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5 Texas News

Slaving

A transgender woman left her home in New Orleans, fleeing Hurricane Katrina, to begin a new life in southwest Houston. Then she was found shot in the back of the head.

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Litigation

Fed up with her former Penn State coach's incessant lesbianbaiting, basketball champion Jen Harris has threatened to file suit, with the National Center for Lesbian Rights assisting.

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Fall Film

They're much more than celluloid foreplay to the big money holiday releases. Fall's abundant list of film releases with its many gay overtones gives us much to be thankful for.

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We can't believe it's not in the dairy case. Boy Butter, a new personal lubricant and the brainchild of Eyal Feldman, is being marketed in mainstream locations. Clean up on Aisle 3.



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LETTERS

Keep letters brief and address only a single issue. For more details, see the details on this week's Perspectives page.

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ROUND UP AWARDS 2005

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best new restaurant best Waitstaff Favorite Bars & Clubs

best coffee house

best all-around bar best leather best lesbian best dance best cabaret/piano best c&w sexiest staff friendliest staff best off the beaten path best happy hour best martini best theme night best drag show best club dj best karaoke best after hours best place to shoot poo best straight bar

Favorite Retail

best pet adoption best video rental best adult video rental best bookstore best furniture best art gallery best apparel best piercing/tattoo studio best offt store/houtique best toy store for adults best second-hand/consignment shop best full-service grocery store best antique shop best computer/high tech store best jewelry store best health food/nutritional store best leather shop best liquor store best atthetic apparel/equipment best dellular service best auto dealership best gewear/optical shop best music store

Favorite Places

best bed & breakfast best weekend getaway best neighborhood to live in best park best bike/walking trail best hotel

Favorite Services best hair salon/barber

best hair stylist best massage best gym best personal trainer best tanning salon best medical practitioner best dentist best chiropracto best veterinarian best mechanic best home repair best mortgage company best bank best insurance agency best real estate agency best real estate agent best travel agency best airline best florist best cosmetic surgeon best apartment locator best attorney

best photographer Favorite Community Endeavors

best annual fundraising event
best GLBT activist
best glbt organization
best thing to happen to GLBT community this year
worst thing to happen to GLBT community this year
best local politician/elected official
best state politician/elected official
best place of worship



Favorite Arts & Entertainment Venues

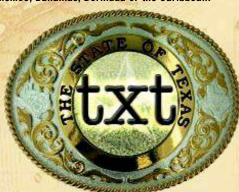
best radio station (general) most glbt friendly radio station best TV station (general) most glbt friendly TV station best independent film theater best mainstream movie theater best local stage production best touring stage production best local entertainer (drag) best local entertainer (other) best live music venue

Favorite Fun Things

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best local sports team
best bourist destination in your city
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sest place to meet someone who's responded to
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Newsbriefs

HOUSTON

'Tragedy' rally opposing Proposition 2 set for Sunday, emphasizes marriage benefits

On Sunday, opponents of Proposition 2, the proposed amendment to the Texas Constitution that would deny marriage rights to gay and lesbian couples, will be wearing masks. Illustrating the tragedy of the more than 1,100 marriage rights enjoyed by opposite sex couples but denied to same-sex couples, protesters will wear tragedy masks at a 2 p.m. rally at Spotts Park, 401 S. Heights Blvd.

The No Tragedy in November rally is being organized by the Foundation for Family and Marriage Equality, headed by attorney Jerry Simoneaux and his partner Christopher Bown, president of Houston's GLBT Community Center.

"Tragedy is just around the corner if this amendment passes in November," said Simoneaux.

The men hope 1,000 supporters of equal rights will attend the vigil. For more information, log on to Familyequality.org.

Early voting for Nov. 8 election begins on Monday; voters may use any city polling site

Preliminary early voting for eligible residents of Houston and Harris County for the Nov. 8 election will be held weekdays from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., beginning Monday. Saturday hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.; on Sunday, 1-6 p.m. From Oct. 31 to Nov. 4, polls are open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m.

The Metropolitan Multi-Service Center, located at 1475 West Gray Ave. in River Oaks, serves as the Montrose and inner-loop polling location. However, voters may vote at any one of the city's numerous early-voting locations, with addresses found at Harrisvotes.org.

Adult retail store employee found not guilty of obscenity charge for selling adult 'toys'

An adult retail store clerk arrested June 9 during a raid and accused of illegally selling adult toys was found not guilty on Oct. 12.

Jose Escalante, a manager at Adult Video Megaplex in north Houston, had been charged with obscenity.

Prosecutors said the law is the law, and in Texas it is illegal to sell an item designed for use in a sexual act. Escalante's lawyer argued that the clerk was unfairly singled out. "These devices are sold all over town," he said.

Texas law prohibits the possession of more than six items designed for use in a sexual act. Those convicted face a year in jail and a \$4,000\$ fine.

Charitable group Halloween Magic set to lampoon *Desperate Housewives* in 2006 show

Seventeen years have passed since the members of Halloween Magic donned costumes and sang songs to raise money for AIDS charities. This year their antics will be all the more topical as the group lampoons the gay-created ABC television series Desperate Housewives. Halloween Magic's Desperate Montrose Housewives debuts Saturday night with a VIP onstage dinner at 6:30 p.m.; the Sunday matinee begins at 12:30 p.m. with an onstage brunch.

The show will bre presented at Zilkha Hall at the Hobby Center for the Performing Arts. Beneficiaries are AIDS Foundation Houston, Amigos Volunteers in Education and Services, Bering Omega Community Services, Montrose Clinic and the Center for AIDS. Tickets start at \$30.

To reserve a seat, log on to Halloweenmagic.org.

Bewitched Ball, benefiting community groups, set for Oct. 28 at Magnolia Ballroom

For the last three years, Hillary West has celebrated remission of cancer with a Halloween party. The Bewitched Ball is scheduled Oct. 28, from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Historic Magnolia Ballroom, 715 Franklin St. Tickets start at \$30; proceeds benefit AIDS Foundation Houston's Camp HOPE, Bering Omega Community Services, Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church's Wellness Ministry and the Athena Art Project's Partnership for Women's Programs. To learn more, log on to BewitchedBall org.

Transgender Katrina evacuee found dead

Transgender activist claims police refuse to investigate killing as hate crime

By Nancy Ford Staff Writer

A man dressed in women's clothing was found dead in the courtyard of an apartment building in southwest Houston in the early morning of Oct. 12.

The victim, Christopher Smith, suffered a single gunshot to the back of the head.

Police at first believed the victim, Christopher Smith, was a woman, but later learned she was a man dressed in woman's clothing

Neighbors of the deceased told the *Houston Chronicle* that Smith was known to dress in "flamboyant, revealing tops, tight pants and padded bras."

Police have been unable to locate any next of kin to provide further details about the 20 year-old, whom neighbors described as "loud and funny."

Neighbors reported hearing as many

as five gunshots about the time Smith is believed to have been shot.

Police say they have suspects but no motive in the slaying.

One person believed to have been close to Smith — either a woman or a cross-dresser — has not been located for questioning.

Little is known about Smith, who called herself Christina. She had lived in a series of foster homes in Illinois prior to moving to New Orleans in 2003, police said. She and a roommate were evacuated to Houston following Hurricane Katrina.

"This person was a Katrina evacuee and had not made contact with the local TG community," transgender activist Phyllis Frye said. "She was obviously murdered because she was out and TG, but the police refuse to investigate for hate crime."

Smith was murdered "for her gender difference," Frye said.

Contact the writer: Nancy@txtnewsmag.com

Clergy to discuss their opposition to proposed marriage amendment

Congregation Emanu El sponsors interfaith event Oct. 27: public welcome

By Deborah Moncrief Bell Contributing Writer

Because leaders from some religious groups have been outspoken in their condemnation of gays and lesbians, it often appears that most ministers condemn equal rights for GLBT people.

The strongest effort in support of Proposition 2 — the proposed amendment to the Texas Constitution prohibiting same-sex marriages and anything "identical or similar to marriage" — comes from evangelical churches and groups.

Yet religious leaders across a broad spectrum of denominations in Texas are

HOUSTON fighting the proposed constitutional amendment, which will be on the Nov.

8 statewide ballot as Proposition 2.

Many ministers say they're concerned that, if passed, the amendment would infringe the civil rights of samesex couples. Many opponents also cited the separation of church and state.

A forum sponsored by Congregation Beth Israel on Oct. 27 will give voice to several rabbis and ministers who are opposed to the amendment.

The public is invited to attend.

Lawyers will attend to address specific issues concerning legal matters, and there will be a question-and-answer segment. Barry Mandel, president and CEO of the Houston Downtown

Alliance, will serve as moderator.

Rabbi Roy Walter of Congregation Emanu El, one of seven speakers scheduled at the interfairth event, included the topic in his Oct. 4 Rosh Hashanah sermon, titled "Imperfect Seekers of Truth." Walter's sermon addressed the state of religion and politics.

Although he also criticized liberals and moderates, Walter said he was particularly troubled that "the religious right is being allowed to make too many inroads in their desire to see the government impose their beliefs on this nation."

Texas law already defines marriage as being between one man and one woman, the rabbi pointed out.

"Why is this being proposed?" Rabbi Walter asked. He said it is clear that the supporters of the proposition seek to drive home their views on gays in order to make it more difficult to change the statute in the future.

