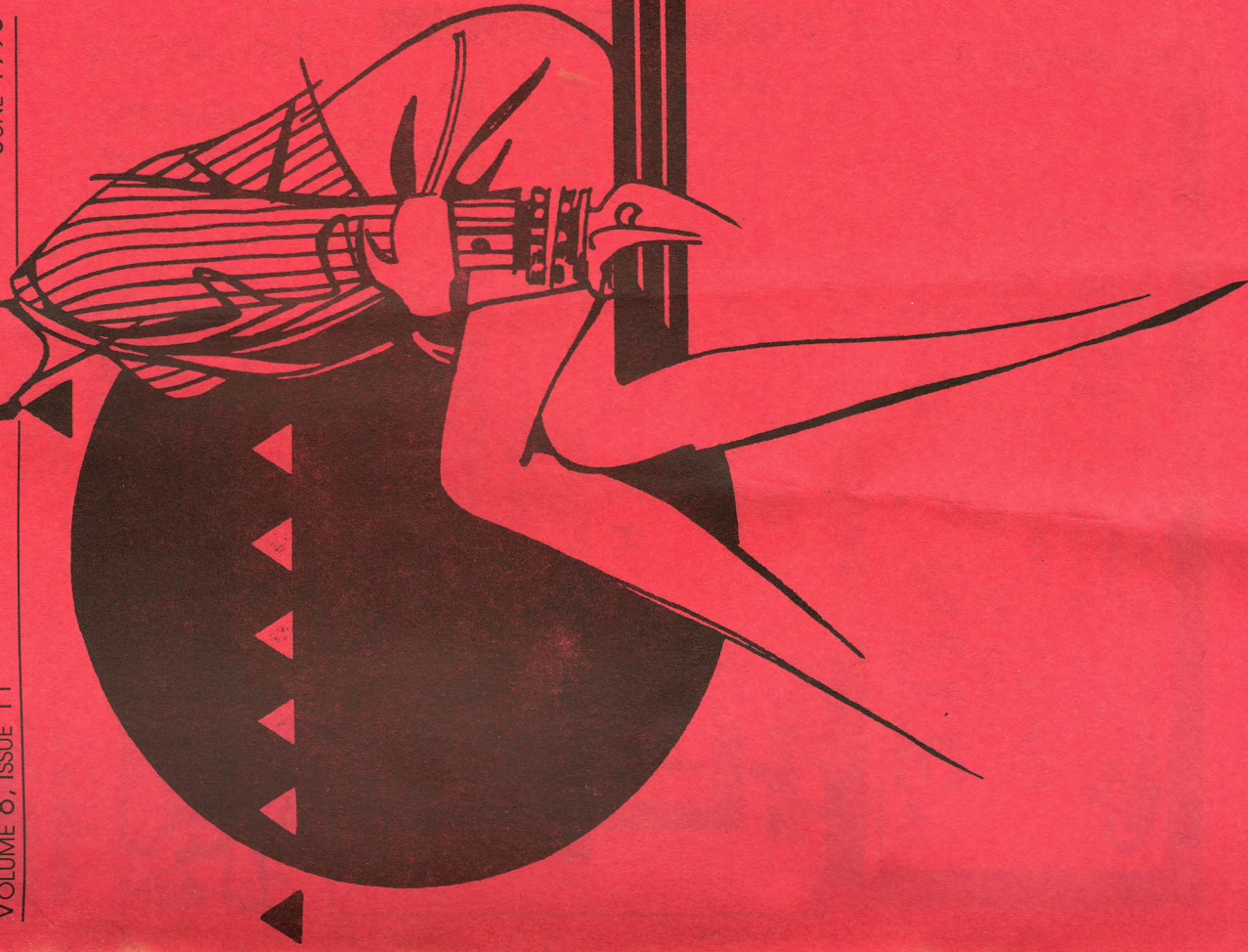


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JUNE 1995

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 11



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JUNE 18, 1995

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- STEVEN RISER & MICHELLE RUBIN

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TOWN MEETING II

1 PM - 5 PM PAVILION

ON JUNE 25, 1978, AN ESTIMATED 4,000 GAYS, LESBIANS AND TRANSGENDERS GOT TOGETHER TO DISCUSS ISSUES THAT RELATE TO OUR COMMUNITY. FROM THAT DISCUSSION AND PROCESS GREW MANY ORGANIZATIONS AND SOCIAL GROUPS. THE MONTROSE CLINIC, THE MONTROSE COUNSELING CENTER, SOFTBALL LEAGUE, A FORM OF Q-PATROL & OTHER PROGRAMS FOUND THEIR ROOTS IN THIS HISTORIC MEETING.

NOW ON JUNE 18, 1995, 17 YEARS LATER, TOWN MEETING II WILL GIVE THIS COMMUNITY THE CHANCE AGAIN TO CREATE CHANGE IN A POSITIVE MANNER. BE A PART OF THIS HISTORIC FOUR HOUR OPEN DISCUSSION WITH PRESENTATIONS OF RESOLUTIONS FROM OUR COMMUNITY. **MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD.**

SPEAKERS PROGRAM

1 PM - 5 PM 2ND FLOOR MEETING ROOM #2

LESBIAN HEALTH INITIATIVE SURVEY RESULTS 1 PM PANEL DISCUSSION

VIATICAL SETTLEMENT OR ACCELERATED BENEFITS? 2 PM E. DONALD DEYOUNG, LIFE TODAY FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.

BOOK READING & SIGNING 3 PM ROBBIE SOMMERS, AUTHOR PLEASURES, PLAYERS, KISS & TELL, UNCERTAIN COMPANIONS, BEHIND CLOSED DOORS AND PERSONAL ADS

FINANCIAL PLANNING 4 PM JULIA LARUE, LUTCF FINANCIAL ADVISOR, THE ACACIA GROUP

JOINT MANAGING CONSERVATORSHIPS 5 PM CONNIE MOORE PARTNER, MOORE & HUNT, LLP

SPEAKERS PROGRAM

1 PM - 5 PM 2ND FLOOR MEETING ROOM #3

STARTING YOUR OWN BUSINESS 1 PM MJ MCKEAN-REICH FOUNDER & PUBLISHER, VICTORY! MAGAZINE

HIV IN THE WORKPLACE 2PM BALANCING THE RIGHTS OF EMPLOYERS / EMPLOYEES MITCHEL KATINE PARTNER, WILLIAMS, BIRNBERG & ANDERSON, LLP

ADOPTIONS FOR SAME SEX COUPLES 3 PM CONNIE MOORE PARTNER, MOORE & HUNT, LLP

BREAST CANCER SELF EXAMS 4 PM F. ALLENE KING, M.D. PRIVATE PRACTICE

- ANDREW FLORES
- TURTLE CREEK CHORALE ENCORE
- JOHN GORDON
- THE FREDS
- HEARTSONG
- DANCE TEAM OF TITA TORO & GARY
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- HOUSTON CITY LIMITS II
- WOMEN'S CHORUS OF DALLAS
- RYAN BONN
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- GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF HOUSTON
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- DAVID PACE
- PAINTED FACES
- KEITH CALDWELL
- SPECTRUM '95 DANCERS

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Kelly Chambers
Managing Editor

Tasha Sumner
Advertising & Art Director

Contributing Editors:
Shannon Lacy
Kelly Chambers
Linda Monroe
Cameron Taylor
Judy Smith
Nancy Ford

Shannon Lacy
Production Manager

Suzanna Reilly
Southwest Distribution

Cameron Taylor
Staff Photographer

For Advertising
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THE NEWS

FROM AROUND THE REGION, THE COUNTRY & THE WORLD

WHITE HOUSE TO MEET WITH LESBIAN/GAY ELECTED OFFICIALS.

