Uptown Express

JUNE 1993
COMPLIMENTARY COPY

EXPRESSING IDEAS FOR AN UP TOWN

IN THIS ISSUE:

MASKING TAPE, BATTERIES AND TUNA SEASON: **JENNIFER LAWSON'S HURRICANE FORECASTS**

MARCHING TO THE BEAT OF A DIFERENT CONGA: **THE TEJANO MARCHING BAND**

OUT AND PROUD: A SALUTE TO GAY PRIDE

ART, HUMOR, REVIEWS

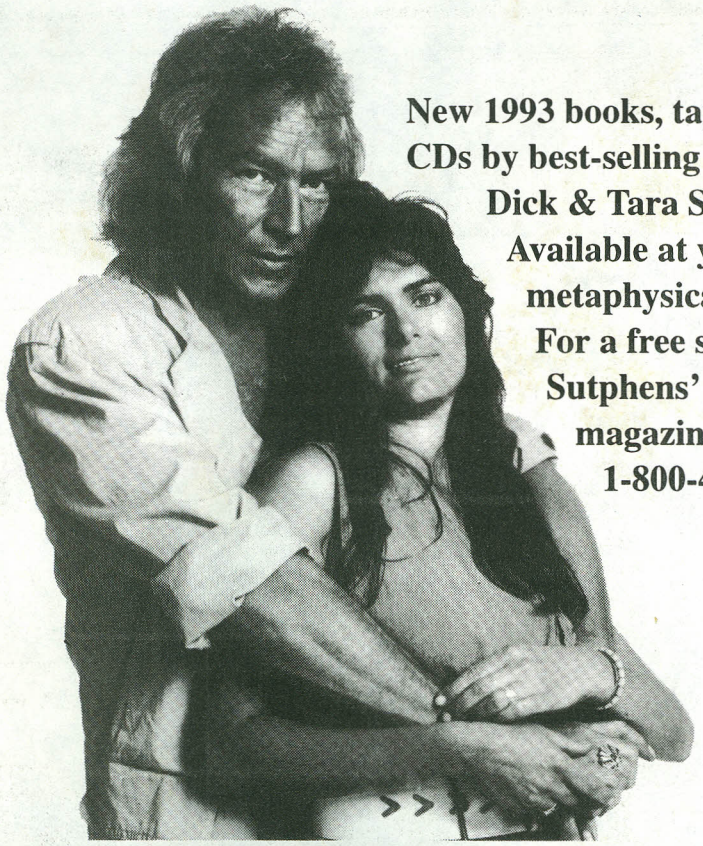
AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!



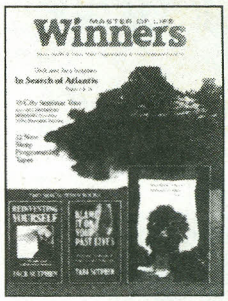
DR. WARREN FARRELL

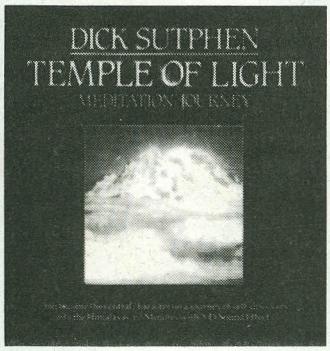
EXPLAINS

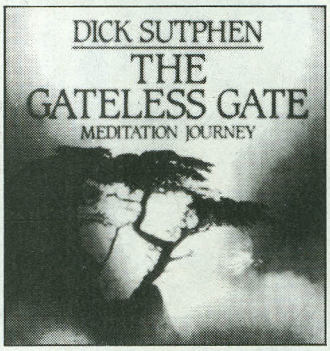
WHY MEN ARE THE WAY THEY ARE

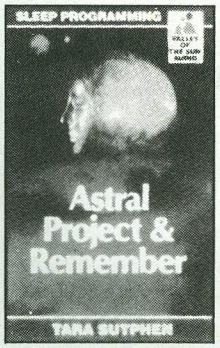


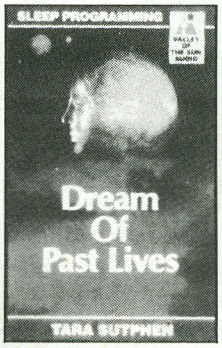
New 1993 books, tapes and CDs by best-selling authors Dick & Tara Sutphen. Available at your local metaphysical bookstore. For a free subscription to the Sutphens' 100-page quarterly magazine, call toll-free: 1-800-421-6603.

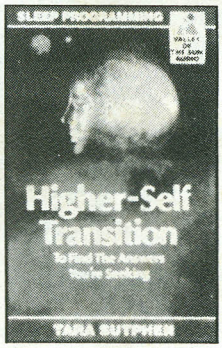












TEMPLE OF LIGHT

CD format for ultra-quality sound: A 65-minute mind-movie meditation in which you become the central character on a journey into the mountains of your mind. Produced with 3-D sound effects, you journey to the Himalayas, and the trek, mountains, and people become real to you. Travelers along the trail talk to you, ask soul-searching questions, and provide messages the Masters have asked them to relay. Eventually, you reach **The Temple of Light**, where you'll experience a life-changing initiation, and be offered the opportunity to have all your questions answered. **$15.98**

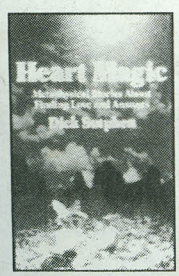
GATELESS GATE

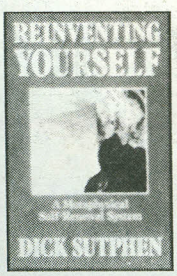
CD format for ultra-quality sound: A 72-minute meditation verging on "virtual reality." You become the central character on a journey of self-discovery. Produced with beautiful music and incredible 3-D sound effects, you journey to a mountain ashram, where you meet other students and kindly Brother Joshua, who conducts dharma talks, directs sitting and walking meditations, and one-to-one sessions. Again and again, you'll be directed to seek awareness about your own life and spiritual quest. Each time you visit the **Gateless Gate**, you can obtain new understanding. **$15.98**

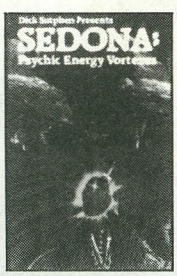
TARA SUTPHEN

Tara's new book, *Blame It On Your Past Lives* is a volume of automatic writing answering the troubled seekers who come to her for help. In addition to her line of meditation tapes, she now adds sleep programming to find answers and explore psychic potential. **Sleep Programming is as powerful as hypnosis**: Simply listen as you fall asleep. The suggestions are mentally accepted as you cross over into Alpha and down into Theta mind level.

Astral Project And Remember. You are programmed to astral project during light sleep and remember the experience. "While out of body you will directly communicate with your guides and Masters who help you to fulfill your dharma and to remain on purpose." **Dream of Past Lives.** You are directed to dream about past lives, and to remember the dreams literally upon awakening. "The memories can be released as dreams if you ask that this be so. And you do ask." **Higher-Self Transition.** During sleep you will make a transition to attain awareness that will serve you in your waking life. You also tap into the collective unconscious to attain wisdom. **$9.98 each.**

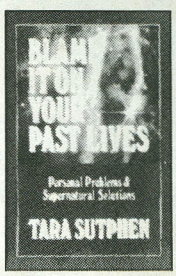


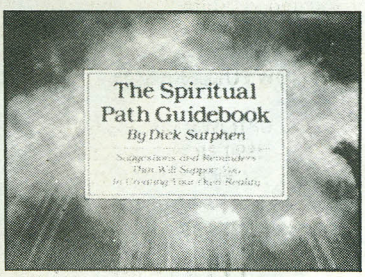




New Books By Dick & Tara.

Valley of the Sun Publishing
Box 3004, Agoura Hills, CA 91376
1-800-421-6603





Available At Your Local Metaphysical Bookstores

CONTENTS

Uptown Express - June 93

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Uptown Express provides information for personal growth and awareness. It is our intent to inspire people to take an active and responsible role in creating a more positive and healthy community.

PUBLISHER Greg Jeu **ART DIRECTOR** Stanley Louie **ASSISTANT TO THE PUBLISHER** Nancy Ford **COPY EDITOR** Annie Boyd **PRODUCTION STAFF** Sharon Yoder **FOOD EDITOR** Jim Edwards **CONTRIBUTING EDITORS** John Coon, Jim Edwards, Nancy Ford, Linda Kay Kanelakos, Rev. Ralph C. Lasher, Forest Riggs, Phil Roddy, Satya Shepherd, Michael and Judy Vaughn, Dan Waddell, Michael K. Wilson **ADVERTISING SALES** Nancy Ford, Forest Riggs, Greg Jeu

Uptown Express is a monthly features publication. 32,000 copies are distributed in the Downtown, Greenway Plaza, Medical Center, Montrose/River Oaks, West University/Village, Bellaire, Heights and Galleria areas.

All contents copyrighted by Uptown Express Publications.

Distribution by Hot Off The Press—672-1948.

ADVERTISING POLICY

Uptown Express advertisers provide access to a broad spectrum of goods and services. Responsibility for the claims and practices of advertisers rests solely with them. Please mention you saw their ad in *Uptown Express* when visiting or calling our advertisers. The opinions and views expressed in articles do not necessarily reflect those of the publisher or the advertisers.

SUBSCRIPTION & BACK ISSUES

Annual subscriptions are available to *Uptown Express* at a cost of $9.00 per year. Back issues are available upon request, $2.50 for postage and handling per issue. Copies may also be obtained free of charge by stopping by our office during regular business hours. Please call for availability status of requested back issues.

Uptown Express welcomes photographs, editorial and news releases, but reserves the right to edit, revise or reject any material. Send to: Publisher, *Uptown Express*, 2990 Richmond, Suite 316, Houston, TX 77098. No manuscript returned without SASE.

NOW PUBLISHING IN OUR 9TH YEAR

UPTOWN EXPRESS MAGAZINE
2990 RICHMOND, SUITE 316
HOUSTON, TX 77098

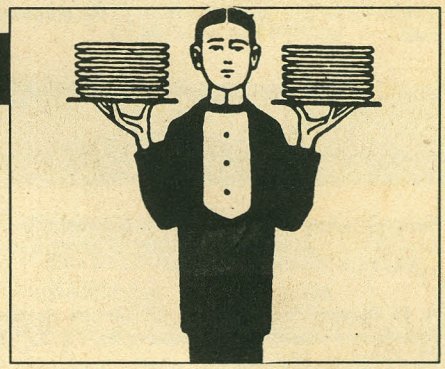
FOR ADVERTISING INFO CALL
(713) 520-7237

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

ART
- Homegrown Artist: Doug Byrd...8

FOOD
- Puente Restaurant and Bar...18

MUSIC
- Sousa Meets Salsa...10



Puente Restaurant and Bar...18

NATURAL LIVING

FEATURE
- Astrometeorologist Jennifer Lawson's Hurricane Forecasts...14
- Why Men Are The Way They Are: An Interview With Warren Farrell...20

HEALTH
- Beginning Yoga with John Coon...16

A SALUTE TO GAY PRIDE
- Gay Pride and Gay People...23
- Homophobia: How We All Pay The Price...27
- In God's Name: Gays, Lesbians and the Bible...24

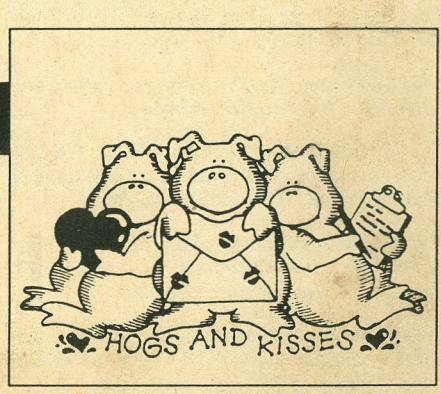
ESOTERIC
- June Starcast...30
- How To Have Everything You Want...12



Jennifer Lawson's Weather Forecasts ...14

DEPARTMENTS

- Calendar...4
- Classes and Workshop Billboard...7
- Classifieds...36
- Life in the Express Lane...38
- Intro-Express Personal Ads...34
- Relationship Forum...9
- Resource Directory...32



Intro-Express Personal Ads...34

Cover Photo: Dr. Warren Farrell by Michael Seewald

If you are part of a group or have a function that you would like listed in our calendar, please send announcements by the 20th of the month for publication in the following month to: CALENDAR EDITOR, Uptown Express, *2990 Richmond, Suite 316, Houston, TX 77098. Inclusion in the calendar is based upon general interest to our readers, space availability and the whims of the editorial staff.*

THEATER

Actors Theatre of Houston June 11-July 18: *Shirley Valentine.* 2506 South Blvd. 529-6606.

Actors Workshop June 25-Aug. 8: *Cementville*—Jane Martin's adult comedy. 1009 Chartres. 236-1844.

A. D. Players Through June 27: *Smoke on the Mountain*—sounds like Stuebenville, Pa. 2710 W. Alabama. 526-2721.

Alley Theatre Through June 13: *Macbeth* and *Death and The Maiden.* June 20- July 25: *Billy Bishop Goes To War.* 615 Texas Ave. 228-8421.

Company Onstage Through June 12: *The Trip to Bountiful*—hopefully doesn't go through Miami. June 25-July 31: *The Hollow*—Agatha Christie classic. 536 Westbury Square. 726-1219.

