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Issue #050, January 2007



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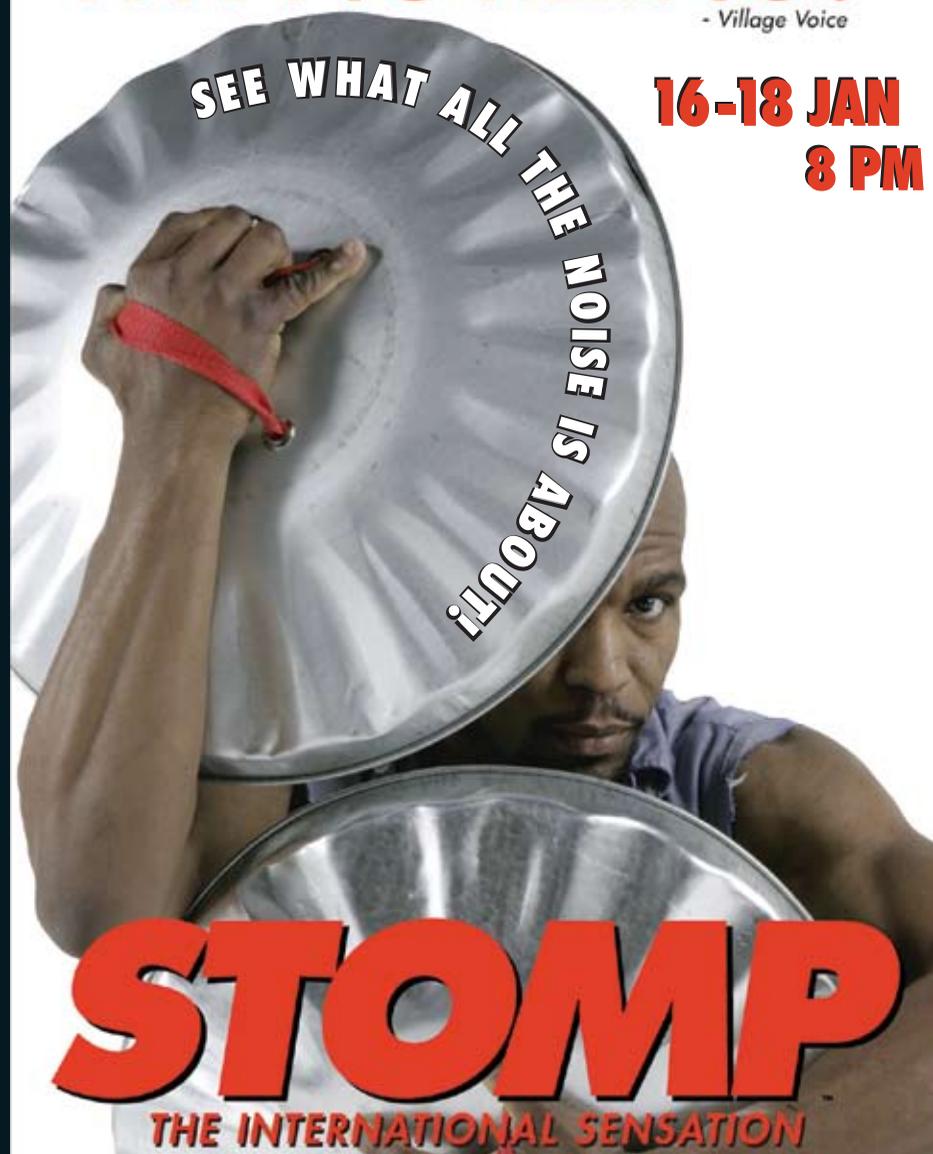



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 December 22, 2006

Got Broadband? See the entire issue on line at
www.ootcmag.com

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HOROSCOPE by Jacqueline

Happy New Year! The Tone for this month is a commitment to change. We begin with the full moon on the 3rd in a void of course between Cancer and Leo, bringing all to be torn between their social and home lives. Know that you can have both. Both open communication and knowing nothing is ever urgent will bring you to that balance. The new Moon on the 18th under a void of course between Capricorn and Aquarius allows all to see and move into the changes we know we must make for our long range plans without too much difficulty.

Aries March 22 – April 23 Your head turns toward work, but your heart is still on the social party right now. With Mars still in Sagittarius, follow your heart and enjoy the party. After the 16th when Mars goes into Capricorn, your actions will naturally turn toward work.

