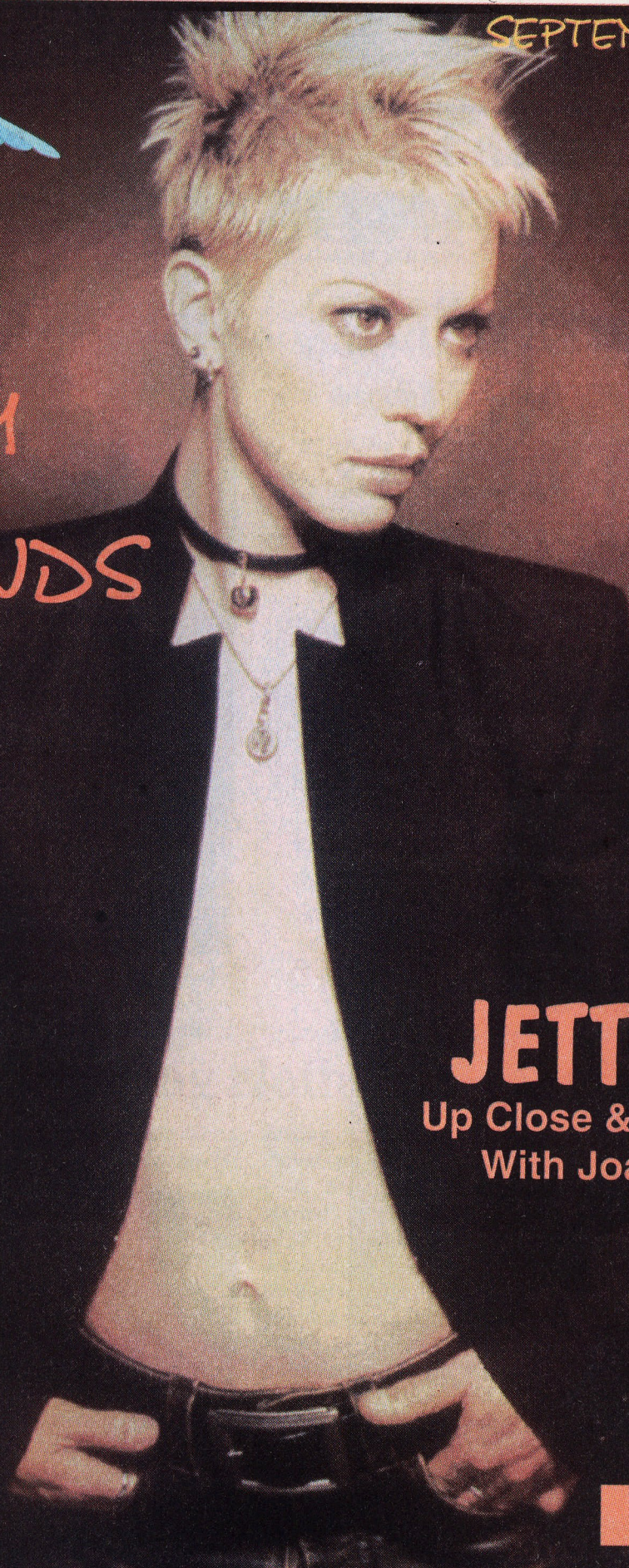


SEPTEMBER 1998



FAMILY & FRIENDS



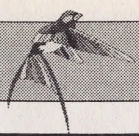
**It Was No
'Drag'**

JETTING

Up Close & Personal
With Joan Jett

*Uniting the Gay, Lesbian
& Trans community
of the Mid-South*

FREE



The
ROCKLANDS

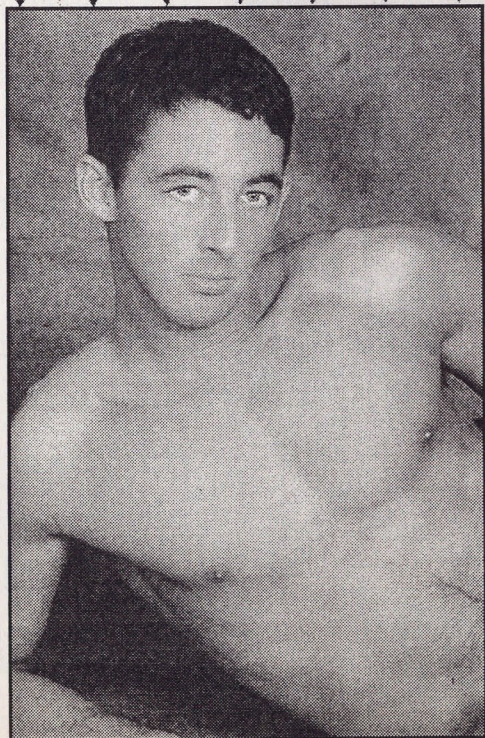
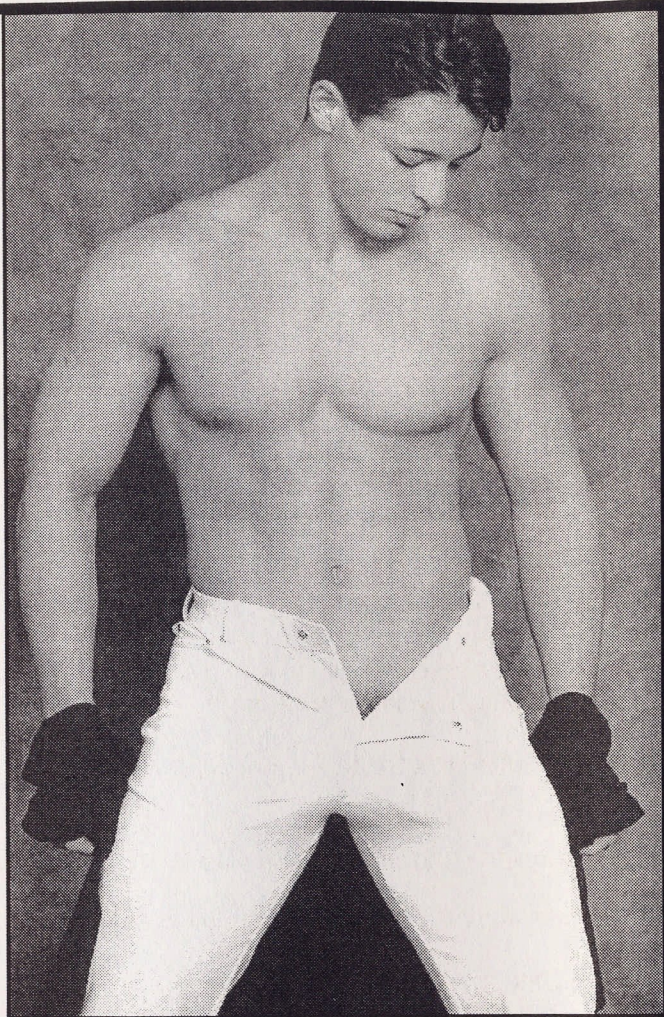
**IN
SEPTEMBER**

**VINCE
LABOR DAY
WEEKEND**



**SHANE
SEPTEMBER**

11 & 12
▼▼▼▼▼▼▼▼



**2866 Poplar Ave.
Memphis, Tn. 38111
901 454-1366
www.amnesiausa.com**

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FAMILY & FRIENDS

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THE ONE ABOUT ...

30 **HOROSCOPES/ PUZZLE**NEXT MONTH

Travel to New Orleans with Family & Friends: Find out what the French Quarter has to offer.

ON THE COVER

JETTING: Up Close & Personal with Joan Jett: Sporting a completely new look, legendary rocker Joan Jett speaks with Family & Friends Magazine about the way it was then and the way things are now, see pages 16-17.

Story by Patricia Pair

THE 1998 DRAG OLYMPICS: The show, held at Amnesia, was anything but a "drag." Krazi Becki performed "Say Goodbye To Hollywood" as a tribute to the late Renee Williams. For more photos, see page 26.

Photos by Patricia Pair

Phyllis Diller to bring clothes, laughter to area

TUNICA — Phyllis Diller, an irrepressible lady with an outrageous laugh, is recognized as the leading female stand-up comic in the world today. She has starred on television, in movies and on the stage, and has headlined in venues all around the world as a professional comic. She is approaching her fifth decade in show business.

Diller will bring her outrageous and certainly unforgettable laugh to Sam's

Town Hotel & Gambling Hall's River Palace Arena on



Phyllis Diller

Friday, Sept. 11, at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and \$20.

A "late bloomer," Diller started her career at the age of 37. At the time, she was a working housewife and mother of five children employed at radio station KSFO, San Francisco, as a publicist, newspaper writer and columnist.

Urged by her husband, Sherwood Diller, she prepared a night club act and was booked into San Francisco's Purple Onion.

She slithered around the piano, lampooned current celebrities, brandished a cigarette holder and made fun of high fashion and life in general. Her first appearance took place March 7, 1955. Booked for two weeks, she stayed for 89.

Tickets to Diller's Sept. 11 performance at Sam's Town are available at the River Palace Arena Box Office, any TicketMaster location or can be charged by telephone at (901) 525-1515.

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AND YOUR POINT IS ...

Ramblings from the Editorial Staff



By the time you read this, one of our community's long-time icons will be no more.

Audrey May closed the doors of Meristem Aug. 30, 1998, after serving the gay, lesbian and feminist community for nearly eight years. The store, which provided "books and more to women and their friends," was founded in September 1990, by May and Vickie Scarborough in order to provide feminist books and gifts in a woman-centered environment.

Meristem grew from what May and Scarborough once visualized into a place that was heavily utilized and very loved.

By the time the doors were closed and the lock was turned for the last time, Meristem was much more than just a place to buy feminist books, it was a center for the Memphis area women's community and served as a referral source for community members and local media on feminist, lesbian/gay and other issues. It was a place to go for same-sex romantic cards; candles; rainbow jewelry, key chains, bumper stickers, flags and wind socks; art work by local artists, video rental, buttons, literature, magazines and much more. It was simply, "the place to go."

But May and the staff of Meristem did much more for the community than just open its doors for business and offer a variety of merchandise, it became an icon to the community because of the support it rendered.

Meristem was a catalyst for feminist activities and sponsored a wide range of events including book signings, art shows, workshops and a popular concert series.

It hosted the first Memphis appearances of Pulitzer Prize-winning author Alice Walker. In 1995, Meristem published *On Resurrecting Roses*, a collection of original writing by local women writers on the theme of mothers and daughters, edited by Meristem staffer Robin Marvel as part of the first National Feminist Bookstores Week campaign.

Pretty much, you weren't gay in Memphis unless you knew where Meristem was and had been there on at least one occasion.

Despite the store's popularity and the support of a devoted and diverse customer following, "in the mid-1990s the impact of multinational superstores and on-line megastores made the financial situation for small, community-based feminist bookstores increasingly difficult," May wrote

in a letter to her customers prior to closing.

We were out in the community during the 1980s, and would have literally loved to have had a place such as Meristem.

Today, there are many vehicles all over town sporting the rainbow-colored stickers, and most of them came from Meristem. Where will everyone get their stickers now? We don't know.

In chatting briefly with May prior to the closing of Meristem, she told *Family & Friends* that since the announcement of closing, she has had many people come up and express their regret. She also said, "You know, I guess we did make a difference, we just never knew it before now."

It is with much sadness that we say goodbye to Meristem, which had become a routine stop on many people's list of things to do once a week. Not only has the Memphis gay/lesbian and feminist community lost a much-loved and treasured bookstore, but we, as a whole, have lost a battle against what this country was founded on, freedom. Meristem has now gone from a place to go to a piece of Memphis history.

And our point is ... we are so very sorry to see Meristem go.

Memphis Women's Conference is slated

Women in the Memphis area will have a chance to better themselves and their chances of advancement in the business world when The Memphis Women's Conference comes to town Thursday, Oct. 8, at the Four Points Hotel Airport, 2240 Democrat Road in Memphis.

The conference will offer area women an opportunity to attend a multitude of seminars throughout the day.

