

Laissez les bon temps rouler

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Montrose GEM

Issue #125 Feb. 12, 2010
281-650-3489



Neighborhood Safety Issues Raised After Transgender Murder

**From Montrose Counseling
Center**

The recent murder of a transgender woman in Montrose has prompted a local neighborhood association to host a security forum.

According to an announcement from First Montrose Commons, the death of Myra Ical "has greatly affected our community and has raised serious safety concerns about ... our neighborhood."

Myra's body was discovered on January 18 in an empty field in the 4300 block of Garrott, just a few blocks from Montrose Counseling Center.

A coalition of local interests, including Montrose Counseling Center, will come together to address safety issues and share ideas about reducing crime in the neighborhood.

First Montrose Commons reports it "cannot allow this situation to

continue," and is organizing a security forum to be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 16, at the High School for the Performing and Visual Arts, 4001 Stanford, in the school's Black Box Theatre.

Activists held a public memorial on Monday, January 25 to draw attention to the crime, along with how the police and local media initially responded to Myra's murder. Many were upset that she was referred to as a man and that the stories implied she may have been involved in sex or drug trade. Additional photos of the candlelight vigil may be found at Montrose Counseling Center's Facebook page.

Houston Police say there is no

evidence that Myra's murder was a hate crime, however it has not been ruled out. Authorities are asking for the public to come forward if they have any information that may lead to the arrest and conviction of Myra's murder.

MCC Anti-Violence Specialist Allison Vogt, LBSW, says that some people may be afraid to come forward with important information because they don't think they will be treated with dignity and respect, especially if they are undocumented or were engaged in illegal activity at the time. Anyone with information is being asked to call Crime Stoppers of Houston at 713-222-8477. Callers may be anonymous.

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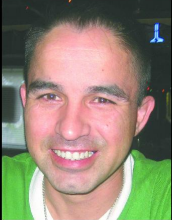
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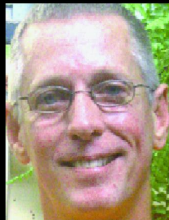
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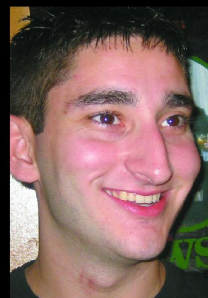
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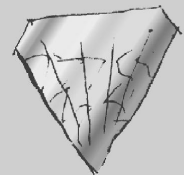


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Deep Inside Hollywood

By Romeo San Vicente

Q Syndicate

Barrowman of 'Torchwood' takes a 'Desperate' turn

John Barrowman is the favorite gay actor of an extremely enthusiastic cult of "Torchwood" and "Dr. Who" addicts thanks to cable network BBC America. And though he has yet to earn household name status in the U.S., the 42-year-old sci-fi heartthrob known to his fans as Captain Jack Harkness is about to take one step closer to that sort of recognition with his latest job: tormenting the ladies of Wisteria Lane.

Barrowman will shoot a multi-episode storyline of "Desperate Housewives" in March that will air later this spring, one that will see him turn from sci-fi good guy to suburban villain.

"Housewives" creator Marc Cherry won't divulge a single word of information about what sort of evil deeds Barrowman's character will perpetrate. For now all that's known is that he's going to be up to no good, with all the sexy friction that sort of role entails. Good enough for Romeo.

Nate Berkus to cute up NBC

Nate Berkus, Oprah's adorable go-

to gay interior designer, may be the most sexually harassed man on television. (Just watch an episode of his boss's show when he makes an appearance, and listen to the female audience squeal over the pleasure of the unattainable.) And he's about to jump out of the frying pan and into the fire, as his

finished product, it's kind of a no-brainer to expect the tasteful man with that warm smile and luxurious hair to charm the entire country this fall.

A "Glee"ful boyfriend for Kurt

It's one thing for there to be young gay romance on daytime soaps or on cable shows like "Degraasi: The Next

two of the already beloved series, Kurt (Chris Colfer) will find out that he's not the only gay student at school (although he still may be the only who can dance to "Single Ladies" in a leotard with quite the same grace) and that he might enjoy prom night after all. Casting is underway for this ground-breaking story line (quick, name another time this has happened on a big hit show) and the "Glee"ks are probably already taking bets on when they'll get to kiss.

