

# Montrose Gem

Issue # 133 • June 4, 2010  
 News and Entertainment Media  
 for the Texas Gulf Coast and Beyond



## House repeals 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell', Senate to vote this month

What a tremendous step forward we have made! The repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell (DADT), the discriminatory law that prevents our community from serving our country, has passed the House. This comes after an organized lobbying efforts including phone calls by the public to their elected officials.



Al Green, of the 9th District, and Sheila Jackson Lee, of the 18th District, voted for equality. Congresswoman Jackson Lee even used time meant to speak on one of her own separate amendments to speak in favor. Additionally, surprising many, Congressman Ron Paul, of the 14th District, was one of only five Republicans in the nation to vote for repeal.

A disappointment, however, is that most Houston reps voted against their GLBT constituents. Congressmen Ted Poe, of the 2nd District, John Culberson, of the 7th District, Kevin Brady, of the 8th District, Michael McCaul, of the 10th District, and Pete Olson, of the 22nd District, Republicans, voted against repeal. We had asked you to call Congressman Gene Green, Democrat in the 29th District, but he did not listen and voted "No."

The House voted on the proposal by Rep. Patrick Murphy, a Pennsylvania Democrat who served in the Iraq war, that would repeal the 1993 law known as "don't ask, don't tell."

Continued Page 4

## PRIDE NOT PREJUDICE

THE 2010 LGBT CELEBRATION

*Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered  
 Pride 2010 Begins*  
 by Deborah Moncrief Bell

It was June 28th, 1969 in a seedy mafia-operated bar called The Stonewall on Christopher Street in New York's Greenwich Village that the modern civil rights movement for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered rights was born. Although there had been organizations, gay press, and work of individuals on issues concerning those folks who are sometimes still referred to as 'Homosexual'.

The Mattachine Society, founded in 1950, was one of the earliest homophile organizations in the United States, probably second only to Chicago's short-lived Society for Human Rights (1924). Harry Hay and a group of Los Angeles male friends formed the group to protect and improve the rights of homosexuals. The Daughters of Bilitis (DOB) was the first lesbian rights organization in the United States. It was formed in San Francisco in 1955. The group was conceived as a social alternative to lesbian bars, which were considered illegal and thus subject to raids and police harassment. It lasted for fourteen years and became a tool of education for lesbians, gay men, researchers, and mental health professionals.

As the DOB gained members, their focus shifted to providing support to women who were afraid to come out, by educating them about their rights and their history. Historian Lillian Faderman declared, "Its very establishment in the midst of witch-hunts and police harassment was an act of courage, since members always had to fear that they were under attack, not because of what they did, but merely because of who they were."

Raids on gay bars such as the Stonewall, were common place and resulted with patrons being whisked off in paddy wagons, often to face brutality at the hands of the police and those arrested would have their names published in the daily paper. Back in those days, that was often devastating .

The Stonewall event was significant because for the first time, as some have expressed, "The queers fought back".

That seminal event is now honored with a celebration each year in Houston (and around the world). It started with a march and then became a parade. It started as a day and then became a week and now the month of June is designated as 'Pride Month'.

*"I call upon all Americans to observe this month by fighting prejudice and discrimination in their own lives and everywhere it exists."* --President Barack Obama, commemorating LGBT Pride Month

The month long celebration includes many events (see more in this issue) and culminates with the Pride Festival during the day of June 26th and the largest night time parade in the United States that evening under a full moon.

The history of the movement and of the people is a primary focus of the work of Pride Houston, the organization responsible for putting in the annual event.

Eric Skains, Pride Houston Executive Director says that there will be an expanded LGBT Art & History tent at the festival this year. New to the event will be the presentation of the work of LGBT artists. A call for submissions on Facebook from Artists, turned out "...bigger than I thought it would be", Skains expressed. There were over 50 applicants. However only four will be selected to display their work this year.

"We are featuring established artists, and the up and coming, those who have shown a passion about the community to showcase this year," Skains explains. Stating that this first year is about people who have art as their vocation, not merely some who crates art.

"Houston is a great art city and that is somewhat hidden," he states, adding that he sees that the art exhibit could grow into a larger part of Pride and bring in artists from around the state and region.

-- more on PRIDE Page 8 and Page 4

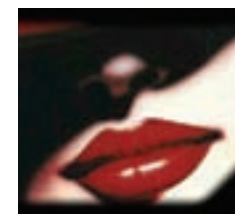


'BUG'

Theater Southwest presents this riveting tale as love unfolds out of schizophrenic delusions in a seedy bug-infested motel room where crack-fueled emotions ignite into a final descent into madness. See Page 5



See Page 2 for all the details as this community favorite returns



Lipstick and Blood

No, not about vampires, it is a true crime accounting of the murder of a young Lesbian. Reviewed by Jone Devlin ~ Page.11



Jai Fain shares fashion Tips for the stylish guy about town  
 Page 6



Some down home cooking and a New Orleans favorite from Dr. Dave ~ See Page 11

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Houston GLBT Pride Annual Interfaith Worship Service

Sunday June 20, 7 p.m. --  
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church - 2515  
Waugh Drive, Houston, Texas 77006  
Call for Participants and Sponsors

Welcoming and Affirming people come together annually from diverse Houston area faith congregations to celebrate God's love for all people.

This service is only possible with your participation and support.

You may participate in the service by leading a reading or prayer or just by joining in the opening procession of clergy and participants, carrying a symbol of your faith.

You can support us by being a financial sponsor. You can be a sponsor by giving any amount that you can afford. Most give \$100 or more, but the range of individual donations has been from \$10 to \$500.

You can join in our planning sessions by emailing Burton Bagby-Grose at [burton.bagby-grose@att.net](mailto:burton.bagby-grose@att.net). If you want to participate – please e-mail Burton.

If you want to be a sponsor –

Make your check payable to the Houston GLBT Community Center and send it to:

Houston GLBT Community Center  
Attn: Burton Bagby-Grose  
3400 Montrose Boulevard, Suite 207  
Houston, Texas 77006

### Friday TG Social~Fri, June 4, 7pm

The Friday Night Transgender Social is a special, once-a-month event hosted by the Center for the Houston area transgender community, supporters, family members, friends, community providers and significant others. Each themed social consists of a dinner\*, movie, games and/or presentation. Friday Socials take place on the 1st Friday night of each month from 7 to 11 PM. The dinner costs \$10 Those who are not able to afford the dinner can elect to help set up and clean up in exchange for the dinner. The Social is BYOB. Beer and wine are the only alcoholic beverages allowed at the social. Doors open at 6:30 PM.

### “Rock the Runway”

Friday, June 25, 2010  
8:30pm - 11:30pm  
Guava Lamp

The Official PRIDE HOUSTON Fashion Show & VIP After-Party

This year the spot light is on Houston as Guava Lamp pulls out all the stops for a swanky and suave opening weekend event. Jagermeister proudly presents The Official Pride Not Prejudice "Rock The Runway" Sponsored by Bud Light. Guava Lamp promises to re-invent itself as the place to see and be seen as they pay homage to New York Fashion Week in this one of a kind event - Paparazzi, Sexy Models, and the Hottest Fashions will set the stage for the launch of Houston's PRIDE weekend.

### New HIV Support Group

May 27, 2010—Beginning in June, the Houston GLBT Community Center will launch a weekly support group for individuals living with HIV/AIDS. The new Center HIV Support Group will meet for first time on Thursday, June 17, 6-8 p.m., and will then meet every Thursday at the Center (3400 Montrose Blvd., Suite 207). This group for HIV-positive individuals will include roundtable discussion, educational forums, socials, potlucks, and more. There is no charge to participate.

The facilitator is Chris Escalante, who brings considerable experience in the areas of HIV education and support. Escalante served two terms on the San Antonio Health Services Planning Council and served as chair or co-chair of the People's Caucus, a committee of the Ryan White Planning Council in San Antonio, which was established to strengthen full and effective participation of people with HIV/AIDS. In San Antonio, Escalante was also a volunteer peer treatment advocate and educator and has attended various health fairs and conferences.