WASHINGTON, D.C. - For the first time in history, the White House has scheduled a meeting with gay and lesbian elected officials. According to San Francisco Supervisor Susan Leal, the liaison between the Administration and lesbian and gay elected officials, the meeting will be held at the White House on Tuesday, June 13. "This much awaited meeting will give gay and lesbian officials the opportunity to provide input to the Administration and to discuss with Administration officials issues of common concern," says Leal. On the morning before the meeting, the gay elected officials will conduct a series of Congressional visits to meet with key legislators.

Elected by popular vote, openly gay and lesbian officials epitomize the strides that the lesbian/gay community has made towards dispelling anti-gay stereotypes and achieving political equality. "We have spent the past two years laying the groundwork for this unprecedented event," says Leal, "and now, to paraphrase Harvey Milk, we will give the American people the chance to judge us by our own leaders, and by our own legislators." Among the 32 Victory Fund winners invited to the meeting are Supervisor Leal, U.S. Congressmen Barney Frank and Gerry Studds, and Texas State Representative Glen Maxey.

The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund is

assisting Supervisor Leal in convening this meeting, and established a scholarship fund for those openly gay elected officials who could not otherwise be a part of this groundbreaking event. The Victory Fund will also sponsor a reception and banquet on Saturday, June 10, to honor openly gay elected officials and members of the Administration.

The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund is a national donor network of men and women committed to electing qualified, openly gay and lesbian candidates to public office.

"CRACKING THE CORPORATE CLOSET" RELEASED

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Workplace issues for gay, lesbian and bisexual employees has made headlines, and now it's made it to hardback. Harper Business has just released "*Cracking the Corporate Closet*," an exhaustive look into the internal policies of 200 corporations and their impact on gay, lesbian and bisexual employees and consumers. The book, subtitled "The 200 Best (and Worst) Companies to Work for, Buy from and Invest in If you're Gay or Lesbian — and Even If You Aren't," is written by Daniel Baker, Sean O'Brien Strub and Bill Henning in association with the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF).

In conjunction with an NGLTF workplace questionnaire, the authors of "*Cracking the Corporate Closet*"

collected a variety of data that indicate workplace climate for gay, lesbian and bisexual employees. Basic criteria for consideration were the existence of non-discrimination policies that include sexual orientation, domestic partner policies and benefits, diversity training and AIDS education programs, gay/lesbian/bisexual employee groups, and whether companies consider marketing to the gay community. The 240-page book includes several summarizing lists, but predominantly discusses survey findings in narrative form with corporations grouped by type, such as "Banks" and "Publishing."

"Workplace organizing is an exploding phenomenon, with new gay/lesbian/bisexual employee groups launched virtually on a daily basis," said Melinda Paras, NGLTF executive director. "Because the workplace is where many Americans spend a majority of their day, this is an important frontier for organizing in support of gay, lesbian and bisexual equality. NGLTF is proud to have worked with the authors of "*Cracking the Corporate Closet*" to provide this information to inspire further activism in the workplace."

NGLTF will sponsor a workplace organizing intensive at their annual Creating Change conference, to be held in Detroit, November 10-13, 1995. NGLTF also coordinates a separate workplace organizing conference, with the next gathering scheduled for April 1996.

GAY PARENTS TO HOLD CONFERENCE IN LOS ANGELES

Los Angeles, CA - Families 101, the Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition

International (GLPCI) 1995 Conference will be held Friday, June 30, through Monday, July 3, at UCLA in Los Angeles. Families 101 should prove to be a stimulating learning experience for the whole family. There will be three related subconferences: the Parent's Conference, COLAGE (Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere) Conference for youths 13 and up, and the Children's Program for 6-12 year olds. Parents and youths are both invited to attend "The Prom You Really Wanted" on Saturday night while the children have a pizza party.

The parents conference workshops will include adoption, artificial insemination, step-parenting, non-gay spouses, multi-racial parenting, couples communication, family law, being OUT in your child's life, dealing with the media, and parent-child communication. The youth conference workshops will cover topics such as how and what to tell friends, safer sex, gay and lesbian history, fighting homophobia and dealing with divorce. The children's conference will include a pool party, field trips, time to talk about their families, games and crafts.

For more information, or to register, call (213) 654-0307 or write to GLPCI '95, 7985 Santa Monica Blvd., Box 109-346, West Hollywood, CA 90046.

LIMBAUGH DOES PIZZA

Atlanta, GA - One of the nation's leading fast food chains has hired one of the nation's leading homophobes to serve as a company spokesperson. Pizza Hut's new television campaign features none other than Rush Limbaugh.

In the commercial, Limbaugh praises both the pizza and his own ego. Shown

stuffing a pizza slice in his mouth, Limbaugh chats about his knack for "always being right."

When he's not busy punching pizza, Limbaugh is busy bashing lesbians, gays, women and people of color. His radio and television broadcasts are filled with homophobic misinformation and downright ridicule. During one broadcast of his TV show, for example, Limbaugh derided a meeting of rural lesbians, which took place on a farm. These women, Limbaugh said, were "mating with pigs" in order to "perpetuate the species."

Fortunately, "operators are standing by" at Pizza Hut's corporate offices,

monitoring public response to the Limbaugh commercial. Reports are being filed on the basis of each call.

Register your complaint toll free by calling (800) 358-2222, or write to Pizza Hut, Consumer Affairs, 2100 Powers Ferry Road, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30339-5014.

