

Israel Luna's new film heads to Tribeca

Jenna Skyy and Krystal Summers star in the controversial flick
Luna defends his movie that has sparked a flurry of anger in the transgender community

■ Screen, Page 18

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2 Dallasites arrested in ENDA protests

Kirven, Robinson, Reed participate in sit-ins in D.C., San Francisco offices of House Speaker Pelosi

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Two Dallas activists were arrested and a third participated in actions in House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's Washington and San Francisco offices on Thursday, March 18.



Chastity Kirven

Chastity Kirven and Michael Robinson were arrested for disorderly conduct. Mark Reed attended the D.C. protest and bailed Kirven and three others out of jail.

"This is our lunch counter," Kirven said later, referring to the sit-ins of the civil rights movement.



Michael Robinson

As part of the new LGBT direct action group Get Equal, Kirven and Reed were among eight people scheduled to meet with Pelosi staffers in D.C. about moving the Employment Non-Discrimination Act to a vote on the House floor.

Kirven said the group entered Pelosi's office hoping to leave with a commitment.

■ ARRESTS, Page 11

Surviving life on the streets



BRIDGE SWEET HOME | Shawn Tripp lived under the Harry Hines Boulevard bridge over Inwood Road after his parents kicked him out of the house at age 17. (Renee Baker/Dallas Voice)

Trans youth Shawn Tripp wants to find a way to help other LGBT youth who are, as he was, homeless

RENEE BAKER | Contributing Writer
renee@renee-baker.com

Shawn Tripp is a lucky man. He says so himself. He says he's a survivor and it's a miracle

that he's still alive. And you have to believe him.

Tripp is one of those people who seems to turn every curse into a blessing and unknowingly inspire everyone else.

"It's no big deal," he says. "It is just life."

Tripp, born on Independence Day in 1988, is now 21. Four years ago, his parents kicked him out of their home in Hurst for being a lesbian. He now identifies as a transgender man.

With no money and just the shirt on his back,

Tripp, like his grandfather before him, set out by train to find a new home. That new home turned out to be the "Harry Hines Bridge" — right next to the Salvation Army on Inwood Road in Dallas, where he might have gotten some help.

Today, Tripp pokes fun at his earlier naivety. "I thought it had something to do with the military, so I never went in there," he says of the Salvation Army.

■ HOMELESS, Page 12

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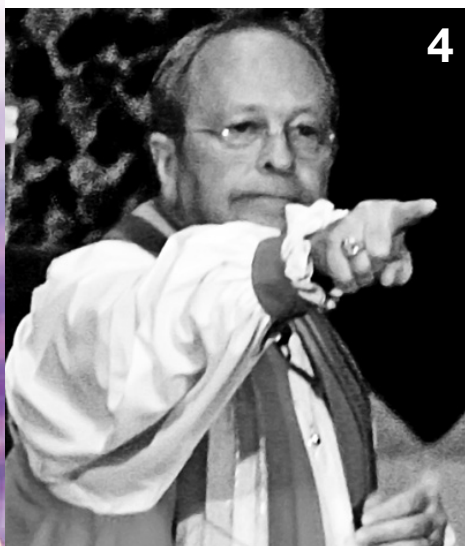
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'Not living your life is the worst thing'



WORDS OF HOPE | Episcopal Bishop V. Gene Robinson told an overflow crowd at Cathedral of Hope on Wednesday that he came to them with words of hope and with a challenge. (John Wright/Dallas Voice)

Bishop Gene Robinson challenges overflow crowd at Cathedral to become disciples, not just admirers

JOHN WRIGHT | News Editor

wright@dallasvoice.com

Gene Robinson preached from the pulpit Wednesday night, March 24, for what he said was the first time since his ascent to bishop almost seven years ago.

But Robinson didn't do it in his home diocese of New Hampshire, and he didn't even do it in an Episcopal church.

Robinson delivered a sermon to an overflow crowd in the main sanctuary of Dallas' Cathedral of Hope UCC, known as the world's largest gay church.

Robinson, who became the Episcopal Church's first openly gay bishop in 2004, called the visit an "unspeakable honor" given the Cathedral's reputation around the world.

"You are a beacon of light to so many," Robinson told the standing-room-only gathering. "Harvey Milk said, 'You gotta give 'em hope.' So, I come to the Cathedral of Hope with a word of hope, but also a challenge.

"For far too long the Bible has been held hostage by those who would use it as a weapon to beat us up," he said. "And you know what? They can't have the Bible anymore. Well, they can have it, but they can't have it just by themselves — it's our book, too. That scripture was meant to liberate you and me as much as anybody."

Robinson compared LGBT Christians to the lame beggar healed by Peter in the Book of Acts.

■ **ROBINSON**, Page 10

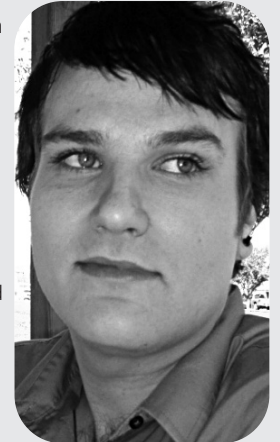
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Early morning curtain time for controversial play for security reasons

An excerpt from the gay-themed Terrence McNally play "Corpus Christi" will be presented at Tarleton State University at 8 a.m. on Saturday, March 27.

The production, originally set for afternoon, has been rescheduled for security reasons, and only friends, family and invited guests will be admitted.



The controversy began several weeks ago when members of the community in Stephenville heard gay student John Jordan Otte has chosen the play as a project for his directing class.

Local preachers denounced the play from the pulpit. Letters to the editor of The Stephenville Empire Tribune claimed blasphemy. Callers flooded the school administration with complaints. None of those who complained claimed to have ever actually seen or read the play.

Otte said that he chose "Corpus Christi" because of its theme of tolerance, and he called McNally a hero of his.

Although the time has changed, the play was always scheduled to be presented in the small 95-seat theater and was never advertised to the public.

The administration has defended the play's presentation on free speech and academic freedom grounds.

— David Taffet

Recession, Grindr possible factors in syphilis spike

Number of newly contracted cases in North Texas has almost doubled in two years, statistics show

JOHN WRIGHT | News Editor

wright@dallasvoice.com

A bad economy and the proliferation of new cruising venues such as the Grindr application for Apple's iPhone may be among factors fueling a recent spike in syphilis infections in North Texas, according to Ruben Ramirez, community health programs manager at Resource Center Dallas.

Final data on new HIV/AIDS cases in North Texas in 2009 remained unavailable this week due to a change in federal surveillance guidelines, according to a spokeswoman for the Texas Department of State Health Services.

However, statistics from DSHS show that the number of newly contracted syphilis cases has almost doubled in the last two years in Dallas and Tarrant counties — going from 240 in 2007 to 478 in 2009.

Ramirez, who oversees Resource Center's Stomp Out Syphilis Program, said he believes part of the increase is due to better screening and education. But he added that there also may be other factors.

"The question is, is it the economy? Because if we're looking for something that's impacting folks on a wider scale, what else is there?" Ramirez said. "Some people are selling their services, if you will, to make the bills. More people are idle, and so it gives them a lot of down time to go online and seek sex partners."

People seeking sex partners online also have a steadily increasing number of venues in which to

do it, Ramirez added. In addition to Web sites, GPS-based applications like Grindr — which reportedly is adding 2,000 new users per day worldwide — allow people to search for potential sex partners based on how far away they are.

"If you do look at the number of social networking sites where sex is concerned, they're peaking," Ramirez said. "Sexual partners are more accessible by accessing online venues or just your downloadable app on your smart phone."

Zachary Thompson, director of Dallas County Health and Human Services, agreed that the social networking craze — including "sexting" among young people — likely is contributing to the spread of syphilis and other STDs.

"People are connecting with people, and they really don't know their status," Thompson said. "What happens is, people are making quick

■ **SYPHILIS**, Page 8

GLAAD issues call to action demanding that Israel Luna's 'Trannies' be pulled from Tribeca

A while back we reported that gay Dallas filmmaker Israel Luna's "Ticked-Off Trannies with Knives!" had been selected for the Tribeca Film Festival.

On Thursday came word that GLAAD has issued a Call to Action demanding that the film be pulled from the festival. Why? You can read it for yourself at GLAAD.org.

I've also left a message with Luna to get his take. My guess is he'll be thrilled to have the free publicity.

You can read more about the film and Luna's response to the controversy that had already been brewing on Page 18 in this issue of Dallas Voice.

— John Wright

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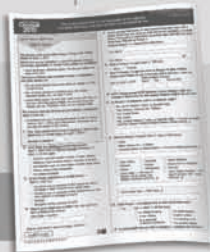
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localbriefs

Non-discrimination law seminar set

Chalisa D. Warren, senior public information representative with the city of Dallas Fair Housing Office, will give an overview of the city's Human Relations Ordinance, known as Chapter 46, that prohibits discrimination in employment, housing or public accommodations on the basis of sexual orientation, on Saturday, March 27, at 2 p.m. at the Oak Lawn Branch of the Dallas Public Library.

The program, which is free and open to the public, is co-sponsored by the Dallas Public Library's GLBT Adult Programming Committee.

For more information, call 214-671-9580.

GLSEN holding logo contest

The Dallas Chapter of the Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network is sponsoring a contest for youth and young adults ages 14 to 25 to design a virtual logo for Dallas' annual Breaking the Silence event on April 16. Designs should be e-mailed to dallas@chapters.glsen.org on or before March 25. GLSEN-Dallas is also looking for students to perform in the designated performance area during the Breaking the Silence event, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on April 16. To participate submit name, age and a brief description of their act to kpatrick@twu.edu before April 12.

AIN needs Bloomin' Ball vols

AIDS Interfaith Network is looking for volunteers to help with its annual fundraiser, Bloomin' Ball: Sowing Seeds of Hope. Volunteers are needed to help set up on Friday, April 23, with shifts scheduled from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. and 7 p.m. to midnight; to finish setting up and during the event on Saturday, April 24, with shifts scheduled from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., and from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m.; and to clean up on Sunday, April 25, with one shift scheduled from 8 a.m. to noon. Refreshments and meals will be served to all shifts. Volunteer orientation is scheduled on Sunday, April 10, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Westin Park Central Hotel.

For more information or to volunteer, e-mail gkelly@aidssinterfaithnetwork.org or call Gretchen Kelly at 214-943-4444.

JEWEL screening Lyon-Martin doc

In celebration of Women's History Month, Resource Center Dallas' JEWEL program for women and the Phil Johnson Historic Archives & Research Library will be showing the film "No Secret Anymore: The Times of Del Martin & Phyllis Lyon," on Saturday, March 27, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St.

The documentary, directed by Joan Biren, tells the story of the lesbian couple who founded the Daughters of Bilitis in 1955, the first public organization for lesbians in America.

The screening is free and open to the public.

pet of the week / sasha

Sasha is a pretty pointer-pit bull mix. She's a little over 1 year old, weighs about 45 pounds and has a white coat with vivid red splotches and spots. Sasha is friendly, attentive and very affectionate. She loves people and has a really happy disposition. Simply said, Sasha is a sweetheart!



Sasha and many other great dogs, cats, puppies and kittens are available for adoption from the Dallas Animal Services Adoption Center, located at 1818 N. Westmoreland at I-30 on the northeast corner. The shelter is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Sundays from 12 noon to 5 p.m.; closed Mondays. The cost to adopt is \$85 for dogs and \$55 for cats and includes spay/neuter surgery, vaccinations, microchip and more. All dogs are negative for heartworms, and cats have been tested for FeLV and FIV. For more information, visit www.DallasAnimalServices.org or call 214-671-0249.

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Johnson headed for special election to fill House vacancy in District 100

Candidate urges Young Stonewall members to begin public service

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Gov. Rick Perry has called a special election in May to fill the unexpired seat vacated by Rep. Terri Hodge, and Eric Johnson is running for the job. He said Wednesday, March 23 at a Dallas Stonewall Young Democrats meeting that he might not know until the April 7 deadline whether he will face any opposition in the race.

When Johnson won the Democratic primary in March, he ensured his victory as the new state representative for District 100 in the 2011 Legislature since he has no Republican opposition in the race. But the special election would fill the seat until January.

Johnson said Dallas County Elections Administrator Bruce Sherbet told him that if no one else files for the special election, to save taxpayers money, the election could be canceled and Johnson declared the winner.

While the Legislature will not meet until January 2011, Johnson said constituent services continue throughout the year. He said that despite Hodge's resignation, the office is currently oper-



Eric Johnson

ating and he thought Hodge might even still be working there to provide a smooth transition for her district.

Johnson also said that by coming into office now, rather than after the November election, under Texas law his seniority would be counted from the 2008 election, rather than 2010. That will help him snag the committee assignments he wants, which include education and one of the procedural committees, he said.