A Single Man's Hoult gets his "Mad" on

Whether you remember him as the boy of the title in the Hugh Grant-starring dramedy "About a Boy," or simply know him as the now-grown-up-and-still-boyish-but-extremely-flirtatious student who woos Colin Firth in Tom Ford's "A Single Man," you're going to see Nicholas Hoult's face in far more wide-reaching multiplex offerings soon. Hoult (who's also featured in the upcoming "Clash of the Titans") just signed on for a role in "Fury Road," which stars Charlize Theron and Tom Hardy ("Bronson") and picks up where "Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome" left off.

And no, he's not Max. He play someone named Nux, which sounds just like "Max" if you're not paying enough attention. The film shoots in Australia this summer for a 2011 release. And filmmakers, if you're listening, please understand that while eye-candy like Hoult is great, we also want you to bring back Tina Turner.

Romeo San Vicente doesn't need another hero; he just wants a guy who can cook. He can be reached care of this publication or at DeepInsideHollywood @ qsyndicate.com."

**Chris
Colfer
to be
new
boyfriend**



own daytime talk show has just been sold to NBC/Universal.

No word on the content of the series, although Berkus's role on "Oprah" has recently expanded from home makeovers to entire life interventions, which may be a sign of things to come. Whatever happens between commercial breaks on the

Generation," where viewership is, in general, smaller. It's quite another for a teenage boy on TV's biggest recent primetime breakout hit to be gifted with a boyfriend. But that's what's coming soon to the all-singing, all-dancing Fox juggernaut "Glee".

Current reports are that in season

COMMENTARY

By Billy Glover
billygloverhic@hotmail.com

On Jon Stewart & Colbert

Comedy Central's shows, especially The Daily Show (Jon Stewart) and The Colbert Report (Stephen Colbert), are correct. What only a few homosexuals may "see" is that these people are today's version of Mattachine. It seems lost that not all "mattachines" were homosexual, including the supporters of America's first successful organization seeking understanding of homosexuality.

This is relevant today as we see more and more print media, homosexual and non-homosexual, disappearing, and many people crying that our civilization will be the lesser for their loss. Nonsense. The sad fact is that journalism has never been the great contributor to our civilization that most

people, especially "academics" and journalists, have told us. It is not just the faux "news" we get from Fox News that is recent and indicates a "decline." It is the rare exception (Edward R. Murrow) to the rule that makes us think journalism has been so good in the past or different from Fox's ignorant talkers.

That is why it is good that so many young Americans now get their news and views on important issues from Stewart and Colbert, et al. Like the early mattachines, who talked truth to the "leaders" of their time, which is why Harry Hay proposed that name for the first organization, it was a perfect name (sorry dear departed Dale Jennings, although your version of the discussions held are also funny) and is a perfect name for Stewart and Colbert and their staff.

But, sadly, there are no

mattachines in our news rooms today. Serious Americans should ask the TV networks and local newspaper editors why a few staff members at The Daily Show and The Colbert Report can find information on people who are telling us lies and tell us about their deceit, with humor and satire, entertainingly, and NBC, Time, et al, can't with all their vaunted money and

and the "news" and how really sad the state of journalism is. And I challenge the GLBT "journalists" to even learn the history of their homosexual community/movement, as it seems few have even heard of Mattachine and ONE.

And they may learn news from Stewart's segment called "Gay Watch." They will not

learn anything from watching endless repeats of The L Word and Queer as Folk on LOGO. And they sure will not get any news (gay or non-gay) from the nightly network news

shows, including "PBS" News hour, which seems to follow Karl Rove's idea of politics; don't change things, just change names or the meaning of a word.

