

MARCH 2003

# FAMILY

*& friends*

## GERMANTOWN COMES OUT!



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MR. LEATHER 2003**

**EQUALITY  
TENNESSEE  
MEETS IN MEMPHIS**

# Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo

April 5, Saturday, 8 p.m.



"The [Tocks] program of grand ballet is as much food  
for the mind as it is for the eye and the funny bone."

*The New York Times*

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For almost 30 years, the incomparable Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo has been amazing and amusing audiences across the globe. This critically acclaimed professional dance company presents a playful, entertaining view of reputable ballet in parody and 'drag' form. The "Tocks" repertoire includes the full gamut of classical and modern dance, faithfully and dramatically executed on point. With high kicks and high jinks, this all-male troupe spoofs all that is held sacred in classical ballet.

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2002-2003

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City of  
Germantown

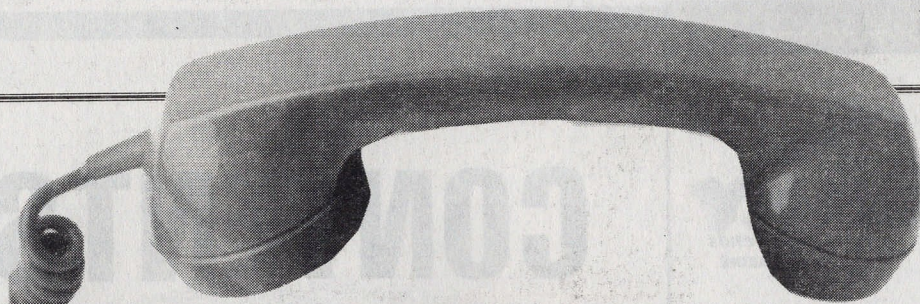
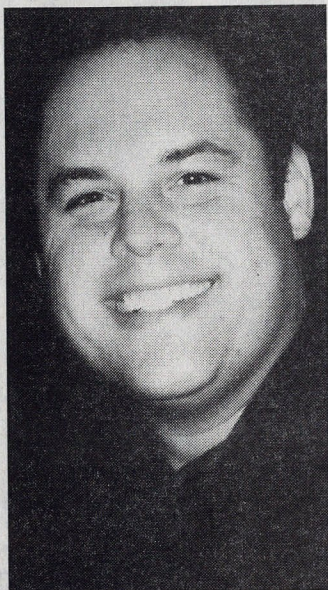


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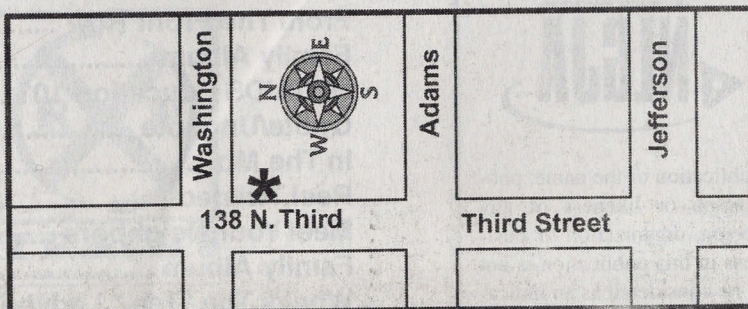
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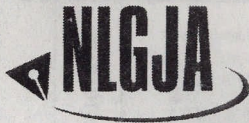
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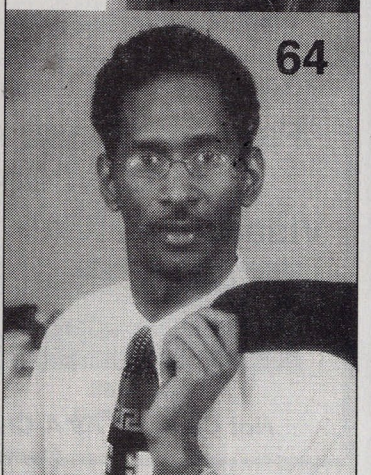
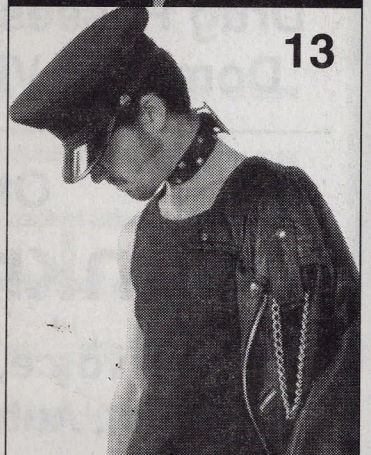
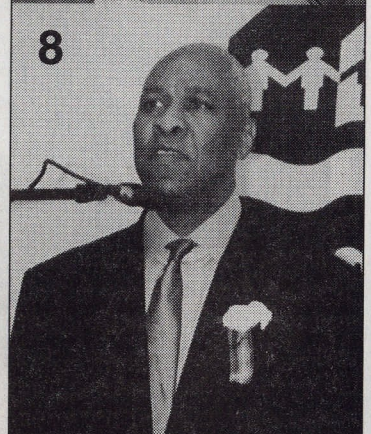
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For a healthy alternative,  
try it without the fourth  
mayonnaise packet.



# What examples are we setting for our youth?

As time goes by, things are changing. As time goes by, people are maturing. As time goes by, the next generation reaps the benefit of the sweat and tears the generation before them shed for their freedom.

And, as time goes by, the GLBT community across the nation, including Memphis and the Mid-South, is changing. Having stepped out of the closet, many have found they are more than ever empowered to be him/herself, to take a stand, to cast a vote, all without fear of condemnation from the world around them.

Now, before you say anything, we realize the war is not over yet. We have won many battles, but, again, the war rages on for the civil rights of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender members of our country. People are still being fired by homophobic employers and some are denied proper medical care because of their gender identity. Now, back to the subject.

Part of maturity is assuming responsibility for our actions and our words. Remember, the next generation is watching and it is our responsibility to teach them what is right and what is wrong.

We are part of this world and live in it. In that world there are a set of standards of respect for one another and of honesty. We are obligated to the next generation to set an example in these areas, as well. They learn by watching us, not listening to us. We must walk the talk.

There must be honesty in our financial dealings, especially when it comes to fundraisers. Be honest about how much is collected, how much is spent for an event and how much found its way to the purpose it was meant for. "All money goes to xyz organization," is not accurate when

there are expenses to be paid. The correct phrase: "All proceeds goes to xyz organization."

And, if asked, any and all organizations putting on a fundraiser should be willing to answer questions and produce documentation for the event, when asked. Also any organization as a whole, if it is a non-profit organization for the public good, should likewise answer questions and furnish documentation as requested by the public, from whom they regularly solicit donations to help operate their organization. In a fundraiser, there should be nothing to hide. If there is, then there is dishonesty present and this is one thing that must be done away with, as much as possible, in our community.

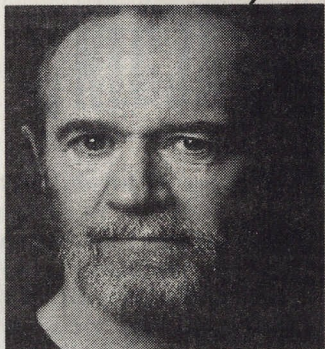
And, don't be afraid to ask questions. You have the right to ask. It's your money and you are responsible for it. Let your head take over for a few seconds when the warm fuzzies are invading your heart. Think clearly and ask simple, direct questions. What exactly will the money be used for? How much of my \$10 donation is going to that purpose? How much is being used to cover expenses of the event or fundraiser? If you feel you are being taken advantage of, just say "no."

Just a note: One Memphis organization which solicits donations by phone told us that \$2 of every \$10 actually goes to the agency for the purpose which they said the money was for. The rest goes to salary and fundraising expenses. That is not acceptable. Our \$10 can be better used to help people somewhere else where the whole \$10, or say, \$8, will go for the purpose they say it is for.

See And Our Point, page 21

## WIN TICKETS TO SEE GEORGE CARLIN & SINBAD!

*FAMILY & FRIENDS MAGAZINE & SAM'S TOWN TUNICA HAVE TEAMED UP TO GIVEAWAY 2 TICKETS TO GEORGE CARLIN & 2 TICKETS TO SINBAD*



Entries must be postmarked or emailed by April 1, 2003

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_



Return this coupon to:  
P.O. Box 771948, Memphis, TN 38177-1948  
or email it to FamilyMag@aol.com

There will be 2 winners, one for George Carlin's show April 25, and one for Sinbad's show April 28. Both are at 8 p.m. No purchase is necessary to win.

# ***Germantown comes out!***

## **Ballet at GPAC to feature men in male, female roles**

By ANITA MOYT, managing editor

Germantown's coming out, or at least its Germantown Performing Arts Centre, located at 1801 Exeter in Germantown, is stepping outside the box by bringing to its stage Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo, or The Ballet Trockadero for short, on Sunday, April 5, at 8 p.m.

No, that's not a haggard drag queen on the cover of this month's issue, but instead, one of the many company members, or Trocks, as they are affectionately called by fans. So, what is The Ballet Trockadero? A ballet company of men in both the traditional male ballet roles, as well as the female ballet roles.

GPAC Executive Director Albert Peralion told *Family & Friends* he believes The Ballet Trockadero will be something "new for Memphis and for Germantown."

"Everything's fair game," Peralion added. "This is out of the box for Germantown. But all the comments I've heard so far have been positive ones, unlike other thought-provoking shows we had in the past."

The Ballet Trockadero first performed Sept. 9, 1974, in a second story loft theater on 14th Street in the meat-packing district in Manhattan to a sold-out crowd. The group of ballet enthusiasts found that people loved their playful, entertaining view of traditional classical ballet in parody form and en travesti.

Word grew and the company developed its repertoire, receiving rave reviews in the press, including *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times* and *The Village Voice*.

Information provided at the company's website at [www.trockadero.org](http://www.trockadero.org) reads, "The 1975-1976 season was a year of growth and full professionalization. The company

found management, qualified for the National Endowment of the Arts Touring Program and hired a full-time teacher and ballet mistress to oversee daily classes and rehearsals. Also, in this season, they made their first extended tours of the United States and Canada – packing, unpacking, and repacking tutus and

drops, and stocking giant size toe shoes by the case."

The Trocks performed at the Lincoln Center in Damrosch Park as part of the Lincoln Center "Out of Doors" Festival on Aug. 9, 1999.

"It was the largest single audience for a dance performance in Lincoln Center's history," wrote Eugene McDougle, general director, at the company's website.

Having traveled to more than 400 cities around the world, including Japan, Russia, Australia and Africa, the Trocks showed the world that "men can, indeed, dance en pointe without falling flat on their faces."

Artistic Director Tory Dobrin, who has been with The Ballet Trockadero for 10 years, talked briefly with *Family & Friends* about the Trocks' upcoming trip to the south.

"No problems," when asked if he had any concerns about bringing this type of show to the South.

"All the shows are pretty good," Dobrin said. "We've been touring widely for a long, long time. We change the show depending on where (the venue) we are going; we have a large repertoire to choose from."

"Fun," was Dobrin's reply when asked what he would like the audience to get out of performance.

Dobrin told *Family & Friends* all 13 of the dancers are gay. And for anyone aspiring to be a Trock, "Come audition," he said. "Any dancer will understand that."

"It will be a fun evening," Peralion said. "After seeing Trocks, you'll never watch a dying swan in *Swan Lake* the same way."

Tickets to see The Ballet Trockadero are \$39 each and are available at the GPAC Box Office, which is open Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; by calling (901) 757-7256 or online at [www.GPACweb.com](http://www.GPACweb.com).



# The house the MGLCC built

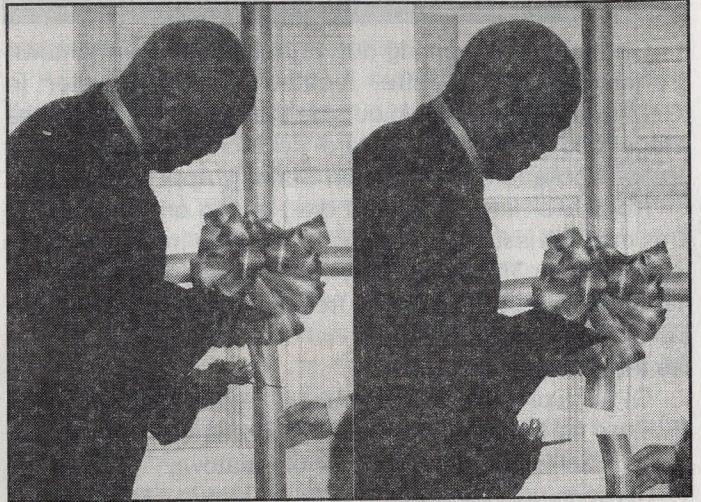
## Welcome home Memphis to 892 S. Cooper

City of Memphis Mayor Willie W. Herenton and Len Piechowski, President of The Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center cut the ribbon to the new MGLCC center to a standing-room-only crowd on Saturday, Feb. 15.

The 1,300-square-foot renovated house, located at 892 South Cooper, formerly housed the Cooper-Young Business Association offices. Former MGLCC president Herb Zeman stepped down from his position in November 2002, when he entered into a 15-year lease-purchase agreement with the MGLCC to sell the organization the building which he purchased in his name.

Besides being home to all MGLCC programs, such as 2xLamba, Life in the Median and the Gay and Lesbian Book Club, so far, two other organizations – the Memphis Lesbian and Gay Coalition for Justice and the Mystic Krewe of Aphrodite – have signed up to use the MGLCC center for their meetings. For more information about use of the facilities, contact Jason at (901) 870-0754.

The Gay Switchboard has now been relocated to the new building. The new number is (901) 278-4297 (GAYS).



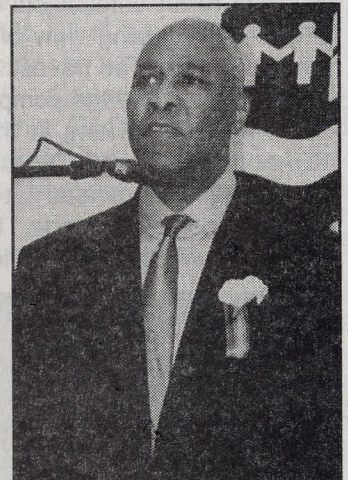
Memphis Mayor W.W. Herenton cuts the ribbon on the new Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center.

This number also serves as the center's main line. The switchboard will be answered live during hours of operation and an automated switchboard will be in operation at other times.

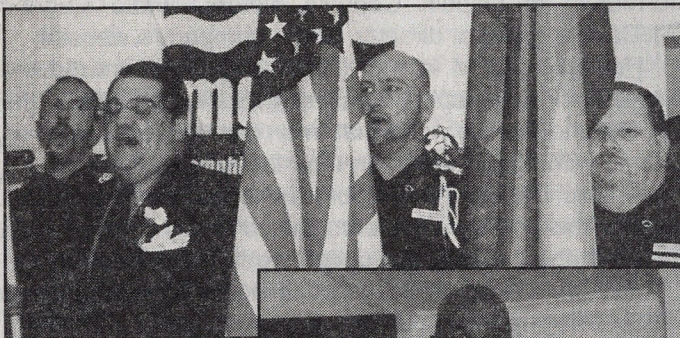
The MGLCC has not set firm hours of operation for the center yet, but tentatively, the hours are Thursday through Saturday, 6 to 10 p.m. and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.

The dedication of the benefactor hall and the next open house is set for Saturday, March 22, beginning at 7 p.m. The public is invited.

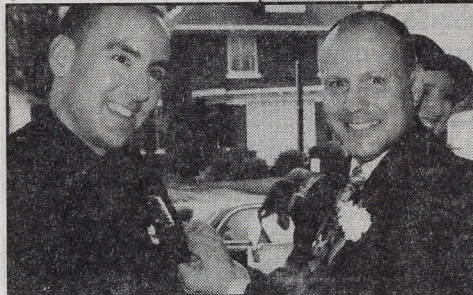
For more information, call the center at (901) 278-4297 (GAYS).



W.W. Herenton



TOP: Tsarus carried the colors while Chuck sang. RIGHT: Mayor poses with Aphrodite members Rachelle, left, and Leslie, right.



MGLCC President Len pins a piece of the official ribbon on Memphis police officer Charles Hill



MGLCC President Len Piechowski spoke while board members watched.





We're **out** to show you a good time!

**The top four teams** in women's college basketball are making a fast break to Atlanta for a week of championship fun, April 4-8. Get into the game by visiting the city that embraces inclusion — in political leadership, business policies and gay-friendly neighborhoods where couples walk hand-in-hand. **A city that celebrates diversity.**

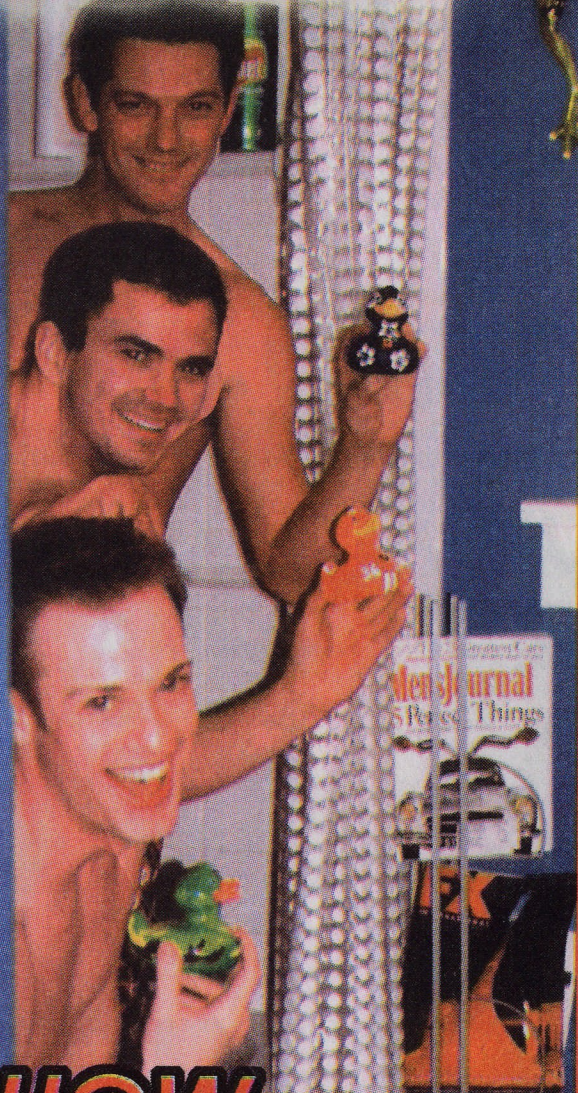
**A city full of possibilities and endless choices.** Check out the sports action from open practices to autograph sessions as excitement builds for the big games. Chill out on April 7 at the Victory Fund's **"Winning Women"** party with MC Kate Clinton and special guests Lin Dunn of WNBA Seattle Storm fame, LPGA Pro Bronwyn Russell, and UW-Milwaukee Panthers Coach Sandy Botham. Hoops week in Hotlanta — a slam-dunk of a good time!

**Atlanta welcomes you!**



Visit [www.gay-atlanta.com](http://www.gay-atlanta.com) and book your trip now!

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## Herb Zeman named Tsarus Man of Year

Herb Zeman, PhD, received the 19th Annual Tsarus Man of the Year Award for Outstanding Service to the Gay and Lesbian Community, Feb. 18, at the annual Tsarus dinner banquet, held at Crossroads. Zeman donated \$25,000 to the Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center (MGLCC), as well as purchased the building located at 892 South Cooper, which now houses the MGLCC. He has entered into a lease-purchase agreement with MGLCC for the building.

Zeman's name will be inscribed on a plaque which bears the names of all previous winners and received a check in the amount of \$500 to the charity of Zeman's choice, which to no one's surprise, was the MGLCC.



Herb Zeman, left, with Tsarus's President, David Seay.



**Because I promised myself  
when this all started that I'd never  
lose sight of the future.**

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**Because it's strong and effective.** Keep your viral load down with the #1 prescribed HIV medication of its kind.\* VIRACEPT works with you to keep your life on track.

**Because it's easy to live with.** VIRACEPT's easy dosing schedule and manageable side effects have been helping all kinds of people continue to lead their lives on their own terms.

**Because it saves future options.** When choosing a treatment plan, it's important to consider what options you will have in the future. Studies show taking VIRACEPT early on leaves you with choices in treatment for later. Ask your doctor about your future with VIRACEPT.

**VIRACEPT®**  
nelfinavir mesylate  
tablets and oral powder

VIRACEPT is indicated in combination with other antiretroviral agents for the treatment of HIV infection. The most common side effect of VIRACEPT is diarrhea, which can usually be controlled with over-the-counter treatments. Some prescription and non-prescription drugs and supplements should not be taken with VIRACEPT, so talk to your doctor first. For some people, protease inhibitors have been associated with the onset or worsening of diabetes mellitus and hyperglycemia, changes in body fat, and increased bleeding in hemophiliacs. **HIV drugs do not cure HIV infection or prevent you from spreading the virus.**

Refer to the important information on the next page. For more information, call toll free 1-888-VIRACEPT or visit [www.viracept.com](http://www.viracept.com).

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# VIRACEPT®

(nelfinavir mesylate)

Tablets and Oral Powder

## Information for Patients

About VIRACEPT® (VI-ra-cept)

Generic Name: nelfinavir (nelfin-NA-veer) mesylate

For the Treatment of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Infection

Please read this information carefully before taking VIRACEPT. Also, please read this leaflet each time you renew the prescription, just in case anything has changed. This is a summary and not a replacement for a careful discussion with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss VIRACEPT when you start taking this medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when taking VIRACEPT and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

**Alert: Find out about medicines that should NOT be taken with VIRACEPT.** Please also read the section "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH VIRACEPT."

### WHAT IS VIRACEPT AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

VIRACEPT is used in combination with other antiretroviral drugs in the treatment of people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. Infection with HIV leads to the destruction of CD4 T cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of CD4 cells have been destroyed, the infected person develops acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

VIRACEPT works by blocking HIV protease (a protein-cutting enzyme), which is required for HIV to multiply. VIRACEPT has been shown to significantly reduce the amount of HIV in the blood. Although VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV or AIDS, VIRACEPT can help reduce your risk for death and illness associated with HIV. Patients who took VIRACEPT also had significant increases in the number of CD4 cell count.

**VIRACEPT should be taken together with other antiretroviral drugs** such as Retrovir® (zidovudine, AZT), Epiriv® (lamivudine, 3TC), or Zert® (stavudine, d4T). Taking VIRACEPT in combination with other antiretroviral drugs reduces the amount of HIV in the body (viral load) and raises CD4 counts.

VIRACEPT may be taken by adults, adolescents, and children 2 years of age or older. Studies in infants younger than 2 years of age are now taking place.

### DOES VIRACEPT CURE HIV OR AIDS?

VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV infection or AIDS. People taking VIRACEPT may still develop opportunistic infections or other conditions associated with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections, and Kaposi's sarcoma.

There is no proof that VIRACEPT can reduce the risk of transmitting HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

### WHO SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT TAKE VIRACEPT?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether VIRACEPT is appropriate for you. In making your decision, the following should be considered:

**Allergies: If you have had a serious allergic reaction to VIRACEPT, you must not take VIRACEPT.** You should also inform your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist of any known allergies to substances such as other medicines, foods, preservatives, or dyes.

**If you are pregnant:** The effects of VIRACEPT on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known. If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

**If you are breast-feeding:** You should discuss with your doctor the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that it can be transmitted through breast-feeding. **Women should not breast-feed if they have HIV.**

**Children:** VIRACEPT is available for the treatment of children 2 through 13 years of age with HIV. There is a powder form of VIRACEPT that can be mixed with milk, baby formula, or foods like pudding. Instructions on how to take VIRACEPT powder can be found in a later section that discusses how VIRACEPT Oral Powder should be prepared.

**If you have liver disease:** VIRACEPT has not been studied in people with liver disease. If you have liver disease, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

**Other medical problems:** Certain medical problems may affect the use of VIRACEPT. Some people taking protease inhibitors have developed new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Some people with hemophilia have had increased bleeding. It is not known whether the protease inhibitors caused these problems. Be sure to tell your doctor if you have hemophilia types A and B, diabetes mellitus, or an increase in thirst and/or frequent urination.

Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients taking protease inhibitors. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the face, legs and arms may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

### CAN VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER MEDICATIONS?

VIRACEPT may interact with other drugs, including those you take without a prescription. You must discuss with your doctor any drugs that you are taking or are planning to take before you take VIRACEPT.

### Medicines you should not take with VIRACEPT:

- Propulsid® (cisapride, for heartburn)
- Corderone® (amiodarone, for irregular heartbeat)
- Quinidine (for irregular heartbeat), also known as Quinaglute®, Cardioquin®, Quindex®, and others
- Ergot derivatives (Cafergot® and others, for migraine headache)
- Halicin® (triazolam)
- Versed® (midazolam)
- Mevacor® (lovastatin, for cholesterol lowering)
- Zocor® (simvastatin, for cholesterol lowering)

Taking the above drugs with VIRACEPT may cause serious and/or life-threatening adverse events.

Rifampin® (for tuberculosis), also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®

This drug reduces blood levels of VIRACEPT.

**Dose reduction required if you take VIRACEPT with:** Mycobutin® (rifabutin, for MAC); you will need to take a lower dose of Mycobutin.

**A change of therapy should be considered if you are taking VIRACEPT with:**

- Phenobarbital
- Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)
- Carbamazepine (Tegreto® and others)

These agents may reduce the amount of VIRACEPT in your blood and make it less effective.

Oral contraceptives ("the pill")

If you are taking the pill to prevent pregnancy, you should use a different type of contraception since VIRACEPT may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.

### Special considerations

Before you take Viagra® (sildenafil) with VIRACEPT, talk to your doctor about possible drug interactions and side effects. If you take Viagra and VIRACEPT together, you may be at increased risk of side effects of Viagra such as low blood pressure, visual changes, and penile erection lasting more than 4 hours. If an erection lasts longer than 4 hours, you should seek immediate medical assistance to avoid permanent damage to your penis. Your doctor can explain these symptoms to you. It is not recommended to take VIRACEPT with the cholesterol-lowering drugs Mevacor® (lovastatin) or Zocor® (simvastatin) because of possible drug interactions. There is also an increased risk of drug interactions between VIRACEPT and Lipitor® (atorvastatin) and Baycol® (cerivastatin); talk to your doctor before you take either of these cholesterol reducing drugs with VIRACEPT.

Taking St. John's wort (hypericum perforatum), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort with VIRACEPT is not recommended. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or are planning to take St. John's wort. Taking St. John's wort may decrease VIRACEPT levels and lead to increased viral load and possible resistance to VIRACEPT or cross resistance to other antiretroviral drugs.

### HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER ANTI-HIV DRUGS?

Taking VIRACEPT together with other anti-HIV drugs increases their ability to fight the virus. It also reduces the opportunity for resistant viruses to grow. Based on your history of taking other anti-HIV medicine, your doctor will direct you on how to take VIRACEPT and other anti-HIV medicines. These drugs should be taken in a certain order or at specific times. This will depend on how many times a day each medicine should be taken. It will also depend on whether it should be taken with or without food.

**Nucleoside analogues:** No drug interaction problems were seen when VIRACEPT was given with:

- Retrovir (zidovudine, AZT)
- Epiriv (lamivudine, 3TC)
- Zert (stavudine, d4T)
- Videx® (didanosine, ddI)

**If you are taking both Videx (ddI) and VIRACEPT:**

Videx should be taken without food, on an empty stomach. Therefore, you should take VIRACEPT with food one hour after or more than two hours before you take Videx.

### Nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs):

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

- Viramune® (nevirapine)
- The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood is unchanged. A dose adjustment is not needed when VIRACEPT is used with Viramune.
- Sustiva™ (efavirenz)
- The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. A dose adjustment is not needed when VIRACEPT is used with Sustiva.

### Other NNRTIs

VIRACEPT has not been studied with other NNRTIs.