“Our group is a place to give individuals a safe place to share their experiences with others and receive or provide feedback—a place where an individual can open up without feeling rejection,” Escalante says. “We encourage positive interaction of information between individuals.”

“The Center is thrilled to be able to offer the Center HIV Support Group to provide a critical service for our friends and loved ones living with HIV,” says Tim Brookover, Center president. “We are also honored that Chris Escalante has agreed to lead our group, because he brings a wealth of knowledge and compassion to the task.”

Interested individuals may contact Escalante directly at [chris77038@yahoo.com](mailto:chris77038@yahoo.com) or contact the Center at 713.524.3818 or [president@houstonglbtcommunitycenter.org](mailto:president@houstonglbtcommunitycenter.org).

The Houston GLBT Community Center is home base for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people and their allies in the metropolitan area and southeast Texas. The Center is located at 3400 Montrose Blvd., Suite 207. The phone number is 713.524.3818. or go to website [www.houstonglbtcommunitycenter.org](http://www.houstonglbtcommunitycenter.org).

### Fund-raiser for the GLBT Community Center Benefit art show

The artist and gallerist Te-Jui Fu has announced plans to organize an art show and sale in June with proceeds benefiting the Center. The show will take place Friday, June 18, and Saturday, June 19, in Fu's gallery space in Galleria 3 adjacent to Macy's.

### First Friday Poetry Reading Series

Houston's oldest open poetry reading series, hosted by Robert Clark since 1975. Usually on the first Friday of every month at Inprint House, 1520 West Main, one block south of the Menil Collection, one block east of Mandell, in the Museum District of Houston. Always free, open to the public. Always an open reading after the featured poet. doors open at 8:30 p.m.

June 4 - Pablo Miguel Martinez



Prof. Martinez, who teaches at Our Lady of the Lake University, has had his poems published in numerous literary magazines. In 2005 he won the Chicano/Latino Literary Prize; in 2007 he was awarded the Oscar Wilde Prize. He was a Guest Poet at Houston Poetry Fest 2009 and has read at UT Austin, the Austin International Poetry Festival, Poetry at Round Top, Trinity University, and the San Antonio Poetry Festival.

#### Upcoming Featured Poets

July 9 - André de Korvin  
our 36th Anniversary  
Aug. 6 - Herman Sutter,  
of the “Writer Guys”  
Sept. 10 - Mike Guinn, from Fort Worth  
Oct 8, 9, 10 - Houston Poetry Fest 2010  
(25th Anniversary) UH-Downtown  
([www.houstonpoetryfest.info](http://www.houstonpoetryfest.info))  
Nov. 5 - Mary Margaret Carlisle

visit [www.InprintHouston.org](http://www.InprintHouston.org) and click on “Literary Links” e-mail [Houstonfirstfri@aol.com](mailto:Houstonfirstfri@aol.com) or [HPFest@aol.com](mailto:HPFest@aol.com)

### The Return of Queer BINGO!

The theme is *Pride* for the return of Queer Bingo on Saturday, June 5! Re-branded First Saturday Queer Bingo, the regular bingo game and social event will be held on the first Saturday of the month.

The new venue is the second-floor private room at the One's A Meal restaurant. The time has been moved to 4-6 p.m. to give players a chance to get their bingo on and still have time for Saturday night plans. Our 50/50 raffle partner for June 5 is Pride Houston. Wear your most colorful Pride-inspired costume. First Saturday Queer Bingo is a Center program, and proceeds support Center programming.

Saturday, June 5, 2010  
4:00pm - 6:30pm  
One's A Meal  
Second Floor Ballroom  
812 Westheimer Road

Do you have a comment on a news item or story in the GEM or elsewhere? What do you like, not like, want more of? Have a story idea or someone you think we should interview? Let us hear from you at [montrosegem@yahoo.com](mailto:montrosegem@yahoo.com)

### Community Online

Community Center  
[www.hglbtcc.org](http://www.hglbtcc.org)

[www.montrosecounselingcenter.org](http://www.montrosecounselingcenter.org)

[www.legacycommunityhealth.org](http://www.legacycommunityhealth.org)

GLBT Political Caucus  
[www.thecaucus.org](http://www.thecaucus.org)

Out In Houston  
[www.outinhouston.com](http://www.outinhouston.com)

[www.PFLAGHouston.org](http://www.PFLAGHouston.org)

[www.assisthers.org](http://www.assisthers.org)

Houston Political Organizing Network - <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HoP-ON>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/LoneStarActivists/> (LSA)

FEMINIST ONLINE NETWORK  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FEMNET>

Northwest Corner  
<http://www.nwcorner.org>

[www.socialnotesHouston.org](http://www.socialnotesHouston.org)

[www.queermusicheritage.com](http://www.queermusicheritage.com)

[HTTP://WWW.CENTERFORRAIDS.ORG](http://WWW.CENTERFORRAIDS.ORG)

Imperial Court of Houston  
[www.spacecityempire.org](http://www.spacecityempire.org)

Empire of the Royal Sovereign  
Imperial Court of the Single Star  
[www.ersicss.org](http://www.ersicss.org)

TG CENTER  
[www.tgctr.org](http://www.tgctr.org)

Do you know of a group that should be featured here? Let us know at: [montrosegem@yahoo.com](mailto:montrosegem@yahoo.com)

### ON THE RADIO

MONDAYS, 9 - 11PM  
“QUEER VOICES”

SUNDAY MORNINGS  
12AM - 3AM  
“AFTER HOURS”

ON KPFT 90.1FM  
Pacifica - community radio  
HOUSTON, TX  
[www.kpft.org](http://www.kpft.org)

ONLINE: [www.kpft.org](http://www.kpft.org)

# MONTROSE GEM

WWW.MONTROSEGEM.COM

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Editor-in-Chief

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## Special Pride Issue

Our upcoming June 18th issue will be special for LGBT Pride month. We will feature all the activities we can of what is going on with the Pride Celebration and that other community activities. This issue will be an extra run, meaning more copies available for distribution at the Pride festival and during events. Remember, this is when you reach the most people with your advertising dollars. So don't delay, call today 713.523.2828 or contact via email at montrosegem@yahoo.com.

## WATCH FOR IT!

The Montrose GEM  
Online with our new  
updated website

All the news, stories,  
entertainment and  
advertising at  
www.montrosegem.com

## BEELINES

by Deborah Moncrief Bell



I was a bit taken aback when I was contacted by Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays-Houston to be on a panel for their Monthly Meeting. The topic is "Coming out across the Generations". The program will consist of an inter-generational panel of GLBT persons of different ages. The panel members will discuss their coming out experiences and how their experiences as GLBT persons are connected to the generation that came before and the generation that follows.

The reason I was taken aback I guess is that I am one of the out people there is and pretty much have been so since I first acknowledged myself as a Lesbian. It has been so long since I told my coming out story I have almost forgotten it. That is a joke. Each of us have our own story about how we came to acknowledge and to accept our sexual identity. No two are exactly the same and it is an ongoing process. No matter how out you are, there is always some new who does not know your story. Personally, I never felt shame about it and did not feel that I had to hide it for that reason. I never thought it was something bad or wrong. One of the reasons is that I came out while part of the feminist movement and had a support system in place that sustained me. I was very fortunate in that.

Coming Out is a powerful thing as it empowers one. Some people claim they were never 'in', but coming out has different manifestations. The first is recognizing and admitting it to yourself. Some people don't do this until they have had a relationship with someone of the same sex. Next in the process usually is telling a friend. Someone you feel totally safe with and that you know will not reject you. It gets trickier after that. Telling other friends, perhaps co-workers, being visible in public with a Rainbow Flag bumper sticker, joining and participating in a LGBT organization or event.

One of the last places we go to come out usually is within our families. That is because the fear of losing those most dear to you, the fear of being rejected or kicked out of your home can be terrifying. When I worked on the radio Program *Queer Voices* on KPFT, 90.1fm, we made a practice to always advise anyone under 18 years old to really carefully weigh the risks of coming out as it could mean they would be ostracized by their parents. "Wait until you get to college" we would say, if they were financially dependent upon their families.

