Vol. 2 No. 2 *The River City Empty Closet* *February 7, 1991*

A publication of RCEC Communications, Inc. San Antonio, TX

Lead Story

# Stephen W. Parker Gay candidate for Council Seat

Stephen Parker is affable, outgoing and a crusader for those traditionally referred to as the "have-nots."

As an employment counselor working with individuals who want to improve their skills to better their lives, Parker is almost evangelistic. His concern for the lower end of the economic scale is tangible and he has no qualms about placing the responsibility for improvement on the shoulders on everyone who lives in this community.

Parker is a candidate in the District One City Council Race.

Born in 1956 in Libertyville, Illinois, he is one of six children raised in a single parent environment. After his parents' divorce, his family was forced to live on a welfare program and in state housing.

He is personally familiar with the needs of those individuals who find themselves oppressed by the humiliation of poverty and near poverty level existence.

When his mother remarried in 1966, the family moved to Bexar county. Parker is a graduate of East Central High School and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Psychology.

His early experiences with the welfare system in this country have unmistakably shaped his compassion for the underdog.

His campaign slogan clearly reflects that concern: "We, the workers are people too!"

When he speaks about any issue, the focus is always on how to make things better for the individual who still struggles to become a productive member of society.

## *Experience*

He has eight years of consulting experience with several federally-funded and United Way programs including

The Women's Employment Network, the YWCA-San Antonio/Teen Volunteer Program, SER Jobs for Progress and the SA-70001 /Youth Program.

He is currently a consultant to the handicapped, teaching how to upgrade personal skills through the use of computerized training.

He has volunteered his services at the San Antonio AIDS Foundation and for the National Human Rights Campaign; is a member of the River City Living Metropolitan Community Church and is a fundraiser for the Texas Human Rights Foundation.

He speaks Spanish fluently and has a Hispanic life partner, Martin.

If you're familiar with the North West Coast term "bear," then you'll agree that Parker is a "bear cub."

Charming but direct, his youthful appearance belies an inner strength of convictions and dedication to his cause. Stephen Parker is clearly a candidate for "the people."

As he sat down in our office to begin his interview, he immediately established a warm demeanor.

When asked why he was running for the council seat, the first issue he spoke of was employment.

## *Angry With City AIDS Progress*

But he first wanted to explain his motivation for the campaign.

***"I'm angry. Leadership is lacking in foresight on the AIDS crisis; not only on the Federal level but in municipal planning as well."***

He expressed alarm and disappointment that so far, the city government, permitted by the city charter to designate funds specifically for health concerns, has only established a task force to address the issue, with no further action.

He is obviously infuriated with Helen Dutmer, Southside Council Representative, who, according to Parker, once remarked that she *"owes no allegiance to any individual who has AIDS"* when discussing the possible conversion of the Southside TB center to a hospital/hospice for long term care of PWA's.

## *"Gay" A Political Issue?*

Parker is undoubtedly comfortable with his Gay identity.

***"I have nothing to hide. I intend to run a campaign based on issues and my being Gay is not necessarily part of those issues."***

Successful Gay candidates nation-wide have adopted that position and have made their lifestyle incidental to their purpose.

## *Three Issues*

However, in some areas, he needs more definition, though he is clear on what his issues are:

1) economic development programs, 2) crime preventative measures and 3) a master plan for a unified effort between taxing entities.

**On taxation,** Parker is straightforward. He fears a tax payers' revolt stemming from tax entities which individually develop tax hikes without regard to the over all cumulative effect.

He mentions California as an example of what could happen here and cited the need to coordinate tax increases to avoid enormous hikes happening simultaneously. Through proper coordination, necessary tax increases can be staggered so that tax payers are hit all at once.

When it comes to **crime prevention,** Parker's main thrust is the development of a wider system of Neighborhood Watch programs which have become not only popular across the nation but also enjoy the prominence as one of the most successful crime prevention programs in the US today.

He also applauds Judge Teneyuca's approach of requiring less serious criminals to participate in public service as part of their sentence. It encourages future constructive sentence. It encourages future constructive participation in the community, Parker insists.

It is the area of **economic development** that Parker needs to define in more specific terms.

## *Cottage Industries*

He has an intriguing idea about "enterprise zones" where individuals who are skilled in cottage industries will be allowed to practice their trade and develop self-sufficiency while at the same time promoting quality hand-crafted products with the "Made in San Antonio" label. He mentioned extensive programs in Santa Fe and other regional cities as prime examples of how this could be done. He clearly wants to see the San Antonio product marketed much better than at present.

Specifically, he supports publicly-funded programs that allow anyone to take advantage of resources to better their basic and advanced skills. His main concern [illegible] of these are restricted to "qualified" participants. He noted the Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center and Project SER as examples of programs that are available to virtually anyone.

And he is very specific about a special VIA $54 million fund raised through past profits. He believes the recent flack about the VIA Board is basically about the control of that fund, originally marked for route development for the bus system.



Stephen W. Parker, Candidate for District One

***"In [several] parts of the city, the people who work second and third shifts cannot get a bus after 7PM."*** It is these people who are trying to better themselves and stay off welfare roles that Parker wants to see benefit from extended bus routes. He adds the eventual development of a 24 hour system as the ultimate in providing those without vehicles a full flexibility for job seeking and steady employment.

When referring to a proposal by the Rause Foundation, from Boston, to purchase Hemisphere Park and La Villita, Parker's dedication and love for this city comes through the brightest, and he is not a friend of part-time entrepreneurs who close down when the going gets tough.

***"We don't need any more entertainment centers which open during the profitable Summer months and close down during Winter. We don't need any more soft employment."***

He proudly believes San Antonio should be owned by San Antonians for San Antonians.

He is a firm supporter of day care assistance programs, especially for single parent families.

Granted, his interview was very early in his campaign. And candidates do become better as the campaign develops.

Parker's sincerity and dedication is unquestionable. His weakness, however, is the lack of definition on how he would implement these projects.

His idea about "enterprise zones" is indeed intriguing, but how would he get such an idea started, funded and maintained.

His ideals are admirable, *"We need to show people that you can move up;" "Giving money to projects such as the Dome, Sea World and Alamo Plaza, for example, doesn't necessarily address the needs of poorly skilled individuals who need employment."* But he needs to better define how these programs could become reality.

## *Gay Liaison*

He is, however, quite definite about the Gay Community's relationship with the city police department.

He suggests that a police liaison needs to be chosen to act as a positive force in support of our rights and to better our general relationship. But he specifically calls for that individual to be chosen "by the Community."

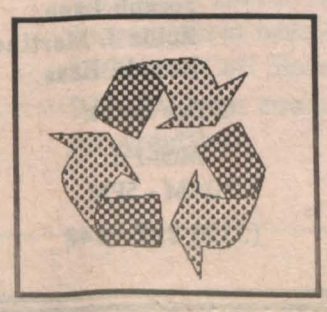
In response to the suggestion that he might be riding on the coat-tails of Ann Richards' successful campaign for the governorship of Texas, he responded, ***"Anybody who isn't is dumb!"***

When questioned about the recent repeal of Penal Code 21.06, he's right there, waiting, ***"We will be there to fight,"*** if the state attempts to re-write the penal section on sodomy.

And lastly, in regards to the Community's identity as a whole, Parker echoes Gay politicians across the nation, ***"There's more to belonging to the Community than going out and having a few drinks at a Gay bar."***

**Stephen W. Parker:** candidate for City Council.

We'll we waiting to hear more. ●◆●



LAW OFFICES OF

# MARTHA FITZWATER

Brackenridge P1aza Executive Center
3308 Broadway
San Antonio, Texas 78209

Car Wrecks
Insurance Claims
Defective Products

Wrongful Death
Nursing Home Neglect
Workers' Compensation
Medical Negligence

Powers of Attorney
Guardianships
Wills

In personal injury cases, you don't pay if you don't win.
Night and weekend appointments available. Free parking.

**Se habla español**

**(512) 826-3733**

**Phone Answered 24 Hours**

Paid advertisement. Licensed by the Texas Supreme Court. Not certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. Personal injury cases are handled on a contingent fee basis, with the amount varying according to the nature of the case. Estimates are available upon request. Client liability for related expenses of litigation is also contingent upon success.


When you support our advertisers, please, tell them you saw their ad in *The Closet.*

The RIVER CITY EMPTY CLOSET is published by RCEC Communications, Inc. All rights reserved. © 1991 Reproduction or other use of contents without prior written permission is strictly forbidden. Unsolicited articles are welcome. All such material is subject to editing and must be submitted without any expectation of return.

Opinions expressed by columnists are not necessarily those of RCEC or its staff. Publication of the name or photograph of any person or organization in articles or advertisements is not to be construed as any indication of the sexual orientation of said person or organization. Articles are intended only for purposes of information and are not intended as advice.

The RIVER CITY EMPTY CLOSET reserves the right to refuse any advertising without statement of reason. Advertisers assume complete responsibility for content and effect of display ads. RCEC Communications, Inc. assumes no liability for loss of business either real or imagined for errors in printed display advertising.

Editor: **Paul R. Cirre**
Ad. Mgr.: **Wendy Carter**
Distribution Mgr: **Ronald Haas**

Ad Reps:

| | |
|---|---|
| **Scott Gambuti** | 822-5253 |
| **Joseph Lane** | 734-5636 |
| **Zelda J. Martinez** | 824-2743 |
| **Ronald Haas** | 732-2215 |

Office Hours:
Mon-Fri
10AM - 5PM
(512) 227-9848

Mailing Address:
Box 15558
San Antonio, Tx
78212-8758

## PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

PUBLICATION DAY IS THURSDAY

## Next Issue February 21st

(Deadline date: Saturday, February16th)

**AD SIZES**

| | |
|---|---|
| MAP BOXES | 1"H x 2" W |
| BUSINESS CARD | 2" H x 3" W |
| 1/8 PAGE | 3-3/4" H x 5" W |
| 1/4 PAGE | 7-3/4" H x 5" W |
| 1/2 PAGE | 7-3/4" H x 10" W |
| FULL PAGE | 15"H x 10" W |
| BACK COVER | 15" H x 10"W |

Advertisers should realize that **Noon** on the *Deadline Date* is the point at which we begin paste-up and can no longer accommodate changes, additions, corrections, etc. Be sure to give your Ad Rep at least *three* working days for ads which must be composed and *two* working days before deadline for camera ready ads.

Display charges must be paid by Noon of the deadline date unless previous arrangements have been made to do otherwise.

Classified advertisers should use the same deadline arrangements as noted above. All classified ads must be accompanied by full payment.



***Please Recycle This Paper***

MICHAEL W. WHITE
Attorney at Law
4005 Broadway, Suite A
San Antonio, Texas 78209

Telephone
512/821-5283

Upstairs At
The Boardwalk

WILLIAM F. GOODMAN
ATTORNEY AT LAW

45 N.E. Loop 410, Suite 545
San Antonio, Texas 78216 (512) 525–8122

Louie A. Weiss, III (512) 824-6695

*Northridge Liquors*
*Living Well*

Wine Line (512) 826-1999
131 West Sunset Rd. • San Antonio, TX 78209

CATARINO REYES
*Tangles*
*The Hair Salon*
*8055 West Ave.* *525-9100*

*Archer Pest Control*
*B.J. Gillespie - Owner*
*Commercial & Residential*
*Lawn & Tree Spraying*
*Flea & Tick Treatments*
*653-6023*

THE NITE OWL
330 San Pedro 223-6957

Major Appliances Repaired

MAX'S APPLIANCE SERVICE

Most Makes and Models

Reasonable Rates
734-3547

SAN ANTONIO PERFORMING ART ASSOCIATION
presents



NEW DIRECTIONS
IN MUSIC AND DANCE

**MAIN SERIES AT THE CARVER CULTURAL CENTER**
**$18 & $14**

**KATHY ROSE**
**Wed., February 20**
**8 p.m.**
Known for her dynamite integration of live dancing and film, Kathy Rose returns with a richly theatrical new program drawing on Spanish, Middle Eastern and Oriental dance traditions.