Johnson also encouraged those at the Young Stonewall meeting to join non-profit boards and talk to their city council members about appointments to city boards as a springboard to a career in politics.

"We are at a point in our politics in Texas where people are starving for leadership," he said, adding that being young is no excuse to put off public service.

"I don't think we have the luxury of waiting another 20 years to get involved," Johnson said. "Act on our progressive agenda and exemplify the values of our party."

Speaking from his recent experience with his own campaign, Johnson did offer one warning.

"Do you have the stomach for it?" he asked.

"You're going to get beaten up."

He even had fundraising advice for novice political candidates.

"We went to our social network and had 800 people who gave a little bit. A few gave a lot," he said.

His campaign budget was \$300,000 and the majority of his donations were less than \$100 each.

He told the group that he supported their effort to make a difference.

"I'll have your back, because I believe in you," he said.

Hodge, who has represented the district since 1996, resigned after pleading guilty to lying on her federal tax returns. She will be sentenced on April 27. ■

SYPHILIS

From Page 4

decisions and they're having to suffer the consequences of getting an infection because they did not practice safe sex."

A breakdown of the newly contracted syphilis cases according to behavioral risk categories — such as "men who have sex with men" — wasn't immediately available. But health officials say that in general, the disease is equally prevalent in ho-

mosexual and heterosexual populations.

Thompson noted that many of the newly contracted syphilis cases are occurring in people ages 15-24. In Dallas County in 2009, for example, 144 of the 294 cases were in this age group.

"I think we're just going to have to own up to that fact, that this population is sexually active, and they're past the abstinence education part of it, so now we've really got to focus on safe-sex practices," Thompson said. "This is always going

■ SYPHILIS, Next Page

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TOP DOG DONATION | Dallas Voice owner/publisher Robert Moore presents a check for \$2,500 to representatives of AIDS Arms LifeWalk/LifeBark in honor of Top Dog winner Leia and her owner, Jade Monfils. As the Top Dog winner, Leia, with Monfils, was featured on the cover of the Dallas Voice Readers Voice Awards issue, published March 19. LifeWalk/LifeBark, benefiting AIDS Arms and other AIDS service organizations, is set for Oct. 10 at Lee Park. Pictured are, from left, Margaret Byrne, director of resource development for AIDS Arms; Dennis Fehlman, treasurer of the AIDS Arms board of directors; Jade Monfils and Top Dog winner Leia; Scott Chase, chairman of the AIDS Arms board; and Moore. (Terry Thompson/Dallas Voice)

■ SYPHILIS, From Previous Page

to be the most challenging age group to try to reach."

Ramirez said in the gay community, young people may be more likely to practice unsafe sex because they didn't witness the tragic impact of the AIDS crisis.

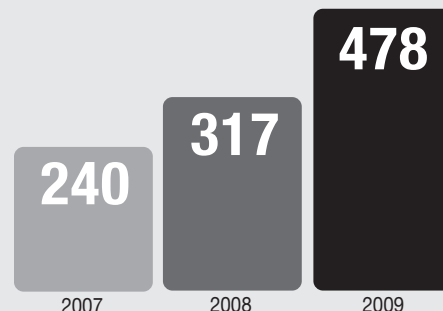
"If you have a risk for, let's say syphilis, you probably have a risk for HIV and other diseases as well," Ramirez said, adding that the presence of syphilis also makes people more susceptible to contracting the virus that causes AIDS.

"If you have open sores and what have you, then there's no telling how easy the door is opened," he said.

Ramirez said anyone who's sexually active should be tested regularly for syphilis and HIV. Both Resource Center and the health department offer free syphilis tests.

Syphilis is easy to cure with an antibiotic in its early stages, but if left untreated it can lead to se-

PART 1 AND 2 SYPHILIS IN DALLAS/TARRANT COUNTIES*



*Part 1 and 2 syphilis cases are those diagnosed within about six months of infection.

rious complications or even death.

For info on testing at Resource Center, call 214-393-3700 or 877-Stomp-Out, or go to StompOut.org. For info on testing at the health department, call 214-819-1819 or 214-819-2155. ■

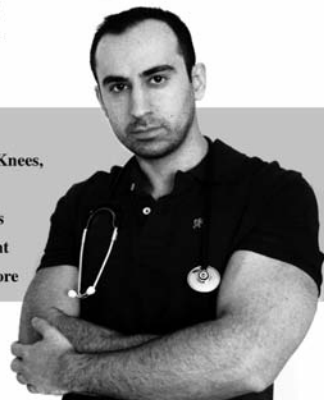
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■ **texasnews**

ROBINSON

From Page 4

"That's our story, isn't it?" he said. "We've been told there's something wrong with us from birth, and it makes us unworthy, and then someone comes along and in the name of Jesus says, 'None of us is worthy, but you have been made worthy by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.'"

Robinson challenged LGBT Christians to become not only admirers of Jesus, but disciples — preaching their gospel even when it gets them into trouble.

"When my partner and I were strapping on bulletproof vests for my consecration and we faced death threats for a year or so, it makes you figure out real quick what's important to you," Robinson said. "And our daughters were so worried for us, and I was able to say to them, 'You know, this is the payoff for being a Christian, that death isn't the worst thing anymore. Not living your life is the worst thing.'"

"So I'm going to say to you what I say to the deacons and priests that I ordain, which is that if you aren't getting into gospel trouble, is it the gospel you're preaching?"

Following the formal, Sunday-style service, throngs of attendees lined up at a table in the re-

ception area to receive autographed copies of Robinson's book, "In the Eye of the Storm: Swept to the Center By God."

"I came because I consider Gene Robinson to be a hero of the faith," said the Rev. Stephen Sprinkle, a gay faculty member at Brite Divinity School in Fort Worth. "He's certainly a hero to the LGBT community. He's put his life on the line for inclusivity. That's what constitutes a hero for me."

Katie Sherrod, a straight Episcopalian from Fort Worth who attended Wednesday's service, said Cowtown's diocese is "going great guns" after a recent split blamed in part on Robinson's election.

"If that's the price we had to pay to have a bishop like Gene in our church, then I'm willing to pay it," Sherrod said of the split. "This man is no reason to leave the church. He's bringing people into our church."

Craig Henry, who sings in the Cathedral's choir, said he was inspired by Robinson's sermon, which he summarized as a reminder that the best way to be helped is to help others.

"It's almost like him coming home," Henry said of Robinson, "because we've always felt so close to him."

The Rev. Jo Hudson, senior pastor at the Cathedral, agreed that despite the denominational

■ **ROBINSON**, Page 11



SIGNED, SEALED, DELIVERED | Bishop Gene Robinson autographs copies of his book after a Wednesday service at Cathedral of Hope. (John Wright/Dallas Voice)

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ARRESTS

From Page 1

When President Obama spoke to the Human Rights Campaign dinner in Washington D.C. in October he said, "Hold me accountable," Kirven said.

When Pelosi's representatives made no promises, four members of the group refused to leave. The meeting began at 4 p.m. Capitol police arrested the four women who refused to leave at about 8 p.m. They have come to be known as the ENDA Four.

Reed, who was among the group of eight but not among those arrested, bailed the ENDA Four out of jail around 11 p.m.

They have a hearing on the federal misdemeanor charges on April 6. Kirven said the penalty, if convicted, is up to six months in jail.

In San Francisco, Michael Robinson, a third member of Get Equal from Dallas, was also arrested.

"We tried to coordinate events," Robinson said.

The meeting in Pelosi's San Francisco office was scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Pacific Time, 30 minutes after the Washington meeting began.

Robinson said the group made it through security but by the time they reached Pelosi's office, aides had heard about what was going on in D.C., and the activists were not allowed past the lobby.

And, Robinson said, that is where they staged their protest. Eight people began the sit-in.

When police arrived, the protesters were read their rights and given the opportunity to leave. Six remained and were arrested. When police asked

who wanted to be cuffed first, Robinson volunteered and was escorted out of the building.

When the six were downstairs, police received a call from the office asking them not to take the group downtown for booking, but just to issue a citation with a \$125 fine.

However, after returning to Dallas, Robinson was told he would have to return to San Francisco in April and appear in court.

The three Dallas activists followed different paths to Get Equal.

Reed was raised the son of a Southern Baptist preacher, which he described as a "tough experience growing up gay."

He became an activist about two years ago when he participated in a demonstration against a sermon entitled, "Gay is not OK" at First Baptist Church of Dallas.

Last year Reed served on the executive board for the National Equality March.

Robinson became an activist after he witnessed the near-murder of Jimmy Lee Dean in a hate-related assault in Oak Lawn in 2008. He called his participation in the San Francisco sit-in "liberating."

Kirven describes herself as a lifelong activist. Before the action in Pelosi's D.C. office she was outside the White House participating in Lt. Dan Choi's protest of "Don't ask, don't tell," also choreographed by GetEqual.

Choi, who served in Iraq and is being discharged under DADT, and Jim Pietrangolo, who has already been discharged, were arrested after handcuffing themselves to the fence around the White House. ■

ROBINSON

From Page 10

divide, Robinson is family.

"He is our bishop in many ways because he's the visible presence of the church for many people," Hudson said after the service. "We want him to tell [the Cathedral's] story all over the world."

Both Hudson and Robinson said Wednesday's visit had been at least two years in the making, but was delayed by the bishop's busy schedule.

In an interview before the service, Robinson explained that he couldn't have acted liturgically in a local Episcopal parish without the permission of

staunchly conservative Dallas Bishop James Stanton, who wouldn't grant it.

Robinson said he gets along with Stanton, and the two even became "smoking buddies" during last year's General Convention.

While Robinson harbors no illusions about changing Stanton's mind on LGBT issues, he said he takes comfort in knowing which side will prevail.

He pointed to the Episcopal Church's recent election of its second out bishop, the Rev. Mary Glasspool of Los Angeles.

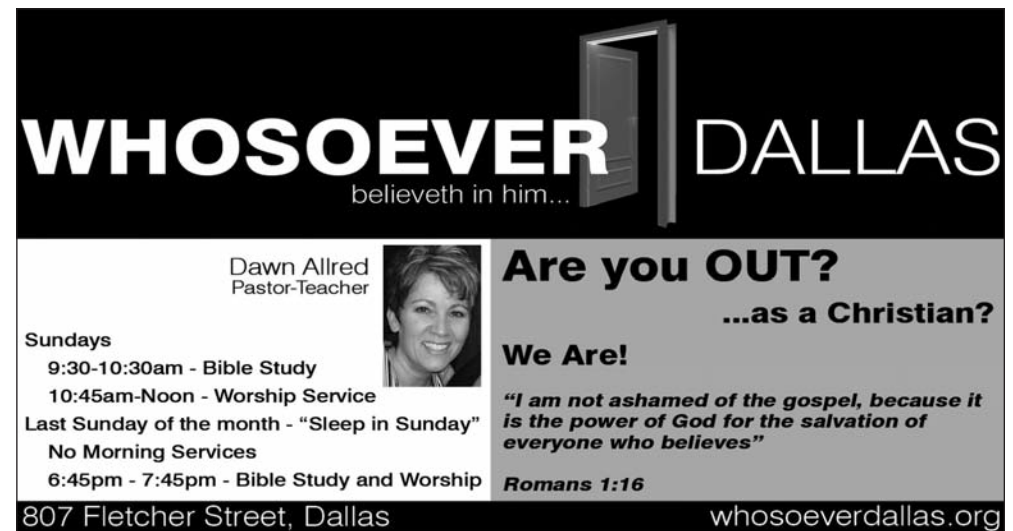
"To do this once might have been a mistake, but to do it twice, it means that this is the direction the church is going," he said. ■



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■ texasnews

HOMELESS

From Page 1

The first night Tripp slept under the bridge, he woke up with cold feet. Someone had stolen his shoes and left him theirs. He values shoes so much today that he's "hoarded" more than 20 pairs of sneakers.

Tripp's life on the streets began on a cold, rainy September night when his strict father, a rabbi, told him to leave.

His story is not unique. A 2007 report from the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force found that between 20 and 40 percent of all homeless youth identify as LGBT. In 2008, a Youth First Texas survey found that 26 percent of youth served by the local agency had been kicked out of their homes due to their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Tripp says he grew up thinking he was a butch lesbian. He was kicked out of school for kissing girls.

When his parents intercepted a text message from Tripp's girlfriend, it was the last straw. There would be no lesbians living under the family roof.

He remembers his father screaming, "No child of mine, no child of mine!"

"I was booted out at 17," Tripp says, "which was actually three years more than my grandfather got" at home. He says his grandfather "got the boot" and was told to "go work like a man" during the Great Depression. He hitched on trains and picked oranges for a living.

