

The lush life of Pink Martini

Hip gay band teams with Fort Worth Symphony

Leader Thomas Lauderdale wants dancing in the aisles at Bass

■ MUSIC, Page 20



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Demanding equal divorce rights



GETTING LOUD ABOUT EQUALITY | GetEQUAL members David Bowling, left, and Michael Robinson, center, talk to Daniel Rodrigue, a reporter from the Dallas Observer, about why they rallied outside the George Allen Courts Building in downtown Dallas on Wednesday, April 21, during oral arguments in the appeal of a same-sex divorce case. Read the story on Page 4. (David Taffet)

Art4PJ bringing controversial play to Dallas

Cathedral of Hope to host 5 performances of LA production of McNally's 'Corpus Christi'

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Art for Peace and Justice is bringing a Los Angeles production of the Terrence McNally play "Corpus Christi" to Dallas for five performances in June.

Tim Seelig, director of Art4PJ, which is a program of Hope for Peace and Justice, said the play will run at Cathedral of Hope June 4-6 for five performances.

The play casts Jesus and his disciples as gay men living in McNally's hometown, Corpus Christi. Since its 1998 limited-run, off-Broadway premiere in New York, it has consistently attracted controversy. But the protests that have followed the play wherever it has been staged have often served to increase public interest in the play.

Nic Arnzen is director of the Los Angeles-based production that will be coming to Dallas. He said this week the production has played around the country and in Great Britain after beginning at an L.A. Metropolitan Community Church. It has run continuously in various venues for almost five years, he said.

This is the first time the production has come to Texas, where the play is set, Arnzen said.

The cast is also working on a documentary highlighting the controversy the play generates while promoting its theme of tolerance. Filming should continue through the Dallas performances for a feature they hope to submit to next year's Sundance Film Festival.

■ 'Corpus ORPUS CHRISTI,' Page 14

AUGUST 16



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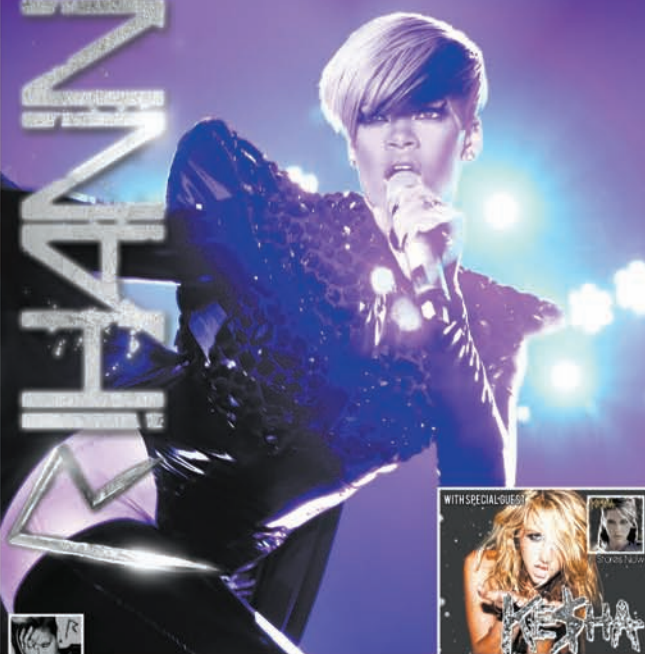


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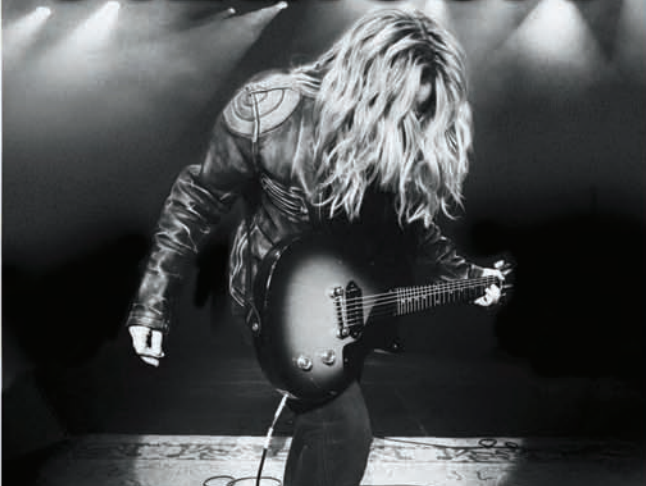
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AIDS Arms announces plans for expansion



Raeline Nobles

'Call to Arms' campaign initiated to raise funds for new clinic, services

FROM STAFF REPORTS

editor@dallasvoice.com

AIDS Arms Inc. has launched its new "Call to Arms" designed to curb the rising AIDS epidemic and its ongoing impact on the DFW community's physical and financial health, AIDS Arms Executive Director Raeline Nobles has announced.

Nobles said the new effort was prompted by Dallas County's ranking as the area with the largest number of newly reported HIV infections in Texas, and the fact that 7,000 new HIV cases are predicted by 2012.

She said the "Call to Arms" campaign encompasses expansion of the agency's HIV-related medical, prevention and social support services, including establishing a new medical clinic in Oak Cliff in early 2012.

The campaign includes a \$8 million, four-year plan to establish the new facility and expansion of services.

"The HIV epidemic in Dallas is reaching crisis levels in terms of our city's health status, economics and quality of life," Nobles said in a statement released this week. "HIV impacts every one of us today in huge ways.

"By the year 2012, there will be more than 25,000 people living with HIV and AIDS in our area. It will take all of us working together with a commitment to hard work, wisdom and investments to create a healthier, safer community for our families, friends and neighbors," she added.

Nobles said that lack of quality, accessible medical care has a rapid impact on the health and stability of HIV-positive people, drastically increasing their risk of transmitting the virus to others.

"Our best prevention efforts are to create greater access to specialized HIV medical care, education and support," Nobles said.

Dr. Keith Rawlings, medical director at AIDS Arms Peabody Health Center, said the agency needs to expand availability of medical services because the clinical demands of people living with HIV have outgrown the current clinic facilities.

■ **CALL TO ARMS**, Page 13

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Car hits monument again, causing \$10K in damage

A PT Cruiser jumped a curb on Oak Lawn Avenue on Saturday, April 17, and crashed into the Legacy of Love Monument, causing an estimated \$10,000 in damage.

According to Oak Lawn Committee President Michael Milliken, the car was traveling south on Oak Lawn Avenue. The Oak Lawn Committee owns and maintains the monument. The car went airborne, hit a tree and came to rest along the Frank Caven Memorial Wall. Two plaques on the wall were knocked off and the car destroyed the electrical box that controls the lighting and sprinkler system.

Milliken arrived at the corner of Oak Lawn Avenue and Cedar Springs Road just as the car was being loaded onto a tow truck. He said that the officer told him that another officer had taken the driver home. We haven't seen the accident report, but that would indicate she was not suspected of drunken driving. Saturday evening was rainy, and streets were slick.

Milliken said he is also hoping that the driver carried insurance. The Oak Lawn Committee spends about \$3,000 per year to insure the monument and Milliken is hoping they don't have to make another claim. Last year when a car damaged the monument, the driver had no insurance. Milliken's afraid that if the committee has to make another claim this year, their premiums will skyrocket.

— David Taffet

Alleged victim uncooperative

Last week I wrote about an alleged sexual assault involving a man who reported to police that he was sexually assaulted by two men after they placed a drug in his drink at Station 4. I followed up with Dallas police Monday to find out whether any additional information was available. Here's what Sr. Cpl. Kevin Janse told me:

"Detectives have tried three times to get ahold of victim. They have been unsuccessful and he is not returning calls. So there is nothing new to report."

As is standard in sexual assault cases, police are not releasing the alleged victim's name, so we have no way of trying to contact him. Regardless of whether this person's account is true, it raises an interesting question: How common is "date rape" in the gay community?

— John Wright

Court hears arguments in gay divorce case

No time frame specified for 5th District court to issue ruling in case

JOHN WRIGHT | Online Editor

wright@dallasvoice.com

A Texas appeals court heard oral arguments Wednesday, April 21 but made no ruling in the state attorney general's challenge of a Dallas judge's decision to allow a same-sex divorce.

Assistant Solicitor General James Blacklock, who argued the case for the AG's office, told a three-judge panel of the 5th District Court of Appeals that a gay couple shouldn't be allowed to divorce in Texas because their marriage isn't considered valid under state law.

The couple, identified in court documents only as J.B. and H.B., were married in Massachusetts in 2006 before moving to Dallas.

James Scheske, one of J.B.'s attorneys, countered that regardless of Texas law, the couple's marriage is valid in the state where it was entered. To obtain a divorce in Massachusetts, the couple would have to re-establish residency there for at least six months.

"My client's very private matter has become a public spectacle," Scheske told the justices. "He's not seeking to enter into a same-sex marriage. He's seeking a divorce from a valid marriage that was

■ **DIVORCE**, Page 12



SPEAKING FOR THE APPELLEE | Attorneys for J.B., Pete Schulte, left, and James Scheske respond to questions during a pres conference following Wednesday's oral arguments in the Dallas gay divorce case. (DAVID TAFFET)

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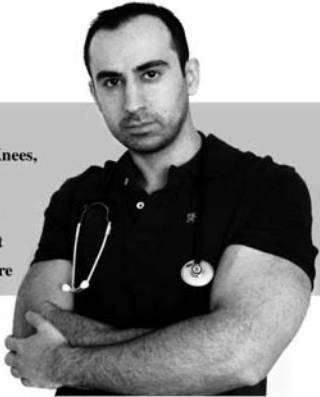
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localbriefs

Lambda Legal Women's Brunch set

Leslie Gabel-Brett, director of education and public affairs oversees the education programs, media and public relations for Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, will be the featured speaker at this year's Lambda Legal Women's Brunch, set Saturday, April 24, at a private home in Dallas.

The brunch will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information on attending, contact Carla McKinzie at 214-809-8585.

Gabel-Brett oversaw the media and public relations surrounding Lambda Legal's work on Langbehn v. Jackson Memorial, the case that eventually lead to policy changes regarding how LGBT families are treated at hospitals. The case involved a woman who was denied access to her dying partner's bedside and not allowed to make end-of-life medical care decisions for her partner while they were on vacation in Florida.

On April 15 President Obama ordered his health secretary to issue new rules aimed at granting hospital visiting rights to same-sex partners.

Library will have booth at Art Fest

The Phil Johnson Library will have a booth at the Cedar Springs Art Fest on Saturday, April 24, featuring bargain prices on used books, DVDs, VHS tapes and CDs. There will be a wide selection of materials, including a large choice of

LGBT-related materials.

Proceeds benefit the Phil Johnson Historic Archives & Research Library, a program of Resource Center Dallas. For more information, call 214-540-4451 or email library@rcdallas.org.

ACLU, Peace Center set meeting

The American Civil Liberties Union of Texas, the Dallas Peace Center and Texas Impact are hosting a community forum Monday, April 26, to discuss law enforcement's surveillance of North Texans whose backgrounds do not warrant it.

The event will include police spokesmen from Dallas and Collin County "fusion centers" as well as civil liberties advocates. It will be held from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Northaven United Methodist Church, rooms 237/239, 11211 Preston Road. It is open to the public.

Lon Burnam, executive director of the Dallas Peace Center, said the event is an opportunity to express concerns over surveillance of some residents. Burnam is also state representative for House District 90 in Fort Worth. In addition to Burnam, staff from Metro Operations Support and Analytical Intelligence Center (MOSAIC) of Dallas and the North Central Texas Fusion System (NCTFS) will participate along with Anne Shuttee, president of the Dallas chapter of the ACLU of Texas, Bee Moorhead, director of Texas Impact, and Kelley Stone, director of Homeland Security, Collin County, North Central Texas Fusion Center. ■

pet of the week / thelma

Thelma is a 1-year-old calico-tabby with big, gold eyes. She's friendly, outgoing and gentle, and seems to be good with other cats. Thelma was left in the overnight cages at the shelter in February. This loving little lady is a real sweetheart who deserves a home where she's loved.



Thelma 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 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Sundays from 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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A walk to remember



Siblings walking in Komen 3-Day to remember sister killed in earthquake while volunteering in Haiti clinic

TAMMYE NASH | Senior Editor
nash@dallasvoice.com

Jean Arnwine loved helping people. That's why she was in Haiti on Jan. 12 when a 7.0-magnitude earthquake struck the tiny Caribbean island nation, claiming the lives of nearly 250,000 people including Jean Arnwine.

Now, three months later, Jean's three siblings are setting out on a mission to remember their older sister in the best way they know how — by doing something to help other people.

Johnny Bennett, Dee Turzo and Angie Bennett said this week they have all three registered to walk in the 2010 Susan G. Komen 3-Day for the Cure, an event designed to raise money and awareness for the Komen for the Cure breast cancer foundation. They chose the three-day, 60-mile fundraising walk, they said, because it was one of

■ Continued Next Page

A FAMILY AFFAIR | Siblings, from left, Dee Turzo, Jean Arnwine, Angie Bennett and Johnny Bennett had their photo taken last September as a gift to their parents on their 50th wedding anniversary. It was the last photo they took together.