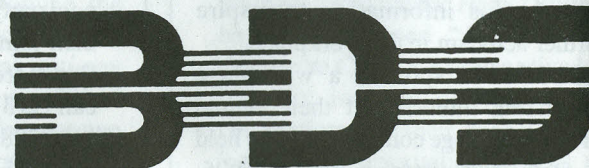
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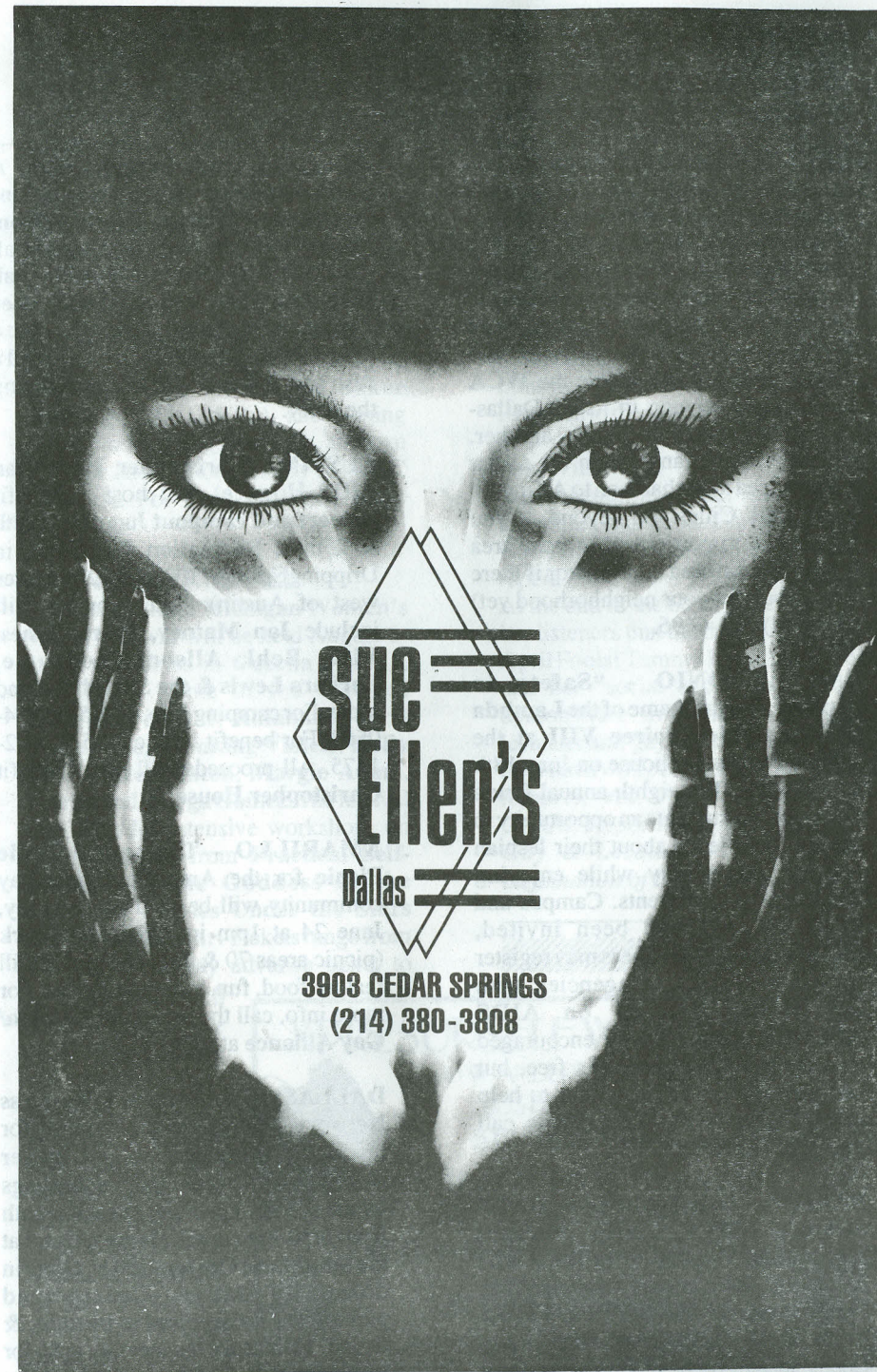


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WHAT'S GOIN' ON

A MONTHLY LISTING OF SPECIAL EVENTS ALL AROUND THE AREA

DALLAS - There's a new organization in town called the **Women's Communities Association (WCA)**. The purpose of the group is to build a community of women in which all of its members are recognized, acknowledged and included through neighborhood organizing. Short term goals include planning events that enable the WCA to introduce women in its 31 Dallas-area neighborhoods to one another. Neighborhoods range from the Cedar Springs area to Richardson to Arlington to the Park Cities and beyond. If you would like to participate in your area (or serve as an area coordinator if there is no group for your neighborhood yet) call (214) 319-6696.

SAN ANTONIO - "Safety in Numbers" is the theme of the **Lambda Students Pride Soiree VIII** at the **Olmos Park** party house on June 18th from 4-7pm. The eighth annual **Pride Soiree** offers students an opportunity to network and learn about their lesbian and gay community while enjoying music and refreshments. Campus and youth groups have been invited, organizations and business may register for table space and agencies with educational material on AIDS prevention are especially encouraged to participate. Admission is free, but underwriters are being sought to help defray expenses. For more details, call **Jim** at (210) 736-4329.

DALLAS - **Oak Lawn Community Services' (OLCS) Candy Marcum Institute for Women's Studies (CMI)** is hosting the **Second Annual CMI Golf Classic** on Sunday, June 4 at the **Twin Wells Golf Course** in Irving. Check-in will be from 11am-12:30pm

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before the 1pm **Shotgun Start**. A **Caddy Auction** will be held on June 2nd from 7-9pm at **Desert Moon**. Players fees are \$60 per player. Call (214) 520-8108. Space is limited so call right now! There will also be an **After Tournament Party** on Sunday, June 4 from 6:30-8:30pm with free food and a cash bar. Awards will be given during the party.

AUSTIN - **Christopher House** (an AIDS Hospice) will host a **Benefit concert and campout** June 23rd, 24th & 25th at **Recreation Plantation** in Dripping Springs, TX (about 20 minutes west of Austin). Entertainment will include **Jan Matney, Diana Jones, Vica, Behl, Alison Goodgame, Barbara Lewis & the Sisterhood** and more. For camping info, call (512) 894-0567. For benefit info, call (512) 832-1475. All proceeds will go to benefit **Christopher House**.

AMARILLO - The annual **Pride Picnic** for the Amarillo lesbian/gay community will be held on Saturday, June 24 at 1pm in **Thompson Park** (picnic areas 70 & 71). The picnic will feature food, fun & entertainment. For more info, call the **Amarillo Lesbian/Gay Alliance** at (806) 373-5725.

DALLAS - The **Women's Business Network (WBN)** is an organization for business, professional and career women. WBN holds monthly meetings on the second Thursday of each month from 6:30-8pm at the **Harvey Hotel** at the **Southland Center** (400 N. Olive in downtown Dallas). Underground parking can be accessed at Pearl St. & Bryan. The fee for the meeting is \$6 for members and \$10 for non-members.

Annual membership dues start at \$25 for full-time students and range up to \$150 (which covers all your meeting fees for the year, the monthly newsletter and a one month business card size ad in the newsletter). The **WBN** also hosts a monthly "**Mixer**." Call the **WBN Voice Mail Line** at (214) 712-8976 for more information.

LUBBOCK - **Metropolitan Community Church of Lubbock** will celebrate its **Fifteenth Anniversary** on Saturday, June 17th at the **Baker Building** (1211 13th St.). The evening will include dining, dancing, an open cash bar and a photo history of **MCC Lubbock**. For more info, call (806) 792-5562.

OF INTEREST TO ALL

The **20th Annual Michigan Women's Music Festival** will be held August 8-13 on 650 acres in **Oceana County, Michigan**. Some of the featured performers include: **Rhiannon, Girls in the Nose, Spanking Violets, Holly Near, Kate Clinton, Margie Adam, Ferron** and **Marga Gomez**. The festival also includes intensive workshops on topics ranging from **Practical Self-Defense to the Goddess in the Bedroom, Movies Under the Stars** and a **crafts bazaar**. Tickets range from \$40 for a one-day advance ticket to

\$250 for a 6-day all festival pass at the gate. Registration for RV travelers must be made by July 6th. For more information, send a large self-addressed, stamped envelope to **WWMTC, Box 22, Walhalla, MI 49458** or call (616) 757-4766 (V/TTY after June 10).

Just For Fun...

Los Angeles, CA - Los Angeles radio commentator **Tammy Bruce**, who was recently portrayed in *Time* magazine as the "only feminist lesbian on mainstream radio," shocked her listeners on April 1 by announcing live on the air that she is not a lesbian, but is in fact heterosexual. She then nervously explained why she feigned being a lesbian. She said she needed a "hook" for her show and had decided to conduct a "social experiment" and "become" a minority by pretending to be a lesbian. Reaction to the announcement was swift and ranged from a lesbian caller observing that it was "...a cheap experiment... made her feel like a lab animal..." to a good, Christian woman who said, "I've been praying for you to repent."