The opening and closing sessions will be a chance for women to focus and bring all the information together. Those attending will be able to attend three different tracks, either career and professional development, personal growth and enrichment or the complete woman, from start to finish, or mix up the sessions to customize the conference to best suit their needs.

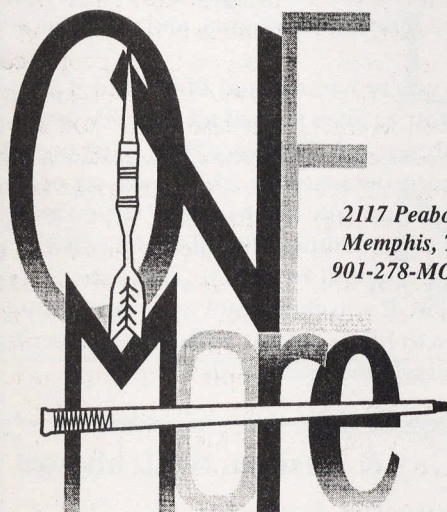
The career and professional development seminars available include Communication Skills That Matter, Innovative Thinking, Coping With The Difficult People In Your Life, Managing Multiple Priorities In A Hurry-Up World and You Can Make More Money. The personal growth and enrichment seminars are Stress Relief ... at Work and Home, Chicken Soup for the Woman's Soul, Good-bye Diets, Hello Peace of Mind, Projecting a Powerful, Positive Image, and How to Save Time and Money ... Use the Internet. The complete woman seminars being offered include Power Com-

munication ... The Real Female Advantage, Negotiation Skills That Move Mountains, How To Keep Your Workplace From Becoming A Battleground, A Road Map To Greater Respect and Shifting Gears In A Changing World.

"As a wife, mom and business owner, I appreciated meeting others and learning how to successfully manage a fulfilling lifestyle," said Pamela Wilson, owner of Cornerstone Appraisal.

The cost of attending the conference is \$149 per person. There are four easy ways to register, by phone at (800) 873-7545; by fax at (913) 362-4241; by mail at SkillPath Seminars, P.O. Box 27-441, Kansas City, MO 64180-0441, or be e-mail at skillpath@mcimail.com or 7293072@mcimail.com.

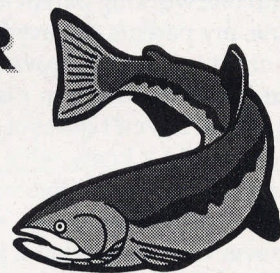
Fill out the *Family & Friends* questionnaire on Page 19 and win a meal for 2 at Bourbon Street Cafe



2117 Peabody
Memphis, TN
901-278-MORE

ANNUAL LABOR DAY WEEKEND FISH FRY

Saturday, Sept. 5



Thanks Kathy & Edie

LATER THAT NIGHT DOUBLE TROUBLE

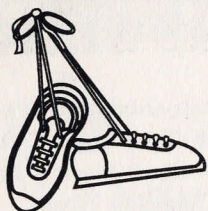
Show Time at 8 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT ON THE PATIO
Saturday, Sept. 19
JOIN US AFTER THE COOPER-YOUNG
FESTIVAL AT 5 P.M.

MONICA LEWINSKY
LOOK-A-LIKE CONTEST
Wednesday, Sept. 16
\$100 CASH PRIZE



DART TOURNAMENT EVERY TUESDAY • POOL TOURNAMENT EVERY THURSDAY



TAKE A WALK

WITH STEVEN BRADFORD

A First-Hand Look at the Trans Community

I'm a dyke with too much money on my hands. Now that's a well thought out statement! That makes about as much sense as me saying a butch woman just doesn't have the guts to do what I've done. I suspect it took about two seconds for that conclusion to come to mind before it was muttered from her lips. For ease of telling you what was said, I'll refer to this person as "Buffy."

Buffy seems to think that I'm a dyke with too much money on my hands.

Since Buffy thinks that she has the right to comment on how I (or anyone else for that matter) live, I will address her two-second thought process.

First of all, this is not a cheap transition for anyone. I obviously look to her like I was born with a silver spoon in my mouth and had that surgically removed as well. Despite my "obvious" appearance, I was not born with a silver spoon in my mouth. Actually, I doubt if one could even be found in the house.

I was born into an average middle-class family of five with one working parent as the sole provider. At the age of nine, my parents divorced and my mother began working in order to keep the proverbial roof that was currently over our heads there and in place. I started working at the age of 16 and haven't quit yet.

Secondly, I knew what I was at six years of age. Back then things were different; we didn't carry handguns to school, do and sell drugs, and I had no concept of sex at all. I never even saw what a joint was until I was in the seventh grade. And I certainly would not have dared smoke it. By the time I was 16, I already had a game plan to change my name and live fulltime as a man.

Sex, dear Buffy, was still NOT in the picture. I hired an attorney when I was 17 and was unable to change my name legally without my parents' permission until I was 18. I did it on my 18th birthday. Did I have money then? Well Buffy, let me put it this way, I worked part-time at a local McDonald's and since my mother was working to make ends meet, I also had to buy my own car; which I did. The answer to your question is, hell no!

Thirdly, this is a VERY expensive process. There are several avenues to take in order to accomplish what I am about to finish. The prices range from \$30,000 to \$50,000. I've saved over the last 16 years for this.

I'm just curious Buffy, do you know anyone that could save as little as \$20,000 before buying a car? Most people want the easy way out and find other means. Even after I

changed my name, I went through a period where I considered whether or not I could live as anything other than a man. I mean, it would be so much easier. I could buy what I wanted whenever I wanted. And more importantly, I wouldn't be judged by you Buffy because you can't understand it and must rationalize it as, "too much money and too much time."

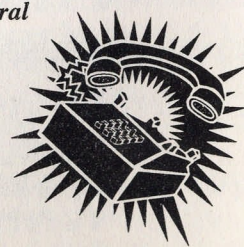
You read way too many bumper stickers babe in my ever so humble opinion. Since I've started writing this column, I've had several women approach me and confess they wanted to do the same thing but they couldn't hurt their families that way and were afraid to be disowned. I had the same fear and even at 16, I had already accepted the fact that one day I would lose them. I wouldn't be able to go to the place I will always called home. I thank God this isn't the case at all but I was prepared for just that. So Buffy, in conclusion, I would like to encourage you to think before you speak and to actually get to know the person and situation before sounding out your unresearched, unwanted opinions on others. It's people like you who keep prejudiced, biased opinions, thoughts, and attitudes alive and well.

I'm assuming you're homosexual Buffy, and if so, you are a hypocrite. You've been judged all your life and you, Buffy, should embrace any difference than what our society considers as norm because you, like myself, are not considered normal. I would now like to extend to you an invitation to respond to this column. It will not be edited, profanity excluded, and you'll be able to elaborate on your two-second opinion. If you choose not to accept my invitation and continue to fill the world with your hypocritical joy, keep it to yourself and take a walk!

Memphis Gay & Lesbian Switchboard

Information, Counseling, Referral

*A service of the
Memphis Gay &
Lesbian Community
Center, a non-profit
organization.*



24 Hours a Day

Methodist council rules on same-sex marriages

The Judicial Council, supreme court of the United Methodist Church, meeting in special session in Dallas, Texas, ruled that pastors who perform ceremonies that celebrate same-sex unions are violating church law. Pastors who violate the prohibition can be held liable to a charge of disobedience to the Order and Discipline of the United Methodist Church.

The special session follows the church trial of the Rev. Jimmy Creech in March for performing a same-sex union for two women in First United Methodist Church in Omaha, Neb., last September. Creech was charged with violating Paragraph 65C of the denomination's Book of Discipline. In that trial, the 13-member jury came one vote shy of convicting Creech on the charge. The Creech defense was based on the argument that the Social Principles of the church, in which paragraph 65C is found, are merely instructive and for study and do not have the force of law.

After holding a special session to rule on the issue, the Judicial Council ruled that the Social Principles in fact have the force of law.

Bishop Kenneth L. Carder, episcopal leader of United Methodists in Middle Tennessee, West Tennessee and West-

ern Kentucky, said, "The decision by the Judicial Council removes the ambiguity regarding the legal status of the prohibition against homosexual unions being celebrated by our pastors and in our churches. Performing such unions is clearly a chargeable offense under church law."

In a statement released as soon as the Judicial Council's decision was revealed, Bishop Carder said, "The decision demonstrates that the existing structures within the denomination provide orderly means of addressing issues and problems. In our representative, democratically organized United Methodist Church, resolving problems and conflicts demands patience, dialogue, trust in the process available and faithfulness to our covenants with God and one another.

"As we applaud the Judicial Council for the clarity and forthrightness of its decision, let us also affirm our intention to be in ministry to and with all persons in the name and spirit of Jesus Christ. May we now confront our evangelistic and missional challenges and opportunities with an intensity and passion at least equal to that exhibited in recent months toward the denomination's position on homosexuality."

PASSIONS REVEALED 1998-1999 SEASON

La Bohème

Saturday, October 3 • Sunday, October 4 • Tuesday, October 6

NORMA

starring Kallen Esperian as Norma

Saturday, January 23 • Tuesday, January 26

Mozart's The Abduction

Friday, February 26 • Saturday, February 27

OPERA
Memphis

FOR TICKETS: 678-2706

REGENCY

Belz

BYA!

KING

ADAMS FOUNDATION • MRS. LAWRENCE PACE • APPERSON, CRUMP & MAXWELL, PLC • DR. CHARLES E. ADWELL • MR. TERRY A. BEATY • MR. WILLIAM R. EUBANKS • DR. JOHN M. FERGUSON • DR. & MRS. JAMES FITZWATER • MR. KEITH HEADLEY • DIANNE & GARY MCCALLA • MR. & MRS. PENN OWEN • DR. ROBERT V. WALLING



ABOUT TOWN



Kirkpatrick fashion exhibit set

A retrospective of the Coty Award-winning fashion designs of Memphis College of Art graduate and international designer Gayle Kirkpatrick will be held Sept. 25-Oct. 17 at the MCA. Admission is free Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. There will be a preview party on Thursday, Sept. 24, from 7 to 9 p.m. Tickets for the party are \$25 each with proceeds going toward the Gayle Kirkpatrick Memorial Scholarship Fund. For tickets and information, call 272-5113.

Memphis Zoo needs volunteers

Looking for a "wild" place to volunteer? Then the Memphis Zoo needs you. Whether you have days or just a few hours to spare, the Zoo has just the right spot. From special events and guiding tours to the Zoo Shop or the library, the Zoo has volunteer positions all year round to suit all types of interests, time schedules and energy levels. For more information call 725-3400.

Brooks announces show house

The Brooks Museum League has announced the Decorator Show House XIV will be open Oct. 2-25 at Beverly Hall, 1560 Central Avenue. It will be open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Sunday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. It will be closed on Mondays except for group tours. Advanced tickets are \$10, and are available at the Brooks Museum Store and participating firms. Tickets at the door will be \$12 for adults and \$10 for seniors age 65 and older and children ages eight to 18. For more information and group tours, call 274-6840.

Home, garden tour is planned

The Central Gardens Association will sponsor the 22nd Annual Home and Garden Tour on Sunday, Sept. 13, from 1 to 6 p.m. Included in this year's tour is one of the finest examples of historic restoration of a mid-1800s plantation house, a typical turn-of-the-century bungalow and a working artist's studio. For more information, call Emily Adams Keplinger at 722-2145 or Barbara Stockfish at 274-0907.

Nutrition hotline is taking calls

Got a question about food, weight, special diets or other nutrition issues? Call the Nutrition Hotline at 678-3104. It is a free service offered by The University of Memphis. The line is open 24 hours a day.

East Memphis BPW meet slated

Regular meetings of East Memphis Business and Professional Women are held on the third Monday of each month at Lulu Grille. Networking begins at 6 p.m. and dinner is served at 6:30 p.m. To make a reservation or for more information, call 680-0600.

Diabetic support group to meet

Health First Medical Group and The Endocrine Clinic will sponsor a Diabetic Support Group, which will meet from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at Health First's East Memphis office, 5240 Poplar. To make a free reservation, call 259-9259.