Taurus April 22 – May 23 Your head turns to a more serious tone this month and you will turn inward. This is a good time to make those foundational changes in your life, both mentally and physically. However, your loved ones will feel a little abandoned. Reassure them that it's not them and all will be well.

Gemini May 22 – June 23 Old friends in troubled situations will need your help the beginning of this month. You'll be able to help them quickly and they'll be grateful. However, after the 19th, turn toward yourself and long term goals. You'll find a new direction toward your enduring happiness.

Cancer June 22 – July 23 The first 2 weeks is a waiting game. Take this time to peruse an artistic endeavor that you've put off. However don't be too indulgent or you may find yourself with a few more pounds than you'd like. After the 19th when the moon goes into Aquarius your loyalty will be put to the test. Be sure to face the challenge head on.

Leo July 22 – August 23 Planning an escape this month? It's a great time to get away from it all. Be careful, don't impulse buy or you'll end up regretting it, especially when it comes to electronics. And those new friends you just met? Wait before offering your generosity to see if they're true.

Virgo August 22 – September 23 The beginning of the month brings you to over-analyze what's going on in your life and lead you to inaccurate decisions. Use this time to ask questions and go about your day-to-day routine. After the new moon on the 18th your choices will be clear. Then you can move forward again.

Libra September 22 – October 23 This is a social month for you! You'll find yourself wrapped up in

adventures with old and new friends. Limit your time and know the new friends will wait and truly cherish the adventures with the old. Home projects will be an effort. Remember, slow and steady wins the race. You'll eventually finish it.

Scorpio October 22 – November 23 This is a fine month to travel or get away because if you stay in your normal routine you'll have some heavy decisions to make. You'll have to walk gingerly around the politics that will be in play. Don't reveal your hand until you know everyone else's. Then is when you'll have made the right choice.

Sagittarius November 22 – December 23 This is another dynamic month for you! It gives you the power to be able to correct your mistakes with minimal effort and make changes for the betterment of your life. Much good comes to you this month, but allow others to return your generosity.

Capricorn December 22 – January 23 Happy Solar return! Stick to your guns this month because it'll be worth it! Especially if you are putting new boundaries to others and things from the past. You're the host with the most. Enjoy the lightheartedness that a good

Jacqueline
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gathering with old friends and loved ones can bring.

Aquarius January 22 – February 23 Love is in the air for you this month. Try something new. Maybe change your hair style or approach. It's a good time to try new things and see the reaction. Don't worry; there will be plenty to experiment with. This is also a good time to plan a future vacation. You'll find a new and exciting adventure when you get to take it.

Pisces February 22 – March 23 Unusual situations will be the theme for you as the month begins, so take nothing for granted. Take the time to explore all the options before coming to a decision. You're intuition needs physical proof to back up the feeling

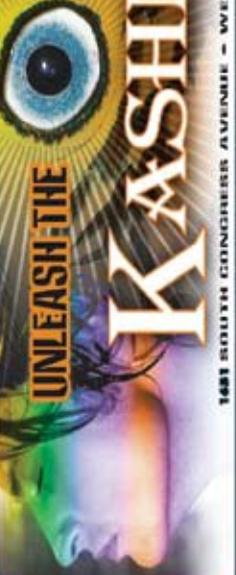
or you'll end up doing twice as much work as you needed to. ▼

For those who want to know: Capricorn's symbol is the mountain goat. There is a reason why; they are strong and tenacious. Its ruler is Saturn. Saturn is both our timekeeper and our teacher. Capricorn's element is Earth. During the time of the Sun in Capricorn all will be looking at strong, practical and foundational plans for their life. This is a good time to write down your thoughts for the future and pick one to work on. Slow and steady is how this energy works. Eventually you can accomplish all that you wrote.

KASHMIR

NEW YEAR'S EVE
DEC. 31ST

NEW YEAR'S EVE
DEC. 31ST



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Tea Time

with Miss T

My mean old editor has put me on a holiday diet, so I'll be short and sweet this month. We'll just throw out a few items you should know about. First of all, do you know about those twins, former Jehovah Witnesses, with a program on *Logo*? If you don't you will – they've got a deal in the works with MTV and they're headlining at **Treasure Coast Pride Fest** in April. It's an exclusive performance in the area, so mark your calendar now: April 22, Port St. Lucie. You do know all about what's up with **Treasure Coast Pride**, right? I mean look right, dear



Rockers Joshua (left) and Jacob Miller

Did you know that **Festival World of Music's Illusions Cabaret** is a fabulous way to start your evening: dinner, a show and all done in time to go out to your favorite bar? Did you catch the show at **Next Act Theatre**? Had brunch at **Encore Café**? All in all **Festival World of Music** is a quadruple treat you should check out.