When Tripp got kicked out, he walked to Hurst Bell Station and then headed to Dallas by train.

He would be homeless for a year and says he went hungry a lot.

Tripp acknowledges that at 17, he was angry at the world, and too stubborn to admit when he was wrong. But a year on the streets taught him some humility.

"I used to bathe in the creeks," he says, "and when it rains today, I feel like I'm getting a free shower."

Tripp lost his mother to a drug overdose when he was just 12, after she'd lost custody of him. It's still too hard for him to talk about, but he misses her.

When he was 11, the last time he saw her, he recalls that she told him, "Honey, you may not see me for a long time." He didn't know it would be the last time he would see her.

He says she also once told him, "If you were going to be a boy, I was going to name you Shawn." And so when the time came, he named himself Shawn.

Tripp says he didn't realize he was transgender until just a few years ago. He had never been exposed to transgenderism until he watched an episode of "The L-Word."

He says, "When Max came on — a trans guy — this bell goes off in my head, and then, click, 'Damn, that is me.'"

Tripp spent years beating himself up about being queer. He says his disapproving stepmother called him "stupid, messed up and

weird."

He says his parents tried to give him flowery dresses and makeup to wear, but he refused. Instead, he discovered his dad's old clothes from the 1980s and wore them instead.

When he was 11, his parents took him to a psychotherapist for being a tomboy. He says he was confused and angry and hated it when people objected to the way he dressed and reprimanded him for not being "girly."

While he was living on the streets, he was grazed by a stray bullet, and saw it as a result of refusing to fit in. He told himself, "This is what I get for not listening to Mom and Dad."

Tripp eventually got help from an old family friend, whom he calls "Aunt Sue." He says she told him he's a good person and deserves to be loved.

She gave him a fresh start, and he stayed with her in Hurst until he could get a job and pay his own rent.

Other friends pointed Tripp to Youth First Texas, which is situated just down the street from where he once slept. So he bought a bicycle and took the train from Hurst to Dallas, traveling for three hours until he found the LGBT youth center. He is well known now as "that bike-riding guy."

When Tripp visited the YFT center for the first time, he says he was shocked to find so many outwardly expressing gay youth. He became active in the center's gender identity group and its writing group. Two of his poems have been published in the YFT Second Anthology Collection.

"I love writing," he says. "It lets my emotions come out."

Tripp has bigger dreams now. His year-long experience living on the streets of Dallas has given him a sense of drive and meaning for his life. He now wants to find a way to open a homeless shelter for LGBT youth, so they don't have to go through what we went through.

But that's not all. With the support of YFT, Tripp completed his GED and is now enrolled at Richland College.

"I want to major in English so I can teach," he says, "and also minor in small business so I can pursue my dream of starting a homeless shelter."

Tripp says he wants to fundamentally change "the way people think."

"We get so caught up in our lives," he says, "that we don't appreciate what we have."

Tripp appreciates the outdoors now. "It brings me back, to remember," he says, "and I never want to forget where I came from." He's a humble young man who feels blessed and grateful because, he says, he knows "what happens to most people" who live on the streets.

Now he just wants to help others find a home and give them the second chance he has found.

Renee Baker is a transgender diversity consultant and can be found online at GenderPower.com.



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Restaurant, bar fill Cedar Springs vacancies

Street improvements continue to add new vitality to gay entertainment and shopping district

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

A new bar opened this week on Cedar Springs, and a Subway franchise is expected to open Easter weekend, as the strip's revitalization continues.

Another restaurant is scheduled to open in June, and the Cedar Springs Merchants Association recently raised an additional \$8,000 for beautification efforts.

"I've seen a new vitality starting to take place," said Rick Barton, owner of Hunky's.

Marty Hershner, owner of the Tin Room, opened The Drama Room in the space formerly occupied by Mickey's. The new orange sign went up over the old storefront on Tuesday night, and the bar opened on Thursday, March 25.

He said the new bar is quite different from Mickey's.

"We put in a dance floor and an awesome light show," he said. Dancers and entertainment are



Chet Whisenant

the restaurant is a franchise, the space is designed to be unlike any other Subway store.

"We gayed it up," Whisenant said.

By that he means everything from subdued lighting to a living room area, to granite countertops with black vessel top-mounted bowl sinks in the restrooms.

"I knew if we didn't tweak where we could, we wouldn't be accepted," he said.

The Subway will open at 7 a.m. for breakfast

planned.

Chet Whisenant owns the new Subway franchise that will occupy part of the former Crossroads Market space. He's planning an Easter weekend opening.

Although

and will stay open on weekends until 3 a.m. or later. Whisenant said he's even considering remaining open 24 hours a day.

"After the bars, have a great cup of coffee before the drive home," he said.

Whisenant said a number of the 15 people he's hired have worked on Cedar Springs before, and most live in the neighborhood. He said he's looking forward to being an active participant in the Cedar Springs Merchants Association.

After 25 years in its former location, Hunky's moved across Throckmorton Street last month, occupying the remainder of the former Crossroads Market space. Barton said business has increased since the move.

He said new patio furniture is coming, which should double his outdoor seating, and by the end of next week, his liquor license should be in place. He plans to begin beer and wine sales first and then add frozen cocktails.

Macho Nacho, a Mexican food restaurant, is planned in the old Hunky's space, according to Barton. They are slated for a June opening, although construction has not yet begun on the space.

"It could be that getting city permits is delaying

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it," Barton said. "With city layoffs, the time frame is four times what it used to be."

Scott Whittall, co-owner of Buli Café and president of the Merchants Association, said upgrades to the street are continuing.

Last weekend the Merchants Association held a fundraiser at the Round-Up Saloon that netted about \$8,000. The money will be used to pay for a dozen new brushed-steel trashcans with specially designed ashtrays.

"The city's not going to maintain them. We have to," Whittall said, adding that they'll be placed in front of merchants who agreed to their upkeep. He said he hopes they will help keep cigarette butts and broken bottles off the sidewalks.

The group has hired a company to sandblast the old sidewalk continuing down the street from where the recently rebuilt portion ends.

"That should happen in the next week or so," Whittall said.

Whittall said in addition to new business openings, several events are planned over the next few months.

Raffle tickets will be available at all Merchants Association members beginning April 1 for a \$1,000 Cedar Springs shopping spree. The drawing will be held at First Wednesday in June.

On April 24, the Art Fest will be bigger than in the past.

"The street will be closed. We have 100 artists, vendors, beer. Red Bull and Andrews Distributing have signed on as sponsors," Whittall said.

At Art Fest, Red Bull will introduce its Art of Can competition in Dallas. The company is looking for entries that use their cans to create sculptures. Those chosen will be on display at the Galleria from July 31 through Aug. 22.

Whittall said once the new businesses open, there will be only a few major vacancies along Cedar Springs. The space formerly occupied by An Occasional Piece remains vacant, and he said he hasn't heard of anyone seriously negotiating for it yet.

A smaller storefront behind Hunky's that was occupied by the leather store Shades of Grey remains vacant, as does the original AIDS Food Pantry and the former location of Obscurities, which recently moved to a space facing Cedar

BRICK/JOE'S HOLDING GRAND OPENING IN NEW LOCATION

The Brick/Joe's will hold a grand opening on Saturday, March 27. The bar has been operating in its new location since November after closing its Maple Avenue location earlier last year.

The bars open at 4 p.m. daily. After-hours dancing on weekends continues until 4 a.m.

The weekend lineup includes hip-hop on Friday, dance on Saturday and retro on Sunday.

For the grand opening party, no cover will be charged before 10 p.m.

The new bar is located at 2525 Wycliff Ave.

— David Taffet

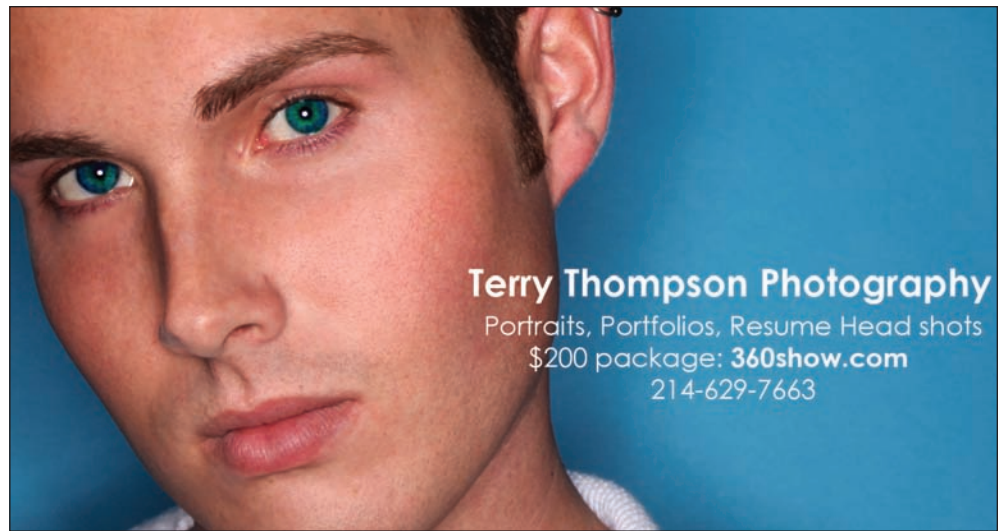
BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Skivvies has a new Web site. The Oak Lawn store also has a branch in Austin. Shop on line at SkivviesDallas.com. ... **He-witt & Habgood Realty Group** is now affiliated with **Dave Perry-Miller**. They are located at the new Intown office at the Quadrangle, 2828 Routh St. ... **American National Bank of Texas (ANB)** opened in its new 17,000 square-foot building at 2703 Oak Lawn Ave. The bank kicked off a weeklong grand opening celebration, "Five Days of Oak Lawn," at the new location on Monday, March 1. In conjunction with the move, the bank has initiated a coordinated social media presence using both Twitter and Facebook, so customers can now be privy to the bank's buzz in real-time. ... **Tea Thyme and Tisane** on the town square in Carrollton has a new name. It's now **Tea Thyme Café & Bakery** to reflect that they serve food. Owner **Charles Bowen** said too many of his customers didn't realize they were more than a teasop. ... **Chad Waclawczyk** has opened **Window Wears** at 3614 Fairmount St. The store offers value-priced quality custom window coverings.

Springs. The Food Pantry space was closed for structural renovations last year, and the pantry moved to Denton Drive Cutoff.

But despite those vacancies, the strip is coming back to life.

As Barton put it, "The whole street is livelier and just keeps getting better and better." ■



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Phones are smart; but the users may not be

As technology advances at practically the speed of light, people find new ways to abuse it, and government struggles to make sure laws keep up with new problems

The last movie I saw in the theater, a forgettable sex farce called "The Bounty Hunter," was made even more unpleasant by several rows of pre-adolescent girls whose cell phones never stopped glowing.

They were texting each other throughout the entire movie.

I guess it is a sign of my age, but texting has never appealed to me. I think it is the size of the tiny keys in combination with my large thumbs that makes it more of a chore than a method of communication.

I guess it is also my age that made me surprised at the growing fad of "sexting." For those as clueless as myself, that is the act of sending nude or suggestive pictures of oneself via cell phone to friends.

Ah, the wonders of technology!

A survey sponsored by The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy found that almost 20 percent of teens aged 13 to 19 had sent nude pictures of themselves via cell phone. Additionally, 39 percent of teens had sent sexually explicit text messages over their phones.

Now you might write this off as kids just being the hormone charged creatures they are, but here's the rub (no innuendo intended): Sending nude photos of kids who are underage over the airwaves is considered child pornography, and if it is intercepted by an irate parent, serious conse-

quences can result.

Child pornography is considered a felony "sex crime" and as such it puts the person who committed it into a sex offender registry.

Putting a teenager who made a silly mistake into a category of felons who will carry a lifetime stigma as a sex offender seems silly, but it is a tragic reality. The problem is especially relevant to the LGBT community, since many teens first explore their sexuality online and, more and more, on the phone.

Judges and local officials seeking to show that they are "tough on sex criminals" have passed draconian statutes that lump anyone guilty of a "sex crime" in the same boat. That is a dangerous trend.

ACLU of Ohio Executive Director Christine Link said, "Criminalizing our children for a foolish mistake does little to prevent future occurrences and may harm a child's life permanently."

"Various officials have considered charging students with felonies and misdemeanors that carry penalties and stigmas that they will endure well into their adult lives. Instead of seeking to punish these young people, we must work compassionately to help them understand the gravity of their actions and their effect on others."

Now don't get me wrong: I am not saying we need to eliminate the laws governing distribution of child pornography. But I do believe we need to re-examine them and make sure we are not inadvertently using them to set a trap for underage kids who make a stupid mistake.

