

A COMMUNITY SERVICE OF TARRANT COUNTY LESBIAN/GAY ALLIANCE

NOVEMBER 1994

Volume 14, Issue 11

# Alliance News



**BIRDS OF A FEATHER:** Freedom Tour activists flush out squawking flock of East Texas Bubbas. *See p. 14.*

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# Alliance News

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# VOTING GUIDE

General election voting is from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 8, at the precinct in which you are registered. If you have moved within the past year, you may still vote in the precinct where you previously resided. Check your voter registration card for precinct, consult the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* or *Dallas Morning News* for your voting site, or call your party's headquarters for voting information.

To vote, you will need your yellow voter registration card or other identification: a valid driver's license, a DPS identification card or a receipt from a deputy voter registrar.

The following candidates have shown support for protecting the rights of lesbians and gays, either by responding in favor of such legislation on the Tarrant County Lesbian/Gay Alliance candidate survey, by addressing the Lesbian/Gay Political Coalition-Tarrant County membership, or by obtaining endorsements from the Lesbian/Gay Political Coalition of Dallas.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** Election regulations prohibit voters from carrying printed election guides into the polls. Notes that you prepare yourself, however, are allowed. Make a list of your candidates of choice to carry with you to decrease time spent in the voting booth.

**The following candidates would support legislation to protect gays and lesbians from discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations.**

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, DISTRICT 6: Terry Jesmore (D)  
LAND COMMISSIONER: Garry Mauro (D)

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER: Marvin Gregory (D)

RAILROAD COMMISSIONER: Mary Scott Nabors (D) Unexpired term.

**The following judicial candidates believe in equal protection under the law for all citizens of Tarrant County, regardless of their sexual orientation.**

JUSTICE, SUPREME COURT, PLACE 3: Jimmy Carroll (D)

CHIEF JUSTICE, COURT OF APPEALS, 2ND DISTRICT: John Hill (D)

JUDGE, COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 6: Mary Ellen Whitlock Hicks (D)

JUDGE, COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 7: Sidney Farrar (D)

SECOND COURT OF APPEALS: David F. Farris (D)

DISTRICT JUDGE, 236TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT: Jo Ann Reyes (D)

COUNTY JUVENILE COURT, 323RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT: Robert Cortez (D)

DISTRICT JUDGE, 371ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT: Bill Burdock (D)

DISTRICT JUDGE, 372ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT: Renee Harris (D)

CIVIL DISTRICT JUDGE, 141ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT: Catherine Adamski Gant (D)

JUDGE, TARRANT COUNTY CRIMINAL COURT OF APPEALS: Mamie Bush Johnson (D)

JUDGE, COUNTY CRIMINAL COURT 1: Sherry Hill (R)

JUDGE, COUNTY CRIMINAL COURT 2: Sylvia R. Andrews (D)

JUDGE, COUNTY CRIMINAL COURT 10: Pete Gilfeather (D)

JUDGE, CRIMINAL DISTRICT COURT 1: Kimberly Kaufman (D)

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 1: Harold Gant (D)

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 4: Harold Bourne (R)

**The following candidates addressed the membership of the Lesbian/Gay Political Coalition-Tarrant County.**

TERRY JESMORE (D), for U.S. Representative, Dist. 6: Represented by wife, Marla, who said Jesmore is a constitutionalist, believing in the right to choose the way one lives one's life. She said he probably would consider sponsoring the Employment Non-Discrimination Act to protect lesbians and gays on the job, if he agreed with the wording. In speaking of Jesmore's opponent, she said, "We want to expose Joe Barton for the bigot that he is."

JOHN HILL (D), for Chief Justice, Court of Appeals, 2nd Dist.: Bar survey rated him 5th among all judges for fairness and impartiality and he tied for first on judicial temperament, which, he explained, was "being nice to people regardless of who they are." He said he has friends and relatives who are gay and that he knows them to be "good and honorable."

MARY ELLEN HICKS (D), Judge, Court of Appeals, Place 6: Representative said she speaks to human rights, recognizes people for humanness and inherit worth. Appointed by Ann Richards to Court of Appeals.

RENEE HARRIS (D), District Judge, 372nd Judicial District: Representative said she is loyal, a person of conviction, and she recognizes people for humanness and inherit worth. Served as chief gang prosecutor in DA's office.

HAROLD BOURNE (R), Justice of the Peace, Precinct 4: Said he was a good decision maker, good listener and fair. "I believe life is too short to

discriminate and hate. I want to do what I can to help."

RUBY WOOLRIDGE (D), District Clerk: Has worked in FWISD in counseling; founder of educational foundation in Arlington. Says best skills are in people management, mediation. Established sensitivity training programs in Arlington, would open doors to sensitivity training on sexual orientation in office.

**The following candidates are endorsed by the Lesbian/Gay Political Coalition of Dallas.**

•Governor, Ann Richards (D)  
•U.S. Senate, Richard Fisher (D)  
•Land Commissioner, Garry Mauro (D)

•Agriculture Commissioner, Marvin Gregory (D)

•Railroad Commissioner, Mary Scott Nabors (D)

•Supreme Court, Place 2, Alice Oliver Parrot (D); Place 3, Jimmy Carroll (D)

•Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 2, Betty Marshall (D)

•U.S. House of Representatives, District 30, Eddie Bernice Johnson (D) or Lucy Cain (R)

•Texas Senate, 2nd District, David Cain (D)

•Texas House of Representatives, District 104, Roberto Alonzo (D); District 107, Harryette Ehrhardt (D)

•Civil Court of Appeals, Fifth District: Place 4, Charles McGarry (D); Place 6, Barbara Rosenberg (D)

•State District Courts: 101st Civil District, Alan B. Rich (D); 204th Criminal District, Lena Levario (D); 298th Criminal District, Hal Marshall (D); 303rd Family District, Paula Larson (D); 305th Family District, Darlene Ewing (D)

•Dallas County Judge, Lori Palmer (D)

•Justice of the Peace, Precinct 6, Place 1, Diana Orozco (D); Precinct 6, Place 2, Juan Jasso (D)

•Constable, Precinct 2, Paul Gaumond (D)

## GEREN OPPOSES LESBIAN/GAY PROTECTION BILL

David Reed, a member of the TCLGA board of Directors, wrote to Congressman Pete Geren (D) to urge him to support ENDA, a bill that would protect gays and lesbians from job discrimination.

Geren's response:

"Thank you for contacting me regarding H.R. 4636, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act of

1994. I appreciate your input on this important issue.

"I oppose legislation granting special privileges on the basis of sexual preference. H.R. 4636 has been referred to the House Education and Labor Subcommittee on Select Education and Civil Rights. This legislation would prohibit employment discrimi-

nation on the basis of sexual orientation.

"I have shared your comments with my colleagues on this subcommittee and will work to defeat this misguided legislation.

"Again, I appreciate your views and your input. I hope you will continue to contact me regarding matters of concern to you."

## THE ALLIANCE NEWS

is published monthly and distributed to community-based organizations and businesses throughout the county.

Viewpoints expressed herein are not official views of TCLGA unless explicitly stated. Inclusion of any name or photograph is not a representation of sexual orientation.

We welcome submissions of materials relevant to the lesbian/gay culture, including illustrations, photography, columns, features, short stories, poetry, reviews, etc. We reserve the right to enforce our own judgments regarding the suitability of advertising copy and submitted materials. We cannot return manuscripts unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Copy and advertising deadlines are the 15th of each month for the next month's issue.

# GOOD NEWS/BAD NEWS

*The Fort Worth Police Department wants to do right by us. It just needs to be nudged a bit.*

By **BEVERLY FLETCHER**

**T**here's good news and bad news on police protection for the lesbian/gay community.

**The good news:** top officials of the Fort Worth Police Department are committed to improving the officers' understanding of lesbian/gay vulnerabilities to hate crimes, domestic violence and the barriers in reporting crimes against them.

"Since 1986 we have become much more aware of the issues affecting you as a community," Deputy Chief Mike Culpepper said when he addressed the October Alliance meeting.

Police Chief Thomas Windham initiated several programs two years ago after dialog with the Alliance membership: he incorporated sensitivity training on sexual orientation in the recruit academy curriculum; and he appointed a police liaison to the lesbian/gay community to improve communications.

**The bad news:** It appears that those programs have since fizzled into dormant seeds of good intentions.

That's bad news indeed with hate crimes against gays and lesbians on the increase - at least four murders of gay men this year across the state. Lesbians and gays on the police force report an oppressive, harassing environment among their peers that in some cases translates into apathetic treatment of the lesbian/gay public. Lesbian/gay officers say the positive views of top administration have not trickled down to the levels that count most: the officers serving the public directly and their supervisors.

One lesbian officer in the FWPD said she cannot risk being spotted at community events or locations because of the bigotry she has witnessed on the job. "I need to be able to rely on backup from my unit in tight situations," she said, and she senses she can't count on that if she is identified as a lesbian.

She has seen how evaluations and promotions have been adversely affected for some officers suspected of being lesbian or gay.

Two years ago Chief Windham told the Alliance that his department would have hired Mica England had she applied there rather than in Dallas. "She'd be walking a beat right now," he said then, "because we don't ask about sexual orientation."

How she might have been treated on the job is an entirely different set of projections. Lesbian/gay officers say the climate is chilling.

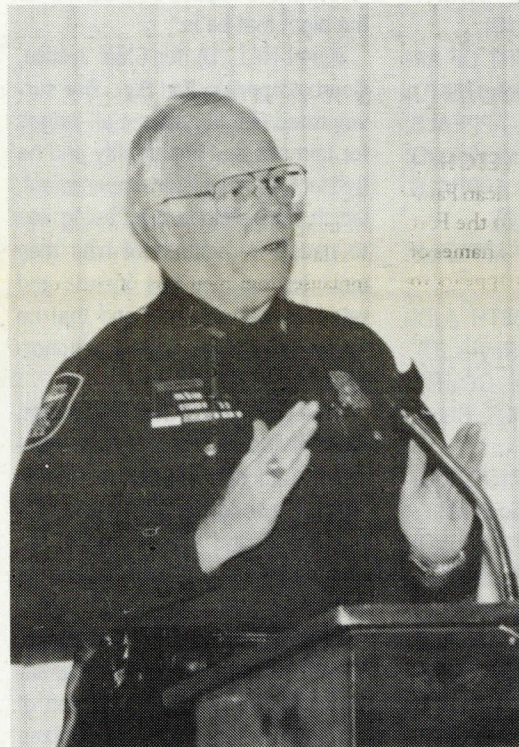
## TRAINING DERAILED

Sensitivity training for recruits when initiated two years ago held promise for correcting some persecuting attitudes among the force. It would not have a wide-sweeping, immediate effect, Chief Windham said then, because the biases of older, entrenched officers would remain relatively untouched.

But new recruits entering the force

would be supplied with accurate information to increase their awareness of sexual orientation issues and their impact on law enforcement. Those enlightened attitudes, Windham projected, would spread slowly but surely at the peer level.

Dr. Rita Cotterly, director of the Sexuality Education Center, provided instruction on sexual orientation issues at the academy that first year.



**DEPUTY CHIEF Mike Culpepper says biases against gays and lesbians are deeply ingrained at the police department, but he's committed to sensitizing officers throughout the system.**

She was then dismissed when the academy could not compensate her, according to curriculum coordinator Jesse Hernandez. Dr. Cotterly said she was told then that the Alliance would be enlisted to provide free awareness instruction; the Alliance was never contacted for those services.

Deputy Chief Culpepper said at the Alliance meeting that multicultural sensitivity training, sexual orientation issues included, is provided to captains, deputies and chiefs as part of weekly in-service programs, and that they then pass it on to their departments.

Captain Husberg who oversees in-service training said cultural diversity and constitutional issues are

"covered briefly," but that exposure to those issues is much more in-depth in the recruit training program.

A lesbian officer who recently completed the recruit program said sexual orientation issues never were mentioned in the courses.

**The good news:** Investigation into the status of sensitivity training drew an immediate invitation to the Alliance to participate in the program. At press time, Alliance representatives were scheduled to give a one-hour presentation to the current class of recruits.

## WEAKENED LINK

The police liaison position was intended to strengthen the connection between the police force and the lesbian/gay community, Deputy Chief Culpepper said. When he was appointed to the position, Lieutenant Joe Bellar attended several community events, distributed his business card freely and invited calls on any concern.

The current liaison, Lieutenant Lenard "Spider" Webb, said he has "no actual duties" in the position and

that he has not had much contact with the community, relying instead on the involvement of his Community Relations officer, Kathy Middleton.

Deputy Chief Culpepper told the Alliance membership that the liaison's responsibility is to learn information about lesbian/gay issues and pass it on to the department to use in its training programs.

But Webb says he has no real authority to impact the training department, that he can send ideas and jog awareness, but that training decisions are made at the chief and deputy chief levels.

His department has served at mediation for at least one complaint by a gay man who felt he was singled out for a field sobriety test because he was in Fort Worth's gay bar district. Webb said the department responded too to a rash of robberies in the bar district by increasing officer visibility there.

Webb agrees to the need for a liaison to our community to counter the influence of conservative campaigns, such as the American Family Association's proposal recently to pub-

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lish the names of public lewdness offenders.

"Invariably someone attempts to use law enforcement to legislate morality," he said. "I enforce the laws - that's all I do," he offered.

**The bad news:** Webb was not aware that the AFA proposal targeted gay activity in public parks.

**The good news:** Webb welcomed being added to the *Alliance News* mailing list to keep up on our issues; he offered his phone number (817/992-3400), encouraged calls and promised quick response.

"We're aware here that law enforcement is law enforcement - we don't see color, we don't see lifestyle preference," he said.

### A MUTE POINT

At the Alliance meeting, Thomas Bruner, AIDS Outreach Center executive director, commended Deputy

Chief Culpepper for his division's work on hate crimes. The *Austin American Statesman*, he said, had listed Fort Worth at the top of the list for number of hate crimes tracked. Bruner attributed the record to Fort Worth's more aggressive and better trained police force.

Culpepper agreed: "Hate crimes are a top priority for us." Since 1989 his department has investigated 192 cases involving hate crimes, 19 of those directed against gays and lesbians.

**The bad news:** The lesbian/gay public has not been assertive in identifying hate crimes against them. "Probably more than 19 occurred, but those were the only ones reported, and we couldn't make cases on all of them," Culpepper said.

Illustrating the point, several in the audience cited personal experiences - of being followed and harassed because of identifying stickers

on their cars, of witnessing inappropriate treatment by police officers - and admitted that they did not report the incidences.

"If you're followed, don't stop, don't go home," Culpepper advised. "Go to a police substation or a high traffic area, like a convenience store." He said it is important to report even minor incidences because his department uses those statistics - frequency of occurrence in particular areas, repeat offenders cataloged by description or license plate - to develop intelligence information and build a data base.

He assured that he assesses the maximum penalties for police officers involved in insensitive treatment. The punishment for an officer using the word faggot is 15 days of suspension with no pay, he said.

"You have to report these cases to us so we can take measures," Culpepper urged. *fa*

## BAD IDEA

*A conservative group gains embarrassingly little support for its campaign to humiliate public lewdness offenders*

By BEVERLY FLETCHER

The Tarrant County American Family Association's proposal to the Fort City Council to publish the names of public lewdness offenders appears to be dead in the water.

Technical factors alone prohibit enacting the policy: representatives of the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* have told several sources that the newspaper, for liability reasons, would not consider publishing the material in any form; and the Fort Worth Police Department cannot supply the names of persons arrested on those charges. According to Deputy Chief Mike Culpepper, names are deleted from police reports supplied to the public.

Police department officials question the AFA's campaign against a misdemeanor that Culpepper called a relatively minor infraction. "I'm not for printing the names," Culpepper said. "We don't print the names of killers and robbers - why would we do that for public lewdness offenders?"

Lieutenant Lenard Webb, police liaison to the lesbian/gay community, agrees with Culpepper: "I don't agree with those tactics. Public humiliation has never been used successfully as a law enforcement tool."

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When he spoke to the Alliance meeting in October, Culpepper's commitment to enforcing the public lewdness laws at city parks drew a round of applause from members of the audience who agreed with him that activity there is inappropriate.

Several city council members understand that the factors contributing to public lewdness are complex, according to community activist Thomas Bruner, who has spoken with three of them on the issue. He said they seem to understand what is at stake and that the AFA proposal is a "reactionary, overly simplified response."

Some city leaders think Councilman Chuck Silcox's support of the proposal was a maneuver to align with "family values," Bruner said, but

most of the council seems resolute that the proposal "is not the way to go."