### Other protease inhibitors:

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

- Crixivan® (indinavir)
- The amount of both drugs in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.
- Norvir™ (ritonavir)
- The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.
- Invirase® (saquinavir)
- The amount of saquinavir in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

### WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS OF VIRACEPT?

Like all medicines, VIRACEPT can cause side effects. Most of the side effects experienced with VIRACEPT have been mild to moderate. Diarrhea is the most common side effect in people taking VIRACEPT, and most adult patients had at least mild diarrhea at some point during treatment. In clinical studies, about 15-20% of patients receiving VIRACEPT 750 mg (three tablets) three times daily or 1250 mg (five tablets) two times daily had four or more loose stools a day. In most cases, diarrhea can be controlled using antidiarrheal medicines, such as Imodium® A-D (loperamide) and others, which are available without a prescription.

Other side effects that occurred in 2% or more of patients receiving VIRACEPT include nausea, gas and rash.

There were other side effects noted in clinical studies that occurred in less than 2% of patients receiving VIRACEPT. However, these side effects may have been due to other drugs that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Except for diarrhea, there were not many differences in side effects in patients who took VIRACEPT along with other drugs compared with those who took only the other drugs. For a complete list of side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

### HOW SHOULD I TAKE VIRACEPT?

VIRACEPT is available only with your doctor's prescription. Your doctor may prescribe the light blue VIRACEPT Tablets either as 1250 mg (five tablets) taken two times a day or as 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. VIRACEPT should always be taken with a meal or a light snack. VIRACEPT tablets are film-coated to help make the tablets easier to swallow.

**Take VIRACEPT exactly as directed by your doctor.** Do not increase or decrease any dose or the number of doses per day. Also, take this medicine for the exact period of time that your doctor has instructed. **Do not stop taking VIRACEPT without first consulting with your doctor, even if you are feeling better.**

Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give VIRACEPT to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

The dosing of VIRACEPT may be different for you than for other patients. **Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.** The amount of VIRACEPT in the blood should remain somewhat consistent over time. Missing doses will cause the concentration of VIRACEPT to decrease; therefore, you should not miss any doses. However, if you miss a dose, you should take the dose as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose and future doses as originally scheduled.

### Dosing in adults (including children 14 years of age and older)

The recommended adult dose of VIRACEPT is 1250 mg (five tablets) taken two times a day or 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. Each dose should be taken with a meal or light snack.

### Dosing in children 2 to 13 years of age

The VIRACEPT dose in children depends on their weight. The recommended dose is 20 to 30 mg/kg (or 9 to 14 mg/pound) per dose, taken three times daily with a meal or light snack. This can be administered either in tablet form or, in children unable to take tablets, as VIRACEPT Oral Powder.

Dose instructions will be provided by the child's doctor. The dose will be given three times daily using the measuring scoop provided, a measuring teaspoon, or one or more tablets depending on the weight and age of the child. The amount of oral powder or tablets to be given to a child is described in the chart below.

Pediatric Dose to Be Administered Three Times Daily				
Body Weight	Number of Level Scoops*	Number of Level Teaspoons†	Number of Tablets	
7 to <8.5	1.5 to <18.5	4	1	---
8.5 to <10.5	18.5 to <23	5	1 1/4	---
10.5 to <12	23 to <26.5	6	1 1/2	---
12 to <14	26.5 to <31	7	1 3/4	---
14 to <16	31 to <35	8	2	---
16 to <18	35 to <39.5	9	2 1/4	---
18 to <23	39.5 to <50.5	10	2 1/2	2
≥23	≥50.5	15	3 3/4	3

In measuring oral powder, the scoop or teaspoon should be level.

\* 1 level scoop contains 50 mg of VIRACEPT. Use only the scoop provided with your VIRACEPT bottle.

† 1 level teaspoon contains 200 mg of VIRACEPT. Note: A measuring teaspoon used for dispensing medication should be used for measuring VIRACEPT Oral Powder. Ask your pharmacist to make sure you have a medication dispensing teaspoon.

### How should VIRACEPT Oral Powder be prepared?

The oral powder may be mixed with a small amount of water, milk, formula, soy formula, soy milk, dietary supplements, or dairy foods such as pudding or ice cream. Once mixed, the entire amount must be taken to obtain the full dose.

Do not mix the powder with any acidic food or juice, such as orange or grapefruit juice, apple juice, or apple sauce, because this may create a bitter taste.

Once the powder is mixed, it may be stored at room temperature or refrigerated for up to 6 hours. Do not heat the mixed dose once it has been prepared.

Do not add water to bottles of oral powder.

VIRACEPT powder is supplied with a scoop for measuring. For help in determining the exact dose of powder for your child, please ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

VIRACEPT Oral Powder contains aspartame, a low-calorie sweetener, and therefore should not be taken by children with phenylketonuria (PKU).

### HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE STORED?

Keep VIRACEPT and all other medicines out of the reach of children. Keep bottle closed and store at room temperature (between 59°F and 86°F) away from sources of moisture such as a sink or other damp place. Heat and moisture may reduce the effectiveness of VIRACEPT.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

Discuss all questions about your health with your doctor. If you have questions about VIRACEPT or any other medication you are taking, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You can also call 1.888.VIRACEPT (1.888.847.2237) toll free.

### Call 1.888.VIRACEPT

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# International Mr. Leather to hold 25th Anniversary competition in Chicago

By LAINE MCNEIL, staff writer

The world's hottest leathermen will come together to compete for the title of International Mr. Leather 2003, as IML celebrates its 25th anniversary Thursday through Monday, May 22-26, in Chicago.

Approximately 400 gay leathermen gathered in Chicago in 1979, for the first International Mr. Leather contest. Today, the event has grown to be an annual tradition for thousands in the leather community – drawing contestants and attendees from around the globe. Once an event for “hardcore” leathermen, IML has expanded in recent years to include a more diverse crowd – from the experienced to the curious.

International Mr. Leather 2003 will include: the 25th Annual International Mr. Leather Competition, the 11th Annual International Mr. Bootblack Competition, the Leather Market featuring the world's best collection of leather/fetish vendors, plus numerous celebrations, including Salute (post-contest celebration) at the Palmer House Hilton (the official host hotel for IML 2003), the annual IML Victory Celebration Party at Chicago's House of Blues and the annual Black and Blue Ball at the Chicago Eagle.

The International Mr. Leather 2003 Contest will be held Sunday, May 25, at 6:30 p.m. at The Congress Theatre, 2135 N. Milwaukee Avenue in Chicago. Pre-contest events include: IML Opening Ceremonies on Thursday, May 22, at 9 p.m. in the Palmer House Hilton's Grand Ballroom, and the Physique Competition “Pecs and Personality” on Saturday, May 24, at 9 p.m. in the Palmer House Hilton's Grand Ballroom.

The winner of the IML 2003 Contest will receive a prize package consisting of donations from businesses and organizations supporting the leather community. The

winner also will receive a black Harley-Davidson 100th Anniversary XLH Sportster 883 motorcycle, courtesy of International Mr. Leather. Complete contestant information, including contestant applications, can be found at [www.imrl.com](http://www.imrl.com).

Stephen Weber (Mr. Texas Leather 2002) was awarded International Mr. Leather 2002. Borisz Mos (Mr. Leather Holland 2002) was the first runner-up. Herb Kaylor (Mr. D.C. Eagle 2002) was the second runner-up.

The 11th Annual International Mr. Bootblack Competition will be held Friday, May 23, through Sunday, May 25, in the Leather Market at The Palmer House Hilton. The winner will be selected by the vote of IML Weekend Package holders. Each paid weekend package includes a ballot for the competition, which can be cast for the bootblack of the holder's choice. The winner will be announced at the International Mr. Leather Contest on Sunday, May 25. Michael Lanzini (Eagle, New York City) was awarded International Mr. Bootblack 2002.

See IML, page 63

## IML events 2003

THURSDAY, MAY 22

- **IML Opening Ceremonies**  
Palmer House Hilton, Grand Ballroom  
Doors open at 8 p.m., begins at 9 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 23

- **The Leather Market**  
Palmer House Hilton, Noon to 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 24

- **The Leather Market**  
Palmer House Hilton, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- **Pecs and Personality Contest**  
Palmer House Hilton, Grand Ballroom  
Doors open at 8 p.m., begins at 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 25

- **The Leather Market**  
Palmer House Hilton, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **International Mr. Leather Contest**  
Congress Theatre, 2135 North Milwaukee  
Doors open at 5:30 p.m., begins at 6:30 p.m.

- **Salute**  
Palmer House Hilton, Empire Room  
After the contest

- **IML Victory Celebration Party**  
House of Blues, 329 North Dearborn  
After the contest until 4 a.m.

MONDAY, MAY 26

- **The Leather Market**  
Palmer House Hilton, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **The Black & Blue Ball**  
Sponsored by Male Hide Leathers  
Chicago Eagle, 5015 North Clark Street  
Doors open at 8 p.m.

## Win a trip for 2 to Chicago to see IML

Thanks to *Family & Friends Magazine*, Memphis's DV8 Travel and The Pumping Station and Chicago's International Mr. Leather Inc. and the Chicago Hilton, one person and their guest will be enjoy the International Mr. Leather 2003 Competition first-hand Memorial Day weekend.

These five businesses have agreed to sponsor and present “Black in Black Leather” Saturday, April 19, at The Pumping Station, 1382 Poplar. At 11 p.m., the winner of the trip for two will be selected through a random drawing. The trip is valued at more than \$1,500.

The winner of “Back in Black Leather” will receive:

- 2 round-trip airline tickets to Chicago, departing Saturday, May 24, and returning Monday, May 26, compliments of DV8 Travel
- 2 International Mr. Leather 2003 Weekend Events Packages, which include admission to IML's 25th Anniversary contest, admission to all official IML events (because of travel date restrictions, this includes The Leather Market,

See Contest, page 63

Last month, *Family & Friends* ran a quote in Rex Wockner's "Quote Unquote" column about the closing of the landmark OSCAR WILDE BOOKSHOP in New York. Apparently, a buyer, Lambda Rising, showed up at the 11th hour and bought the bookstore, retaining Kim Brinster as manager.

Ex-LEONA HELMSLY employee CHARLES BELL was awarded \$11.2 million from the eccentric billionaire. The jury came to the conclusion that Helmsley fired Bell for being gay and granted the award.

Yet another reminder (don't say we didn't tell you), MEMPHIS PRIDE is set for Saturday, June 7. Also, FYI, ATLANTA PRIDE is set for June 27 to 29 and NASHVILLE PRIDE is also set for Saturday, June 7.

THE GAY & LESBIAN ALLIANCE AGAINST DEFAMATION's 14th Annual GLAAD Media Awards Presented by Absolute Vodka will honor DIANE SAWYER with the Excellence in Media Award and ROSIE O'DONNELL with the Vito Russo Award at the first of three ceremonies in New York City on April 7. On April 26, in Los Angeles, ERIC MCCORMACK will receive the Vanguard Award and on May 31 in San Francisco STOCKARD CHANNING will receive the Golden Gate Award.

MELENA was recently seen working behind the bar at Lorenz, 1528 Madison Avenue. Glad to see the smiling face of one of our community's best bartenders, not to mention, on occasion, grand dames.

For those who are interested, someone has put up a website in an effort to IMPEACH PRESIDENT BUSH. Articles of impeachment, drawn up by Ramsey Clark, former U.S. Attorney General under President Johnson, are posted at [www.votetoimpeach.org](http://www.votetoimpeach.org).

Our community continues to grow and expand, on many fronts. HOLY TRINITY COMMUNITY CHURCH will be moved into its new place of worship at 685 South Highland by the time this issue of *Family & Friends* hits the stands.

Likewise, CLUB N-COGNITO has now moved from its Front Street location to 3204 North Thomas in the Northgate Shopping Center under a new name, ALLUSIONS.

THE MYSTIC KREWE OF MEMPHIS UNITED raised more than \$10,000 for Hope House, on Feb. 1, at its 2003 Mardi Gras Ball where King Magique IV Robert Bailess and Queen Magique IV Becky Rachels were crowned.

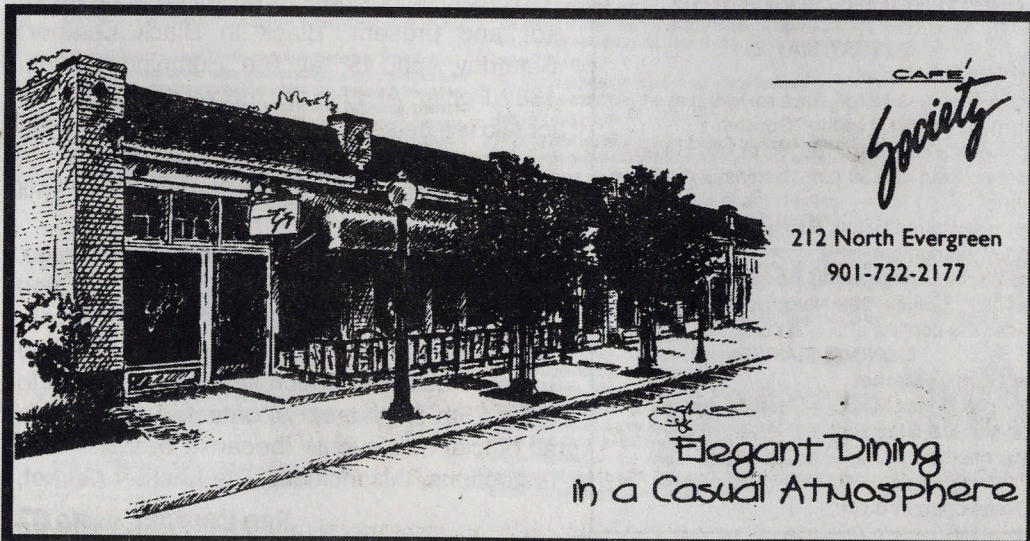
MANITOU WOODS in Grant Parish, La., an exclusive and private campground for GLBT individuals, has become the target of the local Baptist folk and other "religious right" individuals, not to mention some "good-old boys." With the announcement by Rev. Eddie Douglas of a March 5 "prayer vigil" against Manitou Wood's owner Skip Ward, 82, and his guests, some "good-old boys" beat the preacher to the punch and on Feb. 13, ripped down the Manitou Woods gate and stole their large entrance sign. However, not all the clergy and townfolk are as hateful as the "good-old boys" or the oppositional ministers. For more information, go online to [www.thetowntalk.com](http://www.thetowntalk.com) or [manitouwoods.com](http://manitouwoods.com).

For all you SINBAD and/or GEORGE CARLIN fans, *Family & Friends* has joined with SAM'S TOWN to give away two tickets to the upcoming April show. Be sure to send in your entry, via email or regular mail. See page 6 for an entry blank.

And, speaking of giveaways, *FAMILY & FRIENDS* is proud to join forces with THE PUMPING STATION, INTERNATIONAL MR. LEATHER, DV8 TRAVEL and HILTON HOTELS to send one lucky winner and a guest to the International Mr. Leather Contest in Chicago on May 24 to 26. Look on page 13 for details.

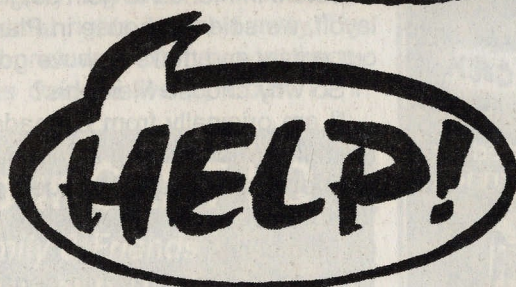
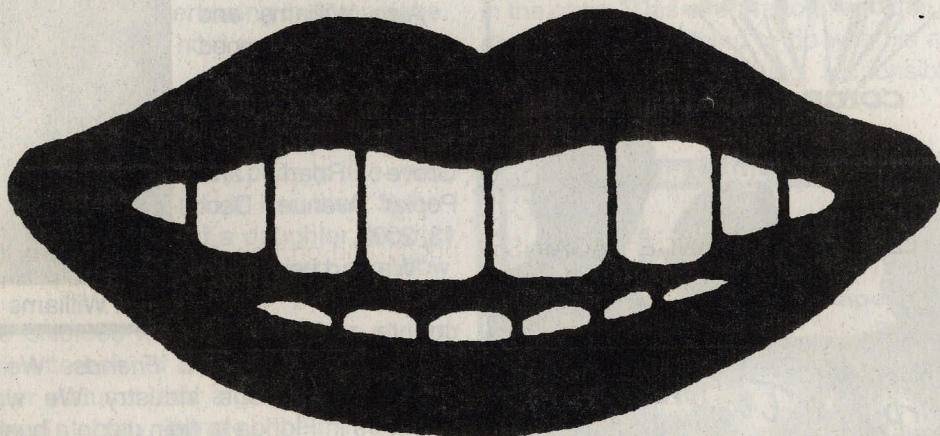
The ST. PATRICK'S INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT will see more than 100 participants in its annual bowling tourney, as players from across the U.S. participate St. Patrick's Day weekend. The bowling takes place at the Cordova Bowling Center, 7945 Club Center Cove.

Are you looking for somewhere to go and meet other people? Are you HIV positive? Well, Friends For Life invites you to "COFFEE SHOP, COFFEE SHOP," on Monday March 10, at JAVA CABANA, 2170 Young Avenue, to have a cup of coffee. From 5 to 7:30 p.m. sip and socialize and at 7:30 a risk reduction program will take place. The get-together will take place every second and fourth Mondays of the month. Got questions? Call Wes at (901) 272-0855.



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## Klassie Klutter's just place to find bargains

By ANITA MOYT, managing editor

Everyone loves a bargain! And Klassie Klutter is just the place to find one.

Alan Williams and Alvin Vazquez opened the doors to Klassie Klutter at 91 Tillman Street, between Walnut Grove Road and Poplar Avenue, Dec. 13, 2002.



Alan Williams and Alvin Vazquez

"We had been contemplating it for a couple of years,"

Williams told *Family & Friends*. "We were both in the telecommunications industry. We were searching for investors in Florida to (join us) in a business. After the last layoff, we sold our house in Plantation, Fla., and grabbed our equity and that's how we got started."

So why choose Memphis?

"I am originally from Grenada, Miss., and had lived in Memphis prior to living in Florida," Williams continued. His partner of nine years, Vazquez, is a native of Puerto Rico. "(And) basically the real estate is so much cheaper here (in Memphis)."

"I previously worked in department stores in Florida," Williams said, explaining why he chose this type business. "I was in management in the china and giftware department at Jordan Marsh, a Federated Department Store there. ... I have an eye for retail."

"My brother actually ran this type of business in Grenada," Williams continued. "After a fire three years ago, he closed his business. I called him and he gave me the contacts and information to do it."

"We definitely spend more time with Klassie Klutter," Williams said, explaining how he and his partner enjoyed working for themselves. "At our old jobs, we were waiting for five o'clock. Now we look up and say, 'Oh, it's nine?' It is less stressful and more enjoyable working for yourself."

Klassie Klutter offers name brand merchandise, that has been discontinued, closed-out or overstocked, at a 50 to 80 percent savings over its suggested retail price. One-of-a-kind items can also be found there. Linens & bedding, bath accessories, kitchen gadgets, office furnishings, seasonal items, cameras, small appliances, electronics and unique gifts, among other things, can be found on the shelves at Klassie Klutter.

"Every week there are things in the shipments that you don't usually see," Williams said. "Like a unique jewelry

See Klassie Klutter, page 25



# Trans man gets custody of kids, sets precedent

A transgender man received custody of his two children in a long-awaited ruling by the Florida Circuit Court.

The case, Kantaras vs. Kantaras, was aired nationally on Court TV last year.

Judge Gerard O'Brien ruled that Michael Kantaras is legally male and was legally married to his former wife Linda Kantaras. Michael was awarded primary custody of the two children he and Linda raised together during their marriage.

This is one of the first cases to hold a marriage involving a transsexual spouse as valid.

After completing sex-reassignment, Michael Kantaras met and married his wife, Linda, in 1989. Linda was fully aware of Michael's transgender status prior to the marriage and permitted Michael to adopt her then three-month old son. The couple later had a daughter through artificial insemination. The Kantaras children are now ages 14 and 11.

When the couple divorced in 1999, the focus shifted away from the best interests of the children and onto Michael's transgender status. Linda argues that Michael should be considered legally female, their marriage deemed void and his parental rights stripped away. The three-week hearing, which included extensive testimony from medical experts, was covered live by Court TV in

January and February 2002.

"I'm so relieved," Michael said. "Now my kids and I can get on with our lives in peace."

"The court recognized that the two children in this case have a devoted, loving father and need to maintain a relationship with both their parents," said National Center for Lesbian Rights staff attorney Karen Doering, co-counsel in the case. "This court recognized that Michael's transgender status has nothing to do with his ability to be a good parent. Michael is a loving, responsible father who also happens to be transgender."

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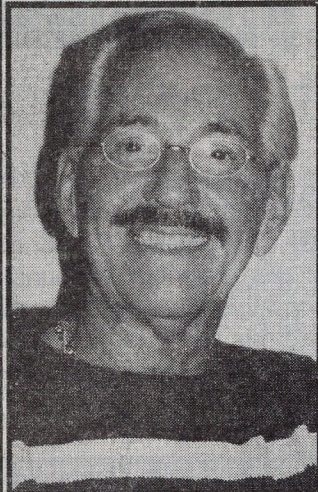
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# Hensons to receive achievement award

Brenda and Wanda Henson, founders and directors of Camp Sister Spirit in Overt, Miss., will be awarded the Women of Achievement Award for Heroism on March 30.

The Women of Achievement Inc. was founded in 1984, as a coalition of diverse civic and professional groups and supporting agencies. It organizes events and publications to recognize and celebrate women and their important contributions to life in Shelby County.

The Heroism award is the only award that is granted to a person(s) or organization outside Shelby County. The other awards are for courage, determination, heritage, initiative, steadfastness and vision.

Audrey May nominated the women who have stood steadfast in the face of hate crimes, harassment and discrimination as they purchased land in rural Mississippi 10 years ago to create a haven for women.

"They are great gals," May said, "and I am so pleased that they are receiving this award, which is, in my mind, the premier award for women's achievement in the Mid-South."

The Hensons will receive their award at The 2003 Women of Achievement Awards Banquet on Sunday, March 30, at 6 p.m., at the Holiday Inn at The University of Memphis, 3700 Central Avenue. Hosting the event will be The University of Memphis President Dr. Shirley Raines.

Tickets to the banquet are available for \$25 each or a table of 10 at \$250. Call Susan Mackenzie, at (901) 272-0560, for reservations. All reservations must be received by March 21 and must be pre-paid.



Brenda and Wanda Henson

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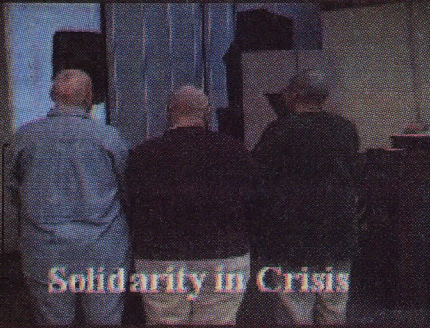
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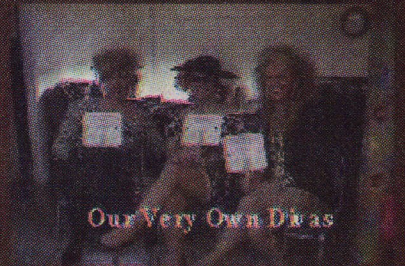
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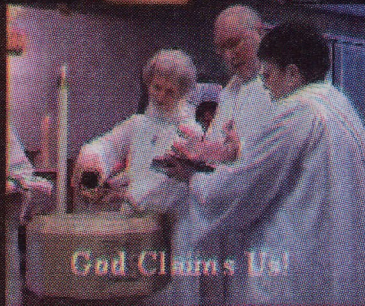
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An Open Table

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## G&L Victory Fund to host 'Winning Women' party April 7 in Atlanta

The Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund will host "Winning Women," a party featuring women leaders from both the sports and political arena, on Monday, April 7, at the Wyndham Atlanta Downtown, 160 Spring Street.

Comedienne Kate Clinton will emcee the event, which will include remarks from leaders such as Lin Dunn of WNBA Seattle Storm fame; Coach Sandy Botham of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and LPGA professional Bronwyn Russell and her partner, Jennifer Veiga, minority leader of the Colorado House of Representatives.

"The women's collegiate basketball championships are one of this year's most exciting events to come to Atlanta," said Victory Fund board member Cindy Abel. "We're excited to host 'Winning Women' to welcome fans from across the country to our city and celebrate the achievements of women who have pursued their dreams in sports and politics, regardless of their gender or sexual orientation."

Tickets for the VIP reception, which begins at 6 p.m., are \$150 and include hors d'oeuvres and host bar. General admission tickets are \$40 and a cash bar will be available. Tickets can be obtained online at [www.victory-fund.org](http://www.victory-fund.org). Special room rates also are available at the Wyndham Atlanta.

"Winning Women" is included in promotions by the Atlanta Convention & Visitors Bureau focusing on the basketball finals as a reason to come to Atlanta. ACVB launched a gay tourism initiative in May 2002, and continues to promote the inclusive nature of the city and encourage gay and lesbian tourists to visit year-round, as well as participate in special events.

## And Our Point Is ...

from page 6

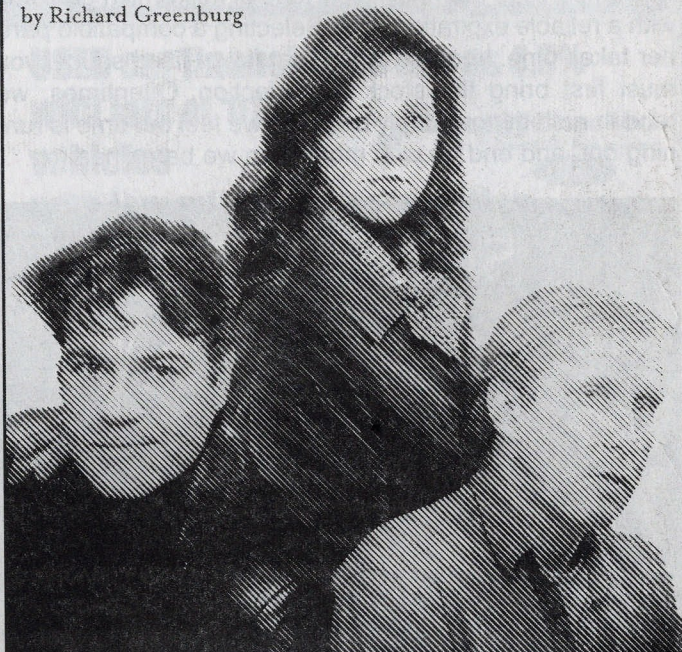
Don't be afraid to ask. You have that right.

Also, let's try to do things right. If it looks like a duck, if it quacks like a duck, it is a duck. If, for instance, the word "auction" is used as part of a fundraiser, then most people have a set idea of what is involved. They understand the bidding process and that the highest bidder may purchase the item at the amount he/she bid for it. Changing rules from what the general public expects of an auction is just not right. And it tarnishes the integrity of any event, especially when people feel they were plundered in the name of a good cause.

So, our point is this, we are growing up folks, and the world is watching. More than that, the next generation is watching. Let's set a good example.

# THREE DAYS OF RAIN

by Richard Greenburg



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## STRAIGHT UP, BUT NOT STRAIGHT

BY J. SHANE WILSON, MS, NCC, LPCC

Dear Straight Up,  
I'm John. I am 54. I have had two companions in my life. They both lasted six to seven months. I've tried magazines – the *Triangle*, *Memphis Flyer* – and haven't gotten anywhere. I don't care for the bar scene, I've had my share of one-night stands. I don't know where to turn. Or am I in a bad town or bad area? I would like to have another companion before I retire. I'm 5'4", on the beefy side 190. I look younger than my years. Any advice would be helpful.

Mature Gay

Dear Mature,

Companions are not like cartons of milk which grace us with a reliable expiration date. Selecting a compatible partner takes time. In order to get that flavor-filled sauce, you must first bring the stock to perfection. Oftentimes, we tend to rush things simply because we feel our time is running out, and end up with more than we bargained for.