For example, according to a recent report in the New York Times, a 14-year-old girl in New Jersey was arrested for child pornography because she posted explicit photos of herself on MySpace.

In 2009, Nebraska, Utah and Vermont changed their laws to lessen penalties for teenagers who engage in sexting, and several more states are looking into it as well.

Meanwhile here in the great state of Texas, our Attorney General Greg Abbott, announced the state will now prosecute teens found with nude

or semi-nude images of classmates, with a penalty of up to 10 years in prison.

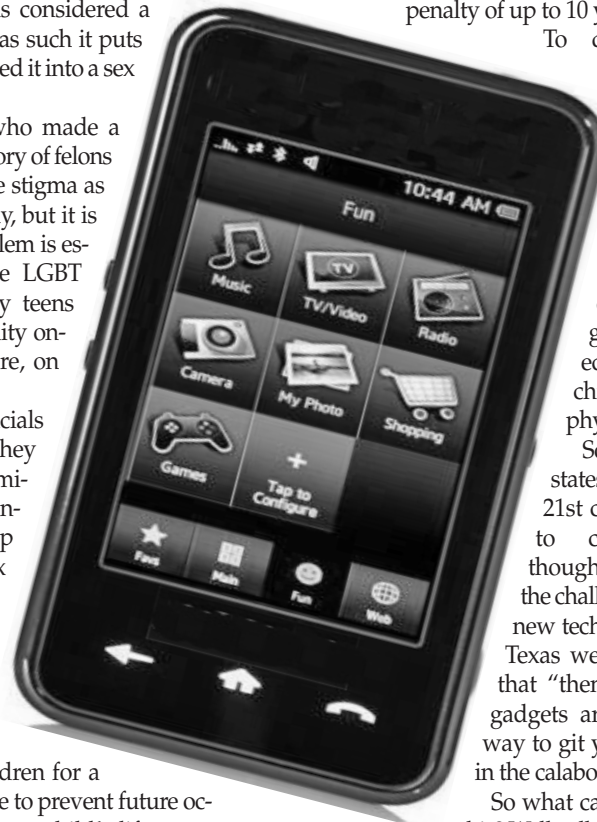
To quote Abbott, "The owner of a computer or cell phone containing pictures of nude or semi-nude minors can be investigated and prosecuted on felony child pornography charges."

So while other states move into the 21st century, willing to carefully and thoughtfully examine the challenges posed by new technology, here in Texas we have decided that "them new-fangled gadgets are just another way to git yerself thred in the calaboose."

So what can we do about this? Well, talk about it to your friends for starters, and then

vote the idiots like Greg Abbott out of office! His term expires this year — hint, hint.

Hardy Haberman is a longtime local LGBT activist and a member of Stonewall Democrats of Dallas. His blog is at <http://dungeondiary.blogspot.com>.



Hardy Haberman
Flagging Left

Letters

Backing Bellos

In re: "Oak Lawn doctor fighting Blue Cross for payments," Dallas Voice, March 19.

My personal experience as a patient of Dr. Nick Bellos has covered a span of almost 20 years (since 1991). The compassion and care Dr. Bellos has demonstrated in this time far surpasses any other health care professional I have been associated with.

Thankfully, I have not had to deal with Blue Cross/Blue Shield since I am insured through my former employer's group health plan. But I know of BC/BS customers who have experienced similar problems with other health care professionals as those described by Dr. Bellos.

Have you ever personally known an LGBT person who was homeless?

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Would you have taken a same-sex date to the prom if it were allowed?

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- Don't know: 0 percent

207 Votes cast

There is simply no excuse for the vitriol displayed by certain online commenters against Dr. Bellos. How can Dr. Bellos be described as a “greedy doctor” when he himself has not drawn a salary for the past three years? This act of selflessness is incongruous with greed.

In the normal course of operating a business, any doctor is obligated to bill a patient for services not covered by their insurance. This is not a new concept in the world of medical practices.

Dr. Bellos is not trying to negotiate a more lucrative reimbursement contract with BC/BS. He is simply attempting to collect the monies that are owed him.

He acknowledges in the article that the 2009 reimbursement contract with BC/BS was not properly reviewed by his staff. That does not mean that BS/BC has a free pass to withhold payments for claims which are properly and reasonably submitted.

I personally know of patients without insurance who have received care from Dr. Bellos. He has charged them a small co-payment only for his professional services. Does this sound like greed? I think not.

I could go on for pages about the compassion of Dr. Bellos for his patients but will close for now

and hope everyone sees this story as a cautionary tale about the unbridled power and greed of insurance companies and their obscene profits.

Gary Olsen
Dallas

Waiting on Hutchison

Last week I travelled to Washington, D.C., to lobby Congress in an effort to move forward HR1283 and S3065, the bills that will bring an end to the military’s anti-gay “Don’t ask, don’t tell” policy.

As we often do, we set appointments on our own, hoping to meet with our representatives or senators one-on-one and attend other meetings with representatives from other states. This year, an appointment was made by the staff of Servicemembers Legal Defense Network with Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison’s office to meet with a member of her staff.

I am a constituent of Sen. Hutchison from Houston and was accompanied by two of her other constituents from Dallas and Fort Worth. We had with us a recently retired (straight) Army major general and three casualties of DADT.

We arrived early, as good military people often

do, and were told that our appointment was not on the calendar and that the staffer was out of the office in a meeting. We were politely asked to wait for his return.

After we waited half an hour, the time for another appointment we had set drew near. So, our team split, and I remained, with two others, waiting for the reappearance of the missing staffer.

We stood patiently waiting in the reception area. After another hour or so, another group arrived for their meeting. The staffer came in, asked the clerk if his last appointment was there and disappeared into the office with the other group.

I asked the clerk, “What about us?” And he replied, “Oh, I forgot you were there.”

Despite the fact that we were no more than five feet from the clerk for an hour-and-a-half, we were forgotten by him and Sen. Hutchison’s staff.

I do not intend to be forgotten again!

This scenario was painfully reminiscent of several years ago when Sen. Hutchison parked three flag officers in the hallway and refused to meet with them.

I spent the remainder of the day with a significant burr in my saddle over being forgotten. The only thing that salvaged it was that two of us dropped by Rep. Charlie Gonzalez’s office, with-

out an appointment, and were graciously welcomed by him.

We spent about 20 minutes with Rep. Gonzalez and his senior staff. I felt at home in his office.

I believe the difference is simply this: Rep. Gonzalez studied the DADT issue for several years before finally becoming a co-sponsor of repeal efforts and joining our battle. Sen. Hutchison, on the other hand, spent the same years avoiding contact and avoiding listening to our reasoning.

I served my nation proudly and my only desire is to return and continue my service. I have contacted Sen. Hutchison’s office requesting yet another meeting — not with staff, but with her.

Perhaps DADT will be repealed before I must make another trip to D.C., but if not, I hope I am represented in the Senate by someone who will at least listen for a few brief moments to constituents — even if our words are not unto their personal liking.

My service and my vote matter!

Tommy Cook
Houston

Tommy Cook is the named plaintiff in SLDN’s Cook v. Rumsfeld (re-captioned Cook v. Gates) suit on behalf of the casualties of DADT.

TO SEND A LETTER | We welcome letters from readers. Shorter letters and those addressing a single issue are more likely to be printed. Letters are subject to editing for length and clarity, but we attempt to maintain the writer’s substance and tone. Include your home address and a daytime telephone number for verification. Send letters to the senior editor, preferably by e-mail (nash@dallasvoice.com). Letters also may be faxed (214-969-7271) or sent via the U.S. Postal Service (Dallas Voice, 4145 Travis St., Third Floor, Dallas TX 75204). All letters become the property of Dallas Voice.

query 03.26.10

BY DAVID TAFFET

When was the last time you had an HIV test?

Taylor McCarty — “Never. My doctor’s never tested.”

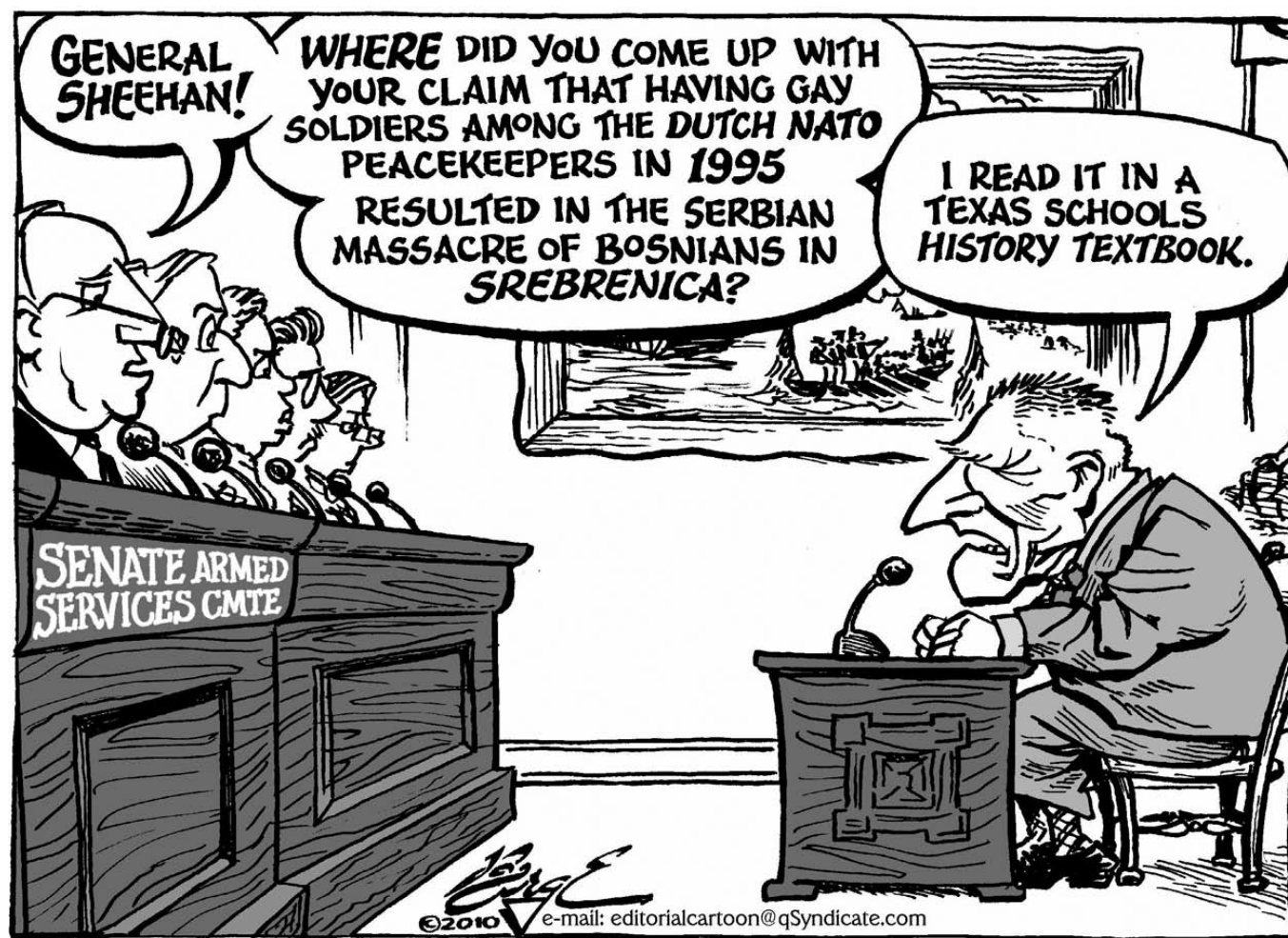
Paul Tran — “Usually every April and October. I get tested every six months.”

Michael Austin — “June. It was free at Austin Pride.”

Claire Jordan — “August. I get tested once a year, because I lecture my friends to get tested once a year.”

Bobby Gobin — “November ’89, and I tested positive.”

Have a suggestion for a question you’d like us to ask?
E-mail it to nash@dallasvoice.com.



DIRECTOR'S CUT CUT

Dallas filmmaker **Israel Luna** takes his 'Ticked-Off Trannies With Knives!' to the Tribeca Film Festival — but not without controversy

STEVEN LINDSEY | Contributing Writer
stevencraiglindsey@me.com

When Israel Luna submitted his latest film, *Ticked-Off Trannies with Knives*, to the Tribeca Film Festival, he expected the usual "Thank You For Your Interest, We Wish You The Best Of Luck" letter. Instead, he got the news that his comedy-slasher-exploitation revenge fantasy had been accepted into one of the nation's most prestigious film festivals, established in 2003 by Robert De Niro, Jane Rosenthal and Craig Hatkoff in New York City.