Bruner thinks the council, having turned the issue over to the city attorney's office for study, will simply "hope that it goes away."

The Alliance is circulating petitions urging the council to publicly nix the proposal. Jim Martin, TCLGA vice president, explains, "By not actually doing anything directly, the council is maintaining that silence about lesbians and gays - that if they don't talk about it, we'll just go away." He said the silence on our issues is a method for oppressing us.

Martin said the council, by ducking the issue, appears to be afraid of the AFA. "One has to wonder - what are they afraid of?" he said. *fa*

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# A SEPARATE PEACE

*The dominant culture says minorities are discriminating when they meet exclusively. That attitude is part of the problem, not the solution.*

By **CHINWE ODELUGA**

We are all at different points in our cultural and racial development. I'm not okay with myself; you're not okay with yourself, but that's okay. Hopefully, we are affirming ourselves, seeking affirmation or affirming others.

America is promoting cultural diversity, if not in attitudes, at least in business with wider markets now acknowledged: Kente cloth napkins can be bought as easily as Medicine Bag replicas. Supposedly, anyone who isn't a white, male, heterosexual, 40-year-old Protestant is no longer bad news.

Yet, the past programming generated a lot of self-hate and still does. For members of minorities, it can be a huge task to learn self-value when America still devalues minorities. Building self-esteem is an ongoing effort to change the way you view your world.

According to Ivey, Ivey and Simek-Downing, minorities have been denied access to a positive worldview. They say developing the awareness of the impact of social and economic forces on a social group or individual is consciousness-raising. Full participation in society for ethnic groups who have been discriminated against has been discussed for over 25 years. You can be part of the solution or remain part of the problem. It is time to take action and stop talking on the sidelines.

Texas Woman's University now requires cross-cultural and women's studies in its core curriculum. As a mental health professional, I advocate culturally correct support. However, I'm concerned about so-called enlightened people: Issues of women, African-Americans, etc., are included in most counseling and therapy training curricula; yet, I worked in a women's treatment program that didn't recognize racial issues as valid when 95 percent of its clients were African-American.

Some white lesbian activists tell other white lesbians that working on racism isn't "their" issue. They also say those who actively work on their racism should stop forcing their agenda on others. Sexism doesn't seem to be an issue for gay activists either; some don't really know any women or any who are proud to be women.

For me, the issue of homophobia coexists with sexism and racism in my life. As my friend Deirdre says, "All, not just part of you, gets oppressed."

I attended a UFMCC People of Color Conference where some of the White People Healing Racism group objected to the minorities meeting separately. The same objection has been made concerning the upcoming People of Color Organizing Institute at the Task Force's Creating Change conference in Dallas Nov. 9-13.

Oppressed minorities need separate space for their healing process, and they are entitled to it.

Separate space allows self-searching, increasing self-knowledge by taking personal inventory. It is controlling, sexist and racist to assume that women or African-Americans want to share all their waking hours and thoughts with men or whites. Some who understand women meeting separately can be less obliging for people of color. Some believe no significant event can occur without men or whites present. Others believe we are in need of supervision, that men and whites always know what is "best."

Time alone with other minorities may be essential to rejuvenate. Susan Barrett says this time of separation is different than when practiced by the dominant culture. She says minorities need the break from being in the view of the often hostile dominant culture. According to Charlotte Bunch, it is "a time to value and sustain oneself for a lifetime of struggle and change." Barrett says it is appropriate for white men and women to meet at specific times for given reasons, so men can deal with the impact of a sexist society while women work on racism. Otherwise, she says, due to differences in power, value and visibility, it is a basis for oppression when dominant culture separates. Basically, it is very affirming when minorities separate.

Celebrating differences but embracing your own culture is true diversity. It isn't entirely a question of what do women, African-Americans and lesbians want. Mostly, I want all of my life experiences to be respected. Understanding my experiences as a woman, African-American and lesbian makes for a better humankind.

Julia Boyd says women of color become masters in the art of being bicultural in order to survive. We know sexism and racism well. If truly concerned persons used the reading lists they were given, "other" issues could become theirs too. I can share things with men and white people, but they will have to do the footwork. I agree with Judith Moschkovich that "it is not the duty of the oppressed to educate the oppressor." Attending

events of other minorities raises your consciousness. Working with others can also be affirming. However, Bunch says that "coalitions are possible, but they are only effective when you have mutual respect, when you have a clearly articulated bottom line, and when you have your own group mobilized for action."

Laura Brown says white groups will have to seek actively to be anti-racist and multicultural. This is also true for men and their sexism. I agree too that there has to be some indication that my life is being comprehended by those different from me. A concrete demonstration that diversity is truly valued is needed. Will they give concrete affirmation or continue to support lip-service diversity?

Meanwhile, it can be helpful to affirm where you are in developing your cultural identity, seeking affirmation or affirming others. It is part of learning to value oneself. Themes of overcoming internalized oppression are represented by the Minority Identity Development Model. It was developed by an Asian, Sue (1981), and Atkinson, Thorton and Sue (1983), and consists of five stages:

**Conformity:** A woman believes it is a man's world and says her son is "all boy," "white is right" and "my people should work harder." Lesbians in this stage may be very critical of "out" lesbians and may identify with gay men or a male way of being in the world.

**Dissonance:** What one is capable of doing conflicts with what one is allowed to do because of sexism, racism or homophobia. Feelings alternate between shame and pride, fear and hope. In this stage, a lesbian might fluctuate between passing as straight and being visible as a lesbian.

**Resistance and Immersion:** Focus is on own cultural interests including separatism in differing degrees. Reacts with anger and distrust. Comes to terms with the form of oppression felt most intensely.

**Introspection:** Constraints of minority identification felt. Some of dominant culture are found to be allies. Divided loyalties when facing internal versus external groups.

**Articulation and Awareness:** Satisfaction in identity and a desire to end all forms of oppression. Women like and enjoy men but own their own space and make their own decisions. "I'm African-American and I'm proud of it." A lesbian just is. She is at peace with herself and surrounds herself with people who value her. ♪

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-TIM HAYES



# OUT EN MASSE

*I got a special birthday view of how our lives might be.  
Just that little taste of it makes me so very hungry.*

By **MELISSA FLORIES**

For some, birthdays bring joy and excitement. The thought of the celebration warms the cockles of their hearts. The anticipation of seeing old friends and family brings a special feeling to their lives.

And then there are the presents. While most people are rather modest when it comes to this "birthday issue," they still seem to find ways of dropping those subtle little hints to their close friends and loved ones so they receive something they don't end up shoveling in the closet and finding several years later, only to give to someone else for their birthday because they had no use for it in the first place.

Don't get me wrong. For those of you who relish the thought of your birthday, I salute you. It takes a brave soul to admit they are happy about being a year older.

Birthdays are all right I guess, it's just that when it comes to my birthday, it's a different story. My parents were divorced when I was 10 and every year after that we had to have two celebrations for my birthday, one at Dad's house and one at Mother's.

I know, most of you are probably thinking, "Gee, two birthday parties, why are you complaining?" Well, for many years, almost until I was 22, the only birthday wish I had was for my parents to reunite. The dual birthday celebrations (and all other major holidays) did nothing but remind me of the fact that my parents were not together and, as the years accumulated, it was more apparent that they wouldn't be.

Other factors dampened the celebrations. There was the competitive war waged between my parents. Which gift did I like the best, who spent the most money, and so on. Because of that, telling someone what I want for my birthday is still difficult for me to do, even at this late date. A true birthday gift for me still is the thought of giving and not the receiving. So I usually say, "Get whatever you want." People always say to me, "Melissa, modesty does not suit you." While there is some truth in that statement,

modesty does actually apply to my birthdays.

For those of you whom I kept intrigued or amused long enough to get this far through this article, I am sure you are wondering, "Why is this woman writing about something so personal to her and so boring to us?" Well, the answer is that my 33rd birthday was on Oct. 7 and I received a birthday gift like no other. This gift was more special to me than the Stetson hats and Roper boots I have received for years, more important than the Nieman Marcus "corporate drag" clothing my mother purchased for me. This gift was greater than all the diamonds, jewelry and cash I have received over the last 33 years. This was a gift I have longed for as I know every single individual in this community has longed for it. The gift: I went to the Melissa Etheridge concert.

I know you are thinking now, "Melissa has lost it. This Emperor thing has made her lose all sense of reality." But before you decide against finishing this article, let me set the stage.

Picture yourself at the Starplex Amphitheater (I'm sure most of you have been there at one time or another), a known "straight" establishment. But this time there is something very different. Yes, they are selling the typical concert paraphernalia, all the beverage and food booths are in full force, the grounds look as they always have. The only thing different is what is walking on the grounds: nothing but homosexuals. Lesbians and gays are the majority of the crowd. Of course there are a few "token" straight people, but we just ignore them and their "public displays of affection." For once in a public place we are actually being ourselves. No one is being militant about their homosexuality, there are no protest marches or people chanting "we're here, we're queer." We do not have to do these things this night because the performer we are here to see is an openly gay musician. Because of her and the fact that we outnumber the few straight people here, we can calmly be ourselves

just as we do in our bars, in our churches and in our homes.

Now I know how straight people feel when they go to a concert. They don't know everyone there but they feel at home. It was a wonderful feeling looking around that massive gay crowd. It was nice to lean over and kiss my wife and not have to worry about someone shouting obscenities. It was even greater to be able to wear my "All American Dyke" baseball cap that was given to me by my sister directly from Greenwich Village in New York and not get stared at. But most of all, it was wonderful to act like, for a moment, that all the fighting was over, all the battles won, and that this was the brave new world in which we were living.

As I sat in the midst of what I later dubbed "the night a dream was realized," I couldn't help but think of why God allowed those of us who were there to have that taste of acceptance that is so lacking in our lives. Was it because we will never realize it in our lifetimes and He wanted us to know for just a moment what it felt like, or did He feel we needed to see what it could be like so we would be inspired to carry the torch until the flame can be lit and burned for an eternity?

I do not know the answers, but whatever God had in mind for me that evening, He did give me the most special birthday gift I ever received — one that was not wrapped in beautiful paper with a sentimental card attached. It wasn't something I could wear or hang on the wall to show for display. The gift I received was a moment in time, a moment in which this world looked, felt and was gay.

I have been a lesbian my entire life. Sometimes I doubted myself because of the prejudices and because I thought I would never live to see the day that the majority of the world would at least be respectful of our lives. Well, the next time I am tired of fighting, I will close my eyes and remember the Melissa Etheridge concert, the night I witnessed our dream.

I now have a new Birthday Wish. ♣

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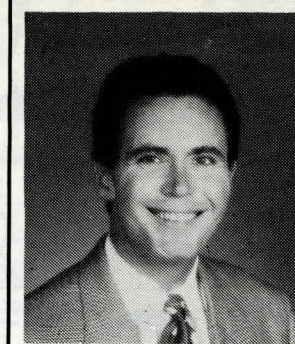
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# SAD LESSONS

*Area students study the Quilt's messages*

By **AMY WATTS**

Unquestionably, the NAMES Project Quilt is one of the most powerful tools available in the ongoing struggle to educate people about HIV and AIDS. Not only does it foster AIDS awareness and generate support for people living with the disease, but it also teaches valuable lessons about the sanctity of human life and the power of love.

These lessons were not lost on the young people who visited the Quilt in Fort Worth during the September 1993 display. The Fort Worth/Tarrant County chapter received essays from Southwest High School students who came to the display on a school-sponsored field trip.

Each student had been asked to record impressions of the event. Many noted they had not been sure what to expect when they attended the exhibit.

A student, Michael, commented: "When we arrived at the Quilt, I thought all we would see was a bunch of quilts made by people with HIV. I saw a lot more than that. I saw how these people made a difference when they lived, how they touched other people, and how much they accomplished in their lives. These weren't just quilts. They were biographies, and it almost seemed as if people were living inside the panels. The Quilt was a very big learning experience, and I am glad I got to go."

Several students noted that seeing the Quilt brought them face to face with the impact of AIDS for the first time. The experience made them think of the epidemic in a new light. Another student, Amie, wrote: "As I walked through the exhibit hall, I became more and more aware of what AIDS really does. Although this was probably the most depressing field trip I have ever been on, it was also

the most educational. I know I can't take back AIDS from everyone affected or bring back the people whose lives have already been taken by it, but at least now I can try to prevent it from happening to me."

Sadly, a few students related that HIV and AIDS had already touched their lives. One young woman had just recently gone with a friend to get tested for HIV. She remarked how difficult it was to view the Quilt while waiting for her friend's test results to come back. Others wrote of relatives who had already died of the disease.

Andrew, who has a friend who is living with HIV, eloquently summed up the many messages contained within the Quilt: "My friend continues to be a strong, spirit-filled person who is to be admired for his greatness and courage. He is not to be scorned. People everywhere must realize that this disease does not discriminate. The Quilt states AIDS can claim anyone, be they mothers, fathers, sisters or brothers. We must all open our eyes to what the Quilt is saying. The Quilt continues to grow and grow. We all look forward to when there will be no more Quilt, and that time must be now. As for my friend, I pray daily that a panel will not be necessary for him, ever."

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# WORLD AIDS DAY DEC. 1

The Tarrant County World AIDS Day Committee folded but other groups have stepped in to coordinate several traditional events for the memorial week Dec. 1.

The committee fell with other AIDS Coordinating Council of Tarrant County programs when the group lost its yearly funding from the Tarrant County Community AIDS Partnership (see story below). But the Fort Worth/Tarrant County NAMES Project and the Tarrant County AIDS Interfaith Network have pressed on with their programming for the yearly AIDS-awareness event.

"We had no budget for it," Alan Gould, media chair of the NAMES Project, said. "We just took it upon ourselves to do it."

World AIDS Day, themed "AIDS and Families" this year, is a worldwide remembrance. Tarrant County events include:

**The NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt Display** at First Presbyterian Church of Fort Worth, 1000 Penn St.

Opening ceremonies 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30. Display from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1; 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Dec. 2 and 3; and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4. Panels are mostly from local contributors, created by families, lovers and friends.

**Panel-making Workshops** at the Fort Worth/Tarrant County NAMES Project Chapter House every Sunday from 2:30-5 p.m. and every Tuesday from 6-9 p.m. Completed panels will be dedicated at the World AIDS Day Quilt Display opening ceremonies Nov. 30. The chapter house is located at 665 S. Jennings Ave., Fort Worth; call Lynn Penny, panel-making chair, at 817/33-NAMES for more information.

**Interfaith Worship Service** sponsored by the Tarrant County AIDS Interfaith Network will be at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, at Robert Carr Chapel at Texas Christian University, 2800 S. University Dr.

## AIDS FUNDING

*Programs added, coordinating council cut*

By **CONNIE WINKLE**

The Tarrant County Community AIDS Partnership (TCCAP), a project of the Community Foundation of Tarrant County, awarded \$188,000 in grants to non-profit agencies in October. The grants support organizations in and around Tarrant County that provide education and services dealing with HIV/AIDS.

This year's recipients are: AIDS Outreach Center - \$25,000 for support of the AIDS Information Line and \$5,000 as umbrella agency for the Fort Worth/Tarrant County chapter of the NAMES Project; Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Fort Worth - \$9,000 for funding of "Realidades," a program that educates Hispanic male youth and young adults about issues including fatherhood, STD's and AIDS; Catholic Charities and Camp Fire (collaborative) - \$5,000 for their "Parents and Providers as Partners" program, which involves single mothers who are HIV positive; Community Services Development Center at the University of Texas at Arlington - \$30,000 for support of the "Healthy Sexuality Project," which provides pro-

grams to educate and teach negotiation/communication skills.

Also, Family Service - \$20,000 for the "HIV Skilled Nursing Project," which provides in-home care; Over The Hill, Inc. - \$20,000 for outreach and education targeting the Hispanic community; Tarrant County AIDS Interfaith Network - \$20,000 for support of "El Sol: The Source of Life," an HIV-wellness program, and also in support of general operating expenses; the Tarrant County Health Department - \$20,000 for support of the "Wedge Project," an HIV/AIDS education program targeting area high schools; and Tarrant County Samaritan Housing, Inc. - \$34,000 for funding of a resident care coordinator position at their housing facility for homeless persons living with AIDS.

This year TCCAP raised \$120,050 to meet the 2:1 challenge grant of the National Community AIDS Partnership. Many local businesses as well as individuals have made contributions to TCCAP, including the Amon G. Carter Foundation, the Burnett-Tandy Foundation, American Airlines and the Kroger Company. Also received

was \$32,000 from the American Foundation of AIDS Research (AmFAR) that was made possible by Paul Simon's benefit performance last June at the Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas.