Did you know that **PFLAG Vero Beach** offers \$500 scholarships to GLBTI & supportive individuals for education (not just college, but trade schools too)? Give them a call at 772-778-9835 and request an application. Just another thing **PFLAG Vero Beach** does for our

community.

Did you know that the Queer Foundation Effective Writing and Scholarships Program is now offering three \$1,000 scholarships for queer US high school students? The theme for the 2007 high school English essay contest is **pink ink** ("We write not only about different things; we also write differently." – Brecht) Check out <http://home.comcast.net/~threepennynovel/queerfoundation> for full details.

Did you know about wpb slow pitch softball league? Games are at Howard Park in WPB and all skill levels are welcome. Check out their web page at members.aol.com/raynboleague or email raynboleague@aol.com for more info.

Did you know that Project Response is has a Red Ribbon Dinner coming up January 18 in Port St. Lucie? As the Treasure and Space Coast AIDS agency, Project Response needs our support. Phone 772-464-0420 for more information.

Did you know that **Family of God Community Church** has closed its thrift shop? With the closing of the last large retail tenant in that mall, there wasn't enough traffic to support the thrift shop so they are planning quarterly events to support their outreach programs. Their sanctuary and family room are still open and the church is going strong. Give them a call at 321-433-1242 for more information or if you have items for their quarterly flea market.

And you do know our heart goes out to **Kelli Randell** as her dad deals with cancer. It is a difficult time for her whole family. **Kelli** does so much for all of us that we need to make sure that we are there for her. Please, don't call, don't nag, just be there for her. Show your love and support by being a friend not a nuisance.

Gay Rights Tidbits: Nine months after a student publication first disclosed that the School District of Palm Beach County had filtered out access to gay supportive web sites from the School District's computers, those filters have been removed. "This is great news for teachers and students in our public schools," said Rand Hoch, President and Founder of the Palm Beach County Human Rights Council (PBHRC). "Allowing access to up-to-date information provided by the Gay, Lesbian Straight Education Network (GLSEN) and other supportive organizations will assist administrators, faculty and students in making our public schools a more accepting environment for all students. The County's five GSAs will benefit as well."

continued on page 22

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Spiritually Speaking

There's a meditation book on my shelf titled, "Each Day A New Beginning." It's a wonderful collection of encouragement and wisdom. I benefit from the reminder that no matter what sort of a rut or low spot in which my spirit has become stuck, I can get out of it! Each day, no matter what patterns of sadness, boredom, unease or danger I've fallen into, I can change direction. I find that comforting. And, this time of year, I find that exhausting!

The pace of my life picks up in December. The holidays bring extra expectations at the church where I work. There are parties and extra services, and folks to visit. My personal life gets busy with social events. Family from the cold north come for warmth and tradition. I still try to get cards written to far flung friends. And shopping? Thank God for the internet! And there are some days, when everyone I know is wrapped up in social events, that I feel especially alone this time of year. The last thing I want at this time of the year is the thought of starting over each and every day. I don't want to start over! I want a break!

But isn't that part of what we expect in our celebration of the New Year? New Years is a big "starting over." We make resolutions, list of things we intend to do differently once we turn the calendar page. We have a respite from pessimism with the hope that "this year will be different." New Years is a place of new beginning. And as tired as I get working my way through Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Solstice and Christmas, I still look forward to New Year's Eve; the threshold of the new year.

In New England, where I grew up, the time after the Winter Solstice is usually very quiet and still. In Maine, the ground would be frozen: solid! Squirrels and birds and deer would feed in the sunlight, and hunker down for warmth for the long nights. The air so cold no one was out and moving around. The ground was covered in thick blankets of snow. Earth was tucked in like a child with lots of quilts. It was a terrific time to think. The stillness made the evenings feel special, almost holy. There was a clarity in the cold air that encouraged reflection.

I find it harder to get to that deep place here in my adopted home of Florida. Where I live is sometimes called "The Gateway to the Tropics." Here, there is always something in motion. The

ground gives forth motion and life year round. There is something flying, buzzing, crawling or slithering about day and night. Don't get me wrong, this isn't a bad thing! I love the fecundity of life here in Florida. It's just hard to find stillness with all this life and motion.

