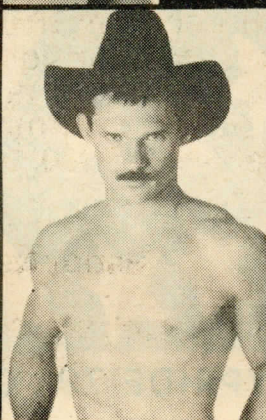
I want to take this opportunity to thank my cohorts behind the camera who have given of their time and talents to make this issue possible: Dave Dahlquist—our first Photography Director, Ed Davis—a dear friend and a superb photographer, Ros Vecchio—a talented and dedicated professional, Greg Day—a new-found friend and professional, and the many others who have contributed—Jeff Bagget, Gary Van Ooteghem, Alan Snyder, Art Kelly, Craig Sherman, Debra Rueb, Kurt Von Richtoffen, Jay Blumenfeld, Davyd Apple, Barbara, Linda Horton, Earl Gregory, Sybil Liberman, Greg Reeder, Harold Shaw, Robert Pruzan, David Osborne and any of you whom I have missed.

The Black & White Lab has provided us with consistently high quality photo processing and printing. I want to extend my personal thanks to Al, Amado, Mark and the other fine folk there. And thanks go to you for supporting us through the good and the bad. The new decade promises to be an important one for us and we will attempt to continue providing the best photo coverage of what you do.



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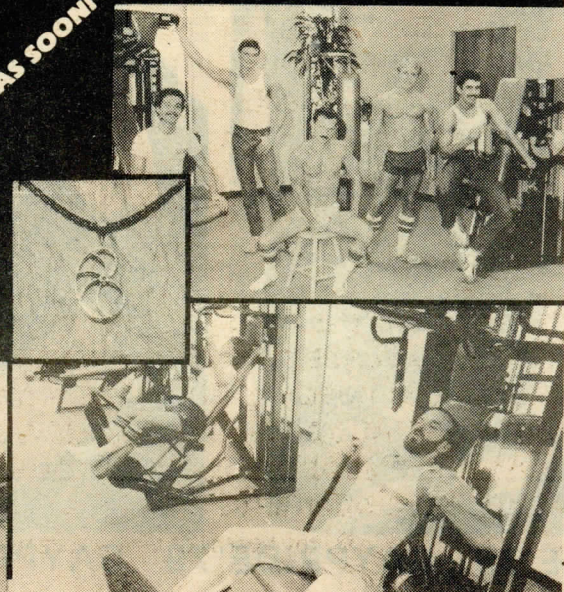
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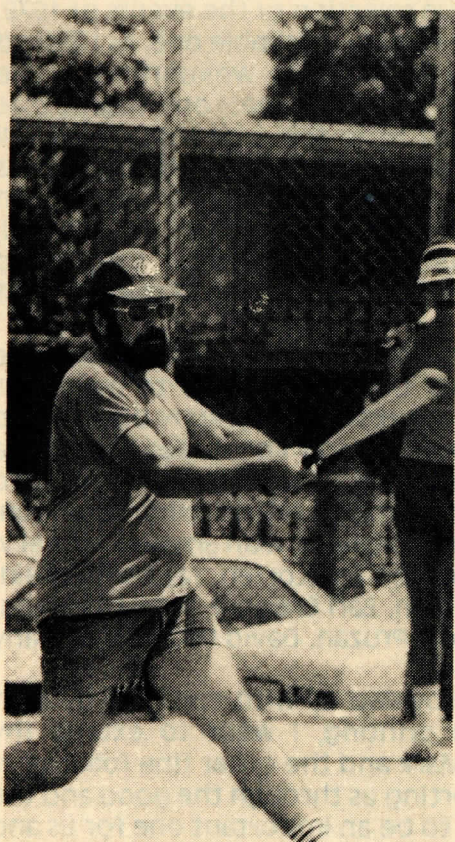


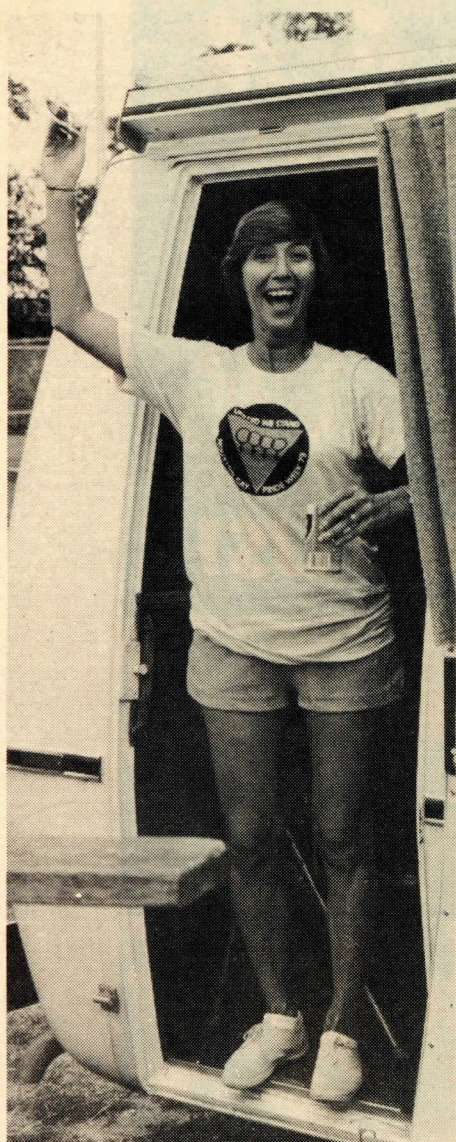
photo by GVO

STEVE
SHIFLETT
PRESIDENT
G.P.C.



Above: Bob Fleisher gets a hit at the Gays vs. H.P.D. softball game, GPC President Steve Shiflett rides with San Francisco Supervisor Harry Britt in the parade. Right: **Mary's** won the award for best float. Below: Mother Ruth Reyes was on hand in the Mobile Health Clinic, the GPC float made a fitting end to the parade.

photos by J. Hardy Williams

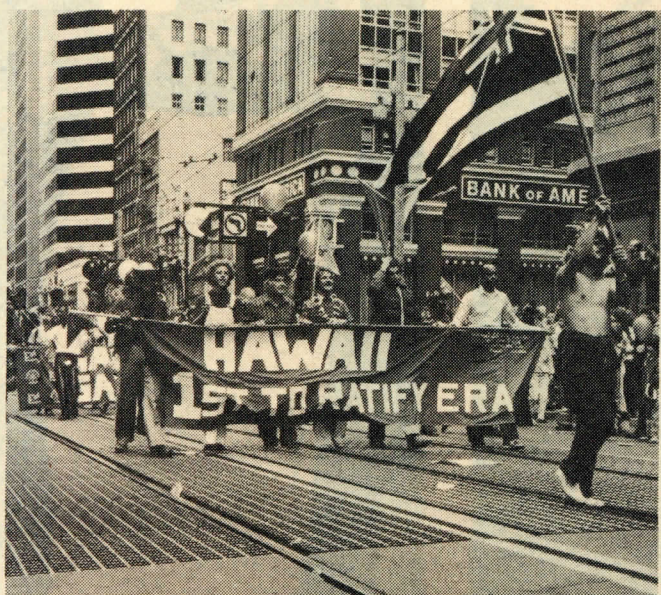


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San Francisco.