The AIDS Coordinating Council of Tarrant County, which has received \$58,000 in grants from TCCAP over the last two years, was not awarded funds from the group this year. The AIDS Coordinating Council is a professional membership organization that shares information about resources available for clients and agencies and assesses community needs.

The Rev. Stanley Maneikis, treasurer for the council and director of pastoral care at Saint Joseph's Hospital in Fort Worth, reports that the group is going through a "changing situation," but they are still meeting monthly as well as maintaining their office at the Saint Joseph Professional Building. He suggested that due to the lack of funding, the council would not be able to develop any new programs, but that the group would continue to be a partnership group that provides professional support.

**HANG IT UP**

...

for each of the next 240 people donating \$1,000 each, a plaque will commemorate the donation, and the funding for the Healing Wings AIDS Center will be complete.

Healing Wings has raised all but \$240,000 of the \$1.4 million needed to complete the inpatient unit renovation at John Peter Smith Hospital

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# PRESIDENT

STORY BY BEVERLY BENNETT

**D**R. DAUNÉ LITTLEFIELD is no stranger to political life. The new 1994 president of the Tarrant County Lesbian/Gay Alliance was the Alliance's first president in 1980. In a recent interview Dauné shared her thoughts about community service, activism, the closet and herself.

**Q:** Dauné, why are you active in the gay/lesbian community?

**A:** We lack individuals who will be open about their sexual orientation. There is real healing for those individuals when they see out lesbians and gay men attempting to change society's attitudes. It is more than being a role model. It involves self-reflection and self-acceptance, because you are constantly being evaluated by others.

**Q:** What does it take to be an activist?

**A:** It takes thick skin, courage, intelligence, spiritual grounding, tolerance, the ability to debate and learn from others, and the willingness to work as a team. It also takes the ability to do self-evaluation and the ability to change belief systems on a personal level. It takes being okay with the fact that you are not going to please everyone and sometimes you may please only a small percentage of the people.

**Q:** What does it take to live one's life as an out-of-the-closet gay/lesbian?

**A:** I believe that this is a process, not an end result. You don't just jump out of the closet, shut the door and never go back. You take small steps and build upon each one. You do a lot of self-reflection and decide personally what is right for you in

each situation. At the core of this is self-love and acceptance and the belief that you are worthy of the same rights, protections and privileges as others in our society.

**Q:** How are you uniquely qualified to serve on the board of the Alliance?

**A:** Well, I think we are all uniquely qualified to demand our civil rights and to be able to live in harmony with others. On the other hand, I believe that leaders are born, not created. I oppose oppression and prejudice on every level. My fight for gay/lesbian freedom is just closer to my heart, so to speak. There are many qualified individuals out in our community who could be on the board of the Alliance. They just haven't gotten involved yet.

**Q:** Dauné, tell me about your commitment to the spiritual community and why you are involved in the MCC church?

**A:** MCC lives up to my ideals of what worship and ministry are all about. My church, Trinity MCC, is actively involved in activities in the gay community. There is a spirit of inclusiveness that bridges the heterosexual, bisexual, transgendered and gay communities. The sermons are scripturally based and teach how to live as Christ instructed us to live. Everyone cares for

everyone and problems are resolved as soon as they occur. The MCC church belongs to the community and not the community belonging to the church.

**Q:** How long have you been at the AIDS Outreach Center and what do you do there? Why there?

**A:** I am director of client services at AOC, and I have been there since May 1993. I coordinate, design, implement and encourage changes in all the clinical programs offered through the AOC. In other words, I oversee the Legal Network Services, the Counseling and Support Group Services, the Buddy Program, the Volunteer Program, the Education and Information Program, the Nutrition Center Program, In-



DAUNE LITTLEFIELD, TCLGA PRESIDENT

take Services and Case Management Services. In my spare time, I prepare grant proposals and grant reports, budgets, and oversee the Rental Assistance Program. It is important to me to be there because I feel God wants me there. 1993 was a homecoming year for me. The fact that I was the founder of that organization (then Fort Worth Counseling Center) makes me very proud to see where it has come in six years. ♪

## NEW VISION FOR TCLGA

### VICE PRESIDENT

PRESIDENT VICE PRESIDENT VICE PRESIDENT VICE PRESIDENT

### PRESIDENT

**D**R. JIM MARTIN is the newly elected vice president of the Tarrant County Lesbian/Gay Alliance. Martin, a 43-year-old native of Philadelphia, is a professor in the School of Social Work at the University of Texas at Arlington and has resided in Arlington for two years. Before accepting the position at UTA, he lived in Chicago for 13 years where he had a part-time private practice in psychotherapy while working to accomplish his PhD in social work from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Martin has a history of involvement with the gay and lesbian community. While studying at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor he worked in the campus Office of Gay Men and Lesbian Advocates and helped to establish a gay youth group. He volunteered for the Horizons, a gay and lesbian social service agency in Chicago, where he worked the hotline and provided peer counseling as well as donating his services as psychotherapist for the center for several years.

Currently Martin is the adviser for the Gay/Lesbian Association at UTA, a position he has held since fall 1992. He has been a TCLGA board member for the past year, is a member of the Tarrant County Lesbian/Gay Political Coalition, and is the Tarrant County representative on the host committee for the seventh annual Creating Change

Conference being held in Dallas Nov. 9-13.

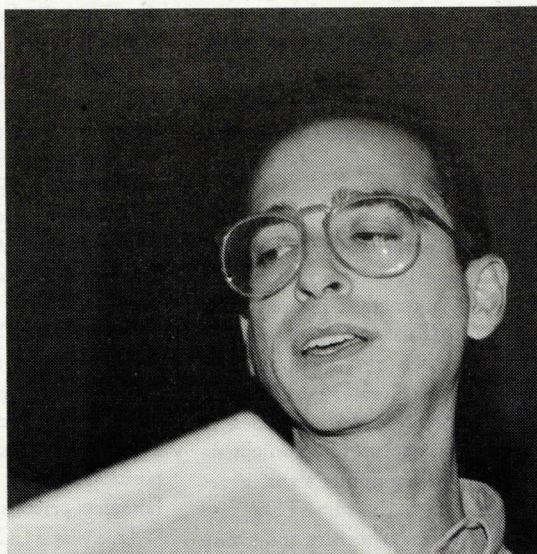
Martin enjoys his work at UTA because he says it's the "first job where everybody knew

I was gay and I was expected to do work relating to being gay." He states that in his capacity as a professor he has been able to combine his personal interests with his professional interests. His job requirements are not just to teach, but to research and publish, and to provide service to the community and university. He sees that being involved with the "Alliance and LGPC is essentially a part of my job." Martin's research revolves around issues that touch the gay and lesbian community as well. His current research involves a study of HIV risk behavior in gay men, and he is soon to have an article published concerning lesbian and gay faculty in schools of social work.

Martin sees one of the current priorities

of the TCLGA is to stimulate the growth and development of the lesbian and gay community in Tarrant County through new and

STORY BY CONNIE WINKLE



JIM MARTIN, TCLGA VICE PRESIDENT

additional events that bring the community together. He sees some of the group's goals to be increasing membership and to provide outreach to other parts of the lesbian and gay community that are not being well-

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# With this Ring I Thee Domesticate

*We can't marry,  
but Austin offers a close match  
with its domestic partners registry.*

By BEVERLY FLETCHER

Some of my college gal pals spent an awful lot of their time poring over bridal magazines and oohing over lace, long before they'd landed the man who would stand beside them for those few precious moments, reciting the vows of eternal love.

I thought those gal pals were whacked. I could think of no harsher sentence than to be strapped down in some frilly shroud, paraded like a freak before your closest friends, and then shackled for life to a man who might applaud stock-car racing as the highest form of entertainment.

One by one those gal pals met their dream, walked that aisle. Some - I don't know *what* I did to them - sentenced me to their wedding party, strapped me down in some frilly shroud and paraded me like a freak before our closest friends.

In all the hoopla of the preparations - which included long nights of stringing together tiny bags of birdseed that would be hurled at the bride and groom hard enough to cause corneal damage - not one of the brides ever mentioned the single rite of passage that held my attention: filing for a marriage license. I guess that task was rated just underneath ordering more outdoor toilets for the reception, because the brides seemed somewhat unimpressed when I quizzed them about it. "Ewww, yes, we did that," they'd shrug, "and it was awful - I saw a

criminal checking me out."

The marriage license held my fascination, probably because I couldn't have one, probably because I knew I deserved one. My gal pals shuddered in ecstasy over the promise of silk and lace and bridal registries while I dreamed of blood tests, signing forms and handing over a check to legalize my commitment to love, honor and ... process.

Up until about a year ago it was an elusive dream that I thought I might never realize in my lifetime.

That's when the City of Austin approved health insurance benefits to the domestic partners of city employees. To qualify partnerships, the county created a domestic partnership registry and a binding legal document to declare loving relationships.

A citywide referendum this year attacked and brought down the City of Austin's domestic partnership benefits. The radical right who initiated that campaign overlooked the Registry - it remains intact and fully accessible to domestic partners throughout the state because papers filed in any one county are valid in all other counties.

When my partner, Susan, asked me in October what I wanted to do on our vacation, I pushed aside my pile of biker bridal magazines and said, "Let's go to Austin and get hitched! After all, we've been together almost 13 years and, well ... I think I'll keep you."



**With a ceremonial flourish of her pen, our presiding official pronounces us domestic partners.**

We got sidetracked at the kalache bakery in West, stocking up on delectables for our private reception, but we made it to Austin before the clerks' afternoon break which is an important factor to consider when you just can't wait a minute more to tie the knot.

Deanna Gonzalez, the deputy who filled out our certificate, was a friendly, chatty sort. We were pleased to have such a supportive official (and proficient typist!) presiding over our vows. She told us we were couple number 250; one couple had journeyed down from Denton. (We know at least two couples from Dallas/Fort Worth who have signed on to that roster.)

Instead of trading wedding bands, our ceremony was sealed by Deanna's inspection of our driver's licenses, a sensible requirement that straights should consider, to make sure they're marrying who they think they're marrying. But you never see that in wedding ceremonies - "You may now trade driver's licenses and review the police reports..."

Filing the form took less than 10 minutes, and it cost all of \$9. Susan wouldn't let me carry her over the threshold out to the hall because she's modest but, at that moment, I was distracted anyway, wondering if a horde of well-wishers was going to hurl birdseed into our eyes. I guess that costs extra because we slipped out unscathed.

Outside the building we sat on the steps to complete our ceremony by slipping a freedom ring on each other's finger, pledging our commitment. Just then clerks poured out of the building for their afternoon break, fortunate timing because we needed witnesses.

Susan sighed, her eyes sweeping the scenery and registering contentment. "Only in Austin," she said, "could we sit here, exchanging a moment like this in public, and not risk getting beat up for it."

We would have gladly travelled any number of miles for that rare moment.

For our honeymoon we enjoyed two evenings at Austin's Lesbian/Gay Film Festival at the Dobie Theatre on the UT campus. We romantically shared a bag of popcorn and a large Diet Pepsi (one straw now that we're official). We snuggled into each other and soaked in the comfort of being with our own people, enjoying our own films. Being newly united, I turned my head away politely when Sandra Bernhard was running around in her underwear, but Susan didn't turn away so I abandoned that chaste posturing (Sandra's looking good!).

Life is simple and sweet when you've been together almost 13 years. A fresh kalache melting on your tongue provides the celebration. A few days of cable TV seems a special treat when shared. Wondrous facts about the other person still unfold and yet you know instinctively exactly what she will buy after hours spent together perusing a women's bookstore.

Activists fought long and hard for that registry in Austin. They'll fight some more for it before it's done. And we, each of us in our relationships, each of us yearning still for that special someone, we've earned that registry, with every year and every tear and every bit of laughter behind us.

Austin sends its invitation; lace is optional.

**DECLARATION AND OATH:** We declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Texas that the following statements are true and correct:

1. We share each other's lives in an emotional, committed relationship of mutual caring.

2. We live together, which means that two people share the same living residence. It is not necessary that the right to possess the residence be in both names. Domestic partners do not cease to live together if one leaves the shared living residence but intends to return.

3. We agree to be jointly responsible for each other's basic living expenses during our domestic partnership. Basic Living Expenses include the cost of food, shelter and any other expenses of a domestic partner which are paid, at least in part, by a program or benefit for which the partner qualified because of the domestic partnership. The individuals need not contribute equally or jointly to the cost of these expenses as long as they agree that both are responsible for the cost.

4. We are 18 or older and mentally competent to consent to contract.

5. Neither of us is married, nor are we related by blood that would bar marriage in the State of Texas.

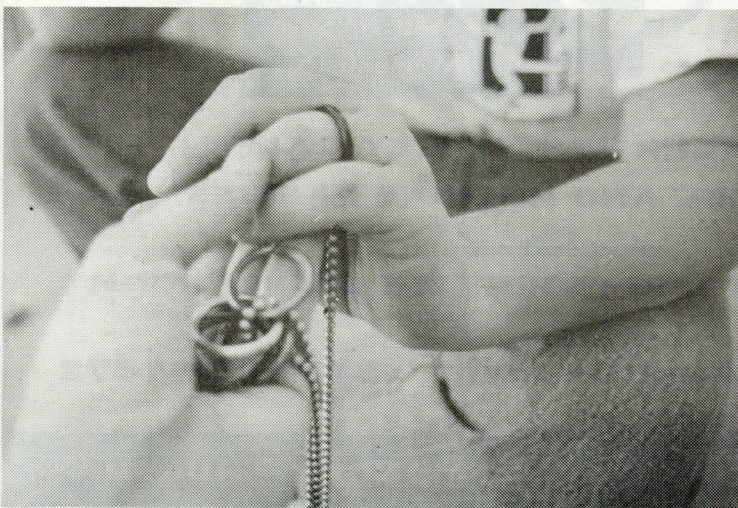
6. Neither of us has a different domestic partner now.

7. Neither of us has been in any other domestic partnership or marriage in the last 6 months (except in the case of death).

8. We agree to file with the County Clerk a Dissolution within 31 days of the termination of this domestic partnership. In addition, it is our responsibility to notify our employer(s) and/or our insurance company(s) within 31 days of the Dissolution.

**IMPLICATIONS:** Can be used to qualify dependents for filing income tax. Can be submitted to employers who extend health insurance benefits to domestic partners, and can be used to persuade employers who are not yet offering those benefits.

**HOW TO DO IT:** File at the County Clerk's office at the Travis County Courthouse in Austin, at the corner of Guadalupe and 11th Streets, during working hours (8 a.m. - 5 p.m.) on work days (schedule around state holidays). Cost is \$9. Carry driver's license for identification.



**Exchanging rings on the courthouse steps.**



IN POSH DINING SETTINGS of the 7th Street Cafe Oct. 24, *fort worth formal* organizers treated event supporters to an early peek at glitzy fashions well-suited to the New Year's Eve event. Models, above and below, mingled with diners while styling in featured designs of Coronado's Fashions.

Coronado's, at 5658 Westcreek Dr. in Fort Worth, offers special-occasion dresses between \$90 and \$400, and tuxedo rentals for \$60 or sales beginning at \$200.

Fashions at the New Year's Eve party traditionally are eclectic and far-ranging, allowing for individual expression or ... comfort.

Photos by JANNA BROWN OF J-3 PHOTOGRAPHICS



## Isn't it queer?

# FORT WORTH FORMAL IS SAFE, ROMANTIC NEW YEAR'S SPACE

By Beverly Bennett

**N**ew Year's Eve is my favorite holiday. There's the romance... Plus, it means I'm finished with family holiday duties and can breathe a sigh of relief as I live it up with my spouse and friends in a queer old way.

Last year's New Year's Eve at the *fort worth formal* moved Tarrant County's gay/lesbian community into a first-class party atmosphere. The 1992 *fort worth formal* went to bed in a train depot and woke up in 1993 in an elegant hotel ballroom.

Of course I was grateful for that train depot. But 1993 was different. Last year we moved to the ballroom of the Raddison in downtown Fort Worth. I opted to get a room in the hotel thanks to the *fort worth formal* discount rate. I'm glad I did. Besides bathing myself in elegance and romance, I avoided the maniacs on the highway.

This year promises even more. The 1994 *formal* at the downtown Fort Worth Raddison comes with a beautiful ballroom in a first class hotel, a cross spectrum of live dance music from Oklahoma's most popular women's band, "Miss Brown To You," a bigger dance floor, a smorgasbord of

food, eight bar stations, the option to sit in the "Golden Circle" where you may feel very chic and sophisticated with a waiter there to meet your every beck and call, the option to spend the night at the Raddison at the special FWF rate (\$85), the chance to see long lost friends previously thought to have dropped off the face of the earth, the chance to meet 1000+ new ones, and the opportunity to live it up first class in a room full of gays/lesbians dressed to the nines, all while benefiting the community.