Just as we come out, so do the ones with whom we share our story and that is where PFLAG comes in. Even when I came out, as an adult who had been married and had two children, I turned to PFLAG for information to help my family understand. I actually was already out to my then husband and two children before I was to my family of origin. Little did I know that my family was 'on to me' due to something one of my sons had said to them unknown to me. Then one of my sister's wrote me a loving letter telling me that her son-in-law's Mother was a Lesbian and she thought maybe I was to, and most importantly, that it was OK to talk to her about it. I replied to her and sent her letter and mine to my other sisters. I really did not care what my brother thought. My Mother thought she much have done something wrong, and she had once voiced that she would disown any child of hers that was "one of them gays". But both my parents accepted my partner when I had one into their home. We never really talked about it and my Mother never really accepted it. But, she did not disown me and I am the one who was her primary caretaker in the weeks before her death and with her when she drew her last breath.

Typically what we discover is that our families really do love us and learn to accept us, just as we have to learn to love and accept ourselves. We may have to help them along the way and PFLAG has both literature and a support structure that can help us do that. That is true if you come out at age 16 or at the age of 33 like I did.

Our parents and friends, who even in this day and age may not have been accepting at first when we come out begin their own process. They can eventually decide to be active as an ally to their LGBT child, brother, sister, friend, or parent. Many wondered what they were so fearful about after a while.

The PFLAG delegation in the Pride Parade always gets the biggest applause from the crowd. They are the epitome of what we want from the rest of society and indeed are our strongest allies.

PFLAG-Houston meets on Sunday June 6, 2010 from 2pm - 4:30pm at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 5501 S.Main, in the Jones Building. Parking is available east of the church. Enter from Binz St. between Fannin and San Jacinto.

Small groups after the program provide an opportunity to discuss issues, concerns, and celebrations in a safe, confidential environment.

After the meeting all are invited to gather at Cafe Express, Museum of Fine Arts Beck Bldg, 5601 Main, There we share a meal, just like a family.

*That's the buzz from me this week.*

### THE COMMUNITY PAPER FOR MONTROSE AND BEYOND 9720 Beechnut #380, Houston, TX 77036 ~ 713.523.2828

Please email or call to let us know you want an ad  
so we can reserve the space for you

#### Schedule for REST of 2010

*Deadline 3pm Mondays prior to print date*

ISSUE #	Print DATE	DUE ON
134*	6/18	6/14
135	7/ 2	6/28
136	7/16	7/12
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139	8/27	8/23
140	9/10	9/6
141	9/24	9/20
142	10/8	10/4
143	10/22	10/18
144	11/ 5	11/1
146*	12/3	11/30
147*	12/17	12/13
148	12/31	12/27

6,000 Distributed through 60+ Clubs, Restaurants, Shops & Stores and community services reaching an estimated 12,000 Readers every issue \* Denotes a special issue - June 18 for GLBT Pride and December 3rd & 17th for Holiday shopping. Place your ad today for our June 18th special pride issue, deadline for copy is June 14th. We will be producing extra copies for distribution at the Pride Festival.

montrosegem@yahoo.com

ADVERTISING RATES ON PAGE 6

## Houston Pride Events Calendar

For over 30 years, Pride Houston has worked at the heart of the local GLBT community to educate and celebrate the diversity within our city's large population. Every year, Pride Houston works hard with national sponsors and local volunteers to organize and produce a series of events that cater to and promote Houston's ever-growing LGBT community. The Pride Festival and Pride Parade are at the center of the celebration and are attended by over 150,000 people every year from all over the world. That makes it the second largest parade in Houston, and the largest gathering of LGBT individuals in the southern United States. Houston LGBT Parade was the first Pride Parade in the United States to be held at night.

Pride Houston has been said to be "one of the Top 10 events to attend in Houston for 2010" by the Greater Houston Convention and Visitors Bureau. 2010 marks the 32nd anniversary of the Pride Houston LGBT Celebration.

The annual Pride Festival is a multi-block celebration of the GLBT community. Featuring a variety of performers on a number of different stages, the Pride Festival is a great way to experience the community, learn about its history, and visit the many booths from local vendors and organizations.

Houston's premiere singing competition *Pride Idol*, returns for a fourth year of amazing singers and fierce competition. This year brings big changes, including a larger venue, new judge, and a new host!

*Dine with Pride* is a fundraising event involving a partnership between Pride Houston and various volunteers, sponsors and local restaurants.

*Dine with Pride:* June 9, 6pm to close at Bocado's on West Alabama.

*Pride Idol:* Week 5, June 10, 10pm Meteor: 2306 Genessee in Montrose

*Dine with Pride,* June 16, 6pm to closing at Niko Niko's on Montrose.

*Pride Idol:* Week 6, June 17, 10pm, Meteor:

*Dine with Pride:* June 23 - 6pm to closing at Lorenzo's on Washington

*Pride Idol:* Week 7 - *Finale* on June 24, at Meteor

*Rock the Runway* fashion show on June 25, 2010 - 8pm at Guava Lamp: Waugh Dr. @ Allen Parkway inside and out.

*Festival:* June 26, is located in the Montrose neighborhood south of Westheimer along the streets of Commonwealth and Yoakum. Pride Houston is honored to spotlight LGBT and straight supporting performers for the 2010 Celebration. We are celebrating diversity in music and feature local, regional and national performers in genres including everything from alternative, country, R&B and reggae to blues, zydeco, rock, pop, Latin and others.

*The Parade:* This historic event will be held this year on Saturday, June 26, between Dunlavy and Crocker along Westheimer. There will be a Pre-Parade show that starting at 8pm at Waugh Drive. The show will feature entertainment to kick off the parade. The Pre-Parade Show is free to attend. The parade starts *promptly* at 8:45pm.

## Don't Ask, Don't Tell continued from Page 1

The legislation - a compromise struck with the White House and agreed to by the Defense Department - would give the military as much time as it wants before lifting the ban.

Under the bill, the President, Secretary of Defense and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff must first certify that the new policy won't hurt the military's ability to fight.

"We need to get this done, and we need to get it done now," said Murphy.

Also as early as May 27th, the Senate Armed Services Committee was expected to take up an identical measure, proposed by Sens. Carl Levin, D-Mich., and Joe Lieberman, I-Conn.

Congress has taken two big steps toward ending the DADT ban on Gays and Lesbians serving openly in the military. The House passed a measure repealing the law. The Senate will debate the measure in June.

As in the House, the Senate provision would be tucked into a broader bill, authorizing hundreds of billions of dollars for the troops, that is expected to win broad support.

Supporters said this week the Senate panel had enough votes to pass the bill after key holdouts, including Sen. Ben Nelson, a Nebraska Democrat, announced they would swing behind it.

"In a military which values honesty and integrity, this policy encourages deceit," Nelson said.

Nelson said a provision in the bill giving the military the power to decide on the details of implementing the policy was key to his support because it "removes politics from the process" and ensures repeal is "consistent with military readiness and effectiveness."

Advocates hoped the momentum in the Senate would carry over to the House, where several conservative Democrats, including Rep. Gene Taylor of Mississippi, threatened to oppose the massive defense spending bill if it included the repeal provision.

The Senate Armed Services Committee took a significant step toward overturning DADT by voting in favor of an amendment that would include repeal as part of defense budget legislation. Various LGBT groups issued statements saying the Senate Armed Services Committee voted 16-12 in favor of attaching a repeal measure, sponsored by Sen. Lieberman (I-Conn.), as part of the fiscal year 2011 defense authorization bill.

The service chiefs this week urged the Senate panel not to vote until the Pentagon could complete its survey of military personnel.

Adm. Mike Mullen, the nation's top uniformed officer and chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told graduating Air Force Academy cadets on Wednesday that they need to support a changing military.