**"PIONEER"**
**PAUL DRESHER ENSEMBLE**
**Fri., February 22**
**Sat., February 23**
**8 p.m.**
It's funny, it's serious, it's compellingly scored and brilliantly performed, Paul Dresher's "Pioneer" is an exhilarating blend of story, extended metaphor, historical revisionisms and social satire. From recitatives to rap arias to Terry Allen's lilting Tex-Mex songs, "Pioneer" is a three-ring circus of sights and sounds.

**"ELEPHANT MEMORIES"**
**PING CHONG & COMPANY**
**Wed., February 27**
**8 p.m.**
Ping Chong's science fiction, multi-media spectacle depicting a future world in which individualism has been forgotten, choice replaced by "the deal" and in which doubt is a crime. It's an original, sometimes frightening look at an Orwellian world



**KRONOS QUARTET**
**Sat., March 2**
**8 p.m.**
Back by popular demand: the San Francisco-based group that's made the string quartet hip. It's a cutting edge sound that'll show you a new way of hearing everything from classical tunes to rock & roll.

NOT SO FRINGE FESTIVAL
**$5 AND $7 AT THE DOOR**

***AN EVENING OF TEXAS MUSIC***
***Thurs., February 21***
***8 p.m.***
***Blue Star Arts Space***
*Hear Texas-twanged Terry Allen, piano and vocals, and Richard Bowden on the violin and mandolin, in an evening of music in conjunction with the "Texas Dialogues" exhibit.*

**NEW DIRECTIONS FROM U.T.S.A.** ***free***
**Sun., February 24**
**3 p.m.**
**Carver Cultural Center**
New music and dance from the local arts scene.



**WORD UP!**
**Sun., March 3**
**8 p.m.**
**Jump Start Theatre**
Rap music with a message.

**"DALLAS TRAVELOGUE"**
**LANEY YARBER**
**Wed., March 6**
**Southwest Craft Center Chapel**
**8 p.m.**
A zany, multi-media take-off on Big D.

**DOUG VARONE & COMPANY**
**Fri., March 8**
**Sat., March 9**
**8 p.m.**
**Carver Cultural Center**
Everyday gesture and a highly original movement vocabulary makes Doug Varone's choreography some of the most athletic, witty and touching in the business. His dancers "make music visible."

**CHARGE BY PHONE**
**512/224-2939**
**Tickets at all Rainbow Ticketmaster Outlets**
$2 off for students, seniors & military
Children 12 & under 1/2 price
Convenience & other charges are added at Rainbow and are non-refundable.

THE ONE-O-SIX OFF BROADWAY
106 PERSHING (Across From the Witte Museum)
San Antonio, Tx. 78209
Ph. 820-0906

*FOR RENT*

How about a charming one-bedroom apartment in a small, private, ALL WOMAN complex? Hardwood floors, french doors, central heat & air, $260/mo. Call Slater: 734-7911 for confidential information.

# animal house

*We Care as much about your Pets Good Health as You Do!*
*Thats Why We Carry The Best!*

Hand Fed BIRDS
Fresh & Salt Water FISH
AKC PUPPIES
$2 pick-up & delivery
Boarding for Birds



Pet Supplies
Pet Innoculations
(Starting Feb 14th)
Grooming
Appts. available on Sun.

**$3 OFF GROOMING WITH THIS AD**

Obedience Classes
Starting Soon
*Call for more information*
691-1752



8446 Fredericksburg
at Wurzbach
The Oaks Mall
Tues - Sat 10-6
Sun 12-4:30



# Need a Room for FIESTA?

(for yourself or out-of-town friends)
I've got them...
**10 Double Rooms**
at *The Crockett Hotel,*
next to the Alamo, (on the Parade Route)
**Available now but will go fast**

**SCOTT GAMBUTI**
822-5253



# *LAS GUERAS*

5930 S. FLORES 923-7944

**Super Saturday Show**
Starring
*COCO*
Miss Gay South & Miss Gay Texas 1991
with
Miss Gay Waco *Cinnamon Sweet*
Miss Gay Travis County *Nina Monroe*
Miss Gay Latin San Antonio *Tamara Foxx*
MC: Miss Las Gueras 1991 *Bri Alexander*



Every Thursday
50 Cent Draft/Free Pool
Every Sunday
$4 Cover, 10 Cent Draft & $1.25 Longnecks

11PM **Female Strippers** with Cinnamon Sweet


Local

# Community News and Events

## *In Memoriam*

**Robert Rupp** died December 1, 1990 at the age of twenty-eight.

He is best remembered as *Courtney Rose* and was unbeatable in his rendition of *New York, New York* as Liza Minelli and his frequent impersonation of Joan Rivers.

For the last two years, he had worked at **Memories** as the Bookkeeper. Previously, he had worked as a waiter at **Lorenzo's** but had lost his job when he was diagnosed with AIDS.

As a leader in fund raising among local female impersonators, Rupp can be credited with $1800 raised at Halloween of last year and later on, $2200 for **San Antonio AIDS Foundation**.

*"He taught me how to run my business,"* remembers **Donna Worthington**, owner of Memories. Her voice still cracks when she speaks of him. *"I miss him very, very much."*

Rupp enjoyed the affection of all who were privileged to see his performances and warm and steady support from his parents and two brothers.

**Memories** will host a memorial show in tribute to Courtney Rose on **February 16th at 8PM to benefit SAAF.**

Undoubtedly, there will be standing room only. This community has lost one of its best supporters. Too often, we forget what a tremendous contribution female impersonators make to the social enjoyment of our community and, as in Rupp's case, what a staggering financial legacy can be bestowed.

The Editor and Staff of this publication extends their sympathy to Mr. Rupp's family and to Memories. Belated as it is, it is most sincere. Unfortunately, we only received notice of his death a few days ago.

## *Regency Automotive Moves*

Congratulations to the management of **Regency Automotive** on acquiring their new expanded facilities at **308 West Rhapsody.**

Business is growing rapidly for this reasonably-priced auto repair business and larger facilities had been needed for quite a long time.

Honest, straight-forward mechanics are truly treasurers when found and **Regency** can be relied upon for quality work with courteous attention to detail.

I recently needed some universal joint work done in a hurry (the vehicle kind!). It was completed in the time promised and at a price I found no fault with. I highly recommend this supporter of our rights. Try them, you won't be disappointed.

## *"Couples" Forming*

Several issues ago, a new group in town, **Couples/San Antonio,** sent us a press release. The local chapter of the national network will hold its first organizational meeting at **Victor-Victoria** (the hair salon/clothing boutique) at 518 West Hildebrand on Monday, **February 18th at 8PM.**

The national organization has enjoyed spirited growth since its start in 1985. I now serves as a clearinghouse for the formation of other couples-concept chapters.

The primary purpose of the organization is to promote the positive aspects of relationships. Chapters often host such activities as pot-luck dinners, theater and movies parties, barbecues, picnics, fund-raisers, bowling events and many other festivities which help reinforce relationships. Informational meetings are also a regular offering focusing on such topics as legal, financial and medical concerns as well as discussion of psychological issues which every relationship faces.

If you would like additional information about the group, call **Scott or Vince at 732-3462 or Steven-Michael or Robert at 733-5286.**

Here's your chance to do something with other couples, probably just like you, who are tired of being couch potatoes and want additional alternatives for socializing.

Don't forget, their first meeting is Monday, **Feb 18th,** Victor-Victoria, 8PM. They'll be waiting for you.

## *Pool League Results*

The **San Antonio Tavern Guild Pool League** is proud to announce that **$1,257** was raised for and donated to the **San Antonio AIDS Foundation.** This money was raised in less than four months. The winning teams for the 1990 season are:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1st Place: | One-O-Six |
| 2nd: | Circle J I |
| 3rd: | Hardhat I |
| 4th: | Circle J II |
| 5th: | Hardhat II |
| 6th: | Ponderosa I |
| 7th: | Ponderosa II |
| 8th: | Pump House |
| 9th: | Noo Zoo |
| 10th: | Crew |
| 11th: | Just Us I |
| 12th: | Just Us II |

The Awards Party and Most Valuable Player contest was held at the Hardhat. The Tavern Guild would like to express a sincere thank you to:

**Mr. Stan Zbinden (SAAF)** for coordinating schedules and compiling the scores;

**Mr. Bill Cox (One-O-Six)** for his help in collecting the scoresheets and donations;

**Mike Patton (Hardhat)** for hosting the party;

and all the **pool players** in the SATG Pool League.

Great job everyone!


ENCORE VIDEO Inc.

Rent MOVIES Nintendo, Camcorder or VCR

*Monday - Saturday 10 to 10*
*Sunday Noon to 7 p.m.*

8546 Broadway at Cheever - San Antonio
(512) 821-5345



(WE'VE MOVED - 2 DOORS DOWN)

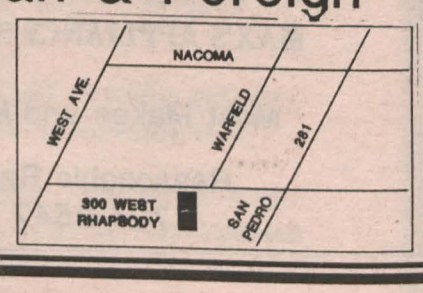
**Regency Automotive**

308 West Rhapsody
366-AUTO

Complete Automotive
Repairs-American & Foreign

Mon - Fri
9 - 5

VISA MasterCard



## SATG Announces New Officers

The new officers of the **San Antonio Tavern Guild**, elected to serve for 1991 are:

President: **John Rodriguez** (Circle J)

Vice-President: **Bill Cox** (One-O-Six)

Treasurer: **Lollie Johnson** (Noo Zoo)

Secretary: **Donna Worthington** (Memories)

Congratulations to the new officers!

## Alternative Lifestyles Offers "Choices"

A new organization, Alternative Lifestyles, Inc., has begun to advertise their unique service.

Basically, the organization helps a person with a verifiable diagnosis of AIDS to utilize her/his life insurance policy's benefits now.

One of the greatest problems a PWA faces is financial need. As the bills begin to mount up, the individual's earning power begins to decrease. Often, the person is not able to continue working a full schedule due to loss of energy or periodic flare-ups of the disease. The usual result is the person soon faces having to quit his/her job. But more commonly, sudden financial disaster is brought on by being fired.

If the PWA has no insurance to cover the gargantuan medical cost of AIDS, his/her only choice is the availability of social-service type agencies or facilities such as *Casa Care* provided by **SAAF**.

If the PWA is fortunate enough to have medical insurance, a good portion of the medical bills are covered.

In either case, there is still the need to provide for daily financial needs, such as food, clothing etc.

**Alternative Lifestyles, Inc.** thinks it has an answer; surely not the only one, but one choice for the PWA to consider if he/she has life insurance.

The company will assist the PWA in converting her/his life insurance policy to immediate cash.

Now before you say, *"What a Splendid idea,"* be aware that there are some serious considerations to ponder.

As with any insurance program, you basically bet that you will need the service. The insurance company bets that you won't.

In the case of life insurance, you bet that you will die before the policy is paid off. The insurance company bets that you'll live to complete all payments. That's why the premiums (the money you pay to continue your coverage) is different for different age groups.

The insurance company figures out the averages and predicts how long the average person lives. The company then charges you a premium which will most probably "pay up" or make your policy financially feasible for the company to carry. The figures are usually geared to benefit the company if you live a normal life span.

In the case of a pre-mature death, the company has to borrow from the earnings produced by its other policy holders's premium payments to pay the death benefits from your policy to your beneficiaries since you didn't live long enough to produce those benefits yourself, from your payments.

With the **Alternative Lifestyle** arrangements, you must deal with the fact that you believe you will die from the disease, and that you will die BEFORE the money you will receive runs out.

This is a disturbing bet for most of us to deal with, but the people at **Alternative Lifestyles** are caring people who approach the subject with much more diplomacy that I am showing here.