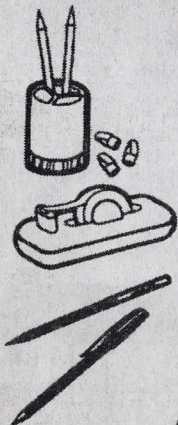
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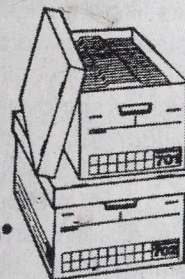
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Let's take a look at what's out there to choose from. First, we have that delicious, young preferred eye-candy we call "twinkles." True, they are most appealing to the "naked" eye, but lack the maturity and endurance for a relationship filled with longevity and true love. I'm not saying they are incapable, but lack the seasoned experience necessary to base a lasting relationship on. Second, we have the "deer in headlights" crew. These are the individuals who have absolutely no idea of what they want, where they are going or who they are. They learn by doing. And by doing, gain the seasoned experience which provides a foundation to build a mutually satisfying bond with another person. Third, we have the "jaded, emotionally scared, uncommitted" baggage claims personnel. These individuals have tried relentlessly to structure and maintain a relationship with another but, for some reason, prefer to hold onto the idea that the past will certainly prevent them from having their life-long partner. Finally, we have those "seasoned hunks" we all admire for their charisma, charm and endurance. These are the individuals who have walked the walk, talked the trade and know what it takes to have a healthy, mutually satisfying team. Now, when you put all these ingredients into a mixing bowl that oppresses freedom to express oneself openly, no wonder the gay community is filled with mishaps, promiscuity and heartache.

Now, before I get bombarded with angry letters from faithful readers, let me say that I am not in any way, putting anyone down. However, what I am saying is that we must all take a long hard look at what we truly want and put our best foot forward in achieving our dream.

I don't have the answer which you seek. I can't give you the address to the "perfect husband" boutique. A dear friend once gave me a plaque with the following word inscribed:

"RISK: Don't be afraid to go out on a limb for that's where the fruit is." In order to fancy your taste for citrus, you have to go out on that limb! May I suggest that as you attempt to tackle that limb, climb with confidence, shimmy without expectation and enjoy the flavor of your efforts. Best of luck to you.

J. Shane Wilson has a master's degree in the counseling field from The University of Memphis. He presently is a Licensed Professional Counselor residing in Louisville, Ky. 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 email them to FamilyMag@aol.com.

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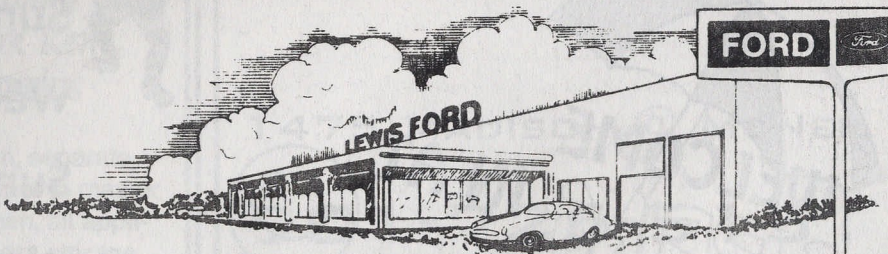
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## AT&T to give scholarship to GLBT high school student

LEAGUE at AT&T Foundation will accept applications for its annual academic scholarships now through April 19.

Applicants should graduate high school in 2003; identify themselves as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender; have achieved a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale; be actively and substantially involved in community service; live in the United States, and have been accepted to attend an accredited college or university in the United States.

A 2003 LEAGUE Foundation award provides supplementary financial support of at least \$1,500 with the understanding that the student will use these funds to offset the costs of tuition, books or required fees.

Scholarships presently open for application are the Matthew Shepard Memorial Scholarship (named used with permission of the Shepard family) and the LEAGUE at AT&T Foundation Scholarship.

Further details and scholarship applications are available online at [www.LEAGUE-att.org/foundation](http://www.LEAGUE-att.org/foundation).

## Klassie Klutter

from page 16

cabinet or decor items. The big sellers are the home decor items, pots and pans and unique furniture pieces, such as apple cabinets and rooster cabinets.

"Come buy and engage in some friendly conversation and browse around," Williams concluded, inviting the community to enjoy the new store. The store hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday; 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday; noon to 6 p.m. Sunday, and closed on Mondays.

For more information, call (901) 454-9443 or check out Klassie Klutter's website at [www.klassie-klutter.com](http://www.klassie-klutter.com). Online shopping will soon be available.



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## Humane images sought in photography contest

For the third year in a row, American Humane is seeking America's "Humane Images."

American Humane is looking for photos that convey compassion, human-animal interaction and family bonding. The grand prize-winner will receive \$300 plus national publication of his or her winning photo.

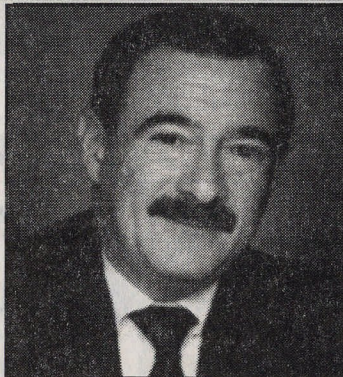
"The Humane Images Contest is an opportunity for American Humane to reconnect with the children and animals we work to protect every day," said Bob Roth, American Humane's vice president of public programs and marketing. "The photos are always wonderful testaments that the humane values American Humane upholds are shared by so many others."

Categories for photos include pets, wildlife, family, children and animals, and children.

A panel of well-known judges will choose one overall grand prize-winner and a winner in each category. To see a complete list of rules and view last year's winners, go online to [www.americanhumane.org](http://www.americanhumane.org).

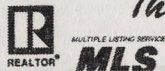
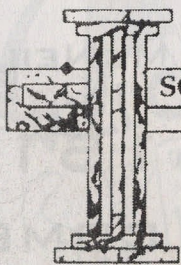
To enter, send photos to American Humane, Humane Images Contest, 63 Inverness Drive East, Englewood, CO 80112-5117. The deadline for entries is June 2. There is an entry fee of \$5 per photo. Photos will not be returned

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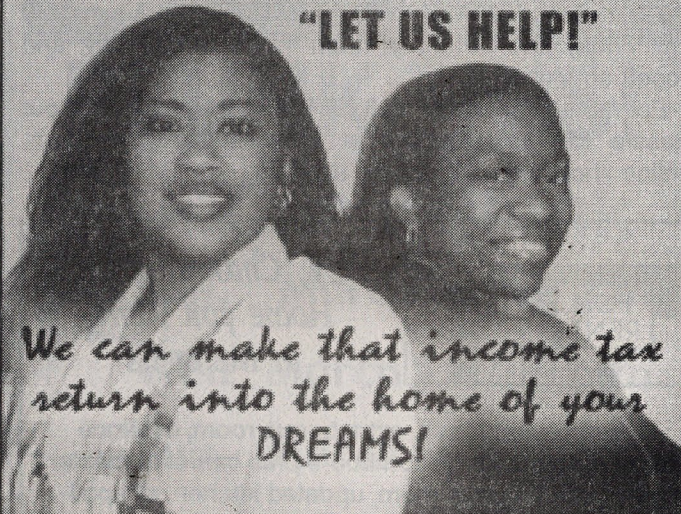
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# Womyn's Festival is set

Women from across the U.S. and the globe will descend on the grounds of Camp Sister Spirit for a long weekend of activities Thursday through Sunday, April 17-20, for the 14th Annual Gulf Coast Womyn's Festival.

The festival, an annual fundraiser for Camp Sister Spirit, will include entertainment by Trish Williams, Lucie Blue Tremblay, Shelley Graf, Beth Peterson, Dorothy Hirsch and Bonnie Morris.

Cost is adjusted on a sliding scale, based on income, ranging from \$95 to \$225 per person.

Accommodations are provided at Camp Sister Spirit, which is located on 120 acres in Jones County, Miss., near Hattiesburg. There are both cabins and a bunk house on the property, as well as plenty of RV and tent spaces. The facilities also include private hot showers and flush toilets in the central shower house.

Camp Sister Spirit offers both large and small indoor and outdoor meeting spaces, a large feminist library and nature trails. Most facilities are ramped and wheelchair accessible. All indoor spaces are pet/scent/smoke free.

Meals, both vegetarian and meat choices, are included.

Sorry, no alcohol or illegal drugs are allowed and no violence in word or deed is allowed.

For more information, write GCWF, P.O. Box 12, Overt, MS 39464; call (601) 344-1411 or (601) 645-6479; email sister-spir@aol.com, or go online to [www.campsisterspirit.com](http://www.campsisterspirit.com).

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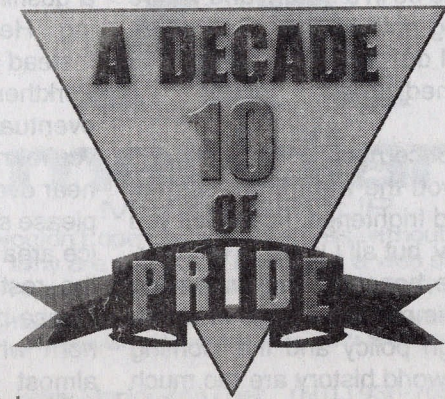
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# 2003

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## ASK LAM BY LAM MEDALLION

Dear Lam,

What is going on in the White House? This past weekend, millions of people across the globe have demonstrated to the leaders of the world that we are not interested in going to war. People are buying plastic and duct tape to protect themselves against chemical warfare. We seem to be in a frenzy, and yet we are hearing nothing from George W. What can I do? What can we do?

Concerned

Dear Concerned,

To tell you the truth, I am scared. Scared and frightened. I can't tell you exactly why, but all I know is I am terrified, quite honestly. The impending doom, the imminent change in worldwide foreign policy and the looming change in world history are too much to deal with. As some of you may know, I live in NYC and was at home in bed (alone) when terror struck on September 11. Life has changed here. And I am sure it has affected everyone in the United States. And now, we are dealing with things so awesome, it is almost impossible to wrap my mind around what might be lurking around the corner of history.

Yet, in some odd way, I feel I've been in this situation before. Of course, the pending outcome is of a much grander scale, but the facts of the situation are frighteningly familiar. Let me tell you about being on the set of the unreleased film version of *Jostled*.

The director of this fiasco was Henry Shrub. He was quite dimwitted and power hungry. A small man on all accounts, if you get my drift. I should know because he was my lover just before I was signed on to this starring role. But I stray. Of course, a long time has past, so the details are a tad fuzzy, but I'll try my best to recount as accurately as possible.

I broke it off with Shrub soon after filming began. I couldn't bear mixing my social and professional lives; the stress was too great to bear, so I

called it quits in the personal department. I would only take orders from Shrub, or "The Shrub" as the company came to know him, when on set. This did not sit well, not well at all, dears. He became incredibly spiteful and vindictive.

He insisted on berating me in front of the cast and crew. Insults flew like a gushing spring in April. Name-calling. He resorted to name-calling. Instead of Lam, he would call me Porkthen, Porkythen, Pork Roast and eventually Pork Butt. "Pork Butt, you're needed on the set," I would hear over the loudspeaker. "Ms. Pork, please stand back from the craft service area and leave some luncheon for the rest of the crew" or "Ms. Pork, please be sure to sound your backup horn when leaving the trough, you almost ran over Thelma Ritter." I couldn't abide it anymore, not one more moment of it. Do you hear what I'm telling you, darling?

Then, to make matters worse, he tried to convict me for every mishap that seemed to plague this film. When a colleague found glass in her shoe, Shrub decided it was the undermining schematics of "Porky." When a poorly constructed set collapsed, "Ms. Butt" was to blame. When script rewrites didn't come through "Pork Roast's" fault. The tension was so thick you could cut it with a knife. I wasn't sleeping. I started drinking to calm my nerves and before long I almost fell completely apart. Then costumes disappeared from wardrobe. Orchestra parts went missing. The entire prop room was flooded. Furniture was found splattered with paint. Then I heard through the grapevine, these calamities were a result of the Shrub's own doings. Can you believe it!?

Then one day, I woke up, steadied my nerves with nothing but a cup of joe, and called a secret meeting with the cast and crew. We talked openly and freely about the horrible mayhem Herr Director was causing. He was destroying what would have been a

perfectly divine film because he so vehemently wanted to annihilate my reputation, my career and me. And all because of what? I don't even know for sure. Certainly, we didn't see eye to eye. Certainly, we did have problems to resolve. But this kind of reckless destruction only brought imminent death to his own self and this great film and deeply wounded me and so many around me. And for what? The film was abandoned and no studio was ever to hire Henry Shrub again.

I guess the moral of this anecdote is this: whether you are a Bush or a Shrub, pruning is imperative lest wild branches and off-shoots cause much disaster. Do you hear what I'm telling you, darling?

*Got a question for Lam? Write to Lam Medallion c/o Family & Friends, P.O. Box 771948, Memphis, TN 38177-1948, or, if you wish, email your question to FamilyMag@aol.com and use "Ask Lam" in the subject line. Lam's column is meant for entertainment purposes only.*

### MGLCC sponsoring GLBT Book Club at new building

The Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 892 South Cooper, is sponsoring the MGLCC Book Club the third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. The book discussion group is free and open to anyone. New members are always welcome, even if you haven't read the book selection for the month.

*As Meat Loves Salt* by Maria McCann, is the book selection for the March 20 meeting and *Fingersmith* by Sarah Waters, is the selection for the April 17 meeting.

For more information, contact Bryan at bmoody@mem.net.

# GLMA releases guidelines for caregivers

The Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (GLMA) has released a set of guidelines for physicians and others who provide health care to the public. "Creating a Safe Clinical Environment for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) Patients," is the first comprehensive look at the specific steps providers should take to gain competency in health care delivery to LGBTI people.

"Serious health disparities exist for the LGBTI population," said GLMA President Kenneth A. Haller Jr., MD. "This fact has been verified by several studies, and has been documented by the federal government. Many of us delay care, or we receive inappropriate or inferior care, because of real or perceived discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity. This needs to be changed. When someone seeks medical care, they are entitled to informed, nonjudgmental treatment. For the most part, LGBTI people are not getting it."

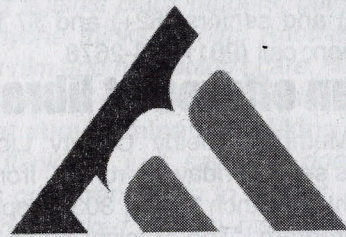
The eight-page GLMA document covers a broad range of issues, including how to create a welcoming office environment, educate staff, conduct culturally-sensitive interviews and develop knowledge about the specific health issues that face members of the LGBTI community. The guidelines also include a sample intake form and a list of additional resources.

"What we've learned," Haller said, "is that almost everyone in our field wants to provide the best health care possible to everyone. Unfortunately, not everyone understands how to do that when it comes to LGBTI patients. GLMA has now provided a tool that can help develop this kind of competency. It is important, and it's free."

Copies of the guidelines are available online at [www.glma.org](http://www.glma.org) or by calling (415) 255-4547.

The largest organization of its kind and a recognized authority and leader in LGBTI health, the GLMA exists to make the health care environment a place of empathy,

justice and equity. The organization, founded in 1981, represents the concerns of millions of LGBTI patients and thousands of LGBT health professionals throughout North America.



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## **Dance with the Irish at CMOM**

Children of all ages are invited to the Children's Museum of Memphis, 2525 Central Avenue, on Saturday, March 15, at 2:30 p.m. to a presentation by the Inis Acla Irish School of Dance. Admission to the museum is \$6 for children (1-12) and seniors (62+) and \$7 for adults. For more information, call (901) 458-2678.

## **Family Fun offered at library**

The next Memphis-Shelby County Library's Family Activity Night is set for Friday, March 21, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Central branch library, 3030 Poplar Avenue. At this month's program, "The Musical Family," participants can make up a song, play a musical instrument and learn how local choir members use their voices as instruments.

A light dinner is available for a nominal cost at 6 p.m. Registration for this free program is required by calling (901) 415-2849 or sending an email to events@memphis.lib.tn.us.

## **TM offers acting classes**

Theatre Memphis offers after school classes in acting, culminating in an informal production of an original script created by the students. The next session is set for March 11 to April 15 and the following session runs March 20 through April 24. Cost is \$100 per student, one-half price for siblings. Classes meet weekly at 4:30 p.m. For more information, call J. Noble at (901) 682-5261.

## **Raindrops slated for preschoolers**

Lichterman Nature Center's popular preschool program, Raindrops, is an hour-long interactive program held weekly on Tuesdays and repeated on Wednesdays, from 10 to 11 a.m., at the center located at 5992 Quince Road. The topics for this month are "Tree-mendous" on March 4 & 5; "Deep Down Underground" on March 18 & 19; "Time Out For Tadpoles" on March 25 & 26, and "April Showers" for April 1 & 2. Raindrops costs \$5 for a child and chaperon. For more information or to register, call (901) 767-7322, ext. 121.

## **Learn from the scientists at CMOM**

Children, ages five to nine, can perform "water day experiments" with Dr. Brian Waldron at the Children's Museum of Memphis, 2525 Central Avenue, on Saturday, March 22. Admission to the museum is \$6 for children (1-12) and seniors (62+) and \$7 for adults. For more information, call (901) 458-2678.

## **Honk! on stage at Circuit**

Based on "The Ugly Duckling" by Hans Christian Andersen, *Honk!* is on stage now through April 6, at The Circuit Playhouse, 1705 Poplar Avenue. Showtimes are Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2

p.m. Tickets are \$22 for adults; \$18 for seniors; \$16 for students and military personnel, and \$12 for children. The Pay-What-You-Can performance is set for Thursday, March 6, at 8 p.m. For tickets or more information, call (901) 726-4656.

## **Zoo offers spring break fun**

Explore the Memphis Zoo, March 10 to 14, and discover different types of animals from all around the world during Spring Break Camp. Each camp session includes a T-shirt, zoo tours, arts and crafts, snacks, animal artifacts, animal visits to the classroom and activities led by zoo educators. Costs are full week-full day (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) \$175; full week-morning session (8:30 a.m. to noon) \$90; full week-afternoon session (1 to 4:30 p.m.) \$90, and, if needed, aftercare \$25 for full week (4:30-5:30 p.m.). Lunches can be provided by the Cat House Cafe at a cost of \$25 for the full week. For more information or to register, call (901) 333-6759.

## **CMOM coloring book now for sale**

The Children's Museum of Memphis now has its own coloring and activity book. The book, priced at \$3.50, features 14 pages of coloring fun and two activities that chronicle the museum's programs and exhibits. The book is available at the museum's gift shop, located at 2525 Central Avenue. For more information, call (901) 320-3166.

## **A mother examines her child's interest in Eminem**

By LAINE MCNEIL, staff writer

I knew my 10-year old son, Bryant, was growing up when he came to me one day and asked me to take him to the local record store so he could get Eminem's new CD, *The Eminem Show*.

Of course being not only a parent but a lesbian, I was terrified of both his interest in rap music and what seemed to be his growing fascination with Eminem.

I would like to say I know what my parents went through as I entered my teenage years, which included a changing interest in music, but I can't.

My folks had always been pretty cool when it came to mine and my younger brother's taste in music and even movies. My kid brother liked the rock group Kiss, whose members were rumored at one time to worship Satan (remember when folks said K-I-S-S stood for Knights In Satan's Army?) and it seemed okay with our parents as they helped him buy practically all their albums. My, what folks today would call "unhealthy" interest was in horror

**See Eminem, page 31**

# Eminem

from page 30

movies, but that, too, was okay with my parents.

So, I approached my son's interest in Eminem with an open mind and the loving experience I learned from my folks.

Eminem uses foul language in his lyrics. This can be overcome by purchasing the edited, "clean" versions of his CDs, usually available in just about every record store, and apparently clean versions of any and all CDs are the only ones Wal-Mart carries. And, like it or not, this also is the language he hears among his peers.

Eminem has been rumored to be homophobic and has used hate-language in his lyrics. This was a big issue for me and my partner, for obvious reasons. But, I tried to approach this, too, with an open mind and the realization that Eminem also is afforded his right to freedom of speech and artistic expression.

Then, I took my son to see *8 Mile* and my impression of Eminem changed dramatically for the good. We allow our son his freedom to listen to the music he likes, of course, all the while using our best judgement and supervision.

And, in an effort to help other GLBT parents faced with this same dilemma, not to mention provide an interesting

story for other kids to read, I interviewed my son in regard to Eminem.

**Mom: What kind of music do you like to listen to?**

*Bryant: Rap*

**Mom: Who is your favorite rap musician?**

*Bryant: Eminem*

**Mom: Why do you like Eminem?**

*Bryant: Because his music has a kind of a beat to it instead of things like disco. He's a white rapper and I don't have anything against black rappers, but he just doesn't care what anyone thinks of him. Another rapper could come and dis him and he wouldn't care. He's not nervous about being the only white rapper in music today.*

**Mom: What about Eminem not liking gay people?**

*Bryant: I think he just says he doesn't like them because he's got a reputation to protect. He defended a gay person he worked with in his movie and he also hugged Elton John when they did that song together.*

There you have it, out of the mouths of babes.

In our quest to be good parents, which we believe also is tempered by the fact that we are same-gender-loving women, we want our son to form his own educated opinions, not learn and practice those of others around him.

But through it all, and most importantly, we want to allow our son to become his own person, not someone we or someone else thinks he should be.

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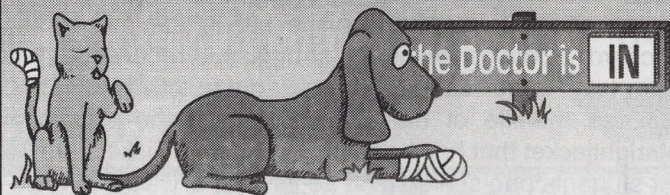
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## Dinner, art set for an evening

Enjoy "Dinner with Georgia O'Keeffe" at The Brushmark Restaurant, located in The Memphis Brooks Museum, on Thursday, March 20, at 6 p.m. The \$60 per person cost includes champagne and hors d'oeuvres at 6:30 p.m., a tour of "Georgia O'Keeffe and the Calla Lily in American Art, 1860-1940" with Chief Curator Marina Pacini at 7 p.m. A three-course wine dinner, prepared by Chef Jennifer Dickerson and featuring wines from Reynolds Vineyards, Australia, will follow. Gratuity is not included in the cost. For reservations, call (901) 544-6223.

## Art of potters, weavers on display

Christian Brothers University, 650 East Parkway South, is hosting the Potters and Weavers Guild Exhibition now through March 28, at the University Gallery on the lower level of Plough Library. Gallery hours are Monday to Thursday, 7:45 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Friday, 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Saturday, noon to 4 p.m., and Sunday, 2 to 11 p.m. For more information, call (901) 321-3432.

## Come to A Dinner Party at POTS

Playhouse on the Square, 51 South Cooper, is hosting Neil Simon's *A Dinner Party* March 14 through April 19. Six strangers are invited by an invisible host to an extravagant restaurant in Paris. There the guests realize they all have the same divorce lawyer in common. Directed by Dave Landis, the cast consists of Kyle Barnette, Ben Hensley, Jonathon Lamer, Ann Marie Hall, Emily Fry and Leslie Lee Lansky. Showtimes for *A Dinner Party* are 8 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays. The Pay-What-You-Can performance is set for Wednesday, March 19, at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$26 for adults; \$18 for seniors; \$16 for students and military personnel, and \$12 for children. For tickets or more information, call (901) 726-4656.

## Banu Gibson performs with MSO

On Saturday, March 22, at 8 p.m., join the Memphis Symphony Orchestra at the Cannon Center for the Performing Arts, 255 North Main Street at Poplar Avenue, as it accompanies Banu Gibson and the New Orleans Hot Jazz band in concert. Gibson, one of the very few vocalists to stick exclusively to songs of the 1920s and 1930s, has performed with more than 40 top orchestras across the U.S. Tickets, which range from \$10 to \$75, are available by calling the MSO box office at (901) 324-3627; at any TicketMaster location, or online at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).

## Book sale slated at Cossitt

The Cossitt branch of the Memphis/Shelby County Public Library, 33 South Front Street, will hold a sale Thursday through Saturday, March 6 to 8, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Proceeds from the sale of used books, videos, music and more will benefit the library. For more information, call (901) 415-2700.

## The Enchantment Project slated

The Enchantment Project is a one-of-a-kind opportunity to explore communication of our vibrant experiences in the natural world through creative writing, visual art, music, storytelling and movement. Hosted by Voices of the South company member Virginia Matthews, the project is open to both children and adults. Classes are scheduled for Saturdays, March 8, April 12 and May 10, from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Lichterman Nature Center, located at 5992 Quince Road. The program is free with center admission, which is \$6 for adults, \$5.50 for seniors (60+) and \$4.50 for children (ages 3-12). For more information, call (901) 767-7322, ext. 121.

## Works of Gonzalez on exhibit

"UN Real Estates," featuring new works by Maria Elena Gonzalez, will be on exhibit at The Art Museum of The University of Memphis, 142 Communications & Fine Arts Building, March 8 through April 19. A constant in Gonzalez's work is the combination of sculptural installation addressing powerful issues and innovative use of media and materials. An opening reception is set for Friday, March 7, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. All events are free and open to the public. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Saturday. For more information, call (901) 678-2224 or go online to [www.amum.org](http://www.amum.org).

## Davis-Kidd to host 2 local writers

Bea Gonzales, former owner of Lupe & Bea's Texican Restaurant, which was located for 13 years at 394 North Watkins Street in Memphis, will sign copies of her cookbook, *Lupe and Bea's Texican Restaurant Tex-Mex Recipes* (Innovative Solutions, 2002, \$7.50) at Davis-Kidd Booksellers, located at 387 Perkins Extended in the Laurelwood Shopping Center, on Saturday, March 15, at noon. C. Stuart Chapman will sign copies of *Shelby Foote: A Writer's Life* (University Press of Mississippi, 2003, \$30.00) at Davis-Kidd on Friday, March 21, at 7 p.m.

## Theatreworks to stage local story

The Playwrights' Forum will present *Romantic Fever*, by Memphis Playwright Charles Ingram, on stage at Theatreworks, 2085 Monroe Avenue behind Overton Square, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, March 13-15, 20-22 and 27-29. All shows begin at 8 p.m. *Romantic Fever* is a coming-of-age piece set in the mid-1960s. Richard, a college freshman, struggles to recover not just from injuries he received in the same auto accident that claimed the life of his father but from the emotional straightjacket that has been his upbringing. Tickets are \$6 for students and seniors and \$8 for adults. Call (901) 725-2040 for reservations.



# NGL Task Force to host 3-day training program

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force will hold an intensive three-day training and action program, the GLBT Power Summit, Friday to Sunday, April 25 to 27, at the Radisson Hotel Cincinnati Waterfront in Covington, Ky.

The summit is for dedicated people who are looking for advanced level training to be better GLBT leaders and those looking for strategies and skills to win GLBT rights. The summit focuses on three specific sets of skills: how to win elections that matter to the GLBT community and build volunteer teams and leadership teams on a much larger scale; how to raise much more money for the organization or cause that you most care about, and how to pass a local law that advances GLBT equality and build lasting coalitions in our communities.

A non-refundable fee of \$100 is required to cover basic meeting costs. Lunch is provided each day. Participants are responsible for their travel, lodging and other food costs. NGLTF has limited scholarships available to those unable to pay their full registration fees. Additionally, participants must make a commitment to put the training to use when they return home. Enrollment is limited.

For more information, email NGLTF Organizer Sarah Reece at [sreece@ngltf.org](mailto:sreece@ngltf.org), call (212) 604-9830 ext. 13 or go online to [www.ngltf.org](http://www.ngltf.org).



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## FROM THE FRONT ROW BY KEVIN SHAW

Opening on Broadway in just a few weeks is a new play about a baseball superstar who decides to come out of the closet at the height of his career. The play is called *Take Me Out* and its author, Richard Greenberg, an openly gay playwright, also penned Theatre Memphis's newest production, *Three Days of Rain*, on stage at TM's Next Stage, 630 Perkins Extended, now through March 15.

Directed by Stephen Hancock, an assistant professor of theater at The University of Memphis, *Three Days of Rain* (a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize) is a play about three 30-somethings, children of two men whose architectural partnership made them rich and famous. One, Theo, died years before. Now, in 1995, the other, Ned, has recently died, leaving money and property to his children, Nan (Kim Justis) and Walker (Michael Gravois), and to Theo's son, Pip (Brian Mott).