Of course, there's the romance factor. The *fort worth formal* promises all the possibilities of "Some Enchanted Evening." Rogers and Hammerstein have nothing on the *fwf*! Whether you hope to meet your true love or just kick drive the old one out of bed death, this is the place to be on New Year's Eve.

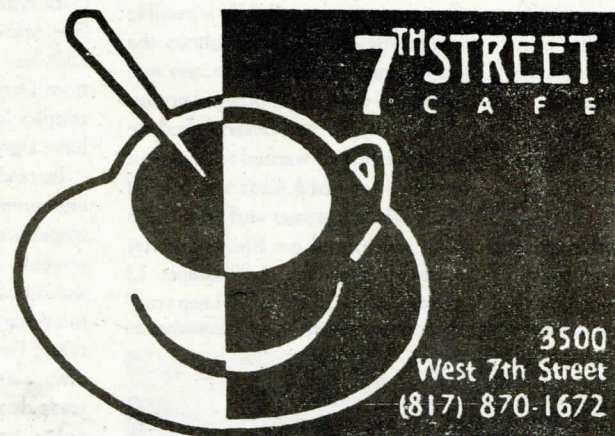
I remember how frustrated I used to get reading New Year's Eve options in the *Star-Telegram*. There were all these hotel packages I wanted to buy. They came with a room, a party chocked full of food, drink and funny hats, people dressed to the hilt, and a live dance band. I *really* wanted to go. I thought about it, but I figured New

Year's Eve was not the night I wanted to make a political statement by dancing with my partner, and who would want to go to a party where everyone could dance but us? So, I'd end up with my honey and friends in a bar or maybe a party at someone's house. I felt cheated knowing that just down the road people were in hotels dressed to the nines at a party with a dance band, a fantasy spread of food and champagne, merriment, funny hats and romance.

I remember the year the *fwf* moved to the train depot. Faded elegance, I called it. It wasn't a grand hotel, but the place had faded glory and more gays/lesbians than I had ever seen in one place outside of a national conference.

Then came 1993. If you were there last year, you know how wonderful it felt to walk into a top hotel and know this was *your* party place for the night, and you didn't even have to fly off to New York or San Francisco to find it. Last year's *formal* brought out 800 people of all generations, genders and races. This year's *fwf* committee estimates more than 1,000 for the 1994 party.

SEE 'FORMAL' ON P. 22




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# fort worth formal 1994

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## Black-Tie to Blue Jeans

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(New Year's Eve)

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Freedom  
Tour  
activists  
took to the  
East Texas  
roads for  
rural outreach.

They didn't expect the  
hateful vigilantes who greeted them.

By JUSTIN WHITNEY

# Dark Storm BREWING

Photos by JOHN SELIG

**D**espite what anyone may say, the Freedom Bus Tour to East Texas was an unqualified success.

In case you're out of the loop on this, let me fill you in - on Sunday, Oct. 9, 32 gay men and lesbians toured seven East Texas towns - Commerce, Sulphur Springs, Mount Pleasant, Gilmer, Tyler, Athens and Gun Barrel City - to celebrate National Coming Out Day. Though attendance by the public was underwhelming in six of these towns (I'll get to the seventh in a moment), I learned some valuable lessons.

First of all, when touring East Texas, bring your own press conference. The paucity of locals was not that evident once all the journalists, photographers, activists and friends filed off the bus.

Unfortunately, it was not quite crowded enough to coax gay bystanders out of their cars. Several times throughout the trip, I noticed people on the sidelines, watching, alone. But our point was made - they saw the support. They saw us. And in several cases, they spoke with us. The best,

most lasting result of the contact, not only with those who showed, but with all the people who invited us to each town, is the rural network that has already begun to form. As rural and urban gays and lesbians support one another, we all grow stronger.

The second lesson was not as pleasant: the hate is real.

When the radical right speaks, we hear the hatred. We hear the hicks from the sticks, many of us their relatives (in those cases where the family tree branched), and we know what their attitudes are. But living in the city, we rarely witness firsthand the pitchfork-and torch-carrying crowds we imagine when hearing horror stories from the front.

Then we drove into Gilmer. Gilmer was waiting for us. Singing praise to Jesus and condemning us all to hell, 100 fundamentalists met our group head on, pushed around a few of our members, surrounded us, and drowned out every word we said.

I wish I could remember all the things

they shouted, fine examples of Christian love and kindness, but here is a few: "Go home, freaks!" "You're goin' to Hell!" "Jesus doesn't love you!" When Philip Wells spoke on teen suicide, the shouts became "Good! Let 'em kill themselves, damn freaks!" Once they noticed that Latino speaker Michael Felan was talking in Spanish, it was "You're just a Mexican!" "We don't got no Mexican queers here!" "Go back to Mexico!"

Some shouts amused me. When Kathy Massey, the straight mother who heads P-FLAG/Denton, spoke, they evidently couldn't fault her on anything but her hair (which was flawless, by the way) - "You look like Hillary Clinton! You her buddy?" Needless to say, many anti-Democrat epithets followed.

The crowd also held a possessive infatuation with Jesus and seemed to think they had a monopoly on Heaven. No queers, no Mexicans, no Democrats, certainly no Jews, and most definitely no Episcopalians or anyone else



**COLD FRONT PASSES: Denton P-FLAG President Kathy Massey, criticized in Gilmer for "Hillary-hair," found clearer skies in Tyler for her message of advocacy and support.**

outside their denomination were worthy of salvation.

My favorite demonstration was their football chant that spelled out JESUS. "Gimme a J! Gimme an E!" ... I sorely wanted to join in at that moment, feeling some affinity for Christ, myself. But we'd been instructed by Gary Bellomy and Lynn Albright not to interact. The crowd outnumbered us three to one. As we watched, their hate fed on itself, bringing them closer and closer to violence. Many of them wanted to hurt us and the local police (both of them) weren't going to hold them back. The smartest thing we could do was finish our program and not give them a chance to single anyone out.

Eventually, after our speeches were spoken, we returned safely to the bus. As the crowd walked us back, they applauded their victory at driving the queers out of town, shouting out meanly things like "Clinton-lover" and "Faggot - stop huggin' on him" to (Philip and his boyfriend) and "Draft dodger!" (to me, which threw me off. I'm 25 - I didn't know I had a draft to dodge).

My third lesson also came from Gilmer, a rather surprising one for me: the ignorant are more threatened by our similarities than by our stereotypes. Nothing made the protesters angrier than the idea that we share some of the same values.

The sheer venom of their attacks astounded me. The strongest passion seemed centered on the small American flags we were carrying. All throughout our stay, they demanded that we throw away our flags. They booed as we said the Pledge of Allegiance. When Michael Felan spoke, one man actually yanked the flag from his pocket, broke it in half, and threw it on the ground, a scene repeated in some form several times during our stay.

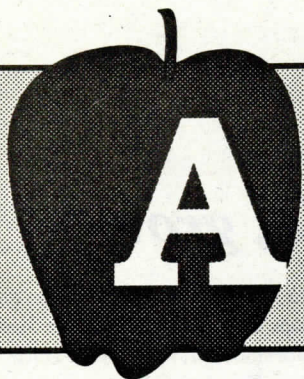
When we mentioned our love of family, our parents, our children, we were ridiculed. Our patriotism was mocked, our hope for peace was attacked, our integrity demeaned. We stood with silent dignity in a swirling storm of chaos and hatred.

Fortunately, the cameras got it all. And that was another huge victory of our trip - not the petty notion of a good photo op, but the opportunity to demonstrate to gays and straights everywhere what was really going on. In this conflict, we were rational, we were the "normal" ones. Closeted gays could take hope in this normalcy. And heterosexuals, as well as Christians of all orientations, could see the radicals that claim to represent them. My own father, an East Texas good ol' boy if there ever was one, came away from the

SEE 'BUS TOUR' ON P. 22



**STUDY CARDS: Protesters in Gilmer doled out lessons to their children, instructing in hate, teaching how to harass and intimidate. Some eventually might pass the test on self-hate.**



## AGAPE's Apple a Day

Healthy advice from the heart by  
Doug Rich, RN, MA, an Agape MCC Deacon

**W**e at Agape MCC have "DREAMS" for everyone's health. The realization of this dream will take more than "an apple a day". We offer health tips using the letters of the word DREAMS to give you a half dozen "apples" – use them in good health!

**D**ental health is often overlooked and leads to not only toothaches and gum disease but to a reduction in general well-being. People who have unhealthy teeth and gums have more frequent and more severe bouts of upper respiratory infections (colds and pneumonia). Keep these letters in mind to help you improve your dental health: ASS, BFD and FO. Get your minds out of the gutter and just Avoid Sweet Snacks, Brush Frequently Dear, and Floss Often.

**R**ecreation: To achieve any exercise benefit, recreational activity should provide you near constant motion of large muscles (legs and arms) for at least 20 minutes three times a week. Tennis, skating

and even walking provide good exercise. This may disappoint some, but playing softball doesn't quite qualify.

**E**motional health is absolutely inseparable from your physical and total well-being. Depression is a common underlying factor of many physical ailments. If you have four or more of these symptoms, talk to your health care provider (or a trusted counselor): 1) Feeling sad, hopeless or guilty; 2) Loss of interest and pleasure in daily activities; 3) Sleep problems (either too much or too little); 4) Fatigue, low energy; 5) Problems thinking clearly or making decisions (bigger decisions than which shoes to wear with your outfit); 6) Crying a lot; 7) Changes in appetite and weight (either up or down); 8) Thoughts of suicide or death.

**A**lcohol and substance abuse take a great toll on our community; one out of three of us has significant alcohol and/or drug abuse problems. There are 12-Step

programs and groups for lesbians and gays in Tarrant County. Call Lambda AA at 817/921-2871 or Lambda AIAnon at 817/737-7861.

**M**aintenance of your health, like the maintenance of your car, is in your total control. No mechanic can repair your car if you abuse it and no medical specialist can restore your body to its maximum potential when you fail to put the proper fuel in it (balanced nutrition), run it too hard (adequate rest), let it rust (moderate exercise), and fail to keep it tuned (regular check-ups).

**S**pirituality: One of the most difficult questions many of us have to answer after coming out is, "Does God accept the gay me?" We have internalized so much homophobia that it is difficult for us to be comfortable with ourselves. Many of us ignore our spiritual growth because we lack the *faith* needed to stop believing the lies promoted by fundamentalists. Whether or not you trust organized religions, *believe*

this: You are a *spiritual* as well as physical being and it is to your benefit to spend at least as much time grooming your spirituality as you spend grooming yourself. Keep an inspirational book handy (I particularly like Scott Peck's *The Road Less Traveled* – bet you thought I would recommend the Bible) and pick it up occasionally to read a chapter.

**Dream of the month:** We have just celebrated Halloween –

quite a treat for many of us. The dream of the month is that each and every one of us will enjoy the coming holiday season and that everyone will take responsibility for keeping themselves and friends and family members safe. Drink moderately, designate a driver, wear your seat belts (and your rubbers), and keep your turkey cold until you bake it! God's peace.

Address comments and questions to the Deacons of Agape MCC, 4615 SE Loop 820, Fort Worth, TX 76119; or call 817/535-5002 and leave a message for the Deacons. ☺

## NEW 'OUT' DOC

Medical practice is holistic,  
community-oriented

**D**r. George Carpenter has recently moved his expanding medical practice to Tarrant County from a major multi-physician HIV practice in Dallas. His practice focuses on:

- Comprehensive general practice of medicine for the entire community;
- HIV medicine with a concern for holistic/body-mind issues for people with HIV and immune-related diseases.
- Complete evaluation and treatment for the gender community.

Dr. Carpenter, the area's first "out" physician marketing to the lesbian/gay community, cites the need for more HIV medical providers in Tarrant County, the friendly reception he and his staff have received from patients in Fort Worth, and the initial warm reception from members of the Tarrant County Lesbian/Gay Alliance as reasons for his relocation to Tarrant County.

Dr. Carpenter is board eligible in both family practice and psychiatry and has accumulated over 100 continuing medical education credits this year in HIV care. Medical affiliations include the American Medical Association, American Osteopathic Association, Texas Medical Association, American College of Osteopathic Physicians, American Psychiatric Association, as well as being a physician member of the Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association and the International Foundation for Gender Education.

The North Texas native completed undergraduate work at the University of North Texas and graduated from the University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Sciences in Des Moines, Iowa. Subsequent postgraduate medical training was at Emory University in Atlanta, Ga., and he completed a psychiatry residency (serving as chief resident) at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas. He also has several published peer-reviewed journal articles to his credit as well as clinical investigator status for the use of Amphotericin B liposomal complex in treatment of resistant fungal infections.

He currently is involved in protocols with Susan Franks, PhD, at the University of North Texas/TCOM in developing more standardized neurocognitive psychological tests which will hopefully prove more useful in early identification and treatment of subtle deficits in HIV disease.

In addition, he has over six years of experience working with the entire spectrum of gender identity and gender dysphoria. He and his staff can provide complete medical, hormonal and counseling services, as well as (when appropriate) surgical referrals for aesthetic and sexual reassignment surgery.

"Kate Bornstein in her recent bestseller, *Gender Outlaw*, has greatly added to the debate against societal need for maintaining a polarized view of gender. The current media hype on this issue is beginning to have a healthy influence in turning discussion away from a narrow focus on sexual reassignment surgery, to helping people decide where they best fit into a gender continuum," Carpenter said. Clearly, hormones and surgery should be only the end result for some individuals after a period of counseling and self-discovery. Dr. Carpenter has a book in progress with Marsha Botzer, PhD, reviewing the current counseling, medical and surgical treatments in this field.

His current association as medical director of the multidisciplinary Center for Change, Development and Support (CCDS) is representative of his medical philosophy. An attempt is made to individualize treatment by looking at the "whole picture" (the essence of true holistic care), with careful attention to the body-mind connection. For instance, after consultation and depending on need, patients could be treated with a combination of the newest FDA-approved medications, herbals and nutritional therapies (i.e. antioxidant vitamins, amino acids and easily absorbable protein supplementation). This may be combined with on-premises counseling, guided imagery, hypnosis or massage therapy.

He strongly believes in an educational approach and distributes copies of western medicine journal articles, experimental information (i.e. from BETA or DAIR), as well as nutritional information. "Balance, integration and an ability to clearly evaluate the multiple opportunities for healing available to us all" is a primary goal of Dr. Carpenter and his staff.

To schedule an appointment for consultation call (817) 429-4769. His clinic is located at 7525 John T. White Rd., Fort Worth, Texas 76120, which is near the 820/I-30 junction.

### Announcing the relocation of Dr. GEORGE T. CARPENTER III, D.O. to CCDS – The Center for Change Development and Support

I would like to express my gratitude to my current and former patients for their continuing support and invite you to visit my new convenient mid-cities location.

#### My practice focus will remain:

- 1) Comprehensive general practice of medicine for the entire community.
- 2) HIV medicine and holistic consultations for people with HIV and immune-related diseases.
- 3) Complete evaluation and treatment for the gender community.

#### Are you tired of blank stares or patronizing answers from your physician when you mention:

- 1) Recent advances in BETA and alternative newsletters?
- 2) The role of nutrition, vitamins, amino acids supplements and Chinese herbal remedies?
- 3) The role of spirituality, mind-body techniques and therapeutic massage in immune functioning?

I promise that your health care questions will be answered with respect. Through my association with this multi-disciplinary staff, we will strive to create an educational and supportive environment for positive change.

I believe that Dallas-Fort Worth does not have to be 5 years behind the coasts in progressive health care. Please call for an initial low-cost consultation.



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# TOWERING VOICES

*Fort Worth Men's Chorus has the right Toole to build, grow*

By MILAN HUGHSTON

Wednesday evenings usually find Michael Toole seated halfway back in the Law Sone Fine Arts Center at Texas Wesleyan University, listening quietly to the weekly rehearsal of the Fort Worth Men's Chorus. As a Metroplex community activist, Toole hardly ever sits still. But when he does, he makes use of that time to write notes, compile lists, and plan projects on behalf of the Chorus and the many other groups that are fortunate to have his interest. Although the Chorus has been up and running for a year and a half, Toole says the group still has the capacity to amaze and thrill him—not only the sound, but their professional behavior as well. "Our little chorus is a big chorus now," Toole says with amazement.