"They have a right to believe it," he said. "But should our government be promoting it?"

In his remarks, Rabbi Walter recalled a statement of President Bush. Speaking at a press conference about the Iraqi conflict, Bush said, "We identified how the U.S. might distinguish itself from its foes. He said, "We are facing an enemy who's got an ideology based on hate. If you're trying to figure out their ideology, just think of the opposite of America. We believe in religious tolerance. We believe in human rights and human dignity and minority rights. We believe that people ought to live in a free society and express themselves as



Rabbi Roy Walter

they see fit."

The rabbi said, "Aren't gays included in this?"

Rabbi Roy Walter's sermon can be heard at Emanuelhouston.org/news/events/rh_rw.mp3.

EVEN'

What: Interfaith Forum of Clergy Opposed to Proposition 2

When: Oct. 27, 2005, 7-9 p.m.
Where: Congregation Beth Israel, 5600 N.
Braeswood Blvd.

Panel: Rabbi David Lyon of Congregation Beth Israel, Rev. Marilyn Meeker-Williams of Bering Memorial United Methodist Church, Rabbi Roy Walter of Congregation Emanu El, Rev. Betty Adam of Christ Church Cathedral, Rabbi Steven Morgen of Congregation Beth Yeshurun, Rev. Matt Tittle of Bay Area Unitarian Universalist Church and Rabbi Shaul Osadchey of Congregation Or Ami.







HATCH announces third annual gay/straight alliance workshop

Daylong seminar is designed help high school students form the groups at their schools

By Joshua Cleveland

Despite federal court rulings, many of the state's public school administrators continue to place barriers in the way of students who want to form gay-straight alliances.

HATCH, a Houston youth organization operated by the Montrose Counseling Center, is making that resistance a little more difficult. The group will pres-

ent a workshop on Saturday to assist students and adults who want to form gay-straight alliances in Houston schools.

A 2003 suit was filed by the ACLU on behalf of public school students in Texas. It claimed the alliances are permitted under the Federal Equal Access Act and the First Amendment.

The court ruled in favor of the students. It said the equal access law requires public schools to treat all student-led noncurriculum clubs equally. In other words, if you're going to allow a Fellowship of Christian Athletes chapter to meet on campus, you've got to allow a gay-straight alliance, too.

But students wanting to form the gaystraight clubs continue to be turned down, according to Michael DeVoll, a teacher at Episcopal High School in Bellaire.

"Even with the court ruling, our students still need help getting through to their schools to form these groups," said DeVoll.

Sally Huffer, the community projects specialist at HATCH, said the workshop will offer numerous benefits to students

"Gay and lesbian youths most often feel isolated in school," she said. "However, with the program we've developed, we hope we can put an end to that isolation and bring the students together."

The workshop was begun in 2003 by the

Houston GLBT Community Center.
Montrose Counseling Center, which had always been involved, later took over the workshop spearheaded by two students, Marla Dukler and Ryan Schwartz. But when they graduated and left Houston, "the formal organization more or less dissolved over time," Tim Brookover, a former board member for the community center, said.

Huffer said HATCH has made great strides in reaching out to Houston GLBT teens.

"We have had about 40 to 50 participants in the past," Huffer said.

The workshop is designed to help students gather the proper paperwork they need to create a gay-straight alliance. It also will help students to decide the course for their group, whether social or educational, and how to convince a faculty member to become a sponsor.

Huffer also said the program will help students decide what they will do with their group, whether it will be a social or educational organization, and also how to identify a faculty member who could be their sponsor.

According to DeVoll, many Texas schools have simply made the process as difficult as possible, hoping gay students will eventually just give up.

"Students still have a lot of walls to face, but we are here to break down those walls," DeVoll said.

The leaders of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays said they will support gay-striaght alliances by supplying funding for up-and-running groups that want to do special projects at their schools. Students wanting further information can call the PFLAG-Houston helpline at 713-467-3524.

The workshop will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.on Oct. 24 at the Montrose Counseling Center, 701 Richmond Ave., Houston. For more information, call 713-529-0037.

Contact the writer: Joshua2578@yahoo.com



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Lone Star Ride announces rescheduled 1-day event

1-day, 70-mile ride to occur Nov. 5; AIDS Quilt display scheduled Nov. 6

By David Webb Staff Correspondent

The rescheduled Lone Star Ride Fighting AIDS will roll out of Fort Worth on Nov. 5, and the AIDS Memorial Quilt will be displayed the next day in Dallas.

Hurricane Rita's movement into Texas forced sponsors of the ride, originally scheduled Sept. 24-25, to cancel it. The rescheduled event will be a one-day, 70-mile ride to Dinosaur Valley State Park near Glen Rose.

Janie Bush, coordinator of the ride, said she expects at least 85 percent of the partici-

NORTH TEXAS pants signed up for the canceled ride to

take part in the rescheduled event. Most of the others have scheduling conflicts, she said. The celebration at the day camp in

Dinosaur Valley Park will include an element being kept secret, she said.

"We have something special planned for all of our participants that they will be very touched by," Bush said.

Participants who desire transportation will be taken by bus from the Resource Center of Dallas to the ride's start in Fort Worth. After the dinner and celebration at Dinosaur Valley, participants will be returned by bus to Dallas.

The Names Project's AIDS Memorial Quilt will be displayed at Lee Park on Nov. 6 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The closing ceremony and a dedication of new panels will be at 4:30 nm

More than \$200,000 has been raised for the event's beneficiaries. They are AIDS Outreach Center of Tarrant County, AIDS Services of Dallas and Resource Center of Dallas.

Robert Martinez, a member of the ride's steering committee and a rider, said it's important to carry through with the ride, regardless of how much money has already been raised, he said.

Cancellation of the September event was disappointing but unavoidable, he added.

"I have heard some people were disappointed because the weather didn't turn out to be as bad as you would think to have to cancel it," Martinez said. "The logistical issues were bigger than the weather issues."



Some participants of the 2004 version of the Lone Star Ride Fighting AIDS share a laugh at the event's closing ceremony. This year's closing ceremony will be at Dinosaur Valley State Park near Glen Rose, where officials promise a big surprise.

Municipal governments along the ride's route cancelled permits because of the weather and traffic congestion, Martinez said.

"Once you lose your permits, you can't

legally have the event," Martinez said. "The decision was pretty much made for us."

Contact the writer: Webb@dallasvoice.com



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"How Do You See Yourself" will air on Logo October 11-31. Catch it during the premiere of Moulin Rouge, Sunday, October 30 at 10 PM ET/PT, or online at www.subaruspot.com.



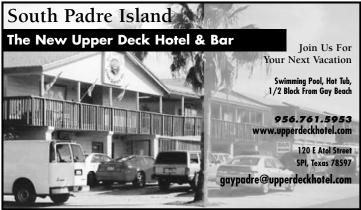
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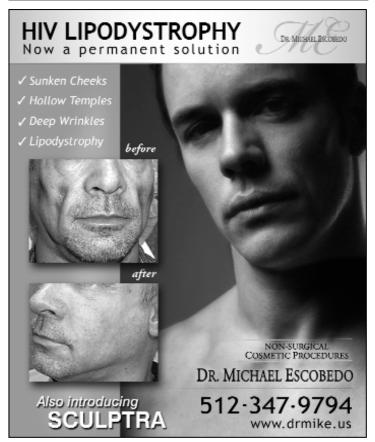
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national news

By Ann Rostow Senior Staff Writer

Appeals court reverses victory for gay couples

Slim majority on NY court rule that man can't sue for partner's wrongful death

A New York state appellate court has disappointed GLBT advocates by reversing a much-heralded victory for same-sex couples. In an opinion dated Oct. 11, a 3-2 majority ruled that a member of a Vermont civil union could not sue a Manhattan hospital for his partner's wrongful death.

Two years earlier, in an opinion that has been hailed as nationally significant, a lower court said that the survivor, John Langan, was not dissimilar from a common law spouse in terms of his standing to sue. The courts and the

government in New York have been on the friendly side, authorizing adoptions, allowing survivors to maintain rent-controlled apartments, banning discrimination and the like.

In Langan's case, his partner, Neil Conrad Spicehandler, was hit by a car, broke a leg, and died under anomalous circumstances five days later at St. Vincent's Hospital in lower Manhattan. As Spicehandler's executor, Langan had the right to sue for negligence. But St. Vincent's challenged his right to sue for wrongful death, a right reserved by statute to legal spouses and certain other close relatives. Langan and Spicehandler were both New Yorkers, but they had traveled to Vermont with friends and family to obtain a civil union

As an example of the power of precedent, New York Attorney General Eliot Spitzer's office cited the 2003 Langan ruling in an informal brief on the subject of New York marriage policy. Among the various conclusions reached early last year in this brief, Spitzer's office announced — based on the Langan case — that the state should probably recognize legal marriages from other jurisdictions.

