

HOUSTONS NEW PREMIER MAGAZINE **abOUT**  
DECEMBER 12

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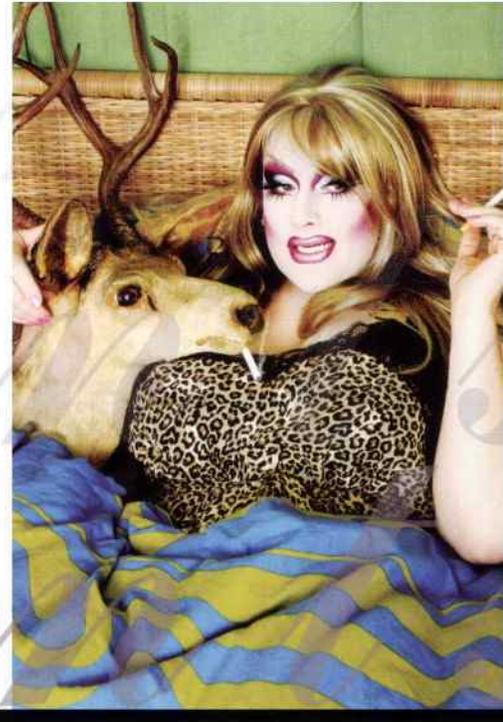
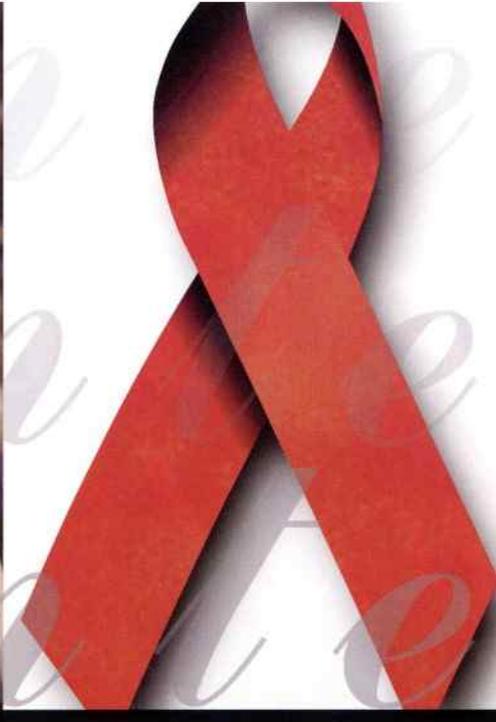
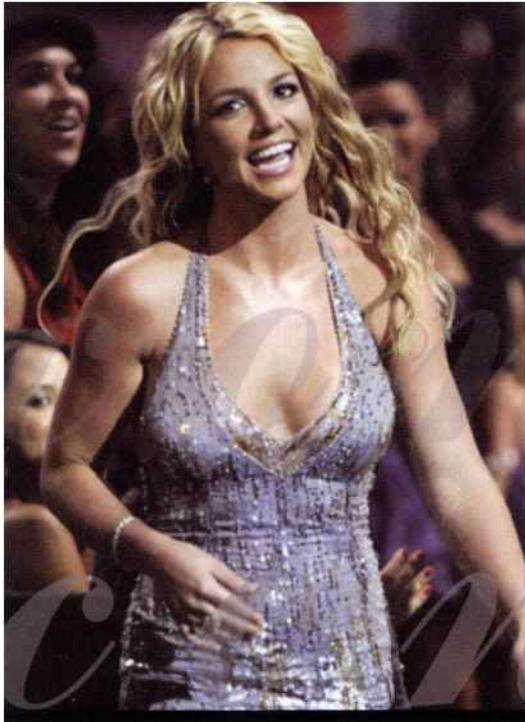
**FEATURE  
ARTICLE**

*Britney Spears*

JACKIE BEAT: THE HOLIDAY HO +  
DIRTY/SOCIETY +

magazine

**abOUT**



December | 2008

Volume 1 Issue 2

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**SATURDAY**

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**SUNDAY**

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## HOROSCOPES

**ARIES**

Pessimism is weighing on you heavily, and friends' assurances seem to backfire. The future is what you make of it, so take care of your health and keep your mind on your work. Patience, love! Every little step forward counts.

**LIBRA**

Efforts to loosen up some of your more conservative associates are sure to backfire. Try instead to be sensitive to and meet their wishes, even if you take them in an entirely new direction.

**TAURUS**

With a sense of uncertainty at work, you're inclined to retreat into your nest, but mere cocooning offers little satisfaction. Creative projects at home can make you more generally confident of challenges at work—and eager for challenges in bed!

**SCORPIO**

Friends—and especially colleagues—can help you work through the long-running muddle at home and stress at work that feed into each other. If their suggestions seem a bit off, use them as a starting point for new and better ideas.

**GEMINI**

Messages from Mama or anyone back home can help resolve the problems you're struggling with. Shutting up and listening can help, too. Don't let ideals get in the way of reality, but let reality clarify those ideals!