Walker has been trying to find himself – or lose himself – in flight from the family. The play starts with his return to a shocked and angry Nan. Pip appears and all three head off to the lawyer's office to learn about Ned's will and especially about the disposition of the partner's most famous house Fallingwater, a landmark built for Ned's parent.

But, first there is lots of articulate, angry interaction. This apartment was where Ned and Theo lived in 1960, when their career began, and Walker has found the laconic Ned's typically-understated journal, with its revelations and enigmas. Additionally, relationships among Walker, Nan and Pip have been tangled – there are revelations there, as well.

In Act Two, the story travels back 35 years, to 1960, at the time Ned began to write the journal. We meet the parents at the same age their children are in Act One, and the events discussed in the previous act are now played out where we learn the truth. All three actors now play their own parents, as the audience is offered all the information needed to devise an understanding of this sad and unexpected family story.

*Family & Friends* recently caught up with Hancock to discuss his work on *Three Days of Rain*.

**F&F: What originally attracted you to this project?**

Hancock: Well, first off, I'm a real fan of Richard Greenberg. I just love this story and the language. I think he's got some beautiful dialogue between the characters. His characters are very well educated and very verbal. You're assaulted with words and it's just so rare, you know, in our everyday lives that we encounter people that are this quick and so verbal. You know the hook of this story is that we see in Act One, a brother, sister and childhood friend and then in Act Two we meet the parents of those kids.

**F&F: What do you think audiences will enjoy about this show?**

Hancock: It's kind of a mystery play. I keep saying it's a play about discovery because all children, I think, try to



Brian Mott, Kim Justis and Michael Gravois are featured in the production *Three Days of Rain* on the Next Stage at Theatre Memphis, on stage now through March 15.

come to understand if they really know their parents. These were kids that had a mother that was slightly off-balanced and a father who was very distant and silent. They didn't even know him and then we come to find out that he didn't even like kids. These kids are trying to make sense of their relationship with their parents. So, they end up making all these assumptions and discovering clues about their parents and start trying to put the pieces together. And, then in Act Two, we see the events played out to see how well the kids reconstructed their parent's lives, or not.

**F&F: What do you hope the audiences take away from experiencing this show?**

Hancock: Well, in researching the show, I've discovered that everyone comes away very frustrated because it doesn't answer anything – it leaves a lot of unanswered questions. I, as a theatergoer, like that because it propels discussion and everyone has a different point of view. I realize that some people like a nice package (tied up and everything) and this is not that kind of show. It is very open-ended and you have to leap to come to your own conclusions.

**F&F: Now, we're getting to what I really want to talk about. What is it like to direct your partner of 10 years, Michael Gravois, for the first time?**

Hancock: (Laughing) We feel it has gone amazingly well!

**F&F: Were you both nervous about going into this project?**

Hancock: Oh, absolutely! When I found out I was going to direct this show, I knew that Michael was interested in being in the show, but he knew he had to audition. So, it wasn't a foregone conclusion that he was going to be in it.

**F&F: But he was sleeping with the director, right?**

**See Front Row, page 43**

# Living Word provides haven for individuals

By ANITA MOYT, managing editor

Rev. Kyle Dearen is the shepherd of a church that many in the Southern states wouldn't agree with.

Living Word Christian Church, located at 2489 Broad Avenue (next to the post office), is a haven for individuals, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, that provides an accepting fellowship, a Biblical-based belief system and a charismatic form of worship. Although this congregation has only been at the Broad street address since May 2002, it previously met in the home of two of the members for seven and one-half years.

"Living Word originally was formed by myself and Pearl Thompson," Rev. Dearen told *Family & Friends*. "God laid it on our hearts in August 1995. (We felt) he was wanting to do a work in Memphis.

"We (Living Word Christian Church) are kinda charismatic ... Bible believing ... not funded by any other denomination or organization," Rev. Dearen said. "We clap our hands and use the tambourine; we have an upbeat, non-traditional form of worship. We are kinda small, we are open to everybody. We are not necessarily a gay church; we are just people who God loves. Heterosexual individuals also are members; we are very diverse. We are real big on relationships and building relationships that last forever.

"My training was in music," Rev. Dearen continued. "I went to Evangel College, a Christian college, in Springfield, Mo., where I studied music education with vocals primary and piano secondary. I was raised in the Baptist church but when I got older I went to an Assembly of God church. I watched all the leaders I was under and learned from them. From an early age, I knew I had a call on my life.

"I came out in 1985," Rev. Dearen said, explaining how he handled his realization that he was both gay and a Christian "I always knew God loved me no matter what. I thank God I came from a family that didn't treat me any differently ... most people knew before I did. It wasn't that

big of a deal. At the time, I was a minister of music at an Assembly of God church out of town. When I came out, things weren't working regarding travel (with that job). I was juggling two or three things in Memphis so it just didn't work out; I quit that position.

"At that time I was trying to find another place to go and found Holy Trinity Community Church," Rev. Dearen said. "I was there when Ethan Pruett was pastor. I was music minister for two years at Holy Trinity Community Church prior to forming Living Word.

"We are in transition," Rev. Dearen said, explaining the effects of moving from a home-based church to a building. "When you move into a new facility, things are different and people change.

"We actually started a new campaign, Get The Word Out," he said. "We are going to get out in the community and be more involved. We are here and the facility is for (the community). We are probably going to start meeting with leaders in the community and organizations to make them aware we have a facility and it is open and we welcome everybody in."

Services at Living Word Christian Church are Sundays at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. and Wednesdays at 7 p.m. For more information, call (901) 452-6272 or go online to [Livingwordchristianchurch.net](http://Livingwordchristianchurch.net).

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BY

*Tom Pitman*

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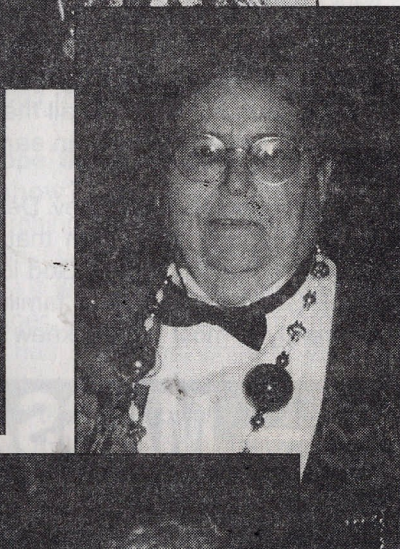
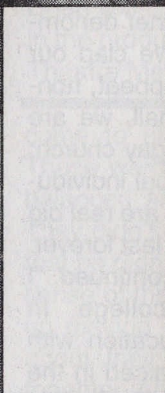
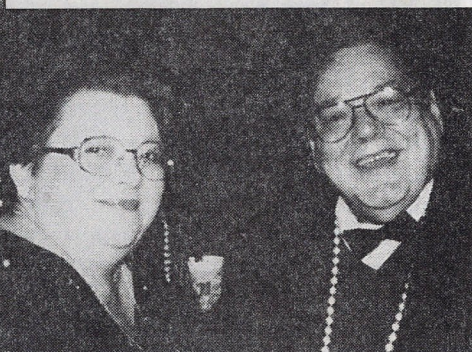
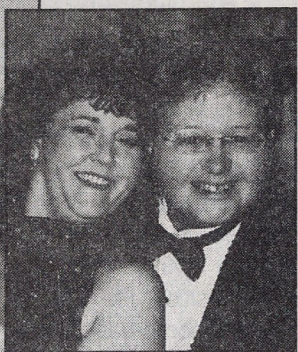
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**Closet**

The teenage girls who make up the Russian lesbian pop duo t.A.T.u. may be the world's first closeted heterosexual public figures.

In the video for the international No. 1 song, "All The Things She Said," Julia Volkova, 18, and Lena Katina, 17, passionately kiss and make out. They are unmistakably two baby dykes in love.

When asked by Russian reporters if they are lovers, the girls have responded, "Maybe."

But Russian journalists told Britain's *Sunday Mail* on Feb. 9 that both Julia and Katina have secret boyfriends.

"They've been hiding two boys from their fans," said reporter Svetlana Makunina from the newspaper *Zhizn*. "Their boyfriends are both students who are a little bit older than themselves. Nobody in Russia believes they are lesbians."

Kevin O'Flynn of the *Moscow Times* agreed. "The members of t.A.T.u. are about as lesbian as I am," he said. "The story is a load of bull. There hasn't been too much of a fuss in Russia about t.A.T.u.'s claims to be lesbians. I don't think anybody believes it."

The *Sunday Mail* said Lena's boyfriend is named Seryozha and Julia's is named Vanya.

"The girls were snapped in (the) Moscow nightclub Cloud-B2 with their male lovers," the paper said. "When questioned by Russian gossip writers, they insisted the guys were merely security men."

"All The Things She Said" has hit No. 1 in Austria, Italy, Spain, Switzerland and the U.K. (At press time) it's at No. 30 on Billboard's Hot 100 in the U.S.

Britain is so aghast at the video that both the BBC and ITV1 banned it. TV hosts Richard and Judy called it "pedophile porn."

The Canadian Press wire service exclaimed, "It's enough to make Britney Spears's much-talked-about midriff-baring schoolgirl outfit from the 'Baby One More Time' video look as saucy as bubblegum."

After reading that, I had no choice but to get the t.A.T.u. video and watch it repeatedly. I have no idea what people are upset about. Yes, two cute girls kiss and make out. But can it really be the case that, in 2003, Britain and Canada didn't know lesbians kiss each other?

The video and the song, by the way, are both quite good. "t.A.T.u. is an abbreviated form of the Russian phrase "that girl loves that girl."

...

**Germ**

There's a new gay disease, said the *L.A. Times*.

It popped up first in Los Angeles. Gay men are spreading antibiotic-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteria to each other.

It causes large, painful boils, deep abscesses and widespread inflammation on unbroken skin, commonly on the legs, hands, face, butt, penis and scrotum.

Doctors monitoring the outbreak believe it is being transmitted through sex and in warm, moist environments such as those found at health clubs and bathhouses, among other places.

When regular antibiotics fail to kill the bug, some people have to spend a month in the hospital being given intravenous antibiotics that cost \$1,500.

Doctors fear it could only be a matter of time before staph outsmarts all antibiotics. It is presently resistant to methicillin, penicillin and cephalosporins such as Keflex and Ceftin, as well as erythromycin and fluoroquinolones such as Cipro and Levaquin, the *Times* said.

Drugs that may still work include Bactrim, rifampin, clindamycin, intravenous vancomycin and Zyvox, the \$1,500 drug.

If you get something like what is described here, go to the doctor. Any time you are prescribed an antibiotic, take all of it. Scientists claim that one of the main ways bacteria become resistant is by not being fully killed when people start feeling better and don't finish their prescription.

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*Editor's Note: The views and opinions expressed in all editorial/opinion pieces published by Family & Friends are the views and opinions of the respective author and not necessarily those of the magazine.*

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***You are my Hero  
You're my best friend and my lover, too  
You are my Hero,  
and I thank God that I found you ...***

***When the nights are so lonely, I just think  
of you when you're not around  
And it fills my heart with happiness, Till I  
can hold you in my arms again***

***When we are together,  
You fill my life with so much joy  
To be with you forever,  
is all that I ever dream of***

***You are my Hero,  
You're my best friend and my lover, too  
You are my Hero,  
and I thank God that I found you ...***



By **ERNEST DONELSON II**, guest writer  
Friends For Life HIV Educator

**Question: HIV/AIDS used to be referred to as “the gay disease,” but now it seems heterosexual women, especially women of color, are becoming more and more infected. How is this?**

**Answer:**The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has presented evidence of a dramatic rise of HIV infections among women of color (African-American and Hispanic). Nationally, as well as locally, the AIDS epidemic has increased most significantly among women of color.

African-American and Hispanic women together make up less than one fourth of all women in the United States, yet they account for more than three fourths (78 percent) of AIDS cases in the country. In 1992, women living with AIDS made up 14 percent of all cases, by 1999, this number had grown to 20 percent. In 2000, African American and Hispanic women represented 80 percent of AIDS cases reported in women.

Among women reported with AIDS in 2000, 38 percent were infected through heterosexual exposure and 25 percent of the cases were from intravenous drug usage. In 1992, African-American women in Shelby County repre-

sented only seven percent of all reported AIDS cases, but among women with AIDS they represented 87 percent. By 2001, African American women's numbers had increased to 96 percent among women in Shelby County living with AIDS. The epidemiological data for the state of Tennessee reflects that between 1991 and 2000, heterosexual exposure among women constituted 65 percent of AIDS cases.

The AIDS cases for African American women in Shelby County have been consistently high since the onset of the epidemic. The risks associated with sharing needles, drug use and unprotected sex with injection drug users and other associated risks such as multiple sex partners, rape and domestic violence, sex with bisexual men who may be non-gay identified and men recently released from incarceration contributes to the spread of the virus among African-American and Hispanic women. African-American women, in most cases, are single-parent heads of household, where men contribute little or nothing towards raising children, providing financial assistance or emotional support. In many cases these women are under-educated and under-employed and have a history of drug abuse. These are leading factors that contribute to psycho-sociological problems with low self-esteem, multiple sex partners, inability to negotiate safer sex, continued drug use and other problems.

The exposure rate for heterosexual African-American women in the state of Tennessee, according to the 2000 epidemiologic data report, reporting AIDS cases by risk behavior and gender during two four-year periods, 1993-1996, and 1997-2000, show the trends for women reporting heterosexual contact with at-risk male partners increased from 62 to 68 percent, specifically for women ages 26-44 years.

There continues to be a need for greater HIV prevention among African-American women given the overall trends in HIV incidence in Memphis and the state of Tennessee. There are a number of programs that are designed to provide women with the opportunity for changing risky behaviors and sustaining these changes. An increased emphasis on education, prevention, behavior changes, negotiation and decision making skills building, treatment services and increased knowledge of HIV transmission are aimed at women in all settings, including women's detention centers, shelters, drug-treatment programs, as well as out-of-school and after-school programs.

The African American community, especially, needs to support these programs, as well as the agencies that provide HIV/AIDS services. Without these education programs, interventions, changes in attitudes and behaviors, this epidemic can destroy our future, by continuing to threaten the very heart and soul of the community – our beautiful sisters!

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814 Jefferson Avenue, Room 221

7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday to Friday

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1407 Union Avenue, Third Floor

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8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday

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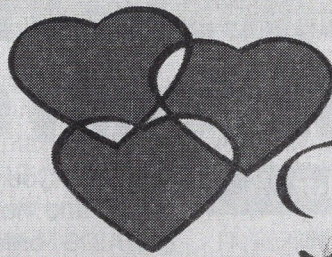
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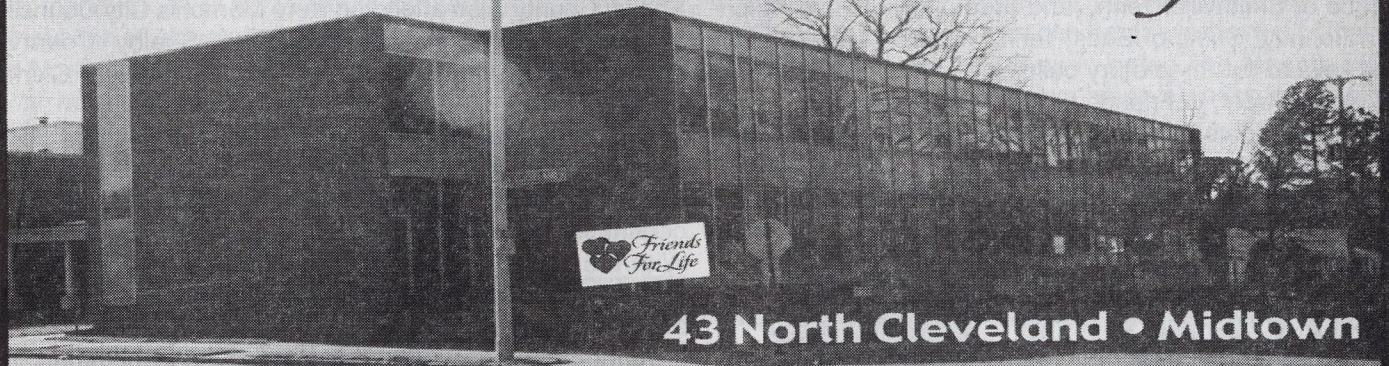
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Agencies provide HIV counseling and testing at various health fairs and community events throughout the year.

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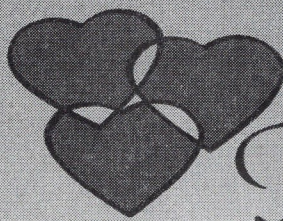
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*Friends For Life  
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# FFL officially receives new building during reception, city and county officials attend

By ANITA MOYT, managing editor

On Feb. 7, Former Tennessee State Senator William R. Bruce of Smithville, Tenn., and area businessman Ralph R. "Ronney" Snell, of Eads, Tenn., officially handed over the keys to the three-story building at 43 North Cleveland at Court Street, to Friends For Life Corporation.

A press conference was well attended by Memphis and Shelby County elected officials, as well as all local TV stations and other media.



Shelby County Mayor A.C. Wharton addresses the crowd while FFL Executive Director Kim Moss looks on and listens.



FFL Executive Director Kim Moss, left, with Ralph "Ronney" Snell, center, and William R. Bruce.

Shelby County Mayor A. C. Wharton shared a few comments and noted how this new facility will enable the HIV/AIDS organization to help even more people in Shelby County. Also attending were Memphis City Council member Barbara Swearington Holt, Shelby County Assessor of Property Rita Clark and Circuit Court Clerk Jimmy Moore.

Ultimately, all programs and offices of Friends For Life Corporation will come under the one roof at 43 North Cleveland, with the other two "Aloysius" buildings continuing as housing units for persons with HIV/AIDS. With the added space, the food pantry will be expanded and a clothes closet added, and other programs will be developed.

At the press conference, it was announced that Friends For Life Board Chairman George Mabone was nearing the end of his term and long-time board member Linda Sowell, owner of Sowell Realty, would become board chair on March 1.

The public is invited to a dedication and open house for the new facility on Friday, March 14, from 4 to 7 p.m.



Memphis City Councilwoman Barbara Swearington Holt gives a passionate talk about Friends For Life and the new building. Also pictured is FFL Executive Director Kim Moss.



# Directions change for Aloysius Home, FFL says

In the May 2002 issue of *Family & Friends*, it was reported that Friends For Life Corporation had received two grants in April 2002. One of those grants was from Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) in the amount of \$813,000 during the next two-year period. In that story FFL Executive Director Kim Moss said the money from HOPWA would be used to pay for the renovation of Aloysius's former transitional housing unit at 28 North Claybrook. It was to be converted to two permanent housing apartments, each designated for a family with children where one or both of the adults has HIV/AIDS.

In the January 2003 issue of *Family & Friends*, it was reported that the first floor of the building at 28 North Claybrook would become FFL's new "Center of Positive Choices," housing several programs, including Positively Sober, HIV Prevention street outreach, Prevention for Positives, The

## Filmmakers sought for G&L film festival July 11-22

The Philadelphia Film Society invites filmmakers and videographers to submit works to the 2003 Philadelphia International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, set for July 11-22. All genres are sought, including features, shorts, animation and documentaries, in film or video formats.

Deadline for entries is May 2. Entries may be submitted electronically at [www.phillyfests.com](http://www.phillyfests.com) or by mail using an entry form printed from the society's website at [www.phillyfests.com](http://www.phillyfests.com) or requesting an entry form by calling Jennifer Steinberg at (215) 733-0608 ext. 260 or emailing her at [jsteinberg@phillyfests.com](mailto:jsteinberg@phillyfests.com).

Founded in 1994, the Philadelphia International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival attracts more than 25,000 film lovers from the Northeast U.S. In 2002, the festival presented 176 individual screenings of 54 features, 15 documentaries, 103 shorts and two special presentations, representing 25 countries.

Memphis Black SGL Cultural & Resource Center, the Black Gay Youth Program and Day by Day, a life-skills training program.

Moss told *Family & Friends* that there had been a change in the original plan for the two apartments.

"Upstairs will be single-room occupancy," Moss said, "which means a small room for formerly homeless HIV-positive people, people who can live there the rest of their life or until they get their lives in order. The tenants will share bathrooms and kitchens, however, each room will have its own sink, vanity, small refrigerator and microwave oven."

For more information on Friends For Life Corporation, go online to [www.FriendsForLife.org](http://www.FriendsForLife.org).

# COFFEE SHOP



A **Prevention** program **for Positives +** of  *Friends For Life*

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Monday, beginning March 10<sup>th</sup>, from 5 to 8 p.m., folks who are HIV-positive\* can gather at Java Cabana, 2170 Young Ave., to socialize and enjoy a cup of coffee. Risk Reduction Program at 7:30 p.m.

For more info, call Wes at (901) 272-0855

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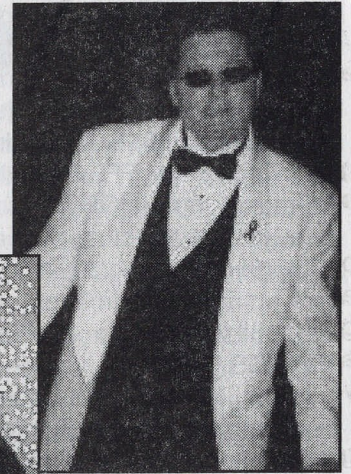
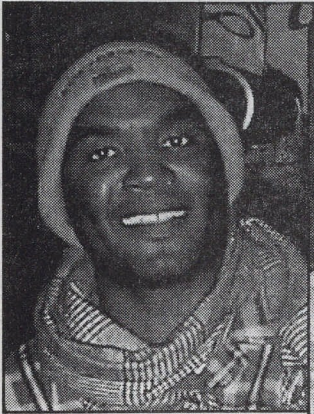
Java Cabana



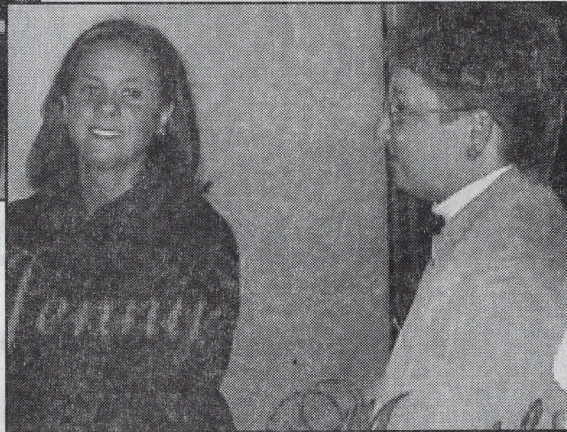
cooper-young's coffee house

*Friends For Life is funded in part by the United Way of the Mid-South and The City of Memphis*

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Photos provided  
by  
Jimmy Gray



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## Front Row

from page 34

Were there extra romantic dinners or was the house especially clean during the audition process?

Hancock: Oh please, no ...

**F&F:** Seriously, once it was confirmed that he was going to be in the show, did you two have to set down specific ground rules on how to work together?

Hancock: Actually, the harder part of the process has been that Michael also designed the set. So, he's there as an actor and then at the same time he'll be making suggestions as the set designer in regards to where actors and things should go on the set. Of course, it's all done very jokingly and lovingly, but, you know, knock on wood ... So far things have gone rather smoothly because I guess he trusts me. He also acknowledges that, ultimately, it's my vision of the show.

**F&F:** So, would you two want to do this again?

Hancock: Yes, absolutely!

Showtimes for *Three Days of Rain* are 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays; 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and 2 p.m. on Sundays. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for students with valid ID card. Half-price tickets go on sale to the public at 7 p.m. for the Thursday, March 6, performance and at 1:30 p.m. for the Sunday, March 9, performance.

For tickets or more information, call the Theatre Memphis Box Office at (901) 682-8323.

# The Lion in Winter



March 21 - April 6 • Tickets 682-8323 • theatrememphis.org

History repeats itself. King Henry II of England and his wife, Eleanor of Aquitaine, come to life again, battling over which of their sons should inherit the crown. One of the most frequently performed dramas in America and an Oscar-winning movie, *The Lion in Winter* is sure to leave its mark on you.

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# Three Mo' Tenors headed to The Orpheum

The Cultural Development Foundation of Memphis is bringing the musical experience of "Three Mo' Tenors" to the stage of The Orpheum Theatre, 203 South Main Street, Friday and Saturday, April 18 and 19. Both shows begin at 8 p.m.

Three Mo' Tenors was created by Marion J. Caffey to showcase African-American tenors, a group often absent from the concert stage. Caffey also is the director for Three Mo' Tenors.

Three extremely talented musicians, Victor Trent Cook, Rodrick Dixon and Thomas Young, each of whom have perfected their talents in seven musical styles, will serenade the audience with a musical menu of classics, from opera and standards to the blues, gospel and Motown.

Cook received a 1995 Tony Award nomination for *Smokey Joe's Cafe*. He has many off-Broadway and Broadway credits, and has toured throughout the U.S., Europe and Japan. As a soloist, he has performed at the White House, Avery Fisher Hall, John F. Kennedy Center and Boston's Symphony Hall with such conductors as Zubin Mehta and Leonard Bernstein. He was a \$100,000 "Star Search" winner and has many T.V. and film credits, as well.

Dixon has performed with the Lyric Opera of Chicago, Portland Opera, Virginia Opera and Columbus Opera. As

a concert soloist, he has performed with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra at Ravinia, Denver Symphony and Concordia Orchestra at the Lincoln Symphony, Wheeling Symphony, Elgin Symphony and Racheim Symphony Chorus in Detroit.

Young has performed as a principal soloist in the major art centers of more than 20 countries. He has had roles written for him by Tan Dun (*Marco Polo*), Anthony Davis (*Armistad*, *Under the Double Moon*, *The Life and Times of Malcolm X*) and John Adams (*The Death of Klinghoffer*), and has appeared with Simon Rattle, Zubin Mehta, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Sir Roger Norrington and Ollie Knussen. Young's theater, recording and jazz credits are extensive and varied.

Tickets to Three Mo' Tenors range from \$20 to \$55 and are available by calling (901) 743-ARTS or (901) 525-3000.

...

Immediately following the Saturday, April 19, performance, the public is invited to a black tie benefit/gala, hosted by Shelby County Mayor A.C. Wharton with guests Three Mo' Tenors. Tickets, which include the show, are \$155 each and are available by calling (901) 323-7522. Seats are limited; this is a matching grant fundraiser for the Cultural Development Foundation of Memphis.

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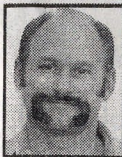
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April 6, 1-3 p.m.

\* Includes 2 meals & snacks on Saturday and admission to Sunday's Concert

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## QUOTE / UNQUOTE BY REX WOCKNER

"You look like a fag. You dress like a fag. You are a fag."

— **Hotel queen Leona Helmsley to former Park Lane Hotel manager Charles Bell before she fired him in February 2001, according to Bell's testimony in his gay discrimination case, Jan. 14. Helmsley denies making the statements.**

"Oh, well."

— **Hotel queen Leona Helmsley Feb. 4 after a jury gave \$11 million to a hotel manager she fired because he was gay.**

"I have no respect for the man, very little respect except for the fact that he is the president. You people have got to get rid of him."

— **Transsexual New Zealand member of Parliament Georgina Beyer on George W. Bush, to the St. Louis gay publication, EXP, Jan. 17.**

"We're talking about a very affluent group. They tend more often than not to not have children, and to have a very high annual income and they love to travel."

— **Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority spokesman Bob Powers on gays, to the Las Vegas Mercury, Jan. 16.**

"I have no intention of giving up my leathers. It's not a look. This isn't fashion. Leather is an act of being."

— **Mid-Atlantic Leather Weekend attendee Dave Iverson of New York to a reporter for 365Gay.com. MAL was picketed by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals Jan. 19.**

"It's time for ... AIDS groups to start telling gay men the truth. Taking stupid sexual risks — even if risk turns you on — is reckless; anal sex on the first date — even with condoms — is a bad idea; giving someone HIV — even if he wants it — is immoral; being a huge f\*\*\*\*\*g slut — as popular as that might make you — has physical and emotional consequences. Gay men need to be told that stupid decisions don't deserve anyone's respect."

