



Ground-breaking Ceremony for Legacy Community Health Services for their new building in the heart of Montrose: Chairman of Legacy Endowment Board Melanie Gray, Houston City Council members Ed Gonzalez (Dist. H), Wanda Adams (Dist. D), Mayor Anise Parker, Sue Lovell (At-Large Position 2), Legacy Executive Director Katy Caldwell, Legacy President of the Board James A. Reeder, Jr. and Jay Allen, donor and previous owner of 1415 California. *Photo: Brandon Wolf*

## Legacy Starts Construction on New Clinic

by Christine Doby

On November 10, 2010, Legacy Community Health Services held a ground breaking ceremony for their new facility at 1415 California Street to serve the Montrose section and all of Houston. Located one block north of Westheimer Street between Commonwealth and Waugh Drive, the clinic will bring together all the facilities currently run by Legacy, including their eye clinic, dental facilities, psychiatry and counseling services, and HIV/AIDS treatment. Of special interest is a pediatric department to serve the needs of children of both the GLBT and straight communities. Services at the new Clinic will continue to be available on a sliding scale to provide health care at low cost or no cost.

In honor of the ground breaking occasion, numerous local dignitaries attended the opening, including Mayor Annise Parker, who gave a short speech saying that, "While other cities around the nation are experiencing crippling financial situations, Houston continues to grow and prosper. Houstonians get out and get the work done, allowing Legacy to fill the medical care gap for the one-third of Houstonians who have no access to medical care."

Then, Chairman of Legacy Endowment Board Melanie Gray, Mayor Parker, and a number of other dignitaries helped launch the facility, donning yellow hard hats and tossing in shovelfuls of earth.

The four-story building, which is expected to be completed in a year, is a green building, certified by LEED, with a rain water reservoir, energy efficient lighting, air conditioning and heating. The neighborhood association was also pleased that beautiful old trees on the site have been preserved.

Private donors have funded two-thirds of the cost of the \$15 million facility, and donations are especially needed, and would be appreciated, to fund the remaining balance.

The building was originally built in 1947 as a school for children with cerebral palsy and eventually became United Cerebral Palsy serving children and adults with all disabilities. The building had classrooms and therapy rooms, some decorated with popular children's animated characters like Pluto, a cafeteria and even a swimming pool.

After the school closed in 1998, the building sat abandoned for a few years. In 2000, Theatre New West under the direction of Joe Watts, began staging productions of mostly gay-themed plays, including their most successful production – "The Most Fabulous Story Ever Told." In the early 2000's, the upstairs auditorium became Sonoma Restaurant and later 1415 Bar and Grill. After the restaurant closed, the upstairs auditorium and large deck became Club 1415, a Montrose dance club.

~ *New Clinic* continued on Page 5

## 13 arrested at White House in 'Don't Ask' protest

~ by Chris Johnson  
The Washington Blade

Thirteen activists were arrested Monday afternoon for chaining themselves to the White House gates in protest over "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" and what they perceived as President Obama's lack of action in stopping the discharges of gay, lesbian and bisexual members of the U.S. armed forces.

The protesters were affiliated with GetEQUAL, a group that's organized acts of civil disobedience throughout the country over LGBT issues. Among the protesters were Lt. Dan Choi, a gay Iraq war veteran who was discharged under "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" and Robin McGehee, co-founder and director of GetEQUAL.

In a statement, GetEQUAL touted how three generations of LGBT activists were arrested as a result of the action. Others who were arrested include former U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Justin Elzie, who's gay and the first Marine discharged under "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" in 1993, as well as Michael Bedwell, a long-time advocate of LGBT rights and open service in the U.S. military.

~ See *Protest* on Page 5

## He's Back!

Henry McClurg has returned to the Montrose GEM as Associate Publisher/Advertising Sales Director. You will see in his announcement on page 8, that he was the founder of the Montrose GEM. He brings a wealth of Houston publishing knowledge and experience with him.

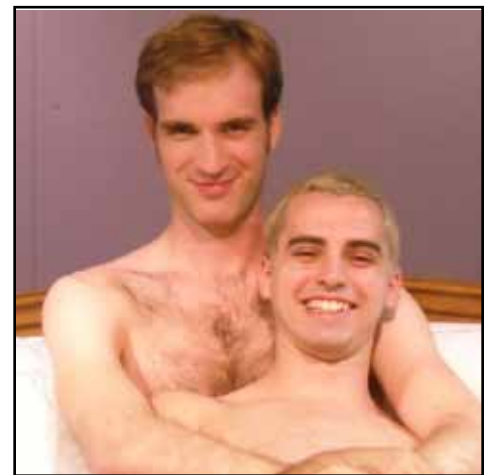
McClurg continues his popular "Mayor of Montrose" column in these pages (he's not really the mayor). He is a resident of the Montrose, where he knows his way around and reports on the doings of those he encounters.

He can help you with your advertising needs, including designing the ads for you. So just give him a call or you can call the office. Our current advertising rates and our production schedule appear on Page 3.

We are glad to have Henry back home.



RMMC welcomes Rev. Michael Diaz as their new Minister of Connections. See Page 5



See why *The Little Dog Laughed*, now at Theatre LaB Houston. Maybe because these two guys are nude onstage? See Bill O'Rourke's review on Page 10.



Tommy Tune, celebrates fifty years in the business. The very tall and handsome dancer is a multiple Tony Award winner. See more on this Houston native on Page 8.



See Page 10 for the review of *The Baby Thief*, about the shady doings of the woman that ran the agency where Joan Crawford adopted her children.



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## BEELINES

by Deborah Moncrief Bell



Time to give thanks, count your blessings, help the less fortunate, and eat a lot of food. The winter holiday season is upon us. It is a cold evening with the promise of a few months of weather that is sure to be below 85 degrees on a number of days.

