FREE - Take the Star Home

# MONTROSE STAR

Issue #8 – September 3-9, 1976

# Until Success, Poverty, or a Cute Trick Do Us Part

By Ray Hill and Dale Sweat



This is an article about relationships. In spite of the rhetoric you may use, the information contained here may not apply to you. Although most gay people say they want a lover, or companion, fact is: fewer than one might think are willing to meet a worthy other person on equal footing; few are willing to make the kind of adjustments in personal priorities that allow enough energy to maintain a meaningful relationship; and few are willing to sublimate or share their ego with another person whose ego must be given equal consideration.

Relationships are not necessary for a good and fulfilling life. Although popular rumor has it that older gay people are lonely unless they have lovers to grow old with, the reality is that in this youth oriented society both straight and gay elderly are lonely with or without lovers or spouses. The differences are relatively minor, but older gay males test out to be in better psychological shape (with lovers or alone) than older straight males (married, single, or widowed). Research has not been done in females but we suspect older gay females would compare favorably with their non-gay peers.

So relationships are for those who want them and are willing to make the personal adjustments necessary to relate with a worthy other person day in and day out.

If you think relationships are what you want, consider all of the following and think about it again.

Most of human behavior is learned by example. We duplicate the things we want to do by watching others do them. That is very easy when a lot of other people are doing whatever it is one wishes to do. But when we have few or no examples to follow, what we do is sometimes difficult.

If one is straight and middle class, relationships are easy. All one has to do is do what mom and dad did and fight happily for the rest of your life with the person you choose a husband or wife.

But if you are gay, mom and dad are not a good example to follow and few of us have had the opportunity to observe gay relationship role models. So we learn from whatever fantasies we have about what gay relationships ought to be (however mistaken or impossible those fantasies might be).

Usually two gay people enter a relationship with very different fantasies and very different ideas about what to expect from one another. And usually they have not known one another very long. And more frequently than not they each are more concerned with impressing the worthy other than candidly communicating what day to day living together is going to be like.

We would like to establish one point early in this article: There is nothing about gay people that makes them poorer relationship partners than non-gay people. No research has indicated any common characteristic of gay people that would prevent long term, meaningful relationships between them. So essentially the problem with gay relationships is learning how to begin and maintain quality relationships without examples to follow.

Of course, this problem also indicates the great advantage of gay relationships over non-gay relationships: there is no pressure to conform to traditional roles; therefore two (or more) gay people can create whatever kinds of relationships they might want. Recognizing this advantage should encourage gay people to explore their thoughts and feelings so as to create new and individual ways of relating with each other.

But no matter what forms relationships take, the essential ingredient is communication (verbal, non-verbal, sexual, other physical, mental, intellectual,

*continued on page 10*

## We're expanding statewide

**It was not our intention to ever expand the Montrose Star out of Houston. But our minds have been changed.**

**We've found it impossible to separate the Dallas gay community from that of Houston.**

**So the Star is on the verge of a statewide expansion.**

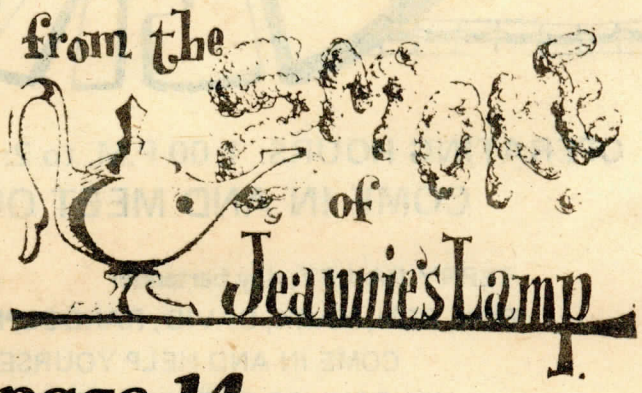
**In fact, if you went out of town this past Labor Day Weekend, you probably saw copies of the Star in certain locations in San Antonio, Austin and Dallas.**

**Here's our attack plan: Starting next issue, Austin joins Houston. There will be Austin gay news coverage, a street map of the city showing the club locations, and (of course) advertising support.**

**Dallas/Fort Worth starts the issue after that, in two weeks.**

**There will be no increase in advertising rates, despite the new circulation we pick up with the next issue. And there will be no decrease in Houston circulation. The Star will continue its growth in Houston.**

**For more information on advertising in the Star, call us at (713) 527-8961. Or come by our office at 900 Lovett, above Sally's, in Houston.**




**page 14**

# O'TOPOS

## HEAD SHOP & BOOK STORE

OPEN 6 DAYS – CLOSED WEDNESDAY
BIGGEST SELECTION IN TOWN
MAGAZINE – PAPERBACKS – RUBBER GOODS – NOVELTIES
8 MM FILMS – MASSAGE OILS – PAPERS – PIPES
CLIPS – INCENSE – T-SHIRTS – ETC.
25¢ MOVIE ARCADE & LARGE SCREEN THEATER
COME TO
2020 Richmond
Houston, Texas 77098



Tuesday night — Free Movie

Wednesday — Hat & Color Night, 1/2 price drinks




OPERATING HOURS: 1:00 P.M. to 2:00 A.M. 7 days a week

COME IN AND MEET OUR STAFF

**TERRY RAILEY, day bartender** **JIMMY, the waiter**

**DON, RON, MARK, DAVID, RANDOLPH, night bartenders**

COME IN AND HELP YOURSELF TO A
HANDFUL OF GOOBERS FROM OUR BARREL


# Calendar

## HOUSTON CLUBS

**Friday night, Sept. 10**
After hours disco dancing at the Old Plantation and at the Depository. After hours Country Kitchen cooking at Levi's.

**Saturday morning, Sept. 11**
Happy Hour 7am-noon at Sally's.

**Saturday afternoon, Sept. 11**
Happy hour 10am-6pm at the Briar Patch and 5-8pm at Sally's. Special prices on bloody marys and screwdrivers noon-7pm at the Inside Outside. Bar doubles $1 at the Locker 1-6pm. Beer bust 3-7pm at Levi's.

**Saturday night, Sept. 11**
Disco dancing to 4am at the Depository and at the Old Plantation. Levi's has a Virgo Punch Party starting at 10pm, and after hours Country Kitchen cooking to 3:30am.

**Sunday afternoon, Sept. 12**
Specials on bloody marys and screwdrivers 2-6pm at the Briar Patch and noon-7pm at the Inside Outside. Show off your tan at Marys during the late afternoon and early evening. Beer bust at Levi's, 3-7pm.

**Sunday night, Sept. 12**
Nickel beer at the Depository. The Sunday Night Follies at the Old Plantation with Naomi Simms, Carmelita, Ernestine, Donna Day and Jennifer George, starting at 9:45.

**Weekday mornings**
Happy hour 7am-noon at Sally's and at the Inside Outside.

**Monday afternoon, Sept. 13**
Happy hour noon-7pm at the Barn, 5-8pm at Sally's, 5-7pm at the Second Sun and Mary's, 10am-6pm at the Briar Patch, 4-7pm at Levi's, the Locker and at the Inside Outside. Beer Bust 5-7pm at Our Place.

**Monday night, Sept. 13**
No cover and 75¢ bar drinks at the Depository. $1 cover and 35¢ bar drinks at the Old Plantation.

**Tuesday afternoon, Sept. 14**
Happy hour all afternoon at Sally's, noon-7pm at the Barn, 5-7pm at Mary's and the Second Sun, 10am-6pm at the Briar Patch, 4-7pm at the Locker, Levi's, and the Inside Ouside. Beer bust 11am-7pm at Our Place.

**Tuesday night, Sept. 14**
Free movie tonight at the Locker. $2 night at Mr. Frizby's Baths. Talent night at the Old Plantation, with the winners of the last four weeks all competing tonight for first prize of $100 and a chance to appear with the regular stars on Sunday night. The Old Plantation also tonight has 35¢ drinks with a $1 cover. Disco dancing tonight at the Depository with $1 cover and 45¢ drinks. Happy hour all night at Sally's.