Country Playhouse Through June 5: *Noises Off*—picture it: a play within a play. 12802 Queensbury, Town & Country Village. 467-4497

Curtains June 3-July 3: *Dating Ourselves*—2 actors, 14 characters, 50 years. June 6-27: *But We Love Him Anyway*—Koresh family theme song. 3722 Washington. 862-4548.

Galveston Island Outdoor Musicals Through Aug. 28: *My Fair Lady* and June 17-Aug. 28: *Best Little Whorehouse in Texas.* On alternating nights. FM 3005 & 12 Mile Rd., Galveston. 1-800-54-SHOWS.

Houston Skyline Theatre June 19: *Arizona Strip*—Eddie Cope and Joe McHale ride again. Through June 19: *Door Wolves*—Jim Morrison's pet of choice?—1617 Fannin, 9th Floor of Houston House. 759-0701.

Main Street Theater June 5-July 11: *Rough Crossing*—RuPaul plays Bolivar? 2540 Times Blvd. 524-6707.

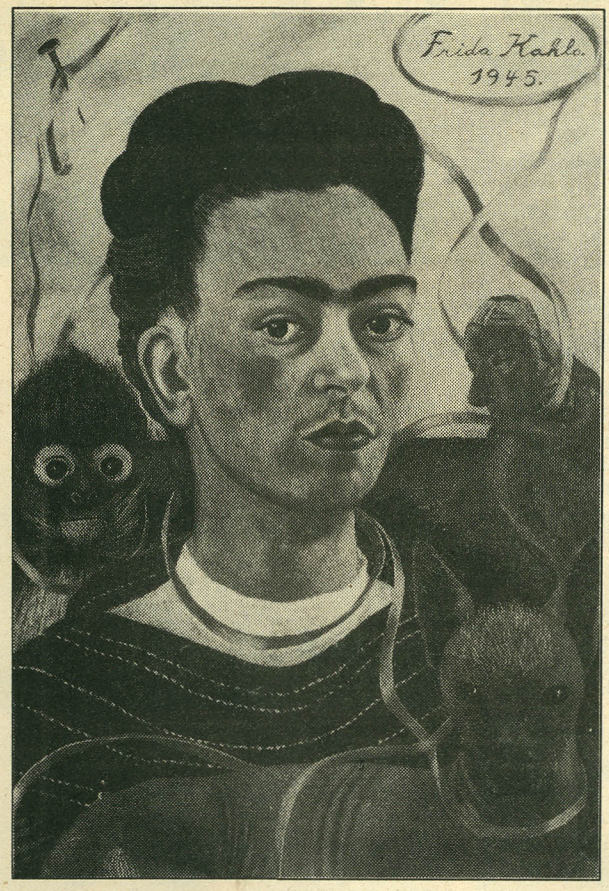
Stages Opening May 21: *Always...Patsy Cline.* 3201 Allen Parkway. 527-8243.

Theater LaB Houston June 18-July 31: *The Sum of Us*—with special Gay Pride Week performance opening night. 1706 Alamo. 868-7516.

Theatre Southwest June 4-26: *Tribute*—a blend of comedy and pathos. 3750 S. Gessner. 661-9505.

Theatre Suburbia June 4-July 3: *Burkie*—bittersweet character study. 1410 W. 43rd at Oak Forest. 682-3525.

Theatre Under The Stars (TUTS) June 15-20: *Love Letters*—cuddly consonants and vowels with Robert Wagner and Stephanie Powers. At the Music Hall. 810 Bagby, 853-8000.



The World of Frida Kahlo

the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
June 6- August 29
629-3700

FRIDA

Houston Grand Opera
June 3- 16
227-ARTS

Self Portrait with Monkeys
Frida Kahlo, 1945

COMEDY

ComedySportz presents competitive improvisational comedy. Thursdays at **River Cafe,** 3615 Montrose, Fridays at **Treebeard's,** 315 Travis. 8 p.m. 521-2226.

Feminist comedian **Nancy Ford** performs original music and over-the-edge comedy Thursday, June 3 & 17, 8:30 p.m. **Ms. B's In The Plaza,** 9218 Buffalo Speedway. 8:30 p.m. 666-3356.

Radio Music Theatre Ongoing: *Houston Smug.* 2623 Colquitt, 522-7722.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Houston Grand Opera June 3-16: *Frida..* Wortham Theatre Center, 500 Texas. 227-ARTS.

Houston Symphony June 12: *Program of Tchaikovsky with violinist Itzhak Perlman.* June 17: *Sounds Like Fun.* June 19: *Music of the Supremes featuring Mary Wilson.* June 26: *Texas Music Festival Orchestra.* July 3: *Star-Spangled Celebration.* At Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavillion. June 23: *Program of Chavez, Bruch and Beethoven.* June 25: *Program of Brahms and Copland.* June 26: *Program of Tchaikovsky, Berlioz and Bernstein.* At Miller Outdoor Theater in Hermann Park. Jones Hall, 615 Louisiana. 227-ARTS.

DANCE

Houston Ballet June 3-13: *Prodigal Son (in ragtime).* Wortham Theater Center, 500 Texas Ave. 227-ARTS.

MUSEUMS

Contemporary Arts Museum 5216 Montrose, 526-0773. June 12-Aug. 1: *Liz Phillips: Graphite Ground.* Through Aug. 22: *Kryzysztof Wodiczko: Public Address.*

Museum of Fine Arts 1001 Bissonnet, 526-1361 or 639-7379 (Spanish line). June 6-Aug 29: *The World of Frida Kahlo* and *Pictograph into Burst: Adolph Gottlieb Paintings in Transition.* June 27-Aug. 22: *Donald Sultan: A Print Retrospective.* Through Aug. 9: *Contemporary Mexican Photography.* Through Aug. 8: *The Lure of Italy: American Artists and the Italian Experience, 1760-1914.* Through Aug. 23: *The Age of the Marvelous.* Through June 27: *Imperial Austria* and *The Cutting Edge.* Through June 6: *Mexico's Holiest Shrine.* Glassell School of Art: Through June 20: *Studio School Exhibition.* Brown Auditorium: June 3 & 10: *Texas (and Italy!) Bound.*

Museum of Natural Science One Hermann Circle Drive: 639-4600 or 639-IMAX for ticket info. June 18-Sept. 12: *Art and the Animal.* Through July 5: *Faces of Egypt.* Through Aug. 29: *Rare Beauty: America's Endangered Plants.* Through Sept. 19: *Mexico Desconocido.* Through Sept. 5: *Chiefly Feasts: The Enduring Kwakiutl*

Potlatch. Planetarium: June 12-Aug. 22: *Cosmic Catastrophes, Laser Beatles* and *Teddy's Quest*. Ongoing: *Stars of the Season* and *Space Odyssey*. Through Aug. 22: *Laser Pink Floyd* and *Laser Aerosmith*. Wortham IMAX Theatre: June 18-Jan. 6: *Search for the Great Sharks*. Through Sept. 30: *Tropical Rainforest*.

Space Center Houston, Walt Disney Imageering-designed state-of-the-art education and entertainment complex. Nasa Road 1 at 2nd Street, 244-2100.

ARTFUL SHOWINGS

Archway Gallery 2600 Montrose. 522-2409. Through June 5-26: *Through Children's Eyes*. Preview Party June 5, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Art Gallery on Audubon 3421 Audubon. 942-9245. Through June 11: *Robbie Lacomb: Paintings and Drawings*.

Art League of Houston 1953 Montrose. 523-9530. June 4-25: *5th Annual Art League Student Exhibition*.

Barnes-Blackman Gallery 1501 Elgin. 520-0059. Through July 18: *Journals and Journeys*.

Heights Gallery 1438 Herkimer. 868-9606. Through Aug. 31: *Look Again: Photographs by Tracy Hart*.

Houston Center for Photography 1441 W. Alabama. 529-9248. Through June 6: *Collected Visions*. June 11-July 3: *Premier Works by Rene Sultra and Maria Barthelemy*. Artists' reception June 11, 6-8 p.m.

Inman Gallery 1114 Barkdull. 529-9676. Through July 4: *Group Show: Drawing Conclusions*.

Menil Collection 1515 Sul Ross. 525-9400. Through Aug. 29: *Max Ernst: Dada and the Dawn of Surrealism*.

Mother Dog Museum of Modern Art 720 Walnut. 229-9760. Through July: *Past Present Future, The Buffalo Bayou ArtPark*.

October Studio Gallery 244 W. 19th Street. 861-3411. At Charlotte's Parlour—*Works by Jack Stenner, Rick Carpenter and James Busby*.

O'Kane Gallery University of Houston, 1 Main St. 221-8010. Through June 4: *Sue Liska, Drawings* and *B. J. Sprankle, Sculpture*.

R.E.F. Studios 1305 Fairview. 528-7228. Through June 11: *Works by Pedro Friedberg, Mike Ortega, Mark Castator and R. E. Fluhr*.

1600 Smith Lobby Gallery Cullen Center. 523-4441. Through Aug. 7: *No. 1 Stadtpark*.

Watercolor Art Society Houston 1601 W. Alabama. 942-9966. June 15-July 9: *The Rain Forest*.

West End Gallery 5425 Blossom, 861-9544. Through June 19: Works by *Susie Rosmarin* and *Don Calledare*.

West Side Art Studios At The Park Downtown, Level 4. 650-0815.
Ongoing: *Fresh Works: Doyal Debow, Liz Conces Allen, Matt Lisenby and Jack Stenner*.

MISCELLANEOUS

Houston Humane Society wants to alter your cat, and/or for you to adopt one of theirs throughout the month of June. 14700 Almeda Road, 433-6421.

INSIGHTS

Bill Ferguson (Return to the Heart): June 8 & 22: How To Live in the Presence of *Love*. Guest Quarters Hotel, 5353 Westheimer. 7-10 p.m. $10. 520-5370.

Body, Mind and Soul Bookstore, 4386 Westheimer, presents *Psychic Sunday* every second and fourth Sunday of the month. Check out how wonderful your future will be. Astrologers, Tarot readers, numerologists and more. For info: 993-0550.

Center for Healing of Racism, 1st Unitarian Universalist Church, 5200 Fannin. Programs each Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. 526-7223.

CenterPoint Project, 7621 Westview, 688-7224. Various classes for personal growth and enhancement. June 7: *David Lewallen: Facing Love Addiction*. June 16: *Terry Laramore: Drumming*. June 19: *Psychic Fun Fair*. June 24: *Verbal Abuse: Recognition and Recovery with Michael Yeager*. Tuesdays: *Course in Miracles*. Thursdays at 5:30 p.m.: *Donna Pittman: Exercise for the Full-Figured Woman*. Call for specific times and additional programs.

Course in Miracles! Study group meets weekly. Call Jane Thorpe at 531-8719 or Katya at 524-6736.

Crystal Dolphin 3400 W. Lamar. 520-6996. Thursdays: *en-LIGHT-en-up*, a group for gay men focusing on spirituality.

Find the soul singing in you! *Rainbow Chorus* meets the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month for choral singing. Ann Alexander, 789-5307.

Lonestar Chapter of the American Society of Dowsers meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month, 6-9 p.m. The Old Bayou Inn, 216 Heights Blvd. 688-4795.

Sexual Minority Youth Assistance League of Houston (SMYAL) offers peer support for gay, lesbian, bisexual and questioning youths and young adults age 16-22. Weekly meetings each Sat., 4-6 p.m. at IntraCare Hospital, 7601 Fannin, 520-TEEN.

The Self-Expression Center and Sandra Zimmer present the following classes: June 17: *Teen Drama Classes*. June 22: *Kids' Drama Classes* and *Beginning Transformational Acting*. 10001 Westheimer, Suite 1240. 975-7070.

The Spectrum Center, 3416 Audubon, 524-9379. Various personal growth and spiritual programs and performances. This month: Michael K. Wilson's *Self Healing Classes* are held each

Southwest Houston's Newest Metaphysical Bookstore Dedicated to Healing

ASTROLOGY ETC. BOOKSTORE

- BOOKS
- ASTROLOGY
- MASSAGE
- READINGS
- MEDITATION ROOM

Come check out our new look... Expanded selection of books, crystals and much more!

ASTROLOGY ETC.
11726 Wilcrest @ S.W. Freeway
561-5650
Call for class schedule!



Gina Castellano
713.864.4046

Transformational & Intuitive Counseling
Relationship Counseling
Family of Origin Intensive
A Course in Miracles Teacher & Guide
Tarot Readings
Past Life Regression Therapy
Emotional Clearing Work

Wednesday from 8-10 p.m. with guest speakers weekly. 523-4241. *A Course in Miracles,* a study group with B. J. Kruse, is held each Tuesday.

The Women's Spirituality and Feminist Theology Group. June 13: *Summer Solstice Ritual.* Unitarian Fellowship, 1321 Wirt Road. 496-0058.

Yellow Brick Road, 1902 Driscoll, 526-7300. Saturdays at 1 p.m.: *Meditation for Personal Growth and Transformation.*

HEALTH

AIDS Talk Houston, a forum for HIV/AIDS Issues in Houston airs on Access Houston Television Stations June 13-22. Check local listings for channels and times.

Chronic Illness Support group meets every Tuesday evening. Call Sammie at 933-6104. Sponsored by CHARITOS: Whole Health Education and Support.

Diagnostic Services of Houston provides free hearing screenings the first week of each month at Bellaire Hospital. 669-4357.

Genital Herpes Support Group meets third Wednesday of each month at University of Texas Health Science Center. 879-1142.