**SAGITTARIUS**

Arguments are coming toward you and out of you more easily than usual, and you had a head start! Accept advice from someone whose authority you respect, and keep your rebellious streak focused on productive battles.

**CANCER**

Organizing bills and accounts and/or balancing your checkbook will hone your mind toward a better understanding of your priorities, both material and otherwise. That clarity could improve your sex life! Still, be careful to avoid accidents and needless arguments.

**CAPRICORN**

Clever suggestions from an unlikely source can help you improve your sex life. But they may also challenge some of your erotic values and ideals—perhaps even open unpleasant memories and hidden fears, and through those, untapped strength.

**LEO**

Arguments over money come out of your rigidity and your partner's uncertainty. Even so, financial discussions can push you to loosen up a bit and give your baby a little more security. Gambling and investments now are sure losses.

**AQUARIUS**

To pep up your sex life, move it to the bathroom. The shower may be the best place to start. There are other possibilities, but once you're near the plumbing, it's up to you and your partner!

**VIRGO**

Worrying too much about guarding a secret can be the surest way to reveal it. Put your mind elsewhere, especially on health matters. A checkup now can nip something serious in the bud.

**PISCES**

Worries about your health may drive you to a doctor, and a timely checkup is always worthwhile. But a day at a spa with your partner may be just as good. Any health advice from your baby is especially valuable now, too!

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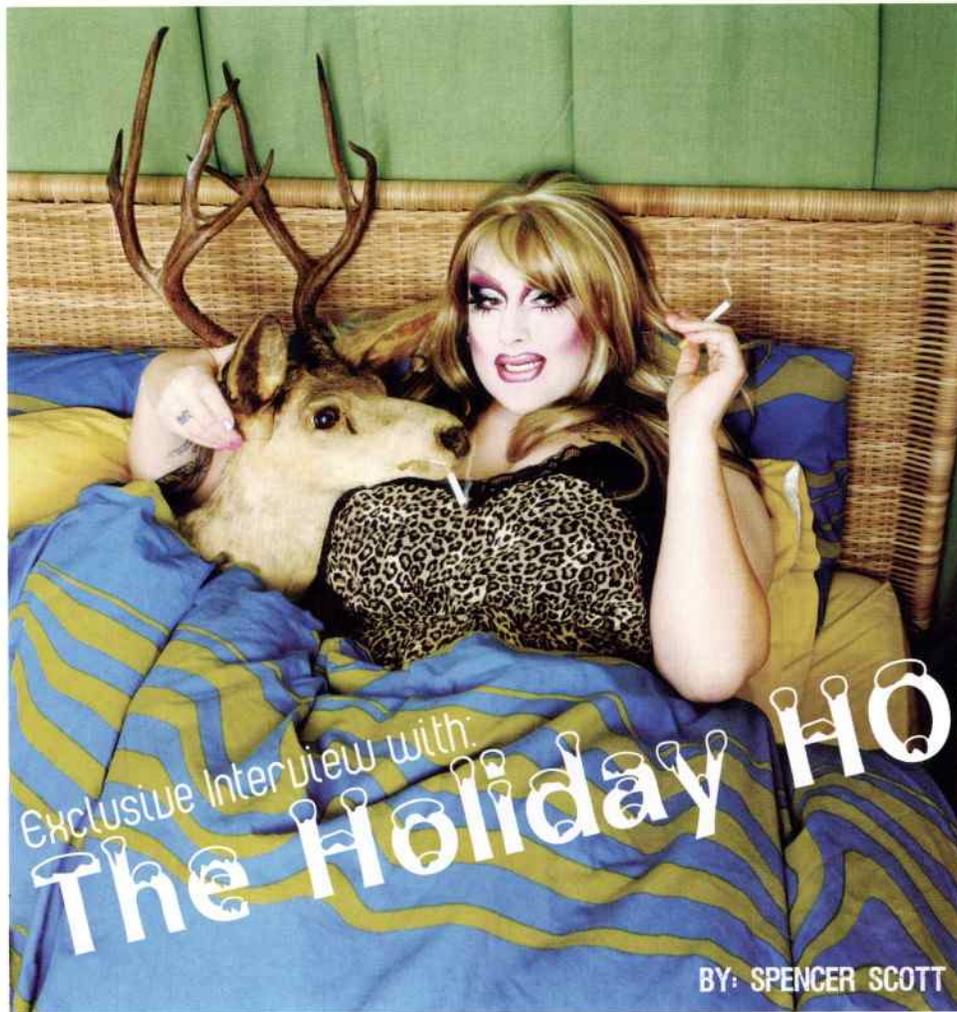
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Q
 rag superstar **JACKIE BEAT** has been entertaining audiences across the U.S. and in Europe for over ten years with her razor-sharp comedy and hysterical song parodies, and on December 19 she returns to Houston, to **Guava Lamp**. “That’s right! I knocked ‘em dead last time and now they’ve asked me back!” The diva tells *ABOUT Magazine*. “Okay, the truth is that I got busted shoplifting a bunch of makeup and my community service is to perform in Houston”.