**How is it done?**

The company assists you in signing over your death benefits to a holding company. Then, when you die, the holding company collects on your life insurance.

Once you have made the company your beneficiary, the company pays you between 80%-90% of the benefits in cash. The company actually pays you out of its own pocket because it could be years before you actually die and they are able to collect on their "loan" to you.

You can then do whatever you want with the money.

Many PWA's take a trip they always wanted to take. Others pay off bills, buy a car or spend it in other ways.

It makes do difference what you want to do with the money. Once you have it, it is yours.

Obviously, no matter how beneficial this arrangement appears and is, there is the aspect of betting against yourself that is a bit uncomfortable to accept.

But, more and more PWA's are taking advantage of this kind of arrangement across the nation. Their reasoning being that the money is needed now and 80-90% is better than not being able to benefit from it at all. The practice is a common way for patients in a nursing home to help pay for lowered costs of care.

This kind of arrangement is relatively new for PWA's but has been in existence for several years for people with other life-threatening or predictable life-terminating diseases.

It is an alternative; thus the name of the company.

But it is a serious decision to make and the folks at the company will not push you into making the decision.

Granted, they are going to make money (between 10-20%) from your making them the beneficiary of your policy. But in reality, they are asking an apparently reasonable fee in light of the enormous amounts of money they pay out years before they collect benefits. They have to pay interest on monies borrowed to pay the PWA.

Eventually, it is reasonable to assume that the holding account will generate enough interest to completely pay for the immediate cash to PWA's. It is also reasonable to assume that at that time, the fees for these arrangements will be reduced.

At any rate, if you have a verifiable diagnosis of AIDS, have a life insurance policy (private or from an employer) and feel you need immediate cash, **Alternative Lifestyles, Inc.** would welcome your call. You don't have to be re-examined. All arrangements can be made either over the phone or through the mail.

If you want more information, call the company's national phone number, **1-800-876-2991.** The representatives are courteous, caring and understanding and will answer any questions you may have.


JUST US

*Terry & Donna Neyland*
*Owners*

321 Fredericksburg
San Antonio, Tx
735-2903

*Rick Houston*
*V.P. & GM*

**ACE '91 February 9th**
**Double Pool Tournament**
Open To All Teams - $10 per team
7 - 11PM: 10 Cent Draft Beer
Sat Nite Show at 11PM

Daily Specials! Call Bar For Details

**Fri, Feb 8th**
Miss South Texas Rising Star Pageant 1991
(an official preliminary to Miss Gay Travis County 1991)

MC: MISS GAY WACO AMERICA 1991
*CINNAMON SWEET*
AND

THE FIRST LADY OF JUST US, *DONNA*

PLUS
MISS JUST US 1991
*SHELLY JEAN*

PLUS
AUSTIN & CAPITOL CITY RISING STARS 1991

**Certified Income Tax Services**



**Ms. Lole J. Charles**

EZ - $8
1040A - Starting at $15  1040 - Starting at $25
15% OFF 1040 & 1040A with this ad!

*By Appointment Only*
*732-2750*
7 Days A Week 8AM - 10PM
Please leave message when not available

Feb 9th 10PM Sharp
***Mr & Ms New Ponderosa***
All applicants must be present before 9PM
Feb 16th 10PM Sharp  Money & Prizes
***Mr & Ms Sweetheart Contest***
Open to ALL contestants




Sun - NO Cover
6 - 2: $1 Can Beer
9 - 2 DJ
Mon - Thurs: 6-10 $1 Can Beer
Fri - Sat
$1 Cover, DJ 9 - 2AM
$1.25 Longnecks

Come meet our new bartender, GEORGE

5007 S. Flores
924-6322

Happy Birthday DORA from Virginia

**WATS "N" a FRAME**
CUSTOM FRAMING
MATTING - GLASS
Quality Framing at Affordable Prices

-Valentine Special-
15% off custom made frames with this ad

*FAST SERVICE*
6649 San Pedro
341-1308
*BEST PRICES*

"Discreetly Handling Your Private Collection"
*Rita & Geri*

## 1,200 Applaud Jimmy James Show

For the second time in just a few months, **Mr. Jimmy James** brought his show to the **Bonham Exchange.** As has become the custom, the show was a sell-out and an enormous success.

The man with a three and a half octave vocal range wowed them again with an hour presentation of impersonations done to perfection. The occasion was the beginning of his 1991 tour. He recently appeared on the *Joan Rivers Show* and Giraldo Rivera.

Although the show was a bit more formal than his last appearance in November, James pleased the audience with his now famous and inimitable impersonation of celebrities such as **Ertha Kitt, Patsy Cline, Cher, Bette Davis** and many others.

Of course, his most famous personality is **Marilyn Monroe** and it is the only celebrity that James does in costume.

The former San Antonian's performance schedule has become so busy that the Bonahm was delighted to have James appear for the club's celebration of the *100th Anniversary of the Bonham Exchange Building.* **John Kimble,** General Manager of the **Bonham Exchange,** reported that this would most likely be the last time this year that James could make an appearance.

But when Mr. James can do it again, there's sure to be standing room only.

# Haas Returns As Distribution Manager.

We are very proud to announce the return of **Ron Haas** to the *Empty Closet* family.

Now that the holidays are over, Ron can shift his talents from co-management of To-A-Tee, which he owns with Ken Musgrove, to our publication.

Ron will be handling advertising on a limited basis but will direct the majority of his efforts to his new position as ***Distribution Manager.***

His duties will include boosting our current number of distribution points from sixty-two to one hundred, evaluating our current distribution methods and, in general, helping to increase the paper's circulation to 10,000 in time for our first year anniversary (September 1991).

We have missed his talents and contribution and look forward to a very successful year with his dedication to help us move forward.

# TGRA Hosts Dating Game At Memories

The *Texas Gay Rodeo Association* **(TGRA)** will host its now infamous *Dating Game* once again. The fun begins at 8PM at **Memories,** 6402 Callaghan.

Whether you already have a honey or are looking for a new sweetheart, the place to be for fun and games is the Dating Game at **Memories.** When? **Valentine's Day,** of course.

## State

# Texas Begins Safe-Sex TV

The Texas State Health Department began a "safe-sex campaign" aimed at hterosexuals on January 2nd.

Robert Bernstein, state Health Commissioner, noted that heterosexuals are less likely to understand AIDS than Gays.

The campaign is funded by private donations and a $150,000 grant from the federal government.

The new campaign is based on the sucessful 1989 campaign which prompted a 41% rise in the number of non-Gays who chose HIV testing.

## National

# Bits 'N' Pieces

## Key West All-Gay Campsite Project Dead

Hardly a year has passed and the dream of **Lynn Parker and Linda Shearer** has turned into a nightmare.

The two women had envisioned an all Gay campsite on sixty pristine acres in the Lower Keys off the Florida coastline.

They purchased the land a year ago and immediately began selling sixty by one hundred foot lots for approximately $8000 each. The island where the campsite is located is accessible by a fifteen hundred foot long walking bridge or by launch.

The women renamed their portion of the 120 acre island as **T.H.E. Island (Total Homosexual Environment)** and had marketed the individual lots stressing the nature aspect of the area.

But in November of 1990, the two were arrested on environmental charges.

*"They created roads through salt marshes that destroyed wetland vegetation, including protected mangroves and Joewood trees,"* said **Randy Grau,** a supervisor with the *Department of Environmental Regulation* in Marathon.

The idea was an enticing one and the women hoped it would catch on and become a "nature's retreat" for the owners of the individual lots. Either inexperienced management on their parts or careless use of the surroundings caused the demise of the project.

*"The amount of wetland destruction as a result of their driving vehicles was significant and one of the worst cases that we've had in the Keys,"* continued Grau, *"[the women] weren't treated any differently than other property owners or developers."*

But Parker and Shearer don't agree.

*"The fact that we were Gay made it more a thorn in their side as they--the state and county--went after us. Had we been the Boy Scouts of America, they probably would have funded the project,"* Parker said with bitterness.

But Monroe County Assistant State Attorney, **Jon Ellsworth,** disagrees. *"The case was handled without regard to the defendants'* sexual preference."

Whatever the reasons, the experiment failed. But like all experiments, it could be tried again. Any chance? *"It's dead. I want to bury it,"* Parker said.

Too bad. It was a great idea, but *"Fire Islands"* evolve, they're not planned. The idea still exists and no doubt, someone else will pick it up and carry it through.

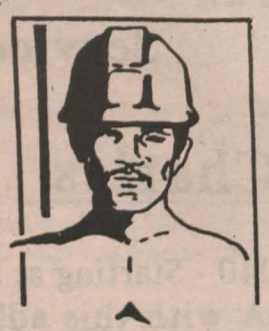
## Latinos Account For 15% of Nation's AIDS Cases

The Surgeon General's office recently noted that Latino's make up about **fifteen per cent** of the nation's AIDS cases. In an article published in the Journal of the American Medical Association, Surgeon General **Antonia Novello** blamed the high statistic on the reluctance by Hispanics to admit the presence of homosexual activity within their community.

Combined with the belief by many Hispanic males that wearing a condom is not within the behavior of being *"macho,"* the refusal to admit homosexual activity is compounding an educational program's failure to reach the Hispanic community.

A similar problem exists in the Black community. **Twenty-eight percent** of all AIDS cases are Black; again double their representation in the nation's population. However, in addition to the "maleness" issue is the basic distrust of the medical profession which was documented in a forty year study completed in 1972.

Late last year, statistics were released that revealed a galloping rise in the incidence of Gonorrhea and Syphilis in the Black and Hispanic communities; many times more rapid a rise than in the Anglo population. Again, it is believed that the attitude toward "maleness" is a prime reason for not curbing the spread of the sexually-transmitted diseases by using condoms.

THE HARDHAT

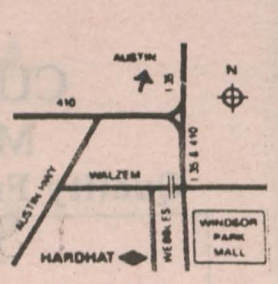
8011 Webbles @ Walzem

Tuesdays
Male Dancers
50 Cent Schnapps

Friday & Saturday
Jockey Shorts Contest

Welcome Rodeo Fans!

$1 Beer Schooners Every Day 'til 10PM




653-9941

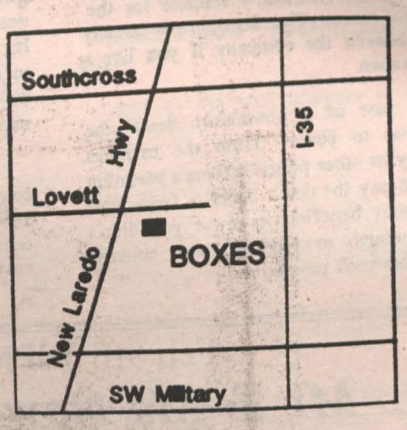
BOXES

706 New Laredo Hwy @ Lovett
Call 653-9941 (Hardhat) for more info.

Now OPEN

Wed - Sat 9-2AM
Sundays 7-2AM

Wednesdays
Pool Tournament
$25 Cash Prize




Sundays
75 Cent Draft until 11PM
$1.25 Well/Longnecks all night long

See Bartender to sign up for our shows

MALE DANCERS COMING SOON

DJ Dancing - DART Teams Now Forming
Nightly Security - Plenty of Lighted Parking

The Hispanic percentage of AIDS patients is nearly double that of the Hispanics in the nation's total population.

## FDA Approves Anemia Drug

Between 60-80% of all PWA's who take AZT to fight AIDS become anemic. Many PWA's are forced to discontinue the AZT because of the anemia.

The Federal Food and Drug Administration last month awarded full approval to the drug **Epoetin alfa** which fights one of the forms of anemia that many AZT users develop.




Valentine's Day

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14
SPECIAL PINK SURPRISE
FOR LOVERS

E.J.'s Special Punch or Tequila Sunrise
Remember Happy Hours Every Day
Noon 'til 10PM

El Jardin

A SAN ANTONIO TRADITION • 106 NAVARRO
223-7177


## PWA Receives Social Security Check On Burial Day

**Gwendolyn King,** Social Security Administration commissioner has issued specific written procedures to all offices in hopes of assisting PWA's to rapidly expedite disability claims.