— **Syndicated gay advice columnist Dan Savage, Jan. 28.**

"In New Jersey ... gay pride is just one day. In New York, gay pride gets a whole week and a parade and everything. In New Jersey — this was Asbury Park — no parade or anything, just one day in the park with speakers and — what are those fluffy donuts called? — oh, yeah, funnel cakes, and people wearing weird rainbow clothes."

— **Comic Marga Gomez to New York City's Gay City News, Jan. 31.**

"Mentalities have changed. There is no longer any reason not to open marriage to people of the same sex."

— **Belgian Justice Minister Marc Verwilghen as Belgium became the second nation to open up regular marriage to same-sex couples, Jan. 30.**

"'Straight-Acting' Contest ... w/Belching, Erotic Scratching, Spitting, Sexiest Boxers, Chugging Old Milwaukee & More!"

— **Ad for the San Diego gay bar Bourbon Street, in the Gay & Lesbian Times, Feb. 6.**

"Everybody seemed to think I was gay for years. I didn't — and don't — care, but I had a long string of gentlemen friends before the press picked up on those they cared to be interested in — in all colors and sizes. A good man is a good man, honey."

— **Actress Whoopi Goldberg quoted on Gay.com UK, Feb. 6.**

"I am not for gay marriage. I am for partner benefits."

— **Democratic Presidential candidate Sen. John Edwards to CNN, Feb. 6.**

"Instead of being known for my wit, charm and ability to cook, I am known for the 10 inches I have between my legs. ... Monster certainly catches folks' attention. ... Interacting with my fans as I do, the word has gotten out that there is a person attached to the c\*\*k!"

— **Gay porn actor Michael Brandon to Denver's Out Front, Jan. 29.**

"I figured I'd get hate mail from here to Timbuktu. You kind of hope for the best but you think of the worst and you know what? Times have changed, and society is changing little by little because the responses I've gotten have been mostly positive. It's awesome and it's inspiring."

— **Newly-out former NFL player Esera Tuaolo to Denver's Out Front, Jan. 29.**

"Don't bother me with that crap. Just mind your own f\*\*\*\*\*g business!"

— **Actor Kevin Spacey when asked during an interview with six reporters Feb. 10 in New York City, "How do you feel about those stories about you being gay?" according to the Toronto Star, Feb. 11.**

"Exactly when did meeting people become so complicated? Once upon a time you went for walk in the park and hooked up. Now you need high-speed access and an advanced degree in photo retouching."

— **Columnist Brent Ledger in Toronto's Xtra!, Feb. 6.**

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*Quotes compiled by Rex Wockner, who has reported news for the gay press since 1985. His work has appeared in more than 200 gay publications. He has a B.A. in journalism from Drake University, started his career as a radio reporter and has written extensively for the mainstream media, as well.*

**Chevelle**

**Wonder What's Next** (☆☆☆☆☆)

I must admit that I, once upon a time in my younger days, was a huge fan of harder rock. Bands like Nirvana, Deftones, Tool and Rage Against The Machine ruled my radio. But I quickly grew bored with the return of the '80s machismo/hair metal in the guise of "nu-metal" bands like Limp Bizkit and Kid Rock. And since then, I haven't given new rock much attention, preferring the substance of folk and blues or the musical expression of jazz.

But when I put Chevelle's *Wonder What's Next* in my CD player and slid on some headphones, I was suddenly 16 again. Every track is a sonic breath of fresh air that transported me back to those days when rock was a simple equation – a guitarist, a drummer, a bassist, some angst ridden lyrics and a vocalist who can scream his head-off. Chevelle delivers on all fronts.

Lead singer/guitarist/songwriter Pete Loeffler is definitely one of the best rock vocalists I've heard in a very long time. While he doesn't have the unworldly wail of Chris Cornell, he does manage to pull off the soft to hard style seamlessly and, unlike Kid Rock or Fred Durst, he does actually sing.

Chevelle's lyrics aren't deep poetic statements of life, but they shouldn't be. Rock music is supposed to be a sonic onslaught of anger, a complete and total raw release of anger and pain. And the boys of Chevelle definitely let loose on this album. "Grab Thy Hand," with its mix of hushed vocals and screeching guitars is definitely one of the best rock tracks I've heard in a long time. And, sadly, probably won't ever hear on the radio.

In a rock world dominated by rock stars who want to be rappers, with albums that are created as much by label analysts as by the musicians, Chevelle is a welcome escape from the status-quo. They don't care what marketing demographic you fit into, they just want to rock you and rock

you they do.

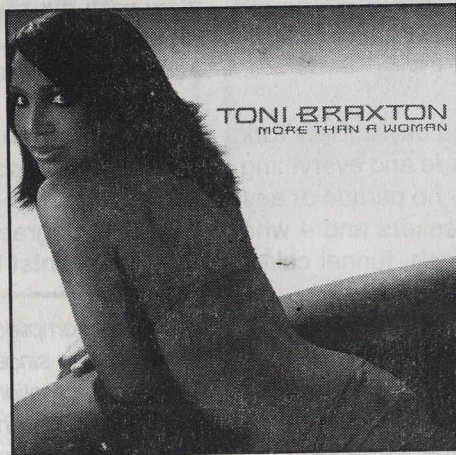
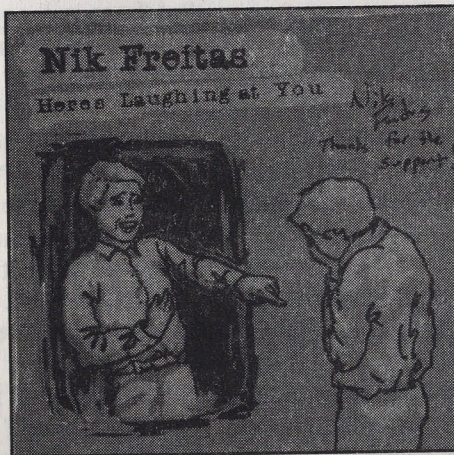
— Highlights include "Grab Thy Hand," "One Lonely Visitor" and "The Red."

...

**Nik Freitas**

**Here's Laughing At You** (☆☆☆☆)

I know what you're thinking, "Nik who?" Well that's what I thought when I first looked at this record, but I



thought what the hey and popped it into my trusty Discman and hit "play." My curiosity was rewarded with an extremely unique and enjoyable sonic journey.

*Here's Laughing At You* is one of those albums that refuses to be defined, going through as many genres as it has tracks.

The opener, "Pictures Of The Sun," has an odd melodic, alternative singer-songwriter, John Lennon embellishment, eery harmonies and atmospherics that answer the age-old question of what would have happened if a young John Lennon tried to cover Radiohead (ok, so that isn't an age old question and I just made it up, but still, it sounds pretty cool, doesn't it?).

Nik brings sonic experimentation to folkish mellow rock the way Nirvana infused it into rock. The result is an album that refuses to stand still. It draws you in and carries you through to the end, like embarking on some great sonic odyssey.

The album isn't perfect. The production could be better and the sounds could use some polishing, but then again this does lend a certain endearing "made in the basement" quality to the album.

So, who is Nik Freitas? Well, as best as I can tell, he is a songwriter on a sonic journey and he wants us all to come along. So pack your bags, put your headphones on and drift-off for awhile.

— Highlights include "Thanks," "Pictures Of The Sun" and "Counting Yellow Lines."

...

**Toni Braxton**

**More Than A Woman** (☆☆☆)

More than a woman? Yep, she is now, she is a mommy. And after having her baby she is now ready to reestablish herself as a true diva and *More Than A Woman* is a step in the right direction.

From the first breaths of the album opener, "Let Me Show You The Way

**See In The Mix, page 47**

## In The Mix

from page 46

(Out)," Braxton reminds us that she was indeed blessed with an amazing set of pipes. What can I say, the woman can sing. Sadly, the clicking noise in the background serves more to annoy listeners than to move the song along. On the second track, Braxton continues to obscure her beautiful voice with intense beats and the annoying appearance of The Big Tymers. Producer "LA" Reid seems to have forgotten that Brittany Spears and the millions of singers like her use tons of beats and background noise to distract from the fact that they can't sing. Braxton doesn't need any distraction, cause, like I said, the girl can sing.

But don't fret, the album gets better. On tracks like "A Better Man" and "Lies, Lies, Lies" we get to hear more of what Braxton can do and less of what noise machines can make these days.

On "Selfish," Braxton really cuts loose and I personally couldn't help but smile through the beginning of the song, which features Braxton's voice set against sparse, soothing acoustic rhythms. Indeed, the later part of the record seems focused on being softer, which allows Braxton to showcase her voice.

The real stinkers of this collection are with rap artists, including "Give It Back" with The Big Tymers and "Hit The Freeway" with Loon. If this record suffers from anything, it is over production. The beats are often predictable and at other times simply annoying. At times I have to strain to hear Braxton over the various background noise bits and, call me crazy, but I just can't see the point in making a Toni Braxton record only to drown Braxton out with machines, but I guess that's what is popular these days and I'm just out of touch.

Anyway, Braxton is truly talented and, when she avoids trying to be hip or trying to be Mary J. Blige, she is truly great. But this album too often succumbs to the pressure of musical trends and, yes, Braxton is more than a woman, but sadly this album isn't more than the usual offering.

— Highlights include "Selfish" and "Do You Remember When."

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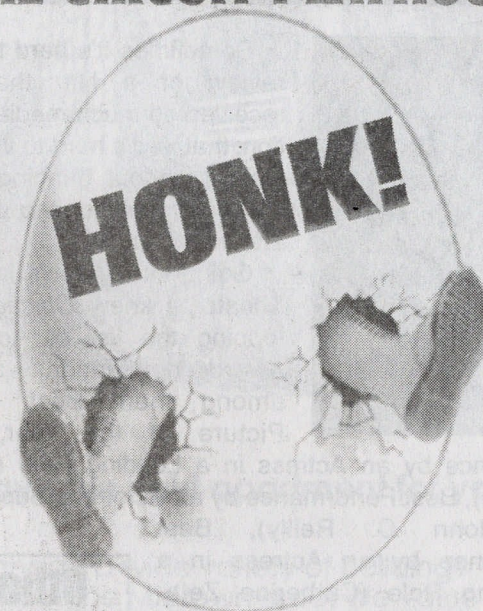
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*This office provides information about disability supports and community services available to individuals, families, and agencies in TN.*

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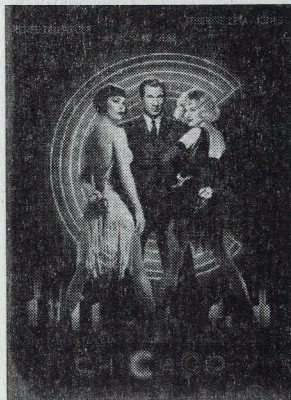
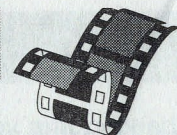
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ATTN: Guidelines



Sometimes it's hard to do a review of a film that has received so much media attention; that is, it's hard to view the picture without bringing some sort of expectations to the theater with you.

Going into Malco's Majestic Theater, I knew *Chicago* was topping the list of Academy Award nominations at 13, among them Best Motion Picture of the Year, Best

Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role (Renee Zellweger), Best Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role (John C. Reilly), Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role (Catherine Zeta-Jones AND Queen Latifah), Achievement in Directing and Best Adapted Screenplay. We did try, however, to view the film with an open mind, but with the Oscars slated to be handed out Sunday, March 23, we decided to review the film in regard to its respective Academy nominations.

First, however, for those who are unfamiliar with the film, *Chicago* is the film version of the Broadway musical hit. Set in the roaring '20s, it is the story of Chicago chorus girl Roxie Hart (Zellweger), who shoots her unfaithful lover. Landing in jail, she meets Velma Kelly (Zeta-Jones), another chorus girl and murderess, presently enjoying media attention and legal manipulation, care of her attorney, Billy Flynn (Richard Gere), king of the old "Razzle Dazzle." Soon enough, however, Flynn takes Roxie's case, as well, and Velma finds herself old news as Roxie is now the most famous murderess in town, on her way to getting out of jail, due in part to her husband (Reilly), and becoming a star. The two go through a series of attempts at getting what they both want, freedom and fame, with the help of the warden (Latifah).

**Best Motion Picture of the Year**

When viewed in the overall context of the film, *Chicago* has a very good chance at snagging the Oscar in this category. Although, we must

admit, we've only seen one of the other nominees.

Let's just say *Chicago* passed our "never looked at our watch once to see if it was almost over" test, and believe me, this is a big test. Note: A nod to producer Martin Richards with, among others, out executive producers Craig Zadan and Neil Meron.

**Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role**

I have to admit that in previous roles, I always viewed Renee Zellweger as a whiny, weak actress. Not true after *Chicago*. She turns in an awesome performance as the cheating, murdering, scheming Roxie Hart. It's our guess that Zellweger will soon have a statue to add to her mantle. Who knew she could sing?

**Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role**

By all means, John C. Reilly gets our nod. Although he is up against some stiff competition (Ed Harris, Christopher Walken and Paul Newman), he may have very well been the best actor in the movie, sorry Richard. While he didn't impress me much early on in the film, it was his solo of "Mister Cellophane," that made me sit up and take notice, so much so that I'm noticing him in other films. I'm keeping my fingers crossed for you, John.

**Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role (2)**

I'm not 100 percent sure why Zeta-Jones falls into this category and not into the "Leading Role" division, but she, too, turns in an a performance that shows her diversity in front of the camera. Again, who knew she could sing and dance like that?

While Zeta-Jones turned in a smashing performance as Velma Kelly, our nod has to go to Queen Latifah. She is one tough cookie as the scheming, looking out for number one warden in *Chicago*, not to mention she's got more talent than most realize.

**Adapted Screenplay**

Most of the time I'm not a big fan of "adapted" screenplays, whether they are adapted from a novel or from Broadway, mostly because they always loose something in the translation. However, in the case of

**Other Notable Nods from the Academy**

Other notable Academy Award nominees this year includes those from the GLBT community. They include:

**Pedro Almodovar** – Best Director and Best Original Screenplay, *Talk To Her*

**Todd Hayes** – Best Original Screenplay, *Far From Heaven*

**Scott Rudin** – Best Picture, *The Hours* (producer)

**Stephen Daldry** – Best Director, *The Hours*

**Dean DeBlois** – Best Animated Film, *Lilo & Stitch*

**Best Foreign Film** – Dutch gay-themed comedy, *Zus & Zo*

Then there are those actors and actresses in GLBT roles. They include:

**Salma Hayek** – Best Actress for playing bisexual painter Frida Kahlo in *Frida*

**Nicole Kidman** – Best Actress for playing bisexual poet and author Virginia Woolf in *The Hours*

**Ed Harris** – Best Supporting Actor as a poet dying of AIDS complications in *The Hours*

**OVERLOOKED:**

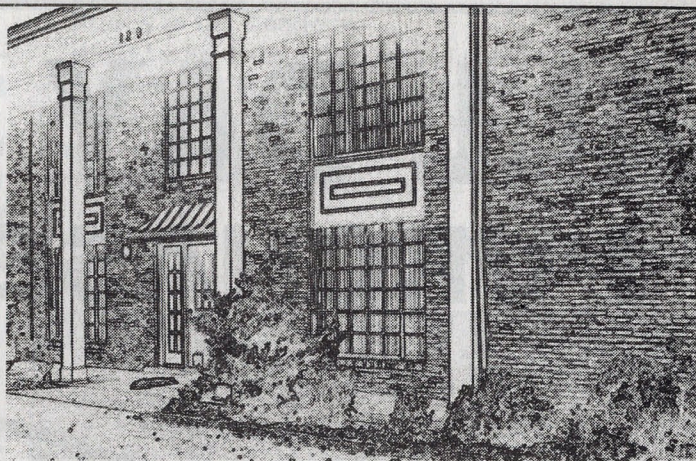
**Dennis Quaid's** performance as a closeted gay man in 1950s suburbia in *Far From Heaven*

See Reel Twisted, page 51



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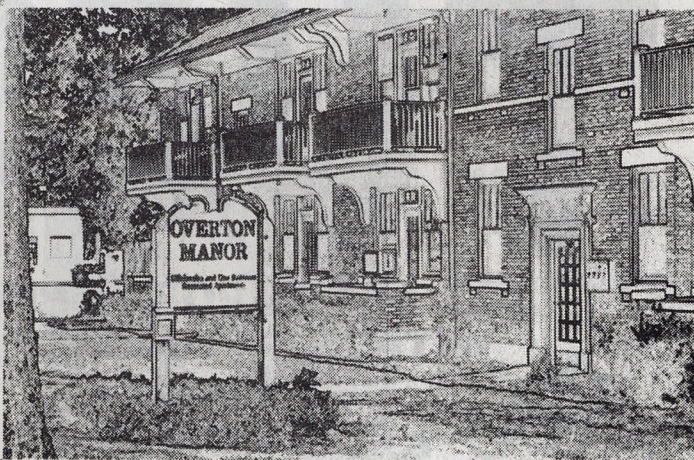


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The "Monkey" Is BACK!

## Reel Twisted

from page 48

*Chicago*, out writer Bill Condon has done a fantastic job of bringing the glamor and glitz of Broadway to the silver screen, thanks in part to fine direction, top-notch cinematography and awesome editing, which brings me to the next three categories ...

### Achievement in Directing

Out filmmaker Rob Marshall blew me away (as did Dion Beebe and Martin Walsh) with what may perhaps be the best blending of elements of Broadway and cinema ever. Hats off to Marshall and his staff for blending dramatic elements (acting scenes) with musical production numbers – all at the same time. This is definitely what made *Chicago* the number one “must see” film of the year.

### Achievement in Cinematography

Dion Beebe deserves the Oscar, if for no other reason than his talents were brilliantly showcased in such a way to achieve what most have been unable to do, bring a Broadway musical to life on the screen.

### Achievement in Film Editing

Good actors or not, good music or not, a film's success can easily rest in the hands of the editor. Many a time has a good film ended up bad because of the frames that end up on the cutting room floor. Martin Walsh, you deserve the Oscar. Enough said.

### Kudos to the Academy

While I admire the acting talents of Richard Gere (who won a Golden Globe for his performance in *Chicago*), I must say the Academy's decision not to nominate him as Best Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role, or any other role, for *Chicago* was a good one. In his dramatic

See Reel Twisted, page 53

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# Part I of II, Equality TN: Meet the Executive Director

By ANITA MOYT, managing editor

Despite the resignation of two board members only days before the scheduled Equality Tennessee board of director's meeting in Memphis, a meeting which was orchestrated by one of those resigning board members, Jim Maynard, remaining Equality Tennessee board members and Executive Director Paul Clere were not deterred and traveled across the state to let it be known that Equality Tennessee has something to offer the GLBT people throughout the state, Memphis included.

"We were supposed to have the (next) board meeting in Jackson, Tenn.," Clere told *Family & Friends*. "Jim said the Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center was opening so we thought we would come down and show our support and

## Jim Maynard resigns from Equality TN board

After several months of reports in *Family & Friends* about the intent of the Memphis Lesbian and Gay Coalition for Justice (MLGCJ) to dissolve and merge with the statewide Equality Tennessee, at the last minute, only a few days before the board meeting of Equality Tennessee in Memphis, Jim Maynard, co-chair of each organization, issued a statement that the dissolution of MLGCJ was not passed nor the merger approved and he had stepped down as the West Tenn Chair of Equality Tennessee.

"I would like to inform the Memphis GLBT community that I have resigned from the board of Equality Tennessee," Maynard wrote in a letter to the editor of *Family & Friends*, "and will no longer be serving as the vice-chair for West Tennessee ... I would like to explain my reasons for taking this action.

"As many of you know I was founder and co-chair of the Memphis Lesbian & Gay Coalition for Justice and was one of the founders and vice-chairs of Equality Tennessee," Maynard continued. "Recently, I've been pushing the 'merger' of MLGCJ into Equality Tennessee because I thought it would be a good idea and make things easier. Only recently have I had reason to doubt this strategy and I apologize for changing directions so late.

"I developed reservations about the decision of the board of Equality Tennessee to hire a full-time executive director and pay that person a salary," he said. "The board passed a \$100,000 budget that includes a salary for this position and would require West Tennessee to raise between \$10,000 and \$15,000! Now we know how hard it would be for us to raise that much money, and I don't know of any Memphis GLBT organization that could.

"After discussing this issue with many people in the

see your new center. ... So, we moved the townhall meeting/board meeting to Memphis at Jim's request.

"We are disappointed that the Memphis Lesbian and Gay Coalition for Justice decided not to merge," Clere said, "but we are glad they have continued. We hope we can collaborate with them in the future. We are not here to take the place of any other organization.

We are here as a networking and communication vehicle across the state."

Maynard said that his main reason for resigning from the board of directors of Equality Tennessee was that he didn't agree with the board in paying a salary to an executive director.

"I receive compensation for my position," Clere said. "The board voted to do a paid position. The board has addressed (the paid executive director's issue) five times," Clere said, referring to the numerous times Maynard and others brought the issue up to the board through parliamentary procedures, "and overwhelmingly continue to agree for a paid director." Clere has held the paid position as interim executive director for the past six months. At the Feb. 15 board of directors meeting, Clere's position was made permanent.

"The organization went from nothing in May 2002, with a volunteer board of directors who all had full-time jobs," Clere said. "They felt they needed the guidance and daily attention that an executive director could give the organization.

"We have financial statements for the first time," Clere continued. "We have a budget. We now have documentation in place to allow us to apply for grants. We've come a long way in a very short time. We have approximately 2,500 on our statewide mailing list.

"We went through a professional strategic planning process, and all the board gave their input," Clere said. The 12-page strategic plan details the specifics of what Equality Tennessee plans to do in the next year or so. Included in that plan are many statewide projects, including GLBT outreach programs, a GLBT needs and perceptions survey, a university student conference and outreach program, Tennessee safe schools initiative, National Coming Out Day activities, Pride celebration participation, legislative and congressional education and a leadership conference.

"We plan to do 10 townhall meetings across the state



Paul Clere

See Maynard, page 55

See Equality TN, page 55

## Reel Twisted

from page 51

scenes, well most of them, he is on his mark. However, it is his musical production sequences that left me wondering why, of all the actors in Hollywood, was he cast in the role of Billy Flynn. Note: Gere could take a lip-sync lesson or two from Memphis's drag queens.

...

The remaining categories for which *Chicago* has been nominated, Achievement in Music Written for Motion Pictures (Original Song), Achievement in Art Direction, Achievement in Costume Design, Achievement in Sound, need little mention because *Chicago* is a great film chocked full of busty dames and sexy male dancers, hot costumes and terrific music (my favorite numbers were "Cell Block Tango" and Latifah's "When You're Good To Mama"). The *Chicago* soundtrack is available and highly recommended for just about any occasion, whether it's driving down Interstate 240 or pulsing from your home entertainment system speakers.

Of course, every great movie has a message, most of the time hidden or subliminal (ie. *Citizen Kane*), as is the case with *Chicago*. There are those who will disagree with me here, but the message, at least to me, is clear. The media can make or break you. Don't believe me? Just ask Velma Kelly and Roxie Hart!

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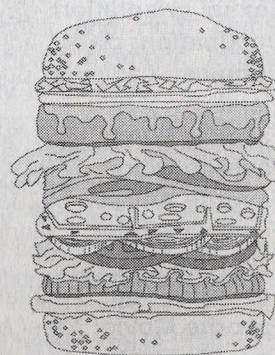
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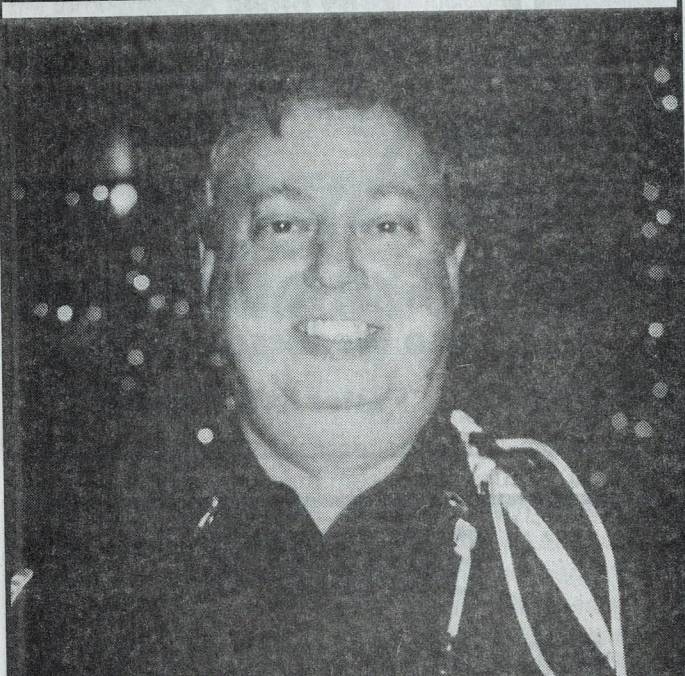
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## David Seay



**Name:** David Seay  
**Place where you were born:** Fredericksburg, Va.  
**How long have you lived in Memphis:** 20 years  
**Partnership status:** single  
**Sexual orientation:** gay  
**Occupation:** claims adjuster  
**Hobbies:** camping, cooking and hangin' out with friends  
**Favorite Food:** really good Italian  
**Favorite Color:** deep blue  
**Favorite Animal:** big dogs  
**Favorite Singer:** Celene Dion or Tool, depending on my mood  
**Favorite Song:** "Faithfully"  
**Favorite Movie:** *Steel Magnolias*  
**Favorite Restaurant:** Jim's Place East  
**Favorite Drink:** Dirty Martini  
**Favorite Thing About Memphis:** That it is so laid back and slow, easy-going  
**Least Favorite Thing About Memphis:** The drivers  
**Finish this phrase:** My friends think I am "crazy, but they love me anyway."

## Equality Tennessee 2003 Budget

	TOTAL	%
<b>ANTICIPATED REVENUE:</b>		
Circle of 100	\$27,000	25.0
Special Events & Programs	28,800	26.6
Grants	37,000	34.2
Donations	6,500	6.0
Membership Dues	2,880	2.7
In-Kind Contributions (non-cash)	6,000	5.5
<b>Total Anticipated Revenue</b>	<b>108,180</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<b>ANTICIPATED EXPENSES:</b>		
Administrative Salary (1)	42,600	39.4
Bank Service Charges	240	0.2
Computer Hardware/Software	2,500	2.3
Contributions/Sponsorships	9,150	8.5
Copier/Printing Expense	2,540	2.3
Food & Beverage	2,025	1.9
Internet/Website	4,720	4.4
Marketing & Advertising	5,920	5.5
Media	9,000	8.3
Office Supplies	1,990	1.8
Postage & Delivery	2,940	2.7
Professional Fees	6,600	6.1
(speakers, legal, accounting)		
Rentals	2,360	2.2
Survey Expense	5,000	4.6
Telephone Expense	600	0.6
Travel & Lodging	6,500	6.0
Volunteer Recruitment/Recognition	600	0.6
<b>Total Anticipated Expenses</b>	<b>105,285</b>	<b>97.3</b>

Excess Anticipated Revenue  
over Anticipated Expenses \$2,895 2.7

(1) Administrative Salary includes \$40,000 for Executive Director + \$2,600 if needed for extra labor at large events.

### Equality Tennessee Breakdown of Anticipated Revenue for 2003 Budget

East Tennessee Chapter	\$10,860	10.0
Middle Tennessee Chapter	27,960	25.8
West Tennessee Chapter	10,860	10.0
Other - Grants, Special Events	58,500	54.1
<b>Total Anticipated Revenue</b>	<b>\$108,180</b>	<b>100.00</b>

## Equality TN

from page 52

now through May," Clere continued. "We invite the community to attend and talk to us about their community. ... There is some uniqueness across the state, especially in rural areas, but many similarities as well. ... In September we will be (sponsoring) a collegiate conference. It was at Vanderbilt last year. In the last quarter of the year our plan is to put together a professional presentation, our "road show," and target colleges .... large and small.

"In March, 2004, we will put together a legislation education packet," Clere said. "Many of our board members and volunteers will meet with each member of the (Tennessee) legislature... we will let them know a little more about our issues and answer their questions about the community." Since Equality Tennessee is a IRS 501(c)(3) organization it is prohibited from lobbying. However, it can educate state senators and representatives about Tennessee GLBT voters.

"We've had tremendous growth in the past six months," Clere said.