Now, the decision has been turned on its head - for the time being. Writing for the majority, Justice Robert A. Lifson reduced the legal issue to the status of civil unions in New York, and the ancillary question of whether the denial of marriage equality violates equal protection guarantees. He then relied on a discredited 1971 gay marriage case, Baker v. Nelson, in which the Minnesota Supreme Court breezily dismissed marriage claims with a reference to the Book of Genesis and little else. Lifson then excavated Lawrence v. Texas for nuggets of commentary reflecting the Supreme Court majority's desire to steer clear of marriage in its 2003 ruling overturning sodomy laws. And he found meaning in an irrelevant 12-year-old case in which a gay man was denied the right to contest his dead partner's decision to leave



Courtesy Lambda Legal

This is an undated photograph of Neal Conrad Spicehandler, left, and John Langan. An appeals court ruled that Langan may not sue St. Vincent's Hospital for allegedly mishandling the case of his partner. Spicehandler died at the hospital five days after he was hit by a car in midtown Manhattan.

most of his estate to a former lover.

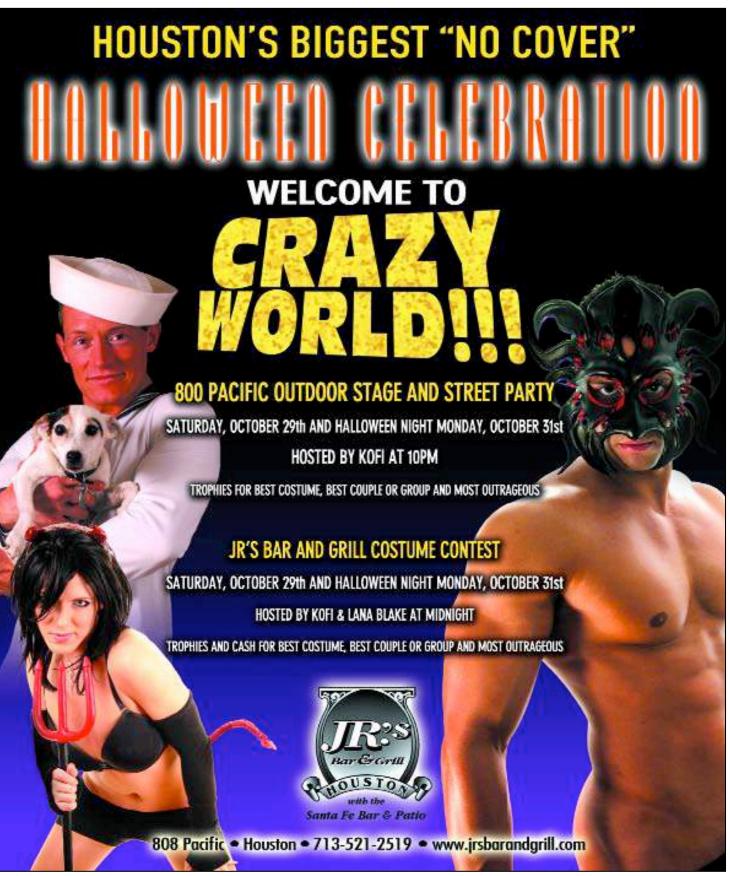
Writing in dissent, Justice Stephen Fisher said the subject at hand was not gay marriage, but whether the civil union partners were similarly situated to other couples eligible to sue for wrongful death. If so, his analysis continued, does New York have a legitimate interest in disfavoring Langan and others like him? His answer, joined by a colleague, was no.

Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund is considering an appeal, which would send the matter to the Court of Appeals, New York's highest court. Lambda's Adam Aronson said he was hopeful that Langan has not heard the last word.

In related news from New York, attorneys at the ACLU told an Albany-based appellate court on Monday that their clients, 12 same-sex couples, must have the right to marry under the state constitution. Both Lambda and the ACLU are arguing constitutional marriage cases at the appellate level in New York, after the Court of Appeals declined to take direct review of the issue. Lambda brought its case before the Manhattan-based appellate court in mid-September.

The ACLU's marriage hearings were immediately followed by two more coordinated cases. In one, the city of Ithaca and 25 couples are challenging the state's denial of marriage licenses. In another, two couples who were married without licenses by Unitarian ministers in the upstate town of New Paltz are contesting their status.

Once the appellate justices return their verdicts in these cases, the question of marriage equality will be sent to the state's highest court. In the interim, expect marriage cases to be resolved by the supreme courts of Washington (any day now), and New Jersey (next year).



Former basketball player appears ready to sue Penn State

Head coach's slam after Harris complained was apparently too much for former player

A conflict between the Penn State women's basketball coach, Rene Portland, and a former player, Jen Harris, has escalated into outright hostility. In a letter from the National Center for Lesbian Rights, Harris asked Penn State's president to end a pattern of lesbian-baiting by Portland. Portland, who was well known at one time for telling her team that lesbianism would not be tolerated, allegedly forced Harris off the team due to her perceived sexual orientation. (Harris is actually straight, her lawyers say.)

PENNSYLVANIA

In response to the lawyers' letter, Penn State President Graham Spanier said he would look into the matter. But while the attorneys were digesting this vague pledge, Portland issued a response of her own, calling Harris a bad apple who "engaged in disrespectful, profane and belligerent behavior towards coaches and teammates." Harris, the coach continued, "exhibited a work ethic and attitude that were unsatisfactory and detrimental to the success of our team."

The lengthy slam was too much for lawyers at the lesbian rights center, who



CAROLYN KASTER/Associated Press

The Penn State women's basketball head coach, Rene Portland, sits for a photograph in State College, Pa., on Oct. 13. In an interview, Portland wouldn't answer questions about allegations of discrimination against her made by former player Jennifer Harris and the National Center for Lesbian Rights.

announced plans to sue the school unless a formal retraction and apology was extended by Oct. 19. Penn State, in turn, claimed their hands were tied by Portland's "free speech rights," even though Portland had used the university's infrastructure to get her message out to the press.

Karen Doering, a staff lawyer with the National Center for Lesbian Rights, called Portland's comments defamatory. Harris was a 3.0 student and a team leader in scoring, assists and steals in her sophomore year, the center said. Yet during her two years at Penn State, she was harassed by Portland, pulled aside and accused of having an affair with another player, and ostracized at Portland's urging. Eventually, Harris was kicked off the team and she transferred to James Madison University.

"My departure from Penn State was very painful," said Harris. "I struggled with whether I should just walk away and try to forget what happened. I finally realized that I could never put this incident behind me as long as other students were being subjected to the same sort of humiliation and discrimination I experienced from Coach Portland."

Harris said she had no choice about speaking out.

"Coach Portland very nearly destroyed not only my athletic career, but also my dream of completing my education and becoming a doctor," Harris said.

Contact the writer: ARostow@aol.com



TOM STRATTMAN/Associated Press

lowa's Johanna Solverson (34) pulls down a rebound in front of Penn State's Jennifer Harris (53) during a quarterfinal game in the Women's Big Ten Tournament in Indianapolis in March. Penn State won, 68-66. Harris, though, left the school and says now that women's basketball coach Rene Portland drove her away with allegations of lesbianism and relentless harassment.



Single-Family vs. Condo – A Side-by-Side Look

Deciding to buy a home is a major decision, but once you've made it then come all the other choices that go along with it. These include where you'd like to live, how many neighbors you want, how involved you want to be in the maintenance and upkeep just for starters.

No problem, you say. You've always seen yourself driving up to a huge house with your own winding driveway and a great big yard. Ah, yes, you can see it all now...you and your partner living happily ever after in your brand new gigantic home with a sprawling lawn and lovely gardens. You'll be the envy of all your friends, won't you?

Maybe at first you will be, but what about later?

If you're only thinking about the "right now" effects of buying a home, then you'd be doing yourself a favor to think a little further ahead into the future.

When you buy that big single-family house, you may be getting more than you're actually bargaining for. The envy of your friends can pass quickly to their sighs of relief as they're packing their bags for vacation while you're putting your money into a new roof, landscaping or a new coat of paint for the exterior.

Maintenance and upkeep are regular occurrences no matter what type of home you buy. But the type of home you buy does determine your direct involvement in that aspect of ownership, plus others.

Look at both sides of the coin before you decide whether to buy a single-family home or a condo. A condo may be the better choice for you, especially if you prefer to leave maintenance and upkeep to someone else.

What You Get with a Single-Family Home

If you buy a single-family home, you'll get your castle, plus the land it's sitting on. Your house won't be attached to anyone else's house.

From the front curb to the property line where your backyard ends, you get all of it and everything in between. This includes your house, the yard and any extra buildings. You own everything, which makes you responsible for everything, including maintenance and repairs for the house and lawn as well as any outside structures.

What You Get with a Condo

Buying a condo is like owning your very own apartment. Your castle extends inward from your interior walls, floors and ceilings. When it comes to outside areas of your home like exterior walls, the roof and foundation, plus the land, you're a partner in ownership with all the other property owners who live there. You're only responsible for any inside maintenance and repairs with a condo, while any external work is covered by the condo association.

Now that you know what you'll be get-

ting in general with either a single-family home or a condo, consider some of the specifics that can help you decide which type of home will not only best meet your current needs, but which will have a significant impact on your future.

Single-Family Facts vs. Condo Facts

Location: Single-family homes have long been a scarcity in most cities and urban areas. You'll probably be living in a suburb or rural area. Location: Condos are typically built in centralized locations. You'll be within close proximity to areas of employment, shopping and clubs for socializing.

Adding-on: If you decide that you need more room, you can build an extra room onto a single-family home. Of course, your addition will be subject to your neighborhood/subdivision guidelines and applicable county ordinances.

Adding-on: If you need more room in a condo, you'll have to get creative in managing your space because you can't just add an extra room. The upside though is that neither can your neighbors, so you're all on equal ground here literally.