Infertility Network presents *Body Weight and Reproductivity* June 13, 2-4 p.m. at Woman's Hospital of Texas, 7600 Fannin, Classroom B/C, 4th Floor. 723-2299.

Men Abused as Children (MAC) meets each Wednesday 7-8 p.m. 863-9553.

Southwest Conference on Nicotine Dependence. June 5, 8:30 a.m. at St. Joseph Hospital, 1919 LaBranch. 756-5695.

LEGAL/POLITICAL

Houston Area National Organization for Women (NOW). Monthly meetings held the third Tuesday of each month. For more info call 668-9008.

LegalLine, free legal advice is offered by the Houston Bar Association June 16, 5-9 p.m. 759-1133.

Ambulance Chasers Chasing You? Report unscrupulous matters of the Bar by calling 1-800-633-6630.

Rainforest Action Group meets the first Monday of each month, 7 p.m. at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 1805 W. Alabama. 684-6197.

WAC—Women's Action Coalition meets each Wednesday at 7 p.m. Call 867-9581 for location.

FUN STUFF

Wildflower Hotline. Texas wildflower enthusiasts can call 1-800-452-9292 to view the most spectacular stands of bluebonnets, phlox, coreopsis and many more varieties.

So you want to be an astronaut? *U.S. Space Camp Expo* blasts off June 10-13 with simulations and demonstrations. At Astroworld. 799-1234.

GAY PRIDE WEEK HIGHLIGHTS

- **Saturday, June 12:** *The Flirtations* and *Houston's Gay Men's Chorus.* 8 and 11 p.m. Fitzgerald's, 2706 White Oak. 862-3838.
- **Thursday, June 17:** *I Was A Lesbian Centerfold for* Newsweek—Wacko comedy by Nancy Ford. **Ms. B's In The Plaza,** 9218 Buffalo Speedway. 8:30 p.m. 666-3356.
- **Friday, June 18:** *Pride Week Kick-off Reception* sponsored by Pride Week Committee. 5:30-8:30 p.m. Lovett Inn, 501 Lovett. 529-6979.
- **Monday, June 21:** *Official Pride Parade Skate Night.* sponsored by Lambda Roller Skating Club. 7:30-10:30 pm at Hobby Skate World, 6804 Easthaven. 941-1134.
- **Tuesday, June 22:** *Make a Joyful Noise III—7* churches join together to share musical talents. Community Gospel Church, 501 E. 18th at Columbia. 880-9235.
- **Friday, June 25:** *Fay & Ray*—a tender tale of family values for the '90's. The Group (Theatre Workshop), 8 p.m. at Stages Reperatory Theatre, 201 Allen Parkway. 522-2204.
- **Saturday, June 26:** *Out, Together and Proud Concert* with six Texas gay/lesbian choral groups. Cullen Theatre at Wortham Center. 523-3751. *Also: Baile '93* sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Hispanic Unidos. 9 p.m. Sheraton Astrodome. 861-1313.
- **Sunday, June 27:** *Houston Lesbian/Gay Pride* Parade 4 p.m. struts east on Westheimer from Woodhead to Montrose. 529-6979.
- *Houston Lesbian/Gay Pride Week Rally and Fireworks.* 6-10 p.m, Spotts Park, Waugh and Memorial Dr. 529-6979.

Speaking from the Heart

A public speaking course to be who you are in front of a group

WHEN YOU SPEAK TO GROUPS, DO YOU...

Freeze up? Tense up?
lose a sense of yourself?
Forget what to say?
Turn your feelings against yourself?

SPEAKING FROM THE HEART

supports you to:

- Feel Safe and at Ease.
- Release Fear of Judgement.
- Think on Your Feet.
- Be Present in The Moment.
- Connect Genuinely to Listeners

Speaking From The Heart
8-week class starts
Wednesday, July 28 • 7-9 pm
975-7070

The Self-Expression Center



Awaken Your Creative Self to Find Healing, Growth and Spirit

Classes include:

- Speaking from the Heart
- Transformational Acting
- Body Voice
- Movement and Body Awareness
- Communication and Transformation
- Meditation with Sound, Color, Music & Movement



Sandra Zimmer, Director

Classes & Individual Counseling
975-7070

Frankie & Co.

Catalogue Design
Ads
Illustration
Logos
Brochures

Anything Else Graphics
Frankie Flores 713 520 0707

Classes and Workshop Billboard

BILL FERGUSON, author of the bestselling books *How to Heal a Painful Relationship* and *Miracles are Guaranteed* presents **How To Live in the Presence of Love.** This one evening program is guaranteed to change your life. June 8 and 22. Guest Quarters Hotel, 5353 Westheimer. 7-10 pm. $10. 520-5370.

INTRODUCTION TO MEDITATION AND SPIRITUALITY: Harvey Aronson at the Jung Center, Fridays, June 11 to July 2, 12 noon to 1:30 pm. Basic instruction on meditation with discussion about spirituality. Course fee, $45 members/$55 nonmembers. For more information 524-8253.

BUSINESS SEMINARS FOR MASSAGE THERAPISTS: "Massage Your Business into the '90's." Topics include Exploring Your Creative Process, Self-Management, Setting Goals, Advertising, Marketing, Networking and Office Policies. Course dates: Sat and Sun, June 26 and 27, 1993. Contact Monica Mullen at 520-1450.

June 9, 23 and July 7, 21 & 28 • **THE UNTAM... WOMAN SERIES** by **Diane F...** Centerpoint Project at 7621 Westviev... pm. $150 (limited to 20) Call 520-537... mation.

PRONOUCING AMERICAN ENGLI... for non-native speakers of English who ... improve their pronunciation. The sou... American English are introduced naturall... relaxed setting by Certified Teachers of Eng... Gain confidence when speaking English. Aff... able rates and flexible schedules. Open We... ends. Call Professional English Services: 86... 2731.

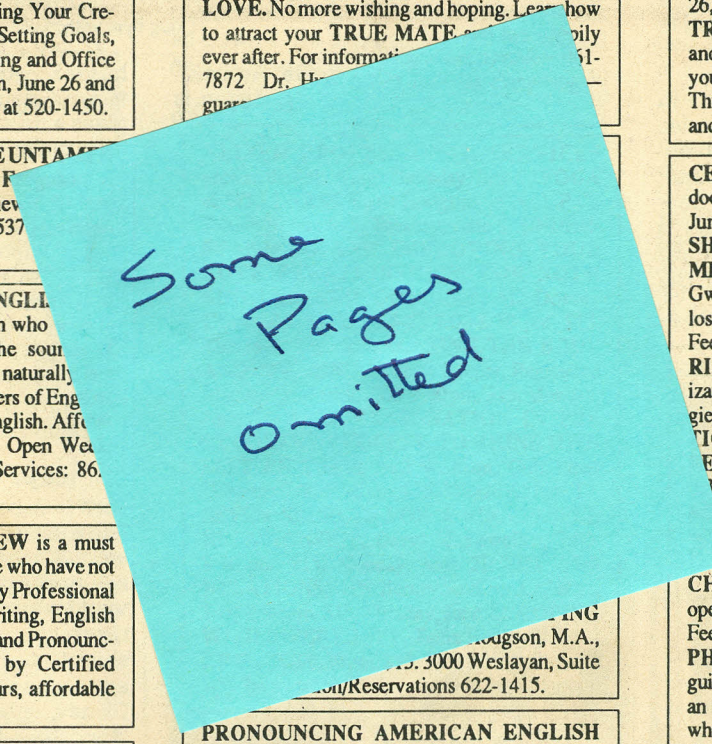
ENGLISH GRAMMAR REVIEW is a must for students and professionals alike who have not mastered the basics. Also offered by Professional English Services are Business Writing, English as a Second Language (all levels) and Pronouncing American English. Taught by Certified Teachers of English. Flexible hours, affordable rates: 862-2731. Open Weekends.

ALEXANDER STUDIOS in Music, Sound and Health presents: **INTONING WORKSHOP**—Experience the spiritual and therapeutic use of breath and Intoning to tune up the bodymind, creating relaxation and balance. Learn to use your VOICE as a powerful, healing instrument by resonating the body with sound and vibration. Intoning creates a feeling of wellness and enjoyment of being at home in the body. Saturday, June 26, 12:30-5:30 pm. **INTONING CLASS** begins Wednesday, July 7, 8:00-9:30 pm, 6 wks. **CHILDREN'S SINGING CLASS** ages 7-11. Starts July 10 for 4 Saturdays, 1:30-3:00 pm. Tuition $90. **TEEN SINGING CLASS** Ages 12-17. Starts July 10 for 4 Saturdays, 4-5:30 pm. Tuition $90. For information contact Ann Alexander 789-5307.

LAHALA, an entity of white light and extremely high vibration, is teaching **CHANNELING** through Dusty Lobb. Her classes are always filled so please call ahead for reservations, 941-8075. If you are unsure about taking the class, then you are invited to an **OPEN HOUSE CHANNELING SESSION WEDNESDAY 6-23-93 or 7-21-93.**

Dreams are your voice mail for powerful personal messages. Learn/get your access code. **DREAMQUEST** group sessions June 14 and July 19, 7:30-9:30 pm. $20.00. Individual sessions also available. Call Robert Stecker, 529-2156, to register or for further information.

ALL I WANT IS TRUE LOVE. Someone good to love me for who I am. Workshop on using your personality powers to attract your **TRUE LOVE.** No more wishing and hoping. Lea... how to attract your **TRUE MATE** ... ily ever after. For informati... 51-7872 Dr. H... guar...



...ING
...dgson, M.A.,
...3000 Weslayan, Suite
...ion/Reservations 622-1415.

PRONOUNCING AMERICAN ENGLISH (The "Original" Accept No Substitutes!) Foreign accent? Voice difficulties? Mumbling? Speak with distinction and be better understood. Courses designed by **EUGENE O'REILLY,** Speech-Language Pathologist. Mr. O'Reilly has provided these services for over 12 years. National Certification and Texas State License in Speech-Language Pathology. Free consultation. Call for class schedule 522-5455.

EN-LIGHTEN-UP, a group for gay men focusing on spirituality meets every Thursday at the Center for Light 3400 W. Lamar. Fee $5. For info call 520-6996.

DO YOU WANT TO WRITE A MOVIE? Screenwriting Classes for Beginners with award-winning writer, Dawn Ireland. Wednesdays, June 16-July 21 or Saturday, June 19-July 24. Fee $150. Cost includes one script critique. For info call 469-2733.

THE SELF-EXPRESSION CENTER and **Sandra Zimmer** offer the following classes at 10001 Westheimer, Suite 1240: **TEEN ACTING**—Chip Manfre uses storytelling, writing and acting for teens 12 to 15 to create and perform their own show. Thursday, June 17, 3-4:30 pm, 7 weeks. $165. **KIDS ACTING**—Jay Wark helps kids 8-12 gain confidence through improvising scenes from movies, stories and commercials. 6 weeks starting Tuesday, June 22, 5:30-7 pm. $165. **BEGINNING TRANSFORMATIONAL ACTING**—Drama techniques to stimulate creativity and free up self-expression. Learn to contact genuine emotions and make stronger connections with others. 8 weeks starting Tuesday, June 22, 7-9 pm. $225. **T'AI CH'I WORKSHOP**—Yvonne Carroll teaches you to center in yourself through movement meditation. Saturday, June 26, 9 am-noon. $40. **COMMUNICATION & TRANSFORMATION**—Learn how to handle and communicate true feelings to transform yourself and your relationships. 8 weeks starting Thursday, July 1, 7-9 pm. $225. For information and registration, call 975-7070.

CENTER OF LIGHT 3405 W. Lamar (Next door to Crystal Dolphin) presents the following in June: June 11-13: **AIDS MASTERY WORKSHOP**—for info call 523-8711. Wed, June 9: **MEDITATION BREATH AND DANCE** with Gwen Gose—movement, dance and Eastern philosophies for an evening of liberation. 7:30 pm, Fee $10. Tues, June 15 and again June 29: **AURIC AWAKENING**—meditation and visualization group based on new and full moon energies. 7:30 pm, Fee $10. Fri, June 18: **NUTRITIONAL COUNSELING WITH MARION ...ELL**—maximize wellness and potential. 7:30-...0 pm, Fee $10. Tues, June 22: **GROUP ...BIRTHING**—utilizing connected breath for ...ness, spiritual growth, peace and relaxation. ...-9:30 pm, Fee $20. Wed, June 23: **CHANTING**—an evening of simple chants to open you to an awareness of the infinite. 7:30 pm, Fee $10. Fri, June 25: **A DATE WITH DOLPHINS**—dolphins through video, stories, and guided imagery. Sat, June 26: **ARCHANGELS**—an afternnoon playshop designed to assist those who are awakening to who they truly are. Noon-5 pm, Fee $30. For info call Michael Cull at 520-6996.