**Wednesday afternoon, Sept. 14**
Happy hour 5-7pm at Mary's and the Second Sun, 5-8pm at Sally's, noon-7pm at the Barn, 10am-6pm at the Briar Patch, and 4-7pm at the Inside Outside, Locker, and Levi's. Beer bust 5-7pm at Our Place.

**Wednesday night, Sept. 14**
Buddy Night at Club Houston with 2 lockers for the price of one, 8pm-midnight. Dinner, 7-9 pm, $2.50, at Chez Pierre Restaurant, in the Westheimer Flea Market, across from the Locker. The Wednesday Night Follies at the Old Plantation with Ernestine, Donna Day, Jennifer George, Naomi Simms and Carmilita, 9:45pm. $2 cover with 10¢ bar drinks at the Depository. Hat & Color Night at the Locker with half price drinks for all those dressed correctly.

**Thursday afternoon, Sept. 16**
Happy hour 4-7pm at Levi's, Locker and Inside Outside, plus happy hour all afternoon at Sally's, 5-7pm at the Second Sun and Mary's, noon-6pm at the Briar Patch. Beer bust 5-7pm at Our Place.

**Thursday night, Sept. 16**
$1 cover and 35¢ drinks at the Old Plantation. $1 cover and 45¢ drinks at the Depository.

**Friday afternoon, Sept. 17**
Happy hour noon-7pm at the Barn, 5-8pm at Sally's, 5-7pm at the Second Sun, 10am-6pm at the Briar Patch, 4-7pm at the Levi, 4-7pm at the Inside Outside, 5-7pm at Mary's, and 4-7pm at the Locker.

**Coming up later**
Watch for the opening of the Brig. Attendants will be wearing thirteen-button pants. And unruly customers will be put into the Brig. Watch the Star for more information about the opening date and the location. Also, Sparkle Plenty Disco still expects to be open later this month next to the Alabama Theater.

## CRUISING

**All week except Monday**

West Park Flea Market, 9102 West Park, features 50 shops and plenty of table space. Star readers are urged to set up tables, if you've got something to sell. Open 9am-5pm Tuesday-Friday. 8am-7pm Saturday & Sunday. Info: 789-0590.

Westheimer Flea Market in the 1700 block of Westheimer features 35 permanent shops and 30 table spaces. 10am-6pm. Info: 528-8457.

**Saturday & Sunday**

Common Market located at the Westpark exit of Southwest Freeway has 40 permanent shops and booths and 200 transient stalls. Dawn to dusk. Info: 782-0391.

## THE CAUSE

**Sunday, Sept. 12**

Worship services at 11am and 7:30pm at the Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection, 1214 Joe Annie.

**Wednesday, Sept. 15**

Activist Ray Hill hosts "Wilde 'n Stein" on KPFT, 90.1 FM. It's a gay news program, starting around 7pm. For more info, prior to the show, call 526-8253.

The Gay Political Caucus meets at 7:30 at the M.C.C.R., 1214 Joe Annie.

*Keep the Star posted on your events. Call us (713) 527-8961, or drop by our offices at 900 Lovett in Houston. Deadline for information to be included in the next issue is Monday, 8pm.*

★★★★★★★★

# "Mountain" Is Worth Your Time to See

Apart from the fact that the movie is one of the best film adaptations of a true story I've ever seen, it was also a great study of actor development by a director.

"The Other Side of The Mountain" is Hollywood's biography of the life of 1956 Olympic skiing hopeful Jill Kinnmont. In 1955 Jill was America's best chance of a medal in the Olympic games downhill race. Skiing was a way of life to this girl, not just a sport, so when she came to the Snow Cup trials that year she was ready to reach the top.

What she found instead that day was the bottom of a cliff. A tragic mishap on her first run down the course caused her to hit a marker pole, lose control and plummet to the rocks and snow many feet below. It is discovered later at the hospital that she has suffered a broken neck and will be a quadraplegic (meaning without the use of arms or legs) for the rest of her life.

Her courageous fight back from near death to a productive existence is the focal point of the film and it's beautifully done. The main influence in her successful recovery is an unadorned non-conceited Evil Kneivel-type named Dick Buick. They had met a few years before when she was in training and she had never forgotten him. He becomes her sole link with her once strong ambition and determination.

With his in-again, out-again reverse psychology he is able to win back her spirit as well as her love and finds for himself his own need to love.

Marilyn Hassett's portrayal of Jill appears weak and slightly amateurish at first but steadily develops until the fourth quarter of the film becomes very convincing. This is obviously the result of patient and hard working direction. I think this newcomer has a bright future and I hope her next efforts will be good showcases for her talent.

Beau Bridges (son of actor Lloyd Bridges) is really well cast in the part of Dick Buick, Jill's saviour. He has matured so much from some of his earlier ventures it's hard to believe it's the same kid.

He has cultivated a style completely different from his father's and executes it very well, so there is no need for coattail riding.

Belinda J. Montgomery, who plays A.J., Jill's best friend, also deserves a mention. Although her part is relatively small, she administers it very well. She looks to be going places also. The rest of the cast is durable too, which makes it an extremely worthwhile enterprise.

In any case the underlined theme of this girl's story goes much deeper than that. It's a description in the most basic details of personal survival – how to channel our impotent expectations into our most meaningful goals.

However, if you're not a romantic at heart and you're not looking to improve your outlook on life, then I still suggest you see this flick.

The scenery of the Colorado and Sierra Nevada Mountains in snow is fantastically refreshing. After suffering through this hot-as-hell sleeping sickness Gulf Coast summer, is there one among us who couldn't benefit from that?

*Craig Thistleton*


**UNUSUAL "ELEPHANT FOOT"**

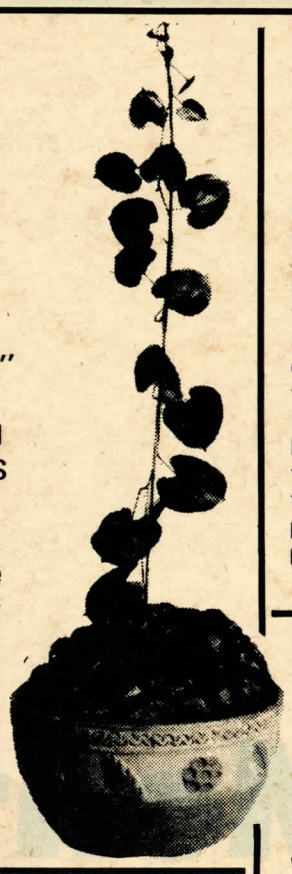
Dioscorea Elephanttopos

"Testudinaria Elephantipes"

LARGE SELECTION OF SHAPES & SIZES

This exotic plant looks like a wood carving, but has the ability to grow very rapidly into a tremendous green vine, is extremely hardy, and requires little care!

**$1.98 & up**



**OVER 2000 IN STOCK!**

How about a plant guaranteed to live, grow & please you. Because the ponytail (oldest plant in existence) can withstand dry, extreme light, and is not susceptible to disease, we can guarantee this plant! These plants will grow approx. 5 times as fast as a normal ponytail because it must replace the lost foliage (heads are cut off by U.S. Quarantine) to complete the photosynthesis process!

**$5.00 each**



Can this be a beautiful plant? Yes. See!

**HANGING BASKETS**
**BIG & BEAUTIFUL!**

**$7.19** reg. $8.95 — 8" POTS

Wandering Jew, Swedish Ivy, Colorata Ivy, Split Leaf Philodendron, Creeping Charlie, Artillery Fern, Cordatum. Come early for best selection!

We Mix Our Own Soil.

Be sure to see our new Bromelaid Greenhouse.

Staghorn Ferns from $7.95

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OPEN DAILY 8AM-10PM, SUNDAY 8AM-8PM

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Buy (5) 99¢ 3" plants and get 6th FREE. Great new selection – 100's to choose from: Dracaena, Peperonia, Palm, Ivys, Prayer Plant, Arelia & More!