Jackie’s stand-up has been featured in comedy clubs across the country and on **Comedy Central**, **VH-1** and **MTV**. She was recently a staff writer for the WB comedy series “**Hype!**”, has written for the Sci Fi Channel, is one of **US Magazine’s Fashion Police** top cops and is currently the voice of Bertha on Nickelodeon’s animated series “**Kung-Fu Spy Troll**”. She has appeared on many TV shows and in several movies including “**Flawless**” with **Robert DeNiro** and the cult hit “**Wigstock The Movie**”.

Jackie recalls how she started in this business “Like a lot of gay men, I did drag one Halloween -- a million years ago -- and I noticed that it was just a fit! I looked good, I had a character and I found I could say and do things I could never have said or done out of drag. And I made people laugh! Honey, the moment I heard that sound, I was hooked!”.

With such success, Jackie has been around the block several times she explains “I enjoy just about every place I go, but it seems that the smaller the town the better! They’re just so hungry for good entertainment and so appreciative. Sometimes big city’s like NYC or L.A. can be a bit jaded, although I have always been fortunate to have great and supportive audiences. I just did my holiday show in San Francisco and it was fabulous! But of all the wonderful cities in which I have performed, Houston’s my favorite, of course! And if you believe that, I also have beautiful vagina you just have to check out!”

JACKIE BEAT IS **THE HOLIDAY**

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- *On & Off Magazine*

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- *The Village Voice*

"A hilarious not-to-be-missed holiday tradition!"  
- *HX Magazine*

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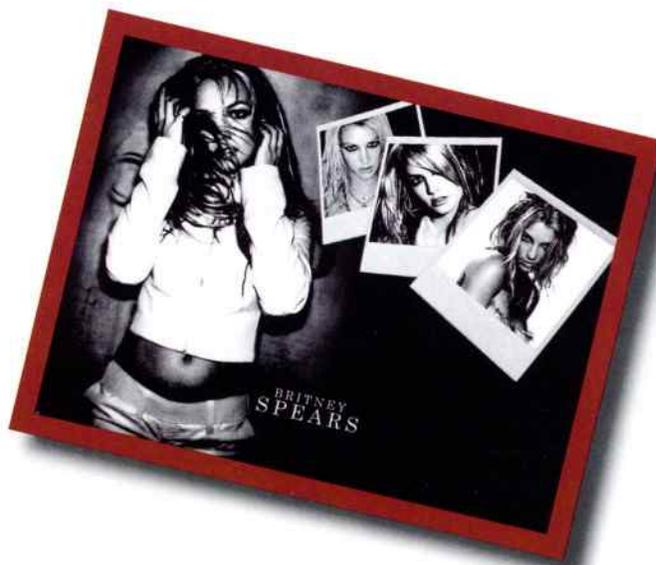
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**Britney Spears** has set the record straight about her personal and professional woes in a documentary "For the Record" which aired November 30, on MTV shortly before her album was released on 27th birthday. **abOUT Magazine** sat down with the pop princess and took an amazing journey; an interview. Interview by **Cade Michals**



# I'm "Yes Ya'll Back"

Looking back at what she described as a "hell of a year," Britney said that winning three Moonmen at the Video Music Awards reminded her that the industry and her fans are still rooting for her. She added that the victories restored her confidence. "I have been working so hard on my album, but ... I didn't know exactly where I stood with everyone," she said. "When I received the awards and the audience stood for me, it showed me how much love is out there."

That confidence radiated through when Spears talked about her new album *Circus*, which she described as "really personal," adding, "I think people will feel that when they hear it. It's me talking to them, instead of just singing a song about something." Not to mention her highly anticipated return to stage with "THE CIRCUS STARRING BRITNEY SPEARS 2009 TOUR", her first arena tour in five years

One thing the singer isn't entirely confident about is her body image. But, like many things in her life, she's starting to regain that as well. "I'm getting there," she admitted. "Recently I started to appreciate my body a bit more from before I had kids. But it completely changed, and I have had to work hard at getting it back to where it used to be."

"THE CIRCUS STARRING BRITNEY SPEARS 2009 TOUR" launches on March 3, 2009 in New Orleans with special guests The Pussycat Dolls, with a March 30 date for Houston and the following day in Dallas.

"Britney: For the Record" featured a behind-the-scenes look into the pop star's world. The documentary, described as showing "the reality of trying to live a normal life after all that has been exposed through the media", covered her high-profile meltdown, which included stints in rehab, an ugly divorce, losing custody of her two sons, and shaving her head. "I sit here and I'll look back and I'm like: I'm a smart person. What the hell was I thinking?" the 27-year-old singer says.

In the past six months or so, Spears' father Jamie has taken over management of her affairs and helped get his daughter's life back on track. She has made guest appearances on U.S. TV series "How I Met Your Mother" and her newly released album is number one.