Her recent move was in response to a Washington, D.C. resident who was owed nearly $10,000 in Social Security benefits. The check arrived on the day the man, **C.W. Johnson,** was buried. He had not been able to afford to even visit his mother in South Carolina before his death. The *Washington Post* carried the story.

## Stay Away From Missouri!

On January 17th, the Independence city council voted to exclude anti-Gay crimes from the city's hate-crimes ordinance.

The opposition was lead by the *Independence White Man's Association,* a white-supremacist organization. The group initiated a telephone hot line. A taped message said, *"You don't have to worry about all those queers being at the meeting down there, because the KU Klux Klan's going to be there."*

Doesn't sound as if white supremacy is all they're worried about...

## Beware Of New Law Graduates From Oregon

**Greg Johnson,** a law instructor at the *University of Oregon's law school,* disclosed his homosexuality to his class during a discussion of Gay civil rights cases.

His class objected! Many complained!

Some school officials wanted him to apologize!

Luckily, someone on the campus, namely the university's president, **Myles Brand,** has some sense. He called the demand for an apology *"insufficiently sensitive to the concerns of Gays and Lesbians on this campus."*

If the incident is representative of the student body of law candidates, better to stay away from the last and next graduating classes [illegible] *"sensitive bunch."*

## N. Carolina Really Knows How To Make 'Em!

This time it's not **Jessie Helms.** Though some could surely reason that he had something to do with this.

Now it's the **Lt. Governor, James C. Gardner,** who recently testified in favor of a bill that would require all HIV test results and the corresponding persons' names to be reported to the state health department.

Man, is stupidity a pre-requisite for going into public service in North Carolina?

## New Meaning to "Christian"

Again, we have another example of the evolving meaning of *"Christian."* When I was learning about my religion, I was taught that being "Christian" meant being Christ-like.

Presumably, compassion is no longer considered Christ-like; at least not in Washington, D.C.

The *Washington Blade,* the city;s Gay newspaper, recently reported that the congregation of **St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church** has written letters of complaint to the head of the archdiocese, **Cardinal James Hickey** and had dropped nasty notes in the collection basket. Apparently the parishioners aren't too happy with the use of the church basement by an AIDS support group. They want the group out.

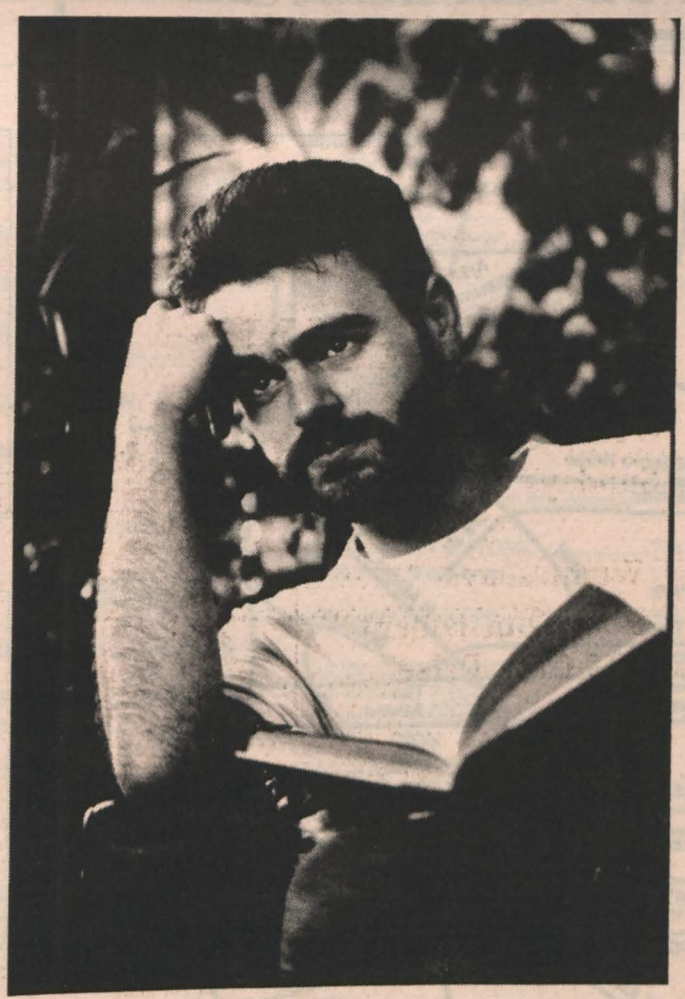
Friendly place, eh?

## Lesbian Bonding Notice Creates Heroines

The scene is *The Hearld,* a local paper for the city of **Stanwood, Washington.** The particular place is the wedding announcement pages. The characters are two lesbians who want to share the joy of their union with friends and the community.

So what have they done?

It seems *The Herald* had a policy change regarding the popular section of the paper. Using that policy change, **Sally Hutson and Jennifer Quall** decided it would be nice to put an announcement of their union in the newspaper, right along side wedding [illegible]

We give you back choices...

Paying the bills is the last worry a person living with AIDS should face. But for many it's a primary concern.

We've developed a way for you to maintain financial independence by converting your life insurance into cash.

You don't have to be re-examined and we handle everything over the phone or through the mail.

We understand you need more than just understanding.

Decide for yourself.

1-800-876-2991

Affirmative Lifestyles™ inc.

J.L.H. LOVE K.W.W

THIS BOX COULD BE YOURS FOR ONLY $15

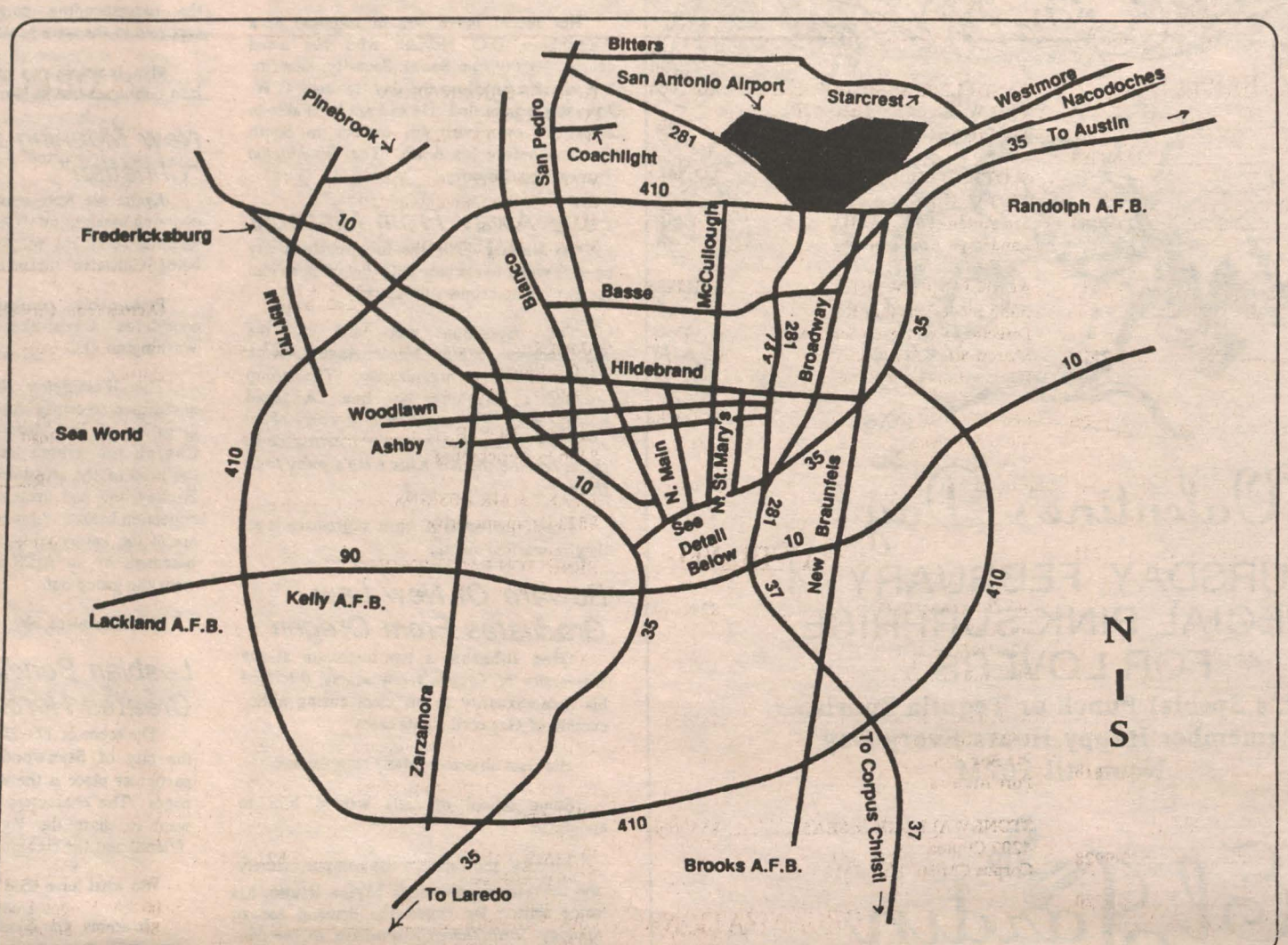
SWEETIE PIE, YOU'RE THE ONE

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO THE 106

SUPPORT TGRA, BUY A $1 TICKET FROM ANY TGRA MEMBER

BE A PART OF THE COMMUNITY -- JOIN SALGA

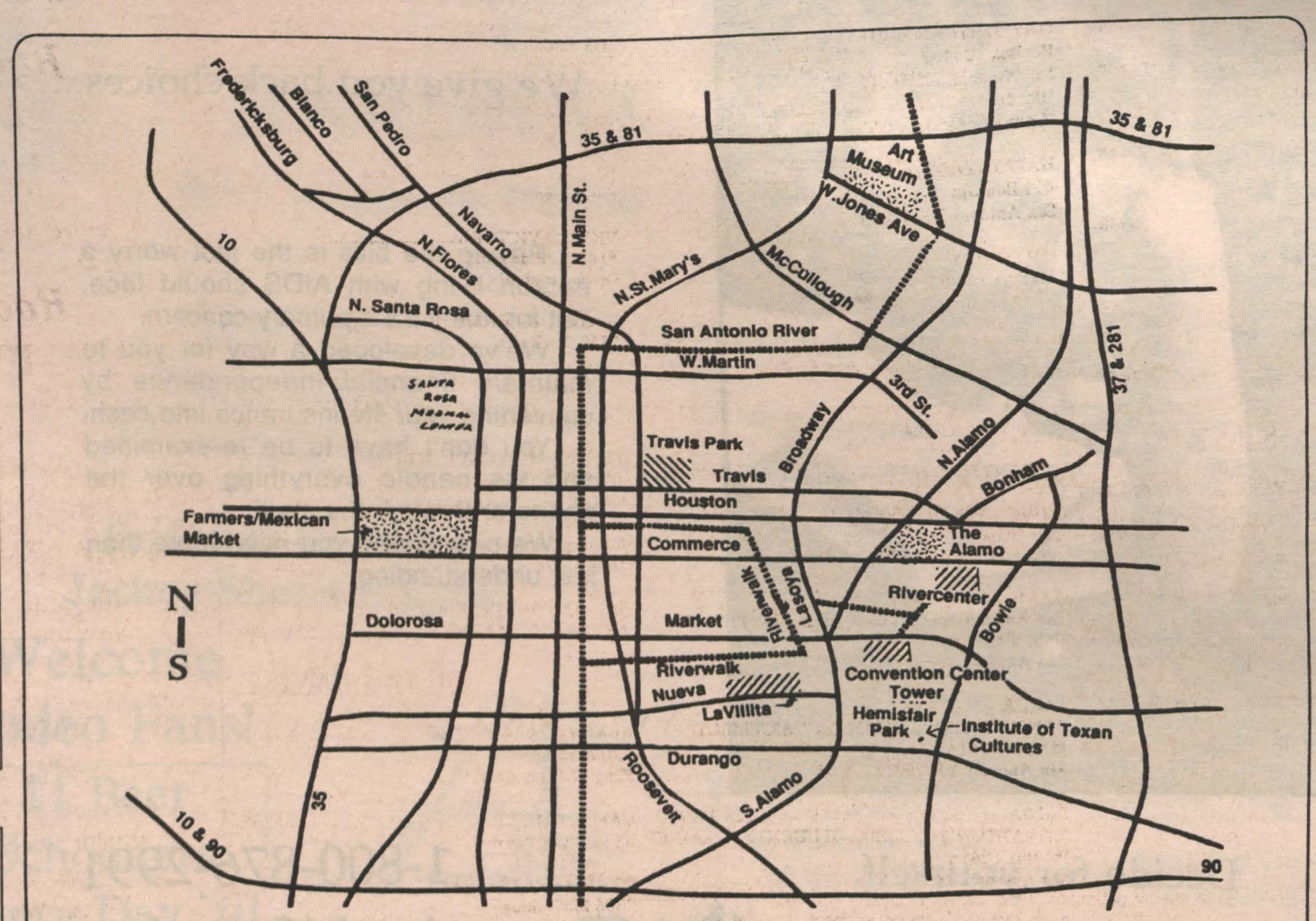
COME HOME SAFE MICHAEL GAMBUTI WE MISS YOU