**MISS TEXAS AT LARGE PAGEANT**

Tuesday, September 14, 1976

9:30 pm

**THE OLD PLANTATION**

1807 N. Harwood Dallas, Texas

**Weight Requirement:** 200 lbs Minimum

**Judging Categories:** Gown, Sportswear or Swimwear, Talent

Entry blanks at Old Plantation in Dallas or Houston

**Prizes:**

Miss Texas at Large – $150 and Trophy

Miss Runner Up – $75 and Trophy

2nd Runner Up – $25 and Trophy

3rd Runner Up – Trophy

# The Montrose Star becomes a part of Austin next issue!




CLOTHES CIRCUIT INC. TRADEMARK / 900 LOVETT BLVD. / HOUSTON, 77006 / (713) 527-0553

NAOMI & KAYE TO SERVE YOU

# Our Place



BEER
WINE COOLERS

DRAFT BUST, MONDAY THRU THURSDAY
5pm to 7pm — only 25¢ a mug

FRESH BREWED JAVA
20¢ A CUP

OPEN SEVEN DAYS WEEKLY
10am to 2am
(Noon to 2am Sunday)

AND WE HAVE DANCING

BEER BUST EVERY TUESDAY — 11an to 7pm — 25¢ — COORS & SCHLITZ ON TAP

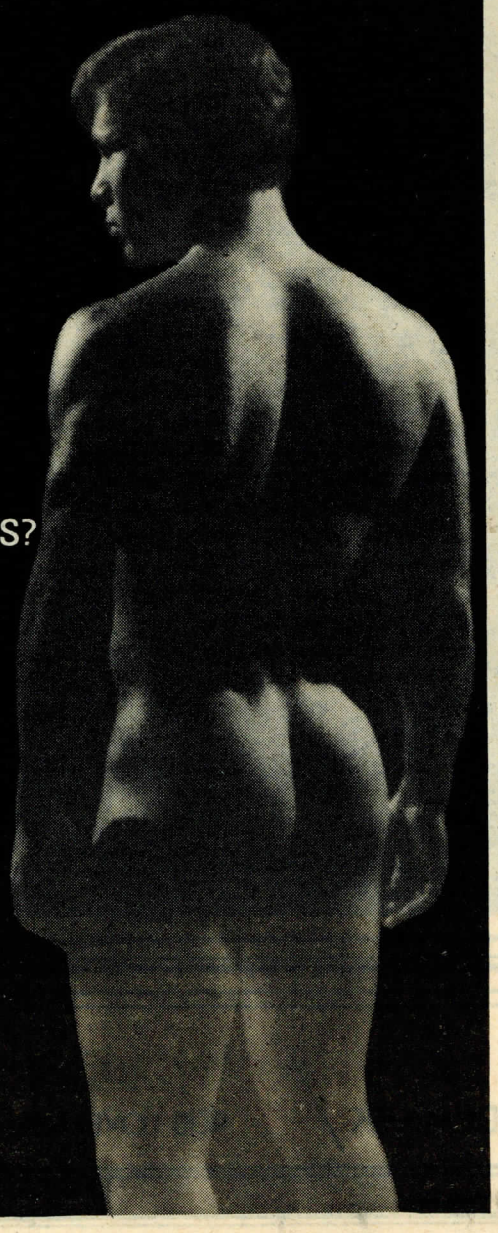
1419 RICHMOND — HOUSTON — PHONE 528-8903
Girls and Boys Welcome

# O'TOPOS

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RUSSIAN-STYLE
STEAM BATH
SHOWERS – COLOR TV
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MUSCLE-BUILDING EQUIPMENT
HEALTH BAR
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OPEN 6 DAYS
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# THE OLD PLANTATION

*DALLAS*

*1807 N. Harwood 651–1988*

*HOUSTON*

*2020 Kipling 522–2353*

THE SOUTHWEST'S SUPER DISCOS!


# National Tea Dance Kicks Off

Los Angeles' Bullshot's electrifying disco sound attracted hundreds to the August 22 National Tea Dance premier benefit. Ron Taylor, a Southern California representative for NTD was both amazed and encouraged by the successful turnout. The atmosphere was quoted as being "more like a celebration than a fund raiser."

On behalf of NGTF Benefits, Inc., H. Wayne Bardy Entertainment, Inc. has put together the National Tea Dance, a weekly series of simultaneous coast-to-coast gay disco dances. California locations that were due to link up September 12 were Long Beach's Diamond Horseshoe, L.A.'s Bullshot, San Francisco's Bones, and San Diego's Different Drum. Other locations in Boston, Washington, D.C., Chicago, Miami and New York were also scheduled to participate in the September 12th opening night kick-off; all dancing to the latest hot disco sounds that were recorded live at Fire Island with New York's D.J. Roy Thode.

The National Tea Dance was conceived in response to the Supreme Court's refusal to hear a sexual privacy case. The Gay Rights National Lobby, Inc., in Washington, D.C., will share in the revenue from National Tea Dance and a portion of the funds will be used to finance further court confrontations. By joining in National Tea Dance on designated "benefits nights" local gay community organizations will also have the opportunity to participate in local revenue sharing, while unifying the national gay community.

# Immigration and Naturalization Service Reverses it's Policy on Gay Citizenship

"The fact that a petitioner for naturalization is or has been a practicing homosexual during the relevant statutory period is not, in itself, a sufficient basis for finding that he lacks the necessary good moral character." So said Sam Bernsen, General Counsel to the Immigration and Naturalization Service, in response to a recent letter to Attorney General Edward Levi from the National Gay Task Force.

This statement of current INS policy is a direct reversal of the policy enunciated by Bernsen two years ago in a letter responding to NGTF and other groups including the American Psychiatric Association, American Civil Liberties Union and National Organization for Women. At that time, Bernsen stated: "The Service position is that petitioner for naturalization who is or has been a homosexual during the relevant statutory period is precluded from establishing the good moral character required for admission to citizenship."

Although no reason was given for the policy change regarding naturalization of gay people, it is thought to be the result of recent court decisions in Oregon and elsewhere in which the judges refused to accept the idea that homosexuals cannot also be persons of good moral character. Such decisions have been made not only in the area of naturalization but in such areas as admission to the bar.

Although the change in INS policy now means that many gay people may now become U.S. citizens without costly court battles, the matter is complicated by the Service's continued refusal to revise its immigration policy. Thus, longterm U.S. residents who apply for citizenship continue to be refused naturalization, and are often served with deportation papers, if it can be shown that they were gay at the time they entered the country.

The INS rationale for refusing admittance to gay aliens is based on the 1967 Boutilier decision of the U.S. Supreme Court, which stated that the term "psychopathic personality" was used by the Congress as "a term of art" designed to exclude homosexuals from the U.S.

The position of the National Gay Task Force and other legal, scientific and religious groups is that the Justice Dept. is not bound by Boutilier, since the 1973 ruling of the American Psychiatric Association that homosexuality per se is not a mental illness of any kind has clearly established the "term of art" as unconstitutionally arbitrary and capricious. No response to this specific point has yet been received from either the Immigration and Naturalization Service or the Justice Dept., and clarification has been requested from the Attorney General.

"The exclusion of gay people from this country as visitors is one of the most blatant examples of prejudice and discrimination ever officially practiced in this country," said Bruce Voeller, co-executive director of the National Gay Task Force. "And it is doubly offensive since it is based on a definition of gay people as 'psychopathic' which is contrary to fact. We also believe that this policy is in direct contradiction to the freedom of travel principle enunciated by the United States and other countries at the Helsinki Conference of 1975."

"If the Immigration Service fails to take the administrative action we believe it is legally and morally required to take," added NGTF co-executive director Jean O'Leary, "we and other groups are prepared to embark on a series of major tests of this exclusionary policy which we are confident will win us victory in the court."