Clere's qualifications for the position of executive director are substantial. He came from a background in banking, where he was employed for six years before being fired because he was gay. He was 23 years old at the time. Then he worked four years in tourist development in Nashville. He was with Ingram Book Company for the next 14 years, moving up the ladder to assistant to the chairman.

"... I then started my own publishing company," Clere said. "mostly fundraising publications. After 9/11, fundraising patterns changed and that forced ... shutting that company down.

"I was appointed by Governor Sundquist to the Tennessee Commission on National and Community Service," Clere said, explaining other positions he has held. "I was elected chair to that commission twice. In Nov. 2002, I was appointed for a second three-year term."

"I knew I had free time shutting down my business," Clere added, explaining his decision to take his position with Equality Tennessee. "I had opportunities with greater financial awards but my passion is with nonprofit work and I saw that Equality Tennessee had a need if it was going to get to the next level. (I wanted to help) because of my background in starting and growing programs."

Based on financial information supplied by Clere, Equality Tennessee showed \$921 total revenue from May to Dec. 2000, its initial year; \$765 total revenue in 2001, and \$26,673 for the year of 2002, the year Clere came on board. At Dec. 31, 2002, the organization had \$6,946 in the bank. Also, in 2002, Equality Tennessee received several grants, including one from the Human Rights Campaign as well as a grant for a computer.

"It is not impossible to raise money," Clere said, in response to Maynard's complaint that West Tennessee

wasn't a place for fundraisers. "but if you go in with the attitude that you can't do it, (you won't succeed).

"The purpose of the budget is to make the strategic plan a reality," Clere added. "Equality GA has a budget of \$200,000 to \$250,000; The Kentucky Fairness Alliance's budget exceeds 300,000. ... To fight harassment will take a certain amount of funding. That is the ugly side of nonprofit work. You have to have revenue to do it. We have been very good caretakers of what we have been given.

"The money being raised is not just for my salary (which is \$40,000/year)," Clere said. Equality Tennessee provided *Family & Friends* with their 2002 Financial Statements and 2003 Budget, totalling \$108,000. The Budget is shown on page 54.

"My passion lies with getting Equality Tennessee on a strong footing," Clere said, "and getting a sustainable financial base through donations and grant funding, as well as signature fundraising events. I want to help get it to where it needs to be."

For more information on Equality Tennessee, go online to [www.equalitytennessee.org](http://www.equalitytennessee.org).

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*Editor's Note: Meet the present board of directors of Equality Tennessee in the April 2003 issue of Family & Friends.*

## Maynard

from page 52

community," Maynard said, "I and other MLGCJ members had second thoughts about the plan to dissolve MLGCJ and merge with Equality Tennessee. At the meeting on Feb. 8 ... MLGCJ voted not to dissolve and to continue as a local organization.

According to Maynard, at the Feb. 8 meeting of the MLGCJ the following individuals were present: Maynard, co-chair; Tim Johnson, Treasurer; Len Piechowski, Secretary, Katie-Hiestand, co-chair and Herb Zeman, member of MLGCJ but not a board member. Johnson also sits on the board of Equality Tennessee.

"Tim and I shared our concerns with the others with the direction Equality Tennessee was taking," Maynard told *Family & Friends*, "and we all decided not to dissolve.

"I hope that group (Equality Tennessee) is able to succeed," Maynard said. "I don't see how they can financially survive with paying a fulltime executive salary. I hope I am wrong.

"I want to work locally and not have to raise that kind of money and send it to Nashville," Maynard concluded. "I've found no support in Memphis to raise \$10,000 to send it to Nashville to pay for an executive director's salary. I feel we need to focus on local issues and keep money local."

MLGCJ will be meeting on Saturday, March 15 at the Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 892 South Cooper, to elect new officers and discuss future plans.

## AIDS News in Brief

• On Feb. 4, the *Bethlehem Express-Times* reported the U.S. Navy has purchased 10,000 OraQuick HIV tests to screen sealift command personnel before they receive smallpox vaccinations. The smallpox vaccinations can cause complications in persons who are HIV-positive.

• On Feb. 5, Academy Award-winning filmmaker Robert Bilheimer's new documentary on global AIDS, *A Closer Walk*, premiered in Los Angeles, Calif. Narrated by actors Glenn Close and Will Smith, the film examines the stories of a Harvard professor who runs an AIDS clinic in Haiti, a 15-year old Ugandan teenager, Rev. Emanuel Cleaver, the Dalai Lama, Bono and others working to fight HIV/AIDS.

• *The Los Angeles Times* reported on Feb. 10, that an increasing number of HIV-positive men are undergoing silicone injection treatments to correct a condition of HIV known as "facial wasting." The report said it is not known if the "gaunt, hollow" facial appearance is a condition of the HIV infection or a side effect of medications.

• According to a CDC study published in the Feb. 7 issue of "Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report," one study has indicated that men who have sex with men but who have not disclosed their sexual orientation to others are less likely than men who are "out" to be aware of their HIV status. Also, the study indicated that "closeted" men are more likely also to have sex with a women.

• According to a Feb. 7 report in *USA Today*, the MAC (Cosmetics) AIDS Fund and Elton John AIDS Foundation are sponsoring a series of public service announcements, featuring John, Mary J. Blige and Shirley Manson of the band Garbage, to be aired on MTV, VH1 and BET. The three stars also are featured in magazine advertisements for MAC's Viva Glam campaign, in which all proceeds from the sale of Viva Glam lipstick goes to the MAC AIDS Fund.

• On Feb. 9, London's *Mirror* reported that, in South Africa, the myth that a man with AIDS can be 'cured' if he has sex with a virgin has led to the rape of at least one teenager in the HIV/AIDS ridden country. Also, according

to the story, there are an average of 50 infants abandoned each month in Cape Town alone.

• In order to combat the spread of HIV and other STDs in the state of New York, lawmakers introduced a bill in February that would require all hotels in the state to have condoms available to all guests in the registration office, the *New York Post* reported Feb. 20.

• London's *Guardian* reported in its Feb. 19 issue that Malawi Lands and Planning Minister Thengo Maloya said, during an AIDS awareness workshop with members of his staff, that three of his children had died of AIDS-related complications – an "unusual step" for African officials who typically do not disclose such information due to the stigma associated with the disease.

• Mary Jane Rotheram-Borus and Mark Etzel of the University of California-Los Angeles Neuropsychiatric Institute wrote a letter, which was published in the Feb. 15 issue of the *Lancet*, stating, in their professional opinion, rapid HIV testing should be offered to "all people," with "selected" post-test counseling. Rapid HIV tests, where results are obtained in 20 minutes, could help "eliminate the 700,000 HIV tests for which people never return for their results" and "allow resources to be reallocated to greatly expand post-test counseling, referral and linkages of care for HIV-positive individuals." They said post-test counseling should be reserved for individuals testing positive for HIV or who engage in high risk behaviors, since post-test counseling of others "does not clearly benefit" them.

• According to a Feb. 12 AP/*Richmond-Times Dispatch* story, CIA Director George Tenet told the Senate Intelligence Committee that the international HIV/AIDS pandemic is a national security threat to the United States and could "undermine the stability and economies" of many other nations.

"The national-security dimensions of the virus are plain," Tenet said. "It can undermine economic growth, exacerbate social tensions, diminish military preparedness, create huge social-welfare costs and further weaken already beleaguered states."

## Southern AIDS Coalition becomes a reality

The Southern AIDS Coalition (SAC), an advocacy organization representing 14 southern states and the District of Columbia, was formalized February 2003, at a meeting in Raleigh, N.C.

"Our focus was to formally organize the Southern AIDS Coalition," said Dr. Gene Copello, co-chair of the Southern AIDS Coalition and executive director of Florida AIDS Action, "creating a regional advocacy network in an ongoing effort to bring attention to the HIV/AIDS and STDs epidemics in the south; secure ade-

quate and appropriate local, state and federal funding for HIV/AIDS programs, as well as to continue developing a minimum set of core services for the treatment and care of persons living with HIV disease. The coalition will become a very active voice for the region in our states, as well as in Washington, D.C.; advocating for sound state and federal public policy to address the healthcare needs of the South."

The Southern AIDS Coalition covers the following states: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia,

Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia plus Washington, D.C.

The Southern AIDS Coalition will convene a fourth major conference on the southern AIDS epidemic in the fall of 2003.

For more information about the organization or how to become involved, call Florida AIDS Action at (813) 232-5886 or go online to [www.floridaaidsaction.org](http://www.floridaaidsaction.org) or call AIDS Alabama at (205) 324-9822 or go online to [www.aidsalabama.org](http://www.aidsalabama.org).



# Participants needed for 'Colonial House'

PBS and WNET New York are seeking applicants for the next "hands-on history" series, "Colonial House."

Selected participants will spend five months living just as the 17th century settlers did on the east coast of North America – eating the same foods, dressing in the same clothes and using only the tools and supplies available to the early colonists. The eight-part series, presently scheduled to air on PBS in 2004, will chronicle their experience. Producers are seeking a spectrum of families and individuals to live as "civilians," and one individual to assume the role of colony governor.

"Colonial House" is the latest experiential offering for PBS from WNET and co-producers Wall To Wall Television, who collaborated on the widely acclaimed series "The 1900 House" – in which a British family lived as Victorian Londoners – and "Frontier House" – which brought a group of Americans back to 1880s Montana.

"We'll be looking for all types of people – single, married, members of families," said Beth C. Hoppe, executive producer. "Our modern adventurers will get a taste of what it was like to leave everything familiar behind and set off for a new land and a new way of life. They'll have to look out for each other, explore how communities are created

and how leaders emerge. And, they'll have to decide if their community would have made it back in the 1630s."

Those ready to don their cloaks and coifs (white linen caps) can begin the application process immediately by completing a detailed, online questionnaire available at both [www.pbs.org/colonialhouse](http://www.pbs.org/colonialhouse) and [www.thirteen.org](http://www.thirteen.org).

The questionnaire is designed to assess the motivation and abilities of applicants to adhere to the strict set of rules governing the program and ensuring its historical authenticity. Selected participants will face a rigorous training period during which they will learn the necessary skills and social protocol of the era.



## MIFF4 to honor Morgan Freeman

The Memphis Film Forum, producers of the Memphis International Film Festival 4 (MIFF4), will honor accomplished actor and Memphis native Morgan Freeman at this year's festival scheduled for Thursday through Sunday, March 27 to 30, at Malco's Studio On The Square, located near Madison and Cooper, and at the First Congo Theatre located at the First Congregational Church, 1000 South Cooper.

The festival will feature a film retrospective of Freeman's work including screenings of *Street Smart*, *Driving Miss Daisy*, *The Shawshank Redemption*, *Lean on Me* and *Glory*. The retrospective also will include Freeman's sole directing effort to date, *Bopha!*, as well as two new films – the documentary *Partners of the Heart*, narrated by Freeman, and the new feature, *Levity*, which opened this year's Sundance Film Festival.

Freeman will attend the opening night screening of *Levity* (starring Freeman, Billy Bob Thornton, Holly Hunter and

Kirsten Dunst) on Thursday, March 27, at Malco's Studio on the Square. Freeman also is a producer of the film.

*Levity* is the story of an ex-con (Thornton) freed from prison after 19 years for killing a teenager during an attempted robbery, who tries to find some kind of personal redemption with the help of a minister (Freeman) and the sister of his victim (Hunter). *Levity* is the directing debut of noted screenwriter Ed Solomon (*Men In Black*, *Charlie's Angels*, *Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure*) and features the cinematography of Roger Deakins.

The Memphis International Film Festival also includes an "International Masters" film series, as well as films of regional interest including locally-produced shorts *Noel* and *Jumper*, and documentaries *War Birds*, *Almost Elvis*, *Schmelvis* and *Honeyboy*.

For more information, call (901) 273-0014 or go online to [www.memphisfilmforum.org](http://www.memphisfilmforum.org).

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# P.J. talks about King/Queen of Hearts, check

By ANITA MOYT, managing editor

The 12th Annual King and Queen of Hearts, an annual fundraising event founded and organized by Jimmy Gray, netted about \$3,300 for Friends For Life Corporation. However, the event also netted a lot of talk, as well.

The event includes what many thought was a silent auction, a live auction and the "fundraising" for the crowns. Basically, each contestant is to raise as much money as possible during the event from the audience. The top money raisers are awarded crowns and/or titles for their efforts.

On the night of Sunday, Feb. 9, the following crowns were presented: Queen of Hearts-Tracey Stone, King of Hearts-B. Chris Griffin, Favorite Valentine-Nichole Hayes, Favorite Valentine-Amber Loden and Favorite Entertainer-Alma Decena.

Immediately after the event, Gray said he was approached by Friends For Life Executive Director Kim Moss and others stating that the \$1,000 check he had received from P.J. Newton as voting payment for contestant Stone, was possibly questionable.

"That was the first time I ever saw Tracey and I didn't know P.J.," Gray told *Family & Friends*. "... Kim and others

came up to me at the event...they were already aware of her dealings. I turned the check over to Kim that night. Kim called (the bank) Monday morning and the bank said the account was closed in December."

Therefore, since the check wasn't any good, Gray re-assigned the crowns and a recrowning was held at The Madison Flame on Feb. 22.

With Stone loosing her queen's crown, the new winners were:

Queen-Amber Loden, King-B. Chris Griffin, Favorite Valentine-Alma Decena, Favorite Valentine-Nichole Hayes and Entertainer of the Year-Alma Decena.

"At this years King and Queen of Hearts," Gray wrote in a letter to the editor of *Family & Friends*, "there was an incident that happened that has tainted the integrity of what this event has become and what I wanted it to be, which is a fun event within our community ... I, for one, feel that the reputation of the King and Queen of Hearts was hit and hit hard, as well as taking away money from Friends For Life clients that is desperately needed. All because of someone trying to look good in front of her friends, knowing that check was no good and on a closed account. The Memphis gay community does not need this

**See King/Queen of Hearts, page 59**

## Gray, professional comment on dos, dont's of auctions

Silent auctions and live auctions are mainstays in the world of fundraising. Silent auctions refer to items, usually set on a table with a bid-sheet, describing the item, its value, a minimum bid and/or bid increments (i.e. \$1 or \$5). Those wishing to bid on an item write their name or an assigned number on the next open line on the bid sheet with the amount they are willing to pay for the item. If they come back around and someone has outbid them, they can again bid on the item by writing their name or bid number and the new amount they are willing to pay on the next open line. At a pre-set time, the silent auction is closed (sometimes all at once, sometimes by tables), and the person's name at the bottom of the bid list is the "winner" or the one who is expected to purchase the item for the amount they listed.

A live auction is where items are sold verbally from a stage by an auctioneer to the highest bidder.

*Family & Friends* was approached by several people with a question about this year's King & Queen of Hearts event regarding why Jimmy Gray, the event founder and organizer, was taking items from the silent auction table to the stage to continue to be auctioned as live auction items.

"There was no silent auction about it," Gray told *Family & Friends*. "It was prebidding. It was announced from the stage and the people monitoring the tables were to tell that. ... We've done this before. The older people were aware of it ... this is the way we (I) run it."

There also was some question as to why Gray, as the auctioneer, was bidding against the audience, or counterbidding...

"I could have kept any of it (the items donated to the auction) and you wouldn't have known it. I was bidding like you were. I was there to raise money. That's what I was doing....If I wanted that item I could bid on it."

*Family & Friends* called John Roebuck of John Roebuck and Associates, a certified auctioneer, to ask him about silent and live auctions. He indicated that there is more leeway with a fundraising auction, since the goal is to raise money for a good cause.

However, he said he had never heard of "pre-bidding."

"In my experience," Roebuck told *Family & Friends*, "if an item is moved from a silent auction table to a live auction item, then those attending the auction are made aware of the change by the auctioneer from the stage or in some way.

As far as "counter-bidding," Roebuck said auctioneers should not be bidding on items they also are auctioning. If an auctioneer does want to bid on an item, which is not that common, then the auctioneer is to make it clear before the auction begins that he is bidding on the item, as well.

## King/Queen of Hearts

from page 58

type of behavior, as we are sometimes looked on as second class, or lower, simply because of our sexual preference."

"Yes," Newton responded to *Family & Friends's* question to confirm that she had presented a check for \$1,000 at the event.

"The next day," Newton said, when asked when she was aware the check was not any good. "I got a call from Kim Moss on my phone."

"No, the money simply wasn't there," Newton said when asked if she tried to make the check good.

"I don't know what the people of this community have said," Newton continued. "I know that I called Friends For Life and talked to Kim directly and made my apologies. I was drunk and a lot of things were going on that night. ... I talked to Kim Moss and we talked it out and I offered an explanation and he accepted it. I apologized for it. Tit for tat, it just got out of hand.

"I would like to tell Tracey I am very sorry for her being humiliated and embarrassed," Newton added. "It was my fault. ... It was something I shouldn't have done. I had no business writing a check ... If I could make good on the money I would, but there is nothing there and I can't do anything about it. ... I shouldn't

have allowed this to happen to Tracey. I did it out of love for her. I am very sorry it happened. She's gone through hell because of this. I am sorry and humiliated about it.

"Me and my friends sent up a least \$600," Newton said, explaining that more than the \$1,000 check in question had been donated towards a crown for Stone. "I sent up four \$100 bills myself." However, despite Stone's placing in the running for another crown besides Queen, Gray made the decision to eliminate Stone from the winners of the original evening.

"It was fun and they did raise money and it was a success," Moss told *Family & Friends*. "Jimmy Gray is a delight to work with. We appreciate everyone being there. We kept a tally of all that is spent. The proceeds of the event will be used for client services – to directly help the client with rent, utilities, etc."

"The weather hurt us some," Gray added, "but, other than that, it was a good event. We made a lot more than we were hoping for."

Also, Gray gave the King and Queen of Heart's Annual Volunteer of the Year award to Martha and Jenny and a new award, Sponsor of the Year, was presented to Star Search Video; William Castle, DDS; Cole Chiropractic Center on Summer Avenue, and Shean Gibbons Hair Salon.

Next year's King and Queen of Hearts is slated for Feb. 8, 2004.

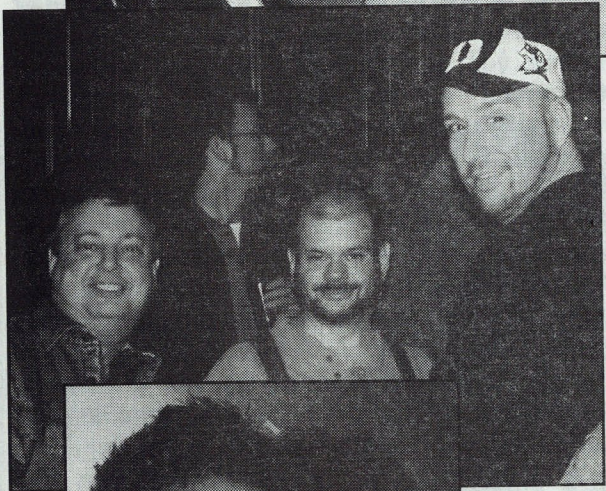
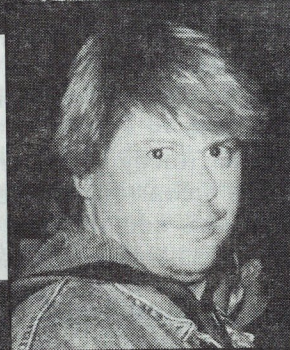
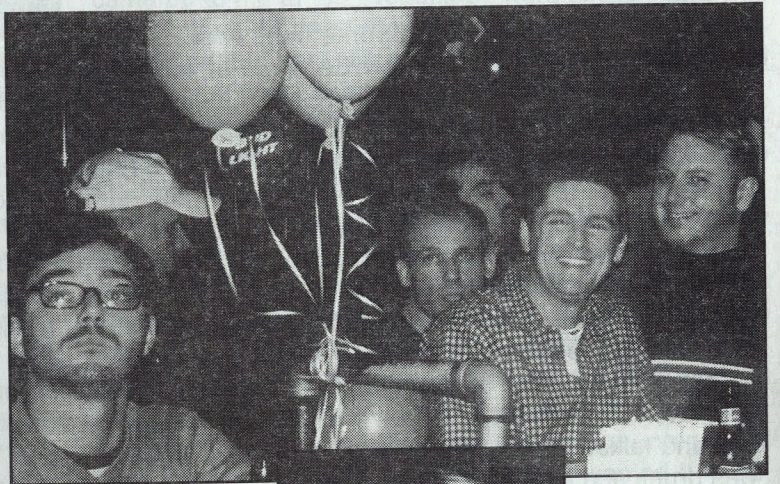
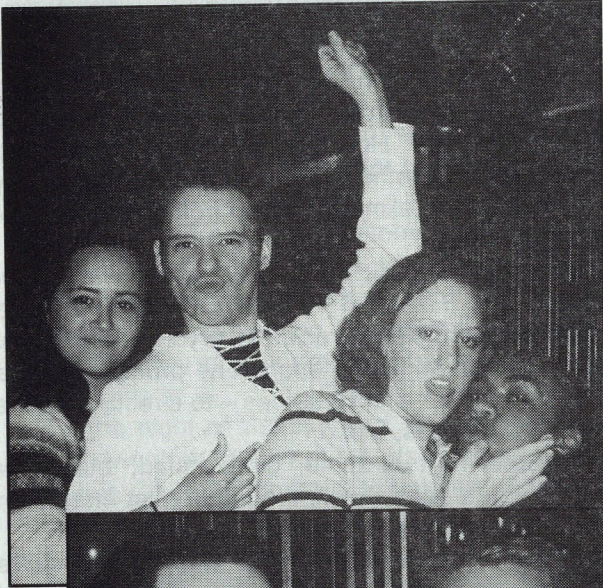
# Divas of Divinity

Friday  
March 21st  
8:00 pm



at the  
Madison  
Flame

proceeds to Holy Trinity Community Church Building Fund



# paint party

we provide the paint  
you provide the surface

Paint Party • 22 March 2003 • The Pumping Station • Memphis • Paint Party

**SATURDAY**  
**22** march

**The Pumping Station**

Memphis

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**Happy Hour!**

Monday - Friday 4p-8:30p

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**1<sup>75</sup>**  
domestics

**2<sup>75</sup>**  
well drinks

**Sunday Beer Bust & Buffet**  
Pool Tournament @ 6p Sundays  
Dart Tournament @ 7:30p Mondays

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**FAMILY** & friends Magazine, together with DV8 Travel, **THE PUMPING STATION**, International Mr. Leather and the Chicago Hilton present ...

# BACK in BLACK

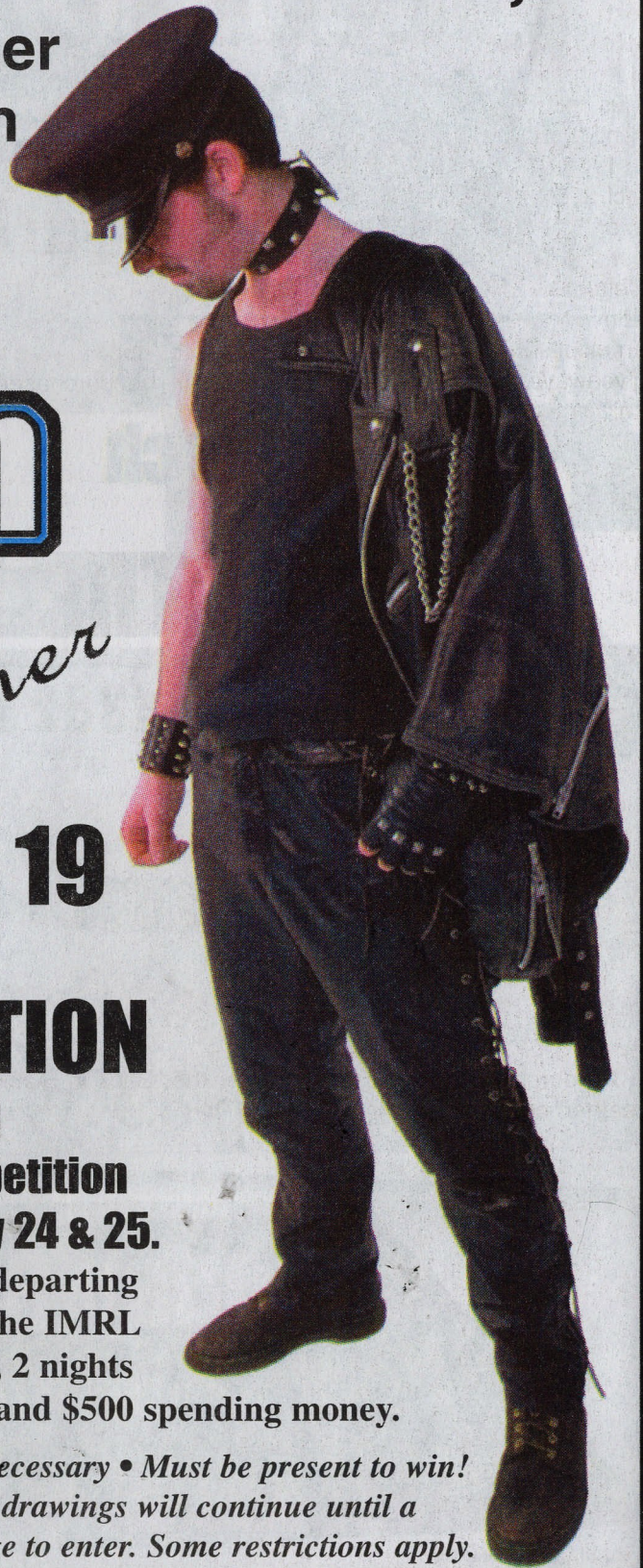
leather

**SATURDAY, APRIL 19**  
**at 11 p.m. at**  
**THE PUMPING STATION**

**WIN a trip for 2 to the International Mr. Leather 25th Anniversary Competition in Chicago Saturday & Sunday, May 24 & 25.**

Trip includes 2 round-trip airline tickets (departing May 24 & returning May 26), 2 passes to the IMRL festivities May 24 & 25 (see story page 13), 2 nights at the Chicago Hilton (double occupancy) and \$500 spending money.

*Enter at The Pumping Station • No purchase necessary • Must be present to win! Winner will have 3 minutes to claim the prize • drawings will continue until a winner is found. Must be at least 21 years of age to enter. Some restrictions apply.*



from page 13

The Leather Market, located at The Palmer House Hilton, 17 East Monroe Street, will feature the world's biggest collection of leather/fetish vendors. More than 15,000 people visited the Market in 2002. For all other visitors, a suggested donation of \$2 will benefit The Leather Archives and Museum in Chicago. A complete list of vendors, as well as vendor applications, can be found at [www.imrl.com](http://www.imrl.com).

IML Weekend Event Packages cost \$140 each and include admission to the International Mr. Leather competition, admission to all other official IML events (opening ceremonies, Physique Competition, Salute, IML Victory Celebration Party and the Black and Blue Ball), free admission to the Leather Market, free shuttle bus service, an official IML 2003 T-shirt and poster, plus special yearly giveaways. IML Weekend Packages can be purchased online at [www.boxofficetickets.com](http://www.boxofficetickets.com); by calling (800) 494-TIXS or via fax at (800) FAX-TIXS.

International Mr. Leather 2003 is sponsored by Miller Lite, Bacardi and Wet. American Airlines is the official airline of IML. For fare discounts, travelers should contact American Airlines at (800) 433-1790 and identify themselves as IML attendees with Star File #A1953AB.

For more information, log on to the official IML website at [www.imrl.com](http://www.imrl.com).

## Contest

from page 13

the Physique Competition, Salute and the IML Victory Celebration Party) and official 2003 IML T-shirt and poster, compliments of International Mr. Leather Inc.

- A double occupancy hotel room at the Chicago Hilton for two nights (May 24 and 25), compliments of *Family & Friends Magazine* and the Chicago Hilton, a sister property of IML 2003's official host hotel, the Palmer House Hilton.

- \$500 in spending money, compliments of The Pumping Station.