SSCC offers officer program

Leo Brown, chief of campus police at Shelby State Community College, announced that the college has a new Campus Police Reserve Officer Program. For more information, call Brown at 544-5555.

JoDee Messina to play on Beale

Country music's JoDee Messina will perform Friday, Sept. 11, at 7 and 9:30 p.m. at the New Daisy Theatre on Beale Street. Tickets are \$15 each for general admission.

MBRT, Playhouse stage drama

The Memphis Black Repertory Theatre and Circuit Playhouse will stage Blues for an Alabama Sky, a powerful drama set in 1930, at the end of the Harlem Renaissance. It is running now through Sept. 21 at Circuit Playhouse. Call 726-4656 for tickets.

UofM gallery hosts exhibit

The University of Memphis's Art Museum is hosting the exhibit "Noah's Art: Animals by Southern Self-Taught Artists." The exhibit runs now through Sept. 19. For more information, call 678-2224.

Dixon presents Swiss art

The Dixon Gallery and Gardens is showing 80 works by more than 60 artists from the distinguished collection of the Petit Palais, the Museum of Modern Art, Geneva, Switzerland. The exhibit runs through Oct. 4.



Wellsprings Festival is scheduled

Who said Mid-Southerners have to travel all the way to Michigan to attend a women's festival?

The Sixth Annual Wellsprings Festival for Women is set for Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday, Sept. 4-7, at Piersol Group Camp in Meeman Shelby Forest State Park, eight miles north of Memphis.

This year the festival theme is Mothers and Daughters, which will be celebrated in story, song, ritual and quiet discussion starting on Sept. 4 at 3 p.m. and continuing until Sept. 7 at noon.

The festival will feature such activities as food, the Peanut Butter Cafe, entertainment, workshops and activities, time-out and women's crafts.

Three delicious vegetarian meals will be available daily beginning with dinner on Friday and ending with brunch on Monday. There are limited start-up funds, so early registration fees are needed to assist in accurate food ordering and purchasing.

Each year the Wellsprings Festival for Women has presented exceptional talent with featured storytellers and musicians for the evening performances.

Workshops and activities to be offered include drumming, mask making, guided nature walks, motherless daughters, women and money, car karma, women and law, Writer's Network, Tai Chi and more. Women's crafts will be set up to offer their wonderful and unique wares.

Lodging also is available for the festival. Lodging is dorm-style with four bunks per room. Hot showers, toilets and wash basins are in each bunkhouse. Bring your own bed roll, pillow, towels, etc. If you should choose optional lodging, there is no reduction in the festival pass. Tent/RV campgrounds are available at the state park by calling the visitor center at (901) 876-5215.

Other things attendees should bring to the festival include drums/percussion, bed roll, pillow, towels, toiletries, lawn chair, flashlight, raingear, and things that would be nice to have include water bottles, sunscreen, bug screen, fan, extension cord, clip light and whatever else makes you happy with the exception of alcohol, drugs and pets.

Everyone who plans to attend needs to pre-register. Children ages 12 and under, both girls and boys, will be admitted at no charge and all must be pre-registered. Organized childcare will not be available. Each parent is responsible for the care and safety of her child.

Cost of attending the festival per person is \$75 for one night (includes three meals), \$90 for two nights (includes six meals), \$100 for all weekend.

A limited number of work exchange positions are available to assist those in financial need. Work exchange involves a 10-hour commitment to be available for assigned tasks, as needed during the festival.

In keeping with the spirit of women's festivals and in order to keep costs low, each registrant is asked to volunteer one hour of work during the festival. This can be in the kitchen, registration,

children's recreation or cleanup.

The festival is wheelchair accessible. Registration forms can be obtained by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Wellsprings Festival, P.O. Box 11423, Memphis, TN 38111.

We're saving a seat for you!

Holy Trinity

Community Church
1559 Madison Avenue
Memphis, TN 38104
(901) 726-9443

Come and feast with us!

**There is a place
 at the table for you.
 Celebrate with us
 the life of Jesus,
 the one who includes
 rather than excludes,
 heals rather than
 tears apart, uses compassion
 rather than fear or ignorance.**



Scheduled Services

Sunday

Christian Education: 10 a.m.
 Worship & Holy Communion: 11 a.m.

Wednesday

Lenten Soup Supper & Forum: 6 p.m.

**The Rev. Timothy Meadows,
 M.Div., Pastor**



MEMPHIS RESTAURANT GUIDE



Arizona

Relocates to 903 South Cooper, Sept. 10
272-9000

Closed Mon.

Lunch: Tues.-Fri., 11a.m. till 2p.m.

Dinner: Sun.-Thur., 5 p.m. till 10 p.m.

Dinner: Fri. & Sat., 5 p.m. till 11 p.m.

The Bourbon Street Cafe

(In the French Quarter Suites)

2144 Madison

728-4000

Breakfast: Mon.-Sat., 7am-10am

Champagne Brunch: Sun., 11:30 a.m. till 2 p.m.

Dinner: Sun.-Thur., 5 p.m. till 10 p.m., and Fri. & Sat., 5 p.m. till 11 p.m.

Huey's-Midtown

1927 Madison

726-4372

Mon.-Sat., 11 a.m. till 2 a.m.,

Sun. noon till 2 a.m.

In the Grove

2865 Walnut Grove

458-9955

Lunch: 11 a.m. till 2 p.m., 7 days a week

Dinner: Mon.-Thur., 5 p.m. till 1 a.m.

Dinner: Fri.-Sun., 5 p.m. till 3 a.m.

Off the Wall

One More to host fundraiser for charities

One More Bar, 2117 Peabody, will be the site of a wall to remember. On Saturday, Sept. 26 (rain date is Sept. 27) come on down around noon and join in.

For \$20 you get four bricks of the wall to paint your place into history. Let the world know your love's name, or your favorite slo-

gan, perhaps just a small piece of color or a dynamic piece of art. The wall will face the street for all to see.

Off the Wall, a Benefit for Loving Arms and Friends for Life, is sponsored by Graffiti Graphics, Splash Zone Pools, One More, and *Family and Friends Magazine* among others.

La Montagne

3550 Park Ave.

458-1060

Lunch: 11 a.m. till 2:30 p.m., 7 days a week

Dinner: Sun.-Thur., 5:30 p.m. till 10 p.m., and Fri. & Sat., 5:30 p.m. till 11 p.m.

Molly Gonzales' La Casita Mexican Restaurant

2006 Madison Ave.

726-1873

Lunch and Dinner: Mon.-Thur., 11 a.m. till 10 p.m.; Fri., 11 a.m. till 11 p.m.; Sat., noon till 11 p.m., and Sun., noon till 10 p.m.

Neil's

1835 Madison Ave.

278-NEIL

Open 11 a.m. to 3 a.m. seven days a week, year-round.

P & H Cafe

1532 Madison

726-0906

Closed Sun

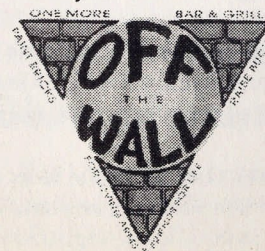
Mon.-Sat., 11 a.m. till 3 a.m.

Hard Rock Cafe

315 Beale

529-0007

Open 11 a.m.-midnight, Sun.-Thurs., 11-1 a.m. Fri. & Sat.



There is still time left to be a corporate sponsor, just call Kelly at 278-MORE by

Sept. 8.

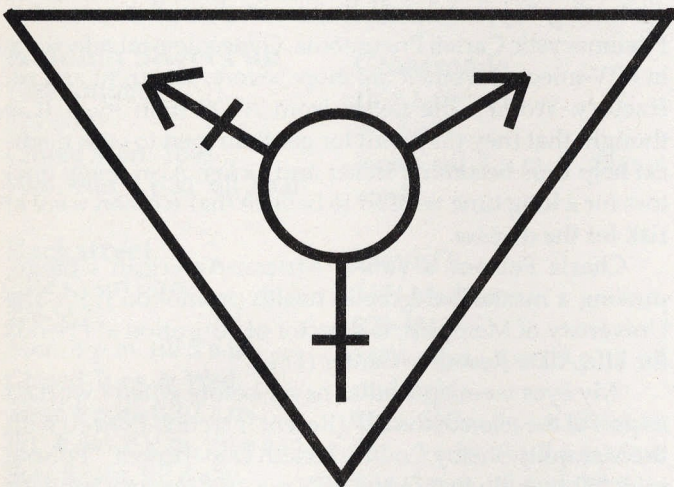
Special T-shirts to commemorate the event will be available. One More is supplying all the paint so just bring your creative imagination and some cash. Have a good time. All the proceeds are being split equally between Loving Arms and Friends for Life.

Signs & Symbols

Shows pride, freedom for transgender

BY ANITA MOYT, EDITOR

This symbol for the transgender community is a symbol of pride and freedom. Holly Boswell and Wendy Parker came up with



the original idea and design. They offered their creation to the present executive director of The International Foundation for Gender Education (IFGE), Nancy Nangeroni, who then took the symbol and perfected it.

Nangeroni stated that she made the symbol of soft shapes, to connote gentility, accommodation, and permission. It was placed on a lavender triangle to show support of the gay community.

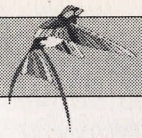
This symbol links the internationally accepted symbols for male (circle with arrow) and female (circle with cross) together with a new entity, which is

a combination of the two called transgender. There are many ideas on the deeper meaning of the symbol, but Nangeroni sees it as the potential to restore the connection between man and woman.

The symbol includes everyone, excluding none. The circle is a symbol of wholeness, and represents the wholeness of a society, which includes the transgendered. The misdirection of a society that ridicules the transgendered is implied. More than anything, it is hoped that this symbol will stand for honor & integrity, compassion for all and good humor.



**2865 Walnut Grove
458-9955**

**AIDS****Black women, babies are latest victims**

By Sharon Dobbins, Tri-State Defender writer

It's so simple, just four little words. Words that if consistently spoken by women to their sexual partners, could stem the AIDS epidemic sweeping America. "No condom, no sex."

Now, African-American women and their children make up the fastest growing HIV/AIDS caseload. *The Journal of the American Medical Association* (June 11, 1997) reports, "AIDS is now the third leading cause of deaths in 25 to 44-year-old women, and the leading cause of death in African-American women. The Harvard University/W.E.D. Dubois Survey (March 1998) reports that the rate of black women is 16 times higher than white women. Between 1990 and 1995, the number of reported AIDS cases among black women surged from 23,810 to 39,270, a 65 percent increase. In 1993, facing rising mortality statistics, health officials were forced to admit that AIDS has become the leading cause of death among black women. In 1994, 14,081 of 79,674 reported new cases were women, 74 percent of these were African-American women. By Dec. 1, 1996, more than 85,000 women contacted HIV/AIDS. As of Sept. 29, 1997, the number of women diagnosed with AIDS increased 20 percent of all reported adult AIDS cases. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) also notes that between 1991 and 1995, AIDS incidence increased the most in the South. In 1996, while AIDS declined 12 percent in the West, 10 percent in the Midwest, and 8 percent in the Northeast, it declined only 1 percent in the South.

Patricia Fleming, Ph.D., of the CDC, said, "The epidemic is slowing in the Northeast and West, but we continue to see increase in the South, largely because of the evolution of the epidemic. We know that we are seeing increase in heterosexual infections and that is contributing disproportionately to the epidemic in the South.

The Tennessee State Health Department records from 1982 to Dec. 31, 1997, show 7,323 AIDS and 8,769 HIV cases - of these blacks accounted for 2,922 AIDS cases and 4,879 HIV cases. Through March of this year, the Memphis-Shelby County Health Department HIV Surveillance Report cited 3,141 known cases; of these, black women with HIV 725, and with AIDS 283, and mothers with HIV-infected infants, 54.