# ALGREN STUDIOS

New Address effective Sept. 13:
900 Lovett, suite 203

Same phone: c/o The Montrose Star, 527-8961

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## bath club

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always open



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INSIDE OUTSIDE

COMING SOON:
THE INSIDE OUTSIDE
COUNTRY

1318 WESTHEIMER

HOUSTON TEXAS 528 8049

NOW OPEN 7AM

# STAR SUP

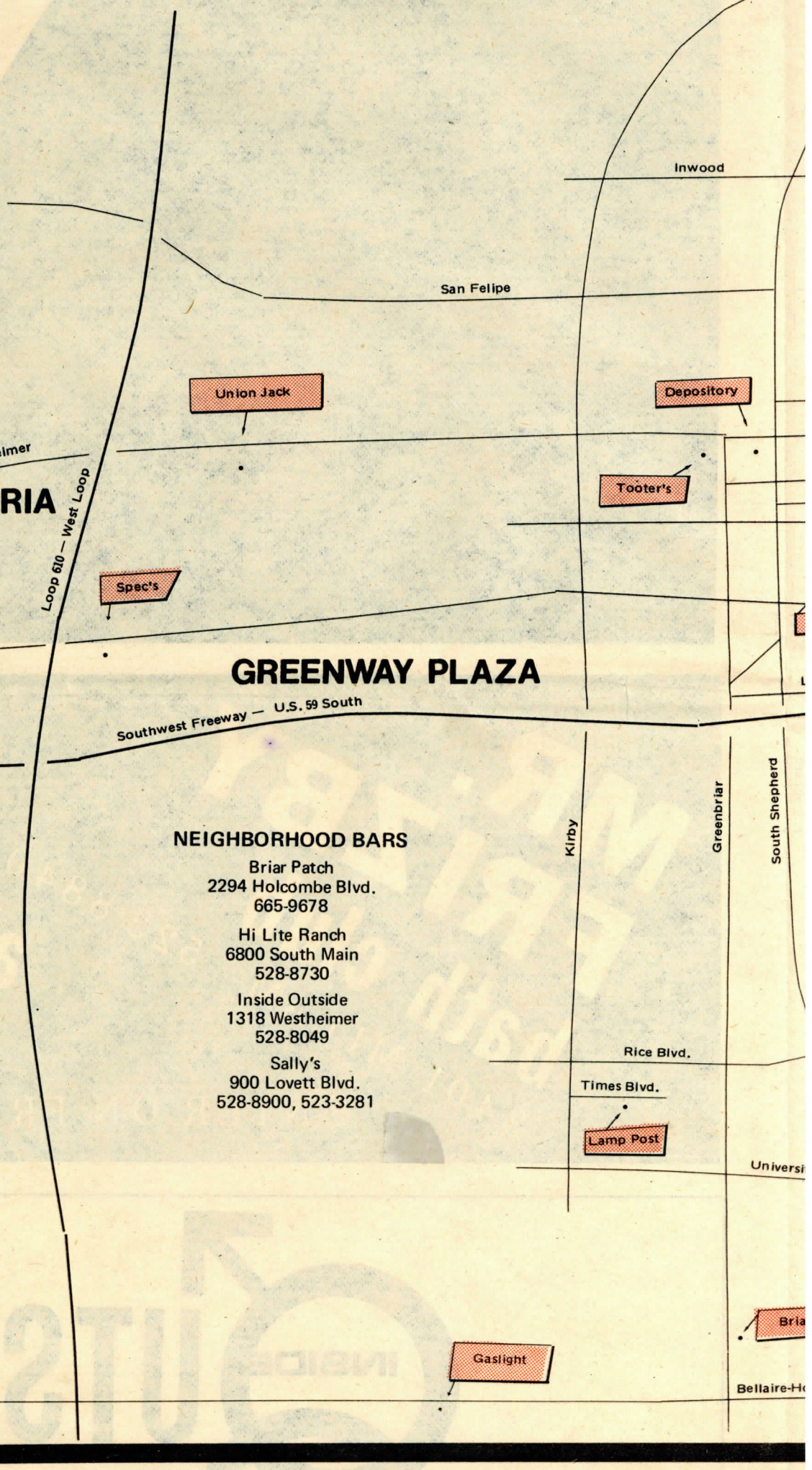
## ADULT THEATERS

French Quarter
3201 Louisiana
528-9485

Mini Park
2907 South Main
528-5881

## CHURCH

M.C.C.
1214 Joe Annie
526-8233




## OTHER BUSINESSES

A&A Westheimer Pet Center
1638 Westheimer/527-0067

Hair Unlimited
4200 Westheimer, suite 180/965-0191

Hollomon Realty
701 Pacific/521-0278

House of Plants
1634 Westheimer/528-1901

Single Service
1621 Westheimer/524-9560

Spec's Optical
4709 Richmond/626-1161

Tooter's Restaurant
2203 Westheimer/524-9327

## GAY DISCOS

Depository
Westheimer at Peckham
527-0260

Old Plantation
2020 Kipling
522-2353

Second Sun
534 Westheimer
524-1225

## NEIGHBORHOOD BARS

Briar Patch
2294 Holcombe Blvd.
665-9678

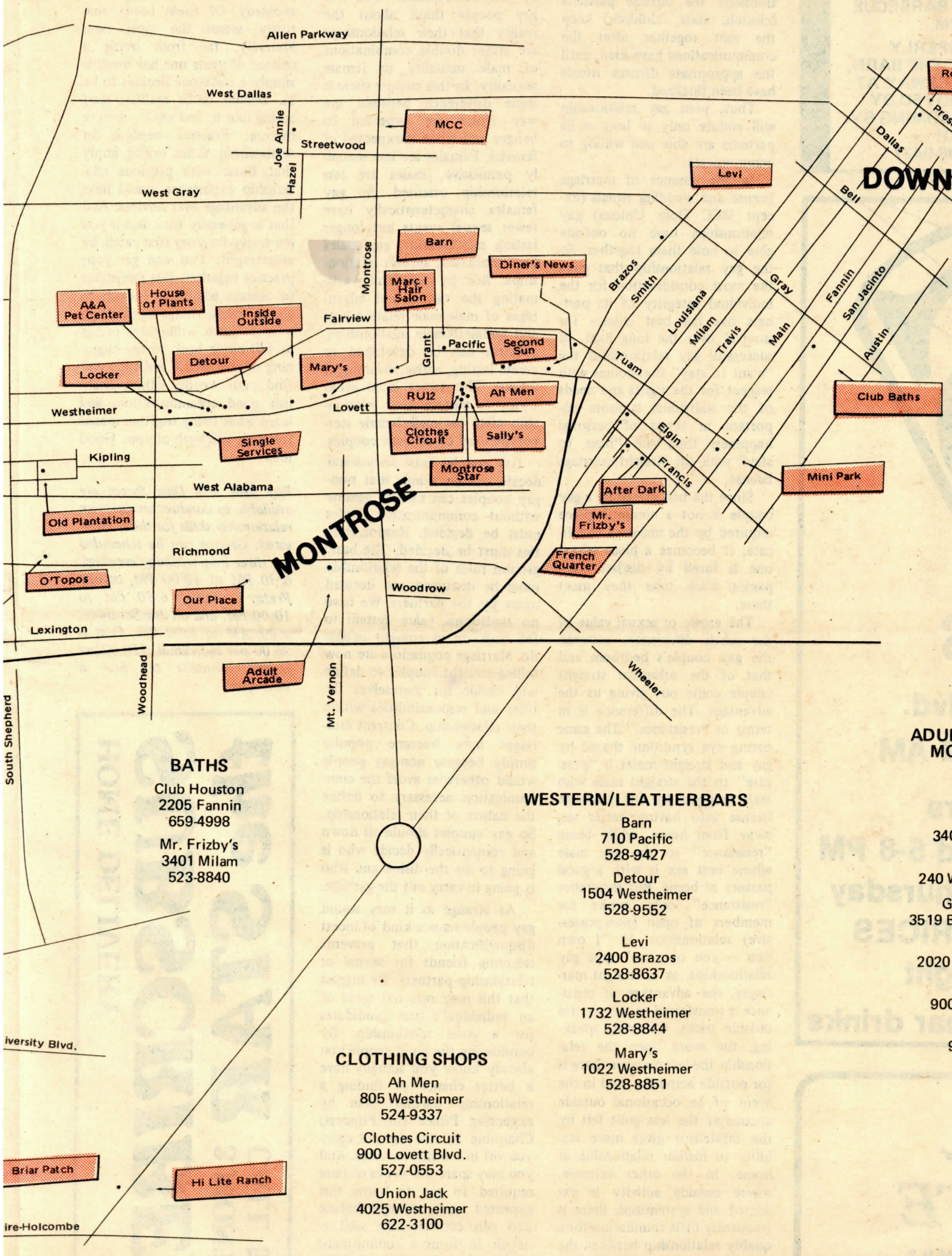
Hi Lite Ranch
6800 South Main
528-8730

Inside Outside
1318 Westheimer
528-8049

Sally's
900 Lovett Blvd.
528-8900, 523-3281

It's Easy To Advertise
Of The Star ... JUS

# PPORTERS




### BATHS

Club Houston
2205 Fannin
659-4998

Mr. Frizby's
3401 Milam
523-8840

### WESTERN/LEATHERBARS

Barn
710 Pacific
528-9427

Detour
1504 Westheimer
528-9552

Levi
2400 Brazos
528-8637

Locker
1732 Westheimer
528-8844

Mary's
1022 Westheimer
528-8851

### CLOTHING SHOPS

Ah Men
805 Westheimer
524-9337

Clothes Circuit
900 Lovett Blvd.
527-0553

Union Jack
4025 Westheimer
622-3100

### GIRLS' BAR

Our Place
1419 Richmond
528-8903

### ADULT BOOK STORES MOVIE ARCADES

Adult Arcade
1201 Richmond

After Dark
3400 Travis/521-9857

Diner's News
240 Westheimer/528-8950

Gaslight Bookstore
3519 Bellaire Blvd./655-9595

O'Topos
2020 Richmond/528-8005

Rosalies Too
900 Preston/226-7534

R.U.1.2.
900 Lovett Blvd.

# e In The Next Issue
# ST CALL 527-8961

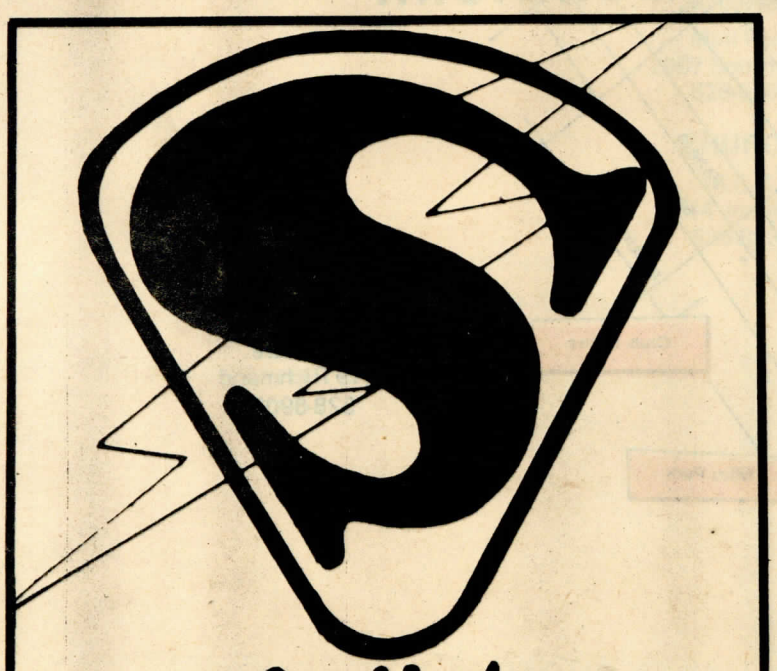
# THE BARN

SINCERELY APOLOGIZES TO THOSE OF YOU WHO WERE MISLED BY THE REPORT ON THE FRONT PAGE OF THE MONTROSE STAR THAT OUR LABOR DAY BARBECUE WOULD START AT 7PM.

THE BARBECUE – AS PROPERLY ADVERTISED IN THE STAR, AT THE BARN, AND ELSEWHERE – WAS UNDERWAY AT 7AM AND ULTIMATELY ENJOYED BY HUNDREDS. THANK YOU FOR COMING BY. CONTINUE TO DO SO!

710 Pacific – Houston – 528-9427





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Open 7 AM to 2 AM

Happy Hours

7 AM to NOON and 5-8 PM

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All Day & Night

50 ¢ beer 75 ¢ bar drinks



REAL ESTATE

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6-14 Unit Apartments

Jim Hollomon agent

521-0278


*continued from page 1*

and metaphysical). Actually, relationships are regular, mutual, interpersonal communications. Nothing more, nothing less. Thus the ability to form relationships is inherently tied to the ability to communicate. In gay relationships when the communication breaks down for whatever reason – the relationship is over, or at least in serious trouble. But in non-gay relationships the outside partners (church, state, children) keep the unit together after the communications have died, until the appropriate divorce rituals have been finalized.

Thus, your gay relationship will endure only so long as its partners are able and willing to communicate.

In the absence of marriage license and wedding rituals (except MCC Holy Unions) gay relationships have no outside glue to hold them together. So the gay relationship that gives the most consideration for the individual integrity of its partners has the best chance for survival over the long haul. In successful gay relationships the "want to stay" that comes with respect for the rights and needs of the individual is more important in terms of personal happiness than the "have to stay" with the straight marriage license.