"So much has gone on over the last couple of years and there's a lot that people don't know about me that I want them to know," Spears said "I made this film because I started to feel like I wasn't being seen in the light that I wanted to

be seen in. This opportunity allowed me to set the record straight and talk about what I've been through and where I'm headed," she said.

Arguably the most successful pop icon of her generation, Britney Spears has followed in the footsteps of her idols Madonna, Whitney Houston, and Mariah Carey, mixing sugary, synthesized pop music with ravishing sex appeal. Britney's success has been largely due to a rather brilliant lack of subtlety - her wildly popular first single, 1998's "...Baby One More Time," was heavily promoted by a notorious video in which the 17-year-old Spears danced suggestively in a skimpy schoolgirl outfit.

"Womanizer" which appears on Spears' album, *Circus* is also #1 on iTunes charts in Canada, France, Spain and Sweden. Three weeks ago, Spears premiered the video for "Womanizer," in which we see her in various states of undress and playing several different characters, including a naughty secretary and a butt-kicking waitress.

With over 350,000 downloads, the single had the biggest opening week by a female artist since Nielsen SoundScan started tracking digital sales in 2003, beating Mariah Carey's "Touch My Body" by just over 200 units.

Britney's genius as a pop provocateur doesn't rest entirely with her racy costumes, however. During her brief career she has deftly managed to toe the line between innocent girlhood and sexpot status, and has frequently exhibited an all-American persona that has made her a sensation with pre-teen girls and twenty something males alike. All four of her albums have opened at No. 1 on the Billboard Top 100, and her first two, ...*Baby One More Time* and *Oops!...I Did It Again*, hit diamond sales selling over ten million copies each.

Born Dec. 2, 1981 in McComb, Mississippi and raised in Kentwood, Louisiana, Spears was a competitive gymnast in her youth until she received a spot on the popular program *Star Search* in 1992. Though she didn't win the competition, she was soon accepted into Disney's *New Mickey Mouse Club* and was featured for two seasons from 1993-94. Here she met Justin Timberlake, whom she would date for four years during the two stars' early career booms starting in 1998.

Despite her old image as a party girl, she insists that these days she's "boring." "I don't like going out. I hate clubs," Spears said. "I hate being around too many people. I love my home and staying in bed and watching "Dancing With the Stars" or reading a Danielle Steel novel. I'm kind of boring."

At the end of the day, the pop star thinks that out of all the people around her, her mom, Lynne Spears, is the only one who really understands her. "We butt heads the most, but we understand each other the most too," she said. "It's a weird thing."

With the New Year quickly approaching, Spears has a few goals for 2009. "I would like to stop worrying so much, because I worry all the time," she said. "And to learn how to be happier, just in general. I have to learn to take things not so seriously. And to stop biting my nails!"



## GLBT REMINDED TO REMEMBER THE GLBT MERCHANTS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

By: Staff Writer

(Houston) With just under a month left for the 2008 Christmas shopping season, the GLBT consumer is be told they should give precedence to companies that support GLBT rights.

The Human Rights Campaign has released it's 2009 "Buying for Equality" to help consumers identify hundreds of businesses and brands that support equality and fairness in the workplace for the GLBT community. The guide includes a list of over 260 companies that received a perfect 100 score on the HRC's 2009 Corporate Equality Index, an annual report on company policies related to diversity, inclusion training, non-discrimination policies and access to healthcare for GLBT employees and their families.

"During difficult economic times, our nation's businesses know that every dollar spent by consumers figures into the success of their organization."

### abOUT NEWS

## Houston Animal Cop Shot

Houston's own animal cruelty investigator and Deputy Constable Mark Timmers is recovering at home after being shot in the arm on November 28th, while working an off duty job at a downtown nightclub. Just recently featured in the November issue of Outsmart as "The Animals Cop".

"In law enforcement we always expect the unexpected. But when it happens it's a shock," said Mark Timmers, Precinct 6 Deputy Constable.

## PRIDEHOUSTON

### 2009 Event Theme Announced:

The event theme for the 31st Annual Pride Houston Festival and Parade was selected by the Pride Production Team and Board of Directors for 2009. OUT 4 JUSTICE was selected from a handful of potential themes, each submitted by community members and volunteers

OUT 4 JUSTICE represents a call to all members of the GLBT Community to come together in a unified quest of justice and equality, for us to live in an equal and peaceful society, we must hold to the fact that not only must tension be removed, but justice be present.

**Please visit:**  
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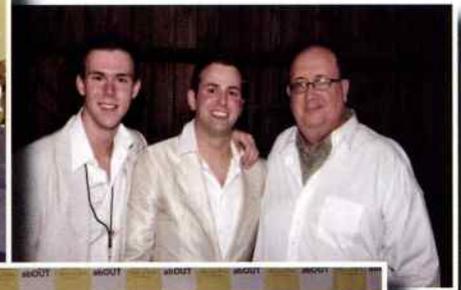
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# NYS Insurers ordered to recognize same sex marriages

By: Staff Writer



(New York City) The New York State overseer of insurance companies has told companies they must treat legally married same-sex couples the same as they treat opposite-sex married pairs. Although state law does not permit gay marriage within New York State, a Rochester court ruled that valid out-of-state marriages of lesbian and gay couples must be recognized. The state's highest court upheld the ruling.