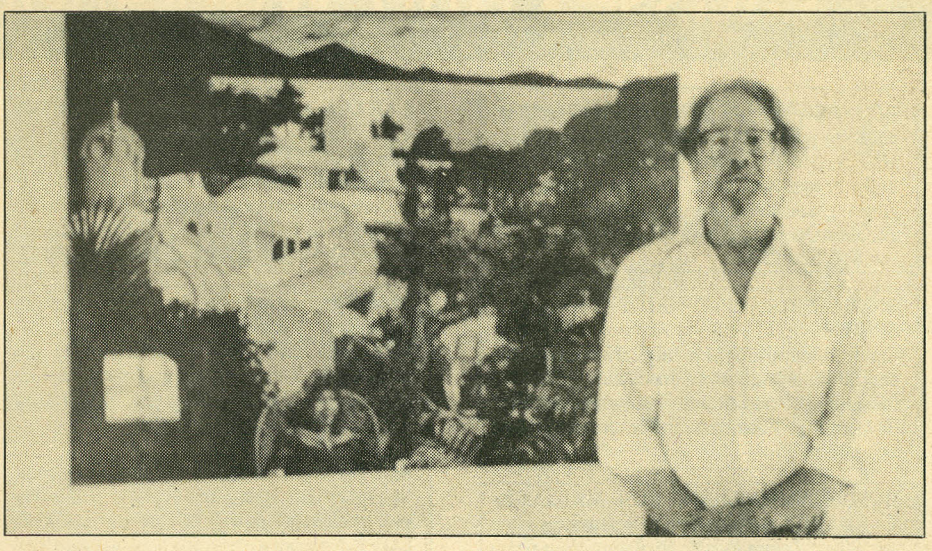
LOVINGWELL INSTITUTE presents **HEALING YOUR INNER CHILD AND RELATIONSHIPS,** a peer counseling workshop June 11 and 12, 1993 with Michael and Judy Vaughn. Costs: $125. TAADAC Credits approved and available. For info call 527-0777.

Classes and Workshop Advertising Rates:

Classes and Workshop listings are 50 words for $20. Extra words only 50¢ per word. Maximum listing—125 words. Add 25¢ per bold word. Call 520-7237 for more information or FAX your ad to 522-3275 and pay by VISA or Mastercard. Deadline the 25th of the month prior to publication. Questions? Call 520-7237.

HOMEGROWN ARTIST: DOUG BYRD

by Dan Waddell



Doug Byrd with "Evening in Paradise" photo by Jenny Byrd

1961— Eisenhower. Berlin. Kerouac. We are crowded into a small room— misfits, budding geniuses, butting geeks. Previn's *Subterraneans* is playing on the hi-fi. Nobody is smoking grass because there wasn't any in Baytown, Texas. I am reading aloud from Ginzberg's *Howl.* The only person paying any attention is Doug Byrd, high school dropout artist. His thick glasses reflect the candles so that his pupils appear to be aflame.

1966— I visit Doug at a commune in San Antonio. Trouble as usual. The parolee who has founded the place has a fourteen-year-old daughter who is sleeping around, and for some reason this has driven free-love advocate dad into a frenzy. Doug is painting like mad, intense blue canvasses with figures worked in and out of the ground like Cubism in dissolve. He's selling here and there. Doug visits Houston, is hired by Dr. Luolin Browning of the Rice University Genetics Laboratory to draw exact renderings of microscopic fruit flies to be published in *Nature.* I buy a couple of canvasses on spec, figuring he's going to be famous some day. Besides, I liked them— they have a mantra-like quality that draws into itself. Later, they disappear.

1972— I have been living in the Montrose for six years. Doug has been in Milwaukee, San Diego and some other places I haven't heard about. Now living in Albuquerque, he's married to Annie, a lady I haven't met. We have been having a long, sporadic correspondence and are bound by mutual friends, so naturally we elope to Mexico the first time we meet. Later, my second wife and Annie become close friends. Doug and I remain friends, but lose touch when I move to Germany. Reports say that he is still painting.

1988— Doug finds me in the Swamp, my affectionate name for our natal city. He has reached the nadir of his career, has in fact quit painting because he feels nobody gives a damn. He has been taking care of a muscular dystrophy patient for the past two years and is somewhat bitter about the course of his life. I sympathize, telling him the truth— that of all the gifted, eccentric people I have been fortunate enough to know, he is the one I thought most deserving of fame and the least likely to get it because of his hard-headed attitude about artistic integrity— a sort of stiff-necked attitude that people ought to recognize the value of his work without his calling attention to it.

1993— Well, he's right. A real artist, born to it, someone with enormous talent and a unique vision, should not have to go around banging his own drum in endless self-promotion. But this is not the way the world works, Bubba. Here's a painter with the imagination of Bosch, the draftsmanship of Van Eyck, the surrealism of Matisse and Dali, mixed up with a healthy dose of Disney, virtually ignored. I don't understand this—I have made love to the woman on the magic carpet.

1988 Again— We celebrate a pact by smearing paint randomly on a board and pressing it through the screen door. If he'd start painting again, I'd do what I could do to bring an unappreciative world into enlightenment. He did, and I am.

Now— Some of Doug Byrd's canvasses will be on display at Munchie's, 1458 Richmond, starting July 15. Drop by and take a look at the work of a man who has done what many of us have dreamed about; who said, "Well, I'm an artist, and I guess I'll just have to keep doing that" some thirty years ago, and just went on doing it. Decide for yourself, but have a look. I think you'll find them interesting.

ON SHEPHERD THERE'S A HAIRSTYLIST WHO ISN'T SNIPPY.



TRACY GILMORE
Friendly, Flexible, Affordable, Professional

ALL DECKED OUT
3502 S. Shepherd between Richmond & Alabama
(713) 522-0507

Do you experience problems
with Weight and Food Obsession?
Do you feel out of control Physically and Emotionally?

Psychiatric Services International Announces:

The Intensive Outpatient Program for Compulsive Eaters

— Complete Physical Evaluation
— Complete Emotional Assessment
— Complete Nutritional Assessment
— Complete Social Assessment

Individual, Group and Family Therapy
Nutrition and Exercise Therapy
Educational Didactics

For Free Assessment Call (713) 524-0058

SOUSA MEETS SALSA INTRODUCING: THE TEJANO MARCHING BAND

by Jim Edwards

photo by Celia Hutchison



I love a parade. A bright, sunny day. A cooler full of your favorite beverage. The sounds of a brass band belting out those classic marching tunes. *76 Trombones... Hail to the Chief... Oye Como Va... Oye Como Va ??* If you're talking about Houston's "new kids on the block," The Tejano Marching Band, that's one of several Latin-based songs in their repertoire that will add some spice to the usual array of marching music. A diverse mix of adult and adolescent amateur and professional musicians, The Tejano Marching Band made their debut in this year's Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Parade. "We're going to the Super Bowl," declares co-founder and conceptualist "Jumpin'" Jesse Rodriguez, prophetically.

Rodriguez and Alfred "Boogie Man" Rodriguez make up the core of Y92 Radio's "Chorizo Crew" in the morning time slot. They began to introduce Tejano Music to the Houston public years ago on KPFT and from there moved to 106.5 KQQK with the first Tejano format on FM. Their idea of forming a marching band based on that style of music began in high school. "In high school, the band directors mostly covered the Sousa tunes," says Jesse. "Then there came a few black bands that delved into a bit of soul music. A lot of the kids in our band would ask the director, 'Can we play Little Joe or Latin Breed?' The directors at that time weren't too interested in it, so during breaks, a few of the students would jam on some Tejano Music." Since the early days, Jesse and Boogie Man had kept their dream alive until one day early this year, on a whim, they announced on the morning show that the newly-formed Tejano Marching Band would be marching in the upcoming Rodeo Parade. Anyone interested in participating, they said, should show up at "Big Daddy" Longoria's Restaurant on Maxwell Lane. "We were overwhelmed," says Boogie Man. "Aside from the few professional musicians we had invited, about 25 others, mostly kids, showed up."

With eight weeks to show time and no band director, a friend from Avizo Band suggested that they invite Joe Perez to check them out and see if he were interested in taking on their project. Perez has been the band director at Edison Junior High School for twenty years and, as such, his time was already spread a bit thin. No worries though. After seeing the opportunity to make a contribution, Perez took on the assignment of Band Director with the gusto of a hound dog. He began scripting the music for three Tejano songs—*El Tejano Enamorado, Juana La Cubana*, and *Oye Como Va*— and scheduled a practice at Edison. With no time to waste, Perez taught the troupe the basic marching steps and worked on getting the songs under their belts. "It really helped that there were a lot of adults who had either marched in high school or college or were performing musicians," says Joe. Coupled with a few of Perez's current and former students, the band began to take shape.

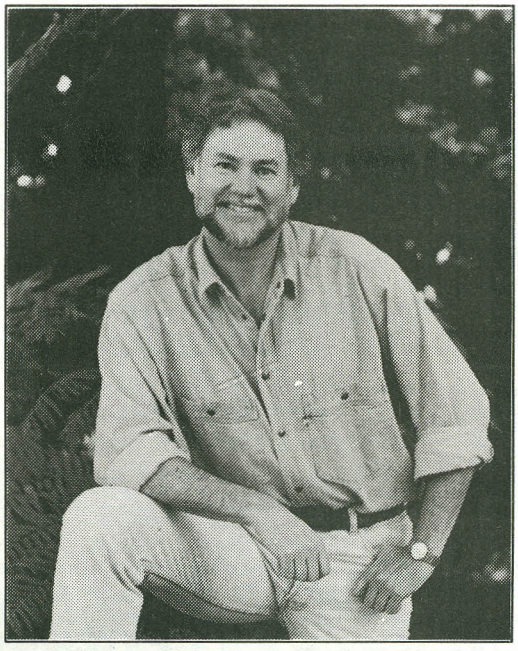
As you might imagine, assembling a group of this size (now 35 strong) is no small task. There are announcements for practices, bookings, obtaining credentials for marching in parades and the endless search for sponsors. Two people have stepped forward to fill this gap for The Tejano Marching Band. Cristina Cruz, news and sports director at Y92 and Linda "General L.R. Patton" Rodriguez, a friend and supporter have been working to coordinate the activities of the band. Toward that end, they've acquired a banner and use of a bus for transportation, compliments of Steve Cruz at Amigo Bail Bonds, and T-shirts, donated by Eva Barrones of J.T.'s Records and Tapes. Linda also records the band during practices so that Joe Perez can critique their performance. Their work is neverending, as each gig presents new challenges and their search for sponsorship continues.

What exactly is Tejano Music and what is the secret to its appeal? "Tejano Music is a combination of R & B, Jazz, Country, Big Band and various forms of Hispanic music, like Mariachi and Salsa," says Boogie Man Rodriguez. "Although you may not know the names of the songs, everyone seems to recognize the melody," says Joe Perez. "It gives you sort of a lift. When people see our band, with the mix of adults and kids that we have and then recognize the Tejano Music, they get involved with the beat." After witnessing their music firsthand, this reporter is of the opinion that, like other forms of music, Tejano Music is a celebration of culture. It is as much a part of Americana as the proverbial Mom's apple pie and a baseball game on a Sunday afternoon. The fact that this band is a vehicle for passing this culture on to a new generation of musicians and sharing it with the community at large is reason enough for supporting them. The fact that they're having fun while doing so, is an added bonus.

Aside from the Super Bowl, the immediate goals of the Tejano Marching Band are to continue to improve as a unit and add to their repertoire. "We're different than the Junior High band," says Joe Perez. "We're more democratic about deciding which direction we should take. It's a meld of ideas." They're also trying to recruit new members. "Admission is open to anyone who wants to play," says Jesse Rodriguez. "You don't have to be Hispanic. We have an Anglo tuba player, Dan (Waddell) who helps us a lot." Tune in to 920 AM weekday mornings for information on future appearances of the band. "We're planning to play at Henry Cisneros' (presidential) inauguration," says Boogie Man. If you're interested in becoming a member of the Tejano Marching Band or you're in a position to offer sponsorship (to pay for travelling expenses, uniforms, etc.) contact Jesse, Cristina or Boogie Man at 779-9292.

WHY MEN ARE THE WAY THEY ARE
A WORKSHOP BY AUTHOR WARREN FARRELL

by Linda Kay Kanelakos



Warren Farrell is a spokesperson for men. And for women. But very interestingly for men. His best-selling book, *Why Men Are The Way They Are*, which was published seven years ago, looked at the effect the women's movement had upon men, and addressed, from the men's perspective, many of the most frequent questions women have about men. Questions like Why Can't Men Get In Touch With Their Feelings? Why Are "Girly" Magazines So Big With Men? Why Are Men Afraid of Commitment? Why Are Men Such Jerks?

And he includes a few of men's questions about women as well: Why Do Women Treat Men Like Success Objects? Why Do So Many Women Give So Many Mixed Messages—What Do Women Really Want? If Women Are Liberated, Why Do So Many Still Like To Have Men Pay For Dinner And Then Call Them In The Morning? Once a man reads the book (or more likely, when he listens to the tape—women tend to buy the books...), he's likely to recommend it to the women in his life. Farrell seems to have insights to articulate many of men's frustrations in a way a lot of guys just haven't been able to pin down.

He has a new book coming out this summer, *The Myth of Male Power*, which will be excerpted in PLAYBOY this July and August.

For people interested in qualifications, Farrell has them. He earned a Ph.D. from NYU where he focused his research on changing men's roles and behavior in response to women's roles. He has taught at Georgetown University, Rutgers, Brooklyn College, American University, the California School of Professional Psychology, and the University of California at San Diego. He is the only man to have been elected three times to the Board of the National Organization for Women, and has also been a member of the boards of the National Organization for Changing Men and the National Congress for Men. He's no stranger to TV talk shows; and the *Chicago Tribune* called him "the Gloria Steinem of Men's Liberation."

I bought Farrell's "Why Men Are" book several years ago for one reason: he included CATHY cartoons. I figured any author who saw the wisdom in Guisewite's comics and used them as illustrations probably had something interesting to say. He does.