At the end of the hour, Bruce reminded her listeners that the date was April 1st. April Fools! **Tammy Bruce** is a lesbian and her "social experiment" was to demonstrate irrational fears against lesbians and gay men.

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XPRESURSELF WITH IMAGES

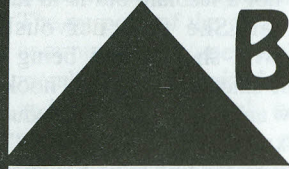
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Directions:

Take 290 West of Austin to Dripping Springs traffic light. At the 4th Street past light, turn left onto Co. Rd. 190 (after 2 miles, road changes to 220). Stay on 220 6 miles to Co. Rd. 198. Turn right on 198. 1/2 mile turn left onto road past rock entrance. Follow road 7/10 mile to deadend at campground. (Arrows & Pink ribbons along the way!)

512-894-0567

DEAR AGNES

ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT LOVE,
RELATIONSHIPS & PERSONAL PROBLEMS

Dear Agnes,

I have a really big problem and I don't know what to do about it. Last month, my lover was out of town for a week. While she was gone, I went out with some people from my office and ended up having sex with a male coworker. Now I'm fairly certain that I'm pregnant (I have taken a home pregnancy test which told me I'm pregnant, but I haven't been to the doctor yet) and I don't know where to turn.

My lover and I have been together for three years and I have never been unfaithful before. I don't know how she will handle this, especially since it was with a man.

Now, here is the really hard part. We have been talking for about a year about one of us having artificial insemination so that we could have a child together. For that reason and that reason alone, I don't want to have an abortion. I've always wanted a child and this seems like the opportune time to do so.

Please help. I don't know how to tell her and I know I don't have much time to decide. Do you think I should just have an abortion and forget the whole thing ever happened? Or, should I go ahead and have this baby, regardless of what it does to my relationship with my lover?

SCARED

City Withheld

Dear Scared,

Pick a time. Soon. When you aren't expecting company or any distractions and calmly tell her the news. After that, all you can do is wait for her reaction and go from there.

Only you now your lover well enough to predict what her reaction might be. She is probably going to be hurt and angry that you slept around, but how she'll feel about this unexpected pregnancy is anybody's guess.

Don't wait to tell her. When I say pick a time soon, I mean time is of the essence. Good luck and let me know how you are and how things turn out.

Dear Agnes,

I am very attracted to a beautiful, tall, red-headed police officer. I have heard that she is gay and I think she may have flirted with me, but I don't know how to approach her. I know I have flirted with her and she always smiles at me when I do.

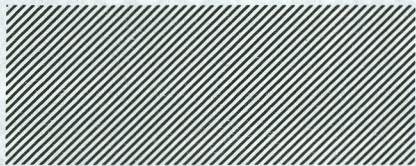
We are friends and spend time together regularly, but I'm still not sure what to do. What do you think? I am afraid to talk to her about this for fear of being rejected or arrested for sexual harassment. What should I do? Agnes, please help me!

**ATTRACTED, BUT DON'T
KNOW WHAT TO DO
SAN ANTONIO, TX**

Dear Attracted,

If I read and interpret your letter correctly, you should just relax. If you have a friendship established, your lifestyle is bound to come up sooner or later. And even if it doesn't, you're bound to get a better idea of her feelings in this area as time goes by.

There is really no big rush. If this woman is flirting with you, she isn't going to just stop. Hang back and let her make the first move.



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Dear Agnes,
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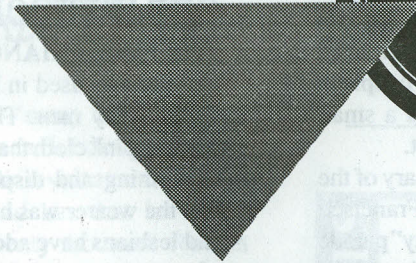
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♀ **GAY** ♂
STUFF

June 27, 1969



It's June — a time of celebration for lesbians and gay men the world over. Parades, picnics and rallies will be held in cities large and small during the last week of this month. In honor of this annual celebration of pride, this article will give you some basic information every lesbian and gay man should know. Included is a short history of the gay movement, and the meaning and origin of the symbols we use and the names we call ourselves.



HISTORICAL DATA

Although a serious gay-rights movement began in the late 1800s in Berlin, it died a very painful death with the beginning of the Nazi movement. The groundwork for the modern gay movement was laid in California in the mid-fifties. West Coast One, Inc., and The Mattachine Society were the first organizations for gay men. The Daughter's of Bilitis, an organization for lesbians quickly followed.

The 1960s saw a growing number of organizations and "out" gay activists. Then, on Friday, June 27, 1969, the gay rights movement erupted. The Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in Greenwich Village in New York City, was raided by police that night, and the patrons decided to fight back. The fight moved into the street where other gay people in the area joined in and turned a small protest into a full-fledged riot.

To celebrate the first anniversary of the Stonewall Riot, gays in San Francisco held the first "Gay Freedom Day" parade in June, 1970. In 1972, the American Psychiatric Association removed homosexuality from their list of mental disorders. California decriminalized homosexuality in 1975. Harvey Milk became the first openly gay person to hold elected office when he became a supervisor for the city of San Francisco in 1977. He was fatally shot by ex-supervisor Dan White in 1978.

In the early 1980s the first cases of AIDS were diagnosed in gay men and the gay community was forever changed. In addition to the death and devastation from the disease itself, fear of the disease led to an increase in anti-gay violence. The Supreme Court ruled that states had the right to make sodomy

a crime. Despite all this, the gay movement continued to gain momentum. The AIDS Quilt, National Coming Out Day, The Gay Games and the first big March on Washington are just a few of the "firsts" in the gay community in the 80s.

The nineties are halfway over and the gay community has seen some major victories and more than a few setbacks. Increased visibility and activism has brought a corresponding increase in hate crimes and right-wing resistance. The passage of Amendment 2 in Colorado angered and frightened us. The pending approval of same-sex marriage in Hawaii gives us hope.

GAY SYMBOLS

THE PINK TRIANGLE — The pink triangle was used in Nazi Germany to identify gay men. The triangle was a piece of pink cloth that had to be affixed to clothing and displayed to indicate that the wearer was homosexual. Gays and lesbians have adopted this symbol of oppression and death and turned it into a symbol of pride.

LAMBDA — The lambda is the Greek letter "L" for liberation. Originally it was the pictographic symbol for the scales of justice. In time, it began to represent the concept of balance. Spartan Soldiers painted the lambda on their battle shields as a symbol of their unity, and a representation of the delicate balance they believed must exist between the demands of the state and the freedom of the individual. Romans borrowed the lambda from the Greeks, using it as a symbol for "lampas," the Roman word for torch. In 1970, without knowing of the historical significance

of the letter, the Gay Activists Alliance of New York designated the orange lambda on a blue field as a symbol of gay liberation. In December, 1974, the lambda was adopted as the international symbol for gay and lesbian rights by the International Gay Rights Congress meeting in Edinburgh, Scotland.

(Thanks to Lambda Rising Bookstore in Washington D.C. for this information)

LAVENDER (the color) — Purple has many links with same-sex love. Greek mythology, the poetry of Sappho, Native American lore and even a West African religion give purple a significant relationship with homosexuals.

GAY WORDS & THEIR ORIGINS

BULLDYKE — many think this term comes from Queen Boudica (boo-dike-a) who led a Celtic revolt against Roman invaders. Legend has that her army killed over seventy-thousand Roman soldiers before losing the battle. It may also come from Dike (justice), the name of a goddess in Greek mythology whose female companion was Aletheia (truth).