Since the bed shared by a gay couple is not a common place required by the marriage certificate, it becomes a place where one is lured by his/her companion each time they meet there.

The erotic or sexual value of the subtle differences between the gay couple's bedroom and that of the suburban straight couple come out giving us the advantage. The difference is in terms of "resistance." The same roving eye syndrome shared by gay and straight males is "pressure" to the straight male who feels trapped by his marriage license into having better sex away from home, while being "resistance" to the gay male whose best sex is with a good partner at home. But remember "resistance" only works for members of open (non-possessive) relationships. In "I own you – you own me" type gay relationships, as in straight marriages, the advantage of resistance is transferred to prospective outside tricks. Generally speaking, the more open the relationship the less pressure there is for outside activities. And in the event of an occasional outside encounter the less guilt felt by the infidelitor gives more stability to his/her relationship at home. In the other extreme, where outside activity is expected and systemized, there is frequently little foundation for a quality relationship between the unit partners. So ideally the gay relationship should be openly organized without required infidelity. However, partners should discuss the various aspects of the relationship including fidelity expectation and decide on an appropriate balance for their individual needs. Assuming that your mutual expectations are the same simply will not work.

In spite of what marriage manuals (i.e. Masters and Johnson's "The Pleasure Bond") say, the partners who seek to spend all of their time together doing the same things will quickly resolve all of the resistance in their relationship and grow bored with each other. A better pattern for gay relationships is to place high importance on each individual's need for career and personal development and share the time not used up by self development. Too few gay people think about the reality that their relationships are either double combinations of male sexuality or female sexuality. In this culture there is some difference between the way males are expected to behave and what is expected of females. Females are less sexually permissive, males are less relationship oriented. So gay females characteristically have fewer sexual events but longer lasting relationships; gay males have more sex, shorter relationships. But by accurately estimating the nature and advantages of male/male relationships and female/female relationships, patterns can be developed to create lasting, active, meaningful unions. The secret is to avoid trying to pattern your relationship after the male/female stereotype used by straight couples.

Gay couples must discuss and decide certain things that non-gay couples can usually assume without communication. Roles must be decided. Responsibilities must be decided. The basic ground rules of the relationship must be discussed and decided upon by the partners. We have no traditional value system to fall back on as straight people do. Marriage counselors are now telling straight couples to define and decide for themselves the roles and responsibilities within their relationship. Contract marriages have become popular simply because non-gay people would otherwise avoid the communication necessary to define the nature of their relationship. So gay couples should sit down and romantically decide who is going to do the dishes and who is going to carry out the garbage.