So three years ago when I had an opportunity to attend his "Why Men Are The Way They Are" workshop, which was sponsored by Wetcher Clinic and Baywood Hospital, I went. And I'm not sure life was ever the same. I know I had plenty of conversation material for WEEKS.

And guess what, Houston, he's coming back. Here's your chance.

So what is it about his workshop? For starters, it's all about role reversals. Women chose a partner to dance with, stand up on their chair and lead. Things feel different for her. Things feel different for him. We talk about it. Then there's the Boys' Beauty Contest. They paraded. We ogled. We pinched. We patted. Sized them up like the proverbial piece of meat. So what did that feel like, boys? And women?

And no, we're not through. Categorize us women by income, let the boys check us out, then we have to invite a boy to lunch. Open doors for him. Order for him. Pay for him. And somewhere in the midst of all this, try to finagle a kiss from him. To paraphrase a joke, it's a good thing I'm not an atheist, I'd have no-one to talk to. Oh, God. Were we beginning to Get It?

• • • • •

Uptown Express had an opportunity to talk with Warren Farrell recently about his upcoming trip to Houston.

LINDA KAY KANELAKOS: ***WHAT WILL YOU BE DOING ON THIS VISIT?***

WARREN FARRELL: I'll be in Houston on June 19 doing an all day workshop, which will be a lot like the ones I've done in the past for Wetcher Clinic. It will also include a bit of additional information from my new book, *The Myth of Male Power.*

How much do you like to say in advance about what you do? I don't want to "show too much of your hand" because part of the fun is the surprise of those role reversal exercises.

No, that's fine, there's enough surprise in the experience that I don't worry about pre-event descriptions. It's sort of like the comparison of announcing Christmas versus experiencing Christmas. I think it creates a great anticipation, if you know what I mean. I do get frustrated when people come to my workshops and participate only as observers, and don't actually do it. They will try to evaluate its impact based on not actually participating in it. That is to me like going to a restaurant and evaluating the food without eating any of it, by only observing the people who are eating the food.

The basic focus of all of my work is getting both sexes to walk a mile in each other's moccasins. I feel happiest when the men leave saying "I never realized how many difficulties women have, what they go through, how demeaned they feel, and how difficult it is." And when the women are saying comparable things about

men, such as how they never realized how much stress there was in being a man, how much responsibility there was, how much of a burden there was, and how much men fear rejection.

These are just some of the insights that come out of those exercises for both sexes. After the beauty contest, a lot of men will say things like, "Up until this time from my perspective, if you were to whistle at my body, or pinch my rear, I would think that's a good thing, and I would love it.

Now I'm competing with other men to be chosen and the other men are getting chosen and I'm getting left out. I'm beginning to have a feeling of a love/hate relationship with my body. Part of me likes the fact that I'm getting attention because my chest is nice, but another part of me is looking around and seeing that my chest isn't as nice as the five or ten guys who got more attention than I did. I'm starting to become critical of my chest and proud of it at the same time in a way that I hadn't been before."

The insight that comes out of it for both sexes is the feeling that this is a stupid, ridiculous system that needs to change. Those are important things that happen by the end of the day that I feel best about, and seem to happen in almost every workshop.

The opening exercise is very important: it gets right into the power issues. I have the women stand on chairs and dance with the boys. You recall I call them boys. All day. It seems to be very helpful to the both women and the men to have me call the guys "boys" the first time, but after a few hundred times it helps both sexes understand that just because a woman makes an individual decision that she would like to be called a "woman" and not a "girl," it doesn't necessarily mean society conforms to her individual decision to be called a woman. She still gets the condescension of "girl" even though she personally has decided she wants to be called a "woman."

That seems to come across very clearly to a lot of the guys, especially the ones with intellectual objections: "What's the deal? Girls? Women? Who cares? It doesn't make any difference if we call you 'girl' or 'woman,' it's just a name." But after being called "boys" all day, the men really feel like, "All right, enough's enough!" They generally feel the condescension, the belittling, and the discounting that is associated with that word, especially when I'm calling the women "women" at the same time.

In the dancing experience, with the women on the chairs and the boys on the floor, I'm giving the boys the experience of being the shortest in the room, rather than tallest. Most men when they stand up are sort of up there, and can see above a good portion of the crowd, especially the women.

The basic focus of all of my work is getting both sexes to walk a mile in each other's moccasins. I feel happiest when the men leave saying "I never realized how many difficulties women have, what they go through, how demeaned they feel, and how difficult it is." And when the women are saying comparable things about men, such as how they never realized how much stress there was in being a man, how much responsibility there was, how much of a burden there was, and how much men fear rejection.

Now they're below all the women in the crowd. A guy can sense a feeling of wanting protection that can come when you are physically smaller; and the guys seem to pick that up in a way that they hadn't before.

Then when I ask the women to reach out and kiss the guy, and whisper sweet nothings to him and that sort of thing, the women start to feel very much like a jerk. She begins to get some of the insights as to what a jerk is about ... why guys playing the guy role are in the position of having to risk rejection doing things that can easily be messed up. There are so many things she has to do right and she knows she can't do them all right. And different guys will interpret different things as "right" vs. "wrong." So almost every woman in the room for the first time in her life has the experience of seeing herself as a jerk within any given ten minutes. That's really quite informative.

LKK: Are men and women really all that different deep down? We are one humanity, and yet there's this gender separation. Do we all have the same aspects at our core, but just some of them developed in each gender?

That's a very good question, and probably the most important. The answer is that at our very core, our desires are identical. The first desire is survival; the second historically has been the desire to perpetuate the species.

The ways that we have devised and learned to divide the labor to accomplish our desires have been totally different. Women raised the children and men raised the money; women stayed at home and men went hunting; women protected the children directly, men protected the community. It's that division of labor that created a division of roles, which created a division of interests. That is what has made the sexes so different.

This is the first time in human history that we have been able to focus not so much on survival, but on self-fulfillment. In the old days when we focused on survival, the definition of "love" was, for the man, to fall in love with somebody who was young, who was at the beginning of her fertile years, and also was beautiful in order to get the best genetic mix. She also needed to be a good housekeeper and potential mother. So that's how he defined love.

A woman looked for a man who could protect her, to kill off the animals and the enemies. So she had to fall in love with someone capable of killing. Most importantly, she had to fall in love with somebody who did not take "no" for an answer, for almost never was a man successful in the world if he took "no" for an answer. This is why you got courtship rituals in which the woman would say "no" and the man would figure out ways of overcoming the barriers. That was very functional behavior. She had to find out if this was a man who could overcome the barriers in the world. "If he can do it with me, he can do it for me." She defined that as love.

A very fascinating set of things grew up around that which today has become dysfunctional behavior. Today when a woman says "no," she wants to have her "no" understood, or at least adhered to. Most of the time she does, or some of the time she does, depending on the woman. So now we have all these things that were old, traditional behaviors getting called into question because a part of the woman wants to have her "no" totally and completely respected, and another part of the woman may like the excitement of seeing if the guy is really interested and persists. It depends on the woman. But the guy says, well, wait, one woman wanted it this way, the next woman wanted it this way, and this woman wants it this way when she isn't in her period, and wants it that way later, and on and on and on. Most people are going crazy with this.

For the first time in human history, what it used to take to survive as a species, which was the Killer Man and the Nurturing, At-Home Mother, is now dysfunctional to the survival of the species because of nuclear technology. Today, the ability to kill does not lead to the survival of the fittest; today the ability to kill leads to the potential destruction of everyone.

Continued on next page

So that's changing the name of the game.

What's also changing the name of the game is our definition of love. Before, if an 1800's guy was going to be able to support eight children plus his wife and himself, he had to basically be totally focused on work. Today we have birth control, and technology taking care of things like washing dishes and clothes. Plus you can pick up a shirt at the store using 30 minutes of your labor where it used to take two days of the woman's labor to sew a shirt. We now have the ability to survive much more easily, we have more free time, and we have time to develop a respect for each other, to really love each other. So we're going from the old system, which requires a division of labor which led to a division of interest, into the new system, which allows for common labor, and common interests. So for the first time in human history we can redefine love as not necessarily somebody who has different interests, but rather as somebody who has overlapping interests. That's the challenge of the future.

I'm very much at odds with the conservatives who are saying "It was this way in the past, so it must be this way in the future." On the other hand, I'm also at odds with people who say, "It's easy to change all this stuff." I'm saying, "Wait a minute, the male-female behavior that we see, the female selecting the protector/killer male, and the male choosing the young, beautiful woman, can be found in every tribe throughout the world, and throughout history. We even find it among animals. Among birds, the female chooses the male with the most colors because he's the one who will be sought out by the predator, allowing the male to be killed so she can remain camouflaged and take care of the kids. It's just in the genes. It is deep in the genes.

But now behavior that was functional is becoming dysfunctional in an evolutionary instant. Our circumstances have changed and we have to change with those circumstances.

Where I disagree with the feminists is that I say this was NOT a system figured out by men to serve men. It was not a system of purely male dominance. It was a system of male and female dominance in different areas. Both sexes had dominance in the area where they had responsibility. Women had dominance in the area of birthing, raising children, and the home. Men had dominance in the area outside of the home because men had responsibility outside of the home. Women had dominance inside the home because they had responsibility inside the home. So although theoretically you could say that the man was the head of the household, practically speaking, the woman ran the household. And from the man's perspective, the man's home was not his castle. It was his mortgage.

Women say things like, "Well, women were property and men weren't." That is absolutely accurate. But what they completely miss is the fact that men were expected to dispose of themselves and die before their property died. When any village was invaded, the man had to die before his property could be taken away. Whether that property was the village, whether the property was the home, the woman or the children, he was expected to die before the property died. Also, if the woman did something wrong, like stealing, he went to jail for the woman. He was on trial for the woman. That was true even in the 19th century in English law. Those facts are never talked about.

• • •

Warren Farrell will present his workshop, "Why Men Are The Way They Are" on Saturday, June 19. For information, contact Lura Ann Stricklin or David DuBois at 683-2749.

Caring for Everyone but Yourself ?

*

We'll take care of You !



Board Certified in Family Practice

Dr. Scurria has 14 years experience treating patients of all ages, including infants.

*

General medicine. Immunizations. Diagnostics. Well-woman exams.

*

Network provider: Met-Life, Aetna, CIGNA, Blue Choice, PHCS, Travelers, etc.
Saturday Hours.

7800 Fannin 797-6781

HEART OF GALLERIA
MASSAGE THERAPY & FACIALS



Helen Schroeder's internationally known clientele say...

"I've had massages all over the world, but this is the best ever!"

"You're outstanding... the greatest."

"You have magic hands with a healing touch."

Initial Appointment $30
Offer expires June 30, 1993

12 yrs. Experience — State Registered
HELEN SCHROEDER
850-9112

There Is No PINK In This Twilight Zone People, Pride and Politics

By Forest Riggs

Announcer: "Imagine if you will...a time and place where gays and lesbians do not exist. They have never existed! The world as we know it is completely STRAIGHT! Not only missing are fabulous hair-dos, parties to-die-for, and cheap Bette Davis impersonators, but somewhere along the way exited artists, writers, statesmen, teachers, scientists, physicians, lawyers (hmmm?), musicians, and so on..."

This could easily have been an introduction to a still popular television program. In a world so filled with beauty and wonder, it is hard to imagine the bleak and boring planet we would be inhabiting had certain homosexuals not been around.

For instance, just imagine this:

You go to the Sistine Chapel, turn your eyes upwards expecting to see beautiful art, and you see tin plates. You guessed it, Michelangelo was not around! There was no "Blue Angel" to capture our hearts because Marlene Dietrich didn't quite make it into the world.. No Walt Whitman gifted us with *Leaves of Grass* and and *The Dead Poets' Society* lacked those famous lines, "O, Captain My Captain...". Poor Bobby McGee is still busted flat in Baton Rouge, cause little Janis Joplin never existed. *Swan Lake* and *1812 Overture* have never been heard....yes, you guessed it. Tchaikowsky who never existed could not share his beautiful revelries with us. Poor Greece is nothing but a mention in historical geography books; without Alexander the Great, it crumbled and faded into history. Even Lizzie Borden may or may not have been around. Think about it! There would be no precedence for showmanship, as Liberace never lived...let alone donned a sequin or a bead! What about Rock Hudson? Soup cans are just that, soup cans! Andy who? The world is also minus a great school of philosophy...Plato also failed to make his entrance. Mona Lisa never got to smile, nor was "The Last Supper" painted by Mr. da Vinci. There may be a streetcar rambling through New Orleans as you read this, but you can bet it ain't haulin' Miss Blanche Dubois. You see, Tennessee Williams was not around to create such a masterpiece. Why poor little Samantha didn't even have a mother (Endora), let alone that charming and witty Uncle Arthur.

Obviously this list could go on and on *for days*, as they say. Fortunately we live in a world where these people did exist. They were not omitted. In every aspect of the daily routine we call LIFE, homosexual men and women have played some role(s). Our world is much richer for having been a visiting place for such brilliant energies.

The following list is by no means complete, however as you cruise and peruse the names, maybe new light will be shed on the way you think and perceive homosexual and bisexual men and women.