FAIRY - from the brown-skinned people of ancient Europe and the British Isles.

FAG or FAGGOT — from the sacred firestick of ancient gay wizards which was made from a branch of the *fagus* (beech) tree.

GAY - From the Gaia, the earth goddess.

LESBIAN - from the Isle of Lesbos in Greece, home of the poet Sappho.

FYI

The gay and lesbian community is shrinking! The formerly accepted figure of gays constituting 10 percent of the population is being whittled away. In recent years, "scientific" studies have come up with figures of 5, 3 and even 1 percent. If the Far Right had its way, we would, both literally and figuratively, disappear — never to be seen or heard from again.

This is where you come in. Get out and march in the Pride Parade in your area. Come out to someone who doesn't know you are gay. Buy from gay owned business whenever possible. Give financially to the Gay Rights organization of your choice. Show that you are proud of who you are.



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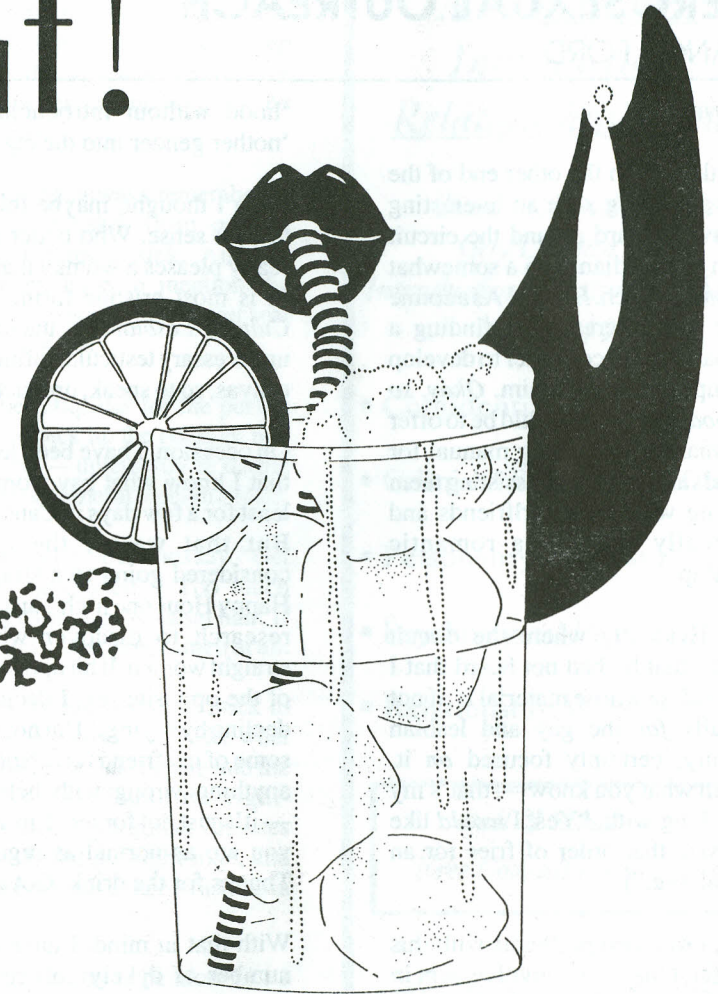
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WHAT A WORLD, WHAT A WORLD HETEROSEXUAL OUTREACH

BY NANCY FORD

R-r-r-ring!

The gentleman on the other end of the phone was calling with an interesting offer, having heard around the circuit that I am a comedian with a somewhat irreverent approach. *Hmmm.* As a comic actor he was interested in finding a female partner and co-writer to develop a stand-up routine with him. *Okay, so far so good.* The focus would be to offer a performance-art training manual for boyfriends and husbands, assisting them in learning what their girlfriends and wives really want in a romantic relationship.

Oopsie! Evidently where the circuit broke was that he had not heard that I am a comedian whose material is, if not specifically for the gay and lesbian community, certainly focused on it. Stick with what you know — that's my motto; (along with, "Yes, I would like to supersize that order of fries for an additional 39¢.")

Initially, I saw two problems with this guy's offer. One — my involvement in this sort of show might imply that I was encouraging and promoting heterosexuality — a "No, I'm not a straight woman, but I play one on stage," kind of thing. You know me better. Secondly, why should I share trade secrets that have taken years of trial and error to accumulate with straight men? Haven't we got enough romantic competition from our own sisters in the

'hood without introducing a whole 'nother gender into the equation?

Then I thought, maybe this all makes perfect sense. Who better to ask what really pleases a woman than a lesbian? In its most pristine form, a collective *Cultura Lesbiana* is uncluttered with unnecessary testicular influence. Virgin canvas, so to speak, untouched by the...

On occasion, I have been led to believe that I know what gay women want, at least for a few days in Cancun at a time. But that wasn't the question. I considered going to a straight bar for Happy Hour one night, just to do a little research to discover what pleases straight women. If hit upon by a member of the opposite sex, I decided I would decline by saying, "I'm not straight, but some of my friends are. Not that there's anything wrong with heterosexuality — it's just not for me. I'm sure some of you are as normal as regular people. Thanks for the drink. Got a sister?"

With that in mind, I have consulted a number of dykely cohorts who offer these tips to our straight male friends to achieve more success in the relationship department. Consider it an outreach program to the het community.

— First and foremost, never send a straight man to do a lesbian's job.

— Don't suck your teeth, pick your nose, or clean your ears with your salad

fork. In public or in private.

— Clean your career, whatever it may be, out from under your fingernails before a romantic interlude. This is especially important if your profession involves automotive work, cleaning up chemical spills, asbestos removal, or slicing jalapenos. Remember — no GOOP, no girl.

— After shaving, always remember to remove your whisker from on and around the bathroom sink. And we shouldn't even have to mention the consequences of leaving the toilet seat up. That's old news.

— It's proper etiquette for the person who drives to pick up the condom tab, at least at first — unless you're dating former Surgeon General Jocelyn Elders.

— As one of my lesbian friends say, "Get rid of that 'man smell'." Too much testosterone disintegrates nasal hair. If you can't smell good, don't smell at all.

— Don't try to date lesbians. Stick to women who like, well... who like what you have to offer. Resist falling into the "You-just-haven't-found-the-right-man,-little-darlin'" syndrome. Chances are we *have* found the right man, and she almost never leaves her whiskers in the sink.

— In general, just try to be more like a woman.



Nancy Ford performs her popular musical comedy improv show each Thursday night, 8:30pm at Ms. B's at Plaza 9200, 9200 Buffalo Speedway in Houston. Call (713) 666-3464 for information and reservation.

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THIS MONTH, TASHA SUMNER INTRODUCES:

Cabin Fever

by **Carol Schmidt**

There Will Be No Goodbyes

by **Laura Dehart Young**

We'll start this month with **Cabin Fever** by Carol Schmidt. This is the third in the Laney Samms mystery series, and the most timely and frightening novel I've ever read.

I got this book on April 17th and read it the same day — two days before the Oklahoma City bombing. You'll understand the significance of this as I tell you a little about the book.

Laney Samms is a bar owner and the right-hand woman to music maven Kitt Meyers. She narrowly escapes with her life when a car bomb explodes in Kitt's sports car.