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■ From Previous Page

their sister's favorite charities.

"She had done the 3-Day twice before, and she planned on doing it again this year," Johnny Bennett said. "So we decided we would do it for her."

The earthquake

It's still difficult for the three siblings to talk about how their older sister died. In fact, when it comes to explaining the circumstances, Dee and Angie prefer to sit quietly and let Johnny tell the story. And Johnny has to stop to brush the tears from his face and clear the lump of grief that gathers in his throat before he can continue.

Jean, he explains, was a clinical trials research coordinator for Texas Retina Associates in Dallas. One of the surgeons she worked with was Dr. Gary Fish, who was part of a mission team with Highland Park United Methodist Church that had, each year for the last 30 years, traveled to Haiti to provide free eye care to the people of Haiti.

It was a trip that Jean had always wanted to participate in. So in early December, when Dr. Fish told her that one of the 12 team members had dropped out and asked her to fill that empty spot, Jean jumped at the chance.

"She was so extremely excited about getting to go on this mission trip," Johnny said. "When we were all together at Christmas, that's all she could talk about. She was just so excited."

One thing that all the mission team members do each year is collect old eyeglasses to distribute to Haitians who can't afford to buy their own. Even though she didn't join the team until a month before they left for Haiti, Johnny said, Jean managed to collect about 800 pairs of glasses to take. "She wanted to do everything she could to help," he said.

Then came January 12 and the earthquake. At first, Jean's siblings weren't worried about her.

"I knew she was going to Haiti, but I wasn't sure when. I thought she may already be back," Johnny said about hearing the news of the quake.

Dee added, "I heard it on the news, and I thought, 'Well, I haven't gotten a phone call yet, so Jean must already be back home safe.'"

But then the call came.

Even then, Johnny said, they weren't sure what was happening. The quake nearly destroyed

Haiti's infrastructure and it was close to impossible to make calls into or out of the country for several days. In fact, the first time the family knew anything for sure was when a local TV news station contacted Jean's husband, David, saying they had found video of Jean lying injured on a cot as Dr. Fish sat next to her, fanning her and waiting to be evacuated.

"It was horrible just waiting and trying to get any word out of Haiti," Johnny said. "And when you did get information, it was wrong. One person would tell you one thing, and somebody else would tell you the exact opposite."

Dee added, "Even after she had already died, we got a message saying they were moving her out of ICU and into a regular hospital room."

Eventually, the family heard what had happened from those who had been there with Jean.

Johnny explained that his sister and others on the mission were working at the clinic several miles west of the capital city of Port Au Prince. The cement block building housing the clinic had been sturdily constructed, but most of the other buildings around it were not — a common occurrence in Haiti. That's why the devastation was so complete.

"She was in one of three clinic buildings, and the building she was in had been properly built. But the five-story building next door wasn't, and it collapsed onto the clinic, caving it in, too," Johnny said.

Another woman near Jean was trapped beneath rubble, and those who escaped injury were able to free her relatively quickly. Not so with Jean; she was trapped beneath steel beams that weren't so easily moved.

"It was getting dark, and she was in there, pinned under those steel beams inside what was left of the building. The aftershocks kept coming and people were stay inside the building, so she was in there alone. They said she just kept telling the people around her she wanted out of there," Johnny said.

But emergency rescue crews were slow in coming. Finally, as night was falling, Johnny said, a "mystery man" appeared and offered to help.

"Nobody knew who he was. He was just walking down the street and saw what was happening. He told them he had equipment on his boat that could get Jean out, if somebody would go with him to bring it back.

■ WALK, Page 10

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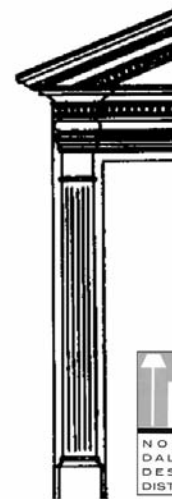
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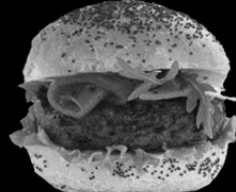
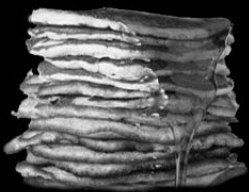
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■ texasnews

■ WALK, From Page 9

"So they went and got the equipment and used it to free her. Then the people helped the man put the equipment away and he just disappeared; before they could even say thank you, he was gone. They couldn't find him anywhere," Johnny said. "Take him for whatever you want, but I certainly have my beliefs about who he was."

The earthquake happened on a Tuesday. The following Friday morning, 10 members of the mission team returned to Dallas. Dr. Fish stayed behind with Jean, to ride with her on a medical evacuation flight to a hospital in Martinique where she could be treated for internal injuries.

But Jean's condition worsened enroute and the plane was diverted to island of Guadeloupe. She died in the hospital there on Friday. Dr. Fish accompanied her body home to Dallas the next day.

Team Clara

Despite their grief over their sister's tragic death, Johnny, Dee and Angie are including a longstanding family joke in their act of remembrance. They are calling themselves "Team Clara" for the Komen 3-Day.

"Clara was Jean's first name, and she hated it," Johnny recalled with a laugh. "Jean was the oldest, and the story we've been told all our lives is that right after she was born, the hospital people brought the birth certificate paperwork to Dad and said, 'Fill this out.' They didn't tell him that he didn't have to do it right then, that he could wait and talk to Mom about it."

"They hadn't talked about what to name the baby, and so Dad had to come up with something on the spot. His mother's name was Clara and his sister's name was Bobbie Jean. So he decided on Clara Jean," he continued. "She hated Clara, and none of the rest of us had a middle name, so we always called her Clara to tease her. She would just give us these smirky looks when we did it. I know she is up there right now, looking down and smirking at us because we are talking about it."

The siblings decided to use "Team Clara" because "thinking about that makes us laugh," Johnny explained. "We do it out of love and respect, and it makes us laugh. When you go through times like this, you have to do what you can to get through the day. If that means making yourself laugh, then you make yourself laugh. We try to think of the good things and not dwell on what happened in Haiti."

One of Jean's close friends, Valerie McGuire, and Jean's sister-in-law, Rhonda Arnwine are both walking with Team Clara in the 3-Day. But the rest of the family, including Johnny's partner of six years, will be supporting them from the sidelines.

"Joe, my partner, isn't going to walk because he said he knew this was more of a sibling thing, and he doesn't want to take away from that. But he's totally supportive," Johnny said.

Dee noted that her husband, Jeff, is concerned that her chronic health problems — including severe allergies that keep her continually short of breath — and a hectic schedule that limits her training time might keep her from finishing the

60-mile trek.

"Lately, I have had trouble just walking 20 feet. He tells me, 'You can't walk to just over there [across the room], how are you going to walk 60

“ When you go through times like this, you have to do what you can to get through the day. If that means making yourself laugh, then you make yourself laugh.

— Johnny Bennett

miles. He bet me I wouldn't finish, but he's going to lose that bet!"

Angie has no spouse or partner, but she said she has gotten amazing support from her coworkers at Southwest Airlines.

"Everyone at work has been extremely, amazingly supportive through this whole thing," Angie said. "When Jean died, I got cards and letters from people at work I didn't even know!"

That support will come in handy, since each team member has to raise at least \$2,300 in donation, and since they have set their team goal at \$50,000.

The \$2,300 individual minimum came as a bit of surprise to the siblings.

"When we decided to do the walk, we didn't know we'd have to raise that much. Then when we signed up, that's when they told us," Dee said. "We were a little surprised, but we are determined to do it."

Johnny and Angie said Dee is the one who decided on the high team goal. But Dee said she definitely thinks it's possible to meet that goal.

"They raised \$50,000 just at Jean's funeral to pay for a bench in her memory at the Dallas Arboretum. I figure if they can get that much just at the funeral, we can get that much for the 3-Day."

The siblings hope that their friends, Jean's friends and others in the community will help them meet their goal.

"Not everybody knew Jean, and not everybody knows us. But everybody knows somebody who has had cancer," said Johnny. "That's why we think people will be willing to donate."

He also said that anyone who wants to walk with Team Clara is welcome to join them.

"We're doing this for our sister, to honor her memory and what she meant to us. If someone knew Jean and wants to join us, that's great," he said. "But you didn't have to know Jean to come with us. You just have to want to do something good to help other people. That's what Jean would have done."

Interested individuals can donate to Team Clara or to individual members of the team by going online to The3Day.org and clicking on the link to donate to a participant. Type in the team or individual's name and follow the links to donate. Donations to a team do not count toward the individual team members' \$2,300 minimum.



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St. Mychal Judge changes locations

FROM STAFF REPORTS

editor@dallasvoice.com

St. Mychal Judge Old Catholic Church has moved and beginning Sunday, April 25, the church will hold weekly services at Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St., the church's pastor, Bishop Thomas H. Hooker Jr. announced this week.

Hooker noted that while the church has been serving Oak Lawn for several years, it has been unable to publish its address due to city zoning restrictions. Those restrictions do not affect Resource Center Dallas, he said.

The church will hold eucharist services each Sunday at 3 p.m.

Hooker said that St. Mychal Judge is part of the North American Old Catholic Church, "which is 100 percent Catholic but 0 percent Roman Catholic." He explained that the Old Catholic Church is not a Protestant denomination. Because it never broke away from any other religious group, the Old Catholic Church can trace its lineage to the primitive Christian church

in the Netherlands, which has been independent since its inception in the year 692 AD. Hooker said that St. Mychal Judge, like most Old Catholic churches, has modern and progressive teachings within ancient liturgies. The church has worship services in English or Latin and the newest revision occurred 500 years ago. Hooker said that his church encourages diversity and does not discriminate in an sacrament or ministry on the basis of citizenship, race, physical disability including HIV status, ethnicity, family responsibilities, gender, gender identity, gender expression, marital status, national origin, physical appearance, political affiliation, sexual orientation union membership or veteran status.

This principle of unity in diversity, he said, is illustrated by a common saying in the church: "They made room in the church for someone like me, so I will make room for someone like you."

St. Mychal Judge Old Catholic Church was named after the openly gay New York fire department chaplain who was killed on Sept. 11, 2001. The church's website is www.MychalJudge.com. ■

TOASTING LIFE



THANKS, PARTNER | Dee Pennington and Dr. David Lee show their appreciation for each other's hard work as co-chairs of the "2010 Toast to Life: Night at the Speakeasy." The event, one of the annual signature fundraisers for Resource Center Dallas, was held Saturday night, April 17, at FIG — Fashion Industry Gallery and included casino games and live and silent auction. (LisaMarie Martinez)

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■ texasnews

DIVORCE

From Page 4

entered into in another state.”

Following Wednesday's arguments, the three justices took the case under review, and there is no time frame for them to issue a decision.

With about a dozen news reporters looking on, each side was allotted 20 minutes for oral arguments during the hearing on the second floor of the George Allen Courts Building in downtown Dallas. No cameras were allowed in the courtroom, but TV crews waited downstairs where a press conference was held afterward.

The attorney general's office granted five of its 20 minutes for arguments to a representative from the right-wing, Plano-based Liberty Institute.

Hiram Sasser, director of litigation for the Liberty Institute, argued on behalf of State Rep. Warren Chisum, R-Pampa, and Texas Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples, a Republican former state senator from Palestine. Chisum and Staples, sponsors of Texas' 2003 statute and 2005 constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage, filed a court brief opposing the divorce.

Sasser noted that 76 percent of voters approved the constitutional amendment, and he said the issue of same-sex divorce shouldn't be decided by judges. Under the federal Defense of Marriage Act, signed by President Bill Clinton in 1996, states can choose not to recognize same-sex marriages from elsewhere.

“I think President Clinton said it best when he said we have to honor the decisions of the states,” Sasser said during the press conference, which representatives from the AG's office didn't attend. “Instead of the courts, the people who want to overturn the constitutional amendment need to go to the ballot box.”

Sasser characterized gay divorce as an attack on same-sex marriage, but Scheske noted that constitutional issues didn't arise in the case until the AG's office became involved.

J.B. filed for a divorce in January 2009, and a day later Republican Attorney General Greg Abbott challenged the petition. Judge Tena Callahan, a Democrat, ruled in October of last year that she had jurisdiction to hear the case, saying Texas' bans on same-sex marriage violate the equal protection clause of the 14th amendment.

At the request of J.B.'s attorneys, Callahan later amended her ruling to say that the case doesn't implicate Texas' marriage bans, but instead involves the question of whether same-sex divorces can be granted under the state's Family Code.

“Granting a divorce to a same-sex couple promotes Texas policy because it ends a same-sex marriage,” Scheske told the appeals court on Wednesday.

“We think it's axiomatic that granting a divorce means one less same-sex marriage in Texas,” he said later at the press conference. “We're not challenging the same-sex marriage ban. That's not what we're doing, because my client is already in a same-sex marriage. My client just wants a divorce.”

Scheske added that he was pleased that the appeals court had opted to hear oral arguments, a decision that went against the wishes of the AG's



Hiram Sasser

office, which asked for a summary judgment.