Amenities: Single-family homes with pools and tennis courts can be very expensive, not to mention the cost of keeping them up. If you buy a house without these extras and plan to install them, you'll have to buy a house with enough lot space to accommodate them. Amenities: Condos often include the favorite perks that most people enjoy. Some of the most popular amenities may include swimming pools, tennis courts, clubhouses, pet trails, play areas and walking/jogging trails.

Privacy: The single-family home provides the most privacy in types of dwellings. You can go days on end without ever seeing anyone. **Privacy:** You have neighbors within close proximity if you buy a condo. If you prefer the security of having others close by, buying a condo is a practical option.

Cost: If there's one thing they're not making any more of, it's land, which is one of the reasons for the increased prices of single-family homes. Even small lots have increased dramatically in price in recent years and the bigger the lot, the higher the cost. Cost: The same amount of square footage in a condo costs less than in a single-family home because more condos can be built on the same amount of land as it takes to accommodate single-family homes.

For additional information and help in buying a home visit Gayrealestate.com. They specialize in real estate services for the GLBT community and offer valuable assistance in finding the right home for





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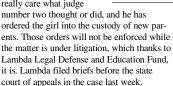


Centrally located in a tree shaded neighborhood.

Girl interrupted; judge eyes forum shopping warily

There's an unusual case in Indiana this week in which a court in one county is trying to revoke an adoption authorized by a court in a neighboring county. The child in question is a toddler who has lived with her two mothers, Becki Hamilton and Kim Brennon, since she was two days old. The women were foster parents at first, but then sought to adopt the little girl.

When the judge in charge of the affair learned the women were unmarried, he ordered the state Office of Family and Children to find a married couple to adopt the child instead. While that cruel search was underway, the women cruised on over to the next county, where a decent-sounding judge granted the adoption. From what I gather, however, judge number one didn't really care what judge



I know. It's not funny. Not everything in this harsh world in which we live is "funny," you know. Yes, we could turn our backs on the many instances of discrimination that rise to the turbulent surface of the GLBT news waters every week. Why should we care about family courts in Indiana? Why should we bother with the lesbian widow in New Jersey now fighting for her own home and property after the sudden death of her domestic partner? It's depressing, right?

A bird in the hand

Right! So let's move along instead to the California lawyer, who was arrested for keeping 300 pigeons, many of them dead, in his house in Torrance. Animal control officers were tipped off to the oddities, suspected at the home of Gerard Redmond Enright Jr., by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. Sure enough, the 61-year-old attorney was found performing thoracic surgery on a pigeon that had been sedated with a shot of vodka. At least 120 dead birds were discovered chez Enright, along with many live ones—presumably the patient was in transition from one category to the other.

Enright expressed "shock" at the intervention of officials. "I'm literally in shock," he said. According to the wire service, Enright "often walks with his pigeon, Twister, to a local Starbucks."

To be honest, the AP didn't say what kind of surgery he was performing, but I couldn't resist using the adjective "thoracic." It did involve "a large tumor," so I was going to say "cancer surgery," but the tumor might have been benign. I just figured that if a pigeon has a "large tumor," it's going to be in the thorax. Don't you think?

Oh, I love it when you agree with me! Can't you imagine the pigeon riding along to the coffee shop on Gerard's shoulder?

"Twister," Gerard whispers as they wait for their turn at the counter. "Shall we pick up a new easy listening CD?" The bird nods up and down, its beady eyes bright with excitement. 'Look, Twist," says Gerard, squinting at the cover without his glasses. "Strangers in the night!" He begins to sing softly under his breath. Behind him in line, a PETA activist furrows her brow and reaches into her handbag for a pen.



Ann Rostow

Life is short

That widow in New Jersey, by the way, lost her partner of two decades to a sudden heart attack. It turned out that the house, both cars and the bank account were all in the dead woman's name, and even though the women had signed up under the state's domestic partner registry, the survivor was left with no claim to her own home, and must now convince a court to let her administrate her partner's estate. The lesson here is not simply "draft a will." Let's also write on the board a hundred times: "I will not support another half-baked domestic partner program."

Yes, it's better than nothing, I know. And, as we saw in California over the last several years, half-baked domestic partner programs can go back in the legislative oven every year until they emerge all toasty and brown. But don't leave them sitting raw and disgusting in the middle of the table.

Let's play the research game!

Oh. Here's another study about kids of gay parents. Or to be accurate, a study of all the studies to date. The children of gay parents are sexually precocious, eschew gender roles, and are able to fix dry martinis on average three and a half years earlier than most heterosexually raised children. They like white asparagus with hollandaise when in season, never wear matching denims, and have an eye for that hidden jewel in the clutter of a country antique store that fairly screeches "take me home!"

"Daddy! Daddy!" I hear the twins cry in unison. "Dad said we could get the burr maple snuff box."

"Oh, he did?" Brad says, flustered. "Well then, I guess it's OK."



James West: Facing a recall election in early December, Mayor James West continues his battle to stop public release of his computer files, allegedly chock-full of nude and semi-nude pictures of young men.

No, of course that's not true. You know very well what the study said. It said the same thing that all these studies say. Drum roll: there's no difference between kids raised by gay parents and kids raised by straight parents! I don't believe it for a second, frankly. The latest same-old same-old was revealed at the American Academy of Pediatrics Conference and Exhibition by Ellen C. Perrin, of Tufts medical school.

Matchmaker, matchmaker

We're still waiting to find out if Spokane Mayor James E. West will have to make public the 1,800 graphic sex files found on his City Hall computer. West's lawyers told a judge that the material is not part of the public record, although technically Mr. West's (very) hard drives are indeed the people's business.

West is facing a recall election for his lecherous, and possibly pedophilic, activities, which include trolling for young men on the Internet and offering them "internships" in the mayor's office. He's a smug little creep. Still insisting that he's been unfairly targeted.

No restraining Cox

Before I go, I should mention that a judge in Michigan has refused to issue a temporary restraining order preventing state and local entities from implementing domestic partner programs.

The irritating attorney general, Mike Cox, wanted the TRO in place while he fights to have domestic partner benefits banned under the state's newly amended constitution. He lost round one of that fight a few weeks ago, and has appealed up the ladder.

Must I rehash all of this for you? God, your short-term memory is like a sieve. Our friend Mr. Cox issued an opinion earlier this year stating that the anti-marriage amendment passed in November also prohibited domestic partner programs based on sexual orientation.

The ACLU challenged the opinion, sued and won. The governor, who was originally the target of the suit, ended up on our side. The attorney general was named as a defendant. And he decided to appeal.

Meanwhile, conservative state senators in Mitten Land have passed a meaningless resolution urging the state Supreme Court to overturn the recent lower court ruling. One of them, Mike Goschka of Lansing, opined that "no homosexual or lesbian union is ever appropriate, Rather it is utter perversity."

When asked to apologize for these insulting comments, Goschka said, "They should apologize for their lifestyle and tolerating something so terrible."

Mike, darling. It's not so bad. Trust me.

Contact the writer: ARostow@aol.com

perspectives

Letters

Straight but not narrow

Proposition 2, the proposed Texas constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage, adds the proviso that it prevents, "this state or a political subdivision of this state from creating or recognizing any legal status identical or similar to marriage."

The problem here is that it may be too broadly interpreted. My sister is 10 years older than I, and her health is starting to fail (I am 65). When she is no longer able to care for herself, I want to be able to take her in, include her on my health insurance, claim her as a dependent, if necessary, and basically have a domestic partnership to be able to adequately assure her well-heing.

To deny the protection of the law to people who only wish to take care of their families with a poorly defined constitutional amendment is cruel and un-Christian. To suggest that same sex unions endanger marriage — well, any marriage that would be so endangered is already in trouble. I know gay people and they have long-term, happy marriages. No one is endangered by love

Too many people are using the cloak of religion to foster intolerance.

Rhoda Auerbach/ San Antonio

Outright nonsense

Dale Carpenter apparently was not privy to the stories in your own newsweekly about the multi-pronged efforts to defeat Proposition 2 — namely advertisements by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, No Nonsense canvassing and block-walks, etc.

Instead, we get the usual "bash the Democrats" mantra. As a previous leader of the Log Cabin set, why does Carpenter offer no mention of LCR's efforts on Proposition 2? Perhaps because it's been invisible.

Proposition 2 will pass or fail based on who can motivate people to get out and vote. Carpenter could have devoted his column to how that could be accomplished or how to convince his fellow Republicans to vote no. Then again, that would run contrary to a long history of simply throwing rocks from the circleines

Mike Craig/Houston

To Dale Carpenter

I just read your "Nonsense in November" article in last week's TXT. I was extremely disappointed with its tone. You followed the standard Republican path of knocking things without offering any helpful suggestions. You chose to denigrate Glen Maxey rather than make an attempt to make things better. You chose to call the people who are at least trying to help, a "coalition of losers" rather than offering your help and support. Could you please tell me how you thought that would help the situation?

If you can do a better job, we'd welcome you back to Texas. If not, try supporting those who are trying to improve our lives instead of poking them with big ugly sticks.