While the police are working on the

bombing case, Laney travels to Michigan's Upper Peninsula to help Tess, a new client, turn a former hunting camp into a lesbian music and arts center. Although most of the people in the nearby town are accepting of their new neighbors, it soon becomes apparent that someone is bent on driving them out. After a series of suspicious accidents, Laney finally meets the man who lives on the neighboring land. Although he is very nice to her, Laney is suspicious. What happens next is where Oklahoma City comes to mind. Although I'm not going to tell you the rest, suffice to say it involves white-supremacists, neo-

nazis, the Michigan Militia and a plan to bomb a major building. It also includes some interesting information (with documentation) about Henry Ford and how he figures into the background of the groups listed above.

Even without the coincidental link to current event, **Cabin Fever** is an excellent novel. Ms. Schmidt's writing and background research are impeccable. Her characters are riddled with personality quirks and fault which makes them totally believable. I did think the plot was scary and more than a touch unrealistic on the first reading, but events in the news a mere two days later showed just how real the plot could become.

Next we'll look at **There Will Be No Goodbyes** by Laura Dehart Young. Liz (Buddie) Callow is a radio news reporter in Washington, D.C.. When she goes to cover an AIDS funding protest, she interviews Kate McGowan and eventually becomes involved with her. In the meantime, Buddie is also staying with and caring for her best friend Chris. Chris is dying of a rare heart condition while trying to continue her career as an artist and get over her recent affair with a married man.

As Buddie copes with all this, she discovers that Kate is coping with serious problems of her own. Kate's father has committed an unpardonable sin against his daughter. Her brother died in a boating accident in which Kate was involved. And, women from her past keep popping up at the most inopportune times.

Although this book was an easy read, it is ultimately forgettable. The characters are well-drawn, but there is little or no plot — only a rambling narrative

following Buddie's life and the lives of those around her. Ms. Young has great promise, she just tries to cover too much territory in too short a space.

In my synopsis, I left out quite a bit. In addition to all the problems of Kate and Chris, Buddy must also deal with a huge barn fire, an unaccepting mother, a homophobic colleague, an assault on the street, etc., etc....

Both **Cabin Fever** and **There Will Be No Goodbyes** are available at your local bookstore or by mail for \$10.95 from Naiad Press, Inc., P.O. Box 10543, Tallahassee, FL 32302. Please include 15% postage and handling. Complete catalogs are available upon request.



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yours.

- Kellie L. Gibbs
Lakewood, Colorado

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QUIZ

ARE YOU A SLOB?



I once had a roommate who would allow no more than two cigarette butts to accumulate in an ashtray before emptying and washing it. I've also had roommates who thought scrubbing a toilet was a job that should be done on at least an annual basis. Where do you fall on the slob-neat freak scale? Answer the following questions to find out.

1. You do dishes or run the dishwasher:
 - a. after every meal.
 - b. once a day.
 - c. when you run out of clean dishes.
2. The term "spring cleaning" means to you:
 - a. The house is completely clean and

organized from the baseboards to the attic.

- b. cleaning out closets and drawers.
 - c. dusting and vacuuming.
3. On average, you clean the top of the refrigerator:
 - a. once a week.
 - b. every month or two.
 - c. when the dust bunnies start falling on your head every time you open the freezer door.
 4. Your idea of a clean closet is:
 - a. clothing arranged alphabetically by color and shoes stacked in labeled boxes.
 - b. clothing hung neatly and shoes arranged by pairs.

c. clothes on the hangers instead of in the floor and shoes in the closet instead of all over the house.

5. The floorboard of your car is used for:

- a. floor mats and feet.
- b. carrying groceries.
- c. a trash can.

6. You clean your cat's litter box:

- a. everyday.
- b. every two or three days.
- c. when he starts going to the bathroom in the plants.

7. On average, you wear your clothes ___ time(s) between cleanings.

- a. one.
- b. one to four, depending on the clothes and the activity performed in them.
- c. until you get a big stain on them or they can stand up by themselves — whichever comes first.

8. You change the sheets on your bed:

- a. every three days.
- b. once a week.
- c. when they get stiff or gritty.

Scoring

Give yourself points as follows:

2 points for each "A" answer.

4 points for each "B" answer.

6 points for each "C" answer.

If you scored: 16-26 points

Howard Hughes had nothing on you. You are obsessively clean. Neither dirt nor germs nor sloppy friends are well tolerated in your home. Loosen up! Not only will you save time, you will also save energy and water by only running the dishwasher once a day and wearing clothes more than once before you ship them off to the cleaners.

27-38 points

You like your environment clean, but you aren't obsessive about it. You know there is a difference between messy and dirty. Although your bed may not be made every morning, you do change the sheets on a regular basis. You may feel like you a slob sometimes, but it is usually only a temporary condition.

39-48 points

Yes, you are a slob. Friends cringe when they enter your home. A cleaning service would be a good option for you — although they might charge a little extra, it would be a good investment.



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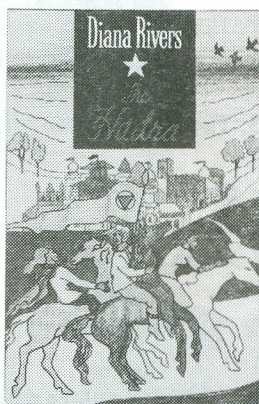
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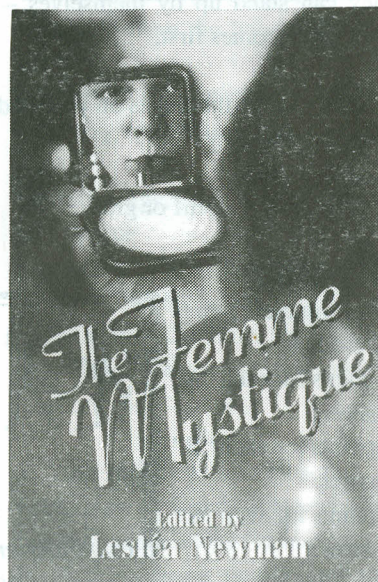
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HOROSCOPE

WHAT'S IN THE STARS FOR YOU THIS MONTH?

ARIES

Love and romance will be the focus during the first part of June. Handle partners with care and face up to problems quickly. After the 9th you will have time to focus on your financial future. Be sure to understand all aspects of an investment before you write a check. You will be dreaming about a long awaited vacation after the 17th. Get out the maps and start planning. A confrontation on the job could be brewing toward month's end.

TAURUS

June will start off on a slow note. No matter what you are doing, there may be many delays, postponements and cancellations. Misunderstandings will also put a damper on relationships. Your career is picking up steam after the 15th and you may find your income increasing through unconventional channels. You could be asked to make a personal sacrifice for love toward month's end.

GEMINI

You may be feeling romantic towards a good friend during the first part of June. Involving sex in this relationship will only bring heartache to you both. Your career will be the focal point after the 14th. This is a good time to ask for a raise or promotion. Use diplomacy in your dealings with family and co-workers toward month's end. Be careful not to insist on having a loved one's attention all the time.

CANCER

Go with the flow and let change happen during the first part of June. Holding on to the past will only make you feel isolated. You may be feeling some tension between

yourself and co-workers after the 10th. After the 15th, you could be feeling dissatisfied about the physical side of your love relationship. Talking about it will help, but improvement will come slowly. Avoid a confrontation with your boss toward month's end.

LEO

A co-worker could make romantic overtures during the first part of June. Try to defuse the situation by keeping to yourself. Your past could come back to haunt you after the 12th — don't worry, it'll blow over. Try to avoid choosing sides in an argument between family members or friends around the 18th. Changes and improvements are on the way in romance, career and financial matters toward month's end.