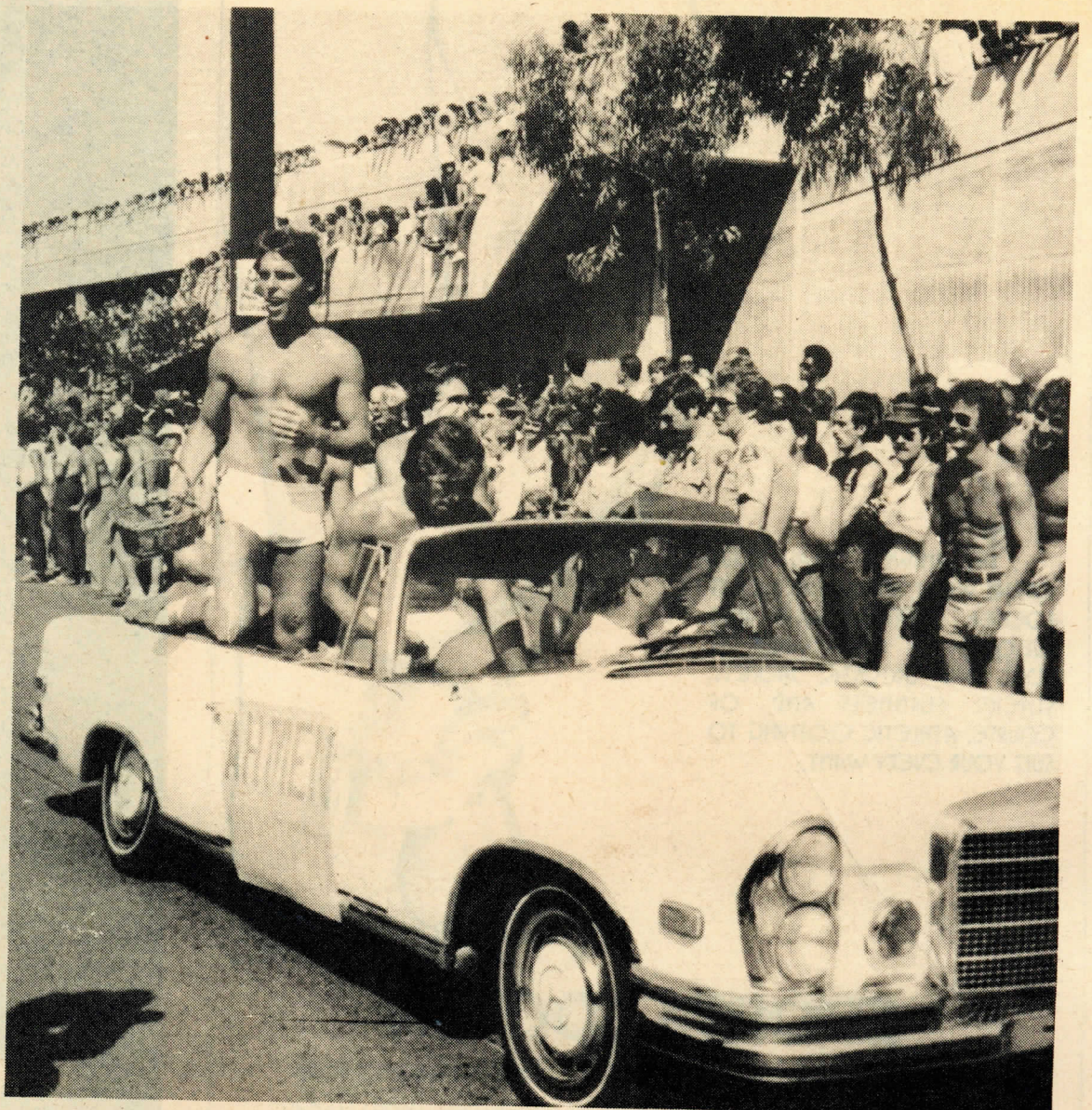
photos by Jeff Baggett



Los Angeles.



photos by Jeff Baggett



Montrose Marching Band.

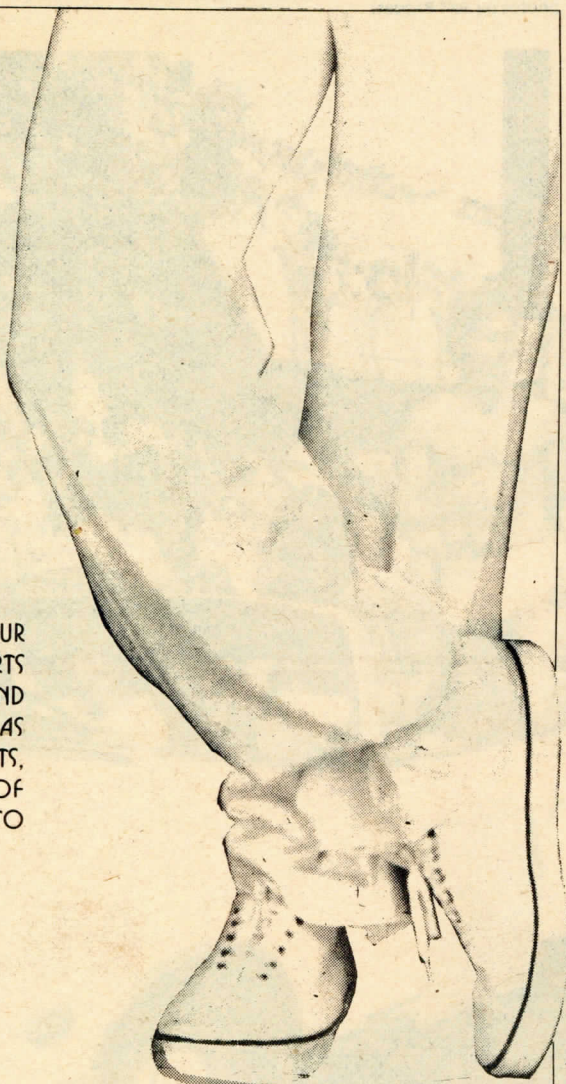


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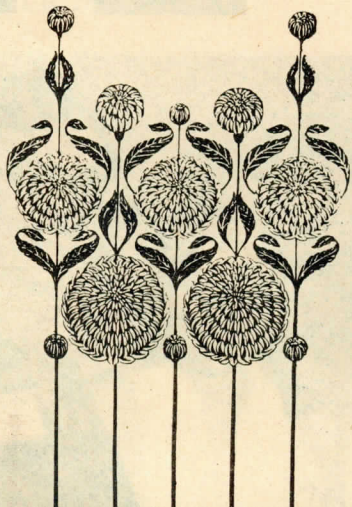
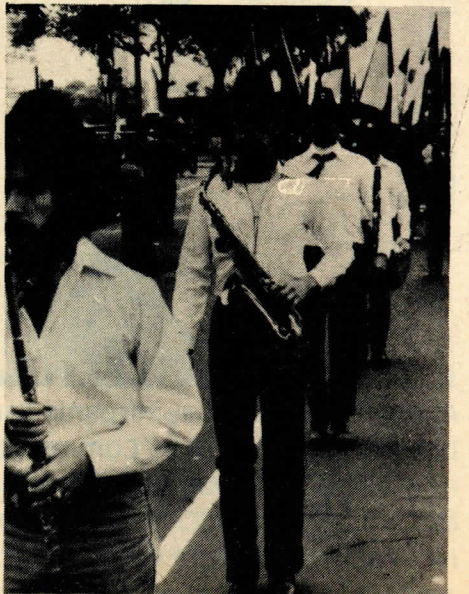
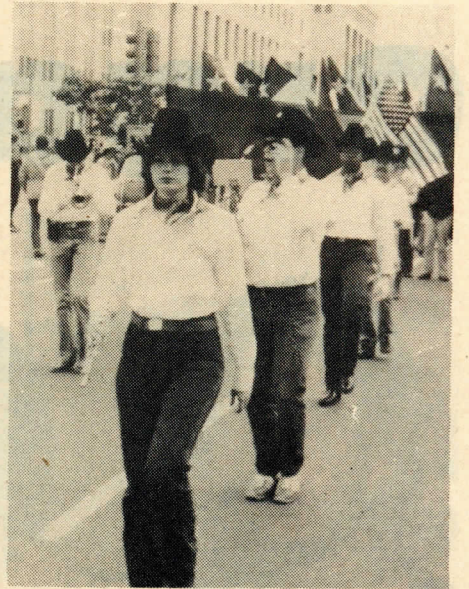
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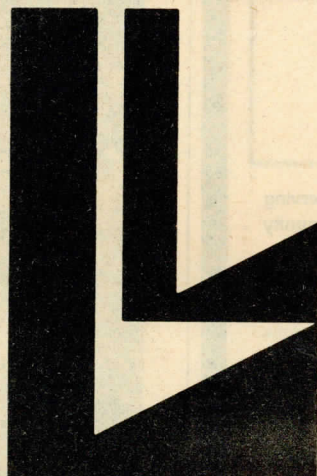
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Above: Houston's Gay Hispanic Caucus' new officers. Right top to bottom: Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection's new home, Nikki Van Hightower draws the winning raffle ticket at MCCR's Carnival, MCCR's new pastor Rev. Charles W. Larsen, Dignity Inc. national officers with Houston chapter president Bob Heer, Astro Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf.