For me, part of the allure of the New Year is that time of stillness. Each year we almost stop the world, we pause. We suspend our calendar. We suspend our routines. We have a time of reflection and celebration. And we can step out on January 1st into a brand new year.

This year, I will build the stillness into my packed schedule. I will take a day to do nothing in the week between Christmas and New Year's Eve. Yes, I will schedule a whole day of no activities! Just rest, reflection, almost stillness. Maybe the beach? Somehow, the constant motion of the surf becomes a kind of stillness. I will take the day, find the stillness, and let myself consider the new year and it's promise.

It's not something I want to do each and every day. But this year, at the turn of the year, when 2006 ends and 2007 begins, you'll find me up and celebrating. I'll be ready to leave the dross of 2006 behind and step out into 2007 with new hope. Will you join me? Wishing you all a Gay and Healthy new year of Promise and Fulfillment. ▼

PS: a word of thanks to all of you dear readers who have sent kind words and comments about this occasional column over the last few years. Thanks for your support. My love to you all. Rev. Gail

The Reverend Gail R. Geisenhainer is Minister with the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Vero Beach, 1590 27th Ave. Worship begins at 10am Sundays. All are welcome! For more information, go to www.uufvb.org and www.uua.org or call 772-778-5880. Gail and her life partner are transplanted New Englanders who make their home with two dogs and lots of books!

[This is Rev. Gail's last column. We will miss Rev. Gail's voice here, but realize that her personal and professional obligations have to come before volunteer work. We consider ourselves blessed to have had her contribution grace this space on a regular basis for nearly two years. Ed.]

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Tasha Scott
Angela Lovett

Saturday
Jan 20
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Susan Whitney
Juwanna Jackson



Saturday
Jan 27
Mercedes
Rebecca Glasscock
Alexis De La Mer



In Our Past

by Celeste DeRoche, Ph.D.

Encyclopedia of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender History in America

For all of our wonderful readers who put at the top of their New Year Resolution List "to learn more about LGBT history", may I suggest that an easy place to start is with the wonderful three volume Encyclopedia of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender History in America.

You don't have to read all the entries in all three volumes, though you will want to, but simply dipping into one of the volumes will remind you how long and interesting our history is. LGBT folks have been around for all of human history and this encyclopedia, while certainly not able to be exhaustive, sure does a great job of filling in a number of the blanks in our past.

I'll give you a quick tour. Maybe your Valentine will want to purchase the set for you and then you can have our history available for the rest of the year!

Volume One covers "Actors to Gyms".

From the first entry on Actors you will realize that gay folks are indeed everywhere. From this historian's point of view, where it is impossible to have too many suggestions for other books to read, one of the best features of the encyclopedia is that each entry provides a bibliography. For instance, if acting is your passion and learning more about LGBT issues and acting is of interest, this entry provides you with additional sources such as *Behind the Screen: How Gays and Lesbians Shaped Hollywood 1910-1969* (New York: Viking, 2001) or *The Girls: Sappho Goes to Hollywood* (New York: LA Weekly Books for St. Martins Griffin, 2000).

Volume One also contains entries on AIDS Service Organizations, Leonard Bernstein, Environmental and Ecology Movements and much much more.

Volume Two from "H.D. to Queer Theory".

Sigmund Freud analyzed H.D. in the 1930s and declared her "the perfect bi-," and later literary critics also located the "tensions in her work on a bisexual borderline". Both Oscar Wilde and Sappho were important to H.D. She identified with Wilde as a "decadent committed to the artistic personality." H.D. was close friends with other lesbian poets such as Amy Lowell and May Sarton in the United States and Sylvia Beach and Gertrude Stein in Paris. If modern poetry is one of your interests, you will eagerly read this entry on H.D.

In Volume Two the entry on "Music" runs from page 283 to 306 and covers Broadway and Musical

Theater, Rock and Roll and Androgyny, Opera and Popular Music which are only a few of the highlights. You might want to read the entry on "Pride Marches and Parades" before our 2007 Pride celebrations roll around.

Volume Three from "Race to Zulma"

The first entry in Volume Three reminds us that we still have plenty of work to do. The entry on "Race and Racism" speaks to the significance of these issues in our LGBT communities.

After the September 11, 2001 attack on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, the Audre Lorde Project's Center for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Two Spirit, and Transgender People of Color Communities issued a statement condemning the scapegoating of people of color in the United States.