Heterosexual contact is now the most common mode of transmission, accounting for 38 percent of new cases (Harvard Survey, March 1998). It has surpassed injection drug-usage among black women. Also, many women (and men) have multiple sex partners. Many men frequent prostitutes, who are HIV infected, unbeknownst to their patrons, who in turn pass it on to their wives and/or girlfriends. There are married men, who are secretly gay, who consort with male lovers, who

are infected, and thus bring the disease back to the marriage bed. Even lesbians, who practice oral sex, are at risk. The most sensible thing that most people can do is to assume that "everybody is HIV positive and protect yourself." In other words, get tested for HIV, use latex condoms, practice celibacy, limit your partners, stockpile your blood, and lesbians should use a vaginal dam covering.

Ignoring these safe sex practices result in many women contacting "opportunistic diseases." One of the worst is Pneumocystic Cariaii Pneumonia. Gynecological infections in HIV-infected women are more severe, recurrent and refractory. Women die faster from AIDS than men. It is thought that they may wait longer than men to seek medical help thus becoming sicker and sicker. Also many doctors for a long time refused to believe that women were at risk for the disease.

Charla Folsom, a young African-American woman, pursuing a master's degree in health promotion from The University of Memphis, is director of education at Friends for Life AIDS Resource Center (FFL).

"My eyes were opened as never before when I worked as part of the team of the RIP (Recent Infection Project) with the Memphis-Shelby County Health Department," Folsom said. "This study focused on HIV positive persons between the ages of 14 and 24. I was forced to take a long, hard look at what was happening in Shelby County, and especially among black women. It is clear to me, that education is the key. My thrust at FFL is to educate this community about AIDS and its prevention. When people do not have knowledge, they make poor choices in their lives. We must increase awareness of this disease and its ramifications. We're making some progress, but not nearly enough. Perhaps, in 10 years, things will be better. More than likely there will not be a cure, but at least the disease will be manageable, as are many chronic illnesses. We truly have our work cut out for us here at FFL."

In 1997, the CDC predicted that about 80,000 women with AIDS, who were capable of having children in 1992, would die before the year 2000 leaving 150,000 children behind. Most of these children will be African American. Nine out of 10 children as of June 1996, had acquired HIV "perinatally" from their infected mothers. HIV testing is crucial for pregnant women.

The chances that HIV positive women will pass the virus to her baby before or during birth is said to be one in four. The American Social Health Association reports that the odds are lowered significantly if the women take the drug Zidovdine (AZT) while she is pregnant. Black women seem less concerned about contracting HIV and AIDS, but

Continued on Page 15

FOR A GOOD TIME CALL ...



Amnesia

2866 Poplar Ave
454-1366
Closed Mon-Wed
Thur.-Sun. 8 p.m. to 3 a.m.

Autumn Street Pub

1349 Autumn
274-8010
Closed Mon.-Tues.
Wed.-Sun. 1 p.m. till 3 a.m.

Backstreet

2018 Court Street
276-5522
Mon. 8 p.m. till 3 a.m.
Closed Tues. & Wed.
Thur. 8 p.m. till 3 a.m.
Fri. & Sat. 8 p.m. till 6 a.m.
Sun. 8 p.m. till 3 a.m.

Bill's/Lorenz

1528 Madison
278-9321
Mon.-Thur. 10 a.m. till 3 a.m.
Fri. 10am till midnight Sun.

Crossroads

1278 Jefferson
276-8078
Noon till 3 a.m. 7 days a week

David's

1474 Madison
278-4313
Mon.-Wed. open 5 p.m. till midnight,
Thur. & Fri. 5 p.m. till 3 a.m.
Sat. 3 p.m. till 3 a.m., and
Sun. 3 p.m. till midnight

501 Club

111 North Claybrook
274-8655
Noon till 3 a.m. 7 days a week

One More

2117 Peabody
278-MORE
Mon. & Wed. 11 a.m. till 2 a.m.
Tues., Thur, Fri. & Sat. 11 a.m. till 3 a.m.
Sun. noon till midnight

Madison Flame

1588 Madison
278-9839
Mon.-Thur. 5 p.m. till 2 a.m.
Fri & Sat 5 p.m. till 3a.m.
Sun. 4 p.m. till 2 a.m.

The Other Side Club

3883 Hwy 45 N
Jackson TN
901-668-3749
Sun. - Thur. 5 p.m. till midnight
Fri. 5 p.m. till 3 a.m.
and Sat. 7 p.m. till 3 a.m.

J-Wag's

1268 Madison
725-1909
Open 24 hrs, 7 days a week, year-round.

Pipeline Memphis

1382 Poplar
726-5263
2 p.m.-3a.m., 7 days a week

Memphis Zoo to hold aquarium workshop on freshwater basics

Are you an aspiring aquarist, but have found that keeping a tank is not as easy as it sounds in the pet store? Then join others like yourself at the Memphis Zoo on Saturday, Oct. 3, from 10 a.m. till noon.

The Memphis Zoo is providing a workshop that will cover all the basics of freshwater aquariums and fish care. Specific questions about saltwater systems also will be addressed. This workshop, taught by a Memphis Zoo aquarist, will include a personal tour of the aquarium to show how what you learn is used in working systems.

Participants will receive assorted goodies provided by Bob's Tropicals to get them started in this "fintastic" hobby. Ages 12 and up are invited. The cost of attending is \$10 for members, and \$15 for non-members. For more information call 725-3400, ext. 3316.

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1528 Madison Avenue
278-9321

5. **Crossroads**
1278 Jefferson
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6. **David's**
1474 Madison Avenue
278-4313

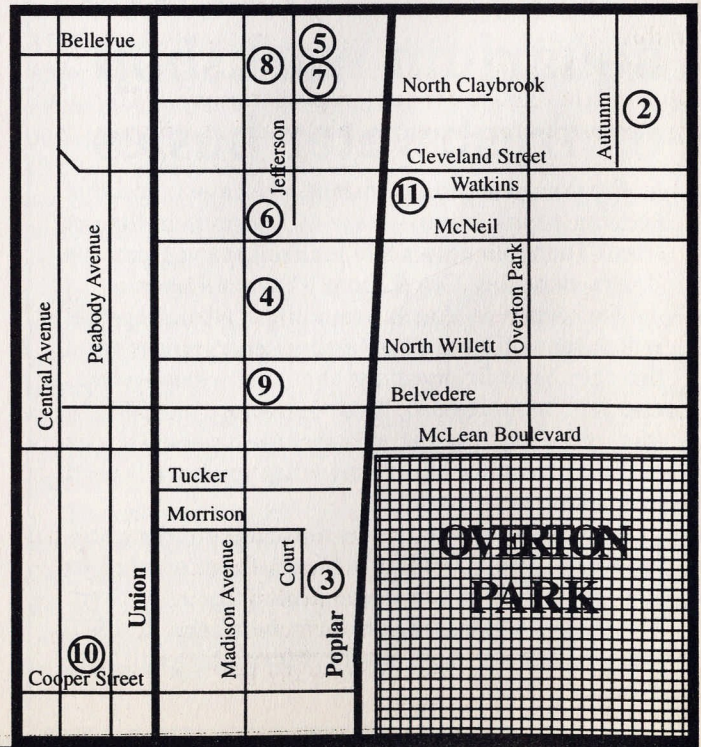
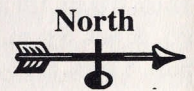
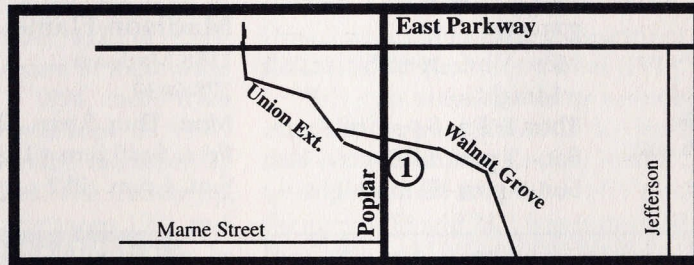
7. **501 Club**
111 North Claybrook
274-8655

8. **J-Wags**
1268 Madison Avenue
725-1909

9. **Madison Flame**
1588 Madison Avenue
278-9839

10. **One More**
2117 Peabody Avenue
278-MORE

11. **Pipeline**
1382 Poplar Avenue
726-5263



Maps not to scale, not all streets shown

Company offers insurance to 'families'

One of the many things *Family & Friends* likes to do is inform its readers to businesses that are "gay-friendly," meaning those that actually recognize or do not penalize persons for being involved in same-sex marriages/partnerships. One such business is U.S. Dental Care Inc.

A person in the Memphis community was recently approached about taking out affordable dental, optical and pharmaceutical coverage. This person was thrilled to discover that under the company's "family plan," his same-sex partner and children also could be covered.

A representative of the company said, "We are not traditional insurance and therefore, don't only recognize traditional families under our family plan. Under traditional insurance, you would never be allowed to do this."

Now folks in the community who don't have dental, optical or pharmaceutical insurance coverage for whatever reason can get affordable coverage, regardless of sexual preference.

U.S. Dental Care offers a dental/optical plan for individuals that runs about \$1 a

week; a family plan runs about \$2.50 a week. And using the plan is simple. There are no deductibles, no claim forms or papers to complete, no maximum benefit limit, no waiting period, age limits and all preexisting conditions are covered. The company provides its members with an extensive listing of participating doctors that have been carefully selected and are considered some of the best in the community.

Preventive dental care provided to members includes office visits, no charge; x-rays (bitewing), no charge; oral exams and diagnosis, no charge; children's fluoride treatments, no charge; hygiene instructions, no charge; cleaning and polishing, \$10; full-mouth x-ray, \$25, and infection control, \$6.

"This is a \$60 to \$80 savings for each family member," explained Debbie Turner, U.S. Dental Care representative. "The plan also offers a savings of up to 50 percent on all other dental procedures."

Other membership benefits include savings on optical care at Memphis Optical and savings at K&B Pharmacies, now Rite Aid.

U.S. Dental Care is affiliated with Memphis Optical and presents this 75-year old Memphis company as the provider for vision needs. Since 1920, this company has been recognized as the most trusted name in the eyes of Memphis.

The program from Memphis Optical offers family members immediate savings on eye health and eye care needs including eye exams, frames, lenses and contacts.

In addition to Rite Aid's "Preferred Pricing" to U.S. Dental Care members, members are also offered access to a convenient "shop at home" prescription drug program. A mail order pharmacy service is ideal for

people who take maintenance medications.

The plan can be paid in one of two ways, either all up front for a year's coverage, or with a down payment and small monthly fees. For example, two people would pay an initial payment of \$50 and then just \$9 a month, or, if they wish, \$129 for the entire year.

Anyone wanting more information about U.S. Dental Care can call Debbie Turner at (901) 377-3355, or stop in the office at 2954 Stage Plaza North in Bartlett. And please don't forget to mention *Family & Friends Magazine* when you call because for every referral they will donate \$5 to Loving Arms.

AIDS

69 percent of black mothers are very concerned about their children becoming infected with HIV (Harvard Survey, March 1998).

It is going to take a community effort to turn things around. Many persons and organizations are trying, but where is the spirit of the church in all of this?

Next month: AIDS: Is the black church failing?

Continued from Page 12

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AMERICA ONLINE PARTY

Thursday, September 17

Doors Open at 8 p.m.