photos by J. Hardy Williams

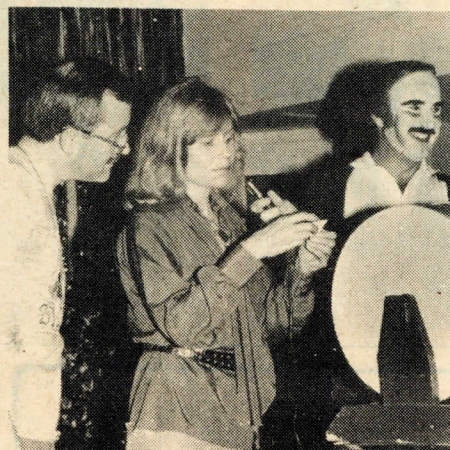


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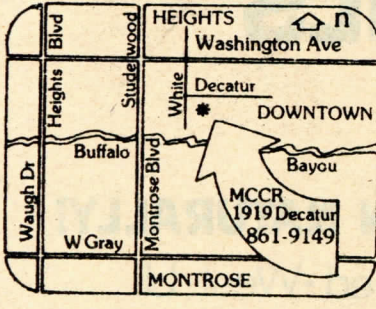
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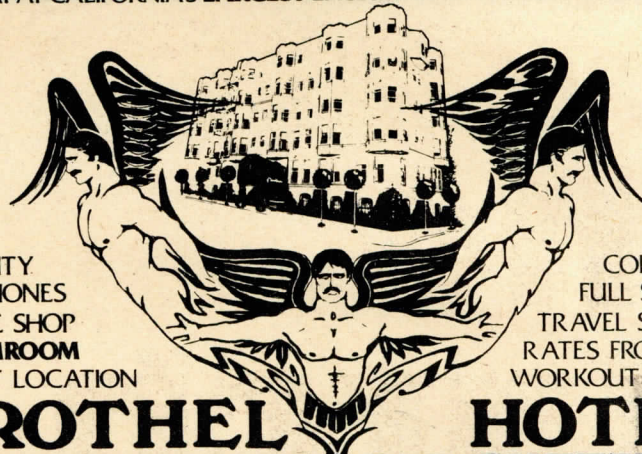


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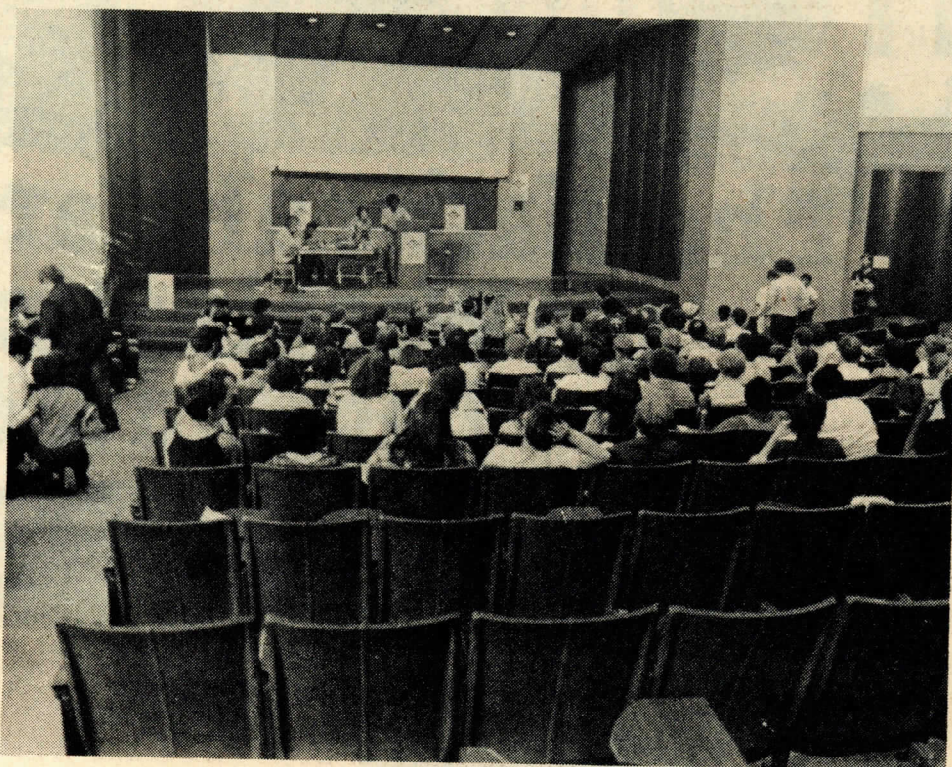
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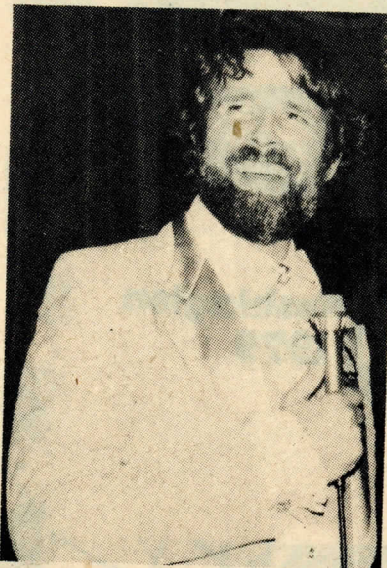
Paul Boneberg of San Francisco at the Philadelphia Gay Leadership Conference for The March on Washington.



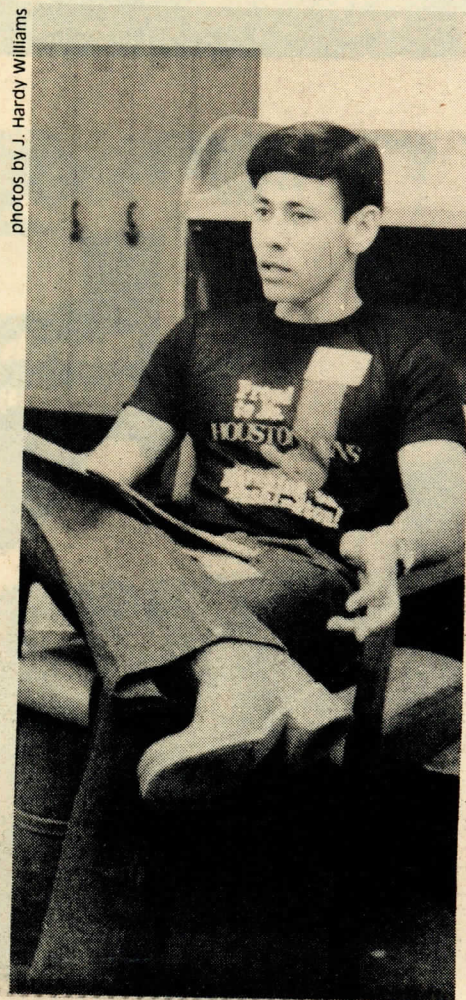
Disco Grandma did a Mae West imitation to raise funds for The March.



Mother Ruth hustled dollars for The March as her version of Carol Burnett's cleaning lady.



Ray Hill emceed the March fundraiser at Numbers Disco.



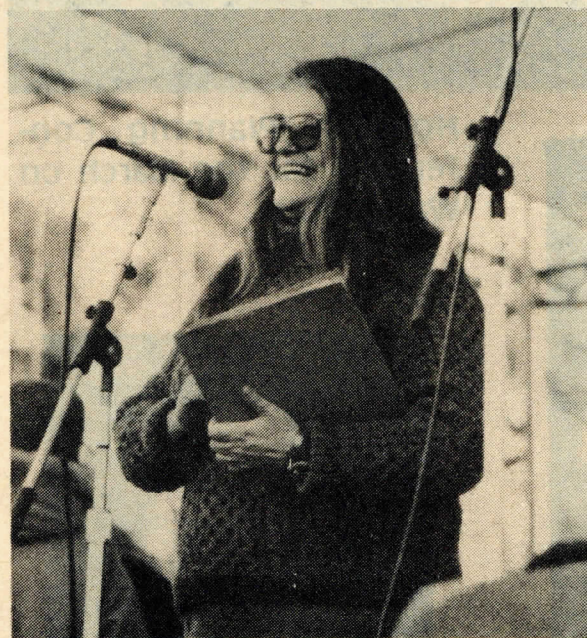
Houston's Larry Bagneris led a workshop at the Third World Conference held in conjunction with The March.

photos by J. Hardy Williams

March of The Deco



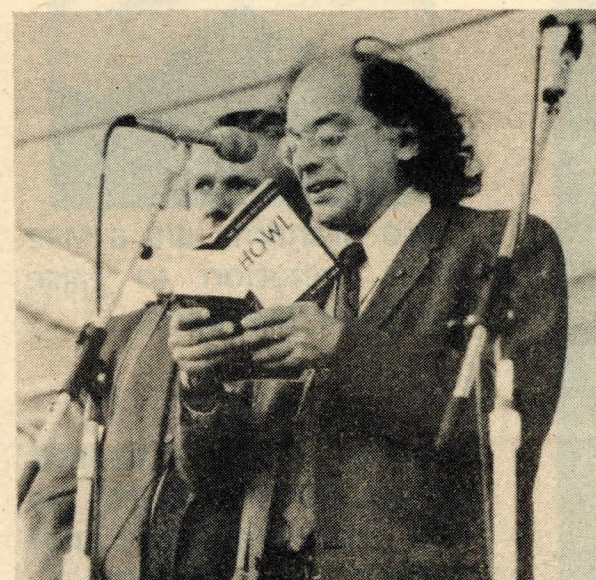
photo by Ros Vecchio



The ten year span b
1969 and culminatin
Washington for Lesl
saw gays emerge
underground cultu
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Anita Bryant's ope
For Anita's contribu
ment we owe her a



photo by Jeff Baggett



Of The Decade.



photos by J. Hardy Williams



The ten year span beginning with Stonewall in 1969 and culminating in the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights in 1979 saw gays emerge from an unfocused and underground culture to a recognizable national consciousness. No single factor in this period contributed more to Gay Pride than Anita Bryant's open campaign against gays. For Anita's contribution to our evolving movement we owe her a resounding "Thank you."