The low-budget feature — shot in Dallas last summer over 18 days — follows a group of transgender women who are violently beaten by three men and left for dead. After they regain consciousness and fully recuperate, they are stalked by their attackers but turn the tables in graphically sadistic ways, resulting in a lot of blood ... and a glimpse into the mind of a filmmaker with a seriously dark sense of humor.

"The idea actually came up when a group of us were watching the *Grindhouse* movies that Quentin Tarantino and Robert Rodriguez did," Luna says. "After, we were just playing around and someone said I should do this with drag queens. That would be so much fun. I thought, 'Well, let me try to think of how we could do this with absolutely no budget whatsoever.' I thought a simple, old-fashioned revenge movie would be easy to write for me. And that's what I did."

Luna has always been a big fan of '70s-era movies like *Black Mama*, *White Mama* and *Cleopatra Jones*, so he thought it would be fun to do a contemporary movie in that vintage style.



ANY WAY YOU SLICE IT
Jenna Skyy, left, and Krystal Summers, right, shouldn't be so ticked off at director Israel Luna as their film heads to New York for the Tribeca Film Festival. (Photo by Arnold Wayne Jones)

Rather than blaxploitation, as those movies were commonly categorized, Luna considers his to be a *transploitation* flick. And just as people argued that the stereotypical blaxploitation movies brought to light the injustices against the black community, many fought for the end of the movies claiming that they were causing more harm through their perpetuation of stereotypes.

Similarly, a Facebook page has been started by Dallas transgender woman Kelli Busey, calling for the boycott of the film at Tribeca based on concerns that it "exploits violence against trans women for cheap laughs" and that it "portray[s] trans women as murderous vigilantes hunting down their abusers [which] is hardly going to improve understanding about this heavily marginalized group of people."

Luna wasn't expecting this kind of backlash.

"I didn't think that it would be such a topical thing or an issue, but we've been getting stuff about the name, the title, and using the word 'tranny.' And then there are people who are like, is it right to do an eye-for-an-eye kind of thing?" he says of the film's critics. "When I was first writing the script, I just wanted to do an old-fashioned revenge movie. This group of people gets bashed. They come back for revenge. Done."

Luna is puzzled somewhat by the controversy because the main theme of the film is empowerment, not victimhood — and certainly not mocking the trans characters.

"I thought the gay thing's been done, the coming-out-to-the-parents thing has been done. We're just so past all of that stuff," he

says. "Who's now the most under-represented and misunderstood? The trans community. And now with all the new rights [issues] coming up and murders [against transgender people] happening, that's what I wanted to do. Everyone says I have the corner on the market with the drag queens and the transgender women here in Dallas because I have them in all of my projects. I just have this fascination and love [for them]."

According to Luna, the Tribeca honchos told him this is the first featured they've screened where actual trans women play transgender characters in central roles (Krystal Summers, Kelexis Dav-enport and Erica Andrews), a bit of ground breaking he's especially proud of ... particularly since he didn't condescend to the characters.

"When I was writing it, I saw them as women," he says. "That's why when Tribeca called us and said they wanted to include us [I was thrilled]. It was huge because this to me isn't a gay story and Tribeca isn't a gay festival."

The title seems to be what has galvanized opposition to the film (so far, none of the critics has apparently screened the film).

"I ran [the title] past everybody. I had transgender women in front of and behind the camera. And I asked all of them what they thought of this. They were all OK with it. I even had other transgender women in the community say it was cool. There are people that disagree, but it's not all of them," he says.

Krystal Summers, who plays the leading role, says she was converted to its message.

NY OR BUST

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■ **KNIVES**, From Page 18

"Just the other night Krystal said that she was a little iffy on *taking* the role, but now that all of this is happening, she's proud to be transgender and she loves the fact that it's in the title now," he says. "It's brought out this confidence in her."

On top of that, it's entertainment, Luna says. "There are so many other elements filmmaking-wise that you have to think of to get people in the seats and the title is catchy. The biggest thing is that we beat anybody to the punch that wants to make a joke about it. We're already telling you that these are transgender women, now let's move on."

Though that may be easier said than done for those offended by the title or plot, Luna hopes his

movie simply achieves what he set out to do: Make people laugh, give them a good scare and fulfill latent revenge fantasies of anyone who has ever been a target of hate.

Whether its detractors will see it and find the transgender women who turn the tables on their attackers to be empowering remains to be seen. But Luna's main goal will always be to provide escapist entertainment through his films by exploring taboo themes or putting his own twist on tried-and-true genres. Next up on his development short list: A (straight) musical hard-core porno.

Nope, that won't be controversial at all. ■

DYNAMIC TRIO | At the end of the day, it's all smiles toward movie stardom.

(Photo by Arnold Wayne Jones)



The thinking man's pervert

To paraphrase F. Scott Fitzgerald, the Canucks, they are different from us Americans. Sure, they look like us, and they even sound like us mostly (except when they say "about" and "eh" — it's like detecting Cylons). But despite similar street signs and our new social medicine plan, they live in an entirely different universe. At least, that's how it seems when it comes to sex.

I've never quite grooved to Canadian director Atom Egoyan's rhythms. His movies often seem preoccupied with sex, and even lurid sex, but they are as bland about it as maple syrup. How is it they make you feel dirty *and* bored? He crams his films with imagery and symbolism, but he's both heavy-handed and visually lazy. It's like he's a thinking man's pervert ... and when it comes to sex, thinking has nuthin ta do with it.

In his latest film, **Chloe**, the sexual imagery begins early: A Toronto woman (Julianne Moore) is a gynecologist who has her hands in lady parts all day; she suspects her husband (Liam Neeson) of cheating on her. And why not? He lectures admiringly about Don Giovanni's conquests, lies to his wife and comes onto every woman he sees.

But is it *she* who has the obsession with sex? When she hires a call girl, Chloe (Amanda Seyfried), to seduce her husband to test his fidelity, it leads her into a flirtation with lesbianism.

While it's possible to appreciate the film's sexual frankness (Republicans could loosen up at a screening), as well as the bravery of Moore's performance — is there a better film actress today? — *Chloe* is a cheat of a film, one with twists that only work because the filmmaker withholds information and skews our perspective with misdirection. It also turns what purports to be a psychological drama into a cheesy "erotic thriller" of the most banal, 1980s, direct-to-video kind. All that's missing is Shannon Tweed.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

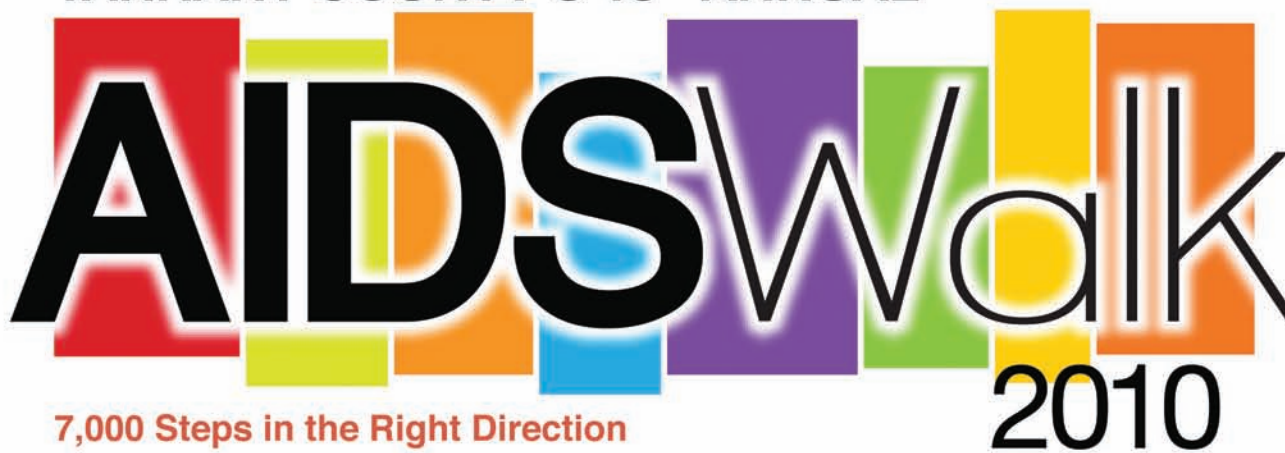
Rating: Two and a half stars

Opens today at the Angelika Mockingbird Station.



Seyfried and Moore in 'Chloe.'

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L+S stage

Highway to hell

Low budget makes for a clever, creative production of 'Persephone'

RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer
lopez@dallasvoice.com



HER HERO | Hermes may or may not save Persephone from Hades' grasp, but he looks good trying.

The magic of the Greek gods is at play in MBS Productions' latest offering, *Persephone*, because director Mark-Brian Sonna has created a masterpiece with low budget sensibilities. He takes the audience into the realm of the underworld with nothing more than pieces of fabric and body makeup. But it's the writing that transports them out of the theater and into Persephone's world of troubles.

With a black curtained backdrop, beautifully colored swaths of fabric as togas, rivers and death's tools of transport, Sonna's minimalism is wonderfully effective in his tale of Persephone, daughter of Zeus and Demeter, who is kidnapped by Hades and forced to become his wife, the queen of the underworld. He gives the script the same kind of attention, trimming it of any fat to move the story along quickly.

David Swanner and Marilyn Setu play the mismatched couple with clear visions of their characters. Swanner is deliciously lecherous but

taps into Hades' inner loneliness. Setu gives Persephone layers of complexity. Her sense of entitlement is bratty like Paris Hilton but her loss of innocence as she meanders the dark realm for an escape has made her into a heartless soul. Setu's eyes transform from wide-eyed wonder to a diabolical determination.

The cast creates a nice balance among each other but the leads here are the strongest of the bunch. The backside nudity of Nathan Pennington's Hermes offers a titillating aspect that makes it hard to concentrate on the dialogue. His

buff god bod is clothed with a sash barely covering his nether regions. But Hades never takes us down there.

Persephone is a triumphant gem. Clocking in at just under two hours, Sonna has packaged a Greek tale that will leave an impression for days.

'PERSEPHONE'

Stone Cottage Theatre, 15650
Addison Road. Through April 10.
\$18-\$21. MBSProductions.net.

Beauty is more than skin deep

Neil LaBute never met a button he didn't want to push, especially when it comes to relationships. His trilogy of so-called Beauty Plays — *The Shape of Things*, *Fat Pig* and his most recent, *Reasons to be Pretty* — seem designed to make audiences squirm, especially when you sit next to a woman. It's as if his work isn't finished inside the theater; the real drama is meant to take place in the car ride home.



Christina Vela and Regan Adair in 'Fat Pig.'

The Dallas Theater Center seems to be cozying into its new downtown home by giving an urban edginess to its season. (The plays are performed in repertory, with the same six actors sharing all 12 characters across three plays.) The first two of the plays, which have opened and play through May, are stinging little one-acts in the intimate black box studio, which only exaggerates the discomfort.

The better of the two is *Fat Pig*, both as a play and as a production. First, as a play: *Shape*, in which a schlubby student (Steven Walters) remakes himself to impress his new girlfriend (Abbey Siegworth), is gimmicky, with a twist that depends on basic misogyny, though it concerns itself more deeply with ideas about art and truth.

Pig, by contrast, is almost too real, with Regan Adair both detestable and heartbreaking as a man who falls in love with a large woman but who cannot get beyond the judgmental stares and hateful barbs of his co-workers. The characters seem more real, even as many of them are endlessly infuriating — the man's ex-girlfriend is a walking Freudian justification for why some men are gay. (Infuriation, though, is essential to *Shape* as well — if you're not red-faced, you're not paying attention.)

The direction and pacing of *Pig* are also superior, with Adair and Vela outstanding in the small, precisely-observed details of their courtship. Both plays make you angry, but *Fat Pig* does something more: it makes you sad.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. *Fat Pig* and *The Shape of Things* run through May 9. (*Reasons to be Pretty* opens April 9 and plays through May 23.) DallasTheaterCenter.org.

Dallas doesn't find itself too often in the middle of a gay live music dilemma. This weekend, two musicians might get to bring their sounds to the masses. That is, if LGBT Dallas heads out to support their own.

Tommy Hernandez was mostly on the local music scene as a solo artist but his latest venture takes him away from pop music into a trancey realm. As one half of Museum Creatures, he and Stephen Holmes go the electronica route.

Museum Creatures is part of the Mercy for Animals Benefit at the Cavern on Lower Greenville. They share a heavy bill with Soft Environmental Collapse, Division of Power and more for the Rockout for Animals show.

Stephen Boothe approaches music with a raw attitude. In his latest release, *Jump In*, a five song EP, he explores his darker side.