Showtime at midnight

Come Meet Your Online Friends

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2018 COURT

(901) 276-5522

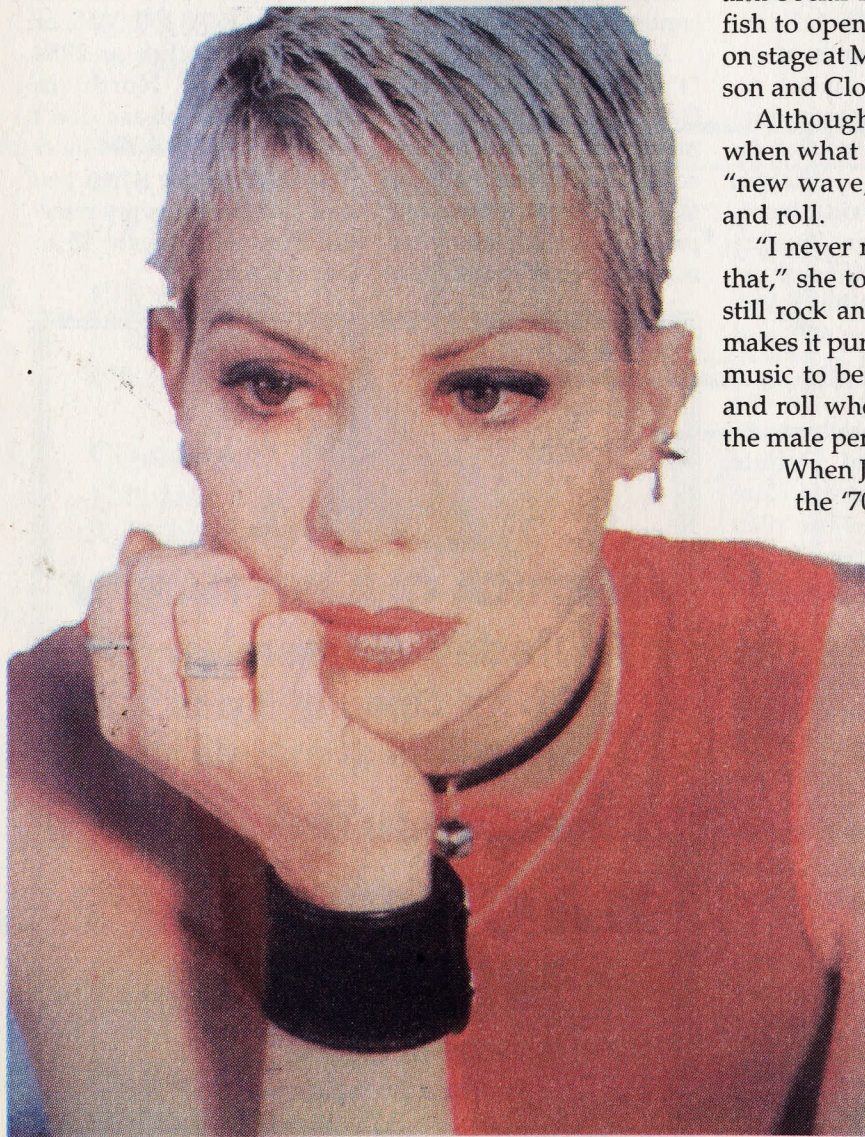


JETTING: Up close and personal with JOAN JETT

BY PATRICIA PAIR, PUBLISHER

The voice wasn't what was expected. It was sultry, rough and most certainly sensual whether she realized it or not. Joan Jett spoke with *Family & Friends Magazine* via the telephone from New York prior to her engagement in Tunica, Miss., last month.

The New York Times recently hailed Jett as the "godmother to female musicians with loud guitars and idealistic dreams." That moniker joins "the queen of punk," "the girl



Elvis" and "the original riot grrrrl" as another way to describe the timeless appeal of a woman and her music.

Jett's icon status as a pop culture symbol of what women can achieve continues to grow throughout the world. With a new Joan Jett & The Blackhearts album due out this fall, a retrospective album due this Christmas and a role in the film *Boogie Boy* by *Pulp Fiction* alumni Craig Hamann and Roger Avary due to hit the festivals this year, Jett is poised on a unique historic moment to honor her past and celebrate her future.

Famous for hits like "Bad Reputation," "I Love Rock 'N' Roll," "Crimson and Clover" and "Do You Wanna Touch Me (Oh Yeah)," Jett continues to bring purity and intensity to everything she believes in, especially her music.

Over the years, she has invited everyone from R.E.M. and Social Distortion to the Butthole Surfers and Lungfish to open for her. She recently joined the Indigo Girls on stage at Madison Square Garden for an encore of "Crimson and Clover."

Although Jett entered the music scene during a time when what is now called "alternative music" was called "new wave," she said her music has always been rock and roll.

"I never really went in for the labels like punk, and all that," she told *Family & Friends*. "The soul of the music is still rock and roll. The attitude of the performer is what makes it punk or blues and so on. I guess I do consider my music to be alternative because girls weren't doing rock and roll when I started. It (her music) is an alternative to the male perspective."

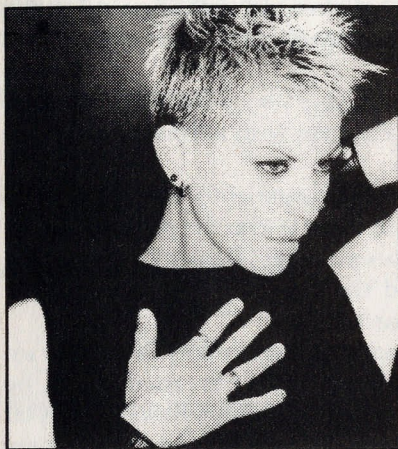
When Jett exploded into the world of rock and roll in the '70s, she grabbed the male-dominated industry by the balls; a feat she has never apologized for.

"(In the '70s) I had this black hair and really heavy makeup and a black leather jacket with all kinds of buttons all over it," she remembered, "people didn't overdress like that. You see people like that now, but then you didn't. So people didn't know what to think. You had to have bravado. You had to just be proud of who you were, and be willing to explain it. I never wanted to be mean, I never wanted to scare people away; I always wanted to turn them on to it. I wanted to talk to people about it. It was definitely difficult, and there was not the support that a lot of people have today." (The assumptions about women in rock when she started out

Continued on Page 17

Joan Jett continued from Page 16

were) Dyke. Whore. Slut. That's all anyone focused on. The women were like, 'Get away,' and the men were like, 'Dyke. Whore. Slut.' Let me try to explain. Say that you were a guy, and we're sitting here having drinks and talking. And you start coming on to me. You're the guy that thinks I'm a whore or a slut. But I rebuff you. So, what am



Joan Jett

I now? A dyke."

Although she admitted she never really felt pressure to act like "one of the guys," she said she was a tomboy and that was threatening to some people.

"I've always been a real tomboy since I was a little kid," Jett said. "I've always kicked boys' asses in a lot of things, games,

tug-of-war, dodgeball. (Tomboys are threatening because) it's mixing it up, it's the androgyny. You're straddling the lines. You're being a girl, but you're being a boy. A tomboy is a strong girl. Why does society seem to have a problem with strong women, women who know what they want and don't have to ask, 'Can I do this?'"

Jett was quite young when she discovered she wanted to be a musician.

"I was pretty young, maybe around 12 or so and saw films like *Cabaret* and *Rocky Horror Picture Show*," the legendary rocker recalled. "That's when I knew I wanted to be a performer of some sort. First it was an actress and then at about age 13, I decided I wanted to be a rock star. I knew I wanted to make those sounds, you know. The sounds of a guitar, a distorted guitar. The Rolling Stones's 'Midnight Rambler' really spoke to me."

She has recently released a collection of greatest hits titled *Fit To Be Tied - Greatest Hits by Joan Jett & The Blackhearts*. This collection contains 15 classic songs including "I Love Rock 'N' Roll," "Bad Reputation" and "I Hate Myself For Loving You," as well as the previously unreleased "World of Denial." The first single is a cover of the Sly & The Family Stone classic "Everyday People."

When Jett learned that her audience for the Aug. 28 and 29 shows were bound to be filled with lesbians, people living "alternative lifestyles," she said it would not offend her one bit. In fact, she didn't admit to being gay or bisexual, but she did admit to being "alternative" and "kind of wild."

"I'm not at all offended (by lesbians attending her shows)," Jett said. "I've always been kind of wild myself

and I've always been kind of alternative myself. The only people I have trouble with is closed-minded people. I have nothing to offer them in my shows.

"I like my audiences to get involved in the show," she continued. "I'm just the catalyst. I want the audience to sing the songs they've committed to memory. I want all of us together to sweat, have fun and get out our anxieties."

Finally, a tough question was asked.

"How do I want to be remembered in 30 years? That's a tough question," Jett said pondering the answer. "I just want to be able to connect with all kinds of people. Just seeing the variety of people at the shows always amazes me, from hard-core rockers in leather to conservative-looking males and females and everything in between.

"To have them come up to me and say a song really spoke to them, you just really connect," she continued. "To have them say that, to know they mean it because you can see it in their eyes; that is what's important. I don't care if I'm remembered at all. I just want to be able to help someone through their trials and tribulations. I want to be the friend people turned to whether they were troubled or wanted to celebrate."

Jett's interest in charity and women's causes have allowed her to express her support for women's college basketball by rocking up "The Mary Tyler Moore Show" theme song "Love Is All Around," which became an anthem and instant hit record.

"I like that it's a happy song ('Love Is All Around), and to me it seems to be empowering to the woman who is the subject of the song," Jett explained. "It seemed really appropriate to have it be the theme song for the women's (college) basketball championship because it shows women being strong and doing what they want to do. I heard it a lot on 'Mary Tyler Moore' because I was a big Mary Tyler Moore fan. And it's about a woman going out on her own and grabbing the world by the throat in a good way."

The Blackhearts also have contributed a track to the upcoming Iggy Pop tribute album to benefit Lifebeat, a music industry AIDS charity.

M.A.G.Y.

Memphis Area Gay Youth

Peer support
& discussion group

355-MAGY

STRAIGHT UP BUT NOT STRAIGHT

Advice on everything, and we mean EVERYTHING!



Question: I love to surf the net and keep meeting all these interesting sounding guys on line. A few of them have asked me to meet them. Should I accept? Is it safe?
Signed: Friend4Life@stalkernet.com.

Dear Friend4Life@stalkernet.com:

If you have to ask if you should accept, then you probably shouldn't. But if you should decide to meet some of these "interesting sounding guys" then here are a few tips:

- Always meet in a public place, and have an excuse handy in case you need to make a fast break.
- Take the same precautions you would on a city street: never give out your phone number, street address, or any other personal information until you really know the person.
- If they say they have a swimmer's build; but no photograph ... that typically means they resemble Shamu.
- People with fake identities do one of four things: brush off your questions, refuse to answer them, turn the questions back on you, or deny everything. If the person answers the question in a way that makes them vulnerable to you (they admit a flaw or a problem), then there's a good chance they're telling the truth.
- If the person on the other end of the keyboard begins to tell you that they love you, want to spend the rest of their life with you, or can't live without you there is a need to be concerned unless you have spent quality time with this individual.
- Just keep in mind you are in control of your computer. No one can make you do anything you do not want to do. So if that persistent screen name continues to give you a problem, remember there is always the ignore button.
- If your new found friend tells you that you are the only one (s)he has been talking to, chances are they are not being completely honest with you. If in doubt about anything, always ask others on-line they may have frequented the same chat or channel.
- Keep in mind that the on-line world has become a playground for swindlers, cheats, romeo's with a vengeance, liars, sex addicts, psychos and stalkers. The on-line community has become a fantasy life for those with "less than admirable" social skills, who can hide behind a profile that they MAKE.

• ALWAYS REMEMBER OBJECTS ON-LINE ARE LARGER THAN THEY APPEAR!

Question: I'm a 15-year-old female and am attracted to a girl in my English class. She's always looking at me but

we've never spoken. What should I do? Should I make the first move? What if she is not gay?

Answer: Okay girlfriend, it is very possible that she already suspects you are a lesbian with all that staring you two have been doing.

It's likely that she has been impatiently waiting for you to at least say "hello." But there is also the possibility that she just wonders who does your hair. Remember if you tell her you're a lesbian and she happens to be straight, she may not know how to react.

If she has gotten the same messages many of us grew up with, that all gay people are evil and perverted, it may be difficult for her to accept. But first things first, before you make any kind of disclosure you need to introduce yourself, and not "Hi, I'm Jane and I am a lezzie."

Take some time and get to know her. If you see she refers to gay people as "faggots and dykes," you might be better off avoiding any and all contact with this one. But if she is supportive of diversity issues or you happen to find out her favorite music is the Indigo Girls, you can figure you at least have a chance.

Just remember that this girl is in your class ... and anything you reveal to her has a strong probability of becoming common knowledge. It's always best to take it slow. At this age she may still be unsure of her sexuality so you need to make an attempt to first become her friend. It may be helpful for you to talk to others your own age about this particular concern. Yes, Virginia I barely remember being 15. In Memphis there is a group called MAGY (Memphis area Gay and Lesbian Youth) that meet regularly to discuss issues such as yours.