Akhenaten- Egyptian Pharaoh
Edward Albee—Playwright
Hans Andersen—Author
Francis Bacon—philosopher and statesman
Leonard Bernstein—Composer/conductor
Sandro Botticelli—Painter
Malcolm Boyd—Theologian/writer
Willa Cather—Novelist
Christina—Swedish Queen
Roy Cohn—Attorney
Noel Coward—Composer/Entertainer
Emily Dickinson—Poet
Malcolm Forbes—Publisher
Dag Hammarskjold—United Nations Secretary-General
Alexander von Humboldt—Scientist
James I—King of England
Pope Julius III—Pontiff
Billie Jean King—Athlete
Dave Kopay—Athlete
John Muir—Naturalist
Martina Navratilova—Athlete
Cole Porter—Songwriter
Richard the Lionhearted—King of England
Bessie Smith—Blues Singer
Gerry Studds—U.S. Congressman
Bill Tilden—Athlete
Alexander Woolcott—Journalist

The Joy of Being Gay: A Salute to Gay Pride

by Michael K. Wilson

What is Gay Pride? Being gay and expressing gay pride means taking responsibility for one's own life, health, happiness and self-awareness: being self-directed and self-sufficient. It means knowing that our positive thoughts of unity, tolerance, compassion and healing are the foundation and the building blocks of our community and our future.

In order to attain and maintain gay pride we must first begin with self-acceptance. Without self-acceptance, the joy of our being is lost and inner turmoil and conflict begin. Self-acceptance is the pathway which leads to self-approval. With self-acceptance and self-approval we can welcome self-love and self-integrity into our lives.

Choosing to love and accept ourselves and expressing this unconditional self-love with our mind, body and experiences starts a chain reaction that is physical, emotional and spiritual. It inspires us to never again allow anyone to pull us back into internalized shame,

Continued on page 25

SALUTE TO LESBIAN & GAY PRIDE
JUNE 18-27

IN GOD'S NAME—GAYS, LESBIANS AND THE BIBLE

by Rev. Ralph C. Lasher

Christianity is a religion based on the ministry and teachings of Jesus, whose life was clearly one of love, healing and forgiveness. He summarized his own teaching: "Love the Lord, your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind . . . Love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:37-40).

His message was inclusive: "For God so loved the world that God gave the one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16).

Yet we all know that atrocities have been cloaked in Bible verses and committed in Christ's name. Several examples include:

- The Crusades, in which men, women and children were slaughtered in Jesus' name;
- The Inquisition, which tortured and murdered and called it "Holy";
- The enslavement of persons throughout the world by "Christians" and others who bred, branded and beat fellow humans;
- The lynchings, floggings and castrations of African Americans in the United States of America by hymn-singing, white sheeted Ku-Klux-Klan members;
- The murders and rapes during the conquest of Mexico and the destruction of an entire civilization;
- The persecution and discrimination in our nation against persons of color and women;
- The Holocaust in Germany where two National Denominations turned their heads while millions of human beings were exterminated;
- The massacre and bombings in Ireland;
- The burning of witches in our own country.

Rev. Ralph Lasher, who holds a master's degree in divinity, was an Episcopal priest who was asked to resign from the church 35 years ago after he announced he was gay. He is executive director of Houston's Montrose Clinic and serves as a volunteer member of the clergy staff of the Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection, where he teaches a course in "Homosexuality and the Bible."



Today another monstrous injustice, cloaked in Bible verse, is being committed against people for whom Christ lived and died. It is the oppression, bashing and sometimes even murder of gays and lesbians. Those who seek to justify their homophobia and the behavior it encourages cite several Biblical passages, which they claim condemn gays and lesbians. Most often they quote from the King James Version. I was raised on the King James and can recite large portions of it. I love its poetry and beautiful language. But I don't use it or recommend it for study. For study, I prefer the New International Version.

Before it was written, the Bible circulated in oral form, some parts of it for several hundred years. The Old Testament was written in Hebrew and the New Testament in Greek. The King James, written in 1611 when James I was king of England, is not the oldest English translation of the Bible, which was first translated into English 229 years earlier in 1382, by a man named Wycliffe.

Modern Biblical scholars generally do not regard the King James as the most accurate English translation. They cite its numerous misspellings; the use of a variety of English words to translate the same Hebrew or Greek word; the overuse of terms derived from the Latin, which resulted in inaccurate translations; and the obscurity of Elizabethan English to today's speakers of English. In addition, more accurate Hebrew and Greek versions of the Bible have been discovered since the mid 19th century. But perhaps because of its longevity and poetry, the King James is still the best known and most used, though more and more churches today also use the newer, more accurate translation.

Accuracy becomes an issue, for example when the King James uses the word "homosexual," although there is no such word in the original language. Respected English translations such as the Revised Standard Version (1952), the New International Version (1978), and the New Revised Standard Version (completed about a year ago) speak of "male cult prostitutes," which is not the same as "homosexuals."

THE SODOM STORY

Persons who use Scripture to condemn gays and lesbians usually begin with the Sodom and Gomorrah Story (see Genesis 13-19). The word Sodom has given birth to the word "sodomy," which as a legal term usually refers to sexual activities between two males.

But the Sodom story would more accurately be called the Story of Lot. Whatever else it is, it is not a condemnation of a loving relationship between men or even of consensual sexual intercourse between men. Lot, a good Hebrew, invited two men who were traveling through his town to spend the night in his house. In those days, there was no Holiday Inn for travelers, and it was customary for good Hebrews to be hospitable to Hebrew travelers. Lot was hospitable. Shortly after he had taken the two strangers into his house a mob of men began banging on Lot's door and shouting to send the two guests out so they could rape them. The Hebrew word means "know" which is a euphemism for sexual intercourse. Rape of a man in that part of the world was a custom usually reserved for prisoners captured in battle. It was an extreme humiliation since it treated a man like a woman, and women were considered inferior to men.

Lot, the good Hebrew and a "righteous" man, had a different suggestion. He told the mob that they shouldn't rape his male guests because they were his guests and under his "protection" in his home. Instead he suggested they rape his two virgin daughters.

Lot and his family were allowed to escape from the City before it was destroyed. Scripture contains two explanations for the sin of Sodom, neither of which refers to anything having to do with sex between two males (see Ezekiel 16:48-58 and Luke 10:8-12). The explanations given in Scripture say that the sin of Sodom was failure to meet the needs of the poor and

worship of false gods. To complete the Lot story, his wife was turned into a pillar of salt. Then Lot and his two daughters had sexual intercourse, and both became pregnant by their father. The Lot story is one of rape of men and women, violence and incest. It has nothing to do with same gender love. It isn't a condemnation of gays and lesbians.

Yet those who claim "God's Law" condemns gays and lesbians never claim that the hundreds of other provisions of the Holiness Code also apply to Christians.

The rest of the Holiness Code forbids such things as eating shrimp, clams, crawfish, lobster and oysters; eating meat with blood in it; eating pork or rabbit; drinking milk while eating a roast beef sandwich or putting butter on the bread used to make that sandwich...

LEVITICAL HOLINESS CODE

The Levitical Holiness Code comprises the majority of the Book of Leviticus and specifies what a Jew had to know to be a good or righteous Jew. In the heart of this codification of laws are two verses, both of which say the same thing:

"Do not lie with a man as one lies with a woman. It is detestable." —(Leviticus 18:22).

"If a man lies with a man as one lies with a woman, both of them have done what is detestable." —(Leviticus 20:13).

It is these verses that the Religious Right and other verbal bashers of gays and lesbians quote as "proof" that homosexuality is an "abomination" and "detestable" to God.

The Hebrew word variously translated as "abomination" or "detestable" is the same word and simply means ritually unclean. In the context used in the Holiness Code it referred to practices associated with idol worship, i.e. persons whose religion worshiped a god other than the god of the Hebrews. The practice condemned in the two passages from Leviticus is male prostitution in the temple. Yes, pagan cults often had male and female prostitutes working so to speak as members of the temple staff. It was this practice, rather than loving relationships between persons of the same gender that the Holiness Code condemned. The Hebrew religious leaders had reason to be concerned about this pagan practice. For three hundred years even the temple in Jerusalem had male prostitutes until they were finally once and for all removed (see Deuteronomy 23:17-18, I Kings 14:24 & 15:12, and II Kings 23:7).

Yet those who claim "God's Law" condemns gays and lesbians never claim that the hundreds of other provisions of the Holiness Code also apply to Christians.

The rest of the Holiness Code forbids such things as eating shrimp, clams, crawfish, lobster and oysters; eating meat with blood in it; eating pork or rabbit; drinking milk while eating a roast beef sandwich or putting butter on the bread used to make that sandwich; men shaving or cutting their hair; planting tomatoes and carrots in the same garden; having sexual intercourse with one's wife during her menstrual period; a woman from talking in church or going to church during her menstrual period; wearing clothes made from two yarns, such as cotton and polyester, etc.

How can one say that these two verses are "God's Law" while completely ignoring all the other hundreds of provisions in "God's Law?" Even if the Hebrew Law condemns homosexuality—and it does not—both Jesus and Paul say that Christians are not bound by the Law of the Old Testament, but by the new Law of Love described in the New Testament.

CELEBRATED RELATIONSHIPS

Loving relationships between persons of the same gender not only weren't condemned, they were in fact celebrated in Scripture: Jonathan (the son of King Saul) and David (great hero of the Hebrews) were lovers. Jonathan we are told "became one in Spirit with David and loved him." (I Samuel 18:1). He made a covenant with David and stripped himself of much of his clothes and gave them to him (I Samuel 1:3-4). They embraced and kissed (I Samuel 20:41). When Jonathan was killed, David wept and said: "Your love to me was greater than the love of a woman." (see II Samuel 1:26). Ruth and Naomi also seem to have been lovers. Ruth's pledge of love for Naomi—bizarre as it may seem—is often used at heterosexual weddings: "May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if anything but death separates you and me." (see Ruth 1:17).

THE NEW TESTAMENT

The most important thing to note about homosexuality in the New Testament is that the main authors—Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Jesus— never once mentioned it. Why then do the Religious Right and others talk as if homosexuality is their single most important concern? Bigotry. A prominent contemporary Episcopalian Bishop and theologian attributes it to fear and insecurity.

The absence of discussion of homosexuality in the New Testament leaves the Religious Right two passages in the writings of the Apostle Paul often used to condemn homosexuality. The first is from a letter Paul wrote to the Romans (written from

---

THE JOY OF BEING GAY
Continued from page 23

guilt and inner-separation. These destructive feelings have always led to self-hatred, lack of self-worth, the breakdown of the immune system which creates dysfunction and dis-ease in our lives and in our community. Self-love and acceptance enable us to claim our positive creative power, refusing to be victims to the fear, prejudice and negativity of others.

All of us have been taught many diverse philosophies in life, but most of us have never been taught to love and accept ourselves. We have instead been taught hate, prejudice, discrimination and bigotry. These negative attitudes of mind are all learned behavior stemming from a single source: Fear. The good news is, these behaviors can be un-learned.

Many times gays and lesbians get caught up defending ourselves against this negativity. When we do this, we are saying on a deeper level of mind that we are not worthy or deserving of the blessings of life. The approval of others becomes all-important. Here again we must first look within ourselves as individuals with self-acceptance and self-approval. When we do this we will rediscover that being gay is nothing to be ashamed of or to defend. It simply *is*..

Release and replace negative and debilitating thoughts of self-judgement, self-criticism and self-hatred with positive, uplifting and healing thoughts of praise, self-acceptance and self-love. Only then can we tap into our unlimited creative power and potential and salute with pride and dignity the joy of being gay, and the special gift that it brings.

Michael Wilson is on the management staff of A Moveable Feast Health Food Store and Restaurant. He conducts weekly self-healing classes every Wednesday from 8-10 pm at The Spectrum Center, 3416 Audubon Place. for more information call 523-4241.

Corinth) and the other from a letter written by him to the people in Corinth. Rome and Corinth were both appropriate targets for someone like Paul who was concerned about morality, especially sexual morality. Both cities were centers of Pagan worship which used idols in their worship of gods of fertility.

For more than a half a century several Biblical scholars have tried to build a case that Paul himself was gay, that his "thorn in the flesh" was a homosexual orientation. This may or may not have been true, but in any case Paul didn't approve of anyone having sex. Convinced that the end of the world with the return of Jesus was imminent, he believed that marriage and reproduction were unnecessary. For Paul, the only excuse for marriage was a man's inability to control his sex drive and remain celibate.

Though Paul was essentially opposed to all sexual activity, the passages from Romans and Corinthians are not condemnations of loving relationships between persons of the same gender. The first reference, Romans 1:26-27, speaks of women exchanging "natural relations for unnatural ones" and "men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another..." These references follow a condemnation (Romans 1:18-23) of persons who don't worship the one God whose Son Jesus had called Paul as an apostle. Paul harshly condemned (Romans 1:23) idol worshipers who worshiped images of gods "made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles." The reference in verses 26 and 27 are in the context of worship of idols, probably male and female prostitution in the pagan temples. The reference has nothing whatsoever to say about loving, committed gay and lesbian relationships.

Loving relationships between persons of the same gender not only weren't condemned, they were in fact celebrated in Scripture... Ruth's pledge of love for Naomi—bizarre as it may seem—is often used at heterosexual weddings: "May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if anything but death separates you and me."