In addition, Gov. David Paterson in June issued a directive instructing state agencies governing insurance and health care - to immediately change policies and regulations to recognize gay marriages performed in areas where they are legal.

Nevertheless, some private insurers have declined to recognize same-sex marriages.

In his directive to insurance companies operating in the state, Insurance Superintendent Eric Dinallo said legally married same-sex couples cannot be treated differently than other married couples.

"Insurance is an essential part of our planning for daily life," Dinallo's directive said. "We expect insurance companies to provide the same rights and benefits to all legally married couples, regardless of the sex of the spouses ... As Governor David Paterson has explained, this is consistent with the position the State historically has taken with respect to marriages conducted in jurisdictions outside of the State of New York."

Large numbers of New York gay and lesbian couples have gone to Canada, Massachusetts and Connecticut where same-sex marriage is legal to tie the knot. GLBT rights groups are hopeful the incoming legislature will pass marriage equality legislation in the Empire State. Gov. Paterson has said he would sign the bill if it is passed.

In 2006, the New York Court of Appeals, the state's highest court, ruled that same-sex couples do not have a constitutional right to marry. It said that the issue, however, could be taken up by the Legislature. A bill that would allow same-sex couples to marry in New York passed the Democrat-controlled Assembly last year but Republicans who then controlled the Senate refused to consider the legislation.

November's election saw 40 years of GOP rule in the Senate come to an end. The marriage equality legislation likely will be reintroduced in 2009.

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magazine  
**abOUT**

## Dirty Society

Alex Kovacs & George Morales:

### abOUT Launch Party

The only thing topping off the candlelight garden and shades of white ambience was the posh red carpet entrance at abOUT Magazines launch party November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008. The star studded night included such names as Frank Billingsley, Miss Lupita, Ernie Manouse, of PBS, Woody Gould owner of Guava Lamp, Bill Clevenger, Angela Snell, Tim Brookover, the fabulous Dalton Dehart and Paul Sticklin.

These reporters have yet to decide which was glowing brighter, the white silk veils that floated above the trees, and seamlessly melted into the soft blue lighting, or publisher Cade Michals smile as he personally greeted every guest. With the variety of people in attendance, compiled with the smooth sounds of Gary Kneal on the keyboards and microphone, it seemed as though abOUT threw the best launching event they could hope for.

November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 was definitely a night to remember, but just one of many events to be thrown by abOUT Magazine.

### Turkey Disco 7

It's the time of year when families get together, when gifts are given, and when the stress of everyday life is put on hold for the infinite stresses of the holiday season. It is also that time of year when relief from those stresses comes in the form of an annual Thanksgiving party. Saturday night, November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008 rang in the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Disco Turkey ball. The event was produced by Bryan Hlavinke and Chad Guidry. Bryan who attempted to greet each guest as they arrived, was wearing gold glittered disco Dorothy platform shoes, jet black bell bottoms that must have cut off circulation somewhere below the waist, a gleaming gold sequenced polyester shirt, a blonde wig, and a blonde 70's porn mustache that curiously matched the blonde wig.....which begs the question...does the carpet match the curtains?

Hosted by Chase Swearigne, Beau Miller, Charles Solomon, David Theisen, Tara Grace, Mo Hendrix, Michael White, Dante Dimarzio, and Jenny Reon, the party itself was a resounding success, bringing in over 150 people to Chad and Bryan's home. With the copious amounts of alcohol, the overcrowded second floor, and lack of good AC, the party felt as though it could spontaneously combust into flames at any moment from the heat. Thank goodness the cool weather provided some relief and the smokers were banished to the third floor balcony or outside in the front lawn preventing any such tragic fires from starting. All in all, the Turkey Disco gets better year after year, each time a learning experience for the hosts on how better to provide a good time for the enormous amounts of people who come. The bartenders Amanda and Garret, who are somewhat of local favorites from Guava Lamp, were diligent and quick to serve (these reporters found the jell-o shots to be deliciously strong), the music was perfect for the crowd this party attracts, and the sounds of laughter filled the house as old friends talked about their holiday experiences and new friends were made.

This party is a must for any well-to-do gay who wants to get away from their family for the night and have a good time dancing to the grooviest disco tunes from the 70's to the present.

### World Aids Day



December 1 marked the 20th anniversary of World AIDS Day, the international day of awareness of the epidemic and remembrance of those lost to it

As we pause to reflect on the toll of HIV during this anniversary of World AIDS Day, we must not forget that our fight against this devastating disease is far from over. HIV remains a significant threat to the health and well-being of multiple communities in the United States. The most recent CDC data indicate that more than 1.1 million Americans live with HIV, and that an estimated 56,000 new infections occur in the United States every year.