Whatever you decide to do, just take it slow, we do live in the Bible Belt, so it pays to be selective when choosing to come out to someone. If you are really lucky, you tell her and you end up with a good friend, if you are extremely lucky, you will end up with a date ... Good Luck !!

Questions are answered by two people, a gay male and a lesbian, in an attempt to get the best and most fair answers possible. Each person has a bachelor's degree in the counseling field and are pursuing their master's degrees in counseling. The opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the magazine. For serious problems, seek professional help. Send questions to Family & Friends, P.O. Box 771948, Memphis, TN 38177-1948, or e-mail them to FamilyMag@aol.com.

FAMILY & FRIENDS QUESTIONNAIRE

Family and Friends would like to get a feeling for who our readers are. So, please, take a few minutes and fill out this questionnaire and mail it back to us. For those who are willing to provide us with just your address, no names please, we will enter you in a drawing for a dinner for two at one of the restaurants in our area.

How old are you?

- Under 21
- 21-35
- 26-30
- 31-40
- 41-50
- Over 50

Do you consider yourself ...

- heterosexual
- gay/lesbian
- bisexual
- transgendered

What is your income bracket?

- Under \$12,000
- \$12,000-\$18,000
- \$18,000-\$23,000
- \$23,000-\$30,000
- \$30,000-\$40,000
- \$40,000 and above

Where did you pick up the magazine?

In the past month, have you ... (check all that apply)

- Been to a movie
- Been to theater
- Been to casinos
- Bought music
- Rented videos
- Been to a concert
- Been to a restaurant
- Been to a bar/club

Do you drink alcoholic beverages?

- Yes
- No

Beer of choice: _____

Do you smoke?

- Yes
- No

Cigarette brand of choice: _____

Do you frequent the bars?

- Yes
- No

How many times a week? _____

What bars do you go to? _____

What is your profession? _____

Are you ... (check all that apply)

- Committee to same-sex partner
- Single
- Married to the opposite sex
- Other: _____

Do you have children:

- Yes (how many _____)
- No

Highest level of education completed:

- High school
- Some college
- College
- Post-graduate
- Grad school
- Trade school

What organizations are you involved in, if any:

Are you HIV positive?

- Yes
- No

What kind of articles, columns and things would you like to see in Family & Friends magazine?

What is your favorite part, column and/or section of Family & Friends magazine?

Address: _____

Return this questionnaire to Family & Friends, P.O. Box 771948, Memphis, TN 38177-1948



Parents-R-US



Advice given on developing self-esteem in teenagers

Self-esteem means feeling good about yourself. It is important that teens feel good about themselves in order to have competence and independence. Parents and other adults with significant roles in the teen's life help build good self-esteem.

"It is normal for adolescents to have low self-confidence," said Jim Maxwell, clinical supervisor for Intercept, Youth Villages home-based counseling program. "It is important for parents to have an active role in building their teen's self-esteem."

In order to start building self-esteem, Maxwell suggests focusing on strengths. By putting emphasis on activities teenagers do well, feelings of confidence are created so that they can confront tasks previously found difficult. When adolescents feel a sense of responsibility, they have more confidence. Here are suggestions to help create feelings of ownership and responsibility.

1. Give teens the freedom to make mistakes. Nobody is perfect. It is important for adults to remember that they make mistakes, and teens are no different. Help them realize that mistakes are a normal part of learning. If teens feel that it is okay not to be perfect, they will feel more confident in trying new and difficult things without fear of failure. In building self-esteem, it is important to respond to mistakes by showing teens the correct way to handle problems. Parents can also help teens see mistakes as a learning

process by sharing appropriate examples of their own anxieties. Let teens know that the fear of looking foolish is normal and something that can be overcome.

2. Show young adults where they can make contributions. Everyone has one area that can serve as a source of pride. Encourage teens to find ways to express this area of success in different settings. Show teenagers that they can make contributions to the family. Give young people a task to do and refrain from "redoing" the task. Parents often do this without realizing it. "By 'redoing' tasks, we tell teens that the job they did was not good enough," Maxwell said.

3. Let your teen make choices. "Giving teens choices builds responsibility," Maxwell said. Anything can be a choice. Having control over a decision creates the sense of ownership in life that builds good self-esteem. For example, allow teens to choose weekly chores from a list of several possible chores. "It is important that teenagers know that their completion of the task adds to the success of the family," Maxwell stated. Another way to strengthen decision-making skills is when a teen breaks the rules, and consequences must be enforced. Involve adolescents when limits and consequences are set. "Teens are more likely to follow rules they help create," Maxwell said.

Taken from "Family Ties," monthly newsletter of Youth Villages.

Children's Happenings

Museum offers toddlers playtime

Toddlers discover more about beaches and oceans at The Children's Museum of Memphis. This special program, entitled "Toddlers Together," is offered on the first Thursday of each month exclusively for children ages two and three. For more information, call 458-2678.

Contest searches for stellar kids

The Shining Star contest, sponsored by the Baptist Memorial Health Care Foundation and First Tennessee Bank, is presently taking nominations of extraordinary children residing in Memphis and Shelby County to be honored at the 1998 Baptist Kids Festival Sept. 19. For more information, call 227-7241.

Caterpillar Club open to kids

The Memphis Botanic Garden's Caterpillar Club is open to children ages five and under. The program showcases the marvels of the natural world. Each class focuses on a different "earthly" topic. The classes are designed to be fun, stimulating and eye-opening. Classes are offered on Tuesdays and repeated on Wednesdays. Enrollment is limited and pre-registration is requested. Call 685-1566, ext. 110, to register.

Baptist plans Kids Fest

Build a bed for charity for the third annual Baptist Kids Fest and Tour de Tots 5K Fun Run on Sept. 19 at Hutchison School. For more information, call 227-6629.

Your Turn

Letters to the Editor



Dear Family & Friends:

According to The Washington Blade (July 17, 1998, pg. 12, col. 1), Darden Restaurants, the owner of Red Lobster, Olive Garden, and the new Bahama Breeze restaurant chains, wants to be able to fire employees solely because those employees are gay.

Darden Restaurants is going to court to try and get Cook County's (Illinois) human rights ordinance – which prohibits discrimination based on race, sex, religion, sexual orientation, and other categories, in matters of employment, housing, public accommodations and credit transactions – declared unconstitutional. Their action comes in response to an order from the Cook County Human Rights Commission that they reinstate a gay employee who was repeatedly ridiculed and eventually fired because of his sexual orientation.

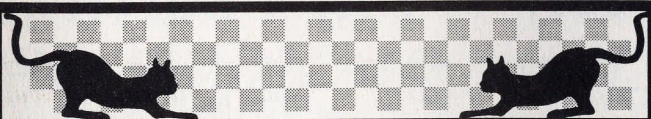
The restaurant is not trying to claim that it did not discriminate – it is acknowledging that it "did" discriminate, and that civil rights laws which prevent them from acting on their bigotry are unconstitutional!

This is not just a company that supports an anti-gay "foundation." This is not just a company that discriminates

and tries to cover it up (although those examples are bad enough). This is a company that is actively seeking to overturn important civil rights legislation – which would open the doors for countless other firings, harassment, and other forms of discrimination.

I know many of you often eat at these restaurants (I have as well), but Red Lobster and The Olive Garden are not establishments you should support. Next time you're tempted to eat at Red Lobster or The Olive Garden, imagine your Lesbian daughter/sister/granddaughter/aunt/niece/friend/mother/lover/self ... being fired solely because she's a lesbian – for no other reason. Or imagine your gay son/brother/grandson/uncle/nephew/friend/father/lover/self losing his housing – or being unable to find a place to live – solely because he's gay. There are hundreds of other restaurants out there – ones that aren't using your money to take away the civil rights of those you know and love. Patronize them, but not Red Lobster or The Olive Garden.

— Bill W. from the Internet



The House of Mews

944 South Cooper Street
(901) 272-3777

To find out about adopting a cat, call TODAY

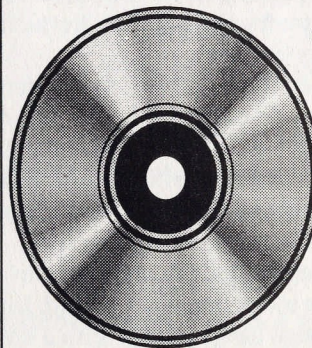
Operating on donations of money and supplies, the House of Mews is a community service feline sanctuary run by a group of volunteers called the Puddy Tat Protectors. Part of their mission is to rescue, care for and adopt homeless cats in the area. Since it was begun, they have found homes for more than 1,900 cats.



PARTY AT THE HOTTEST PLACE IN MEMPHIS

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5 p.m. to 3 a.m. Monday-Saturday
4 p.m. to midnight Sunday

Neil's offers great food at an affordable price

BY PATRICIA PAIR, PUBLISHER

Whether it's for breakfast, lunch, dinner or a late-night snack, Neil's is the place to go for great food.

Family & Friends happened into Neil's, located at 1835 Madison, one afternoon for lunch. Let us tell you that the plate lunches, which are served from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, are what home-cookin' should be.

For just \$5.95, you get your choice of a meat and three veggies. The choices of meats include pork chops, meat loaf, fried chicken, open-faced roast beef, hamburger steak, grilled chicken breast, catfish (grilled, blackened or fried), chicken strips and ham steak. The vegetable choices include macaroni and cheese, creamed potatoes and gravy, hashbrown casserole, mixed greens, sliced tomatoes, blackeyed peas, corn, green beans, carrots, butter beans, cole slaw, cabbage, salad and fried green tomatoes when in season. A vegetable plate of four veggies is just \$4.95.

You can get a ham, turkey or roast beef sandwich and a choice of soup or salad for just \$4.95. And for all of you who are watching your weight, Neil's offers a diet plate of grilled chicken breast, sliced tomatoes or baked potato and salad for \$5.95.

Lunch entrees, which also are served from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., include an eight-ounce ribeye, 10-ounce ribeye, eight-ounce filet or a 12-ounce filet. Each entree comes with a choice of soup or salad and a choice of potato.

Other entree selections include steak and shrimp (choose between peel and eat, fried or barbecued); shrimp dinner; marinated chicken breast served with onions, mushrooms and bell peppers; breast of chicken artichoke, a special dish which is baked in a cheese and wine sauce; Southern catfish which can be grilled, blackened or fried; shrimp and garlic pasta; garden fresh pasta made with tomatoes, mushrooms, artichokes, onions, peppers and zucchini; fettucine Alfredo, and grilled or fried pork chops.

Neil's also offers a wide selection of other menu items including appetizers such as fried pickles, hot wings, chicken strips, nachos, hot tamales, combo platter, potato skins, cheese fries, peel and eat shrimp, grilled quesadillas, stuffed mushrooms, fried mushrooms, meat and cheese plate, chips & dips and a basket of onion rings or fries.

There are plenty of soups and salads to choose from as well, including broccoli cheese soup, home made chili, Irish stew and a taco salad. Neil's also offers pizzas with a variety of toppings including grilled chicken.

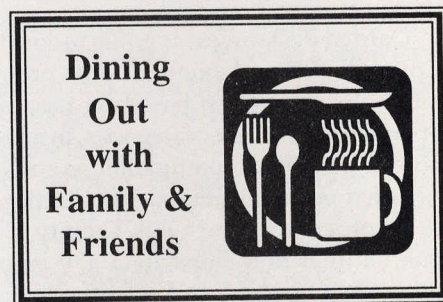
The sandwich selection includes Neil's half-pound burger, hot dog, Neil's world-famous chili cheeseburger served in a bowl, grilled chicken breast, Philly dilly, French dip, Monte Cristo, BLT, grilled cheese, peanut butter and jelly, rueben, sub sandwich, veggie sub, club sandwich, Ital-

ian sausage sandwich, tuna salad, fried bologna, ham, turkey, roast beef and chicken-fried chicken.

Neil's also serves breakfast all day long, from open to close. The breakfast menu includes such taste-tempting treats as eggs benedict, French toast, steak and eggs, pork chop and eggs, a variety of omelets served with hashbrowns or toast, English muffins and sliced tomatoes.