Boothe relocated from Dallas to Austin partly to be near the music industry there. A lonely spell set in and provided inspiration for his newest set of songs. But he's confident his gay audience will relate.

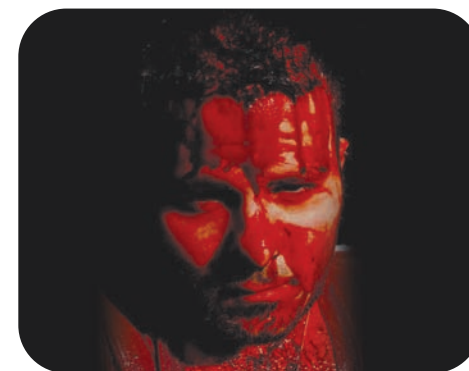
"I do have a mostly gay audience and they don't listen to just the poppy music at gay clubs and bars you always hear."

He's alt-rock with a piano but more in the vein of Tori Amos. Yet, maybe a bit louder.

"It's just me and a piano but it's gonna be loud. I sing pretty loud and I'm not a classically trained pianist so it can get intense at times."

— Rich Lopez

SHOW VS. SHOW



Artist/Band

Museum Creatures

Patrick Boothe

They describe their music as...

Concrete, garage, hard house. (In reality: Trippy, ambient dance music.)

Rock with a piano. (In reality: It's less Elton and more P.J. Harvey)

Good for the gays?

Member Tommy Hernandez has played at Sue Ellen's and JR's Bar & Grill with She-Dick founder, Dan Paul.

Totally. He's an out artist who's latest release, *Jump In*, ventures to a darker side.

Cool merch?

It's a benefit show, so everything is gonna be cool.

He's so indie, he just sells his previous CDs.

Who might you run into?

Animal lovers and vegans.

Emo gays for Boothe and underage emo straights for another Saturday night at the Prophet Bar.

Reason to be there.

To support Mercy for Animals and score on hottie hipsters.

He plans to play loud, sing loud and pound the piano. Plus, he's got actual chops. He could be big one day.

Reason to not.

Hard to argue with benefits for animals. Just be there.

Underage emos.

Deets

Rockout for Animals at the Cavern, 1914 Greenville Ave. March 26 at 8 p.m. \$5-\$10. MercyForAnimals.org.

The Prophet Bar, 2548 Elm St. March 27 at 8 p.m. \$8-\$10. PatrickBoothe.net.



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Praying for safety

Defense by Design could make this couch potato one not to be messed with

RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer
 lopez@dallasvoice.com

I'm not a petite guy — dammit. My jeans remind me of that every day. Being the optimist that I am, I can find the silver lining in it. With a larger (ahem) presence, shady peeps aren't gonna mess with this as I walk the rough streets of Junius Heights at night. Hey, a guy has to have his Cheetos. But one man says I have it all wrong and that perhaps, my ass could just be a kickable one.

Yipes!

On Saturday, Jeff McKissack will teach how to Be Your Own Bodyguard at the Cathedral of Hope for their Fit For Faith ministry. I dig that its acronym is BYOB, but McKissack wasn't gonna tolerate my approach to defending myself.

"People need training for different reasons. Petite people can be easily overpowered, but bigger guys can be just as much if there's more than one person attacking you," he says.

I figure I can *Kill Bill* my way out of a situation as ninjas wait around to attack. But McKissack burst my bubble saying these guys don't take a number before attacking.

OK, I get it. So now my interest is piqued and McKissack and Fit for Faith lay leader Johnny Humphrey are happy to show me the error of my ways.

"First, knowledge is key. If someone jumps you, you'll be well prepared. If Satan comes around the corner, you'll definitely be better prepared," Humphrey laughs.

The Fit for Faith ministry is Humphrey's baby and its goal is to combine fitness, nutrition and spirituality. He saw McKissack's Defense By Design program as an ideal opportunity to incorporate the group's intentions. He assures it's not just for gym rats but instead, it's inclusive of everyone wanting to approach life in a healthier fashion.

"I thought FFF could be this place where people come together. We're not trying to push church

at all. I want people to know there are wonderful resources available to help. This class is that. It's not about 'gays as victims,' it's about education," he says.

Fair enough, but really, I just want to know if after the class, am I gonna be able to kick some ass. I've always needed to know how to judo chop the neck to knock someone out. That would come in handy at Wal-Mart when the person in front has more than the number of items in the express lane.

"Let's use what common sense we do have," McKissack says. "There is not as much as emphasis on punching as protecting. In the first hour..."

Whoa, first hour?

In his session, McKissack spends the first part of the class discussing the psychology of danger and how to assess a troubling situation. The second half, he goes into the physicality of protecting yourself. With his 23 years of martial arts experience, two hours seems like a short enough time to spend learning how to protect myself. McKissack is so good, he even taught me a protective move over the phone.

"When people are down on the ground, they cover their head. Why not do that while you're up? So just bring your fists to your head and your elbows out. This protects the head. Whatever happens, you don't want to lose your head," he says.

Humphrey and I agreed on one thing. We both hope we learn some cool ninja moves.

"I haven't done any self-defense training so I'm hoping to learn a little judo chop," Humphrey says.

Me too. But after all this talk of self-protection, multiple attackers and head knocking, I'm thinking it may just be safer at home. Inside. On the couch.

Be Your Own Bodyguard at Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. March 27 at 2 p.m. \$20. CathedralofHope.com.

TASTING NOTES

The fifth annual **No Tie Dinner and Dessert Party** puts a casual spin on the formal Black Tie Dinner. The benefit for **AIDS Services of Dallas** is a two-part event: First, you enjoy dinner at a private home with your friends (or host one yourself); then you can attend the main event: an auction and dessert party held at the **Frontiers of Flight Museum** next to Love Field. Participating restaurants offering up sweets include **Salum, Hattie's, Zaguan Cafe and Bakery** and **Nothing Bundt Cakes**. A \$40 donation benefits ASD. The dessert party starts at 8 p.m. on March 27.

A lot of restaurants are offering Easter Sunday brunch specials, but no Easter promotion is more intriguing than **The Joule's**. The boutique downtown hotel is sponsoring its Golden Easter Egg Hunt, with clues left on its Twitter feed (#JouleHunt) and Facebook page that will lead intrepid bunnies on a search for an oversized golden egg. The one who finds it first wins a two-night stay in one of its suites, as well as dinner for four at **Charlie Palmer**. The race begins on March 30.

The **Cotes du Coeur** is one of the more elaborate food-based fundraisers, with exceptional chefs gathering to raise money for the American Heart Association. Among those chefs and sommeliers participating for the 19th annual gala, which takes place at the Hilton Anatole on April 10, are **Nana's Anthony Bombaci, Kent Rathbun of Abacus** and **Jasper's, Scott Gottlich of Bijoux** and **Jeffrey Hobbs of Suze**. For tickets, visit DallasWineAuction.com.

The **Warwick Melrose Hotel's Landmark Restaurant** has hired **Mike Pacheco** as its new executive chef. And another local restaurant has a sorta *old* kitchen head.

Casey Thompson — founding chef at **Shinsei**, former roommate of **Blythe Beck** and oh-so-close **Top Chef** competitor — has been tapped to become executive chef at Fort Worth's new **Brownstone**. The Southern-inspired cuisine will be featured when the restaurant opens in May.

It's old news by now, but one of my local lunch haunts, **Tom Tom Noodle House** in the West Village, has closed.



There are many reasons gays like Vermont. It was the first state to offer legal same-sex unions statewide is one; another is its very gay-friendly companies, including **Ben & Jerry's**. Last fall, after the state legislature changed the "civil union" process to actual "marriage," the yummy ice cream dairy changed the name of its "Chubby Hubby" flavor to "**Hubby Hubby**" as a nod to its gay followers.

Earlier this month, eponymous co-founder **Jerry Greenfield** brought that support south to Washington, D.C., by hosting a reception for a gay male couple married under the new District of Columbia marriage law, pictured. We assume dessert included a brand-name ice cream. Ben & Jerry's — which, if it weren't the name of a food company sounds like a popular party in Provincetown, let's face it — also pledged to continue bringing its support and awareness to FreedomToMarry.org. That's worth a few scoops. With a cherry on top.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

CORRECTION

One of the winners in the Services section of the Readers Voice Awards was inadvertently left out of last week's issue. Here is the winner. Congratulations!

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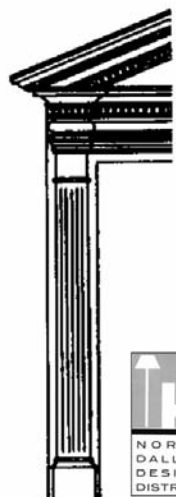
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Friday 03.06

Only one real housewife at a time

We all know Nene Leakes is the star of *The Real Housewives of Atlanta* with her sassy mouth and diva-tude. She brings it all to the Big D this weekend and show us up close what it's like to be a housewife. Even better? We're curious to see just how the Nene look-alike contest will play out. Ladies and gents, start your engines for this drag race.

DEETS: Drama Club, 1911 N. Griffin St. 11 p.m. \$20. 214-268-8840.

Saturday 03.27

No tie, no prob. No shoes? Umm...

Ties are a problem when it comes to dinner. So when the No Tie Dinner and Dessert party rolls around, we don't have to worry about stains. For this benefit for AIDS Services of Dallas, you get the main course at a host's home and then it's off to the dessert bash after. That should amuse your bouche.

DEETS: Frontiers of Flight Museum, 6911 Lemmon Ave. 8 p.m. \$40. NoTieDinner.org.

Sunday 03.28

Memoirs of geishas and bears

Turtle Creek Chorale's Jonathan Palant plans to prove opera can be cool. In *Figaro! A Night at the Opera*, he'll mix tenors with bears and cowboys and then somehow make it all glorious. But whether he dresses up again as a geisha remains to be seen.

DEETS: Meyerson Symphony Center, 2301 Flora St. Performance also on Tuesday. 8 p.m. \$16-\$65. TurtleCreek.org.



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FRIDAY 03.26

COMMUNITY

Lambda Pride Toastmasters meets weekly at Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 7 p.m. Contact RLJDallasTX@aol.com.

Youth First Texas groups for ages 14 to 22. 3918 Harry Hines Blvd. 4–10 p.m. 214-879-0400.

Congregation Beth El Binah Shabbat service. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 7:30 p.m. 214-521-5342 ext. 1784.

Business Network Collin County luncheon. Fox Sports Grille, 5741 Legacy Drive, Plano. 11:30 a.m. \$20. BusinessNetworkCC.org.

Oak Lawn Tennis Association. L. B. Houston Tennis Center, 11225 Luna Road. 6 p.m. OLTADallas.org.

THEATER

Bedroom Farce by Alan Ayckbourn. Theatre Three, 2800 Routh St., Suite 168. Through Sunday. Thursdays, Friday–Saturday at 8 p.m. Weekend matinees at 2:30 p.m. \$10–\$40. Theatre3Dallas.org.

Greater Tuna with Kyle McClaran and Landon Starnes playing each Tuna character. Presented by the Garland Civic Theatre. Granville Arts Center, 300 N. Fifth St., Garland. Through Saturday. Friday–Saturday at 8 p.m. \$18–\$20. GarlandCivicTheatre.org.

The Lion in Winter. Presented by Irving Community Theatre. Irving Arts Center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd., Irving. Through April 3. Fridays–Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays 2:30 p.m. \$15–\$20. IrvingTheatre.org.

SubUrbia. Upstart Productions and Project X: Theatre presents the Eric Bogosian play. The Green Zone, 161 Riveredge Drive. Through April 10. Thursdays–Saturdays at 8 p.m.

ART

Andy Warhol The Last Decade. Modern Art Museum, 3200 Darnell St., Fort Worth. Through May 16. TheModern.org.

Georgia O'Keeffe and the Faraway: Nature and Image. National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame, 1720 Gendy St., Fort Worth. Through Sep. 6. Cowgirl.net.

Michael Craig-Martin show and installation. Goss-Michael Foundation, 2500 Cedar Springs Road. Through Apr. 30. GossMichaelFoundation.org.

this week's solution

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ANGST IN THE 'BURBS | Eric Bogosian goes slacker in his play, 'SubUrbia,' about 20somethings leading lives going nowhere. The play continues at The Green Zone.

Seizing the New World, paintings by Yang Jin Long. Crow Collection of Asian Art, 2010 Flora St. Through April 18. CrowCollection.org.

SATURDAY 03.27

COMMUNITY

Dallas FrontRunners fun run. Runners and walkers at all levels welcome. Meet on the patio of the recreation house at Sunset Bay at White Rock Lake Park. 8 a.m. Dallasfrontrunners.org.

Fuse: Core Group for men 18 to 29. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 2–5 p.m. 214-540-4435.