Despite the challenges, we have seen important signs of progress in fighting HIV with effective prevention measures. The number of annual new infections in the United States, while far too high, has remained roughly stable since the late 1990s.

On this World AIDS Day, we are all reminded that we must do more - as individuals, as communities and as a nation - to stop HIV/AIDS. We must relieve the burden of HIV in African-American and Hispanic communities by reaching them with effective prevention programs. We must confront the complex issues that keep Gay and Bisexual men at risk. We must arm our youth with the knowledge, skills and confidence to prevent HIV throughout their lives. Above all, we must not give up until this fight is won.

*A Center for Disease Control and Prevention press release*

Christmas is coming up faster than ever this year. It seems like every year we sit back and think about how quickly the year has gone by, and how we have absolutely no idea what to get anyone for Christmas. If this applies to you, we have narrowed down some gift ideas into categories that will hopefully help you choose what to get that special gay you've been so caught up on.

## abOUT HIM

### Gift for: The Digital Don iPod Touch (Starts at \$229)

Touch your guy's heart with the new iPod Touch (pretty much an iPhone without the phone). Comes with either 8GB, 16GB, or 32GB of memory you can use for music, photos, videos, or games you can get from the "App Store" on iTunes. If your man is always listening to music, or trying to find something new to listen to, this is the gift for him.

### Gift for: The Hygienist Cologne Gift Sets (Prices Vary)

Have you ever met that guy that wears the same cologne so much even his house smells like it? Every guy has that one cologne they always wear, even if they recently got a new one, and chances are if you're trying to think of a gift to get them -- you know what that cologne is. If this sounds like your guy, then why not get them that cologne in a gift set? The gift sets generally come with body wash and after shave, but sometimes they come with a little more such as deodorant, hair gel, an overnight bag, etc.

### Gift for: The "Man-scaper" Norelco Bodygroom (\$34.99)

No one likes an out of control field, but a completely cleared patch is nearly impossible to maintain. Lucky for you, the natural look is in -- nicely groomed areas that are left in their natural shape, but with, let's say, fewer weeds. The Norelco Bodygroom is made exclusively for male personal grooming. The Bodygroom comes with three different attachment combs, is curved and has protective (and comfortable) blades so your guy can trim his tree without nicking the kiwis.

### Gift for: The Professional Chatter Clique Hue HD (\$34.99 for 2)

Everyone loves something that can twist an turn to any angle you can possibly think of -- and that's why the Clique Hue HD webcam is perfect for anyone. It comes in six different colors (blue, pink, black, gray, green, and red), and just recently has started to be sold in packs of 2. Shoot up, shoot down, shoot to the side, or even from behind. This flexible little webcam is probably the coolest gadgets we've seen in years.

### Gift for: The Chef KitchenAid Artisan Series Mixer (\$299)

He loves to cook and you love it when he does, so why not give him something to keep him going? The KitchenAid Artisan Series Mixer was made for those "Martha Gays" out there who just can't stop cooking, and comes in a wide variety of colors to match any kitchen... it's also one of Oprah's favorite things! (That's two diva references for one product -- it's a must buy.)

## abOUT her

### Gift for: The "Straight" Girl Ion FX Cordless Battery Operated Flat Iron (\$172)

We all know that girl that won't take one step out of the house until her hair is perfectly straight -- even though she is FAR from it, so why not get her a flat iron she can use anywhere? That's right, thanks to technology; you can now straighten your hair on the go! The Ion FX comes with built in lithium ion batteries that are rated for over 1,500 charges before the battery quality reduces -- that would mean charging it every day for over 4 years.

### Gift for: The Beauty Queen I.D. Bare Minerals Make-Up (\$60 - \$200)

Everyone has seen the commercial for this product and possibly even used it once or twice, but this is truthfully the best make-up any lady can get. Bare Minerals is 100% natural and so pure, you can really sleep in it! Sure, it's a little expensive, but how can anyone put a price on what looks good? One thing everyone should take care of is their skin -- why not start now?

### Gift for: The Remote Queen The L Word on DVD (\$209.99 for all 5 seasons)

This show has officially been wrapped up for the time being...so why not catch up and wait for season 6 to be announced?? The L Word is a fantastic show that any lesbian will love. Whether you are buying the missing seasons for a friend (or yourself), or buying all of them, this will not be a waste of your money. This show will never get old.

### Gift for: The Directionally Challenged Garmin Nuvi 880 (\$565.00 - \$1,239.02)

Do you know that person that just can't seem to get anywhere without getting lost?? Problem solved -- the new Garmin Nuvi 880 is the best GPS you can buy right now. One feature on the Nuvi that pushes it over the edge is it's accurate speech recognition. This product is sleek and compact, perfect to match anyone's style.

### Gift for: The Impossible Visa Gift Card

This is always a great gift for anyone -- as long as it has a generous amount of money on it! One great thing about this card is you're not limited to just one place -- the Visa Gift Card can be used virtually anywhere. It's a little less thoughtful of a gift, but it will definitely be used.