RIVER CITY LIVING MCC 202 HOLLAND

MCC OF SAN ANTONIO 1136 W. WOODLAWN

# WHILE VISITING, PULL THIS SECTION OUT AND KEEP FOR HELPFUL REFERENCE




EMPTY CLOSET SUBSCRIPTIONS ONLY $22.70

MCC OF CORPUS CHRISTI 1230 BROWNLEE

IHEY, TOUGHGUY: I KNOW IT'S BEEN ROUGH, BUT HOLD ON JUST A LITTLE LONGER. WIMP

CONTACT JOEY FOR CATERING

REGISTER TO VOTE THIS SPRING

THIS BOX COULD BE YOURS FOR ONLY $15

THIS BOX COULD BE YOURS FOR ONLY $15

THIS BOX COULD BE YOURS FOR ONLY $15

TELL THEM YOU SAW IT IN *THE EMPTY CLOSET*

# RCEC DIRECTORY

These businesses and organizations support our rights.
Please show them that you care.

## BARS/CLUBS

2015 PLACE
2015 San Pedro.....733-3365

AB'S WESTERNAIRE
722 San Pedro.....227-9258

BOXES
706 New Laredo Hwy.....653-9941

EL JARDIN
106 Navarro.....223-7177

JUST US
321 Fredericksburg.....735-2903

LAS GUERAS
5930 S. Flores.....923-7944

MEMORIES
6402 Callaghan.....340-1241

REMINISCE
714 Fredericksburg.....732-9890

THE BONHAM EXCHANGE
411 Bonham.....271-3811

THE CIRCLE
8021 Pinebrook
(off Callaghan & I10).....341-2818

THE CIRCLE J
622 Roosevelt
(near Highland).....533-9928

THE COUNTRY CLUB.....344-9720
115 General Krueger

THE CREW
309 W. Market.....223-0333

THE HARDHAT
8011 Webbles
(off Walzem).....653-9941

THE NEW PONDEROSA
5007 S. Flores.....924-6322

THE NITE OWL
330 San Pedro.....223-6957

THE NOO ZOO
10127 Coachlight.....341-4778

THE ONE-O-SIX
106 Pershing
near corner of Broadway
across from Whitte Museum).....820-0906

THE PAPER MOON
1430 N. Main
(next to The Silver Dollar).....225-7330

THE PUMP HOUSE
2022 McCullough.....737-3938

THE SILVER DOLLAR SALOON
1418 N. Main
(next to The Paper Moon).....227-2623

THE STALLION
2003 Mc Cullough.....734-7977

## SERVICES

AFFIRMATIVE LIFESTYLES.....1-800-876-2991

ANDERSON - ZUNKER.....734-7911
1803 West Gramercy Place
Suite 100
Insurance/Financial Planning

LOLE J. CHARLES.....732-2750
Income Tax Services

MARTHA FITZWATER.....826-3733
Attorney and Counselor at Law
Brackenridge Plaza Executive Center
3308 Broadway

WILLIAM F. GOODMAN.....525-8122
45 NE Loop 410, Suite 545
Attorney at Law

DAN HAMILL, Ph.D.....734-6668
610 Vance Jackson

GEORGE N. INSKEEP.....820-3278
7750 Broadway
Insurance/Financial Planning

MAX'S APPLIANCE SERVICE.....734-3547

REGENCY AUTOMOTIVE.....366-2886
300West Rhapsody
Auto Repair

RANDALL R. SHERMAN.....737-1404
1803 W. Gramercy Place, #2F
Tax Preparation

SCOTT STOVER.....732-3462
1803 W. Gramercy, #2B
San Antonio, TX 78201
Landscape Architecture

ALAN JAMES WEISER.....641-5998
5555 Fredericksburg Rd.
Director of Outreach Services
Sharon Stone & Assoc.
Intervention/Counseling

MICHAEL W. WHITE.....821-5283
4005 Broadway
Suite A
Attorney at Law

## GAY TRAVEL

SCOTT GAMBUTI.....829-7696
Inver Travel
1250 NE Loop 410
San Antonio, TX 78209

SEAHORSE INN.....749-5221
1423 11th Street
PO Box 426
Port Aransas

STONEWALL AIR & SEA5.....855-4297
4202 Clinton
Corpus Christi, TX 78412

## ORGANIZATIONS

ALAMO BUSINESS COUNCIL
PO Box 15481
San Antonio, TX 78212

ALAMO CITY MEN'S CHORALE
PO Box 120243
San Antonio, TX 78212

FIREDANCERS - SAN ANTONIO
5119 Staplehurst
San Antonio, TX 78228
Leather/Motorcycle Club

GAY & LESBIAN PARENT COALITION
2839 N. W. Military, #508
San Antonio, TX 78231

GAY SWITCHBOARD
PO Box 120402
San Antonio, TX 78212
"Bar Info".....734-2833
"Counseling/referrals".....733-7300

HAPPY FOUNDATION.....227-6451
411 Bonham
San Antonio, TX 78205

INTEGRITY
PO Box 15006
San Antonio, TX 78212

LISA.....828-5472
"Lesbian Information of San Antonio"

M.C.C. of SAN ANTONIO.....734-0048
1136 West Woodlawn

PARENTS OF GAYS.....736-6847

RIVER CITY LIVING M.C.C
202 Holland
(behind the HEB on McCullough)

SAAF
San Antonio AIDS Foundation.....733-1853
3530 Broadway
San Antonio, TX 78209

SALGA
SAN ANTONIO LESBIAN GAY ASSEMBLY
PO Box 12614
San Antonio, TX 78212

SALSA.....228-9877
SAN ANTONIO LAMBDA STUDENTS ALLIANCE
PO Box 12614
San Antonio, TX

SAN ANTONIO NUDE DUDES.....680-6258
PO Box 680546
San Antonio, TX 78268

SAN ANTONIO TAVERN GUILD
PO Box 12712
San Antonio, TX

TEJAS MOTORCYCLE CLUB.....223-6620
PO Box 120295
Leather/Motorcycle Club

TGRA OF SAN ANTONIO
PO Box 12651
San Antonio, TX 78212

VILLA DE PAZ.....734-2843
Orthodox Old Catholic Church
3114 W. Ashby
Services: 11AM, Sundays

## RETAIL

AMOLS.....227-1457
710 S. Flores
Decorating Supplies

ANIMAL HOUSE.....691-1752
8446 Fredericksburg

AVANT HAIR DESIGNS.....692-9958
8823 Datapoint Drive

BENETTON FACTORY OUTLET.....228-0976
River Center Mall

BENETTON SUPERSTORE.....366-4737
NORTH STAR MALL

CHRISTADALES.....826-9871
5046 Broadway
Hair Design and Fine Jewelry

ELEGANT TOUCH FLORIST.....923-5600
2917 Roosevelt Ave

ENCORE VIDEO.....821-5345
8546 Broadway

GRASSHOPPER.....
4026 McCullough

HENRY'S FINE LIQUORS.....824-7635
345 Old Austin Road

HOGWILD.....733-5354
1824 N. Main

NORTHRIDGE LIQUORS.....824-6695
131 West Sunset Road
Wine Line.....826-1999

PAPA JIM BOTANICA.....922-6665
5630 S. Flores

CATARINO REYES.....525-9100
Tangles Hair Salon
8055 West Avenue
San Antonio, TX

TO-A-TEE.....732-2215
Corner of Mistletoe
& N. St. Mary's

UNDER THE BOARDWALK.....340-1556
6405 Blanco

VICTOR-VICTORIA.....734-5240
518 W. Hildebrand
Designers studio

WATS-N-A-FRAME.....341-1308
6649 San Pedro

## PERFORMING ARTS

THE MAIN AVENUE STUDIO.....227-2872
1605 N. Main
Reservations Recommended

JUMP-START PERFORMANCE CO...227-5867
1035 South Alamo

SAN ANTONIO PERFORMING
ARTS ASSOCIATION.....224-2939

## RESTAURANTS

BEAUREGARD BISTRO.....224-2170
320 Beauregard
King William Area

CAFE CAMILLE.....735-2307
517 E. Woodlawn

DEANO'S PATIO INN.....732-5767
2306 McCollough

MAGNOLIA GARDENS.....737-2710
2520 N. Main

PIZZA CLASSICS.....225-3355
2110 Broadway

ROSARIOS.....223-1806
1014 South Alamo

## CORPUS CHRISTI

BUDDY'S.....855-7502
4528 Weber Road

CHARLIE'S ANGELS.....993-4246
4525 S. Staples

CHOICES.....882-0259
1214 Leopard
(Across from City Hall)

COASTAL BEND AIDS FOUNDATION883-581
Hotline.....883-CARE

ELBOW ROOM.....855-7502
4528 Weber Road

HIDDEN DOOR.....882-0183
802 S. Staples

MEMBERS ONLY.....882-3647
1314 Ayers

MCC of Corpus Christi.....882-8255
1230 Brownlee
PO Box 3781

PARALLEL CLUB.....882-0520
512 S. Staples

SILVER DOLPHINS LLC
PO Box 6129
Corpus Christi, TX 78466-6129
Leather/Motorcycle Club

WAYNE'S LEATHERACK.....882-7512
(at The Hidden Door)
802 South Staples

## STATE ORGANIZATIONS

CONSUMER AFFAIRS
OMBUDSMAN (info).....476-5151
Annette LoVoi

LGRL
Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby
Laurie Eiserloh or Glen Maxey.....474-5475

TEXAS FUNERAL DIRECTORS
ASSOCIATION.....442-2304
Bob Smiley, President
1513 South Interstate 35
Austin, TX 78741

***Roommate Wanted***

Male Roommate wanted.3-2-2, $180, Steve: 696-0595

***Roommate Wanted***

Male/female (Helotes area) Choice: 1 bdrm, 1 bath, $300, util incl. or 1 bdrm, 1 den, 1 bath, $375, util incl.
More info: 732-2215 (days) or 342-8503 (evenings)

**MOVERS NEEDED**

We need a mover for bdrm suite, dnrm set, etagere, bkcse, and few boxes. We will move all else. Need toward end of month. Please call The Closet for more info. Prefer Gay-supportive mover. 227-9848

# CALENDAR OF SPECIAL EVENTS

2/7
---
2/21

### THURSDAY - 02/07

**SALGA** Annual Membership Meeting, Magnolia Gardens Restaurant, 6:30PM
**Abs Westernaire:** The Dena Kaye Show, 8PM
**Gallery at UTSA:** Alberto Rios, personal reading, 7PM, FREE
**42nd Annual San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo,** 2/6 thru 2/17, 224-3000 for info.