Neil's is open from 11 a.m. to 3 a.m. Monday through Friday, 365 days of the year. Neil's also features live music from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. on Saturday and from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday. Neil's is famous for being "where the fat man rocks," and after tasting the food and soaking up the ambience, you'll see why.

Oh, by the way, Neil's is gay-friendly.



Fundraiser planned for Holy Trinity Church

Holy Trinity Community Church is pleased to present a night of entertainment on Sunday, Sept. 20, at 8 p.m. The show will be held at Madison Flame, 1588 Madison Ave.

The event is to raise funds for Holy Trinity's long-awaited new building. On July 31, they took possession of their new building at 3430 Summer Ave. The funds will be used to renovate this new property for optimal use.

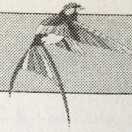
Holy Trinity has long been one of the cornerstone churches of our city to open their arms to all people, regardless of sexual orientation.

Bill Hanley, the show's organizer, said several known drag queens of years

past are coming out of retirement for this event. They include Lily Christine, Laura Lee Love, and Juanita B. J. Hefner (perhaps in her



blue dress?) will entertain you and Aphrodite will be there for a few numbers also. And there will be more. The cover is \$3 and tips are welcome. So come on out and have a good time!



Memphis Music Festival locates to Beale Street

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — This year the Center for Southern Folklore's 12th Annual Memphis Music & Heritage Festival will be held on Beale Street Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 4-6.

The three-day event will offer the best in music, folk art and food from Memphis and the Mid-South. The festival will begin at 11 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 4, with multiple stages along Beale Street between Second and Fourth streets. The main stage will be at Handy Park. The festival continues Saturday, Sept. 5, and Sunday, Sept. 6, with activities beginning at 11 a.m. daily.

For the first time ever, the clubs along Beale Street will serve as venues for late-night festival music. The center, along with other Beale Street clubs will sell \$10 wrist bands that will allow all festival goers access to all outdoor festival stages as well as to enjoy the music performed inside the clubs during the evening once the entertainment shifts to these venues.

This will be the first time since 1992, that the center has staged the festival on Beale Street. Previous years it has been held in downtown Memphis on the Main Street Mall with activities centered around Court Square. The decision to move the venue was two-fold.

"We wanted to increase the diversity of ethnic cultures that participated in the festival and we wanted to bring the festival literally to the center's front door," said Judy Peiser, festival producer and executive director of the center located at 209 Beale Street, directly across from Handy Park. "Beale Street is where the music was spawned and many of Memphis's ethnic communities got their start here. It's the root of our diversity and the cradle of our music."

This year's lineup will feature everything from cooking demonstrations of peach cobbler, turnip green dumplings and hot water cornbread to "A Taste of the South" where festival goers may select from food vendors offering such fare as fried pies, fried catfish and hushpuppies, Italian

Funeral services held for Loving Arms co-founder, board president

Funeral services were held recently for Loving Arms Board President and Co-Founder Lynda Dolbi. She died of ovarian cancer on Aug. 7, 1998.

In addition to her work with Loving Arms, Dolbi, 49, served as president of the National Organization of Women from 1983 to 1985, and was a member of Cot-

ton Pickin' Squares.

Survivors include her partner, Judith Brown, and her daughter, Jessica Dolbi.

The family requests that any memorials be made to Loving Arms. Our community will greatly miss Dolbi and will remember her for her efforts to benefit so many people.

sausage and Russian piroshkies.

Folk artists from around the South will be on hand to demonstrate their talents in crafting wood, dolls, quilts, baskets and other arts. Contemporary crafts artists from throughout the region also are invited to participate in the Craft Marketplace. Any artists who are interested in participating should call the center at (901) 525-3655.

As in past years, the center will offer a special backstage area where festival goers can meet the musicians and purchase copies of signed music CDs. The festival also will be a time to meet photographers and writers who have recently published their work. On hand to talk about their recent books will be award-winning photographer Jim Fraher whose book, *Blues With A Feeling*, contains insightful and beautiful portraits of blues artists, and former Commercial Appeal music writer Larry Nager, whose recently published *Memphis Beat: The Life and Times of America's Musical Crossroads*, is garnering rave reviews.

Sponsors for this year's festival include Beale Street Merchants Association, Performa Entertainment Real Estate, The Peabody, Northwest Airlines, Center City Commission, City of Memphis Division of Housing and Community Development, Rock 103, 96X and WREC.

For more information about the festival or to see about being a vendor, call (901) 525-3655. For additional information and tickets, call (901) 872-3681.

Neil's
1835 Madison Avenue
(901) 278-NEIL

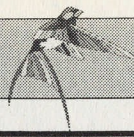
**Live Music 7 Nights A Week
on the Patio Saturday & Sunday**

**Complete Game Room
with 2 Dart Boards, Shuffleboard, 4 Pool
Tables and Video Games**

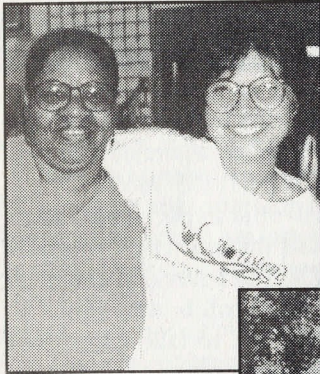
**Best Food In Mid-Town
Kitchen open 7 days a week, 11 a.m. to 3 a.m.**

**Breakfast served anytime
Great Plate Lunches
served Monday-Friday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

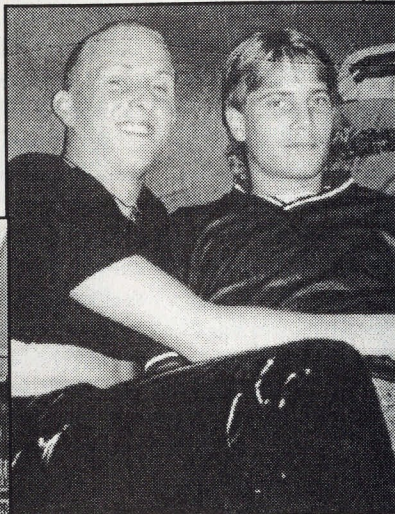
"Where the Fat Man Rocks"



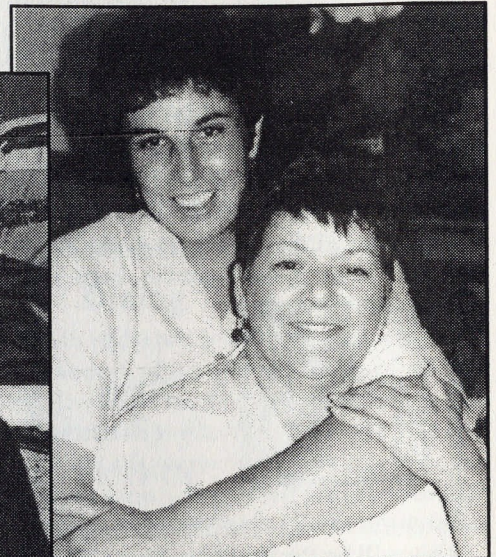
Family Album



Thelma and Audrey smile for the camera at Meristem's closing party. At right, many friends showed up to say goodbye to a Memphis landmark.



Settling in for a relaxing evening at Amnesia are, from left, Chad and Justin.



Sue, back, and Sam were on-hand at Meristem's closing. Sam was celebrating her birthday.

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FOR LIFE**

**SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 26
NOON**

**GET 4 BRICKS FOR \$20
AND PAINT WHATEVER
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*1998 Cooper-Young Festival***Events to offer 'family' fun for all**

The Cooper-Young Festival is again upon us. Saturday, Sept. 19, the streets will be closed and filled with all kinds of crafts and goods for sale as well as great food.

Live entertainment also will be there for all to enjoy. In addition, there will be a Home & Garden Tour, four-mile race, and a children's art competition and exhibit. In case of rain, the festival will be held Sunday, Sept. 20. Come join family and friends at the 1998 Cooper-Young Festival—the best free-admission festival in the world!

On Friday, Sept. 18, at 7 p.m. the Festival Four-Miler race will be held. Unique T-shirts will be given to the first 600 entries and a great post-race party for all runners will follow the event. Registration forms are available at Breakaway Athletics

or by calling (901) 272-2922.

The Home & Garden Tour of historic Cooper-Young neighborhood homes will be held Saturday, Sept. 19, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Rain date also is Sept. 20. You will see the creative and innovative renovations of these beautiful early 20th century homes and gardens. Tickets are \$7 each and may be purchased in advance by calling (901) 272-2922.

Tickets also will be available at the corner of Cooper & Nelson on the day of the festival. A special VIP tour with historian John Hopkins is available to the first 25 individuals to sign up. There is an additional \$10 cost for this personalized tour.

The winners of the Children's Art Competition will be displayed at Java Cabana on Sept. 17. The art is by children in grades kin-

dergarten to 12.

For more information on the 1998 Cooper-Young Festival

and its various events, call their hotline at (901) 276-7222 or (901) 272-2922.

**BACKSTREET
MEMPHIS**

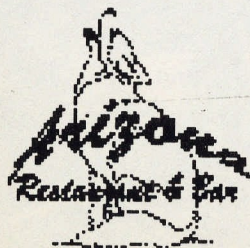
201 Court • (901) 276-5522

A Benefit for

Feast for Friends is a semi-monthly free dinner for people with AIDS, their caregivers, family and friends sponsored by Friends for Life AIDS Resource Center.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**Showtime: 11 p.m.****RELOCATED TO COOPER-YOUNG***The Southwest at its Best*

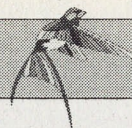
Gourmet selections and vegetarian specialties abound in our bright, enjoyable atmosphere. Come experience what the food critics are raving about. We are sure to delight one and all! A new and exotic change to Memphis's great culinary offerings.



903 South Cooper
Memphis
(901) 272-9000

Lunch: Tues-Fri., 11-2
Dinner: Sun.-Thurs., 5-10
Fri. & Sat., 5-11

**OPENING
SEPTEMBER 10**



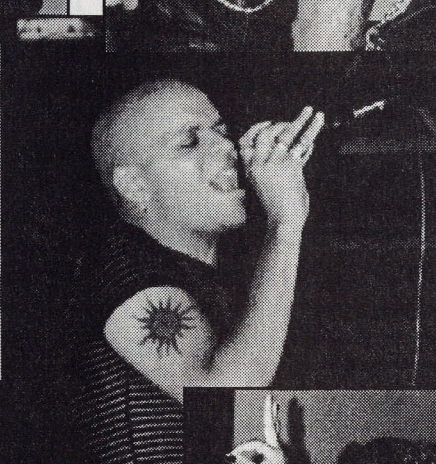
Family Album ... Drag Olympics



Kirby Kirnald



Juanna and Janie, left, enjoy the show.



Ida Claire



Tina Chandler



Chi Chi Macerana



Ready for a night of excitement are, from left, Angela, Nicole and Sharon.



Jezebel



Have You Heard the One About ...

Country Song Title Possibilities

SONG TITLES

- Get Your Biscuits In The Oven And Your Buns In the Bed
- Get Your Tongue Outta My Mouth 'Cause I'm Kissing You Goodbye
- Her Teeth Was Stained, But Her Heart Was Pure
- How Can I Miss You If You Won't Go Away?
- I Can't Get Over You, So Why Don't You Get Under Me?
- I Don't Know Whether To Kill Myself Or Go Bowling
- I Got In At 2 With A 10 And Woke Up At 10 With A 2
- I Keep Forgettin' I Forgot About You
- I Liked You Better Before I Knew You So Well
- I'll Marry You Tomorrow, But Let's Honeymoon Tonight
- I'm So Miserable Without You, It's Like Having You Here

- I've Got Tears In My Ears From Lying On My Back While I Cry Over You
- If I Had Shot You When I Wanted To, I'd Be Out By Now
- Mama Get A Hammer, There's A Fly On Papa's Head
- My Wife Ran Off With My Best Friend, And I Sure Do Miss Him
- Please Bypass This Heart
- She Got The Ring And I Got The Finger
- You Done Tore Out My Heart And Stomped That Sucker Flat

Reach the community

Advertise in *Family & Friends*

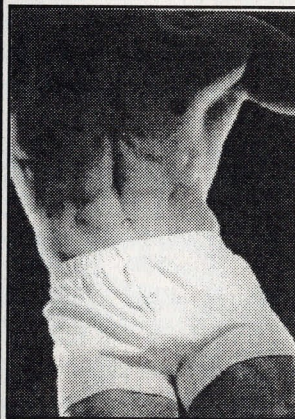
Call 682-2669

Meal nets money for FFL

Under a full moon on Saturday, Aug. 8, supporters of Friends for Life dined on a culinary creation by Chef Mike Sabad.