BY SPENCER SCOTT

# about WORDS of the Day

## Monday

### 1 **Deja moo**

The feeling that you have heard this bull before.

Katie: "How come you guys didn't go out and celebrate your anniversary?"

Nicole: "We were going to, but he had to take care of his little sister again."

Katie: "That sounds like deja moo to me."

## Tuesday

### 2 **Stoptional**

When the braking of a car is left to one's choice due to an unnecessary stop sign.

Passenger: Did you just blow through that stop sign?

Driver: Oh, no worries. It was stoptional

## Wednesday

### 3 **Tag hag**

A person who is obsessed with name brand clothing. See label whore.

Nicole always flaunts the latest clothing. She is such a tag hag

## Thursday

### 4 **Hurrication**

Evacuation from a major hurricane turned into a short holiday.

During Hurricane Katrina we took a hurrication in Jacksonville until it blew through

## Friday

### 5 **Interneuter**

Losing your connection to the internet

Johnny was interneutered suddenly by his cable company which left him feeling much like his cat who was neutered a few days ago.

## Saturday

### 6 **Post-Party Depression**

The feeling you have after a big party you had been anticipating is over.

On sunday, I was experiencing post-party depression. After planning the big celebration for a month, I was sad when it was over.

## Sunday

### 7 **Manscape**

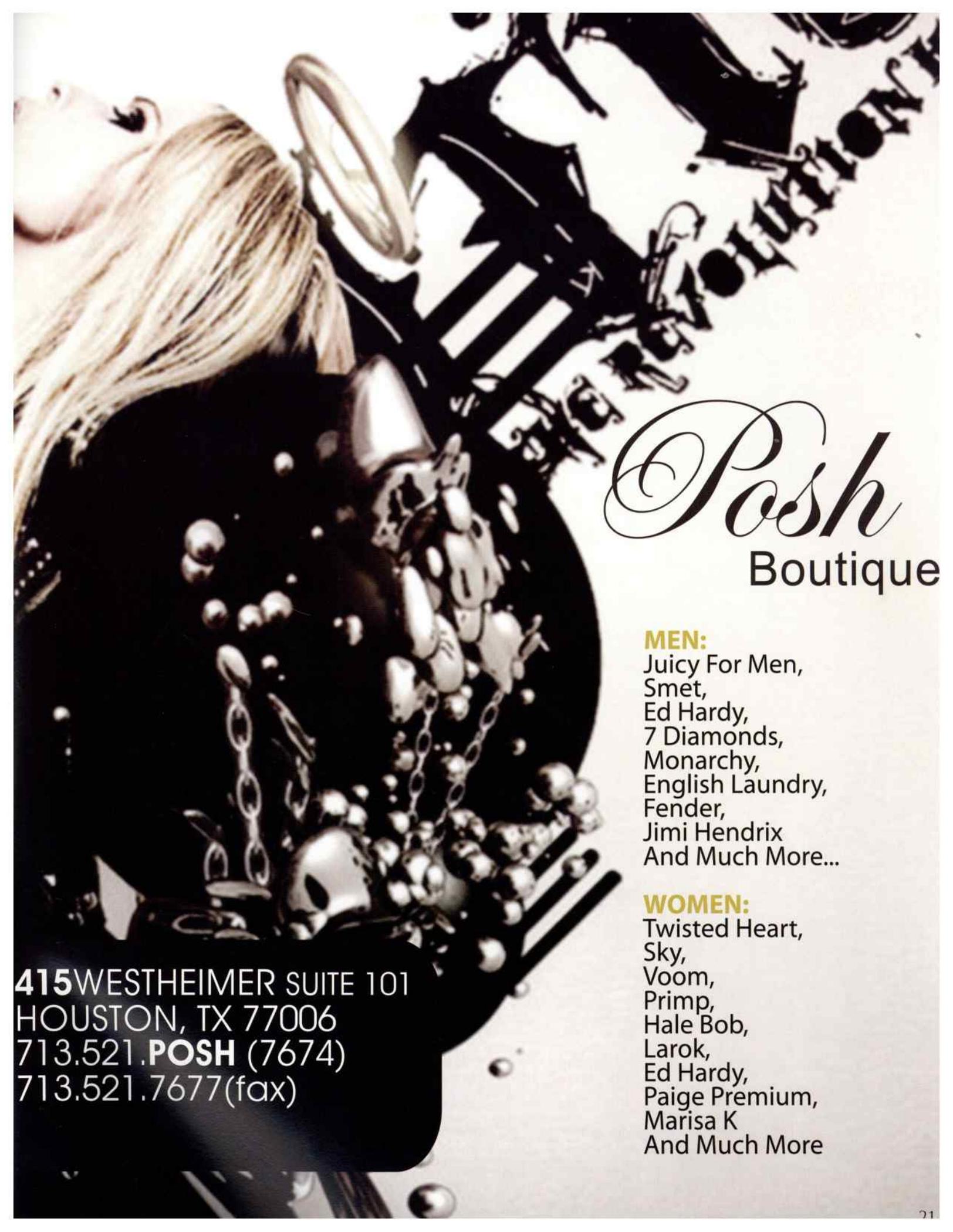
The removal of excess body hair via waxing, shaving, plucking.