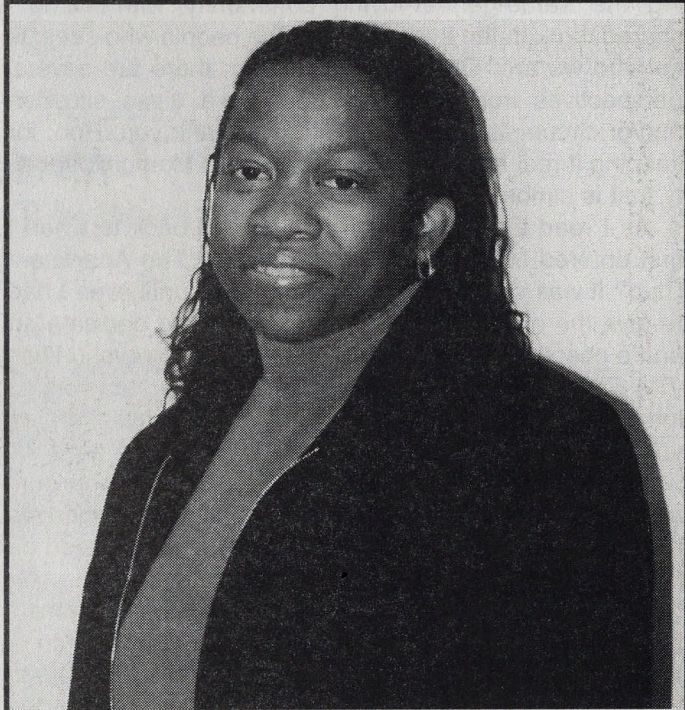
No purchase is necessary to enter the "Back in Black Leather" contest, just simply stop by The Pumping Station and fill out an entry blank, drop it in the specially-marked box and then be present on Saturday, April 19, at 11 p.m. when the official drawing is set to take place. You must be present at the time of the drawing to win.

The winner will be selected in a random drawing. The person whose name is selected will have three minutes to claim his or her prize. After three minutes if the prize has not been claimed, another name will be selected. This process will continue until a winner has been identified. The winner also will be asked to sign a waiver of liability and use of his or her picture for press purposes. The prize package has no cash value and cannot be transferred.

For additional information, call *Family & Friends* at (901) 682-2669 or The Pumping Station at (901) 272-7600. See you at The Pumping Station Saturday, April 19.

# Meet Your Neighbor

## Cecily Fullilove



**Name:** Cecily Fullilove

**Place where you were born:** Memphis

**How long have you lived in Memphis:** I've lived in two other cities between then and now.

**Partnership status:** In a committed relationship

**Sexual orientation:** women

**Occupation:** loan officer

**Hobbies:** dancing, shopping and motorcycles

**Favorite Food:** shrimp, seafood

**Favorite Color:** purple and black

**Favorite Animal:** dog

**Favorite Singer:** India Arie

**Favorite Song:** "Little Things" by India Arie

**Favorite Movie:** *Beauty and the Beast*

**Favorite Restaurant:** Landry's

**Favorite Drink:** Cosmopolitan, Strawberry Daiquiris

**Favorite Thing About Memphis:** Barbecue

**Least Favorite Thing About Memphis:** The traffic on I-240

**Finish this phrase:** My friends think I am "helpful, sensitive and playful."

# Pickin' up where DJ Ron left off

By ROYCE BRYANT SMITH,  
contributing writer



I write this in response to the articles written by DJ Ron in the December and February issues of *Family and Friends Magazine*. First, much appreciation to you, *Family & Friends Magazine*, for publishing such a powerful story. Second, yet not in the least, thank you Ron for empowering the same-gender-loving community with wisdom shared through the eyes of one of the people who sees us for who we are! One thing for certain, there are several perspectives from which we look at a given situation and/or circumstance. Nevertheless, I thank you, Ron, for keeping it real and sharing a history of a Memphis society that is almost forgotten.

As I read the article, my mind floated back to when I first entered the "scene." Who can forget The Apartment Club? It was such a profound experience until even I had to give the era in time its proper kudos and dedicate an entire chapter to the mere experience in my novel (*When The Children Get Together*). The music of the era was so intoxicating, thanks to great artists like Ron. We were so young back then and everyone seemed to live as if we would remain 21 forever. There was such a glamour to it all and yet there always lurked the reality of the world we all had to face when the lights of the bar were turned on and the music came to a perpetual grand finale.

Perhaps my perspective will always be different because I was a young person who lived in a rural community within West Tennessee. The only place a person could be markedly "gay" and markedly "open" was at the club. Often, when it was discovered that someone else was gay in my community, through our "so-called" secret grape vine, then immediately that person became a friend or foe. He was a friend if you two could acknowledge one another's existence without conflict. He was a foe if he presented himself as competition in the arena of dating "trade." Fortunately, I can say I cannot often recall a person in whom I would deem a "foe" who lived in my hometown. I did not date the natives, which ultimately was to my advantage when it came to the circle of friends that I hung out with.

It was this circle of friends who would take the 70-mile journey to Memphis in order to participate in the emancipation of our own self worth. We were all in good standing with our churches. All of our churches preached that "men who were lovers of themselves were going to hell." Hence, Memphis provided the "unknown" outlet for us. It was an "unknown" outlet because the members of our community didn't know where in the hell we were going. They only knew that we were going out and speculation is speculation.

When in Memphis, we had the opportunity to become the true us. We had the opportunity to explore our hearts'

desires. We had the opportunity to meet others who were just like us. Our "bristahs" from neighboring cities were there, as well. The same rule of friend or foe applied to them as it did to those who were a part of our circle of friends. Nevertheless, everything that you ever wanted or dreamed of could be found in the Apartment Club of Memphis ... if you looked hard enough!

As Ron forementioned in his articles, if you wanted sex, you could get it there. If you wanted drugs, you could get it there. If you wanted to be a drag queen, the legends would teach you how to become the best. If you wanted to dance, there were several dance floors. If you wanted to drink, there was a bar. If you wanted love, you had to sift through the masses and you could find it there too, depending on what your definition of love was.

Oh, that four letter word ... LOVE! When I reflected back on my journey that society created back in the day, same-gender-loving people afforded me an opportunity to explore love, as well. And yes, I met THE man of my dreams (at that time) more than 10 years ago in the Apartment Club. I had been out of my first "relationship" for about six months. I was upset at being alone, abandoned and knowing that he was dating someone else and I wasn't. I made up in my mind, on one October night, "Tonight, I'm going to meet my next lover."

One of the members of my circle of friends had the virus. It was my first time dealing with anyone in my immediate circle of friends who had the virus. I was afraid, because in 1990, the virus was so new until no one really knew how to mentally deal with friends being infected. Nevertheless, he had asked me to ride with him to the doctor in Memphis just in case he was hospitalized. He was hospitalized and so my only requirement was to drive his car back home safely. I did. But first, I had to see if my gut feeling was true and if that October night would be the night when I would meet "HIM."

So, I drove to THE club. It was packed as normal. I scoped the crowd and noticed two men who were at least six foot eight or nine. And to my surprise, one of them turned, and his eyes penetrated through me to the core of my soul. We made our way through the crowd to one another. We danced every slow song that Ron played. We danced many fast songs that Ron played. We went in the car in order to be alone and to get away from the heat of the club. To this day, I can't remember being kissed like the way it was done on that evening, and many evenings to follow. Within a year, we had become a hot couple. He actually moved to my hometown where we obtained an apartment together. He was the epitome of my expectations of what love was to me and how to treat another individual as you wished to be treated. Even in our part-

**See Pickin' Up, page 67**



**Cultural Development Foundation  
of Memphis**

*Presents*

**THREE *Mo'* TENORS**

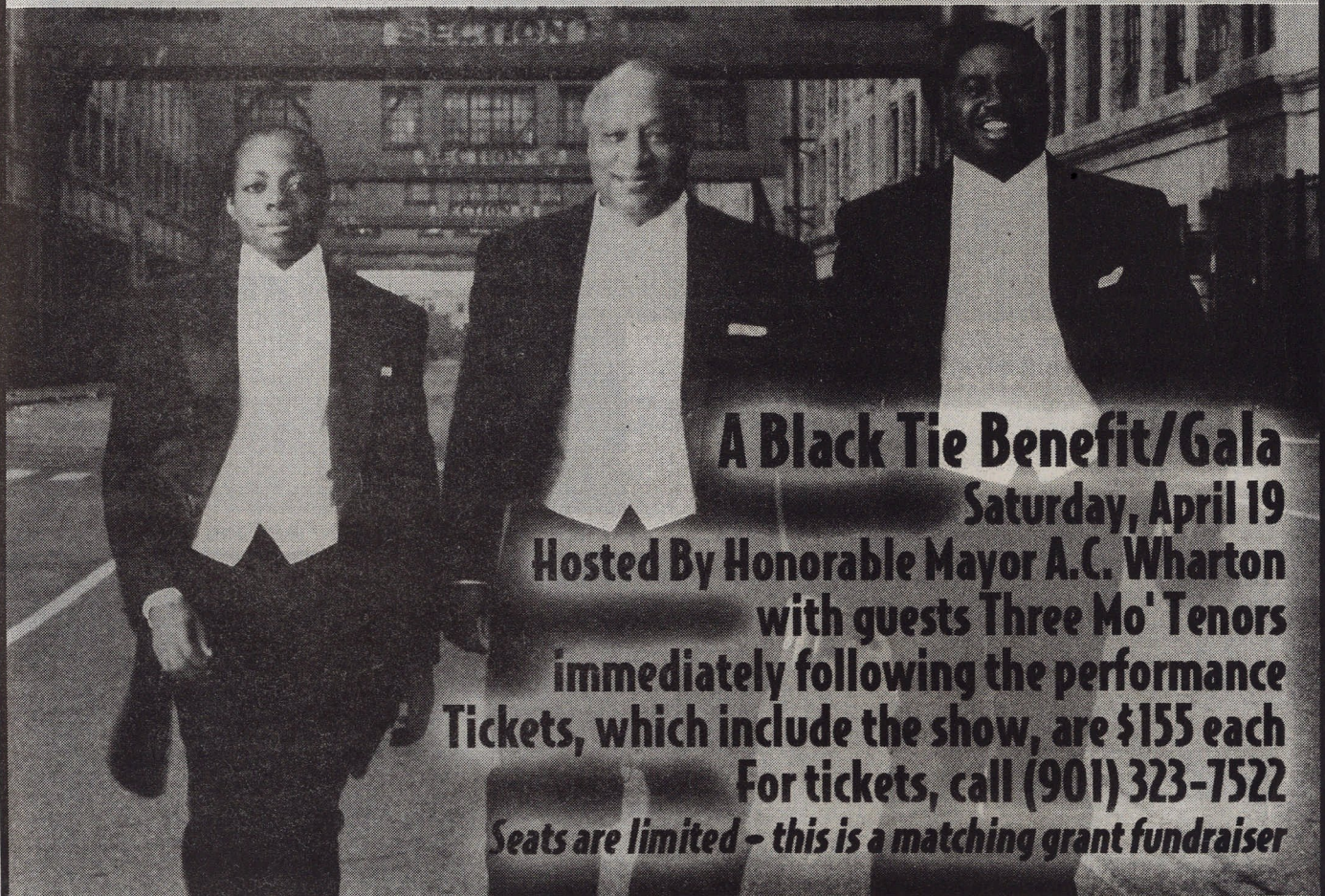
**April 18 & April 19**

**8:00 p.m.**

**Orpheum Theatre**

**Tickets \$20 - \$55**

For Tickets, Call: 743-ARTS or 525-3000



**A Black Tie Benefit/Gala  
Saturday, April 19**

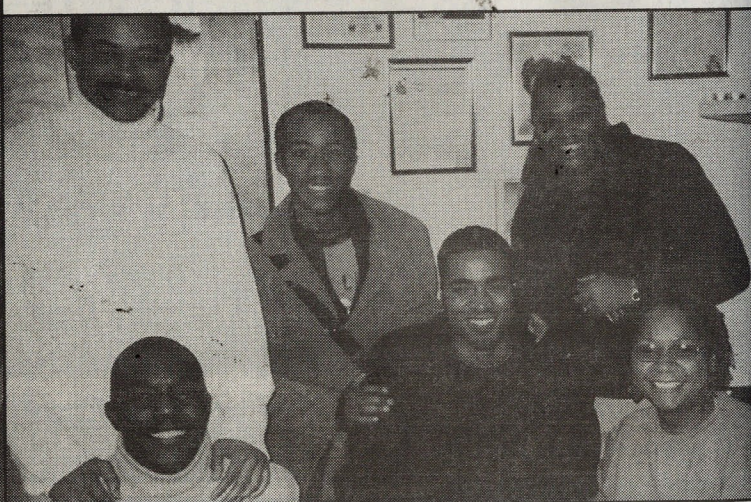
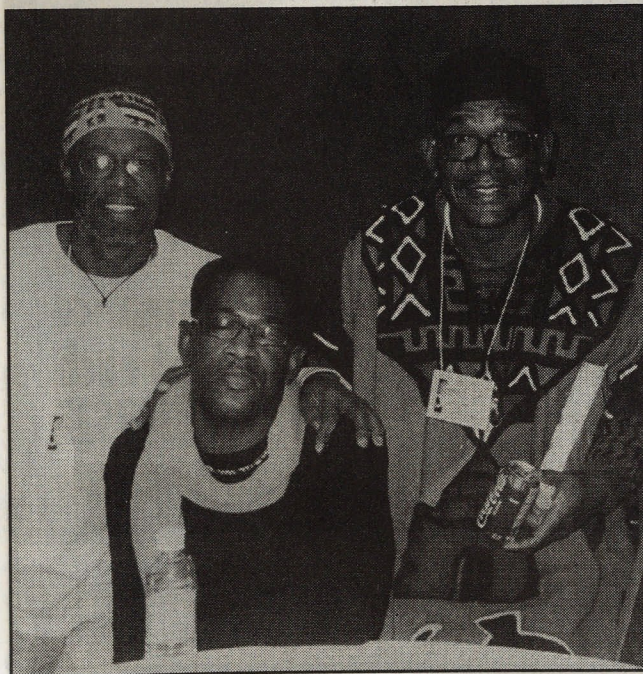
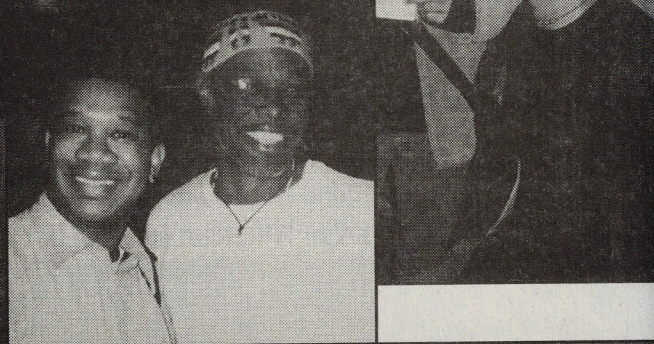
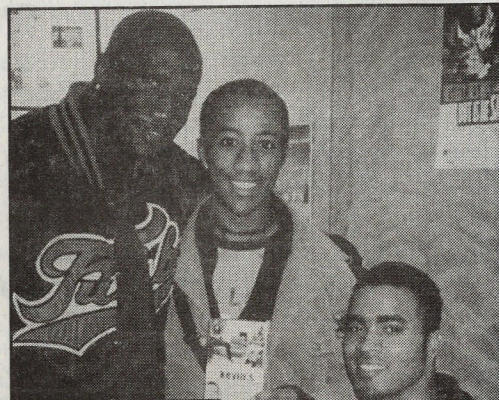
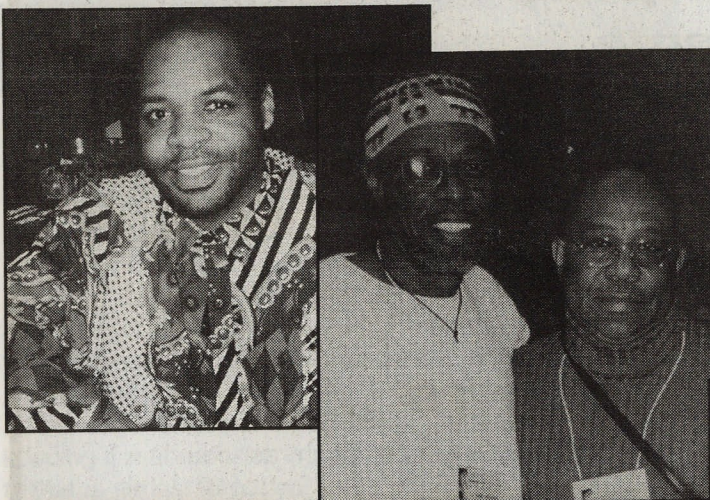
**Hosted By Honorable Mayor A.C. Wharton  
with guests Three Mo' Tenors  
immediately following the performance  
Tickets, which include the show, are \$155 each  
For tickets, call (901) 323-7522  
*Seats are limited - this is a matching grant fundraiser***

*This production  
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**TIME WARNER  
CABLE**

**FAMILY ALBUM** BLACK SGL COMMUNITY



# Brooks to exhibit works of William Edmondson

The work of William Edmondson (1874-1951), one of the most important self-taught sculptors of the 20th century, will be on view at the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, located at 1934 Poplar Avenue in Overton Park, from March 9 to June 8.

Edmondson was the son of parents born into slavery and never had training as a sculptor. In fact, he didn't embark on his career as an artist until late in his life. After working as a janitor at the Nashville Women's Hospital, Edmondson went on to work as a porter and then as a stone-mason's helper until 1932. At this time, physical ailments kept him from working, and he resorted to tending his vegetable garden and to making tombstones for sale.

Edmondson used native Tennessean limestone to carve simple slab tombstones with incised block lettering. To these he eventually began to add ornamentation such as lambs, birdbaths, doves, angels and bibles. He never had proper tools, and instead employed hammers, chisels and railroad spikes as tools to create a variety of textures.

Edmondson's customers were from both the black and white communities. Sidney Hirsch, an art faculty member at the George Peabody College for Teachers, stumbled upon Edmondson's yard full of sculptures while on a walk in 1935. He brought artist friends to view his discovery, including Louise Dahl-Wolfe, a fashion photographer for *Harper's Bazaar*. Dahl-Wolfe took a series of photographs of the artist at work, but William Randolph Hearst, owner of *Harper's Bazaar*, allegedly refused to allow an African

American's work to appear in the publication.

Dahl-Wolfe then took her photographs to Alfred H. Barr Jr., director of New York's Museum of Modern Art. Barr was so impressed that he arranged for a one-man exhibit, and in 1937, Edmondson was the first African-American to have a solo show at the Museum of Modern Art.

In its simplicity, Edmondson's work recalls simpler times and a morally-uncomplicated world. Some, including Edmondson himself, suggested that his work was "God-inspired," and his many sculptures of Biblical figures, angels and preachers attest to this. However, Edmondson also sculpted secular and even popular figures, such as courting couples, schoolteachers and athletes. Yet some subjects — such as Eleanor Roosevelt, champion of African-American rights — suggest that

Edmondson was engaged in commentary about his world, which changed drastically during the course of his lifetime.

William Edmondson Family Day has been set for Saturday, March 22, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., in celebration of the arts of Tennessee. There will be artist demonstrations and storytellers who will read about the folklore and history of the state of Tennessee. Lively southern music will be performed in the rotunda. There will be hands-on activities, including sculpture for children of all ages, as well as scavenger hunts. Family day is free and open to the public.

This project is funded under an agreement with the Tennessee Arts Commission and The National Endowment for the Arts.

Museum hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. On the first Wednesday of the month the museum is open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Admission is \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors (65+) and \$2 for students with ID.

For more information, call (901) 544-6200.



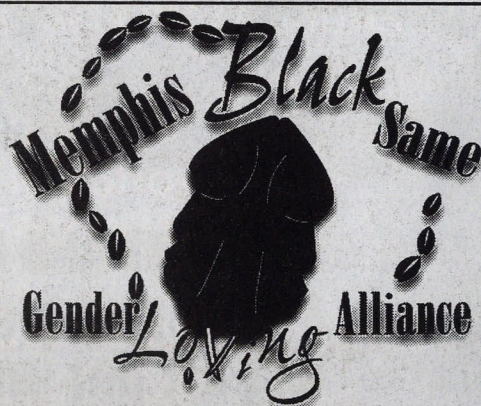
## Pickin' Up

from page 64

ing, there was no anger or discourse. (Yeah, we broke up, chil-ren.) Nevertheless, there shall always remain a bond of respect, honor and love there that shall last until time meets eternity.

In closing, however, I once again want to commend Ron on his article. I was reminded of so many things, one of which was love. But I also can recount the many funerals of friend or foe. One thing is for certain, you need both. I cannot say which I detest more between the drugs or the virus. They both contributed to the demise of such wonderful talent and spirits. The lost friends who nurtured us will never be forgotten. The lost foes who made us demand better of ourselves will always be revered.

Thank you, Ron, for sharing "The Life" through the eyes of one of the persons who truly can see us as we are! Surely, the half has not been told! Yet, you so gallantly stepped up to the plate, and for this we shall forever be grateful. Always remember: You've come a long way but you are still here! Be blessed and Highly Favored!



(901) 274-0163

**Creating a village/haven for & about us.**



## WHAT'S THE 'TEE' LADYBUG? BY ANTHONY HARDAWAY

February, the month of love and history.

The Committed Couples of Color hosts, Dexter and Gaylon, gave the community an opportunity to be with the ones they care for on Valentines Night at the

Paragon. It was nicely attended.

Club N-Cognito held its annual Mr. & Ms. Sweetheart Pageant on Valentine Night. The crowd was ready. Memphis is becoming known as the city that supports pageants of

any kind. Congratulate Malaykia St. James Dupree and Karon Cassadine.

There is talk in Jackson, Miss., about having a Black Pride Weekend this year.

The International Federation of Black Prides is meeting and discussing this year's schedule of pride events for each city. I am scheduled to be at Houston Splash, D.C., Atlanta, Baltimore and, of course, Memphis and Jacksonville, Fla.

Tentatively, April 11-13, Memphis Black SGL Alliance and community agencies, organizations, clubs and individuals are planning a spring gathering/conference for the entire gay community of the

Mid-South and abroad. Theme: Come Home and Claim Your Rightful Place in the Village. Male Topic: Brothers Hooking Up ... For The Right Reasons. Female Topic: Sisters Taking Care of Business. There also will be a Showcase Slam for anyone who wants to participate. Many out of town brothers and sisters will be attending and participating the entire weekend. If anyone is interested in being a part of this event in any way, please call (901) 274-0163 and leave your information.

And, as we draw nearer to the season of prides, as always, Happy pride, children, happy pride!

### Correction

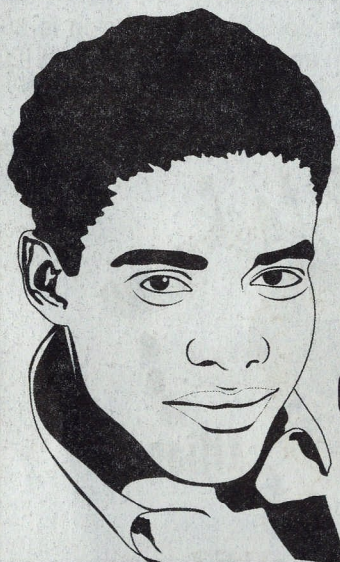
*Family & Friends* incorrectly spelled the name of Aberdeen Crawford in the February, 2003 issue. We apologize for the error and regret any inconvenience this may have caused.

### Correction

*Family & Friends* incorrectly titled the Family Album on page 62 of the February, 2003 issue. The correct title should have been "Black SGL Community." We apologize for the error and regret any inconvenience this may have caused.

# The ANNUAL SPRING CONFERENCE

of the *Memphis Black Same Gender Loving Alliance* coming April 11-13



**COME AND MEET EXCITING MEN  
AND WOMEN OF COLOR!  
ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND**

**For more details and information, call 901-274-0163**

# IT'S TRUE!

**N-Cognito**  
has moved to the  
**NEW**

# ALLUSIONS

*Entertainment Center*

3204 North Thomas  
Northgate Shopping Center  
(901) 523-0599

**THURSDAYS:** TALENT SEARCH NIGHT  
\$3.00 Beer Bust & Show

**FRIDAYS:** LADIES NIGHT  
Featuring Showcase Entertainment

**SATURDAYS:** SUPERSHOW!  
10:30 p.m. First Show  
12:15 a.m. Second Show

**SUNDAYS:** OPEN for special events/pageants

**KITCHEN IS OPEN!!**

**OPEN AT 9 P.M. & CLOSE WHEN THE PARTY'S OVER!**

# LORENZ

1528 MADISON • 901-274-8274

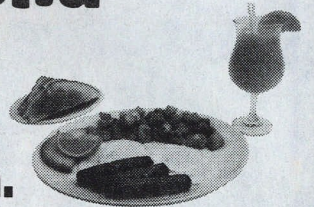
# AftERSHOCK

1530 MADISON

## We've Expanded Our Late-Night Food & Beverage Menu

### NOW SERVING

Breakfast All Night Long, Every Night, 3 to 11 a.m.

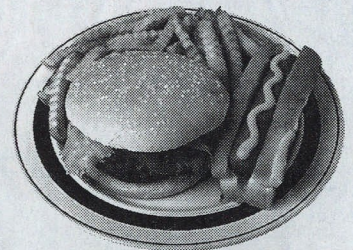


### COME CHECK OUT

Our Daily Lunches, Monday - Friday



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Fresh, Home-Cooked Entrees, as well as Sandwiches

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WE CARRY AN EXTENSIVE LINE OF NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, INCLUDING SOFT DRINKS, FRUIT JUICES AND ENERGY DRINKS -- SO PARTY ALL NIGHT LONG!

**Your Bartenders Welcome You To Lorenz ...**

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# LORENZ

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# Aftershock

1530 MADISON

**CELEBRATE**

party  
starts at  
4 p.m.

# MARDI GRAS

**FAT  
TUESDAY  
MARCH 4  
2003**

**PRIZES • GIFTS • DRINK SPECIALS**

**ENJOY RED BEANS & RICE,  
KING CAKE**

**WE'LL BE  
THROWIN'  
BEADS &  
DUBLOONS**



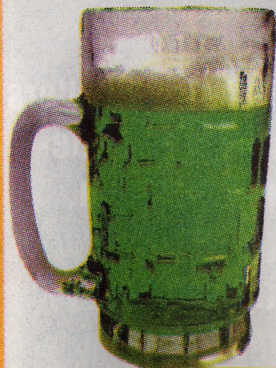
**& MERRIMENT!**



**Find the baby in the King Cake and be the  
reigning KING or QUEEN of MARDI GRAS!**

**COME GET IRISH FRIDAY, MARCH 17TH**

**THERE'LL BE CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE AT  
DINNER TIME AND AN IRISH HOE  
DOWN ALL NIGHT LONG!**



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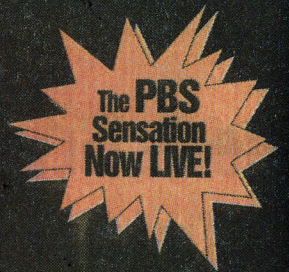
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Gregory Hines, May 13, ★ The Full Monty, May 27-June 1,



Photos by James Barham





# HOROSCOPES

**Pisces (Feb. 20-March 20)** – The Sun and Moon are coming together in your sign. Put your best creative foot forward and fame and fortune could be yours. Look for new opportunities.

**Aries (March 21-April 20)** – Now is the time to consider relaxing a bit. Don't let others get you down now. Check those emails, news could help you realize your dreams and add dollars to your pocket.

**Taurus (April 21-May 21)** – If there has been something you've always wanted, wish again and it could be yours. Focus for the month is on career. Always keep your sights set high.

**Gemini (May 22-June 21)** – The time is right for possible change this month. Your career could be in for a positive twist. Keep dreaming and keep believing, dreams could become realities.

**Cancer (June 22-July 23)** – Since you are Moonchildren, keep a close eye on Moon forecasts this month, as they could guide you to new opportunities. People in far away lands could enter your life.

**Leo (July 24-Aug. 23)** – Now is the time to take stock of your financial matters. Tides are a changing, and talking with others could be your key to surviving the times.

**Virgo (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)** – The focus this month should be on

personal relationships, business partnerships and interactions with those close to you. If you're thinking of entertaining, go ahead, it'll be a success.

**Libra (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)** – Opportunities to advance your career will come knocking this month. Take advantage of them. Singles take note: a new love affair could be on the horizon.

**Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)** – New roads will open up for talented Scorpions. Money may not be a worry this month if you find a way to fulfill other's needs. A new love affair is possible this month.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)** – Those who are considering a real estate venture or relocating their home will find March favorable. Those in close relationships may be in for something new.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)** – All the elements are working in your favor this month. Focus on getting the recognition you deserve. Now is the time to consider a home-based business.

**Aquarius (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)** – Focus this month is on gaining something positive from relationships and obtaining goals. Looking for the key to success? Join a new group and you'll find it.

*Editor's Note: Horoscopes are meant for entertainment purposes only and are for the month of March, 2003.*

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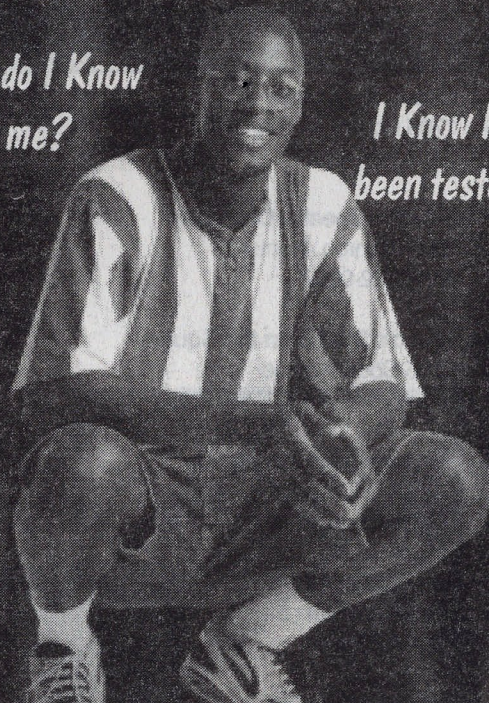
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# MEMPHIS BAR, RESTAURANT & THEATER GUIDE

## Bars & Clubs

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>1</b> <b>Backstreet Memphis</b><br>2018 Court Street<br>(901) 276-5522  | <b>7</b> <b>Madison Flame</b><br>1588 Madison Avenue<br>(901) 278-9839       |
| <b>2</b> <b>Crossroads</b><br>1278 Jefferson<br>(901) 276-8078             | <b>8</b> <b>Metro Memphis</b><br>1349 Autumn Street<br>(901) 274-8010        |
| <b>3</b> <b>Crossroads 2</b><br>111 North Claybrook<br>(901) 276-1882      | <b>9</b> <b>N-Cognito</b><br>338 South Front @ Vance<br>(901) 523-0599       |
| <b>4</b> <b>J-Wags</b><br>1268 Madison Avenue<br>(901) 725-1909            | <b>10</b> <b>One More</b><br>2117 Peabody<br>(901) 278-MORE                  |
| <b>5</b> <b>The Jungle</b><br>1474 Madison Avenue<br>(901) 278-4313        | <b>11</b> <b>The Pumping Station</b><br>1382 Poplar Avenue<br>(901) 272-7600 |
| <b>6</b> <b>Lorenz/Aftershock</b><br>1528 Madison Avenue<br>(901) 274-8272 | <b>Paragon</b><br>2865 Walnut Grove Rd.<br>(901) 320-0026                    |

## Theaters

- 1** **Circuit Playhouse**  
1705 Poplar Avenue  
(901) 726-4656
- 2** **Emerald Theatre Company**  
2085 Monroe Avenue  
(901) 722-9302
- 3** **Malco's Studio on the Square**  
2105 Court Avenue  
Movie Hotline: (901) 681-2020
- 4** **Playhouse on the Square**  
51 South Cooper  
(901) 726-4656

**The Orpheum**  
203 South Main Street  
(901) 525-3000

**Theatre Memphis**  
630 Perkins Extended  
(901) 682-8323

 **The Memphis  
Gay & Lesbian  
Community Center**  
892 South Cooper  
Memphis, TN 38104  
(901) 324-GAYS

## Restaurants

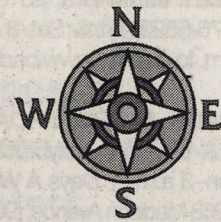
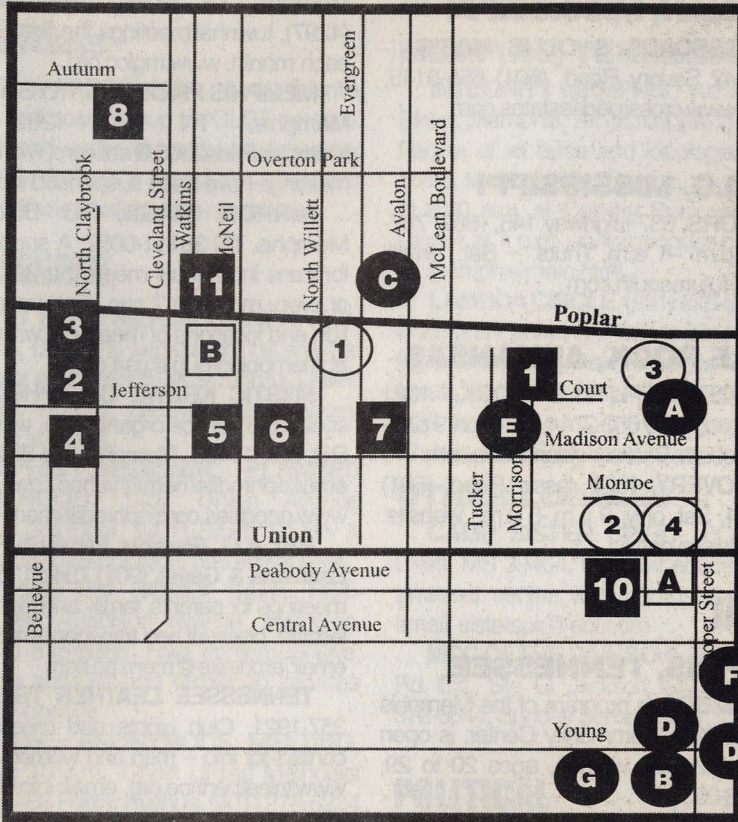
- Twain's** (inside Sam's Town Tunica) - fine dining  
(800) 456-0711  
(reservations suggested)
- A** **Bogie's Delicatessen - Midtown** - deli  
2098 LaSalle Place (behind Paulette's)  
(901) 272-0022
- B** **Cafe Ole** - mexican  
2127 Young Avenue  
(901) 274-1504
- C** **Cafe Society** - gourmet  
212 North Evergreen  
(901) 722-2177  
(reservations suggested)
- D** **Melange** - gourmet  
948 South Cooper  
(901) 276-0002  
(reservations suggested for dinner)
- E** **Molly's La Casita** - mexican  
2006 Madison Avenue  
(901) 726-1873
- F** **Buns on the Run** - home-cooked  
2150 Elzey Avenue  
(901) 278-BUNS  
(breakfast & lunch only)
- RP Tracks** - pub grub  
3547 Walker Street  
(901) 327-1471
- G** **Young Avenue Deli** - deli  
2119 Young Avenue  
(901) 278-0034

## GLBT Retailers

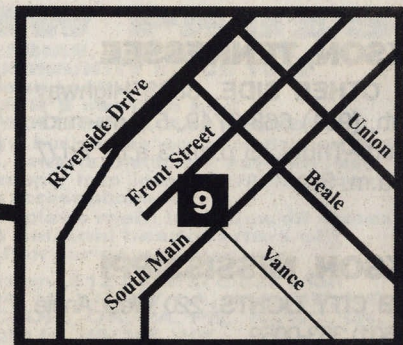
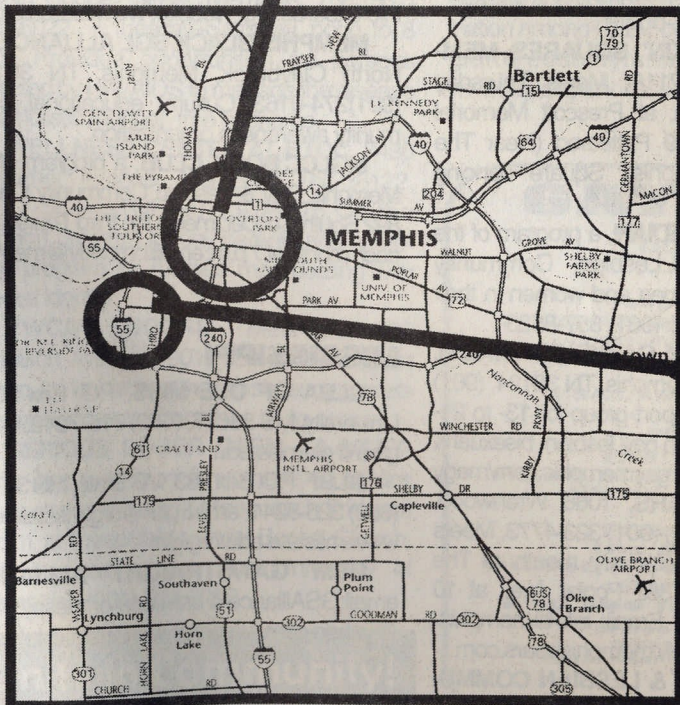
- A** **INZ & OUTZ Cards & Gifts**  
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(901) 728-6535
- B** **Star Seach Video**  
1411 Poplar Avenue  
(901) 272-7827

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# MEMPHIS BAR, RESTAURANT & THEATER GUIDE



*Maps are not to scale;  
not all streets are shown.*



**BARS/NIGHTCLUBS**

**MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE**

**BACKSTREET MEMPHIS**, 2018 Court Street, (901) 276-5522, Fri. & Sat. 8 p.m.-6 a.m., Sun. 8 p.m. to 3 a.m., www.backstreet-memphis.com

**CROSSROADS & CROSSROADS 2**, 1278 Jefferson & 111 North Claybrook, (901) 276-1882, Noon-3 a.m., 7 Days A Week

**J-WAG'S**, 1268 Madison Avenue, (901) 725-1909, Open 24 Hours A Day, 7 Days A Week

**THE JUNGLE**, 1474 Madison Avenue, (901) 278-4313, 4 p.m.-3 a.m. Mon.-Fri./3 p.m.-3 a.m. Sat. & Sun.

**LORENZ/AFTERSHOCK**, 1528 Madison Avenue, (901) 274-8272, open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

**MADISON FLAME**, 1588 Madison Avenue, (901) 278-9839, 7 p.m.-3 a.m. Wed., Fri. & Sat./5 p.m.-? Thurs.

**METRO MEMPHIS**, 1349 Autumn Street, (901) 274-8010, 6 p.m.-3 a.m., 7 days a week

**N-COGNITO**, 338 South Front @ Vance • (901) 523-0599, 10 p.m.-3:30 a.m. Thurs. & Fri., 10 p.m.-5 a.m. Sat./10 p.m.-3:30 a.m. Sun.

**ONE MORE**, 2117 Peabody, (901) 278-MORE (6673), 11 a.m.-3 a.m. Mon.-Sat./noon-3 a.m. Sun.

**PARAGON**, 2865 Walnut Grove Road, (901) 320-0026, Thurs.-Sun. 8 p.m.-?

**THE PUMPING STATION**, 1382 Poplar Avenue, (901) 272-7600, 4 p.m. to 3 a.m. Mon.-Friday, 3 p.m. to 3 a.m. Sat. & Sun.

**CHATTANOOGA, TENN.**

**MI-NITE**, 27 West 19th Street, (423) 504-3650, Thurs.-Sun. 9 p.m.-3 a.m.

**JACKSON, TENNESSEE**

**THE OTHER SIDE**, 3883 Highway 45 North, (901) 668-3749, 5 p.m.-midnight Sun.-Thurs., 5 p.m.-3 a.m. Fri./7 p.m.-3 a.m. Sat.

**JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI**

**CLUB CITY LIGHTS**, 220 West Amite Street, (601) 353-0059

**JACK & JILL'S**, 3911 Northview Drive, (601) 982-JACK (5225), 9 p.m.-? Fri. & Sat., website: www.jacksonbars.com

**JACK'S CONSTRUCTION SITE (aka JC'S)**, 425 North Mart Plaza, (601) 362-3108, 5 p.m.-? 7 Days A Week, website: www.jacksonbars.com

**MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI**

**CROSSROADS & OLLIE MAE'S**, I-59, exit 142 Savory Road, (601) 655-8145, website: www.crossroadsestates.com

**TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI**

**RUMORS**, 637 Highway 145, (662) 767-9500, 8 p.m.-1 a.m. Thurs. - Sat., email: rumors@futuresouth.com

**LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS**

**BACKSTREET-LITTLE ROCK**, 1021 Jessie Road, (501) 662-2744, Fri.-Mon. 9 p.m.-5 a.m., website: Backstreetdanceclub.com.

**DISCOVERY**, 1021 Jessie Road, (501) 664-4784, Sat. only, 9 p.m.-5 a.m., website: Latenightdisco.com

**SOCIAL**

**MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE**

**2xLAMBDA**, a program of the Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, is open to both men and women, ages 20 to 29, (901) 223-3331

**B.G.A.L.A., (University of Memphis Students for Bisexual, Gay & Lesbian Association)**, a social, political and educational organization meets the first and third Mondays of each month, e-mail: BGALA@cc.Memphis.edu, www.people.memphis.edu/~bgala

**COTTON PICKIN' SQUARES-MEMPHIS**, (901) 272-2116, Meets Thursday nights at 7:30 p.m. at Prescott Memorial Baptist Church, 499 Patterson (Near The University of Memphis), Square dancing social group

**LIFE IN THE MEDIAN**, a program of the Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, is open to men and women in their late 20s and beyond. (901) 857-8523

**MEMPHIS AREA GAY YOUTH (MAGY)**, P.O. Box 241852, Memphis, TN 38124, (901) 335-6249, Peer support group for 13- to 21-year olds dealing with gay, lesbian, bisexual & gender issues, www.gaymemphis.com/magy

**MEMPHIS BEARS**, 1066 Wrenwood, Memphis, TN 38122, (901) 323-4773, Meets the 2nd Saturday of every month at The Pumping Station, 1382 Poplar Ave., at 10 p.m. • MEN ONLY, Email: info@memphisbears.com, web: www.memphisbears.com

**MEMPHIS GAY & LESBIAN COMMUNITY CENTER**, 892 South Cooper,

Memphis, TN 38104, (901) 324-GAYS (4297), townhallmeetings the first Sunday of each month. www.mglcc.org.

**MEMPHIS PRIDE INC.**, P.O. Box 111265, Memphis, TN 38111-1265, email: MemphisPride2003@aol.com, Monthly open meetings have been suspended indefinitely

**MIRROR IMAGE**, P.O. Box 11052, Memphis, TN 38111-0052, A support group for trans individuals meets the 3rd Saturday of every month at 7 p.m., For more information and locations of meetings, write or email at memphisgroup@usa.com

**MYSTIC KREWE OF APHRODITE**, a social and service organization, women only, P.O. Box 11483, Memphis, TN 38111-1483, email:aphroditemem@yahoo.com, website: www.geocities.com/aphroditemem

**P.F.L.A.G., (Parents, Family & Friends of Lesbians & Gays)**, (901) 754-3136, Support meetings for parents, family and friends of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons, email: amdrake@mem.po.com

**TENNESSEE LEATHER TRIBE**, (901) 357-1921, Club nights and meetings vary; contact for info - men and women welcome, www.tnleathertribe.org, email: info@tnleathertribe.org

**TSARUS MEMPHIS**, P.O. Box 41082, Memphis, TN 38174, (901) 276-4132, Levi-leather club meets the 3rd Saturday of every month at The Pumping Station, 1382 Poplar Ave, at 10 p.m. • MEN ONLY, Email: info@tsarus.org, website: www.tsarus.org

**MEMPHIS BLACK SGL ALLIANCE**, 28 North Claybrook, Memphis, TN 38104, (901)274-0163, Cultural, educational, community awareness organization.

**MGLCC BOOK CLUB**, a program of the Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 892 South Cooper, meets the third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. email:bmood@mem.net

**MISSISSIPPI**

**GLBA OF OLE MISS**, P.O. Box 3541, University, MS 38677, (662) 915-7049, email: glba@olemiss.edu

**GLBF**, P.O. Box 233, MS State, MS 39762, (662) 325-8241, email: glbf@org.msstate.edu, www.msstate.edu/org/glbf

**USM GAY/STRAIGHT ALLIANCE**, email:GSAAlliance@usm.edu or thespy\_ms@yahoo.com, website: www.usm.edu/gsa

**SOCIAL** continued

**ARKANSAS**

**SAFE HARBOR NEA**, A confidential support and social group for GLBT persons, ages 25 and under, in northeast Arkansas, (870) 932-6545, P.O. Box 226, Jonesboro, AR 72403, [www.safeharbor-nea.com](http://www.safeharbor-nea.com)

**WHOLENESS**

**FEAST FOR FRIENDS DINNER**, (901) 272-0855, Dinner is served the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month at St. John's United Methodist Church, Bellevue @ Peabody, beginning at 6 p.m.

**MEMPHIS REGIONAL PLANNED PARENTHOOD**, 1407 Union Avenue Extended, 3rd Floor (901) 725-1717, HIV & STD testing, gynecological preventive care

**MEMPHIS HIV FAMILY CARE NETWORK**, 880 Madison Avenue, Memphis, TN, (901) 545-8265, Free comprehensive, supportive services and voc/rehab services to the HIV-positive

**NICOTINE ANONYMOUS MEETING**, Saturdays 10 a.m., Christ United Methodist Church, 4488 Poplar Avenue. (901) 278-6234

**ORORO-CROSSROADS**, (901) 743-2900, Support group for African-American, same-gender-loving men, For information, contact James at (901) 529-9549

**THE POSITIVE LIVING CENTER**, 1000 South Cooper Street, Memphis, TN, (901) 726-6022 • Tuesday-Saturday, noon to 8 p.m. Provides opportunities for persons affected by HIV/AIDS to manage the disease in a holistic manner, free of charge.

**WELLNESS CENTER AT HTCC**, 3430 Summer Avenue, Memphis, TN 38122, (901) 754-9423 OR (901) 320-9376, Offers a support program for gay parents and a support program for married men dealing with sexual identity.

**YWCA ENCORE**, MedPlex, 880 Madison Avenue, (901) 754-4356, Support group for lesbians with breast cancer meets every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to noon

**SERIOUS SOBER OPEN AA MEETING**, (an open men & women's Alcoholics Anonymous meeting), Meets each Friday at 8 p.m. at Prescott Memorial Baptist Church, 499 Patterson (near The University of Memphis), (901) 324-9200

**SPIRITUAL**

**MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE**

**INTEGRITY MEMPHIS**, 102 N. Second Street, Memphis, TN 38103, (901) 525-6602, People of all faiths and ideologies are welcome, Meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at Calvary Episcopal Church. Dinner at 7 p.m., [www.geocities.com/integrity\\_memphis/main.html](http://www.geocities.com/integrity_memphis/main.html)

**LAMBDA CIRCLE**, (901) 278-6786, Open to all GLBT persons of faith to join in an affirming time of prayer, Bible study and discussion., Meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at First Congregational Church, 1000 S. Cooper Street.

**OTHER LOCALES**

**CAMP SISTER SPIRIT**, P.O. Box 12, Overt, MS 39464, Feminist education/cultural/retreat center, [www.campsisterspirit.com](http://www.campsisterspirit.com), email: [sisterspir@aol.com](mailto:sisterspir@aol.com)

**MCC OF THE RAINBOW**, 5565 Robinson Rd. Ext., Ste. Q, Jackson, MS 39204, (601) 372-6644, Sunday Service at 11:30 a.m.

**POLITICAL**

**TENNESSEE**

**EQUALITY TENNESSEE**, P.O. Box 241363, Memphis, TN 38124 • 901-327-2677, A civil rights group that promotes equality and combats prejudice and discrimination among GLBT persons, email: [westregion@equalitytennesse.org](mailto:westregion@equalitytennesse.org), website: [www.equalitytennessee.org](http://www.equalitytennessee.org)

**MISSISSIPPI**

**EQUALITY MISSISSIPPI**, P.O. Box 6021, Jackson, MS 39288-6021, (601) 936-7673, email: [EqualityMS@EqualityMS.org](mailto:EqualityMS@EqualityMS.org), website: [www.EqualityMS.org](http://www.EqualityMS.org)

**MEDICAL**

**MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE**

**Doctors**

**DR. DANIEL P. MARSHALL, M.D.**, general practitioner, 515 North Highland, (901) 323-1200

**Optometrists**

**DRS. MICHAEL D. WEINBERG & JASON DUNCAN** at **THE ECLECTIC EYE**, 242 South Cooper Street, (901) 276-EYES (3937)

**Dentists**

**WILLIAM N. CASTLE, DDS**, general dentistry, 79 North Cooper Street, Memphis, TN 38104. Call (901) 685-5008 for an appointment.

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Hohenwald  
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Pulaski  
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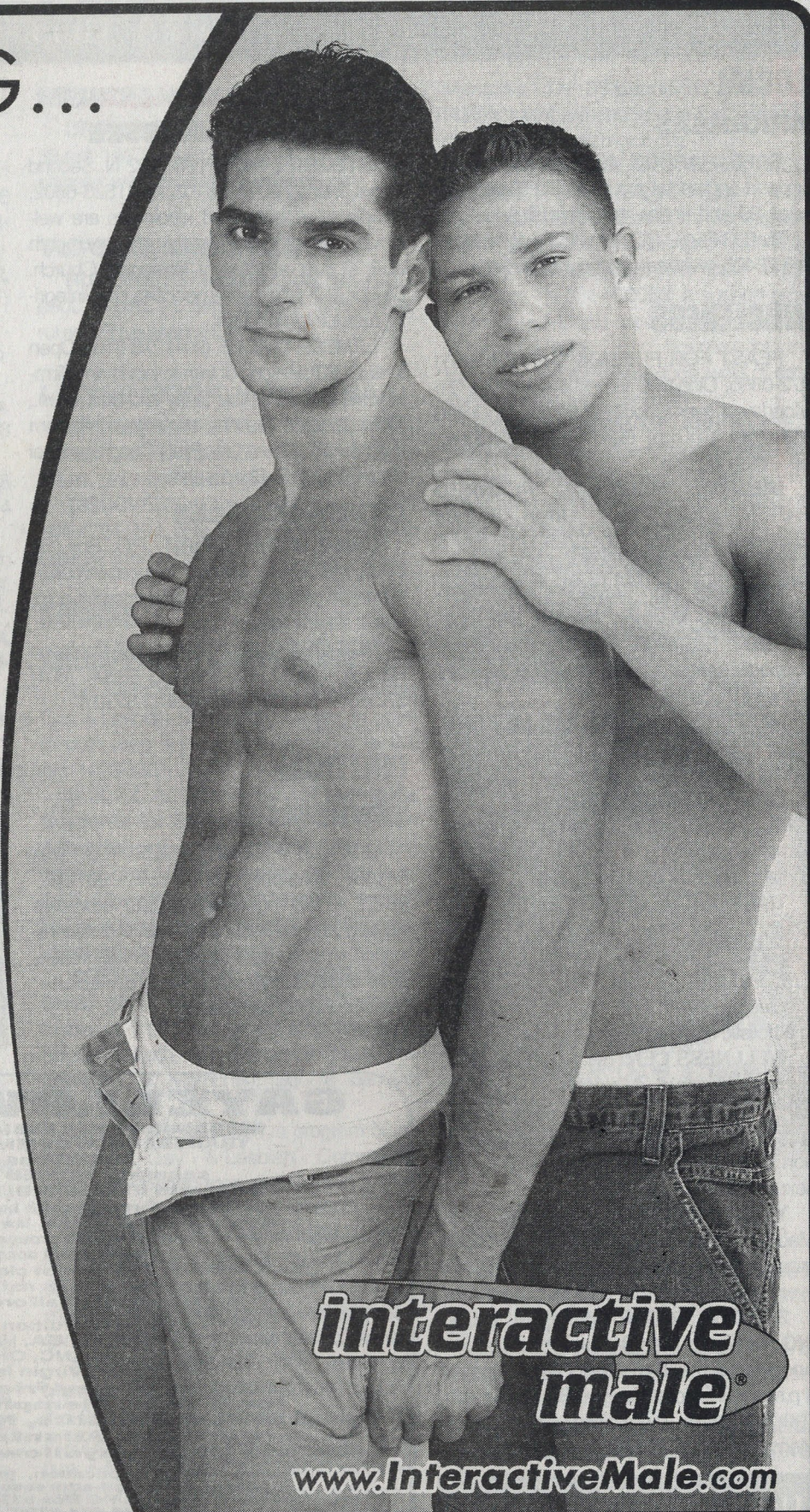
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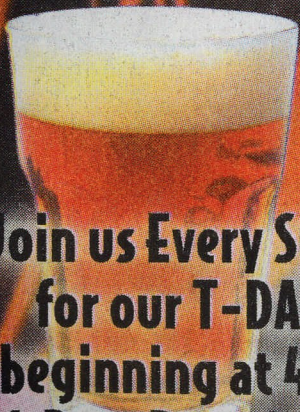
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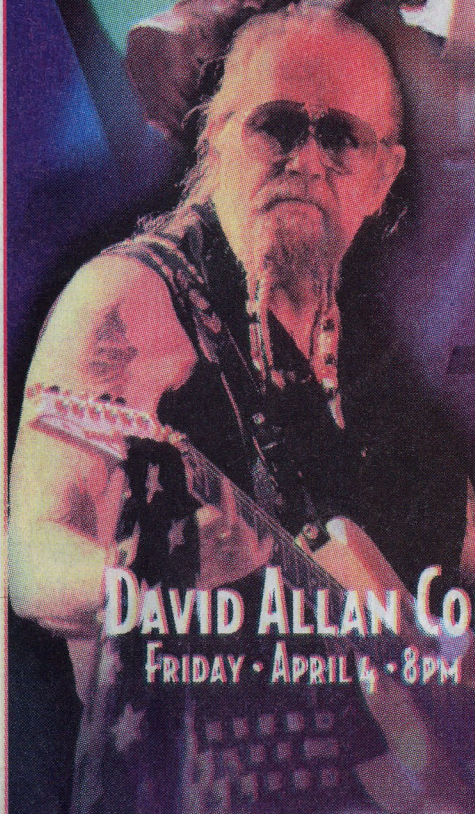
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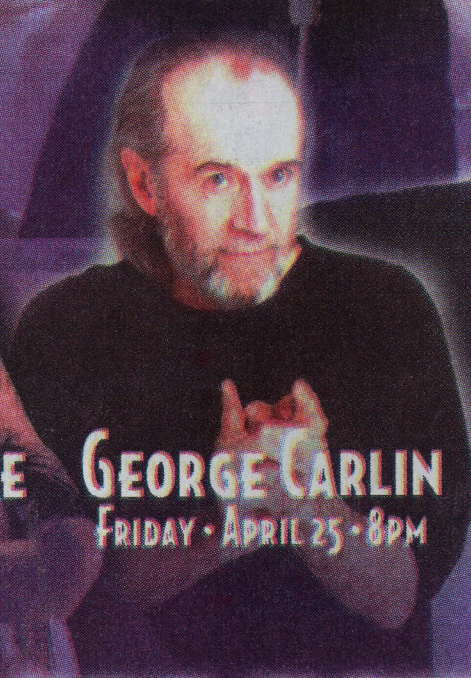
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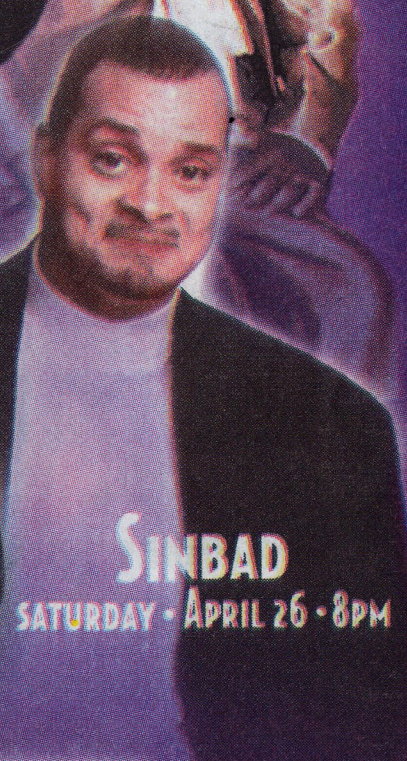
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