The attorney general's office maintains that “voidance” is the appropriate procedure for dissolving marriages that aren't considered valid by the state, such as incestuous or bigamous marriages. But J.B.'s attorneys say voidance doesn't provide the same remedies related to division of property. They also say voidance creates a separate status for gays and lesbians that violates equal protection. And they note that in order to grant a voidance, just as with a divorce, a Texas court would first have to recognize the marriage.

J.B. attended Wednesday's arguments but was quickly whisked away down an escalator after they ended. Scheske said J.B., who's already appeared on “Good Morning America” and “The Daily Show,” won't be talking to the media again until after the appeals court issues its ruling.

J.B. and another of his attorneys, Pete Schulte, have repeatedly denied that the divorce is a test case designed to further LGBT equality. Some gay rights advocates fear the case could hurt the community by giving conservative justices an opportunity to broadly interpret the state's marriage ban, possibly jeopardizing things like domestic partner benefits offered by the city of Dallas.

In fact, LGBT legal experts have cautioned same-sex couples against traveling to other states to get married, then returning to Texas and filing lawsuits.

Some say regardless of how the appeals court rules, the case is likely to be appealed to the Texas Supreme Court, and possibly to the U.S. Supreme Court after that.

While some states, like New York, have allowed same-sex divorces even though they prohibit same-sex marriage, others, like Oklahoma, have refused to do so.

Also attending Wednesday's hearing was Angelique Naylor, a lesbian who married her ex-wife in Massachusetts and was recently granted a divorce in Austin. Abbott's office has also filed a notice of its intent to appeal the district judge's decision in Naylor's case.

Critics have said they believe Abbot's involvement in the same-sex divorce cases is politically

■ **DIVORCE**, Next Page

■ **DIVORCE**, From Previous Page

motivated. Those critics include Houston attorney Barbara Ann Radnofsky, the Democrat who's running against Abbott in November.

Security was heavy at Wednesday's hearing, with about a dozen sheriff's vehicles parked outside the courthouse, and a metal detector set up near the entrance to chambers. Authorities reportedly were anticipating demonstrations by anti-gay or pro-gay groups. As it turned out, only two pro-LGBT demonstrators stood outside the courthouse with signs.

One of the demonstrators, Michael Robinson of GetEQUAL, said he was disappointed that more people from the LGBT community didn't show up. ■

CALL TO ARMS

From Page 4

At present, AIDS Arms has three centers in Dallas that assist a total of 3,300 people with outpatient medical care and support, Nobles said. The main office is located on Sunset Avenue, near Zang Boulevard, in Oak Cliff and the Peabody Health Center is located near MLK Boulevard and South Central Expressway in South Dallas. The third facility is in the Central Dallas area.

AIDS Arms served another 4,000 people last year through its HIV/STD prevention outreach and testing programs.

Nobles said that the immediate goals for of the "Call to Arms" campaign are to meet some of the most pressing needs identified in the community, and to develop a management structure, professional staff, technical infrastructure, information systems and facilities necessary to support planned expansion.

She said AIDS Arms' initial efforts will lead to a long-term initiative to elevate its roles in the regional, national and international fight against HIV/AIDS.

Nobles estimates that AIDS Arms has saved local hospitals more than \$6 million in indigent emergency room and inpatient costs through its outpatient and case management services.

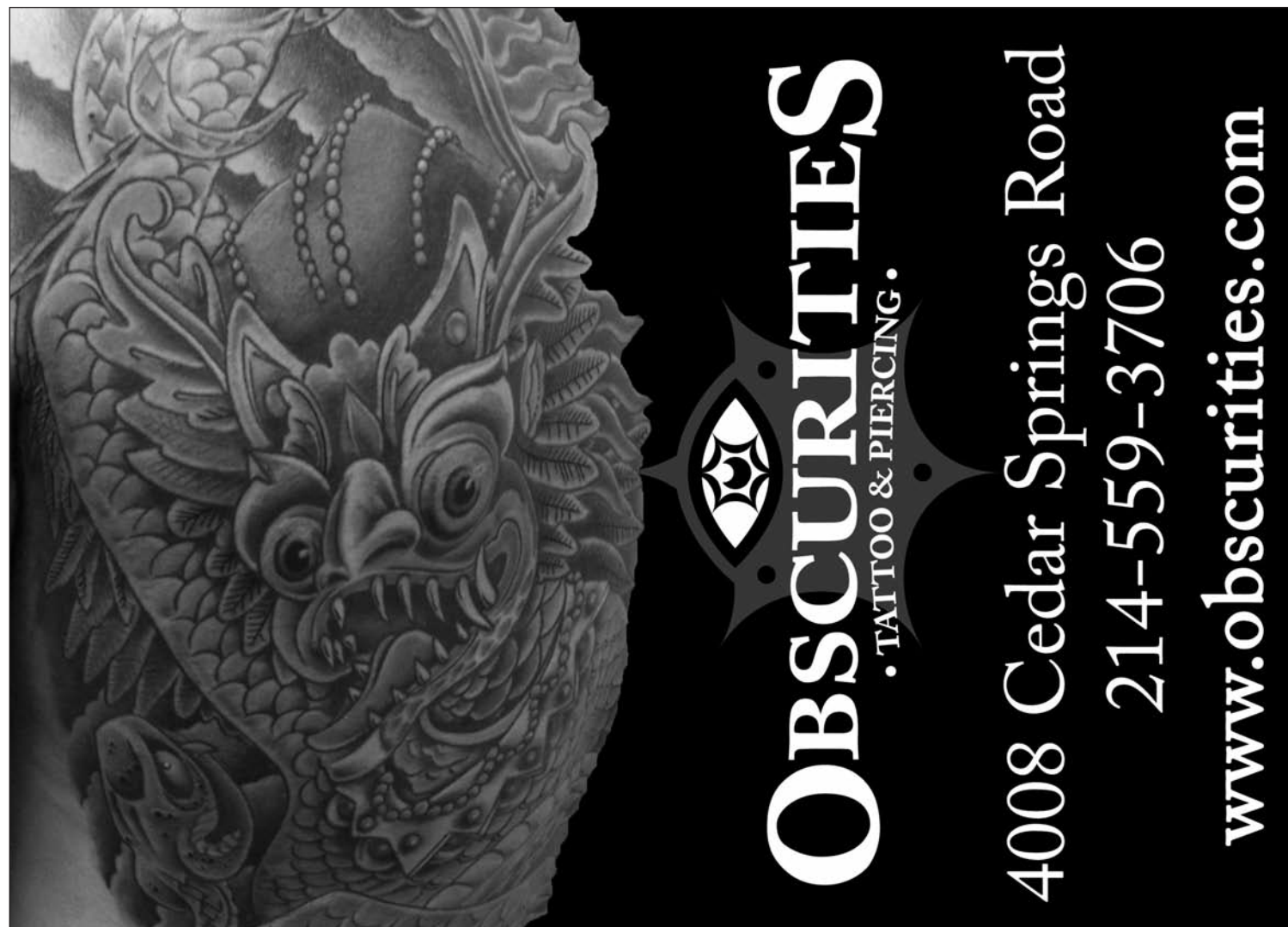
She said it costs about \$2,800 for one HIV-positive person to receive a full year of care and support from AIDS Arms, not including medications, while an HIV-positive person not under regular medical care would incur an average bill of \$12,000 for just one emergency room visit.

Nobles acknowledged that the planned expansion has to be funded, and said AIDS Arms has assembled a resource development team "as diverse as Dallas" to come up with the money, naming TV personality and hi-tech guru Mark Bunting as fundraising chair.

Mark and Kelly Bunting will host the campaign's kickoff on Wednesday, April 28, at 7 p.m., at their private residence, 3601 Beverly Drive in Dallas.

AIDS Arms has already obtained a \$250,000 grant from the Meadows Foundation and another investment from the King Foundation for its new clinic.

For more information contact Margaret Byrne at mbyrne@aidsarms.org or 214-521-5191.



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Downtown Dallas Transit Study (D2) AA/DEIS Public Hearing Notice

DART has completed its Downtown Dallas Transit Study (D2), an Alternatives Analysis and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (AA/DEIS). There are several opportunities for the public to review and comment on the study results.

On behalf of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), DART published the AA/DEIS document and made it available to the public on Friday, April 2, 2010. An AA/DEIS is an in-depth evaluation of an area's natural and human environment, project alternatives, and the potential for the proposed project to adversely affect the environment. It also considers the social and economic impact of a project and alternatives.

The AA/DEIS may be viewed at DART.org/about/expansion/downtowndallas.asp on the internet (see pdf file highlighted), or a

hard copy is available for public review at any of the main/central libraries of DART's member cities (Addison, Carrollton, Cockrell Hill, Dallas, Farmers Branch, Garland, Glenn Heights, Highland Park, Irving, Plano, Richardson, Rowlett and University Park).

Comments may be submitted in writing at any time during the 45-day period (at address shown below) and/or orally at public hearings (hearing details listed below), both of which are requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). The purpose of these efforts is to ensure the public has an opportunity to raise issues that have not yet been addressed. The comment period begins on Friday, April 2, 2010, and the deadline for receipt of comments is 5 p.m. Monday, May 17, 2010.

D2 Pre-Public Hearing Community Meetings:

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

Immediately following the Irving 3 to DFW Airport Pre-Public Hearing Community Meeting starting at 5:30 p.m. in the same room.

6:30 p.m.
DFW Airport Marriott
8440 Freeport Parkway
Irving, Texas 75063
MAPSCO 11-U
(Along DART Bus Route 310)

Thursday, April 29, 2010

12:00 p.m. (noon)
DART Headquarters Board Rm.
1401 Pacific Avenue
Dallas, Texas 75202
MAPSCO 45-P
(Next to Akard Station)

Thursday, April 29, 2010

6:30 p.m.
The Women's Museum: An Institute for the Future
Theater Room
3800 Parry Avenue
Dallas, Texas 75226
MAPSCO 46-K
(Next to Fair Park Station)

Public Hearings:

Thursday, May 6, 2010

12 p.m. (noon)
Open House: 11:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
DART Headquarters Board Room
1401 Pacific Avenue
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(Next to Akard Station)

DART Contact:

Ernie G. Martinez, Project Manager
Dallas Area Rapid Transit - Rail Planning
P.O. Box 660163 • Dallas, Texas 75266-7213

It would be most helpful to hear comments relating to:

- a particular alternative or impact assessment in the DEIS;
- what you do like about an alternative, as well as what you do not like about an alternative;
- how the project or an alternative would affect you, your family, and your community;
- any incomplete or erroneous information in the DEIS.

Thursday, May 6, 2010

6:30 p.m.
Open House 6 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
DART Headquarters Board Room
1401 Pacific Avenue
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MAPSCO 45-P
(Next to Akard Station)

Formal comments will be addressed and incorporated into the Final EIS, which likely will be completed approximately one year later.

Notice for the hearing and visually impaired:

If you wish to attend the Public Hearing and need sign language interpretation, please notify DART at least 24 hours in advance by calling the Telecommunication Device for the Deaf (TDD) number, 214.749.3628. A Braille version of materials will also be made available upon request.

For additional information: Please contact DART Community Affairs at 214.749.2543 or visit either DART.org or the Spanish-language site, transportedart.org.



■ texasnews



CAST IN CONTROVERSY | The cast and crew of Nic Arnzen's production of the Terrence McNally play "Corpus Christi," is also filming a documentary about the production and the controversy that tends to follow it wherever it goes. The troupe will perform the play five times in Dallas from June 4 through June 6. (Photo by EJ Camp, all rights reserved by 108 Productions)

'CORPUS CHRISTI'

From Page 1

Local interest in the play began when church leaders in Stephenville found out that a Tarleton State University student was producing an excerpt of the play as an assignment for his advanced directing class.

That class project was never meant to be open to the public, but protests and threats of violence forced its cancellation.

After the cancellation at the school, a group in Fort Worth began working to bring the student production to the Metroplex at the end of the semester.

An offer of a venue by the Rose Marine Theater in Fort Worth was rescinded after protests that included a threat on Facebook.

QCinema, Fort Worth's 10-year old LGBT film festival, formed a new group this spring called QLive. With all of the publicity surrounding the play, they decided to premiere this summer with a production of this play.

They planned to use the Rose Marine Theater as well. That venue did not rescind its invitation to QLive. But Todd Camp said QLive is waiting for word on the student production before announcing their own plans.

Despite McNally's other successes, "Corpus Christi" has never been a huge hit. Unlike many of his other works, it has never run on Broadway.



Tim Seelig

McNally is better known for a number of his other plays and musicals, many with gay themes.

When "The Ritz," which takes place in a gay bathhouse, opened on Broadway in 1975, it was one of the first Broad-

way shows to unapologetically portray openly gay men on a Broadway stage.

McNally has won Tony awards for best book of a musical for "Ragtime" and "Kiss of the Spider Woman" and for best play for "Master Class" and "Love! Valour! Compassion!" He was nominated for best book of a musical for "The Full Monty."