Church services. The ONE Church East. 6246 Broadway Blvd, Suite #100, Garland. 3 p.m. 214-724-5658. Dallas1Church.org.

Youth First Texas groups for ages 14 to 22. 3918 Harry Hines Blvd. 5–10 p.m. 214-879-0400.

D.A.M.N., Dallas Area Men's Naturists, hold their monthly Bare as You Dare event at Dallas Eagle, 2515 Inwood Road, # 117. Keep in mind Texas does mandate a minimum of clothing around the groin!

DANCE

Texas Dance Theatre is auditioning male dancers for a new work by Bruce Wood and auditioning male and female dancers for the next season. Garber Hall Studio, 1300 Gendy St., Fort Worth. Noon. Audition fee \$15. 817-676-1514. TexasDanceTheatre.com.

SUNDAY 03.28

COMMUNITY

Breath of Life Interfaith Mindfulness Fellowship. All faiths welcome. Unity Church of Dallas, 6525 Forest Lane. 5:30 p.m. InterMindful.com.

The ONE Church West Sunday services. First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church, 1959 Sandy Lane, Fort Worth. 3 p.m. OneChurchTX.org.

30/40Something social group meets weekly. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 10 a.m.

Youth First Texas Collin County. Open to ages 14 to 22. 1200 Commerce St., Suite 121, Plano. 6 p.m. 214-879-0400.

Lesbianas Latinas. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 4 p.m. 214-890-6976.

Cowtown Leathermen cook-out. Best Friends Club, 2620 East Lancaster Ave., Fort Worth.

Oak Lawn Tennis Association. Samuell-Grand Tennis Center, 6200 E. Grand Ave. 9 a.m.–noon. OLTADallas.org

BROADCAST

Lambda Weekly. Gay and lesbian radio for North Texas with David Taffet, Patti Fink and Lerone Landis. 89.3 KNON-FM at noon.

The Rick Vanderslice Show streams daily at noon on RationalRadio.org.

Cathedral of Hope service. Ch. 8 at 12:35 a.m.

MONDAY 03.29

COMMUNITY

Dallas Prime Timers play bridge at member's residence. 1 p.m. Call 972-504-8866 for details.

Caffeine + Character. Cathedral of Hope youth meeting for ages 14-22 at Buli Café, 3908 Cedar Springs Road.

F.A.C.E., support group for those impacted by HIV/AIDS in any capacity. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 7 p.m. Cathedralofhope.com.

Self Esteem Support Group meets weekly. AIDS Outreach Center, 400 N. Beach St., Fort Worth. 1:30 p.m. 817-229-4621. AOC.org.

TUESDAY 03.30

COMMUNITY

Sista to Sista support group provided by AIDS Outreach Center. Meets every first, second and third Tuesday. AIDS Outreach Center, 400 N. Beach St., Fort Worth. 11:30 a.m. 817-335-1994 ext. 204. AOC.org.

Positive Recovery Auricular Acupuncture meets Tuesdays and Wednesdays. AIDS Outreach Center, 400 N. Beach St., Fort Worth. 817-229-4621. AOC.org.

Miracle Workers (formerly Peace Builder Leadership Team) meets. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 6:30 p.m. Cathedralofhope.com.

Gaymsters bridge club. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 2 p.m.

FUSE Movie Night. For gay and bi guys up to 29. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 7 p.m.

Q's-Day Potluck. All are welcome to this friendly, casual LGBT gathering every Tuesday evening. The Corporate Image, 5418 Brentwood Stair Road, Fort Worth, 817-446-3395.

Stop Smoking psycho-educational group by the AIDS Outreach Center, 400 N. Beach St., Fort Worth. 2 p.m. 817-335-1994 ext. 217. AOC.org.

Lambda Pride Toastmasters. Regular meeting for improving communication and leadership skills. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 6:30 p.m. Lambdapride.freetoasthost.us.

Oak Lawn Tennis Association. L. B. Houston Tennis Center, 11225 Luna Road. 6 p.m. OLTADallas.org.

WEDNESDAY 03.31

COMMUNITY

Dallas Prime Timers play bridge at member's residence. 7 p.m. Call 972-504-8866 for details.

Positively Straight meets. AIDS Outreach Center, 400 N. Beach St., Fort Worth. 2 p.m. 817-335-1994 ext. 217. AOC.org.

Gay Teen Project. 909 W. Magnolia St., Suite 2, Fort Worth. 7 p.m. 817-332-7722.

20Something social group meets at Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 6:15 p.m. Cathedralofhope.com.

El Sol support group meets weekly. AIDS Outreach Center, 400 N. Beach St., Fort Worth. 2 p.m. 817-335-1994 ext. 217. AOC.org.

Common Bond, an alternative lifestyle book group. Barnes & Noble, 362 East F.M. 1382, Cedar Hill. 7 p.m. 972-293-9367.

x3 social group for women. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 7 p.m. Free. 214-528-0144.



CAUSING A RACKET | Oak Lawn Tennis Association is back at it just in time for Spring.

THURSDAY 04.01

COMMUNITY

Dallas FrontRunners run on the Katy Trail. Meet at Knox Street entrance. 6:30 p.m.

The ONE Church West Bible Study. First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church, 1959 Sandy Lane, Fort Worth. 7:30 p.m. OneChurchTX.org.

FUSE drop-in weekdays (except Tuesdays). For gay and bi guys up to 29. Resource Center of Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 3–8 p.m. 214-540-4435.

Youth First Texas groups for ages 14 to 22. 3918 Harry Hines Blvd. 4–10 p.m. 214-879-0400.

CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY

By Jack Fertig



Richard Chamberlain turns 76 on Thursday. We gave the actor kudos for officially coming out of the Hollywood closet in his 2003 autobiography, *Shattered Love* but the king of early '80s epic TV series has now ventured onto the stage. He was last seen as King Arthur in the 2008-09 touring production of Monty Python's *Spamalot*.

ARIES Mar 20-Apr 19

Think before acting on playful urges. You're in a stubborn mood, unlikely to stop what you've started. Thoughtless advances will offend others and leave you vulnerable to embarrassment.

TAURUS Apr 20-May 20

Whatever you get into, you are likely to bite off more than you can chew. Keep your vision focused and clear. Offer ideas and suggestions freely, but commit time and energy very carefully.

GEMINI May 21-Jun 20

What you say and how you keep secrets will influence your reputation. Your secrets are especially open to exposure. Try to look wise and spiritual with patient ears and a very discreet mouth

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22

Arguments are hard to avoid. It's easy to squabble over money; better to debate about the economy. Any financial accounts that aren't clear and honest are likely to be troublesome.

LEO Jul 23-Aug 22

Be skeptical of any encouragement to push your already strong stardom. Good as you are, there's a strong push to overreach. Remember Icarus, and beware of your own tendency to hubris.

VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

If you're looking for love, look wise and aloof. If you have love, address problems in a clean, factual way without arguing. It's all right to say "Can we discuss later?" and bring it up next week.

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

You could look a little too sexy with friends egging you on to turn up the heat. Especially while working with others, whether on the job or in volunteer work, your erotic charge could make trouble.

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

Creative efforts at morale building with colleagues can easily be seen as disruptive, painting you as an instigator. Advance your ideas a bit more carefully.

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 20

For domestic tranquility (and really to save more energy in the long run) just be agreeable and go along with whatever your housemates ask. This can also be a learning experience.

CAPRICORN Dec 21-Jan 19

Usually the soul of discretion, you're being more open about your erotic games. You may want to slow down and think about what will get back to whom and which rumors will fly.

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

Not dealing with problems can get expensive. Be creative and open-minded. Finding common ground and solutions is more important than being right.

PISCES Feb 19-Mar 19

A recent run of good luck could make you cocky. Humility will serve you better than active self-promotion. Let your work speak for itself. It's a great time to start a plan to get fit and trim.

THIS WEEK

Venus in Taurus, Mars in Leo and Jupiter in Pisces are all strong and happy but in discordant aspects, suggesting you too much of many good things. Slow down to enjoy them longer and better.

Jack Fertig can be reached at 415-864-8302 or Starjack.com

Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox

WHAT THE--?
KYLE DIDN'T MENTION ANYTHING ABOUT HAVING A PARTY TONIGHT.

EDUARDO? WHOSE PARTY IS THIS?
YOUR MOM'S, BREYER! THAT LADY SURE KNOWS HOW TO THROW ONE!

MY MOTHER?! BUT...
...SHE'S SUPPOSED TO BE RESTING AND RECOVERING... AFTER HER BIOPSY!

GLORIA? WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
BREYER! MY BABY!
OH, I HAVE GREAT NEWS! WAIT'LL YOU HEAR!

THE BIOPSY CAME BACK NEGATIVE! I DON'T HAVE CANCER! IT WAS JUST A CYST!
AH. SO... THAT'S IT? THINGS ARE BACK TO NORMAL?

BREYER... THAT'S NOT FAIR. I'VE BEEN UNDER A LOT OF STRESS. I NEEDED TO UNWIND. AND BESIDES...
YOU'RE LEAVING? OF COURSE. THINGS REALLY ARE BACK TO NORMAL.
ACTUALLY, I'VE BEEN SORT OF SEEING ONE OF THE SOUND TECH GUYS FROM JUDAS PRIEST.

... THIS IS MY WAY OF THANKING KYLE AND THE B&B GUYS FOR PUTTING ME UP... BEFORE I LEAVE.
HE'S INVITED ME TO GO ON THE ROAD WITH THEM!

YOU'RE GOING ON TOUR WITH JUDAS PRIEST?
PRETTY WICKED, HUH?
THAT'S ONE WAY OF PUTTING IT.
YOU KNOW THEIR LEAD SINGER'S GAY?
YEAH, I KNOW THAT, GLORIA...

Website - www.kylecomics.com

E-Mail - KylesBnB@aol.com

bitter girl

POORLY VIEWED

I SAY NOW, MADAME, THAT NO PERSON OF HONOR WOULD ASK SUCH A FAVOR OF ANYONE IN HERTFORDSHIRE!

THE GUANO SAMPLES REVEAL THAT THE FRUIT BAT'S BLOOD TEEMS WITH EBOLA VIRUS, YET THE ANIMAL SHOWS NO SYMPTOMS...

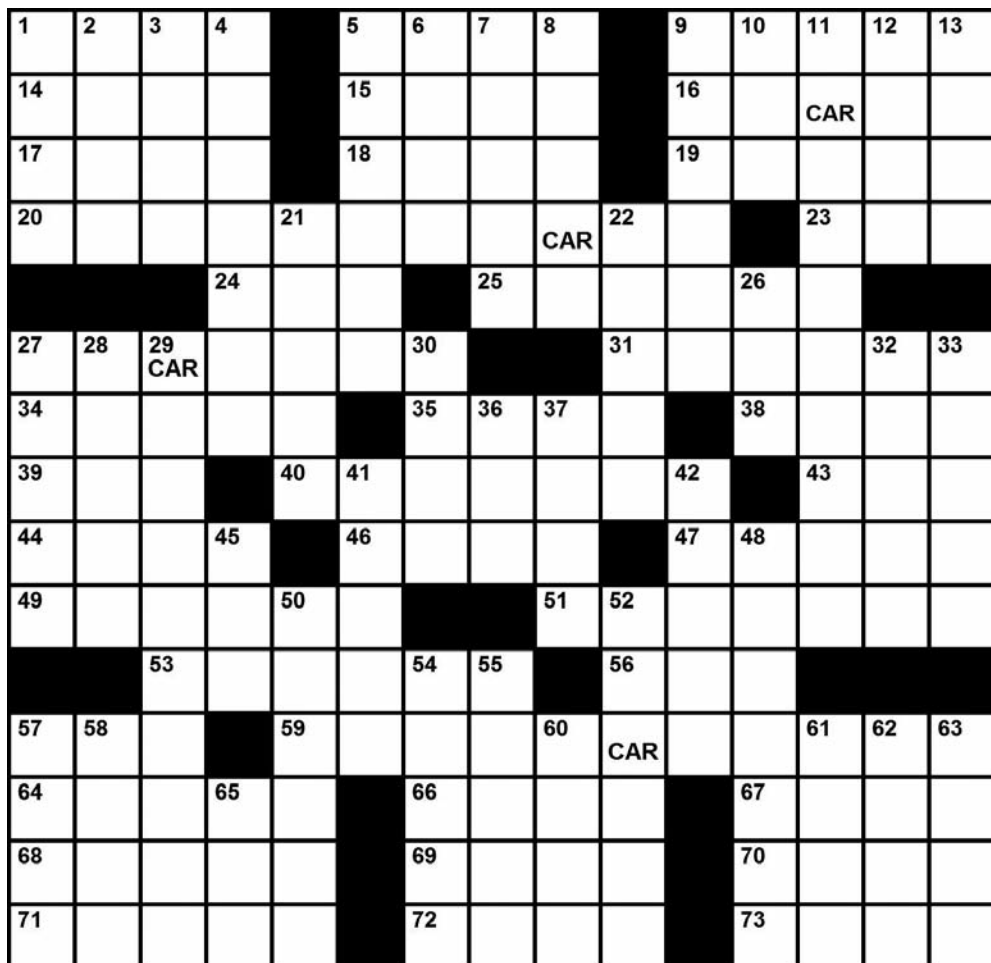
ALWAYS BEEN AN OUTLAW, LITTLE LADY... ALWAYS WILL BE. THIS CANYON DON'T BOW TO NO MAN...