### FRIDAY - 02/08

***Corpus Christi Motorcycle Club 9th Anniversary,*** The Hidden Door, 8PM
**42nd Annual San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo,** 2/6 thru 2/17, 224-3000 for info.
**Jump-Start Performance Co.:** Short Sparks I, New Works New Faces, original work by local artists

### SATURDAY - 02/09

***Corpus Christi Motorcycle Club 9th Anniversary,*** The Hidden Door, 8PM
**San Antonio Performing Arts Assoc.:** Ory Shihor, concert pianist, Temple Beth El, 8PM, $14$18, More Info: 224-8187
**42nd Annual San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo,** 2/6 thru 2/17, 224-3000 for info.
**Jump-Start Performance Co.:** Short Sparks I, New Works New Faces, original work by local artists

### SUNDAY - 02/10

***Corpus Christi Motorcycle Club 9th Anniversary,*** The Hidden Door, 8PM
**42nd Annual San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo,** 2/6 thru 2/17, 224-3000 for info.

### MONDAY - 02/11

**42nd Annual San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo,** 2/6 thru 2/17, 224-3000 for info.

### TUESDAY - 02/12

[illegible] Stock Show and Rodeo, 2/6 thru 2/17,

### WEDNESDAY - 02/13

**The Circle:** Support Group for partners of people in military, 8PM
**42nd Annual San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo,** 2/6 thru 2/17, 224-3000 for info.

### THURSDAY - 02/14

**TV DINNER THEATRE:** UN-Valentine's festival, music by *The Veteranz of Future Warz*
**Texas Riviera Empire Club Night,** Hidden Door, (Corpus Christi): 7PM
**TGRA/SA:** "The Dating Game" at Memories, 8PM
**42nd Annual San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo,** 2/6 thru 2/17, *224-3000 for info.*

### FRIDAY - 02/15

**Guadalupe Theatre:** *Cine Festival,* 271-3151 for info
**Jump-Start Performance Co.:** *The Troublemakers, series,* 227-5867
*Maria...Memoria A Gloria (AIDS related)*
***"Let Us Entertain You Weekend"*** in Houston, *Houston Council of (motorcycle) Clubs*
**42nd Annual San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo,** 2/6 thru 2/17, *224-3000 for info.*

### SATURDAY - 02/16

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE**
**Guadalupe Theatre:** 5th Annual Valentine's Day Oldies Dance, 8PM *More Info:* 271-3151
***"Let Us Entertain You Weekend"*** in Houston, *Houston Council of (motorcycle) Clubs*
**42nd Annual San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo,** 2/6 thru 2/17, *224-3000 for info.*
**Jump-Start Performance Co.:** *The Troublemakers, series,* 227-5867
*Maria...Memoria A Gloria (AIDS related)*

### SUNDAY - 02/17

**42nd Annual San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo,** 2/6 thru 2/17, 224-3000 for info.

### MONDAY - 02/18

**San Antonio Couples:** Organizational Meeting, Victor-Victoria, 8PM More Info: 733-5286

### TUESDAY - 02/19

**The Circle:** Tuesday Night Discussion Topic: Poetry Reading

### WEDNESDAY - 02/20

**The Circle:** Support Group for partners of people in military, 8PM
**42nd Annual San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo,** 2/6 thru 2/17, 224-3000 for info.
**San Antonio Performing Arts Assoc.:** Kathy Rose, dancer/ filmmaker, More Info: 224-8187

### THURSDAY - 02/21

**NEXT ISSUE OF THE "CLOSET"**
**Hidden Door:** (Corpus Christi): B.A.L.L.S. Club Night, 7PM
**San Antonio Performing Arts Assoc.:** An Evening of Texas Music, More Info: 224-8187


Café Camille



Celebrate
Valentines Week
February 14th - 17th
*"Chocolate & Flowers for your Sweetheart"*
Sundays: 9AM - 11PM
Mon-Fri: 11 - 11PM
Saturdays: 5 - 11PM
517 East Woodlawn (at St. Marys) 735-2307

**Financial Advisory Services of Texas**
F.A.S.T.

- Term Life
- Whole Life
- Mortgage Life
- Universal Life
- Accidental Death
- Boatowners
- Homeowners
- Individual and group major medical
- Medicare Supplement
- Disability Income
- Mortgage Disability
- Retirement Planning
- Accelerated Mortage Plan
- Auto Insurance
- High Risk Auto
- Commercial Auto
- Commercial Business
- Personal Articles
- Liability Umbrella
- Residential Fire

- Ask about available discounts on home, life and auto policies

George N. Inskeep
820-3278
7750 Broadway, San Antonio, Texas 78209


*To Kenneth,*
*Thank yoj for the two happiest years of my life. I see our future happiness in everything that we've created together. Our business, our home and our love. I pray that we will be blessed with many more years and many more opportunities to create happiness.*
*Love, Ron*

State

# It's Number 9 For CCMC

One of the best known motorcycle clubs in the state (and certainly one of the most active) will celebrate their ninth anniversary on **Friday, February 8th**. The *Corpus Christi Motorcycle Club* will begin their celebration at 8PM at The **Hidden Door**.

If you're a frequent visitor to Corpus you've probably heard about the active motorcycle clubs there. With the exception of Boston, I have never visited anywhere that regards its motorcycle clubs so highly and where the clubs are so involved within their Community as does Corpus. One week end evening at The **Hidden Door** and you'll know it too.

CCMC's three day celebration sounds more like a run than a simple anniversary. But then, "*Corpus Christians*" are noted for always doing things in a very BIG way. Except for the size of The **Hidden Door**–or maybe that's because the place is always so busy you don't realize how large it really is.

On Friday, Festivities begin with Shrimp (not shrimpING!) Creole at 8PM followed by several hot cocktail parties; the first by another club, the *Texas Riviera Empire*. Then at 10PM the famous *Silver Dolphins LLC* throw their special bash. But wait, there's more, because at midnight, the *Bay Area Levi & Leather Society* (the newest club in town) presents their unique contribution in the form of **another** party! Get the idea?

These clubs, although very serious about their goals and fund raising projects, know how to party when the time comes.

If you've still got your eyes open by 11PM, there's the *Top-Bear Bottom-Bear contest*. You'll definitely want to focus on many of these contestants. The contest is a fund raiser for the *Ted Gallagher Fund of the Coastal Bend AIDS Foundation*. There is a formal or quite-a-bit-less formal attire part of the contest and then the contestant circulate and relieve you of your money, but graciously for the rest of the week end. The contestant with the most (money, that is) wins. Of course, there's another cocktail party (Sunday) to celebrate the announcement, this time, compliments of *Wayne's Leatherrack* at The Hidden Door.

Then there's Saturday, with coffee and rolls at The **Hidden Door** in the afternoon and then on to **Choices**, another great bar, for a 5PM party and then back to the **Hidden Door** for another cocktail party at midnight. But this time, one of the "foreign" clubs (from Houston) is hosting the festivities: the **Time Survivors**.

Well, it goes on and on with the farewells on the 10th.

This is going to be a fantastic celebration and if you've got the time, I guarantee that the hour and a half drive will be well worth it.

Corpus has been very good to us and we can only speak very highly of this wonderful Gay playland to our South.

*You don't have to be "political" to be "active."*

# Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor:

Gay servicemen and women have been told by the military that they can serve in the Persian Gulf War and that they will be discharged after they return. This fact was revealed in the Wall Street Journal (January 24, 1991, Section B1).

Gay veterans groups and Gay-rights attorneys claim the military has relaxed its ban on homosexuals because of the war but still plans to throw them out after the fighting is over.

At least fourteen Gay and Lesbian reservists have been notified of this. The military has always maintained that this ban is necessary to preserve good morale and discipline among the troops.

This decision is the latest among an ongoing list of hypocracies and injustices patriotic Americans have to endure when serving in the military.

One Gay was told, "We're going to ship your ass to Saudi Arabia, use your butt as cannon fodder; and if you come back, we'll throw you out."

If Gays are fit for service during wartime and are willing to risk injury or death, then they are equally fit to serve during peacetime.

This brings me to the "We Support Our Troops" cliche that you see everywhere.

I hope all these people that say they support our troops really do support [them] and also will support them against the injustices that they face from the American Government. That support requires more than just flags on their car antennas, last year's Christmas bows on screen-doors and Saddam Hussein dart boards.

Gene Wesley Elder

Subscription is only $22.70 per year


Sat, Feb 16th 8PM
Benefit for SAAF
"A Memorial Tribute to Courtney Rose"
at
MEMORIES 6402 Callaghan

MEMORIES
6402 Callaghan
Open Daily 4PM - 2AM

2nd Year Anniversary Bash
*Fri, Feb 15th 8:30PM*
Buffet, Prizes & Drink Specials
Donna & Sue say "Thank You Customers"

STRETCH YOUR BUCK
FRI & SAT!
$1.25 LONGNECK
$1.75 WELL
$1.75 CUERVO GOLD
ALL DAY-ALL NIGHT
DJ Cyn NO COVER

RODEO NIGHT
Fri, Feb 8th
Country Music - No Cover
Gay Caballeros & Lesbian Lassos $1.50

340-1241

UNDER THE BOARDWALK
Balloons · T-shirts · Cards · Gifts
IN THE CASTLE CREEK VILLAGE SHOPPING CENTER
(1/2 MILE INSIDE LOOP 410)
6405 Blanco
Going Out Of Business!
50% Off
"Everything in the store"
*Come by for BIG savings!*
340-1556

Predictably, the city of Stanwood was not ready for their joy. Within days, the couple became celebrities, appearing in a story carried by *USA Today* and twice on the *Oprah Winfrey Show.*

Churches in the city have organized opposition to the paper but *The Herald* stands firm in its support of Gay rights.

Hutson reasoned, *"When you grow up, you always see this stuff in the paper...Here we have the same kind of feelings, the same kind of relationship and we have the same kind of ceremony....We should have the same kind of announcement."*

But not everyone agrees.

Hutson, a silversmith, owns a gallery and on its opening, the local police arrived based on complaints that the nudes on display were pornographic.

Both of the women's mothers receive hate phone calls.

But the couple remains firm. *"We all need to do this," said Hutson, "Otherwise, we're living these lies that take away the value of our whole lives."*

## *$35,000 Fine Result of Civil Rights Violation*

The *St. Paul/Minneapolis Roman Catholic Archdiocese* has been ordered to pay Dignity, a Catholic Gay support group, nearly $20,000 for violating the Catholic group's civil rights. The diocese forced the group to leave its meeting space at the University of Minnesota *Catholic Newman Center.*

The *Minneapolis Commission on Civil Rights* also levied a $15,000 fine payable to the city.

But this is the wonderful part: The diocese plans to appeal the decision based on their belief that their First Amendment right to "freedom of religion" has been violated!

Interesting, isn't it, that the church thinks its rights have been violated but sees nothing wrong in downing the rights of *Dignity*?

Someone in that diocese better study up on the "golden rule." You know, "do unto *others as..."*

## Health

# Survival

### *Signs And Symptoms Of AIDS*

WARNING: Please follow the old adage--"The doctor who cares for himself has a fool for a patient."

In other words, DO NOT DIAGNOSE YOURSELF based on what you read here or anywhere. Only a physician trained in the diagnosis of AIDS or HIV infection can make an accurate diagnosis. It is very important that you do NOT RUSH TO CONCLUSIONS.

As for all of you that want to turn to another page to read something less serious, perhaps you better re-think that urge. If you already "know enough" it might be a good idea to review. Things tend to get a bit hazy around the edges after a time.

Those of you who don't want to know, perhaps now is the time to reconsider your decision.

And to those of you who are already HIV positive or who have AIDS, I know that you, more than anyone else, will probably read this chapter of our series. It has been my experience that PWA's and HIV positive individuals continue to read more AIDS-related material than the rest of us. I suspect it's the desire to maintain control through knowledge or just the need to know one's aggressor face-to-face.