Jim Adcock/Dallas

Date Carpenter responds: When "those who are trying improve our lives" are in fact undermining the cause of equality, they should be held to public account. Merely "supporting" them is not a sufficient answer. I noted several ways in which the No Nonsense campaign is failing, tactically and substantively. Your letter does not respond to any of those criticisms. The criticisms themselves imply ways in which the campaign could be improved (e.g., move the campaign center to Houston, look harder for support beyond the left). But all of this requires us first to stop congratulating ourselves on how good and right we are and to start thinking critically about what we do and saw.

To submit a letter We welcome and read all letters. We print a few that are representative of the many. Additional letters are on the TXT web page. Shorter letters and those addressing a single subject are more likely to be printed. Letters are edited for length and clarity. When submitting a letter, include your full name, street address and day and evening telephone numbers for verification purposes. Letters should be e-mailed to Nancy@txhnewsmag.com, or they may be faxed to 713-529-0327, or mailed to Letters from Readers, TXT Newsmagazine, 4617 Montrose Ave., Suite C229, Houston, TX 77006. All letters become the property of TXT

It's time for gay conservatives to come out

Gay Republicans are key to winning fellow GOPers, conservative Democrats and people of faith

By Patrick Guerriero

This critical moment in the history of the LGBT movement's fight for equality demands that a new generation of Americans come out of the closet — gay conservatives. Now is the time for closeted gay conservatives to find the courage to stand up and be counted.

If every gay conservative came out of the closet today, the journey to full equality would take years instead of decades. It would soon become ineffective to use GLBT families as wedge issues. The cynical efforts to amend our federal and state constitutions would eventually stop. The hypocrisy of antigay political tactics being used by too many Republicans and some Democrats would be finally exposed.

One of the biggest un-kept secrets in Washington is that closeted gay Republicans are everywhere — the White House, Republican Party organizations, the halls of Congress, the most influential law offices, and the most powerful lobbying firms. Some of those who remain closeted have chosen to be either passive bystanders or, in some cases, critics of our movement — comfortably partaking of the fringe benefits of our work while sipping expensive martinis in our trendiest gay bars.

Coming out is an intensely personal journey. As someone who struggled long and hard with how and when to come out of the closet, I unequivocally oppose outing. I am unaware of a single forced outing that led to passage of a single piece of pro-LGBT legislation. Coming out on one's own terms, with free will and personal courage, is a positive catalyst for change. Forced outings don't advance our movement because they're motivated by vengeance.

Over the years, many closeted gay Republicans have discreetly and impressively helped advance equality. In spite of attacks from too many on the partisan gay left, some gay conservatives work behind the scenes to pass equality legislation, increase funding for HIV and AIDS, offer vital counsel to LGBT groups and help defend us against antigay legislation. These gay conservatives have quietly come out to their bosses and colleagues, changing some into allies and challenging others to soften their positions. These persons have been quiet heroes, not asking for or wanting public credit.

Other gay Republicans, however, simply have failed to stand up, more concerned about keeping their title, their paycheck, their chance for promotion or their chance to attend another White House cocktail party.

Those who choose to be missing in action are running from the most critical fight of our generation, a fight that will determine how LGBT Americans are treated for decades to come. During these historic times, the closet is not only a place which suffocates personal dignity, it is also a place which suffocates the powerful force of personal integrity that can change the hearts and minds of even the most conservative Americans.

Coming out doesn't have to mean putting a sticker on your car, flying a rainbow flag from your porch or marching in a parade. Coming out may be as

Only with the help of gay conservatives can our movement achieve victory over the radical right.

simple as putting a picture of your partner on your desk at work, sharing your personal story with your boss, or speaking up when someone uses an anti-gay slur. For others, it may be as difficult as offering a letter of resignation instead of implementing or assisting with an antigay campaign strategy.

For many conservatives, coming out will come with profound sacrifice.

Thankfully, we can find inspiration from a new generation of Log Cabin members who are coming out in some of

America's most conservative places, joining new Log Cabin chapters in places like Oklahoma, Kansas, Iowa, Kentucky, New Mexico, and the Carolinas. They are coming out to family members who sometimes turn them away from the Thanksgiving table if they insist on bringing their partners, in towns where they're the only openly gay person, in high schools without gay/straight student alliances, and in workplaces where there are no protections to prevent them from being fired for being gay. They are the real heroes of today's LGBT movement. They deserve to be given a helping hand in the days ahead.

That helping hand needs to come from gay conservatives. We hold the key to changing the hearts and minds of fellow Republicans, conservative Democrats, and people of faith. In the not too distant future, the history books will record who had the courage to come out of the closet and lead us to victory when it mattered most.

Only with the help of gay conservatives can our movement achieve victory over the radical right. Only with the help of gay conservatives can we defeat the voices of fear and intolerance that are feverishly working to deny any legal recognition for gay families.

The history books will note not only those who had the courage to stand up, but sadly, also those who remained silent. The time is now.

Patrick Guerriero is president of Log Cabin Republicans, the nation's largest organization of Republicans who support equality for gay and lesbian Americans. Log Cabin has state and local chapters nationwide, a Washington office, and a federal political action committee. The group's Web site is Logcabin.org.





To submit an event listing All listings of upcoming GLBT meetings and events and of arts openings should be sent to the managing editor, in the Houston office. They must be received no later than noon on Monday to be included in Friday's newsmagazine. We prefer to receive them earlier. They may be e-mailed to Nancy@txtnewsmag.com, or faxed to 713-529-0327, or mailed to TXT Newsmagazine, 4617 Montrose Blvd., Suite C229, Houston TX 77006.

Friday, November 4

DALLAS/FT. WORTH

2nd Annual Diverse Women's Seminar: Developing Multicultural Leaders: Women who are Lesbian, Risexual Transgender and their Allies with Lune Valdez Patricia Nell Warren, Sharon Bridgforth, Alison Bechdel and Magdalen Hsu-Li. Presented in conjunction with the Out Texas Collegiate Conference, through Nov. 5. University of North Texas, Denton campus. unt.edu/edo.

Free syphilis and oral HIV testing, 5-9 p.m. Nelson-Tebedo Health Resource Center, 4012 Cedar Springs Rd. 214-540-4414.

HOUSTON

Bering Support Network hosts a wide variety of social, support and health-related community programs. 713-526-1017. Beringsupportnetwork.org.

Free HIV and syphilis testing throughout the week at various clubs. Montrose Clinic's Community Outreach Prevention Services. 713-830-3070 for schedule. Montroseclinic.org.

Houston GLBT Caucus voter ID project volunteer data entry work sessions. Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Houston Pride office, 1415 California, Suite 110. 713-529-6979. Jvalinski@hglbtpc.org.

Montrose Counseling Center hosts a wide variety of social, support and health-related community programs. 701 Richmond Ave., room 15. 713-529-0037. Montrosecounselingcenter.org.

Phone bank and block walk to help defeat Proposition 2, presented by Houston Equal Rights Alliance and No Nonsense in November, though Nov. 8. 6-9:30 p.m. Houston GLBT Community Center, 3400 Montrose Blvd. Suite 207. Hera.org.

Transition: Lilly Roddy and Phyllis Frye in concert. 8 p.m. \$5-\$10. BYOB. GLBT Community Center, 3400 Montrose Blvd., Suite 207. 713-529-5842.

SAN ANTONIO

Alamo City Men's Chorale seeks new members; call for audition, 210-654-7549, Acmc-texas.org.

Saturday, November 5

AUSTIN

Nonviolent vigil opposing Proposition 2 and the Ku Klux Klan rally. 1-3 p.m. Auditorium Shores, S. 1st St. and Riverside Dr. Nononsenseinnovember.com.

Threads: The Red Cross Fashion Show, with Robert Earl Keen and Mayor Will Wynn. 6:30 p.m. \$75-\$125. Benefits Central Texas Red Cross. Austin Music Hall, 208 Nueces Rd. 512-929-1277, Centex redcross.org

DALLAS/FT. WORTH

Dallas Fort Worth Primetimers Coffee, 10 a.m. Crossroad's Market, 3930 Cedar Springs Rd. Rsvp@primetimers-dfw.org.

Lone Star Ride Fighting AIDS 5 a.m.- 10 p.m. Leave from Resource Center of Dallas, 2701 Reagan St., traveling by bus to Fort Worth-Tarrant County College, South Campus. Bike from there to Dinosaur Valley State Park. 214-521-2412.

HOUSTON

A Night at Club Eve, presented by The Austin Dragsters (drag kings). 9:30 p.m. \$5-10. Benefits the 8th Annual International Drag King Extravaganza. Club Eve, 2205 Richmond Ave 713-523-FVFS Eyesfirst com Drag101@riseup.net.

Block walks to defeat Proposition 2, presented by

Houston Equal Rights Alliance. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. and 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Houston GLBT Community Center, 3400 Montrose Blvd., Suite 207. Hera.org.

College planning and financial aid workshop for GLBT youth, ages 13-20. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. University of St. Thomas, W. Alabama at Graustark St., Mallov Room 019. RSVP: Bill Alexander, 713-529-3590, ext. 3. Hatchyouth.org.

Houston Outdoor Group breakfast, 9 a.m. Harry's Restaurant, 318 Tuam. RSVP: 713-560-9794.

Lucie Blue Tremblay in concert. 6 p.m. \$20-\$25. Benefits The Breast Exam Project, Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church, 2025 W .11th St. 713-869-1482. Aeca87@houston.rr.com.