THERE'S NOTHING FOR ME TO WATCH!
BUMPED YOU, TIERED OF ANGELINA JOLIE MOVIES, SUE ME.

email: bittergirl@qsyndicate.com

www.joanhilty.net

JOAN HILTY © 2010



Compact

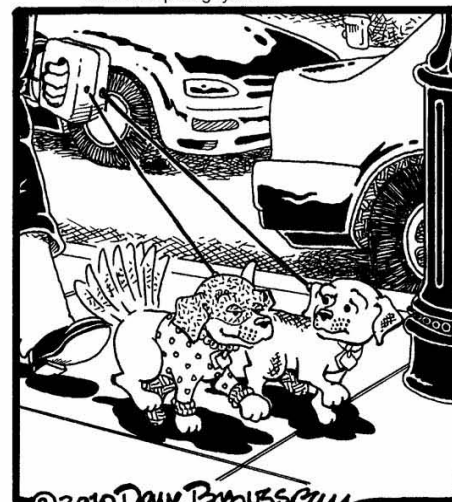
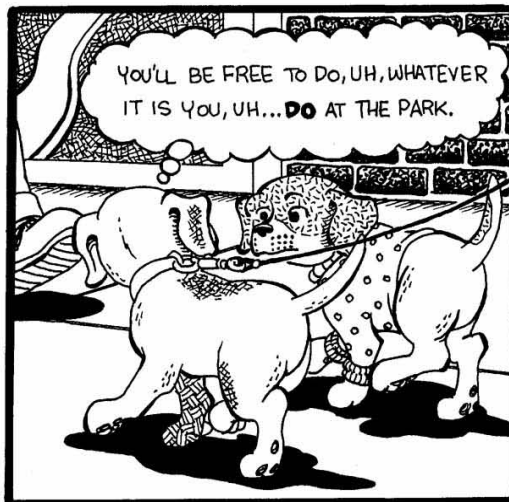
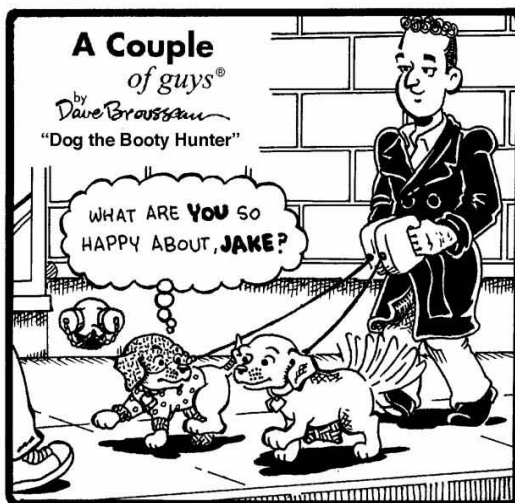
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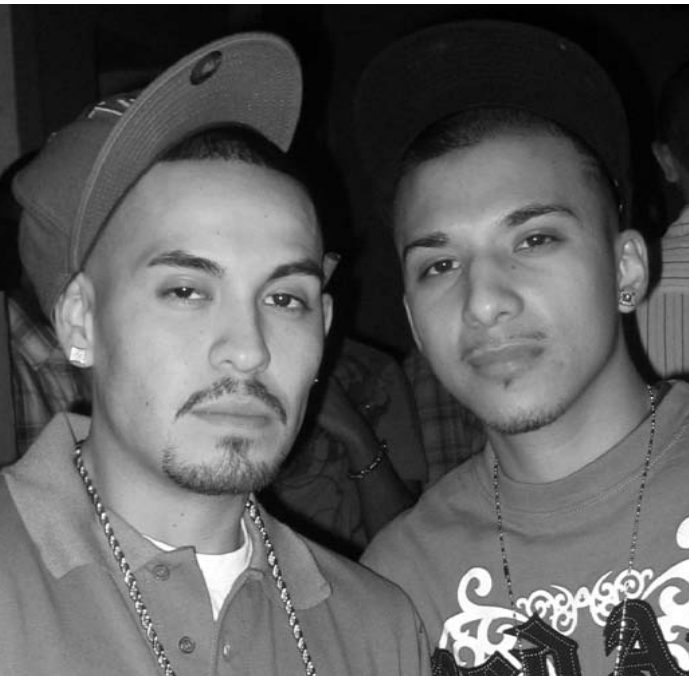
Across

- 1 "Lord of the Rings" singer
- 5 "Atlas Shrugged" author
- 9 Wet spots on a blanket of sand
- 14 Scuttlebutt
- 15 Ending with switch
- 16 Sitcom family name
- 17 "Otello" villain
- 18 Like a tight opening
- 19 Lott of Mississippi
- 20 Spicy Susan Feniger dish
- 23 Benjamin Hoff's "The ___ of Pooh"
- 24 Tigers of the NCAA
- 25 Black eye
- 27 Frilly greens
- 31 Left, to Rimbaud
- 34 Return to homophobia, e.g.
- 35 Solemn vow
- 38 Put an end to
- 39 Calendar abbr.
- 40 Summer tops
- 43 Dick Button's milieu
- 44 Sgt. Snorkel's pooch
- 46 Type of sci, in college
- 47 Prefix with type

Down

- 1 "Spartacus" or "Ben-Hur"
- 2 He took on a pair of bears
- 3 Boo-Boo's buddy
- 4 NASA used to shoot them off
- 5 Save from going down at sea, e.g.
- 6 Pisa's river
- 7 Sentence subjects, often
- 8 Small carriage
- 9 Mexican food brand
- 10 Earhart's medium
- 11 Homophobic allegations, e.g.
- 12 Harvey's "Hairspray" role
- 13 "And ___ bed"
- 21 Land in the sea
- 22 When most people retire
- 26 "M-m-m!" to Sappho
- 27 Eulogizer of Diana in song
- 28 Cook in a wok, maybe
- 29 "Gone with the Wind" bad guy
- 30 Gay nightlife district of London
- 32 ___ Minh City, Vietnam
- 33 They make points by touching the body
- 36 Feel out of sorts
- 37 Math subject
- 41 Joe of "NCIS"
- 42 Holy, to Manuel Puig
- 45 Holly Near's "Singing for ___ Lives"
- 48 Word on a Barney Frank poster
- 50 Some Mapplethorpe equipment
- 52 Snail on the table
- 54 Joan of Arc's "hardwear"
- 55 What squirrels do with their nuts
- 57 One of the Marianas
- 58 He sang of Alice
- 60 Tools for cultivating pansies
- 61 Head output
- 62 Title role for Jodie
- 63 Initial stake
- 65 Plumb of "The Brady Bunch"





Matthew and Robert at Rush.



Josie at Havana.



Anthony, Pam and Preston at Alexandre's.



Jeff, Stephen, Mike and Daniel at the Big D Bear Dance.

If the weather gods don't pull anymore surprises, maybe we can get out on the town without worrying what to wear Turn on those iPhones for Friday night's **Grindr Party** at **Station 4**. How much more fun will it be if that hottie is just a few feet away? ... The people at **the Brick** and **Joe's** reopened a few months back but have finally got everything the way they want it. **The Official Grand Opening Party** is Saturday night **The Wrecking Crew** at **Woody's** hosts **Extra Innings** Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m. After, it's **Rock Band** night on the stage Don't forget **Trashy Tuesdays** at **BJ's NXS!** Hey, even our school nights can get dirty At the **1851 Club** in Arlington, this Friday night's show features the fab talents of **Kiana Lee**, **Nikki Laroux** and **Topaz Stone** At **Jack's Backyard**, **Tribella** and **The Felons** play Friday night. **Paul Renna** takes the stage on Saturday Get ready for the holiday at the **Hidden Door**. This Saturday is their **Easter Basket Auction**. You know you want one It's **Woof Club** night Friday at **the Dallas Eagle** so get your collar cleaned up **The Round-Up** gets in on the holiday action with their own **Easter Basket Auction** followed up by the **Man Candy** dance night Over at **Sue Ellen's**, the music flows all weekend with **Ciao Bella** on Friday and **Charming Gardners** on Saturday night

PHOTOGRAPHY BY GREGORY HAYES



Ashley at the Rainbow Lounge.



Sassie and Sandie at Station 4.



Scott and Joe at TMC: The Mining Company.

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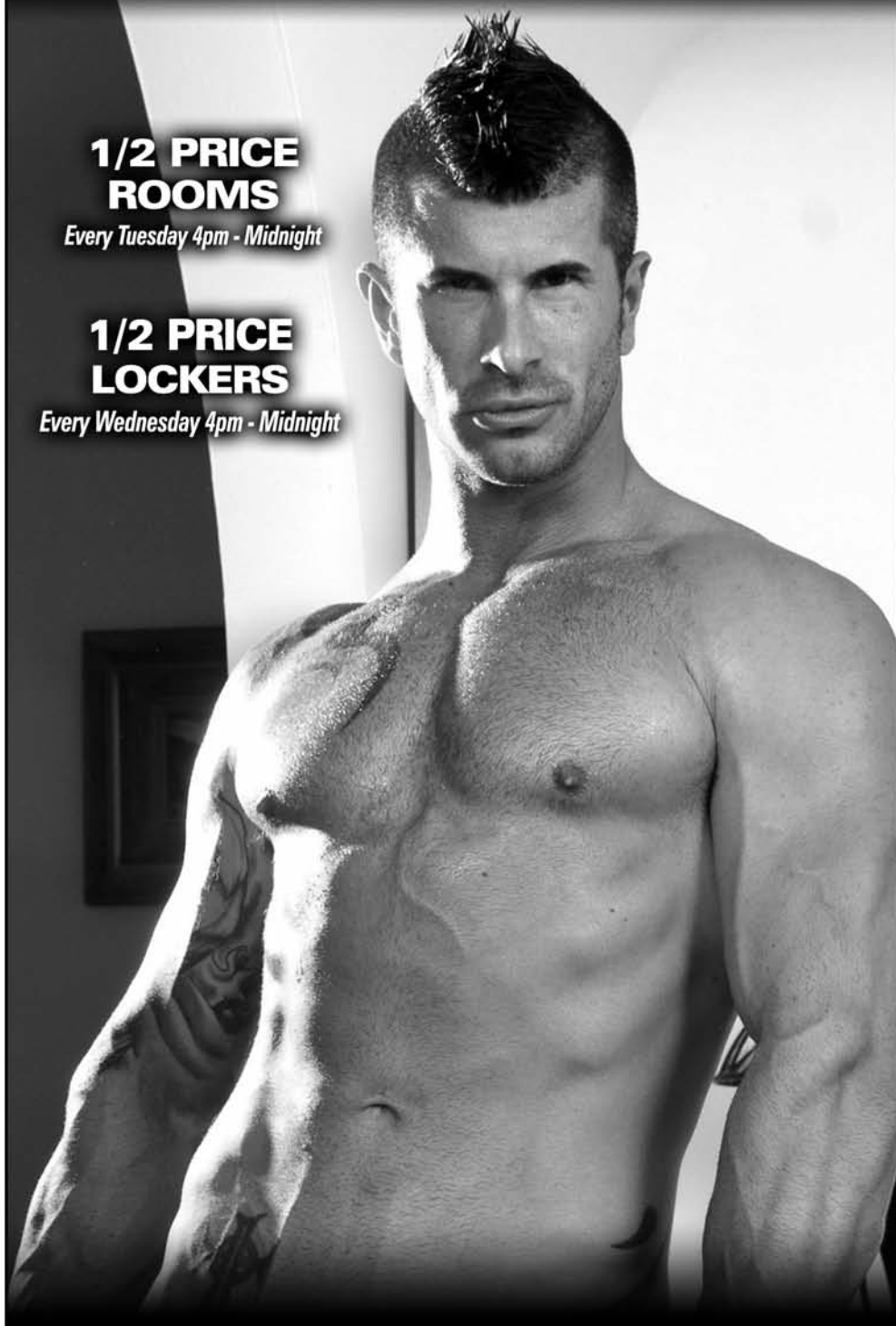
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