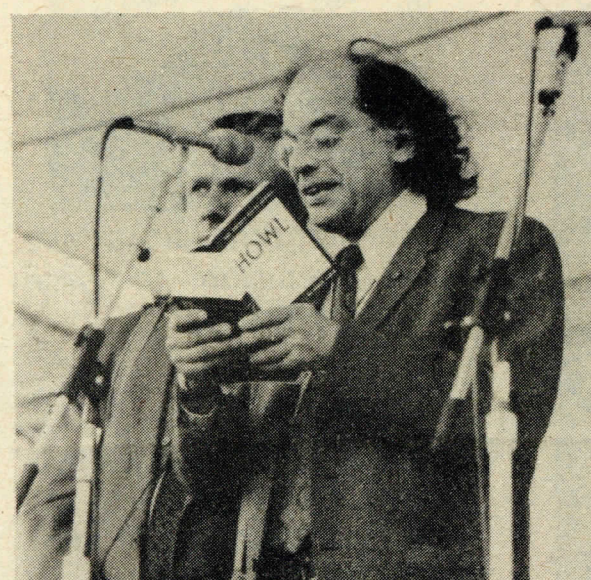
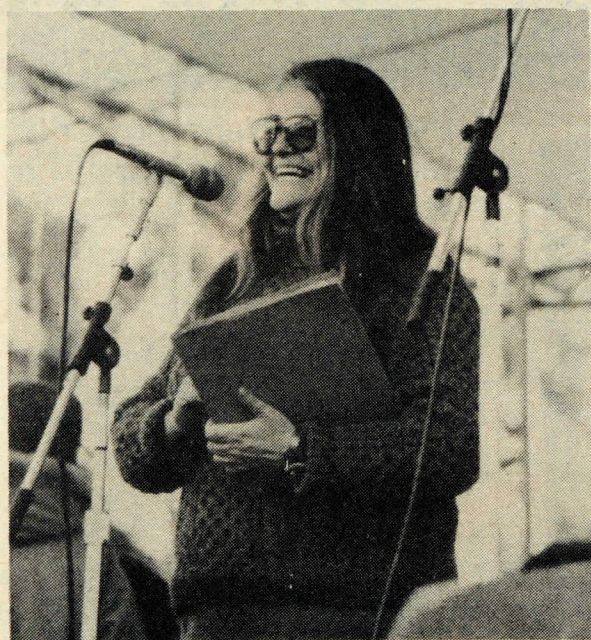


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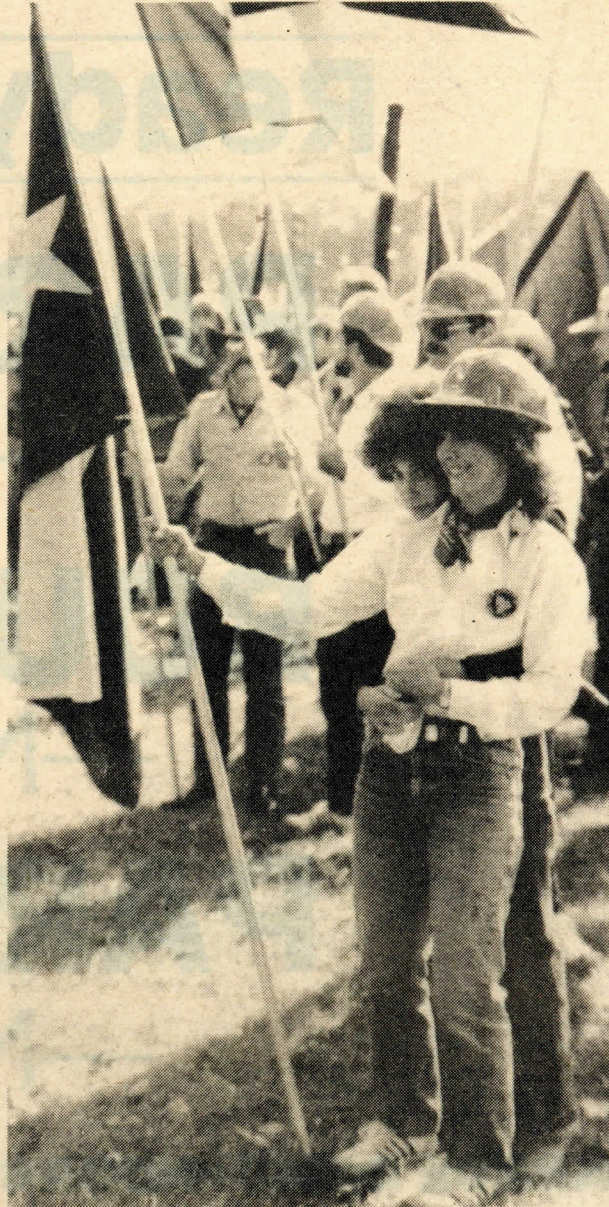
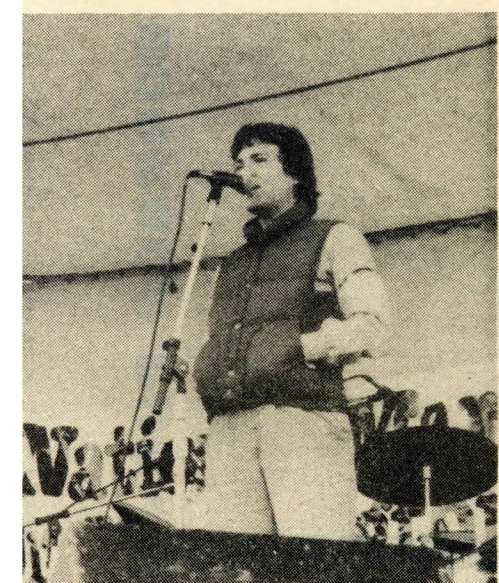


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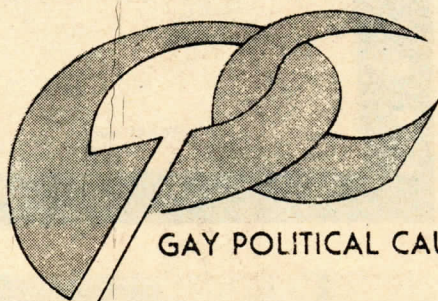
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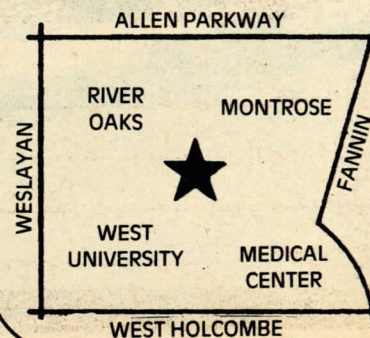


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Community Centers.