Learning how to work collaboratively is central to all of LGBT's projects of justice. We can't ignore the challenges of race and racism and the damage they inflict.

The bibliography that accompanies this entry provides plenty of suggestions for how to continue the important work of understanding our differences so we can learn how to work together with respect and support.

Happy New Year... ▼

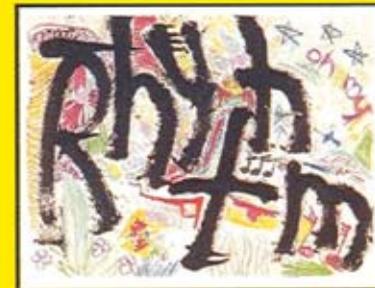
Encyclopedia of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender History in America (Charles Scribner's Sons, 2004). This reference book is a comprehensive survey of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender experience in America from colonial times through the landmark 2003 Lawrence & Garner v. Texas Supreme Court case. The Encyclopedia examines the representation of LGBT issues in fields ranging from anthropology to American studies, from cultural studies to literature, and others; reveals histories of the growth of queer communities in America's cities, shows the treatments of specific LGBT issues such as health care and anti-discrimination laws; and includes biographies of notable writers, thinkers, activists, and artists. More than 200 illustrations show key personalities and documents from LGBT history.

Celeste DeRoche received her doctoral degree in United States History from the University of Maine. She currently resides in Vero Beach with her life partner. She loves to read. She would welcome any suggestions for historical topics you might like to learn more about. You can reach her at CelesteD@ootcmag.com

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*Harris, Rothenberg International, LLC, "The John Hancock 2005 Cost of Care Survey."

continued from page 10

Last March, an Inlet Grove High School senior published an investigative report disclosing that while Palm Beach County's teachers and students were denied access to gay-supportive web sites such as GLSEN (www.glsen.org), Gay-Straight Alliance Network (www.gsanetwork.org) and PFLAG (www.pflag.org), they could easily access the anti-gay web sites of the Traditional Values Coalition, the American Family Association, and Focus on the Family from any School District computer. At the behest of PBHRC, Lambda Legal senior staff attorney Greg Nevins and ACLU of Florida Legal Director Randall Marshall worked with the School District to find a solution. ▼

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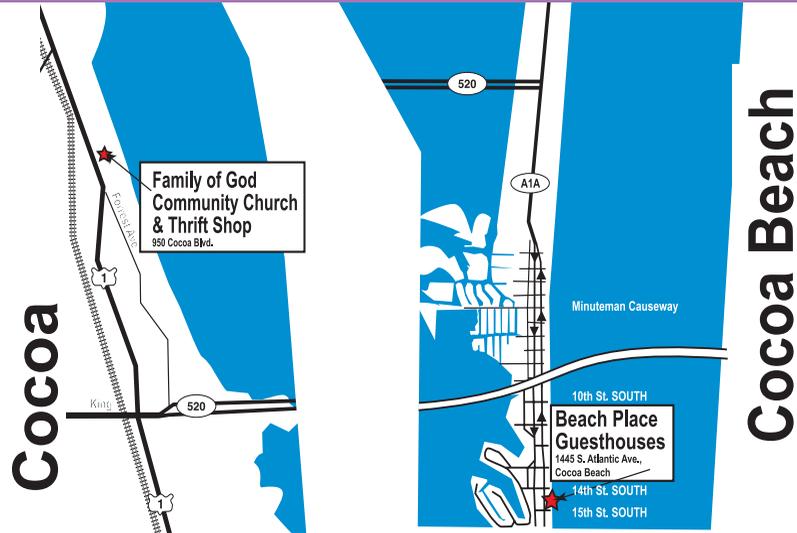