Right there is something to be thankful for after a particularly brutal Summer. Then again one of the things I am thankful for is that Houston is spared severe winters. I hate being cold. Besides, the sun is bright during the summer and winter does tend to bring darker says. I am one of those folks who gets SAD, Seasonal Affective Disorder, I think it is called. Lack of sun puts me in a bad mood.

Still, I think the changing of the seasons may well be nature's way to adjust our emotions. We need time out to reflect and to appreciate what we have. I say that as a person who does not have a lot of material things. I realize, however, that a lot more people in the world are not as fortunate as I.

The people of Haiti come to mind. They may never recover from the massive earthquake that destroyed much of their country in January 2010, leaving 1.3 million people homeless. They avoided having too much trouble when Hurricane Tomas skirted the island nation rather than making a direct hit. However, the rains and flooding that took place did worsen the beginning of a Cholera epidemic. Over 200,000 people could become ill the Pan American Health Organization estimates, with over 16,800 already reported. A big problem is that there is a lack of clean water. The contaminated water allows the disease to spread.

So I for one am thankful for clean drinking water. A recent report claims that Houston water may contain a higher radiation level than may be safe. Water that comes from ground-water sources has a higher than acceptable radiation level. Now, I don't care for the way Houston water tastes, so I take empty containers to those little water stations that look like Dutch windmills. The system takes municipal supplied water, processes it through a reverse osmosis that takes out a lot of the "nasties" that may exist in it, and makes it taste much better. I don't think it can take out radiation however. So maybe we don't have clean water, but we are aware of it and it will be worked on and hopefully we all will not start glowing in the dark or

develop cancers and other health problems. There is no safe amount of alpha radiation even if the radiation is below that federal legal limit. It is highly energized and attacks DNA. Now that I think about it, I am thankful that I am not in Haiti with the problems that exist there, but I am not happy about this radiated water.

How thankful we all must be that the Houston/Galveston area (as well as the rest of the United States) did not suffer a major storm during this hurricane season. Good grief, many of the people we know are still in recovery from that horrid trio, Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Ike. I was only inconvenienced by these storms compared to thousands of people even if, indirectly, they were a source of major upheaval in my life. So, I am thankful about that.

What I, and I imagine most people are thankful for are friends. True friends are a lifeline and a blessing. We enjoy the good times with them and we help one another through the bad.

I am glad that when my friend Jack became very ill several months ago, that his best friend was there to help him get through the difficult time. Ed was a man large in size and in spirit. He was the source of many a good laugh, often turning a routine mail-out into a party, and he was the life of the party. He was a community activist devoting countless hours as a volunteer. I am thankful that I knew this lovely man. You see, after being there for our mutual friend, Ed left us on November 11th. There is a message here because some people are just gone all too soon.

This time of year, starting with the Day of the Dead events at the beginning of the month and continuing with the Transgender Day of Remembrance on Nov. 20, and World AIDS Day on Dec. 1, it is a time to remember the folks gone from us. It is also a time to gather with loved ones and make good memories. Some of us have family we can still be with, and some of us gather with our families of choice. There are many ways to get through holidays which can be tough. If you have any problems we have community organizations that will assist you. The Montrose Counseling Center has many resources for people who may be suffering from depression or trying to recover from alcohol or drug use.

I am very thankful for the folks who contribute to this publication. I am also thankful for our big, loud, sometimes difficult, and totally fabulous Houston Queer community.

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

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151*	02/04	01/28
152	02/18	02/11
153	03/10	03/04
154	03/24	03/18
155	04/08	04/01
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157	05/13	05/06
158	05/27	05/20
159*	06/10	06/03
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## COMMUNITY NEWS &amp; RESOURCES



### Mayor Parker makes historic appointment

Houston Mayor Annise Parker has appointed transgender law icon Phyllis Randolph Frye to municipal court judge Wednesday. Frye is to be congratulated Frye on her historic achievement. Frye is the first transgender judge in Texas.

"Phyllis Frye is a true icon in our civil rights movement," said Kris Banks, President of Houston's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Caucus. "She is an internationally recognized pioneer, and the Mayor is to be congratulated for her choice."

Frye, of the law firm Frye and Associates, led the fight against Houston's anti-cross-dressing law in 1980. In 1991, she founded the Transgender Law Conference. She and her firm are currently representing Nikki Araguz, a transgender woman in Wharton, in her fight to enforce the law and ensure her marriage to her late husband is recognized.

The Mayor also appointed Charles Spain, an openly gay attorney and chair of the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identification Issues of the State Bar, as associate municipal court judge, and Josh Brockman, an openly gay attorney, as hearings officer.

### Houston GLBT Community Center

**Saturday, December 4. The Center presents First Saturday Queer Bingo at One's A Meal (812 Westheimer). 4 p.m.**

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

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

Fort Bend LGBT Political Caucus:  
[FBLGBT\\_Political\\_caucus@yahoo.com](mailto:FBLGBT_Political_caucus@yahoo.com)

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[HelpLine@pflaghouston.org](mailto:HelpLine@pflaghouston.org)

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

The Lesbian Health Initiative (LHI) [http://www.lhihouston.org/](http://www.lhihouston.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  
[www.nwcorner.org](http://www.nwcorner.org)

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

AIDS Foundation Houston  
[www.AFHouston.org](http://www.AFHouston.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)

UH LGBT Resource Center  
[www.uh.edu/lgbtrc](http://www.uh.edu/lgbtrc)

[www.Do713.com](http://www.Do713.com) (Community Calendar)

[www.visithoustontexas.com/mygayhouston/](http://www.visithoustontexas.com/mygayhouston/)

Houston:Area Rainbow Collective History  
<http://houstonarch.pbworks.com/>

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

Gulf Coast Archive & Museum of GLBT History, Inc.