Mullen didn't speak directly about the "don't ask, don't tell" policy. But the chairman, who has said that the policy unfairly forces troops to lie, said service members should question convention.

"Few things are more important to an organization than people who have the moral courage to question the direction in which the organization is headed and then the strength of character to support whatever final decisions are made," Mullen said.

Next up, the repeal will be in the Senate. Contact your senators, Kay Bailey Hutchison, at 202-224-5922, and John Cornyn, at 202-224-2934, and tell them to vote for their GLBT constituents, for equality, and for the repeal. While we can't really expect a positive vote from these two Republicans, they still need to hear from us in overwhelming numbers so they can't say that they were not directed by their constituents in the State. Make your voice heard.



### The Gravestone of a Gay Solider

Leonard Matlovich (1943-1988) was a Vietnam War veteran, Technical Sergeant, race relations instructor, and recipient of the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star. Matlovich was the first gay service member to fight the ban on gays in the military.

Matlovich's gravestone at the Congressional Cemetery reads:

#### A Gay Vietnam Veteran

**When I was in the military, they gave me a medal for killing two men and a discharge for loving one.**

### READERS COMMENT

I am a new and appreciative reader of the Montrose Gem. You are a needed resource to us all. I particularly enjoyed reading about Cristan Williams, and Beelines -- and I vote, Yes! We (GLTB/queers) need to maintain our distinctive status. We're not mainstream, we're special. We're different. We have a particular culture, language, customs and Pride. We need our own newspapers, radio and t.v. shows. Thanks, Montrose Gem, for providing the newspaper part. ~ J.P.

### Wanted:

Delivery drivers,  
Advertising Sales Reps,  
Your community stories and photos.  
Call 713.523.2828 today

### So You Think You Can Drag? Houston

*Who will win the crown?*

Saturday June 12th and June 19th at Michael's Outpost, 1419 Richmond Ave. A special opportunity to come together in community and in fun.

This talent competition and pageant is designed with fundraising in mind, is produced by "My Party for Life". The winner of the contest can designate proceeds to the charity of their choice.

For information on this event or how you can become a contestant (open to Drag Queens and Drag Kings) See info in ad on page 6.

Reserved tables at each of the events go for \$100.00 each, so tell all your friends, call to reserve your seat now.

### Take part in LGBT Online Survey and you might win!

Dear Readers,

We would like to invite you to take a new survey about your opinions and preferences, from an LGBT perspective. Paste the following into your browser:

<http://www.LGBTSurvey.com>

Everyone who completes the survey by June 30th will be entered into a drawing to win one of 20 Amazon \$25 gift credits, or the grand prize of a \$500 Visa gift card.

Participating in this study helps open minds and doors around the world, and influences positive changes for our community. You may have seen previous years' surveys quoted in the New York Times, USA Today, Wall Street Journal, etc. If you have friends who might be interested in this survey, please tell them about this.

## Two On The Aisle

by Bill O'Rourke

### Creating Order

*Intelligence-Slave* in its world premiere at The Alley, through June 20, when it is described, sounds like an evening you might want to skip. Instead, it is one of the best plays that I have seen in some time.

It is set in a Nazi concentration camp. Actually, it is 40 feet below the death camp in an abandoned salt mine. There is a perfect marriage of this play and the lower level Neuhaus stage theater at The Alley. You know you actually are in a basement that is part of a larger "basement" under most of downtown, the underground parking lot. Combine that with the strongly evocative set by Kevin Rigdon and you had me instinctively ducking my head when I stood up at intermission, not wanting to hit it on the ceiling, actually many feet above me still.

But the play is not total realism. It is filled with very poetic imagery. Math itself is at once fragile, beautiful and yet capable of calling the numbers themselves, no matter where or how hidden they are, into order. One of the characters is trying to build a better mouse trap. The mice are a potent metaphor for the prisoners. And then there is the adding machine.

It is actually complete but a part of it must be hidden. If the camp commandant (Todd Waite) finds out that he actually has in his hands the world's first hand held four part calculator, he probably will not have the Jewish inventor declared officially part of the master race as he promises. No. He'll probably kill him, and, perhaps, all the men he manages in the also underground arms factory. So, the world is told that the machine cannot do subtraction.



Todd Waite as Hermann Pister and Steven Louis Kane as Finn Frey ~ Photo by T. Charles Erickson.

The fourteen year old orphan/boy Nazi soldier (Steven Louis Kane) understands why it couldn't do it. After all, if you have a table with four apples on it, and you take away two, it is imaginary that there are only two apples left. There are four, two of which are somewhere else. Subtraction, loss, is not real.

Oh, but it can be all too real, of course.

"Where is your brother?" "Somewhere off of the table."

James Belcher and Chris Hutchison complete the uniformly excellent cast.

The greatest part of the load of this play rests on the broad shoulders of Andrew Weems, playing the inventor, who comes to a relationship with the boy as a father and mentor. He is on stage for the entire show, but we never tire of him nor disbelieve him. He is subtle and full of variety. His only problem was a bit physical. When we first meet him, he is starving, though he is handling it well. He tries to never show a need, but he has been so underfed that he is rather desperate for a piece of bread. And we believe that, even though the actor himself is not a bear, really, but certainly not skinny.

Playwright Kenneth Lin is a name to remember. He is nationally known around the regional theaters, but he is going to be even more important. What a play he has here! The only thing I would change about it, I think, is the act break. The first act is very, very long. The second act is so short you wonder if half a scene got left out during the performance, somehow. Still, as long as the first act is, I was surprised I missed one thing. My partner Loyal usually says at any intermission, that he thought the first act dragged. This time he didn't.

Indeed, he found the whole play engrossing. And so did I.

### Openings

*History of America* at Stages,  
June 2 – June 27

*Boeing Boeing* at Alley  
June 4 – June 27

*Cuckoos* at Mildred's Umbrella  
June 10 – June 26

*Tomfoolery* at Main Street  
June 10 – June 27

TheAlley, 615 Texas Ave, 713.228.8421,  
www.alleytheatre.org

**Note:** Our list of openings below may not be complete. If you'd like to make sure that your theater or your performance makes the next list, please contact MontroseGem@yahoo.com .

## BUG

Reviewed by Brett Cullum

*BUG* by playwright Tracy Letts offers an unrelentingly dark look at what happens when a drug addled waitress meets a handsome paranoid schizophrenic, and they feed each other's psychosis until everything around them collapses into unsalvageable madness. The play is tough to produce because it contains harsh language, varying levels of nudity, onstage graphic violence, and requires a "go for broke" attitude from everyone involved. Luckily for Theatre Southwest, they've found a passionate director who guides an able cast across beautiful tempestuous terrain.

The plot revolves around a hard luck waitress who lives in a run down motel outside Oklahoma City hiding from her abusive ex-husband. Agnes craves cocaine mixed with isolation, and only occasionally socializes with a lesbian friend. One night the two women meet a soft-spoken Gulf War veteran who takes a certain shine to the lady in hiding. Peter and Agnes bond over drugs and a mutual fear of who might be looking for them. They fall in love, but the results are destructive as we witness two people tearing each other apart over the demonic bugs in their head both real and imagined.



Lance Marshall and Katrina Ellsworth descend into drug fueled madness in *BUG* ~ Photo by Ananka

*BUG* relies on building a certain crazed frenzy that allows the audience to feel the same rush of destructive adrenaline the characters create as they hurtle deeper and deeper into a world of their own making. Katrina Ellsworth as Agnes takes her soft spoken frail character right over the edge into screechy manic fits, while Lance Marshall gives Peter a quiet menace that explodes violently in a spectacular way. This pair certainly is up to the task of constructing a blood soaked romance that could only end up in flames.

They go from barely being able to speak a couple of words to spouting meth fueled sermons on bug religion. It is awesome to witness with both leads offering a strong show of acting force. Supporting characters are ably portrayed by John Stevens, Michelle Harper, and a particularly scary turn by Jeff Kent as the ex-husband. Collectively there is not a single bad beat from the cast who make the most of every moment and exchange.