The second reference is I Corinthians 6:9-10 which equally condemns idol worshipers, drunks, slanderers, swindlers, thieves, the greedy and people he calls in Greek *malakos* and *arsenokoitai*. These words have been translated in many different ways, and scholars can't agree on what Paul meant. Malakos has been translated variously as "people who wear clothes of soft cloth" (like rich people) or "effeminate persons," "masturbators" or "homosexuals." Based on other usage of this word the latter translation is the least likely to be accurate. Arsenokoitai is a word, possibly invented by Paul, combining two Greek words for "bed" and "males." An early Greek church leader, John Chrysostom, used this word to mean anal intercourse. Chrysostom assigned different penances for anal intercourse, depending on with whom it was done: one's wife, a woman not one's wife, another man, and so on. The most likely meaning of the word as used by Paul is male prostitutes.

It is regrettable that the Religious Right and others who oppress gays and lesbians have taken the Bible captive and are using it to further their private agenda. This, unfortunately, is not something new. People of the same state of mind and persuasion wrote and published a book in the U.S. back in 1904 called *The Negro a Beast*. These Bible bigots tried to use the Bible quotations to prove that African Americans aren't human and, therefore, don't have souls. Not surprisingly, they arrived at the conclusion that African Americans couldn't have eternal life. Gays and lesbians were simply next in line, the last group of "different" human beings that could be slandered in public.

The Bible does not condemn homosexuality. Numerous books examine this subject in great detail. I recommend: *Christianity, Social Tolerance* by John Boswell; *Jonathan Loved David* by Tom Horner; *Living in Sin?* by Bishop John Spong; *Rescuing the Bible from Fundamentalists* by Bishop John Spong; *Don't Be Afraid Anymore* by Troy Perry.

Scientific/medical professionals have long ago shot down the view once held by oppressors of gays and lesbians that homosexuality is a sickness. The same disciplines are in the process of destroying the myth that homosexuality is a matter of choice. Researchers have clearly established the fact that gays and lesbians constitute a substantial portion of the people on our planet.

Bigotry, unfortunately is based on fear and insecurity rather than reason.

I find consolation, however, in the history of the church. God has always raised up persons within the church, to purge the church of the inquisitors.

The purging may already be underway as clergy and lay persons force denominations to re-examine their long standing beliefs about gays and lesbians. In the past 30 to 40 years, more and more Biblical scholars and theologians are recognizing that Scripture doesn't condemn gays and lesbians. The Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Churches, a worldwide Christian church with an outreach to the gay/lesbian community, is determined to be admitted to the National Council of Churches of Christ in America. And in the secular world, political leaders are questioning anti-gay and lesbian policies. Courts of law are calling an end to discrimination against gay and lesbian citizens.

One by one, those who oppress lesbians and gays in the name of God are being stripped of their respectability. As this happens, more and more gays and lesbians are understanding that our sexuality is a gift to us. The Bible does not condemn that gift. ▪

BASIC BROTHERS

1232 WESTHEIMER

OPEN MON-SAT 10-9 SUN 12-6

HOUSTON • (713) 522-1626

YOUR OUT AND PROUD CLOTHING STORE

PROFITS FROM MERCHANDISE PROMOTING GAY/LESBIAN PRIDE AND AIDS AWARENESS ARE DONATED TO COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS AND FUND RAISERS WHICH PROMOTE GAY/LESBIAN PRIDE, AIDS AWARENESS AND PWA ASSISTANCE



T-SHIRTS - $14.99-19.99
PINK TRIANGLE PINS - $3.00
RHINESTONE PRIDE JEWELRY
Flag Pins - $10.00
Freedom Necklace - $18.00
Stripe Pins - $16.00
Bolt Necklace - $15.00
TEMPORARY TATTOOS - $5.00
CAPS - $14.00
FREEDOM RINGS
Necklace - $12.00
Key Chain - $7.00
Earrings - $7.00
Finger Rings - $6.00
AIDS AWARENESS RIBBONS
Enamel - $5.00
Rhinestone - $20.00

Homophobia: How We All Pay The Price

by Greg Jeu

"We are all born into a great pollution called homophobia (one among many forms of oppression), which falls on us like acid rain. For some people spirits are tarnished to the core, others are marred on the surface, and no one is completely protected. But neither are we to blame. We had no control over the formulation of this pollution, nor did we direct it to pour down on us. On the other hand, we all have a responsibility, indeed an opportunity, to join together to construct shelter from the corrosive effect of oppression while working to clean up the homophobic environment in which we live. Once sufficient steps are taken to reduce this pollution, we will all breathe a lot easier."

—Warren J. Blumenfeld, editor of Homophobia, How We All Pay The Price

Throughout history, human beings have always demonstrated a tendency to be distrusting and fearful of people who are different from themselves. We were not born this way, however. The number one reason we have feelings of fear, disgust, contempt, or hate toward anyone is that we have been taught to do so by the words and actions of those around us.

Author Bruce Hilton in *Homophobia, Can It be Cured?* writes "that while racism and sexism still infest our national psyche it has at least become unfashionable for public figures to express those sentiments openly.

"However, gay people are still fair game. Some members of Congress have even built careers on verbal gay-bashing. Only recently have we begun to see leaders stand up and question homophobia in the same way they have been questioning and challenging for years when the subject was racism or sexism."

HOMOPHOBIA DEFINED

The term homophobia actually means fear of homosexuality. Popular usage expands it to any type of negative feelings about homosexuality, but basically it is bigotry based upon a person's sexual orientation. Using terms like faggot, queer, dyke in a hateful way is homophobic as is any violence against lesbians and gays. Homophobia, like any kind of bigotry disempowers each member of the human race; as long as any one group is allowed to discriminate against any other—for any reason, then no group is safe. No member of society is safe.

VIOLENCE AGAINST HUMANITY

In August of 1991, Houston police officers received a dose of homophobia. Dressed in civilian clothes, the decoyed officers walked in pairs in the Montrose area. In the first week, four of the officers were attacked. Two were tear-gassed, and two were beaten with a baseball bat. In the first week a dozen people were arrested in attempted assaults. A police spokesperson told the press, "We certainly have been made more aware of the problems faced by the gay community."

Homophobia makes life unsafe for everyone. All of the violent attacks occurred because they were merely *perceived* to be gay.

Carmen Vazques, in an essay on homophobia and appearances writes, "At the simplest level, looking or behaving like the stereotypical gay man or lesbian is reason enough to provoke a homophobic assault."

She adds "that gay men look like all men and all men look like gay men. There is no guaranteed method for identifying sexual orientation. Those small or outrageous deviations we sometimes take from the idealized mystique of "real men" and "real women" place all of us—lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, and heterosexuals alike—at risk of violence, derision, isolation, and hatred."

HOMOPHOBIA AND AMERICA'S YOUTH

I think homophobia forces a lot of people to be sexually active. Even young people who know they're straight feel like they have to show it to prevent themselves from being called queer.

—a sixteen-year-old female

In a society that stigmatizes homosexuality and withholds from young people accurate information on sexuality, including the development of sexual orientation, heterosexual sex provides anxious teenagers with a means to "prove" their heterosexuality, writes activist Diane Elze, cofounder and advisor for OUTRIGHT, the Portland Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth, a support group for gay, lesbian and bisexual youths twenty-two years of age and under.

Elze writes that for gay and lesbian youths, heterosexual sexual activity serves as a refuge, although sometimes an anguished one, from the label of fag, queer, lessie, or dyke. They may use heterosexual relationships to "prove" their sexual orientation or to attempt to force themselves to change.

"This pressure to prove one's heterosexuality places young people at risk for pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. In addition, AIDS-phobia has fueled homophobia, and homophobia allows teens to ignore their own risk for HIV infection."

It has also been estimated that over 20% of the people with AIDS are in their 20's, and most were infected as teenagers. The Center for Disease Control reported 1,429 cases of AIDS among teens by March 1990.

TEEN SUICIDE

Each year, many gay and lesbian young adults commit suicide. One recent study estimates that perhaps fully one-third of all completed teen suicides are associated with questions of sexual orientation and that young homosexuals of both sexes are two to six times more likely to attempt suicide than are (young) heterosexuals.

HOMOPHOBIA HURTS ALL OF US

"While heterosexuals, as a group are not actually oppressed by homophobia, I believe we are profoundly hurt by it." writes Cooper Thompson in his essay *Heterosexual in a Homophobic World.*

"The fear of being thought homosexual keeps us from being intimate with same-sex friends; this same fear can lock us into rigid definitions of masculinity and femininity. Homophobia can destroy our families when we discover, and cannot accept, a family member who is lesbian, gay or bisexual. In a society where the achievements of lesbian, gay, and bisexual people are hidden, we get a distorted view of reality; we learn only about the lives of other heterosexuals. The denial of equal rights to sexual minorities inevitably leads

to limitations on the rights of all: if one group can be targeted for discrimination, any group can be targeted. In the end, homophobia prevents us from being fully ourselves."

HOMOPHOBIA, IT'S BAD BUSINESS

Recently, I was contacted by the owner of Tradewinds Roller Rink, who had received homophobic business threats from a church and a Christian radio station which frequent his skating rink. The problem started over a free public service announcement *Uptown Express* published in the Community Calendar stating that "Gay and Lesbian Skate Nites" were being held at his establishment.

According to Tradewind's owner, Russell Bruce, the pastor of Our Savior Lutheran Church became "concerned" when he discovered that the same roller rink his church held events at was also being used by the gay and lesbian community.

Bruce said that Lambda, the gay and lesbian skating club which organized the events had his permission and an agreement to rent the rink for AIDS fundraising events only; not gay and lesbian nights skate nights. (I guess it never occurred to him that gay and lesbians are frequently at AIDS fundraisers.)

Fearing possible business loss from the homophobic churches Bruce requested that *Uptown Express* write a letter of retraction to present to his church. "Personally, I'm not prejudiced, but when the public pays your bills..." he commented. Bruce also commented that his attorney said he had grounds for a possible slander lawsuit.

As of May 3, Lambda Skating Club found a new location to hold its club events. At Hobby Skate World the gay and lesbian community skating club is welcomed.

This kind of bigotry is reminiscent of the persecution of businesses in the deep South that provided goods and services to the Afro-Americans for decades following the Civil War. Humanistic business owners were threatened, beaten, vandalized, and in some cases their property destroyed.

The same type of treatment was experienced by business owners serving Jews in Nazi Germany. Violent actions against this minority were not only encouraged by the government but condoned as well. Fear breeds bigotry, persecution and violence. It is not only inhumane, it's bad for business.

LACK OF EQUAL RIGHTS LEADS TO HOMOPHOBIC ABUSE

Recently a friend commented that she didn't understand why gays and lesbians want more rights. "No one should have any more rights than anyone else," she said.

"I agree. You're absolutely right," I replied. "Gay people don't want special rights—we just want equal rights—the same rights that you have and probably take for granted."

"For starters," I said, "how about rights of domestic partnerships? If gay couples had just a few of the rights heterosexual couples do, a great deal of discrimination would end."

This past September, my companion and lifemate, Joey Cundiff died after battling AIDS. It was at this time that I received a personal glimpse of the damage homophobia can do. Looking back, I realize that homophobia as much as the actual physical disease itself, played a significant role in the progression of his illness. Fearing he would lose his job and insurance benefits if upper management found out he was HIV-positive (or gay) kept him from seeking early medical care. Finally, too sick to worry, he consented to being admitted to the hospital. Shortly after he began to regain his strength and energy, but by this time his immune system had been severely impaired because he had waited so long. He later returned to work for a short time, with the support and encouragement of his company and associates.

His passing was a grave loss to me. Equally shocking, was what became of the material possessions we accumulated

Continued on next page

Relying on the Kindness of Strangers

by Forest Riggs

AS A SENIOR at Texas A & M University, my four years of academic pursuits were often colored with meeting very beautiful and gifted people. During that time an act of kindness was bestowed upon me by such an individual that merits my telling this story.

Towards the end of my last semester in school a disheartening event occurred within my family. My parents who for the most part had appeared as "Mr. and Mrs. Walton" ended their twenty-six year marriage with divorce. I was not only devastated by the breakdown in my family, but was for the first time faced financial challenge as a direct result.

Having been awarded several scholarships prior to my attending TAMU, my years at the University did not pose a financial strain on my father's ability to provide for the family back home. When need necessitated I would work at some odd job around the city of College Station, Texas, but I was very thankful when letters and parcels yielded a check or cash stuffed into one envelope.

With the divorce came an end to my "special care packages".

As I was in an eighteen-week student teaching program I couldn't work in order to supplement my living expenses. Rent was due, various bills and expenses were adding up and I could not bear to ask my shattered mother for a penny.

Late one evening after several days of barely eating there came a knock at my door. I opened it to find a friend of my roommate wielding several bags of groceries. I could not believe it. All that night I sat at my desk wondering about what type of person could be so kind and generous. I knew they too had often experienced the same trial.

Time passed. I finished my studies and went on to do other things. As often happens, my friend and I lost contact as our lives took us to different places. Years later I ran into him outside a hospital where I was employed. We hugged, laughed and again I thanked him for having once been so kind to me.

Early one morning in July of '91 the phone rang. It was the former roommate of my benevolent friend. As I listened with horror to the words he was saying my body weakened with sickened loss. My friend had been brutally and senselessly murdered the night before, the morning after an Independence Day celebration, while leaving a Montrose club. He had been approached by a group of young men seeking directions. Knowing his eagerness to help, I can see his beautiful hands pointing and directing them to their destination. In seconds he was attacked, beaten with nail-embedded boards, stabbed and left for dead. A kind generous and loving human being had been snuffed out so that some misguided youths could reaffirm their masculinity. He was taken to the very hospital where I was employed, and though everything possible was done, he did not survive.