VIRGO

You may have a hard time taking criticism from a loved one during the first part of June. Get out of the house for awhile and do something fun, you'll feel better. You might be wishing for a vacation that just isn't possible after the 15th. Be cautious about a new romance toward month's end. Although it is fun right now, it may not be what you want for the long haul.

LIBRA

You're feeling better about your private life during the first part of June. Your career is also on an upswing and you are feeling ambitious. Business and financial transactions are the focus after the 12th. With a little work, you can increase your income as well as your savings and investments. A dream that you have had for quiet some time now could come true toward month's end.

SCORPIO

Don't rush any major decisions at work or in love during the first week of June. Try to see things realistically and don't expect solutions to difficult problems to come quickly. Romance, drama and adventure are all in store for you after the 12th. Your social calendar is full and all kinds of interesting situations can come up. Be prepared to have fun. Use your head and not your emotions to solve problems in romance toward month's end.

SAGITTARIUS

A good ear and an open mind are all you need to repair a broken relationship during the first part of June. After the 15th you will have a chance to further your career — don't miss the opportunity. Follow your gut feelings when it comes to investments and spending around the 19th. Use your charm and charisma to advance career goals and settle romantic differences toward month's end.

CAPRICORN

Although you may be feeling the urge to kick up your heels during the first part of June, you'll have to fight it and keep your nose to the grindstone until later in the month. Try not to take sides in the disputes of friends after the 14th. Try also to avoid confrontations with loved ones — cooperation is a much better alternative. Avoid making major purchases toward month's end. You could come to regret any decision made now.

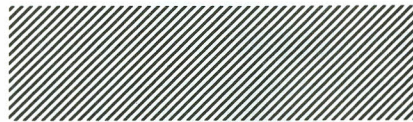
AQUARIUS

The first part of June may be a difficult one for relationships. Examine your feelings and motives closely and try not to jump to conclusions. Your job may be very trying and stressful around the 15th. Keep your chin up. Things should get back to a more normal state around the 20th. Look for

smooth sailing toward month's end! Romance and social activities will be the center of your attentions. Enjoy yourself.

PISCES

Romance is front and center during the first part of June. A positive attitude will help settle any uncertainties you have been feeling. Gossip could hurt your relationships around the 17th — be up front and honest about your feelings and you should come out alright. Exercise caution in friendship, romance, and money toward month's end. Keep a close eye on your financial situation and don't loan money.



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LIL (Lesbian Info Line) • 521-5342 ext. 298
SPROUTS (coming out group) • 521-5342 ext. 256
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The New Vision (newspaper) • 521-5342 ext. 255
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EL PASO, TX (area code 915)

organizations

Lambda Services • PO Box 31321 79931-0321 • 24 hour line 562-GAYS
MCC El Paso • 916 Yandell • 542-1227
P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • Spanish & English • 591-4664

FT. WORTH (area code 817)

organizations

Agape MCC • 4615 SE Loop 820 • 535-5002
Affirmation (Methodist) • 478-7837
Imperial Court de Fort Worth/Arlington • 870-1555 or 535-7188
Lesbian/Gay Political Coalition of Tarrant County • 263-9006 or 860-0326
P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 498-5607/498-4855
RESPECT • 828 Hardwood Rd. • Hurst, TX 76054
Tarrant County L/G Alliance • 3327 Winthrop, Suite 243 76116 • 763-5544

**HOUSTON, TX (area code 713)
businesses**

Inklings Bookshop • 1846 Richmond • 521-3369
Alternative Visions • 526-8223

clubs

Ranch • 9218 Buffalo Spdwy. • 666-3464
Ms. Bs • 9208 Buffalo Spdwy. • 666-3356
XTC • 9212 Buffalo Spdwy. • 666-3356

organizations

AIDS Foundation • 3927 Essex Lane • 623-6796
AIDS HOTLINE • c/o Switchboard • 529-3211
Gay/Lesbian Students University of Houston • 4800 Calhoun • 529-3211
Gay/Lesbian Switchboard • PO Box 66591 77266 • 529-3211
Houston Gay & Lesbian Parents • 980-7995
Houston Gay Political Caucus • P.O. Box 66664 77266 • 521-1000
Integrity • P.O. Box 66008 77266-6008 • 432-0414
Kingdom Community Church • 614 E. 19th • 862-7533
Lambda ALANON • 1214 Joanne • 521-9772
Lesbian/Gay Students-Univ. Houston Clear Lake • 2700 Bay Area 77058
LTN Houston • Lesbian Teacher Network
PO Box 1835 • Bellaire, TX 77402 • 529-3211
Metropolitan Community Church Of The Resurrection
1919 Decatur • 861-9149
Montrose Counseling Center • 900 Lovett #203 77006 • 529-0037
Montrose Pool League/Billiards • P.J. 863-8482
The Movie Club • 867-9454
P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 867-9020
PWA Coalition - Houston • 1475 W. Gray #163 • 522-5428
SORA (Sex or Relationship Addicts Anonymous) lesbian group • 523-9398
The Women's Group • 529-5871
Womynspace • P.O. Box 980601 77098-0601
Women's Softball League • 6431 Pineshade • 868-6256

LUBBOCK, TX (area code 806)

organizations

Lubbock Lesbian/Gay Alliance & Wild Wilde West Prod.
P.O. Box 64746 79464 • 791-4499
Community Outreach Center & Outreach AA (Tues. & Thurs. @ 8pm) • 102
N. Ave. S • 762-1019
MCC Lubbock • 5502 34th St. • 792-5562
P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 799-8529
South Plains AIDS Resource Center (SPARC)
4204-B 50th St. 79413 • 1-800-627-7079 • 796-7068

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Affirmation: United Methodists for Lesbian/Gay Concerns
PO Box 1021 • Evanston, IL 60204
AIDS Action Council • 729 Eighth St. S.E. Suite 200
Washington, DC 20003 • (202) 547-3101
AIDS 800 • 1-800-221-7044
Conference For Catholic Lesbians
PO Box 436, Planetarium Station • New York, NY 10024
GLAAD/USA • 80 Varick St. #3E • NY, NY 10013
Hate Crime Line • 1-800-347-HATE
Gay & Lesbian Parents Coalition International (GLPCI)
PO Box 50360, Washington, DC 20091 • (202) 583-8029
Lesbian Mothers' National Defense Fund
PO Box 21567 • Seattle, WA 98111 • (206) 325-2643
Lesbian Teachers Network (LTN)
PO Box 638 • Solon, IA 52333
National Gay Alliance for Young Adults, Inc.
PO Box 190426 • Dallas, TX 75219 • (214) 307-7203
National Gay/Lesbian Clearinghouse
666 Broadway 4th Floor • NY, NY 10012
National Gay/Lesbian Task Force
1517 U Street NW • Washington D.C. 20009 • 202-332-6483
Parents & Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-Flag) • 1-800-4-FAMILY
The Fund for Human Dignity
666 Broadway 4th Floor • NY, NY 10012

**NEW ORLEANS, LA (area code 504)
club & accommodations**

Charlene's • 940 Elysian Fields • 945-9328

**OKLAHOMA CITY, OK (area code 405)
organizations**

Oasis the Community Center
2135 NW 39th 73112 • 525-AIDS
Herland Sister Resources, Inc.
2312 NW 39th 73112 • 521-9696

**SAN ANGELO, TX (area code 915)
organizations**

P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 944-4323
Concho Valley Gay/Lesbian Alliance
P.O. Box 750 76902 • 653-2956