Technically *BUG* is an over the top feast for the eyes and ears. A realistic seedy motel set gets torn apart, blood flies in every direction, and a constant rush of sound comes at the audience in waves. If there's one thing to criticize the production for it's that sometimes the attention to detail is so overwrought it becomes exhausting to watch and listen to. The sound at times during opening night would run too hot blurring the dialogue for a minute or two, but still created the right atmosphere. It's amazing to witness the ingenuity of every step of the journey, and how all the elements work in bringing *BUG* to life.

Much credit should go to director Ananka Kohnitz for pulling such believable performances from a fine cast, while at the same time spinning a gleefully abstract web with set, light, and sound design. It's a show that feels like it sprang from the grunge era '90s with its fascination with drugs, sex, and cruel violence. *BUG* is certainly not going to be the typical theater goer's cup of tea, but for those who appreciate a good blood soaked cathartic mess it delivers.

*BUG* runs Fridays and Saturdays through June 19th at 8pm with a matinee at 3pm on June 6th. Ticket reservations can be made by contacting Theatre Southwest through their web site - theatresouthwest.org, email - tickets@theatresouthwest.org, or by phone - 713.661.9505. Their address in west Houston is 8944 Clarkcrest Street, Houston, TX 77063-4909.

Brett Cullum writes reviews for the website: [www.dvdverdict.com](http://www.dvdverdict.com)

**Jai's Spring Fling's**  
by Jai Fain

Texture? Color? Fit? Sometimes we feel like we have to pick and choose between the most important of elements when looking into the next season, especially when trying to decide on versatile core pieces to update our wardrobe. Thankfully, many designers are now cutting with the same mindset that we don't want to, nor should we have to decide between a piece that fits well in a color we aren't crazy about or a color we'd die for in a fabric that feels like sandpaper. My top picks for Spring 2010 combine every component you think you're going to have to sacrifice, but surprisingly you're not giving up a thing!



**POLO:** Not many can say that their closet is properly stocked without a classic polo and if you do you certainly can't say that it's properly stocked without an edgy one. Psycho Bunny is my polo pick for spring due to the twist it gives this classic piece. You no longer have to think 'preppy' to pull off the polo. Instead of the pleated khaki shorts and boat shoes, try a pair of selvaige skinny jeans and a great pair of detailed drivers. The variety of colors are fantastic ranging from caramel and raspberry to mint and bubblegum. This is going to be an extremely hot item for Houstonians especially when 'Bunnies on the Bayou' rolls around next year. Who can resist this little black-eyed bunny and crossbones?!?

**DENIM:** One of the hottest lines of denim right now, Cult of Individuality, is bringing new and innovative ideas to table including my pick for spring, the 'Red Line'. This particular style, which comes in both a dark and light wash, contains an aspect of red denim, which shows the 'Red Line' no matter where the jean is distressed. Basically, where a common distress mark would contain only the usual shredded white thread, the 'Red Line' contains bright red threads intermixed within the white. Obviously the darker wash would be worn more in the evenings for dinner or social events whereas the lighter wash is more appropriate during daylight hours with a great solid v-neck.



**TEE:** An absolute must-have this spring is an amazingly crafted graphic v-neck by Monarchy. Heavily influenced by the British Monarchy, you'll find subtle yet obvious references within the designs while some other pieces contain manipulations from other parts of the world. These cotton/polyester blend pieces feel like heaven next to your skin while giving you that edge of confidence not to mention the extra glances by nearby onlookers!

See Photo on front page.

**BUTTON DOWN:** When looking into expanding your button down collection for spring, the your main focus should lie within color and functionality. I've chosen Stone Rose for the sheer fact of their versatility, not to mention astounding fit and unbelievable colors. These pieces can be worn with a sleek pair of dark jeans, can lift your average coat and tie into a control commanding power suit, or can be paired with a pair of casual shorts with the sleeves rolled up. From the funky yet classic designs of the flipped up cuffs and collars to the subtle yet interest grabbing piping of the back, these button downs in a variety of personality stating colors are an absolute necessity



**WATCH:** Even though the world of time-pieces is becoming more and more extensive, some are still finding it difficult to come across one-of-a-kind pieces. This brings me to my 'favourite' line of watches, STORM from London. The aspect of this line which is most attractive to me is the fact that all of their designs are copyrighted which eliminates the close possibility of imitation. As you'll notice with this line, every single piece has it's own mood, it's own attitude, and it's own story to tell. Many faces come with a dual time feature allowing you to compare 'home time' while you're overseas while others contain features such as shutter mechanisms that fan open like a ninja star. Along with the clear analog face, my preferred model, The Navigator, offers a digital date, thermometer, compass, and a high beam light. Try to snag one of the 'Special' or 'Limited' editions. You'll be one of 3000 in the world with one, which is guaranteed by a chrome certificate displaying its specific serial number.

The thing I'm taking pride in with these choices is the fact that they're going to be reasonable purchases. You really don't have to go out and drop \$300 on a shirt in order to look great, and if you do, chances are you're going to feel guilty about it WHILE you're wearing the piece! Look equally as good if not better with these finds and add in a little self-satisfaction with it knowing that you didn't spend an arm and a leg in the process!

All of these items can be found at **P-Jai's** - 2542 Amherst (Rice Village) - Houston, TX 77005 - 713.526.1800.

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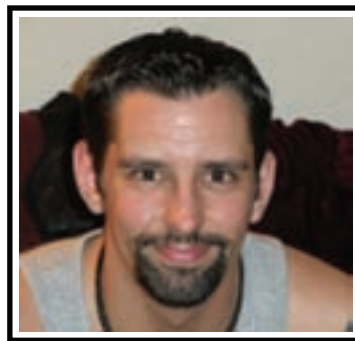
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**Houston LGBT Pride 2010**

**Pride Festival:** June 26, 12pm to 7pm will be in Montrose, south of Westheimer along the streets of Commonwealth and Yoakum.

**The Parade:** between Dunlavy and Crocker along Westheimer. pre-parade entertainment at 8pm at Waugh Drive.

The Parade starts **promptly** at 8:45pm

To find out more or to volunteer:  
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**PRIDE continued from Page 1**

Skains shares other information about plans for this year's celebration, including some of the actual logistics. Even though the Parade is full of glitz and glamour, it is all the behind the scenes work that gets the job done, contrary to what some folks may think, a magic fairy *does not* wave a wand and suddenly transform Westheimer into the festival grounds and parade route. Hundreds of volunteers are needed and months of preparation take place, usually starting with the debriefing and assessment that is done by the pride Committee in July, after the parade. Yes, the planning for the next year begins then.

Due to the election of Annise Parker and her being recognized as the special 'Community Grand Marshal' a bigger crowd is expected for the parade which draws an estimated \$150,000 to 2000,000 each year. Westheimer will be shut down on Friday night with only two lanes of traffic, one in each direction. On Saturday when the barricades go up they will be in the street taking up half a lane. This will give people more room and help to eliminate some of the problems that had to be dealt with last year due to barricades falling over off of curbs.

General admission seating in bleachers will be available for \$20 and there is special VIP seating for those who become **Friends of Pride**. There will be no smoking allowed in the bleachers and alcohol is prohibited from both the bleachers and the festival. The Pride Committee took a stand to not endorse intoxication and to take away the stigma of being criticized as "one big drunken party". Bud Light is the official sponsor of the parade however and they are working with the bars on a designated driver program. If you sign up at the festival to be a designated driver, you get a wrist band that will allow you free non-alcoholic drinks in any of the area bars. Friends of Pride will be served alcoholic beverages on a courtesy basis.

Work has been done to make the events as diverse as possible. There was outreach to some groups that have been absent in recent years. The National Leather association will have a group and the Softball League will have a larger presence. There are more lesbian groups involved as well, although AssistHers, one of the better known groups, is not going to be taking part as a group as so many of its members are affiliated with other organizations which they will be participating with that day.

The coming together as a community, the visibility and the unity that the event inspires is what both Eric and Board President Megahn Stabler speak of when they talk about why they are involved and why Pride is important.