The death of Paul Broussard in the wee hours of July 5, 1991 is a tremendous black mark on the face of human kind. It reveals that although we claim to be a highly evolved species we are indeed not. As long as bigotry and hatred exist and is supported and fueled by any faction of society we are not evolved. If anything we have *de*volved to a sick and twisted group of creatures.

Through his death many lives have been touched and many minds and hearts have been opened. As I write this I wonder how many more Paul Broussards must suffer. What indeed is the lesson to be learned from such a brutal and hate-filled crime? To me he was a kind, Good Samaritan, one who will not be forgotten. Had his murderers known him as an individual rather than an object of hatred perhaps they too would have gotten the nourishment and love they obviously needed. •

during our nine-year relationship.

I discovered rather quickly (as did Joey's family) that while there may be some laws that protect partners of "common-law" heterosexual marriages, none apply to gay or lesbian relationships. If one partner of a gay relationship dies, with no written will to be found, current law treats the surviving partner of the relationship as if he or she never existed. All the assets of the estate become property of the deceased partner's parents or other heirs.

Even though my partner's wishes had been stated to his family only months earlier, they chose not to honor his requests. Instead his family took possession of our home, his car, sailboat and the cash in the checking account, but "allowed" me the opportunity to keep most of the contents of our home.

If Joey had been heterosexual, his family wouldn't have even considered trying to take the home and belongings away from his spouse. The lack of a valid will and the lack of human rights for gay and lesbians makes it just that much easier for people to use homophobic thoughts to justify their acts of greed.

SEPARATING MYTH FROM FACT

Bigotry and prejudices rely on three things being maintained: ignorance, fear and someone to spread them. Below are a few myths about the gay and lesbian community. It's the first weapon in combatting homophobia. The following is excerpted from *Homophobia: How We All Pay The Price* edited by Warren J. Blumenfeld.

Straight Facts about Gay Myths

1. *Myth:* Homosexuality is abnormal and sick. *Fact:* According to the American Psychological Association, "It is no more abnormal or sick to be homosexual than to be left handed." *Homophobia*, not homosexuality should be cured.
2. *Myth:* Loving people of the same sex is immoral (sinful). *Fact:* Many religious denominations do not believe this. What is universally understood is that intolerance and hatred are wrong.
3. *Myth:* Gay men are child molesters and recruit children into their life-style. *Fact:* By far, the majority of child molesters are heterosexual men (95 percent).
4. *Myth:* Lesbians are failed females, haven't found the right man, or want to be male. *Fact:* Most lesbians enjoy being women and are attracted to women rather than men.
5. *Myth:* Gay males are feminized, failed males and want to be female. *Fact:* Most gay males enjoy being males and are attracted to men rather than women.
6. *Myth:* Gay men, lesbians, and bisexuals are promiscuous and cannot maintain long-term relationships. *Fact:* As do heterosexuals, gays, lesbians and bisexuals form a variety of relationships, lasting from one night to many years. Besides, some define the term promiscuous as "anyone who gets more than me." Heterosexuals had a 49% divorce rate in 1989, which suggests that there is nothing inherent in heterosexuality that maintains strong, long-term relationships.
7. *Myth:* Lesbians, gay males, and bisexuals could change if they really wanted to. *Fact:* Most studies indicate that those who are highly motivated to change their sexual orientation may change their behavior, but not their underlying desire. In fact, it is often societal homophobia that forces people to attempt to change. Therefore, energy should go into dismantling homophobia so that people will feel comfortable with their sexuality, whatever that may be.
8. *Myth:* Lesbians, bisexuals, and gay men do not make good parents. *Fact:* One out of four families has a lesbian or gay man in the immediate family; heterosexual parents are not found to be more loving or caring than their lesbian, gay or bisexual counterparts.
9. *Myth:* Bisexuals, gay men and lesbians are protected by civil rights laws. *Fact:* By 1992, in Wisconsin, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, and Hawaii and some municipalities around the country, they were protected in the areas of housing, employment, public accommodations, and credit, but in most places they are not accorded equal rights under the law.
10. *Myth:* AIDS is a gay disease. *Fact:* Although the majority of people infected with HIV in the United States are gay males, AIDS affects everyone. In other countries, it affects equal numbers of male and females, most presumably heterosexual, and their children. The highest increase in recent years in this country has been among intravenous drug users, many of whom are heterosexual.

HARVEY B. ARONSON
CSW-ACP, PH.D ■ PSYCHOTHERAPY
SPIRITUALITY & EVERYDAY LIFE
FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS, CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS
INDIVIDUAL ISSUES CAREER, DEPRESSION, ANXIETY
RECOVERY SEXUAL ABUSE, CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY
FOR APPOINTMENT OR INFORMATION CALL
713.583.3625
4615 Post Oak Place • Suite 204
Houston, TX 77027
SLIDING FEE SCALE.

Leather by BOOTS
AIDS AWARENESS PINS

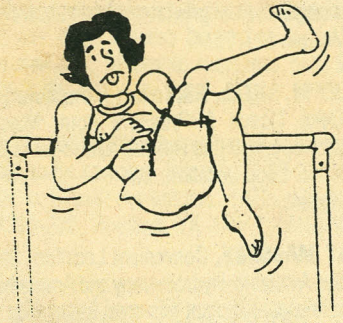
ENAMEL $9.00

SPARKLE $30.00
HOUSTON:
711 Fairview
(713) 526-2668
715 Fairview
(713) 526-0444
DALLAS:
4038 Cedar Springs
(214) 5283865
LEATHER FOR EVERYONE
MAKERS OF FINE BLACK LEATHER NOVELTIES

Humor

LIFE IN THE EXPRESS LANE

by Nancy Ford



Being on a strict No-Piscopo diet, I haven't seen *Sidekicks*, the martial-arts comedy/fantasy fun-fest for the whole family, produced by Houston's own Mattress Mac and his wife (Pillow Mac?). From its trailers I understand it to be the story of a kid a bit on the weakish side who is repeatedly humiliated in gym class, probably because he weighs 109 pounds and can't do chin-ups. Enter Imaginary Friend /Martial Artist Chuck Norris. To hell with Harvey the Rabbit; give me an Imaginary Friend who can break concrete blocks with his bare fists. Chuck and Kid then prevail over bullies through a series of heartwarming competitive events, get the girl and trash Joe Piscopo, all while *Saving You Money!*

The release of this new film shot largely on location in Houston has prompted discussion, at least in our office, about the perils of gym class. Everyone had at least one P. E. horror story, ranging from the ridiculous to the seriously developmentally damaging.

Here's mine.

I hated Gym Class. I hated waking up on Tuesdays and Thursdays, knowing I would have to get up, shower, get dressed, go to first period Gym Class, get redressed in ill-fitting shorts, sweat, be humiliated in front of my peers by my lack of physical prowess, pretend not to care, re-shower, get re-redressed, and try to get past the trauma of being nude in the same room with cheerleaders without it doing irreversible damage to my psyche.

The first time Pearl Jam's *Jeremy* spoke in class it was probably Gym Class. His teacher should have listened. We know what happened the second time Jeremy spoke in class.

Two of my three physical education teachers were without question perpetrators of the gay gym teacher myth. The exception was Mrs. Anderson who, come to think of it, looked a little too comfortable with a whistle hanging around her neck. The others were unmarried, beefy, and had a more facial hair than, say, your average Greek teacher.

Of course, these isolated facts do not necessarily preclude that these two testosterone-heavy teachers were Lesbian. By no means. Nope. And the Pope isn't Catholic, bears don't ca-ca in the woods and Elyse Lanier doesn't have rose hips.

My first horrible gym class experience occurred in fourth grade. It was vital statistics day, and all of us had to be heighted and weighed. Our gym teacher (guess which one) instructed us to line up one after the other and get on the scale. Her assistant would then shout out the figure for her to record in her big black Gym Class grade book.

My stomach began to ache in a way it never had before.

The announcement Nancy Ford, 109 pounds echoed against the walls of the locker room. It was the last time, except for medical examinations, that the truth has been told about my weight. It was also the last time my weight was 109 pounds.

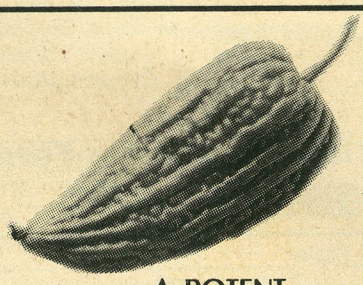
My second horrible gym class experience occurred much later, in high school. Part of the day's regimen included chinning ourselves. On a chinning bar. HAHAHAHAHA. Well, that might have been fine in fourth grade when I weighed 109 pounds, but not in high school.

It was that afternoon that I saw my comedic destiny before me. I don't remember the details of the improvisational routine delivered before teacher and class as to why I would not be doing any chin-ups that day, but it must have been pretty entertaining. Soon I was not the only sophomore who was unable to hoist her bod over the bar. It's pretty hard to display one's physical strength when doubled over with laughter. Even for cheerleaders.

It worked. In exchange for a failing grade for the day and five extra laps around the gym, a comedy career was born.

But to this day whenever a Bally's Gym or President's/First Lady commercial comes on TV, I automatically get a stomach ache. Especially when it's one with Joe Piscopo.

Bitter Melon Protocol



A POTENT, AFFORDABLE ALTERNATIVE FOR HIV MANAGEMENT

Bitter melon, a traditional staple of Asian cooking & Chinese medicine, has been found to be very effective in managing HIV infection and in actually allowing the body to rebuild its own immune system.

Currently the subject of study in various clinical applications, Mormordica Charantia has been found to contain three powerful anti-viral agents.

Less frequent users report significant rises in their levels of energy and the disappearance of various symptomology while more longtime users are showing dramatic increases in T-Cell level registers.

Advocated by the National Institute of Health and Center for Traditional & Natural Therapies as a viable treatment for AIDS, the fruit is commonly available in Asian food stores and can be locally grown and harvested.

For a printed discription of protocol, as well as times/dates of support group meetings call 713/529-8686.

Wellness is a Birthright.

"Everything in Nature contains all the powers of Nature."
—Emerson

CHIROPRACTIC IS A NATURAL SCIENCE

Nuran Timocin, D.M.D, D.C.

2990 Richmond • Suite 301
Houston, Texas 77098
(713) 942-0677

Call for FREE Consultation

IMAGINE A VISIT FROM AMERICA'S MOST LOVEABLE DINOSAUR!



Surprise your son, daughter or favorite child-at-heart
with a visit from America's most loved dinosaur!
He's purple, precious and more than life-sized.
Appearance includes games, songs,
and a special gift bag full
of surprises for your
little loved one!

SINGING CAVALIER

SINGING TELEGRAM SERVICE

(713) 520-7171

As seen on *Good Morning America, Good Morning Houston, The Houston Post* and *Houston Chronicle.* Serving Houston since 1978.

Singing Cavalier is actively recruiting new messengers to join its roster of performers. If you have a special talent, gift, character or oddly-shaped mole that you think is marketably entertaining, please call for an audition at 520-7171.

Awaken The Healer Within...



Michael K. Wilson

Every Wednesday Night ▪ From 8-10 pm
Spectrum Center ▪ 3416 Audubon ▪ Love Offering Basis
▪ Guest speakers ▪ Guided imagery & Theta meditation
▪ Affirmation ▪ Deep breathing, stretching exercise

This ongoing and well-attended class has been created for those who want a deeper understanding of **SELF-LOVE**, **SELF-WORTH** and **SELF-ACCEPTANCE** and those wanting to strengthen their own **SELF-HEALING** potential.

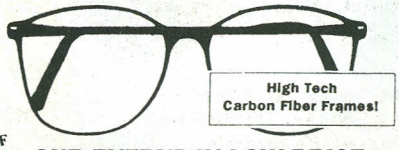
For more information call
Michael K. Wilson at 523-4241.

WHY PAY MORE? WHEN YOU CAN PAYLE$$

No Hidden Charges!

Lens Tinting Free!
High Power Lens No Additional Charge!
Edge Polishing Free!

No Gimmicks!



High Tech Carbon Fiber Frames!

A SELECTION OF 1,300 FRAMES ON DISPLAY!

OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICE

AS LOW AS **$39.95** COMPLETE
SINGLE VISION LENSES FRAMES & TINTS

Nobody But Nobody...
gives you as much for your dollar!

PAYLESS ON NAME BRAND FRAMES

We cut prices, but not quality in service or eyewear.	Most single vision lenses ready within 2 hours!	"Where quality eyewear is affordable."	25 years of opticianary experience!

INDEPENDENT DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY ADJACENT TO MOST LOCATIONS

PAYLE$$ OPTICAL

OUTSIDE PRESCRIPTION FILLED, OR WE WILL DUPLICATE EXISTING PRESCRIPTION

Where Quality Eyewear is Affordable!

WE'VE MOVED	NEW LOCATION	FONDREN	PASADENA	ROSENBERG
810 McKinney Ste. 170 In Bank One Bldg. (713) 659-3995	**6870 Harrisburg** Houston, Tx. 77011 Harrisburg Plaza (713) 926-3995	**11266 Fondren St.** Houston, Tx. 77071 Target Center (713) 271-3995	**6825 Spencer Hwy.** Pasadena, Tx. Specer @ Red Bluff (713) 487-8080	**1102 Herndon Dr.** Rosenberg, Tx. 77471 In Lamar Plaza (713) 342-3995