It has indeed been an amazing year and a half. But the idea had been germinating in Toole's mind for a while. As someone involved in community activities not only in Fort Worth but Dallas as well, he began to tire of the feeling of being "left out" when it came to local men's and women's choruses. Never one to think small, Toole decided it was time for Fort Worth to sponsor a men's chorus. With his customary zeal and fervor, Toole formed a steering committee in the spring of 1993 to establish the Fort Worth Men's Chorus.

Toole was fortunate early on in securing the services of Roger Keele, a well-known local musician who teaches at Texas Wesleyan University. Keele's commitment facilitated the involvement of TWU, for which Toole is grateful. Although Keele's training and experience was in the field of

vocal coaching and performance, he agreed to tackle the job. Recruiting singers continued successfully throughout the spring and summer, and by May 1993, the group was ready to perform at the Performing Artists Spotlight Show: Toole's dream was becoming true.

Other appearances followed, and the Chorus was spotted all over the Metroplex, including the AIDS Candlelight Vigil, Samaritan House, the Fort Worth NAMES Project, and the Human Rights Campaign Fund dinner in Dallas. And it all culminated in November with the Chorus' first formal concert at TWU. After a well-earned break, the group came back together in January to begin rehearsals for another lineup of appearances, climaxing in a spectacular spring concert of classical music in May.

A recent look back prompted Toole to reflect on the first year and a half. "The chorus has succeeded way beyond my expectations. I never dreamed it would go this far this fast," Toole said. "One thing I am proud of is that almost everyone in the chorus is involved in the community in some way—politics, volunteers in AIDS service organizations, the NAMES Project. So that way we're part of the community, not separate. And we're certainly more than just a gay chorus—we're a

bridge to all the community, and it's working."

Toole is pleased and flattered that in its first year, the Fort Worth Men's Chorus already has been named a beneficiary of the Dallas Black Tie Dinner. That signifies the potential for a good amount of funds to be put directly back into the community that supports the group.

Not only do some faces change from season to season, but so does the sound of the Fort Worth Men's Chorus, according to the repertoire. Director Roger Keele likes that variety, saying that "some members have rich and various musical backgrounds, while for some this is their first experience. But it does work as a unit—and we're still welcoming members, especially tenors!" Keele says that not only has the group done well, but that he and the chorus members look forward to Wednesday night rehearsals, where the atmosphere is energized.

Keele has been especially gratified by the response of the local musical community to the special sound of the Men's Chorus, with uniformly good reviews coming in from all quarters. "That hasn't been easy, since we've tackled different repertoire each season," Keele said.

Following a program of English choral music in conjunction with the Texas Wesleyan Singers in October,

the Chorus is concentrating on its fall pops concert, scheduled for Sunday, November 27, at 7:30 p.m. at the Law Sone Fine Arts Center auditorium, on the campus of Texas Wesleyan University. It promises to be fun, including music ranging from light operetta, through '50s and '60s standards, all the way up to the '80s. Toole is expecting a sellout for the November concert, so patrons are encouraged to get their tickets soon after they go on sale. Ticket information is available at 817/731-0122.

Founded on a dream, the Fort Worth Men's Chorus' more formal goals are to:

- cultivate an appreciation of men's choral music by providing an opportunity for qualified singers to participate in men's choral singing of the highest quality under skilled direction;
- to provide the community of Fort Worth and its environs the opportunity to enjoy the best in men's choral music expertly performed at public concerts;
- to acquaint the public with a wide range of styles of choral music.

The success of the Chorus has been because of the community response. Whether you'd be happier on the stage or in the audience, please continue that support which makes the musical life of Fort Worth and Tarrant County a better place. ♪

## CONCERTS

### TURTLE CREEK CHORALE IN 15-YEAR HOLIDAY REVIEW

The Turtle Creek Chorale, Dallas' world renowned 200-member male chorus, will 'pull out all the stops' to make the Christmas season bright. Under the vision of Artistic Director Dr. Timothy Seelig, the chorus relives the best moments from its perennial favorite holiday concerts from 15 seasons.

The Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center, the Chorale's home, is the setting for its holiday celebration of holiday favorites on Sunday, Dec. 4; Wednesday, Dec. 7; Sunday, Dec. 11; and Monday, Dec. 12. All performances begin at 8 p.m.

The evening begins with a visit to "Christmas past, present, future" as seen through the eyes of chorale members. Included will be some of the hilarious holiday antics for which the chorus has become known.

After intermission, the chorus turns to the glorious side of the holiday repertoire accompanied by the 28-piece Dallas Wind Symphony and the Herman and Amelia H. Lay Family Organ. Selections include pieces from Vaughan Williams and Bruckner to two large works by Chorale member and nationally recognized composer Randol Bass. One of these, back by popular demand, is last year's sensation, "Gloria." This piece is also recorded on the new recently released holiday CD "A Roamin' Holiday."

Patrons of the concert are encouraged to bring an unwrapped toy for the Chorale's fifth annual toy drive ben-

efiting Children's Medical Center and Parkland Hospital. *The Dallas Morning News*, WFAA-TV/Channel 8, Southland Center Hotel, Eagle Honda, 500, Inc. and TACA are all season sponsors.

Tickets are \$10 - \$25 and are available now by calling ArtTix at 520-ARTS (2787).

### OAK LAWN BAND TEAMS WITH JAZZWORX


The Oak Lawn Band will present the second concert of its season at 8:15 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3, at 8:15 p.m. at Cathedral of Hope MCC (5910 Cedar Springs Rd., Dallas) under the baton of its artistic director, Cathy Brown. The program titled "Christmas Around the World," will also include an appearance by Dallas Jazzworx, under the direction of Dennis Metz.

In keeping with the international theme of its concert season, the Oak Lawn Band has programmed holiday selections that represent the diverse musical styles of many countries. Several approaches to Jingle Bells will be sprinkled among other popular pieces such as "The Most Wonderful Time of the Year" and Jazzworx's performance of "Christmas Jazz Suite."

Tickets for the Dec. 3 concert are available through ARTTIX (214-520-2787) and can also be purchased for \$10 at Crossroads and Sources of Hope (Cathedral of Hope's bookstore) in advance of the concert. The cost of tickets at the door is \$15.

For further information about the Oak Lawn Band concert, call (214) 942-9537, or write to the Oak Lawn Band at: P.O. Box 190973, Dallas, TX 75219.

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## COMMUNITY

### PLEIADES STAR IS DEIDRA McCALLA, WESTENHOEFER COMING

Upcoming Pleiades events include a concert with Deidre McCalla at 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 5, at Agape Auditorium (I-20 and Anglin Drive exit, Fort Worth).

Tickets are \$12 in advance and may be purchased in Fort Worth at Connections Bookstore, Collections Antique Gallery and Agape MCC; and in Dallas at Crossroads Market. Tickets at the door will be \$15.

McCalla is an Olivia Records artist who has made a name for herself by her rich, deep voice and her song lyrics, covering subjects from the hysterical to the historical.

Next on Pleiades' schedule is the Valentine's show Feb. 11, featuring the hottest lesbian comic on the circuit today, Suzanne Westenhofer.

Tickets for this show will go fast so, beginning at the McCalla concert and through the month of November, Pleiades will sell tickets on a reserved-seat basis for the 385-seat Orchestra Hall, at 4401 Trail Lake, Fort Worth.

Reserved-seat tickets for \$15 will be available at the McCalla concert; or send a check and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Pleiades Productions, P.O. Box 101661, Fort Worth, TX 76185. Remaining seats

will be sold at regular Pleiades ticket outlets as general admission beginning in January.

### COURT ANNOUNCES LIGHTS OF LOVE HOLIDAY MEMORIAL

The Imperial Court de Fort Worth Arlington has announced Thursday, Dec. 15, as the date for the third annual "Lights of Love" celebration.

Begun two years ago, this celebration of love and sharing has quickly become one of our community's major charity events. Last year's event raised \$2,221 which was distributed among the AIDS Outreach Center's Food Pantry, John Peter Smith's Healing Wings, Samaritan Housing, the Fort Worth/Tarrant County NAMES Project, Agape MCC, Fellowship of Love Outreach, Trinity MCC AIDS Ministry and White Rock Church West. Organizers expect to surpass that amount this year.

For a minimal fee, interested persons may submit the names of friends and family members they would like to memorialize on T-shirts that will be sold within the community.

At the "Lights of Love" celebration, which is held in front of the NAMES Project chapter house, a community Christmas Tree is lit as the names of those remembered are read by local personalities. Last year's special guest was Senator Mike Moncrief and his wife, Rosie. This

year's program committee is negotiating with several local and state leaders for appearances.

In celebrating the Christmas season, a Community Choir will present holiday music. A banquet at Across the Street will follow the activities.

The planning meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 1, at Across the Street. Many positions are available for people who want to help make this year's presentation one to remember. Committees include Lights and Decorations, the Choir, the Banquet, Ticket Sales, Advertising and Promotion, the Names Card, T-shirt Preparation and Sales, the Printed Program, and the Presentation and Readings. Anyone interested in helping with this year's Lights of Love celebration should attend the meeting or call Emperor Melissa Flories at 817/870-1555, or Empress Pat "Cookies" Wyatt at 817/535-7188.

### ADDICTIONS WORKSHOP OFFERS LATEST RECOVERY RESEARCH

Agape MCC will host "Issues of Addiction in the Gay and Lesbian Community," a one-day seminar by Project Connect of the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center in New York City.

The seminar will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15, at Agape's auditorium, I-20 and Anglin Drive in southeast Fort Worth.

The Project Connect program provides help to gays and lesbians who have alcohol, drug or other addictions. Leading the seminar is the director, Eleanor Nealy, MDiv, MSSW, who is in the unique situation of having immediate access to current information and resources as they are developed and or recorded in North America and around the globe.

The project targets individuals who have an addiction, their family, friends, co-workers, lovers, etc., and provides educational programming to community groups and training to professionals who provide services to gay and lesbian clients.

In addition to their award-winning alcohol and drug treatment program, the Lesbian and Gay Community Service Center of New York City houses over 250 cultural, educational and social groups, including 16 self-help 12-step recovery groups.

Nealy began her work in the field of addictions and recovery in 1981. She holds a Master of Divinity degree

from Union Theological Seminary in New York, with a focus on feminist and liberation theology and ethics; and a master's degree in social work from Columbia University. As an ordained clergy person in the UFMCC, Nealy's pastoral experience included extensive work in issues of spirituality and recovery among gays and lesbians.

She is the author of "Amazon Spirit: A Meditation Book for Lesbians in Recovery," scheduled for publication in June.

For registration information, call Agape MCC at 817/535-5002.

### P-FLAG STARTS HOLIDAY SEASON WITH AUCTION

The Tarrant County Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG) will launch its first Silent Auction at a holiday meeting at 7 p.m. Dec. 1. The fund-raising event will be at the First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church at 1959 Sandy Lane, east Fort Worth.

Attorney David L. Wright is sponsor for the event.

Persons wishing to donate items to the auction may contact the group through their helpline, 817/498-5607, or write to P.O. Box 48612, Fort Worth, TX 76148.

Items for sale include: season tickets to Stage West; weekend accommodations at Two Pearls Bed and Breakfast in Weatherford, Sea Horse Inn at Port Aransas, Ramada Inn Dallas and Southland Hotel Dallas; a year's subscription to the *Dallas Voice*; paperback books from Naiad Press; a freedom vase from Triangularities; a garden fountain; Hair styling at Sparks Hair Design; a dog's treat basket; a hair permanent; and town car rental from Executive Limousines.

Also for auction are autographed photos and mementos from notables and stars, including Barney Frank, Olympia Dukakis, Carol Burnett, Anne Murray, Rob Reiner, Liz Taylor, Bette Midler, Susan Sarandon and Roseanne.

### SYMPOSIUM TO HELP GAYS START FAMILIES

Oak Lawn Community Services and the Women's Programming Division of Cathedral of Hope announce the co-sponsorship of the first Gay and Lesbian Parenting Symposium. The symposium will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 5, at Cathedral

of Hope MCC, 5910 Cedar Springs Rd., Dallas.

The program is designed to address a variety of issues of concern to gays and lesbians who are already parents and for those who are interested in starting their own families. Topics of presentation include Parenting Strategies, Artificial Insemination, Adoption, Blended Families, Coming Out to Children, Dealing with Exes, and Legal Issues.

The symposium fee is a sliding scale of \$3 to \$6; lunch and child care is provided. For more information call Katherine Wright at 214/520-8108, or Susan Heiskell at 214/351-1901.

### TASK FORCE OPENS ACTIVISTS CONFERENCE IN DALLAS

More than 1,500 activists from around the country are expected to attend the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) Creating Change conference Nov. 11-13 in Dallas at the Southland Center Hotel.

The conference is the preeminent national forum for lesbian, gay and bisexual activists and organizations to share skills, dialog about the political movement and discuss strategies for the year ahead.

Plenary speakers are Letitia Gomez, executive director of LLEGO; State Representative Glen Maxey; and Dr. Mel White, Dean, Cathedral of Hope in Dallas.

Some 80 workshops offer topics on fighting the right, media, fund-raising, campus organizing, workplace organizing, antiviolence, health, organizational development, legislation, sodomy repeal, arts and culture, sex and sexuality, and others.

Three pre-conference institutes are offered Nov. 9-10: a people of color organizing institute, the transformation institute on building a movement, and the race, class and gender institute.

Registrations will be accepted at the door. For registration information call the central voice mail at 214/521-5342.

### TRINITY ORGANIZES SMALL SOCIAL GROUPS

Trinity MCC of Arlington has instituted a new program that combines socializing with meaningful dialog: small group gatherings meet at individual homes in the evenings on the second and fourth Thursdays monthly.

These contemporary small groups gather to study, fellowship and dialog about a variety of secular and spiritual subjects.

"Everyone is welcomed to join. In small groups, everyone is important, and each group has its own personality," Beverly Bennett, the church's media coordinator, said.

For more information on joining the groups, call the church office at 817/265-5454.

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### PROGRAM: KATHY MASSEY

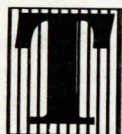
DENTON P-FLAG PRESIDENT ON  
FREEDOM BUS TOUR THROUGH EAST TEXAS

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AT FIRST JEFFERSON CHURCH  
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**The Alliance of Baptists' Special Task Force**

**on Human Sexuality, on which I've served for two years, has made its most important contribution by preparing a working statement on homosexuality.**

**G**ay and lesbian Baptists have taken a giant step forward: the Alliance of Baptists Board of Directors received the report on homosexuality "with profound gratitude" at its meeting in Washington, D.C., Sept. 22-24.

The report is a 13-page document that invites Alliance Baptists to repent from homophobia and oppression of gay and lesbian people and to commit to equality for all people in society and the church. It specifically calls for developing ministerial gifts without regard to sexual orientation and encouraging monogamous, covenant relationships between gay and lesbian partners. It also relates the report to the Alliance of Baptists Covenant of Principles.

The motion (made by former Fort Worth pastor Welton Gaddy, now in Monroe, La.) reads, "I move that the Board of Directors of the Alliance of Baptists receive with profound gratitude the report of the Task Force on Human Sexuality; covenant to engage in an ongoing discussion of the issues raised in the report; continue to sponsor workshops and other public forums on the fundamental truths affirmed in that report; utilize the substance of that report in the development of educational materials which will be available to all who request them; make available to any who ask for it the document produced by the Task Force clearly identified as a study document from the Task Force;

**REPENTANCE FROM HOMOPHOBIA:**

**BAPTISTS ALLOW TWO STEPS FORWARD**

By **DAVID REED**

and use this action as an occasion for recommitting ourselves to a fellowship and ministry of inclusiveness."

It is important to note that the report was received but not adopted. The Alliance of Baptists' contributing churches are much more likely to respond positively in such a situation. Moderate and liberal Baptist churches are sensitive about their local autonomy because of negative experiences in the Southern Baptist Convention.

This action fulfills Pastor Richard Groves' comment at the Fall 1993 Board meeting that the Alliance should begin to preach what it practices. Gay and lesbian Baptists have been involved with the Alliance since its founding in 1986. They have been increasingly open about their orientation. From my observation, open acknowledgment of being gay has not hindered the effectiveness of men or

women in positions of responsibility. In some cases it has enhanced their effectiveness.

The Board of Directors referred another related motion (by Pastor Steve Henderson of Austin) to the Executive Committee so it could be handled in accord with the Alliance constitution and by-laws. The motion was a policy statement reading, "We, the Board of Directors of the Alliance of Baptists, in the practice of hiring staff and selecting members of the Board, welcome sisters and brothers in Christ without regard to class, gender, marital status, race or sexual orientation." The motion to refer (made by Paul Dempsey of Mars Hill, North Carolina) passed by a 15-14 vote.

