

by an annual number of articles devoted to each.

I would suggest that you invest the three-dollar cover charge at one of the F.I. [female impersonator] functions in the purchase of a "fag mag" and stay home and entertain yourself and avoid further contact with the real world.

And by all means, refrain from reading a publication like TWT dedicated to entertaining, educating and informing, as you are obviously none of the above.

In closing, I have been told in several different ways by several different people—all unpolled—that the only thing regular about you is the amount of excrement that so many uninterested people have had to suffer through. It is the common consensus that the likes of you simply be flushed.

A Not So Regular Guy
Mr. Newman Braud
Respected, Admired to Many as
Naomi Sims

Praise for Caven Bars

Dear TWT:

Electly [on 3/8/90] my lover (Steve) and I elected to spend the evening of our thirteenth anniversary in Dallas at various Caven establishments as opposed to visiting some other city. We do live in Dallas, but over the years we have traveled to other cities or states to make our anniversaries more memorable and enjoyable.

This letter is to inform the aforementioned group of our appreciation of the warm reception we received at each Caven establishment we visited March 8. We would like to make special note of the Cave and its manager, Sam. He and his staff, including Denis, went out of their way to make our evening special and most memorable. We wanted to publicly state how very much we appreciated the special attention. We firmly believe how we were treated demonstrates Caven's respect for long-term relationships and our continual 13-year patronage of Caven establishments.

We feel Caven has done exceptionally well for our Dallas community. We realize there are other excellent establishments that provide different and desired atmospheres, but only will all these establishments working together to provide excellence can our city continue to grow

and be a leader to other cities and states.

Once again, our deep appreciation to Sam and all of the Caven staff for a most memorable evening!

Mike and Steve
Lewisville, TX

'Killer Transsexual' Headline

Dear TWT:

The front-page headline entitled "Killer Transsexual in Runoff for Harris County Chair" in the March 14, 1990 *Houston Chronicle* concerning Leslie Perez comes as close to "yellow journalism" as anything I've seen outside of the grocery store tabloids.

Sensationalizing Ms. Perez's past without offering pertinent facts or explanation once again proves that the homophobic media is willing to use distortion and exploitation to make a profit at our expense.

I appreciate the fact that THIS WEEK IN TEXAS, of all the media, was willing to take the time and space to allow all the facts to come out prior to the election. [See SPECIAL FEATURE on Perez in Vol. 16, No. 2] It seems that the "straight" media is not even interested in the facts after the fact, so to speak.

When a person has paid their debt to society, it should be considered paid in full, especially when that person makes every effort to turn over a new leaf and dedicate themselves to helping others. Ms. Perez has given untold hours of her time to various community activities including local charities, Gay/Lesbian Political Caucus, Pride Week, ACT-UP, the marches on Austin and Washington, and the Democratic Party.

I have witnessed her working for many causes with no regard to race, color, creed, sex or sexual orientation if they involve human rights and dignity.

Perez may have made a mistake many years ago at a time when a gay person stood even less of a chance for justice than they do now. She paid for it. Can any of us really understand what it is like to be forced to run away from an abusive home? Can we comprehend life on the streets?

Can we say what we might be driven to do under circumstances that are perceived as life-threatening? Let the past be forgotten and consider a person's present value and worth to the community.

Because of my job I must request that my name be withheld from this letter. This is one reason that I am thankful that Leslie Perez is out there fighting for us and is running for Chair of the Harris County Democratic Party. I urge you to help fight unjust bigotry and rampant homophobia by voting for Ms. Perez.

B.L.S.
Houston, TX

When the Perez story first began to surface, TWT NEWS asked Perez to tell the story in her own words to set the record straight in our March 2 edition. Thank you for noting that TWT NEWS was first to act as responsible journalists in this sensitive story. Leslie Perez will be in a runoff on April 10 with Ken Bentsen for Harris County Democratic Party Chair.—Editor

The Great White Wash

Dear TWT:

I would like to share an action taken by a business owner of the Montrose community in Houston. John Buschlen is the owner of TNT Shirts, 2400 Taft, and for many years he has represented shirt designs from the artist Bill Angert. On the wall behind the cash register, one of Angert's paintings of downtown Houston, oil on canvas, has been showing; a painting that was given as a gift to John Buschlen by Mr. Angert.

Recently, Buschlen painted a whitewash over the painting, covering the complete piece. In addition to this, he left the painting, now the white canvas, on the wall.

This action was insensitive towards the artist and shows lack of respect towards the artistic community, in that it was offensive towards an artist's work. I find the action insulting and I think it denotes lack of support, appreciation and respect towards art. I encourage the artist and artist-supportive community of Houston to not patronize a business with such an attitude.

Peter Barbosa
Houston, TX

What's happened? We asked Buschlen to respond. See below.—Editor

Dear TWT:

Thank you for the opportunity to reply to the above letter, and to fill in for the public, a few of the facts which seem to

have been far too difficult or inconvenient for Mr. Angert to remember.

When Mr. Angert moved from the downtown warehouse (approximately five years ago), he had no room for two large canvases.

At this time I was redoing the interior of the store and it was mutually agreed that the large Transco painting be hung (stored) behind the register.

The canvas in question was left in the warehouse, in the care of friends. Three years later I acquired the current print shop and, as it gave us much needed additional space, it was suggested that Mr. Angert retrieve the other canvas and store it here as well. Upon contacting the residents, no canvas was to be found.

This came as no great surprise, as this was (to my knowledge) the first time in three years that Mr. Angert had shown any interest in who had it, or for that matter even in recovering it. In his typical style, he just got fed up, and gave up, deciding it wasn't worth his time to even look into the few leads we had found. It was at this point that I asked him if I found it, could I have it. His reply being, "no problem," as he was "over it."

After a number of phone calls and follow-ups, I traced the canvas to a gas station on the edge of the Fourth Ward, where it was being used to deflect runoff water in an outside work area. After negotiating with the owners of the station, they agreed to let me have it. Some gift indeed. I recovered a canvas that Mr. Angert at the time didn't seem to even care about!

It hung in our print shop until one day this last November, when after some conflict, Mr. Angert, in a typical fit of rage, stormed into the store during business hours and demanded the Transco painting *immediately*, without so much as giving us the courtesy of forewarning us of his plans. He had decided to remove the painting and just leave a gaping hole affording full view of the back area.

Whereupon, at my insistence that something be done, at least temporarily, he produced a piece of filthy fabric for us to hang in its place. I found his intent with this action to be nothing short of malicious, and I had no other choice but to hang the other stained and unfinished-looking canvas in its place.

Currently we have been working on upgrading the look of the store, through both new merchandise and interior and