And even less will they learn the truth from liberal media, which has been true from the start of the homosexual "movement." We at ONE and ONE Magazine got less

then and get less now from The Nation and The New Republic and The Village Voice than we got from the main street media. And The Homosexual Information Center is ignored by all media, as are most of our community/movement archives and libraries, the best resources for balanced information about our history. What a true journalist, Don Slater, learned early was that we got more help from rightwingers of each era (such as Joe Pyne) than we got from the liberals who ignored us, including the ACLU.

Our attorneys were conservatives, not liberals. Our printers were conservative, not liberal. We got more publicity from attacks from the right than we got from silence from the left. Playboy ignored us, but we got publicity when the "lesser" sex publications mentioned us. As any effort or "cause" learns, there is a serious question of whether you are better off being attacked, or being ignored.

There may be a day when newspapers and magazines, major religious groups and even current political parties are no longer with us, and today's politicians are dead (some are already, except physically) but there hopefully will always be mattachines.



Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert

experience. And the evidence is there, even more today, on the internet.

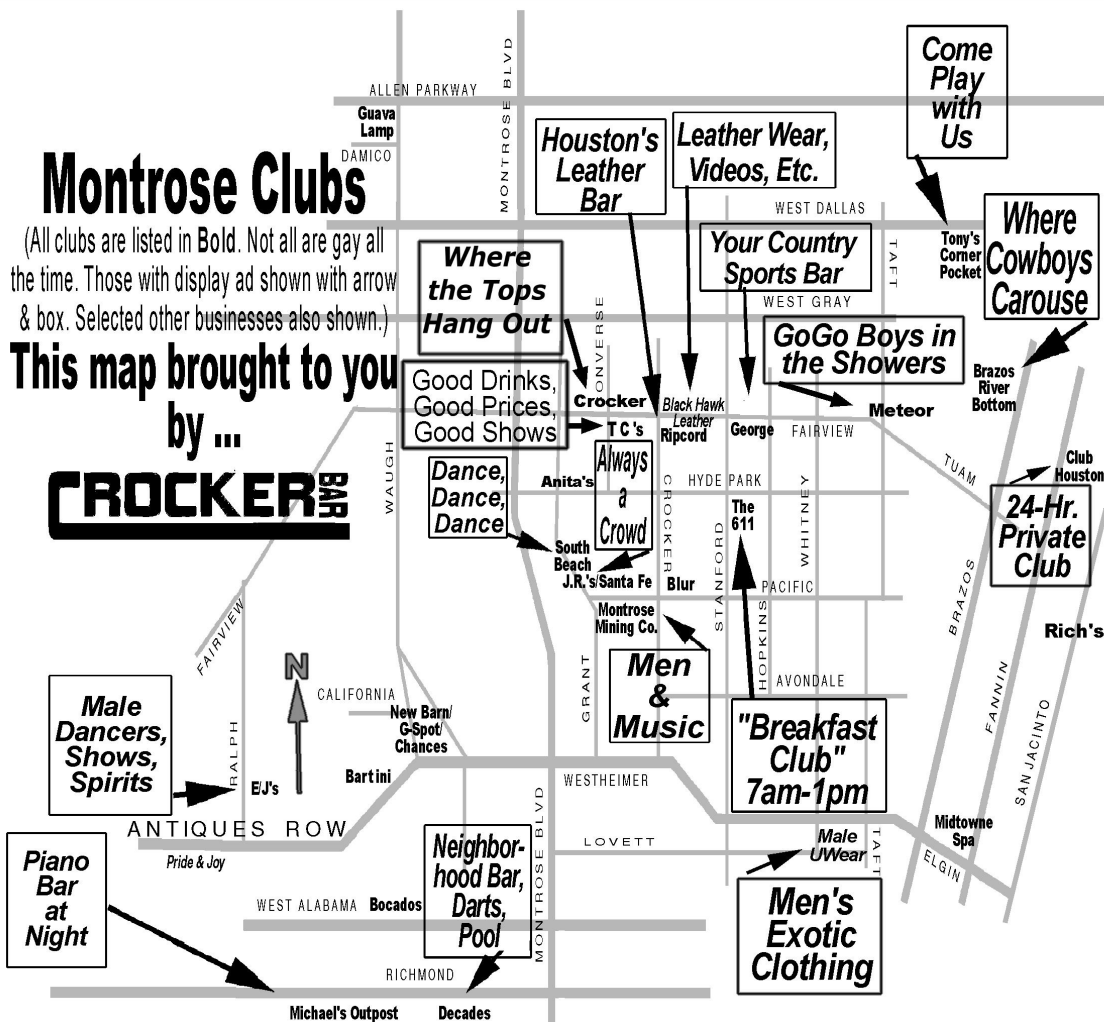
I challenge anyone who thinks that they are getting news and good views in The New York Times, or Newsweek, or the local "alternative" publications, to watch these two shows a week and learn who is really giving you facts