As strange as it may sound gay people have a kind of incest disqualification that prevents selecting friends for sexual or relationship partners. We suggest that this may rule out some of an individual's best candidates for a good relationship. By considering the good people you already know you actually have a better chance of finding a relationship partner than by expecting Prince (or Princess) Charming to ride up and carry you off in a white Corvette. And you may spare the weeks of time required to get to know this expected rank stranger before you can communicate well enough to form a commitment with each other. Sex itself is better with people you know than with those you have just met. One simply has more to communicate (sexually and otherwise) to someone already known and cared about than to a complete stranger. Sex is at best a shared experience and at worst a selfish enterprise. Friendship rules out the selfish trip.

Finally, the ability to form and maintain relationships is a collection of skills. One improves as one learns. Anyone can fall in love at the drop of a pair of Levis, but one must learn how to live with a worthy other person. Attraction may be natural but relating is not. To learn the skills of relating one needs: a willingness to learn; practice; and the maturity to recognize good patterns (so they might be repeated) and bad patterns (so they might be avoided). Of these needs, maturity seems the most rare. Maturity, far from being a matter of years one has lived, is simply a state one decides to be in. Decide to be mature, start acting like it, and zip . . . you're mature. Practice needed for relationship skills would imply that those with previous relationship experience would have the advantage over novices. And that is generally true. But if you are trying for your first catch, be encouraged. You can get your practice together. Just remember to remain adaptable enough to change when things begin to go wrong. Since willingness brings us full circle back to the beginning of this article, we hope you find your worthy other; establish good communication; and learn what living together means for each and both of you. Good luck.

*Ray Hill and Dale Sweat are available to conduct seminars on relationship skills for those interested. Groups can be scheduled for three long weekday evenings, 6:30 PM to 10:00 PM, or one Friday evening, 6:30 PM to 10:00 PM, and all day Saturday, 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM. Cost is $6.00 per individual, $10.00 per couple. Contact the Star if interested.*


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# 50 Attend GPC Meeting

The Houston Gay Political Caucus is still urging area gays to get involved in its future.

It was formed for the people but it can't work without the people. GPC needs your financial backing but more important your time. Those were two requests made by GPC members at Wednesday's (Sept. 8th) meeting at the MCC building, 1214 Joe Annie.

Two main areas of concern right now are 1) voter registration and 2) candidate screening.

Candidate screening will enable the GPC to endorse candidates that will most likely serve gay people's needs and give us the opportunity to vote for them. If you are not interested in this but have any other skill you would like to donate, it would be most welcome by the GPC.

Approximately 50 people attended the meeting Wednesday. By voice vote Pokey Anderson was endorsed by the GPC for the Montrose/Fourth Ward Neighborhood Commissioners race.

The GPC will hold its election of officers and board members on Sept. 29. Those placed in nomination for officers to date are Gary van Ooteghem for president, Don Hrachovy for vice president, Brenda Rogers for secretary, and Keith McGee for treasurer.

There are nine members of the GPC board of which three are elected each year. Those in nomination this year are Hugh Crell, Keith McGee and Pokey Anderson.

The GPC will be sponsoring a picnic social in Cherry Hurst Park Sunday, Oct. 10. Candidates will be invited to attend to socialize and speak with members on the issues.

Those who attend can either bring their own lunch, or purchase box lunches that will be auctioned off to raise funds.

*Craig Thistleton*

# First Gay Weekly TV Show Set in Miami

The first regularly scheduled, commercially sponsored television show in the United States prepared by and for members of the gay community, makes its debut October 25 on WKID-TV, Channel 51 in Miami. It will be entitled "Blueboy Forum" and its host will be Don Embinder, publisher of the nationally distributed gay magazine, "Blueboy." Brian Weidikind is the producer.

Although "Blueboy" magazine is directed exclusively to gay men, "Blueboy Forum" will also be directed to, and involve participation by, the lesbian community in Miami. It is intended as well to inform members of the heretosexual community about gay concerns and lifestyles.

The show will feature invited guests from around the country, and Embinder has already begun efforts to syndicate the show nationally. There are presently 29 weekly gay radio shows in fourteen states, but none on television.

Tentatively, the first four "Blueboy Forum" shows will involve local political figures in the Miami area discussing Florida gay-rights efforts; representatives of the major presidential candidates outlining their stands on gay issues; an interview with three female impersonators at the Fountainebleau in Miami; and a talk with a gay graphologist. Each half-hour program will also have three minutes of national gay news.

WKID, which contracted the show for an initial thirteen weeks after two months of negotiations, is owned by Johns/Koenig, Inc. "Blueboy Forum" will air on Mondays at 11 p.m.

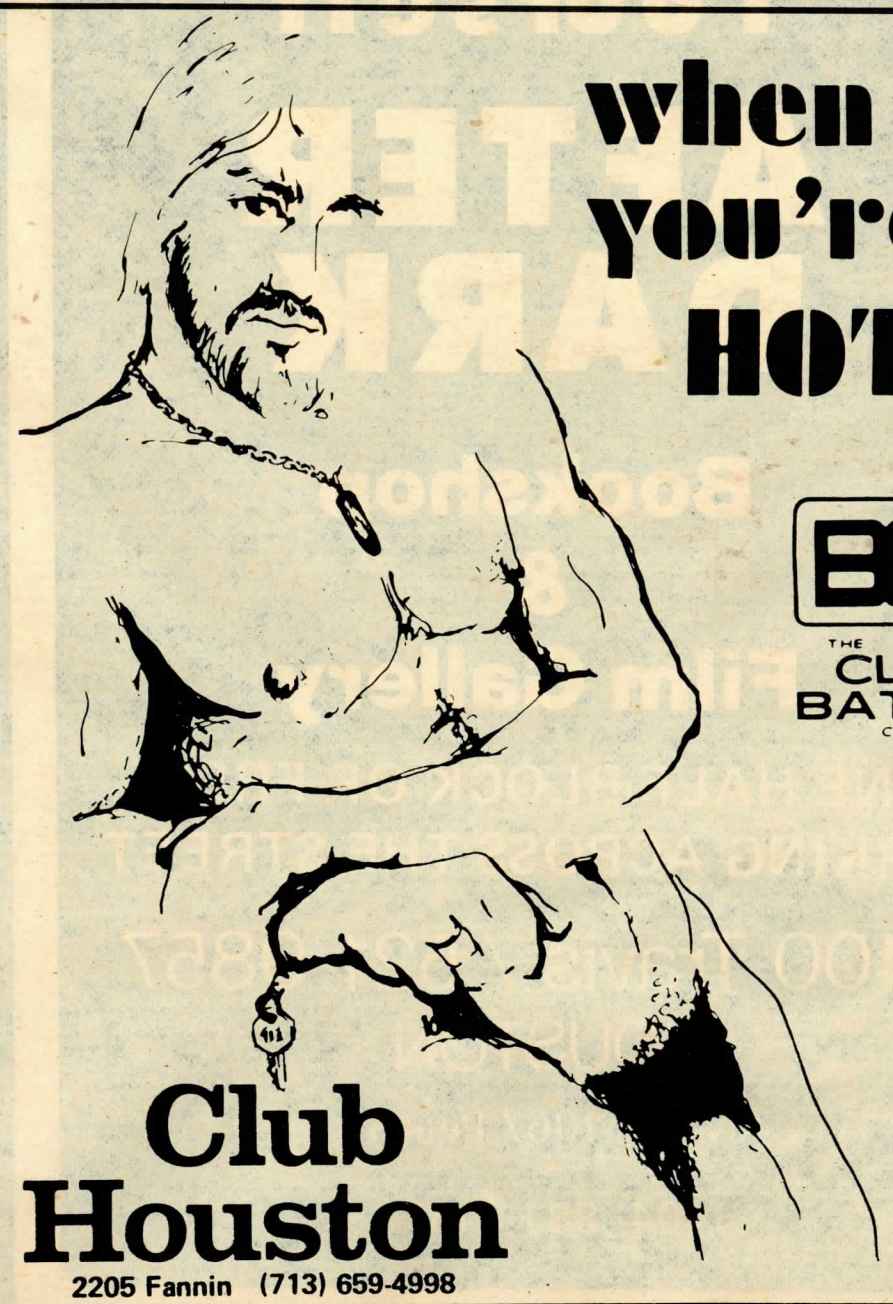

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# Mother's Column

Well, it's back to the Factory after three glorious free days in a row! Labor Day, honey! And to think that I have a week's paid vacation coming up *next* week! Oh, it's so *wonderful* to be on vacation so much!