Seelig said that the L.A. production of "Corpus Christi" that is coming to Cathedral of Hope is usually staged in smaller venues. To retain the accustomed intimacy, they will limit sales to about 200 tickets per performance even though the Cathedral could seat hundreds more.

"Corpus Christi," Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. June 4-6 at 7:30 p.m. Matinees Saturday and Sunday at 3 p.m. \$30-50. 214-351-1432. www.h4pj.org.



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New Oak Lawn pharmacy opens with Pride



PROUD MOMENT | Pride Pharmacy's Malcolm Roy, clockwise from top left, head pharmacist Todd Hulet and senior tech Scott McGee, opened their flagship location in Oak Lawn last week. (David Taffet)

Flagship store on Carlisle first of what owner hopes will be a dozen operating with a mission of service to customers, community

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Pride Pharmacy sounds like a business right out of the 1990s, not one coming out of the recession.

An entrepreneur with a great idea goes to a venture capitalist and gets funded to open a larger company than he originally envisioned. In contrast to the merger fever of the early 2000s that made small businesses either consolidate or go under, this one will go head-to-head with the national chains and then open a dozen more branch locations.

The concept of Pride Pharmacy is as simple as it is bold: Specialize.

The plan was to locate in a building with a large HIV medical practice, specialize in HIV medications and also offer a full-line of prescription

■ PHARMACY, Page 16

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■ PHARMACY, From Page 15

drugs while providing the kind of customer service missing from national chains.

While they hope to capture a number of patients seeing doctors in the building, head pharmacist Scott McGee and senior tech Todd Hulet both said they welcomed people from the neighborhood to come in to get any prescription filled. The pharmacy carries a full line of medications, they said.

According to owner and managing director Malcolm Roy, the concept has worked well in his pharmacy at Midland Medical Center in Fort Lauderdale. And the idea works here in Dallas for Bioscrip, which located a branch in the same building as the office of Dr. Nick Bellos, an infectious disease specialist with a large HIV practice.

Pride's first Dallas location is in the Oak Lawn building on Carlisle Avenue where Uptown Physicians Group has its office. That group includes Dr. Brady Allen, one of Dallas' most respected HIV specialists.

Roy got the idea for Pride Pharmacy when a friend said he'd give anything to not trip over the Pampers to get to the pharmacist.

Unlike the chain drug stores, the entrance to Pride Pharmacy looks more like a living room. If filling a prescription is going to take a few minutes, customers are welcome to get themselves a cup of coffee in the adjoining kitchen.

Roy understands that there's a convenience factor with CVS' and Walgreens' numerous locations.

But patients don't necessarily need a doctor's visit each time they refill a prescription, and they might not be in the Pride Pharmacy neighborhood. So Pride will deliver throughout the Metroplex — and that includes after-hours delivery to fit busy schedules since medications cannot just be left at the door.

Part of Pride's service includes the use of compliance software. Roy said this was something Dr. David Lee of Uptown physicians requested to provide better patient care.

Roy explained that if a patient is given a 30-day supply of a medication but is only refilling it every other month, they are not taking the prescription as ordered by the physician. Using the compliance software, Pride sends a report to the doctor who will have a better understanding of the patient's condition.

Remembering whether you've taken medication can be a problem, especially when you are sick. So Pride delivers its meds in blister packs marked with dates and times to take the medicine. Roy said that in addition to compliance, this is also just more convenient for the patient.

"You don't have to carry all your bottles with you," he said.

He said a North Carolina study of 1,000 Medicaid patients showed that those who got medication in bottles rather than blister packs were hospitalized three times as often.

Roy compared going to a national chain with coming to his private pharmacy.

"We're able to solve medication problems easily," he said. "They're dealing with so many \$4 orders. We can call the doctor and solve problems quickly."

In addition, Roy hopes Pride Pharmacy will make a difference in the community. Already, they were the title sponsor of Toast to Life, one of Resource Center Dallas' signature fundraising events, and it is an arrangement they would like to continue.

Plus, the Pride Pharmacy lobby is available for community groups of up to 20. Women with AIDS plans use the space for its meetings.

Roy hopes other educational and support groups will make use of the space. He said that the pharmacy area with the controlled medications locks securely, so the meeting area can be used after hours.

Of the 12 stores funded, Roy hopes three or four will be in the Dallas area.

He said he is pleased with his flagship store but for their next retail location, he would like to make one change: He wants public area of the store to be even larger to accommodate bigger groups.

He just thinks that it's good business to be part of the community. ■

SMU again hosts LGBT job expo

TABC, FWPD among the employers looking to find diverse workforce at upcoming job fair

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

The Texas Alcohol Beverage Commission and the Fort Worth Police Department might not be among the first places members of the LGBT community would turn for a job. But both are committed to diversity and will be looking for applicants

at next week's LGBT Job Expo.

The three area police departments with LGBT liaisons will all be represented at the fifth annual job fair, set for Wednesday afternoon, April 28, on the Southern Methodist University campus. In addition to Fort Worth, the Dallas Police Department and the Dallas County Sheriff's departments will also be recruiting.

Last year the expo drew more than 300 job seekers. This year, the event has attracted more companies and government agencies seeking employees, so it was moved from Cox School of Business to the larger lobby of the Meadows

■ Continued Next Page

dallas *gay* insurance.com

■ From Previous Page

School of the Arts.

Cox is one of the event sponsors, along with Resource Center Dallas and the North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce.

Rafael McDonnell, spokesperson for Resource Center Dallas, said a job expo is a great way to see the variety of jobs available at a variety of companies.

Best Buy needs more than store salespeople, McDonnell said. They're looking for people to work in their regional office in Carrollton as well.

"Bank of America is sending folks from various divisions — Merrill Lynch, the mortgage division, banking," he said. "AT&T needs people in everything from service to their corporate offices downtown."

He said the job expo is a way to learn about companies you didn't know were in the area.

"McKesson is a pharmaceutical company with regional offices in Carrollton," he said.

McDonnell said the event gets applicants face-to-face with people who make personnel decisions.

"You actually have people hiring there," he said. "If you go to the website, someone may look at your application, but here you can make your case."

He suggested that even people who aren't necessarily looking or currently unemployed might benefit from the expo.

"I went to the first expo for that reason," he said. "Just to see what's out there."

Two federal agencies will send representatives from Washington. While the Environmental Protection Agency seems like a good fit for this type of employment fair, the National Security Agency is more surprising.

McDonnell said he reached out to them after meeting Defense Intelligence Agency employees at the Out & Equal conference last year. Not that long ago, security clearances were routinely denied to gays and lesbians using the excuse that they could be bribed in exchange for hiding their sexual orientation. Now the CIA has an LGBT employee group and is recruiting in Dallas.

Chamber executive director Tony Vedda noted that past surveys evaluating the expo "have come back very positive. What I've heard from the companies is that they are extremely impressed by the



A BETTER VIEW | Rafael McDonnell with Resource Center Dallas says the LGBT Job Expo gives job seekers a chance to see a bigger variety of employers looking for workers, and a better idea of what jobs those employers are looking to fill.

quality of the applicants."

He said recruiters from several companies that have returned to the Job Expo several times have told him that people applying for jobs at the expo have the right skills.

Vedda mentioned TABC and Fort Worth police participation. He noted that both have started diversity training.

Their participation indicates both the quality of the diversity training the Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance and the Resource Center are providing, Vedda said, and also demonstrates that the two agencies' commitment to diversity goes beyond sitting through a training session.

The fair will be held in the lobby of the Meadows School of the Arts on the Southern Methodist University campus on Wednesday, April 28. The expo takes place from 2 to 6 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. ■

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GLBT Job Expo presented by Resource Center Dallas, North Texas GLBT Chamber and hosted by the Office of Diversity, Cox School of Business at SMU.

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viewpoints

The curse of Precinct 5

Villarreal may be off to a shaky start as she gets ready to step into the most embattled constable's office

There's something about the Dallas County Precinct 5 constable's office that breeds drama, keeping the city's reporters on alert for signs of more trouble.

Why wouldn't they? The history of the office is long and sordid. Some observers go so far as to say it seems like the office is cursed, given the failure rate of its occupants.

Three failures stand out, leading to half-joking suggestions by even courthouse incumbents that maybe it should just be abolished altogether.

Indeed, more than a decade of official hysteria brings us to this point. After former Constable Aurelio Castillo was run out of office at the turn of the century for alleged criminal misconduct, his successor, gay Constable Michael Dupree, resigned in disgrace in 2007.

A dogfight between Dupree's successor Jaime Cortes, the brother-in-law of Castillo, and the Dallas County Commissioners Court has followed over yet more allegations of misconduct.

At this point, you would think the worst of the media drama is over, but should we be that hopeful?

To be sure, the media is going to be closely watching recently elected Constable Beth Villarreal — whose personal financial management abilities came into question during the bitter primary campaign.

That is why it was so perplexing to read on The Dallas Morning News crime blog recently that she had reportedly snubbed both the daily newspaper and its sister television station WFAA. The constable-to-be called a press conference after her win and invited every other major television station, according to the blog's writer.

What's more, Villarreal didn't invite the Dallas Voice to the press conference either, an odd oversight for an elected official who depends upon the LGBT vote for political survival. I don't know this for sure, but my bet is that the Dallas Observer also didn't get an invite.

Residents of any city can only stand so much alleged hanky-panky and the resulting media frenzy before they begin to wonder if anyone in local government is actually minding the store. That's probably why the voters in Precinct 5 — an area covering much of the large gay communities of Oak Lawn and Oak Cliff — ignored the endorsement of Cortes by Stonewall Democrats of Dallas.

They likely voted in favor of the primary winner Beth Villarreal, a member of PFLAG, out of sheer exasperation and desperation.

The continuing allegations of official misconduct in the Precinct 5 constable's office no doubt overshadowed anything local LGBT Democratic Party activists had to say in support of Cortes. That coupled with the troubling claims by Dupree that his longtime political foe Cortes had engaged in gay-baiting tactics during previous political campaigns presented a little more than anyone was probably willing to swallow this time around.

Villarreal will become constable in January because there is no Republican Party contender in the race. She inherits an office that seems to have left the orbit of other county offices, spiraling out of control and beyond the management of the incumbents.

After Dupree assumed office in 2001, three deputy constables sued him and Dallas County, claiming the gay constable refused to keep them on board because they supported his political opponent, who was Cortes. Dallas County appealed the case all the way to the Texas Supreme Court before it was finally settled in the deputies' favor in 2007.

The lawsuit reportedly cost the county big bucks in legal fees, not to mention the \$550,000 settlement that included an official apology to the deputies.

The settlement came on the heels of Dupree pleading guilty to one count of abuse of authority, giving up his peace officer's license to end a 27-year law enforcement career and agreeing never to run for political office again. Dupree's plea and resignation followed months of lurid revelations about allegations of official misconduct in the form of employee sexual harassment.

As if that wasn't enough to seal his fate, county officials claimed he had failed to act on property seizures authorized by judges that cost Dallas County another \$700,000-plus.

Dupree's resignation followed official inquiries by an outside investigator and the state attorney general after the Dallas district attorney cited a conflict of interest in the case. At that point, Dupree reportedly was fighting for his life to stay out of jail, even though months later he continued

to claim that he had been framed and was innocent.

Now, it doesn't sound like Villarreal is getting off to such a great start from a public relations perspective when it comes to dealing with the media. That's a curious beginning and likely a serious misstep for someone who is assuming what must be the most battle-scarred office in Dallas County.

David Webb is a former staff writer for the Dallas Voice who lives on Cedar Creek Lake now. He is the author of the blog TheRareReporter.blogspot.com. He can be reached at davidwaynewebb@embarqmail.com.



David Webb
The Rare Reporter

Time to end the sexual abuse of LGBT inmates

Texas prisons among the worst in the country at protecting LGBT prisoners, studies show

Sexual Assault Awareness Month [April] is a time to reflect on the terrible harm sexual violence causes, no matter where it occurs. Unfortunately, survivors of rape in detention are often forgotten or ignored.

For countless lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender inmates, sexual abuse is a daily reality.

A recent government study of abuse in juvenile facilities found that almost one in eight youth detainees had been sexually victimized in the preceding 12 months; kids who reported a "non-heterosexual" identity had been assaulted at twice that rate.

Similar federal surveys of adult prisoners have found that gay and transgender inmates are, by far, the most likely to be raped.

Sexual abuse behind bars is a nationwide problem, but Texas facilities are especially plagued by this type of violence. A 2007 study by the Bureau



Lovisa Stannow
Special Contributor

Continued Next Page

Is the gay divorce case helping or hurting LGBT rights in Texas?

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RESULTS FROM LAST WEEK'S POLL:

Will you see an openly LGBT Supreme Court justice in your lifetime?

- Yes: 43 percent
 - No: 47 percent
 - Not sure: 11 percent
- 169 Votes cast

■ From Previous Page

of Justice Statistics identified the 10 prisons nationwide with the highest prevalence of sexual assault; five of them were in Texas.

Similarly, a Bureau of Justice Statistics study released in January of this year found that two Texas youth facilities were among the worst in the nation; more than one in three youth at these detention centers reported sexual abuse at their current facilities in the previous year.