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

If you know of another group that should be added, please let us know at [montrosegem@yahoo.com](mailto:montrosegem@yahoo.com)



## 14 Pews

### The Asher Brown Memorial Award

14 Pews is proud to present the Asher Brown Memorial Award of \$500 at the "It Gets Better" Film Festival. To be eligible one must be either a lesbian, gay, bisexual, and or transgender HISD student who has excelled in one of the seven areas; social activism, academics, the arts, sports, mentorship, leadership and or entrepreneurship. The student must SELF-NOMINATE themselves by writing a 2-5 page, double-spaced essay on how they have excelled in one of the seven areas and why they should be given the Asher Brown Memorial Award. All essays must be turned in by 11/22/10 at 5PM. The essays will be read by our Selection Committee, who will select five students for a 10 minute phone interview. All phone interviews will be conducted between the dates of 11/23 - 11/27. After the phone interviews one student will be chosen. The Asher Brown Memorial Award winner will be announced at the Gay Teen Awards Ceremony, which will be held at 5PM on 11/28. At that time a check in the amount of \$500 will be given to the student. Admission is free to the Gay Teen Awards Ceremony.

Please send essays to: [info@14pews.com](mailto:info@14pews.com)

When you submit your essay you will be given a written confirmation that your essay was received within 24 hours.

If you have any questions please feel free to call us at 14 Pews. Best of luck!

Cressandra Thibodeaux  
Executive Director of 14 Pews

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### Bistro Valmont to open at former Muffinman location

The "after hours" restaurant, The Muffinman, has closed permanently. A new restaurant is moving into the location Muffinman once called home. Muffinman owner Jason Perry will open a new restaurant, "Bistro Valmont." at 2310 Converse. The location is one block from popular Montrose area bars such as TC's, South Beach, JR's, etc. The large two-story space (formerly a Victorian home), is adorned with french empire chandeliers, tin ceilings, wood floors, and art that makes it a visually stunning restaurant.

Muffinman was a controversial restaurant that drew criticism from its inception when it posted a large billboard in front of the restaurant announcing its opinion that a "four inch muffin is better than an eight inch cock." The restaurant served penis shaped muffins at special events. It was the target of complaints by neighbors. It was closed by the City of Houston due to problems with inadequate parking

## Rev. Michael Diaz joins RMMC as Minister of Connections

Resurrection MCC has announced that Rev. Michael Diaz will be their new Director of Connections. He'll start these duties on December 10, 2010.

A native Houstonian, he graduated from MacArthur High School. He is currently pursuing a Doctor of Ministry degree with his focus being on developing Biblical reading strategies for queer Latinos. He received the 2007 J. Norman Hall Prize for his achievements in peace and justice work.

He returns to Houston from Fort Lauderdale, FL, where for the past three years, he has been ministering at the Sunshine Cathedral MCC, where he began as an intern. After ordination in 2008, Diaz continued as an Assistant to the Senior Pastor, and the Director of Religious Education and Volunteer Ministries. His prior work experience includes working with youth, guest lecturing, music ministry, devotional writing, hospital chaplaincy, and labor and community organizing.

Diaz earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in New Testament Studies from Oral Roberts University. Three years later, he received a Master of Divinity degree from Episcopal Divinity School (EDS) in Cambridge, MA.

"I have a passion for developing lay leadership in the church and finding new ways to include people from multicultural backgrounds," Diaz expressed.

### ~ *New Clinic* from Page 1

Legacy is preserving three magnificent oak trees that will remain untouched during the building process.

The trees symbolize what Legacy Community Health Services is all about. Legacy started as a tiny seed and began to grow many different directions with many unique branches. It continues to grow but is strongly held together with deep roots in the community.

As Alexander Smith once said "A man doesn't plant a tree for himself. He plants it for posterity."

LCCHS hopes to "Build a Legacy that will benefit many generations to come with this new facility", as expressed on the blog: <http://buildingourlegacy.blogspot.com>.

There you can see a color rendering of the building and follow the progress, of the construction from the ground up.

## Day of Remembrance

by Lou Weaver

The Transgender Day of Remembrance is a world-wide event created to show honor and respect to those who have been murdered in the past year just for being who they are. This event is a somber reminder that no one, regardless of gender or orientation, is safe from assault.

The event is held in November for a variety of reasons. In the Latin world, November is the time for commemorating the Dead, the Sun is in Scorpio, our thoughts turn inward. Unfortunately, we also have gruesome reasons for choosing November. Rita Hester was killed on 28 November 1998, and a candlelight vigil was held in San Francisco in her honor. Her murder has still not been solved.

Most hate crimes go unsolved due to a variety of reasons: the police ignore them, the media does a poor job of reporting them with the respect they deserve; even the community itself turns an indifferent face to these crimes. It is for this reason that we need to remind everyone that hatred does not discriminate. Our sons, daughters, parents, lovers, friends, and yes, even our "straight" friends have been murdered. Let us not forget that Jan Matarrase, a straight woman, was attacked in front of her husband for resembling a gay man. The attackers stopped only after she exposed her breasts.

We observe the Transgender Day of Remembrance yearly for many reasons. We have to draw awareness of hate crimes against transgender people in a time when yellow journalism sees itself in the role of entertaining a gullible public, and when mainstream journalism has mangled their duty to let facts be submitted to a candid world."

We mourn and honor our brothers and sisters who might otherwise be forgotten. We express love and respect for our people in the face of national indifference and hatred, and we give our allies a chance to step forward with us and denounce these terrorists and perpetrators of hate crimes.

For more information, visit [HTUC.org](http://HTUC.org)

When: Nov 20, 2010 7:00 pm  
Where: AD Bruce Religion Center, UH Main campus  
<http://campusmap.uh.edu/cgi-bin/campusmap>

Wine, water, and hors d'oeuvres will be served.



Ten of the protesters at the White House, including fourth from left, Lt. Dan Choi who has been a leader in the effort to end the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy that prevents LGBT servicemembers from serving openly. ~ Photo by Michael Key

### ~ *Protest* from Page 1

The protesters superglued their handcuff locks, and, despite repeated warnings from U.S. Park Police, didn't remove themselves from the White House fence. As police forcibly removed the activists, they dragged their feet as they were hauled into a paddy wagon. It took five police officers to remove Choi from the fence, hand-cuff him and drag him to the van.