Rainbow Health Fair, presented by Lesbian Health Initiative. Free health screenings. 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Montrose Clinic, 215 Westheimer Rd. To schedule Pap tests and mammograms, call 713-830-3075. 713-426-

SAN ANTONIO

Spectrum Youth Outreach 7 p.m. Diversity Center, 531 San Pedro, 2nd floor. 210-223-6106. Info@diversitycen-

Sunday, November 6

AUSTIN

Rally at the Capitol opposing Proposition 2 with Texas State Rep. Senfronia Thompson. 1:30 p.m. South steps of the Capitol, Nononsenseinnovember.com

DALLAS/FT. WORTH

AIDS Memorial Quilt exhibit. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Lee Park. 214-540-4490.

HOUSTON

3rd Annual Gospel Brunch with Miss Diunna Greenleaf and the Petra Baptist Church Women's Gospel Choir, presented by Bayou City Boys Club. 11:30 a.m.-2:30 n.m. \$50-\$60 Rice Lofts' Crystal Ballroom Benefits People With Aids Coalition. Bcbc.info.

Authors Christopher Tebbetts and Lisa Papademetriou discuss Gay Teens Go Mainstream, presented by PFLAG Houston. 2-4:30 p.m. St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 5501 S. Main St. 713-46P-FLAG.

HATCH youth group. 6-9 p.m. Call for location, 713-529-3590. Hatchyouth.org.

SAN ANTONIO

POZ Outlook Social Group, 4-6 p.m. Diversity Center, 531 San Pedro Ave. 2nd floor. 210-223-6106 Diversitycentersa.org.

Monday, November 7

DALLAS/FT. WORTH

Leadership Lambda Toastmasters 6:30 p.m. Oak Lawn Public Library, 4100 Cedar Springs. 214-219-1908.

Gay Men's Chorus of Houston rehearsal. 7-10 p.m. Resurrection Metropolitan Church, 2025 W. 11th St. 713-521-SING. Gmch.org.

Queer Voices, GLBT radio with Jack Valinski, Deborah Bell and various GLBT co-hosts. 7-9 p.m. KPFT-FM 90.1.

Same-sex marriage public debate with Glenn T. Stanton and John Corvino, presented by Kingwood College Student Activities Department, 6 p.m. Kingwood College Student and Fine Arts Building, 281-312-1795.

SAN ANTONIO

San Antonio Chapter of AVER-SA 7 p.m. Metropolitan Community Church, 611 E. Myrtle. PMembership@aver-

Tuesday, November 8

DALLAS/FT. WORTH

Dallas Fort Worth Primetimers Prime Diner. 6:30 p.m. Romano's Macaroni Grill, 5858 W. NW Hwy. 972-504-8866. Rsvp@primetimers-dfw.org

Journey Out youth group for ages 16-22, 7 p.m. Cathedral of Hope Congregational Life Center, 5910 Cedar Spring Rd.

HOUSTON

 $\textbf{Election Watch Party}, \ presented \ by \ No \ Nonsense \ in$ November campaign, Houston Equal Rights Alliance and Houston GLBT Political Caucus. 7 p.m. Guava Lamp,

Wednesday, November 9

Safe Snace 7 n.m. University of Texas Lester West Fireplace Lounge. Demeureguy@yahoo.com.

DALLAS/FT. WORTH

North Texas Chapter of American Veterans for Equal **Rights**. 7-9 p.m. John Thomas Gay & Lesbian Resource Center, 2701 Reagan St. 214-540-4480. Aver-northtexas us

HOUSTON

GLOBO. 7 p.m. Resurrection M.C.C. 2025 W. 11th St. 713-710-0268. Globo.org.

Greater Houston GLBT Chamber of Commerce annual dinner and board member election, 6 p.m. \$25+, Hotel Derek, 2525 West Loop South. 713-523-7576. Ctow@ghlcc.org.

Masquerade Ball, inspired by The Legend of Zorro, presented by DMC Worldwide and UV Vodka. 7 p.m. InterContinental Hotel, 2222 W. Loop South. \$75-\$125. Benefits AIDS Foundation Houston. 713-623-6796, ext.

SAN ANTONIO

Free HIV Testing with BEAT AIDS. 4-7 p.m. 531 San Pedro Ave. 210-223-6106. Diversitycentersa.org.

King Mary's Bridge Club. 6:45 p.m. \$4. Diversity Center, 531 San Pedro Ave. 210-223-6106. Kingmary.org.

Thursday, November 10

DALLAS/FT. WORTH

Fuse for young men, ages 18-24. 7:30 p.m. Gay and Lesbian Community Center, 2701 Reagan St. 214-540-

HOUSTON

Coming out support group. 6 p.m. Montrose Counseling Center, 701 Richmond Ave. 713-529-0037. Montrosecounselingcenter.org..

SAN ANTONIO

Women's Support Group with Sally Chilson, MA, LPCI. 6:30-8 p.m. Diversity Center, 531 San Pedro Ave. 2nd Floor. 210-223-6106. Diversitycentersa.org.

One of the World's Largest HIV/AIDS Fund-Raisers.

New Socio-Cultural Events by The New York Times and The Miami Gay and Lesbian Film Festival.

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NINETEEN 69 (Miami) OREN NIZRI (Miami)
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1. Michael and Justin at EJ's. 2. Shawna and Lee at Rich's. 3. Seth and Jake at South Beach. 4. Rick, Alex and Pio at Meteor. 5. Jim, Gary, Alan and Craig at Brazos River Bottom. 6. Nick and John at Brazos River Bottom. 7. Cameron and Jamie at South Beach. 8. Paul, Mark and Orlando at JR.'s Bar & Grill. Photos by Paul Stricklin







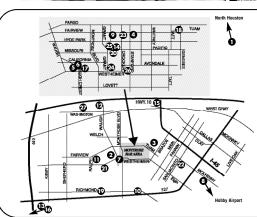












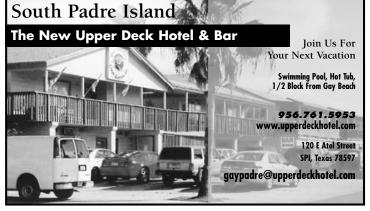
1. Amazonia—11449 I-45. 281-260-9885. Amazonia.com

- 2. Bartini—1318 Westheimer. 713-526-2271. Clubbartini.com
- 3. Brazos River Bottom—2400 Brazos. 713-528-9192
- 4. Brick's II—617 Fairview. 713-528-8102
- 5. Chances/G-Spot-1100 Westheimer. 713-523-7217. Chancesbar.com
- 6. Club 1415—1415 California. 713-522-7066
- 7. Club Rainbow—1417 Westheimer. 713-522-5166
- 8. Club Xcape—8101 Airport Blvd. 713-454-0775
- 9. Cousins-817 Fairview, 713-528-9204
- 10. Decades—1205 Richmond. 713-521-2224
- 11. E/J's—2517 Ralph. 713-527-9071 12. Guava Lamp—570 Waugh. 713-524-3359
- 13. Inergy-5750 Chimney Rock. 713-666-7310.Clubinergy.com
- 14. JR's-808 Pacific. 713-521-2519. JRsBarandGrill.com

NightSpots

- 15. Keys West-817 W. Dallas. 713-571-7870
- 16. Mango Lounge—5742 Chimney Rock. 713-666-7472
- 17. Mary's—1022 Westheimer. 713-527-9669
- 18. Meteor—2306 Genesee @ Fairview. 713-521-0123. Meteorhouston.com
- 19. Michael's-1419 Richmond. 713-520-8446
- 20. Montrose Mining Co.—805 Pacific. 713-529-7488
- 21. Rainbow Room—527 Barren Springs.
- 22. Rich's—2401 San Jacinto. 713.759.9606. Richs-houston.com
- 22. Rincord—715 Fairview, 713-521-2792, Rincordiournal.com
- 23. Santa Fe Bar & Patio—804 Pacific. 713-521-2519
- 24. South Beach—810 Pacific. 713-529-SOBE. Southbeachthenightclub.com
- 25. 611 Club-611 Hyde Park. 713-526-7070
- 26. Viviana's Nite Club-5219 Washington. 713-862-0203





ClubLand

austin

1. Cecilia and Elizabeth at 'Bout Time. 2. Michael, Danny and Terry at Chain Drive. 3. Steve and Jeffrey at Charlie's. 4. Michael and Lamar at Rain. 5. Adam, Jason and J.B. at Rain. 6. Daddy Tim and Master Tab at Chain Drive. 7. Lisa and Brandy at Rain. 8. Mutt, Donald and Jeff at Charlie's. **Photos by Guillermo Garza**



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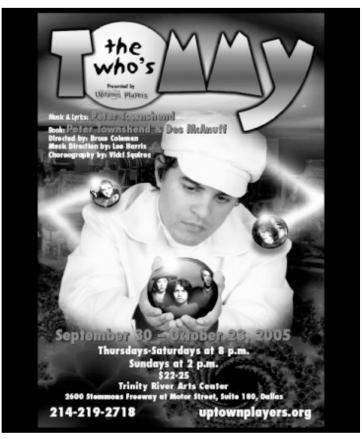
dallas

1. Sara at Sue Ellen's. 2. Jack, Andrew and Bob at Zippers. 3. Jeff at Crossbar. 4. Eric and Antwan at Woody's Sports and Video Bar. 5. Wayne and Todd at Alexandre's. 6. Adam and Dan at Kaliente. 7. Oscar and Oscar at JR.'s Bar & Grill. 8. Christina and Linda at Buddies II.