Alliance Executive Director Stan Hasteley drafted a highly favorable "personal perspective" on the report and the place of gay and lesbian people in the Alliance of Baptists. This was

published in the Alliance edition of *Baptists Today*, Oct. 13.

The Alliance of Baptists is headquartered at First Baptist Church, Washington, D.C. (which President Clinton attends). The church voted recently to cease charging the Alliance rent on its office space. More than half of the Alliance's 63,000 members and 124 churches are in North Carolina, Virginia, District of Columbia and Maryland. Nine Alli-

ance Baptist congregations are in Texas. The closest churches to Fort Worth are in Waco and in Ardmore, Okla.

The Task Force on Human Sexuality was created shortly after two Alliance congregations in North Carolina were disfellowshipped from the Southern Baptist Convention. Since then several other Alliance congregations have withdrawn from the Southern Baptist Convention, including two in Texas—Church of the Savior, Austin; and Covenant Baptist Church, Houston.

The Task Force's next project is developing and scheduling one or two workshops for the Alliance National Convocation in Vienna, Virginia. I have volunteered to help facilitate a fishbowl story-telling workshop on homosexuality.

The Alliance of Baptists may be contacted directly at 1328 16th St. NW, Washington, DC 20036. The phone number is 202/745-7609. Membership brochures are available from Honesty/Fort Worth at 817/923-8487. *DR*

**White Rock Church West**

"Sharing God's Love In The Heart of Tarrant County"

1959 Sandy Lane Ft. Worth, TX  
(between Meadowbrook & Brentwood-Stair Rd.)

\*\*\*\*\*

**New Pastor Called**

**Rev. Wm. (Bill) Pricket has accepted the call of our congregation and will assume duties on November 20.**

**Everyone is invited to be with us as we welcome our new pastor at our annual church family Thanksgiving dinner on that date.**



2:00 P. M.

No regular services this date only

|                         |                |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Sunday Worship Services | 5:00 PM        |
| Bible Study-Wednesday   | 7:30 PM        |
| Church Phone            | (817) 451-7880 |

**An Evangelical Congregation**

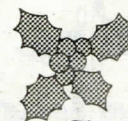
**Agape' METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH**



**November Events:**

Nov 20 "Thanksgiving for Life" Service (11 am)

Nov 27 "Hanging of the Greens" (7 pm)



**Sunday Services:**

9 & 11 am (Children's Sunday School 11am service)

4615 SE LOOP 820 (Take the Anglin Exit)

Phone: (817) 535-5002  
Office Open: M-Th / 11am-6pm



*"Agape' Means Love"*

Conservatives interfering in our lives is a

# RELIGIOUS WRONG

By Rev. JO CRISCO, TRINITY MCC

**H**appy Thanksgiving! I am really grateful that I grew up in church. Mother was an ardent believer that my brother, Ron, and I should be trained by the church. She trusted the church to help mold her kids' lives by teaching us Christian values and principles.

By most accounts, Mother was successful. For example Ron, somewhat henpecked in my opinion, is the husband of one wife, the so-called master of his household, the father of two kids born in the correct order, first the son and then the daughter. (He made Mother proud. I kept her from getting bored by routine life.)

Because of Mother's love and guiding hand and the help of our church, neither of us has ever been in trouble with the law, or expelled from school. We learned the wisdom of speaking the truth and respecting other people's property. We grew up believing that "cleanliness is next to godliness" and that the measure of a good person is in their willingness and ability to work hard.

We were reared in a denomination that is now identified as a part of the Religious Right movement. Yet, in contrast with the teachings of most of the current Right, our church taught us that what had made the United States so great was democracy and religious

freedom. As a matter of fact, it was implied that our country was probably God's favorite because of these two things. (Somehow, I suppose God managed not to notice the sins of injustice regarding Native Americans as well as other peoples of color, or the degradation of women or abuse of children.) Our country guaranteed everyone the right to formulate their own religious convictions. Additionally, we were taught that individual freedoms were of supreme importance.

Our church taught us to love our enemies, to bless those who cursed us, to turn the other cheek when struck, as well as to defend our faith if necessary. There were no classes on how to defeat those who did not agree with us by using force or hateful words. There never was a Sunday School teacher who taught a class on the virtues of bending the truth or in twisting reality. Instead, we were taught that all people have a God-given dignity that we should respect without prejudice. We were taught that Jesus said we should "do unto others as we would have them do unto us." It was wrong according to our teachers to cheat, deceive or to misrepresent yourself. It was admirable to live in peace and love. The best way to do this was to give concern and care for anyone who

needed a little help along life's road.

Somewhere along the way, I must have checked out completely or fallen into a deep sleep. What ever happened to those Christian values and principles? I confess that I have no answer. Furthermore, when God-fearing people who claim to love this country and democracy begin to advocate theocracy, the rule of God according to their beliefs, I do not know how to react.

I do not understand people who claim to be followers of Jesus being hateful and ugly. I do not know what to think when the Religious Right reconstructs the history of the country. This country was not founded on Christianity. It is true that many of the first European settlers came here seeking religious freedom. However, they only supported religious freedom for themselves and often made those who believed differently feel unwelcome. Our constitution was written as a secular document to ensure that the government would not interfere in religion. Jefferson, Adams, Madison and Washington were all intent that the government not be founded on Christianity.

I do not comprehend anyone claiming to be a follower of Jesus being mean to people. It seems that I hear a lot of talk out of Religious Right type folks about the ground being level around

the cross (meaning we are all equal before God). Yet they cause actions that indicate some are equal and others are less than equal.

I do not expect the Religious Right to agree with me nor accept me. I do expect that as an American I have the right to self-determination and the pursuit of my own happiness. I do expect that my life and property will receive just protection of the law and

that being different is not a crime.

Nevertheless, these people speak of the constitution as though it were somehow their private document. It may come as a surprise to some of them that the constitution they mention so frequently is the same constitution that I love and from which I claim my rights and the rights of all U.S. citizens. I have a right to worship according to my own understanding from God. I have a right to support the dignity of all people of any orientation. I have a right to love the woman God has given me to love.

There is no need to go on and on. We have heard it all before. In spite of the shortcomings of this country, I am thankful for the rights we do have, and I am thankful to have shared a bit of life with you. Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours. Keep on keepin' on, Beloved! ✠

## CARE TEAMS

New staff, programming facilitate AIDS Interfaith volunteers

By AMY WATTS

**R**ecent changes in the Care Team program of AIDS Interfaith is expected to enhance services for clients. New staff and a volunteer training revision should increase efficiency and effectiveness of volunteers.

David Huffman has been hired as coordinator of Care Team Services for Fort Worth, a position that has been vacant since August when Eric Davis resigned. Huffman comes to AIDS Interfaith from Brite Divinity School where he received his Master's of Divinity. He is the past Area Youth Minister of the Christian Church's Trinity-Brazos area in the Southwest.

"David's religious background makes him an invaluable resource for volunteers," Connie Revore, director of Care Team Services, said.

"Working with the Care Team program provides me the opportunity to help respond to the needs of people who are facing many difficult issues," Huffman said. "The presence of Care Team members and their willingness to help promotes a positive healing environment for our clients. I am excited about being a part of that ministry."

Huffman will supervise the Fort Worth Care Teams and monitor the care of Fort Worth clients. In addition, he will assist with recruiting new Care Team volunteers from the faith community and facilitating the new training curriculum.

Care Team training was revised to better prepare volunteers to meet the needs of clients. The training consists of four sessions: the first includes AIDS 101 and 102, food preparation and sanitation, physical care, a panel and a Care Team orientation. Psychological aspects of working with people with AIDS, facilitated by Tom Bevers, AIDS Outreach Center care coordinator,

AIDS in Faith Communities by Charlie Calabrese of University Ministries at TCU; and Substance Abuse and AIDS, facilitated by Jackie Banks and other Over the Hill staff, make up the second session of training. Session C consists of grief, stress and family dynamics. The fourth session will include homosexuality, by Dr. Rita Cotterly, director of the Sexuality Education Center, and multicultural issues.

"We are very excited about the new training," Revore said. "The diverse skills of our speakers will prepare our volunteers to serve our clients in the best way possible."

Beginning in October, new Care Team volunteers attend the revised training before being assigned to a Care Team and working with a client. Volunteers currently working on Care Teams are encouraged to attend the training as well. ✠

## NEW PASTOR JOINS WHITE ROCK WEST

**Rev. Wm. (Bill) P. Prickett** has accepted the call of White Rock Church West. He comes to Fort Worth from Newport Beach, Calif., there for five years after moving from Birmingham, Ala., where he was senior pastor of Eastmount Baptist church for 11 years. There he led the church from a congregation of 60 to over 600 and oversaw a building program for a new facility. His preaching talents and administration skills were instrumental in White Rock's call as their new pastor.

Rev. Prickett assumes duties Nov. 20 when the church will hold its annual family Thanksgiving dinner. Everyone in the community is invited to attend.

Installation of the new pastor will be Dec. 11.

### Trinity Metropolitan Community Church

331 Aaron Ave. #125 (at 2117 W. Division)  
Arlington, TX 76012 -- (Metro) 817-265-5454



## November Events

**Revival:** With Rev. Elder Don Eastman  
Saturday, 11/5 at 7:00 p.m.  
Sunday, 11/6 at 11:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

**Thanksgiving Feast:** Sunday, Nov. 20th --  
Service at 11:00 a.m. Dinner at 1:00 pm  
All are invited; bring a covered dish

**Open House (Small Group Meetings):**  
2nd & 4th Thursday Evenings; Call for details

**Prayer: Study & Practice:** Wednesday Evenings at 7:30 p.m.

*Tabernacle of Healing*

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## CHURCH/RELIGION

### SUNDAYS:

**AGAPE MCC** services, 9 and 11 a.m., 4615 SW Loop 820 (at Anglin exit), Fort Worth; 817/535-5002. Children's Sunday School at 11 a.m.

**CATHEDRAL OF HOPE MCC-DALLAS** services, 9 and 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m. (available on video). Rev. Michael S. Piazza, senior pastor. Nursery and children's Sunday school at 9 and 11 a.m. services. See guide for address.

**DIGNITY DALLAS**, 6:30 p.m. at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Inwood at Mockingbird, Dallas. Support and advocacy group for Catholics.

**FELLOWSHIP OF LOVE OUTREACH** services: Morning worship, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Night Live! evening service at 6 p.m., 711 W. Gambrell St., Fort Worth. 817/921-LOVE.

**FIRST JEFFERSON UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST** services, 11 a.m. at 1959 Sandy Lane in East Fort Worth.

**HARVEST MCC** worship service, 10:30 a.m. at 5900 S. Stemmons (I35E at exit 460, just south of Denton).

**TRINITY MCC: Children's Sunday School**, 10:45-11:30 a.m.; **Church services**, 11 a.m. **Evening services** at 7 p.m. on the first Sunday of each month, focus on praise and healing. 331 Aaron Ave., Suite 125, Arlington.

**WHITE ROCK CHURCH WEST** services, 5 p.m., 1959 Sandy Lane in East Fort Worth, located between Meadowbrook Drive and Brentwood Stair Road. For more information call Jerry Cook, pastor, at 214/320-0043 in Dallas, or, in Fort Worth, 817/451-7880.

### MONDAYS

**TRINITY MCC**, Gospel Choir practice, 7 p.m. at the church. Multicultural choir sings from a predominantly African-American perspective.

### TUESDAYS

**TRINITY MCC**, Sanctuary Choir practice, 7 p.m. at the church.

### WEDNESDAYS:

**CATHEDRAL OF HOPE MCC-DALLAS**, Dinner buffet, 5:30 p.m., \$5. Therapeutic Bible Study with Rev. Michael Piazza and service featuring the Wednesday Evening Music Team, 6:30 p.m.; and Bible 101 Class with Rev. Irene Travis, 6:30 p.m. See community guide for address.

**FELLOWSHIP OF LOVE OUTREACH** Heart Group, Home Bible Study, 7 p.m., Bedford. Call metro 817/267-8644.

**HARVEST MCC** Community Prayer, 6:30 p.m.; Bible Study, 7 p.m.; at 5900 S. Stemmons (I35E at exit 460, just south of Denton).

**TRINITY MCC** worship service, 7 p.m.; focus on the study and practice of prayer at 7:30 p.m., at the church

**WHITE ROCK CHURCH WEST** Bible Study, 7:30 p.m., 1959 Sandy Lane, Fort Worth. Call 817/451-7880.

### THURSDAYS:

**AGAPE MCC** choirs: Carillon Bells and Children's choir, 6 p.m., Sanctuary Choir, 7 p.m., 4615 SW Loop 820.

**FELLOWSHIP OF LOVE OUTREACH** Heart Group, Home Bible Study, 7 p.m., East Fort Worth. Call metro 817/429-2140.

### FRIDAYS:

**AGAPE MCC's** Nite Life, weekly social/support meetings for lesbian/gay young

adults, Agape MCC, 4615 SW Loop 820. Call 817/535-5002.

**BETH EL BINAH** Shabbat services, second and fourth Fridays, 8:15 p.m., Dallas Gay and Lesbian Community Center, 2701 Reagan, Dallas.

### NOVEMBER 5-7

**TRINITY MCC**, Revival with Rev. Elder Don Eastman, former pastor of Dallas MCC. 7 p.m. Nov. 5; 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Nov. 6, at the church. Evening service will be a celebration and healing service

### NOVEMBER 12:

**AGAPE MCC** Cycling Club, 8:30 a.m. Must wear helmets and bring water supply. Call 817/735-4915 for more information, including route.

### NOVEMBER 20:

**AGAPE MCC** Thanksgiving for Life Service, 11 a.m. at the church. Fourth annual Thanksgiving service to celebrate, share memories, and affirm loved ones' impact on our lives.

**JUBILEE**, a liberating worship celebration in the African-American tradition, 6:30 p.m. at Cathedral of Hope MCC, 5910 Cedar Springs. Call Rev. Phil Matthews at 214/351-1901, ext. 299.

**LUTHERANS CONCERNED, HONESTY, INTEGRITY AND AFFIRMATION** monthly meeting, 3-4:30 p.m., Wesley Foundation Building on the TCU campus, Fort Worth. Meeting open to all regardless of religious or organizational affiliation.

**TRINITY MCC**, Annual Thanksgiving Dinner, with turkey, trimmings and the Cowboys. Potluck at 1 p.m. after the morning service. Turkeys are cooked by the pastors; everyone bring a dish. Communitywide event; television will be provided for football fans.

### NOVEMBER 27:

**AGAPE MCC** Hanging of the Greens, 7 p.m. at the church. Special service marking the traditional beginning of Advent.

### DECEMBER 1:

**WORLD AIDS DAY SERVICE** held by Agape MCC and Trinity MCC, 7:30 p.m. at Agape MCC with Rev. Jo Crisco of Trinity MCC speaking. Second annual event.

### DECEMBER 2

**TRINITY MCC**, Tree Trimming Christmas Party, 7 p.m. at the church. Decorate the Trinity Hall and trim the tree.

### DECEMBER 3:

**AGAPE MCC** Bethlehem Marketplace, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the church. Crafts fair featuring original art and handmade Christmas items.

### DECEMBER 4

**AGAPE MCC** Lessons and Carols, 7 p.m. at the church. Special Advent service with Christmas stories and carol singing.

## ORGANIZATIONS

### MONDAYS:

**FORT WORTH WOMEN'S CHORUS** rehearsal, 7 p.m. at Meadowbrook United Methodist Church, 3900 Meadowbrook, Fort Worth. Snacks and singing; no auditions required. Call 817/263-4255.

### TUESDAYS:

**TWU'S SALGA**, Student Advocates for Lesbian/Gay Affirmation, weekly meetings, 6 p.m. at the Student Center, Room 110.

### WEDNESDAYS:

**FORT WORTH MEN'S CHORUS** practice, 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Texas Wesleyan University Fine Arts Building. Call 817/731-0122.

**UTA GAY/LESBIAN ASSOCIATION** student meeting, noon, Room 115, Social Work Complex on campus.

### NOVEMBER 3:

**P-FLAG FORT WORTH** meeting, 7 p.m., at First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist, 1959 Sandy Lane, Fort Worth. Program: Kathy Massey, Denton P-FLAG president, on the Freedom Bus Tour through East Texas. Meets the first Thursday of each month. For more information call 817/498-5607 or 817/498-4855.

**TCLGA** Board of Directors meeting, 6 p.m., TCLGA office.

### NOVEMBER 5:

**IMPERIAL COURT DE FORT WORTH/ARLINGTON** Comedy Drag Show, 10 p.m. at Across the Street, Fort Worth. Benefiting AOC Food Pantry.