Montrose Clubs

(All clubs are listed in Bold. Not all are gay all the time. Those with display ad shown with arrow & box. Selected other businesses also shown.)

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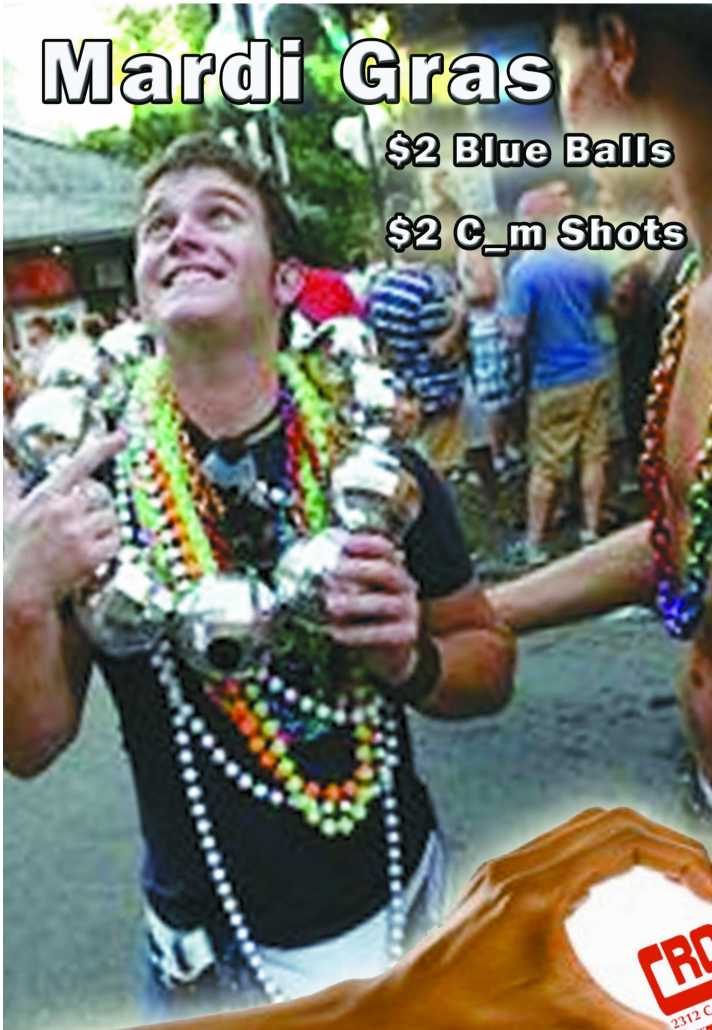


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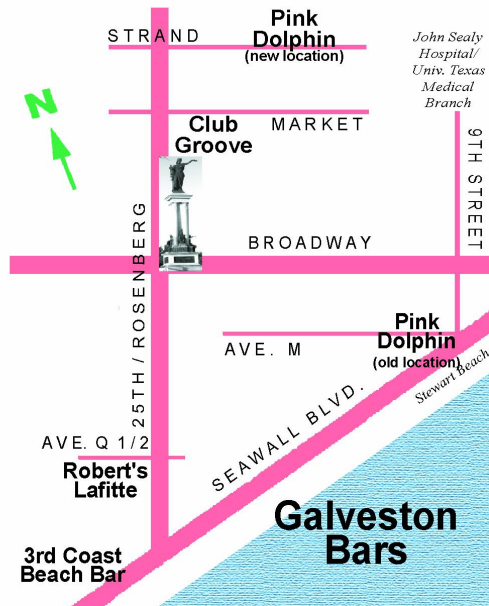
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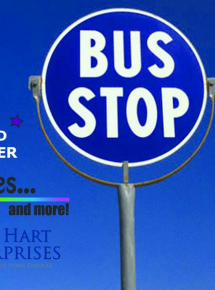