photo by J. Hardy Williams

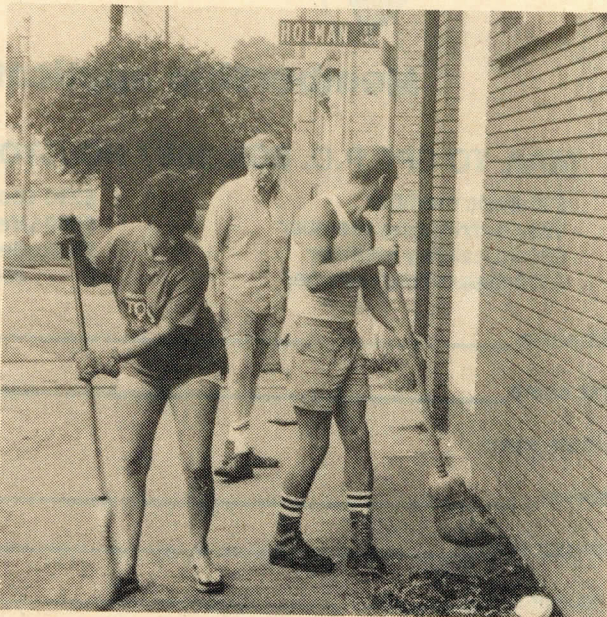


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Houston now has two community centers, the Montrose Activity Center (opposite left) 1423 Holman at LaBranch, and the Montrose Family Center (top left) 3207 Montrose. Many volunteers have given of their time to clean-up and fix-up the MAC (lower left). Both centers have been host to a variety of Tea Dances and afterhours parties (upper right—MAC, lower—Family Center). The MAC houses the studio of Houston T-shirt artist, Bill Angert (far right) and the Family Center is the home of The Montrose Patrol.



photo by Ed Davis



photos by J. Hardy Williams

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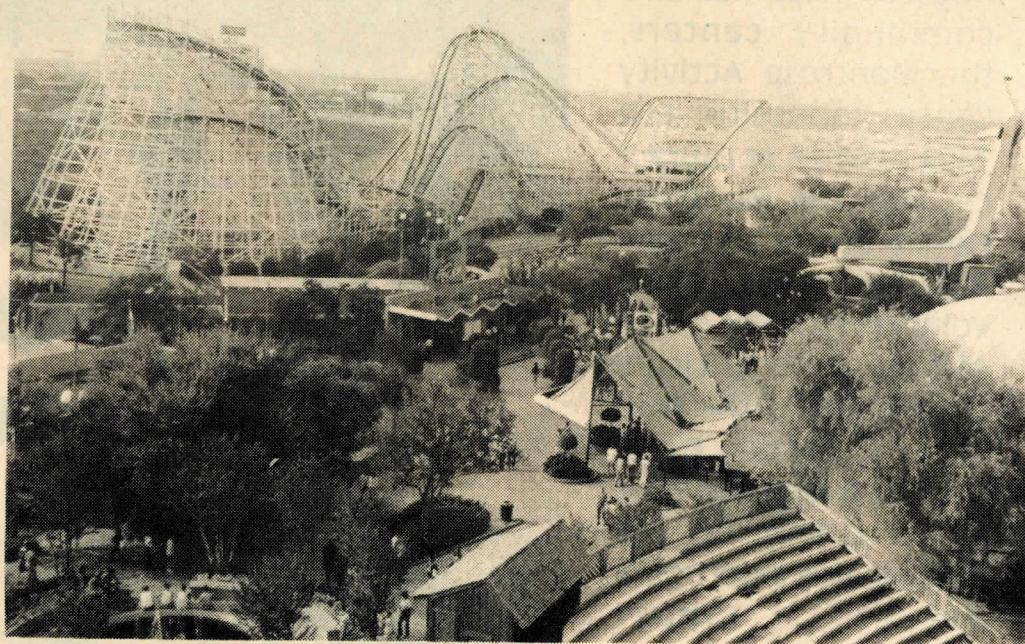
Dinner
Mon - Sat 5am-11:00am
Closed Sundays

708 West Alabama 528-8885
Buzz Thacker
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Events.



photos by J. Hardy Williams



Houston's **Family** raised thousands of dollars for The March on Washington through the successful Montrose Day at Astroworld (above and right). **Family** also organized Labor Day Fest on Lovett Blvd. where hundreds turned out to enjoy games, food and entertainment in the heart of the Montrose district. Funds raised at the Fest were divided among community organizations and The March on Washington.

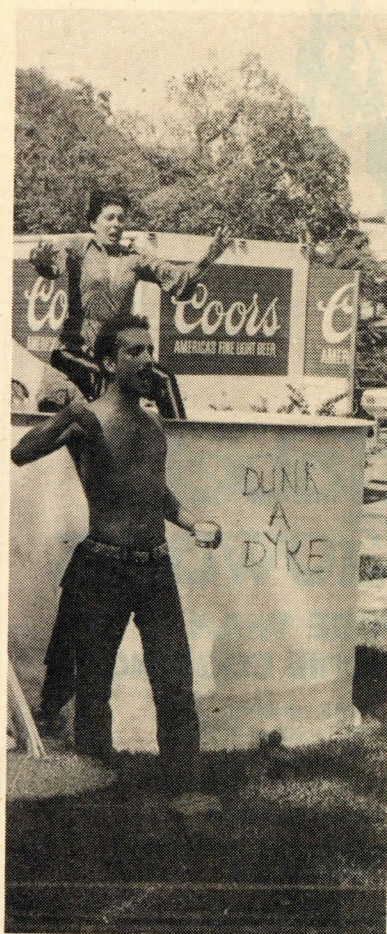


photo by Ed Davis





photo by Davyd Apple



photo by Davyd Apple

Clockwise from left: San Francisco turned out in whiteface for a night with the circus; NGTF co-executive director, Lucia Valeska addressed the Texas Gay Conference VI in Austin; Houston rallied against brutality of the police; Sissy Farenthold keynoted Women's Week at the U. of H. Clear Lake City.

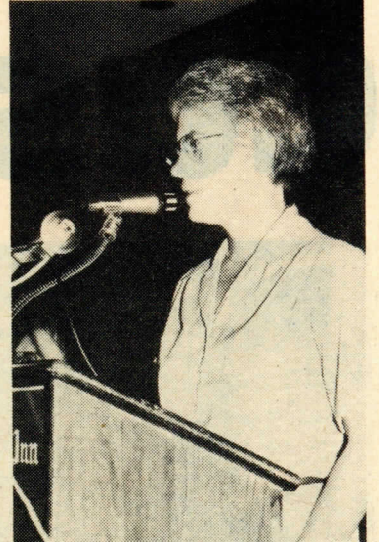


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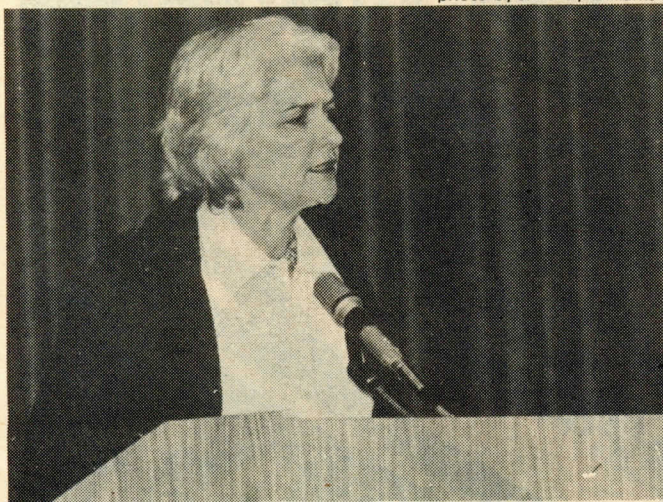
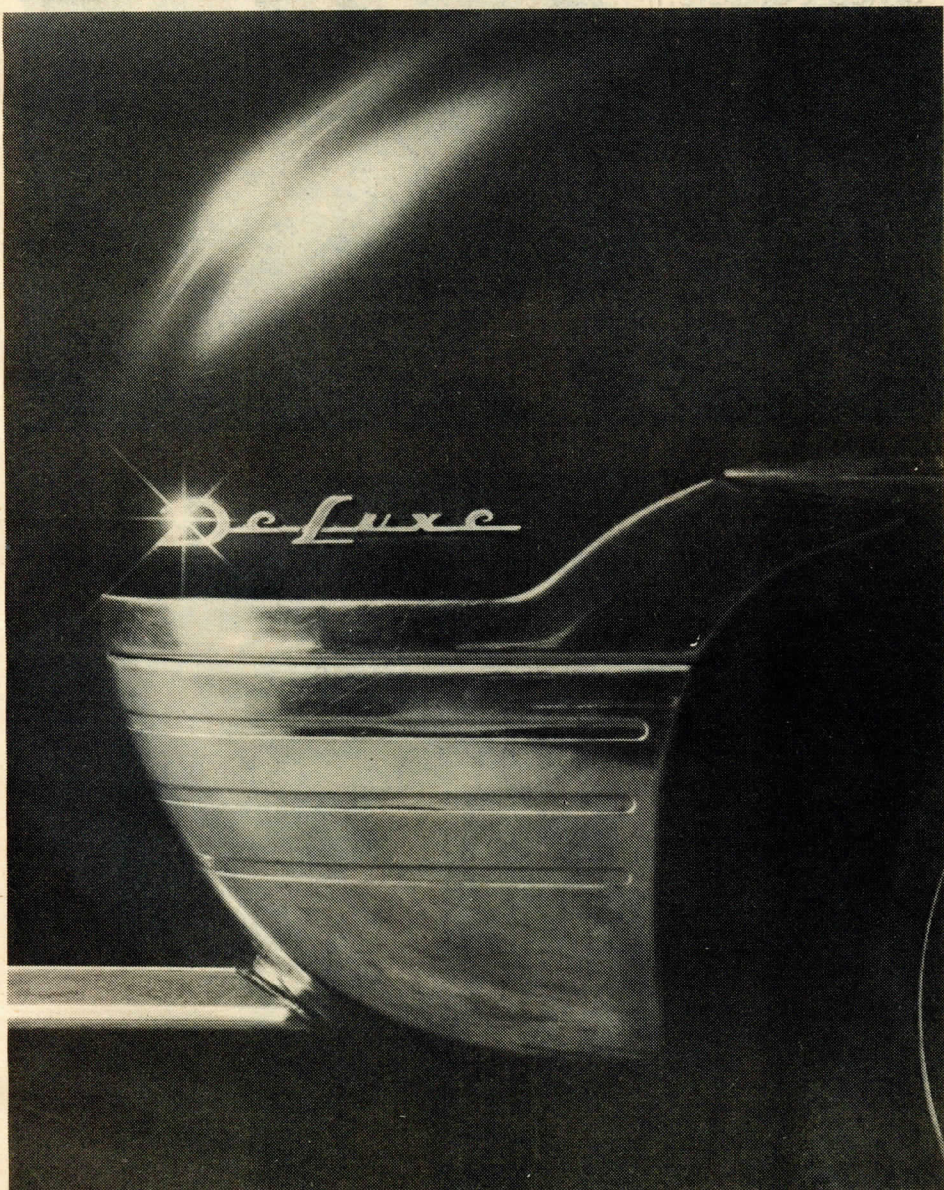