The five-course dinner was served in the gardens of the residence of Dabney Turley, owner of Dabney's Nursery. Mr. Turley's home sits in a prestigious east Memphis neighborhood and is notable to Memphians for its oriental architecture and gardens. Mr. Dabney added his own horticultural talents to the design of the gardens and was featured by the Little Garden Club this spring. Guests paid \$80 to \$200 per ticket to enjoy this lunar dining experience. The Teresa Pate Combo provided entertainment as the guests dined on smoked duck with mint spring roll, vanilla lobster on field greens, sorbet in citrus shells, Asian glazed pork loin with grilled ratatouille and La Reina De Los Pudín for dessert.

Hand-picked wines were served with each course to heighten the dining experience. Friends for Life would like to thank Tandy Gilliland for sponsoring this event as well as Kim Gurley and Tammy Gurley-Drown of Sally Shy's for setting up the grounds. Additionally, Sam Henderson of Trimmings Antiques and Interiors donated his time for decorating and Cecilia Robilio of Victor L. Robilio Company donated the wines. Proceeds totalling \$11,200 were raised by these wonderful supporters of Friends for Life.



WET BOXER CONTEST

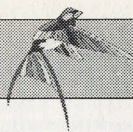
Friday, Sept. 18
MIDNIGHT

\$300

IN CASH & PRIZES TO BE GIVEN AWAY

BACKSTREET MEMPHIS

2018 COURT
(901) 276-5522



Grace-St. Luke's plans Canterbury Festival

Join in the revelry on Saturday, Oct. 3, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. as the grounds of Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal Church at Peabody and Belvedere are transformed into a 16th century street festival.

The Canterbury Festival, now in its fifth year, is a banquet of entertainment, food and arts and crafts presented in all the glory and splendor of 16th century England. The festival features drama and music, an English pub and food court, a colorful marketplace and an entire realm of children's activities and games guaranteed to delight children and their parents.

Tickets are \$2 per person with children under age three admitted free. Tickets can be purchased at the gate or in advance at the church, 1720 Peabody, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Bring the entire family and join in the merriment. All the proceeds will go to fund MIFA's Opportunity Bank. Grace-St. Luke's has supplied initial funding for significant local programs in the past and is pleased to provide seed money for MIFA's newest program.

Stroll back in time at The Canterbury Festival as you encounter a multitude of memorable costumed characters, from King Henry VIII and his beautiful queen to jugglers, wizards and madrigal singers. Entertainment highlights will include excerpts from Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, a puppet show and puppet-making workshop by Jim Crosthwait from 11 a.m. to noon, Celtic music, a maypole dance, English country dances and performances by the Wolf River Pipe and Drum Corps, Larkin Bryant and the Vance Duo.

The Artisan's Market will be filled with more than 30 artisans who work in all craft media including leather, wood, jewelry, fiber, metal and clay. The craftsmen are delighted to demonstrate their skills and sell their treasures for your keepsake.

The Children's Realm is a perfect playground for a child's imagination. Young knights and princesses can scale the castle tower, slide over the moat, enjoy face painting, try their hand at archery or lawn bowling and other rides and games including "Canterbury Tails" pony rides, "Douse the Dragon" and "Fly by Knight." The popular Beanie Babies will be given as prizes for the cake walk.

A wide variety of food and drink await visitors to the food court. The aroma of meat cooked over an open fire will fill the air. A host of authentic beverages and English pub lunch menu will be available in the Pub of Three Crowns. Tastings of British beer and ale led by connoisseurs are scheduled for 3, 4 and 5 p.m. Tickets are \$6 per tasting and advance purchase of tickets for the tastings is encouraged.

The Reverend G. David Fikes, rector of Grace-St. Luke's Church, noted, "We stage this festival to build community

within our church and Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal School, to provide education about our heritage in fun and entertaining ways, to honor our past and re-learn some of our traditions, and to raise money for our outreach programs in the community. This year proceeds from the festival will be dedicated to MIFA's news program, The Opportunity Bank. We invite Memphians to join us on this delightful pilgrimage to Canterbury. Come and experience sixteenth century English fun and frolicking."

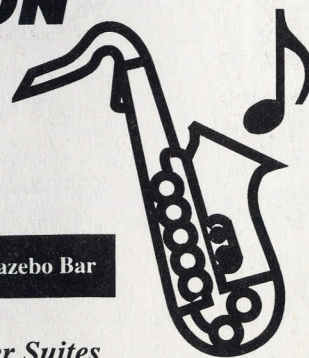
Several related Canterbury Festival events to which the public is invited are scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 27, at Grace-St. Luke's Church. An English Tea will be served in McClure Hall of Grace-St. Luke's at 4:30 p.m. Beautifully decorated tables, imported English teas and a delicious menu of authentic, historic recipes served in three courses will transport you to England. Savouries, scones and sweets round out the menu, and harpist will provide music. Tickets are \$7 per person and space is limited to 50 people. Tickets should be purchased in advance from the church office. At 6 p.m. in the church a service of Evensong will follow the plan of the 1559 Prayer Book of the Church of England. The Grace-St. Luke's Choir will perform music of the period.

The Canterbury Festival offers your entire family the most fun in 400 years, and all proceeds assist MIFA in offering a better life to many in the community.

For more information about the festival and related events, call the church at 272-7425.

Largest Champagne Sunday Brunch in Memphis

**BOURBON
STREET
CAFE**



Visit "Anything Goes" Gazebo Bar

*French Quarter Suites
2144 Madison Avenue*

Opera Memphis extends open invitation

To Our Friends at Friends for Life:

We hope that you were able to attend "Three Men and The Lady" and that the concert whetted your appetite for more Opera. It was a pleasure and honor to be working with such a fine organization as Friends for Life.

Next year would be a great season to try the Opera. We are performing *La Boheme*; *Norma*, which stars The Lady, Kallen Esperian, and Mozart's *Abduction from the Seraglio*.

Subscription prices range from \$28 to \$235 and we promise to give 10 percent of every new subscription that mentions this *Family & Friends* article as a donation to Friends for Life. For further information, please call Opera Memphis at 678-2706 in order to ask for a brochure or to purchase a subscription.

Michael Ching
General/Artistic Director
Opera Memphis

To the readers of Family & Friends:

I want to thank Michael Ching for his kind words and for his generosity and special considerations shown to us. His offer of donating 10 percent of the subscription price to Friends for Life is unprecedented, and I hope the response will be gratifying for

all. I had the opportunity to attend Opera Memphis' *Samson et Dahlila*, and I can't tell you enough how wonderful it was.

I hadn't been to an opera in ages, not willing to sit through music I didn't understand. How foolish I was! Above the stage is a screen that shows the translation of the lyrics, greatly enhancing the meaning and the emotions of the powerful music opera is famous for. It was enthralling!

This is a wonderful opportunity for us to support local arts and this agency at the same time and I hope you take advantage of Michael's wonderful offer. Anyone who enjoys a captivating story line and moving music would enjoy an evening at The Opera.

Music nourishes the soul and soothes the beast, and opera lover or not, after attending a night at The Opera, you will be all the richer for it.

Butch Valentine
Fundraising Coordinator
Friends for Life

REACH THE COMMUNITY

Advertise in Family & Friends (901) 682-2669

SAFE SEX

Emerald Theatre Company
proudly presents Harvey Fierstein's

SAFE SEX

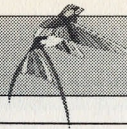
Sept. 18 - 20 & 25 - 27

THEATREWORKS

2085 MONROE AVE. 8:00 P.M.

\$8.00 722-9302/276-0168

SAFE SEX



HOROSCOPES

Virgo (Aug. 24-Sept. 23) – This is a time for reflection and to consider important decisions before jumping to conclusions. Bosses could be impressed by you, which may show up on your paycheck.

Libra (Sept. 24-Oct. 23) – Put on your party shoes because this is a time for socializing and widening your circle of friends. Doors can be opened by new people you meet. Try new things and wishes may come true.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) – The focus for now is on career and financial trends. Soon you could be moving up the ladder of success, while friends offer support. Direct efforts to career, community and civic projects. This could indeed be a time of great things.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) – Those open to change will be the luckiest. Most important in your life at the moment are long-term goals and people in faraway places. Good news could come to you in the near future.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) – The planets give their nod to your social life. Make it a point to go where people gather. Time spent out among friends proves beneficial to your romantic nature. Studying something new could improve your financial status.

Aquarius (Jan. 21-Feb. 19) – A matter involving a partnership or relationship may finally come to the surface. If you extend time and effort, dreams could become realities, otherwise, say goodbye to that relationship.

Pisces (Feb. 20-March 20) – Things done at work could

be most effective now. A missed opportunity could present itself again. Turn to your friends for support. This is not a time to go it alone.

Aries (March 21-April 20) – The planets are now smiling on social and creative interests. The time is right for a new romantic relationship. You may find a new way to express yourself romantically.

Taurus (April 21-May 21) – Promising endeavors for the month include home-related activities, home maintenance and real estate deals. The time is right for a home-based money-making idea.

Gemini (May 22-June 21) – Dig a little deeper and you just might find that the gold was there all along. The answers to your problems are much closer than you think they are. Keep an open-mind and you could benefit.

Cancer (June 22-July 23) – The only way for your dreams to come true is to place yourself in the right place where business and social matters thrive. Patience brings many rewards. You might even consider a home-based business project in the near future.

Leo (July 24-Aug. 23) – Your career sector is the focus now. Professional or business gains may be right around the corner. Believe in yourself and you will go far. But don't forget that romantic interest in your life either.

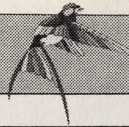
Editor's Note: Horoscopes are meant for entertainment purposes only and are for the month of September.

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AMNESIA
J-WAGS
N-COGNITO
MADISON FLAME
DAVID'S
BILL'S
FIVE-O-ONE

CROSSROADS
AUTUMN STREET
PUB
BACKSTREET
THE OTHER SIDE
ONE MORE
PIPELINE

A	C	R	O	S	E	W	J	A	W	S	R
U	K	R	K	O	T	I	N	G	O	C	N
T	B	I	O	E	C	S	O	K	N	K	C
U	L	K	D	S	T	B	M	L	E	Q	Z
M	B	E	T	F	S	H	J	W	M	W	B
N	A	E	H	U	G	R	I	T	O	B	I
S	E	P	E	P	I	B	O	J	R	R	L
T	M	L	O	V	E	S	Z	A	E	L	L
R	A	L	T	C	A	N	T	M	D	I	S
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T	N	M	R	Y	Z	W	O	R	H	U	I
P	O	C	S	M	D	A	V	I	D	S	L
U	S	B	I	L	I	G	C	V	A	E	E
B	I	A	D	S	V	S	O	S	V	J	P
N	D	M	E	C	G	C	E	V	I	F	I
L	A	N	D	J	H	X	O	D	W	L	P
O	M	B	A	C	K	S	T	R	E	E	T
A	Z	J	Y	E	N	O	O	E	V	I	F



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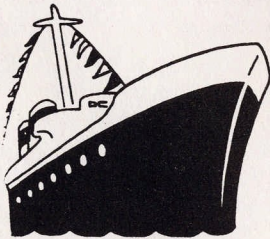
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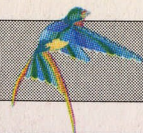
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