My weekend really started Thursday night. Irini had invited me to go to the **Magical Mystical Medicine Show** at the Music Hall. (It was a benefit for the Museum of Medical Science, with entertainment by professional magicians!) Her doctor had given her four $35 tickets, and she was just excited! She and Ed couldn't make it, though, because she had to move that night to a nicer apartment across the Bayou (Ed had threatened the landlady at the old place to kill a bunch of rats and tack them to the wall, then call the Health Department). Which reminds me, I may not have told you that I moved last Tuesday to Willa's - I was evicted - it was awful!

So anyway, I went with her receptionist, Pearlina, who lives in Pearland - gag. But it turned out to be fun. I ran into P.J., who I used to do the theater with years ago. She had just married this acoustic guitar player in Austin two weeks ago and she was on her honeymoon, and she was staying in the Hyatt Regency Presidential Suite because her dad was president of the Magicians' Association and they were having their annual convention there (itzy-ritzy!). So I invited myself up for later (never did make it that night, though).

The food after the show was catered by **Antone's, Shamrock-Hilton** *and* **Rice Rittenhouse,** tables and tables of whores-d'ouvres and fruit chunks and pastries and cheeses and dips ad infinitum, all of it schnarfed up in twenty minutes by the voracious attendees (it was like the day of the locusts!). Then I returned home and decided to pass out so I could go to work Friday.

Friday afternoon I skidded off directly to the Hyatt with a joint for P.J. and Carlos, who didn't have any. We got stoned on the 10th floor stairwell and then went back to the room to eavesdrop on the annual meeting of the Board of Governors of the Association in the main salon. If **Marge** or **Maxine** only knew. (I tried to get in touch with both, but they were out-to-lunch all weekend!) I went home to get ready for "The Sins of Lola Montez" at the Alley, and it was a *long* get-ready. Willa Catheter and I were fit to *kill* when we walked out that door! "Lola" was wonderful, you would *die* for it!! Then off to **Rolando's** for midnight munchies, home to change, then off to the **Depository** where I picked up a *young* student and heavily vulturized him (it was initiation time for my new residence). I felt bad later about all the marks I put on him, but "what can I say?" (Boz Scaggs, 1976).

Well, a new day. I got up, ate and fell back asleep until three in the afternoon, I guess. Marietta called and wanted me to take her to Beaumont, so I offered her a ride to the bus station. I went over to her place in Ghetto Oaks at the appointed time and she just sat there saying, "I'm not going. I can't go out. Anywhere. I just can't face the music today." Her new beau was there, so I could see why.

We smoked and I returned home, gathered the laundry and went to the **Circuit Washateria,** where Willa introduced me to **Violet** the laundry lady. Violet told us about the nude girls who had pulled up in a convertible a few minutes earlier and were doing wild dances in the parking lot. She was marvelous! Then just before we were finished, it broke out into rain, rain, rain (Sadie Thompson would have choked!!) but we piled our clothes in anyway, dashed home, threw the laundry on the bed, ate some mushrooms and went to the Alabama to see the sneak preview of "The Two-Minute Warning" (we were a half-hour late - through the back exit - but who *cares* when it's free, dah-ling?). The movie was probably pretty awful, but we sat splayed out on the floor in the aisle (full house) and I was just buzz-buzz-buzzing away . . . if you know what I mean! Next we went home to fold laundry and make a tape, and hit **Freaky Foods,** the **Second Sun** and **Levi's** before we dashed home to pass out.

Sunday, September 5, approaching Labor Day with a speed and a vengeance! Another lazy day at old Fort Vermont. Marietta rode her bike over to listen to her tape and her entrance kept us in stitches the whole day! She looked like Natalie Cole and acted like **Phyllis Diller** and **Elsa Lanchester** (in "Bride of Frankenstein") combined! It was fun. I finally took her grocery shopping at Eagle and returned home to make a delightful ice cream sundae (black walnut, banana slices, nectarine chunks and hot fudge). Then we bicycled over to her place, stopping on the way at Millie-Yaki's, and she came out and invited me to a party there later that night. She was going to Des Moines the next day start a tri-city dinner theater tour with **Mamie Van Doren** in "A Banana in Her Ear" and wanted to have her salon over to wish her bon voyage. I also went to **Mary's** which was *packed* but I couldn't stay because I had to get ready to see "Cover Girl" at the Alley (with flaming Rita).

I went home, called P.J. about the party and they told me they were leaving that night, so I said I would come by on my way to the Alley and pick up the two tapes I had left on my last visit. They were watching "Taxi Driver" on their color console (TV, stereo turntable, eight-track, AM-FM - that Prez Suite is really dandy!) I watched the last few minutes with them, when that handsome **Robert de Niro** picks up that bitch Cybill (and I hope I spelled her name wrong!) and then ditches her oh-so-ironically.

P.J. offered to roll me a number, so I went to the lobby to get them cigarettes (*cute* desk clerks) and then stayed and stayed, P.J. and Carlos are quite wonderful people. They invited me up to Austin (well, not really, I told them I was coming and they said I should definitely "get in touch"). I didn't catch more than forty-five minutes of "Cover Girl" (heaven!) and then ran into an old school chum who is to-die-for handsome, but he was with a girl! How rude.

I went straight to Millie-Yaki's, and ran into her and Roz Glad just pulling up. It seems they had been hit from behind a couple of hours before and had been down at the police station reporting it. Also in the car at the time, and now in the house, was **Jann Stewart,** who used to sing and play piano at **Dirty Sally's** when they had the open patio!!!!!! Exclamation point, baby!! Another gorgeous girl there was doing Groucho Marx imitations with her Phoenix. The party was intimee and interesting, and I left about one to pick up some things Millie-Yaki wanted to read. You see, this "item" about her got her into trouble with **Harold Gunn** at Channel 26, and he took it all out on poor Millie-Yaki!!! Anyway, I got slightly sick upon my arrival home and had to lie down for two hours. Willa came in and made me eat raw potato (absorb-all, honey) and I went back to the party. Jann was still there, still singing (she does a thing at the **Dump** now), then everybody passed out or left. The last thing Millie-Yaki said was "Spread the word, Harold Gunn's a turd!"

Labor Day!!! It was a beautiful day!!! Willa and I rose about noon from our caskets and went swimming at Dominique. Lovely swim, dahling; next, to Taco Bell for a quick bite, and then home. Then to a private barbeque, next, home to change, then to the **Barn** for a public barbeque, ran into Juanita Gonad and Sally Zar, stuffed myself with more food, went to **Dirty Sally's,** went home to change, went to Juanita's – it turned into a soiree for six – then to the **Depository** for wienies (with buns and chips) and to boogie till our pants fell off – shoo-bop-diddy-bop – and it was *packed!!!*

*Mother*


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# Lesbian Announces For Neighborhood Commissioner

Lesbian acitivist Linda (Pokey) Anderson has entered the race for Montrose Fourth Ward Neighborhood Commissioner.

A co-founder of both the Gay Political Caucus and "Pointblank Times," and presently a member of the board of directors of the National Gay Task Force, Anderson has received an impressive list of endorsements including those of incumbent Commissioner Dr. Milton Lower, Houston area NOW chapter president Betty Barnes, Joe Villareal of the Coalition for Barrier-Free Living, and Gertrude Barnstone.