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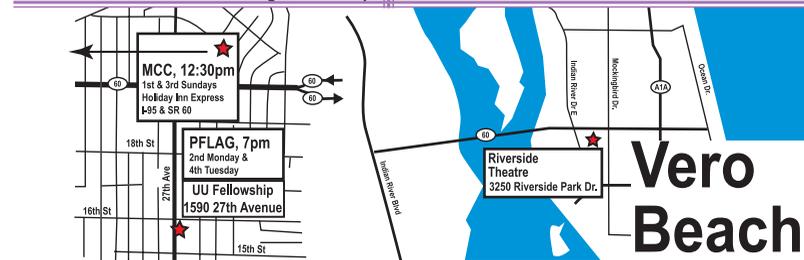
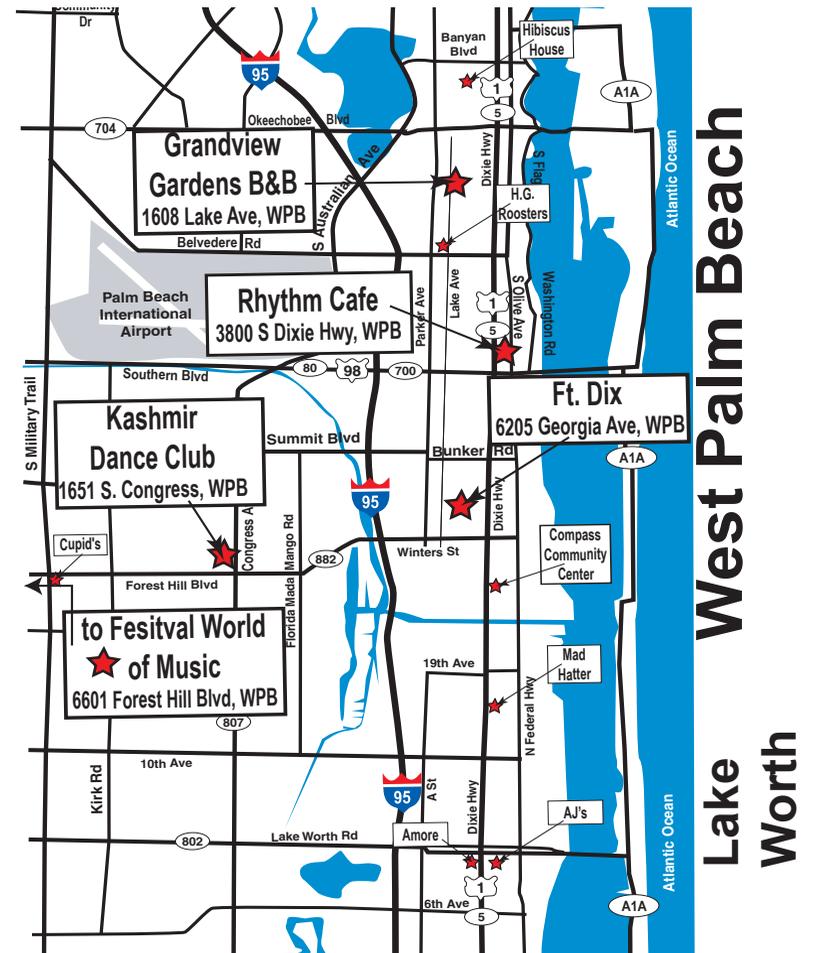
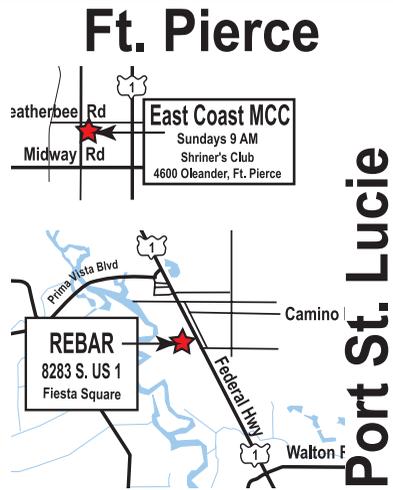
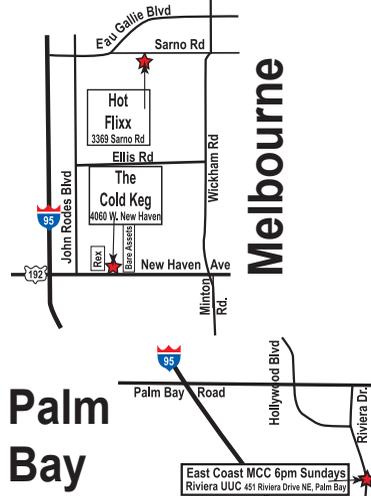
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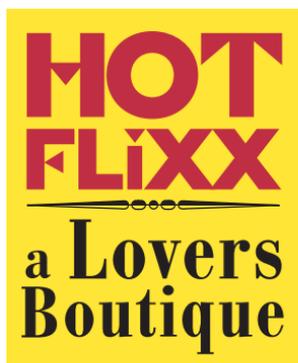
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