After their arrest, the protesters were taken to Anacostia Park Station. The charges and penalties they're facing as a result of their arrest weren't immediately known.

As the protesters were chained to the White House fence, Choi called on President Obama to act on his promise to end "Don't Ask, Don't Tell."

"After all his rhetoric, I think we must conclude that there is truth to the knowledge in homophobia of both sorts: there is a loud homophobia of those with platforms and there is a silent homophobia for those who purport to be our friends and do nothing," Choi said. "Loud homophobia and silent homophobia have the same result. They must be combated and this is what we intend to do today."

While the protesters were chained to the White House fence, they chanted the often-used GetEQUAL refrain of "I am ... somebody ... and I deserve ... full equality." The protesters also added a new refrain, "Barack Obama ... Silent Homophobia!"

Army Capt. Jim Pietrangelo II, who previously was arrested for chaining himself to the White House, led the chants of the protesters with a bullhorn from Lafayette Park.

"Why are these courageous heroes having to be arrested now?" he shouted. "Mr. President, could you follow the lead of these brave Americans and stop 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell'?"

Pietrangelo called on Obama to issue an executive order to stop the discharges under the military's gay ban.

In statement, Shin Inouye, a White House spokesperson, responded to the protest and said Obama is committed to legislative repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell."

"As we have said repeatedly, the president remains committed to a legislative repeal of 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell,'" Inouye said. "The White House continues to work with Congress towards achieving that comprehensive and lasting solution."

Autumn Sandeen, a transgender activist and Navy veteran who was among the 13 people arrested, told the Blade prior to the protest that she participated to bring more attention to the issue of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" and to show transgender solidarity with gay, lesbian and bisexual Americans.

"Repealing 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' will not affect transgender people one bit," she said. "Gay, lesbian and bisexual people will be able to serve openly, but transgender people will not. But I'm part of a broader community: the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community."

Sandeen said putting pressure on the White House could push President Obama to move forward with advancing an end to "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." She recalled similar protests in the spring prompted the administration to endorse a repeal compromise passed by the U.S. House.

"What we hope to do is put pressure on the White House and the president, President Obama, to fulfill the promise to actually put pressure on the Senate to repeal 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell,'" she said.



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**Monday, December 20, 2010 at 7:30PM**

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A contemporary gay re-telling of the Dickens classic that delves into the downward spiral of Ben Scrooge and Jake Marley, who were partners in life as well as their interior design business. With Marilyn Monroe as the Ghost of Christmas Past, and Bob Cratchit's partner Tim living with HIV, there are twists aplenty. And yet, this honest and moving adaptation remains surprisingly faithful to the spirit of the original with its sense of wonder and Christmas spirit. Recommended PG13. Adult language and content.

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As many as 1,000 guests attended Kindred Spirits Foundation's annual dance held August 28, 2010 at SPJST Ballroom in The Heights. This year's event celebrated the 30th anniversary of the opening of Kindred Spirits, a 1980s-era nightclub "for women and their friends", raising the total amount of funds donated since 2001 to Kindred Spirits Foundation's beneficiaries to more than \$150,000.

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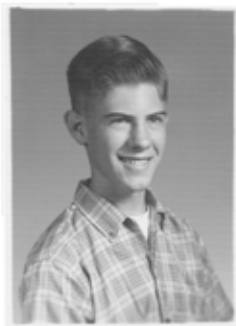
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## Recognize Me?



I used to own this newspaper. In fact I started it about seven years ago. But it wasn't a newspaper then. I started what I thought was going to be a "Twit"-type magazine. Well, it ended up being what you're holding in your hands. The Montrose GEM.

I've always capitalized GEM even when I worked for the past many months at the other newspaper, the Montrose Star. That's because GEM originally stood for Gay Entertainment Magazine.

Well, I'm Henry McClurg, and that's really me up there. You didn't know I was ever a chicken. Well, my move to the GEM is like a baseball player getting traded to another team. But I'm back home.

Starting with the next issue you will see my efforts appear here. I'll be kind of like the "associate publisher," whatever that means. I'm the old guy they hide in the back office? No, my main job here at the GEM is to be Advertising Director. But I will also be a "General Everything."

You can contact me anytime at my personal number, 713-529-5700. Or Email to gem2henry@yahoo.com. I'm here to promote your projects and businesses, as I have been doing in Houston since 1973. And I'll also be writing my column, Mayor of Montrose, in this newspaper.

I look forward to serving you on the pages of the Montrose GEM as we add more pages with new features, production values and, of course, advertising support. I'm looking forward to it.

### Houstonian Tommy Tune celebrates 50 years in the Biz

Known as one of the most prolific director/choreographers of the twentieth century, Tommy Tune has enchanted audiences over the past 50 years with his charisma, vision, and innovation.

A native Texan, Mr. Tune began his career as a dancer in the Broadway shows *Baker Street*, *A Joyful Noise* and *How Now Dow Jones*. He would soon step out of the chorus and into a principal role in the Broadway musical *Seesaw*, which won him his first Tony Award for Best Featured Actor in a Musical. His first Broadway directing and choreography credits were for the original production of *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. Tune has been honored with nine Tony Awards celebrating him as a performer, choreographer and director (Best Actor in a Musical for *My One and Only*, Best Featured Actor in a Musical for *Seesaw*, Best Choreography for *A Day in Hollywood/A Night in the Ukraine*, *My One and Only*, *Grand Hotel* and *The Will Rogers Follies*, and Best Direction of a Musical for *Nine*, *Grand Hotel* and *The Will Rogers Follies*).

In addition, Tune has been awarded eight Drama Desk Awards, three Astaire Awards and the Society of Directors and Choreographers' George Abbott Award

for Lifetime Achievement. Film credits include *Hello Dolly*, *The Boyfriend*, *Mimi Bluette... fiore del mio giardino*, and in 1999, he made his Las Vegas debut as the star of *EFX* at the MGM Grand Hotel. Tune is the recipient of The National Medal of Arts, the highest honor for artistic achievement given by the President of the United States, and he has been honored with his own star on the legendary Hollywood Walk of Fame.