**SAN ANTONIO, TX (area code 210)
businesses**

Affirming Solutions • 1802 NE Loop 410, Ste. 102 • 828-6486
clubs

Bonham Exchange • 411 Bonham • 224-9219
Nexus San Antonio • 8021 Pinebrook • 341-2818

organizations

Deaf Rainbow • 804-1904 TTY
Dignity/San Antonio • 202 N. St. Mary's • 349-3632
Integrity/San Antonio
PO Box 150006 78212 • 684-4920
P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 822-4135
River City Living Metropolitan Community Church
202 Holland 78212 • 822-1121
Lambda Students Center • 1140 W. Woodlawn Ave.
LISA (Lesbian Information SA) • 828-LISA (5472)
SALGA - San Antonio Lesbian/Gay Assembly • 733-7300
SALSA - San Antonio Lambda Students Alliance
PO Box 12715 78212 • SALSA Line 736-4329
San Antonio AIDS Foundation
PO Box 120113 78212-9313
San Antonio Tavern Guild • 822-2823

SHERMAN, TX (area code 903)

organizations

AIDS Resource Center of Texhoma • 813-1272 or 800-525-6381
Alliance for Life • PO Box 1695 75091 • 892-9049
HIV/AIDS Services • PO Box 1695 75091 • 463-7258

WACO, TX (area code 817)

organizations

P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 750-7211

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PERSONAL AD OF THE MONTH

Dallas - OUTDOOR FUN : 24, female, brown hair/eyes, 5'7", 120 lbs. Enjoy photography, outdoors. Seek other females for some great fun; maybe more *mb 45889*



Corpus Christi - BICURIOS : 23, black female, attractive. Seeking other black or hisp. curious females under 27 for dating & fun times. *mb 46236*

Dallas - MOVIE JUNKIE : Female & movie junkie. Love to dance & hug. Enjoy the arts & reading books. *mb 47050*

Dallas - YOUNG LOOKING FOR FUN : Sheryl, 19, bi-female, light smoker/drinker, brown hair/eyes, 5'3", 120-30 lbs. Looking for dating fun. *mb 47022*

Arlington - 22 & NON-SMOKER : SWF, 22, non-smoker & non-smoker/drinker. Seek other non-smoking females 22-35 for fun times. *mb 46982*

Fort Worth - GRAD STUDENT : Grad student, 22, attractive. Not into bar or club life/scene. Seeking other girls for fun. *mb 46778*

Dallas - FANTASY FUN : 28, 5'6", 130 lbs., bi-curious female. Seeking white females interested in fantasies. *mb 816328*

Dallas - KIM; STUDENT : 5'10", female, 135-40 lbs. Seeking other females. Any race/color. *mb 45814*

Houston - LET'S GO FISHING : 33, 5'8", blue eyed female. Love horseback riding, fishing, skiing, & more. Seek female with same interests. *mb 46676*

Albuquerque, NM - FRIENDSHIP OR MORE : 5'5", 135 lbs., SWF, blonde hair, green eyes, attractive. Looking for someone to be friends with, have a good time with, or a relationship. *mb 46287*

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C.R. AND RUSTY



COME SEE
US! S&J
J&I

PEPPER & SNOOKUMS
SAY:

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MOM!

To: SK (FROM ME TOO!)

CHERYL - HAPPY BIRTHDAY & HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!
ONLY FIVE YEARS AGO I WAS MISERABLE.
THEN YOU CAME INTO MY LIFE... NOW
I'M HAPPIER THAN I'VE EVER BEEN.
HERE'S TO ANOTHER 50 YEARS
BEING HAPPY WITH YOU... XOXOXO SARAH

Janet, you are the only one. I love you
so much it hurts. Thanks for being
in my life. Love & kisses ~ JRM

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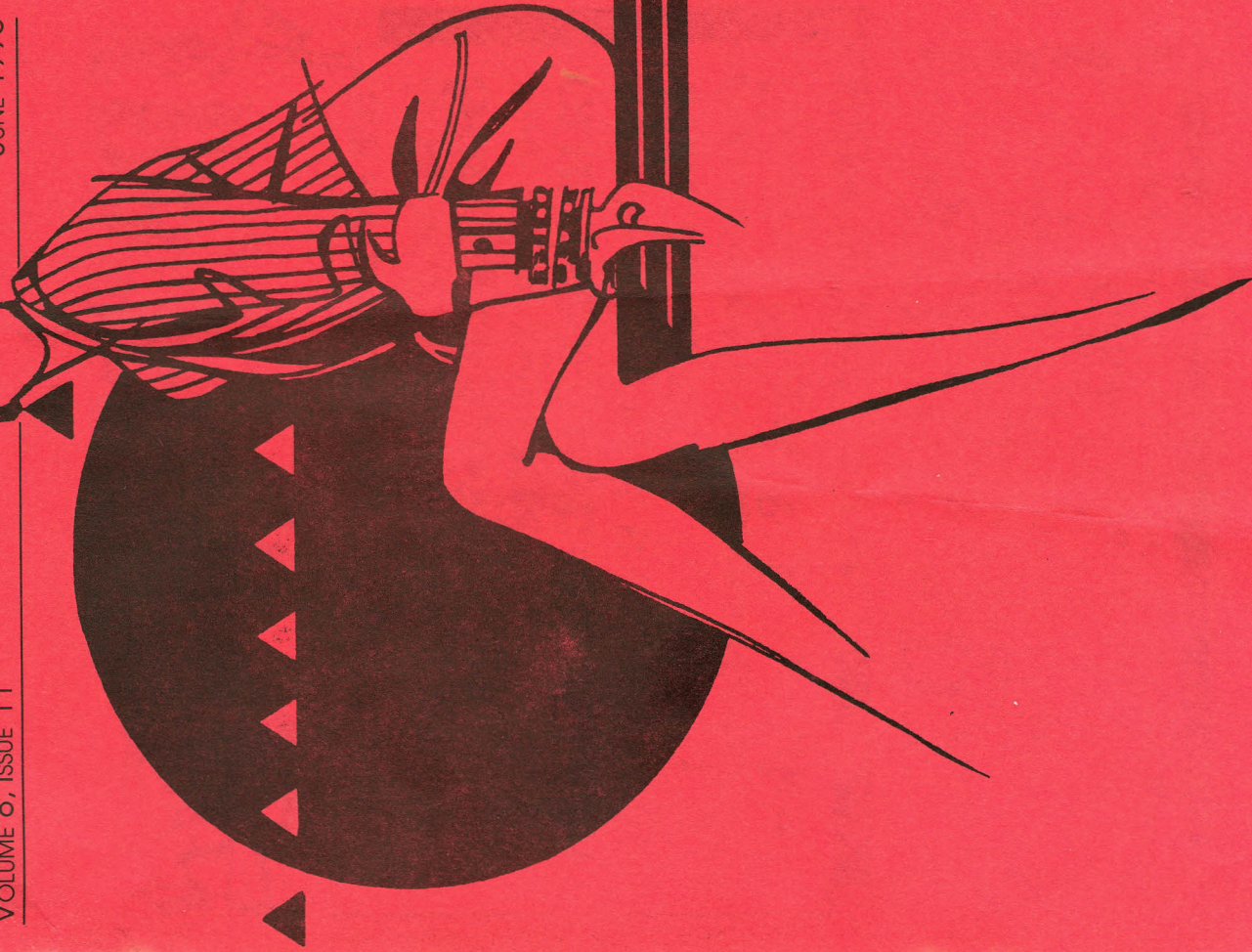
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