As I have mentioned in past chapters of this series, AIDS is a syndrome, a set of symptoms and conditions that defines an increasingly weakening immune system. AIDS can be easily diagnosed at AIDS.

Because so many diseases contribute to AIDS, a person with AIDS will have many of the same symptoms that someone who is ill, but who does not have AIDS, experiences. The following symptoms can be attributed to many every day common ailments and it should be noted that no one symptom in itself, means a person has AIDS.

### *Persistent Fevers/Night Sweats*

When a person has a fever, it usually means there is an infection. Therefore, fever, like pain, is an indicator that there is something wrong with the body.

The normal body temperature is 98.6 degrees Fahrenheit.

However, the exact temperature is different at various times of the day and at different body locations.

The operative word in considering an existent fever is "persistent." If the fever is persistent, consult a physician.

Night sweats are now famous as one of the most common symptoms of AIDS. But such sweats are also symptomatic of Tuberculosis and some other diseases. Alone they do not indicate AIDS.

### *Fatigue*

Being tired is common to all of us. Perhaps we had a tough day, or have experienced a lot of emotional stress. Possibly we just aren't eating right. There are many causes of general fatigue.

But when fatigue lasts more than a couple of weeks, there is a good chance that something is wrong.

Fatigue, however, can be a slippery symptom. Because there can be some very real reasons why all of us can feel some fatigue every day of our lives, it is something that most of us just let pass without further consideration.

I was told once that a good measure of true fatigue is how easily a person can climb a single set of thirteen steps. If there is huffing and puffing every day for more than two weeks of trying this once a day, see a doctor. There is definitely an energy problem.

### *Weight Loss*

Usually accompanying fatigue is weight loss. And very often, the reason is loss of appetite, though this does not have to be present to loose weight if the person is ill.

If you loose more than ten per cent of your total body weight within a two week period, there is need for concern. Obviously, this assumes you are NOT on a diet.

### *Swollen Glands (Lymphadenopathy)*

Most of us have had some form of swollen glands at one time or another. Swollen glands really indicate that your immune system is functioning. However, persistent swollen glands in at least half of the gland locations and persistent for more than three months can mean the onset of AIDS.

It is important to consult a doctor since many medications can cause the swelling and hardening of glands as well as some minor infections.

Glands are located in the neck, groin and armpits.

Those are general symptoms which can occur for a number of reasons. The following symptoms are a little more indicative of developing AIDS.

### *Oral Thrush*

Thrush is a yeast infection of the tongue and mouth. It is caused by the yeast *Candida albicans.* Although it can be infectious to other internal areas of the body, the oral cavity is the most common location.

The yeast is always present in our bodies. It is kept in check by a number of microorganisms that also live within us. A debilitating disease usually upsets the balance and thrush begins to develop.

Thrush appears as a white patch(es) that coats the tongue or visible throat. It is very noticeable. Do not mistake the general white haze that you might have lining your mouth if you are a smoker or have eaten certain foods. Thrush is not a continuous whiteness. It is definitely patchy in appearance.

### *Persistent Diarrhea*

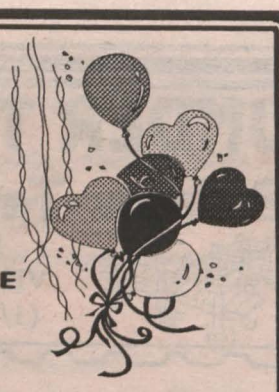
Diarrhea, unfortunately, is probably the most common symptom that PWA's notice before they have any idea they are infected. This symptom is often startling in that the person doesn't recall having any of the other symptoms. But persistent diarrhea is serious and should receive medical attention immediately, whether AIDS is suspected or not. It can lead to severe dehydration and loss of certain body salts which are necessary for the total functioning of the human body.

### *Coughing/Shortness of Breath*

These two symptoms are important as they may indicate the development of Pneumonia, especially a particular kind associated with AIDS called *Pneumocystis carinii.* Oddly, this disease has receive one of the highest success rates for control since AIDS was discovered. The periodic inhaling of *pentamidine* has had a tremendous success rate in helping to delay or fight off completely *P. carinii.*

Pneumonia is serious for anyone. If you have prolonged coughing with fever or chills, tightness in your chest and increased pulse rates and breathing rates, chances are you're a good candidate for a pneumonia diagnosis. See your doctor immediately. Pneumonia can be life-threatening even if you are not infected with the kind associated with AIDS.


THE 2015 PLACE



8th ANNIVERSARY PARTY

Come Join Us on FEB 14th

Food & Drink Specials
Happy Hour 2 - 8PM

Milwaukee Best Draft
50 Cents 2 - 2PM

Parking Security Guard On Duty

2015 San Pedro 733-3365



PAPA JIM BOTANICA

THE MOST UNUSUAL STORE IN TEXAS

Card Readings

*La Tienda Mas Insolita de Texas*
*La Botanica Nacional de Texas*

| | |
|---|---|
| Herbs | Hierbas |
| Candles | Velas |
| Pure Oils | Aceitas |
| Books | Libros |
| Tarot Cards | Naipes Tarot |
| Prayers | Oraciones |
| Incenses | Inciensos |
| Magical Powders | Polvos Magicos |
| Magical Oils | Acietas Magicos |

5630 S. Flores at Southcross
512-922-6665
MON - FRI 9 - 7 SAT 9 - 5
LUN - VIER 9 - 7 SAB 9 - 5
OPEN SUNDAYS
ABIERTO LOS DOMINGOS

## Bumps, Rashes, Blotches

Since most of us were young, we have been told the seven signs of Cancer. We already know to watch bumps and discolorations of the skin that don't disappear after a short time.

When considering AIDS, the primary concern of such skin problems is *Kaposi's sarcoma (KS).*

KS appears as painless, non-itching lesions about the size of an insect bite. As the disease grows, the areas become larger, much larger in many cases.

Most of the KS incidents that I have seen have appeared on the person's arms, legs, upper chest, neck or face. Although the lesions can be brown or blue, the color purple is the most common one I remember seeing.

KS is a form of cancer and is one of the deadlier results of AIDS.

## Easy Bruising/Bleeding

People with a normal immune system should not bruise or bleed easily.

A special type of blood disorder called *idiopathic thrombocytopenia purpura (ITP)* is closely related to AIDS. Researchers suspect a direct correlation. Excessive bruising and bleeding can be symptoms of ITP.

## Neurological Symptoms

This is the most difficult area of diagnosis. There are so many reasons why someone "just isn't feeling right."

Many of these reasons can be psychological and/or neurological. The mind can cause real physical effects and the body can cause the mind to be affected. There is a wide range of diseases which can affect the brain and the mere fact that someone is always on edge is certainly no reason to suspect AIDS.

However, drastic changes in behavior are always to be considered serious and a physician should be contacted as soon as possible.

The commonly reported loss of memory in AIDS patients is often due to the drug AZT or is associated with a much later stage of AIDS development.

As you can see, nearly all of the above symptoms can mean any number of diseases and not necessarily AIDS.

Of course, the more symptoms an individual has, the closer the chance of AIDS.

To repeat: ONLY A TRAINED PHYSICIAN IN AIDS DIAGNOSIS CAN ASSES YOUR PHYSICAL CONDITION FOR AIDS. DO NOT ATTEMPT TO DIAGNOSE YOURSELF.

Remember, the above are general symptoms. HOwever, there are very specific diseases, like KS, which have a high correlation to AIDS. In the next chapter of this series, I'll discuss some of the more common of these diseases and explain what they mean to the patient her or his loved ones and other care-givers.

In the meantime, reduce your stress, eat well and maintain control.

◆●◆

*Please tell our advertisers that you saw their ad in The Closet*


*"Come Home to the Bonham Exchange"*

*POST VALENTINE SHOW*

*Fri, Feb 15th*



*TIFFANY ARIEAGUS*

Show at 11PM

Thurs & Sun Male Strippers!

411 Bonham 271-3811

PIZZA CLASSICS

2110 Broadway
FAST FREE
DELIVERY

Open for Lunch
M-T 11-1am
F-S 11-2am
SUN 11-12:30am

*We accept checks* 25 Cents per check

225-3355

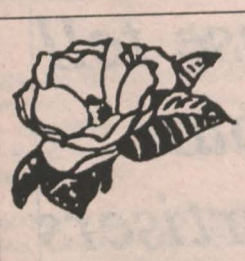
**2 Large**
**One Topping Pizzas**
with 4 Free 32 oz. Pepsis
$12.99 +tax

**PARTY PACK**
**2 X-tra Large Pizzas**
1 Supreme
1 Pepperoni
$14.99 +tax

**X-tra Large**
**Two Topping Pizza**
with 2 Free 32 oz. Pepsis
$8.99 +tax

"PIZZA BY THE SLICE"
at the
BONHAM EXCHANGE
WED - FRI - SAT
10:30 pm 'til closing

75 Cents OFF with this ad



Monte Vista's

**Magnolia Gardens**

Restaurant and Bakery

Open: Mon-Fri 10:30 AM - 3:30 PM
Sat 7:30 - 3:30 PM

2520 N. Main

Catering 737-2710 Private Parties

Buy any Sandwich, or Entree with Drink and Receive a FREE Dessert

**SUNDAY BRUNCH**
11:00 - 3:30



*Sweetie Pie, YOU"RE the ONE!*



*AF:*
*Be my Valentine.*
*I wish you were here.I miss you!. I hope your Valentine's Day is as speccial as you are. Even though I won't be with you, you'll be in my thoughts and prayers. Come home soon. You are my hearthrob. Let me be yours. - SG*



**ANDERSON-ZUNKER**
INSURANCE
(512) 734-7911

| LIFE INSURANCE | HEALTH INSURANCE | FINANCIAL PLANNING |
|---|---|---|
| Whole Life | Individual or Group | Retirement |
| Term Life | Employee Benefits | Annuities |
| Mortgage Life | Medicare Supplement | I. R. A.'s |
| Universal Life | Disability Income | |
| | Mortgage Disability | |