In 2009, Mr. Tune was designated as a Living Landmark by the New York Landmarks Conservancy, and this year Mr. Tune marks his 50th year in show business with his latest work, *Steps In Time, A Broadway Biography in Song and Dance*. In his spare time, Mr. Tune enjoys painting in his Manhattan Tower studio.

In Tune's 1997 memoir *Footnotes*, he writes about what drives him as a performer, choreographer and director, offers stories about being openly gay in the world of theatre, his partners David Wolfe and Michael Stuart, and meeting and working with his many idols.

The Tommy Tune Awards, presented annually by Theatre Under The Stars (TUTS) honor excellence in high school musical theatre in Houston.

Tommy Tune attended Lamar High-School and Bering Memorial Methodist Church.

### History at a Glance

by Craig Farrell

With the recent announcement that the building at 3400 Montrose is closing, the Gulf Coast Archive and Museum is taking a trip down memory lane.

The Place: Cody's - Rooftop Jazz Bar and Grill

The Date: The 1980's

The Event: Saturday night jazz with Dave Catney

Dave Catney (1961 – 1994) was a Houston based jazz musician. One of the most gifted pianists around, Dave was a favorite at Cody's. On a typical Saturday night the rooftop jazz bar was packed. Homeowners in the area talk of cars parked along the streets for several blocks. Patrons would find themselves listening to great live jazz with the Houston skyline as the back drop.

Dave Catney began playing piano by ear at the age of five. In school he studied clarinet, tuba, electric bass, and piano. After graduating from high school he majored in music at the University of North Texas. He later studied piano privately in New York with Richie Beirach, Joanne Barackeen and Hal Galper. Catney also wrote music and several of his original compositions made their way to such films as *And the Band Played On*, as well as television.

3400 Montrose has ten stories. The top floor penthouse featured 3 outdoor terraces providing 360 degree views of Houston. Prior to becoming Cody's the rooftop bar was called The Palace. Many people remember the elevator ride to the top as part of the adventure. One too many people and the elevator would "sink" a couple of inches. There were elevator attendants. Their job was to make sure the "one too many" took the next ride.

If you had out of town guests, Cody's was the place to take them. You could finish the work day and relax and have a drink. The crowd was mixed. All were welcomed. If you planned ahead by making reservations, you could create a 4th of July party that would never be forgotten! The fireworks were spectacular. No matter where the fireworks were in Houston, the rooftop provided the best view anywhere around.

Patrons describe one of their favorite pastimes as sitting on the Cody's deck and counting building cranes, affectionately naming the cranes as "Houston's state bird".

"Dave Catney was playing the night I met my husband at Cody's," says Kathy McFee. Remembering that, "We both had heard about this great jazz piano



Popular jazz pianist Dave Catney played to packed houses at Cody's in the 1980's

player, and this incredible rooftop bar, so we went."

"I remember once when we (Dave Catney and I) were playing up at Cody's; ...We were playing a ballad... the tune was just nice and subtle. At the time Cody's was the best gig in town, and we ended up working there for like a year and a half," said Dwight Sills.

"Dave Catney was one of the most gifted pianists in jazz history. Along with superb compositions and recordings, Dave left an indelible mark upon the Houston jazz scene... where one could regularly hear some of the greatest jazz talent on the planet. Well on his way to becoming one of the household names in jazz piano, Dave negotiated a diagnosis of AIDS with strength, dignity and grace, remaining intensely vital and productive until his death in 1994 at the age of 33. His unique achievements and generous spirit continue to inspire a large number of friends, musicians and fans" -- Tim Clausen.

The future of the building at 3400 Montrose Blvd is unsure, at this point it is believed it is slated for demolition. It must be torn down because of neglect and the presence of asbestos. The rooftop jazz club is gone forever. But through the music of Dave Catney, the memories will live on. To say that Cody's holds sentimental value would be an understatement.

Scott Gertner's Sky Bar was the last incarnation of the club. The announcement that the club was closing was the first indication that marked the coming demise of the building. The Houston GLBT Community Center and other tenants were told to vacate in October. The center is now located in the MECA Building at 1900 Kane St. The building has housed other service organizations in past years, including the People with AIDS Coalition and community businesses. What will appear at the 3400 Montrose location in the future? Stay tuned as we continue to share news of the ever changing Montrose, with a look back at the history and a glance to the future.



## Cooking Capers with Dr. Dave

Well ladies and gentlemen, I hope you had a fun Halloween. Gosh, it certainly was "festive" here on the island. I saw everything from cowboys wearing silk jackets and hats complete with matching jockstraps, to my costume. I went as Broom Hilda. Can you imagine a guy walking up to me, looking at me all decked out, and saying, "Dr. Dave, I thought you said you were dressing up for Halloween"! Needless to say, Broom Hilda was not amused. So with those visions in mind, let me reach into my bag of treats and share some recipes with you nice people.

### APPETIZER

#### Chicken, Asparagus and Shiitake Wraps

2 small garlic cloves, minced  
1 teaspoon grated fresh ginger  
2 tablespoons sesame paste  
2 teaspoons soy sauce  
1 teaspoon fresh lemon juice  
1 inch piece of ginger, cut into 1/4th inch slices  
16 asparagus spears, trimmed  
1 whole skinless, boneless chicken breast (about 12 ounces)  
2 teaspoons vegetable oil  
48 medium shiitake mushrooms, stems discarded  
Salt and freshly ground pepper  
Eight eight-inch round rice paper wrappers (available in Asian markets)  
1 bunch of chives

In a small bowl, combine the garlic, grated ginger and sesame paste. Stir in the soy sauce, lemon juice and 3 tablespoons of warm water. Set aside.