Every day, Just Detention International receives letters from prisoner rape survivors. One in four letters comes from Texas, and many of those from LGBT detainees.

Their accounts are horrific, and many speak about the additional abuse they suffered when reporting an assault or requesting medical and mental health treatment. Rather than receiving protection and assistance, many LGBT prisoner rape survivors encounter disbelief, apathy or ridicule from corrections officials.

Even worse, gay and transgender rape victims are often blamed for the abuse — for “asking for it” simply by being gay or transgender. In some cases, LGBT rape survivors have themselves been punished, as if they willingly engaged in

prohibited sexual activity.

Rape is a crime across the U.S., and the Constitution bars corrections agencies from inflicting cruel and unusual punishment. Despite such legal protections, it is exceptionally difficult for prisoners to hold abusive corrections officials accountable.

Prisoner rape thrives in facilities where impunity reigns. Institutional homophobia compounds the problem.

But now we have a tool available that could dramatically improve safety behind bars. Last June, a bipartisan government commission issued recommended national standards aimed at preventing and addressing sexual abuse in detention.

Mandated by the federal Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003, these standards draw on best practices already in use around the country, and include specific provisions to ensure the safety of LGBT inmates.

For example, the standards require that housing decisions include a consideration of whether an inmate belongs to a known vulnerable population (such as being gay or transgender); at-risk individuals and survivors of sexual assault must be kept separate from likely, or known, preda-

tors.

The standards also spell out requirements for staff training, inmate education and sexual assault investigations. They require facilities to provide prisoner rape survivors with access to medical and mental health services, even if inmates are too afraid to testify against their attackers.

U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder is now reviewing the standards, before issuing a final rule making them binding on detention facilities nationwide. But some corrections leaders are pressuring Holder to weaken the standards; they claim that these measures will cost too much to implement — that it is too expensive to stop prisoner rape.

The reality is that the financial benefits of preventing sexual assault in detention — and surely they are less important than the moral considerations — are enormous. The standards would help eliminate sexual abuse that, in the past few years alone, has resulted in litigation costing corrections systems many millions of dollars in damages.

When survivors of prisoner rape require medical care, as they often do, corrections agencies bear most of the costs. And people traumatized

by sexual assault behind bars often suffer serious long-term problems, including HIV infection, post-traumatic stress disorder, depression and alcohol and other drug addictions.

When survivors are released, local communities foot the bill for treating these conditions.

Holder is currently soliciting public comments on the proposed standards. This is an important opportunity for the LGBT community in Texas and across the country to urge Holder to conduct his review promptly and to enact a strong set of measures aimed at ending sexual abuse in detention.

The bipartisan government commission that developed the standards already spent five years studying the problem. There is no need for the attorney general to duplicate that effort.

When the government takes away someone's liberty, it is responsible for protecting that person's safety. Prisoner rape is a perversion of justice. The national standards promise to bring us closer than ever before to ending sexual violence behind bars. ■

Lovisa Stannow is the executive director of Just Detention International, an international human rights organization that seeks to end sexual abuse in all forms of detention.

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query 04.23.10

BY DAVID TAFFET

What should they do to protect the Legacy of Love Monument from future vehicular damage?

Rudi Redman — “Put up a neon sign that says, ‘Slow!’”

Lex Fender — “Build a small wall around it.”

Andre Warner — “Move it.”

Jonathan Hubble — “Surround it with guys with machine guns.”

Bill Henges — “I don't see that there's a way to really protect it.”

Katie Budge — “You know those cement balls they use on the overpasses on Central Expressway? Surround it with those and add plants to disguise it.”

Rick Vanderslice — “Move it to Tarleton State.”

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



In the Pink

Thomas Lauderdale, the gay bandleader of Pink Martini, expects dancing in the aisles at Bass Hall

RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer lopez@dallasvoice.com

BOTTOMS UP | Pink Martini, top, may veer toward classical and jazz music, but bandleader Thomas Lauderdale, inset, wants his audiences dancing.

Thomas Lauderdale knows his audiences vary depending on the venue. The last time he and his band Pink Martini came to North Texas, they played a raucous, clubby show at the House of Blues. That's a far cry from the staid formality of the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra at Bass Hall.

Or is it?

"It'll possibly be an older crowd, but probably a lot of crossover audience," Lauderdale says. "We don't have a preference, but we'll plan to turn Bass Hall into the House of Blues in a way."

Pink Martini is a music anomaly. The big band could easily be categorized as a jazzy lounge outfit, but they throw in classical and '40s movie music. Add in world sounds and guest vocalists like Mexican music legend Chavela Vargas and a Pink Martini concert is an unusual — and unusually likely — event.

Despite a flair for international rhythms, Lauderdale says his group *isn't* about world music, but its rep for embracing many musical styles is part of its development.

"The band started out of a gay rights cause in Oregon," the bandleader says. "Then we became the house band for progressive causes in Portland. But I kind of wanted to create a band

I would want to go see."

Sixteen years and four albums later, Lauderdale finds himself in the biggest musical playground he's ever imagined. He characterizes Pink Martini's music as inclusive with a United Nations vibe; lucky for them, it caught on. Plus, the band's sound owes

much to Lauderdale being a "card-carrying gay" and devout movie lover.

"Being a gay guy, how couldn't I like those Rita Hayworth films or Busby Berkeley musicals?" he asks. "I think that has a lot to do with our sound and especially to me, as a classical musician. But also, I grew up in a multicultural family and I have a gay father; all of that stuff helped form the band for me."

The collaboration with Chavela Vargas is a formula Lauderdale thrives on. Don't expect to see Pink Martini teaming up with the likes of Britney Spears — Lauderdale prefers working with a more seasoned generation.

"I love working with older people," he says. "We've collaborated with Jane Powell, Henri Salvador, Lesley Gore. But all the people I want to work with are gone: Tammy Faye Bakker, Aurora Miranda [Carmen's younger sister], Rita Hayworth. We wouldn't work with main-

stream artists. I love that children respond to the band because it's introducing them to a world diametrically opposed to pop music."

Lauderdale extends his old school ways even to the medium of Pink Martini's music. The band can be downloaded easily from iTunes, but he's digging the musical trend of artists releasing work on vinyl again. That is right up Martini's alley.

"Our music sounds so much better on vinyl," he says. "We record in an old fashioned way, onto two-inch tape. When we record that way, the elements will sound better on vinyl. Plus, I love that crackle."

Lauderdale's throwback to vinyl makes him correct on one thing he said earlier — the retro trend would cater to his crossover audiences. In turn, he's expecting that all kinds will show up for the band's show. His best-case scenario for the Bass Hall performance is an enthusiastic crowd of young and old — especially one that's going to get out of their seats.

"The band is structured in such a way that it's kind of an element of spectacle to have plain live instruments. But it's hopefully entertaining as well," he says. "We're pretty dance-y. We want conga lines from the audience in the aisles."

PINK MARTINI

Bass Hall, 525 Commerce St., Fort Worth. April 23–24 at 8 p.m. April 25 at 2 p.m. \$26–\$78. BassHall.com.



Dallas Lesbian Festival returns

Dallas doesn't have many music festivals (we're definitely no Austin), but thanks to Sue Ellen's, the 2010 Dallas Lesbian Festival helps to fill that void while also being a niche event.

Featuring local performers like Ciao Bella and Heather Knox, pictured, while bringing in non-local Kristy Lee, the festival is an inspired one. If it's done great, it should only get bigger.

— R.L.

Sue Ellen's, 3014 Throckmorton Street. April 25 at 2 p.m. \$15. Caven.com.

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L+S music

Palsett, able

Dallas was good to Owen Palsett when he was an opening act. Now he returns a headliner.

FIDDLER ON THE ROCKS | Owen Palsett mixes funky violin playing with cerebral vocals into distinct ear candy. He stops in Dallas this Thursday.

RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer
lopez@dallasvoice.com

Don't tell Owen Palsett how he should organize his album tracks. There's an art to it, he'll say — a stronger song should open and the quirkier song should follow. That's his formula.

"If I put a different song, it might have made the tracks listing better, but 'Midnight Directives' was the perfect opener. I did have a way to put the songs together," he says. "Bjork is the best. She consistently leads with a strong song but the second is always the weirdest."

Incidentally, "Keep the Dog Quiet" is the second track on his newest CD, *Heartland*, and by its dramatic buildup with quirky Danny Elfman touches, it's easy to see Palsett's philosophy in action.

Maybe he's just overthinking, but Palsett gives a lot of thought to a lot of things. In the span of half an hour, he chats up Canada's reign of quality LGBT musicians ("It's kinda nutty"), what "gay music" means ("sexuality is a touchy subject I hope to avoid") and his last performance in Dallas ("I had my best show"). He's verbose and complex without being pompous — as is his music. When his tour stops in Dallas on Thursday, it could be a fascinating performance.

He won't, however, talk about his classical music training.

"I've decided not to answer about my classical background without suggesting some level of derivative to academic institution, or unwittingly coming across as a snob," he says. "To some, it'll sound like I'm an elitist douchebag but honestly, I don't think about it. There is just as much bad music out there with incredible academic music pedigrees behind it [as not]."

Palsett melds violins with vocals, minus overt classical tendencies. Instead, songs from *Heartland* range from plucky to dreamy to straightforward

indie pop. Musically, he's this odd-but-workable blend of Panic at the Disco and Regina Spektor, though he'd probably describe his sound as more in the vein of Peter Dinklage and Brian Eno, with a modernist approach.

"I would never describe it as experimental but they gave me this compositional epiphany that every song needs to feel like it's discovered," he says. "I really hope to derive some of that in my compositional process."

Perhaps like many young gay teens, Palsett was moved by the music of fellow Canadian Celine Dion. And it all happened down a snowy ski hill in France.

"I was 15. There was a torch light parade with skiers but they weren't able to get downhill," he says. "A song was playing while they skied down but to fill time, they played Celine Dion's 'The Power of Love.' It was kinda bizarre for me as Canadian but so incredibly moving."

The last time Palsett played Dallas, he opened for the Arcade Fire. The sold-out show put Palsett on the spot to perform quicker than he planned, and turned out to be his best gig.

"We did a few songs and sold a hundred CDs. It was like a miracle and my perfect set length," he says.

Now he has graduated to headliner, and while he admits he doesn't know what the audience should expect, he knows what he's got to offer.

"I'm doing a longer set: An hour and 15 minutes. I get tricky with looped violin. I put shows together to maintain same medium as long as possible and not lose the plot. But the show is what it is. I just want to keep it off the cuff and entertaining," he says.

Somehow, that's not too hard to imagine. ■

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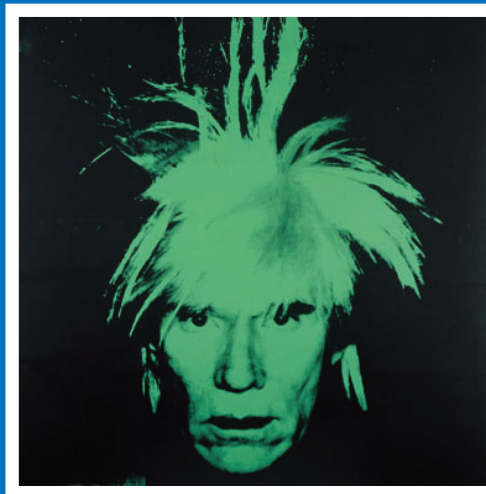
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L+S screen

Brokeback in the barrio

'La Mission' star Benjamin Bratt on the crossroads of gay and Latino culture

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Life+Style Editor

jones@dallasvoice.com



MARICON 'MISSION' | 'La Mission,' which stars 'Law & Order' hunk Benjamin Bratt as a brutal father dealing with a gay son (Jeremy Ray Valdez), opens the USA Film Festival Wednesday.

In *La Mission*, a Latino ex-con living in San Francisco's Mission district, Che Rivera (Benjamin Bratt), discovers that his beloved teenage son, Jesse (Jeremy Ray Valdez), is gay and has a boyfriend (a Caucasian to boot), which causes a shattering conflict between the father and child.

Portraying the macho, complex Che, Bratt — long on our radar thanks to roles in *Law & Order*, *Pinero* (in which he played the titular bisexual poet, Miguel Pinero), and lamentable but well-meaning Madonna/Rupert Everett vehicle *The Next Best Thing* — turns in an award-worthy performance, while the adorable Valdez completely avoids cliché as the headstrong, self-assured Jesse.

Written and directed by Bratt's brother, Peter, *La Mission* premiered to standing (and teary-eyed) ovations at the Sundance Film Festival and opens Wednesday at the USA Film Festival. Benjamin, who also served as producer, and Valdez discussed the film over breakfast.

Dallas Voice: Che represents such a dichotomy — a warm, good person yet hardwired to react with violence and fury towards his son's homosexuality despite a deep love for him and family. Bratt: It would be all too easy to demonize Che. Peter wanted to illuminate both characters' journeys. Jesse probably

has the more difficult journey, which is in the face of fear, potential rejection, violence and even death, to reveal who he is to the person he loves the most with the likelihood of losing that relationship. On the other side of the coin, you have someone who has an equal fear of losing the person he cherishes the most. Che can't

Notable at the USA Film Festival

The USA Film Festival doesn't have a lot of gay content this year — its 40th — but as Spencer Tracy would say, what's there is choice.