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THIS IS MONTROSE

News, Nonsense, Rants
By Henry McClurg

Elroy Forbes

We have his photo and obituary elsewhere this issue, but I wanted to have a word on his passing.

I met Elroy when I first moved to Houston about 1972 when he had an office on Yoakum with Houston Scene magazine. I had just started publishing a newspaper titled Contact. He gave me advice on printing and we shared stories at the clubs. I believe his favorite spot was the Ripcord.

As you can tell by reading his obituary, Elroy was a man who did a lot during his 70 years on earth, frequently dressing up as Santa Claus or as a king at the Texas Renaissance Festival. Elroy was built to play those characters.

Goodbye Elroy.

Well, It's LUEY Time

There are many events scheduled to keep everyone busy at all the official clubs (Tony's, George, Ripcord, The 611, E.J's). Plus there are other events (unofficial) scheduled at other places, including the Overload Party Sunday that will, for one more time, make Numbers a gay disco. Bob at Blackhawk Leather is a sponsor of that.

I've said this many times over the years in my columns, but for those who didn't know, LUEY started 37 years ago when some German men left New Orleans after Mardi Gras and came to Houston for a few days. Since then, out-of-towners get to register for free while locals pay a small fee.

So party and eat and sleep and have a good time, ya'll.

How About Some Pool

I played two games of pool a few weeks back at the Ripcord. Lost them both.

My first pool game in my life was shortly after joining the Navy while in Pensacola, Fla. Four of us went to this bar but none of us had ever played before. So we asked someone how.

He said the object was to sink the 8 ball. So we racked them up and when it was my

turn, I promptly shot the 8 ball in the pocket. But I still had most of my balls on the table.

Well, I thought I had won. So did they. They bought me a beer.

Happy B'Day

Feb. 13, Sat., is the birthday of George, The 611 doorman. There will be a party, of course.

Let's Drink

Men's Health magazine has released its annual rating of The "drunkiest" cities in America.

1. Fresno, Calif., 2. Reno, Nev., 3. Billings, Mont., 4. Riverside, Calif., 5. Austin, 6. St. Louis, 7. San Antonio, 8. Lubbock, Texas, 9. Tucson, 10. Bakersfield, Calif.

Houston was 47.

Palin's Pattern

Sarah Palin Feb. 6 at a speech before a small group of right-wing T-partiers, made fun of Pres. Obama reading speeches from a teleprompter. The audience laughed. But Palin was doing that talking by reading from prepared notes on her podium.

I'm laughing at her.

Marcia Mink

A note from one of "The Gregs":

"This Saturday, The Empire of the Royal Sovereign Imperial Court of the Single Star will be hosting Investitures 26, which kicks off our new year of fund-raising for the Houston Community, HIV/AIDS and Breast Cancer Charities.

"Their Most Royal Sovereign and Imperial Majesties, Emperor and Empress 26 Falcon and Sheri Anne Bouton will be your hosts, Feb. 13, 4:00 p.m. at Brazos River Bottom.

"Jointly, Myself along with his Majesty Emperor 25 J.P. Gill and our amazing Board of Directors will also have the honor of presenting funds and BIG checks to our Reign 25 beneficiaries Legacy Community Health Services and HATCH.

"A wonderful show full of entertainment will follow."

Radio News

Maria Todd is returning to MIX 96.5 mornings beginning Feb. 22. Her sparing partner on the morning show was not announced.



QScopes Horoscopes

By Jack Fertig
Q Syndicate

Be Very Careful, Capricorn!