Bring a medium saucepan filled 1/2 full of water to a boil and add the ginger slices. Add the asparagus at the same time and cook until tender, about 4 minutes. Remove the asparagus and put in a colander which is under cold running water; let the asparagus cool to touch. Place the chicken in the same pot with the ginger slices and simmer over low heat until white throughout (about ten minutes). Remove to a plate and cool. Cut the chicken into 1/4th [delete] inch strips separating bundles into equal piles.[no clue what this last phrase means--what bundles?]

In a large skillet, heat the vegetable oil over high heat. Add the shiitake mushrooms and cook for 1 minute. Spread the mushrooms out into an even layer and reduce the heat to low. Cover and cook about 4 minutes until the mushrooms are tender. Season with salt and pepper and cut them in half.

Lay 4 of the rice paper wrappers on a work surface, and use a pastry brush to brush the sides of each wrapper with water. Let the papers absorb the water for about 2 minutes.

Lay 2 asparagus spears across the lower third of the 4 moistened rice paper wrappers, and arrange a portion of chicken and mushroom halves evenly along side. Top with 4 chives, one per wrap. Pull the bottom flap of the rice paper up and over the filling. Tightly roll up each of the wraps, bringing them in the sides as you go. The rice paper should adhere to itself once rolled up. Repeat with the remaining 4 wrappers and fillings. To serve, cut each wrap in half crosswise and arrange on a platter.

### SOUP

#### Onion, Potato, and Roquefort Soup

3 tablespoons unsalted butter  
2 medium onions, thinly sliced  
1/2 teaspoon minced garlic  
3 medium all-purpose potatoes peeled and cut into 1 inch chunks  
2 cups chicken broth (canned works just fine)  
1 cup light cream  
1/3 cup heavy cream  
3 1/2 ounces Roquefort cheese, crumbled  
Salt and freshly ground pepper

In a large, heavy nonreactive saucepan, melt the butter over moderately high heat. Add the onions and garlic and cook until the onions are soft but not brown. Add the potatoes stirring to coat with the butter and cook for 5 minutes.

Add 2 cups chicken broth and bring to a boil. Reduce the heat to medium low, cover and simmer until the potatoes are tender, about 30 minutes. Let cool.

Add the light and heavy creams and gently re-heat the soup. Do not let boil. Stir in 1/2 cup Roquefort cheese. Transfer the soup to a blender and puree in batches until smooth. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Serve hot or cold. Garnish with remaining crumbles of Roquefort cheese.

#### Galveston Island Shrimp Etouffee

1 stick (4 ounces) unsalted butter  
2 medium onions, chopped  
1 celery rib, finely chopped  
3 garlic cloves, minced  
1 1/2 teaspoons minced jalapeno pepper  
2 tablespoons all-purpose flour  
1 14 ounce can of Italian peeled tomatoes, chopped, juices reserved  
1 tablespoon sweet paprika  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1/2 teaspoon freshly ground pepper  
Pinch of cayenne pepper  
2 pounds medium shrimp, shelled and deveined  
4 scallions, chopped  
1/2 cup chopped parsley  
Cooked white rice for serving

In a heavy nonreactive 14-inch skillet, melt the butter. Add the onions and celery and cook over medium heat until onion is translucent, about 5 minutes. Add the garlic and jalapeno and cook for 2 minutes. Add the flour and cook, stirring constantly for 5 minutes.

Stir in the tomatoes and their juice, the paprika, salt, black pepper and cayenne. Bring to a simmer, cover and cook for 5 minutes. Add the shrimp and stir until they curl and turn pink, about 2 to 3 minutes. Stir in the scallions and parsley and serve over rice.

I hope you enjoy these dishes; they really are among some of my favorites. Come and visit us on the island. It's always full of surprises



**Ed Barnes**  
1944 ~ 2010

Ed was born May 14, 1944 in northeast Ohio. He grew up in Poland, OH, and attended Poland High School in the class of 1962.

In his early adulthood, he toured with a regional theater troupe in Ohio. He also accompanied the film and stage star Edward Everett Horton as a driver and assistant.

Most of his professional life was spent as a labor relations specialist with the Southern Pacific Railroad, working for them in San Francisco, Long Beach, Houston and a year's stay in Omaha.

While in San Francisco, he was one of the first chaplains on the AIDS ward at San Francisco General. He loved music and sang with the San Francisco Symphony Chorus.

After retirement, he returned to Houston to live. He volunteered with many organizations here, including Pride Houston and the HGLPC, but especially as a patient mentor at Thomas St. Clinic, and with the Bering Support Network.

He loved returning as often as possible to visit friends in San Francisco and Fire Island.

A celebration of Ed's life will be held at the Montrose Counseling Center, 401 Branard, 2nd Floor on Saturday, December 11 from 1 to 3pm.

### Marketplace Advertising

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## TWO ON THE AISLE

REVIEW BY BILL O'ROURKE



Bat the football down, it hits opposing helmet, goes right into arms of opposing receiver, loss of game. Pretty strange play, Texans! Well, so are the two plays I'm reviewing today.

*A Good Old Fashioned Redneck Country Christmas* (at Theatre Suburbia) is an allegory. That means it's a lot like *The Celestine Prophecy*. Characters are somewhat real. Three of them (one of them played by David Barron) are meant to remind you of the three stooges, at least at times. But what the characters are really, in this play by Kristine Bauske, is embodiments of parts of a philosophical essay.

Now, I know that a many of you are *Celestine* fans. I am myself. So, this play likely will appeal to you, although not most of you. And don't expect it to be a big laugh fest. However, for what it means to be, this is a very, very good production here, directed by Judy Reeves. She's assembled a good cast for this production, which includes: David Barron, Kimberly Jackson, Sam Martinez, Kristy Morris, Tony D'Armata, Amesti Reioux, Mike McDermott, James Plake, and Holly Harris.

It is Christmas Eve in the town of Christmas, where people have lost track of their faith. Relationships are falling apart. Suddenly, out of nowhere, a pregnant woman named Mary - oh, sorry, Mary Sue (Harris) - hits town, pregnant and alone. (No Joe/Joseph with her). There is no charity to take her in. No room. Don't worry. She finds shelter and gives birth to a boy.