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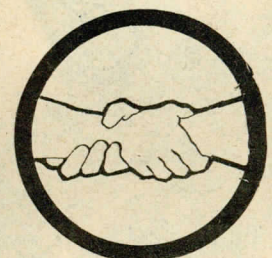
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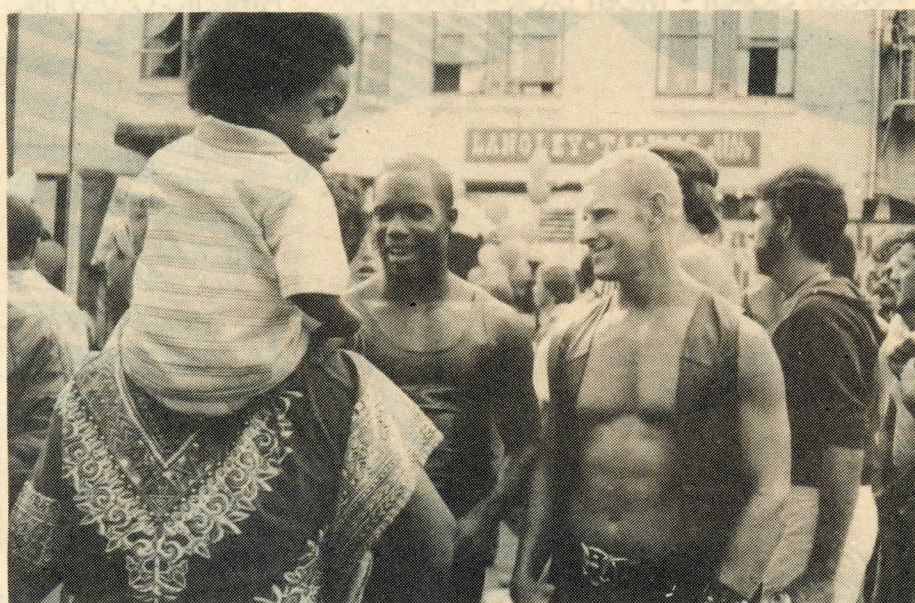
Castro.



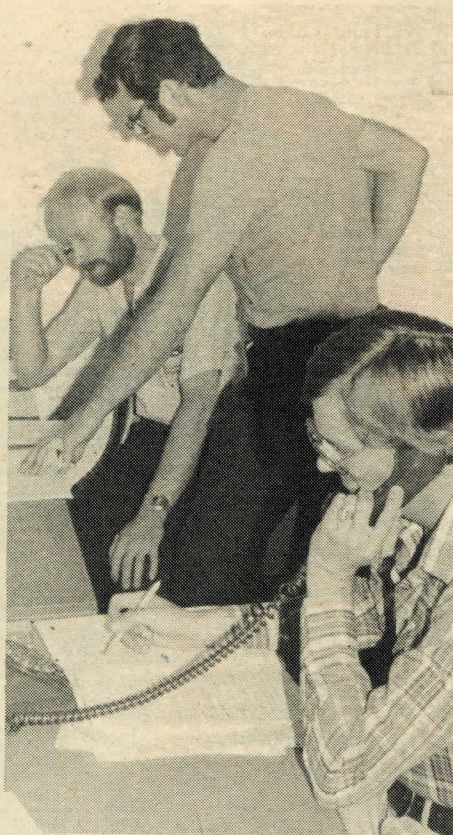


San Francisco's annual Castro Street Fair attracted thousands of participants in 1979 as "The City" once again demonstrated what is meant by the saying: "Only in San Francisco." Hundreds of artists and other vendors displayed their wares as the crowd displayed its own wares. Entertainers performed on a stage at one end of the fair while the milling throng watched each other and viewed exhibits including a memorial to slain San Francisco city supervisor, Harvey Milk. Hundreds of balloons were released onto the crowd as a symbol of the freedom and joy everyone present experienced.

photos by GVO & J. Baggett



Elections.



Clockwise, Houston's new City Council member, Eleanor Tinsley at GPC's election night celebration, GPC volunteers telephoning for the candidates, GPC'ers meet Lance Lalor before his election to City Council, rally to defeat homophobe Frank Mann.

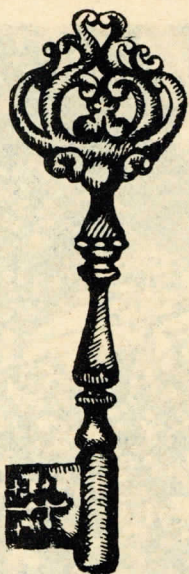
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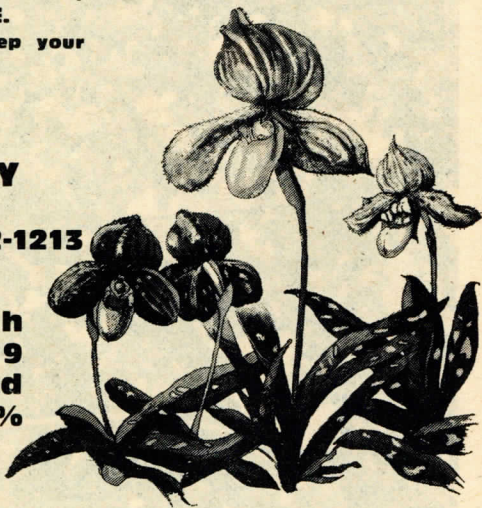
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photo by Robert Pruzan



photo by Robert Pruzan



photo by Ros Vecchio

Carol Ruth Silver joins Harry Britt on election night in San Francisco to celebrate his election to The City's Board of Supervisors.

Top: San Francisco's mayor Dianne Feinstein after her election. Bottom: Houston GPC Victory Party for the candidates.