### NOVEMBER 8:

**SECOND TUESDAY FORT WORTH**, (formerly First Friday) social meeting for women, 6-9 p.m. at Mad Hatter's Cafe. \$1 donation. Call 817/485-0134 for directions.

### NOVEMBER 11:

**IMPERIAL COURT DE FORT WORTH/ARLINGTON** Costume Party and USO, 11 p.m. at 651 Arlington. Benefiting Anne Simon Reeves Home.

**WOMEN'S SINGLES** meeting, social group for lesbians, an off-shoot of Second Tuesday. Meets at 7 p.m. the second Friday of each month at varying locations. Bring your own food and drinks. For more information call Dana at 817/249-1622.

### NOVEMBER 12:

**LEADERSHIP FORUM LUNCHEON**, 12:15 p.m. at Dos Gringos. Representatives from community organizations meet the second Saturday of each month for networking.

**SECONDSATURDAY SOCIAL** monthly meeting, a networking group for men, 7-10 p.m. Call Alvin at 817/795-1376 for directions.

**UMOJA HERMANAS**, pot-luck dinner and discussion, 7-10 p.m. at the Lesbian Resource Center, 1315 Skiles in Dallas. Support group for lesbians and bisexual women of color and their female allies. Meets the second Saturday of each month. Call Alpha Thomas at 214/943-8750 for more information.

### NOVEMBER 13:

**IMPERIAL COURT DE FORT WORTH/ARLINGTON** business meeting, 3 p.m. at Across the Street, Fort Worth.

**UJIMA: AFRICAN-AMERICAN LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL COALITION** general meeting, 3-5 p.m. at the Cathedral of Hope MCC, 5910 Cedar Springs, Dallas. Topic is racism in our community. Call 214/521-5342, ext. 828.

### NOVEMBER 14:

**NAMES PROJECT** monthly meeting, 7 p.m. at 665 S. Jennings. Education Committee meeting at 6:15 p.m. Call 817/33-NAMES for information.

### NOVEMBER 15:

**LESBIAN/GAY POLITICAL COALITION - TARRANT COUNTY**, 7 p.m., First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church, 1959 Sandy Lane, Fort Worth. For information write to L/GPC, P.O. Box 17437, Fort Worth, TX 76102, or call 817/263-9006 or 817/468-5117.

### NOVEMBER 17:

**TCLGA** membership meeting, 6 p.m., Luby's Cafeteria on University. Program: Amon Carter Museum librarians Sherman

Clark and Milan Hughston on "Becoming Visible: Retaining Gay and Lesbian History." Meets the third Thursday of every month. Call 817/763-5544.

### NOVEMBER 18:

**LAMBDA MERMAIDS** for scuba divers, 7 p.m., Texas Aquatics in Dallas at Central Expressway and Beltline. Meets the third Friday of every month. Call 214/669-5SEA.

### NOVEMBER 19:

**IMPERIAL COURT DE FORT WORTH/ARLINGTON** Spotlight Show, 10 p.m. at Ashburn's, Fort Worth. An evening of glamour for the NAMES Project.

### NOVEMBER 20:

**GAY PRIDE WEEK ASSOCIATION** Meeting, 3 p.m. at Across the Street, Fort Worth.

**WOMEN OF COLOR POETRY GROUP**, 5-7 p.m. at the Lesbian Resource Centre, 1315 Skiles in Dallas. Readings of published or amateur works. Meets the third Sunday of each month. Call 214/821-3999 for more information.

### NOVEMBER 26:

**IMPERIAL COURT DE FORT WORTH/ARLINGTON** Comedy Show, 11:30 p.m. at DJ's, Fort Worth. Benefiting Healing Wings.

### NOVEMBER 27:

**UJIMA: AFRICAN-AMERICAN LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL COALITION** steering committee meeting, 3 p.m. at Cathedral of Hope MCC, 5910 Cedar Springs, Dallas. Call 214/521-5342, ext. 828.

### NOVEMBER 28:

**P-FLAG DENTON** meeting, 7 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church, 633 Hobson Lane at Denton. Support group that meets on the fourth Monday of each month.

### DECEMBER 1:

**P-FLAG FORT WORTH** meeting, 7 p.m., at First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist, 1959 Sandy Lane, Fort Worth. Program: Silent Auction. For more information call 817/498-5607 or 817/498-4855.

## EDUCATION

### NOVEMBER 4:

**AOC FRIDAY FORUM: "Nutrition and HIV,"** by Dr. Carol Ireton-Jones, manager, nutrition services, Caremark, Inc. 11:30 a.m., AIDS Outreach Center, 1125 W. Peter Smith, Fort Worth. Lunch served at 11:30 a.m.; program noon to 2 p.m. \$10 donation requested; free to volunteers, persons living with HIV/AIDS infection or their caregivers. LPC, social work and TAADAC credits available. Reservations required by the preceding Thursday: 817/335-1994.

### NOVEMBER 5:

**GAY/LESBIAN PARENTING SYMPOSIUM** by Oak Lawn Community Services and the Women's Programming Division of Cathedral of Hope, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Cathedral of Hope MCC, 5910 Cedar Springs, Dallas. Cost: \$3-\$6. Call 214/520-8108 or 214/351-1901.

### DECEMBER 2:

**AOC FRIDAY FORUM: "AIDS Dementia Complex,"** by Dr. Daniel Barbaro, infectious disease specialist in private practice. 11:30 a.m., AIDS Outreach Center, 1125 W. Peter Smith, Fort Worth. Lunch served at 11:30 a.m.; program noon to 2 p.m. \$10 donation requested; free to volunteers, persons living with HIV/AIDS infection or their caregivers. LPC, social work and TAADAC credits available. Reservations required by the preceding Thursday: 817/335-1994.

## ENTERTAINMENT

### SUNDAYS:

**KNON RADIO: Lambda Weekly**, radio programming for lesbians and gays. 89.3FM, 2-4 p.m.

### MONDAYS

**7TH STREET CAFE MONDAY NIGHT MIXERS**, for the lesbian/gay community. 6:30-8 p.m.; food and drink specials.

### THURSDAYS:

**LADIES ONLY NIGHT AT BANANAS**, a private club at Don Carter Bowling Center, 1-30 at Beach Street, from 7 p.m. until midnight each Thursday. Country/Western music, drink specials, dance lessons.

### NOVEMBER 5:

**PLEIADES PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS DEIDRE MCCALLA**, Olivia recording artist, 8 p.m. at Agape MCC Auditorium, Fort Worth. Tickets are \$12 in advance; \$15 at the door; available in Fort Worth at Connections Bookstore, Collections Antique Gallery and Agape MCC; in Dallas at Crossroads Market. Call 817/923-4625.

### NOVEMBER 11:

**FORT WORTH THEATRE'S** An Evening with Regis Philbin to benefit the theatre. 6:30 p.m. reception, 7:30 p.m. Philbin's program, post show buffet at 8:30 p.m. catered by the Worthington. General seats, \$75. For reservations or sponsorship information, call 817/738-6509. Theatre located at 3505 W. Lancaster at Montgomery, Fort Worth.

### THRU NOVEMBER 12:

**STAGE WEST** "Time of My Life" by Alan Ayckbourn, author of "The Norman Conquests," at Stage West Theatre, 3055 S. University Dr., Fort Worth. The first American production of this work: laughter and tears bump up against each other in this comedy-drama that has bits of everybody's family in it. Contact metro 817/784-9378.

### THRU NOVEMBER 25:

**TEXAS STAGE** "The Importance of Being Earnest" by Oscar Wilde. First season of the new resident company at Caravan of Dreams in downtown Fort Worth. Performances 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, Sunday matinee each week at 3 p.m. For more info call Texas Stage at 817/877-3333; tickets available from Ticketline at 817/877-3000 or metro 817/429-4000.

### NOVEMBER 27:

**FORT WORTH MEN'S CHORUS** Fall Pops Concert, 7:30 p.m., Law Sone Fine Arts Center auditorium on the Texas Wesleyan University campus. For tickets call 817/731-0122.

### IN DECEMBER

**TURTLE CREEK CHORALE HOLIDAY REVIEW**, 8 p.m. Dec. 4, 7, 11, 12 at Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center, Dallas. Tickets \$10-\$25; call Art Tix at 520-ARTS (2787).

### DECEMBER 3:

**OAK LAWN BAND CONCERT**, 8:15 p.m. at Cathedral of Hope MCC, 5910 Cedar Springs Rd., Dallas. Tickets in advance \$10 at Crossroads and Sources of Hope; \$15 at the door. Call 214/942-9537.

## EVENTS

### NOVEMBER 5:

**BOOK SIGNING AND DISCUSSION**, Jeanie R. Stanley, author of Claytie and the Lady: Ann Richards, Gender and Politics in Texas, 1 p.m. at Bookstop, 4801 S. Hulen, Fort Worth.

### NOVEMBER 8:

**GENERAL ELECTION DAY**, Voting from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at precincts. Check metro papers for voting sites.

### NOVEMBER 11-13:

**TASK FORCE CREATING CHANGE CONFERENCE**, at Southland Center Hotel, Dallas. Call 214/521-5342.

### NOVEMBER 17-20:

**NORTH AMERICAN LESBIAN/GAY/BISEXUAL STUDIES CONFERENCE**, at the University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa. Panels of queer-studies scholars, art and photo exhibits, video and film screenings, original plays, poetry and fiction readings, and more. Workshop registration fee \$75, \$30 for students. To register call Meredith Alexander or Brett Beemyn, 319/335-3555.

### DECEMBER 1:

**FORT WORTH P-FLAG SILENT AUC-**

TION, 7 p.m. at First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church, 1959 Sandy Lane, Fort Worth.

**DECEMBER 15:**

LIGHTS OF LOVE MEMORIAL SERVICE, communitywide holiday service, 6:30 p.m. at Across the Street.

**HEALTH SERVICES**

**WEEKDAYS:**

FREE, ANONYMOUS HIV TESTING, Planned Parenthood. Call 817/882-1155.

**MONDAYS:**

FREE HIV TESTING, Weatherford HIV-AIDS Support Group, Inc., on first and third Mondays of each month. Call for appointment, 817/596-3022.

**NOVEMBER 15:**

AGAPE MCC hosts "Issues of Addiction in the Gay and Lesbian Community" symposium, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the church, I-20 and Anglin exit in southeast Fort Worth. Call 817/535-5002

**SUPPORT GROUPS**

**DAILY:**

LAMBDA AA, 8 p.m., call 817/921-2871.

**MONDAYS:**

POSITIVE HEALING (diagnosed ARC or AIDS), 5:30-7 p.m. AOC.

LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS, Arlington/Mid-Cities AOC office, 179 S. Watson Rd., Suite 416, Arlington, 6-7:30 p.m.

CARE PARTNER SUPPORT GROUP, St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 1 p.m.

SUPPORT GROUP FOR INCEST SURVIVORS, 6 p.m. Call Kathy or Crickett at 817/335-4330 for location.

**TUESDAYS:**

WEATHERFORD HIV-AIDS PEER SUPPORT GROUP, meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month, 7 p.m. at 904 S. Main St., Weatherford. Call 817/596-3022.

POSITIVE WOMEN, AOC, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

SUPPORT ARLINGTON, Arlington AOC office, 179 S. Watson Rs., Suite 416, Arlington, 6-7:30 p.m.

FAMILIES HELPING FAMILIES, 6:45-8 p.m., AOC.

EL SOL WOMEN'S GROUP, 11:30 a.m. Tarrant County AIDS Interfaith's wellness support for women challenged by HIV. For more information call 817/927-2437.

HIV SUPPORT GROUP, 7 p.m., College of Osteopathic Medicine, Room 540.

LAMBDA GROUP CO-DEPENDENTS ANONYMOUS, 8 p.m., 5316 Wooten.

**WEDNESDAYS:**

CARING FOR PERSONS WITH HIV/AIDS, Arlington/Mid-Cities AOC office, 179 S. Watson Rd., Suite 416, Arlington, 6-7:30 p.m.

SPIRITUAL SUPPORT GROUP, JPS Hope Room, 7 p.m.

RAY OF HOPE SUPPORT GROUP, Agape MCC, 7:30 p.m.

SUPPORT GROUP FOR INCEST SURVIVORS, 6 p.m. Call Kathy or Crickett at 817/335-4330 for location.

**THURSDAYS:**

MAN TALK, support and fellowship for gays in the age of AIDS, AOC, 6:30-8 p.m.

BEREAVEMENT GROUP, 7-8:30 p.m., meets at the Family Service Central Office, 1424 Hemphill, Fort Worth.

LAMBDA TARRANT COUNTY OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS, 7 p.m. at First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church, 1959 Sandy Lane, Fort Worth. Call Joan, 817/232-5261; or D'Anna, metro 817/461-6418.

**FRIDAYS:**

LAMBDA ALANON, 6 p.m., 817/737-7861.

**COMMUNITY GUIDE**

**BARS/CLUBS**

ACROSS THE STREET, 700 S. Jennings, Fort Worth, (817) 332-0192

ASHBURN'S, 3012 E. Rosedale, Fort Worth, (817) 534-6630

CORRAL CLUB, 621 Hemphill, Fort Worth, (817) 335-0196

D.J.'s, 1308 St. Louis, Fort Worth, (817) 927-7321

MAGNOLIA STATION, 600 Magnolia, Fort Worth, (817) 332-0415

651 ARLINGTON, 1851 W. Division, Arlington, (817) 275-9651

651 CLUB, 651 S. Jennings, Fort Worth, (817) 332-0745

**BUSINESSES, SERVICES**

ADT SECURITY SYSTEMS, 1-800-ADT-4636

ALPHA AND OMEGA PRINTERS, (817) 921-3670

ALTERNATIVE VISIONS VIDEO DATING SERVICE, (214) 521-3024

BILL'S A#1 MOVERS, metro (817) 588-0908

BUFFY'S HOME PET CARE PLUS, (817) 545-2464

BOOK STOP, 4801 S. Hulen, Fort Worth, (817) 346-9055

CHUCK CAMPBELL, lawn and home maintenance, (817) 572-3517

COURTNEY CHATFIELD, financial planner, (817) 498-1833

B.C. CORNISH, attorney, (817) 870-9159

COUNTRY DAY TRAVEL, (817) 731-8551

DARWIN AND ASSOCIATES, bookkeeping, (817) 589-1666

FLOWERS FANTASTIC, fresh or silk flower arrangements, (817) 534-3570

HAYES PHARMACY, (800) 258-9897

HOUTS PRIVATE INVESTIGATION, (817) 265-1354, Fax (817) 860-7379

HUTTON HOUSE HAIRDRESSERS, (817) 731-6801

J3 PHOTOGRAPHICS, (817) 923-4625

LAMBDA PAGES, (214) 880-7577

THE LEMON TREE ANTIQUES AND ART, (817) 332-5519

MAJESTIC LAUNDRY AND LINEN, (817) 740-0946

M-ONE insurance services, (817) 498-4308

OMEGA PROPERTIES, real estate services, (817) 354-7201

ELLEN J. PESSERILLO, attorney, (817) 283-6693

CHRIS PHILLIPS, attorney, (817) 339-1139

PLEADES PRODUCTIONS, (817) 923-4625

RIZZO AND SCHAAF, attorneys, (817) 877-0388, fax (817) 877-0380

CHERYL STRANGE, Realtor, (817) 732-3294

TWO PEARLS BED AND BREAKFAST, (817) 596-9316

**CHURCHES/RELIGIOUS**

AFFIRMATION/TARRANT COUNTY (Methodist), (817) 656-8056

AGAPE MCC, 4615 SE Loop 820, Fort Worth, (817) 535-5002

CATHEDRAL OF HOPE MCC-DALLAS, 5910 Cedar Springs (Behind Ruth Chris' Steak House), Dallas (214) 351-1901

CONGREGATION BETH EL BINAH (Jewish), P.O. Box 191188, Dallas, TX 75219, (214)

497-1591

E.C./CHRISTIAN GAYS IN FELLOWSHIP, (817) 446-1555

FELLOWSHIP OF LOVE OUTREACH, 711 W. Gambrell, Fort Worth (817) 921-LOVE

FIRST JEFFERSON UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH, 1959 Sandy Ln., Fort Worth, (817) 451-1505

GLAD (Disciples of Christ gays/lesbians), (214) 946-2184

HARVEST MCC, Denton, (817) 321-2332

HONESTY (Baptist), (817) 923-8487

JUBILEE, (African-American) meets at Cathedral of Hope MCC, Dallas (214) 351-1901 ext. 299