Now, over to Theater LaB Houston for *The Little Dog Laughed*. There are some people who will want to see this show because it is so new and because it stars Mary Hooper (in the role that won a Tony award two years ago). There are some who will want to see this production because of the playwright is Douglas Carter Beane (*As Bees in Honey Drown; To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything! Julie Newmar*; and the book on which *Xanadu* was based). And of course there are those who won't want to miss it due to there being two other members of the cast, Nate Suurmeyer and Bryan Kaplun. The men are momentarily fully nude on stage, and it has been way too long since there has been much male nudity on Houston stages, eh?

Just don't go for a big laugh fest here, either. I'd read the plot synopsis and I'd been expecting a farce. Just my misread-

ing. Ah, well. Many of the lines in the second act are very witty indeed. And, Mary Hooper - well, need I say more?

This fine play is about the frustrations of people who are people-pleasers trying to establish relationships with each other but no one wants to admit to really wanting anything for themselves and everyone wants to be the fulfillment of another's wants.

It is almost painful to watch, but you can see them making progress.

This is the kind of a play that engages the audience intellectually but not emotionally. Though we become interested in the best happening for these characters (including the young woman played by Rebekah Stevens, rounding out the cast) we, well, I didn't really like any of them, even though they are all extremely well acted. The script simply wouldn't let me. For example, the good-looking young hustler who is interested in the handsome nearly established movie star? We see him very early on stealing things from people. And he doesn't do it in a funny, charming way. Nor does he really ever seem to regret it. That kind of thing.

However, there is an important school of playwrighting which really believes in that kind of thing. It was basically started by Bertholt Brecht, so it's called Brechtian. (Brecht was a German poet and playwright who developed "epic drama," a style that relies on the audience's reflective detachment rather than the production's atmosphere and action). There are a lot of people who like that kind of thing. And it can stimulate conversation, even if you're not sure you like it. And there's very little of it done in Houston. So, bravo to this very fine production and its director, Jimmy Phillips, for doing it so well in this Houston premiere.

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www.theaterlabhouston.com

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www.theatresuburbia.org/

The Alley Theatre features David Sedaris' *Santaland Diaries* with Todd Waite as Crumpet the elf on the Neuhaus stage. and "A Christmas Carol" on large stage.  
www.alleytheatre.org

Unhinged Productions *A Queer Carol* (see ad on Page 7)



## Nose in a Book

Review by Jone Devlin

### *The Baby Thief: The Untold Story of Georgia Tann, the Baby Seller Who Corrupted Adoption*

by Barbara Bisantz Raymond (De Capo Press)

Georgia Tann was an unusual woman for her times. She was openly gay, highly educated, and extremely ambitious. As a young woman growing up in Mississippi, Georgia wanted to pursue law, but was not allowed. So she went into a career considered "acceptable" for a woman -- social work.

It was while working in a children's center that Georgia would meet her life partner Ann Atwood Hollinsworth and embark on her life's mission; getting unwanted children into good families.

At first Georgia's motives were pure. There were many children who needed families, and adoption was not a widely considered option. Georgia's vision was to work to make adoption a desirable, acceptable option. The problems came about with her success.

Using a variety of marketing strategies, and with the help of corrupt government officials, Georgia quickly made her adoption service a for profit venture, catering to the elite all over the country, including well known movie stars.

One of the biggest elements of Georgia's success was that she could provide exactly the child a person wanted, right down to the hair color. The way she did this was by stealing children from those deemed less worthy (poor and often single women).

Georgia had "spotters" appointed throughout the county who would look for exactly the type of babies and young children she wanted. When a likely prospect was found, Georgia would either trick the family into surrendering the child, or simply kidnap them. Once in Georgia's clutches the child would be hidden and quickly adopted out. By the time the heartbroken parents realized what had happened and filed a complaint it was often too late.

Other children meanwhile, who weren't as desirable or who didn't work out for some reason (Georgia had a return policy) were simply left in squalor and neglect. So far reaching was this woman's influence that to this day survivors of Georgia Tann's adoption system are seeking to find out who they really were (to protect herself Georgia often falsified records and changed the children's

names, ages, and backgrounds) and where they came from.

So why did Georgia Tann do this? There are many reasons, but one of the main ones discussed in the book is simply to buy herself the ability to live openly with her female partner in a time and place where this was absolutely not tolerated. While this does not excuse her or in any way mitigate the damage she and her cohorts caused, it certainly provides an interesting thesis regarding the communal damage of GLBT oppression.

Was Georgia Tann evil? Many people, including this reviewer, think so. Would she have been as bitter, hard edged, insensitive and vicious had she been allowed to pursue her dreams of becoming a lawyer and living a quiet peaceful middle class life with her partner? No one will ever know.

In *Baby Thief*, Barbara Bisantz Raymond delineates in detail all of Georgia's crimes, along with heart wrenching interviews with the victims and their families. What Bisantz-Raymond also does, however, is look deep into Georgia's psyche, telling us who this person was, and trying to shed some light on how, and why, she did what she did. Bisantz Raymond also outlines how the effects of Georgia's adoption strategies are still felt in social work today.

An unpleasant but still compelling look at the dark side of gay history, *Baby Thief: The Untold Story of Georgia Tann, the Baby Seller Who Corrupted Adoption* by Barbara Bisantz Raymond is published by De Capo Press and is available wherever books are sold.

Reviewers Grade: ★★★★★ out of 5 stars



Georgia Tann (1891 - September 1950) operated the Tennessee Children's Home Society, an adoption agency in Memphis, Tennessee. Tann used the unlicensed home as a front for her black market baby adoption scheme from the 1920s until a state investigation closed the institution in 1950. Tann died of cancer before the investigation made its findings public.