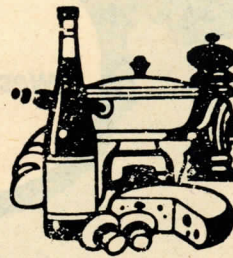
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Theatre.



photo by Ros Vecchio

Montrose Players' production of **Women Behind Bars**

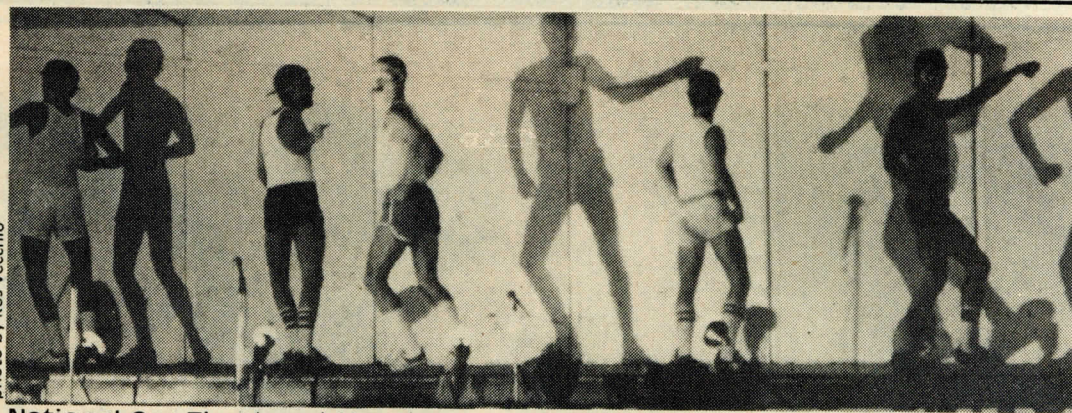


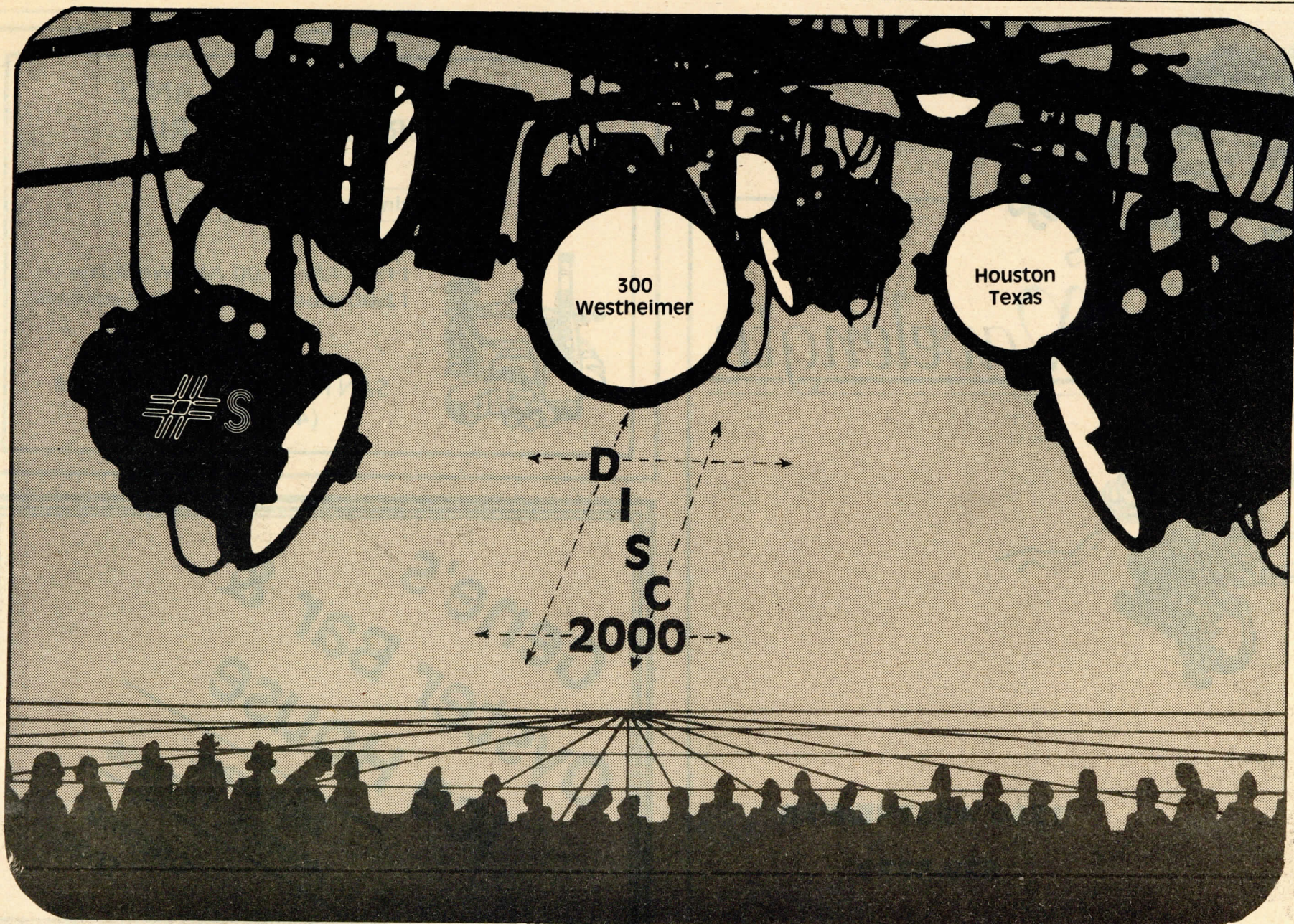
photo by Ros Vecchio

National Gay Theatre at Houston's Gay Pride Rally



photo by J. Hardy Williams

Montrose Players rehearsing for **Women Behind Bars**



Christmas '79.