LUTHERANS CONCERNED, (817) 924-3966

TRINITY MCC, 331 Aaron Ave., Suite 125, Arlington, (817) 265-5454

WHITE ROCK CHURCH WEST, 1959 Sandy Lane, Fort Worth, (817) 451-7880

**COMPUTER BBS'S**

BARE FACTS Computer BBS, (817) 429-2667

GAY MATCHMAKER Computer BBS, (817) 355-6600

OTHER SIDE Computer BBS, (817) 280-0775

**HEALTH, AIDS, COUNSELING**

AIDS COORDINATING COUNCIL, (817) 870-1937

AIDS INFORMATION LINE, (817) 336-0066

AIDS INTERFAITH NETWORK, (817) 927-2437

AIDS OUTREACH CENTER, (817) 335-1994

SHERRY BREWER, LMSW-ACSW, LMFT, LCDC, (817) 783-2400, (817) 478-0095

CRISIS/SUICIDE LINE, (817) 927-5544

HIV ANONYMOUS GROUP, (817) 292-9494

INCEST SURVIVORS SUPPORT GROUP, (817) 335-4330

LAMBDA AA, (817) 921-2871

LAMBDA ALANON, (817) 737-7861

LAMBDA GROUP CO-DEPENDENTS ANONYMOUS, (817) 370-7473

LESBIAN RESOURCE CENTER'S Domestic Violence Task Force Hotline, (214) 432-2683

CATHY MCGINNIS, psychotherapist, metro (817) 461-4063

OVER THE HILL, HIV testing, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., no appointment necessary. 2001 S. Freeway, Fort Worth, (817) 922-9955.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD, free anonymous HIV testing, (817) 882-1155

SAMARITAN HOUSING CENTER for HIV+ homeless, (817) 626-9398

SEXUALITY EDUCATION CENTER, (817) 338-4551

TRICIA SEYMOUR, MA, LPC, LMFT, (817) 282-2999, Metro (817) 268-4221

SUZETTE SHELTON, MS, RN, LCDC, CCGC, CADAC, (817) 732-1159

SPIRITUAL AIDS MINISTRY (SAM), (817) 535-5002

TARRANT COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, Preventive Medicine Clinic, (817) 871-7357; Testing and Counseling, (817) 871-8920; AIDS helpline, (817) 871-7346

TCMERF AIDS AWARENESS CLINIC, (817) 534-CARE or (817) 534-2273

WEATHERFORD HIV-AIDS SUPPORT GROUP, Inc., (817) 596-3022

RAY WOFFORD, LMSW, LPC, (817) 457-2673

JAN WYNN, LMSW-ACP, LCDC, therapist, (817) 331-1881

ATIQUA KHAN, MD, psychiatrist, (817) 461-5454

**ORGANIZATIONS**

AFRICAN AMERICAN LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL COALITION (UJIMA) P.O. Bo 190712, Dallas 75219, (214) 521-5342 ext. 828

DFW WOMEN IN BUSINESS GROUP, (214) 880-7577

FEDERAL CLUB OF DALLAS/FORT WORTH, (214) 699-5889

FEDERAL GLOBE, lesbian/gay advocacy

group of government and school district employees, P.O. Box 50961, Dallas, TX 75250, (214) 264-2800

FORT WORTH MEN'S CHORUS, (817) 731-0122

GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE AGAINST DEFA- MATION (GLAAD), (214) 521-5342, ext. 816

GAY AND LESBIAN GARDENERS, (214) 339-0787

GAY/LESBIAN YOUTH, (817) 338-4551

IMPERIAL COURT DE FORT WORTH/ARLINGTON, (817) 870-1555

LEADERSHIP FORUM LUNCHEON, (817) 763-5544

LESBIAN/GAY POLITICAL COALITION OF TARRANT COUNTY, (817) 263-9006

LESBIAN/GAY RIGHTS LOBBY OF TEXAS, (512) 474-5475

LESBIAN INFO. LINE/LESBIAN VISIONARIES, Dallas, (214) 521-5342

LESBIAN RESOURCE CENTER, Dallas, (214) 821-3999

METROPLEX REPUBLICANS/LOG CABIN, (214) 520-6655

NAMES PROJECT, 665 S. Jennings, (817) 33-NAMES

PARENTS, FAMILIES, FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS/DENTON COUNTY, (817) 387-1491

PARENTS, FAMILIES, FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS/FORT WORTH, (817) 498-5607

RICE GAY AND LESBIAN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, DFW chapter, (214) 821-5979

SECOND TUESDAY FORT WORTH (Lesbian), (817) 485-0134

WOMEN'S SINGLES, lesbian socializing, (817) 249-1622

SECOND SATURDAY SOCIAL for men, (817) 795-1376

TARRANT COUNTY LESBIAN/GAY ALLIANCE, (817) 763-5544

TEXAS GAY VETERANS, (817) 763-5544

TEXAS HUMAN RIGHTS FOUNDATION, (512) 479-8473

UMOJA HERMANAS, (support group for lesbian, bisexual women of color, (214) 943-8750

U.T. ARLINGTON GAY/LESBIAN ASSOC., (817) 794-5140

**OPPORTUNITIES**

**NATIONAL MAGAZINE**

**OFFERS WRITING CONTEST**

*Lavendar Life*, a monthly nationwide lesbian magazine, has announced a writing contest to celebrate the beginning of its fourth year in January. Every woman is invited to enter; prizes will be awarded.

Original short stories and poetry received by Dec. 31 will automatically be entered in the contest. Winners will be announced in the Jan. 15 Anniversary Issue. All entrants who are published will receive a complimentary issue; all writers retain final rights to their work.

Prizes to be awarded include: short stories - \$100 first prize, \$50 second prize, \$25 third prize; poetry - \$50 first prize, \$25 second prize. Other prizes will be awarded as well as subscriptions to *Lavendar Life*.

For more information or to send

your entry write to Pamela K. Fite, *Lavendar Life*, P.O. Box 898, Binghamton, NY 13902-0898.

**GAY TRAVEL CLUB OFFERS MEMBERSHIP**

Travel Lambda Connections Club offers gay men over 40 low-cost accommodations while meeting other club members and sharing travel experiences.

Art Wilcox and Don Albrecht based the structure of the TLC club upon similar clubs for straight travelers that have prospered in Europe and the United States for years. An exciting alternative to impersonal and costly hotels, members stay in private homes of other gay men located across the United States, Canada and a growing number of overseas locations.

Hosting members offer a wide assortment of homes, in both atmosphere and location, in urban suburban, rural and even resort settings. Amenities vary with each home. Sometimes the

host may act as a guide in the area or go to dinner with guests on a 'dutch treat' basis. The host knows the area and can provide information on local attractions and the best places to dine.

TLC Club offers two types of membership. Host members offer their extra bedroom and provide breakfast (continental or full). Guests give a gratuity to help defray the host's costs. Host members pay \$40 per year and non-host members pay \$55. The gratuity is \$15 per night for a single person and \$20 for two.

Membership applications are requested by November 30 to be included in the 1995 Directory to be sent to all members in January. Quarterly updates supplement the directory.

For more information or an application form, write to: TLC Club, P.O. Box 86492, Portland, Oregon 97286; phone (503) 598-3442.

## BUS TOUR

*continued from p. 14*

news coverage shocked and angry at "those a\*\*holes in Gilmer."

Obviously, Gilmer overshadowed the rest of the trip. After our reception, it's easy to forget the kind hosts who invited us, and the fact that these 100 people do not represent the whole, not here, not anywhere. They only represent the worst.

We spent the rest of the trip getting our blood pressure back down. The ay folks in Gun Barrel City were probably surprised by how happy we were to see them, not knowing what happened. In fact, when a gay man, lesbian

and her child showed up, we practically reversed the scene, crowding them instead. It even took a bit of prompting to get everyone back to the bus for a group photo.

Not that we needed a group photo, or any other photo. Because none of us will forget our personal images of Gilmer—mine are burned into my mind more vividly than a camera could ever capture.

Images not only of the protesters, but of the people watching, too scared to support us openly. They feared for their safety—and for good reason. But they know they have friends, now. People like them. Mission accomplished.

Images of children—some dancing around us, performing a comedy of hate for the approval of their parents.

Others glancing about with wide eyes, unsure of what they were protesting and why. Mom and dad put posters in their hands and words in their mouths and I can only pray they remember us if they turn out to be gay. I'm sure they'll remember us. For that reason alone, our trip was a success.

I learned another important lesson

on the trip. I learned that whereas the radical right is a flock of sheep blindly following their ministers without question, the gay community is a group of individuals with widely varying backgrounds and beliefs, united by the common truth of our decency. As a collection of unique entities, we have so much to learn from one another, so much to

talk about together.

I learned a lot on this trip. I returned with new images, new ideas and a renewed spirit. But the lesson that resonates the most is this: we're doing the right thing. We just need to do more of it. ♣

*Whitney is editor of the Metroplex GLAAD newsletter.*



PHOTO BY JOHN SELIG

DGLA board member Gary Bellomy, center in white shirt and tie, founded the Freedom Bus Tour for rural outreach and to challenge media in those smaller towns to consider lesbian/gay visibility.

## FORMAL

*continued from p. 12*

We truly spanned the generations. White-haired couples shared the dance floor with men barely old enough to shave and with women young enough to hide acne and show off firm breasts.

Best of all, no one has to hock their holy-union ring to get there! All of this excitement can be purchased starting at \$35 a person until Dec. 15. The price goes up to \$40 after that. Starting at \$50 a ticket, you can increase the kitty that benefits four local gay/lesbian organizations (TCLGA, Trinity MCC, Agape MCC and the Names Project). See the ad on page 13 for more details about price levels and the perks that go with them.

Also, if booking a room, be sure to tell the hotel you're with the fort

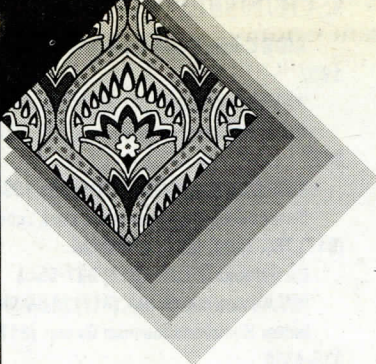
worth formal to guarantee the discount rate. The management at the Raddison was very accommodating last year. I thought they were quite gay-friendly. If you want to plan something special for your sweetie, call the concierge. A good concierge can arrange almost anything—flowers in the room, a special bottle of champagne, a singing telegram. Let your imagination soar. Remember, it is New Year's Eve, so plan this with the hotel staff as early as possible. A concierge won't charge anything for her services, but it is customary to leave a generous tip upon departure.

So forget about decorating house for a party. Come bathe yourself in elegance at the fort worth formal. Everyone will be there. Buy those tickets early to guarantee an "enchanted evening."

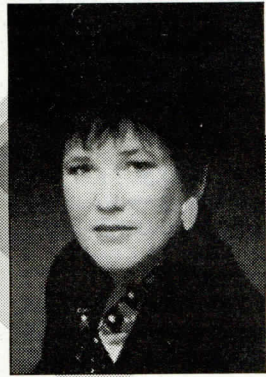
December's issue of the *Alliance News* will recall memorable moments at the *fuf* by some of Tarrant County's best known community members. ♣



IN HONORING Imperial Court's Bob Jackson and Rhonda Mae, emperor and empress XV, for the record \$25,000 raised last year during their reign, the first Monarch Appreciation Dinner, founded by Rev. Jo Crisco, raised an additional \$528 for Samaritan Housing. The roast Oct. 8 at Trinity MCC offered a delightful sampling of musical and comedy entertainment to more than 100 well-wishers from throughout the community.



# Jan Wynn, LMSW-ACP AND ASSOCIATES



Board Certified Diplomate

**INDIVIDUAL ♦ RELATIONSHIP  
FAMILY THERAPY**

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 5600 W. Lovers Lane, Suite 315 ♦ Dallas, TX 75209

**MOST INSURANCE ACCEPTED**  
**Serving the gay and lesbian community**

with  
**Atique A. Khan, MD**  
 Board Certified General Psychiatry

*Rosie and Mike Moncrief*

November 1, 1994

Dear Friends:

When we first started hearing about AIDS years ago, we didn't personally know anyone who had been touched by the epidemic. Few of our friends spoke of the disease, and we were unsure of the role we needed to play in addressing the problem.

That's all changed now. We've lost friends to AIDS, and know others living with HIV, the AIDS virus. We've also met many people at risk of HIV infection, although some of them are afraid to admit it.

As heartbreaking as it is to know that these friends and acquaintances will too soon be taken from us, it is more heartbreaking still to see children who will never reach the promise of their potential. We've visited children and families with HIV and AIDS many times, and are always struck anew with sadness, knowing that they will experience few of life's joys but much of its pain.

As chairs of the annual "Friends of AIDS Outreach Center" campaign, we are asking you to join us in making a contribution to the efforts against this disease. AIDS Outreach Center (AOC) serves men, women and children with HIV or AIDS, and provides prevention education programs to the people in our community.

The local numbers are astonishing, and the human need behind the numbers continues to escalate. In Tarrant County alone, over 1,800 of our neighbors have been diagnosed with AIDS and up to 15,000 may have the disease but not know it. AOC is meeting the ongoing challenge of treating and preventing AIDS.

Like you, we look forward to the day when AIDS Outreach Center closes its doors for lack of need. Until then, our financial partnership is a crucial part of our community's ability to rise to meet this challenge. We invite you to be part of the local solution to HIV and AIDS by becoming a "Friend of AIDS Outreach Center."

Never has the need been so large, the risk so high or the reward so great.

Sincerely,

*Rosie + Mike*

P.S. Please join us in this opportunity to become a "Friend of AIDS Outreach Center."



**Mike and Rosie Moncrief, Chairs of the "Friends of AIDS Outreach Center" Annual Campaign, with Thomas Bruner**

**AIDS  
OUTREACH  
CENTER**

1125 W. Peter Smith at S. Henderson  
Fort Worth, TX 76104  
(817) 335-1994 Fax: (817) 335-3617

179 S. Watson Rd., Suite 416  
Arlington, TX 76010  
(817) 633-5552 Fax: (817) 633-7545

**Dear Rosie and Mike:**

*I want to help! I'll join you in your efforts to see that HIV/AIDS information, education and direct support continue to be provided to men, women and children in our communities.*

My gift is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Method of payment:  Check enclosed (payable to "Friends of AOC")  
 Please bill my ( ) Master Card ( ) VISA

Account #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

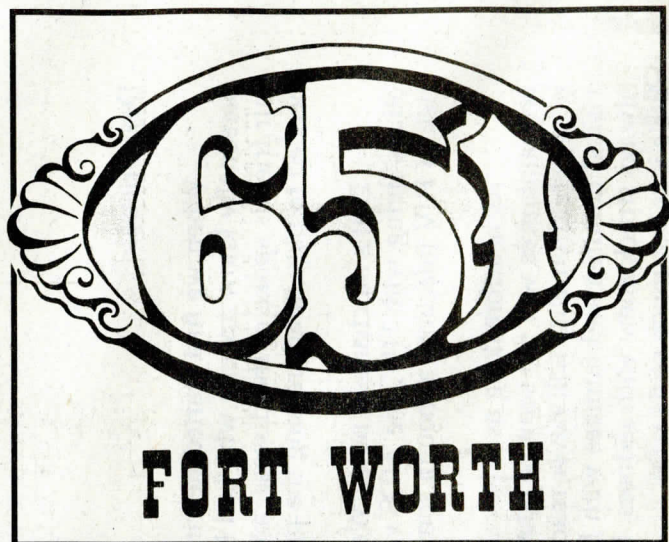
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

This contribution is made ( ) in Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

( ) in Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Send acknowledgement to: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_



**Annual**

**Thanksgiving**

**Dinner**



**THURSDAY  
NOVEMBER 24, 1994  
1 P.M.**

**(817) 332-0745**

**651 S. JENNINGS, FORT WORTH, TX**

A COMMUNITY SERVICE OF TARRANT COUNTY LESBIAN/GAY ALLIANCE

NOVEMBER 1994

Volume 14, Issue 11

# Alliance News

## Inside this issue:



### MODEL EVENT

fort worth formal kick-off  
portends bigger, better  
New Year's Eve bash. p. 12

### And:

- Police officials extend friendly hand but drag feet
- Wedding party of two takes road trip to Austin to file 'I do's'
- City council ducks on public lewdness issue
- New TCLGA leaders savvy on social issues
- World AIDS Day here survives funding cuts
- Fine tuning the Fort Worth Men's Choir
- Perspectives on secluding away and on joining in
- All the scoop on what to do, where to go
- **AND MUCH MORE!**