**WORLD AIDS DAY HOUSTON • SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**THROUGHOUT NOVEMBER**  
 Bering Omega Community Services • World AIDS Day Yoga-thon  
 Various Dates/Locations • www.beringomega.org

**NOVEMBER 30**  
 HDHHS • WAD Open Forum & Luncheon • 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.  
 Kick off "Stopping AIDS is Everyone's Business" Campaign  
 Ensemble Theatre • 3535 Main Street • Houston  
 RSVP to Barry Barnes at 832.393.4702 or barry.barnes@houstontx.gov

**THROUGHOUT DECEMBER**  
 Montrose Counseling Center • Paper Chain of Remembrance  
 MCC Lobby • 401 Branard St., 2nd Floor • Houston • 713.529.0037  
 Houston GLBT Community Center • AIDS-themed Quilt by Mike Kelley  
 Center Gallery at the Dow School • 1900 Kane • Houston • 713.524.3818

**DECEMBER 1**  
 U of H Campus Recreation & Wellness Center • NAMES Project AIDS Quilts • 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
 Building 522 • 713.743.5151

FLAS, Inc. & The General Mexican Consulate • 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
 Lights of Hope & Celebration of Life Candlelight Vigil • 4507 San Jacinto • Houston • 713.772.2366

AIDS Foundation Houston • World AIDS Day Luncheon • 11 a.m.  
 Hilton Americas Houston • 1600 Lamar St. • Houston • 713.623.6796

HCHD • Memorial for World AIDS Day, "Stop AIDS Keep the Promise" 12 p.m. - 3 p.m.  
 Awareness Ceremony, Tree of Remembrance & Information Fair  
 Thomas Street Health Center • 2015 Thomas Street • Houston • 713.873.4026

World AIDS Day Citywide Candlelighting Observance • 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.  
 Tranquility Park • Downtown Houston • 832.393.4712

Houston GLBT Community Center & Theatre New West • *The Normal Heart* staged reading • 7:30 p.m.  
 S30 • Stages Repertory Theater • 3201 Allen Parkway • Houston • Reservations: 713.522.2204

Plymouth United Church, UCC • 7:30 p.m.  
 World AIDS Day Worship Service • 5927 Louetta Rd. • Spring • 281.251.8147

**DECEMBER 1 - 7**  
 Forest Park Westheimer Funeral Home • NAMES Project AIDS Quilts • 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
 World AIDS Day Quilt Exhibit • Main Lobby • 12800 Westheimer Rd. • Houston • 281.497.2330

**DECEMBER 4**  
 Bethel Church UCC • 6 p.m.  
 World AIDS Day Bilingual Service • 1107 Shepherd Dr. • Houston • 713.782.8948

Various Sponsors • *You Better Ask Somebody* • HIV in the African American Community • 8 p.m.  
 S20 • St. John's United Methodist Church • 2019 Crawford St. • Houston • 713.480.5869

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 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. • Thomas Street Health Center • 2015 Thomas Street • Houston • 713.873.4026  
 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. • Montrose Counseling Center • 401 Branard St., 2nd Floor • Houston • 713.529.0037  
 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. • Legacy Community Health Services at Lyons • 5602 Lyons • Houston • 713.671.3041  
 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. • Legacy Community Health Services • 215 Westheimer • Houston • 713.830.3000  
 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. • HACS • 2150 W. 18th St., Suite 300 • Houston • 713.426.0027



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

**World AIDS Day & December 1, 2010**

**AN EVENING FOR YOUTH: ONE NIGHT ONE CAUSE  
 THE TREVOR PROJECT FUNDRAISER "IT GETS BETTER"**

HOUSTON TX---"It does get better" proclaims Mayor Annise Parker, who will premiere her very own "It Gets Better" video at the Nov. 19th event. Mayor Parker welcomed The High School for Performing and Visual Arts (HSPVA) to City Hall on November 12 to film her very personal and sensitive "IT Gets Better" video which will be produced by HSPVA and aired on November 19th at the fundraiser. HSPVA will also shine this night as they premier their very own "It Gets Better" video project, interviews from Students, Parents, and Staff that will surely make your heart fall, as they tell of personal bullying stories.

Guest Speakers include: Legendry ABC News' Ed Brandon, Houston Fashion Diva Chloe Dao, The High School for Performing and Visual Arts principal Dr. Robert Allen, Gene Apodaca of ABC News, Tim Brookover, President of the Board of Directors of the GLBT Community Center, Emmy nominated PBS personality Ernie Manouse, Peter Messiah of HISD's Safe and Drug Free School's Program and Christian music group Jason and deMarco .

Special Guests include: The family of Houston teen Asher Brown, David and Amy Truong and Houston based multi Grammy winning band La Mafia's Oscar de la Rosa and Armando Lichtenberger.

The event will start promptly at 7:30PM with a viewing of the Academy Award winning short film **Trevor**.

Remember, we might not be able to stop bullies. But we can tell you that these LGBT youths lives will get better... and all those things that people think make them different... will become the things that everyone treasures the most about them.... "IT GETS BETTER"! Join us, and lets lead the way!

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# Coming to the BRB

*P W A Holiday Charities*  
Presents:  
**A Christmas Burlesque**  
*A Community Event*

Sunday  
December 12, 2010  
6 pm Social  
7 pm Burlesque time  
Brazos River Bottom

Emcee: An' Marie Gill  
Co-Emcees: Don Gill  
Fiona Dawson  
Regina Dane

Benefiting:  
The AIDS  
Trouble Fund  
Clients

Mr. & Ms. Gay Pride Houston 2010  
Eddie Taylor & Gay Nell Present:

**The Church  
Of The  
Neon Cactus  
Revival Show**

Open To All Performers

Sunday  
November 21, 2010  
7 PM  
BRB

Benefiting:  
TGRA  
GRA

Mr. & Ms. Gay Pride Houston 2010  
Eddie Taylor & Gay Nell  
Present:

**"A Good  
Old-Fashioned  
Southern Christmas"**

Friday  
December 10, 2010  
10:30 PM  
BRB

Open To All Performers

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RIVER BOTTOM**

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