"It is all about fairness and equality, to love and to live just as the rest of society does," Stabler expresses, saying that is what is behind this year's theme of **Pride, not Prejudice**. The theme was selected by popular vote through the Pride Houston website.

Stabler emphasizes that, "Pride should not be a one day event. Your right to love, to serve, to participate as a citizen should be something that takes place every day."

Only in her second year on the board, Stabler was 'drafted' as President when Brad Odom stepped down from that role. Stabler's life and work experiences were such that she knew she could drive the organization forward and took on the challenge as being, "My time to stand up and speak out, to leave a legacy that advances the cause of equality."

Stabler is generous with her praise of other board members including Trevor Eade and Ernie Manouse (who is Board VP). Skains says that it might be easy for many to dismiss Manouse's participation as superficial being that he is somewhat of a celebrity as host of "InnerViews" on the local PBS station, Channel 8.

"Ernie has a true dedication that is not just for show. He is very hands on. In fact he has been a real example to the rest of us on how to utilize the resources each brings to the table as a board member," Skains shares. "We have been thrilled with having him be part of the board this year."

Stabler, who is very business oriented understands that you have to run things as a business even without resources and even as a non-profit or special event. She gives a list of all the things that have to take place to make the festival and parade happen, including permits, port-a-toilets, festival and parade route set up, traffic, security and clean-up. But the one thing that it really takes to put on the Parade and Festival is summed up in one word according to Stabler, "Volunteers". When you see someone in a Pride Volunteer T-shirt you should tell them "Thank you", she states.

To find out more and to volunteer:

[www.pridehouston.org](http://www.pridehouston.org)

**Groovelines**

by DJ Chris Allen

Howdy disco citizens! It's time for your bi-weekly dose of **Groovelines** – your source for what's hot and hip in the land of electronic dance music and beyond.

Over at **iTunes**, and hot for digital download, is the 25-year anniversary edition of one of my favorite classic 80's albums – talking about **So Red the Rose** from the group of incredibly creative artists known as **Arcadia**. Just after 80's super group **Duran Duran's** popularity peaked in the mid 1980's Arcadia was formed, made up of three Duran Duran members: singer and front man **Simon Le Bon**, synth player and programmer **Nick Rhodes** & drummer **Roger Taylor**. Where Duran Duran's image was for the most part a product of media hype, Arcadia fabricated a sound that used exotic textures as the core of the music itself, exploring intense romantic notions with a combination of ringing guitars, synthesizers, flutes, violins, world rhythms, reverbed vocals, and poetic lyrics. It was an ambitious undertaking for a group that was until that time was primarily a teen phenomenon. A handful of applauded artists contributed to the album including **David Gilmour** from **Pink Floyd**, **Sting**, **Herbie Hancock**, and the diva **Grace Jones**. Upon its release, the album went platinum. It peaked at no. 30 in the UK and at no. 23 in the US. It's first single, Election Day, hit the top 10 in both the UK and the US. **So Red the Rose** was even described as 'the best Duran album never made.' This 25-year anniversary edition of **So Red the Rose** has been remastered for today's higher end sound and includes a ton of bonus tracks. Mostly remixes and B-sides. If you are a longtime fan you will want to take a look at the hard copy available from Amazon. It includes 2 cds and a dvd featuring music videos for **Election Day**, **The Promise**, **Goodbye Is Forever**, and **The Flame**. A must have for any true Duranie. The iTunes version from **EMI** includes 29 tracks total, including 8 album only gems. And of course, 3 of those tracks are not on the hard copy. Clever marketing bitches! Learn more about Arcadia online at [wikipedia.org/wiki/Arcadia\\_\(band\)](http://wikipedia.org/wiki/Arcadia_(band)), and be sure to stop by [duran-duran.com](http://duran-duran.com) as well. Download your copy of **So Red the Rose** today at iTunes. It is an amazing album.

Be sure to also check out **Rated R Remixed** from pop diva **Rihanna**. This release showcases **Chew Fu Phat's** remixes of the album's hottest tracks. Included are dance floor ready versions of Russian **Roulette**, **Hard, Rude Boy**, and the latest single **Rockstar 101**. Chew Fu takes these epic pop tracks to a new level that will put a shake in that booty for sure – call it Brooklyn House! Best enjoyed at maximum volume, this album

is a crowd pleaser. Other highlights on **Rated R Remixed** include Photographs featuring will.i.am, Stupid In Love, and Fire Bomb. Learn more about Chew Fu online at [facebook.com/pages/Chew-Fu\\_Ph/19834871599](http://facebook.com/pages/Chew-Fu_Ph/19834871599). Check out Rihanna's site at [rihannanow.com](http://rihannanow.com). Buy and download your copy of Rihanna's latest – **Rated R Remixed** – today at iTunes.

Also diggin' the good vibes and kick ass grooves being offered up on iTunes from Satisfaction by Benni Benassi – the Afrojack Remix, **Make My Heart** from Toni Braxton – all these mixes rock me right - I can't decide – it's all amazing house - damn, **Overtime** from Pete Heller, **Blaze** by Sandro Silva – the Digital Lab Remix, the latest Ultra compilation Weekend 6 – featuring hits from Kaskade, David Guetta, Lady Gaga, Britney Spears, Deadmau5, LM-FAO, Selena Gomez, Jes, Saemus Haji, and more, **Woohoo** by Christina Aguilera featuring Nick Minaj, **Can't Be Tamed** from Miley Cyrus, **Alejandro** by Lady Gaga – the Dave Aude Remix, **Cooler Than Me** from Mike Posner – the Gigamesh Remix, Commander by Kelly Rowland featuring David Guetta – the Extended Dance Mix, **Don't Be A Douchebag** from Jump Smokers – the Extra Douche Extended Mix, Pionir by Ichisan & Nakova – the Lusty Zanibar Remix, and the continuous party mix Global Groove: Dance 3 from DJ Escape featuring hits by Vernessa Mitchell, Tony Moran & Frenchie Davis, Ralph Falcon, Anjulie, and Beyonce & Lady Gaga. Great stuff. You'll find those floor fillers and more online at iTunes.

You can hear me play these mentioned hits and more weekly at Meteor & JR's in Houston and at Halo in Bryan/College Station. Be sure to tune into Hypersonic Radio every Saturday night at 10 pm to catch Groovelines Aloud on 101X in Austin. Stream it live from the web at [hypersonicradio.com](http://hypersonicradio.com) or from your iPhone using the free 101X app. For info on all upcoming **DJ C.A.** events and happenings head over to [djchrisallen.com](http://djchrisallen.com). Stalk my every move at [twitter.com/groovelines](http://twitter.com/groovelines), [MySpace.com/djchrisallen](http://MySpace.com/djchrisallen), and [facebook.com/djchrisallen-official](http://facebook.com/djchrisallen-official). And finally, always feel free to e-mail me directly at [djca.groovelines@yahoo.com](mailto:djca.groovelines@yahoo.com).

Deep in the heart of Texas, that is the Groovelines for now. You know the golden rule boys and girls - play it loud and disturb the neighbors! The scene can only grow and thrive if we participate in it folks. It exists because we make it so. Be active, support your local talent. Buy, don't share.

*Remember, life might not always be the party you had hoped for, but while you're here you might as well dance..*



**Patrick Joseph Vachon**  
Nov. 17, 1955 - May 16, 2010

A loving soul, passed away unexpectedly at 54 years of age on May 16, 2010. Patrick is preceded in death by his parents, Victor Joseph Vachon and Mary Leone Hawkins Vachon. He is survived by his soul mate and life partner, Jason Komar; children, Anton and Parker Komar-Vachon; sisters, Carol and Susan Vachon; brothers, Michael Vachon and wife Marie and Ronald Vachon; mother-in-law, Dorothy Vachon; sisters-in-law, Gail McMillian and husband Frank, Wendy Corner and husband Mark; brothers-in-law, Gary Komar and wife D. Ann and Mark Komar and wife Danae and many loving nieces, nephews, in-laws and friends. Patrick obtained a Masters Degree in Psychology and was a social worker in Houston. He was born and reared in Southfield, Michigan, a suburb of Detroit. His passions were his family, flowers and gardening. The funeral service was held on Sunday, May 23, 2010 in the

Donations in Patrick's memory may be made to Anton and Parker's education fund.