Prepared for February 15, 2010

The Sun in Pisces is time for meditation and self-exploration. That hits some bumps as Sol quincunxes Saturn in Libra and Mars in Leo, heightening awareness of unmet personal and social goals. Breathe deep and be patient. Think of an archer pulling the bow back and taking aim. It's time to pull back and assess your targets. As always, you don't want to shoot too soon!

ARIES March 20 to April 19: When everything in your love life is going wrong, take time by yourself for personal creative projects. Then reaching out for experimental collaboration can be a good way to get back on the track.

TAURUS April 20 to May 20: What do you want out of life? That big question is now especially confusing. House cleaning and community work are as basic as the Buddhist practice, "chop wood, fetch water," and can also lead toward enlightenment.

GEMINI May 21 to June 20: Not sure what you want to be when you grow up? Talk with a close friend about what you really love doing. Figure out a way to put that into your current work, or think about changing your career direction.

CANCER June 21 to July 22: Figure out the nature of your domestic financial problems. Actual solutions will come later. Wanderlust and other distractions are not helping, but take a day or two to get away. Some fresh air and perspective will help.

LEO July 23 to Aug. 22: Too much fun may disturb the neighbors. If you must scream at "that moment," fill your mouth with something to keep reasonably quiet! Not enough fun? Learning a new skill will make you a lot sexier.

VIRGO Aug. 23 to Sept. 22: Money is tight, but if you can stop worrying and just think constructively that will solve a good bit of your trouble. Try to see and engage your partner as part of the solution, not the problem.

LIBRA Sept. 23 to Oct. 22: Reality makes you re-examine long-range plans. Health and work conditions are crucial; try to get a focus on those. Setbacks there may be catalyzing new challenges, but they can also point to new opportunities.

SCORPIO Oct. 23 to Nov. 21: Work feels like you're not keeping up on a treadmill, but take that as a challenge to focus on greater efficiency. Playful, creative inspirations are not directly effective, but can be springboards to more solid ideas.

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22 to Dec. 20: Worries about the future exaggerate fears for your golden years or, better, dreams of your childhood. Avoid nostalgia and remember those basic lessons (wash your hands, share your toys). They can prove very important!

CAPRICORN Dec. 21 to Jan. 19: Loose lips can sink careers. Be very careful! A confidence is likely to be betrayed. You may be tempted to plant a false rumor where it will cause an enemy to self-destruct, but such risky moves can backfire much too easily.

AQUARIUS Jan. 20 to Feb. 18: Uncertainty over money is whipping up anxieties about your relationship. Trust your partner enough to talk about your concerns. A step backward can help you see better how and when to move forward.

PISCES Feb. 19 to March 19: Exploring erotic techniques is one way to explore your identity. Meditative exercise, like tai chi, yoga or swimming, is another. The fact that you'll never know yourself fully is only one sign of your complexity and depth.

Jack Fertig, a professional astrologer since 1977, is available for consultations online. He can be reached at 415-864-8302 or through his Web site at www.starjack.com

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2205 Fannin
Club Houston Wednesday, 8pm to 12am
2205 Fannin
E.J's Wednesday, 10pm to 1am
2517 Ralph
Crystal Night Club Wednesday, 10pm to 1am
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Guava Lamp Thursday, 6pm to 10pm
570 Waugh Drive
Brazos River Bottom Thursday, 8pm to 12am
2400 Brazos
Ripcord Thursday, 8pm to 11pm
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Midtowne Spa Friday, 5pm to 9pm
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MONTROSE MARKETPLACE

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Elroy Forbes Jr.

Elroy Westveer Forbes Jr passed from this earthly plane Sunday, January 24, 2010. He was the son of Elroy Westveer Forbes Sr and Virginia Lee Triplet Tomlin, born on May 28, 1940 and the first of the family to be delivered at a hospital, St. Josephs in Houston.

He attended schools at Garden Villas (Houston), Manvel, and graduated from high school from Alvin. He attended the University of Texas briefly, served in the U.S. Navy from 1961 through 1966, and then graduated from the University of Houston in 1969.