In addition to the centerpiece opening night film *La Mission* (see interview above), the festival kicks off Wednesday with *Drones*, a sci-fi office comedy co-directed by Amber Benson and Adam Busch, who co-starred as Tara and Warren on *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*. Both will be in attendance.

On Thursday, the documentary **8: The Mormon Proposition** — about the Prop 8 initiative to repeal same-sex marriage in California — screens. (See review on Page 25).

On April 30, *Dirty Martini and the New Burlesque* profiles the zaftig drag performer, pictured, who developed a cult of "new" striptease.

Then on May 1, *The City of Your Final Destination*, gay filmmaker James Ivory's latest picture — his first without producing partner Ismail Merchant, who died five years ago — tells a quirky multicultural tale and features Anthony Hopkins and Hiroyuki Sanada as gay lovers. Sanada, one of Japan's biggest stars (he also plays the devious temple sentry on this season of *Lost*), will attend.

— A.W.J.

For details about the festival, which runs April 28–May 2 at the Angelika Film Center Mockingbird Station, visit USAFilmFestival.com.



Indecent proposition

The trend in documentaries for a while — Kirby Dick's *Outrage* for instance, and most of Michael Moore's films — isn't to present a kind of filmed investigative journalism, even though most would have you believe that. No, they don't really break stories so much as they coalesce the evidence widely available elsewhere in a compelling, thematic way.

And while that may also be the case with **8: The Mormon Proposition**, the film has an urgency of mystery, even as it makes its case without apology.

Newspapers widely reported how the LDS church was instrumental in fundraising to get Prop 8 on the California ballot and passed, robbing gay citizens of their marriage rights. But director Reed Cowan makes that the sharp point of his film, delving back to the 1990s to show the organized, intense but shadowy history of Mormon opposition to gay rights, starting in Hawaii and following through the misinformation that amounted to virtual gay-bashing in 2008. He also uncovers, through activist Fred Karger, the insidious (and potentially illegal) actions by the church to involve itself in politics.

Does the film demonize some Mormon leaders? A bit. But it's impossible not to be moved to tears by some of the stories of betrayal and anger visited upon the gay community by those claiming to act in furtherance of Holy Scripture, and conclude any group that would target people with hate in the name of love deserve it.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

Screens April 29 at 7 p.m.



help but see Jesse as a direct reflection of who he is as a man. And if he's gay, which is feminine, he's "less-than." Calling someone a faggot or bitch is to feminize them. That speaks to misogyny. That's the lesser of the species. But that's how most men are socialized. Doesn't matter if you grew up in the Mission or Des Moines.

Jeremy, have you ever known someone in your character's situation?

Valdez: Yes. I spoke with a lot of my gay friends and asked what was it like coming out. One of [the film's] advisors, John Amaechi — the first NBA player to come out — I got to hang out with on set. And he told me about how guys who were his buddies, that he high-fived in the locker room and had great relationships with, turned their back on him [when he came out]. He said he didn't want to be a part of the NBA or play basketball anymore because people were so mean. That gave me a lot to think about. But we wanted to portray Jesse as a strong character. Today's gay youth is different than last generation's. Now there's a sense of empowerment and they're not afraid to come out as much as they used to be. "Love me for who I am" is what he's saying.

Ben, you and Peter were born in San Francisco, grew up in and around the Mission District, and employed a lot of locals for the film's production. Did anyone involved share Che's disgust regarding the gay aspect?

Bratt: There was an incident when we were shooting the scene outside the house and Jesse was getting a beat down [from Che]. Some homies pulled up and asked, "Why is he getting the beating?" We didn't hide the storyline from anyone, in fact we encouraged people to understand what it was about, and when they discovered why he was receiving the beat-

ing in the context of the story [their reaction] was, "Good — shit, he deserves it." But the community could not have been more supportive.

How was it working with your Jeremy? Bratt: The entire story and authenticity we were aspiring to as filmmakers hinged on Jeremy's performance. If you don't believe he is who he's supposed to be, the whole story falls apart. But he got it, the balance that one must maintain to walk in both [the Latino and gay] worlds. He had the strut, the physical presence he inherited from his father so he could support himself to survive in the hood. Yet he also had the sensitivity and genuine love.

Valdez: The toughest scene was when [Che and Jesse] are eating together after he comes out. Ben gave me just as much emotional reaction when the camera wasn't on him. It's a harsh moment but wonderful. And there's one subtle thing going on. It's the way his characters hold their silverware. Che held his fork like a caveman. ...

Bratt: Like a prisoner guards his plate, like a shovel. ...

Valdez: I didn't notice it when we filmed the scene but it's right there, the difference between these two characters.

Bratt: It's a good indication of the difference between a brute and someone with refinement.

The scene where Che encounters Jesse's boyfriend [played by Max Rosenak] and attacks him, holding him against a wall by his neck is pretty terrifying and convincing. Bratt: In hindsight I feel bad. I think I really spooked Max. I lifted him off the ground, so his reaction was quite real. He gave me a wide berth afterwards, let's put it that way.

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Comic book

Gays love Chelsea — and not just because she's named for a gayborhood

RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer

lopez@dallasvoice.com

Every night on her E! gabfest, *Chelsea Lately*, Chelsea Handler delivers her dry wit and snarky attitude with aplomb. Her standup is hilarious enough to be above D-list levels.

But Handler is also an author of three books — her newest funny memoir, *Chelsea Chelsea Bang Bang*, came out last month — and that, somewhat surprisingly, is when she's at her best.

Although Handler admitted to Katie Couric that she wouldn't talk about ugly children on TV, she did say she would in her books because, "your true fans are reading your book." Those same people are likely to be found in front of Legacy Books in Plano Saturday as Handler signs copies. They might also turn out for her live performance at the newly re-christened Verizon Theatre.

Handler's books are less memoirs than zany essays about her family, her love life and a whole lotta sex. They are so out-there, it's sometimes hard to believe this stuff happens to an average person.

Then again, Chelsea is hardly that. She ventures into Augusten Burroughs territory — but is a heluva lot funnier.

Handler's first book is nearly legendary, perhaps because she was less affected by her current state of celebrity. In *My Horizontal Life: A Collection of One-Night Stands* from 2005, she goes for the comic jugular when she recalls capturing her parents having sex. She was seven and she took pictures. Handler goes on to detail her trysts with one black man whose penis was *way* too large — and potential bedfellows with penises

way too small. Perhaps this is why the gays love her.

Last year's *Are You There Vodka, It's Me Chelsea* and this year's offering are shades of each other but no less funny. Handler's perfected her disaffected voice in print. She now knows how to translate that blasé who-gives-a-fuck tone from her show and stand-up into literary gold. ■

WANNA GO TO CHELSEA

Book signing at **Legacy Books, The Shops at Legacy North**, 7300 Dallas Parkway, Plano. April 24 at 3 p.m. Live show at **Verizon Theatre** (formerly Nokia), 1001 Nextstage Drive, Grand Prairie. April 24 at 8 p.m. \$45-\$70. TicketMaster.com.



For the birds

The promising start to Kitchen Dog Theater's production of *The Seagull* comes in the program notes, where director Cameron Cobb acknowledges that bad versions of classic plays weaken their status as classics. Realism is what Chekhov wanted, not melodrama.

"At last!" I think.

Then I sit through two hours of melodrama.

The fault still lies mostly with the play. Call me a Philistine, but the long, countlessly nicknamed characters with Russian names are what *really* need to be updated — though a genuine reimagining with cell phones might make this great "modern" play feel actually modern, too. But I'd even settle for Merchant-Ivory.

Chekhov called it a comedy, but that doesn't justify Shelley Tharp-Payton's glassy-eyed parody of Gloria Swanson (something no one since Carol Burnett should attempt). She could learn a lot from Maxey Whitehead, who captures the lyric realism of the dialogue best, mining every bit of humor from the script, which veers infuriatingly toward overt symbolism far too much. This production has its merits, but until someone can improve the play, it's all for naught.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

HANDLER WITH CARE | Humorist and 'Chelsea Lately' host Chelsea Handler makes two appearances in North Texas Saturday.

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Laugh be a lady tonight

Chick domination of Dallas comedy continues with Shaw and McNulty



FUNNY CHICKS | Jennie McNulty, left, and Vicki Shaw continue the reign of female comedians in Dallas.

JEF TINGLEY | Contributing Writer
jeftingley@sbcglobal.net

The spring has so far brought out female comedians Suzanne Westenhoefer and Kathy Griffin to town, with Chelsea Handler on the way. So it must have been in the air for comedians Jennie McNulty and Vickie Shaw to open tonight.

McNulty — well known for her shows on Logo, Olivia Cruises and her *Walking Funny With...* series on AfterEllen.com. She travels the world taking her material to the troops overseas when not playing professional women's football for the California Quake.

Texas native Shaw — a self-proclaimed late-in-life lesbian who recently became a grandma, has been seen on WE, Logo and the film *Laughing Matters... More* — focuses on family life including her relationship with her "husbian," Sgt. Patch.

We caught up with the ladies to get their pre-show quips about performing, relationships and how laughter is the best medicine.

Dallas Voice: Jennie, you've traveled all over the world performing. What was it like doing shows in places like Iraq and Afghanistan? Did you have to change your content much? McNulty: The military shows are the only shows in which I don't come out, so I just don't do any "relationship" material. I won't change pronouns in jokes — I just don't talk about it. It may be a cop-out but we are asked not to do controversial, political or blue material. We're told that we're there to take their minds off of where they are. And, honestly, that is a phrase I've heard a billion times from our fantastic men and women over there: "Thanks for taking our minds off of where we are." And, really, that's all we're there for: to make them feel a little better, if only for an hour or two. However, I wear rainbow everything — earrings, necklaces, bracelets — the entire time I'm there. I look like a Pride booth exploded on me. I've had soldiers come up to me and say, "I like your bracelet," and such, so they know.

We saw Kate Clinton push you and your rock-hard abs into the pool and read about your appearances as a physical trainer on the NBC show *Starting Over*. How do you keep such a hot bod while traveling? McNulty: Comics can't afford much food. Seriously, I walk, with a few strengthening exercises thrown in. I have a master's in kinesiology, so I know what to do and try to squeeze it in when I can. Playing football helps, but walking is the best, easiest exercise and you can do it with me if you like on my show, *Walking Funny With...* on AfterEllen.com.

Since we are on the subject of hotness, we'll ask for our lesbifriends — are you a single lady or did someone already put a ring on it? McNulty: Well, thanks for getting that song stuck on my head for the next four hours! I've been with my partner for five years now. No ring, but not single either. In fact, I like to joke about how scared she was during that two-minute window here in California when we could get married.

Vicki, you describe yourself as a recovering "SOB" (Southern Baptist) so what's it like to be performing in a church as you will in this show? Shaw: To be honest, it is weird to swear in church! You know, church is not the usual place for standup, but the MCC of Dallas is not a usual church. As you know, being in the

Bible Belt, church and gays are not usually mentioned together positively. But I think Jesus would go to this church. However, if Jesus did come to the church some dyke would probably say, "Who's that chick in the robe?"

You came out late in life. What advice would you give other late bloomers who have yet to come out?

Shaw: Come out *now!* By not coming out, that's a form of self-hate. It means you think who you are is not OK, and that could not be further from the truth. Everyone is perfect just like they are. If you can't believe that for yourself, no one will do it for you.

Anything special we need to know about your show?

Shaw: Yep, every time you laugh you kill a cancer cell. So come on out, just to be safe.

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Friday 04.23

Dirty, rotten men? Yes, please

Even in dapper suits, it's hard to figure what draws us to bad boys. The same happens when con men Lawrence Jameson and Freddy Benson team up in Uptown Players' *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, based on the 1988 film. These two join forces to work every angle over a small French town. If they don't work over each other first.

DEETS: Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through May 16. \$30-\$40. Uptown-Players.org.

Saturday 04.24

Street art takes on new meaning

The second annual Cedar Springs Art Festival has really grown. This year, some 60 artists and vendors will fill the stretch of street from Throckmorton to Reagan. Local artist Robb Conover shows, along with music and food on the festival bill. Nice.

DEETS: Cedar Springs at Throckmorton streets. 10 a.m. Free. ShopCedarSprings.com.

Saturday 04.24

How do you say 'bingo' in espanol?

This month, Gay Bingo gets a Latin flair with Fabuloso! Get out your sombreros and serapes along with some major game face. And there's no telling what host Jenna Skyy will pull off with her usual amazing costumes.

DEETS: The Rose Room, 3911 Cedar Springs (Inside Station 4). 5 p.m. \$25. RCDallas.org.



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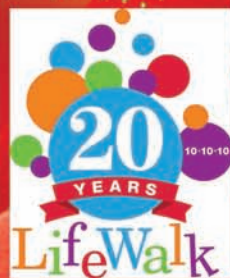


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FRIDAY 04.23

COMMUNITY

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

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.