Photos by Barbera Barker and Gregory Hayes











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1. Artie and Seth at Heat. 2. Gus and Mike at The Annex. 3. Erica at The Saint. 4. Sid and Evan at Bonham Exchange. 5. Kris, Lukas and Eric at SA Eagle. 6. L.A. Rick at The Annex. 7. Kasandra at Heat. 8. Odysea, Sasha, Savage, Erica and Jenny at The Saint. **Photos by Junior Hernandez**

















NightSpots



- 1. Alternative—2211 San Pedro. 210-737-9191
- 2. Annex—330 San Pedro. 210-223-6957
- 3. Bermuda Triangle—119 El Mio. 210-342-2276
- Bonham Exchange—411 Bonham. 210-271-3811
 The Boss—1006 DFW Blvd. 210-534-6600
- 6. Club Cachondo—1022 Buena Vista.
- 5. Club Cacnondo—1022 Buena Vista. 210-212-9349. Clubcachondo.com
- 7. Cobalt-2022 McCullough. 210-734-2244
- 8. Gotham—Third @ Alamo (Downtown). 210-527-1707
- 9. HEAT-1500 N. Main Ave. 210-227-2600
- 10. TAGZ—5307 McCullough. 210-828-4922. Tagzsa.com
- 11. The 106—106 Pershing Ave. 210-820-0906
- 12. The Pegasus—1402 N. Main. 210-299-4222
- 13. The Saint—1430 N. Main. 210-225-7330, Thesaint-satx.com
- 14. SA Eagle—1010 N. Main. 210-226-2529. Satxeagle.com
- 15. Silver Dollar—1418 N. Main. 210-227-2623
- 16. 2015—2015 San Pedro. 210-733-3365
- 17. The Petticoat Junction—1818 N. Main. 210-732-0333

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DALLAS

Hotel Za Za — 2332 Leonard St., 214-468-8399, Hotelzaza.com. 214-468-8399, Hotelzaza.com.
The Melrose — 3015 Oak Lawn Ave.,
214-521-5151,
Melrosehoteldallas.com.

HOUSTON

Gar-Den Suites — 2702 Crocker St. 800-484-1036 (code 2669). Holiday Inn Select — 2712 S.W. Frwy, 713-523-8448. The Lovett Inn — 501 Lovett Blvd., 713-522-5224, 1-800-779-5224. Marriott Hotel Downtown Houston -904 Dallas St., 832-366-1000. Montrose Inn — 408 Avondale,713-520-0206, 800-357-1228.

SAN ANTONIO

Arbor House B+B — 109 Arciniega, 210-472-2005. Emily Morgan Hotel — 705 E. Houston St., 210-225-5100, Emilymorganhotel.com The Painted Lady Inn — 620 Broadway, 210-220-1092, the painted lady.com.

attorneys

AUSTIN

John Butler — 816 Congress Ave., #1100, 512-472-3887, johnbutler.com. 512-472-3887, Johnbutter.com.
Bruce S. Fox — 404 West 13th Street,
512-444-4FOX, brucefox.com.
Martha Pitkin — 11782 Jollyville Rd.,
512-219-4022.
Willie & Dasher — 1107 Nueces,

512-478-0834

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Birdwell & Associates — Jerry Birdwell, Tim Menchu, 214-357-3311. Frankel Douglas — 214-353-8033 dougfrankel.com. Stewart Charles — 3500 Oak Lawn, 214-521-3804.

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Walker & Patterson, PC — 4815 Dacoma, 713-956-5577.

Weisblatt & Associates — 2 Riverwat, 713-552-0686, weisblattlaw.com.

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Michael W. White — 3737 Broadway, 210-821-5283.

Neil A. Calfas — 540 S. St. Mary's Street, 210-212-6969.

Pearsall Legal Services, PLLC — 11103 San Pedro, 210-340-8290.

automotive

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Austin Subaru — 200 West Huntland, 512-454-9489 Charles Maund Volkswagen

8400 Research, 1-800-440-1999.

David McDavid Acura — 13553 Research Blvd., 512-335-5555. First Texas Honda — 1301 W. Koenig Lane, 512-381-1333, firsttexashonda.com.

Gillman Subaru — 6809 South I-35, 512-444-6044. Suzuki-Isuzu of Austin — (Jules Gollins) 4738 S. IH 35, 512-583-4000.

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Classic BMW — 300 N. Central Expy., 866-289-9999, classicbmw.com.

automotive

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Freeman Mazda — (George Johnson), 1800 E. Airport, Irving, 972-438-2121. John Eagle Honda — 5311 Lemmon Ave. 214-904-3247. EagleHonda.com. Saturn of Mesquite — (Miki Holtz) 15900 I-635 at Oates. 1-800-723-0714.

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Gillman Subaru Southwest — 10575 W. Sam Houston Pkwy., 713-776-6310. Jeff Haas Mazda — (John Griffin) 11222 Old Katy Rd., 713-932-6004.

Jim Jard Auto Group — 26525 S.W. Freeway, 281-342-4200.

Land Rover Houston — 7019 Old Katy Rd., 713-293-6100. Mike Calvert Toyota — 2333 Loop 610 713-558-8100. mikecalverttovota.com. Planet Ford — 20403 Interstate 45 North, 1-888-251-9135.

Sterling McCall Toyota — (Alexis) 9400 Southwest Frwy., 832-816-5718.

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Benson Honda/Mazda — 9100 San Pedro, 210-34-1356, tombenson.com. North Park Subaru — 210-308-0200. Tom Benson Chevrolet/Isuzu — 9400 San Pedro, 210-341-3311, tombenson.com

entertainment, adult

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Adult Video Megaplexxx — 7111 S. I-35, 512-442-5719. Midtowne Spa Austin — 5815 Airport, 512-302-9696, midtowne-spa.com.

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Alternatives of New Fine Arts — 1720 W. Mockingbird, 214-630-7071. Club Dallas — 2616 Swiss, 214-821-1990, the-club.com.

Midtowne Spa Dallas — 2509 Pacific, 214-821-8989, midtowne-spa.com. Mockingbird Adult Video — 708 W. Mockingbird, 214-631-3003.

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Adult Video Megaplexxx — 10006 Gulf Frwy., 713,944-8111

Adult Video Megaplexxx — 8100 I-45 North, 281-820-8999.

Club Houston — 2200 Fannin St., 713-659-4998, the-club.com.

Eros 1207 — 1207 Spencer Hwy., 713-944-6010.

Executive Adult Video Store — 14002 N.W. Frwy, 713-462-5152. ...ну, 713-402-3132. Midcity Video — 2043 Southwest Frwy., 713-522-3530.

Midtowne Spa Houston — 3100 Fannin, 713-522-2379, midtowne-spa.com. Q Video — 1415 California, 713-522-4485.

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Alternative Clubs, Inc. ACI — 827 East Elmira, 210-223-2177.

Club San Antonio, 13900 Jones – Maltsberger, 210-545-2101. Executive Club II — 402 Austin St., 210-299-1400.

entertainment, gen.

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Queerwaves Radio — Saturdays 4:30-6pm 91.7 FM KOOP, koop.org.
Zachary Scott Theatre Center —
512-476-0541, zachscott.com.

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Angelika Film Center — Mockingbird Lane 214-841-4700.

Magnolia Theater — 3699 McKinney Ave. at West Village. 214-520-0025.

HOUSTON

After Hours - 713-526KPFT, www.kpft.org Saturday midnight - Sunday 4am Alley Theatre — 615 Texas Ave., 713-228-8421, alleytheatre.org. Angelika Film Center & Café — 510 Texas Ave., 713-333-FILM

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Greenway Theater — 5 Greenway Plaza, 713-629-5129, landmarktheatres.com Houston Grand Opera — 713-228-OPERA, 1-800-626-7372.

Houston Symphony — 615 Louisiana St., 713-224-7575, houstonsymphony.org. River Oaks Theatre — 2009 West Grey, 713-528-4608, landmarktheatres.com.

Theatre Under The Stars - 713-558-8887

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Dr. Mark Hayes — 3100 MacArthur, 972-258-6400, www.tylock.com Pride Institute — 817-404-2205

Pride-institute.com Southwest Infectious Disease Associates — 3801 Gaston, Ste. 300. 214-828-4702.

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Stonewall Behavioral Health, Inc. — 3626 N. Hall, 723, 214-521-1278. 1-888-828-TALK. Eugene Tseng, D.D.S. — 3003 Carlisle, Ste. 106, 214-855-0789.

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Holmes Chiropractic — (Randall Holmes, DC) 1235 N. Loop W., 713-862-2440. Houston Department of Health & Human Services - 8000 N Stadium 713-794-9092.

Montrose Clinic — 215 Westheimer, 713-830-3000.

Montrose Counseling Center - 701 Richmond, 713-529-0037

Skin Renaissance Laser Center — 106 Westheimer, 713-942-SKIN.

Bruce W. Smith, D.D.S. — 1006 Missouri Street, 713-529-4364.

Southwest Houston Women's Center - (Myrtle Oates, MD) —4747 Bellaire, 713-779-6626

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Tony Carroll Psychotherapy — 1006 Missouri St., 713-529-4364.