Also manscap - ing, ed

See Metrosexual

When your chick calls you a Yeti, it might be time for a little manscaping





# *Posh* Boutique

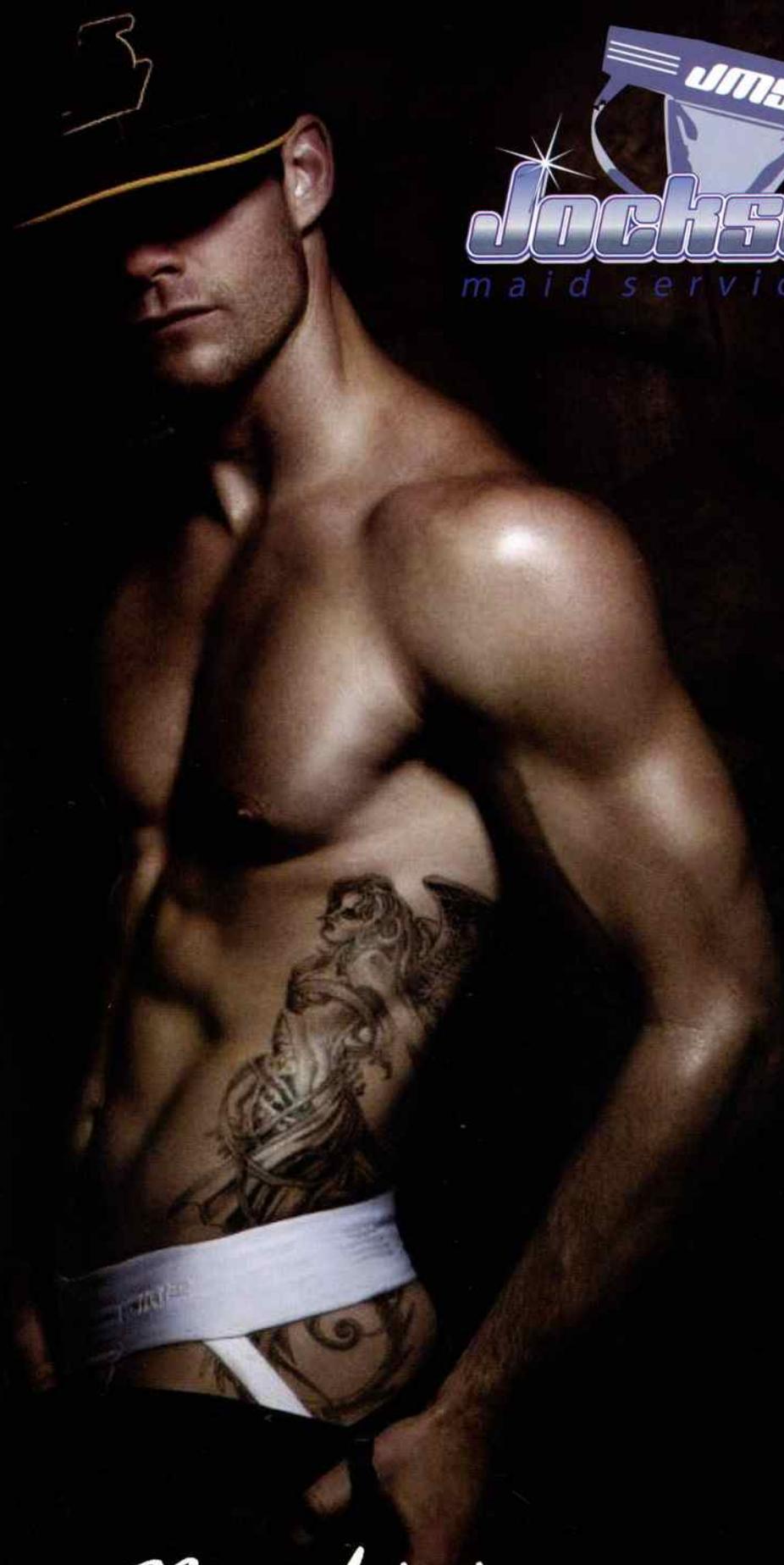
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## The Osito Foundation

Teddy Bears for Children Living with HIV/AIDS

For more information or  
to make a donation visit:

[www.ositofoundation.org](http://www.ositofoundation.org)

or call (281) 795-5270

"We applaud the Osito Foundation's outreach efforts and that children around the nation will now be helped by their work," said Neil Giuliano, *President of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation*. "They have recognized the pain and isolation that results when individuals are subjected to discrimination and we thank them for their work to counteract this stigma for children living with HIV/AIDS."

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