Elroy's business career was as varied as his educational one. He was a Public Relations, Publisher, Author, Actor and Renaissance Man. He was the Publisher of the Houston Scene Magazine in the mid-70's, and then the Texas Horse Trader. He was Henry VIII for the Texas Renaissance Fair as well as handling their public relations in the late 70's and 80's. He relished the role of Santa Clause for the Foley's Christmas Parade, Houston City Hall Tree Lighting, the Houston Symphony and for the lighting of the Uptown Christmas Tree. His Clause & Co. was a part of many families Christmas for many years. He was the publisher of the E. W. Forbes Directory, the author of "The Power of Thank You" and a winner in the Ten by Ten Scriptwriters Contest. He was a founding member of the Council of Self Esteem and a proud tuba player in the Houston Pride Band. He was an active participant in the Houston political scene. He loved to paint and many canvasses hang on the walls of friends and family. His greatest role was that of brother, friend and genuinely unique individual.

He is survived by sisters Joyce (Dr. Charles) Bownds of Pikeville, Tn., Edna Forbes of Quitman, Tx.; brothers Edward "Eddie" (Wife Mary) Forbes of Angleton, Tx., Donnis Tomlin (Wife Judy) of Alvin, Tx., Doyce Tomlin of Houston, Tx., Teddy D. Tomlin (wife Elizabeth) and Roy Tomlin (wife Tori) of Austin and his friend and companion Phil Smith. He leaves behind many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends who will feel his passing.

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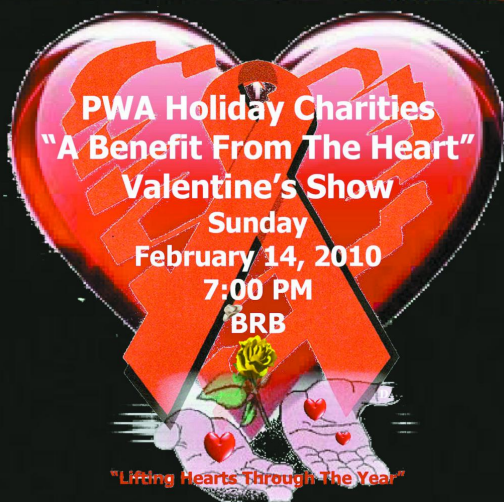


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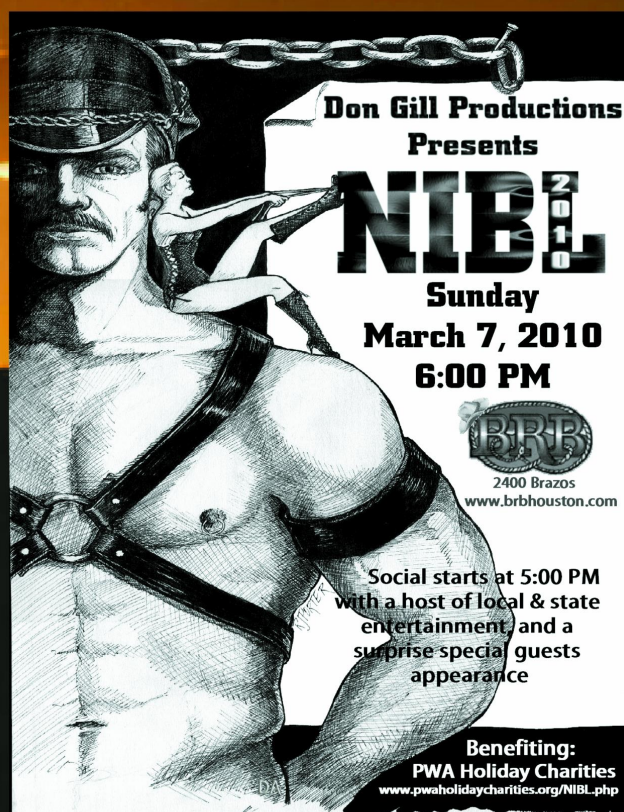


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