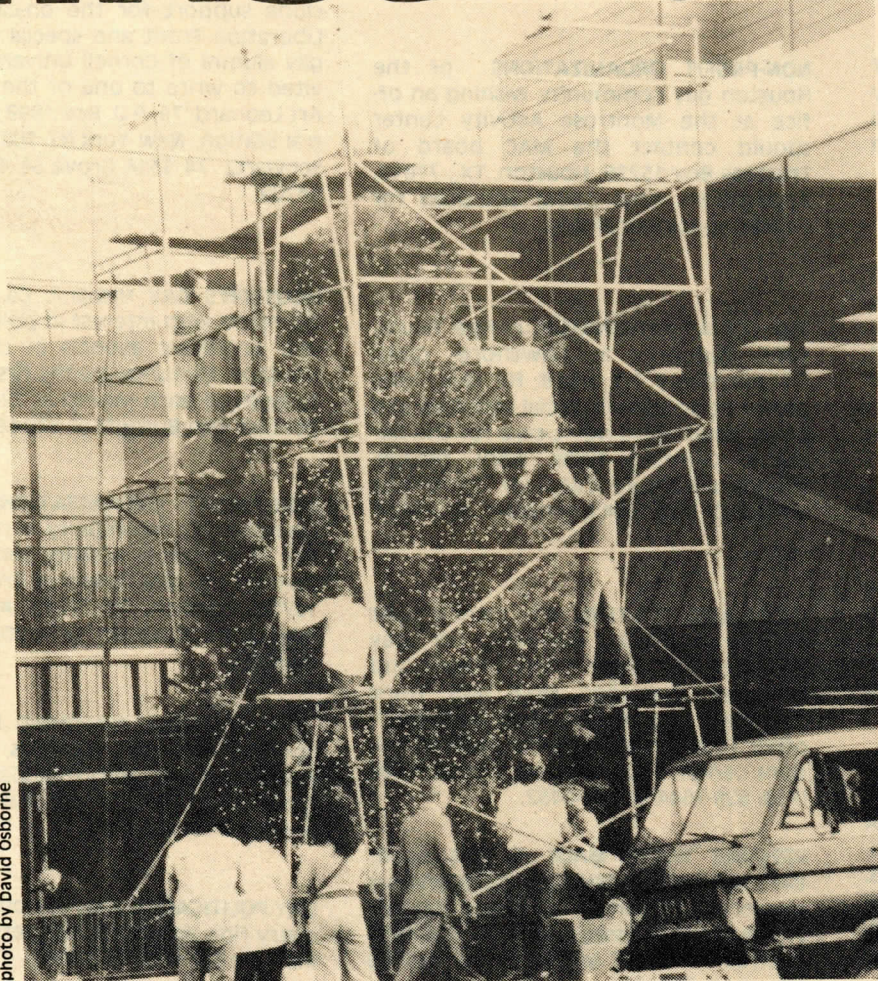


photo by David Osborne

SAN FRANCISCO



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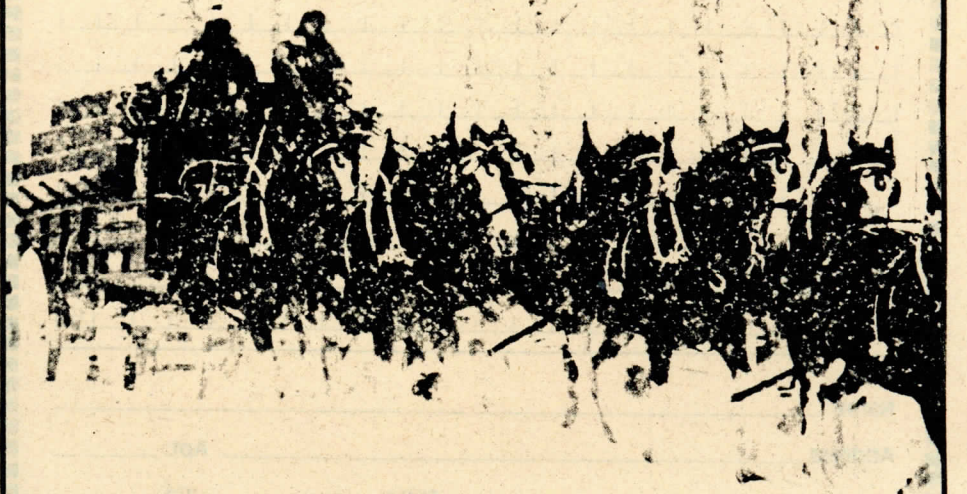
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Prison inmate makes leather articles—Handmade belts, wallets, purses, ect., at reasonable prices. Needs customers bad. Please contact Tony P. Kidd -259871, Rt.2, Box 1100, R-1, Rosharon, TX 77583.

Haircutter with clientele. Lease one person shop in Montrose. Available 1-1-80. 528-1279.

ANYONE who has not registered to vote in Harris county can do so at the Maitre d' stand at Baja Sam's-402 Lovett Houston. Ask for Mark or Jerry.

HAIRCUTTER needed for very unique and special salon for men and women. Following preferred but not necessary. (713) 933-5640 days 528-7220 nights. Ask for Larry.

WE NEED A THEATRE! The Montrose Players are looking for theatre space in Houston. It should be at least 2500 sq.ft. with reasonably high ceilings. Anybody knowing of a place, call Sybil at (713) 960-1611 or Natalie at (713) 529-1115 (h) or (713) 790-1414 (w)

HOUSTON'S PHONE TREE is the new way of notifying thousands of people in the gay community about important events in a very short time. If you think you would like to help call Neil Isbin at 522-4238.

EL GAY HISPANIC CAUCUS de Houston es para todas las personas que se interesan en la política y en los eventos sociales y económicos en la Ciudad de Houston. Las reuniones tienen lugar el primer y el tercer martes de cada mes a 2205 Brun St. Para más informaciones, llame a Ron Burnett, 520-6850

MAC T-SHIRTS NOW ON SALE, \$6 at Wilde'N'Stein, B.D. and Daughter, both in the mini mall at 520 Westheimer, Mary's 1022 Westheimer, and The Leather Loft 408 Westheimer. All proceeds go to the Montrose Activity Center.

LAMBDA IS A GAY SOCIAL, educational, and fellowship group affiliated with First Unitarian Church; sponsoring workshops, rap groups, dinners and others projects. Everyone, religious or otherwise is welcome. Meeting at 5210 Fannin, Houston, Fridays at 7:30 pm. Call Dennis (713) 960-1611.

GAYCON PRESS is a publication for and about gays in prison. Sent free to prisoners, \$5 subscription per year for free people. Write Ronald Endersny. Editor, GAYCON Press, 216 Eddy St. San Francisco, CA 94102

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS of the Houston gay community wishing an office at the Montrose Activity Center should contact the MAC board of Trustees Box 13726, Houston, TX., 77019. Applications now being accepted for limited space remaining.

THE SOCIAL ALTERNATIVE coffee house, 3405 Mulberry at Hawthorne, open 7-11pm every Fri. night for gays who prefer non-alcoholic social activities and other adults who don't care for the bar scene. Offering films, pool, bridge, friends, and more. Call (713) 529-7014 or write P.O. Box 16041. Houston. TX 77022

GAY AND CATHOLIC? Check our Dignity/Houston, support for gay Catholics and their friends. Mass and business meetings first and third Thursdays each month. Rap groups every other Thursday at 8pm; Rice Catholic Student Center, 1703 Bolsover, Houston, Call (713) 528-7644 or 528-0432.

RELIABLE WHITE MALE IN 40'S needs clerical or light outside job. All interviews appreciated. Sorry, no home phone. Please leave message at (713) 528-1653 between 8 and 5 and your call will be returned. Thanks.

Townhall meeting for all interested Montrose area residents on Monday, January 14th at Bearing Memorial Methodist Church 1440 Harold St. Congressman Micky Leland will host the meeting.

TEXAS OLDEST ACTIVE GAY ORGANIZATION
 .INTEGRITY/Houston has completed a slide history of their organization, which includes a look at the Gay Movement in Houston since 1970. INTEGRITY also has a filmstrip titled "Thursday's Child: Homosexuality". Both are available to your group as a program. If interested contact Richard Burkhart at 694-1732 and arrange for a showing of either or both audiovisuals.

Byman Furniture and Interiors would like to invite members of our community who wish to avail themselves of special evening shopping hours to call Gary Lee at 961-1813 (days) or 524-8930 (evenings) to arrange an appointment.

PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOTHERAPY SERVICES
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GAY NURSES AND PHYSICIANS of Houston
Your help is needed in operating First
Aid Stations during public gay functions.
Contact David Bonuelos, Medical Chair of
Gay Politcal Caucus at (713) 777-2287 (h).

WANT TO LIVE IN DENVER? The Gay Community Center of Colorado is accepting applications for coordinators. One man and one woman. Applications must be postmarked no later than Dec.15-job begins mid-January. Starting salary:\$800 per month plus benefits. Send resumes and inquiries to: Selection Committee; Gay Community Center of Colorado, Inc.; P.O. Box 2024; Denver, Colorado 80201

GAY CORNELLIANS: WHERE ARE YOU?
Several gay alumni are interested in starting an organization for gay Cornell University alumni. We want to hear from gay alumni all over the country who would be interested in getting to know others in their area. Long-range goals include support for the on-campus Gay Liberation Front and special events for gay alumni of Cornell University are invited to write to one of the following: Art Leonard '74, P.O. Box 1899, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10017 or Mark Schwartz '74 1314 Grove St. Berkely, CA 94709.

HOUSTON'S GAY Hispanic Caucus is for everyone with interest in politics, social, and economic eventss in the City of Houston. Meetings are the first and third Tuesday of each month at 2205 Brun St. Contact Ron Burnett at 520-6850.

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS of the Houston gay community wishing an office at Montrose Activity Center should contact the MAC Board of Trustees, Box 13726, Houston, TX 77019. Applications now being accepted for limited space remaining.

THE MONTROSE MARCHING BAND has opening for new members. Rehearsals every Tuesday and Thursday at Cherryhurst Park from 7-9pm. Call Clint Moncrief at (713) 626-1168.

GAY POLITICAL CAUCUS of Houston meets every first and third Wednesday at 4600 Main St. Call (713) 526-2668.

SAN FRANCISCO/HOUSTON Attention all NON-PROFIT groups, clubs and/or associations. Submit your announcements and notices to UPFRONT, Box 66844, Houston, TX 77006 for publication **"FREE"** in **"ADS UP."**

MAKE FRIENDS IN SAN FRANCISCO includes Gestalt, assertiveness training, meditation, communication exercises. Bob Krebs, Master in Counseling, Call (415) 863-6096 or 221-3333 ext 68.

CARPENTERS, ELECTRICIANS, painters and all other interested parties are needed at the Montrose Activity Center for workdays every Saturday at 10am. Come add your special touch to your community center.

FOR YOUR SAFETY! We need volunteers!
The Montrose Patrol helps police our own neighborhood. If you can help call Andy Mills at (713)527-9669 or Maggie Atkins at (713) 861-6016. Patrol meets Fri., Sat., and Sun. 8-10pm at Mary's

UPFRONT IS LOOKING for persons interested in donating a few hours daily to help with office work. Call Sybil at (713) 960-1611.

ANY ORGANIZATION WISHING TO HELP
with the mailing of **UPFRONT** please con-
tact Sybil at (713) 960-1611

INTERESTED in a new organization for the handicapped-gay? For more information, call Bruce at TTY 529-2111 after 7:00pm.

A CAPELLA CHORUS, part of the Church of Christ meets every first Tuesday of the month at MCCR, 1919 Decatur, 7:30pm BYOH(bring your own hymnal).

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Upfront reserves the right to reject, in whole or in part, any advertisement which it determines to be objectionable in appearance, character, wording, or to be inconsistent with the best interest and/or policy of **Upfront**.

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