\*To make a donation to the education fund please make checks payable to Jason Komar. Indicate in the memo section of your check EDUCATION FUND. Mail to: Jason Komar, 1211 Del Norte, Houston, Texas 77018.



From Brandon Wolf: This photo was taken at the GCAM (Gulf Coast Archive & Museum) office in the GLBT Cultural Center in the Montrose Counseling Center Building.

The poster has been on loan to GCAM from Patrick for some time, and has been featured in numerous exhibits that curator Judy Reeves and her volunteers have put together over the years.

The story behind the poster is that it had been printed before the U.S. Olympic organization won a court case against the 'Gay Olympics'. The court decision called for confiscation of any and all materials that bore the Gay Olympic name.

Patrick was in the Gay Olympics gift shop when the Feds were spotted approaching the store. Patrick wrapped this poster around his leg, under his slacks and walked right out of the store with it. Thus preserving a unique and extremely rare item of GLBT history.

He'll be missed .



Exclusive to the Montrose GEM from  
Joey Guerra

Show dates: 10 p.m. every Thursday through June 24 at Meteor, 2306-08 Genesee. (just off Fairview). The finale is 10pm on June 24.

Here's my breakdown of those left as of the May 27th competition.

Eliminated so far:

Clay Hardy  
Jazmine Joseph  
Jay Arseno  
Nawale Moufkir

Seven remain; one will be cut this week.

Freddy Cauley, 23 - an R&B crooner with a shy, sweet stage presence.

Laz Estrada, 21 - big personality, even bigger voice.

Aike Jamal, 32 - a previous season contestant who has appeared on American Idol and Clash of the Choirs.

Ashley Hennessy, 22 - raspy voiced and confident onstage.

Brittni Jackson, 21 - a belter who brings lots of fans every week.

Nina Lombardo, 26 - our quirkiest contestant, who brings tons of personality and color.

Alfin Nadjib, 27 - bring a modern R&B edge to every performance.



Photo, from left: Freddy Cauley, Jazmine Joseph, Laz Estrada, Brittni Jackson, Ashley Hennessy, Aike Jamal (above in glasses), Nina Lombardo, Nawale Moufkir, Clay Hardy, Jay Arseno, Alfin Nadjib.

We have surprise performers coming up, and we do concert ticket giveaways every week.

In addition to the many great prizes the winning contest will receive, they will Perform in front of the Pride Parade Grandstand at 8pm, just prior to the start of the Parade on June 26th. That location is the parking area next to the old Hollywood video on Westheimer.

# STONEWALL UPRISING

by Deborah Moncrief Bell

"It was the Rosa Parks moment," says one man., in *Stonewall Uprising*, which recounts the June 28, 1969: NYC police raid a Greenwich Village Mafia-run gay bar, The Stonewall Inn. For the first time, patrons refused to be led into paddy wagons, setting off a 3-day riot that launched the Gay Rights Movement.

Told by Stonewall patrons, reporters and the cop who led the raid, *Stonewall Uprising* recalls the bad old days when psychoanalysts equated homosexuality with mental illness and advised aversion therapy, and even lobotomies; public service announcements warned youngsters against predatory homosexuals; and police entrapment was rampant. At the height of this oppression, the cops raid Stonewall, triggering nights of pandemonium with tear gas, billy clubs and a small army of tactical police. The rest is history.



How historically accurate is this film likely to be you ask? Being that it comes some forty years after that summer of 1969. One can only look at the directors and writer that were part of the tea who made this work possible to get an answer to that question and in what to expect in terms of quality.

Directors Kate Davis and David Heilbroner have been producing award-winning documentaries for 15 years. They co-directed *Stonewall Uprising* (2010), the first non-fiction film to tell the story of the Stonewall riots by the participants.

Their film, *Scopes: The Battle Over America's Soul* (History Channel, 2006), was part of Ten Days Which Unexpectedly Changed America, which won the Emmy® for Best Non Fiction Series in 2006. *Jockey* (HBO, 2004), was nominated for 3 Emmys® and won the Emmy® Award for Best Non-Fiction Directing. *Pucker Up: The Fine Art of Whistling* (2004), was broadcast worldwide and had a limited US theatrical release. They also produced *Diagnosis Bipolar* (2010) and *Plastic Disasters* (2006) for HBO, and numerous social justice films including *Anti-Gay Hate*

Crimes (A&E Networks, 1998) and *Transgender Revolution* (A&E Networks, 1999).

Davis directed and produced *Southern Comfort*, which portrayed the life of a male transsexual. The Emmy® nominated film won over 25 awards, including the Grand Jury Prize for Best Documentary at the Sundance Film Festival (2001), Best Documentary Feature at the Florida Film Festival, San Francisco International Film Festival and Hot Docs in Toronto, First Prize at the Seattle Film Festival, the Grierson Award for Best International Documentary and the Special Audience Award at the Berlin Film Festival.

Davis' *Girtalk*, (1988) about three Boston street kids, was released theatrically and broadcast on PBS, ARTE France, and Ch.4 (UK). She worked as an editor on Jennie Livingston's *Paris is Burning*, Ross McElwee's *Sherman's March* and Robert Stone's *American Babylon*.

David Heilbroner, is a former Manhattan prosecutor and author who has been making documentary films for more than ten years. He was Senior Producer for *Crime Stories*, a series for Court TV (1999), and directed/produced *Transgender Revolution*, *Life After Death Row*, *The Dark Side of Parole*, *Anti-Gay Hate Crimes*, and *Untying the Straightjacket*, (A&E Networks). As an author, Heilbroner wrote the critically acclaimed non-fiction books, *Rough Justice* and *Death Benefit* (which was made into a feature film for USA Pictures starring Carrie Snodgrass) and has written widely on law and crime.

Davis and Heilbroner also co-directed, with Franco Sacchi, *Waiting for Armageddon*.

As of press date there is not a scheduled date for this film in Houston, however it is being shown by a number of Landmark Theaters around the country so maybe it will show up at the River Oaks. It is too bad it could not be here for Pride Month. However, *American Experience*, the outstanding series on PBS is one of the backers of this film, so it quite likely will show up on Ch. 8 in the future and will available on DVD.

The movie was written by Heilberger based on the excellent book *Stonewall: The Riots that Sparked the Gay Revolution* by David Carter. This is the most historically accurate account of 'Stonewall' to my knowledge and should be a required reading, in my opinion. It gives a true sense of where we were as a people and as a country in 1969, the GLBT history to that date, and the politics that shaped the events. One surprise in the book, Carter claims he had no reference to prove that the death of Judy Garland had anything to do with the events.

See Page 10 for more on movies about Stonewall.

## Are You a Gay Prostate Cancer Survivor?

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DON GILL PRODUCTIONS

Continued from Page 9

### MOVIES ABOUT STONEWALL

Documentaries:

*Before Stonewall* (1985)

*After Stonewall* (1999)

Feature Film:

*Stonewall* (1995)

As an aside: Actor Isiah Washington played a police Officer in *Stonewall*. Washington got into an argument on the set of *Grey's Anatomy* in 2006 and wound up directing a homophobic remark at fellow actor T.R. Knight.. After the press reported the incident, Washington was fired from the show. Knight wound up coming out for the first time as a public figure.

## Cooking Capers with Dr. Dave

Hello ladies and gentlemen. I hope everyone is doing well and gearing up for Memorial Day. Hopefully I'll see some of you here in Galveston to enjoy the surf and sun. No matter where you are, have fun and be safe.

Here are a couple of recipes for your enjoyment, the beignets were invented with fond memories of my time spent in New Orleans, and the oxtail stew is a recipe made from my Aunt Naomi's collection. I hope you enjoy them.