M. Slater Anderson

1803 West Gramercy Place, Suite 100
San Antonio, Texas 78201



*"Come Home to the Bonham Exchange"*

**Fri, Feb 8th**
**DONNA DAY**
**Show at 11PM**

Thurs Night is
"Boxer Shorts Night"
+
Male Strippers
Amateur Night
Cash Prizes

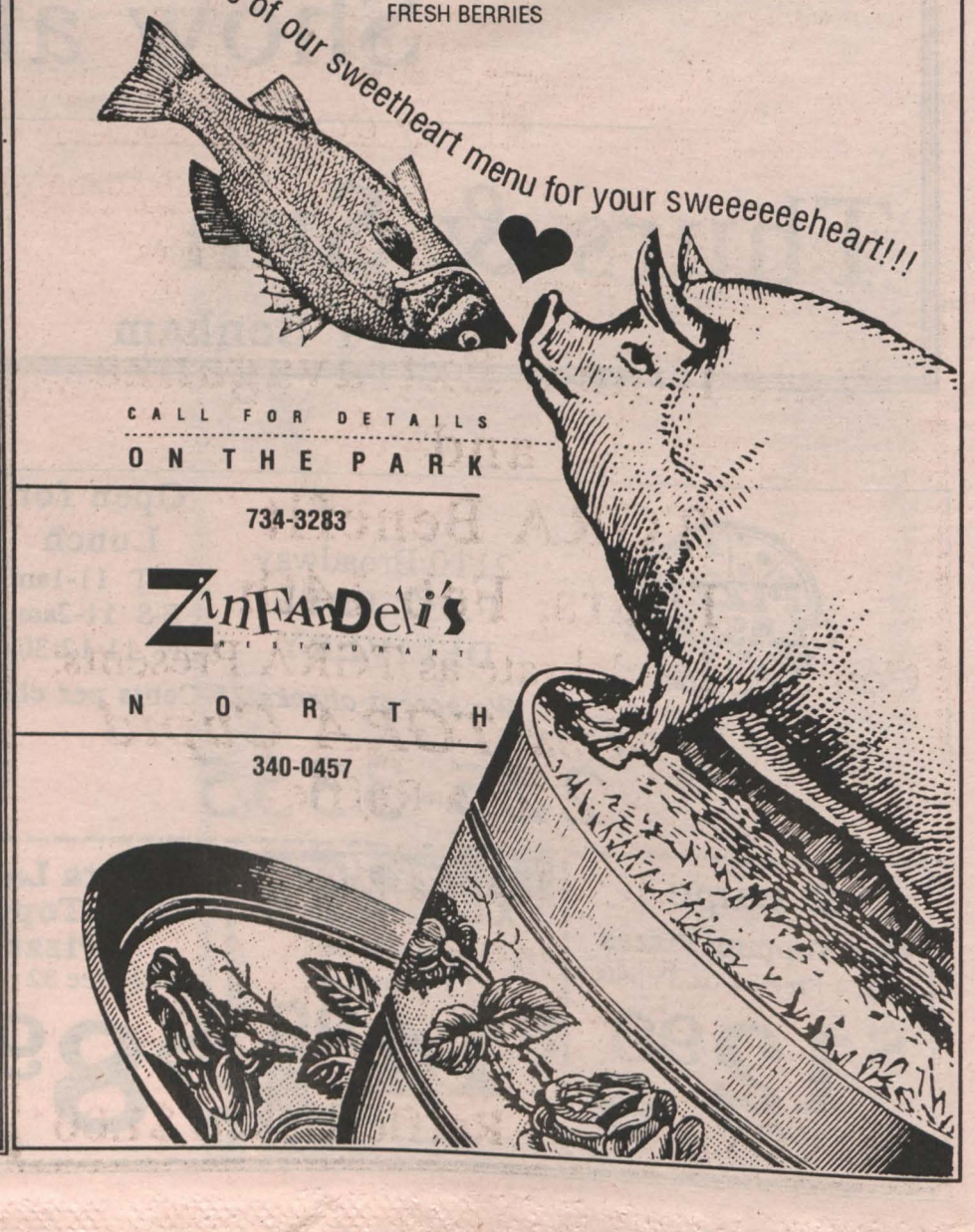
411 Bonham 271-3811



**WERE BACK HOME!**
**Zinfandeli's celebrates Valentinesday!**

GULF OYSTERS
BLUSH CHAMPAGNE
NORWEGIAN SALMON
FRESH BERRIES

Just a sample of our sweetheart menu for your sweeeeeeheart!!!



CALL FOR DETAILS
ON THE PARK
734-3283

ZinFanDeli's RESTAURANT
NORTH
340-0457

HIDDEN DOOR
Corpus Christi



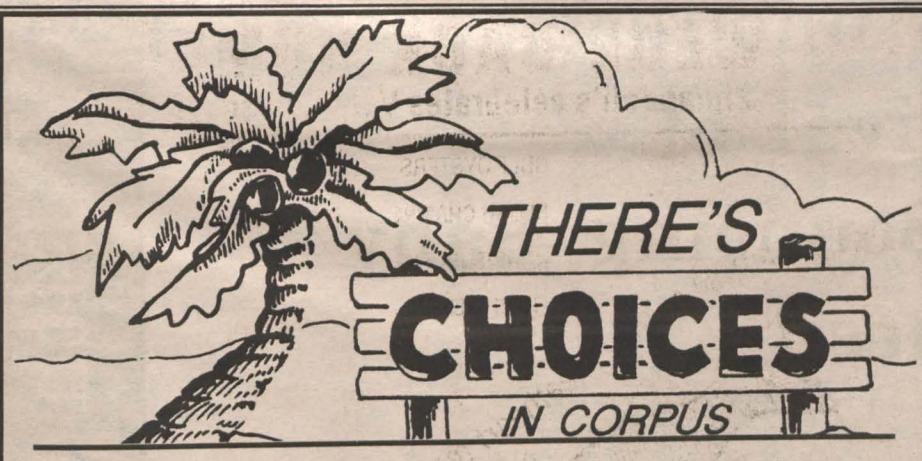
C.C. Motorcycle Club
9th Anniversary
Feb 7 - 10

7th CCMC Club Night 7-11PM
8th Registration 8-Midnight
Cocktail Parties
9th CCMC Awards Banquet
10th Farewells

Congratulations from
The Hidden Door

*Home of the C.C. Motorcycle Club*

802 S. Staples
Corpus Christi, TX (512) 882-0183




1214 Leopard, across from City Hall 882-0259

"Just down the street from the Dog Races
and the Texas Aquarium"

Valentine's Extravaganza
and
TGRA Benefit
Thurs, Feb 14th
Come and Celebrate as TGRA Presents:
*Mr & Miss TGRA Cupid*
and TGRA Raffle

MC - Joanna King
with special guests
Show Starts at 9PM

NO COVER Raffle Tickets $1.00

Travel

# Corpus Christi

*The Texas Rivera*

*By Howard Wohlgemuth*

We have all seen San Antonio touted as "One of America's most unique cities" and that may well be so. I would like to suggest that a neighboring city, **Corpus Christi**, be dubbed "*Most Un-Texan of All Texas Cities.*"

If for no other reason, this should be cause enough to consider a jaunt over to the *Coastal Bend Area*. Where else can you find another destination less than three hours distant in your own vehicle whose surroundings totally make you foget that you're in your own state?

Aside and apart from the fact that one is virtually surrounded by water while in Corpus, it is a city which is populated by former residents of just about everywhere. So, it stands to reason that if you mix a place that just doesn't look at all like texas with a batch of assorted persons who, at best, are born-again Texans, you have a most Un-Texan sort of place; a great place to get away to for a few days.

It makes no sense to go to Corpus in any manner other than your own vehicle. As an alternative to the rather dull scenic quality of IH 37, I would urge you to try **Highway 181** which will get you to Corpus through Sinton, Taft, Portland and on over the spectacular Harbor Bridge. It takes about a half hour longer but it is a much nicer drive and gives you a pleasantly expectant feeling about your destination. In addition, it is a far more pleasing way to enter the city than the less than appealing Westside/industrial approach.

The downtown **Bayfront Area** offers a wide variety of hotels and motels in every price category. Unless there is an unusually large convention in town, you will not need a reservation; a good idea, though, if arriving after 5PM on a week end night.

Once settled in you might stop by the Tourist Bureau office on **Shoreline Blvd.** and load up on pamphlets describing the multitude of local attractions as well as current happenings.

If you're a beach addict, you've certainly come to the right place. You have a choice of the downtown beach area just South of the T-Heads and Marina or the much wider and larger beach area of **North Beach** if you're content with placid bay water.

But if you're willing to drive a bit farther, do try the vast expanses of the Gulf beaches of Padre Island. These beaches rank among the finest this country has to offer. However, swimming can, at times, be somehat iffy because of jellyfish and other assorted nasty sea creatures.

All of the usual water sports abound but Corpus is notable as the *sail-boarding capitol of the world.* If you've never witnessed this fabulous sport, drive South along the Bayfront about a mile or so from downtown where the first of a number of areas devoted to the sport will appear.

For reasons best known to meteorologists, this part of the Texas Coast is one of the windiest areas in the entire country. That and the warm water temperatures make for a terrific place to engage in this sport.

It is, however, not something for everyone and certainly not something to consider venturing into at the spur of the moment. I'm told it takes a lot of practice and expense-wise it is right up there with snow skiing. But it is as colorful a spectacle you'll ever witness.

Corpus has more than its share of museums, gallerys, and historical sites. Its newest attraction, the **Texas State Aquarium,** is an absolute must. The design of the building and its setting is stunning and the displays of marine life are just plain wonderful. For anyone who hasn't been down to the Coastal Bend in a while this one addition to the scene there is well worth the trip down.

For its size, Corpus Christi offers more great eating places than any other city I know of i that size range.

Just for starters, I would recommend: **Elmo's City Diner,** downtown on Water St. across from the Quinta Royale Hotel, always busy, always good service and quality food; any one of the trio in the **Water St. group,** the one in the front facing Water St. is extremely informal featuring live music and a very upscale crowd of younger people. Away from downtown I suggest **Perusa** which serves up South American specialties (a cuisine not even romotely akin to Mexican); it is on Airline near McArdle. Another with most unusual taste treats is **Milann's,** in the shopping plaza on Weber just past Holly. It's culinary concerns tend to be hourmet Southwestern (if you've been to Santa Fe, you will know the style of food).

All of the above have full bars; all are in the moderate price category of from $8 to $15 without drinks.

Probably because it's a sort of "end of the road" location, people in Corpus sometimes refer to themselves and their city as being "out of it."

Absolutely not so! In regard to Gay bars, you'll find great fun, lots of action and patrons as friendly as exist on this globe.

On week ends in particular, at any given time and in any one of them, you can expect to find a substantial number of out-of-towners. Houston and Austin are often well represented.

The **Hidden Door** at S. Staples and Coleman is in a big old turn-of-the-century house whose decor can best be described as rustic. Bartenders there always seem to maintain an upbeat feel. Customers of both genders are made to feel right at home and considering that a nationwide Gay guide lists this as a "Leather Bar" I often found Yuppie types rather than Leather types.

On Weber Rd., just past the corner of Gollihar is the twin-bar **Buddy's/Elbow Room;** a single entrance serves both with Buddy's to the right and the Elbow Room to the left. The former supposedly caters to the gals and the latter to the guys but in fact, both sexes frequent both bars and since it is, after all, the same building, there is no problem with going from one to another with drink in hand. The management of this place has bestowed great attention to decor-detail and also on the terrific sound systems and C.D. selections.

**Charlie's Angels** is a big disco located at 4525 S. Staples. It is a late, loud scene to be seen and it get a very young crowd.

All of the above-mentioned feature a steady flow of events, some shows, and regularly-scheduled barbecues.

It is my misfortune that I haven't visited Corpus since the opening of the new bar, **Choices,** but I'm told that it's a real winner. (see Ed. Note at end)

For those who either have never made it down to "The Sparkling City By the Sea" and also for those who haven't been there in a while, do give it a go. Don't deprive yourselves of a treat so close to home.

[**Ed Note:** Corpus is a a real find for a fast trip on the road. Doug and I have gone there several times and have never been disappointed. The people are truly friendly and we have had a wonderful time every time.

Do try the barbecues at the bars; they are very inexpensive and very generous in portions!

***Choices, the first Corpus advertiser*** with us is very partial to San Antonians and has treated us like kings (queens?) each time we've been there. They are also working on a **Bed & Breakfast** above the bar which will be a great advantage for those wishing to find a place close to the action. Bar co-owner **Paul** mixes great, generous drinks and will welcome you warmly to this non-imposing bar across the street from the City Hall.

If you're into the extra drive, the Port Aransas area can be a real joy, either at the **Seahorse Inn** (elegant and affordable and **VERY supportive**) or roughing it on the beach. Some area of the beach are controlled and patroled and cost about $6 for camping; most of the area is not controlled and you can "camp" as you like.

As you drive along the beach, look for a huge discarded gas tank (the gas station type) which someone has thoughtfully used as a sign to point you to the Nude Beach. (very active around 3AM also!). Ask driections at any Gay bar. North Beach in Corpus can get quite campy at times too. Evenings are lots of fun but move away from your vehicle; police patrol regularly. ]

GRAND OPENING, FEBRUARY 14th

GRAND OPENING, FEBRUARY 14th

*Opening February 10th*

Photographic Art, Metal Sculpture,
Tropical Foliage, Bromeliads,
Orchids, Epiphytic Ferns

*Uniquely More Than A Plant Store*

Open 7 Days per week

**Jim and Michael**
**are**
**Proud To Announce**
**The Arrival of**
**A Brand New Bouncing Baby**
**Business!**

# *GRASSHOPPER*

*4026 McCullough Ave*
*San Antonio, TX*
*826-7800*

GRAND OPENING, FEBRUARY 14th

GRAND OPENING, FEBRUARY 14th