Anderson was urged to run as a write-in candidate after Democrat nominee Betty Graham White jolted liberals by throwing her support behind conservative Calvin Guest for chairperson of the state Democrat party.

"I began asking around for a good candidate," reflects incumbent Lower, "and the name that kept coming up was Pokey Anderson."

She has garnered the active support of more than half of the precinct judges within the district.

Neighborhood Commissioners are charged with the administration of federal funds to improve older neighborhoods. A longtime resident of Montrose, Anderson believes the Montrose/Fourth Ward Commissioner should strive to restore rather than replace the area's older structures.

On the subject of her out-front lesbianism, she delcares, "Gay people helped convert Montrose from a slum to one of the most desirable neighborhoods in Houston. Gay people deserve a voice in its future."

Unlike in other elections, persons need not be registered voters or U.S. citizens to cast a ballot for Commissioner. A voter need only be 18 or older and a resident of the district. A driver's license or utility bill with the voter's name and address is considered proof of residency.

The September 21 election will coincide with the school bond election and a low voter turnout is anticipated.

Anderson hopes this will overcome the handicap of running as a write-in candidate.

*Hugh Crell*




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# Jeannie's Lamp

Dear Jeannie:

I always enjoy reading your column. Your answers are right to the point and, thinking about them, they indicate that you have lots of common sense and understanding of people. Since so many are writing to you, I thought I'd give it a try and ask you some questions to get some definite answers or an honest, "There is no answer."

What does it mean when you wear a key chain on the left side of the belt, and what is the meaning if you wear it on the right?

What is the meaning of an earring worn in the right or left ear?

To wear an earring, regardless of on which side, must the ear be pierced?

What does it mean to wear your cock on the left side or on the right? I once heard that *wearing it on the left* means you are gay, but somebody may have wanted to make a fool of me.

Anyhow, the sooner I get your answers the better. Thank you for all your help which, incidentally, often comes from your published answers to the many letters of others.

Erich

Dear Erich:

It's the old "Right or Left, Right or Wrong?" dilemma!

The wearing of keys and earrings on the right or left has different symbolism in different parts of the country. On the West Coast, worn on the left generally indicates that the wearer is either the Master in a Slave-Master relationship or a top man; worn on the right, obviously, the implication is just the opposite. On the East Coast, however, left is Slave-bottom man and right is Master-top. Confusing, ain't it?

If one does wear an earring, he usually has had his ear pierced. Those damned screw-backs can fall of at *the* most embarrassing times!

On the other hand, those into drag wear two earrings at a time, though not necessarily all of the time, so piercing in that case is a matter of preference.

As to which side of your drawers you keep your cock on, that is a question of comfort. There is an old expression that "a gentleman always dresses left," but he need not be a *gay* gentleman!

All right readers . . . Write on!

*This is a syndicated column, copyright 1976 by Jeannie Chesley Barney. Send your questions for Jeannie c/o The Montrose Star, 900 Lovett Blvd., Houston, TX 77006.*


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I am a W/M, blond hair, blue eyes. 5'9", 145 lbs., attractive, looking for a roommate. You can move into my place or I'll move into yours. Call 521-9690 after 6:30.

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### PERSONAL

Young, 56, swinger, pianist & technician, widower, Christian, alcoholic, desperatly needs love. Perhaps matrimony. Any age male. Please help me. 524-8701. Buster.

Sagitarian girl, mid 20s, white, 5'3", 130 lbs. Sincere, responsible, and good natured. Non-smoker, seldom ever drink. I love to have a good time, but not necessarily at bars. I would like to hear from girls who are sincerely looking for another girl to enjoy life with. Many things could be possible. Please send picture and phone no., if you can. Will answer all replies. Not interested in guys, S&M, threesomes or group sex. Blind ad no. 213.

Sincere Virgo, age 36, 5'8", 168 lbs. Blond, blue eyes. Would like to meet someone same age for companionship. Prefer Latin American. No heavys, S/M, drugs. Billy, P.O.Box 342, Conroe, TX 77301.

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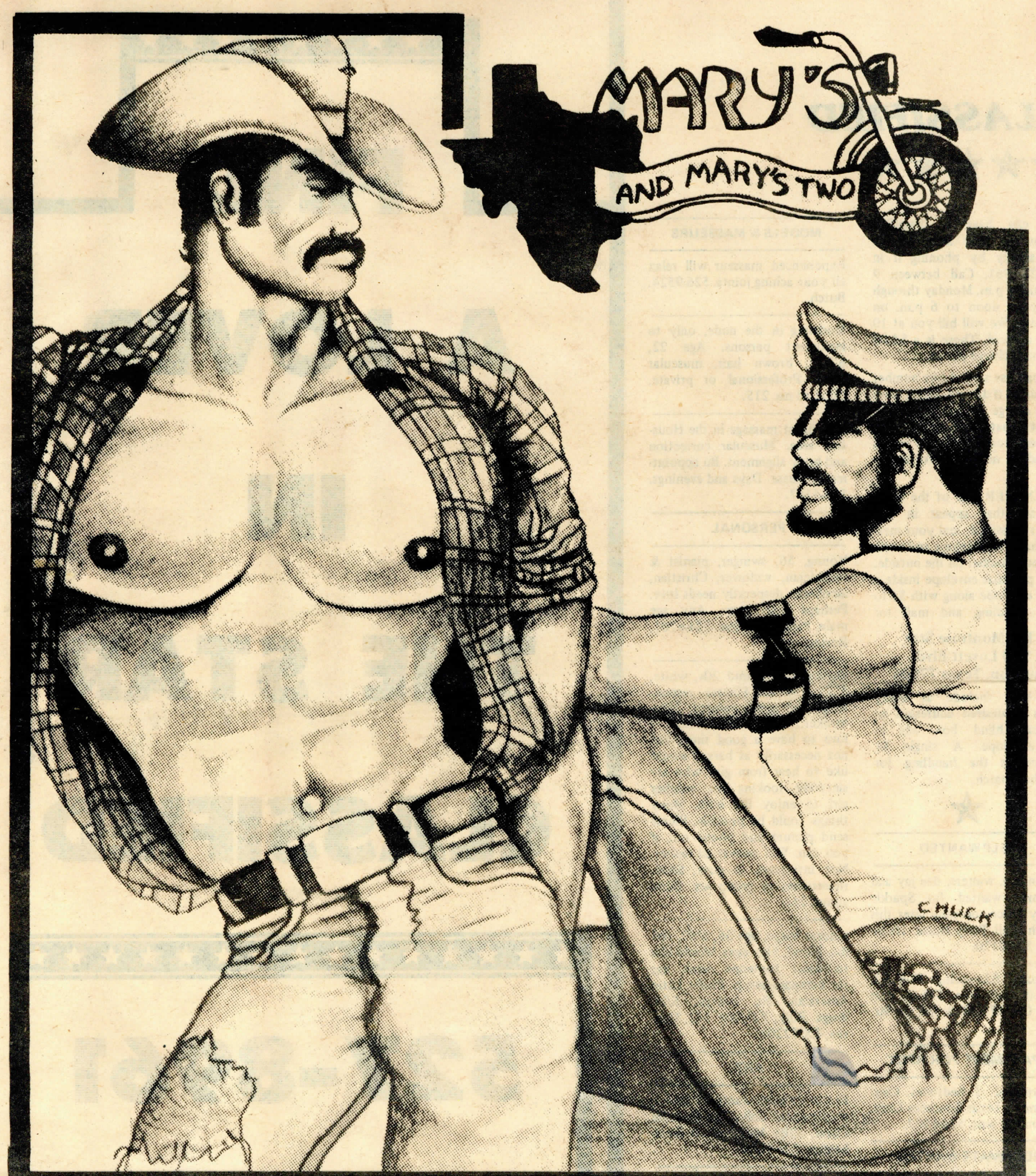
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