### BEIGNETS AU FROMAGE

One of my favorite American cities is "The Big Easy", New Orleans. My former lover and I lived there many moons ago. The architecture; the food; the people; and the panache were all wonderful. Speaking of food, if you've been to New Orleans, then you know about Cafe du Monde on the Mississippi River. When you say the name of this cafe, it sparks thoughts having chicory coffee and beignets. It is a wonderful way to begin your Sunday, and then of course, afterwards, you have the option of visiting one of their fun local gay and lesbian watering holes. Ahhhh...the good life. Try these delightful pastries; who knows, they may inspire you to take a trip to the Big Easy. Visiting the city, mingling with its people, and enjoying the food are well worth your time and money.

Unlike the beignets at Cafe du Monde, these beignets are not sweet; instead, these are a savory twist I came up with for brunch on Sunday. Enjoy.

3/4 cup all purpose flour  
1 Tbs. cooking oil  
1 egg, beaten  
1/2 cup beer at room temperature  
1 egg white, stiffly beaten  
1 pound Gruyere cheese, cubed  
peanut oil for deep frying

Sift one half cup of the flour, and then stir in the Tablespoon of oil and the one egg (not the stiffly beaten egg white). Add the beer gradually, stirring until the mixture is smooth. Let the mixture stand for one hour. Fold in the egg white. Lightly dredge the cubes of cheese in the remaining flour and coat with the batter. Brown the cubes of cheese in the peanut oil which has been preheated to 375 degrees. Once browned, drain the cheese on absorbent paper and serve piping hot. Enjoy.

### OXTAIL STEW

One of my fondest memories is that of my Great Aunt Naomi. She was this beautiful, kind, loving lady who taught me so much in life. With those memories in mind, let me share with you one of her terrific specialties, oxtail stew.

2 1/2 pounds oxtails  
1 cup all purpose flour  
1 Tbs. salt  
1/4 Tbs. ground black pepper  
1/2 Tbs. ground thyme  
6 slices bacon  
1 medium yellow onion, cubed  
3 medium peeled carrots, cubed  
4 ribs celery, cubed



4 cups beef broth  
1 1/2 cups Burgundy wine  
1 4 ounce can tomato paste  
2 bay leaves  
1/8th. Tsp. ground nutmeg  
3 medium potatoes (any type) cubed

Sift together flour, salt, pepper, and thyme and place in a large zip lock bag.

Render bacon and remove to paper towels keeping the bacon drippings. Dredge the oxtails in the flour and seasoning mixture in the zip lock bag. Shake the oxtails to remove excessive flour and lightly brown them in the bacon drippings. Remove to a platter

In the same bacon drippings, saute the onions, carrots and celery until they are just beginning to sweat.

Add 4 cups of beef broth to the vegetables and return the oxtails to the mixture.

Add the wine to the same pot along with the tomato paste, bay leaf, and nutmeg. Set the pot over medium heat. Bring the contents to a boil, cover, reduce the heat, and simmer for 2 1/2 to 3 hours, or until the oxtails are very tender. Taste and correct the seasoning if needed. Remove the stew from the heat and let it set for approximately an hour; skim the fat from the sauce, and add the potatoes, along with more stock if needed. Cook the potatoes until they are fork tender.

Enjoy the stew with a good old "pone" (skillet) of cornbread. My Aunt always used white cornmeal, and she never, ever added sugar.



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## Lipstick and Blood

by John Kearney

Reviewed by Jone Devlin

Devon Guzman was young, attractive, and openly gay. She lived in a small town in Pennsylvania where being out could meet with prejudice, but it was more like people whispering behind their hands rather than out and out violence. Besides, Devon was a local girl whose family had deep roots in the community. So when Devon was found half dressed and brutally murdered in her car shortly after her 19th birthday, the whole town was in shock.

The first suspect was Devon's live in girlfriend Keary Renner. Big, blonde, overly possessive, temperamental and full of fire, Devon and Keary's fights were the stuff of legend in the hotel where the two women made their home. For example, the night Michelle disappeared, the two girls had had another blowout; a blowout that was so out of control, in fact, that the screaming and thrashing could be heard downstairs in the bar - over the jukebox.

It was Keary's out of control jealousy and tendency toward violence that had made Devon confide in her family and close friend Michelle Hetzel-Bloss that she was ready to move on. What Devon's family didn't know though was that the person Devon wanted to leave Keary for was Michelle. And what Michelle didn't know was that her husband, Brandon Bloss, was more than aware that Devon and Michelle were sleeping together; and that this knowledge had caused him to build up a huge amount of pent up rage toward Devon.

Part Peyton Place and part true crime saga, *Lipstick and Blood* explores the complicated and ultimately deadly relationship of three young gay women in small town America. Michelle and Keary had been close friends before Devon moved back to town from a brief stay in Arizona. Once Devon came along, both girls were smitten with her, and happy go lucky Devon was more than happy to bask in their attention. But then Michelle's family started to pressure her about her lesbianism, so she married Brandon Bloss, a college graduate and self described good catch in order to "prove" that she wasn't gay. Devon, meanwhile, moved in with Keary.

That should have been the end of it for all concerned, but it wasn't. Michelle and Devon continued seeing each other, even taking a tropical vacation together (on Brandon Bloss's credit cards) and exchanging rings and vows. Keary and Brandon, meanwhile, were left to wonder what exactly was going on, as both women, when confronted, would repeatedly insist there was nothing between them. One night, the three women began drinking. Words were exchanged, Devon and Keary fought, and then Devon went over to Michelle's house, only to be thrown out by Brandon and found dead the next day. But was she really thrown out? Or did she leave another way - as a corpse in the trunk of Michelle Hetzel's car?

Meticulously detailed, with extensive interviews with all concerned, *Lipstick and Blood* examines how small town attitudes as much as anything else contributed to the vicious and brutal murder of Devon Guzman.

And while Kearny blames only the murderers for their horrible crime, he is also sage enough to make his audience understand that in a different time and place, none of this would have happened.

The book is an easy read at just over 300 pages. Kearny's style is very much that of a story teller, but in spite of his best efforts, the book tends to bog down a bit when it gets to the court proceedings.

A "Wicked Attraction" episode about the murder of Devon Guzman premiered on the all-crime network Investigation Discovery on August 27, 2009.



Suspenseful and sad, *Lipstick and Blood* is published by Pinnacle and is available wherever books are sold. Reviewer's rating 4 out of 5 stars.

## Thirty Years of Kindred Spirits, A year of events

Houston businesswoman Marion Coleman opened a nightclub in the early Eighties that was billed as being "for women and their friends." The club was originally on Buffalo Speedway near Bissonnet. It was upscale and comfortable. Local musicians and talented female DJ's were part of what made the club comfortable. The club later relocated to just inside the 610 Loop on Richmond.

There is a yearlong series of events celebrating the 30th anniversary of the opening of the bar taking place in 2010.

The Eighties were a great time for music and for the LGBT population of Houston, and KS as it is fondly referred to, was a primary location to enjoy a night out. Especially for those who were interested in dancing.

In 2001, wanting to continue the legacy, a group of women began planning a reunion dance commemorating the "spirit" of the club. One thing led to another, dance took place in March of 2002. The committee eventually formed into a 501(3)(c) charitable organization benefitting many local groups such as The Lesbian Health Initiative, AssistHers, and the Houston Buyers Club, to name a few.

Kindred Spirits' ninth annual reunion event is scheduled August 28 at SPJST Ballroom. Anyone who has attended the previous dances knows what a wonderful trip down memory lane the danced are.

June 5 at Memorial Park. The first annual KS softball tournament will take place.

Comic diva Kate Clinton emcees the Bayou City Performing Arts concert 'Let's Misbehave' on June 19 at Jones Hall.. KSF will receive part of the proceeds from the concert.

The group closes its 30th anniversary year with its annual Judy Garland Christmas Special holiday party, that will be on December 5.

Sincere congratulations to Marion Coleman and the KSF committee.

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!**

www.kindredspiritshouston.org



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