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Bromley Medical Group — 3202 San Pedro, 210-732-5100.

CASA — (Yvonne J. Schilling, MS, LPC) 11230 West Ave., 210-203-2057, casa-sa.com. Counseling Works — (Joan Wells, LPC) mooreworks.net/cw, 210-203-2057.

FFACTS Clinic — 507 North Leona, 210-358-3710.

210-358-3710. Hill Country Psychotherapy Associates — 11118 Wurzbach Rd., 210-558-0409. Anthony Rogers, Ph.D. — Alamo Heights, 210-227-6815. Southtown Dental Group — 930 S. Alamo St., 210-227-0101

insurance

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A-Affordable Insurance — 4003 Lemmon Ave., 214-522-1702.

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Allstate — (Peter Fisher) 5934 Royal Lane, Ste. 252, 214-361-9870.

Steven Graves Insurance — 3500 Oak Lawn, Ste. 270, 214-599-0808.

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Dale Englefield — (Farmers) 888-439-1700. Flijah Kahalka (Farmers) —

Elijah Kabaika (Farmers) — 6575 W. Loop South,, 713-661-7700. Rob Schmerler - 6575 W. Loop South, 713-661-7700, schmerleragency.com.

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real estate

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Bollew Scott (Fresh Perspective Lending Team) — 512-328-2225,

freshperspectivelending.com.
Copper Eric — 512-350-3921,
EricCopper.com.

EricCopper.com.

Nelson Julie (Keller Williams) —
512-848-5881, thenelsonproject.com. Presidio Group Realtors - (Ron Redder) 512-657-8674, presidiogroup.com.

Re/Max Downtown — (Geroge W. Hughes) 115 W. 8th St., 512-940-4894. Tebbetts Eric (2K Mortgage) — 2700 Bees Caves Rd. #120 — 512-306-1616, 2kmortgage.com.

Baird Stotle — (Dallas Intown) 214-265-5893, dallasintown

Dream Home Realty — Ray Ortiz, 5151 Belt Line Rd. #610. 214-923-4818. Hewitt & Habgood — (Keller Williams) 214-752-7070.

Master Realtors — 4235 Cedar Springs. 214-902-9999, masterrealtors.com. Morris & Moore — (Coldwell Banker) 972-588-8163.

Shelter Mortgage — 2605 Routh. 214-365-0708. Surrealty — 3615 N. Hall 214-520-2020 sur-realtyhomes.com.

Virginia Cook Realtors — 2626 Cole, 214-292-0000, virginiacook.com.

Tim Anthony — Realtor 713-528-7703. Coldwell Banker — (Rae Lynn White) 713-598-4097.

Keller Williams — (John Buchanan) 832-969-4352.

osz-969-4532. Irtridge Properties (Todd Partridge) — 3230 Yoakum, 713-528-1184, toddpartridge.com.

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Amberstar Properties — 210-614-7818, amberstar properties.com.

Timothy DeWein — (Keller Williams) 12500 San Pedro210-842-8452, dewein.com. King William Realty — 210-225-0009, kingwinzalty.com

Rainbow Real Estate — (Nancy Russell) 210-860-6092, 1-888-GAY-MOVE.

Hagan Retzloff — 210-286-8032. Randy Rice — (Keller Williams) 210-844-0102, randyrice.com.

restaurants AUSTIN

Brick Oven Restaurant — 1608 West 35th Street, 512-453-4330.

Carmelo's Ristorante — 504 East 5th Street, 512-477-7497. Frank & Angie's Pizzeria — 508 West Ave., 521-472-3534

Gelato's — Crossroads Shopping Center, Burnet & Research Blvd., 512-371-9858 Kerbey Lane Café — 12602 Research Blvd., 512-258-7757, kerbeylanecafe.com.

restaurants

AUSTIN

Hickory Street Bar & Grill — 800 Congress Ave., 512-477-8968. Hut's Hamburgers — 807 West 6th Street, 512-472-0693

DALLAS

Black-eyed Pea — 3857 Cedar Springs, 214-521-4580.

Bronx — 3835 Cedar Springs, 214-521-5821. Busters Mexican Grill — 4001 Cedar Springs, 214-443-0999.

Cafe Brazil — 2221 Abrams, 214-826-9522, 3847 Cedar Springs, 214-461-8762. Chan Thai — 312 W. 7th St., 214-948-9956. Cuidad — 3888 Oak Lawn, 214-219-3141. Hunky's— 4000 Cedar Springs, 214-522-1212

Marco Italian — 4000 Cedar Springs (facing Throckmorton), 214-526-3636. Monica Aca Y Alla — 2914 Main St., 214-748-7140.

Tico Tiko Diner — 2525 Wycliff @ Tollway, 214-443-0255, ticotikodiner.com. Tillman's Corner — 324 W. 7th St.,

HOUSTON

Aztea's Bar & Grill — 2207 Richmond, aztecasbarandgrill.com. Baba Yega — 2607 Grant Street, 713-522-0042. Barnaby's Café - 604 Fairview, 713-522-0106.

Berryhill — 3407 Montrose, 713-523-8226 Carmello's Italiano — 14795 Memorial, 281-531-0696.

Hollywood Book & Cafe — 2409 Grant, Ste. A, 713-523-8855

Niko Niko — 2520 Montrose Blvd., 713-528-1308. Pang Tai's Stirfry Bistro — 10811 Westheimer, 713-975-7821.

Westnelmer, 173-973-7821.
Pepper Tree Veggie Cuisine — 3821
Richmond, 713-621-9488,
peppertreeveggie.com
Senor Ritas — 2409 Montrose at Hyde Park,
713-529-8559.

Wasabi Japanese Steakhouse — 908 Congress at Travis, 713-226-7210. Ziggy's Healthy Grill — 2202 W. Alabama 713-527-8588.

SAN ANTONIO Circa 1900 — 3920 Harry Wurzbach, 210-821-5600.

El Milagrito Café — 521 E. Woodlawn Ave., at N. St. Mary's, 210-734-8964 Madhatters Tea House & Café — 320 Beauregard, 210-212-4832

Tong's Thai — 1146 Austin Hwy.. 210-829-7345.

W.D. Deli — 3123 Broadway, 210-828-2322, Wddeli.com.

services

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Girl Meats Grill, Gourmet Personal Chef Service — 512-922-9887. Liberty Bank — 900 Congress Ave., 512-472-5433, libertybanktexas.com Q Avenue Web Production - 512-228-6751

Rainbow Photo — 2913 West Anderson Lane, 521-453-4740. Velocity Credit Union — 512-469-7000,

DALLAS Allen Ron, CPA — 3100 Carlisle, Ste. 108, 214-954-0042.

Beaches Tanning — 2515 Inwood Rd. @ Maple, 214-654-9134.\

Creative Elements Salon — 4008 Cedar Springs, 214-252-0399. Dallas Voice — 4145 Travis, Third Floor, 1-866-977-8077 ext. 114.

Expressive Arts - 507 Exposition. 214-468-9229, expressivearts.com.
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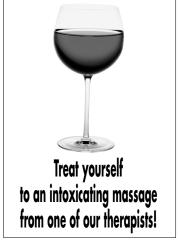
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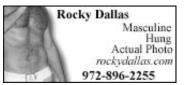
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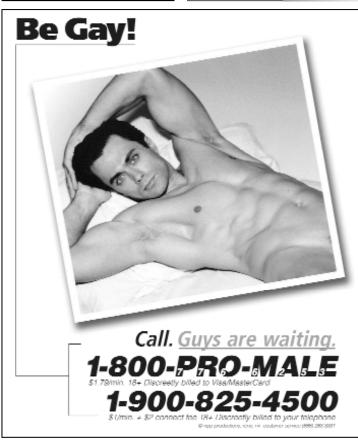


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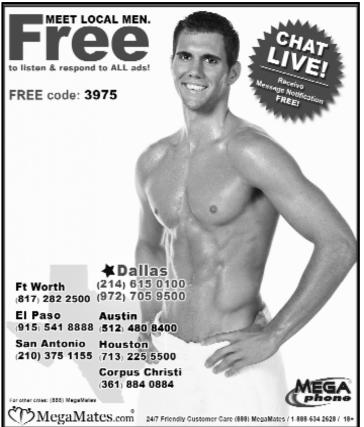


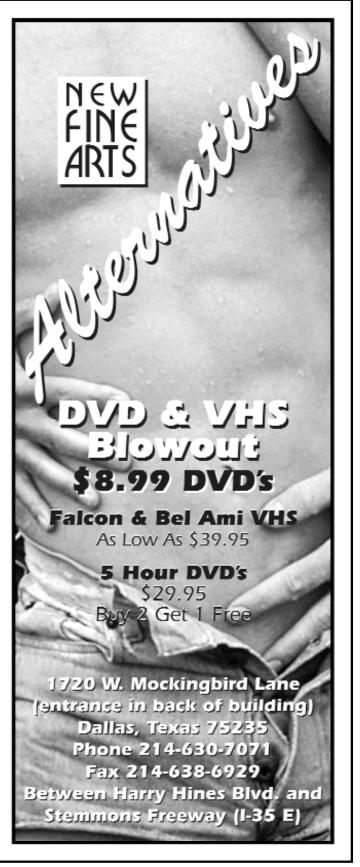


















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