Queerly Speaking. The spoken word event's theme revolves around Hate Crime Awareness Month. Backbeat Café and Listening Room, 300 N. Akard. 8 p.m. MandrakeSocietyRadio.com.

THEATER

The Beauty Plays. Three plays by Neil LaBute play in repertory. *The Shape of Things*, *Fat Pig* and *Reasons to be Pretty* through May 23. Sundays, Tuesdays–Thursdays at 7 p.m., Fridays–Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. Weekend matinees at 2 p.m. Wyly Theater, 2400 Flora St. \$15–\$80. ATPAC.org

Bill W. and Dr. Bob. Theater Too, 2800 Routh St. Through Sunday. Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays–Saturdays at 8 p.m., weekend matinees at 2:30 p.m. \$25–\$30. Theatre3.com.

Dark of the Moon. Presented by Level Ground Arts. Dallas Hub Theater, 2809 Canton St. Through Saturday. Fridays–Saturdays at 8:15 p.m. \$20. LevelGroundArts.com.



DOUBLE TIME | Singer-songwriter Tret Fure plays two dates in North Texas this week.

Endgame by Samuel Beckett. Undermain Theatre, 3200 Main St. Wednesdays–Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays–Saturdays at 8:15 p.m. Undermain.org.

Is He Dead? WaterTower Theatre, 15650 Addison Road. Through Sunday. Wednesdays–Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays–Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. \$25–\$40. WaterTowerTheatre.org.

Sherlock Holmes—The Melodrama. Pocket

Sandwich Theatre, 5400 E. Mockingbird Lane. Through May 15. Thursdays–Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 9 p.m. \$10–\$18. Pocket-Sandwich.com.

Steel Magnolias. Presented by Contemporary Theatre of Dallas, 5601 Sears St. Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays–Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2:30 p.m. \$22–\$32. ContemporaryTheatreofDallas.com.

The Tale of the Allergist's Wife by Charles Busch. Greater Lewisville Community Theatre, 160 W. Main St. Lewisville. Fridays–Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 3 p.m. \$12–\$15. GLCT.org.

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee. Theatre Arlington, 305 W. Main St., Arlington. Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays–Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. \$22. TheatreArlington.org.

ART

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

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

Photographic Gold by Dan Burkholder at Sun to Moon Gallery, 1515 E. Levee St. Through May 22. SunToMoon.com.

License to Steel. Michael Kalish exhibition of his work using license plates and tailgates as his medium. Samuel Lynne Galleries, 1105 Dragon St. Through May 1. SamuelLynne.com.

Olin Travis: Views of Texas, Colorado and Arkansas show. David Dike Fine Art, 2613 Fairmount Ave. 2 p.m. Through May 1. DavidDike.com.

Sprung invitational art exhibit featuring several local artists including out artist Erica Felicella. Through Saturday. Kettle Art, 2714 Elm St. 7 p.m. KettleArt.com.

■ CALENDAR, Page 32

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■ CALENDAR, From Page 31

SATURDAY 04.24

COMMUNITY

Out and Equal DFW Regional Affiliate monthly council and officers meeting. Open to general public. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 11 a.m. OutandEqual.org/Dallas-Fort-Worth.

The Fresh Event. Health, beauty, wellness and fitness event for men and women. Fashion Industry Gallery: 1807 Ross Ave. 9 a.m. \$20-\$75. TheFreshEvent.com.

Top it Off benefit event for Aaron Barnes. Hughes Trigg Student Center at Southern Methodist University, 3104 Dyer St. 6 p.m. \$15.

Dreams and the Universal Language of Mind lecture presented by the School of Metaphysics and the downtown library. J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, 1515 Young St. 2:30 p.m. DallasLibrary.org.

Out the Box community building event hosted by Atmosphere of Praise Ministries. Live music, food, art show featuring Michael John Paul Wilhelm. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 11 a.m. RC-Dallas.org.

CONCERT

Tret Fure. The national recording artist and singer-songwriter performs live. Presented by Open Door Productions. Heart and Soul Coffeehouse, 4615 E California Parkway, Fort Worth. \$15-\$18. OpenDoorProductionsTx.com.

ART

Fancy Footwork, a group show presenting a take on everything from the waist down, including, but not limited to legs, feet, socks and shoes. HCG Gallery, 1130 Dragon St. Through May 22. Free. HCGGallery.com.

SUNDAY 04.25

COMMUNITY

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

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

Cowtown Leathermen cookout. Best Friends Club, 2620 E. Lancaster Ave., Fort Worth.

St. Mychal Judge Old Catholic Church holds weekly service. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 3 p.m.

CONCERT

Tret Fure. The national recording artist and singer-songwriter performs a house concert in Richardson. E-mail Diane@BoneDoc1.com for location. 4 p.m. \$15. BoneDoc1.com.

BROADCAST

Lambda Weekly. Raeline Nobles from AIDS Arms is this week's guest. 89.3 KNON-FM at noon.

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

MONDAY 04.26

COMMUNITY

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

Caffeine + Character. COH 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.

Log Cabin Republicans. Mattito's, 3011 Routh St. 6:30 p.m. 214-346-2115.

PFLAG Denton. Trinity Presbyterian Church, 2200 Bell St., Denton. 7 p.m.

BROADCAST

The Rick Vanderslice Show streams Monday-Friday from noon-2 p.m. on RationalRadio.org.

DANCE

Limbo, a multimedia dance work presented by per-

GOTTA DANCE | TCU grad Leslie Scott returns to North Texas with her troupe, Bodyart. They perform Monday at Bass Hall.



formance art group Bodyart. The group is founded by TCU graduate Leslie Scott and features out dancers Bret Alan and Nahn Ho. Bass Performance Hall, 525 Commerce St., Fort Worth. 8 p.m. \$15-\$55. BassHall.com.

TUESDAY 04.27

COMMUNITY

Cathedral Business Network breakfast. Princeton Grill, DoubleTree Hotel Campbell Centre, 8250 N. Central Expressway. 7:30 a.m. \$9.

Lesbians and Cancer. A support group for lesbians with cancer or survivors. Gilda's Club Dallas, 2710 Oak Lawn Ave. 6-8 p.m.

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.

Prime Timers Prime Diner at Panda's, 3917 Cedar Springs Road. Call 972-504-8866 for details.

WEDNESDAY 04.28

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.

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

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. 7-8:30 p.m. Free. 214-528-0144.

Youth First Texas Collin County, 1200 Commerce St., Suite 121, Plano. 6:30-8:45 p.m. 214-879-0400.

Firedancers Dallas Tribe club night the fourth Wednesday of each month at the Hidden Door, 5025 Bowser St. 7-10 p.m. Free. 972-406-9861.

2010 GLBT Job Expo is hosted by the Resource Center Dallas and North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce. Meadows School of the Arts at Southern Methodist University, 6101 Bishop Blvd. 2 p.m. GLBTChamber.org

THURSDAY 04.29

COMMUNITY

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

Standing on the Promises Alcoholics Anonymous group meets. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road, Room 107. Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.

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.

Urban Dog Coffee launches The Cottage Blend, a specialty coffee benefiting Legacy Counseling Center's Founders Cottage. 2720 Oak Lawn Ave. 6 p.m. 214-219-5511. UrbanDogCoffee.com.

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CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY

By Jack Fertig



Giorgio Moroder turns 70 on Monday. The Grammy- and Oscar-winning producer and songwriter pretty much pioneered the disco movement of the '70s himself. All those nights on the dance floor spinning to Donna Summer's "I Feel Love" and "Last Dance" are owed to Moroder. His synthesizer work and music construction paved the way for new wave and house music.

TAURUS Apr 20-May 20

"Friends" encouraging you to speak up may be laughing behind your back. Be careful to share your ideas with people who will tell you honestly when you are truly brilliant or not.

GEMINI May 21-Jun 20

Meditation can lead to brilliant inspirations, but perhaps not so brilliant as you think. Writing them down to review later is best. Being discreet and modest can help you get favorable attention.

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22

You may not be able to avoid arguments, but you can treat them as a game and don't take them seriously. That could upset some of your opponents, so it may be best to make diplomatic noises.

LEO Jul 23-Aug 22

Kinky experimentation can precipitate questions about what's important in your partnership. Explore in bed and out. Your resourcefulness gets you ahead, but creates testy situations.

VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

It may be impossible to avoid arguing with your partner. Keep the subject light and don't take yourself seriously. Make-up sex for whoever gets the facts right can make it more interesting.

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

A medical check-up now could uncover something that seems very scary in time to deal with before it gets truly serious. A great time to quit bad habits is after the full moon on April 28.

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

Whatever is wrong with your partnership, sharing some creative fun is all you need to get on track. Even if that doesn't work now, a failed experiment can offer lessons for a new approach later.

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 20

Most accidents happen around the home. Be especially careful of heavy lifting. Throwing out old clutter is good. When in doubt, box those dubious treasures to reconsider next month.

CAPRICORN Dec 21-Jan 19

Winning's not in the cards. Play for fun and learn a few tricks to help you later. Edit any creative projects. Progress is challenging so cut whatever doesn't make room for improvements.

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

Don't be scared to discuss money. You may have to admit to some mistakes, but you're sure to find hidden resources, expenses you can cut down on or other ways to save.

PISCES Feb 19-Mar 19

Don't be afraid of making mistakes, but admit quickly to them. That can be an excellent way of getting to the truth of any matter. Petty frustrations offer great insights if you can be self-aware.

ARIES Mar 20-Apr 19

It's easy to worry about money. Meditation and other quiet times alone will help you get perspective. Helping those who are indeed down and out can also remind you where you really stand.

THIS WEEK

Retrograde Mercury lining up with the sun in Taurus leads folks to take their own ideas way too seriously. A semi-square from Jupiter in Pisces makes it worse. Keep a sense of humor about your own assertions and be kind, especially if you have to be critical.

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

Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox

EDUARDO, RIGHT? **YEAH, UM...**

TYLER. YOU POSED FOR MY FIGURE DRAWING CLASS A COUPLA' SEMESTERS AGO. **OH, RIGHT. YOU'RE...**

... THE GUY WHO TRIED TO SET YOU UP WITH MY GIRLFRIEND'S SISTER... NOT REALIZING YOU WERE GAY. LIKE... DUH!

ANYWAY... I'M GLAD I RAN INTO YOU.

LET ME GUESS... YOUR GIRLFRIEND HAS A GAY BROTHER YOU WANT TO SET ME UP WITH? **ACTUALLY, MY GIRLFRIEND AND I BROKE UP OVER SPRING BREAK.** **OH?**

YEAH. AND I'VE BEEN THINKING THAT... MAYBE I NEED TO PUSH MY BOUNDARIES A LITTLE. YOU THINK... **TYLER, I'M NOT SURE IF I--**

... YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN HELPING ME DO THAT? **CAN WE JUST TALK ABOUT IT, AT LEAST?** **WELL...**

FORTY-EIGHT MINUTES LATER... **WOW. THAT WAS...** **PRETTY FREAKIN' HOT!**

LOOK, I HAVE AN ECONOMICS CLASS IN TWENTY MINUTES, BUT... MAYBE WE COULD GET TOGETHER AGAIN NEXT WEEK? **UH... YEAH, OKAY.** **YOU'RE SURE YOU'VE NEVER DONE THIS BEFORE?**

WITH A GUY? NO WAY. I'M 100% STRAIGHT, BRO. **RIGHT. WHATEVER YOU SAY, "BRO".** **YOU WANT SOME CHEETOS?** **NO... I'M GOOD...**

Website - www.kylecomics.com

E-Mail - KylesBnB@aol.com

bitter girl

HIT A HIGH NOTE

NO FUTUR NO FUTUR NO FUTUR

SO, UH, WE'RE GOING FOR DRINKS AT LADY LOUNGE. WOULD YOU LIKE TO, UH, JOIN US? **AAAGH!!!**

THANG THANG THANG THANG THANG THANG

SHE'S PROBABLY STRAIGHT, SHE'S PROBABLY OFFENDED, I AM SO ABOUT TO BE SHOT DOWN...

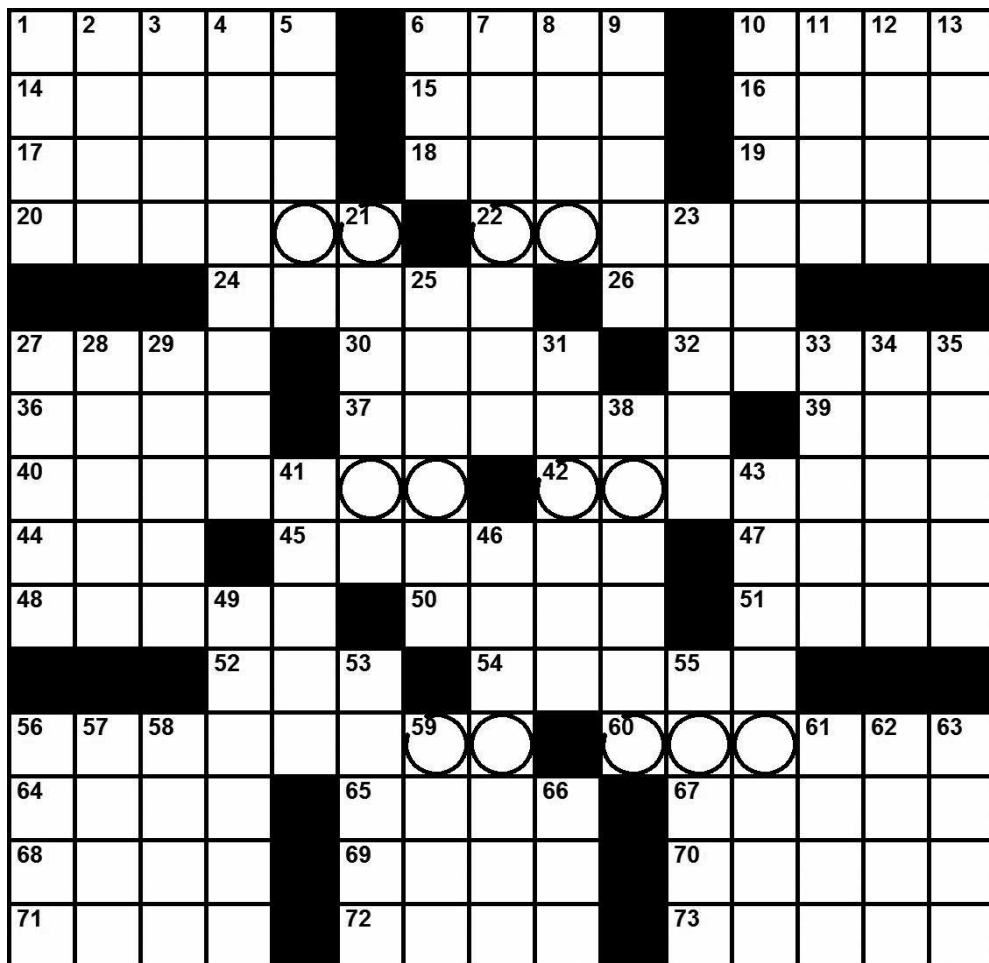
I LOVE THAT PLACE! LET ME GET MY THINGS!

WEIRD MUZAK IN THIS STORE. **WE'RE IN HARMONY!!**

email: bittergirl@qsyndicate.com

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Long Division

Solution on page 33

Across

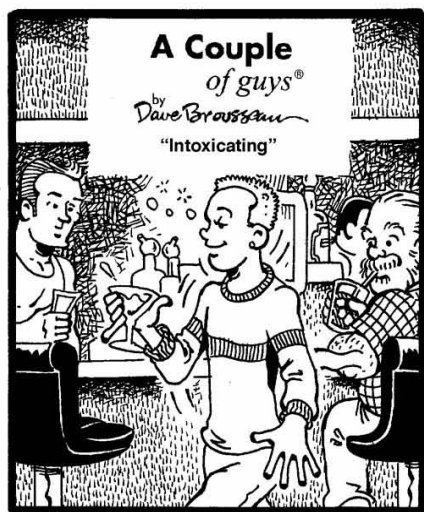
- 1 Sound of oral enjoyment
- 6 Lickety-split (abbr.)
- 10 Nathan of the English version of 10-Down
- 14 Campbell of "Martin"
- 15 Boob, to a Brit
- 16 Hot to trot
- 17 Like an active partner
- 18 Lennon/McCartney's "Love ____"
- 19 Movie theater
- 20 Goldberg of "The Color Purple"
- 22 Where Larry Kramer went to college
- 24 Private languages
- 26 Yule drink
- 27 Hiker's route
- 30 Add an inch
- 32 Sneaky Pie's cries
- 36 It's sold in bars
- 37 Get by somehow
- 39 Luau food
- 40 Beat poet Jack
- 42 Part of D.H. Lawrence
- 44 Pull a boner
- 45 Sucked up
- 47 Highland dialect
- 48 Vanilla, in the sack

Down

- 50 Triangle ratio
- 51 "Nuts!"
- 52 Composer Rorem
- 54 Suit fabric
- 56 Fab Five's point of view
- 60 Harvey, in "Torch Song Trilogy"
- 64 The NCAA's Runnin' Rebels
- 65 Funny Mabley
- 67 Anouk of "Lola"
- 68 "Look ____, I'm Sandra Dee"
- 69 Rubber-stamp
- 70 Public spectacle
- 71 Way out of the closet
- 72 Tickle pink
- 73 Madrid mister

Down

- 1 Unload loads
- 2 Ho Chi ____ City
- 3 Regarding
- 4 Train
- 5 K on Lesbos
- 6 It swallows plastic and spits cash
- 7 Playwright/poet May
- 8 West Wing worker
- 9 Popular resort, for short
- 10 " ____ aux Folles"
- 11 Old Hebrew month
- 12 Baseball number
- 13 Snake-infested garden
- 21 Director Bergman
- 23 Greek poet who didn't look at pornography
- 25 Minute amounts
- 27 Cowboys, informally
- 28 Red state?
- 29 Nero's land
- 31 Polynesian woman
- 33 Barber's "Antony and Cleopatra", e.g.
- 34 Bottom-of-the-barrel
- 35 www.gay.com, and others
- 38 Family subdivisions, in biology
- 41 Moo juice source
- 43 Photographer Abbot
- 46 One of Mary's visitors
- 49 Virgin's complaint?
- 53 Baldwin and Frank
- 55 Hawaiian skirt material
- 56 Muscle Mary's pride
- 57 Gay Talese's " ____ the Sons"
- 58 Ticklish muppet
- 59 Oxen collar
- 61 Serious sign
- 62 California state senator Mark
- 63 Stag party?
- 66 Rock guitarist Barrett



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This Paper is 100%
RECYCLABLE



Tammy and Wendy at Jack's Backyard.



Marylou and Tiffany at Club 1851.



Brandi and Susan at Sue Ellen's.



Dana, B.K., Eric and T at Sisters Club.

There's tons going on this weekend. Don't spread yourself too thin having a good time If you missed out getting your No H8 portrait done, don't fret. **The Brick** is hosting the sanctioned photo session, **NoH8 In Our State**, Friday at 6 p.m. Just wear your white tee, they'll provide the rest **The Cedar Springs Art Festival** is in its second year and already it's looking bigger than before. With more than 60 artists and organizations participating, the fest will take over the street and feature local art, a live DJ and food and drinks Get an art preview at **the Round-Up Saloon** with the **Markhollen Western Art Exhibit**. Meet the artist Friday at 7 p.m. and get a heads up on the art. **Miss PSSA 2010** is crowned on Sunday followed up by the **Miss Southern Elegance** pageant Tuesday **Sisters Club** hosts the **Texas Crush Fund Raiser** Friday **TMC: The Mining Company** hosts **Party on the Patio** with Voice of Pride finalist **Mel Arizpe** performing with **David Trammell** and **Danny Anchondo** **Jack's Backyard** has its weekend full. **Somebody's Darling** performs Friday and the **Mojo Dolls** play Saturday. Every Wednesday, **Emy Taylor** and **Suzanne Kimbrell** perform, adding some tunes to your hump day Get those cha-cha heels ready to go. **Gaybingo** goes **Fabuloso** this month at **the Rose Room**. Thursday, a star-studded cast, including **Cassie Nova** and **Edna Jean Robinson**, hosts the **Layla LaRue Benefit**. The night is to raise funds for LaRue's recent medical issues All eyes are on **Sue Ellen's** with one of its most ambitious weekends ever. Friday's bill includes **Loosies**, **Crazy Ivans**, **Screaming Red** and **Scary Cherry and the Bang Bangs**. They host the all-day outdoor **Dallas Lesbian Festival** on Sunday See? Lots to do

PHOTOGRAPHY BY GREGORY HAYES



Rich, Peter, Aaron and Blake with the Purple Party board at The Brick.



Tessy at Illusions.



Darkstar at Best Friends Club.

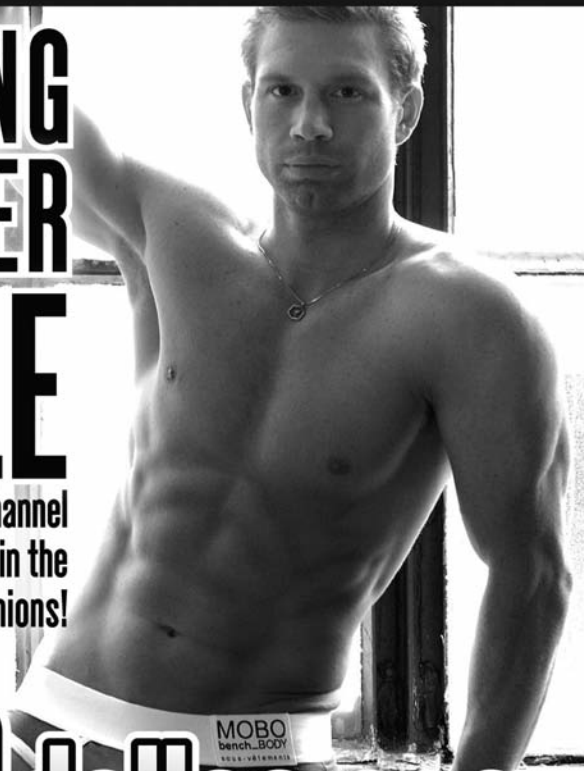
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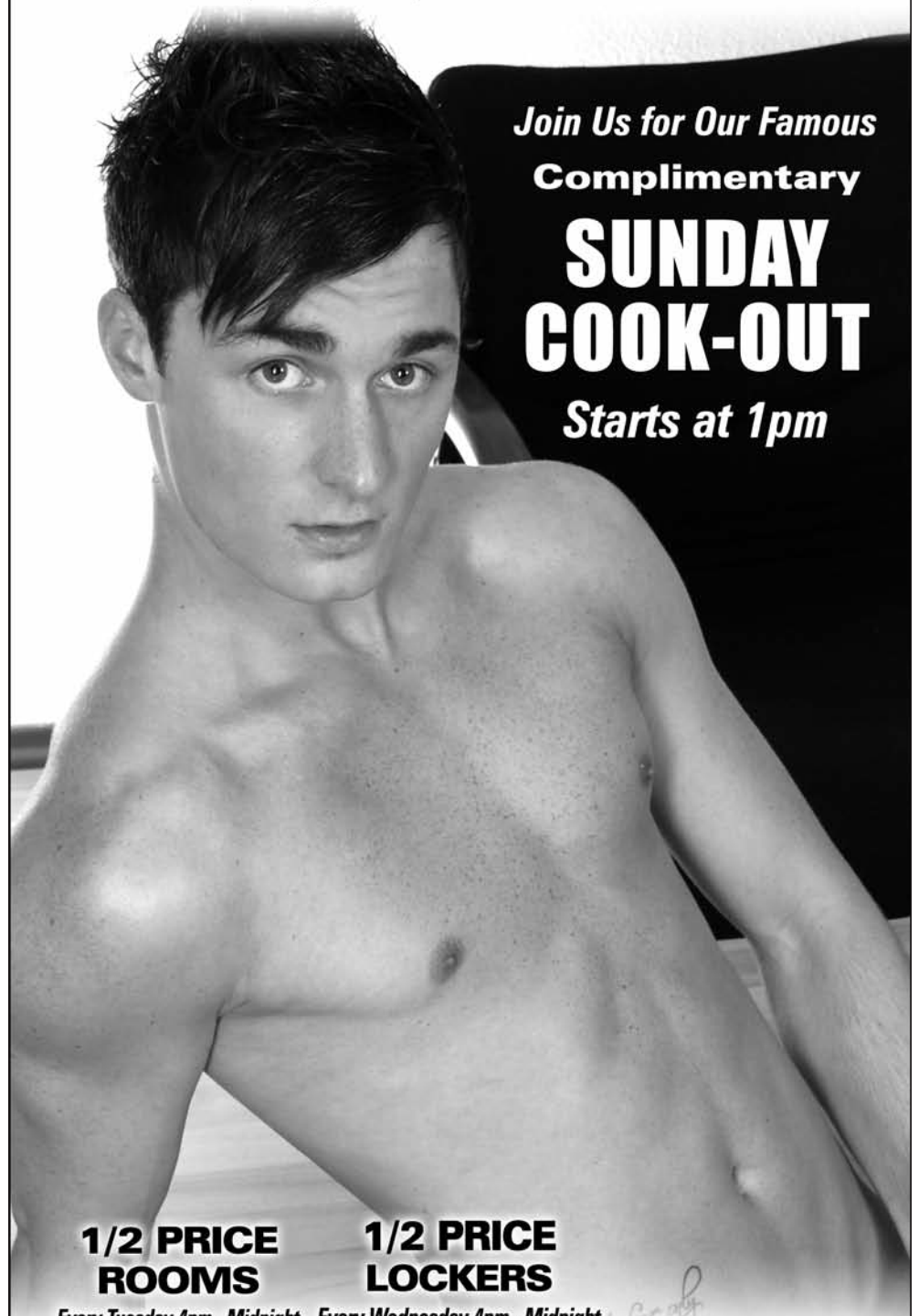
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